

# THE NEW TIMES

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ONE SHILLING & NINEPENCE FORTNIGHTLY.

## ANOTHER "HORROR BUDGET" IN 1955? INFLATION WORRIES FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Many superficial observers of the Australian political scene have taken it for granted that the troubles of the Labor Party have automatically insured the present Government against defeat when it next comes before the electors. But the political realists amongst the Government parties are beginning to have their doubts. The biggest factor now worrying them is growing inflation. They vividly recall how the last time inflation was a major political issue in Australia, the only "solution" their economic advisers suggested was a policy of credit restriction and a heavy increase in taxation. They fear that in spite of firm promises regarding tax reductions at the last Federal Elections, they may have to impose another "horror budget," similar to that on the 1951 budget, upon the community.

Already a policy of credit restriction is in force, although there is evidence to suggest that Australia's financial dictator, Dr. H. C. Coombs, is using this policy to increase the financial "squeeze" against the trading banks and to benefit the Commonwealth Bank. It is interesting to note that a similar policy of credit restriction is also being imposed in Great Britain at present. The great industrial boom there has, of course, produced the inevitable inflation, and the "experts" there, as here, have called for less credit expansion. An increase in the bank rate of interest is the technique being used. If imposed too rigorously, it is certain that such restrictive policies will not only slow down industrial expansion but will cause a repetition of the unemployment we had in Australia after the 1951 budget.

Not only do the Government parties at Canberra understand the political, apart from economic, implications of credit restriction and higher taxation, but Dr. Evatt can be relied upon to exploit the situation to further his insatiable bid for power. Several months ago political observers were openly suggesting that the Prime Minister, Mr. R. G. Menzies, was considering a double dissolution at the time of the next Senate Elections, confident that the Government would be easily returned and that the Senate and House of Representative Elections would again coincide. But the same observers are now stating that Mr. Menzies and other Government leaders are concerned about economic developments towards the

end of this year. The inference is that this year's budget will be restrictive and that the Government will consequently become unpopular.

There is no solution to the Government's dilemma within the present financial and economic framework. No matter how it tries to follow a policy of "controlled inflation", which today is the official policy of the economic "experts", the Government cannot please the majority of electors. And it certainly cannot slow down the process of socialisation by stealth. The concentration of economic power must continue in all spheres. There is much truth in the recent claim that Labor must adopt a new policy because the Government Parties have now adopted and implemented most of Labor's previous policies. Basically, of course, all parties are supporting the same policies, the central feature of which is the centralisation of all power. If the Government parties are to start doing anything effective against the centralisation of power, one of their first tasks is to provide a genuine solution to the inflation problem. Such a solution requires a new and more realistic approach towards our credit system and financial rules. If our present credit rules are reflecting reality, then this means that true production costs are increasing. But, as we have pointed out time and time again, true production costs are progressively falling. The fact that prices do not also fall is clear proof that present financial rules do not accurately reflect economic facts. Unless Government members have enough

humility to ask the simple question, "Why is this so?" they cannot possibly find the solution nor can they find anything to fulfill the promises they made before being elected.

Present financial rules are un-Christian for the simple reason that they are not related to Truth. Financial rules which result on progressive inflation are quite immoral. And this is a fundamental point which we suggest readers should take up with their Members of Parliament. We take it that some of these servants of the electors understand the meaning of morality.

### 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

### Magna Carta and Christian Action

English history would have been very different if Dr. Fisher instead of Stephen Langton had been Archbishop of Canterbury during the reign of King John. And no doubt our pathetic clergy would have bleated that the action, which Langton took, and the document, which he was mainly instrumental in drafting, was "not constructive." Sir Arthur Bryant has described every clause in it as being negative, but it remains a fact that Magna Carta and the continuous authority which the Church in subsequent centuries expressed in the same vein, gave rise to the Common Law and that ordered freedom which hitherto have been the pride of England and the envy of others. What the Medieval churchmen realised was that the natural order in which we live our material lives is part of God's Reality and is the essential medium of the spiritual. They realised that this natural order is governed by a Moral Law, to which all man-made associates must conform. Only by remaining within the bounds of this Moral Law can human beings in society be constructive and creative: these are the conditions which generate morale and a spiritual life. Social laws, which contravene the Moral Law, produce exactly the opposite effects—demoralisation in everything.

—"Voice" (England), Feb. 12.

### AMERICAN PRODUCTION

The American citizen has a real income much higher than the citizen of any other country, and pays less tax per head than we do in this country. The unwanted surplus of American farm products in store is approximately two and a half times the aggregate production of British farms for one year. The "Aid" given away, (terms not openly started to foreign countries (including 11 billion dollars to Russia) since the war by the U.S.A. government plus the excess of their exports over their imports in normal business amounts to approximately £1,000 per family of three.

Despite of the slowing up of production by unionism, if all surplus production, "Aid", excess of exports over imports, and armament production were to cease in America, every American family could have the same income that it is receiving today, with less than half of the adult male population in paid employment. The threat of war is necessary to maintain a Full Employment policy!

—"Voice" (England) Feb. 26

### THE MORAL LAW

The fact that the consequences of breaking a moral law may be slower in action and are less obvious than the consequences of falling from a building does not mean that moral law can be violated without having punishment meted out with the same degree of certainty. Unfortunately, the consequences of breaking a moral law enmesh the innocent along with the guilty. It appears that violations of moral law, whether knowing or unknowing, put in mot-

ion a set of irresistible forces which bring about ultimate retribution. —Admiral Ben Morell, leader of fight for the recognition of Moral Law in America.

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### A WHITE ANT POISON

A New South Wales correspondent informs us that the N.S.W. Department of Agriculture is recommending sodium silico fluoride as a white ant poison.

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### Kent Hughes on Formosa

Mr. Kent Hughes, Federal Minister for the Interior, is recently reported as having said in Japan that "If a cease-fire in the Formosan Straits is discussed, apart from the march of events in Tibet, South East Asia, and Korea, and the question of reduction of armaments, the free nations of the world will make a colossal blunder. You cannot treat Formosa or the islands off the China coast, of which Hong Kong is one, or Indo China or Korea, as separate problems. They are all separate portions of one picture".

We agree entirely with Mr. Kent Hughes. It is significant that when the American fleet was first stationed in the Formosa Straits, to prevent the Chinese Nationalists from attacking the mainland, the Chinese Communists were free to move their trained troops North and eventually into the Korean fighting. After they had made the cease-fire arrangements in Korea, the Chinese Communists were then free to move south and intensify the campaign in Indo China. Having achieved their objective there, they are now back applying pressure to Formosa.

It becomes clearer every day that if MacArthur's advice had been taken in Korea, and the Chinese Nationalists used in that campaign, the picture in the Far East would be much different today. But the Communists have retained the initiative at all times.

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### Technocracy and Full Employment

"In automated factories, one person pressing a row of buttons, will direct the complete operation of a machine costing as much as several million dollars. The electric bill for that operation will be much higher than the wage bill . . . (Wages are also a minor cost in the generation of electric power.)

"In factories now being blue printed, electronic systems will pick up raw materials, allocate them in the correct proportions, send them through the processing machinery, sort out the final products and automatically package them. The climax will be reached when the packaged product keeps moving right out of the factory door and is mechanically placed in its proper location in a freight car or truck."

—"Human Events", Washington, U.S.A.

## The Iron Curtain Over America

By Colonel John Beaty.

This book is a "must" for every student of international affairs. It is one of the most important books published since World War II, but, like similar books which have been appearing in America over the past few years, it has received no mention whatever in Australia by leftist book reviewers for the "Capitalist" press.

The author of "The Iron Curtain Over America" is not only an outstanding American scholar; his work with the American Military Intelligence Service during the last war enabled him to learn at first hand of the manner in which the Zionist-Communist conspiracy was being furthered under cover of war.

Colonel Beaty deals objectively with the history of the Jews, with particular reference to the fact that the ancestors of most Jews of today were Khazars, originally a people from Central Asia, and had never seen the Holy Land. He writes most penetratingly on the Jewish invasion of the U.S.A. and the subsequent Jewish impact on America's foreign and internal policies.

After outlining the treacherous, pro-Communist activities of Jews in the U.S.A., Colonel Beaty asks — and answers — the question: "Does the high ratio of appointed persons of Eastern European or contacts in United States strategic positions reflect the people? If not, what controlling will does it reflect?"

"The Iron Curtain Over America" proves conclusively that not only was the second world war organised, but that it was deliberately prolonged, and only concluded when the controllers of the Zionist-Communist conspiracy had achieved their major objectives. Detailed evidence is provided of the manner in which the truth about this conspiracy has been kept from the American people.

Colonel Beaty's conclusion is that America, and other Western nations, can only survive by first defeating "the enemy within." He points out that this first step is essential before a more realistic foreign policy can be implemented, one which would obtain the friendship of all anti-Communist nations and which would seek to widen the gulf which already exists between Moscow gangsters and their unhappy victims.

It is not surprising that Zionist organisations in the U.S.A. have been campaigning rigorously against Colonel Beaty's exposure and that pressure has been applied to the press to prevent any reference to the book. Even Church "leaders" have been used to smear Beaty. But his book continues to contribute to the general awakening in the U.S.A. an awakening, which Australians unfortunately know little about.

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# THE CRIME OF DR. STRASSER

By Aidan Mackey in "Candour" (England), Feb. 11

Very few people outside Germany are even aware of the existence of the one man who could succeed in the formidable task of reuniting a free Germany without endangering the security of neighbouring States. This man, Dr. Otto Strasser, spent years in Canada, prevented, after 22 years of exile — the result of his opposition to Hitler's regime — from returning to his homeland. The story of his adventures and the reasons for his continued detention at the orders of Baruchistan, deserve to be studied. Only now has that detention ended, after a final sinister attempt to prolong Dr. Strasser's agony.

At the first Congress of the National Socialist Party in Munich in 1920, a programme of twenty-five "unalterable" points was adopted. These points formed the basis of the party platform, and were a true reflection of the desires of the German people. Otto Strasser joined the party in 1925 because of the exhortation of his brother Gregor, who was later murdered by the Nazis. After five years, however, he found it impossible to continue to support Hitler, who had abandoned any pretence of maintaining the twenty-five points, and a complete break between the two men resulted. When Hitler declared that there could be no clash between the Fuehrer and the Idea because he was The Idea and could not err, Strasser realised the kind of man with whom he was dealing. From then (1930) onwards, he waged a fierce and courageous war against the leaders of Nazi Germany, first from within that country and then, after Hitler came to power, from Czechoslovakia, Switzerland and France. He flooded Germany with opposition newspapers and leaflets, and kept a whole resistance movement in being. From only a few miles over the frontier, he and one helper ran the first secret radio station.

Despite his opposition to Hitler, Dr. Strasser was not permitted to come to this country, and it was not until 1940 that he succeeded in leaving Europe. He went then to Canada, where he was kept in exile for years, despite the battle that he has carried on since the war for the restoration of his rights of German citizenship, which would enable him to return to his country and his political activities. As his citizenship was revoked because of the menace that he constituted to Hitler's plans, it seems incredible that restitution was withheld by every possible delaying tactic and procrastination until November, 1954, when one German court after another ended Hitler's ban in the face of strenuous opposition by Dr. Adenauer's Government.

Even then, however, the way back was barred. Strasser is a highly potent force, and carries tremendous influence among the workers of his country. His arrival there would have seriously challenged the accepted administration of Kurt Adenauer — which is not widely popular — and bitterly enraged the Communists and Left-wingers, who hate him more violently than they hated the Nazis themselves. The restoring of Dr. Strasser's indisputable rights by a German court should have cleared the way for his immediate return. But the

affair was not to be allowed to end so easily. Dr. Strasser, in Nova Scotia, awaited for weeks the arrival of the mysteriously - delayed documents upon which his passport must depend. Anti-Communist officials at Bonn declared quite definitely that the papers were issued immediately after the court's decision, and that these were sent by airmail to the German Embassy at Ottawa on November 23. The German Consul-General at Montreal, however, stated with equal certainty that the papers had not been received from Ottawa, and that the vital passport could not, therefore, be issued. Not until a few days ago did Dr. Strasser finally receive his passport.

The mystery is now being cleared up. Readers of "Candour" will not need to be told that Communism still wields its vicious influence on the policies of the Western powers, and the prospect of a return of their bitter foe has roused the Reds of Europe to launch a series of furious and unscrupulous attacks in an effort to prevent Dr. Strasser's return, or, failing that, to vilify him in the eyes of the German people. The Socialist "Neue Vorwaerts" declares that Strasser is to be regarded as Communism's No. 1 enemy, and that the entire Left will combine to fight his activities, which "are apt to have great influence on the workers." Anti-Strasser propaganda is being hastily prepared by, among others, the infamous Communist Otto John. The Stuttgart weekly, "Das Neue Zeitalter", reported on December 17 from East Berlin that the Soviet Foreign Minister himself, Molotov, had given the signal for the renewed and increasingly intense campaign with his remark: "If Strasser is permitted to return to Germany and take part in West German politics, it means an end of all prospects of German reunification."

The "Morgenpost", of Hamburg, announces that a number of Communist or near-Communist organisations have formed a "Democratic Front" to fight Strasser's work. They have threatened streetfights, rough-neck public demonstrations and other accepted Communist tactics wherever Dr. Strasser appears in public. Left-wing quarters are preparing an anti-Strasser book, the material for which originates from Gestapo sources.

Now, all this agitation and panic is to be expected from Communists. The arrival of a real leader, possessing the ability and influence to unite the German people and weld them into a healthy and organic

society, is the very last thing they want. What is significant is that the Western countries have toed the Red line. If anything is needed to demonstrate the strength of the link between the citadels of Moscow and Baruchistan, it is amply provided by the way in which they have combined to

(Continued on page 11.)

## THE FIG TREE A Douglas Social Credit Quarterly Review.

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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.

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# THE SOLUTION TO THE INFLATION PROBLEM

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

Last Sunday I dealt briefly with the major cause of inflation and stressed the fact that continuous rises in prices were inevitable while present policies of credit expansion were accepted as unalterable. In preparing my talk for tonight I came across the following statement made by President Eisenhower — although undoubtedly written by some economic "adviser" — in his Economic Report to Congress in January, 1954: "... the supply of money must be in keeping with the increase in the physical volume of production and trade. Such a growing money supply is necessary to prevent the development of deflationary pressures, to maintain equity values, and to keep the purchasing power of the dollar reasonably stable."

This statement is further confirmation of what I said last week: that the present economic system would break down unless consumers had their money supply progressively increased, not as the result of increased production of consumer goods for sale, which would merely aggravate the problem, but by the production of enormous private and public capital works. The American production capacity is so enormous that even domestic capital expansion schemes are not considered adequate, and thus the urgent necessity of various grandiose schemes for developing Asia and other backward areas of the world. These schemes actually mean that a considerable portion of the results of American productive capacity is given away abroad while the money supply is increased locally.

This policy of credit expansion obviously must mean inflation, and it is an indisputable fact that in spite of the great efficiency of the American production system, prices continue to rise in America, although not as fast as in some other countries. President Eisenhower's policy of monetary expansion is therefore not keeping the purchasing power of the dollar "reasonably stable".

The basic problem is how to ensure that credit expansion necessary for individual needs takes place without causing prices to rise. Those who argue that there should be no credit expansion because of inflation are, of course, merely advocating a depression. And it is my considered opinion that there is little possibility of another major depression, even if only because politicians of today realise that such a depression would mean political disaster for them.

When the Menzies-Fadden Government attempted to arrest inflation by the use of credit restriction in 1951, the economic results caused the Government's electoral stocks to sag so much that long before the Federal Elections of last year it was deemed politically expedient to reverse the credit restriction policy and supplant it with a policy of credit expansion. The immediate result was the reduction and eventual abolition of unemployment, and an intensification of economic activities, particularly those relating to capital expansion. It is necessary to recall this recent

history concerning credit policy in order that we can understand the real problem confronting us. Now, while the policy of increased credit expansion did help save the Menzies-Fadden Government, it also increased the inflation problem again, with the result that it is again, after four years, one of the major political, as well as economic, issues of the day.

At this stage I should develop my comment of last week, that although the basic cause of inflation is the present method of expanding credit, there are other policies which intensify the problem. One of these policies, and one which many people unfortunately label as a basic cause of inflation, is the attempt to overcome the deficiency in the consumer's purchasing power by increasing wages. But increasing wages simply means increased wage costs and, eventually, increased prices.

Those who believed that this vicious cycle starts with wage increases, and not with price increases, have claimed that if wage increases were halted for a period there would soon be stability in prices. Unfortunately for the profunder of this theory it, like other theories, has been demonstrated false by events.

When the basic wage was frozen, the reason given was that further increases would only intensify inflation and that the economy could not stand these increases. But in spite of this freezing of the basic wage — admittedly it did not apply to all employees — the price level continued to increase and eventually the fact had to be faced that wage increases were urgently necessary, not only for the workers, but for various other sections of the community. Even the politicians who talk much about preventing prices from rising have had to urge increased salaries for themselves in order to keep up with the increased cost of living. And, of course, the bureaucracy has had to be rewarded also by substantial salary increases.

All these wage increases will undoubtedly intensify inflation, but I repeat, they are not a basic cause. They are the result of financial policies which progressively reduces purchasing power and enable the Communists and Socialists to propagate the idea of the class struggle — that prices have increased because of the huge profits

being made by the wealthy capitalists, and that these capitalists should be compelled to pay increased wages out of these profits without further increasing prices. The fact that even if the total profits of Australian industry were distributed to all wage earners there would be only a few shillings per head does not concern the exponents of this dangerous falsehood. But unless a genuine solution is found, one, which will enable industry to obtain reasonable profits while paying wage earners sufficient to buy what has been produced, it is inevitable that the Communist and Socialist propaganda will continue to appeal to many people.

As I said a few minutes ago, the essence of the problem is how to increase the money supply without increasing the price of goods. I proved last week that industry has progressively reduced true costs and become more efficient. But this has not reduced prices and consequently increased purchasing power. How then can we increase purchasing power without increasing wage or any other costs, which must be charged into prices?

There are two approaches, which we can make to this issue, and I suggest that both should be adopted. The first approach I suggest is that new credits, which I have shown must be created in any case to keep the economic system functioning, should be used to reduce prices, for a start the prices of all those goods used in computing basic wage figures. In other words I am advocating a return to the price subsidy system, which worked comparatively effectively during and immediately after the war.

This system meant that the basic wage was held comparatively stable, as an examination of the figures of that period will prove, and that wage increases did not stimulate price increases.

The second approach I suggest is the use of other new credits for the payment, not of increased wages which are more than cancelled out by increased prices, but of what I will term a National Production Bonus. The payment of this Bonus should be directly related to increased productivity. I will not go into the details of how these new credit policies could be administered, but that would be a very easy task once the policy was decided upon.

The case for increasing purchasing power to overcome a deficiency has now been demonstrated, but unless it is agreed that credit created to overcome this deficiency morally belongs to all individual members of the community, and that the individual should therefore control his own credit, there is no hope of genuine economic democracy and the halting of inflation. To use the individual's credit, without his consent, for unnecessary economic activities, which reduce his immediate standard of living, is a totalitarian policy. This policy must be challenged and defeated if the individual is to obtain that higher standard of living which we know is economically possible. But so long as it is unchallenged, and the individual is prepared to allow himself to be used in a subtle form of economic exploitation, he will find that he and his children will be economically enslaved and that inflation will continue to help with the enslavement.

# HOW BIG IS SIZE?

By G. BAXTER, in "The Social Crediter", England

We live in a world of so-called great things, of wonders, of epoch-making inventions and developments. High-speed travel has shrunk the limits of the earth to short excursions and new terrifying bombs threaten the elimination of man. The gigantic and the prodigious are set on a pedestal while the minute is belittled and man becomes more and more just a pawn in the whirlwind of events.

This cult of bigness pervades almost all aspects of our lives and is corrupting to the mind itself. Even those who are forced by financial circumstances to modest modes of life and who have no hope of achieving greatness or of acquiring big things are constantly under the pressure of this maxim of magnitude. Almost as babes, and certainly as soon as our education begins, our minds come under the influence of this false philosophy and all else is sacrificed to it.

Millions of boys and girls who are being educated in an almost identical manner are faced with a titanic struggle for a place in the sun when they leave school and parents are obliged to try to fit them into the great state machine and economic system like so many rivets in a modern leviathan. Parents may not wish it, but the children's lives are thus planned because in order to earn a living when they become adults they must conform to the general scheme. The result of such education, as many know all too well, is a mass of citizens with second-rate, regimented and stereotyped minds whatever their ability may be to do crossword puzzles or to answer quizzes.

From the medical world, we hear frequently of new therapeutic wonders. Man, we must infer, has become wiser than Nature in his ability to heal. With a precision that is astonishing, and, of course in each instance to the patient's perfect satisfaction, cures are effected by drugs, serums, the use of the knife and other drastic means. For the benefit of citizens, we have an elephantine health service and yet as we look around we still see unhealthy faces. The cost of the health service rises and the apothecaries' chain stores continue to do business in millions yet we know that the nation's health is not a proportionate return for this fabulous outlay of capital.

Industry, of course, is one of the big things of the modern world. It grows and expands, employs all the most modern equipment and more and more horsepower. It has become so big and people have become so hypnotised that, if they ever know, they cannot say what is its true purpose. How many look upon industry as a huge labour market, a place for occupying the masses for eight hours a day and for distributing wages? That industry is there exclusively to produce the best quality consumer goods where and when required is completely overlooked. It is, therefore, little cause for wonder that goods for sale are commonplace, mass-made, indifferent in quality and almost lacking in signs of craftsmanship.

Even the oldest occupation in the world, agriculture, has been corrupted by the spell of bigness. We see bigger and bigger farms, larger and more complicated farm machinery and more and more intensive

cultivation by artificial fertilisers. In America, the result has been dust bowls; at home, the soil has been weakened by similar grandiose farming methods while the farmer is losing touch with the earth. The quality of the farm product is questionable and even our daily bread is suspect because it has become involved in mass production methods.

If we examine this question of bigness as impartially as possible, we shall find that nearly all aspects of life are being pulled down to a lower standard. Entertainment, particularly by the cinema ousting the little theatre, was never so poor; the catering industry provides the most indifferent cuisine: and even sport, the glory of our country, has suffered by conversion into mass entertainment and big business.

Amidst all these enormous forces, namely, education, industry, entertainment, radio, the speed of life and the drive to make money or to make ends meet, man tends to lose himself and his identity, to feel himself merely as a part of a machine, and so he develops an artificial and unnatural satisfaction in feeling himself as a member of a huge community with whose way thoughts he must conform. To do otherwise would cast him into an abyss of loneliness.

This mass feeling and mass conception of life is the greatest danger to humanity. Directed by this false philosophy of bigness and limited by shortage of money, the great masses have not the time to think about creating and building up their own destiny. From morning till night, they are concerned chiefly with the question of caring for themselves and their families. This constitutes their life and culture and they are reasonably happy if they succeed in this simple purpose. In addition, there is the constant fear almost in every heart that suddenly and overnight all their puny efforts may be wiped out by a worldwide inferno so blatantly advertised as forthcoming.

We cannot avoid the issue if we wish to be honest with ourselves; this tendency to conform to a low standard is a trend towards equalitarianism and a move towards communism. In plain words, it is satanic, for the devil lies in whatever tries to master us. It is a tearing of man from his inherent qualities and highest aspirations — a subordination of man to material things.

The solution of this problem must obviously be based on a right assessment of bigness — right in the sense of how mere bigness affects the individual. Magnitude, if it has any meaning at all, must satisfy some inherent need of the individual. The individual must bring its meaning to a focus.

Time and custom, however, has rendered the perversion of ideas and values chronic. Man is labouring under a host of false conceptions, some of which even lead him to believe that that which is painful and unpleasant is good for him while the notion that all that is big is good has become such an *idée fixe* that it brooks no adverse criticism.

Let us see if we can put bigness in its proper place without making the mistake of belittling its force. The Atom bomb and the "H" bomb are the essence of our present day conception of bigness but whether we are killed by one or the other or by a splinter from a hand grenade, the result is the same.

In his economic desperation man sets his hopes on gigantic football pools. Most Englishmen still prefer a small home of their own — they would not feel happy in a skyscraper. In matters of government, the great totalitarian states have demonstrated that they cannot satisfy the needs, wishes and urges of their peoples, whereas the small ones, such as Switzerland and Portugal, are undoubtedly more successful in this respect. The big chain stores succeed as profit-making concerns, and by meeting the immediate low-price needs of their clients they conform more efficiently to the low-cost rule. Perverted conceptions concerning the advantages to be gained by bigness arise in almost all cases from this conformity to the rule of cheapness. Mass production and mass entertainment of all kinds owe their existence entirely to the fact that the cost per head is less.

Youth, always attracted by the lure and novelty of size, moves into the great cities; people who must earn a living there go as well; many continue to live in them because a limited horizon allows them to think of anything better and there are those who for financial reasons cannot move out. But if we set aside financial motives, there are no true benefits from life in a great metropolis.

So it is with magnitude in all forms, and, if we set ourselves the task of examining all possibilities we shall find that if we eliminate the financial urge of cutting down costs, bigness has no advantage to offer us. Yet how many give the slightest attention to a consideration of the nature and effect of this man-made rule of cheapness — a rule which is forced upon us by what can be well described as an out-of-date, man-made, book-keeping system? Time and custom have put such a handicap on his thinking capacity that man is unable to recognise the economic sword, which is slowly, but surely piercing his side. It is all so much simpler to accept conventional ideas about life, to swallow orthodox opinion without question and to enjoy the perverted satisfaction to be gained from finding something marked at a low price.

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# The New Times

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No. 5.

## THE JAPANESE ELECTIONS

*When the Japanese Peace Agreement was signed, we took the opportunity of warning that unless Western countries adjusted their financial policies to enable Japan to trade freely with them, it was inevitable that Japan would eventually be forced to trade with the Communist bloc. We also pointed out that this would be the first step towards a possible Communist victory in Japan. It is of interest to note that Australia's leading apostle of the Owen Lattimore "line" concerning Asia and Communism, Professor McMahon Ball, at present studying international affairs under the auspices of the Carnegie Institute, claims that a complete Communist victory in Asia is inevitable and that we should be realists and make the best of this fact. Although events would appear at the moment to support the Professor's thesis, he carefully ignores any mention of the groups and the policies basically responsible for events. But, then, the Carnegie Institute has never supported those who deal with basic issues. For this reason it would be too much to expect Professor McMahon Ball to point out that the election of a Japanese Government promising closer economic relations with both Moscow and Peking was the result of policies determined by the controllers of international finance.*

*We are convinced that there is far more to political developments in Japan than is generally admitted. Japan today is virtually a far eastern outpost of the growing worldwide dollar empire. The framers of dollar policies hold the initiative in world affairs and it appears obvious that they are not afraid of closer economic relations between Japan and the Communist world. Their economic policies were largely responsible for forcing Japan into the last war, a fact now becoming more widely known, and today they are responsible for the growing depression in Japan which has resulted in the election of a Government which promises greater trade with the Communist bloc of nations. We do not dispute that there are American political leaders who are genuinely concerned about Japan's closer alignment with the Communist powers, particularly Communist China, where there is an excellent market for Japanese production, but the international financial groups in the U.S.A. are not really worried about Communism. What all Australian commentators have overlooked is the fact that in recent times there have been moves in the U.S.A. to remove barriers to greater trade between the U.S.A. and Communist countries. Moves towards this end have had to be made cautiously because of American public opinion, but nevertheless they have and are being made.*

*Bearing this important fact in mind, it can be readily understood how certain interests in the U.S.A. welcome the opportunity, which Japan may provide for them to trade with the Communist countries through Japan without the fact being generally known. While it is probably true that the majority of American, businessmen seeking trade, either directly or indirectly, with Communist countries, is only taking a shortsighted view of how they can continue to operate under existing financial rules, it is impossible to believe that those responsible for financial policy are not fully aware of what they are about. We never cease to wonder at the fact that there are so many people today prepared to talk about Communism as experts and yet so few who know anything about the origins of Communism. If it were not for the policies of Jacob Schiff and his fellow Jewish international financiers, the Communists would never have conquered Soviet Russia. These international financial groups are the real power in international affairs and aid and foster Communism because it serves their evil purposes. Japan is one of their major pawns at the present time.*

## Trial Subscription Scheme

Our trial subscription scheme continues to expand. A splendid start has been made towards obtaining the second 100 trial subscribers. But we again appeal to all those who have not yet assisted to help increase rate of expansion. Send 10/- for each trial subscription together with name and address of person to whom the paper is to be sent.

In selecting people likely to become permanent readers, we suggest that special thought be given to the clergy. It is essential that all clergy be introduced to the Christian Campaign for Freedom, which we are strongly supporting.

## Nonsense Concerning Australia's London Funds

The following letter, by G. Allan, appeared in the Melbourne "Age" of February 18:

Sir, —I wish some economist or banker would explain why there is all this concern about our falling overseas balance. If we did not send our goods abroad to get money to buy other goods, then what on earth was the purpose?

Failure to get goods in return for our exports is tantamount to giving them away for nothing, which is just stupid. Moreover, that practice encourages inflation, since the Australian producer must be paid with Australian credit created by the banks.

Even taking our present unspent overseas balance of £400 million, the practice means that £400 million has been created in Australia whilst the equivalent in goods has been sent out of the country.

It may be urged that Australia must have London credits to meet her obligations. But is this really so? For a number of years past Britain has been "in the red" with Australia. At one stage she was £600 million down on the export and import balance.

But I cannot recall any sign of panic in Britain because of this. Therefore even if Australia did import more than she exported what is wrong with giving Britain a credit in the Commonwealth Bank, just as she gives Australia credit in the Bank of England?

Britain already gets such accommodation from the U.S. and in turn permits Japan to overdraw her sterling balance, to mention but two such instances.

Indeed, no nation, or any industry for that matter, can carry on without the overdraft system, and the sooner Australia realises this the better.

## HOW BIG IS SIZE?

(Continued from page 5.)

Cheap houses, cheap furniture, cheap clothes and food. Dear in fact are all these things in respect of quality, but they must fit the purse — mediocrity all the time.

It would seem that man needs re-educating to enable him to think clearly on quite simple everyday matters, to take him outside the limits imposed by his purse, to give him an orientation in harmony with reality. Education, however, like patriotism, is not enough. We must go deeper than the expression, dissemination and inculcation of new and abstract ideas. Man can be taught satisfactorily and effectively only by demonstration. If men are to raise their minds above the horizon of general mediocrity, they must be given a ladder, which they alone can mount, each for himself.

Where can we find such a ladder? How can men be helped to assume the responsibility of raising themselves out of mediocrity? We have just explained how bigness and mediocrity thrive on financial stringency and the corresponding need to reduce costs to the lowest level. There can be no doubt, therefore, that if we wish to destroy the cult of bigness and restore quality in all things, we can do so only by placing man in his correct relationship to the universe and by setting aside this unnatural and inorganic lowest-cost-rule.

We need something which will destroy a rule which makes the manufacturer or the provider of services cut the cloth according to the customer's purse as distinct from his needs or his wishes, or, alternatively, which forces the buyer to seek the lowest quality and the poorest service because he can pay no more.

It cannot be beyond the ingenuity of man to find a solution to a problem, which is becoming fundamentally more and more urgent as time goes on. Economists and political scientists discuss many aspects of social relationships but they rarely discuss the perversity and danger to humanity of a system, which tends to drag everything and everybody down to the lowest common denominator. The Church, too, gives no sign of understanding this problem.

A solution is proposed which might operate either by assisting the manufacturer to sell the best quality goods at lower prices without financial loss to himself or by giving the purchaser an additional income outside the normal wage-price-cost system to enable him to pay the higher prices of better quality goods and services, or a combination of these methods.

This, in general, is the ladder, which might be placed at men's feet, the climbing of which will instruct them better than any teaching can do. With it, if they will, they can achieve the greatest heights and align their actions to their highest aspirations. Here it is merely a proposal: there can be no doubt that our brilliant economists can find the right method of application if they set about it. Their efforts are devoted to other ends.

We said that from morning till night most men and women are concerned with nourishing and sheltering themselves and their families. The emphasis is on the amount of time spent on these functions.

Of course, great joy can be gained from caring for one's family, but with the facilities, which science and invention can now put at our disposal, the time factor should be steadily reduced. No person today should be so exhausted by this pursuit that he has time left only for the most limited interests. Primitive man no doubt spent most of his time concerning himself with the acquisition of these essential things but today they need occupy but a fraction of our time. The setting aside of the lowest-cost rule as just proposed would put nourishment, clothing and sheltering of the individual in places proportionate to their importance.

With an increased ability to acquire high quality goods, man should soon recognise industry's sole purpose, namely, to serve his requirements in goods and services. He will soon learn to demand the best quality goods and in many things he will learn to ask for things which are better and somewhat different from those already possessed by his neighbours. In time, mass-produced goods will no longer be attractive. The giving of the utmost personal satisfaction will be his criterion of value. Under this new drive for quality craftsmanship will thrive and the great mass-production industries will decline. Men will again be able to take pride in their work.

After an initial bout of over-indulgence, with consequent ill health, men will learn to take a real interest in food, in its choice and preparation. They will learn to demand and be ready to pay for only the best quality of naturally grown foodstuffs. This demand will in turn revolutionise agriculture and force farmers to look to their soil, to produce only the highest quality products, which can be done only by intensive individual natural soil culture.

As man climbs the ladder above mediocrity, he will recognise that he alone is responsible for the state of health of his body: the whole emphasis will be on personal responsibility in all things but particularly in matters of health. Resort to medical drugs will be seen as a form of escape from personal responsibility for health, which can only be maintained by self-mastery and self-control. The body can take a surprising amount of punishment and abuse but the laws of cause and effect cannot be circumvented, even by the saints.

Because all enterprise and initiative has not been destroyed by the glorification of mere magnitude, men will rise from one rung of the ladder to the next according to the strength of their characters and the virility of the hidden urge within them to find freedom. Thus individuality will grow and men will throw off mass conceptions of life, which, as we have said, are the greatest danger to human society.

The demand for quality would increase the need for craftsmanship. Employers would seek more and more workers with creative ability; men who can work better and so satisfy the ever-growing variety of human requirements.

The greater sense of security, the absence of the need to hurry, the debunking of bigness and increased leisure would give men

(Continued on page 11.)

## WITNESS

By Whittaker Chambers

Price 27/6, post-free.

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. Not 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; 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 unbiased mind can read it without realising that Hiss was undoubtedly guilty of the charges made against him.

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"New Times," March 11, 1955—Page 7.



## SOME ECONOMIC ASPECTS ON THE APPLICATION OF ORGANIC MANURES TO THE SOIL

By H. HOLT, in "Victorian Compost News"

In view of the increasing difficulties often experienced in obtaining sufficient quantities of organic matter necessary to maintain soil fertility at a satisfactory level, it behoves the agriculturist and the horticulturist to utilise the obtainable organic matter as economically as possible, therefore a brief outline of the decomposition processes of the organic matter and the physical effects it has upon the soil may be helpful to a better understanding and lead to a more economical utilisation.

The principal objectives for applying organic matter to the soil are ultimately to increase the available reserve of plant foods and to improve the physical condition of the soil. Both these objectives can be achieved only when the soil conditions are favourable to an intense microbial activity. This is very important, because crude organic matter when first added to the soil may contain all the necessary plant nutrients, and the potential properties for soil improvements, and yet because of its complex nature its inherent constituents and properties are so locked up that neither are available or effective, and it is only by the reaction set up in the decomposition process, effected by the soil microbes, that the nutrients are released and the physical properties become effective.

Crude organic matter is the substance formed by living organisms, and the largest bulk by far is of vegetable origin. Where this organic matter is added to the soil, and the soil conditions are favourable, the soil microbes feed on it ravenously and multiply enormously. They attack the most easily digested constituents, i.e., sugars and starches — and later direct their attentions on the more complex substances, i.e., celluloses, lignins and proteins — in fact, some of the very complex substances such as lignin is so complex that many organisms are unable to effect its decomposition, and this is the reason why it remains so long in the soil.

The carbon content of the carbonaceous food compound of the crude organic matter constitutes approximately 50 percent, of its bulk. Two-thirds of this carbon is utilised by the microbes as respiratory energy material, and the remaining one-third is assimilated into the formation of new microbial cells. The utilisation of the carbon for respiratory or breathing energy is

an oxidation or slow burning process, and is the same process that produces the heat in the compost heap. In this breathing process the oxygen used up in burning the carbon is obtained from the air in the soil, and in the reaction carbon dioxide and water vapour are given off, just the same as is exhaled from the lungs of animals and humans. In a waterlogged soil there is no air to breathe, as all the air has been driven out by the water, therefore aerobic decomposition is impossible.

In the formation of the new microbial cells the carbohydrates — particularly the sugar, starches, and some of the celluloses — of the carbonaceous food content of the crude organic matter are in the early stages of the decomposition processes converted into microbial protein. In order to affect this process the microbes must have access to nitrogen, because protein consists mainly of the same elements as the carbohydrates, plus nitrogen. This nitrogen is obtained largely from the nitrate salts, already dissolved in the soil solution, therefore the microbes in assimilating these salts render them for the time being immobile, consequently they are not available to the growing plants, and it is for this reason that a crop should not be sown too soon after adding crude organic matter to the soil.

Eventually all the readily digested materials of the crude organic matter will be decomposed, and the residues of these early decomposition processes is humus. The more resistant materials will be reduced to humus over a much longer period, and their decomposition is generally too slow to cause any inhibiting effects on plant growth. The humus so formed consists largely of dead microbial cells. It is not dead matter; far from it, in fact it is very dynamic, and further processes of decay are still proceeding, and are being carried on by new generations of microbes.

The individual particles of humus are microscopically small and cannot be seen

by the naked eye. What we see in our compost heap is generally a long way short of absolute humus, but the actual humus content is generally sufficiently high, and a large part of the remaining partially decomposed matter has reached such an advanced stage of decomposition that it can be applied direct to the soil without any risk of depressing plant growth.

In Nature humus is found mainly distributed through the topsoil. It is a wonderful soil aggregator, as it has the property of aggregating the finer soil particles into groups known as soil crumbs. These crumbs increase the pore space —

(Continued on page 9)

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## SOME ECONOMIC ASPECTS

(Continued from page 8.)

soil cavities — considerably, and thereby greatly facilitate the free drainage of excess water, and hence ensure soil aeration. These pore spaces also enable the roots of the growing plants to forge their way through the soil in search of food with little hindrance. The film of humus that is absorbed on the relatively large surface areas of these crumbs renders them more resistant to disintegration by water. This film also absorbs the nutrient salts dissolved in the soil solution, and holds them tenaciously against possible leaching away until sought out by the feeding roots of the growing plants; also it is on these humus-coated crumbs that the chemical and biochemical changes take place, which play such an important part in the soil fertility. Humus has also remarkable water-holding properties, and thereby increases the available water in the soil, much of which is retained and becomes of great benefit during periods of dry weather.

Humus is not the end product of the decomposition processes, the plant foods are still locked up, and are unavailable to the growing plants, therefore further decomposition must take place and the humus broken down by the microbes before the plant foods are released. Unfortunately, while the decomposition processes of the humus are proceeding the physical properties of the humus are being gradually destroyed, and although further supplies of humus are being slowly formed from the more resistant materials, sight must not be lost that the restoration of the physical condition of the soil is as equally essential for soil fertility, as the provision for plant foods, and since the physical properties are imparted to the soil during the decomposition processes, before the plant foods are released, and also they are gradually destroyed as the plant foods become available, it naturally follows that the first signs of falling soil fertility is the loss of soil structure, therefore long before this becomes apparent, replenishments of crude organic matter to the soil should be made.

As soon as the microbes have decomposed all the easily decomposable materials, and are unable to effect the decomposition of more resistant materials, and no fresh supplies of crude organic matter have been added to the soil in the meantime, they begin to decompose the microbial protein of the humus. This is a gradual and a much slower process, which is a decided advantage, otherwise the reserve nitrogen in the humus would soon be depleted and the soil lose its fertility. In this decomposition process, known as the "ammonification" process, the proteins are split up into their amino acid components when they are quickly decomposed into ammonia, carbon dioxide and water. The ammonia combines with the acids in the soil solution and exists as ammonium compounds in a dissolved state. Many species of both fungi and bacteria can bring about this ammonification, provided the soil is sufficiently moist and well aerated.

The next and final process is known as the "nitrification" process, and is the oxidation of the ammonium compounds by aerobic bacteria to form nitrates. Only a few species

of bacteria and no fungi, as far as is known, can effect this oxidation process. The process is complete in two stages. The first is the conversion of the ammonium compounds into nitrous acid, which is quickly neutralised by the gases in the soil to form nitrites, and the second stage is the direct oxidation of the nitrites to form nitrates.

In this "nitrifying" process both stages are aerobic; this means that the bacteria must have sufficient free oxygen from the air to effect the oxidation, therefore the soil must be well aerated. These bacteria cannot live in water-logged soils, hence nitrates cannot be formed in such soils, also the soil should not be too acid, not only because the bacteria function more effectively in a slightly acid to neutral soils, but because the nitrous acid produced in the first stage of the process has to be neutralised by an alkaline compound before the second stage can proceed, and in a very acid soil such an alkaline compound is not available.

Nitrates are very water soluble, and during heavy rains are likely to be leached away in considerable quantities, therefore every provision should be made to conserve them, strictly because the nitrogen taken up from the soil by the plants is largely in the form of nitrates.

No mention has yet been made of the mineral constituents of the organic matter in describing the above decomposition processes for the reason that the ties are centred around the carbon-nitrogen cycle, and although they are used and re-used by the microbes as nutrition, they are largely retained in the microbial protein. During the decomposition processes, part is gradually released into the soil, but in the main most is released during the "ammonification" process at the stage when the remaining carbon is nearing complete oxidation.

This is a brief outline of the decomposition processes that take place within the soil from the time the crude organic matter is first added until the end products (plant foods) are finally released, and conveys roughly the changing effects the residues of the various processes have upon soil fertility.

We will now try to interpret this into an economical use of the generally available crude organic materials.

The purpose of growing a green crop is to produce a large bulk of plant material, and when it has reached the desired stage of growth it is ploughed under the soil.

The main objectives of this purpose are to maintain or increase the humus content of the soil and thereby increase the nitrogen reserve in the soil, or retain the soluble plant nutrients that may be leached away if they were not immobilised, especially during very wet seasons, and if possible at the same time increase the nitrogen reserve.

The kind of green crop to grow will depend upon the purpose to be served, as well as the nature and conditions of the soil and the climatic conditions. When the soil is low in nitrogen, it is then advisable to grow a leguminous crop, because the nodule-forming bacteria that live in symbiotic relationship with leguminous plants are able to fix atmospheric nitrogen,

which is the characteristic feature of the nodules formed on the growing roots of these plants. When the soil is already rich in nitrates and the purpose of the crop is to conserve and render the nitrates immobile against possible loss by leaching, no special purpose would be served by growing a leguminous crop, because legumes when grown on such soil will draw on the nitrogen reserve like any other plant, and will not build up any extra nitrogen in the formation of the nodules. Under such conditions as these a much better purpose would be served by growing a vigorous non-leguminous crop that produces a much greater bulk of plant material, and thereby eventually return to the soil.

The time to sow the crop and when to plough it under also depends upon the purpose to be served and the climatic conditions. Generally the best time to sow is immediately following the first late summer or early autumn rains. At this time of the year especially, after a long, dry spell, the nitrate content of the soil is relatively high, and to sow early after the first rains much of these nitrates are absorbed by the young crop and thereby conserved against possible leaching by the heavy rains of winter. Also, at this time of the year the soil is still warm, and is therefore conducive to a good germination and vigorous growth before the cold winter weather sets in and plant growth is greatly reduced.

The heavy growth of a green crop makes a good ground cover, and helps to depress weed growth; also when heavy rains are experienced during late autumn and throughout the winter, it provides a good protection against soil erosion, and, in addition, the crop by transpiration will remove from the soil large amounts of excess water.

The best time to plough under is in the early spring, just before the crop reaches the flowering stage. At this stage the plants are very succulent, rich in sugars, starches and protein, and the celluloses are only partially mature and little lignin has been formed, consequently when the plant material is turned under a very speedy digestion by the soil microbes takes place, and within a short space of a few weeks the decomposition will be advanced sufficiently to allow the main crop to be sown without the danger of depressing plant growth, due to nitrogen starvation; in fact, most of the green crop plant matter will be well decomposed and plant nitrogen will be available in the soil.

When a green crop is ploughed under at this early stage large quantities of plant foods are released in a very short time, consequently the humus content and the nitrogen reserve has had little chance to accumulate; in fact, at times it is so small that after the second main crop the nitrogen reserve in the soil is such that there may not be sufficient nitrates present to yield a satisfactory third crop.

When the purpose of growing the green crop is to increase the humus content and the nitrogen reserve, the crop can be allowed to grow on and become more mature

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# SOME ECONOMIC ASPECTS

(Continued from page 9.)

before ploughing under. By adopting this method the decomposition will not be so rapid, and the sowing of the main crop may have to be held back perhaps for nearly two months after ploughing under, and in an area where artificial water is not available, and the natural rainfall low and unreliable, there is always the danger of leaving it too late for a main crop to be sown that season.

Agricultural land which is generally used for growing crops, and in an area where there is a dependable rainfall, should not be allowed to lie fallow and become over-run with weeds; it would be far better to sow it down to a good mixture of pasture grasses and legumes, and graze it down occasionally, until wanted again for crop production. By adopting this method the ground will be kept reasonably clean, many of the soluble plant nutrients will be immobilised into organic plant substances and thereby safeguarded against possible loss caused by leaching, and a good humus and nitrogen reserve build-up will be ensured.

In areas where there is a regular rainfall or an artificial water supply, a green crop can be grown at almost any time of the year.

Well-made and screened compost can and should always be incorporated into the topsoil and never used as a mulch. Although it may not be 100 percent humus, the materials that have not fully decomposed are not much removed from humus, and will in reasonable time become fully reduced, therefore, there is little danger of depressing plant growth even if applied into the root zones of the growing plants. When applied as mulch there is always the possibility of the surface portions drying out too far and for too long a period, with a consequent loss of nitrogen.

The high humus content of fully matured compost ensures the early release of plant nutrients soon after it has been incorporated into the soil; in fact, in all probability there is already present in the compost a good store of available nitrates.

The coarse screenings removed from the compost consists largely of lignins, and owing to their complex nature decompose very slowly, and are far removed from humus. It is often advocated that this material be re-used in subsequent compost heaps; no doubt this is very good practice, and eventually makes a very high-grade humus, but due to its resistance to decay it so often happens that it is transferred from heap to heap and is likely to become a bit tiresome. A better service can be served by spreading it as mulch beneath ornamental trees and shrubs, and if the larger pieces are broken down a little it does not present an untidy appearance in the home garden. This mulch can lie undistributed until it eventually breaks down, and in the meantime it not only keeps down weed growth, but gradually provides the tree or shrub with additional plant foods. Compost or humus is the only form of organic matter that can be applied into the root zones of growing plants at any time without depressing plant growth.

Half-ripe compost (second turning stage) can be used as surface mulch to advantage; it should not be spread less than two inches deep, and the exposed surface area should not be allowed to dry out unduly. There is no need to sieve compost when used for this purpose.

When unsieved compost is incorporated into the soil, it is advisable to leave sowing of seed for about two weeks, because sometimes some of the partially decomposed materials start up a lively microbial activity, attended with a rapid release of carbon dioxide, these conditions are not conducive to good germination.

Stable manure together with the bedding materials that are usually saturated with urine is too rich in nitrogen and other nutrients to be economically incorporated into the soil in a fresh condition. The release of nitrogen in its early stages of decay is so rapid that much of it is lost into the atmosphere, and many of the mineral constituents released during this early decomposition become fixed in the soil before they can be availed of by the growing plants, and to use it as a mulch is even more wasteful.

When incorporated into the soil in a fresh condition, the microbial activity is so intense that the soil cannot be cropped for nearly two months afterwards without the danger of burning the young, succulent plant growth.

Well-decayed stable manure can be applied to the soil with safety, but quite a lot of its manurial properties have been lost during the rotting process.

Fresh stable manure makes an excellent animal activator for the compost heap, and this is probably the most economical way of using it.

Poultry manure is even richer in nitrogen and mineral constituents than stable manure, and for the same reasons should never be applied direct to the soil.

As an animal activator to the compost heap it has no equal, and this is the only economical way of using it. Its fibre content is very low; therefore smaller quantities need only to be added to the compost heap. The spreading of farmyard manures over the land and followed immediately by discing in is common practice on the farm. It certainly improves the fertility of the soil, and may often be the most economical method of utilising it; but its full beneficial effects are not obtained by this practice, as much of the fertilising properties are lost.

Where the manure and urine from the farm animals can be collected economically, the most effective and advantageous way of using it is to convert it into compost before spreading it on the land, followed by discing in. By adopting this method the loss of valuable plant foods is reduced to a minimum, and the land receives the benefit of a better and greater bulk of fertilising organic material.

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## "SOCIAL CREDIT AND CATHOLICISM"

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## Life from the Soil

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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. Col. 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 pre-occupation 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."

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## THE CRIME OF Dr. STRASSER

(Continued from page 3.)

further their mutual interests in keeping Otto Strasser away from the country to which he belongs, and which stands in such urgent need of leadership such as his. "The State Department has instructed the American ambassador at Bonn, James G. Conant, to inform the German authorities that Dr. Otto Strasser's return to Germany under present circumstances does not appear opportune to the American Government." Thus runs a report from Washington, which followed that impertinence with the worse one that, although the West German regime had admitted that there were no grounds whatever for withholding Dr. Strasser's passport, and although the Government of Canada would place no obstacles in the way of his return, "the State Department, in agreement with the French Government, has now intervened . . . explaining that, on the eve of the ratification debate in the German Bundestag and the French Senate, matters are already complicated enough. The return of Otto Strasser and the jubilee in rightist circles in connection therewith would only serve to make the situation more difficult."

The reasons are not far to seek for the lengthy persecution of Dr. Strasser and the denial to him of his right to return to his own country — in direct contravention of Article 9 of the internationalists' own vaunted Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which declares that "no one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile." Firstly, Dr. Strasser has a most thorough knowledge of the internationalist conspiracy, with its links between Communism and the forces of international

finance. Secondly, he has proved conclusively that, vile though Hitler's persecution of the Jews may have been, the figure generally given of 6,000,000 Jews murdered by the Nazis is an outrageous exaggeration, by showing that never was there anything like that number of Jews within Hitler's reach.

These "crimes", in themselves, were enough to ensure that the international wielders of power would enlist the services of their lackey Governments to keep Dr. Strasser out of Germany. That the French Government should have been willing to cooperate is not surprising. It is clear the French lackeys of Wall Street were anxious that nothing be allowed to spoil the nicely worked arrangement whereby Germany will be semi-occupied until 1998, and the Saar economically tied to France. They have done too much to earn the gratitude of the paymasters of the world for us to be surprised at this timely intervention. A felicitous arrangement indeed, designed to benefit the politicians, and their masters, and the Communist flank of the internationalist force in one move!

Fortunately, there are people well aware of the power wielded by the international forces, which sought to keep Dr. Strasser out of his country, and ready to fight it unrelentingly. Had it not been for the vigorous protests of such people, Dr. Strasser might have ended his days in exile. That he is at last able to return to Germany shows that the evil plans of the international power-masters can finally be checked if those who are aware of them will fight them with sufficient courage and determination.

## HOW BIG IS SIZE?

(Continued from page 7.)

time to reflect upon the purpose of being. No longer will financial circumstances humiliate men, but, in the real sense of the word, they will feel humble before the possibilities, which would then stretch before them. Parents would no longer feel that their children might become mere straws in the whirlwind of events but would become individual forces able to turn events in their favour. The arbitrary distribution of rewards and punishments will no longer dominate men's lives and the present misused primary urges of hope and fear will have assumed their appropriate places in a world whose organisation and society would have the prime object of offering them security and peace.

Once this leaven of quality in all things has been infused into all aspects of life, the real wonders of the world would become apparent. The great modern material achievements of man, the so-called wonders of modern civilisation would no longer astonish us but we should be amazed at the wonderful powers, which reside within us — in the power of the mind, in character, in becoming the servant of humanity, the greatest of them all.

### A.B.C. ON COMMUNISM . . . 1/- by E. W. Fawkes.

An American publication, couched in simple terms, gives a good historical background to the Communist conspiracy

## A Physician Writes on Fluoridation

The following is an extract from the Journal of the Maine Medical Association (U.S.A.), March 1954. It is portion of a letter to the Editor by Adrian H. Scolten, M.D., of Portland, Maine, U.S.A.

"Some of us medical men who are in the daily private practice of medicine feel that a toxic poison whose dosage cannot be kept under complete control with the water works machinery of today, whose potency increases with boiling, and for which there is no known antidote, has dangerous possibilities. For me at least there are still too many unanswered questions to justify any endorsement.

"I have the firm belief that much more careful consideration should be given to the long range problems, as well as the immediate one, before a highly toxic chemical is added to our drinking water supply, just because certain individuals believe that it is good for the teeth of growing children for a short time in their growing period. I believe that this highly toxic chemical, now used in some public drinking water supplies, when taken in daily minute dosages, can constitute a serious hazard to the health and well-being of all people who must drink that water."

### 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.

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## The Church and The Money Monopoly

It is not necessary for the Church or individual Christians to be competent accountants or financial technicians in order to give moral judgment on a system, or to insist that it must produce in conformity with the Moral Law certain results of an opposite character, which have the hallmark of Truth.

A system, which is:

(1) Continually depreciating the value of money, so that through no fault of their own people's savings and capital is destroyed.

(2) Destroying the independence of governments and producers by placing them in pawn through a mountainous debt to the International Controllers of money.

(3) Wholly reliant on a continuous and increasing production of capital goods, exports and armaments in order to keep men both employed and with adequate purchasing power to absorb the consumers goods which do come on the market.

(4) Artificially intensifying competition so that by advertisement and publicity people are continually being persuaded that they want things of which their own natural inclinations have not taught them the need.

(5) Causing the "making of money" and "a job" to be the be-all and end-all of a man's working life.

(6) Perverting Technocracy into a monstrous tyranny, instead of facilitating its true and natural object: the freeing of a large and increasing number of people from paid employment for creative leisure. (A Full Employment policy in an age of powered-machinery is a wicked anachronism, designed to keep the population from being independent and in subjection to the Managerial State.)

Such a system (and we could easily lengthen the list of evils given) has all the marks of un-Truth.

The Church, which in faithfulness to its Founder should stand in society for all men to see as the pillar of Authority regarding the Truth, has never raised its voice against the system of the monopoly, which produces these evil results. This being so, it is inevitable that many sincere men and women will be, and in fact are, both astonished and disgusted.

Monopoly must by its very nature as the destroyer of freedom be against the law of God; and a system which produces such evil results is clearly likewise in flagrant contravention of the law.

—"Voice" (England), February 26.

## The Silting of the Hunter River

Floods are not a new problem in the Hunter Valley N.S.W. Approximately a dozen reports by various authorities have been made on Hunter River floods since 1868. But floods have become progressively worse. The last report was made in 1948 when, amongst other recommendations, it was urged that there be a 20-year programme of afforestation. But nothing was done to implement this programme. The Hunter River was at one time thirty to forty feet deep in places but today is only to ten feet deep at these same places. The building of levee banks has only tended to lift the level of the riverbed and has aggravated the problem.

It is as certain as the sunrise that there will be further bad flooding in the Hunter and other N.S.W. rivers unless something is done immediately to start dealing with the causes.

## Most Chickens Have Heart Trouble

More than 70 percent, of chickens one year of age or more have evidence of spontaneous arteriosclerosis of the arteries of the heart. The sclerosis is shown more by connective tissue proliferation of the arterial wall than by fatty deposits. As reported in "Science Digest", Dr. J. C. Patterson and associates of the University of Western Ontario, London, Canada, find that the disease recedes when cortisone is injected daily for two weeks.

—"Organic Gardening and Farming."

## DIET DOES IT

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