

# THE NEW TIMES

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*"Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free"*

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MELBOURNE, FRIDAY

30th October, 1959

## EDITORIAL

### PREMIER BOLTE'S ASTONISHING VIEWS ON INFLATION

Following the announcement of the latest cost of living figures, the Victorian Premier, Mr. Bolte, made the astonishing observation that the increase of 3/- a week in Melbourne was a sign of the prosperity being enjoyed by Victorians. This astonishing view will not be shared by all those on fixed incomes and pensions. Mr. Bolte's statement is, of course, one more blatant admission by Liberal leaders that they no longer pay even lip service to the policy of "putting shillings back into the pound" and are open supporters of the immoral policy of "controlled inflation."

Once again we repeat the truth first made clear by C. H. Douglas: Progressive increases in the price level are inevitable while present financial and economic policies are continued. Various financial controls have been tried, and the automatic cost of living adjustment of Federal wage awards was abolished six years ago in an attempt to halt inflation. But the price level has continued to increase. In Melbourne, for example, the total increase in the cost of living figures has been 12/- for the past 12 months. If these increases are an indication of the prosperity Mr. Bolte speaks about, then surely the more inflation the greater the prosperity!

It is true that the majority of people would prefer inflation to deflation, but only because they have been conditioned to believe that there is no genuine alternative to either of these policies. The future of Western Civilisation will be decided, to a very great degree, by this question of introducing a policy, which reduces prices to the benefit of all sections of the community. Reduced prices are economically possible because the real cost of production has been progressively reduced by labour-saving equipment and greater efficiency. Why, then, do prices continue to increase? The major reason is because there is a continuous expansion of new financial credits for capital expansion designed primarily to provide "full employment" in order that monetary incomes can be distributed. If there is any reduction in the rate of expanding new financial credits, there is an immediate slowing down of the economy, one feature of which is unemployment. The central problem therefore resolves itself into one of how to ensure that adequate purchasing power is distributed to consumers without forcing them to engage in unnecessary economic activities, which must be reflected in an increasing price level.

Modern man is so mesmerised by abstractionism that he accepts with little criticism the official policy of "full employment" even though in his private life he endeavours to arrange his life so that he has the maximum time to devote to pursuits, which he likes for their own sake, and for the pleasure they give him. The necessary work to provide the basic requirements of civilised life is done by a very small percentage of the population. And they are hampered by the activities of the majority; most of whom are engaged in activities, which are not only useless but in many cases are blatant economic sabotage.

The prosperity mentioned by Mr. Bolte is merely the use of monetary policy to put everyone to work, including married women, so that they can obtain monetary incomes. It does not matter if they are merely filling in forms to see how many other people are filling in forms, or engaged in trying to solve the unsolvable problems created by the building of big cities. They are "fully employed" and there is little hope of building up any substantial financial reserves from their monetary incomes, because the steady increase in the rise of the price level, together with high taxation, ensures that, after obtaining the essentials of life, people have little or nothing left. As we have often observed, the financial situation, does roughly reflect the economic realities; the compulsion of the individual to engage in unnecessary activities in order to obtain what he really requires from the production system.

One of the logical results of a continuation of present economic and financial policies could be a situation where, with the use of automation, the real requirements of the people could be provided by less than 5 percent of the total population. But if it were insisted that the 95 percent could

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## NEWS SECTION

**Khrushchev Meets Baruch:** The visit of the Communist gangster Khrushchev to the U.S.A. would not have been complete without seeing the leading Zionist financier. In spite of the allegedly "anti-Semitic" policy of Mr. Khrushchev and his associates, it is reported from the U.S.A. that Mr. Baruch greeted Mr. Khrushchev cordially and had a discussion with him. We do not know what was discussed, but it is opportune to recall that Baruch has always been favourably regarded by Communist leaders since the time of Lenin, who offered Baruch a job in Russia. Mr. Baruch declined, possibly because he felt that Mr. Ashberg, chief director of the Russian financial system, was doing an excellent job.

**Inflation Worries Manufacturers' Leader:** Mr. Stanley Hope, President of the American National Association of Manufacturers, has told the General Confederation of Italian Industry, "chronic inflation had steadily undermined the economy in most free nations since the war ended." But Mr. Hope's only alternative to inflation was a "spartan monetary and fiscal" policy by governments in order "to maintain a stable currency." Any attempt to impose "spartan" monetary policies must lead to an even worse undermining of economies, the rapid growth of unemployment and revolutionary conditions favouring the Communists.

The use of the adjective "spartan" to describe a monetary policy suggests that Mr. Hope does not understand that the only justification for such a policy would be a "spartan" economy. But the present economy, particularly the American economy, is the very reverse of spartan. What is urgently required is a financial policy reflecting economic truth.

**Synagogues in Spain:** A synagogue was opened in Madrid last week—the first since the Jews were expelled from Spain 467 years ago. I cannot in honesty say that the news makes an impact on my emotions. As far as my own views are concerned, wherever Jews congregate they are at liberty to build as many synagogues as they please. But while the news does not excite me, I think it is tremendously significant. When American "aid" was first given to Spain I recognised at once that the Trojan Horse trick was being employed. The result of that "aid" has been to step up imports to a point where the Spanish economy is endangered and the proud Spanish Government has to toe the line in obedience to foreign financial fiats. Am I wrong in thinking that the opening in Madrid of the first synagogue for nearly five hundred years is another sign of that subjection?

Jewish influence was very strong when Azana

held the reins of government in the early 'thirties. It was even stronger when Azana came back at the head of his Popular Front in 1936. It was the animating force, which sustained the left-wing armies in the field during the Civil War. Yet only in the year 1959, under the rule of General Franco, is a synagogue erected in Madrid. I find that fact very remarkable, the more so in that tolerance even of Christian Protestantism is not one of the most noticeable features of the regime. Does it not demonstrate yet again the enormous power of international Jewish finance? - A. K. Chesterton in *Candour*, 9th October.

**Betrayal As "Good Business":** I have read with horror and disgust the remarks attributed to Great Britain's Trade Commissioner in Canada by various Canadian newspapers. The passage, which follows, is taken from the Vancouver Sun:

"Britain is in favour of trading with Russia instead of the Commonwealth if prices are cheaper, the top U.K. trade commissioner to Canada said today.

"Kenneth McGregor said in Vancouver that the United Kingdom would definitely put 'pounds before loyalty to the Commonwealth' if Russia undercuts world prices.

" 'It's a matter of good business,' he said.

"The Russians have been behaving themselves as far as trading is concerned. I don't see why we shouldn't trade with them."

"Good business"! In two world wars the splendid Canadian storm-troops did not offer their lives in tens of thousands because they supposed it was "good business" to die. The thought uppermost in their minds was the survival of the British world, of which they were proud to acclaim Canada a part. Today the survival of the British world is a factor of no importance even to the British Government. Its official stooge in Canada precisely sums up the policy of the Board of Trade in his assertion that cheap prices, being "good business", are of greater value than standing by our Canadian kinsmen. It is a squalid and despicable attitude. Should Wall Street create another world slump, is it conceivable that the Soviet Union, founded and sustained on butchery and slavery, will unite with us to secure insulation against its effects as did the Dominions when Imperial Preference was brought into being at Ottawa twenty-five years ago? Should there be a third world war, will the Soviet Union align itself with us as did Canada on the instant in 1914 and 1939? After our deliberate neglect of them we should be lucky, in such an event, should the Dominions raise a finger to help us. Does *Candour* exaggerate when it describes the policies of the British Government as treasonable?

## FAR-REACHING EFFECTS OF ANGLICAN SYNOD'S RESOLUTIONS

The resolutions carried at the recent Anglican Synod, one on Communism and the other on the coming Communist-inspired "Peace" Congress, have already had widespread effects. And there are numerous indications that these effects are going to be much more far-reaching than most people realise.

The frenzied smear-campaign against Mr. Eric Butler has not only failed completely; it has in fact rallied the most encouraging support for Mr. Butler's activities. The raising of the old "anti-Semitic" smear in an attempt to intimidate the clergy has had the opposite effect. Many are asking intelligent questions concerning what Mr. Butler stands for, and one development is the proposal for a special study group amongst the clergy.

The Anglican Synod's declaration against sending a delegation to the "Peace" Congress was one of the greatest blows the organisers of the Congress have suffered. This decision has had its effects right throughout Australia and has been widely quoted. Mr. Butler's address on Communism at the Synod, which clearly showed that Communism is the policy of a philosophy, has also been widely quoted throughout Australia. His recent Paper on The Philosophy of Communism is now being printed in booklet form.

Addressing a meeting of Melbourne supporters last week, Mr. Butler outlined recent activities and developments, pointing out that there was growing concern about the development and influence of the activities he was directing. He was convinced that the concentration upon quality rather than quantity was bearing most encouraging fruit. The movement was becoming progressively better equipped to deal with the developing crisis. The time was opportune for a completely new conception of the movement's future.

A special committee was set up at last week's meeting to consider ways and means of taking major organisational steps as essential for what is planned for the future. It is hoped to announce to supporters in the near future just what is planned. The main thing for all supporters to grasp firmly is that recent developments have shown that a comparatively small number who know what to do and how to do can have a decisive impact upon events.

THE NEW TIMES

## TOWARDS SOCIAL CREDIT

Social Credit is not a religion. But it is a doctrine, which is far-reaching in its effects. It will take its place in legislation when it will have sufficiently pervaded and infused the minds and hearts of citizens and when it exerts the principal influence in their social lives.

Now, in order to arrive at this stage it is not necessary that everyone should understand the doctrine of Douglas. But it is necessary that a sufficient number of the citizenry should be enlightened in and formed to the Social Credit philosophy in order to act as beacons to the others, to be the yeast which will raise the masses, to be the leaders in influencing the elected representatives of the people, whatever may be the party names of these representatives.

This is a work, which has no ending. It is the work peculiar to our movement.

We regret that in the western parts of our country there have been formed Social Credit political parties; they are more likely to close doors than to open minds. Above all, they are likely to degrade the Social Credit ideal, in bringing Social Credit down to the level of a mere party whose purpose is to seize power rather than to develop the power of the people through the formation of strong and enlightened individuals.

Civilisation is not a matter of changing governments. It can only come about in developing in the souls of individuals, in the way of life, which it realises in those individuals. The first Christians did not attempt, under the pretext of making progress more quickly, to form a faction to take over the government and establish Christian legislation. No, indeed. They lived Christian lives, they propagated their doctrine by every legitimate means at their disposal, especially through the example they gave and by bringing to others the message, which they had received and understood. Then, one day, without there having been the displacement of one emperor by another, the reigning emperor decided to support Christianity, and Christian legislation replaced pagan legislation. Louis Even, *French-Canadian Social Crediter*.

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## PREMIER BOLTE'S ASTONISHING VIEWS ON INFLATION

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only obtain access to a share of what the 5 per cent had produced by putting them to work on space projects, which are obviously now regarded in the highest circles as a wonderful means of providing "full employment," then clearly the cost of producing what was required would not merely be the time expended by the 5 percent, but also the time wasted by the 95 percent. Inflation is a financial reflection of much of the time robbed from the individual by the present policy of "full employment" and the financing of it by the continuous expansion of new financial credit. That is why we point out that prices will continue to rise until present policies are reversed.

There is nothing difficult about starting to reverse present policies by the use of the monetary mechanism to reduce prices instead of increasing them. There would, for example, be far less trouble in using £100 millions of new credit for a price-subsidy mechanism to reduce prices and to benefit all, than to use the same new credit to finance some public works which, as already explained, must ultimately be paid for through the price level. While we do not anticipate that the day will ever come when Mr. Bolte will grasp the fact that the inflationary programme he is endorsing is a robbery of the individual's most wonderful potential, leisure time in which to develop himself, we are confident that the pursuit of current policies are leading direct to the greatest crisis in the recorded history of the human race.

Whether this crisis will be resolved in a victory for that Truth which Christ said will make us free, or for a submergence of the whole world under some form of Communism, will be decided in the years immediately ahead. Stripped of all the camouflage used to obscure the real issue, the question is one of whether the true purpose of the production system is to enable the individual to use his cultural heritage and the natural forces of nature to produce what he really requires in the shortest possible time, thus providing increasing free time for self-development, or whether he is to be kept for ever engaged in unnecessary and soul-destroying activities which prevent him from rising above the level of the ant-heap. Now that there are encouraging signs that some members of the Christian clergy are realising that they must give a lead in the struggle against Communism at all levels, it is possible that they will

go further and see that inflation is blatantly immoral, is a policy of the same type of philosophy as that of Communism, and must be condemned by all Christians.

## "THE MONOPOLY OF CREDIT"

We are pleased to announce that C. H. Douglas's classic work, *The Monopoly of Credit*, has now been re-published. This is one of Douglas's most important works, in which he deals with the A + B theorem and shows the connection between the deficiency of purchasing power and progressive centralisation of power.

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## ARTICLE SECTION

### WORLDWIDE OPPOSITION TO FLUORIDATION

**In spite of their recent defeat in Melbourne, the fluoridationists are still active in most parts of Australia. Their main argument is that there is little competent medical or other opposition to fluoridation. The following carefully prepared survey of the worldwide opposition to fluoridation proves just how dishonest the advocates of mass medication are: —**

#### U.S.A.

At a news conference on February 9, 1959, Mr. Arthur Flemming, U.S. Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, admitted that the proportion of the American population not drinking artificially fluoridated water was increasing. He also gave out a report prepared by the Public Health Service, which stated:

"Of special concern is the steady decline in the rate of community acceptance (of fluoridation) in the past six years . . . 1953 was the peak year, during which 378 separate communities adopted fluoridation. Since 1953 the number of separate communities starting fluoridation programmes has dropped each year . . . Moreover, *the number of communities which discontinued fluoridation programmes has steadily increased.*" (Emphasis supplied.)

There are now over a hundred communities in the U.S.A. that has discontinued fluoridation. The steady increase in the number discontinuing is a reflection of the mounting American medical and dental opposition to fluoridation. Approximately 700 communities have now refused to accept fluoridation.

The Assembly and Delegates of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, Inc. (membership 15,000), carried the following resolution at their annual meeting held in San Francisco, California, on April 11, 1958:

"Resolution on Use of Water Supply as Vehicle for Drugs.

"Whereas, the right to determine what shall be done to one's own body is fundamental, and "Whereas, water is necessary for life, and "Whereas, many people are dependent on public water supplies for water.

"Therefore, be it resolved that the Association.... condemns the addition of any substance to public water-supplies for the purpose of affecting the bodies or the bodily or mental functions of the consumers.

"And be it further resolved that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the members of Congress, the Governors of the several States, and the mayors of our principal cities, and released to the media of public information." On February 7, 1958, the Madison County and Anderson City Boards of Health, Indiana, adopted the following resolution:

"Whereas the principle of fluoridation of community

water supplies is a completely new principle, radically different from chlorination, which is justified as a proper exercise of police power, and as a public health function on the grounds chlorine is added to counteract deadly germs and substances already present in the water and injurious to health; and

"Whereas addition of fluoride to our public drinking water is compulsory mass medication since the fluoride is added not to purify the water but to affect the user thereof; and

"Whereas fluoride should be prescribed in proper dosage and with such precautions as are employed in administering any other potentially dangerous drug; and "Whereas the accumulative disastrous results, such as have been demonstrated in communities naturally having fluoride in their drinking water, will probably occur in future generations due to inability to control dosage, thus resulting in legal action against those forcing such medication; and

"Whereas fluoride can be provided with greater economy to the individual by voluntary controlled methods rather than when handled through public institutions; and

"Whereas such a principle violates our individual constitutional right, now therefore

"Be it resolved that the Madison County and Anderson City Boards of Health go on record condemning all compulsory mass medication, and specifically the principle of fluoridation of our local community water supplies."

In June 1957, forty-four doctors of St. Petersburg, Florida, demanded that fluoridation be discontinued. The City Council immediately complied. In March, 1957, a committee of medical men which had been set up to study fluoridation in New Orleans strongly advised against fluoridation.

An Ad Hoc committee of some 300 American doctors, dentists and scientists issued a report in 1957 giving nine reasons for concluding that "fluoridation of public water supplies is not a proper means of attempting the prevention of tooth decay," and that there are "less hazardous and more efficient ways" of obtaining the benefits claimed for fluoridation.

The nine reasons given in the report are:

"1. Positive proofs of the safety of fluoridation are required. None has been offered.

"2. The so-called therapeutic concentration of fluoride, arbitrarily established at 1 ppm., in drinking water, is in the toxic range.

"3. Dental fluorosis, the first obvious symptom of chronic fluoride toxicity in children, is an inevitable result of fluoridation. The evidence reveals that large numbers of the population may be afflicted, and with varying degrees of damage.

"4. The determination of whether damage resulting from dental fluorosis is 'objectionable' is a matter for the person whose teeth are affected, and not for the arbitrary assertion of public officials.

"5. The conceivable role of fluoride as an insidious factor in chronic disease has been evaded by the proponents. A substantial amount of evidence indicates such a possibility. Properly planned long-term studies are required to determine the possible comprehensive association of fluoride with chronic disease.

"6. Fluoridation imposes an extraordinary risk on certain individuals who by reasons of occupation, environmental circumstance, state of health, dietary habits, etc., are already exposed to a relatively high intake of fluoride.

"7. Fluoridation is compulsory mass medication without precedent. Mass therapy cannot ignore the possibility of 'mass' side reactions.

"8. The function of a public water supply is to provide pure, safe water for everybody, not to serve as a vehicle for drugs.

"9. The role and efficiency of fluoride in dental caries reduction is a matter of active controversy; whatever the outcome, there are less hazardous and more efficient ways of obtaining such benefits as fluoride may offer than by putting it into the public water supply." The Report by the Ad Hoc Committee has now been endorsed in the U.S.A. by over 1000 qualified medical men, including a Past President of the American Medical Association and a Nobel Prize winner.

At the 1951 hearings of the House (Delaney) Select Committee to investigate the use of Chemicals in Food and Cosmetics, six outstanding American scientists with first-hand knowledge of fluorides were summoned to give evidence on fluoridation. These scientists were Robert S. Harris, Ph.D., Director of the Nutritional Biochemistry Laboratories of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; E. B. Hart, Sc.D., Professor of Biochemistry, University of Wisconsin; Hans H. Neumann, M.D., Research Assistant in Dental Research, Columbia University; Howard V. Smith, Associate Agricultural Chemist, University of Arizona; Margaret C. Smith, Ph.D., formerly head of the Department of Human Nutrition, University of Arizona, and Alfred Taylor, Ph.D., Biochemical Institute, University of Texas.

After hearing evidence on fluoridation, the Delaney Committee stated:

"The Committee is of the view that a sufficient number of unanswered questions concerning the safety of this programme (of fluoridation of public water supplies) exists as to warrant a conservative attitude. The

Committee believes that if communities are to make a mistake in reaching a decision to fluoridate their public drinking water, it is preferable to err on the side of caution. This would seem to be particularly true since there are reasonable alternatives to fluoridating the public water supply . . ."

The Delaney Committee recommended that these alternatives be tried "for the period needed to acquire evidence beyond a reasonable doubt that no hazard exists to any portion of the population by reason of the addition of fluorides to drinking water."

Dr. Royal Lee, D.D.S., Director of the Lee Foundation for Nutritional Research, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, an opponent of fluoridation, states:

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

Dr. Joe D. Nichols, of Atlanta, Texas, President of the Tri-State Medical Society, quoted in *The Wichita Falls Times*, March 29, 1954, states: "The simple facts are these:

"(1) 'Sodium fluoride is a protoplasmic poison; it is a vitamin antagonist, an enzyme inhibitor.' This is a direct quote from a pharmacology manual by Sollman. The long-range effect on people with chronic kidney diseases, diabetes, pregnancy, and many other conditions, has not been disproved.

"(2) The value of inorganic fluoridation is still questionable. The only proof to date is a batch of statistics, which have been carelessly compiled.

"The Texas Medical Association last year adopted a resolution asking all County Medical Societies not to endorse or condemn fluoridation until more proof is obtained as to its safety and value."

The statement by Dr. Nichols is particularly significant, because he was formerly in favour of fluoridation. He states:

"Four years I was in favour of fluoridation in public drinking water, but that was before I knew very much about the subject. For the last four years I have read everything that I could find in medical literature and elsewhere on the subject. I am now completely convinced that this constitutes one of the greatest dangers to American health today,"

Another prominent medical man who has also changed his opinion concerning fluoridation is Congressman Dr. Miller.

As a former Director of Public Health in Nebraska, Congressman Dr. Miller was instrumental in introducing into Congress, in 1951, a bill for adding fluorides to the water supplies of the District of Columbia, D.C. Having had time to study both sides of the arguments, he has now publicly retracted:

"I can say to my colleagues quite frankly that until I had the advantage of hearing the experts in this question, I thought fluorine added to the water might be beneficial to everyone. I was misled by the Public Health Service."

And speaking in Congress (*Congressional Record*, 24/3/52) Dr. Miller warned that "The mass-medication of fluorides is still in the experimental category, and there is certainly a need for additional scientific studies."

Mr. George Swendiman, former President of the American Dental Association, writes in *The Argument Against Fluoridating City Water*:

"I maintain that the long-term effects of fluorine in varying amounts upon the bones and vital organs of the human body have not been ascertained. Our information about fluorides is partial and incidental. We do know, for instance, that the fluorides are extremely corrosive and are used in etching glass. Fluorides also are used as a highly potent rat poison. Now these last uses may sound like splendid qualifications for a regular addition to our diet in the view of our dental association, but I may be pardoned for suspending judgment. I do not crave rat poison, even well diluted. How do I know that this poison will not have a cumulative effect? Suppose this diluted rat poison gradually ruins my kidneys, and thus sends me to my grave? Will it be any comfort to me if my dental association says: 'He died with perfect teeth'?"

In a supplementary statement to a petition signed by 119 dentists opposed to the fluoridation of water supplies in Worcester, Mass., Dr. Max Ginns said:

"When proponents of fluoridation set themselves up as higher authorities than our high schools of learning, certainly we may question their wisdom and their purposes. For example, I shall mention only a few of the many authorities opposed to fluoridation: University of Texas, University of Arizona, University of New Mexico, all in the area where mottling and fluorides first made the headlines.

"In this area of Mass, we have:

"Dr. O. V. Hurme, of Forsyth Dental Infirmary for Children (Researcher and Teacher); "Professor Harris (internationally-known biochemist of M.I.T.) ;

"Dr. Daniel Tobin, New York (Director of Guggenheim Foundation for Children's Dentistry);

"Dr. Harold Deith Box (University of Toronto), and many others.

"We also have a natural fluoride area about five miles outside Worcester, which has 1 ppm. A survey made a few years ago showed children's teeth were as badly decayed as children's elsewhere, where no fluorides exist."

Dr. Charles A. Bruschi, Director of the Medical Centre, Cambridge, U.S.A. is opposed on medical grounds to the fluoridation of water.

He advocated warnings to all communities by State authorities citing the dangers of this procedure. "We cannot prophecy what would happen to the organs of the body if it is subjected to constant doses of fluorides for a lifetime," he says.

Dr. Bruschi said that Cambridge residents could not vote intelligently on fluoridation because they have not been

furnished with true information, although the Select Committee of the Congress asked that facts be made available to the public. "Doctors know that we must have the patient's consent before we try any experiment, and the individual must know the full nature of the experiment and the consequence," he declares.

Dr. Bruschi listed some of the following harmful toxic effects of fluorides:

1. Damage to the brain and nerve cells.
2. Harm to the reproductive organs, with the resultant lowering of the birth rate.
3. Affects the thyroid gland and damages the liver.
4. Creates a high incidence of bone fracture.

Listed amongst the medical men opposed to fluoridation is Dr. Chas. T. Betts, D.D.S., Toledo, Ohio, a President of the Anti-Cancer Club of America. Dr. Taylor, the research scientist who gave evidence before the Delaney Committee, has reported that the life expectancy of mice with cancer is reduced when fluorides are introduced.

Dr. Leo Spira, M.D., Ph.D., M.R.C.S., London, Vienna and New York, is an internationally known authority on fluorine poisoning and had written extensively on the subject, reporting his experiments long before the fluoridation of public water supplies was advocated. Dr. Spira states:

"Fluorine is a highly toxic substance, and its deleterious effect consists of depriving the body of calcium stored in the body as a material indispensable for sustaining the vitality of most of the organic functions, and of substituting sodium for the calcium which has been removed. . . . To put it in a nutshell, fluorine is one of the most potent poisons known, and should be classified in a group together with arsenic, with which it has many characteristics in common. As a medical man, I have no hesitation in stating that the principle of adding a potent poison, such as fluorine is, to the public water supply runs counter to every clinical, physiological and pharmacological doctrine, and should be categorically rejected by all means at the disposal of civilised man."

In a report issued by the Director of the City of New York Water Supply, Commissioner Arthur C. Ford, in April, 1956, it was pointed out that "The department has extensive laboratories staffed by reputable scientists.... with a massive library in which is contained over five thousand references on the subject of fluorides alone . . . . The matter of fluorides has been under our scrutiny for over twenty years."

Commissioner Ford stated in his report:

"We are aware that the fluorides are extremely toxic substances, and evidence exists to show that even at the recommended level of one part per million of fluoride in drinking water, people in fluoridated communities have been harmed. A very small percentage among a population of eight million, sensitive to the chemical and adversely affected, would constitute a seriously significant number of persons harmed.

"We know of reputable independent medical authorities throughout the United States and in the local area

who have found evidence of fluoride damage to persons living in fluoridated communities. These medical authorities disagree with the fluoride hypothesis. They have raised grave questions with respect to the safety of the procedure for an entire population, which includes the young, the old, the susceptible and the infirm as well as the healthy . . .

"Fluoride, besides being a toxic substance, is not all excreted when taken into the system, a significant percentage remaining cumulatively. Fluoridation of the drinking water at any level of concentration is a very indiscriminate procedure since children drink widely varying amounts of water, each according to taste, physical activity and seasonal variations of the year."

In a statement given at the New York City's public hearings in 1957, Dr. Benjamin Nesin, Director of the City's Laboratories Department of Water Supplies, pointed out that his department had been studying "the extremely poisonous nature of fluoride in relation to water since 1930." Dr. Nesin said: "The department has investigated the many facets of the fluoridation problem. The matter of treatment control is very important. With proper equipment and a sufficiency of force we believe that fluoride can be introduced at the treatment plant with a good degree of precision and accuracy. However, our investigation makes it quite clear that we would have no such control after it gets into the more than 5000 miles of pipes and tunnels which comprise the network of the water supply system. While a nominal level of control is indicated from the findings in other cities, we have also observed situations where fluoride levels have been both too high and too low. We have also found that fluoride may have a tendency to deposit in an unpredictable way in the distribution system. Last year in discussing this matter of fluoride fall-out at a conference, I stated that it was easily possible for 1000 lbs. of fluoride to drop out each day in the New York system. This has since been confirmed by tests performed in our and other qualified laboratories . . ."

Dr. Nesin then went on to say that the major problem was, however, of the safety of water supplies. He said:

"Dr. Dean, formerly of the U.S. Public Health Service, and regarded as the 'father of fluoridation,' stated in a report: 'It is obvious that whatever effects the waters with relatively high fluoride content have on dental caries is largely one of academic interest: The resultant permanent disfigurement of many of the users far outweighs any advantage that might accrue from the standpoint of partial control of dental caries.'

"The disfigurement Dr. Dean refers to is dental fluorosis—chronic fluoride poisoning of the teeth—more commonly called mottling.... if we pursue the facts

further we will find that fluoride damage to teeth due to water containing 1 ppm. has been reported by many investigators here and abroad. . . . Mottling is a slow process. This is typical of chronic fluoride poisoning. The earliest sign of damage is not known until the teeth erupt, although the poisoning responsible for the lesion occurs inside the gums while the teeth are being formed . . . What does this portend for New York City if we were to undertake this experiment? It would take 12-14 years after fluoridation was initiated to get some comprehensive idea of the damage, which may be laid to poisoning of the teeth. . . . It is quite evident that fluoride can and does damage the teeth it is assumed to protect. There is mounting evidence that fluoride may increase gum diseases . . . There is no proof to show that the protective effect of fluoride is permanent—on the other hand there is increasing evidence to show that the effect is a temporary one . . . The evidence related to dental fluorosis is but one aspect of the toxicity of fluoride. It is positive and demonstrates that water containing 1 ppm. of fluoride has a toxic action on body tissues. . . . It should be more than enough to convince us to keep fluoride out of the public water supply."

After an exhaustive examination of the fluoridation question, during which proponents of fluoridation were invited to put their case, New York City rejected the proposal.

## GERMANY

In Germany the health authorities of all the larger German cities are critical of fluoridation.

Dr. C. Beusch, Head of the Dental Division of the Board of Health, City of Frankfurt, Germany, states: "As long as certain significant risks are not eliminated from this project, we in Frankfurt, like all other large cities of Western Germany, will not avail ourselves of this costly experiment. . . . In Frankfurt we are not convinced. The results of the fluoridation experiments are not at all impressive" (vide *Frankfurter Rundschau*, August 27, 1957).

In a personal letter to a prominent New Zealand investigator of the fluoridation question, dated March 13, 1958, Dr. Beusch again expresses his opposition.

## ITALY

Professor A. Benagiano, Director of the Italian Institute for Dentistry and of the Dental Clinic of the University of Rome, disputes the American theory that fluorine in drinking water reduces dental decay and has urged that thorough investigations of the question be made *under Italian conditions* before any fluoridation is permitted.