

THE NEW TIMES

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THE FAR EASTERN CRISIS

Australia Must Take Strong Stand

At the time of writing there has been no easing of the crisis in the Far East resulting from Communist China's attack upon Chinese coastal islands held by Chinese Nationalists. But we venture to predict that the Communists have the initiative and that any "solution" will, as in the past, help forward their general strategy. While President Eisenhower's belated show of strength has been encouraging, even this will be of no avail unless the non-Communist nations can evolve a common policy which has as its clearly-defined objective the ultimate defeat of the Communist conspiracy.

Our reports from America state that President Eisenhower's firm stand concerning Formosa was primarily a concession to Republican leader, Senator Knowland, who, like Senator McCarthy, has been advocating a much stronger policy against the Communists. Knowland's campaign resulted in enormous public support, and Eisenhower, following the shock of his defeat at the elections last year, realised that he must take a stand if he were to regain public support.

This does not mean that there is any proposal to take the initiative in the "Cold War"; in fact there is disturbing evidence that considerable progress has been made in the U.S.A. towards putting forward a formula which will allow the Chinese Communists to join the United Nations without too much public outcry. It is being carefully suggested that the United States should recognise both the Chinese Communists on the mainland and the Nationalists on Formosa. This would, of course, end the possibility of the Chinese Nationalists ever staging a "come-back" in China and it would also allow the Communists to consolidate their position and proceed to liquidate all opposition.

There will be many who will find it hard to believe that the theory of "peaceful co-existence" is making any headway in the U.S.A., but we draw attention to the fact that the Eisenhower Administration has already weakened its stand concerning trade with Communist countries. Trade with Soviet Russia is increasing and some of Eisenhower's associates are publicly now stressing the necessity for even greater trade. The possibilities of enormous exports to Communist China are also being carefully dangled before American business men, who, because of present financial rules, must look for every possible market—even if this means helping the enemies of their own country.

The present crisis in the Far East should be of the greatest concern to every Aus-

tralian. One of the greatest tragedies of the situation is the weak defeatist attitude which the present British leaders continue to take. The press reports that Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Minister, was shocked when he learned that the Chinese Communists had refused the United Nations' invitation to discuss a cease-fire in the China coastal islands. Mr. Eden continues to prove himself one of the most gullible and dangerous men ever to be a British Foreign Minister. He helped the Communists to one of their greatest success at the infamous Geneva Conference last year. When will he and others of his type realise that when they make "peace" with the Communists in one place, this is merely a prelude to the Communists applying pressure elsewhere. The fact of the matter is that the Communists have become contemptuous of the West and confidently believe that they will eventually get their way. They have the measure of Eden and his type.

The Communists will only agree to any cease-fire off the Chinese mainland if it suits their purposes. They know that they will obtain the coastal islands eventually anyhow, so why should they heed appeals by the United Nations. We would suggest that one of the things they are trying to do is to increase their prestige with the Asiatic peoples. They are again seeking to demonstrate as they did in their handling of the Korean incident, that the West is "decadent" and that all Asiatics should accept this fact and cease all resistance to the Communist Programme. President Eisenhower's firm stand has unfortunately been largely nullified by the weak attitude of the British. Those seeking to justify Churchill's attitude say that he is terrified that in a new world war the British Isles would be completely destroyed within a few hours. This may or may not be true, but if all the minds of Western leaders are paralysed with a fear like this, all the Communists have to do is to continue to

exploit it and thus proceed without too much opposition towards their ultimate objective. Communism can still be defeated without a major world military struggle. But victory is impossible unless there is a completely new and positive approach to the whole subject of the Communist conspiracy. Australia could give a lead in this matter, and we sincerely hope that while in England Mr. Menzies can infuse a little realism into Churchill and Eden. We are just as vulnerable as Britain in the struggle against Communism. A strong united stand is therefore essential—even if this means that the white peoples of the British Commonwealth have to forget Mr. Nehru and his neutralism.

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 to the community's indebtedness and the sound business practice of gradually reducing existing debt. 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

Dr. Lloyd Ross

Monopoly Government

While we have the greatest sympathy with the Industrial Groupers in their fight against Communism in the Trade Unions, we have no sympathy with their support of Compulsory Unionism and their uncritical acceptance of ex (?)-Communist leader, Dr. Lloyd Ross. Just how professing Christians reconcile Compulsory Unionism with Christian philosophy, we do not know. But we suspect that the Groupers have been persuaded by Ross and others like him that the end justifies the means in the case of compulsory unionism.

Dr. Lloyd Ross's influence with a number of Roman Catholics may be judged by the fact that the Melbourne "Advocate" of February 3 reprinted an article of Ross's which was featured in "The Sydney Morning Herald" of January 14. Ross skillfully suggests that the Communists had nothing whatever to do with the adoption of the Socialisation objective by the Labor Party in 1921. Ross says, "Labor will and must remain collectivist in its methods and ideals." Collectivism is the very antithesis of Christianity.

In attempting to minimise Communist influence concerning the Socialisation objective, Dr. Ross shrewdly makes the point that the man who moved the key resolution at the 1921 Conference, the late James Scullin, was a Roman Catholic. This, of course, is true. But it merely demonstrates that some Roman Catholics were just as gullible on the subject of Communism in 1921 as some of them are today.

Churches Silent on Water Fluoridation

We are still waiting for Church spokesmen to pronounce on the moral aspects of water fluoridation. Silence can only be taken as assent to a policy of mass medication. As far as we are aware — we would be most pleased to learn we are wrong — the only Churchman to condemn fluoridation is the Rev. Norman Hill, Vicar of St. Mark's, Fitzroy. If one group of medical experts can obtain Government sanctions to force people to consume a chemical which these experts think will be of benefit to some individuals, then other experts can logically seek Government sanctions to allow them to force the individual to consume other chemicals.

The only protection of the individual against the imposed policies of experts, most of whom have been proved dangerously wrong on numerous occasions, is to safeguard the individual's right to decide voluntarily what chemicals, if any, he and his children shall consume.

World Government is single monopoly government; it is monopoly of power. Its avowed object is the concentration of such absolute power that it can prevent any single national government waging war. If it has power to stop a government waging war by monopoly control of raw materials, monopoly control of armed forces and the establishment of an international police force, it has obviously got power to control everything that single national governments and their peoples can or want to do. Has there ever anywhere at any time in history been a single instance of centralised power resulting other than in tyranny for the meek? Why are all the Communist governments supporting World Government and the United Nations? Why is the whole power of International Finance behind World Government? Why is it that so many of those who at present exercise "petty" power are braking on the movement for World Government, if it is not that they recognise that their present power will be submerged, subordinated and completely dependent on a Power against which all will be powerless? Does power tend to corrupt? What does absolute power do? "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" What will be the judgment on those who in the name of Christ advocate such absolute power? "My kingdom is not of this world." Have we really reached the stage when a professing Christian can say that a vacant chair is waiting for Christ to reign over such absolute worldly power? If so, what indeed does Anti-Christ, Satan, the adversary of Christ, seek?

The threat of an annihilating war does not come from the common people of any country on earth — that is so obvious that anyone who says the opposite is either incredibly ignorant or perverted. The threat comes from the Communists and the powerful interests in the "Free World" who are stealthily aiding the Communists. The threat comes from those who are in power over the common people. And anyone who is attentive to the facts of the situation can easily ascertain that the threat of annihilating war is being assiduously used to coax the people of the world to accept World Government. The initiative and drive for World Government is coming not from the common people (they are the objects of persuasion), but from people in power over them, aided by a host of propagandists who are idealists with no conception of reality (truth).

—"Voice" (England), November 20, 1954.

Rent Increases

Rent increases in Victoria, which were long overdue in order to provide landlords with some justice, will unfortunately help intensify inflation. We have warned that it is impossible to try and stem inflation by asking minority sections of the community to try and subsidise prices. Subsidisation should be the function of the Government.

The Petrov Commission

It is significant that most of the witnesses being called by the Petrov Commission are products of the Universities. This fact confirms a view we have always maintained concerning Communism: that more dangerous Communists and pro-Communists are produced by the Universities than by the "working class." It is time that the nature of modern "education" was more objectively examined.

EISENHOWER'S BUDGET

Before he was elected to the American Presidency, Eisenhower promised, amongst other things, that deficit budgets were an evil thing and that he would put an end to them. But the latest Budget proposed by President Eisenhower (framed, of course, by economic "experts") is a deficit budget. This means that there will be a further expansion of credits to overcome the deficit. Eisenhower is learning that present financial rules are making it politically impossible to do many of the things he promised before being elected.

SUBSIDISE TEA PRICES

It is not often that we agree with Mr. John Cain, Victorian Labor Premier, but we strongly support his suggestion that the price of tea, which it is now stated will increase again, should be subsidised by the Commonwealth. A system of scientific price subsidies, financed out of new credits, is imperative if inflation is to be halted.

THE FIG TREE A Douglas Social Credit Quarterly Review.

Price 7/9, post-free.

We now have a limited stock of Number Two (September, 1954) issue of the New Series of "The Fig Tree," a Quarterly Review established by Major C. H. Douglas before the war and now being published again by the Social Credit Secretariat.

The following are the contents of the issue we have:

Law: The Editor.

Mr. McPherson's Feud: L. D. Byrne.
The Cultivation of History: Hewlett Edwards.

Social Credit: C. G. Fynn. Reviews:

Mr. Douglas Jerrold's "The Lie About the West" (by T. N. Morris).

Sir Herbert Read's "Anarchy and Order" (by Beatrice C. Best).

We suggest that those who desire to receive this Quarterly Review regularly should place a definite order with us in order that we shall be able to order adequate copies.

COMMUNIST PENETRATION IN INDONESIA

Radio Talk by Eric D. Butler over 3NE Wangaratta.

Nearly fifteen months ago I wrote an article for "The Intelligence Survey", a monthly magazine published by the Victorian League of Rights, in which I warned that the Communist menace was growing in Indonesia and that there was every possibility that the Communists would eventually take complete control. I also stressed the fact that a Communist-dominated Indonesia would be a major step forward by the Communists in their plan for the eventual subjection of Australia.

Recent developments in Indonesia unfortunately confirm my fears and tonight I want to ask all my listeners to face up to the implications of what is happening in the North. Our future, and the future of our children, is at stake. Several weeks ago I pointed out how the campaign to have Dutch New Guinea handed over to the Indonesian Government was serving Communist strategy. It is significant the Indonesian Government, which remains in office with the support of the Communists, lifted its ban on political demonstrations late last year to permit thousands to march through the streets of Djakarta, the capital, carrying banners and calling upon the Dutch to leave New Guinea immediately. This indicates quite clearly that Communist support is growing in Indonesia, and that the Government is progressively yielding to Communist pressure. All the evidence indicates that when Indonesia's long postponed general elections are eventually held, probably within the next six months, the Communists will substantially increase their representation in the Government. They could even form a Government in their own right. If a genuinely free election were held at present, the anti-Communist Parties would probably win a comfortable victory. But while the anti-Communist Parties are practically penniless, the Nationalist Party and their Communist supporters are reported to have an election-fighting fund of at least £500,000. Lavish spending will have a tremendous effect upon simple native peoples called upon to vote for the first time in their lives. Both bribery and threats will be used with deadly effect. And the result will, of course, be claimed as a great victory for democracy. The Communists have, as usual, planned a long way ahead and they are now reaping the fruits of that planning. They first co-operated with all other groups working to force the Dutch out of Indonesia. They encouraged the cry of anti-colonialism, which had the backing of some of the most powerful financial groups in the U.S.A., while here in Australia, Dr. Herbert Vere Evatt, who invariably finds himself supporting the same policy as the Communists, permitted the Communist-dominated Waterside Workers' Federation to take charge of Australian foreign policy and help the anti-Dutch forces in Indonesia by tying up Dutch shipping in Australia. Once the Communists had forced the Dutch out of Indonesia, they then supported the Indonesian Nationalists who, even after five years of independence from Dutch rule, still continue to talk about the evils of colonialism.

During these five years the Communists have skilfully made the Nationalists dependent upon their support in order to remain in office.

The Communists hold the key positions like Defence in the Coalition Government. The Minister for Defence, Iwa Kusumasumantri, professes not to be a Communist, but it has been established that he was trained in Moscow as a young man. He has been using his position to purge the armed forces of all anti-Communist officers, thus ensuring that if the armed forces are required to help a Communist revolution, they will be officered by loyal Communists. Given a completely free hand by the Nationalists, who profess to believe, like Mr. Nehru, of India, that the Western Colonial Powers are a greater menace than the Communists, the Indonesian Communists have rapidly recruited support with the result that today the Indonesian Communist Party is the third largest in Asia—only China and Indo-China have larger Parties. The Indonesian Communist Party has expanded its membership from 12,000 in 1951 to 500,000 today. And it is estimated that the membership of affiliated Communist front organisations now totals 2,800,000. All this makes a frightening picture, a picture, which should arouse every patriotic Australian to realise that the Communist menace is now perilously close, and that it must be regarded seriously. The amazing thing is that so few Western observers have taken the Indonesian situation very seriously until recently. Australians were told that after the evil Dutch exploiters had been removed, the independent Indonesians would become democratic allies, and that Australians should make sacrifices in order to help this ally. Those like myself who warned about developments in Indonesia were scorned. But when, on August 17 of last year, President Soekarno in his Independence Day speech made it clear that he was for Communism and against the West in the cold war, it started to dawn on many people that perhaps they had been rather gullible. The leaders of the Communist conspiracy have always been keenly interested in developments in Indonesia, which Bukharin, Marx's ardent disciple, once referred to as the bridge between Asia and Australia. Both Moscow and Peking now have Ambassadors in Indonesia, while the Australian Communists maintain very close liaison with their Indonesian comrades. It becomes clearer every day that Australia's future is now being determined by developments in Asia. Communist strategy is to conquer the whole of Asia, of which they

consider Australia a part, before turning for the final show-down in Europe. Communist pressure in Asia is being progressively increased and all steps taken are carefully co-ordinated. I am not an alarmist, but I have a duty to tell my fellow-Australians the facts about their position in the cold war in order that they may arouse themselves and take appropriate steps to defend themselves. The primary purpose of these talks is to give people the truth. Unless we can spread the truth we are doomed. I therefore desire to conclude my talk tonight by making an appeal for financial support to enable these talks to continue. Up to date a small number of patriots have contributed liberally in order that we could reach a wide audience. We must now call upon this audience to help us continue to reach an even bigger audience. Although I do not as a rule like asking people for money, in this case I feel it my duty to ask all patriots who love their country and their way of life—with all its imperfections—to contribute immediately in order that these talks may continue. I know that we have reached a large and growing audience. We have received much praise. But much more than this is required. We must all be prepared to pay a portion of the cost of the fight to save ourselves. Will all those who feel the necessity of these weekly talks continuing please send their donations to the Victorian League of Rights, 343 Little Collins Street, Melbourne. I will repeat the address: The Victorian League of Rights, 343 Little Collins Street, Melbourne. With your co-operation we can go forward with this venture of alerting all Australians to the growing menace of the Communist conspiracy.

HEALTH BOOKS

By Madame Mira Louise, well-known Adelaide Naturopath.
The Dawn of Consciousness .. 8/9
Nerves, Migraine and the Pituitary Gland..... 6/3
The Book of Health (with chapters on Infant Feeding; the dangers of Immunisation; gland troubles, etc.)..... 5/3
What To Do For Functional Disorders (how to treat all the simple complaints)..... 5/3
The Better-Way Cookery and Diet Reform..... 4/9
Morning Sickness: It's Cause and Cure..... 2/3
Biochemistry For The People .. 2/3
Alkalinity, The Basic Principle of Life..... 2/-
Build Yourself A Vital Body .. 2/-
The Menace of Cow's Milk .. 1/6
The New Enslavement..... 1/6
Two Bogies Banished (Measles and Rheumatic Fever)..... 1/6
What Our Tonsils Mean To Us .. 9d.

NEW TIMES BOOK SERVICE,
BOX 1226L, MELBOURNE.

CRITICISM BY A NEW ZEALAND READER

Following a survey of the New Zealand elections by Mr. Borge Jensen, we have received a critical letter from one of the candidates who stood under the Social Credit label. Parts of the letter, by Mr. L. Tuffery, New Plymouth, New Zealand, might almost be termed abusive. We hope that upon calmer reflections, our correspondent will realise how ridiculous his allegations are that we are "a wolf in sheep's clothing." Apart from making several spelling corrections, we are printing Mr. Tuffery's letter exactly as we have received it:

December 14, 1954.

Dear Sir,

As a reader of the "New Times" for a long time, I must say how very disappointed I am to find that I have been reading an instrument of Finance Capitalism instead of Social Credit. As a wolf in sheep's clothing you certainly have got away with it and no doubt you have misled many others like myself. I believe in true Social Credit. I was perhaps the first in New Zealand to fight for Douglas' ideas through the correspondence columns, and have all my life been a close student of Social Credit. Now to see the way you have grabbed at any straw, especially the straws put out by the Finance Capitalist press, to condemn an honest attempt to bring about the true Christian way of life, certainly hurts, and shows just how stupid and narrow some can become when they let hatred rule their outlook, as is evidenced in the "New Times" very much.

Your writer, Borge Jensen, should, if he wishes to criticise New Zealand, get the true facts from New Zealand, and not go out scalp hunting in the muck of the world press. Also some fictitious Social Crediter in New Zealand is supposed to have made certain remarks about candidates in the election. Have you checked on this Social Crediter? Of course not. You have let your paper be guiled by a supporter of the unholy alliance we are against.

In your condemnation of our decision to bring Social Credit into being, you have not even been honest or just, and certainly have not given the true facts of the philosophy of the League. If Social Credit cannot be attained by the increment of Association how will it ever be attained? Do you want us to daydream about it and get nowhere? What difference is there in educating people to bring pressure to bear on their representatives and doing it oneself? If true Social Crediters cannot make possible that economy so that true Christianity can go ahead naturally without hindrance or repression then no one else can.

As one who contested this election I know that all the candidates I met had as good knowledge of Social Credit as you or anyone else, and we were not interested in Party Politics. We all banded together because we all had the one great aim and that was to make it possible for Christian-

ity to really be conscious. Many have come to me personally and openly stated: "At last we do have some Hope." A Church Minister wrote: "My wife and I are attracted to your philosophy because you are preaching the true Christianity and its application, and we will give you every assistance."

We know Social Credit will give us a new civilisation, happiness and the right to live as we desire in the development of our own characters. Knowing these and seeing how it can be applied in New Zealand, which is the most perfect place in the world to start, as we are a small nation and have full sovereign rights over our own destiny, something which your writer is not aware of apparently, why wait 'till another hundred years when all the world will be under the lash of Finance Capitalism? Christ instructed His disciples to go out into the world and teach His philosophy, but how far have we got in nearly two thousand years? The Devil has made the greatest progress in that time and at the present rate he will have us all if we stick to your paper's attitude. There is only one way to get anything and that is go for it. It will not come to you. That is why we in New Zealand have decided to take the step we have, and that we are right is shown by the great fear already cast amongst the ranks of Finance Capitalism.

If you wish to criticise us we do not mind, but we do like it to be honest and encouraging. We also like it to be as plain with Social Credit, not down in the mire with our enemy. Also if you are really interested in Social Credit why not be more Social Credit than you are as you are drifting away to a Jew-baiting concern, and though you may criticise our wisdom in contesting the election, you cannot hold yourselves up as any shining example, neither have you the right nor the experience to condemn anything until it has actually been tried and found wrong. It is no use quoting Alberta and British Columbia and measuring us by that yardstick. They are no concern of ours. We have our own aims and they are based on true Social Credit and Christianity. We are a sovereign nation and not under dictation from any Federal Government and being as such we sincerely hope that you will at least wipe some of the mire from your eyes and become or get back to the true Social Credit philosophy and way of life. After all, if we want the Christian way of life is there any sense in splitting our own

forces? It is not likely that you would make more progress under a Government favourable to Social Credit than against it? If those so called Social Crediters thought that Government was not doing right then they could apply their principles to see that their representatives did what was right and have far more chance of getting it than at present.

Personally I am very sorry to see your paper descend so low and if it was not the lifetime of Social Credit behind me, I would have probably finished reading your paper with the feeling that it was just another sponsor of ideals, but when it comes to application is not big enough to stand up or support what it preaches. And with that I will close hoping that in future you will seek information from a truer source than your present one.

I am,

L. TUFFERY.

New Plymouth,
New Zealand.

OUR COMMENT:

Although we have no desire to enter into a long public controversy with Mr. Tuffery, we must answer our correspondent's false charges. We have received all our reports on New Zealand from bona fide Social Crediters. We know these Social Crediters personally. We trust that Mr. Tuffery will now have the Christian humility to apologise for his statement that we deal with "fictitious" Social Crediters and do not check our facts.

We do not know which candidates Mr. Tuffery met, but we do know that some of them do not understand Social Credit principles as enunciated by C. H. Douglas. In making this statement we are not making any reflection on the sincerity of these candidates. We sincerely hope that they will now make it their business to ascertain what the founder of Social Credit advocated, and what he did not advocate.

Our correspondent says that British Columbia and Alberta "are no concern of ours." We read a great amount of the material issued during the New Zealand elections and we are astonished that Mr. Tuffery should dispute that considerable publicity was given to both British Columbia and Alberta.

The crux of Mr. Tuffery's charge is that the Devil will win if we persist with support for the policy, which C. H. Douglas advocated. Does Mr. Tuffery claim that Douglas's advice is not worth taking? We agree that New Zealand has many advantages from the point of view of implementing Social Credit policies. And we naturally hope that every opportunity will be taken to further these policies. But if Mr. Tuffery and his associates believe that by direct political action alone they can defeat the forces of the anti-Christ, it is clear that they have not heeded any of Douglas's views on strategy and tactics.

We will await with interest further developments in New Zealand and hope that Douglas's advice will be accepted in order that the most can be made of the situation.

THE POWER OF TRUTH

From "Voice" (Jan. 15) Journal of The Christian Campaign For Freedom
The Archbishop of Milan has recently said: "It is useless for the priest to ring his bell, nobody will hear him. He must listen to the sirens which come from the factories, those temples of technology, where the modern world lives and pulsates."

The Archbishop of Canterbury, preaching on Christmas Day, said: "We must be impatient with evil," and, "we live in an age sceptical of the power of God and of the power of truth. Other persons are sought; the Communist with an eye on the power of a Godless ideology to justify his totalitarian claims; the Western world, while still conscious that there is in Christ a word from God, yet puts its practical faith and preference upon the resources and amenities of an unconstrained materialism. In the same sermon the English Archbishop made it clear that his own practical faith is also in the Work State: the world of technology and unconstrained materialism."

Bertrand Russell, O.M., who is considered, by that section of the mob which can spare a thought for such matters from football pools, the cinema and those other 'games' which employ the time of the Intellectuals, to have a great mind, has been writing for a journal whose title is a substitute name for the mob. He discusses what the world will be like in 2000 A.D. This "great mind" does "not know whether the increasing power of the State is a matter for rejoicing or for regret. It has, in any case, been inevitable." He is confident that liberty for the individual will diminish, if not vanish, and "the powers of the State will be greatly increased."

A new reader who has taken kindly to "Voice" has asked: "What about the bishops, they have brains? They should be able to understand what you are saying." We do not know how many bishops have "brains"—we have heard most of them described as "mitred mediocrities"—, but if they all had, we do not think that it would necessarily make much difference to the present situation, which is fraught with such dangerous potentialities. We agree with a writer in a contemporary journal who is an admirer of G. K. Chesterton that a true assessment of intellect is not limited to the ratiocinations of the brain, that "intelligence includes a great deal more than the brain." Like many clever scientists who have fallen for the shoddy wickedness of communism, the bishops suffer from that abstractionism, which is commonly found today in many prominent men whose rise to positions of power and influence has been aided by a hidden hand. Certainly, our experience, so far as the Church of England is concerned, is that what the Archbishop of Canterbury calls "the power of truth" has no hold on them. Power manifests its own nature—power. The churches have a secure and well-advertised foothold in every parish, in the press and on the wireless; and it is obvious that if the bishops and clergy were imbued with the power of truth, with the advantages they have, they could not fail to attract the community. So, either the truth hasn't power or the churches haven't truth. The community is attracted to technology, which is what we should call a limited truth. So far, at least as the technician is concerned, we believe that this attraction is associated with what Gabriel Marcel, in

his book, "The Decline of Wisdom," calls "the purity and soundness of the joy which goes with technical research when it results in a discovery."

In our issue for November 30 we said: "We have pointed out before in these pages that in one great sphere of human endeavour where marvels have been achieved a policy of realism is religiously practised. At least it is widely believed that the scientist seeks the truth about physical reality, and if he finds it, it is because his approach is governed by a remarkable objectivity of thought and by a humble refusal to believe that he knows before he has proved his discovery to the hilt. To say that he recognises the absolute importance of accuracy, both of observation and of standards and tools of measurement is to say that in the particular sphere in which he is working, his mind in relation to physical reality, is sanctified by truth seeking."

"The world believes in the scientist, so far as he goes."

Gabriel Marcel makes the same point when he says: "If there is such a thing as social progress it is to the extent that there exist social techniques" and "the value of a technique is that of the precision with which it is applied, and we must remember the connection between precision and intellectual honesty."

"A link notion—and it already bears an ethical or pre-ethical character—is that of accuracy: no technician can do without the virtue of accuracy: in his world inaccuracy is always punished and the punishment is sometimes terrible. Hence the awareness of responsibility which he necessarily carries with him." The key relation, in other words, which brings out a sense of responsibility, is the close relation between inaccuracy and punishment. As we have pointed out several times before, "error in human actions proceeds from a remote connection between cause and effect." This is essentially a religious matter. Any intellectually honest man can see that the activities of Chancellors of the Exchequer for years past in their arbitrary use of indirect methods of taxation and of subsidies, and the various controls, and interferences with freedom of association by governments have virtually destroyed in

(Continued on page 7)

SPOTLIGHT ON RED SPY RINGS

This is a very excellent booklet on Communist espionage activities in all parts of the world. Ties the recent Petrov disclosures to similar happenings in other parts of the world, including the Canadian Spy Trials, Klaus Fuchs and the Atom spies, the Alger Hiss case and Sorge, the Communist spy who was executed by the Japanese.

Comprehensive and revealing.
Price 1/3 posted.

Communist Penetration Into Australian Churches! By V. L. Borin, former Czech Communist Writer

FOREWORD BY
ERIC D. BUTLER.

Price 2/3, post free.

This important booklet should be introduced to all those Christians who have been deluded by the Communist "peace offensive". As a former Communist writer, Mr. Borin writes authoritatively upon his subject. He sees happening in Australia what he experienced in Europe. The Communist penetration of the Christian Churches in Australia has proceeded much further and much deeper than most people realise.

Mr. Borin deals in detail with what happened at Dr. Hromadka's meeting in Melbourne on September 16, 1954, when the audience insisted that Mr. Borin be permitted to reply to Dr. Hromadka. The full text of Mr. Bonn's reply is published in this booklet.

Mr. Eric D. Butler writes a foreword in his capacity as Director of the Victorian League of Rights, which publishes the booklet. Mr. Butler points out that "Karl Marx specifically repudiated the democratic conception of man as a sovereign being, claiming that it was founded on 'the illusion, the dream and postulate of Christianity, namely, man has a sovereign soul'. Communism is only concerned with man as a member of 'the class', 'the mass', or 'the group'. All those who support any of the collectivist policies of the Communists are therefore assisting the Communist ideological assault upon men's minds."

This booklet should be placed in the hands of all Christian clergymen.

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The New Times

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No. 3.

THE 40-HOUR WEEK

In last issues editorial we dealt with some of the gibberish being talked by the "experts" who have discovered that inflation is still with us. Since then there has been further outbursts by various people, all preaching the one major theme: Harder work, greater efficiency, etc. One Melbourne businessman who joined in the chorus bluntly claimed that the 40-hour week was the basic cause of all our troubles and that nothing could be done to arrest inflation until working hours were increased. While it is true that the introduction of the 40-hour week, like all wage increases, helped intensify inflation, neither shorter working hours nor wage increases are the basic causes of inflation. These basic causes can only be discovered by an examination of present financial rules. While these rules are rigidly adhered to, it is certain that wage earners will be progressively forced to demand increased wages in an attempt to maintain their purchasing power. Increased production and harder work do not prevent prices from rising and those who dispute this are simply ignoring facts.

Has production declined since the 40-hour week was introduced in 1947? Official figures show that both production and efficiency, measured in terms of production per man-hour, have substantially increased since the 40-hour week was introduced. And the major reason for this increased production, which is still rising rapidly, is that more and more labour saving machinery is being used in production. Power-production it rapidly reaching the stage where those talking about harder work merely reveals their ignorance of technological developments. American workers do not work any harder than Australian workers — in fact, in most industries they do not work as hard — but they have a greater number of horsepower at their disposal. Already in many industries in the U.S.A. production is nearly semi-automatic. And it is claimed that before long it will be possible to have completely automatic factories. We never cease to wonder how Australian advocates of increased production and greater efficiency as the solution to the inflation problem ignore what has been happening in the U.S.A. Or, for that matter, what has been happening in Great Britain, where there has been plenty of hard work and longer hours than those officially worked in Australia. Have our local "experts" not heard that there was recently nearly a major strike in Great Britain because a section of the workers naturally wanted an increase in wages to offset price increases? Apparently not.

If the 40-hour week is the basic cause of inflation, does this mean that irrespective of how rapidly we introduce semi-automatic power production, we can never reduce working hours because this would help increase prices? The critics of the 40-hour week should honestly face the implications of their own statements. If they do this they will realise that no genuine progress is possible while present credit rules are continued. Prior to 1947 there was, for several years, a modification of these rules in the form of subsidised prices partly financed indirectly out of new credits. There was comparatively little inflation during that period. The big price increases started when the policy of price subsidisation was abandoned after the 1948 Prices Referendum. It was this change in financial policy, which was the biggest cause of inflation, not the introduction of the 40-hour week.

Mr. Eric Butler May Visit N.S.W. and Queensland

Tentative plans have been made for Mr. Eric Butler to visit New South Wales and Queensland later this year. Those suggesting this trip feel that it may help considerably to increase interest in our ideas. Mr. Butler, who proposes to travel by car, and who will be accompanied by his wife, is desirous of making contact with as many "New Times" readers as possible. Mr. Butler will be pleased to address any public meetings, which can be arranged. As nothing definite has yet been arranged, would all those readers interested in this proposed trip please contact us immediately.

The Circulation Drive

Our special circulation drive continues, but not rapidly enough. If every reader paid for two trial subscribers (10/- each special rate) and even if only 50 percent—a most conservative estimate—of these continued as permanent readers, we would immediately double our circulation and, of course, more than double our influence. Select responsible members of the community likely to appreciate "The New Times" and send their names and addresses together with money along immediately. We hope in our next issue to give details of how the circulation drive is progressing.

This Is the Law

... and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth."

"Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

This is the Law: that unless men have power, WITHOUT PENALTY, to contract out of one form of INDEPENDENT association into another INDEPENDENT association, there is no FREEDOM.

Observance of this Law is the ONLY means by which men can make institutions serve them, instead of control them—"the Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath."

This is the Law: God's Law. It cannot be broken without suffering, because it is truth. Professing Christians who, in the name of Christ, compel others by force of votes or legislation to break the Law, should consider the consequences to themselves if they commit this crime. They will be in a better state to receive grace if they observe the Law in a spirit of love thy neighbour.

Governmental or private monopolies, credit monopolies, producers' monopolies or employees' monopolies—all the monopolies of the Welfare State—are grave infringements of the Law. No one who supports any of them has a claim to be a Christian.

—"Voice," (England), January 15.

THE POWER OF TRUTH

(Continued from page 5)

the minds of producer and consumer alike the connection between cause and effect in the pricing, quality and provision of almost all goods and services. Accuracy has gone; reality is completely distorted. The relation between the punishments, which are ever increasing on the community, in the form of waste, extravagance, inefficiency, idleness and inflation, and their causes is so remote as to be unrecognisable to all but a few. The inevitable cog-in-the-machine impotence and lack of a sense of responsibility is the result. These evil results are quite definitely produced by the social conditions of the Welfare State—centralised Planning and the interference with the choice of both producer and consumer. The techniques, which ensure accuracy and honesty, are destroyed.

A writer in a well-known periodical referring to the Communist system says: "There has been nothing in that vast experiment to suggest that a change in social conditions makes bad men good. We have

Mass Medication

The following letter by Mr. James Guthrie appeared in the Hobart "Mercury" of January 15:

In Friday's "Mercury" Dr. D. Taylor, of New Zealand, spoke of the "ill-informed and sometimes deliberately misleading opposition to the introduction of fluoride into public drinking water.

I do not know on what authority, if any, Dr. Taylor makes his assertions, but they are certainly very different from those of Dr. Royal Lee, D.D.S., Director of the Lee Foundation for Nutritional Research, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, U.S., who states:

"Fluorine is a cumulative poison . . . has the very definite objection that it accumulates in the bones, thereby making them brittle. There is no known antidote for this poison."

If Dr. Taylor and his friends desire to benefit human health let them test their theories on their own families, and continue until such time as reputable medical men consider the results conclusive; after that people can choose for themselves whether or not they want rat poison in their drinking water. But the compulsory mass medication of the entire public water supply is something so repulsive to medical practice that I cannot understand why the medical profession does not violently protest against it.

Dr. A. L. Miller, in the U.S. Congressional Record, March 25th, 1952, revealed that a check of the vital statistics of Grand Rapids, Michigan, the only city of any size, which has had artificial fluoridation for more than four years, shows that the death rate from heart disease in 1944 was 585. Four years later, after Fluoridation had started, there were 1,059 deaths. Deaths from nephritis jumped by 50 percent. There was also an increase of 50 percent over a period of four years in the deaths from inter-cranial lesions.

The introduction of rat poison into public drinking water is not a question for medical men; it is a question for the police.

even seen that the experiment has made many men, who were originally good, very bad indeed. And this for lack of precisely those values which Chesterton ceaselessly proclaimed, the values derived from the Christian faith."

It is a curious intellectual inaccuracy, which can enable a man to say that the wrong sort of change in social conditions can corrupt men, but that the right sort of change will not move that corruption. The plain fact is that no adjurations by churchmen to the public to "return to God and Christian virtues" will have any effect in preventing the corruption of men's minds if the social, financial and economic techniques are engendering corruption. And those people, as is the case with most men in the Church of England, who preach a return to God and at the same time lend their advocacy and support for social techniques which, because they break God's laws, produce corruption of men are intellectually dishonest and hypocrites, everyone of them. They are using the cloak of Christ to undo His work; they will certainly have much to account for at the seat of Judgment.

What we are witnessing on both sides of the Iron Curtain, throughout the world, is the power of a lie disseminated by a vast propaganda machine which reaches into almost every publicity organ, buttressed by a subverted educational system, and served by a host of men and women to whom popularity and "success" have in practice meant more than integrity of mind and principle. Look to the Father of Lies who sits in the Temple of the power of International Finance!

What we could witness if integrity—that accuracy of the mind we call intellectual honesty—were dominant in the Church and motivated by love of truth, instead of love of power, is the power of the truth. Whether some man at this late hour will arise with power to purge the Church of this mental corruption we do not know. Meanwhile all of us who know the truth and love the truth have a clear obligation to do all in our power to make it known. We can do less; we cannot do more. In a panel in this issue we state the LAW. God's Law in society. We ask our readers to do everything in their power to propagate knowledge of this Law and the consequences of breaking it.

• See page 6

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WITNESS

By Whittaker Chambers

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It was the evidence of ex-Communist secret agent, Whittaker Chambers, before the House Committee on Un-American Activities which caused top Communist espionage agent in the U.S.A., Alger Hiss, to be indicted and convicted on a charge of perjury, only the American people but many people in other countries were startled by the disclosure that the official who advised President Roosevelt, helped draft the disastrous Yalta Agreement in 1945, and who was the first Secretary-General of the United Nations Organisation, was a Communist agent.

Before being finally convicted, Alger Hiss, aided by some of the most influential people in America, fought back against Chambers, who was subjected to a whispering campaign described by one prominent American writer as "one of the most repellent in modern history". Chambers replies to this campaign in one of the most important autobiographies of our times. Not only does this book deal exhaustively with the Hiss-Chambers battle before the Committee on Un-American Activities and the Courts; it is a moving human document which explains how Chambers first became a Communist, his work in the secret Communist apparatus, how he met Alger Hiss and worked with him, and how eventually he came to repudiate Communism.

Near the conclusion of his book, Chambers makes one of the most important observations yet made on the Hiss-Chambers case: "No feature of the Hiss case is more obvious, or more troubling as history, than the jagged fissure, which it did not so much open as reveal, between the plain men and women of the nation, and those who affected to act, think and speak for them. It was, not invariably, but in general, the 'best people' who were for Alger Hiss and who were prepared to go to almost any length to protect and defend him. It was the enlightened and the powerful, the clamorous proponents of the open mind and the common man, who kept their minds shut in a pro-Hiss psychosis, of a kind which, in an individual patient, means the simple failure of the ability to distinguish between reality and unreality, and, in a nation, is a warning of the end." "Witness" must be read and studied by those who want to know the truth about Alger Hiss and his part in the Communist conspiracy in the U.S.A. Every student of Communism and international affairs must have this work on his shelves. No one with an unbiassed mind can read it without realising that Hiss was undoubtedly guilty of the charges made against him.



THE CASE AGAINST FLUORIDATION

By C. G. DOBBS, Ph.D., A.R.C.S., Bangor (Wales) in the "Holyhead and Anglesey Mail" of Dec. 17 and Dec. 24.

A great deal of literature giving the case both for and against fluoridation of the public water supplies has been sent to the writer from three sources, one medical and two 'lay.' This includes the Report of the Delaney Committee to Congress, and the Hearings of the Wier Bill (H.R. 2341) "To Protect the Public Health from the Dangers of Fluorination of Water," both from the U.S.A.

The case in favour of fluoridation has been put at considerable length by the M.O.H. for Anglesey; but, as the Delaney Report states: "Water is consumed by every person in a community, regardless of his age, physical condition, or possible personal reactions. It is essential, therefore, that all the facts concerning fluoridation be disseminated."

Very few of the facts can, of course, be given or dealt with in a short article, but at least, the main outline of the formidable case against this proposal can be made public.

A tremendous opposition against fluoridation has arisen in the U.S.A. since it was started. Dr. Wayne Griffith stated some time ago in one of his articles that over 18,000,000 people there were using fluoridated water, but he did not mention that the proposal had been rejected by local governments representing about 30,000,000 people, and that almost every week brings news of more towns which have given it up after experiencing it, among them the large cities of Cincinnati, Atlantic City, and San Diego, with at least 20 smaller places.

Public rejection is based primarily on the impossibility of individual consent to what, despite some verbal quibbling, undoubtedly amounts to compulsory medical treatment with a highly toxic substance. Where undertaken with a 'control' to obtain information (as proposed for Anglesey) such treatment is also, and despite more verbal quibbling, experimental.

The Ten Standards laid down at the Nuremberg Trials on August 19th, 1947, for persons who initiate or engage in medical research on, or treatment of, human beings start with this statement: The voluntary consent of the human subject is absolutely essential. They then go on to make it extremely clear that the responsibility for explaining everything fairly and obtaining a genuinely under-

standing and willing consent rests entirely on those who initiate and give the treatment, and that no excuses, sack as Government orders or pressure or indemnity against the law of the land can be accepted.

Proponents of fluoridation are, many of them well-meaning officials and doctors or dentists who have never squarely faced the fact of what they are proposing, i.e. the treating of people in the mass as if they were animals whose consent does not matter; and, incidentally, the creation of an appalling precedent for the destruction of the personal relationship in the practice of medicine. They seem to think that the fact that the treatment is intended to be preventative and not curative makes it permissible. On the contrary, it strengthens the case against it, especially as it is inapplicable to the majority of those treated.

Chlorination and liming of water are often quoted as if they were precedents for fluoridation. On the contrary, they are added to water in order to rid it of dangerous ingredients; chlorine to destroy harmful bacteria (a deplorable expedient, but preferable to a typhoid epidemic); lime to prevent the water attacking lead pipes and absorbing traces of lead, a substance less toxic than fluoride. Incidentally, chlorine, which is not comparable to fluoride in toxicity, can be removed completely by boiling, whereas fluoride is concentrated. It is clear that if such utterly different things are to be seized upon as precedents for fluoridation, fluoridation itself will provide a precedent for mass dosing with any chemical, which finds favour in official circles.

Opponents of fluoridation state that the programme has depended from the start on a huge propaganda drive by the U.S. Public Health Service, dating from 1944 when Oscar Ewing, Corporation Lawyer to the world's largest fluoride producers (the Aluminium Co. of America) became head of the Federal Security Administration, which possesses censorship powers over the

Health Service and other public Agencies. Ewing is on record as insisting that fluoridation "should be pushed vigorously"; and since that time only the favourable case has been presented by official bodies. Numerous resolutions by medical, dental, and other associations have been passed in ignorance of the opposition case. Protests, such as that signed by 119 members of the American Dental Association at Worcester, Mass., have been unavailing. Sweeping statements, denying the existence of any respectable scientific opposition, have had to be supported by attempts to discredit or belittle the work of every repu-

(Continued on page 9)

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The Case Against Fluoridation

(Continued from page 8)

table opponent, but this position has now become obviously untenable.

In fact, though less important than the moral case (i.e., the absence of consent) the scientific case against fluoridation is unanswerable, and is supported by authoritative experts.

It is simply that, in the words of Dr. Hugh Sinclair, Director of Oxford University Laboratory of Human Nutrition: "Fluorine is an extremely toxic substance, and we do not know enough of its effects yet to play about with it"

Symptoms of chronic fluoride poisoning are vague and insidious, exceedingly difficult to diagnose as they can result from a variety of causes. Very few doctors would claim to be able to recognise them as such with any certainty, and hence caution and uncertainty in reporting them are unavoidable. At the low dosage used definite evidence of serious harm might not be available until a generation of people had suffered widespread damage.

One just cannot risk such a thing! In the 1920s a drug much less harmful than sodium fluoride, namely sodium iodide, was put in the drinking water of certain Michigan communities for the prevention of goitre.

McClure and others fortunately noticed a marked increase in mortality from toxic goitre among those disposed to it. Iodide is now made available to choice in table salt; and fluoride can also be made available in various appropriate forms for those who wish their children to take it. The burden of proof of complete safety over a lifetime's consumption of fluoridated water rests upon those who propose this, and by its nature such proof cannot be offered. Authority is not conferred upon technical opinions by dogmatic assurances, massed resolutions, or the support of officials and the political power.

The Delaney Committee went carefully into the question of fluoridation and made a balanced report urging caution in view of "a sufficient number of unanswered questions concerning the safety of this programme." They examined eleven expert witnesses in favour of and seven against. These seven included Dr. M. C. Smith and Prof. H. V. Smith, of the University of Arizona, distinguished pioneers in the discovery of dental fluorosis and undoubted authorities on the subject. In their view the 'very mild' mottling of the teeth, which may occur in 10 to 15 percent, of children at 'fluoridation' levels, is a toxic manifestation, and the damage is "irreparable and permanent," the white flecks often turning brown in later life.

Other opponents were: Dr. V. O. Hurme, Research Director at the Forsythe Dental Infirmary, Boston, and Dr. H. H. Neumann, a well known clinician from Vienna, now doing dental research at Columbia University. The remaining three were distinguished nutritional biochemists from other Universities.

Apart from these there are many other medical and scientific critics of fluoridation, including Dr. G. L. Waldbott, Vice-President of the American College of Allergists, whose paper, "Medical Evidence against

Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies," has a list of 59 references. He writes, mentioning well-substantiated cases of poisoning from drinking fluoridated water, as well as "cases of allergy now beginning to occur throughout the country." Congressman A. L. Miller, M.D., formerly State Health Officer of Nebraska, at first supported fluoridation, but placed it on record that he was "misled by the Public Health Service"; and Professor Clive McCay (Prof. of Nutrition, Cornell University) points out that the British Commission which visited the U.S.A. "were piloted around in much the Russian fashion showing them only the people in favour of fluoriding water."

This Commission's Report is the evidence available in this country, and the evidence available in Wales, and the Anglesey M.O.H's. answers to questions follow closely the Official Line in the U.S. Doubtless, like Dr. Miller, he has been misled by it. Many of the questions raised could be answered very differently on a basis of different information and viewpoint, but there is space to deal only with one important point.

The claim that "fluoridation is one of nature's experiments" is not valid because the salts put into the water supply, sodium fluoride or silicofluoride, are industrial products never found in natural waters or in organisms. They are, furthermore, notoriously toxic; sufficiently so to be used as rat poison or insecticide. Calcium fluoride, on the other hand, which is the form commonly found in natural waters and in organisms, is not toxic enough for such uses.

This is partly owing to its insolubility; but at 1 part per million, doubtless it would dissolve as completely as does sodium fluoride. However, the argument that therefore the salt used does not matter, since the fluoridation is the same in all fluorides, is an example of the inadequacy of logic, since it ignores the fact that the fluoride ion combines far more strongly with calcium than with sodium, and its tendency to interfere with the calcium metabolism of the body is likely to be accentuated if it is absorbed daily, over many years, in company with sodium rather than with calcium ions.

Finally, the Official Line always includes the criticism of emotion, among opponents of fluoridation, as if it were a sign of unbalance. But there are certain things, which very properly cause emotion in well-balanced people, and the dosing of human beings without their consent is one of them. If there should be any truth in the misgivings of competent people, the proposed "demonstration" might cause in some cases an aggravation of common complaints and perhaps premature death, without anyone being the wiser. There might be suspicions but no definite evidence; and the statistics would continue to record the "safety" of fluoridation.

There is also the certainty of a good deal of anxiety, and the attribution to this insidious poison of ill health, which may be due to other causes. It is quite obvious that such a state of affairs cannot be tolerated, and that no government, local national, has a right to impose it. It

is a matter of opinion whether sodium-fluoride is a safe treatment to administer to children for the prevention of dental caries, and the consent of the parent is absolutely essential. There is no case whatever on medical grounds for administering this substance to adults, and we must look to other fields to explain the determination of Governments all over the world to do it.

Anti-Fluoridation Campaign

Since our last issue there has been an intensification of the campaign against water fluoridation in Victoria. Many readers have followed our advice and are writing to State Members on the subject. All those who have not done this yet are urged to do so immediately. We must intensify the pressure.

There has been some helpful correspondence in the columns of the Melbourne "Age." We note that those supporting fluoridation are seeking to have the matter argued mainly on technical points. We suggest that these people be brought back to the moral aspect on every possible occasion. The right of the individual to choose voluntarily what medical treatment he will have must be emphasised on every possible occasion.

The report, not published in some papers, that Dr. Hugh Sinclair, director of Oxford University Laboratory of Human Nutrition, has warned that fluoridation may poison millions of British people should be widely circulated. Advocates of fluoridation will reply, of course, that this is only one medical authority's opinion. To which the rejoinder is: Yes that is true. There are experts both for and against. But why should the individual be forced to submit to the policy of those experts favouring fluoridation? Why deprive him of his right to decide for himself about the matter? Those who desire to consume fluorine can obtain it without imposing it upon other, people.

In his capacity as Director of the Victorian League of Rights, Mr. Eric Butler has given another hard-hitting anti-fluoridation talk over 3NE Wangaratta. That outstanding Social Credit campaigner of Ballarat, Victoria, Mrs. L. Quinlan, has had an excellent letter published in the Ballarat "Courier," while this local daily editorially attacked fluoridation in its issue of January 31. We understand that this is the first time a daily paper in Victoria has attacked fluoridation.

The Victorian League of Rights is contemplating holding public meetings of protest when the time is opportune. Rev. Norman Hill has informed the League that he will take the public platform on this issue. Any readers interested in arranging a meeting should contact the League of Rights, Box 1052J, G.P.O., Melbourne.

THE HISTORY OF COMPOST

M. C. Goldman in "Organic Gardening and Farming" A look to the past—and to the invaluable work of Sir Albert Howard over a devoted lifetime—spurs a realisation of the importance of this basic organic process and of its development and improvement.

Composting is not new. Neither in theory nor practice are the basic tenets of returning organic matter to the soil revolutionary or even of comparatively recent vintage. The pages of history are filled with emphatic evidence that nothing is more fundamental to man's prosperity—to civilisation itself—than a lasting, productive agriculture. This, the past proves, can stem only from heeding the most primary of Nature's laws—the law of return, the very cycle of life itself.

Wherever a nation has adhered to this principle, there alone has a people survived and a land flourished. Where it has been violated and abused, whether through ignorance or mistaken custom, there has a race perished, a metropolis fallen to ruins, and a country's soil withered and blown to sterile desert.

Speaking of but one important organic material going to waste, the great French novelist Victor Hugo observed profoundly in "Les Miserables" over a century ago that, "All the human and animal manure which the world loses, restored to the land instead of being thrown into the water, would suffice to nourish the world."

Composting was old when Rome was new. Alastair I. Mackay, author of the fascinating and informative book, "Farming and Gardening in the Bible" (Rodale Press, Inc.) relates that "our modern application of organic fertilizers is not a recent discovery; rather is it a revival of an age-old practice, going back thousands of years, back of authenticated history into the shadow land of mythology. The Gods and Goddesses of Fertility held high rank in Olympus."

From this writing we learn that probably the oldest existing reference to the use of manure in agriculture is to be found on a set of clay tablets of the Akkadian Empire, which flourished in the Mesopotamian Valley a thousand years before Moses was born. Akkadia was overthrown by Babylon, which in its turn fell to Cyrus, but though empires crumbled, the knowledge and practice of organic fertilizing increased.

As Mackay has noted, "... compost was known to the Romans; the Greeks had a word for it, and so did the Tribes of Israel. From the first glories of the Garden of Eden to the sombre shadows of the Garden of Gethsemane, the Bible is interspersed with references to the cultivation of the soil. The generic terms dung and dunghill (more correctly compost pile), used by the learned theologians who translated the scriptural Hebrew and Greek into English, have numerous variants in the original, as examination of a Bible concordance will show."

Biblical references include the parable of the fig tree (Luke 13: 8) in which the gardener pleads for delay until he can dig about it, and dung it. The Hebrew

Talmud tells us, "They lay dung to moisten and enrich the soil," and gives the rule for the faithful: "Do not use your manure until some time after the outcasts have used theirs," which is nothing but advocating the use of rotted or composted manure instead of fresh animal matter.

For this period, the most direct reference to composting comes from Jesus himself in Luke 14: 34-35, "Salt is good; but if the salt shall have lost his savor, wherewith shall it be seasoned? It is neither fit for the land, nor yet for the dunghill but men cast it out." Substituting compost pile for dunghill, the reference becomes clear, for much potentially valuable fertilizer, which is unsuited for direct application to the soil, becomes transformed into good humus in the compost process. Mackay explains the reference to salt, relating that it was used in small quantity as a soil treatment, and to hasten decomposition in the compost heap. Too large an admixture was considered to produce sterility, as exemplified on the shores of the Dead Sea.

In a chapter on prehistoric farming, E. Cecil Curwen and Gudmund Hatt in "Plow and Pasture" (Henry Schuman, 1953) speak of an important change in land use among ancient races — and of the reason that this was possible: "The transition from nomadic agriculture to the occupation of permanent villages and fields, such as we see in the Celtic field system, can have been made possible only by the discovery of the value of manure as well as of the necessity for a suitable rotation of crops and for allowing the land to lie fallow periodically."

Innumerable other sources might well be cited in outlining the early history of compost. Following the blight of the Dark Ages, much of the agricultural and scientific knowledge of the previous eras reappeared in the writings of the Arabs. One of these, the Kitab al Falahah, or Book of Agriculture, goes into extensive detail on the processing and use of compost. The medieval church was another repository of such knowledge and lore, and from the literature of the Renaissance and Elizabethan England come a wealth of references to compost and sound agricultural practices.

And while a volume of facts regarding the thousands of years of lasting and successful agriculture in the Orient might well be introduced, the point may be served by

Life from the Soil

By Col. H. F. White and
Sir C. Stanton Hicks

(31 3, post free)

This is the first Australian book on organic farming and associated subjects. Written by two distinguished Australians, Col. H. F. White, well-known New England grazier, and Sir Stanton Hicks, Professor of Human Physiology and Pharmacology at the University of Adelaide, this book should be on the shelves of all Australian farmers and gardeners. In fact it should be read by all responsible Australians, because it deals with matters, which affect all individuals.

The book is in two sections: The first by Col. White deals with his own experiences as a practical farmer; the second by Sir Stanton Hicks is a comprehensive survey of all aspects of man's relationship to his environment. Col. White relates how, after finding that he was failing to maintain improved pastures in spite of increasing annual applications of superphosphate, he was introduced to the organic idea. He immediately switched to a system of ley farming and noticed an almost immediate improvement in his soil structure, his pastures and the health of his stock. White's practical experience with organic farming methods under Australian conditions should be studied by every genuinely progressive farmer.

Sir Stanton Hicks is a recognised world authority on nutrition, and when he warns that there is a direct relationship between the increasing incidence of degenerative diseases and man's exploitive farming methods, every sensible person should take heed. As Sir Stanton points out, the subject of the quality of food concerns every individual, not only farmers.

In his chapter on Ecology, the author makes the penetrating observation that the "excessive uprooting of man from his true relation to his natural environment, focuses his attention to an increasing extent on a highly artificial feature of his ecology, namely sociology. This preoccupation finds expression in a much abused term, "standard of living", and since government is based upon numbers, urbanisation which follows industrialisation, concentrates political attention upon the towns."

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

THE HISTORY OF COMPOST

(Continued from page 10)

a glance at one or two of the most telling of these.

Of the Chinese, Hugo says, "Thanks to human fertilization, the earth in China is still as young as in the days of Abraham."

Editor J. I. Rodale, in an article on "The Agriculture of Olden Times", points out that some of the Chinese have been preserving their soils through the composting of organic matter for four thousand years, and that it is these very practices which enabled China to endure for so long whereas other civilizations which had their beginnings even after China, have perished because they did not understand the part that the saving of organic matter played in their preservation. Also, states Mr. Rodale, "We have written time and again of the Hunzas of Northwest India, showing how conscious they were of the importance of every blade of grass. This people had their beginning in Biblical times and their population is still increasing."

Finally, on this aspect of our topic, there is the work of F. H. King, who, in "Farmers of Forty Centuries", records that China, Korea and Japan long ago struck the keynote of permanent agriculture: "... developing and maintaining their systems of combined irrigation and drainage . . . in their systems of multiple cropping; in their extensive and persistent use of legumes; in their rotations for green manure to maintain the humus of the soils and for composting; and in the almost religious fidelity with which they have returned to their fields every form of waste which can replace plant food removed by the crops, these nations have demonstrated a grasp of essentials and of fundamental principles which may well cause western nations to pause and reflect."

And yet, despite the accord of history on the value of compost, and despite the inevitable concurrence among men and nations of the elementary need to conserve organic matter and to return all precious wastes to the land — it remained for one man, within the present century, to establish a scientific basis for composting.

That man was Sir Albert Howard, and his priceless contribution to the welfare and betterment of civilization is the foundation of the modern organic method. He gave a lifetime of diligent research, of testing and comparing, of finding out, writing and bringing awareness of an accurate fundamental composting system. It is to his work that today's organic culture owes its start, and through which it has received its firmest principles and support in scientific fact.

What may be looked upon as an outstanding appraisal of the entire work of Sir Albert, and as a significant up-to-date tribute as well, comes to us from an exceptional new book, "Gardening With Nature" (Devin-Adair Co., 1954), by Leonard Wickenden, author of "Make Friends With Your Land".

"The term 'gardening with nature' explains itself. It seeks to co-operate with nature instead of fighting her; to eliminate the cause of disease, instead of treating symptoms; to build a healthy soil which will grow healthy, unpoisoned plants. The

procedures it follows were developed by a great English scientist, the son of a farmer and a lifelong agriculturist himself. His name was Albert Howard and in recognition of long years of service to his country in India and elsewhere, he was knighted by his Government. He died in 1947 at the age of 73, but his work lives on. All the methods advocated in this book of mine are based upon his teachings."

Born and raised in an English country home, educated at London and Cambridge Universities, Albert Howard came to India in 1905. He had already achieved recognition for work in the West Indies on sugarcane, hops and cacao. At 25 he had been stationed at the agricultural college Barbados, where his work was to investigate the diseases of the cultivated tropical plants and to lecture to teachers on school gardens and to planters on the diseases.

Following three years as botanist to the agricultural college at Wye in Kent, the great hop-growing region of southern England, he received an appointment in 1905 as Economic Botanist to the Agricultural Research Institute at Pusa near Calcutta in north-east India. Here began a period of nearly 30 years in India, years of the most painstaking research and slow building up of fact. With him had come his first wife, Gabrielle, and together they made a remarkable team. He had an "instinctive awareness of the importance of natural principles", and she "an enormous capacity for patient detail".

Through investigation, careful observing and just plain hard work over almost two decades at Pusa, Sir Albert gained a valuable insight into plant, animal and human growth and health. Watching the natives growing their crops of wheat, tobacco, chick peas and linseed with no artificial fertilizers or sprayings, he came to an important, determined conclusion: "The birth-right of every crop is health."

The principal motive power for all farm operations in India is the ox. On his experimental fields, Howard found all his oxen remained healthy. None of them contracted the common contagious diseases such as rinder pest or foot and mouth disease, although they had frequent chance of infection from animals on adjoining farms.

From these observations on both plants and animals, Sir Albert concluded that the secret of health and disease lay in the soil. The soil must be fertile to produce healthy plants — and fertility meant a high percentage of humus. Humus was the key to the whole problem, not only of yields, but of health and disease.

Equipped with this knowledge, with experience, and the humble genius with which he — and the world — was blessed, Howard went on to the more important and remembered achievements of his career in India.

In 1924 he was transferred to the Indore Institute of Plant Industry, where he had a free hand to experiment in all biological and agricultural fields. The opportunity was what he had been seeking. He could work on a large scale on this farm of 300 acres and, while the experimentation was supposed to be on cotton raising, he could spread out into the general problem of soil fertility, which he felt was the real

basis of everything agricultural. It was here that he developed his compost-making technique, today the core of the organic method and the foundation of the natural way of farming and gardening.

Of this accomplishment, Sir Albert wrote in "The Soil and Health", "... during the eight years of my work at Indore, it was assumed by me as a preliminary condition to all experiments that my fields must be fertile. This was brought about by supplying them with heavy dressings of compost made on a simple development of the Chinese system. As I was now free, it was possible for me to make these arrangements on a large scale, and in the course of doing so it seemed well worthwhile to work out the theory that underlay the empiric Chinese practice. A complete series of experiments and investigations were carried out, establishing the main chemical, physical, and biological processes which go to humus formation in the making of compost." The Indore Process was first described in detail in 1931 in "The Waste Products of Agriculture". Since that date the method has been taken up by most of the plantation industries and by many farms and gardens all over the world. There have been minor changes and a number of improvements have been incorporated. These have served to bring the technique up to date. Nothing has been added to the two main underlying the process, specified by Howard as, (1) the admixture of vegetable and animal wastes with a base for neutralizing acidity, and (2) the management of the mass so that the micro-organisms which do the work can function in the most effective manner.

Of the raw materials needed, Sir Albert gave details which include a listing of suitable vegetable wastes in various sections of the world; and animal residues, principally manure and urine, poultry and kitchen wastes including bones, and dried blood, slaughter-house refuse, fish wastes, etc. To insure neutralizing of excessive acidity, he advocated the use of limestone, powdered chalk or wood ashes, either separately, together, or mixed with earth, to help provide a base for maintaining the desired pH range of from 7.0 to 8.0 needed by the bacteria which break down cellulose. Provisions for the right amount of air and water are also stressed, rainfall being termed best since it is a saturated solution of oxygen.

Two methods of converting these materials into humus are described. Either pits or heaps can be employed. Howard points out that where the fermenting mass is liable to dry out or to cool very rapidly, the manufacture should take place in shallow pits. This enables a considerable saving of water. If water-logging from heavy rains or other causes should threaten, he advised that the composting pits be surrounded by catch-drains to cut off surface water, or be protected by some form of covering, such as a thatched roof.

In presenting complete directions for the Indore Process, Sir Albert provides important details on the proper layering, or building up of layers, of the materials, and

(Continued on page 12.)

THE HISTORY OF COMPOST

(Continued from page 11)

on the turning of the compost to insure uniform mixture and decay and to make available the needed amount of water and air for the completion of the aerobic phase. He also includes helpful information on the storage of humus, or finished compost, on the output per year of compost by this method, and on the practical application of the process, the testing and reports of his own work and that of other agriculturists. One fact is again emphasised in his conclusion on the Indore Process: "The essence of humus manufacture is first to provide the organisms with the correct raw material and then to ensure that they have suitable working conditions."

Warning on Molybdenum

There very definitely is a tie-in between excessive amounts of the trace element, molybdenum, and abnormalities in animals, which graze upon that land. A high molybdenum content in forage leads to a copper deficiency in livestock. The potentially dangerous level of molybdenum depends upon the copper content of the forage. In cattle, this induced copper deficiency is characterized by anemia, deterioration and bleaching of the coat and scouring. This disease is most likely to occur on peat or alkaline soils where molybdenum has accumulated from drainage waters. It can be cured by feeding salt to livestock. We advise not mixing the salt with the feed, but allowing it to be set on a selection basis, so the animals can take as much or as little as they need. Heavy cropping, especially by cereals, will tend to deplete the soil's molybdenum supply. — "Organic Gardening and Farming."

Composting as it has been developed in the organic method is far more than an accidental farming habit inherited from the past. It is, thanks to the devoted and unselfish life's work of Sir Albert Howard, a way of life and of health, a beacon of promise in a torn and wasteful world.

"The test of any process for converting the waste products of agriculture into humus," said Sir Albert, "is flexibility and adaptability to every set of conditions. It should also develop and be capable of absorbing new knowledge and fresh points of view as they arise. Finally, it should be suggestive and indicate new and promising lines of research. If the Indore Process can pass these severe tests, it will soon become woven into the fabric of agricultural practice. It will then have achieved permanence and will have fulfilled its purpose — the restitution of their manorial rights to the soils of this planet."

The progress of organiculture in the seven years since Sir Albert Howard's passing, and indeed the very features of this issue of "Organic Gardening and Farming", are testimonials to his success, tributes to a man who has truly benefited the world immeasurably and whose work surely does live on.

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