



HERITAGE

LINKING THE PAST WITH THE PRESENT - FOR THE FUTURE

No. 80 June - August 1996

failed to give proper consideration to the...
people...
and among the people generally...
The extent to which it is done among the people generally is not...
Now and in later years I could see how well...
These were, for instance the child an...
It is the task of Communist cadres to see that...
All branch activities are just organised by the...
Cadres report at branch meetings on their...
Note that I was a party member...
I was for a time secretary of the Women's Peace Crusade...

Later the branch broke Blackburn was...
His wife Jean and I were transferred to Adelaide...
The Adelaide branch met at the home of the...
We were very busy in the Communist Party and the...
If it were declared illegal the party would go underground...
A crucial committee member from Sydney came to Adelaide...
The idea of the Adelaide Hills which had earlier been considered...
The hills are a well and the Communist Party are very keen on...
When Lenin was in the party I was in charge of the...
The party was indeed a party and well in the...
The Communist Party was indeed a party and well in the...
And here it may be said that any assessment of the Communist danger is inadequate unless it recognises the...
in the last couple of years I have frequently...
political parties receive from...
We in the Peace Council were not involved at...
I had my first experience of...
I went with...

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
AUSTRALIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE ORGANISATION

Director General

G.P.O. BOX NO 5105BB
MELBOURNE

Dear Mrs Neill,

Now that the end of the road is in sight in regard to your special task I would like to express my sincere thanks and, indeed, admiration for the way in which you have carried out your undertaking.

Over the years I have watched closely all the moves you have made and I must say that the value of the information which you have supplied to my Organisation can never be adequately assessed. Furthermore, I know you will be the first to realise that the value is for our country and particularly at times like these when subversion presents such a real danger.

Your personal experience has been so great that we would like to benefit from it and obtain your appreciation of certain matters.

I trust you will soon enjoy a most deserved rest without the tensions which must have been ever present during the past year.

Please accept my good wishes and appreciation for all you have done.

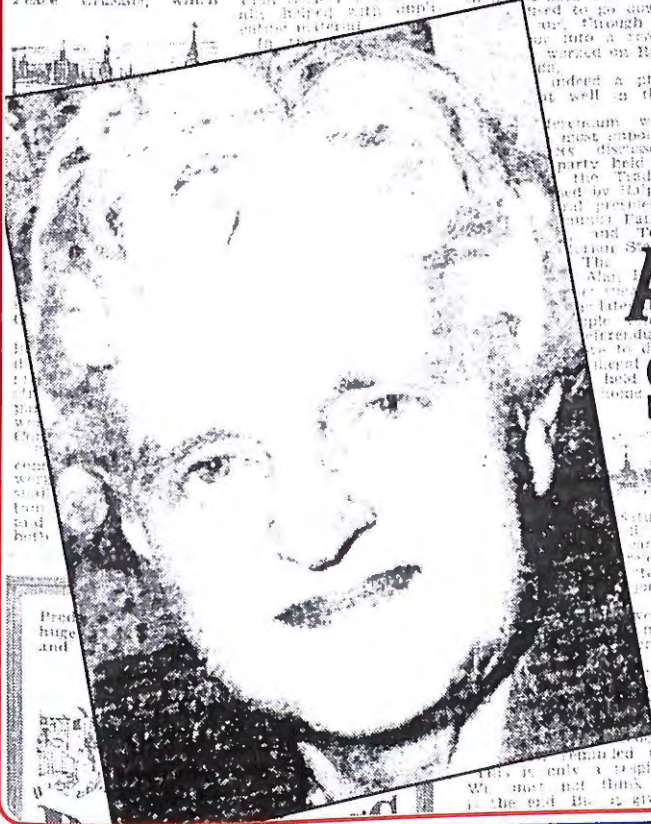
Yours sincerely,
George Sory

(G.L.F. SORY)

THIS IS THE LETTER which the head of the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation, Brig. Sory, wrote to Mrs. Neill when she ended her work as an agent.

Australian Spy Story

Anne Neill's courageous assignment in Stalin's Russia.



Christmas break-down...
I returned in work...
The Youth Carnival...
I had my first...
I went with...
I had my first...
I went with...
I had my first...
I went with...
I had my first...
I went with...

PUBLISHED BY THE AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

PRINT POST PUBLICATION PP 638354/0026



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THE AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

The Australian Heritage Society was launched in Melbourne on 18th September, 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, pursuit of goodness and beauty, and unselfish concern for other people - to maintain a love and loyalty for those values.

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

"Our heritage today is the fragments gleamed from past ages; the heritage of tomorrow - good or bad - will be determined by your actions today."

SIR RAPHAEL CILENTO
First Patron of the Australian Heritage Society

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Contributions are invited for publication in *HERITAGE*. Articles should be accompanied by suitable photographs, and a stamped addressed envelope for return if unsuitable. All reasonable care will be taken of material forwarded; however, the Editor cannot accept responsibility for loss, damage or non-return of material.

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GLOBALISM'S CLAY FEET OR WHEN ONE WORLD IS NO WORLD

AS we approach the end of the twentieth century, the prospects for humanity are uncertain. The collapse of superpower antagonism has not ushered in an era of global peace, as many optimistically assumed, but one of growing ethnic strife around the world.

The focus of globalization, including the internationalization of investment, production, technology and culture, have tended to weaken nation-states and the ability of local communities to control their own affairs. As we enter the "post post-Cold-War-era, major shifts in international relationships are occurring as countries take stock of the new global climate.

In most of the developed countries, unemployment remains persistently high and economic growth appears unable to deliver improved living standards to many people. Despite high rates of economic growth in some East Asian countries in recent years, for large and rapidly-growing populations in many poor countries, life is not improving.

World population now stands at 5.6 billion and could reach 10 billion by the year 2025. With an estimated 1.3 billion young people in low-wage Asia, Africa and Latin America entering the labour market in the next 25 years, providing jobs for them all will be a large task. In the meantime, the developed countries will struggle to compete with the cheap labour of newly-industrializing countries in order to

provide jobs for their own people.

The ideology of internationalism or globalism is quite clearly a social and environmental disaster responsible for many of our most pressing problems. Globalization has occurred as a result of economic expansion and technological innovation, and its consequences can be seen in the "global environmental" crisis. It has fuelled the mindless thirst for increased economic growth and for the material/energy throughput in modern economics.

"The ideology of internationalism or globalism is quite clearly a social and environmental disaster responsible for many of our most pressing problems."

Globalists believe that this process is good, and encourage the establishment of "one world". They make it their task to vilify those 'heretics' who dare to oppose globalization and all it entails. They believe in open borders, free trade, multiculturalism, the elimination of nations, and they support the construction of a world government -- a new world order -- typically based on a United Nations with the military muscle to subdue recalcitrants.

Those who object to this, those nationalists and communitarians

who object to their societies' being torn open to the world and transformed into global supermarkets and borderless bordellos, are attacked as 'racist', 'fascist', 'xenophobes', even 'Nazis'. Such intellectual heretics find it well-nigh impossible to obtain employment within that supposed bastion of free thought, the modern western university. Consequently, the politically-correct doctrines of globalism/internationalism/cosmopolitanism and all they entail -- economic rationalism and economic internationalism, immigrationism, multiculturalism, etc. -- are entrenched in universities without any critical voices being raised.

However, we must not despair. The arrogance and the many weaknesses of this dominant philosophy are easily exposed. It is simple to demonstrate that "one world is really no worthwhile world at all". The globalist/internationalist doctrine contains the seeds of its own destruction. We must not be afraid to criticize the sacred cows of today's tame pseudo-intellectuals. For a start, received orthodox "economic wisdom" is a sitting duck as a prominent oxymoron.

We believe passionately in free speech and free thinking. We promote autarky, self-sufficiency and intelligent nationalism -- all heretical doctrines despised by the cosmopolitan "elites". And, finally, we are lovers of reason, but a reason tempered by experience in the world and by common-sense wisdom about life.

THE SPY WHO LOOKED LIKE EVERYONE'S FAVOURITE GRANDMOTHER

(A chapter from Eric D. Butler's *Memoirs*)

IN this chapter of his memoirs, Eric D. Butler relates his experiences with Mrs Anne Neill, the Adelaide widow who penetrated the Communist conspiracy on behalf of the Australian Intelligence and Security Organisation (ASIO). He rates his association with Anne Neill as one of the most fascinating episodes in the League of Rights 50-year history.

The struggle between International Communism and the Free World produced an amazing number of spies, secret agents, and double agents. Some were little more than crooks primarily interested in money. There were those motivated by the thrill of adventure. But there were the genuine idealists and true believers on both sides. Anne Neill was one who believed in old-fashioned values, including loyalty to her own country. When criticised by some of her Church and Liberal Party friends for having misrepresented herself in order to penetrate the Communist movement, Anne Neill pointed out that when her husband had joined the Australian armed forces it wasn't because he hated Germans, or wished to kill those who were fellow-Christians; he believed that he had a duty to protect what he perceived was a threat to the freedom and independence of his nation. Anne Neill believed that she had a duty to her nation, and she sought to do this without any thought of material gain. It was a conviction that Communism posed a deadly threat to all Free Nations which drove Anne Neill to risk, at one stage, her very life.

Apart from her close family, members of her Church, and members of literary and other similar groups, relatively few people had ever heard of Anne Neill until 6 December 1964, when the Adelaide *Sunday Mail* carried the front page headline, "7 YEARS IN

REDS AS SECURITY AGENT", with a photograph of Anne Neill, who looked more like everyone's favourite grandmother than a security agent.



Newspaper article from *Sunday Mail*, December 16th 1961

The *Sunday Mail* over the next two weeks carried a story which sounded more like an Agatha Christie novel than an account of what had happened in Australia, Europe or Africa. The revelations sent shockwaves throughout Australia and beyond. Not only were the Communists shocked by the manner in which they had been completely fooled by an innocent-looking white-haired widow, a typical product of middle-class Adelaide suburbia, but so were those clergy and lay members of the Christian Church who had allowed themselves to be

seduced by the Communist-promoted and controlled Peace Movement. As Anne Neill set about trying to alert her fellow Australians, she was shocked by the reaction of many Church members as well as members of the Liberal Party. The reaction confirmed Anne Neill's worst fears that the virus of communist propaganda had deeply penetrated Australian society. "I had disturbed the smug complacency of large numbers of these people. It wasn't long before I became the target of a venomous smear campaign. And I regret to say that it was members of my own Methodist Church who allowed themselves to be used in a campaign, which I knew from my long experience, had been masterminded by the Communists."

Anne Neill soon found that she was going to receive little support from the Christian Church and the Liberal Party in her declared intention to try to alert the Australian people about the Communist threat. It was not long before she readily accepted the support of the League of Rights in hosting a series of meetings around South Australia, and later, interstate. I found Anne

Neill's knowledge of international affairs to be most extensive. But it was always difficult to imagine her as a Security spy who had not only penetrated the Australian Communist Party, eventually being accepted as a member, but who was so successful in her role as a security agent that she was sent behind the Iron Curtain and feted by top officials in the Kremlin! This was at a time when Stalin still ruled the Soviet Empire and only a few carefully chosen visitors were permitted to enter the Soviet hierarchy.

In the course of her under-cover activities Anne Neill was once invited by the Russian Ambassador to Australia to a

Canberra reception, where she met the Ambassador's Third Secretary, the notorious Vladimir Petrov, with whom she had a private conversation. At the time she did not know that Petrov was head of the Soviet secret service. Five months later, Australia was shaken by the news that Petrov was a top Soviet agent attempting to defect to Australia as a political refugee. Even the most complacent Australians were upset by the spectacle of Soviet thugs forcing a distraught Mrs Petrov onto a plane to take her back to Moscow. Having spoken to her husband by phone from Darwin Airport, Mrs Petrov made the decision to join her husband in seeking political asylum in Australia.

Anne Neill related how, following Petrov's defection, she was closely questioned by three top Communist officials in Adelaide about what she had discussed with Petrov. Eventually the Communist officials were satisfied that Anne Neill was completely innocent of any knowledge of the coming Petrov defection. Anne Neill told me that some of the questioning bordered on the infantile. Little did they guess that Anne Neill wasn't the innocent, idealistic Communist devotee they took her to be. It would be interesting to know what these three Communist officials thought when later they realised that behind that pleasant mask of a sincere Communist supporter, Anne Neill was a calm but dedicated enemy of everything that Communism stood for.

During a weekend at my home, even that most sophisticated authority on international affairs, Sir Raphael Cilento, a guest along with Anne Neill, said he was amazed by Anne Neill's performance. It was illuminating to hear them discussing their different experiences. Anne Neill looked and acted like a typical, middle-class housewife, chatting about not only her cultural interests and assisting at Church fetes, but helping with the washing-up in the kitchen.

One of the most dramatic moments I experienced with Anne Neill took place at an Assembly Hall meeting, Melbourne, in 1967. I was chairing the meeting for Anne Neill. It was well attended. There was a sense of tension and anticipation when three well-known pro-Communist clergy, including Frank Hartley, Methodist, and

Party, I actually wrote many of the speeches you delivered at various peace meetings."

There was a moment of complete silence, with the three clerics picking up their hats and leaving the meeting, the Rev. Hartley being followed out by a member of the audience who told him that he would be severely judged one day for having betrayed the Christian Faith.

During my years of association with Anne Neill I found her to have a far deeper understanding than most anti-Communists. Her training for entrance into the Communist Party required a firm grasp of the philosophy of Marxism-Leninism, dialectical materialism. A study of dialectical materialism opened the door to an understanding of what sometimes appeared to be confusing or contradictory Communist tactics, nationally and internationally. It explains why the wealthy and better educated were the leaders of the Communist conspiracy everywhere. In a debate with Dr. Jim Cairns, I was making the point that the working class had always been seen as expendable shock troops by those who were the driving force behind the Communist movement. Dr. Cairns, whose doctorate was in philosophy, almost contemptuously said that it was only logical that the better educated should be attracted to

Communism because they could grasp its philosophical base.

A British Ambassador to Moscow, Sir David Kelly, author of the profound work, *The Hungry Sheep*, emerged after his experiences in the Soviet Union, as an outstanding authority on Communism. When asked to do some articles for a popular British newspaper, but with no philosophical content, Sir David Kelly said that it was impossible to understand Marxism-Leninism without understanding its philosophical roots. Anne Neill kindly recommended my book, *Dialectics*, as an excellent textbook on the subject. *Dialectics* was produced for my three-lecture anti-



Sunday Mail, December 16th 1961

A. M. Dickie, Presbyterian, walked in wearing their clerical collars and seated themselves towards the front of the hall. They listened impatiently for some time before Frank Hartley tried to interject when Anne Neill was speaking of the gullibility of many of her fellow-Christians. Anne Neill was not flustered, but broke from the main theme of her address to say, in almost a kindly manner, "I am well aware of the background of you gentlemen, and you may be interested to know that when I was working inside the Communist

subversion school. One question in this school always produced considerable discussion and sometimes controversy: "Would you regard Communism as a religion?" As Anne Neill used to point out, the dedicated Communist firmly believed in the philosophy of Marxism-Leninism, making the important point that this belief was held with a type of grim fanaticism. Anne Neill endorsed the view of Sir David Kelly, that Communist societies reflected a type of dull puritanism. As Anne Neill used to say, "The dedicated communist was so raised, taking himself so seriously, that any light-hearted banter was frowned upon. And, of course, they were firmly convinced that the coming of Communism was inevitable."

Anne Neill's long journey through the Communist maze, taking her at great personal risk through the Soviet Union and Communist China, took place as a result of a well-known Adelaide society woman calling on her shortly after the end of the Second World War to introduce her to "The Women's Peace Crusade", one objective being to have a new department established at Canberra, to be known as the "Ministry of Peace", with a woman holding the portfolio. Anne Neill was initially interested in the concept of the women of the world uniting to ensure there were no more wars. But when the first official publication of the organisation arrived, Anne Neill realised that it contained the type of Communist propaganda being circulated at that time. She immediately sent in her resignation to the Secretary of the "Women's Peace Crusade", but it was never acknowledged and copies of their propaganda sheet continued to be sent to her. Her husband died in 1949. Early in 1950 the Federal Government published in daily papers throughout Australia a list of Communist-affiliated "peace" and other organisations operating at the time. This led to Anne Neill going to a senior government official with copies of the

material she had been receiving. This resulted in a visit from an ASIO official who asked if she was prepared to attend a coming "peace" conference in Adelaide, and report on the proceedings.

As it appeared that she was still listed as a member, in spite of her resignation, she rang the secretary to ascertain if it would be all right for her to

knew that she was working for ASIO: her sister and her doctor. Thus started Anne Neill's progressive penetration of the Communist Party.

She was recovering from a major heart attack following the death of her husband when she joined the Security Service. For the next eight years, seven as a member of the Communist Party, she led a life of constant tension. The greatest tension was during her 1952 visit to the Soviet Union and Communist China. Security warned her that once she was inside the Communist nations, there was little they could do for her. Her greatest fear was of becoming ill. Her doctor warned her against injections, stating that these might result in her revealing her true identity. She was on one occasion sick, scared and feeling extremely lonely. Only sheer courage and willpower carried her through. By 1958 Anne Neill was too tired to continue leading a double life. She told Security she wanted to break the association. But first she took appropriate steps to resign from the Communist movement. A senior Communist leader, Elliott Johnston, lawyer, came to see her in an endeavour to prevent her from resigning. She had already let it be known that she no longer believed that

Communism was the answer to man's problems. Elliott Johnston told Anne Neill to write to the Secretary of the Communist Party, returning her party membership cards. And then, "Don't you say anything about us and we won't say anything about you." Anne Neill rejoined the Liberal Party and returned to many of her previous social activities. Anne Neill had accepted no payment from the Communist Party or any of its fronts, except for expenses.

Once she had broken with Communism and the Security Organisation, it was Anne Neill's intention to try to forget the past eight years. But as Anne Neill told me, she



attend the coming conference as a representative of the "Women's Peace Crusade". This was arranged. On Friday, 23 June 1950, she attended the first meeting of the "peace" conference, held in the Trades Hall, Adelaide, subsequently reporting to ASIO, feeling that this would be the end of the matter. But the ASIO representative contacted her again, this time with the proposal that she join the South Australian Peace Council and report on its activities to ASIO. After considerable thought she agreed to do so. Only two people ever

became increasingly disturbed by what she saw as continuing Communist influence in many sections of Australian society. She was upset by the shallowness of many of her fellow Liberals, claiming that many of the women were little more than social butterflies. Eventually she decided to go public. She accepted no payment for the sensational series of articles in the *Sunday Mail*, donating the large fees she was entitled to, to a number of charities.

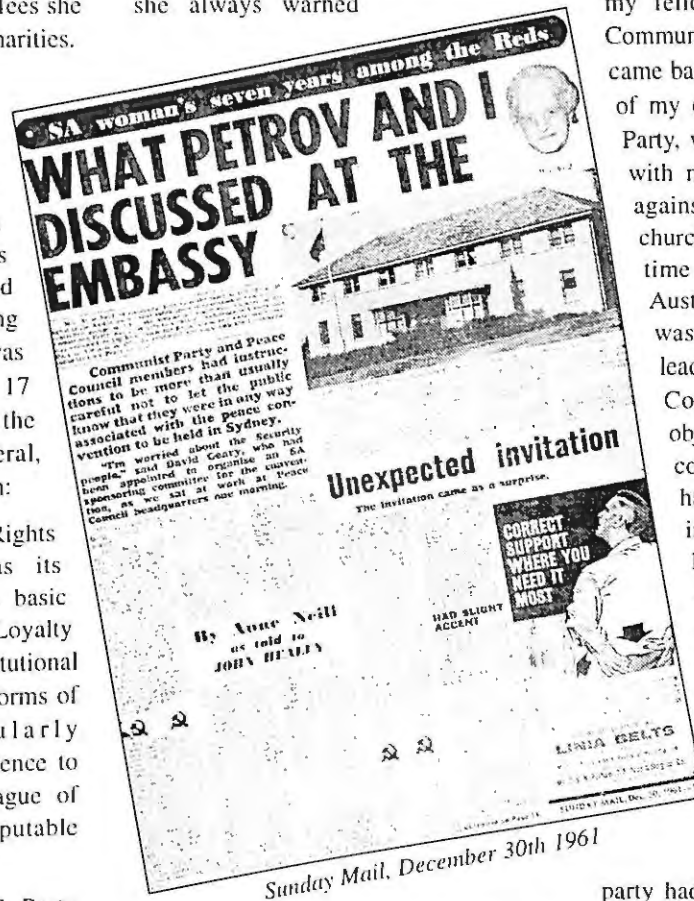
Anne Neill readily accepted the League of Rights' offer to assist her in her educational work in every possible way. She had first sought information from ASIO about the League and was assured that it was a loyal and patriotic movement. Confirming Anne Neill's report from ASIO was the following letter, dated 17 December 1965, from the Commonwealth Attorney-General, the Hon. (later Sir Billy) Snedden:

"The Australian League of Rights exists in all States and has its headquarters in Victoria. The basic aims of the League are stated: 'Loyalty to the Crown'; 'Support of constitutional government'; 'Opposition to all forms of totalitarianism, particularly Communism'. There is no evidence to suggest that the Australian League of Rights is other than a reputable organisation."

Before handing the Liberal Party leadership to Malcolm Fraser, Snedden had met with League of Rights supporters on a number of occasions, primarily to discuss finance-economic policies.

There developed a warm relationship over the next twelve years, with Anne Neill being readily accepted as one of the League "family". She was to be seen at League dinners and similar functions. She was quick to warn that the massive international campaign against Rhodesia, following its declaration of independence late in 1965, was in keeping with International Communism's international strategy. She was not afraid to discuss the problem of International Zionism, pointing out that as a former member of the Communist Party she well

understood the use of the "anti-Semitic smear" as a form of psycho-political warfare. She was dismayed by the proposed British entry into the European Economic Community, stressing that it would facilitate one of the communists' long-term strategic objectives, the fragmentation of the British Commonwealth. With her deep knowledge of dialectical materialism, she always warned



about alleged "splits" between the Communists.

Anne Neill was both shocked and infuriated when in 1971 the leader of the then Country Party, Mr Doug Anthony, was used to launch, in South Australia, a vicious smear campaign against the League of Rights, describing it, among other things, as being "neo-Nazi". The role of the Country Party in a massive national smear campaign is dealt with in another chapter of these memoirs. Anne Neill told me that this campaign confirmed her worst fears about the continuing virulence of the Communist virus in the Australian community. The Anthony attack resulted in Anne Neill writing the following letter, published in *The Advertiser* of 14 July 1971:

"I worked for the Australian Intelligence Security Organisation for some years, during which time I was a member of the Australian Communist Party. Without that experience I would not have a complete understanding of what the Australian League of Rights is trying to do and would not be in a position to come to its defence. For ten years I have been doing my best to warn my fellow Australians regarding the Communist conspiracy. When reports came back to me that not only members of my own party, the Liberal Country Party, were not in complete agreement with me, but that a smear campaign against me was started by certain church leaders, I felt isolated. At this time I came in contact with the Australian League of Rights. Here was the one organisation whose leaders had a real understanding of Communism and its ultimate objective. Here I found people completely aware of what was happening in Australia, as well as internationally. I met the State Director (Mr Frank Bawden) and the National Director, Mr Eric Butler, and what loyal friendship and understanding I have had, not only from these two leaders, but from hundreds of League members I have met over the years. I wish the members of my own political party had half the knowledge about the world situation that most League of Rights members have."

One of the most prized gifts I received from Anne Neill was her unpublished manuscript carefully documenting her experiences with the Communist movement. One of the key figures in her story is Elliott Johnston, the brilliant Adelaide lawyer. Johnston eventually became a judge on the South Australian Supreme Court (1983-1988), an event which caused a stir at the time. First he had to resign from the Communist Party. But how much of the Communist virus did Elliott Johnston, the man who worked so closely with Anne Neill, bring with him to the South Australian Supreme Court?

H.A. "JIM" MARSH

A SPECIAL TYPE OF FISHERMAN

Vale

Early on the morning of 14 March, an extremely modest, but great Australian patriot, H.A. Marsh, generally known as "Jim" passed away in a Melbourne hospital at the age of 71. Jim Marsh had served the Australian League of Rights in many different roles over thirty years. Jim had suffered from failing health for some time, but continued to struggle on to attend the League's office at 145 Russell Street, right up until close to his passing. In latter years he was a familiar figure looking after the many people who came in to obtain books from The Heritage Bookshop. He was a great favourite with New Australians who invariably asked for "Jimmy" when they came in. Jim Marsh had a special flair concerning books.

THERE was a large attendance at the thanksgiving service at the Douglas Memorial Hall at Runnymede, Pantom Hill, on Sunday 31 March. The service was conducted by Mr. Edward Rock, Chairman of the Christian Alternative Movement. Many apologies and messages were received.

In opening the service, Edward Rock said that "it is fitting this service be held in this place for it was through coming into contact with the mind of C.H. Douglas that our friend, compatriot and fellow-servant to God and man, James Marsh then devoted his life to that service which is perfect freedom, service to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit".

The first and second readings of the service were read by two of the younger League of Rights supporters, Mr. Noel McDonald and Mr. Robert Baines. The second reading was from C.H. Douglas' essay, *The Realistic Position of the Church of England*: "With some hesitation I suggest that the question arising out of the Christian Church is not the same, either in nature or degree, in the acceptance of what is vaguely called Christianity, which for the most part is merely Liberal Judaism. It is the doctrine of the Incarnation. At bottom, what we have to make our minds upon is whether human political action is subject to the same kind, or some kind, of compulsion to be 'right' as we accept in doing a multiplication sum, and if so, whether the Christian Church, the Mystical Body of Christ, is the living incarnation of that 'right'-ness. Magna Carta remains as a witness that this conception was inherent in English life seven hundred years ago."

Short personal tributes to Jim Marsh were given by several folk, including Mr. Phillip Butler, who reflected on the influence of Jim Marsh on him as a boy growing up.

Eric Butler's Eulogy:

In his eulogy Mr. Eric Butler recalled how he first met Jim Marsh which led to a long friendship in service. "If, as Christians we believe that all individuals are unique, then to use an Orwellian description, Jim Marsh was more unique than others." He had very special talents. "I first met Jim Marsh when, as a young man suffering from a limp that was a legacy of polio, he walked into my office as a speciality salesman selling a set of encyclopaedias. He made



the interesting comment later that many professional and other business men who bought the set never ever read them; they were displayed in their offices merely as status symbols.

"Instead of buying from Jim Marsh, I sold him a book which the League was recommending. A few days later Jim Marsh was back again to say that he wanted to know more. It was not long before he offered to place his talents at the service of the League. Jim Marsh eventually became what might be best described as a fisher of men. The story is told of one businessman who eventually became a League stalwart, saying to Jim after he had called on him

several times: 'You have not asked me for anything. You have not asked for money. But you must want something. What is it?' Jim Marsh put his hand on his shoulder and said, 'I want you.'"

"Jim Marsh could be described as a special type of fisherman. He was seeking to find a certain type of individual. He walked the streets of Melbourne and suburbs and those of provincial cities like Ballarat, Geelong and Bendigo, following a pattern based upon an early perception that a certain type of businessman was much more receptive to what the League was offering than were others. Generally speaking, he was a small businessman engaged in engineering of one type or another, and owning his own business. From the beginning of the Social Credit Movement, starting with C.H. Douglas himself, it recruited heavily from engineers, farmers and those who might generally be described as practical men, those whose activities were governed by reality. Jim Marsh was not only a fisher of men; once he had 'caught' them, he ensured that they were adequately nourished. Some of the League's finest supporters have been the products of Jim Marsh's endeavours during his lifetime. I rate him as one of those quiet heroes who have served their fellowmen and their nation.

"May God reward the efforts of one of his most faithful sons."

Reflections by Edward Rock:

Jim Marsh became a Christian by conviction. He never wore his Christian faith on his sleeve, and in the humility of his faith would have even found it difficult to claim the right to call himself a Christian because he fundamentally believed to do so demanded the highest level of obedience to the teaching of Christ. In my view he was well qualified for acceptance to that

H.A. "JIM" MARSH

position, at one and the same time both elevating and humbling, and Jim very greatly reflected the father who brought his son to Christ for healing, who when Christ challenged him regarding his faith replied, "Lord, I believe. Help Thou my own unbelief."

My association with Jim goes back over thirty years and ours was a close association because we both worked in a full-time capacity for the League. In my early conversations with Jim he was non-committal about Christianity and its relevance to himself personally, but because it was Social Credit that had drawn him into the League he was becoming increasingly aware of the dominance of the Christian faith in determining the course of history. No individual who works through the Social Credit analysis of history can be left in any doubt about the central role the Christian faith plays not only in history, but also in their own personal life. Jim came to the point where he clearly understood that the central figure in history and in his own life was Jesus Christ, and he accepted him as such.

Therefore while it was interesting for me to note the organic growth of the Christian faith in the life of Jim Marsh, and how from a small beginning it grew to become the dominant factor in his life, the catalyst that released to Jim Marsh that greatest of gifts was what we know as Social Credit. Without the impact of Social Credit such would not have been the case with Jim, and he was the first to understand that.

The reason I chose the reading I have for this service on the role of the unjust steward who made friends with the unrighteous mammon was because of the many conversations I had with Jim on such matters. This particular reading was of great interest because it clearly illustrates a matter of vital significance that Social Credit Christians understand better than most, because, on the role of things material, the true Social Crediter sees with the inner eye which puts material things into their spiritual perspective. As there is such a thing as unrighteous mammon, there is also its opposite, righteous mammon. Social Crediters who are privileged to know the inner meaning of the practical application of God's Grace, centre the whole of their activity around making available to their fellowman righteous mammon. As such they are important disciples of Christ. Jim Marsh was such a disciple. I know his soul lives in peace.

THE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME

Carrying the Australian flag is a magical honour, writes Barcelona bearer Jenny Donnet

[The Age, 20 July 1996]



MY memories of 1992 are many; the quiet buzz of anticipation in the corridor under the stands; stepping into heat, the blinding glare, the noise; raising the flag to signify Australia's entrance; my hands gripped vice-like around the flag pole; 65,000 cheering people; and our team of 360 athletes and officials marching, heads high, waving excitedly at the crowd.

I have never been so proud to be an Australian.

For the 1996 flag-bearer, Andrew Hoy, the experience may mean something different, but the honour is something he will carry for life.

Andrew was caught by surprise -- as I was in 1992 -- when John Coates, Australian Olympic chef de mission, announced that he would carry the flag. A four-time Olympian who won gold in 1992, Andrew has raised funds and awareness for the 1988, 1992 and 1996 Olympic teams by attending and speaking at functions, has introduced the Olympic principles to schools and sports groups, and has been an active ambassador for good sportsmanship.

When my name was announced at a function in 1992, I was shocked. Overwhelmed, I managed to stumble to the stage as the team cheered and threw hats in the air. Then I stood and stared at hundreds of faces -- the faces of some of the best athletes in the world. I felt like an embarrassed teenager as I watched my mother -- who was my coach -- crying with pride as team members hugged her in congratulation. John Coates listed the achievements of three generations of my family in diving, then invited me to speak. Afterwards, athletes told me my speech was inspirational and that they would carry my words with them throughout their careers. What did I say? To this day, I still don't know.

Andrew's journey to the stage contained similar panic. "I was standing in the middle of the crowd when they

announced my name," he said. "Only being quite short, I had to fight my way through. People were looking around: they couldn't see Andrew Hoy walking up as I am considerably shorter than the rowers and the basketballers, and they were all in front of me.

"I was able to get a few words out. I said that being able to carry the flag for the biggest Olympic team to leave Australian shores was an enormous honour to me."

The three days between the announcement and the opening ceremony are an amazing time for the flag-bearer. In that period I received more than 300 letters and faxes from people in Australia. Some I knew, but most were strangers. The typical child's letter read something like this: "Dear Jenny, my name is Joey. I'm in Grade 5 at Springview Primary School. Good luck in your swimming (I'm a diver). I can swim, too. Good luck carrying the flag. Are you nervous? I would be. Love Joey. PS. Don't drop the flag."

It is a rare moment when I am fazed, but when I set foot on that track at the opening ceremony all I could think of was, "Don't drop that flag."

Andrew's concerns are similar -- even before he receives his 300 letters. "In 1984 I saw a weightlifter from another country walking around holding the flag with one hand in front of him -- he wasn't even sitting it on his waist. I don't think I will be doing that. The forecast is for wind and rain, so I'll have a good grip on that pole."

Whatever his performance in the equestrian events, Andrew says the honour of carrying the flag will remain one of the highlights of his life. "I feel absolute delight and pride that management and the Australian Olympic Committee have felt that I am worthy of carrying the flag out of all the very special athletes that are here. I find it very much overwhelming.

LAWS THAT ARE CRIMINAL

by Otto Scott & Jarret Wollstein

Earlier this year it was reported in The Advertiser (Adelaide) that police had seized almost \$4 million in assets as part of a 12-month blitz on organized crime. The assets include residential and commercial property, luxury cars, boats, cash, electrical goods and furniture. Those who have lost assets in this blitz include drug dealers, paedophiles, armed robbers and murderers.

THE Assistant Commissioner (crime) Mr Rob Lean said the power to seize assets was a valuable tool in the fight against crime. "Whatever the article or object used in the commission of the crime, it should be taken away," Mr Lean said.

The Police Confiscation of Profits Section, has the power to seize or freeze any profits of crime or any assets used in committing offences. The Section was formed in 1991 and since that time has seized or frozen about \$12 million in assets. An officer in the Section has said the legislation is "very powerful and effective".

Now, just how powerful is this legislation. There would not be one honest person amongst us who wants to see crime pay. But before we jump on the bandwagon and applaud the "powerful" forfeiture legislation that has been enacted, we need to take careful stock of what is happening around us and we need to question the purpose and intent of this legislation. Forfeiture laws are not new in the history of the world and on past performances should be viewed with some suspicion. Under our common law heritage it used to be a person was innocent until proved guilty. It now appears to be the other way round. Will it become, as it now is in the United States, a new method of raising funds by governments that are already bankrupt both morally and financially? With the growing centralisation of power in our Federal Government and the increasing weakness of the people to dictate policy, it is important to take stock of what is happening overseas in the hope that we might learn the lessons of those who have gone down the same path.

Following are two articles from *The Chalcedon Report*, the publication of an American Christian think-tank headed by the Rev. R.J. Rushdoony. The writers are former journalist/historian Otto Scott, and Jarret Wollstein.

Until recently forfeiture laws were a part of the English and colonial past. They were revived during the Civil War, when, in 1862, an Abolitionist Congress permitted the President to seize the homes and estates of Confederate soldiers. This power was used especially during the post-war Reconstruction period (a time of darkness deliberately kept obscure by our schools today) when numbers of injustices were not only allowed, but encouraged.

In 1970 the ancient principle of government confiscation was restored in this land by the passage of "racketeering" laws that targeted the assets of convicted criminals. That step was applauded by many as a weapon that would help win the "war on drugs".

Yet it constituted an abrupt break in our traditional concept of crime and punishment. The racketeering laws, such as Rico, created extraordinary penalties beyond previous statutory limits. Special penalties, one might say, for special people. In the past, all persons convicted of crimes in the United States were punished within the same limits by either prison or jail terms, or fines -- or both.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

In recent years this practice was changed not only by Rico but also by the introduction of "community service" in which some persons convicted of crimes were "sentenced" to do civic good works under supervision by civilian institutions or groups. In other words some offenders were treated as superior persons allowed to remain active in the community rather than undergo the humiliation of imprisonment.

The 1970 authorization of the confiscation of **all** assets upon conviction of a drug-related crime was an extension of this elastic concept of punishment beyond the traditional limits of jail/prison and a fine. The effect upon an entire

family (children, *et al*) such a confiscation from drug dealers might entail was, in this new extension of punishment, apparently beneath notice.

Anyone who expected this unusual leniency on one end and increased severity on the other to settle matters does not understand the obsessive drives of our legal bureaucracy.

The next step came when prosecutors demanded that lawyers who were paid by persons convicted of drug dealing turn their fees over to the authorities, on the grounds that such monies had been illegally earned. To lawyers' protests that everyone is entitled to a defence, the authorities responded that Public Defenders (paid by the courts) were available. I don't know the present status of that aspect of drug defence, but the idea that a lawyer should be stripped of his earnings because of a client's conviction is, obviously, a way to prevent a defendant from having the best defence he can afford. Of course, this was the point of the prosecutors' demands. The prosecutors apparently believed that too many drug dealers were "beating the law" by winning in courts!

The next steps, in 1984, were into forfeiture. For the first time the Government was authorized to seize a suspect's possessions without a warrant, without a charge, without a trial and without a conviction.

As if to encourage such confiscations, the law allowed such proceeds to be used by law enforcement agencies to expand the war on drugs and crime. The theory was that this would be "the ultimate poetic justice, with criminals financing their own undoing".!

In this procedure, the possessions, not the owners, are legally accused of a crime. This enables the authorities to move forfeiture out of criminal and into civil courts. One result is that dockets have appeared "looking like purchase

orders: United States of America vs. 9.6 acres of land and lake; U.S. vs. 667 bottles of wine. But it's more than just labelling change. Because money and property are at stake instead of life and liberty, the constitutional safeguards of criminal proceedings do not apply".²

This sweeping federal mandate opened gates for States to follow. Since 1984 more than 100 statutes have been enacted on the State and Federal level, authorizing the seizure of possessions. Nor, predictably, have they been confined to persons suspected of drug dealing (or possession). Today forfeiture laws cover gambling, fraud, importing tainted meats, carrying intoxicants in Indian land and money-laundering (a charge as amorphous and evasive as smoke).

FURNITURE AND HOUSE LOST

What does all this mean to the citizenry? It means that the home of Judy Mulford of Lake Park, Florida, was stripped of all its furnishings because the government argues that her divorced husband once stored cocaine there. As if a bare house to share with her teenaged twins is not enough, a "forfeiture jury" ruled she must also lose the house, although she bought it herself with her own insurance money!³

It means that Ethel Hylton of New York City, a naturalized citizen from Jamaica, aged 46, lost \$39,110 as the result of a strip search in Hobby Airport in Houston, Texas. She was stopped in the baggage area and told that a drug dog had sniffed her bag, which proved to hold no contraband. The police found money in her purse which represented a combination of an insurance settlement and her life-savings from 20 years of work as a hotel housekeeper and night janitor. Her purpose in coming to Houston was to buy a house to escape New York winters. She had no criminal record. Insurance records verified her statements. The police sent her on her way, with no charges -- and \$10.

It means that Johnny Sotello, a Mexican-American whose truck overheated on the highway in Jefferson Davis Parish in Mississippi, made the mistake of accepting police help. (How could he refuse?) They asked permission to search his truck and he consented.

They pulled a door panel open, and said it could have concealed drugs -- though it did not. They asked if he was carrying cash and he said that he was carrying \$23,000 because he attended heavy equipment auctions and bought second-hand equipment. They seized the truck and the cash, and told him that he'd have to go to court to obtain their return. ... He did, and showed auctioneers' receipts and his license as an equipment buyer. After two years of expensive litigation, he finally accepted the return of half the money and the truck. The police kept \$11,500.

It means that Joseph and Frances Lopes are in danger of losing their home four years after their mentally retarded son pleaded guilty to growing marijuana in their backyard for his own use. The son was given probation because it was his first offence and was ordered to see a psychologist. He never grew marijuana again. Four years later a Maui detective examined old cases for "missed forfeiture opportunities" and came across the Lopes'. They arrived in a car and a van, met 60-year-old Frances in the garage and said, "Mrs Lopes, let's go into the house and we will explain things to you."

Frances Lopes said, "They sat in the dining room and told me they were taking the house. It made my heart beat very fast." Their reason: The Lopes' knew their son had committed a crime on their property. When this was written by the *Pittsburgh Press*, the case was still in the forfeiture court. But the Lopes' have been warned not to touch anything the police video-taped.

The practice of forfeiture has spawned, since 1984, a network of informants and specialists. One Hell's Angel became a millionaire by informing. The Asset Forfeiture Fund of the U.S. Justice Department in 1990 paid \$24 million to informants as their share of forfeited items. Airport counter clerks, operators of security x-ray machines report "suspicious" persona paying tickets in cash. Many are minorities. Clerks for carriers such as UPS and Continental Airlines Quik Pak have been known to open "suspicious" packages and report their findings to the police. Rewards to informants amount to ten percent of the value of confiscated property.

Not even the dead are safe. In Fort Lauderdale, Florida, a "confidential" informant told police that George Gerhardt accepted \$10,000 to allow drug dealers to use a dock at his home to unload cocaine. The police were told this three months before Gerhardt died of cancer. They waited for six months after his death to oust his heirs from the home he and his family occupied for twenty years, to change the locks, and to rent it out for \$2,200 a month. In other words, they seized -- without a warrant, without a charge, without a trial, on the testimony of a secret witness, a \$250,000 home. In life Gerhardt had operated a marina and was heir to a substantial fortune. He died aged 49. His heirs were appalled. "I didn't think anything like this could happen in this country," said one. The estate's attorney examined Gerhardt's tax returns and could find no discrepancies. Its motivation, said Robyn Hermann, assistant chief of the civil section for the U.S. attorney's office in the Southern District of Florida, "is not so much to punish at this stage. The motivation is really to use the proceeds from the sale of the property to prevent other drug offences."

INNOCENT CONFISCATIONS

Meanwhile, the cases go on. The *Pittsburgh Press* produced 40 tabloid-sized pages of them. The seizures have included planes, boats, cars, houses -- all from average citizens without criminal records, amounting to millions of dollars. The rationale is that this is a necessary part of war on drugs. But, say the *Pittsburgh Press* reporters, "Eighty percent of the people who lost property to the federal government were never charged. And most of the seized items weren't the luxurious playthings of drug barons, but modest homes and simple cars and hard-earned savings of ordinary people."

There is a term for this sort of behaviour by a government: it is called **totalitarian**. The fact that it speaks with an American accent and is conducted under the colour of law does not alter that essence. That the Congress of the United States and various State legislatures could enact such legislation is frightening. That most of the media has remained silent is

evidence of how widespread a collapse of honest reporting has overtaken our "free" press.

Meanwhile, the war goes on, breaking new ground virtually every week. Government regulators, having destroyed Charles Keating, recently moved against his law firm, the New York-based firm of Kaye, Scholer, Fierman, Hays & Handler. They are charged with "giving false and incomplete information" to the prosecution.

The firm has been fined an unprecedented \$275 million on these grounds and its assets have been frozen. It is challenging the government's case, arguing that a lawyer's first allegiance is to the client, and that it is the duty of the firm to protect privileged information vital to a case.

In this instance, however, the Government is arguing that one's lawyer is bound to hand over information regarding a client that may injure the client's case. And that would render defence counsel here about as useful as Stalin's lawyers in the balmy days of the USSR.

These are steps into tyranny, and there is no sophistry that can gainsay it. The words of Lord Acton, delivered in 1866, after our terrible Civil War and while an Abolitionist Congress was intent upon vengeance in the name of justice and punishment in the name of tolerance, rings today even more forcibly than when delivered:

"The spurious liberty of the United States is twice cursed, for it deceives those whom it attracts and those whom it repels. By exhibiting the spectacle of a people claiming to be free, but whose love of freedom means hatred of inequality, jealousy of limitations to power, and reliance on the States as an instrument to mould as well as to control society, it calls on its admirers to hate aristocracy and teaches its adversaries to fear the people."⁴

1. *Presumed Guilty: The Law's Victims in the War on Drugs* by Andrew Schneider and Mary Pat Flaherty. *The Pittsburgh Press*, 11-16 August 1991, p. 4.
2. *Ibid.*
3. *Ibid.*, p. 5. Note: All the cases cited are from the source, which does not cover developments later than 16 August 1991.
4. "The Civil War in America: Its Place in History", lecture delivered at the Literacy and Scientific Institution, Bridgenorth, 19 January 1866.

THE GOVERNMENT'S WAR ON PROPERTY

By Jarret B. Wollstein:

"A police dog scratched at your luggage, so we're confiscating your life savings and you'll never get it back." In 1989, police stopped 49-year-old Ethel Hylton at Houston's Hobby Airport and told her she was under arrest because a drug dog had scratched at her luggage. Agents searched her bags and strip searched her, but they found no drugs. They did find \$39,110 in cash, money she had received from an insurance settlement and her life savings, accumulated through over 20 years of work as a hotel housekeeper and hospital janitor. Ethel Hylton completely documented where she got the money and was never charged with a crime. The police kept her money anyway. Nearly four years later, she is still trying to get her money back.

Ethel Hylton is just one of a large and growing list of Americans -- now numbering in the hundreds of thousands -- who have been victimized by civil asset forfeiture. Under civil forfeiture, everything you own can be legally taken away from you without indictment, trial, or conviction. Suspicion of offences which, if proven, might result in a \$200 fine or probation, are being used to justify seizure of tens or hundreds of thousands of dollars of property. Thousands of innocent Americans are losing their cars, homes, bank accounts, and businesses, based upon the claims of unidentified "informants" that illegal transactions took place on their property.

FRIGHTENING GOVERNMENT POWERS

Legal rights and protections that Americans have cherished for hundreds of years have been increasingly violated during the last two decades. Most of what you learned in school about your legal rights and protections is no longer true. A combination of rising crime, the growing power of government, and increasing concern about drugs, have done tremendous damage to the Bill of Rights and our heritage of liberty. Few Americans realize how grave and how ominous that damage has been. Today the government

has the power to legally seize your bank account, your house, or your business, without trial, hearing, or indictment. Everything you have worked for and accumulated over a life-time can now be taken away from you at the whim of authorities. Black or white, rich or poor, we are all potential victims. And unless the laws are changed, there is very little you can legally do to protect your property.

Civil asset forfeiture is based upon the medieval doctrine that when property is involved in a crime, the property becomes "guilty", and can be "arrested" and forfeited, regardless of the guilt or innocence of the property's owners. Under civil asset forfeiture, property -- not an individual -- is charged with an offence. The modern power of civil asset forfeiture in the United States dates back to the Civil War, when the Supreme Court affirmed the civil seizure of rebel property. In 1921 civil forfeiture was extended to violations of alcohol prohibition. During the 1980s, forfeiture was extended to drug trafficking and possession, and a host of other crimes, through the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984, the Drug Abuse Act of 1986, and other laws. The power of civil asset forfeiture is being extended to virtually all misdemeanours and felonies.

For anyone's home, car or business to be seized in America today, all government agents have to show is that they have "probable cause" to suspect that the property "might have been" involved in an offence.

Civil asset forfeiture may be the beginning of the end of justice in America. Legal protections that we have relied upon since the founding of this country are nearly gone: the presumption of innocence, the right to trial by jury, prohibition of cruel and unusual punishments, the ban on government taking property without just compensation, and the fundamental right of each of us to live our lives free from government harassment. These protections are not just expendable legal technicalities or abstract ideas. They are the very life blood of any decent, humane, and free society.

[This essay is excerpted from *The Freeman*, the monthly journal of The Foundation for Economic Education, Irvington-on-Hudson, New York. Copyright 1993. Because of the great importance of this problem, we are re-printing this article.]

JUBILATION AND TRIBULATION

by Randall J. Dicks

MAJOR ROYAL JUBILEES HAVE BEEN CELEBRATED IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS, AND THE FESTIVITIES HAVE INVOLVED MILLIONS OF PEOPLE IN A WIDE VARIETY OF COMMEMORATIVE ACTIVITIES.

IN Sweden, H.M. King Carl XVI Gustaf celebrated his 50th birthday on 30th April, 1996, and the event was greeted with an enthusiasm which was surprising in a country which has sometimes been lukewarm toward the very idea of monarchy, particularly under the Social Democratic governments which have ruled Sweden for most of this King's lifetime. King Carl Gustaf and his German-born wife, Queen Silvia, have come to enjoy great popularity, as events surrounding his birthday have made more clear than ever.

Fiftieth birthdays are special events in the Scandinavian countries. Commemorative events are taking place throughout Sweden this year, including neighbourly street parties with cinnamon buns and sandwiches in the capital. The royal birthday was marked officially by a full programme of celebrations, starting with a *Te Deum* in the Royal Chapel at the Royal Palace in Stockholm. After that, official delegations presented their congratulations to His Majesty at the Palace, followed by a 21-gun salute, fly-past by the Swedish air force, and military parade outside the Royal Palace in the heart of Stockholm's Old City. The King and Queen proceeded by carriage drawn by six horses to the Vasa Museum for a luncheon for royal guests and heads of state, with thousands of Swedes lining the carriage route.

The people of Sweden paid their respects to the King on the Lion's Slope on the northern side of the Royal Palace. Among the gifts the King received for his 50th birthday was a 50-year-old Volvo. More delegations arrived at the Royal Palace before a gala performance at the Royal Dramatic Theatre. The climax of the day was a gala banquet at the Royal Palace for some 600 guests, including the Duke of Edinburgh. The Royal Family watched the lighting of a bonfire shortly before midnight, a tradition on Walpurgis Night in celebration of the end of winter.

This birthday will be long remembered in two especially nice ways. Two charities have been established in honour of the

King's birthday, the King's Jubilee Foundation for Swedish Youth, and the King Carl XVI Gustaf 50th Birthday Fund in Support of Science, Technology, and the Environment. These are causes which have long been important to the King of Sweden. The Lions Club and Swedish Boy Scouts took the initiative in forming the King's Jubilee Foundation for Swedish Youth, which will provide support for new ideas for youth activities. King Carl XVI Gustaf has been a dedicated scout since his childhood, and continues to take a keen interest in scouting activities and organizations. He is an honorary member of the Swedish Scout Council and the Swedish Boy Scouts and Girl Guides Association, and an active Honorary Chairman of the World Scout Foundation. The King believes that support for the scout movement means support for the future good of society, and he takes part in several major scouting events in various parts of the world every year.

SWEDEN'S MONARCHY IN ACTION

Second, the King Carl XVI Gustaf 50th Birthday Fund in Support of Science, Technology, and the Environment was formed by Royal Academy of Sciences, the Royal Academy of Engineering Sciences, and the Royal Academy of Agriculture and Forestry. The Fund will support research, technology, and enterprises which contribute to a consistent use of natural resources and to preserving biological variation. The King is very much interested in environmental protection in developing countries, and in the possibility of combining a high standard of living with a clean environment. For more than twenty years, King Carl XVI Gustaf has participated in the work of the Academy of Sciences and the Academy of Agriculture and Forestry, taking an active part in their research on the environment. He is an active Chairman of the Swedish branch of the Worldwide Fund for Nature, supporting their field projects both at home and abroad.

The Swedish King's constitutional duties are limited: he is the head of state;

he opens Parliament every year in October; he presides at special cabinet meetings when there is a change of government and at informational cabinet meetings; he is Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Advisory Council; he holds the highest military rank (although the armed forces are under the command of the government), and receives the credentials of foreign envoys. The King pays taxes on his private income. Although members of the Royal Family are entitled to vote, by custom they do not exercise that right. Some commentators attribute the weakness of the Swedish republican movement to the fact that the monarch has no executive powers. In any event, Sweden seems content with its low-key monarchy. Described sometimes as staid, the King and his family are respected for that very quality, and for a lifestyle free of any hint of scandal. Further, the Swedish press seems to make no serious attempt to seek out such stories, and the editorial view is that stories concocted to depict the Royal Family in a negative manner do not sell more newspapers, quite the opposite of the attitude elsewhere.

In one of Australia's royal Asian neighbours, Thailand, a very grand jubilee is taking place: the fiftieth anniversary of the accession of H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej, whose life story rivals that of his great-grandfather, who was the King of *The King and I* and *Anna and the King of Siam*.

This event is too big to be celebrated in just one year, and festivities began in 1995. The man who has reigned longer than any other in the nearly 800-year history of the Thai monarchy is H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej, or Rama IX, the ninth king of the Chakri Dynasty which has ruled Siam and Thailand since 1782. At the time of his birth, he seemed the most unlikely of kings, even though now, after 50 years on the throne, most Thais cannot imagine life without him. He was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts, U.S.A., on 5th December, 1927, the second son of H.R.H. Prince Mahidol of Songkla, a senior student at the Harvard Medical School, and of Princess Mahidol.

After receiving his medical degree, Prince Mahidol died suddenly in 1929.

following the family's return to Thailand (then still Siam). The ruler at that time was King Prajadhipok, brother of Prince Mahidol. A bloodless coup in 1932 brought an end to absolute monarchy in Siam. King Prajadhipok, dissatisfied with the direction change was taking, abdicated in 1935, and Prince Mahidol's older son, Prince Ananda Mahidol, became King at the age of ten years. For most of the next eleven years, the young King, his mother, brother and sister lived in Switzerland, where the children were attending schools. Cut off from Thailand during World War II, King Ananda Mahidol returned home in 1946, only to die under mysterious circumstances in his private apartments at the Grand Palace, apparently the victim of regicide. His brother, Prince Bhumibol Adulyadej, then 18 years old, became the ninth king of the Chakri Dynasty. He returned to Switzerland to complete his education, changing his course of study from science to political science and law, promising to return to Thailand when he was needed.

While visiting Fontainebleau soon after returning to Europe, he met Mom Rajawongse Sirikit Kitiyakara, daughter of the Thai ambassador to France. Their engagement was announced in 1948, and they were married in Bangkok on 28th April 1950. A week later, King Bhumibol Adulyadej was crowned in traditional ceremonies held at the magnificent Grand Palace. In his coronation oath, the King pledged, "*We shall reign with righteousness for the benefit and happiness of the Siamese people*"; he has never wavered from that promise. This was a difficult time for the monarchy and the country, with military strong-man Luang Pibul Songgram in total political control. This harsh military dictator, an admirer of the recently deceased Fascist dictators of Europe, had little use for the young King. Nevertheless, the King began to undertake projects and activities on his own. "They began to understand that I am doing things not for my own enrichment or my own interest. It is for the whole country."

ROYALTY IN A POSITIVE LIGHT

Pibul inevitably fell to another military government in 1957, and the government of Field Marshal Sarit Thanarat saw the King in a positive light, as a welcome unifying force at a time of turbulence and Communist agitation throughout Southeast Asia. Scholars credit the King with turning

the monarchy into Thailand's strongest social and political institution. The King has done this so skilfully that his extra-constitutional "reserve powers" are not resented; none of the seventeen coups which have occurred during his reign have been directed at the monarchy. The King has weathered fifteen constitutions and twenty-one prime ministers, and his own prestige and position are stronger than ever. Put off by the military rulers at the start of his reign, he has created a role for himself, and it has been a triumphant success. The King is constantly on view to his people, seen at work in the capital and throughout the nation. Just as his grandfather and great-grandfather managed to maintain Siam's independence at a time of aggressive colonialism, King Bhumibol Adulyadej has kept his country together in times of economic, political, military, and social upheaval.

The respect and authority which the King enjoys were not inherited; he has earned them on his own. When he became King in 1946, the Thai monarchy was at low ebb, following an abdication, a boy King absent from the country for a decade, a regicide, and military dictatorship. The bespectacled, reserved and sombre monarch, making use of what mystique remained to the monarchy and his own intelligence and acumen, has succeeded in preserving not just his throne but his nation.

Even a word or a gesture from the King can bring about positive activity and change the course of events, whether routine or historic. He intervened twice during major crises to end bloodshed. He appeared on television in 1973 to call for an end to violence associated with student demonstrations, and organized the departure of controversial military figures from Thailand. After soldiers opened fire on demonstrators in 1992, the King summoned the Prime Minister and leader of the democracy movement to his palace, and scolded them on a live television broadcast, with the politicians prostrate at his feet: "Should the confrontation be prolonged, the country could be wrecked." That image may have caught the attention of all heads of state beset with contentious politicians, but the King's intervention brought about an end to the violence, and the disgraced Prime Minister resigned.

The King has succeeded in bringing the monarchy into direct (and frequent) contact with the rural population, through a programme of modernization by royal

patronage. The extraordinary "royal development projects" truly began in about 1955, when the King and Queen became the first Thai monarchs to visit the poor, undeveloped north-eastern provinces, spending three weeks talking with local farmers, monks and officials, seeing local problems at first hand. The King's first development project, fifty years ago, was the construction of a road and reservoir in a remote region; since then, more than 1,800 projects have been implemented, in the areas of agriculture, environment, public health, water resource development, occupational training, communications, and social welfare. The King is an active participant in some projects, suggests others, advises on others. Funding comes from government, private, and royal sources.

MONARCH A TRUSTED ALLY

The projects are varied and always practical, and include processing plants which make alternative fuels from sugar cane stalks and nuisance water-hyacinths, milk-pasteurizing plants, and dams which convert arid lands into fertile fields. By lending his name to a project, the King assures that things will get done, and these hundreds of projects throughout the country have had the effect of transforming the monarch from a distant, symbolic figure in faraway Bangkok to a trusted ally. There is a striking contrast between the urban monarch, the bemedaled King in dress uniform of Bangkok court ceremonies, and the rural monarch who has visited every one of Thailand's 76 provinces, often casually dressed, sometimes in a baseball cap and sunglasses, usually with a camera around his neck. The rural King wants to hear from his people, and after four decades of royal visits, they speak freely to him. The King has also established royal residences outside Bangkok, in the north, northeast, on the Gulf, and in the south, and spends much of his time away from the capital.

His Majesty has not neglected Bangkok in his projects; there he is working on flood control, sewage problems, and drainage of a water-hyacinth swamp. At his own residence, Chitralada Palace, the King has carried out many projects and researches of his own. He has fields of experimental rice, a herd of dairy cattle, and a plant to manufacture powdered milk. In 1952, he had large fish ponds dug, and stocked them with a fast-breeding fish, *tilapia nilotica*,

which he obtained from Japan. They thrived, and specimens of this fish have been distributed to farmers throughout the country, and have provided an important new source of protein to the provincial diet. In 1965, then Crown Prince Akihito of Japan, a noted amateur marine biologist, gave the King a stock of another fish, named *pla nil* by the King. This species was later distributed through the Department of Fisheries to farmers throughout the kingdom, and has become extremely popular. More than ten million *pla nil* are now raised annually at sixteen fishery stations in Thailand.

The celebrations centring around 9th June 1996, the 50th anniversary of the King's accession, reflect the genuine pride, reverence and good will which the Thai people feel toward their King. Jubilee celebrations will continue throughout 1996. One remaining highlight will be the State Visit of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II in the autumn. King Bhumibol Adulyadej (whose name means *Strength of the Land, Incomparable Power*) became the longest-reigning monarch in Thai history in 1988, when he surpassed the reign of his grandfather, King Chulalongkorn. In 1989, with the death of Emperor Hirohito, he became the longest reigning living monarch. Other long-reigning living monarchs are H.S.H. Prince Rainier III of Monaco (1949-), H.M. Queen Elizabeth II (1952-) and H.M. King Hussein of Jordan (1952-). No presidents even come close to such longevity, nor can any president, and few monarchs, claim to have done so much for their country and people with such consistent devotion.

Yet even this monarchy has its worries, although it is virtually illegal, under Thailand's strictly enforced laws of *lèse majesté*, to discuss them or write about them in Thailand. The real worry is the succession; the King's son and heir, Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn, has a reputation for being temperamental, and (in a country where secondary wives are not only accepted but legal) married a second wife several years ago, after having four sons by her. There has now apparently been a falling-out between the Crown Prince and his second wife, who is said to have been involved in an affair with a palace staff member. The Crown Prince is not nearly as popular or respected as his sister, Princess Sirindhorn. Under amendments to the Thai succession laws some years ago, the Princess is fully

eligible to succeed to the throne, and some observers feel that she would be the better choice. She is frequently at her father's side on trips to the provinces.

In vivid contrast to the cinnamon buns and gala banquet of Stockholm and the two-year Golden Jubilee celebrations in Bangkok, London more or less ignored the 70th birthday of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II. There were no banners, no services at St. Paul's, no processions down the Mall. The British Post Office did not even issue a commemorative stamp (although Australia did, as it does every year for the Queen's birthday). In addition, Prince Philip's bench-mark 75th birthday on 10th June passed without public notice, other than a photographic exhibit on his life at the Guildhall in the town of Windsor.

NO COMMEMORATION OF 1000 YEARS OF MONARCHY

Finally, an important historic milestone passed without comment: The Queen became the fifth longest-reigning monarch in 1,000 years of British monarchy on 12th June, but again, there was no merry-making, no commemorative mugs or tea towels. On that date, she surpassed Elizabeth I, who reigned for 44 years and 126 days (1558-1603). The longer-reigning monarchs are Queen Victoria (63 years, 216 days, 1837-1901), George III (59 years, 96 days, 1760-1820), Henry III (56 years, 29 days, 1216-1272), and Edward III (50 years, 147 days, 1327-1377).

Even the private dinner which was planned for the Royal Family went awry, when a newspaper revealed the secret; the Queen's birthday dinner was brought instead to Frogmore House, once the home of Queen Mary, and the Royal Family had a few hours of comparative peace. It was the Queen's decision that there should be no public festivities in honour of her birthday, and this was generally read as recognition of a sense of unease, perhaps on both sides, a tacit acknowledgment that the Royal Family has been the subject, and object, of too much negative media attention and public comment in recent times, with one public relations catastrophe after another, not ending with the unfortunate *annus horribilis*, but continuing to the present with the divorce between the Prince and Princess of Wales and tabloid headlines which vary between the ludicrous and the absurd, with an occasional touch of the bizarre -- and hardly any truth in all that

printer's ink, although that hardly seems to matter, now that attacks on the House of Windsor have become an industry of their own.

The lack of public observance of these royal anniversaries was so striking that it has become a story in itself, and the underlying factors need to be recognized. Recently, a British Labour MP called for a referendum on the monarchy, without much support. The Liberal Democrats proposed in June that the monarch be divested of the power to dissolve Parliament and appoint a new prime minister, although a party spokesman said this measure was not an attack on the monarchy, but would strengthen the independence of the sovereign, who would no longer be "the creature of the prime minister". The right-wing Conservative Way Forward (whose president is Baroness Thatcher) has called on the Princess of Wales to withdraw from public life.

Tabloid journalism is not limited to English-speaking countries, but it seems that this Royal Family has been subjected to more than its fair share of ink. The Dutch press does not seek out unpleasant stories about their Royal Family; the current divorce of the Queen's sister has passed with barely a ripple. Swedes are uninterested in negative stories about their Royal Family, and any such tales do not sell papers. The Spanish press has been notably reserved about King Juan Carlos, who is largely responsible for his country's press freedom, although recent speculation about Crown Prince Felipe's possible engagement has led to unprecedented published gossip. In Thailand, it is illegal to criticize the Royal Family, yet what Thai journalist could find fault with that King? On the republican side, the American press has been so assiduous in seeking out and promoting scandals, marital and financial, that such stories have become routine. The President, whoever may be president at the time, is fair game for almost any lurid insinuation or slander. Perhaps the press attention to the Royal Family has less to do with the Royal Family itself, and is more a reflection of what sociologists recognize as an escalating lack of respect for any institutions or authority figures. There are some members of the Royal Family who have brought difficulties on themselves, but whatever their offences, it is not the institution of monarchy which is at fault, nor the entire House of Windsor.

Certainly one can acknowledge that the monarchy (as it exists in the United Kingdom -- the situation is different in Australia, Canada, and in each of the other countries where the Queen is not resident) may be due for some reappraisal. Monarchy, like every other institution in society, needs to adjust to suit the times, changing needs and circumstances; the King of Sweden, indeed, has chosen the motto, "For Sweden - With the Times". The monarchy now is different from what it was 100 years ago, or 200; and it will be different still 100 years from now. It is one of the advantages of monarchy that it is flexible, and can change and adapt to suit new conditions. An editorial in *The Observer* (21 April 1996, the Queen's birthday) opined that the monarchy is at a low ebb; "it is unsatisfactory and the air must be cleared". It is a situation of the greatest importance, for "the legitimacy of the British State, built on the simple assertion that what the Crown assents in Parliament is law and with no written codification, is bound up with the

legitimacy of the monarchy. ... The commonplace assertion that the Windsors are useful tourist attractions and good copy for the tabloid newspapers, but of only symbolic importance could hardly be more wide of the mark. The Royal Family cannot be mocked without mocking the political system that in custom and law is its servant; a mocked democracy is a democracy that is in peril."

PERSONAL CHARACTER OF ROYAL FAMILY

"If the monarchy is to survive," the editorial goes on to say, "it must be relieved of its need to be perfect, and that means its remaining political and constitutional functions have to be clearly delineated and codified and as far as possible located elsewhere in the constitution. The personal character of the Royal Family must cease to have any constitutional importance. ... The current travails of the Windsors are thus an opportunity, offering the chance both to update the role of the monarchy and reconstruct British democracy ... without

such reform ... the monarchy will be more endangered rather than less. Its survival so far is a tribute to its capacity to adapt: now it must adapt again."

If Australia holds a People's Convention or a nationwide constitutional forum of some kind, as is the general plan, these issues and others ought to be discussed. If changes need to be made in the monarchy, whether in its broadest outlines or in smaller details, surely the institution can survive modernization or updating, and thrive, as it has done time and again through the centuries, remaining relevant to every age, changing as the age and society changed. It is to be hoped that a national discussion of the monarchy, in all its aspects, will result in a better understanding and appreciation of monarchy itself, rather than the trivia, gossip, and personality cultism which has been passing for reportage in the last decade. The Queen's birthday may have come and gone without fireworks, but the institution of which she is the head has not lost its vital spark.

50 YEARS

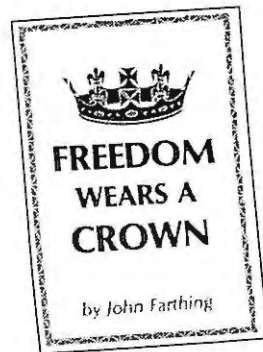
LEAGUE OF RIGHTS NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The 1996 National Weekend of The League, commemorating their 50th Anniversary was held in Melbourne with the New Times Annual Dinner on Friday 4th October.

A report will appear in the next issue of Heritage

RECOMMENDED READING

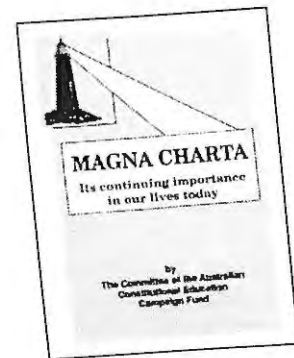
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THE AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY



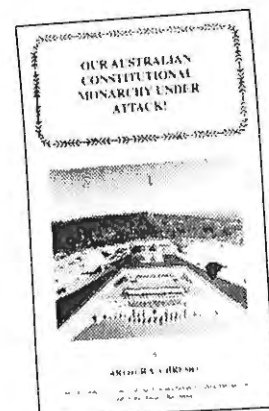
Few appreciate or understand today the impact of Christianity on the development of British Constitutionalism and the priceless heritage of the Common Law.

Monarchists everywhere will find a new edition of *Freedom wears a Crown* most opportune as the question of Monarchy continues to be debated. It is not too much to say that the future of Western Civilisation may be decided by the outcome of this debate.

\$13 Posted



\$6.00 Posted



\$4 Posted
by
Arthur A. Chesby

19 YEARS have past since we published the page below in our fourth issue, 1977.
*This message was written for the Heritage Society for the Queen's Silver Jubilee edition.
There is nothing new in the republic push.*



SIR ROBERT MENZIES

longest serving Prime Minister in the Commonwealth

SIR ROBERT MENZIES said last night it would be a disaster for Australians to break with the Monarchy.

He said there was no aspect of daily life not affected by the traditions and machinery which Australia inherited from Britain.

Being subjects of the Queen increased the quality of Australian independence and in no way subtracted from its completeness.

A tape recording of the former Prime Minister's speech was played to an Australia-Britain Society dinner in the Great Hall of the National Gallery.

Prince Philip was a guest at the dinner, at which the society announced the Robert Menzies Scholarship.

The annual scholarship will help a young person to go to Britain to study aspects of the ties between Australia and Britain.

Sir Robert said that the Crown — which was now specifically the Crown of Australia as well as Britain — was an integral part of Australian government.

“Our judicial system is one in which the existence of the Crown is continued,” he said;

“The Queen's writ runs. Our whole parliamentary system, our tradition of independence and integrity of the courts and the tradition of an incorruptible civil service all derived from Britain.

“In fact, there is no aspect of our daily lives which is not affected by the traditions and machinery which we inherited from Britain,” Sir Robert said.

“That we should all be subjects of the Queen seems to me to be not a confession of some kind of subordination but a matter of pride.”

Courier Mail, 22-3-73

SENDS THIS MESSAGE

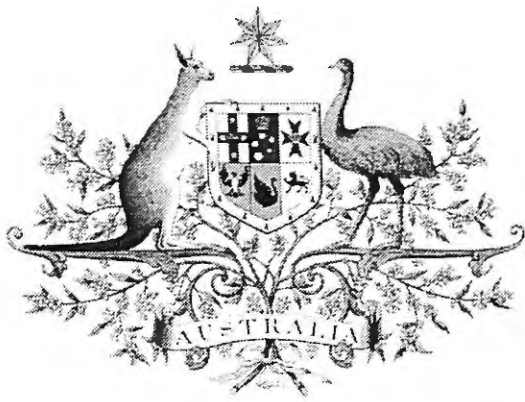
The greatest system of political Government yet devised is that of responsible Government under the Crown.

The present Queen, who is the most remarkable Monarch since the first Elizabeth, has done so much to strengthen the position of the Crown and to inspire general respect for it that I am constantly horrified to find that some alleged intellectuals in Australia want to have a Republic. I hope they fail most dismally.

I am proud to name myself a loyal servant of the Queen.

R.G. MENZIES (Signed)

Melbourne
19th January 1977.



AUSTRALIA'S COAT OF ARMS

The Commonwealth Coat of Arms

THE grant of arms to individuals, organisations, towns and States is a mark of royal favour having a tradition dating back to the Middle Ages. Arms consist of objects arranged to distinguish the possessor by their particular kind, order and association. The complex and stylised art of arranging arms in systematic ways to express identity is known as heraldry and can be traced back to the early Crusades.

The shield is the central feature of a grant of arms. It contains certain distinguishing marks which have had a long and close association with heraldry. The term 'coat of arms' refers to the custom in the 11th to 15th centuries of displaying the arms on a tunic or coat worn over armour. The crest, placed originally on the helmet of a knight to identify him in battle, was attached beneath a wreath originally of twisted silk in two colours. These colours have since been regarded as the livery colours of the arms. Both the crest and the supporters, which are on either side of the shield, are accessories to the arms.

It is proper that an authority performing the duties of government should bear the dignities and traditional rights of its office, including the right to bear symbols of its honour and authority. A coat of arms is granted by the Sovereign and serves as a sign of identity and authority. The Commonwealth Coat of Arms fulfils these traditional purposes and is an emblem signifying the national unity of Australia.

The Arms must always be reproduced correctly and where possible in colour. However, if colour is not appropriate the Arms may be reproduced in stylised form as a line drawing, e.g. in black and white, silver, gold or as a mould or bas-relief. A number of officially approved variations of the Arms are shown in the *Commonwealth Style Manual* (4th edition, 1988).

Application for permission to use or reproduce the Arms should be forwarded

to the Awards and National Symbols Branch, Department of Administrative Services, GPO Box 1920, Canberra, ACT 2601.

1908 ARMS:

The first official Coat of Arms granted to the Commonwealth of Australia was made by King Edward VII in a Royal Warrant of 7 May 1908. The Arms were composed of a simple shield of white and blue enclosing a cross of Saint George on which there were five six-pointed white stars, around the outside of which were six small escutcheons, i.e. small shields. The shield was supported by a kangaroo and an emu standing on a grassy mound. Above the shield was the crest containing the seven-pointed gold star of Federation on a wreath of white and blue. The motto 'Advance Australia' was inscribed at the base.

1912 ARMS:

The absence of specific references to the States in the shield in the 1908 Arms led to a number of alterations approved on the recommendation of the Commonwealth Government by King George V in a Royal Warrant of 19 September 1912. The new design included a shield with six parts each containing a representation of the badge of a State. The positions and attitudes of the supporters were also changed. The colours of the wreath of the crest were altered to gold and blue. These are the 'livery' colours of the Arms.

The new Arms were accompanied by small branches of wattle, ornamental rests for the supporters, and a scroll with the word 'Australia' -- none of which are actually mentioned in the 1912 Royal Warrant.

USE OF THE ARMS:

The Coat of Arms is used by the Commonwealth to identify its authority and property. The Arms belong to the Commonwealth and, in general, are for official use only.

Use of the Arms by private persons and organisations is seldom permitted since it is contrary to their essential meaning, may constitute a possible debasement of the Arms and may give rise to indiscriminate use. The association of the Arms with a trade, business, calling or profession is not normally permitted. Sporting and competitive representatives sponsored by their national controlling body may receive permission to wear the Coat of Arms on their uniforms, with the name and date of the event shown immediately beneath the Arms, when competing in officially recognised international events. Private persons and organisations may display the Arms as a decorative feature on particular national occasions, e.g. Coronations, Royal Visits, and Jubilee celebrations, provided it is not a permanent feature. Use of the Arms may be permitted on permanent souvenirs of a particular event, e.g. The Royal Visit of 1988. Publishers of encyclopaedia and reference, educational and heraldry books may be granted permission in certain circumstances.

In no circumstances should the Coat of Arms be used by private persons and organisations without prior approval of the appropriate Commonwealth authorities.

*A Deed knocks first at Thought
And then -- it knocks at Will --
That is the manufacturing spot
And Will at Home and well*

*It then goes out an Act
Or is entombed so still
That only to the ear of God
Its Doom is audible --*

(Emily Dickinson)

“... The traditional role of parties in Australian politics is under strong challenge.” Peter Andren MHR



The following is the maiden speech made by MR PETER ANDREN, Independent, Electoral Division of Calare on Thursday, 9 May 1996, in the House of Representatives, Canberra.

IT is with great pride that I address this House as an Independent member of the 38th Parliament since Federation. Had it not been for the dedicated help and encouragement of my supporters and family, particularly my wife, Jenny, and sons, Greg and Josh, this moment would not have been possible.

I must begin with congratulations to the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) and the coalition on their resounding win in the recent election. I also congratulate you, Mr Deputy Speaker Vaile, and the Second Deputy Speaker, Mr Jenkins. Please pass on my congratulations also to the Speaker. May we all give you the support you deserve to achieve the fairest possible debate in the parliamentary period ahead. Five Independents will figure in that debate. According to my research, that is the greatest number of non-aligned Independents elected to one parliament since Federation.

The last parliament benefited from the wisdom of Independent Ted Mack, to whom I owe a deep debt of gratitude for his advice and support. I hope to contribute as he did to advancing the cause of democratic parliamentary representation in this chamber.

I have heard encouraging words in recent days about a commitment to a better, fairer and more democratic parliament than has occurred in recent history. I believe the electorate has also spoken firmly on this issue in the recent election. Rather than a ringing endorsement of the policies of the new government, the electorate rejected a Labor government and a Prime Minister seen to be out of touch and arrogant. Where there was a convincing third option for voters, they took it and elected five Independents and increased the support for the Democrats in the Senate.

In a world that is becoming more confusing, more threatening, far more violent and less personal by the day, people need leadership from politicians who will hear their calls regardless of the political implications. Such a test of our resolve to

create a more caring, less violent Australia must surely be a unanimous commitment to uniform gun laws when police ministers meet tomorrow in the wake of the Port Arthur massacre. Anticipating less than unanimous support from the states, I call too for an early referendum to test whether Australians want the Commonwealth to take control of gun supply and ownership - and of the making and distribution of violent videos. Despite some academic claims to the contrary, my extensive media background suggests that brutal behaviour and the video pornography of violence are closely linked.

Less one side or the other in this place believes it has a mortgage on common-sense, might I warn that the traditional role of parties in Australian politics is under strong challenge. There is a growing awareness in the electorate that honest, effective representation of constituents' interests can be achieved through channels other than political parties. Inflexible ideology on either side will bring swift retribution. People want fair and reasonable government, no domination by one school of thought whether it be union or rationalist economics. People expect government participation and support in their lives, as much as they respect the value of private enterprise for fair return, provided it both rewards the entrepreneur and is beneficial to the common wealth.

That brings me to some of the issues of national importance relevant to my area of central western New South Wales, issues involving both private and government responsibilities that I propose to pursue during this parliamentary term. Calare is a rural division extending from Oberon in the south-east, to Yeoval in the north-west, to Eugowra in the south-west and to tiny Bylong in the north-east. It was at Bylong a week or so ago where I gladly lost some money for local charity on several long-priced entrants in the annual mouse races, surely the epitome of rural ingenuity.

Calare contains the local government areas of Lithgow, Oberon, Rylstone, Bathurst, Blayney, Evans, Cabonne and parts of Wellington, with major industries including education, timber, mining,

cement, wool top making, white-goods, food and pet food manufacturing, tourism to a veritable gold mine of attractions and, of course, farming, especially fruit growing and grazing.

However, the viability of much of this industry is under threat from short-sighted economic policies. Of grave concern is the breakdown of infrastructure in the regions. Unless national governments inject capital into regional Australia or offer greater incentives for private capital to take a larger role in the regions, then the smaller towns and the larger centres are at grave risk of further economic decline.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

We need to inject far more into local government by way of untied grants for projects that are crucial to small and large communities. By that I mean projects such as the Eugowra sewerage augmentation scheme where a struggling and ageing rural community cannot sustain even the most basic of infrastructure, rights that most Australians take for granted.

While mining is a seductive job deliverer to a depressed rural economy, we must not assume that quarrying our resources is the only key to regional development. We must measure the long-term benefits and retain and strengthen a federal environment review process to oversee all mining or resource extraction that makes a significant impact on the national environment. I do not believe the parochial interests of state governments, and particularly local governments, are far enough removed from such projects to enable objective assessment.

Economic rationalism and down-sizing of government involvement in the economy, a philosophy to which the three major parties in this country are captive, are counterproductive in country areas like Orange where public sector jobs have been slashed without regard for the type of service delivered by those former public servants. In this case in Orange it was state agriculture department staff. Those people provide an essential service for the

economic wellbeing of farmer clients. The money those forgone salaries inject into the local economy has also not been taken into account.

At a federal level we see the planned removal of the Australian Taxation Office from regional centres, ostensibly because a more cost efficient, electronic service is available. This is the brave new world of public service where the elderly, the computer illiterate, the struggling business operator, the farmer, the tax student and the tax agent are all expected to seek advice via a toll-free line. This has nothing to do with public service; it has much to do with ignoring the real requirements of regional Australia. That is the service infrastructure under threat.

On the other hand, we see the deliberate dismantling of publicly owned concrete infrastructure. With the demise of the New South Wales branch rail system over the past decade, the western rail line from Sydney to Broken Hill is a national asset which is now under grave threat. For years the responsibility for the line has been buck-passed between federal and state governments, and downgraded to the extent that it is now a disincentive to private users. Meanwhile, the multi-billion dollar trucking business has grown on the back of this neglect of rail, causing massive road damage to systems not designed for the size and frequency of such heavy freight cartage.

ACCESS TO RAIL NETWORK

The more enlightened trucking operators want to integrate road and rail operations, and movers of bulk materials, such as CSR Oberon, tell me that it would be far more cost efficient to transport export products straight to the wharves by rail. The government is reluctant to meet the commercial users half-way by guaranteeing fair access to the rail network.

Indeed, the madness of this approach dictates that the community service obligations of governments are virtually eliminated. Nowhere are the costs of trucks on roads -- or the absence of trains on tracks carrying bulk and hazardous freight -- factored into the bottom line. Can we afford not to maintain the existing national rail network in this country? Indeed, can we afford not to expand it, thus maintaining rail and freight jobs in regional centres along the way? Unless the Commonwealth

government re-enters the infrastructure business, this country will never develop to its full potential, and most of that potential lies in regional Australia in areas like Calare.

A substantial re-regulation of the financial system is required to ensure that essential capital flows into the public sector to serve the public good. Private lending institutions create credit for private, often unproductive profit -- credit that is also responsible for importation of consumer goods at the expense of local jobs. We should restore parliament's right to create national credit for national projects which become part of the nation's wealth as assets.

We should also tax foreign exchange transactions and legislate to access the \$50 billion of Australian superannuation funds that should be helping to develop this country, and not being invested offshore. Private enterprise will be a partner in developing regional Australia if the infrastructure is in place. I am not talking about 150 per cent tax write-offs for investors in vineyard projects. I am talking about public credit like government bonds created to maintain income, positive infrastructure such as our transcontinental rail links or a nationally-funded Great Western-Mid Western Highway with rail-road container interchanges, or a Parkes inland freight airport. I notice that the member for Parkes (Mr Cobb) is in the chamber. I appreciate his presence. This latter project, while outside my electorate, will have a huge impact on industry in our area and is of major national importance. Yet this scheme may also be killed off by the economic rationalists before it gets off the ground.

From the briefings I have had with the Inland Marketing Corporation, which is overseeing and promoting this regional agricultural development project, I believe it is a national value-adding asset without peer. It would not only provide an international air-freight airport to deliver produce rapidly to overseas markets, particularly in Asia, but also tie in with a revitalised main western rail line and a north-south Newell Highway to create a truly integrated rail-road-air cargo network. Many hundreds of jobs -- potentially thousands -- could be generated by this multifaceted agricultural project that would ensure we became a reliable supplier of the cleanest, freshest and greenest foodstuffs to

those emerging tiger economies to the north, and beyond in Europe.

I can foresee an extension of this project to an international passenger airport, revitalising the regional airline industry, and complemented by a very fast train from Parkes to Sydney. It is an airport complex which most in western New South Wales really want, believe it or not. Why throw billions at an airport in western Sydney that few want? Let us become creative and, I believe, truly economically rational by developing our transport infrastructure to meet the requirements of the new century and, at the same time, help regenerate regional Australia, from which our agricultural and mineral wealth is derived. We cannot leave the regions to the forces of the level playing field.

THREAT BY TARIFF CUTS

We need to protect our manufacturing plants, like Email at Orange and the Commonwealth-owned Australian Defence Industries in Lithgow. We need to protect emerging value-adding industry in regional areas, especially wool textiles. Email's market share is threatened by tariff concession cuts to imports, despite the changes in the last few days; while the 100 per cent Commonwealth-owned ADI is chasing diminishing arms contracts when it has the capacity to train young locals in metal manufacturing of a range of import-replacing components.

Returns to farmers have been negative in seven of the past ten years and the National Party has sold out its constituency by following the Liberal-Labor economic rationalist level playing field path. Our national competition policy is becoming so efficient that wool growers are competing against their own product in the marketplace and the level playing field is so level that Orange district fruit juice cannot compete against the imported product.

The regional social infrastructure too has suffered dramatically as we head down this brave new world of 'winners only survive' economics. Unfortunately, the less than clever have no role in this new world. Where are the jobs for the 50 per cent perhaps of people who, through no fault of their own, find they are on the wrong side of the normal distribution curve of intelligence and ability in this so-called clever age? Where do they fit in?

We once had a manufacturing base like ADI at Lithgow that involved many of these people in the work force as process workers and doing the manual jobs. Where have they gone? We cannot retrain most of the older displaced workers. There is nothing for the young who are not clever or lucky except a series of work-skills programmes. We have a national youth unemployment rate around 30 per cent, if one can believe the figures, and an overall unemployment rate officially about eight per cent and sure to go up. The figures are almost the same as they were when the coalition handed over the reins of government to Labor in 1983. Whatever the job creation in that time, it has not provided for the not-so-clever who are the victims of the modern competition-at-all-costs, economic rationalism, survival of the fittest regime.

CREATIVE WORK PROGRAMMES

If we do not devise ways of providing meaningful employment for these people, we are socially doomed. We cannot bemoan the anti-social behaviour of those whose own society and economic system cannot provide them with a job or a life beyond mindless videos. We have a rampant cancer in our society. The inability to provide gainful employment for our young is a major cause. We need to be far more creative in our work programmes. We need to provide not 26-week work skilling, but perhaps three-year long, two days a week commitments. Participants can be employed in projects that would enable a long-term belonging to a work team and a venture that would yield obvious results.

I recently saw long-term unemployed coming off a project near Molong -- nowhere near completed. It is a land-care project that could have a permanent employment team and certainly would benefit from a long-term commitment. But, no. They had to move back to the welfare queues with a certificate to make room for the next group. Of course, they cannot qualify for a similar project for another 18 months. It is soul destroying. I have heard from some of these people. They wish they had never started rather than to have experienced the team work, to have partly completed the job and then to have been abandoned. Unless we review

our economic policies, we will never again approach full employment. There are at least one million people in this country who want to work and who cannot. Surely there is something wrong with the system that created this situation.

Young people in particular with no real prospects of productive employment not only bitterly resent the society that cannot share its wealth with them but also are being constantly bombarded by media messages telling them how successful they should be. There are only winners. Anger sets in. If you happen to be black in this country, particularly in regional Australia, your race marginalises you even further.

The result, in many cases, is violence, self-abuse through drugs and alcohol, vandalism and a widening gulf between the haves and have-nots -- between the 'me too' class and the 'up you' class. Is this the legacy of the rational new world economy, of the level playing field? Is this really the country with the greatest natural assets and resources in the world? Is this the price we pay for international competitiveness by down-sizing, corporatising, privatising, adopting world best practice and handing manufacturing over to the countries with the cheapest labour?

Where is this mythical country where world best practice is practised? Did the economic zealots who created a world series market to be played for on this level playing field consider those in our society who cannot even make the bench for this game or any future match? We in regional Australia need help from central government for the regions to rebuild their industries and we need a new consensus whereby all states co-operate to highlight a regional development agenda that would involve a sharing of investment. Unless we get this state co-operation in the interests of the nation, our limited resources will be wasted and the opportunities lost in mindless political struggles between the states.

While on the subject of states, the only piece of economic rationalism we should adopt, I believe, is to rationalise them right out of existence. If we are serious about constitutional reform, let us look seriously at the costs caused by the duplication -- and duplicity -- of the states. Stronger regional government with roughly equal populations

to administer and an equal share of the federal tax-take is the only logical way we should go in any constitutional reform.

The current republic debate is a furphy, given the substantial reforms needed to really make us nationally co-operative and economically efficient. Such reform would even out opportunity and bring government closer to the people, making it so much more accountable. It would enable us to focus on a co-operative national goal rather than state of origin footy matches. As we develop new national infrastructure, funded by national credit and not debt to foreign interests, let us also hold on to the remaining shareholding of the publicly owned assets we now retain.

HANG ON TO TELSTRA

The folly of selling off our silverware to pay debts would be laughable were it not so serious. The latest folly is the partial privatisation of Telstra, which I believe can only penalise my constituents and the nation. It sounds a bit like part-pregnant, doesn't it? The opposition, the former government, is equally guilty because it too has gone down the same path in selling off Qantas and the Commonwealth Bank, opposing the Telstra privatisation only when it became politically fruitful to do so.

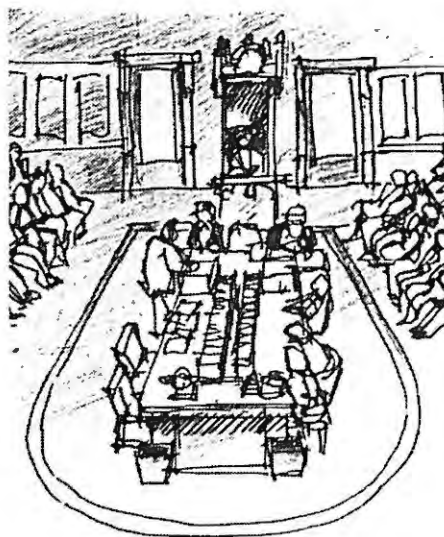
I do not believe any serious investor will want part of Telstra; they will want the lot. Can you imagine Murdoch wanting only the front paddock of the most productive lucerne flat property in Australia? I believe that we should fund the environment by hanging on to Telstra and we should legislate so that \$250 million of that \$1 billion per year is dedicated to the environment. Retain the ownership of that great organisation and it can bankroll the environment to infinity.

To my father and mother, both deceased, thanks for the strength and guidance that brought me here to this place. May my colleagues in the 38th Parliament of Australia embrace the feeling my parents had for this country and represent all Australians: those with skills and those without, those with means and those without. Unless we provide for all, with real opportunities and not just handouts, then the profits, the growth and dividends we create are a fraud, a mirage.

A DAY IN FEDERAL PARLIAMENT

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Prayers
2. Petitions
3. Notices of Motion
4. Tabling of Government Papers
5. Government Business
6. Ministerial Statements
7. Questions
8. Matters of Public Importance
9. Private Members' Business
10. Adjournment



The Order of business is slightly different in each House.

Here is an example of a typical day's business in each House:

1. The President and Speaker read out a short 'parliamentary' prayer followed by the Lord's Prayer to open the sitting.
2. Senators and Members present petitions from people who are concerned about an issue and would like some action taken.
3. Senators and Members give notice that they intend to present a proposal on a future day. This alerts people to the plan so they are ready for debate on the matter.
4. This item of business is to present papers, reports and documents from government bodies so they become public.
5. Bills and motions are presented and debated, committees are established and reports given.
6. Ministers make statements about policy initiatives and changes relating to their portfolios.
7. Ministers in both Houses are questioned about government policy and administration in respect to their departments.
8. Senators and Members can put forward topics of current political importance for discussion. These motions come mainly from members of non-government parties.
9. Much time is spent debating government bills but there are times set aside for individual Members and Senators to introduce bills and move motions.
10. At the end of the day's sitting, Senators and Members are given the opportunity to speak on any matter of their choosing.

RECOMMENDED READING

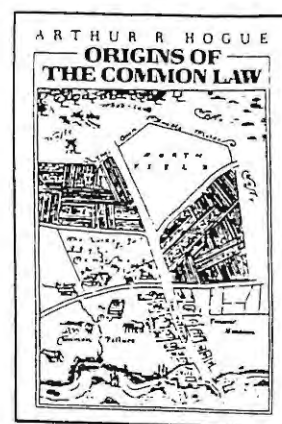
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CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOMED

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, should enclose a stamped and addressed envelope.

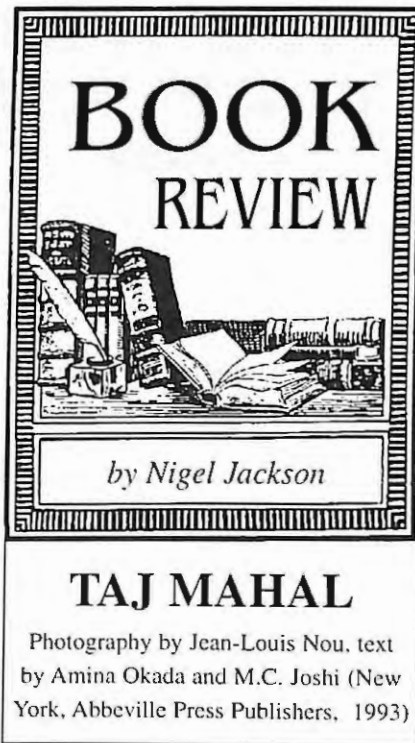
THE Taj Mahal, one of the best known and most loved works of architecture in the world, was bequeathed to India by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan, who ruled from 1628 to 1658, and was described by the poet Rabindranath Tagore as "rising above the banks of the river like a solitary tear suspended on the cheek of time".

In this exquisite 230-page arthook, the reader-viewer is taken on an extensive visual tour of the Taj Mahal complex, its parts and decorations; the verbal texts are secondary.

Translucent photography by Jean-Louis Nou is arranged in three parts.

Starting inside the mausoleum, a sequence of close-ups shows the semi-precious stones inlaid in white marble that form the mesmerizing rhythms of the interior's floral patterns and Qu'ranic calligraphy. The next sequence of images presents the octagonal plan of the structure, emphasising both its perfect symmetry and its subtle variations, depending on time of day, season, and camera angle. The final sequence is devoted to the decorative patterns carved in the red sandstone walls of the mosque and entrance gate. In addition, four fold-out photographs show the entire Taj Mahal complex from different perspectives.

A thirty-page introduction is offered by Amina Okada, curator of the Musée National des Arts Asiatiques-Guimet in Paris, who is a widely published scholar of Mughal and Rajput India. Her succinct and comprehensive essay is a little spoiled by an aesthetic scepticism, as evidenced by the following passage: "In the Nineteenth Century the Taj Mahal loomed large, like a poetic myth, at the very heart of the romantic imagination. The story of the inconsolable monarch who had enshrined his wife's mortal remains in the most beautiful mausoleum in the world, was in keeping with an epoch marked with the seal of romanticism and often tending to hypersensibility and an excess of imagination. For certain feverish souls the beauty of the Taj Mahal lay not so much in its grand



**But O thou soul at peace,
Return thou unto thy Lord, well-pleased
and well-pleasing unto Him.
Enter thou among my servants,
And enter thou My paradise."
(The Holy Qu'ran, Sura 89)**

and harmonious proportions, the lustre of its lacteous marble, or the exquisite refinement of its floral decor, as in the imperial romance that had inspired it."

Dr M.C. Joshi, director of the Archaeological Survey of India in New Delhi, contributes an eight-page essay on "The Lesser-Known Aspects of the Taj", in which he concentrates largely on information about the modes of construction used. He reveals a knowledge of architectural symbolism when he writes: "What is notable in the design of the complex, despite its organic unity, is the hierarchical treatment of the three divisions: the most significant (Taj proper, garden), the less significant (gate and forecourt), and the least significant (Mumtazabad, the external bazaar)." Dr Joshi sees these divisions as representing the traditional triad of royalty, guards and attendants, and commoners.

Both authors agree that the Taj Mahal "was conceived as an earthly Paradise for Mumtaz and Shah Jahan, in the form of a place of eternal rest" (in Dr Joshi's words). A curious anti-

romanticism also infiltrates Dr Joshi's text: "What is impressive about the Taj is mainly the superfine treatment and not the volume or structural form. It enchants but does not dominate. Neither is there an intellectuality of design or any originality in form." Perhaps, however, enchantment (the realm of Merlin) is superior to that of domination (the realm of Arthur).

To be fair, Dr Joshi does quote a brilliantly perceptive remark by E.B. Havell: "The Taj was meant to be feminine. The whole conception and every line of it expresses the intention of the designers. It is Mumtaz herself, radiant in her youthful beauty ... India's tribute to the grace of Indian womanhood, the Venus de Milo of the East."

Useful appendices include ground plans, glossary, historical timeline, list of Qu'ranic verses inscribed on the buildings and a bibliography. It was interesting to learn of the degree of European influence on the decoration and construction of the Taj, but disappointing to learn almost nothing at all of the life of Mumtaz herself. (She died in 1631, after giving birth to her fourteenth child.)

It is also surprising that no attempt is made to consider the Taj Mahal as the work of initiated or illuminated men. Quotation is made from Jean-Baptiste Tavernier (1679), Louis Rousselet (1875), Pierre Loti (1903) and Aldous Huxley (1926), as representatives of the huge body of travellers' commentaries; but it is a pity that no reference is made to the more profound essay "The Soul of the Empress Mumtaz-i-Mahal" by P.D. Ouspensky in his extraordinary *A New Model of the Universe* (1931). Ouspensky felt that the whole Taj Mahal complex speaks of the mystery of death. As he contemplated it, he felt "In place of the familiar, habitual reality another reality opened out, a reality which usually we neither know, nor see, nor feel, but which is the one true and genuine reality ... infinite radiance and joy ... **The soul and the future life are one and the same.**"

BUYING THE NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

by K.T. Borrow

The following is an appendix to Mr Borrow's article with the above title which appeared in *Heritage Journals* 77/78, September 1995 - February 1996.

Sequence of negotiations between Australian politicians as to illegal "take-over", i.e. nullification of the Crown's rights under the Letters Patent of 1863, the Constitution of the area, by the Commonwealth of Australia of that part of North Australian Crown land known as the Northern Territory of Australia.

- 1901, 18th April: F.W. Holder, without South Australian Parliamentary sanction, offers the Northern

Territory to the Commonwealth of Australia, by letter to A. Deakin. (South Australian Parliamentary Paper, 27/1901).

- 1905, 18th October: V.L. Solomon proposes that Commonwealth of Australia build the North-South Railway within twelve months of the Imperial Parliament fixing the northern South Australian boundary at about 22nd parallel.
- 1905, 7th December: South Australian Parliament confirms Solomon's proposal.
- 1906, 23 February: Deakin enquires as to Holder's offer, which does not mention the Crown; enquires whether Price endorses Solomon's proposal.

- 1906, April: *Critic*, Adelaide, prints photograph of Deakin, Bonython and J.M. Reid, President of South Australian Chamber of Manufactures, at Mount Lofty, South Australia.

- 1906, 19th October: Deakin's counter-offer, ignoring Queen and Imperial Parliament.

- 1907, 20th February: Price-Deakin proposal, under Section 111 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, without mention of Queen or Imperial Parliament. Map shows "South Australia proper".

- 1907, May: T. Price states that the Northern Territory of Australia is "not our territory -- we are only managers". See *Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria, 4th June 1907, and Commonwealth of Australia Parliamentary Paper, 1907, Vol. III, p. 407.

- 1907, 4th July: *Bulletin*, Sydney, New South Wales, p. 6: The "Territory was never really transferred" (in "A Game of Marbles at the Day of Judgement").

- 1907, 15th July: H.V. Barclay, "Who owns the Northern Territory?" (Part I, in *Life*, Melbourne, Victoria, pp. 36-7). The statements as to the area of New South Wales are open to revision. There is a biography by Carr, *Barclay's Way*, typescript, 4to., pp. 400 in the Mortlock Library, Adelaide, South Australia (Lit., MSS., D5393). Barclay's papers are held by the Mitchell Library, Sydney, New

South Wales (X943.8/1) and the York Gate Library, Adelaide, South Australia, probably from Thomas Gill.

- 1907, 7th December: Price and Deakin sign "Agreement" as to the Northern Territory of Australia, *vide* Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia (South Australian Branch), Vol. 59, p. 22.

- 1909, 22nd July: R.R. Garran states that the Northern Territory of Australia is "part of the State of South Australia", *vide* "Papers Presented to the Commonwealth of Australia", 1909, Vol. II, pp. 1913-48, and "Opinions of Attorneys-General of the Commonwealth of Australia", Canberra, 1981, Vol. 1, Nos. 341 and 344. These opinions misconceive the position, knowingly or otherwise. The reasons appear elsewhere in the article. The errors were repeated in R.R. Garran, "The Law of the Territories of the Commonwealth" (in *Australian Law Journal*, Vol. 9, 1935, Supplement, pp. 35-6). J. Quick and R.R. Garran, in "The Annotated Constitution of the Australian Commonwealth", Sydney, 1901, pp. 375 and 972, refer to the Northern Territory of Australia, the Letters Patent of 1863, with power of revocation, and mentions the power of the Queen "to give effect to any approved plan for transferring the Northern Territory of South Australia ... to the Commonwealth."



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The editor of *Heritage* sends out a call to Australians to get behind our increasingly popular journal. We are looking for interested readers who can perform one or more tasks in creating an even better publication.

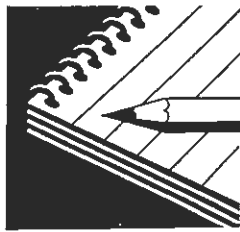
YOU CAN HELP US WITH . . .

- Short articles with photos. Colourful characters, places, events etc.
- Heritage related information, snippets from newspapers.
- News on royalty. Perhaps you have a contact in the UK who can send information.
- Photographs. We need to increase our photo library with photos of famous, topical, interesting people, or Australiana photos.
- **FLAG NEWS – REPUBLIC:** If you have a keen interest in this topic, why not collect as much information as possible and send it to us so we can share it with our readers.

You will receive a great deal of satisfaction when you see your efforts appear in print. So go to it!

Contact : The Editor *Heritage* - 47 McHarg Road, Happy Valley S.A. 5159

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



QUEEN'S PORTRAIT AVAILABLE

We are pleased to be able to forward the enclosed letter from the Hon. David Jull MP, Minister for Administrative Services, which advises that the Government has re-introduced the free distribution of portraits of Her Majesty The Queen through Government bookshops.

This decision results from intense lobbying on our part as many organisations have been turning to us, as the publisher of Sir William Dargie's famous portrait of Her Majesty, for supply of the Government-produced prints of The Queen.

We would very much appreciate it if you would notify your members of this decision with a particular request that they pass on this information to as many schools, Scouting and Guiding movements, church groups and other organisations with whom they might come into contact.

On another subject, there has been some confusion over the singing of the Royal Anthem and in particular, to a document produced some years ago by the Australian Government Publishing Service communicating the Queen's wishes in respect to the playing of the two anthems, i.e., the National Anthem, "Advance Australia Fair", and the Royal Anthem, "God Save the Queen".

A copy of this document is enclosed from which you will note that Her Majesty's wishes relate solely to procedures to be followed in the presence of Her Majesty or during official engagements undertaken in Australia by other Members of the Royal Family.

A copy of a letter from Sir David Smith KCVO AO (former Official Secretary to the Governor-General) is also enclosed which confirms that, with the exception of the bands of the Defence Force, all Australians may sing and play Australia's Royal Anthem "God Save the Queen" wherever and whenever they please.

We trust that this information will be helpful to you and your members.

Philip Benwell, MBE,
National Chairman, The Monarchist
League in Australia.

Enclosures:

(1) ... The Prime Minister also announced that the Vice-Regal salute would consist of the first four bars and last four bars of "Advance Australia Fair".

On 30 April 1985 Government House, Canberra, released an announcement from the Governor-General that the Queen had decided that, when Her Majesty attends public engagements in Australia, in addition to playing "God Save the Queen" at the beginning of the engagement, "Advance Australia Fair" should be played at the end. On some occasions it may be appropriate to play both anthems at the beginning of the engagement. It was the Queen's wish that this procedure also apply during official engagements undertaken in Australia by other members of the Royal Family. On these occasions abbreviated forms of both anthems should be used.

(2) Dear Mr. Benwell,

You have asked me for information about the National and Royal Anthems and the circumstances in which they may be played or sung.

On 19 April 1984 the Governor-General in Council issued a Proclamation which proclaimed "Advance Australia Fair" as Australia's National Anthem and "God Save The Queen" as Australia's Royal Anthem. (It also proclaimed a new Vice-Regal Salute for the Governor-General and new national colours for Australia.)

When it was first submitted to the Governor-General, the Proclamation stated that the Royal Anthem was to be used **only** in the presence of Her Majesty The Queen or a member of the Royal Family. However, before the Executive Council meeting took place, the Governor-General spoke to the recommending Minister and, later, at the meeting, before the Minute was approved by the Executive Council, the word "only" was deleted from the Proclamation. The Proclamation was then approved and signed by the Governor-General, and gazetted in Commonwealth of Australia Gazette No. S 142 of 19 April 1984 in its amended form.

Later that day the Prime Minister issued a Press statement announcing the matters which had been approved and proclaimed by the Governor-General in Council. The Press release was wrong in that its reference to the Royal Anthem contained the word "only" which had been deleted from the Proclamation.

Whether the inaccuracy in the Prime Minister's statement was deliberate or inadvertent I cannot say, but a clue may be found in what came next. The Minister for Defence immediately subverted the amendment which his ministerial colleagues had made to the Proclamation by directing the bands of the Australian Defence Force to treat the playing of Australia's Royal Anthem as if the word "only" had not been deleted.

As originally issued, the edict by the Minister for Defence prohibited the Defence Force bands from playing "God Save The Queen" even when it was to be played as the British National Anthem at, for example, a gathering of British ex-service men and women, a prohibition which applied to the National Anthem of no other nation. Once again, after a word from the Governor-General, the Minister's instruction was amended so that the prohibition applied only to the playing of Australia's Royal Anthem, unless a member of the Royal Family was present, and not to Britain's National Anthem.

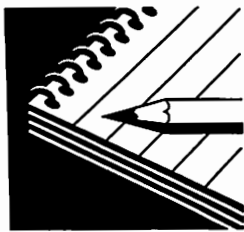
I do not know whether the current Minister for Defence has rescinded the former Minister's edict but, if he has not, then with the exception of the bands of the Defence Force, all other Australians may sing and play Australia's Royal Anthem wherever and whenever they please.

In fact, they could have done so even if the word "only" had remained in the Proclamation, thus making a mockery of the Proclamation: which is precisely why the Governor-General asked that the word be taken out, and precisely why his Ministers agreed to do so. In particular, the Royal Anthem does not have to be identified as a hymn in order to meet the provisions of the Proclamation. The only requirement is that it not be used as a substitute for either the National Anthem or the Vice-Regal Salute.

What I have seen some function organisers do is to play or sing the National Anthem at the beginning of a function, (or play the Vice-Regal Salute if appropriate), and to play or sing the Royal Anthem immediately after the Loyal Toast has been proposed and before it is honoured by the assembled guests. This procedure is totally consistent with the terms of the Proclamation.

David Smith.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



ABORIGINAL WOMEN AND VOTING RIGHTS

IT was disappointing to see that your otherwise useful Editorial of 26 April contains a serious misjudgement of history.

Aborigines have never been excluded from the franchise in South Australia. When South Australian adult males were given the right to vote in 1856 this applied both to non-Aboriginal and to Aboriginal men -- there was no discrimination on racial grounds.

When South Australian women gained the right to vote in 1894, the law meant what it said: All South Australian adult women achieved suffrage at that time. In other words, Aboriginal women in South Australia gained the right to vote a quarter of a century before British women and long before the majority of people anywhere in the world.

Before voting became compulsory, at least one Aboriginal group, namely the Ngarrindjeri, recorded higher participation rates at elections than was the State average.

At Federation, South Australian Aboriginal men and women were guaranteed Commonwealth voting rights under Section 41 of the Constitution; and Aboriginal people in southern communities exercised those rights. During the inter-war period, Commonwealth suffrage was to become a matter for dispute; but State voting rights were never affected, and Aboriginal men and women continued to perform their political obligations as responsible South Australians.

By propagating the misinformation that Aborigines were voteless non-citizens, you do the people a grave disservice in that you imply that they were unable to participate in the development of a democratic society in South Australia. In fact they played a vital role.

Conversely, had Aborigines not been discriminated against in other ways, and had they thus been allowed to make an even greater contribution, South Australia could be a much better State than it is at present.

Graham Jenkin, University of
South Australia
[*The Australian*, 6 May 1996]

ABORIGINAL DEATHS IN CUSTODY

In 1991 the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody handed down its report. The cost of the Commission was about \$35 million and implementing its recommendations likely to cost millions more. Recent media reports tell us that the number of Aboriginal deaths in custody has not decreased, but in fact has noticeably increased.

The Royal Commission appears to have been seriously flawed and a gross waste of taxpayers' money. It has the appearance of a show trial put on for ideological reasons and with its judgements pre-determined. The exercise of the Commission was out of all proportion to the problem. During the period examined by the Commission black deaths in custody averaged twelve per annum. Male youth suicides average 500 per annum, but this much larger problem attracts much less attention and government money.

The Commission found that Aboriginal prisoners are no more likely to die in custody than other prisoners. It also admitted that Aborigines charged with serious crimes are generally given lighter sentences than white people who commit similar crimes. Aborigines are, however, much more likely to be arrested than other Australians. Considering their high crime rate (the Aboriginal murder rate is about ten times that for other Australians), this high level of arrest and imprisonment is hardly surprising.

The Commission's "findings" on the causes of this high crime rate verge on the absurd. Basically it is claimed that the high crime rate among Aborigines stems from their disadvantaged position in society which in turn is claimed to be a result of dispossession, discrimination and the ethno-centrism and racism of white Australians.

The first absurdity here is that to prove "dispossession", i.e. white settlement, caused Aboriginal crime, it would be necessary to have crime statistics for the time before white settlement. Obviously these statistics are not available and the Commission's findings in this respect are dubious to say the least.

Incidentally, we do know that traditional Aboriginal societies practised infanticide and at a rate that could be as high as 30 or 40 per cent. Thus what would now be considered murder was occurring at an extremely high rate.

Furthermore, looking at the experience of other peoples who were dispossessed or otherwise mistreated gives little support for the Commission's findings. For instance, the Gaelic Irish were at one time thrown off the land by the Anglo-Irish, but today the Irish Republic has one of the lowest homicide rates in the world. Similarly, the massacre, rape and ethnic cleansing that German-speaking people experienced at the end of World War II has not resulted in excessive crime levels in modern-day Germany.

Perhaps the best evidence that the Commission's ideas were flawed and simply

would not work is seen in the racial and social problems of the United States. The Civil Rights movements of the 1960s were followed by anti-discrimination legislation, affirmative action and anti-racism programmes in schools. The result should have been a better life for America's Negro population but in fact turned out to be a disaster. America's homicide rate over the last three decades has more than doubled. Negroes, who make up one eighth of the population, are involved in over half these homicides.

Another piece of evidence from the United States that the Commission chose to ignore is research relating crime, cognitive ability and socio-economic background. It was found that intelligent people from poor backgrounds rarely end up in prison. People with low intellects are much more likely to end up in prison regardless of their socio-economic background. Objective measurements of cognitive ability show substantial differences between the median scores of blacks and whites.

The Royal Commission brought up the old policies under which some Aboriginal children were taken from their natural parents. Only a minority of the deaths investigated (43 out of 99) involved the so-called "stolen generation". It is noticeable that although these policies were stopped two or three decades ago, the Aboriginal crime rate has shown no improvement; in fact, the alleged harm done by the separation of these children appears to be greatly exaggerated.

The whole gist of the Commission's findings revolve around lifting responsibility for crime from the criminals themselves and passing the blame onto the rest of society. Put simply, white Australians are being used as the scapegoats for Aboriginal crime. This is a recipe for disaster and at least partly explains why the problems the Commission was supposed to solve appear to be getting worse.

Social problems like crime and suicide are no doubt due to a large number of causes, the complexity of which may never be worked out. Improving the education and training of Aborigines would no doubt go some way to reducing the problems. Providing more employment opportunities should certainly help. What will not help is the practice of scapegoating one section of society for the criminality of others. Nor will it help to revive or re-invent an anachronistic society. The development of this country over the last 200 years has provided many benefits for Australia's Aboriginal population. Looking only at negative results of white settlement is an exercise in untruth and will do nothing to solve the problems of Aborigines.

Perhaps the worst aspect of the Royal Commission is that if the money wasted on it had been used to improve the health and employability of Aborigines, some problems may have been solved. The Royal Commission has achieved nothing for Australians, be they black or white.

R. Hughes, Strathfield, NSW.

20 YEARS have past since we published the first edition *HERITAGE* in response to our defence of the Crown in 1975. Numerous Prime Ministers have come and gone since then but the publication of *HERITAGE* has continued ever since. We hope readers find interest in the page reproduced below.

prevents him defending himself; denies
etched and groundless allegations of political collusion
quite deliberate attempt to destroy the place of
own in Australia's parliamentary system.
In other words, a malicious campaign to pervert
Australian Constitution, under the provisions of which
ts of the recent Federal election, the place—without
g the people, who are the authors of the
is now in progress.

A million brochures in defence of Sir John Kerr

A SPOKESMAN for The Australian Heritage Society announced that since the first week in May, approximately 1 million "In Defence of Sir John Kerr" brochures have been distributed around Australia. "They are", he says, "still continuing to flood out. And we plan a follow-up brochure as the campaign expands."

ANYONE who doubts that the campaign must be expanded should take careful note of what the Communist revolutionaries are openly advocating. "Tribune", the weekly Communist newspaper, of June 16 headlined the news that the 25th National Congress of the Communist Party of Australia, held on June 12 - 14 in Sydney, decided that November 11, "the day that Kerr sacked the Whitlam government - should be a day of protest by all sections of the mass movements against Kerr..." It is now clear that the campaign against the Governor-General is directed primarily against the institution of the Crown, and that this campaign will be continued through until the visit of The Queen early next year.

PROVIDED that it obtains sufficient support, The Heritage Society plans to ensure that there are special welcomes for Her Majesty during her 1977 Australian visit.

SILENT MAJORITY ACTS

The mass distribution of the "In Defence of Sir John Kerr" brochures has encouraged large numbers of the "silent majority" to take up their pens and express their support for Sir John Kerr. The Governor-General's official secretary, Mr. David Smith, states that Sir John has received a flood of letters and telegrams of encouragement and support, which has been greatly appreciated. This flood has swamped the trickle of letters of abuse and protest. The Heritage Society has received a number of abusive and pornographic comments, a study of these indicating that, apart from subversives, there are perhaps more morons in Australia than sometimes realised. The Heritage Society was also sent a letter from Canberra, purporting to come from an admirer of the Heritage Society, but concerned that the Society was supporting a man whose private life was most unsavoury. This letter contained the despicable smears which have been widely circulated against the Governor-General throughout Australia.

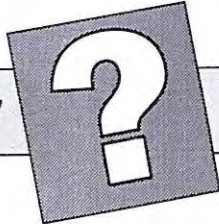
ADVERTISING GAINS SUPPORT

ONE of the most impressive of a number of Heritage Society press advertisements was a full page in the "Sunday Independent", Perth, of June 27. This advertisement carried a splendid photo of the Queen. Letters of support and "Heritage" subscriptions continue to pour in as a result. (Copies of this full-page advertisement are available upon request.) Following the ugly demonstration against Sir John at the Royal Commonwealth Society in Melbourne, the Queensland division of the Heritage Society inserted a prominent welcome for Sir John in "The Courier Mail" on the eve of his visit to Queensland. The growing volume of support for Sir John Kerr has resulted in many Labor leaders appealing for moderation concerning the demonstrations against the Governor-General. The Heritage Society has been informed that many old-time Labor supporters do not approve of the continued abuse of Sir John Kerr. Townsville's Mayor, Alderman Perce Tucker, former Queensland State ALP leader, set a fine example of citizenship when he refused to participate in a proposed boycott of the Governor-General. He officially welcomed Sir John to Townsville and personally offered him the hospitality of the Northern City. New South Wales Premier Mr. Wran has not been as gracious, accusing Sir John Kerr of "virtually courting and provoking violence." Mr. Wran says that he will continue to boycott any functions at which the Governor-General attends.

MEDIA HYPOCRISY

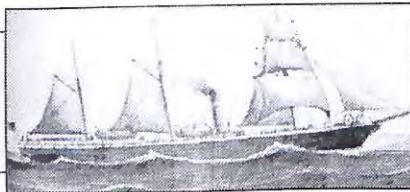
THE role of sections of the media in the anti-John Kerr campaign has been most disturbing. With sickening hypocrisy, papers like "The Age", Melbourne, have "deplored" violence against the Governor-General, but then argued that as it is clear that Sir John Kerr has badly divided the Australian community, he should step down. It has even been suggested that such a step would ensure that the Monarchy was not

No. 7



MYSTERY PICTURE

The British Admiralty showed its faith in this man by promoting him to Captain and sending him on a voyage to transport breadfruit.



ANSWER TO LAST ISSUE'S MYSTERY PICTURE No. 6

The passenger steamship *Admella* went down on August 5th 1859 after being mashed to pieces on a reef whilst on a voyage to Melbourne.