

HERITAGE

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LINKING THE PAST WITH THE PRESENT — FOR THE FUTURE

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Aussie



THE CASE FOR PATRIOTISM

By Sir Arthur Bryant

GOVERNMENT: ITS POWER AND ITS PLACE

FRONT COVER

"AUSSIE" COLLECTORS ITEM

A hardbound book containing all issues of "Aussie" — a journal printed by the A.I.F. for the troupes in the trenches during W.W.I. This is a unique collection of Australiana with sketches, poetry and anecdotes etc., written by the troops themselves. Containing a foreword by Sir Colin Hines, President N.S.W. R.S.L., this book would make an ideal gift.

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It's Time to be Counted

"Our jury system is under attack" is how *The Australian* reacted to those prominent Australians who publicly criticised the verdict of the jury in the Murphy trial and the subsequent publicity given to the opinions of some of the jurors.

The independent verdict of Mr Hayden and others who have felt compelled to publicly announce their findings, apparently without having been at the trial, because they felt that Murphy was a "good bloke" or because he was on the same side of politics, along with Mr Justice Murphy's refusal to stand down, together constitute yet another attack on one of our basic and perhaps most precious institutions. Whether Murphy is innocent or not, the damage is done, and no judge of the High Court whose integrity is in such question, should continue in such a vital position.

A visiting British journalist, Mr Michael Levin, is reported to have expressed astonishment at the blatant "politicisation of the law" which has taken place. He believed that most of the people who had been commenting so freely about the Murphy case would have been jailed if it had occurred in Britain and, in his view, rightly so.

Once politicians and even jurors are able to publicly castigate the conduct and outcome of trials, and the courts and juries are open to the sort of attack which has taken place, then we are in great trouble.

What do those who show such contempt for our system of law want in its place? Are they advocating its destruction along with the rule of law which is such an essential barrier to anarchy?

Perhaps the most tragic aspect of the whole affair is the inaction and relative silence in defending our system of law. Equally tragic is the lack of understanding by the general public of the priceless heritage they have in common law. It is time we insisted that our children be given a basic grounding in the institutions that have provided the framework through which our nation has achieved so much in its short life. The principles upon which they are based are such that they will see us through centuries to come.

What is becoming obvious is that if we are to defend our nation from the attackers from within, the responsibility falls upon the shoulders of each and everyone of us. It is up to each of us to educate ourselves and take what action we can, in association with others if possible, to defend this nation and make it great again. Surely we have learnt by now that "they" will not do it for us.

We should ponder the fact that our Lord in his ministry did not go to the seat of power, instead he spent his time amongst the common man and left them with the responsibility of changing the world.

When do **you** start?

THE AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

The Australian Heritage Society was launched in Melbourne on September 18th, 1971 at an Australian League of Rights Seminar. It was clear that Australia's heritage is under increasing attack from all sides: spiritual, cultural, political and constitutional. A permanent body was required to ensure that young Australians were not cut off from their true heritage and the Heritage Society assumed that role in a number of ways.

The Australian Heritage Society welcomes people of all ages to join in its programme for the regeneration of the spirit of Australia. To value the great spiritual realities that we have come to know and respect through our heritage: the virtues of patriotism, of integrity and love of truth, the pursuit of goodness and beauty, an unselfish concern for other people — to maintain a love and loyalty for those values.

Young Australians have a very real challenge before them. The Australian Heritage Society, with your support can give them the necessary lead in building a better Australia.

"Our heritage today is the fragments gleaned from past ages; the heritage of tomorrow — good or bad — will be determined by our actions today"

SIR RAPHAEL CILENTO

First Patron of The Australian Heritage Society

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The views expressed in articles appearing in "HERITAGE" are those of their authors and are not necessarily the views of The Australian Heritage Society.

A New Patron



Lady Cilento

It is with great pleasure that we announce that Lady Phyllis Cilento has accepted the position of Patron of the Australian Heritage Society. Her late husband, Sir Raphael, was Patron of the Society until his death earlier this year.

Lady Cilento, a remarkable lady now in her 90's, is one of Australia's best known medical practitioners — to many, a household name. For more than half a century she has written on health and practical ways of optimising it. As a regular columnist for the *Brisbane Courier* and the *Daily Mail* and then the *Courier-Mail* upon their amalgamation, Lady "C" has been an innovator and pioneer in many new fields of medicine.

She founded the Queensland Mothercraft Association in 1930 and has been a pioneer in natural childbirth. Whilst some of her ideas on vitamin therapy have caused controversy, she firmly believes that the medicine of tomorrow will eventually catch up, as it has with other ideas she has promoted. She was awarded the Queenslander of the Year award in 1981.

We are proud that she has agreed to continue her families association with us.

GOVERNMENT

Its Power and Its Place



The historic 1974 joint sitting of both Houses of the Australian Parliament in the House of Representatives

Parliament — A division of power

It would seem that few people today understand the true role of government and their responsibilities in ensuring its correct function. The following article is reprinted from "The New Times" of some years back and provides an outline of the issues that are becoming immensely important to our nation's future.

The famous statement by Lord Acton, that all power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely, is one of the most profound observations ever made. No individual or group of individuals can be trusted with too much power. The obtaining of power results in the striving for still more power. Power is particularly dangerous when those wielding the power cannot be made directly responsible for their actions.

The central theme of the history of the British people in particular, has been the constant endeavour to prevent power from being centralised, to keep all power decentralised by limiting the

powers of Governments in various ways. There is no more vital issue confronting us than the urgent necessity to attack the totalitarian idea of more powers for Governments — particularly centralised Governments. As we saw in our last lecture, Governments are merely instruments through which the individual should lay down the general rules under which the game of life is to be played. We hear much about what wonderful things Governments have done, or are going to do, for the individual members of Society, but the facts of history prove that most reforms have been initiated by individual members of the community and forced upon reluctant Governments. Writing of this matter in 1867, the English historian, Thomas Henry Buckle, said:

"That the civilization of Europe is chiefly owing to the ability which has been displayed by two different governments, and to the sagacity with which the evils of society have been palliated by legislative remedies is a notion which must appear so extravagant as to make it difficult to refer to it with becoming gravity. . .

"No great political improvements, no great reform, either legislative or executive, has even been originated in any country by its rulers. The first suggestions of such steps have always been by bold and able thinkers, who discern the abuse, denounce it, and point out how it can be remedied. . . At length, if circumstances are favourable, the pressure from without becomes so strong, that the government is obliged to give way; and, the reform being accomplished, the people are expected to admire the wisdom of their rulers, by whom all this has been done. . .

"It is only with the greatest difficulty that parliament is induced to grant what the people are determined to have, and the necessity of which has been proved by the ablest men. Posterity ought to know that great measures are extorted from the legislative by pressure from without; that they are conceded not cheerfully but with fear; and carried out by statesmen who have spent their lives in opposing what they now suddenly advocate. . .

"... since the most valuable improvements in legislation are those which subvert preceding legislation it is clear that the balance of good cannot be on their side. It is clear that the progress of civilization cannot be due to those who, on the most important subjects, have done so much harm that their successors are considered benefactors simply because they reverse their policy, and thus restore affairs to the state in which they would have remained if politicians had allowed them to run on in the course which the wants of society required. . . The effects produced in European civilization by political legislation compose an aggregate so formidable that we may well wonder how, in the face of them, civilization has been able to advance. That under such circumstances it has advanced is a decisive proof of the extraordinary energy of man. . .

"The world has been made familiar with the great truth, that one main condition of the prosperity of the people is that its rulers shall have very little power, that they shall by no means presume to raise themselves into supreme judges of the National interests, or deem themselves authorised to defeat the wishes of those for whose betterment alone they occupy the posts entrusted to them."

It is obvious that we no longer have the political wisdom of our forefathers.

In his essay, "The Situation and the Outlook," C.H. Douglas says that "... Government is inherently and inevitably restrictive and therefore... the

NEW ADDRESS

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Moora, 6510.**

amount of Government which a community can stand without collapsing is definitely limited, and if Governments are competitive, the most governed community will collapse first. And, there, the first policy to be applied to over-Government, i.e. Socialism, is and must be, a negative policy — a retreat from Government; less Government."

Let us now consider the main ideas developed by our forefathers in an attempt to limit the power of Governments and thus prevent the growth of that corruption Lord Acton warned about and which we have appalling evidence of on all sides today. The idea of limiting the powers of Governments which we understand best, is the decentralisation of political power by decentralised Government — small political units in which the representatives of the people are more easily amenable to electoral control than is the case in big political units. Decentralised Government is local Government. Local Government is Government on the spot by those who understand the conditions of their own locality. In Government close to the people there is less chance of delegated authority to an irresponsible bureaucracy — a feature of all centralised Governments. Centralised Governments, striving as they do for more and more power, try to legislate on so many matters which should either be the province of local Governments or right outside the control of all Governments, that the excuse is that there is too much legislation and that some responsibility must therefore be delegated to a bureaucracy. All Governments have argued in modern times that modern conditions have so complicated Government that some powers must be delegated to a bureaucracy. The complications mentioned can be traced to the policies, of Governments interfering with matters over which they should have no control.

Another very good reason why local, decentralised Government is necessary, is because the smaller the political unit, the less chance there is of majorities being used to destroy the rights of minorities. There has been no more dangerous definition of democracy than that which says that it is majority rule. In *Sham Democracy* James Guthrie writes:—

"Those in control of the modern State can, and do, penalise minorities, because they claim that they represent a majority — the fact being overlooked that we are all, at one time or another, a member of a minority. Parents are in a minority; farmers are in a minority; the country dwellers are in a minority; skilled men are in a minority; the politically wise are very much in a minority. But

so-called democratic governments demand the right — and they continually exercise this right — to over-rule every minority, which together make the majority.

In other words, in practice we are witnessing governments using the techniques of the manipulated mass-vote to disfranchise successive minorities, and transfer their rights to the manipulators."

The success of the political vote depends upon whether the individual can preserve and extend his sovereignty by the use of it. We can best study the

menace of the majority vote by considering the creation of a one world political unit. Under such conditions, nine million Australians would, in the world central Government, obviously be hopelessly outvoted by the representative of say, China. Now surely no one in his right senses would suggest that Australian affairs should be controlled by a majority on a world scale.

Another aspect of the political vote is the use of the secret vote which permits not only majorities to be used to disfranchise minorities, but also permits this to be completely irresponsible.

In his address, *Realistic Constitutionalism*, Douglas said: ". . . the individual votes must be made individually responsible, not collectively taxable, for his vote. The merry game of voting yourself benefits at the expense of your neighbour must stop. . . There is a clear method by which to approach this end — the substitution of the open ballot for the secret franchise. . ."

The following extracts from an article by Hewlett Edwards, first published in the *Social Creditor*, will provide the student with the basic arguments concerning the secret vote:—

"Decisive exercise of judgment is that policy *formation* which is the function proper to an individual, as an elector. This is the basic factor in any system which approaches the reality of democracy; and it can only be operative in the choice between practical, well defined alternatives. This is the antithesis of what exists, for the keynote of elections is confusion, not clarity; they are contests between catchwords, slogans, vast generalisations and diffuse abstractions. . . a technique of perversion. . . has reduced the political system to an effective bar between the ordinary man and his common sense. The common sense which is at once his compass and his arm. So bereft, he is unable to take part in the formation of directive policy, and must submit to the imposition of other policies, alien to his own. . ."

"Probably the most debilitating factor of current political action is the irresponsibility of those concerned. Freedom — the ability to choose or to refuse — is primary, but it is commonsense that a man should be simply and directly answerable for his actions, it is that which binds him back to facts. This is dependent on action being open and avowed; it is the free expression of opinion which is a part of the English tradition, not the secret ballot which dates from 1882. At the present juncture it is not easy to find many who will admit to having put the present government into power, the elector hides behind the secret ballot when it suits him; Party members are screened by 'Party decisions', and those who enact so many regulations. . . are shrouded in an anonymous service. Such devices are so many channels for the exercise of power without responsibility. . . Measures which diminish the integrity of the economic vote have been accomplished by an increasing advertisement and use of the political vote; to the effect, e.g. that the only recourse left to a man who wants to buy a banana is political. . ."

"It is often said, without realisation of what lies beneath the surface, that 'the world is going mad'; and there is something in it. Only the ordinary man

by use of his compass and his arm — his common sense — can reverse the process. But he cannot vote with commonsense unless the issues presented for decisions (at elections) are reduced to such as common sense can deal with. This manner of summing up a proposition — its consequences and its cost; whether this is what you want, and whether this is what you want to pay for — forms a medium in which the ordinary man is still capable of the decisive act; and wherein he is accustomed to take direct responsibility, profiting if he 'buys well' and losing if he does not."

Douglas suggests that the secret vote be abolished and replaced by an open, recorded and published vote, and that those who vote for the Government to pay all increases in taxation, etc., which the Government may levy.

The most dangerous conception of responsible Government is that which insists that once a Government has been elected to office, it should have all power to do as it likes.

A little thought will indicate the menace of this conception. Writing in his book, *The King and His Dominion Governors*, Dr. H.V. Evatt points out how a Government is only the Government for the time being and should not be unlimited in its powers. He instanced how the Government of Newfoundland abolished itself without consulting the people of Newfoundland. Our British forefathers learned through hard experience that definite checks were required on elected Governments. This brings us to a study of Upper Houses, the Crown, and other checks on Governments. In his address, "Realistic Constitutionalism", to the British Constitutional Research Association, Douglas said:—

"In some form or other sovereignty in the British Isles for the last two thousand years has been trinitarian. Whether we look on this trinitarianism under the names of Kings, Lords and Commons or as Policy Sanctions and Administration, the Trinity-in-Unity has existed, and our national success has been greatest when the balance (never perfect) has been approached.

". . . by the strengthening and elevation of Common Law, and its repository in the care of an effective Second, non-elective, Chamber, or by some other method, clearly defined limits must be placed on the power of a House of Commons elected on a majority principle. . . Common Law is something which, if it changes at all, ought to change very slowly indeed, and the greatest difficulty should be placed in the path of an attack upon it, both by insisting on its supremacy over House of Commons enactments, and by making it subject only to something at least as arduous as an Amendment to the United States Constitution. . ."

English Common Law can be traced right back to Magna Carta. It was built up to protect the rights of the individual. When the Common Law was more widely understood, before the growth of what the former chief Justice of England, Lord Hewart, termed "bureaucratic lawlessness", the individual's rights were firmly protected. The Courts existed to

ensure that his rights were upheld, even against the Crown itself. Today the Courts don't uphold the Common Law; they are used by the "new despotism" for its own ends.

Sir Henry Slessor has said:

"The future of the Common Law is plainly more than a matter for lawyers. The Law of England is a unique contribution to Christian civilisation; its decay may prove to be one of the greatest tragedies of our age."

In Australia, as in America, we do not have a non-elective Upper House such as the House of Lords in Great Britain. The Upper House in the Federal sphere, the Senate, was the result of the Federal Constitution, and was intended to be a protection for the local State Governments. The Party system has destroyed the value of the Senate, and it is indeed fortunate that the Australian people have been protected to some extent from the predatory designs of the Federal Government, by the written Federal Constitution. One of the most important tasks confronting Australians is to make a positive defence against a complete centralised despotism from Canberra.

Those who have never studied the history of Government complain that the Upper Houses are anti-democratic and oppose the will of the people. It is amazing how many people accept this nonsense. The basic idea of the Upper House, brought to this country from Great Britain and based upon sound tradition, was to preserve the trinitarian balance in Government. The Upper House, restricted to those with specific qualifications, was intended to be elected by a more responsible vote. Its function is not, as some people contend, to block all legislation, but to ensure that legislation is not rushed through Parliament, legislation which could destroy the rights of the electors before they knew what was happening.

Those people who complain that Upper Houses insist on opposing legislation affecting property

rights, completely ignore the fact that the ownership of property of some description provides the individual with some degree of liberty and security. The most serious charge that can be levelled against Upper Houses is that they have failed to protect the basic rights of the people.


A classic example of the great benefit of a responsible Upper House, is the manner in which the Tasmanian Upper House refused in 1944 to permit the Tasmanian Parliament to transfer enormous powers to the Federal Government, thus destroying the Federal Constitution. All the totalitarians were loud in their cries protesting how an "anti-democratic" Upper House was preventing a "democratic" Lower House from doing as it desired. Now, the Tasmanian Upper House accepted its responsibilities and insisted that no powers should be transferred to Canberra without the people's direct consent at a Referendum. The responsible action of the Tasmanian Upper House resulted in the 1944 Referendum, at which the Tasmanian electors voted overwhelmingly against surrendering to Canberra the powers willing to be granted by the Tasmanian Lower House. In other words, if it had not been for the Tasmanian Upper House, the Tasmanian people would have had their rights destroyed without redress.

Those who oppose Upper Houses also rail against Constitutional limitations to Governments. How often do we hear it said that it is ridiculous that the Federal Government, elected by a majority of the people, should be restricted by the Federal Constitution? We also hear the High Court attacked. Like most written Constitutions, our Federal Constitution embodies the political traditions of our race. Tradition may be termed the accumulated experience of the past, it is what has been found to work. The idea of tradition is essentially sound and even the most primitive people develop it in order to ensure the survival of the tribe. Over a long period of time our forefathers learned that Governments must have their powers limited, otherwise "snap" legislation could destroy what took hundreds of years to build up.

All British constitutional safeguards can be directly traced to our Christian background. In an article, "Under What King?" Douglas wrote in 1945:—

"The Church (during the Medieval period) claimed to be, and was to quite a considerable extent, a living body of Superior Law, not different in intention but far higher in conception, to the Constitution of the United States."

Compared with the Australian Constitution, the American Constitution has the advantage of being much more difficult to amend. We can best understand the conception of a tradition, whether it is embodied in a Common Law interpreted by a non-corruptible judiciary, a House of Lords such as in Great Britain, or in a written Constitution, by referring to that most English of games, cricket. Although there are specific rules under which the game is played, the actions of the players are also modified by a code of sportsmanship. How often do we hear, "That is not done" or "It isn't cricket"? This code is not continued by a "voting" process; it is a living, permanent tradition.



Contributions

ARTICLES and other contributions, together with suggestions for suitable material for "Heritage," will be welcomed by the Editor. However, those requiring unused material to be returned, must enclose a stamped and addressed envelope.

Address written contributions to:

**THE EDITOR, "HERITAGE,"
BOX 69, MOORA,
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The Monarch — Natural Embodiment of Honours & Sanctions — Culture and Tradition

We now come to a brief examination of the function of the Crown. It is often contended that the major principle of the British Constitution is the

omnipotence of Parliament. So far from this being the case, the great Bill of Rights specifically lays it down that the individual may petition the King.

The essential idea behind the Bill of Rights was. . . that the British people had certain rights and liberties, established by custom and not subject either to the whim of Parliaments or the conspiracies of politicians, and the King was the supreme Defender of these Personal Rights. In his *Realistic Constitutionalism* Douglas writes:—

“The essential soul of a nation is in its character, its culture and tradition.

The King is the natural embodiment of Honours and Sanctions — of Culture and Tradition and, as such, is naturally the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces.”

Because of his embodiment of the nation’s culture and tradition, the King, or his various representatives in all parts of the British Empire, represents all the people and has the power to veto all legislation. If used, the veto could compel legislators either to place legislation directly before the people, or if they felt that the people would not sanction it, not pursue it any further. It is interesting to note that even in a Republic such as America, the trinitarian idea of Government has been maintained, with the President having the power of veto of any legislation.

So far from legislation being easy to pass, it should be made a process which permits the greatest possible consideration to be given to it. If Upper Houses and the Crown were functioning as they were conceived by our forefathers, they would be ensuring that legislation be reduced to a minimum and carefully examined.

‘The opposition of future to past to future is absurd. The future brings us nothing, gives us nothing; it is we who in order to build it have to give everything, our very life. But to be able to give, one has to possess; and we possess no other life, no other living sap, than the treasures stored up from the past and digested, assimilated and created afresh by us. Of all the human soul’s needs, none is more vital. . . ’

“The Need for Roots”
Simone Weil

And the parson made it his text that week, and he said likewise,
That a lie which is half a truth is ever the blackest of lies,
That a lie which is all a lie may be met and fought with outright,
But a lie which is part a truth is a harder matter to fight.

“The Grandmother,”

**SHARPEN
YOUR
SCISSORS**



The editor is eager to hear from any reader who will undertake to send a continuing supply of useful newspaper clippings on any subject relating to Australia’s heritage.

Those readers who receive newspapers from overseas are particularly asked to keep a look out for suitable material. Alternatively, why not ask overseas relative or friends to do it for you?

So often, vital information is discarded when the newspaper ends its life in the dustbin. Why not share the news with others?

LET’S KEEP THEM!



**OUR FLAG
OUR HERITAGE
OUR FREEDOM**



POETRY OF AUSTRALIA

Thomas Bracken
(1843-1898)

NOT UNDERSTOOD

Not understood, we move along asunder;
Our paths grow wider as the seasons creep
Along the years; we marvel and we wonder
Why life is life, and then we fall asleep
Not understood.

Not understood, we gather false impressions
And hug them closer as the years go by;
Till virtues often seem to us transgressions;
And thus men rise and fall, and live and die
Not understood.

Not understood! Poor souls with stunted vision
Oft measure giants with their narrow gauge;
The poisoned shafts of falsehood and derision
Are oft impelled 'gainst those who mould the age,
Not understood.

Not understood! How trifles often change us!
The thoughtless sentence and the fancied slight
Destroy long years of friendship, and estrange us,
And on our souls there falls a freezing blight;
Not understood.

O God! that men would see a little clearer,
Or judge less harshly where they cannot see!
O God! that men would draw a little nearer
To one another, — they'd be nearer Thee,
And understood.

Pictures of the Past

(Readers are invited to submit old photographs, and short explanations for this page)



Japanese surrender party. Major-General Arachi and Staff with 2/7th Battalion Officers A.I.F. Lt-Colonel Padbury, Major Nelson and Adjutant.

The following pictures relate to the surrender by Major-General HATAZO ADACHI of the XVIII Japanese army in New Guinea. The surrender took place on 13th September, 1945, at a jungle area called KIRARIVU.

Pictures are by courtesy of Captain W. Butler, whose name appears with others on the surrender flag in Canberra along with the pictures of the surrender in the archives of the War Memorial.

Photos and Explanations forwarded by Frances Allen, Balwyn, Vic.



Surrender of Japanese forces to 2/7th Infantry Battalion A.I.F.



Major-General Adachi arriving to personally surrender. He was carried by the natives under his command.



After the surrender Major-General Adachi was carried back to his Headquarters by his own officers, where he was put under guard.

The Case for Patriotism

By Sir Arthur Bryant



The following article is reprinted from "The Lion and the Unicorn" and continues this series by Sir Arthur Bryant.

Much is said about the evils of patriotism. It is supposed to lead to wars and every kind of irrational and reactionary prejudice and to be an influence for bad from which the young should be guarded at all costs. At best, it is seen as a species of old-fashioned nonsense, deserving the ridicule of every well-educated and progressive person.

Yet before discarding it altogether one should first ask what it is. In its original sense, patriotism means love of the land on which one lives. It arises out of the look and feel of the familiar soil and landscape of home, of its tilth, contours and colours, its plants and vegetation, its woods and rivers, its horizons and minutest blade of grass. This is one of the strongest and most elementary feelings of man, though one of which modern town-dwellers have been partly deprived by the artificial character of urban life. Even here, it is remarkable how much affection men can feel for the urban and industrial entity in which they have grown up, however hideous to the eyes of strangers. Glasgow, for instance, is scarcely an Athens or Florence, yet Glaswegians sometimes sing with emotion, and even tears, a not particularly inspiring ballad, of which the refrain runs—

*I belong to Glasgow,
Dear old Glasgow town.*

Even the most enthusiastic internationalist could hardly regard such a sentiment as anti-social or would object to a similar song about Leopoldville or

the capital of Ghana, by one of those cities' grateful sons or daughters.

For those who live by the soil and grow the world's food, love of country is not merely a sentiment but a force of great economic and practical importance. It is love of the soil, of the dear familiar fields he has wrestled with and tended and expended his sweat and treasure on, month after month and year after year, that makes your dedicated countryman, the man who is always trying to give more to the land than he takes. The English rural landscape, as we know it, has been made by such men over the patient centuries:

*These homes, this valley spread below me here,
The rooks, the tilted stacks, the beasts in pen,
Have been the heartfelt things, past-speaking dear,
To unknown generations of dead men.¹*

Out of this natural love, this feeling
deeper than our speech and thought,
Beyond our reason's sway

arises, in the course of civilisation, another love—the love for the ideals which have become associated with the national community serving the land. So the Scottish peasant in the harsh wars of rival lordships in the fourteenth century developed an intense feeling for liberty, the feeling expressed by the poet Barbour when, in his epic, "The Brus", he apostrophised the ideal his hero embodied for his countrymen:

Ah! freedom is a noble thing.

So, a Frenchman, when he thinks of *la patrie*, thinks not only of "the fair and pleasant land of France", with its beautiful capital and noble provinces, but of that fierce intellectual spirit and sense of common humanity and human dignity which is France's supreme gift to mankind. And we in England developed over the centuries a deeply-felt patriotism, based on the belief in certain common ideals, for whose continuance men were ready to die and any violation of which by those who governed or spoke for her could fill them with shame and dishonour. Such ideals may have been obscured and lost sight of today, yet they can still be a potent force in crisis to rouse the emotions and inspire the services of Englishmen. Among them are justice or what we call "fair play", tenderness towards the weak and courage in protecting and championing the oppressed, fidelity to pledged word, endurance in adversity, loyalty to cause and comrade, that playing for one's side and not letting it down which is such a strong, even if, at times, dangerous force. These ideals, which used to be traditionally associated with the name of England's patron saint, St. George, grew out of our Christian faith and the virtues which the Christian Churches taught to successive generations of Englishmen. So Charles Lister, before he fell in action, wrote of his friend, Julian Grenfell, that "he stood for something very precious — of an England of my dreams, made of honest, brave and tender men, and his life and death must have done something towards the realisation of that England".

Twice in our generation this binding force proved of immense value in preserving the decencies and liberties of Christian civilisation. Without it the ugly ideals of totalitarian despotism could not have been withstood. Those patriotic virtues inherent in Englishmen and in their Scottish, Welsh and

Northern Irish compatriots — and which have nothing to do, as is commonly supposed, with race but everything with creed — were epitomised in the wartime speeches of Winston Churchill. Even if Britain plays no further part in shaping the affairs of mankind, these will always be remembered for the love of country they expressed and the effect on the world's history of the response they evoked.

It seems strange that, at a time when in so many places — where hitherto the binding force of nationality has meant little — an almost hysterical consciousness of it prevails, in Great Britain, whose people have long been famed for their national pride and cohesion, patriotism has become almost an ugly word. Even to praise the corporate virtues which only a quarter of a century ago turned the triumphant tide of totalitarian tyranny, is to label oneself a reactionary. Sacrifice for one's country, courage, discipline, devotion to duty, are denigrated by those who mould the nation's beliefs and teach its young. Yet in Russia and China, Yugoslavia and Poland, Egypt, Indonesia, Tanzania and Somaliland, indeed in almost every country except this, patriotism is regarded as the first of the social virtues, and treason against one's country and its corporate ideals, even the mildest criticism of them, as a crime. The very organs of international co-operation, which to us appear as a sacred altar on which to sacrifice national self-interest and pride, are used by other countries as a mechanism for furthering their national policies and exalting their patriotic ego.

What explanation is there for a phenomenon so contradictory? Why is it right for anyone living in, say, Zambia, who is suspected of criticising the Zambian State and its rulers to be imprisoned without trial and threatened with confiscation, expulsion or death, while here anyone who advocates the protection of British rights or British nationals is denounced as a "gunboat imperialist"? Is the explanation that given by the present Prime Minister for the Rhodesian deadlock, that we here and those of our now despised "kith and kin" in Rhodesia are living in two different centuries; that we have passed out of the age of the topee, the sundowner and the Union Jack, while they, Edwardian-minded "hearties", colonialists and "racists", are still, deplorably by our standards, living in it? Yet the weakness of this explanation is that, if it be true, the Zambians and Indonesians, Egyptians and Chinese, and, indeed, the peoples of almost all countries but ours, with the possible exception of the United States, are doing the same. Can it be true that the rest of the world in pursuing the nationalistic delusions of the past is half a century or more behind us? That we alone are marching along the highway to universal understanding and global peace and unity?

An alternative explanation, however, is that we are wrong in supposing national pride to be a conception mankind can afford to discard.

For patriotism, which means so much to others, is still one of the only ways in which human beings can be induced voluntarily to act unselfishly, for a common purpose.

A nation is an instrument — and probably, in mankind's present state of development, an indispensable instrument — for social well-being and progress. To evoke their full potentialities and harness them to a common creative end, men need some corporate ideal to which they can dedicate and, when necessary, sacrifice themselves. It must not be too universal, or the sense of personal identification and stimulus becomes lost; yet it must be large and comprehensive enough to unite all sorts and conditions of men and talents in a great communal pursuit. In no country has this stimulus been stronger than in ours. Think of the achievements, in almost every field, of early nineteenth century Britain — of Nelson and Keats, Wilberforce, Constable and Faraday, Livingstone, Wordsworth and Florence Nightingale — and one can see what patriotism has done for us — and the world — in the past. Much of the inertia and drift from which all classes in the community, especially the young, are suffering today arise from the vacuum caused by the rejection of patriotism. It was the reaction brought about by the terrible casualties of the First World War — during which love and pride of country spurred men to endure sufferings almost too great to be borne — which still causes so many of our intellectuals, publicists and teachers to inveigh against patriotism and bring up the young to despise it. Yet when in 1939 a second assault was made on the liberties, lives and decencies of free men, a temporary revival of patriotism in the young alone enabled us to stem the tide of despotism.

Can all the king's horses and all the king's men put Humpty-Dumpty together again? It is anybody's guess. But, short of a world-wide religious revival to evoke the selfless and co-operative qualities inherent in men, I can see no other way in which the disruptive and destructive forces threatening to tear modern materialistic society apart can be withstood. I believe we have got to teach the young — the not so young can only learn from bitter experience and disaster —

**the ancient lesson that men owe to their country
and her traditions almost everything which makes
civilised life worth living**

and that, having received so much from her and those who served her in the past, it is incumbent on them to repay that debt by giving themselves to her service. It is not necessary to be a soldier and find death in battle to be a patriot. The husbandman, craftsman, the professional man, the poet and artist and all who devote their gifts and skills to enriching their native land, are serving her no less. Therein, for those who realise it, lies happiness and fulfilment.

*O pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls and plenteousness within thy palaces.
For my brethren and companions' sakes I will wish thee prosperity.*

The psalmist understood what he was talking about.

¹ John Masefield, 1914. Heinemann.

How they see us in Vienna

The following article appeared in an Austrian newspaper and has been translated for us by a reader, Mr John Lennie.

SONNTAG, 7. JULI 1985

Sie fressen alles, was ihnen über den Weg läuft

Australien: Invasion der Riesenkröten

Alles verschlingende, teller-große Riesenkröten vagabundieren „per Anhalter“ auf Autos und Lastwagen quer durch Nordaustralien und bedrohen mit ihrer Freßlust die gesamte Kleintierwelt. Nun schlagen die Behörden Alarm.

„Die Queensland-Zuckerrohrkröte wird zur Plage“, beklagen die Landwirte und rüsten zur Jagd auf die Tiere. Fressen doch die Kröten einfach alles, was ihnen in den Weg kommt: vom Kleintier bis zum Zigarettenanzünder. Und weil ihnen das Marschieren zu mühsam ist, reisen sie als „blinde Passagiere“ in Personautos und Lastwagen mit.

Grund genug für Australiens Naturschutzminister Steve Hatton, an Tankstellen und Rasthäusern „Fahndungsplakate“ anbringen zu lassen, auf denen alle Lenker aufgefordert werden, nach den Tieren Ausschau zu halten und sie wieder an die frische Luft zu setzen. „Damit sie sich nicht im ganzen Land verbreiten.“



Australische Riesenkröte: Freßgierig und reiselustig
(Australian Giant Toad: Voracious and Travel-happy)

It eats everything that is left in its way.

AUSTRALIA: INVASION OF GIANT TOADS

Huge toads as big as a plate, devouring everything, lead the life of a tramp, "hitch-hiking" with motor cars and trucks right across North Australia, and threaten with their gluttony the whole small-animal world. The authorities have become alarmed.

The Queensland sugar-cane toad has become a plague to the farmers, and they are preparing to hunt the creatures. The toads eat everything that comes their way; from small animals to cigarette lighters! And because it irks them to walk they make

themselves the uninvited passengers in motor cars and trucks.

The Conservation Minister, Steve Hatton, has been forced to announce that signs should be placed on all garages and restaurants urging people to look out for the toads clinging to their cars and get rid of them. "In that way they won't be spread over the whole country."



The British? Never heard of them!

It is distressing enough to be acutely aware that the British heritage of this nation is slandered by many, but it is more distressing to learn that our heritage is deliberately neglected by the authorities. Just what do I mean by that? Well, for those who receive the excellent magazine, *"Institute of Public Affairs Review"* for Summer 1985 (Vol. 38, No. 4), Dr. Ken Baker has written an article on this very matter. Entitled, "The Bicentenary: Celebration or apology?" He states for instance, "The programme (Bicentenary of the Australian/Authority) fails to mention the shared institutional framework, British in origin, which guarantees the right of all Australians, regardless of background, to equality before the law, participation in the political process, freedom of expression, etc." Further, "While the programme fails to give due recognition to the British contribution to Australia's heritage, it singles out the history and contribution of the Australian aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders for special attention."

The Australian Bicentenary Authority is but one organisation; another is the proposed Museum of Australia for Canberra. As correctly pointed out in the *Bulletin* magazine of 14th June 1983, the Museum will mention everyone except the British. The Anglo-Saxon-Keltic Society has followed up this shocking state of affairs, only to have our fears confirmed. On our application a large, well produced report was forwarded to us re the Museum. After careful study, a letter was sent to the Director of the Museum of Australia, D.F. McMichael, GPO Box 1901, Canberra. ACT. 2601. In part it read: "We have studied the report and whilst it mentions many peoples (example No. 33, page 40) and gives ample reference to the Aboriginal population and includes what we consider an unnecessary reference to "racism" ("Work", page 19 and No. 38, page 40) the word British cannot be found in the whole report, which is 80 pages long. This fact is totally unacceptable to the ASK Society."

Mr McMichael replied: "The fact that the word British does not appear in the Report of the Interim Council should not be taken to imply that either that body or the permanent Council of the Museum does not recognise and respect the place of Great Britain and the British people in the history of modern Australia. On the contrary, in everything that the Interim Council wrote, and in every decision and action of the permanent Council it is implicit that the central role of Great Britain and the British will be

recognised and featured. Both bodies were, however, properly concerned to draw attention to the fact that people of other national and social origins are also part of modern Australia and should not be overlooked.

"It is, of course, not possible to rewrite or in any way change the Report of the Interim Council".

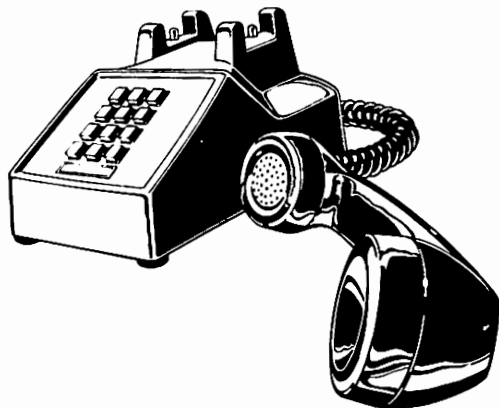
We again wrote to the Director asking him to include the word British and explain what is exactly meant by the word "racism". On the 3rd May 1985 he replied: "I am always ready to respond to genuine inquiries about the Museum of Australia, but I will not enter into correspondence on ideological matters."

Ideological matters? We wrote to the director again, offering to meet him on the matter; there has only been silence.

Mr McMichael, this is just not good enough. I can assure you, sir, this is not the end of the matter. Let's all keep on their backs with this matter and have our heritage recognised!



Service with a Threat



By Dr. Geoffrey Dobbs

Whilst the following article, reprinted from The British Journal (Home), refers to British Public authorities, readers will recognise the similarity to the methods employed by the bureaucracies under which we suffer.

In the autumn of 1981 one of our contributors returned from a holiday to find the usual heap of mail on his doormat. Not one quarter of it was real, personal communication. The rest was either unwanted advertising, or bills, which were of two sorts: ordinary commercial invoices for goods or services rendered, and demands for money with menaces, which last were exclusively from public monopolies supplying essential services to the home.

The advertising matter included several samples of the now standardised Smart Alick Sales Kit, with fake personal letter and grand certificate 'awarding' the recipient Six Lucky Numbers in Free Draw for holiday in Bahamas, motor car, or large cash sum; also Free Shoddy Gift, and Free Trial of Whatever. Please Please Send No Money! Just sign here and here including Bakers' Order or Direct Debit Note, and put in Freepost Envelope. Ugh! We are shocked to see that the Consumers' Association has now descended to this sort of Sales Gimmick. A pity! I used to be on the Consumers' side!

As for the Demands-with-Menaces — the bills for such services as water supply, electricity, gas, telephone, have always had to be paid, not to mention income tax; but people are now beginning to forget, or if young they never knew, that these services used to be supplied locally, and the bills paid locally, so that any troubles could be settled either on the telephone, or face to face at the local office. Accounts were issued personally in a normal and civilised manner, and late payment was dealt with by a series of polite reminders which rarely needed to reach the stage of a regretful warning of legal action or withdrawal of the service, and still more rarely to the final resort of an actual summons, or service cut-off.

Not so with our modern bureaucratic monopolies, which slap out wholesale, immediate threats of legal action, or cutting off the service with a penalty for restoring it, bulk-printed in red ink in standardised form, as a *first*, not a *last* resort when less offensive methods have failed.

THREATENING NOTICES

But to return to our householder, home to a mass of paper, mostly waste, delivered during his absence. This, inevitably, included a number of such 'red' threatening notices, such as, for instance, that from *British Telecom* which said (our emphasis): "We have *recently* sent you a bill. . . Non-payment will lead to your line being disconnected. . ." And overpage it says: "Rental continues to be charged during any period of disconnection. After payment there may be a delay before service can be reconnected. . . A reconnection fee is charged." And on top of all this is a note which says: "If you have already paid your bill please disregard this notice. . ."

In view of the fact that payments, especially through the local post office which is the most convenient for many people, can take up to 14 days to get through the bureaucratic machine to the computer, a large proportion of these bullying threats are always made in respect of bills already paid (as in this case). But the new relationship with the consumer is made abundantly clear: "You can forget all that old-fashioned nonsense about us being public servants. We've got a monopoly of something you need for living, so we charge you what we like, we treat you as we like, and just to make it clear who is boss, we prefer to extract what we charge by threats rather than by the out-of-date practice of giving the sort of service which the customer is delighted to pay for with gratitude and goodwill. Monopolies don't have to do that!"

In terms of manners these final notices are roughly the equivalent of sending round a sixteen stone 'heavy' to put his face six inches from the householder's, and raising a ham-like fist, to snarl: "I dunno whether you've paid, but if you haven't, hand over pronto or I'll bashya!" No! This is not a caricature of the Monopoly's employees, the chaps who fix our wires or read our meters, or take our bills over the counter, who are usually quite amiable. The style of public relations of a Monopoly is decided at the top.

BIG IS MORONIC

Among his paper heap our contributor also found no less than five separate envelopes containing demands from the Inland Revenue, two of them for alarmingly large sums followed by the letter E, which fortunately he realised meant that they were 'estimated', thus showing that his Tax Return, sent in a month earlier, had not yet 'registered'. The remaining three were demands for two quarterly payments on his old age pension, which being small sums, he had always paid in one lump to avoid further confusion. But despite pounding the Tax Inspector with reminders of this, it had never got through and months after payment and receipt, an official was sent round to enquire into its non-payment. All this is quite typical of the mental

fragmentation not only of Government bureaucracy, but of all large organisations. It used all to be quite simple. One official had the file in the local office, and the taxpayer could go round and clear everything up with him. Nothing so moronic could then happen as simultaneous demands for two large lump sums which in fact were not owing (with threats to charge interest if not paid immediately) while as an o.a.p. the same person must pay in four quarterly instalments even if he didn't want to. It really does seem as if the machine has taken over and the people are merely witless cogs in it!

AUTOMATED LAW

Unfortunately, while our householder was preoccupied with all this, one of the buff envelopes got mislaid among the advertising rubbish so that he did not open it until, some weeks later, without further warning, he found another buff envelope among his mail. This was a long one containing a summons from the County Court taken out by the Water Authority, for payment of 25 quarterly instalment on the Water Rate, plus 19 costs, of which 4 was the Court's fee for issuing, and 15 the solicitor's fee for taking out, the summons.

Now the Water Rate, while included under the General Rate, had been demanded half-yearly in advance, but with no reminder provided it was paid during the first quarter of the half-year. When separated from the General Rate it was suddenly demanded quarterly, but with only one notice posted in March, the householder being expected to remember the dates for payment each quarter. If he didn't, the only reminder he got was the final threat-notice, followed automatically by a posted summons which was sent out without warning or even by registered or recorded delivery postage. It was all automatic. No trace of common courtesy or account for the common accidents of life such as non-delivery or loss of the notice, absent-mindedness, let alone absence from home, sickness, death or bereavement, and no checking of the customer's previous payment record or even making certain that he was in arrears before summoning him for debt!

As it happened our pensioner, being a man of habit, had continued to pay his Water Rate in two instalments, half-yearly, as he had for the previous twenty years. A telephone call to the Water Authority's local office soon ascertained that they had not bothered to check this before going to Law, so he then wrote to their Chief Executive, explaining the circumstances, and that the matter could have been settled in one minute by a 5p. telephone call if normal commercial courtesies had been observed. He also raised the broader issue of the general effect of these robotic ultimata upon the private citizen, and especially the elderly, and upon the relationship between the Authority and the public, with whom its reputation was particularly bad.

The Chief Executive's reply was, as usual, politely worded, and as usual from official to public, evaded the real points made. His excuses were three: first, the enormous number of the bills they had to send out; second, that by trial they had found that they could extract payment from their customers only under threat; and third, that they had not enough staff to be able to deal individually with their customers. The first two are in themselves, a



Service with a Threat?

complete condemnation of the monstrous size of these public monopolies and of their centralisation and remoteness from the people. The third is a typical piece of bland bureaucratic nonsense when it is applied to a preference for a wholesale resort to the time-wasting and expensive business of going to law; obtaining and sending out summonses, correspondence with the Court, preparation of the Case and attendance at the Court or arbitration — the whole business spun out over as much as six months. To argue that a staff which has time for this way of dealing individually with the customer, as a first personal contact with him could not spare the time to check his payment record first, or to lift the telephone, or send him a personal note, to discover whether it is really necessary to drag him before the Justices is just so much idiotic nonsense, such as we get far too much of from our officialdom. No one without the financial resources of huge monopoly could afford to behave in this way.

MAN BITES MONOPOLY—AT A COST

Although our householder had already paid the full Water Rate in his two instalments, each in the first half of the half-year (instead of the first half of each quarter as most people had) and although the Water Monopoly had already announced the abolition of quarterly payment and a reversion to half-yearly payment in its commands to the citizenry for the following year, it refused to withdraw its summons. This showed quite clearly that its objective was not the recovery of the small and mistakenly alleged 'debt' for the third quarter, but the punishment of the ratepayer for non-compliance with that year's official routine by the use of the Court and solicitor's costs as a fine.

Formal enquiry at the Court in question as to the number of summonses taken out that year by the Water Authority was politely rejected, but informal enquiry led to the reply "Thousands!", said with a grin indicating comic exaggeration. Since it took six months for this petty case even to reach the point of preliminary arbitration it was clear that the Authority was monopolising the Court to a considerable extent for its own purposes.

Service with a Threat

Although advised by the Citizens Advice Bureau to pay up, for fear of larger costs if it came to Court, our contributor stuck to his guns, while accepting arbitration. When at last the case came up before the local Registrar, while thinking it wiser not to challenge the Court's 4 fee, he challenged the solicitor's 15 fee on the grounds that the summons had been taken out without correct information as to his payment record.

In the outcome, he won his point, and the Authority was not allowed to recover its solicitor's costs for issuing a summons without checking the alleged debtor's payments — a minor point, but a precedent of some importance, even though not a judgment in open Court. He thought it worth while though it was not won without cost — not merely the Court's 4, but in unnecessary fury and prolonged annoyance and worry over what should have been a trivial matter which could have been settled in a few minutes. This was not helpful to a pensioner in his 70's, but this one was able to cope effectively. There are many others who could not, especially lonely women, such as widows whose departed husbands had always settled the bills, and who can become depressed and abnormally alarmed by the stream of threats in scarlet print delivered through their letter boxes. Imagine the effect on such an elderly woman of a Court summons for debt suddenly delivered without warning because she had been away, or sick, or confused, or the dog had run off with the robotic ultimatum! Our mental hospitals are full of such people with 'nervous breakdowns' because they cannot cope; and some are driven to suicide. Alas! we know of what we write!

PUBLIC SERVANTS VS PUBLIC BULLIES

This matter is by no means trivial. It is more important than any 'World Issue'. It deals with the oppression of people in their homes by the Bureaucracy, which is the essence of all tyranny; and it is no accident that it is the Water Monopoly alone has dared to exploit its control over a life-essential to force and unwanted substance into the bodies of protesting people, contemptuously ignoring their protests, and even those of their elected representatives, as if they were slaves or animals. It is notorious that this is done at the behest of another Monopoly, that which bears the name of 'Health', which derives its power from the control of the impotent sick; and it is not surprising that it is the hired 'workers' in these two Monopolies who, taking their cue from their bosses, have recently been exploiting their stranglehold on the public to extract more money from them by so-called 'industrial action'.

It is typical of the Water Monopoly's attitude to the Law that it forces fluoride into people's bodies under cover of a financial indemnity against legal costs, should any of them seek to challenge it at law. All this is quite consistent with its preference for extracting payment by threats and using legal costs as a whipping for disobedience to its arbitrary conditions. Under the circumstances it is not unexpected that people are unwilling to pay until forced.

All this has got to be changed! These vast monopolies have got to be broken up and brought nearer to the people they exist to service, and their members have to learn that they are hired as our servants, not as our masters. Since, when they go to their homes, they are people like us, in fact they are 'us', it is not impossible. Most of them would prefer to be public servants than public bullies, but there is always the minority whom power corrupts, and it is they who hold the power, and who have to be exposed, as much to their colleagues as to the public.

As a small first step it is essential that we insist that no public utility shall execute sanctions, whether by legal summons or cutting off service, without first making personal contact with the customer and giving him or her adequate opportunity to meet the claim in a normal and amicable way.

The pretence that this would involve more work than going to law, or cutting off the service and restoring it again is manifest nonsense and should be exposed as such. The alleged economy and efficiency of enormous size and remote control has by now been thoroughly discredited; and as for the argument that, with such enormous numbers to deal with, the extraction of payment by the circularisation of automatic computerised threats is inevitable and the only way that 'works' — this alone makes the strongest case for cutting these monsters down to a size in which they can deal with people, not statistics.

Meanwhile, our contributor, by his successful resistance to a bit of legal bullying, has taken a small step in the right direction which may serve as a useful example.

Is our Bureaucracy as bad? Readers' comments and examples please. Ed.

A gift for all of the year

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The quarterly of the Australian Heritage Society

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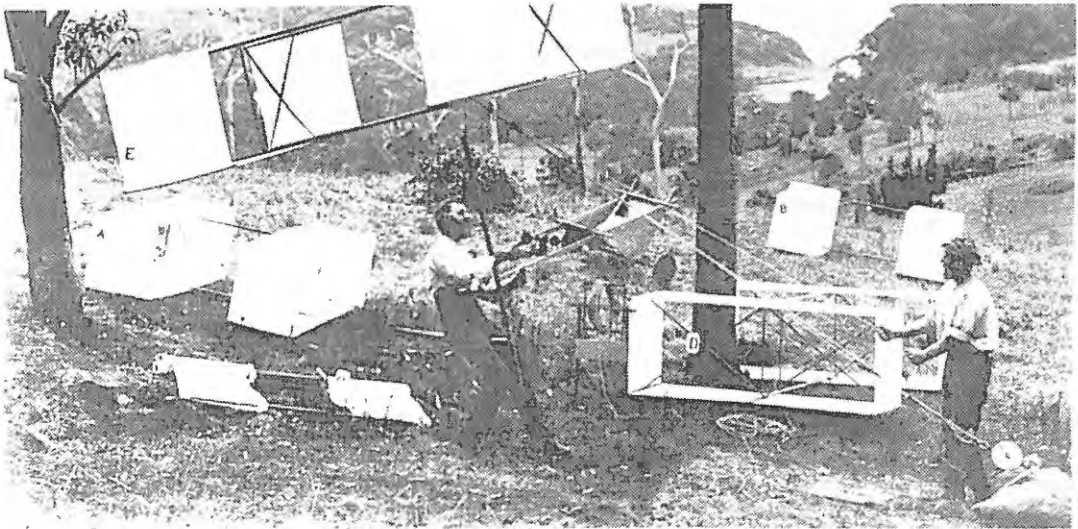
'To Emulate the Birds. . .'

On St. Patrick's Day, 17 March 1910, Fred Custance made the first controlled powered flight in Australia at Bolivar near Adelaide in a Bleriot monoplane.

Since then, thousands of Australians have flown propellor-driven aircraft, helicopters, commercial and military jets to present a broad canvas of aviation in this country on which many special people have made their mark.

There were the pioneers like Harry Hawker, Keith and Ross Smith and Co through World War I Australian Flying Corps pilots to Bert Hinkler, Smithy, Ulm, PG Taylor, the Flying Doctor Service and pilots of The Royal Australian Air Force to mention but a few.

The following stories relate the great courage and sense of purpose of their breed.



Lawrence Hargrave testing the lift of box kites with the aid of a spring balance at Stanwell Park.

"Bicentenary '88"

Lawrence Hargrave

Early on a cool grey morning in 1893, the villagers of Stanwell Park on the south coast of New South Wales awoke to the sound of flapping wings.

Up on the headland high above the huddle of houses, something that looked like a wounded eagle fluttered helplessly across the open ground.

Abruptly it slithered to a halt and died.

But this was no ordinary bird. Its life force was 24 rubber bands and its motivation a burning ambition by one young man to emulate the birds and fly.

His name was Lawrence Hargrave and he was to become one of the world's greatest aviation pioneers.

Tucked away in his modest home in the ocean front village, cut off by thousands of kilometres from the mainstream of modern thought, he toiled away tirelessly to realise his dream of creating a machine that could leap from this earth and move through the air.

Hargrave was a man of genius. He laid down almost every major principle of aerodynamics.

Born in England in 1850, he migrated to Australia as a boy of 16 and found work in an engineering workshop of the Australian Steam Navigation Company.

He developed his ideas by building model monoplanes, at first propelled by flapping wings.

Later his models were fitted with a primitive air-screw.

Some of his experimental planes failed miserably. But undaunted he worked on feverishly to achieve his goal and at least 17 of his later models helped crystallise that dream.

POWERED FLIGHT

Eight years before the first successful powered flight, he invented the first radial rotary engine, drive by compressed air, its cylinders rotating around a fixed shaft with a propeller.

That was in 1895. By then his models had been driven by delicate clockwork machinery and, finally, by tiny compressed air engines.

Hargrave had sat for hours on the cliffs that tower along the south coast, studying the 'lift' that swept the birds majestically into the heavens, allowing them to soar and swoop, powered only by the force of air.

Finally he hit upon two important discoveries.

First, that a curved wing surface had twice the lift of a flat one and, second, that a kite with two separated cells or double planes had the greatest stability and soaring power.

These are the dynamic principles underlying the movement of concave and convex air currents.

Pressing on eagerly he experimented with box-kites and predicted that 'in all probability the curved plane would prove to be the permanent type of supporting surface of flying machines'.

UNRECOGNISED

Octave Chanute, the American pioneer aviator, wrote of Hargrave: 'If there is one man who deserved to fly through the air, that man is Lawrence Hargrave of Sydney, New South Wales'.

Nonetheless, Hargrave was largely unrecognised, even to the very end of his life. Australia, and the rest of the world, seemed incapable of recognising the genius in its midst.

In 1910 he offered all his notes, papers and models to the most renowned institutions and universities in the world. His notebooks were accepted by the Sydney University, The Sydney Technological Museum, The London Aeronautical Society, The Smithsonian Institute, and many others — but his models were turned down.

Eventually the Deutches Museum in Munich, Germany, gratefully accepted them.

But by a tragic twist of fate 57 models, including all the box-kites were destroyed in the bombing of Munich in WWII. Four that survived were returned to Australia in 1960 and are now in the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences in Sydney.

There they remain . . . a tribute to a young man with a vision. A vision that began with sealing wax and rubber bands and ended in an aerodynamic principle that sends modern jet planes thundering across the world.

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO "HERITAGE" WILL BE MOST WELCOME.

The Editor invites readers to submit their views on any topic related to Australia's heritage. Letters to the editor are an ideal form of expression but in particular we seek longer, researched articles which explore any one of Australia's short and relatively unknown history.

We also invite writers to contribute material on any of the following subjects:

LIFE IN THE GOOD OLD DAYS —
personal recollections

AUSTRALIA AT WAR — personal glimpses.

HUMOROUS CHARACTERS I'VE MET.

GREAT AUSTRALIANS — Another side of their story.

UNEMPLOYMENT — Is this modern phenomena a curse or blessing in disguise?

A nation which forgets or ignores its past has a doubtful future. The Australian Heritage Society is pledged to preserving all aspects of our nation's history. Without your participation, many of the human, emotional and humorous aspects of Australia's early life may be lost forever.

Please direct contributions or enquires to:

**The Editor,
"HERITAGE",
Box 69,
MOORA, W.A. 6052.**

WHICH BONE ARE YOU?

It is said the membership of any organisation is made up of four bones.

There are 'Wish bones' who spend all their time wishing someone else would do all the work.

Then there are 'Jaw bones' who do all the talking and very little else.

Third are the 'Knuckle bones' who knock everything that anybody else tries to do.

Finally there are the 'Backbones' who get under the load and do the work.

SO — WHICH BONE ARE YOU?

AUSTRALIA AT WAR

The Battle of El Alamein, October — November 1942

Before describing the main Battle of El Alamein which opened on 23 October, 1942, it is necessary to examine briefly land operations in North Africa following relief by the British Eighth Army of the besieged garrison at Tobruk in December 1941. The 9th Australian Division (less the 2/13th Battalion which remained at Tobruk and fought in the break-out operations) had earlier been evacuated and was, until mid 1942, training and performing garrison duties in Syria.

Although unable because of lack of material strength to fully exploit its advantage over the Axis forces following the lifting of the siege, the Eighth Army continued its westward advance capturing Benghazi on Christmas Eve 1941. General Rommel, however, successfully counter-attacked on 21 January 1942 and, by early February, had driven the British force back to Gazala. In heavy fighting which took place around Bir Hacheim, Knightsbridge and El Adem the Eighth Army suffered heavy losses necessitating successive withdrawals to the Egyptian frontier.

On 20 June Axis forces captured Tobruk and by the end of the month the commander of the Eighth Army, General Auchinleck, had taken up the partly-prepared defence line at El Alamein, spanning the 30-mile stretch of desert between the sea and the Qattara Depression, a waterlogged area impassable to motor vehicles and tanks.

As Rommel (now a Field Marshal) gathered his army for the final assault on Egypt and the prize of the valuable Middle East oilfields, the 9th Australian Division, under the command of Major-General L.J. Morshead, began arriving at El Alamein and in the next three months was committed to much bitter fighting in the northern sector around Miteiriya Ridge (where most of the 2/28th Battalion was overrun and captured) Makh Khad Ridge and at Tel el Eisa.

On 13 August 1942, General Auchinleck was succeeded as commander of the Eighth Army by Lieut-General B.L. Montgomery who had arrived in Cairo on the 12th. Montgomery immediately set about infusing new spirit into the British forces and commenced planning for a major offensive.

Rommel made a last effort to break through the El Alamein defences on 30 August with a "right hook" by his armoured units. Honours in this operation, called the Battle of Alam el Halfa, went to the defenders who could not be enticed into committing their armour in open battle but by intelligent use of minefields, dug-in tanks and supported by British air attacks, turned the main German thrust back to a British minefield. Montgomery declined to contest the ground taken by the enemy, preferring to conserve his forces for the offensive which lay ahead.

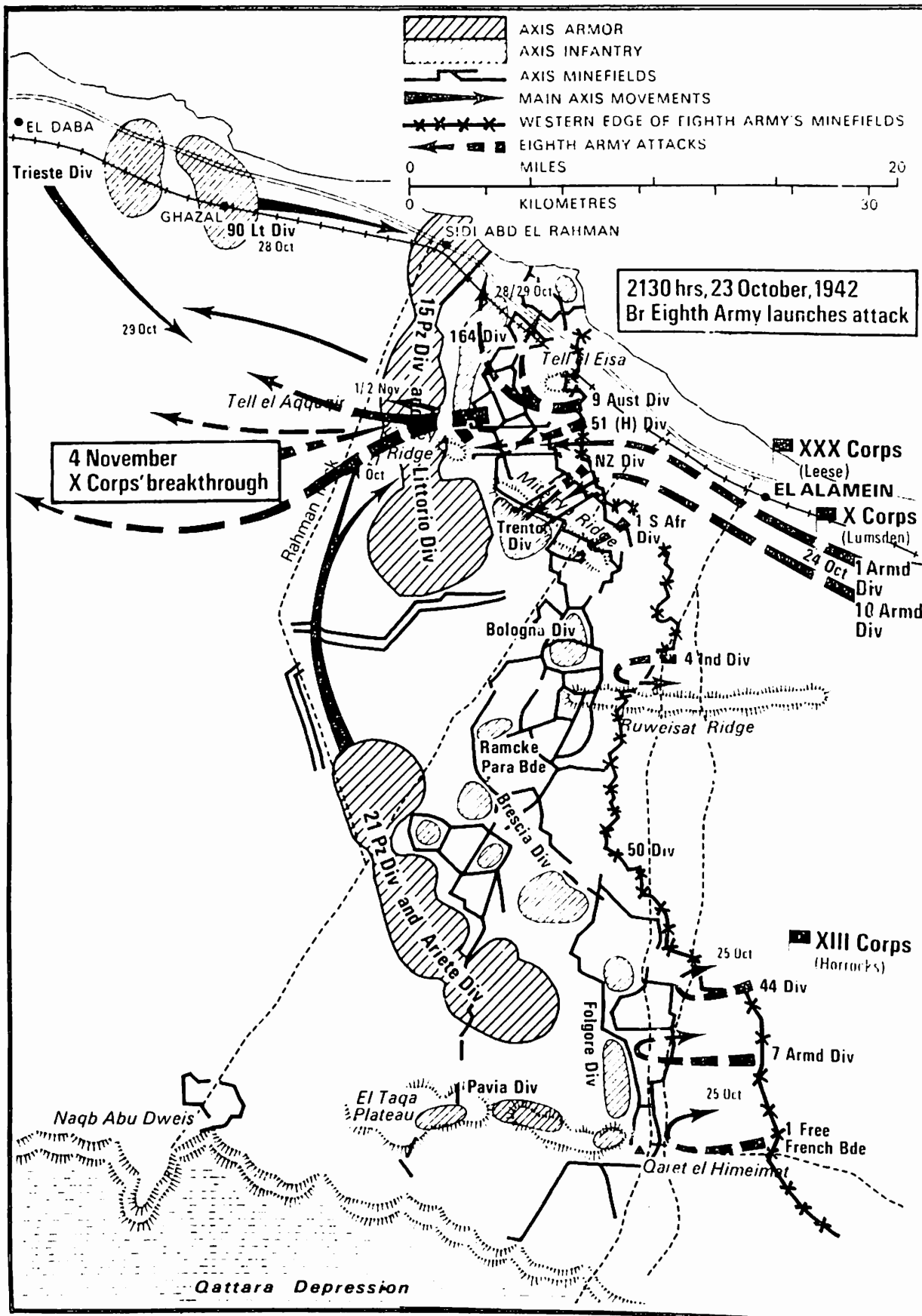


Meanwhile, the British Command was making preparations for the offensive ordered by General Alexander for 23 October 1942. Broadly the plan was for a main infantry thrust in the northern sector by the XXX Corps under Lieut-General Leese where corridors were to be punched through the enemy defences to allow armour of the X Corps under General Lumsden to debouch through and engage the enemy armour. Simultaneously an attack was to be made in the south by the XIII Corps under General Horrocks which was to break into the enemy positions and operate with the British 7th Armoured Division with a view to drawing enemy armour away from the main attack in the north. To assist in this plan such ingenious deception measures as the construction of a dummy pipeline to the south, use of vehicles dragging chains to simulate heavy traffic on the southern road and the placing of dummy vehicles in the north which were gradually replaced by real vehicles and tanks so as not to arouse the suspicions of enemy observers. Enemy espionage agents in Cairo were led to believe the attack would not take place until November.

The Eighth Army commanded a superiority in tank strength and Air Vice-Marshal Coningham had 500 aircraft available to support the army, whereas the Axis had only about 350 aircraft based in North Africa, although reinforcements were available in Crete and Italy. On the eve of battle the British had more than 220,000 men, over 900 tanks and about 900 field and medium guns.

The 9th Australian Division was to carry out its attack on the right of the four infantry divisions of XXX corps, the 9th, 51st Highland, 2nd New Zealand and 1st South African. The "cutting edge" of the 9th Division and its three infantry brigades: the 20th (2/13th, 2/15th and 2/17 Battalions), the 24th (2/28th, 2/32nd and 2/43rd Battalions) and the 26th (2/23rd, 2/24th and 2/48th Battalions).

At 9.40 p.m. on 23 October 1942 the silence of the desert was broken by the concerted roar of over 900 field and medium guns of the Eighth Army in a counter-battery bombardment. With a gun spaced at about every 17 yards over 1,000 shells a minute fell into the enemy defences. For 15 minutes the barrage continued and suddenly ceased. Five minutes later, at 10.00 p.m., two British searchlights intersected in the sky and the gunfire recommenced. Under the light of an almost full moon the infantry moved out



from their start-lines and advanced under cover of the supporting fire through gaps cleared in enemy minefields by the engineers.

In the first phase the 20th and 26th Brigades advanced westward while the 24th Brigade on the coast staged a successful diversionary operation to draw enemy artillery fire from the main attack.

Dawn on the 24th found the 26th Brigade on their objective with the 20th about 1,000 yds short. The Australians, along with the other divisions, encountered severe enemy opposition in the attack and had suffered casualties. Enemy fire of all descriptions was being poured into the Australian positions.

Next night (the 24-25th) the 20th Brigade resumed its advance under heavy enemy fire and by dawn were on the final objective. Some armoured formations of the X Corps had managed to break out although the German anti-tank cordon had not been prised open and the armoured brigades were unable to establish a firm base on the "chosen" ground.

In the south the XIII Corps met with fairly limited success and had assumed a more or less static defence role.

On the night of the 25-26th the 26th Brigade on the right flank made a successful attack northward and withstood determined enemy counter-attacks, during the day. At 10.00 p.m. on 28 October, the 20th Brigade with two of its depleted battalions struck northward towards the coast road and the railway. The brigade reached its objectives in the face of intense enemy resistance and dug in. The 2/23rd (of the 26th Brigade) thereupon moved through the 20th Brigade battalions in an attempt to penetrate to the main road but because of severe casualties and the loss of its supporting tanks to enemy fire, was unable to continue the advance and dug in between battalions of the 20th Brigade.

These attacks by the Australians had breached the German line in the north causing Rommel to denude other sectors to meet the threat. On the 29th enemy infantry and tanks made strenuous efforts to dislodge the forward battalions from their positions, without success.

So far the break-out of British armour had not taken place but was planned for the night 1-2nd November (Operation Supercharge). The infantry for this phase of the operation was to be commanded by General Freyberg of the New Zealand Division whose role was to push a corridor through the enemy defences to allow the British armour to debouch through.

In the meantime it was essential that relentless pressure be maintained on the enemy with northward attacks by the Australians. To this end the 26th Brigade, on the night 30-31 October, carried out an attack down the railway line and coast road towards the enemy strongpoint, Thompson's Post. The two battalions made a deep penetration in the face of intense enemy opposition but heavy casualties forced them to withdraw to their bases. At dawn on the 31st the 2/3rd Pioneer Battalion in an infantry role advanced northward towards the coast but were severely mauled and their depleted companies withdrew to behind the railway. German armour and infantry made repeated attacks on the Australian

positions astride the road and railway on 1 and 2 November.

Meanwhile, Operation Supercharge had begun but it was not until 4 November that a successful armoured breakthrough was made and Rommel ordered a general withdrawal. Harassed by the RAF the battered and disorganised Axis forces withdrew through Fuka to Mersa Matruh. Rain which fell on the night of 6 November probably prevented the complete destruction of the enemy columns at this time by bogging down the British transport and armour.

Of the British losses in the battle of 13,560 killed, wounded and missing the 9th Australian Division, between 23 October and 5 November, suffered 620 killed, 1,944 wounded and 130 prisoners of war. Three members of the Division were posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross: Private A.S. Gurney at Tel el Eisa on 22 July, Sergeant W.H. Kibby, 23-31 October, and Private P.E. Gratwick, 25-26 October. The battle was the last in which Australian ground troops took part in this theatre.

The British Eighth Army's pursuit of the enemy then began. Tobruk was recaptured on 13 November 1942, Tripoli fell on 23 January 1943 and the surrender of all Axis forces in North Africa was taken at Tunis on 12 and 13 May 1943. The 9th Division did not join in the pursuit and by 9 December 1942 was established in base camps in Egypt and Palestine.

Tributes to the 9th Division's part in the battle poured in from national leaders and senior officers. General Montgomery said that Morshead's men had been magnificent and the part they had played was beyond all praise. In the closing words of his address at a ceremonial parade held by the division at Gaza Airport on 22 December 1942 the Commander-in-Chief, General Alexander, said "There is one thought I shall cherish above all others — under my command fought the 9th Australian Division".

The Battle of El Alamein had removed for all time the Axis threat to the Suez Canal and the Middle East oilfields, prizes which had eluded them in two years of see-saw conflict across North Africa. It was a battle which was instrumental in denying to the enemy necessary air bases for his attacks on Allied shipping in the Mediterranean and thereby ensuring the adequate supply of Malta.

The victory came as a tonic to the morale of the British people where it was celebrated by the ringing throughout the land of church bells which had been silent for three years.

For the British Eighth Army and for Montgomery himself it was a great victory. Churchill, commenting on the battle, wrote: "It may almost be said, before Alamein we never had a victory. After Alamein we never had a defeat".

Australian War Memorial Canberra

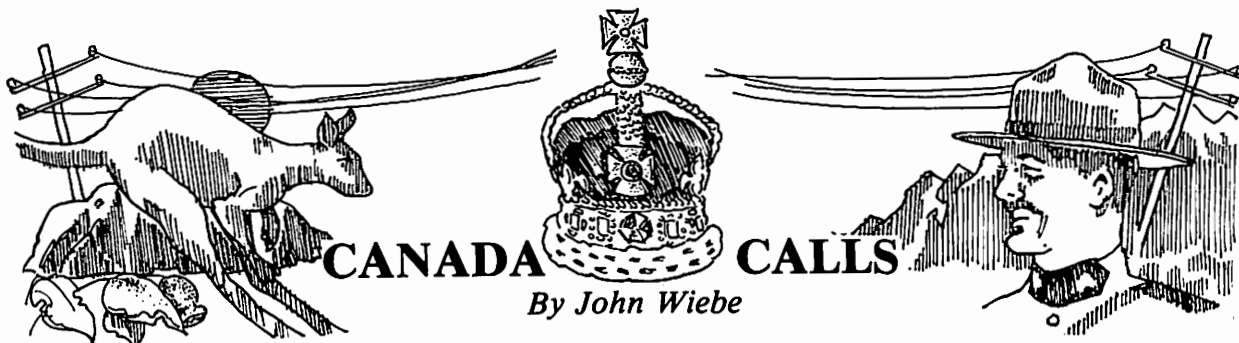
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The New Conservatism?

1968 saw Canada's then proud Army, Navy and Air Force amalgamated into a single hybrid with the lacklustre title of "Canadian Armed Forces". Clothed in an undistinguished, bottle-green uniform, and deprived of the service traditions that nurtured them, Canada's military personnel prepared to enter the 'seventies with a very shaky step.

Yet, their liberal, political masters told them that great things would transpire from ripping the service fibre. There would be so much more money to buy new equipment with, everything would be so much more efficient and less bureaucratized, and other nations would rush to emulate Canada's unified services' scheme.

Five years later, the truth was plain. Personnel strength, once 125,000 was about 80,000. A bloated, centralized, defence bureaucracy ate up most of the "onpaper" savings not claimed by inflation. Defence spending fell to a percentage of the GNP slightly above that of Luxembourg's that made replacement of obsolete equipment impossible, and nobody wanted to emulate Canada's seriously flawed example of military unification.

So it was that the election of a Conservative Government in September, 1984, brought new hope to Canada's forces. Regular force personnel would be increased to 90,000 with a greatly expanded and re-equipped reserve force. New equipment programs already underway would be augmented with special attention given to replacing the cracking, obsolete hulks that represented most of Canada's navy. Defence spending would experience a real 6 percent growth, and there would once again be separate uniforms for each service, based upon British Commonwealth military traditions.

The Dominion's birthday, July 1st, 1985, will see Canada's services march out in smart, new uniforms, but the rest of the new government's conservative, defence agenda seems to have gone missing. Personnel expansion plans have been shelved. Budget growth will be at the old, inadequate 3 percent level in real terms. This means that the four warships desperately needed by the navy will still not arrive before the 1990's. The reserves continue to be poorly equipped and relatively miniscule.

NEW CONSERVATISM?

Is this the "new conservatism" the mass media are forever talking about? No, it's just the old, pragmatic, liberal path trod for two decades by

successive Canadian governments. Defence doesn't "sell" to the public, say the pundits and pollsters, ignoring the concept that it might were it to be given the same publicity accorded other, less crucial programs. The same morally bankrupt, left-wing pressure groups found the world over also don't like defence build-ups this side of the Iron Curtain, so better to maintain the comfortable, if dangerous, status quo and go on to other things.

Regrettably, one of the other things that the new government has gone on to, has been a resumption of the attack upon the middle-class that was such a feature of the unlamented Trudeau-Liberal regime. Perhaps, some day, government budgeters will discover that middle holds top and bottom together, but don't expect it to be soon if Canada's new budget is any indication.

Old-age pensioners, whose high taxes funded the great spending programs of the 'seventies, are now to be in the vanguard of fighting the national deficit their ministerial masters created. Their pensions are to be de-indexed in terms of inflation, meaning that they can expect 3 p.c. less each year starting in 1986. The middle class wage-earner can expect new taxes to aid in the deficit fight but, of course, all social programs are exempt from cuts. And, also exempt, are the usual government perks and clangers like new ministerial jets, and a rather messy project to tear down the historical Royal Canadian Mint so it can be rebuilt exactly as it was. Promises to stimulate investment have not been forgotten, however. Those with a cool, half million to invest get tax credits.

Regarding foreign policy, the previous antipathy at anything American has been cooled by the new government, but the largely counter productive foreign aid projects beloved by the left wings of all political parties continue unabated. Canadians, fighting the deficit with their last dollars, will continue to fund projects like a 25 million dollar installation in stalinist, but "needy", Nicaragua.

If not completely overwhelmed by such government cynicism, there is always the Canadian rights' charter to turn to for more. The charter puts the last word in Canada, not in the mouths of elected legislators, but between the lips of very liberal, appointed, Supreme Court Justices.

BEING EQUAL

Everyone is equal, of course, but some are slightly more equal due to a clause in the charter that permits

quotas and affirmative action programs. Vote-conscious politicians may, in these ways, assuage discrimination which they determine to have existed. How the Dominion's mostly young, one and a quarter million unemployed feel about this has never been queried. Most of them have never had the jobs promised by governments, so they've never been in a position to discriminate against anyone.

The march towards equality continues though, its latest manifestation being a court ruling that adoption agencies can no longer favour two-parent families when placing their charges. Like all the other recent rulings, nobody seems to have counted the social costs of this, though they are doubtless present.

There are a few positive signs. Pensioners have formed groups to fight de-indexation, and a group known as "Real Women" is trying to preserve the positive benefits of emancipation, while guarding the traditional family structure against state intrusion. Guarding it might be added, against "progressive" organisations lavishly funded by tax money to do the opposite in the name of equality.

Yet, taken as a whole, the picture is rather dark. The 1982 rights charter reigns supreme without ever having been put to a plebiscite, which shows that constitutional documents must be protected from change unless real benefit can be demonstrated for everyone and not just for the noisiest pressure groups.

The "new conservatism" is nothing new, of itself, unless there is a strong moral basis to accompany it. President Reagan has provided such a basis in the U.S., but are there any other "conservative" politicians out there who possess it? It's the duty of the electorate in each country to make sure that there are.

This almost sounds like Australia — Funny how we make the same blunders! Ed.

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A Lighter Touch



Teacher to small boy:

"Why are Politicians like Bananas?"

"Because they get around in bunches; they're mostly yellow and there's seldom a straight one amongst them!"

During the 2nd World-War a fleet of American warships was berthed in Sydney Harbour. A Yankee sailor, seeing the sights with a Sydneysider, asked whether there was a market there and was taken to the fruit and vegetable section.

He saw a huge round melon displayed on the top of a pinnacle of oranges. Grabbing the melon, he balanced it on the tips of his fingers.

Looking over at the Aussie behind the counter he drawled: "Say Aussie, I guess this is the biggest apple you grow in Australia?" Came the bellicose reply: "Put down that grape you blighter, or I'll knock yer!"

**Norman Rolls
Belgrave, Vic.**

Enlisting

World War I had just been declared, and along with several others, Basil went in to enlist. However, he stuttered rather badly and consequently was declared by the army doctor to be unfit for service. He was most upset and disappointed and could not see the logic behind the doctor's decision. After a great deal of stuttering he managed to say: "Look man I want to fight the bastards, not talk to them."

Pat was in town for the purpose of having his eyes tested for a new pair of reading glasses. "Look doc," he said to the Optometrist "What I need this time is a pair of glasses that I can use to read between the lines with."

**I.L. Rogers
Yeelanna, S.A.**



QUEENSLAND NURSES, BOER WAR TO VIETNAM

By Dr Rupert Goodman

Boolarong Press, Brisbane. 275pp
(180 photographs) \$20 plus postage

This is essentially a Queensland book about Queensland nurses who served in the navy, army and air force nursing services in the numerous wars in which Australia has been involved this century. It is a story, too, of Queensland families, some of whom contributed four, five and even six daughters to the nursing services.

The author traces their first involvement during the Boer War, when a number of Queensland nurses found their way to South Africa. With the help of letters and diaries he describes the shock many of these young nurses received when they moved from the comparative security of country hospitals to the horrors of nursing the victims of Gallipoli and of France in World War I.

Wherever the fighting man has gone, the medical services including the Sisters of the nursing services, have gone too — the Middle East, Greece, Crete, Tobruk, Malaya, New Guinea, Borneo and the South-West Pacific areas in World War II.

There is high drama and tragedy in this remarkable story — the narrow escape from Greece and Crete, the massacre of the nurses at Banka Island by the Japanese, the capture of nurses and their treatment as POW's by the Japanese, the sinking of the hospital ship, Centaur (only 23 miles abeam of Point Lookout) with the loss of 332 lives including 11 members of the AANS.

Queensland in the war years, particularly in 1942, when a Japanese invasion appeared imminent, is a story that needs to be recorded for future generations, as Queensland was virtually in the front line. As thousands of troops poured in, medical facilities were hastily set up. Nurses were involved in hush-hush assignments, malaria experiments in Cairns, gas experiments in Innisfail. Then there was the "Brisbane Riot" and "the Brisbane Line", forgotten pieces of history. Through it all members of the nursing service continued with dedication and courage their task of aiding the sick and wounded.

A feature of Dr Goodman's book is the number and quality of the photographs, many of them of great historic interest. Queen Mary, King George VI, "Billy" Hughes, Sir Robert Menzies, Prince Philip, "Eddie" Ward, General Blamey are some of the VIP's shown with the sisters.

Many of the Queensland Sisters were highly decorated and some reached the top position in the Army Nursing Service. Sister Mary Derrer (Mrs Gallagher) received the Military Medal for her bravery and coolness under fire when the Casualty Clearing Station was bombed in France in 1915. Royal Red Crosses, Florence Nightingale Medals abound, with the occasional OBE and MBE. Matron Grace Wilson, CBE, RRC, FNM was "Mentioned in Despatches" no fewer than five times!

The book is alive with the remarkable work of Sisters whose names became famous in Queensland's nursing history — "Connie" Keys, Sadie Macdonald, Christense Sorensen, Judy Abbott, Edna Doig, Eunice Paten, E. McQuade White — and over 1,000 others whose names are mentioned in the book.

As Lady Ramsay, wife of Queensland's Governor, says in her Forward to the book,
"It is a proud record indeed".

It is a book which should be in all schools and libraries for this generation to read.

The book was written on behalf of the Returned Sisters Sub-branch of the RSL, Brisbane from whom copies may be obtained.

Queensland Nurses — Boer War to Vietnam"
Available from: Miss E. Baxter
The Secretary,
Returned Sister's Sub-Branch,
112 Payne St.,
Indooroopilly, Qld 4068

Posted Price: \$25 to W.A.
\$24 to all other States.

WANTED

Australian Humour

The Editor would like to hear from any reader who has some good Australian humour (stories, jokes, anecdotes) he or she would like to share with others. Contributions should be sent to:

The Editor,
"Heritage",
P.O. Box 69,
Moora, W.A., 6510

Is not a Patron, my Lord, one who looks with unconcern on a man struggling for life in the water, and when he has reached ground, encumbers him with help? The notice which you have been pleased to take of my labours, had it been early, had been kind; but it has been delayed till I am indifferent, and cannot enjoy it; till I am solitary, and cannot impart it; till I am known, and do not want it.

Samuel Johnson,
Letter to Lord Chesterfield,
1755