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ONE SHILLING & NINEPENCE FORTNIGHTLY

BRITISH EMPIRE BEING SURRENDERED TO INTERNATIONAL FINANCE

Radio Talk by Eric D. Butler over 3NE Wangaratta and 4ZR Roma

At present the peoples of all British countries are being subjected to a propaganda campaign, which indicates that 1956 may see further serious attacks upon the remaining sovereignty of the British Empire. The present propaganda theme is that the British peoples everywhere are suffering from the "problems of prosperity."

Although a large number of people would deny that they are as prosperous as the propagandists are making out they are, it is clear that they are not going to be permitted to be so prosperous in the immediate future. Financial controls such as credit restrictions and higher taxation are to be used to curb the prosperity, which we are told could, if unchecked, lead to our complete ruin. The present British Government is leading the way in this attack upon too much prosperity. And, significantly enough, the British are being told that they must do what the Australians, New Zealanders and Canadians must do: They must lesson home consumption and increase their exports. Restrictions must be placed upon imports. This growing emphasis upon the necessity for international trade is one of the manifestations of the materialist delirium, which is affecting the whole of the world today. An exchange of genuine surpluses between countries is one thing, but the frenzied at-

To all our readers

*Christmas Greetings
and best wishes for the
Coming Year*

tempts to gain export markets in order to make present domestic financial and economic rules work is a sign of madness which if persisted it must lead to complete disaster. Unless the British peoples change their economic and financial policies, it is only a matter of time before they pass under the complete control of those international financial groups who, although operating with their present headquarters in the U.S.A., exploit the American people to further their own will to power. In the post-war years there has been reams of rubbish published about the manner in which the American people as individuals generously made dollar loans available to other peoples in order that these peoples would not suffer economic hardships or fall prey to Communist subversion. The fact of the matter is that these vast dollar loans actually prevented the American economy from collapsing and were used by the controllers of financial policy to exploit the American people's production for the purpose of getting other peoples deeply involved in dollar debts, which can never be repaid under present financial rules. The Menzies-Fadden Government has boasted of the large dollar loans it has obtained from the International Monetary Fund, but it has not explained how these loans are to be repaid. Dollar debts can only be liquidated by earning dollars and all the talk in the world about export drives into the dollar areas does not alter the fact that while the Americans are governed by the same financial rules as are imposed in this and other British countries, they

cannot accept too many of our exports. If they did they would ruin their own economy. None of the British peoples can possibly overcome the so-called dollar gap under present economic and financial policies. I have before me the U.S.A. Foreign Operations Administration Report on U.S.A.

(Continued on page 2.)

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.

British Empire Being Surrendered

(Continued from page 1.)

Foreign Trade Developments. Dealing with operations during 1954, the report states that in 1954 U.S. exports were up by 4 percent and imports down by 7 percent. The report also states, "Increased exports stimulated the United States economy in 1954, and kept the decline in industrial production from assuming greater proportions. The decrease in imports, combined with the rise in exports led to a sizeable increase in the 'dollar gap' during the year". This frank admission by an official American authority should dispose of the nonsense about the British peoples being responsible for the dollar gap because they are not working hard enough, they are not efficient enough, or they are consuming too much. Dollar diplomacy against the British peoples was intensified during the war years. The Roosevelt regime, representing an unholy alliance of international Communists and international financial interests, openly set out to break the economic sovereignty of the British Empire. Even Sir Winston Churchill could see this and protested that he had not been appointed His Majesty's first minister in order to preside over the liquidation of the British Empire. But his protestation did not prevent the implementations of the policies designed to hasten liquidation. No sooner was the Military war in Europe safely won, with the British peoples making the largest contribution per head of the population to the victory, than the first blow in the postwar dollar offensive was delivered. Lease-Lend was abruptly ended in 1945. Apparently the American President, Mr. Harry Truman, did not even understand the implications of what he agreed to, because he has subsequently admitted that he would never have signed the document cancelling "Lease-Lend" if he had read the document first. This admission is an indication of how hidden government operates. The sudden cessation of "Lease-Lend" led to the British asking for the first post-war dollar loan in order to rebuild their war-destroyed industries. It was also alleged that the British must import food from the dollar areas. No real effort has been made to obtain food from the British dominions, where production could have been rapidly stimulated with adequate financial assistance. The Marshall Aid plan also camouflaged the fact that the whole of Europe was going deeper into dollar debt and that the dollar loans were being used to try and force the European to agree to political objectives, which otherwise they would have rejected. The major price, which the British were compelled to pay for the first post-war dollar loan, was agreement to the Bretton Woods financial agreements. The fact that a top secret Communist in

the U.S.A., the late Harry Dexter White, played a key role in framing these agreements and is reported as having said that they would enable the Empire Trading preference system to be broken up, is another example of the alliance between international communism and international finance. Once the British Government was forced to agree to the Bretton Woods agreements, it was comparatively easy to force the other Governments of the British Empire to follow suit. The one exception was New Zealand, where public opposition to dollar diplomacy was strong enough to prevent acceptance of the Bretton Woods agreements. It is claimed, of course, that the New Zealanders are now suffering because they have not made themselves eligible for dollar loans. But I know of no evidence to suggest that the material standard of living of the New Zealand individual is lower because his Government has not joined up with the international financial groups. If it were argued that the importation of real capital is necessary to develop this country and New Zealand in order that we can have a much larger population and provide ourselves with greater military defence, then surely politicians concerned with the preservation of the British heritage would ensure that such capital is obtained within the British Empire. If the British Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. R. Butler, were an economic realist he would, of course, be endeavouring to ensure that all necessary British imports be obtained from Empire countries like Australia. He should be endeavouring to foster necessary trade within the Empire instead of asking the British people to sacrifice in order that they can try and compete in the dollar markets. However, such a policy would bring down the wrath of the dollar diplomats upon any politicians suggesting such a policy. There is plenty of propaganda in favour of the necessity of freeing international trade but every effort is made to hide the fact that international trade for the sake of international trade merely enslaves the individual everywhere. The real objective of this propaganda is to force the British peoples to surrender all their protective measures for maintaining their economic sovereignty. And without genuine economic sovereignty there is no real sovereignty. The resources of the British Empire are vast, while the skill of our people equals or surpasses that of any other peoples of the world. If this Empire passes into history because its peoples could not understand the realities of finance and economics, it will be the first occasion in history when a great Empire has surrendered without a fight. Needless to say, complete surrender would mean that our assets would pass to the owners and controllers of dollar debts. The Federal Government is proposing further approaches to the pawnbrokers.

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; 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.

WHO SHALL CONTROL FINANCIAL CREDIT?

Many people who have a partial grasp of Major Douglas' demonstration of the automatic shortage of purchasing power fail to grasp the implications. Any reader who is not quite conversant with that demonstration should look it up and read it again (e.g. "Credit-Power and Democracy" 4th Ed. p. 20). The end of the last sentence of the demonstration is: "since A will not purchase A & B, a proportion of the product at least equivalent to B must be distributed by a form of purchasing-power which is not comprised in the descriptions grouped under A." Most critics of Major Douglas fail to comprehend this statement, or overlook it, or ignore it. Douglas does not say that at all times there is a shortage of purchasing power to buy the goods offered for sale to the public; yet time and time again Douglas' demonstration is wrongly paraphrased in this way.

The whole point is that when consumable goods are put on the market for sale to the public, the latter no longer have in their possession the purchasing power issued in producing those goods. That money was spent as earned—savings can be ignored—a week, a month, a year, perhaps a decade before. To be able to buy the goods, the public must get the money elsewhere, i.e. from a source other than the wages, salaries, and profit paid out in producing those goods. In almost every case the supplementary source is more production, wanted or unwanted, useful or injurious. It is this compulsion to produce more that is so objectionable a feature of the present financial set-up. It makes the controllers of money into dictators. It is they who can dictate how much wealth shall reach the public and what the nature of any further production shall be.

Before considering this aspect further, let us consider some examples, recently put forward by a genuine and honest enquirer, who failed to see the implications. He assumes that a tree is felled and dining tables are made of the wood. He continues: "Undoubtedly the money earned in felling the tree will have been spent long before the table in question appears in the shop window; but it must be borne in mind that while the table is on view for sale there will be available for spending among the public money that will have just immediately been earned in felling another tree, the proceeds of which are not at the moment available for sale as a finished article". In other words the tables can not be sold at the rate of natural demand for them; but at the rate at which future tree-felling is financed. More trees must be cut down before existing tables can be sold.

The same enquirer puts forward another example: "If in executing a contract, say, for a thousand suits, a clothier pays out in wages £1,000 a week for five successive weeks, making a total in all of £5,000, is one to conclude that there is a discrepancy of £4,000 between purchasing power and goods for sale if that £1,000 in weekly wages has circulated between the bank and the public five times? That may be true in one sense; but one has to remember that those suits are expected to last for five weeks until they are replaced by a

succeeding batch. Therefore if during that period an average of a fifth of that number of suits is sold each week this amount in cash will be earned each week by the same employees in executing a further contract". He admits the shortage of purchasing power and the compulsion of making more and more suits to allow those already produced to be sold. The suggestion that there is a shortage and asking, "what does it matter?" is a type of criticism that has been put forward many times. The very existence of compulsion, which gives financial control to men who are interested only in finance, is objectionable; but that is not all.

In both examples there is the facile assumption that the only outlay in manufacture is wages. Except in some professions and a few arts and craft assumption is incorrect and most misleading. In practically all industries there are considerable overheads. They all use machinery, to say nothing of the factory buildings themselves. All that capital was made in the near or distant past and the purchasing power issued in their production has long since been spent. But charges on account of them still go into costs. The wages, salaries, and drawn profit in any given period must equal the accumulated wages charges plus overheads included in the price of consumable goods if these are to be bought. In other words the gap is temporarily bridged by increasing future gaps. In closing the gap capital goods, e.g. buildings, machinery, are manufactured that, as figures show, are constantly reducing the wages, etc., content of costs.

We can admit that the automatic and progressive shortage of purchasing power has in a way been beneficial. Thanks to it this and every other industrialised country was forced to build up the vast capital productive machinery we all see around us. There are however limits to this process. There comes a time, in Great Britain it came about 1910, when the productive capacity is such as to satisfy the demands of the public for necessities and reasonable luxuries. From that moment onwards it becomes essential to finance leisure and no longer only work. It did not happen here or anywhere else and work became work for work's sake, not for the benefits of any

(Continued on page 9.)

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 will of the U.S. 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 the Moscow gangsters and their unhappy victims.

It is not surprising that Zionist organisations in the U.S.A. have been campaigning vigorously 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 that Australians unfortunately know little about.

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MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16.

No. 25.

A Year of Achievement

In this our last issue for 1955 we feel that we should briefly survey our achievements for the year and indicate our general programme for 1956. When the Christian Campaign for Freedom was launched in 1954 we immediately realised the vital importance of this new development of Social Credit activity. Needless to say, there was the usual time lag before some realised the significance of this attempt to lift our work on to a higher level and thus make it more effective and less vulnerable. We realise, of course, that there are some very sincere and well-meaning monetary reformers who persist in their belief that the salvation of our distraught world can only come through the formation of yet another party and competition for power in a field where the forces of evil are almost completely in control. But the lessons of history, which Douglas termed crystallised politics, and our own experiences after a quarter of a century of endeavour, have surely taught all realists that if the future of our civilization is to be decided by mere numbers alone, we are defeated now. But we firmly reject this view.

The fundamental values upon which Western Civilization has been built are those of Christianity. In the early history of Western Civilization these values were understood and nourished by comparatively few. The few were not discouraged by the fact that they were a small minority. There would have been no Western Civilization if every new advance had been first submitted to the majority vote. Western Civilization grew because there was conversion to a belief in Christian values. Belief in these values has been progressively undermined in recent times and it is clear therefore that a Social Credit Civilization is impossible until there is a determined effort to ensure that these values are better understood and find expression in our social structure.

1955 was devoted primarily to developing this matter and to introducing the matter to the Churches and to the responsible members of the community. Mr. Eric Butler's two months tour this year was designed to make contact with Church spokesmen and to interest them in our work. The results were most encouraging, and proved once again that Douglas's advice when accepted and applied always carries our campaign forward. Although our special trial subscription campaign did not reach the objective of 1,000, a hand full of supporters paid for approximately 600 trial subscriptions. This campaign has introduced our ideas to responsible members of the community. There will, as usual, be a time limit before tangible results are seen, but the important thing is that seeds have been sown, which will develop.

Many valuable new contacts have been made during the year, our literature sales have been good, and we are confident that during 1956 we will start to reap the harvest of this year's efforts. We will be intensifying the Christian Campaign for Freedom next year and hope that all our supporters will join in with real zeal. Although our numbers are not large, our influence has been considerable because we are working in accordance with that Truth which Christ, whose birthday we now prepare to celebrate, said would make us free.

S491/10/- Now Subscribed to Special Financial Appeal

A further £29/10/- has come into the special financial appeal since our last issue. This amount was subscribed by four supporters: Mr. B. Spencer, Colac, Vic., £9; Mr. W. E. Prosser, 10/-; Mr. A. E. Kroker, £10; Mr. Les Donaghue, £10. If we are to reach our objective within a reasonable period of time, it is essential for all supporters to give immediate thought to the maximum contribution they can make. We are still hoping that there are many more individuals who can match the donations given by the pioneers of this special appeal. Four of these men between them subscribed £284—an average of £67/10/- each. There must be a large number who could easily send £50 and thus make certain that in 1956 we make a major advance from the foundations we established in 1955.

It has been pointed out to us that the pre-Christmas period is generally a most difficult one for most people, and that many would probably prefer to wait until the New Year before making their contribution. We are therefore fixing a time limit. March 31 will therefore be the deadline. It is essential that we fix a final date in order that we can plan ahead. It is impossible to do this unless we are certain how much financial support we are going to obtain.

Please send all contributions to the special financial appeal to Mr. John Browne, Social Credit Action Group, c/o Box 1226L, G.P.O., Melbourne.

Keep This Date Free

Readers are asked to note that Mr. W. J. Carruthers of Ringwood will be running a barbecue at his home in Ringwood on Saturday, February 25. The last barbecue was an outstanding financial and social success. The next one will be even better. We ask all supporters to bring as many friends and associates as they can. All funds raised will be used to help general Social Credit activities.

BOOKS

"Wyndham Lewis," by Hugh Kenner (Methuen). Brilliant analysis by one of America's finest critics of (in Eliot's words) "the greatest prose master of style of my generation". Lewis is also "one of the three or four most important of modern painters".

"Unconditional Hatred," by Captain Russell Grenfell (Devin-Adair). One of Britain's top naval strategists punctures the Churchill myth and produces facts concerning the laying waste of Europe during War Two.

"Selected Fables of La Fontaine," translated by Marianne Moore (Faber & Faber). Miss Moore is among the top half-dozen makers of poetry in the world today.

Magazine Section

THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY APES OF GOD*

The arrival of the Whigs was heralded in the early eighteenth century by a clique of writers who bore considerable resemblance to the New Statesman lefty boys of the nineteen thirties, many of whom are still writing. Addison and Steele were the most eminent and the papers which they founded—"The Spectator" and "The Guardian"—have retained a place of honour on the shelves of nearly all those who enjoy eighteenth century English.

In Button's Coffee House where the Whig writers had their regular meeting place, their "little senate", there were many nonentities.

If meagre Gildon draws his venal quill
I wish the Man a Dinner, and sit still.
Hunger, not Malice, makes such Authors print
And who'l wage war with Bedlam or the Mint?

What was, disquieting to Pope was that a man of Addison's gifts should have the intellectual dishonesty to prefer bad writing to good. Was it because he was jealous of anyone who had abilities akin to his own? Was it because he had reduced his canon of literary criticism to the political question "Are you going my way?" a habit which Mr. Wyndham Lewis in "The Writer and the Absolute" has so aptly studied in its contemporary application? Was it the canker of Whiggery whose basic assumption of inverted values would eventually distort the judgment of its adherents on all other-things?

Pope's poem continues to question the motives of this "One whom better stars conspire to bless" but who can nevertheless

Damn with faint praise, assent with civil Leer
And without sneering, teach the rest to sneer; . . .
Who, when two Wits on rival themes contest,
Approves them both, but likes the worst the best:
Like Cato gives his little Senate Laws,
And sits attentive to his own Applause;
While Pops and Templars ev'ry Sentence raise,
And wonder with a foolish Face of Praise:
What pity, Heav'n if such a man there be?
Who would not weep, if Addison were He?

It is notable that the two really great writers of the age stood outside this group, were hostile to it, and did not "march" with the popular movements of their time, neither in politics, economics nor literature. The twentieth century reader who has refrained from boarding the joy carts of "brave new world" philosophies will find much that is apt to his own predicament in the works of Swift and Pope. He will find that quality of writing which makes great literature an enjoyable conversation between civilised men of all epochs and against which the yells of the contemporary yahoos are an unimportant and minor irritation.

POETRY "UNDEMOCRATIC"

The use of the first episode from Gulliver's Travels as a "kids' book" has meant that few people can bring themselves to read such "school stuff" again at an age

* Alexander Pope—The Twickenham Edition:
(1) Vol. VI.—The Minor Poems—Editors: Norman Ault and John Butt (Methuen).
(2) Vol. V.—The Dunciad—Editor: James Sutherland (Methuen).

when they would be capable of enjoying and understanding it. Pope, too, has long suffered the fate of being called "a malicious little hunchback with an inferiority complex who took it out of his friends". A worse fate resulted from the dogma propagated by Wordsworth, that poetry ought to be in simple words about simple things for simple people. In itself the dogma is of minor importance and Wordsworth as a poet had the good sense to ignore his own theories about poetry when he did his best work. The unfortunate part about these theories was that they fitted in so perfectly with the philosophy of democracy that they became part and parcel of democracy's folklore. After all it is rather unfair that poetry should demand a knowledge and cultural background available to everyone who has enjoyed mass education or taken a short course in "culture" (the "democratic pass-word" according to Mr. John Dewey, the great "liberal" educationist). All very well to learn up a lot of high falutin' stuff if you need it for a job or an exam—that at least is pardonable—but to learn it in order to enjoy yourself in ways that the common man cannot enjoy himself is beyond the pale of highbrow lunacy, and is "undemocratic". Pope cannot be lapped up casually from the page at a first reading. He assumed that his reader would have an extensive knowledge as well as a ready wit to perceive references to contemporary politicians and scribblers however unimportant. For a full enjoyment of Pope's major works the modern reader requires a text with extensive commentary and an eighteenth century "Who's Who". There is also much sifting to be done between the various possible readings of the text. The editor is often faced with a manuscript and many different editions of a poem appearing in Pope's lifetime, sometimes seen through the press under his supervision, and has to decide which reading must be preserved.

The editors of the Twickenham Edition, which has been appearing and disappearing over the last decade or so, have in the main, been worthy trustees of Pope's gift to posterity. In particular the two volumes under discussion have had editors of marked distinction in Pope scholarship. The "Minor

(Continued on page 6)

CONTEMPORARY MENTALITY

. . . within our own communities we have devised all manner of laws and regulations to promote the welfare of all citizens. Our states are extraordinarily complex organisations, and the aim of all the complexity is good order and a fair deal for everyone. . .

. . . mechanical inventions have shrunk our earth to what is in effect a single work community . . . and in rapid succession we pass through the airports of what were a few years ago distant and alien peoples.

The United Nations, understanding the lessons of two world wars, seeks to promote the creation of international rules of conduct and to provide machinery for friendly co-operation of nations in maintenance of peace and in every field of human effort.

One of the most important "specialised agencies" of the United Nations is UNESCO . . . Its work is to find facts, to advise, and to stimulate action.

—Melbourne "Age", "Section for Schools,"

Perhaps this conference might be inclined to draw up a draft for a World Population Fund, half at least of the resources of which, in my opinion, should be devoted to a most important single piece of research—the provision of a simple, foolproof and cheap contraceptive.

—Professor Julian Huxley, at 4th World Parliament Conference on World Government, London 1954. (From "The Menace of World Government.")

This is the unsavoury part of the story the evidence that the blushing Foreign Office may have discounted security reports because Burgess and Maclean came from the proper families and schools.

—Dr. Peter Russo, Melbourne "Argus" 25/11/55.

A Roman Catholic priest has denounced as "insulting" the naming of a new bridge across the Delaware River as the Walt Whitman Bridge. He said the poet was "unworthy" of such an honor. Father James Ryan, of St. Anne's Church, Westville, New Jersey, said: "Even a cursory glance at Whitman and his work will reveal how unworthy he is of this posthumous honour".

A.A.P. Report from N.Y., Melbourne "Herald," 24/11/55.

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THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY APES OF GOD

(Continued from page 5)

Poems" have appeared for the first time recently under the joint editorship of Norman Ault and John Butt. Norman Ault had already given us "New Light on Pope, Pope's Own Miscellany" and the first volume of the "Prose Works" (Shakespeare Head Press) before he died leaving the present volume in preparation. It has been completed by John Butt and his work in this field makes one hope that he will one day complete the second volume of the "Prose Works". The "Minor Poems" are arranged in date order with the titles of the major works inserted in their due place, the reader being referred to the relevant volumes, all but one of which are now available. We are thus provided with a biographical background to the series as well as an interesting study of Pope's poetic career in progress.

Pope was perhaps the greatest of English satirists and his most important satire was his mock epic "The Dunciad". Though the Twickenham edition of this work first appeared in 1943, it was virtually unobtainable for many years until the second edition was released just over a year ago. The editor, Professor James Sutherland, has an unequalled knowledge of eighteenth century London and it is in this volume that we find the biographical index of persons mentioned in the works as a whole.

The satire involved considerable knowledge of London gossip of the day and it was not long before Swift, writing to Pope, voiced a general opinion that "twenty miles from London nobody understands hints, initial letters, or town facts..." Pope used the footnotes, which he pretended someone else had written, as a means of rubbing in the satire by adding further details about the characters lampooned. He even had his special technique of inserting his more dangerously provocative material in a second or third edition "when nobody took any notice of it".

The footnotes, which were already important in Pope's time, are doubly so today. Professor Sutherland is a modest editor who hides his own notes in brackets between those of the learned scriblerus. What is even more pleasing is that he does not take upon himself the role of apologist. Pope needs no apologist. Apologies presuppose an acceptance of the old legend about the hunchback's inferiority complex. By citing contemporary attacks on Pope the editor shows how remarkably restrained the great satirist really was.

Why did Pope write the "Dunciad"? What was his object in immortalising these strutting apes-of-God who would otherwise have remained in obscurity? Why did he want to bring the "Smithfield Muses to the Ear of Kings"?

They were specimens, literary specimens of a rot that extended far beyond the world

of literature, just as the apes in the work of our own great satirist, Mr. Wyndham Lewis, are specimens of a mental decay which made possible the present state of world politics.

When the Hanoverian dynasty was imported, the "bright young" Whigs stopped their writing and stepped into jobs for the boys. Addison became Secretary of State and was able to find "official" posts for his protégés, among them the original Namby Pamby. Namby Pamby was Pope's or Swift's nickname for the Poet, Ambrose Phillips, who was given the job of tutor to George Is' grandchildren. The nickname was based on the supposed efforts of the children to pronounce their tutor's name. This poet, whom Addison seemed to prefer to Pope, produced in 1717 an epistle to a man by the name of Craggs (then Secretary at War): —

O Craggs, for Candour known! Indulge awhile
My fond Desire, and on my Labour smile; . . .
My heart which at the name of BRUNSWICK
fires,

And no assistance from the Muse requires.

That was the sort of poet required by the new regime, or one who would stick to bird life and plant pots. They were pseudo poets designed to keep up a facade of literature while ensuring that the genuine article was kept at a distance, just as the Hanoverians were dupes of the whigocracy to keep the real king out of the way.

USURY AND LETTERS

Behind the facade lay the world of Walpole and the South Sea Bubble, of the financial oligarchy, which had obtained the legal sanction implicit in the Bank of England Charter (the immediate result of the 1688 revolution) for its extended powers at the expense of the Sovereign and the Patricians, at the expense of the Constitution. The usurer was firmly and securely in the saddle and it is a commonplace of history that the periods of "usurocratic" supremacy are marked by decay, often emasculation of letters. The financial trickster does not want a language that allows his victims to know what his "contracts" really mean—not until after they are signed. Nor does he want a literature sufficiently alive to penetrate the facade of society behind which he operates. Outright suppression has the disadvantage of attracting unnecessary attention to the suppressed. A "conspiracy of noise" has normally been found more effective than a "conspiracy of silence". One can pay innumerable dunces to make a noise, and sometimes one can pay the genuine writer to divert his energies to work of minor importance. With publicity one can manufacture a mythological ape of dullness, a Tibbald, a Cibber, or a Spenderite.

This was what Pope saw in the great expansion of the book trade, which took place in the eighteenth century. There were the "tycoons" (small fry by our standards) who groomed writers for the new public, which was being built up for letters. Compared with his successors who appeared in the "Dunciad", the original Namby Pamby had

some pretensions to being a poet. Button's Coffee House was a distinguished gathering beside the later assemblies of scribbling apes where

. . . new-born Nonsense first is taught to cry.
Maggots half-form'd, in rhyme exactly meet
And learn to crawl upon poetic feet.

And behind this there were always the political implications of the opening lines:

Say from what cause, in vain decry'd and curst,
Still Dunces the second reigns like Dunces the first?

Criticism of contemporary politics was dangerous. Pope's sympathies lay with the Tories (before the name was misappropriated by one of the sub-factions of Whiggery). He had published in 1723 a posthumous edition of the works of his early patron, the Duke of Buckingham. Three days after publication the stock was seized on account of the Jacobite principles professed by the author. As James Sutherland remarks "Pope thus found himself, as the editor of a seditious work, in an awkward situation, and hostile journalists made the most of it". Among the Whig playboys "Tory" and "Jacobite" were shouted with the same orgiastic pleasure or "Reactionary" by their leftist descendents of the nineteen-thirties, forties and fifties

For a poet to attack the Ministry on its own ground—politics—was to take heavy personal risks without the prospect of achieving any result. However, no amelioration of current affairs was likely while letters remained the pastime of pygmies. Besides, it was not "the great ones of the world" that made Pope angry. The editor quotes a letter to Swift in 1725. "My spleen is at the little rogues of it: it would vex one more to be knocked on the head with a piss-pot than by a thunderbolt... But to be squirted to death, as poor Wycherley said to me on his death bed, by apothecaries' apprentices, by the understrappers of under-secretaries to secretaries who were no secretaries—this would provoke as dull a dog as Phillips himself."

The puppet writers, the dunces, the apes and their attempt to produce a counterfeit literature were the aspect of the rot with which Pope was most competent to deal. By setting them in a mock epic, the "Dunciad", he threw into relief the contrast between their scribbling and real literature. One should remember of course that Pope was still paying the scribblers the indirect compliment of treating their work as bad literature where we should ignore its equivalent as beyond the pale of literary criticism altogether. It was this extensive misuse of the medium of communication, which he wished to stop. "Do not gentle reader rest too secure in thy contempt of the Instruments for such a revolution in learning, or despise such weak agents as have been described in our poem, but remember what the Dutch stories' somewhere relate, that a great part of their Provinces was once overflowed by a small opening made in one of their dykes by a single Water-Rat."

The "Dunciad" is not only the greatest of Pope's works but the one, which aroused the most attention during his lifetime.

(Continued on page 8)

LITERARY DIGEST

EZRA POUND, ECONOMIST: JUSTICE THE FINAL GOAL

(From the Rome daily, "Il Secolo d'Italia," 4/5/55)

Economy, for the poet, arises from Justice, and the study of the former leads to the latter.

"People do not yet understand sufficiently that every sane economics, every economic process rises from justice."

For Pound economics starts from justice, and the study of economics leads to the contemplation of justice.

That is the first term and the last, between which sane economics should develop. Pound is a poet and as such cannot be an economist in the ordinary sense of the word; he is not hunting for money in playing economic combinations. Money, lucre, profit are the final goals towards which Economics leads in the proper sense of well being. Justice is the final goal of Pound's economics.

"But money does not contain energy," energy is in the will. Materialism v. voluntarism. Pound does not conceive a world enslaved by money, he does not think of "money as the only thing capable of being changed into any and every form of activity."

He shifts the traditional terms: Mill wrote "capital: the accumulated sum of human labour," but for Pound this capital is not possessed of energy, it is the will and the physical powers of the people which have the energy. That is to say it is the people who condition the State's capacity, not the money.

The Nation is faced with all kinds of monopolies, statal and private.

For Mill and Marx money is at the centre of their thought, and their philosophy revolves from money in order to get round to it again, even while showing that capital does harm by shutting existence inside the inescapable economic system in which labour becomes a merchandise, or that money and thence capital gets into the hands of the few. For Pound on the other hand, money becomes a measure and a symbol of collaboration, "collaboration between nature, the State and the people who do the work."

Money is no longer at the centre of the economic system, but on the edges and made of paper: it is "a certificate of work done inside a system evaluated, estimated, consecrated by the State."

According to Pound the human race has been fooled by a few people, that is by those who really understand the true significance of money and have used it to conquer the world by means of the usuro-crat system. It was a Rothschild, as he says, who wrote: "Those who understand it (the significance of money) will be busy exploiting it, and the public will perhaps never understand that it (the usuro-crat system) is contrary to their interests."

Money ought to be a measure of exchange

between products which labour has created for the nation, not a form, of monopoly, that is a means of crushing debtors by interest. All the more so in that the money is made out of nothing.

"The war where brave men die and are wounded, this war of ours began, or the present phase of it began in 1694 with the foundation of the Bank of England. Pater-son said in the circular he sent out to get shareholders: "The bank hath benefit of all the interest on all the moneys that it creates out of nothing."

Money ought to belong to the nation. Only the nation has the right to govern its own money. Hence Pound's dislike of all usuro-crat systems and forms, of monopoly, of exploitation, and cornering, of all that system of things based on immediate and future interest percentages. He sees labour subjugated by money, and that held by a few people who monopolize labours activity through usury.

The sense of justice dominates Pound so strongly that he breaks out with such sentences as: "Let 'em put up a commemorative urinal to the jew Mond who, in the year of "sanctions", said: 'Napoleon was a good man. It took us twenty years to crush him. It will not take us 20 years to crush Mus-solini. And the economic war has begun' ". The nation under the domination of the usurers' private banks, the nation going to war to increase "orders" from industry so that the big monopolists can grow fatter, that is mercantilist war, not a war for life.

DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM BETRAYED

"The democratic system was betrayed. The American democratic system of 1776 was more or less corporative", in the sense that the delegates from the 13 colonies constituted a sort of chamber of "corporations" and "the Nation ruled its own national money."*

Congress has power to issue money and to determine the value thereof. And it becomes the symbol of collaboration between the State, nature and the people.

Still it was managed by the few. And between 1861-1865 Civil War between debtors and creditors, with the moral pretext that the debtors owned Negro slaves. "And finally, right in the middle of the war, the government was betrayed and the people sold to the Rothschild through Sherman, Inkleheimer and Vandergould."**

And history repeated itself in 1942 and Pound wanted an end to certain particular

* Editor's footnote: Corsini slightly oversimplifies, but that was the Constitutional aim.

RECOMMENDED READING

A New York correspondent recommends the following books:

HISTORY OF MONETARY CRIMES - By Alexander Del Mar —1-dollar — 96 pp. Paper. "The insidious crime of secretly or surreptitiously altering the monetary laws of a State — than which no more dastardly or fatal blow can be dealt at its liberties — is not a new one."

BEHIND THE U.N. FRONT, by Alice Widener, Cloth, 2 dollars, 127 pp. Quotes Clark M. Eichelberger, Executive Director of the American Association for the United Nations as saying: "I do not retreat at all from the position that the United Nations without a change in charter can evolve by a voluntary pooling of sovereignty to such elements of world government as they need to save our lives . . ."

ON BEING A JEW, by Rabbi Leon I. Feuer, 2 dollars, 25 cents, Cloth, 135 pp. . . . "Anti-Semitism is illegal in the Constitution of the Soviet Union . . ." " . . . It ought to be better known and more widely emulated." Page 131.

UNWOBLING PIVOT AND GREAT DIGEST OF CONFUCIUS translated by Ezra Pound, Bilingual Edition, 3 dollars, 50 cents, Cloth, 187 pp. Paper Edition 1 dollar. "One humane family can humanize a whole state; one courteous family can lift a whole state into courtesy; one grasping and perverse man can drive a nation into chaos. Such are the seeds of movement . . ."

BEHIND THE NEWS FACADE

We continue here our list of overseas magazines and papers to assist those who are investigating behind the facade erected by the Daily Press and the usual liberal and left wing "periodical tosh."

THE FREEMAN, forthright U.S. monthly, publishes facts re the U.N. and communist subversion in U.S. Government; Orange, Conn., U.S.A., 5 dollars a year.

NINE, literary quarterly, publishes writers like Roy Campbell, Basil Bunting, Arthur Waley, Ezra Pound, Hugh Kenner, 69 Grosvenor Rd., Tunbridge Wells, Kent, U.K. 15/- a year.

ABC, Italian political review, contains much news that never reaches Australia, Piazza in Campo Marzio 3, Rome, Italy. 50 lire a copy.

VOICE, a Christian voice raised against materialism.

WILLIAMS' INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY, keeps close watch on public figures, sources of campaign-funds, etc., Box 868, Santa Ana, Calif., U.S.A. 25 cents a copy.

usurious currents which had tied up the American Nation.

—Renato Corsini.

"New Times," December 16, 1955—Page 7

The Eighteenth Century Apes of God

(Continued from page 6)

Even his enemies recognised its importance. A contemporary account of the day of publication describes how "A crowd of Authors besieged the Shop; Entreaties, Advices, Threats of Law and Battery, nay Cries of Treason were all employ'd to hinder the coming out of the "Dunciad": On the other side the Booksellers and Hawkers made as great Efforts to procure it . . ."

It is interesting to note that it is not only the Dunces of Grub Street that come in for attack but also the prototypes of the "machine-age pedagogue". Pope had intended to write a "Moral Essay" on Education; but looking into the matter more closely he decided that the only fit place to describe contemporary education was in a sottisier, so he incorporated this material in the additional book which he added to the "Dunciad" in 1742. In apostrophising the Goddess Dulness he writes:

For thee we dim the eyes, and stuff the head
With all such reading as was never read:
For thee explain a thing till all men doubt it.
And write about it, Goddess, write about it. . . .
Full in the midst of Euclid dip at once
And petrify a Genius to a Dunce. . . .
With the same Cement, ever sure to bind.
We bring to one dead level every mind

to which he adds in a note "A recapitulation of the Whole Course of Modern Education describ'd in this book, which confines Youth to the Study of Words only in Schools, subjects them to the Authority of Systems in the Universities, and deludes them with the names of Party Distinctions in the World. All equally concurring to narrow the Understanding, and establish Slavery and Error in Literature, Philosophy, and Politics".

Art after Art goes out, and all is Night
is the best known line of the great satire, but how many of the later generations of faux litterateurs have conveniently soft peddled the connection between this and the whigocracy (or democracy)? Had they read and understood the poem a few lines further back they would have found a most definite connection, and a reference to Walpole that could hardly have been clearer:

. . . Princes are but things, •
Born for First Ministers, as Slaves for Kings,
Tyrant supreme! shall three Estates command?
And MAKE ONE MIGHTY DUNCIAD OF THE
LAND.

—Dryden Gilling Smith in "The Fig Tree"
(England).

Church Report on The Financial System

The Spring Session of the Church Assembly in 1935 distinguished between employment, which was labour done for money, and work, which fulfilled the creative instincts of mankind. A miner might be employed in a pit, for example, and work in his garden. The report went on to demand an impartial enquiry into the financial system, and demanded that bankers should not be the assessors of this system,

Page 8—"New Times," December 16, 1955.

judging their own case. The session criticised the system because it did not fulfill the functions of a financial system. A member of the Assembly said later: "A problem is to find a monetary mechanism to distribute whatever it may be that a nation decides to grow or to make."

In 1941, these subjects were among others discussed at the Malvern Conference. Speaking of the Conference, Archbishop Temple said: "Our discussion led us to suggest that the remedy must be sought in a new appreciation of the true relation between finance, production, distribution and consumption, and adjustments of our economic system in the light of this; we further considered that a reform of the money system might be indispensable."

In 1945 a volume called "Prospect for Christendom" was edited by Mr. M. B. Reckitt and contained an essay by the Rev. D. G. Peck on "The Function of Finance", which contains the following: "The banks may create out of nothing; but the ultimate basis of the loan is the national wealth. They thus lend to the community what already belongs to it, and they then charge tribute upon it. But much more than this iniquity, they want the loan back again."

Technical knowledge of these matters is, of course, not to be expected from bishop or priest, but they are printed here to show that churchmen have given them attention and considered that there was a fatal flaw in this department. Finance, however, should be quite a subsidiary matter, serving the community by oiling the wheels of its material life in order that the much more important aspects of life — spiritual, cultural, creative — may take their rightful place.

"Seek ye first..." But the material side of life will not take its right place until the truth about man's life is authoritatively voiced and spread through the land.

—"Voice", Journal of the Christian Campaign for Freedom, England, Dec.3.

Towards Communism

This is the heading of a useful article in the "Tablet" of November 12, describing the attitude of those who have escaped or migrated from Soviet-occupied lands to the West. The "unbelievable corruption" of the Communist system is agreed on by them, also that it is "based on incredible disloyalty and lack of trust." Waste is colossal, they say, and the workers complain that "they cannot work as efficiently as they would like to," while so many products are removed by Russia.

Before rejoicing too much over this situation, we should compare notes on these matters with observers of things at home—corruption, disloyalty, waste and imposed inefficiency, with so many of our products removed—by export.

Some of the intellectuals of occupied territories deplore the clumsiness of the Russians, with the bitter regret: "What a pity that the Swiss or the Swedes did not invent Communism!" —"Voice" (England),

Further to the above comment we might ponder on Sir Winston Churchill's recent

appeal that more British young people should become specialist technicians in order that the Communist lead in producing technicians may be overcome. The Communists will welcome this type of competition. The more technical barbarians produced, the easier to create the collectivist, managerial State.

Anglican Archdeacon's Sound Statement

The recent statement at St. Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, by Archdeacon J. A. Schofield, concerning the relationship of the Christian Churches to politics, may well be regarded as "a straw in the wind". According to the Melbourne "Age" report of November 28, Archdeacon Schofield said:

"To the Christian an election is an opportunity to advance the Kingship of Christ, and he will vote for the party and the man who, in his judgment, will best serve this highest cause of all.

"Reminders of this have been given by certain bishops of the Church of Rome, and by at least one bishop of the Church of England. They see in atheistic Communism the deadliest enemy of the Kingship of Christ, and have warned their people to beware of giving aid to the enemy at this hour."

Archdeacon Schofield said objection had been taken to their action.

Objection to the particular advice they gave was, of course, permissible in a free society. Objection to their giving advice, the attempt to silence them, was indefensible and offended that tradition of justice, which was the glory of the Christian heritage, imperilled today.

(Archdeacon Schofield was referring to the recent statement by the Bishop of Ballarat, who gave certain advice to electors concerning the elections. The Bishop's statement did not go as far as we would desire, but it can be regarded as an encouraging start.)

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"SOCIAL CREDIT AND CATHOLICISM"

By George-Henri Levesque, O.P.
Professor of Economics, Laval and Montreal
Universities, Dominican House of Studies
Ottawa.

Introduction by Eric D. Butler,
(post free). Order now Price 6d.

WHO SHALL CONTROL FINANCIAL CREDIT?

Continued from page 3

results of work. Planned destruction in peace and war had to be introduced so as to distribute purchasing power, so that certain interests could retain financial and therefore political control over the people. The financing of leisure would mean economic independence for more and more and ultimately for all individuals. That this, the only solution of "unemployment", "overproduction", and the many threats that hang over us, was not introduced, is ample evidence of a conspiracy to enslave mankind. Control of money, instead of passing to the people in their capacity of consumers, has remained with a few quite irresponsible and probably anti-Christian men. The financial system, as far as policy is concerned, does not reflect reality. It is a living lie and therefore has failed and goes on failing.

Curiously enough there are people who pretend to be Social Crediters and who quote Douglas in parts, who yet maintain that under a sane system, the "State" or the "Government", or the "Treasury", or some other abstraction should "control money". Perhaps they know not what they say. Perhaps they really cannot distinguish between control of policy and administration; but these people we must disown. Whether their mind is muddled or whether consciously or unconsciously they picture themselves in the seat of control is immaterial. Control of financial policy, if civilisation is to be saved at all, must go to the general public. The administration of that policy must, like all organisations be hierarchical. The public however is an organism. To turn an organism into an organisation is to kill it. Major Douglas drew attention to the economic power of control resident in the housewives' purses. In the years before price control was as prevalent as it is now, mainly thanks to rings, cartels and monopolies, the housewife registered a vote in the form of money laid on the counter as to what to buy and where to buy it. Control of money hampers the housewife. The function of money is to help distribute goods coming on to the market for sale. Money must, to function properly, bear a relation to real demand and to potential production. Real demand comes from the public. Productive capacity is very great indeed and will be vast when automation and atomic energy are in full swing. Neither should be subject to the control of a clique. Beware of men who advocate control of money!

—H. R. PURCHASE, in "The Social Crediter."

"The Soil Community"

In a most interesting article in "The New Statesman" for December 8, 1951, entitled "Soil and Socialism", Mr. Edward Hyams took to task the reviewer of Professor David Mitrany's recent book, "Marx Against the Peasant", for suggesting that the function of the land was to supply the

towns with cheap food and implying that "peasants hate being peasants . . . they would like to be factory hands" (which is the stock Marxist assumption). Mr. Hyams proceeded:

A natural soil is a community of matter and species working as a complex of life. Part of the life of a soil—for soil is alive—are the plants growing in it, and the animals living on them. All consume soil, but dying where they live they return to it the substances of their bodies, lent to them for a lifetime. As some vegetables, some animals, require one element rather than another, vegetable and animal species associate together in mutually supporting complementary groups. A soil community is therefore a working, living, balanced association of numerous species. If any part of it is thrown out of adjustment, the basis of it all, the soil itself is threatened, and may die. The peasant does not kill the soil, because he substitutes for a natural soil community, an artificial one—tame plants and tame animals for the wild ones, but like the wild ones mutually supporting and all returning, in the end, to the soil. For though the peasant may sell away part of his harvest, he contributes labour to his farm, which the natural soil-community does not receive.

Why does the peasant imitate nature in this way? For two reasons: he is a subsistence farmer, only secondarily interested in cash-crops, and therefore he must grow numerous species because his needs are several not singular. But there is another reason: the peasant has soil sense, which is, in origin, religious. He knows that he is one of the species, which make up the soil community he has created, and is not outside that community; he works, not to "conquer" Nature—that is an idiotic notion—but to co-operate with her.

Mr. Hyams went on to say that peasantry means mixed farming, soil conservation and fertility increment. N.W. Europe, after about 5,000 years of peasant farming, is more fertile and productive than when it was virgin soil, whereas Mediterranean Europe and North Africa were reduced to semi-sterility or barren deserts by "agricultural industrialists" practising plantation slavery and monoculture, i.e., the Carthaginians, later imitated by the Romans. "Hannibal's revenge was the exhaustion and erosion of Italian soils."

The modern agricultural industrialist, wrote Mr. Hyams, is "what the gutter press calls a 'scientist'—not a philosopher like Newton and Goethe, but "a sort of shrewd, educated mechanic" who regards the soil as dead, dirty stuff, and crops and livestock as machines for turning into money.

The capitalist, with a whacking great dividend in mind, and the Marxist, with a factory population to feed, are only too glad to take this fellow's word for what he says he can do, and are blissfully ignorant or criminally indifferent to the fact that their "scientist" is sloppily inefficient and wasteful; for, instead of using the natural cycle cleverly to exploit plant life which constantly remakes its own nutrients in

humus, he first of all exhausts the existing humus and then has to build and operate huge factories to make artificial fertilisers and distribute them, at enormous expense. —"Mother Earth," England.

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. Borin'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.

Order from The Victorian League of Rights, Box 1052J, G.P.O., Melbourne.

Earthworms

"Darwin on Humus and the Earthworm" 17/7

A description of the original investigation of the habits of earthworms and the role they play in soil building.

Printed by W. and J. Barr, 105-7 Brunswick Street Fitzroy, N.6, for New Times Ltd., McEwan House Melbourne, on whose authority these articles appear

"New Times," December 16, 1955—Page 9



IS AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH ON THE RIGHT TRACK

An American entomologist gives his views on a most vital question—whose winning the battle with insects?

Current research on insect control is leading us in the wrong direction; the stress now placed on chemical control of pesty bugs by experiment stations is not solving the problem, but intensifying it. The vital point is that at this very moment we are in a poorer insect control position than ever before! And objective studies show that excessive use of insecticides and pesticides has caused this predicament.

There can be no denying that insects give us very real competition for the food that we want on our dining tables. In fact, they are probably our foremost competitors — to the extent of billions of dollars worth of food annually.

For thousands of years past, insects were accepted as part of the normal environment over which man had little control, and it is only within the past 50 years that man has actually made any real attempt to reduce their effectiveness as food consumers. But just how successful has this attempt been?

An authoritative answer is given by A. D. Pickett, officer-in-charge of the Fruit Insect Section of the Kentville, Nova Scotia Experimental Station in his report, "A Critique on Insect Chemical Control Methods."

Certain plant extracts have been used as insecticides to some extent for a long time, but according to Mr. Pickett — there are few records of the successful application of chemicals to protect plants until Paris Green was used in 1867. "From that time on, the use of chemicals for the control of plant pests has been gradually accelerated until today the manufacture of insecticides and other pesticides is one of our big business enterprises. The insect most responsible for initiating the use of insecticides was the Colorado potato beetle. Some day the insecticide industry will probably raise a monument to this 'bug', which went berserk, and instead of continuing to feed on its normal host, the buffalo burr, attacked the most important food plant — the potato — planted by the new settlers trekking into the American West."

As is known, since then use of insecticides has shot up. It's like the story of the little boy who discovered ice cream; then ate and ate and ate; next he discovered sundaes; then ate and ate and ate. With

the ice cream, he just got a little sick; with the sundaes, he darn near died. Then he didn't eat nearly so much.

Well, chemical sprays are going through the same cycle. They are getting more and more potent. Right now I'd say we're coming to the 'sundae' stage.

Indiscriminate use of chemicals for the control of plant pests may cause untold damage, writes Mr. Pickett. "The introduction of such quick-acting and highly toxic chemicals as D.D.T. has served to focus attention on this problem. It is encouraging to note that such outstanding entomologists as Dr. P. N. Annand, Chief, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, Washington, B.C., and Dr. V. B. Wigglesworth, Director, Agricultural Research Council, Unit of Insect Physiology, Cambridge, England, have directed attention to this matter."

Mr. Pickett goes on to cite that the worst part of the problem is that the results are not always so quickly apparent as in the case of D.D.T. This insecticide, often spoken of as selective, is in reality most likely effective against more insects than any other chemical widely tested to date. The fact that it does not kill all insects and related arthropods, such as mites, is generally regarded as a decided weakness. But the fact remains that at least some of the failures of D.D.T. in pest control are almost immediately seen. When D.D.T. is applied to apple trees to control codling moth, on which it is extremely effective, it has the serious fault of killing many of the predators of pest mites and the latter begin to build up, being freed from attack by those other species, which normally prey upon them.

"Consequently, it becomes a case where the fruit grower is trading one pest for another. The obvious solution according to the insecticide entomologist is to include something that will destroy mites. If this

(Continued on page 11.)

ORGANIC FARMING AND GARDENING BOOKS

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by Franklin Bicknell, D.M., M.R.C.P. A well-known English authority on nutrition examines the causes of the decline of the British peoples. He points out how the goodness of food is destroyed by refining and the addition of chemicals.

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Is Agricultural Research on Right Track?

(Continued from page 10.)

is accomplished successfully, and it may quite well be, will this be the end of the difficulties?" asks Mr. Pickett. "That is the key question we all want answered. Nor is it just a question of codling moth and mites, since this one phenomenon occurs frequently with respect to the control of other pests."

Now here is first-hand evidence showing why chemicals currently in use are not helping alleviate the insect problem: For 11 years, Mr. Pickett was a field entomologist in the fruit producing sections of Nova Scotia. It was his job to visit fruit growers; examine their orchards; and advise them on their pest control problems.

The early attempts at chemical control of insects made it appear only reasonable to Mr. Pickett that in a period of a few years, intensive control practices with chemicals should reduce the orchard pest problem almost to the vanishing point.

But such was not the case. Mr. Pickett's disillusionment began when this result failed to occur and instead insect control problems actually intensified over the years. He states: "While it is true that we can now control almost any specific pest with which we have to deal, nevertheless, the problem of controlling pests is more acute than ever and the expense of the control programme has increased many fold with the end not yet in sight."

Here are a few specific examples: Oystershell scale is listed as being an occasional pest of young apple trees in Nova Scotia for over 50 years, but it did not become important until about 20 years ago. Then it became a pest of major importance and killed many hundreds of trees, seriously damaging many others. Whole orchards became heavily infested; the bark on the limbs and twigs becoming completely encrusted with scales very often.

A survey showed that the insect was rarely a problem on unsprayed trees, although it could be found on most of them in small numbers. In all cases, the severe injury was found on sprayed orchards and usually those most thoroughly sprayed had the greatest population of scales. Investigation showed that the reason for this phenomenon was the destructive action of sulphur sprays on the parasites and predators, which under normal conditions keep the scale population at a low level. It was found that sulphur had an inhibiting effect on the parasitic chalcid wasp and the predacious mite, two natural enemies of the scale.

A similar study showed the European red mite to increase in numbers when sulphur sprays were used.

A similar study showed the European red mite to increase in numbers when sulphur sprays were used.

The history of the codling moth — the world's most important apple pest — in Nova Scotia closely parallels that of the oystershell scale. Of little importance for a long time, the codling moth also has

become a major problem, although its numbers did not increase appreciably on unsprayed trees.

Close association with all these studies makes Mr. Pickett particularly aware of the seriousness of the problem. Following are some of his conclusions:

"The question that growers must eventually decide is whether the cost of control is economically justified. Research men should occasionally take time out from their hectic scramble of trying to concoct new chemicals or of ransacking the pharmacopoeia for old ones that will destroy all kinds of plant pests and ask themselves whether they are making any real progress or merely chasing a phantom. No one can definitely answer this question at present but enough evidence is available to enable us to speculate with some rationality on what the final outcome may be."

". . . It is recognized that there has been too great a tendency for scientific workers so compartmentalize the work within their immediate sphere of influence. This has tended to throw production and research programmes out of balance and to focus attention on some particular aspect rather than to regard fruit growing as an integrated problem. The work of Haseman in Missouri on the effect of soil minerals on the pest populations of plants supports this point of view. Prof. E. H. Strickland has very clearly pointed out the dangers in using such potent insecticides at D.D.T. over wide areas. Other authors, including some of our more outstanding entomologists, have expressed, occasionally, the opinion that chemicals cannot be depended upon for the elimination of insect problems.

". . . Is it to be considered an entomological triumph, when at considerable expense, a fruit grower is able to eliminate the codling moth as a pest of economic importance but has his crop severely injured by leaf rollers or mites? Is it a sign of progress when with great effort, and the extensive use of chemicals, pests are maintained at such a level that the grower has been able to produce saleable fruit only to find that the soil has become impregnated with poisonous materials to the extent that it is unproductive? In other words, to use a common cliché, is it not possible to win the battle and lose the war?"

". . . Most people who know anything about natural history realize that in nature there are elaborate and intricately balanced mechanisms for limiting animal populations. In the case of insects this balance is maintained in a variety of ways but mostly by the pressures exerted by the physical environment such as weather, by the availability of food and by biological control . . . When we consider the competition between injurious and beneficial species of plants and animals, it is obvious that the relative equilibria that nature has evolved should not be drastically disturbed.

While this balance is not absolute but is constantly fluctuating, depending on the pressures of all the environmental factors involved, anything that critically alters this balance may create a series of changes which may have far-reaching consequences, ". . . It is difficult to say what complications may eventually develop from the indiscriminate use of chemicals in establishing toxic conditions in soils and in affecting soil organisms. . . . A recent article by J. Sidney Gates indicates some of the dangers involved in using some of the new insecticides in respect to soil toxicity. It could happen that posterity will condemn the present generation as despoilers on account of the indiscriminate dissemination of poisons.

". . . As an example of the trend in research work, of sixty-one papers presented at a recent entomological conference, fifty-six dealt with the empirical testing of insecticides and none was concerned with the cumulative effects of the application of these chemicals over a period of time.

". . . There are a number of reasons, most of them economic, why this policy has been altered to develop as it has. There are many incentives established and various pressures exerted to induce the carrying on of insecticide testing but there is little to encourage long-term ecological studies of the changes in the complex biological relationships that may be brought about by the application of spray chemicals.

". . . A truly scientific approach to agricultural problems is imperative. The policies at present predominating are shortsighted and empirical, and our whole philosophy needs a thorough re-examination. As a basis for argument, the following approach to the problems of pest control is suggested. "Agricultural practices are the conscious attempts of man, who is himself a factor in the biotic community, to so alter the interactions of the factors in his environment that he may bring about advantages favourable to himself in his competition with other species. There must be recognition of the fact that he is a part of the whole and when he wishes to alter the normal functioning of the component parts he must realize that although he can single these parts out for study he cannot, in the natural community, alter one factor without disturbing many others. It follows then that in the control of insects the measures employed must be considered not only in relation to a few pest species but in their effects on the ecologic whole which would include the total effect of his efforts on the fauna and flora of the whole community.

(Continued on page 12.)

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

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

"New Times," December 16, 1955—Page 11.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

(Continued from page 11)

"If we cannot isolate the insect pest problem from the problems of agriculture it is equally true that we cannot deal with the insect pests alone when we apply chemicals which are indiscriminately destructive. It seems an obvious conclusion that we cannot hope to find chemicals that will kill only the injurious species and be innocuous to the beneficial forms. The hope that we can destroy all insects, including the pests, without in some way damaging irreparably the biotic and physiological relationships of nature seems equally barren."

Mr. Pickett's observations of present-day research are so clear and well documented that this writer feels no further comment is needed. In fact, the only comment necessary is from those people in charge of research.

Perhaps natural methods of insect control will not be the entire answer, but surely our scientists cannot know until they have thoroughly analyzed this phase. Until such time, we can only restate the fact that CURRENT RESEARCH ON INSECT CONTROL IS TAKING US IN THE WRONG DIRECTION AND THAT THE INSECT PROBLEM WILL GET MUCH WORSE IF THE SAME COURSE IS CONTINUED.

Soils and Souls

We agree with the Psalmist "the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof". We gladly accept the harvests, which the soil provides. But has man no responsibility except to take? History has proved conclusively that when a people or a nation

has slipped into the rut of only taking without an equalising spirit of giving, disaster is the final end. To exploit the good earth and thus sacrifice the rights of future generations is a self-evident sin against God as well as man. Soil conservation and soul conservation go hand in hand. They rise or decline together. —The Rev. Otto Gruber.

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