

HERITAGE

VOLUME 25 No. 97 2001
LINKING THE PAST WITH THE PRESENT - FOR THE FUTURE



HAND PAINTED CHINA TILES BY DAVID BYARD, DISPLAYED IN THE COMMONWEALTH BANK IN GRIFFITH, NSW



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PETITION TO THE QUEEN

Magna Carta invoked after over 300 years

THIRD
FEDERATION
ISSUE

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FRONT COVER

The Commonwealth Bank in Griffith, New South Wales, has a counter magnificently decorated with hand painted china tiles depicting the early development of Australia, its natural resources, and the part the Commonwealth Bank itself played in financing agricultural and industrial development, not to mention the war, with low interest loans. Our front cover displays a portion of this painting, which is by well-known landscape artist David Byard.

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 gleaned 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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Footprints in the sand . . .

HERITAGE

EDITORIAL

In this issue we give recognition to Sir Denison Miller and his achievements as the first Governor of the Commonwealth Bank in the early days of last century.

It would be hard to over-estimate the significance of what he did, not least because modern day 'experts' say it is not possible without causing rampant inflation and general breakdown of the economy. Here is proof that it IS, and it DID NOT. Quite the opposite, in fact.

Many older Australians know this story well. There is a new generation eagerly seeking solutions to the enormous economic and environmental problems facing us now. They instinctively reject the one-world, globalist solutions that are being presented as the only

way to go, that require massive loss of independence and sovereignty by individuals and individual nations, and the ceding of decision-making powers to shadowy and remote authorities, whose only public faces are those on show at world economic forums - puppet politicians, who are certainly copping it nowadays in the way of angry and frustrated street protests.

Public protest does have a place, but it is fruitless if it is not underpinned by an understanding of the issues involved and the results sought.

Sir Denison Miller has bequeathed us a clear demonstration of one solution that worked brilliantly.

These issues and solutions are addressed in the works of C.H. Douglas, known

collectively as Social Credit. Although he wrote at length on the creation of credit (the principle employed by Miller) his first book, *Economic Democracy*, was concerned more with the proposition that centralisation of power over initiative, as opposed to individual freedom, was a *persistent and conscious policy*.

Heritage is now producing a series of short publications on Social Credit that seeks to reach those concerned, patriotic and objective people who are at present the victims of this persistent and conscious policy. We are introducing Part One of this series - *Introducing Social Credit* - with this issue. We hope and pray that it will reach those of our countrymen and women who care enough to get into action.

The last Ditch?

Someone once told me that the spiritual home of the English is The Last Ditch. Ashley Mote's article (see *Petition to the Queen*) on the European Union and the Treaty of Nice inclines one to see this perilous accommodation as now in occupation! So *watch out, Brussels!* It is heartening to know that the trusty (if rusty) sword *Magna Carta* is not forgotten, and there are still those prepared to draw it from its scabbard. We wish SANITY and the Baron's Constitutional Committee inspiration and success in their courageous defence of the realm.



In October 2000, in Trafalgar Square, London, around 10,000 people attended the largest Eurosceptical rally held to that date. Media coverage of the event was almost non-existent, reports *Right Now!*, the journal claiming to be Britain's most articulate 'politically incorrect' publication of the Right.

For further information on *Right Now!* write to

P.O. Box 160
Bankstown
N.S.W. 2200

INTRODUCING SOCIAL CREDIT



Part 1. What is Social Credit?

**Social = socius = Sociable
Credit = credo = Belief**

**Social Credit = The efficiency
of human beings in FREE
ASSOCIATION to produce the
result intended, measured in
terms of their mutual
satisfaction, where 'efficiency'
means the power to produce the
result intended.**

Your Actions Count

"What can one person do?" people ask. The result is that worthy minorities, loud-mouthed in their advocacy of chaos and unfettered liberty win the day. But I say don't allow yourselves to be buffeted into silence. You matter. Your actions count. One person on the side of right, decency and honesty is a real force.

'YE CANNOT SERVE GOD AND MAMMON'

by Peter Davis

It is a privilege to write an article honouring the life of Sir Denison Miller, founding Governor of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, in our Centenary year of Federation, 2001.

It is the creation and control of credit, central to our financial problems today, which Sir Denison Miller so explicitly addressed 90 years ago and why we should remember him this year.

In order to grasp the significance of Sir Denison's life and his gift to Australia, it is important to have some understanding of the creation and control of CREDIT, or the creation of a nation's money supply.

Since ancient times there has been an ongoing battle for control of nations and their people. There are two methods of control of a nation: One can impose military control with enslavement of the captive peoples. A good ancient example would be the destruction of Jerusalem together with the transfer to Babylon of the remnant, enslaved Hebrew people ... subsequently freed by the prophet Moses.

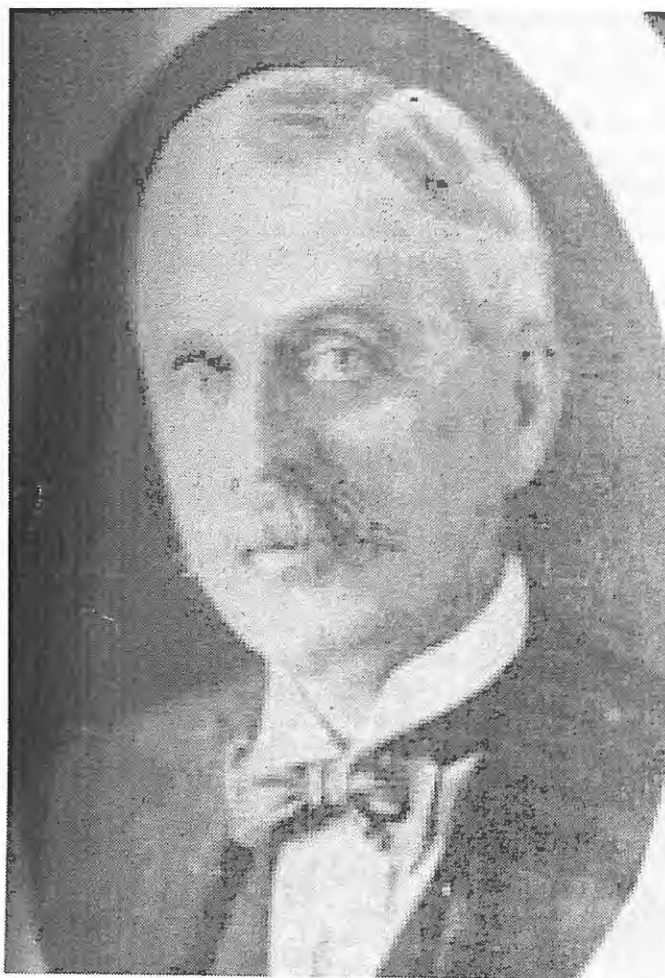
More recent examples can be seen within the Communist block -- Hungary, Tibet, Chechnya, Afghanistan, Vietnam, Poland, Russia, China; the list is endless. Hitler and Napoleon demonstrated military control. Similarly, the dispossession of the Palestinian peoples from their homelands at the hands of Israel has the hallmarks of military might.

But behind military might lies the power of banking or "credit control". The recent collapse of several dictatorships, Russia in particular, indicates the real power behind military dictatorships. Military control is inevitably brutal yet it, itself, is controlled by private bankers via their control of financial credit.

Thus, the alternative, more devious, insidious, permanent control of a nation and its people is financial: The power that controls the capacity to create CREDIT, or what we think of as 'money', controls every Nation.

Credit control results in a

In current times there can be no better example than the combined International Monetary Fund, World Bank, New World Order, G.A.T.T., Multilateral Agreement on Investment, 'privatise the Nation, Global Village' conspiracy. The overriding common thread in the current



SIR DENISON MILLER, K.C.M.G.
First Governor of the Commonwealth Bank

subtle, psychological mindset of a subject people that has proven to be far more long-lasting and efficient. A good example of ancient CREDIT control of people would be Rome, with its consequent downfall directly attributable to the greed of its bankers.

phenomenon is the desire to centralize WORLD CONTROL OF PEOPLE via the control of CREDIT created by the private banking sector. It is the first time in recorded history that the desire for absolute power over all people and production of planet



PETER DAVIS,
Mayor of Port Lincoln, S.A.

Earth by a hidden power has been plainly visible; All in the name of 'economic efficiency' and in spite of the visible environmental damage and human suffering being caused.

However, throughout the last 3000 years, there are occasions when truly remarkable individuals have endeavoured to protect their peoples from enslavement via national credit control. These rare individuals gave their people some genuine freedom. Sir Denison Miller was such a man. He delivered the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, (the peoples' bank) which was the mission and vision of King O'Malley, M.H.R, Member for Denison, Tasmania. Their combined abilities gave our nation an era free from the financial serfdom of private banking interests.

In order for us to comprehend the magnitude of what Sir Denison Miller delivered, let us start by observing the remarks of some people who knew what they were talking about in terms of private credit creation.

Sir Josiah Stamp was a Director and later Governor of the Bank of England during the 1930's. He said: "Banking was conceived in iniquity and born in sin. Bankers own the earth. Take it away from them but leave them the power to create money and, with the flick of a pen, they will create enough money to buy it back again. ... Take this great power away from them and all great fortunes like mine will disappear, and they ought to disappear, for then this would be a better and far happier

world to live in ... but if you want to continue to be slaves to the bankers and pay the cost of your own slavery. then continue to let Bankers create money and control credit."

He said in an interview with the *New York Evening Post*, February 1928: "Never in the history of the world has so much power been vested in the small body of men of the U.S. FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD. These men have the welfare of the world in their hands, and they could upset the rest of us either deliberately or by some unconscious action. Mind you, I am not criticising them, but it is precarious to have such concentrated power vested in such a body." [Shades of Dr. Alan Greenspan, 2001!!!]

Henry Gonzales was the Chairman of the House Banking Committee of the United States Congress. He stated on 8th October 1993: "For a banker creates money. He creates credit and that was the issue from the very first. Who is going to control the allocation of credit in our society? That is the whole question and the long and the short of it."

He asked himself, "What is the Federal Reserve?" He answered, "It is the creature of the commercial banks who compose it. And it has gotten so almighty powerful (independent is the word they use) that Congress that created it has no control over it."

Alan Greenspan, current Governor of the U.S. 'Fed' said in an address to the the University of Leuven, near Brussels, in Belgium, on the 14th Jan 1997, "Central Banks can issue currency, a non interest bearing claim on the government, effectively without limits. That all these claims on government are readily accepted reflects the fact that a government cannot become insolvent with respect to obligations in its own currency. Authorities must struggle continuously to find the proper balance between too much and too little currency. This dilemma is

most historically evident in its extreme form in time of war, when governments must choose whether to finance part of the increased war outlays through increased central (read PRIVATE) bank credit or depend wholly on taxes, and borrowing from private banking sources." (My emphasis).

In its October 1978 quarterly review, "Sources of Money" article, the then Bank of New South Wales (Westpac today) stated, "Today in Australia, as in most other modern economies, all money is a debt of the banking system."

There is enough physical evidence to demonstrate the truth of the above remarks. One need look no further than the colossal annual profits generated by our banks relative to services delivered; and the difficulties of the ordinary family meeting their daily financial pressures.

However, there have been some practical, explicit examples where ancient, yet current, banking practices were overthrown by rare, gifted individuals like our Sir Denison Miller. Prosperity occurred for their peoples for short spans of time. The following examples can be confirmed quite easily via encyclopaedia or historical sources.

Ancient Greece, 595 B.C.... The ancient province of Attica was struggling under massive, unpayable debt. Money changers were charging huge interest rates and every farmer's field had a "mortgage stone" in its corner.

The people of Attica went to their senators and asked for help from their oppressive debt burden. The Senate chose to give solution of their problem to a single person, outstanding among his peers. His name was Solon; he is recorded as living between 630 B.C. and 560 B.C.

Solon demanded absolute financial control over the ruling financial elite. This was agreed. He proceeded to

abolish all interest charges, cancelled all debt greater than interest already paid on the original debt, smashed the mortgage stones in farmers' fields and steadily increased the money supply from his State treasury. His people prospered greatly.

Solon is still revered by philosophers as one of the "Seven Wise Men of Greece."

As a brief aside, it is worth recounting the origin of the adjective, 'draconian'. Draco was a senator who ruled in Attica immediately prior to Solon. Draco changed the laws of punishment to an arbitrary system. One suffered death by stoning for a range of minor transgressions. Thus the origin of the adjective, 'draconian,' to describe arbitrary, savage punishment.

Julius Caesar, (Gaius Julius Caesar) was, perhaps, the most celebrated and most well-known of all Roman rulers. Apart from being an outstanding military genius, he was a brilliant orator, parliamentarian and administrator, who cared for his people. He is credited with laying the foundations of the Greco/Roman civilisation, [the foundations of our own civilization] and built many

major public infrastructure projects.

To gain control of his Nation's destiny, he destroyed the power of the 'money lenders' by taking away from the wealthy, privileged families the right to issue and coin money and charge interest. He created large volumes of cheap Government coinage, commenced large-scale public works or infrastructure projects, employed his people and paid them with his Government created money, and, as Mark Anthony said, "... The people loved Caesar". He was assassinated in Rome in March B.C. 44.

Our most salutary example was Jesus Christ of Nazareth. Jesus overthrew the "money changers' tables"... (read bankers' tables today.) He taught us to say the Lord's Prayer. It is noteworthy that in recent times His prayer has been significantly changed. Jesus taught us to say, "... AND FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS AS WE FORGIVE OUR DEBTORS ... " (Matthew, chapter 6 verse 12). "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive others" is a recent aberration. For confirmation, read a Bible with a little age and consult our current versions.



Head Office of the Commonwealth Bank in Martin Place, Sydney.

"Ye Cannot Serve God and Mammon"

It is highly significant that today our religious leaders tread very warily round the subject of DEBT, lent to us by the creators of credit -- the banking sector. Yet this was one of the fundamental observations of Jesus. We would also do well to note that the words, "for thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory", have disappeared from His Prayer also.

Jesus was crucified in A.D. 30.

France's Monarch in the middle 1600's was King Louis XIV. He was known as "The Sun King". In Louis' early years as Regent he was controlled by Cardinal Mazarin.

Mazarin was inflexible and imposed an iron will upon the French people; but he built the basis of what became the very powerful French Nation. He died in 1661. One of Mazarin's financial advisers, Jean-Baptiste Colbert was appointed by the now independent Monarch, Louis XIV, to be his senior financial adviser.

Under Colbert's guidance, France built up her mercantile navy and her manufacturing base. He imposed tariffs on imported Dutch goods to protect his Nation's developing manufacturing base. Huge infrastructure projects were undertaken, including the construction of a canal linking the Atlantic to the Mediterranean Sea. Colbert insisted on absolute quality in all undertakings and that his projects should last for centuries.

Colbert believed that credit should not be used by private banking interests for their own financial objectives, but rather that credit creation should be used for the national benefit.

Jean-Baptiste Colbert died in 1683 having delivered massive prosperity, wealth and power to his Nation and Monarch, Louis XIV. Colbert held financial power for only some 20 years, but he delivered France her Golden

years...thus the nickname of Louis XIV -- "The Sun King."

President George Washington is revered as America's first President. He freed Americans from the power of British banking and taxation control as a consequence of the War of Independence victory in 1776.

It is not so generally well known that George Washington, together with his Secretary-Treasurer, Alexander Hamilton, established the **FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF AMERICA**. Following the end of the War of Independence, America faced huge national debts owing to the war being financed from conventional private banking sources.

The genius of Hamilton and Washington was to convert the colossal National Debt owed private sources, into a form of money. The United States Treasury purchased, from the various lenders, its own debt by way of Government Bonds. It turned its own debt into a form of capital and, in turn, used this 'debt' to finance infrastructure projects to develop new industries. Unfortunately for Hamilton and Washington their own notes were made worthless by forgeries coming in from abroad. However, once again two individuals changed the prevailing financial system to deliver huge national benefits for a short period of time.

In the 1860's, during the American Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln approached private banking sources to finance the heavy cost of the conflict. They agreed, offering finance at the suggested rate of approximately 6.25% interest.

Lincoln found this interest excessive so he approached his own Treasury. The result was the creation of the 'greenback' at about .5% interest. These notes were coloured green to differentiate them from other currencies and were redeemable for their face value in gold. Thus the origins of today's much desired 'greenback'!



THE MAGNIFICENT BANKER

BANK MANAGER: - "I see you're about to open your new place of business. I've been bank-managing in Melbourne for 36 years. Can you give me a job?"

KING O'MALLEY: - "Why, yes, come inside. I'm in need of an office boy to do all the work."

Japan can teach us much. Prior to 1800, Japanese warlords had controlled her destiny over a period spanning centuries. The Shogun Imperium, or warlords', financial, dictatorial power had slowly oppressed their people resulting in famine, disease and anarchy. However, like most nations, Japan had a pool of intellectual thinkers known as the Meiji Group. They sought to restore to their Emperor a stable, prosperous and unified Nation.

The leader of these intellectuals was a chap by the name of Yukichi Fukuzawa. In 1858 he founded Keio University, the first tertiary institution in Japan. He was responsible for establishing the **First National Bank of Japan** in 1873, modelled quite specifically on the example of Alexander Hamilton and used by President Lincoln in 1860.

The Meiji Restoration Group, led by Yukichi Fukuzawa, abolished ownership of land by the samurai Shogun by

transferring ownership to the Nation. The Shogun were paid in new government-created money and urged to invest their money in new commercial manufacturing industries. The result can be seen in the industrial giant that Japan has become. And, despite her current financial difficulties (as a result of reversion to private banking practices), she continues a most powerful, cohesive Nation, with huge private savings. Many of today's massive Japanese conglomerate companies like Mitsui, Mitsubishi, or Nigarta, trace their origins to the actions of Yukichi Fukuzawa.

There is the example of the Guernsey Islands off Great Britain. These little islands were in a precarious financial state as the 19th Century unrolled. So much so that the islands' debt owed to English banking interests was some 19,137 pounds and bore an annual interest cost of 2,390 pounds. The total sales from all sources amounted to some

3,000 pounds, leaving a net income to the island people of some 600 pounds. Their roads were collapsing; the islands were eroding into the sea and a new public market and dyke would cost the people in excess of 10,000 pounds. There was no way they could afford further borrowings or taxation from conventional sources.

So, in 1815, a small local committee investigated their financial predicament. The result was to finance the construction of their market by the issue of some 6,000 pounds worth of Island States Notes. These notes came into being in three stages during April and October of 1817 and also April 1818. It is a fascinating story to follow the Guernsey Islands' escape from the clutches of private banking interests. But the result can be seen today in the tax haven the islands have become together with the prosperous, stable economy.

Finally, of particular note to us struggling to finance our Alice Springs to Darwin rail line, some brief notes on Count Sergei Von Witte of Russia. This chap, too, had been studying Alexander Hamilton's American System of Economics, like Japan's Yukichi Fukuzawa.

Count Sergei Von Witte was responsible for financing and building the Trans Siberian Rail line from Vladivostok to Moscow, some 9,330 kms, (or about three times our own project length, in a vastly more inhospitable climate) without becoming indebted to the private banking sector.

Count Sergei Von Witte transformed the Russian economy by keeping the issuance of credit within his Ministry of Finance. He deprived private banking institutions their previous monopoly of credit creation as outlined by Sir Josiah Stamp. Count Sergei Von Witte basically controlled the Russian Ministry of Finance through the period 1890 to 1903, delivering schools, hospitals, railways, bridges, much needed public

infrastructure and many private industrial projects.

And so we reach the era of Sir Denison Miller, and the great legacy left Australia by him and King O'Malley, M.H.R. - our once magnificent Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

Essentially, the banking life of Sir Denison was the saga of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia. His whole life revolved round delivering the necessary financial stability and liquidity to build a strong, resilient Nation, peopled by prosperous families with neither people nor Nation enslaved to the banking system of ancient times -- and which now enslaves us. To the best of his ability he practised "FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS, AS WE FORGIVE OR DEBTORS".

Sir Denison's early years were spent working as a junior clerk within Australia's 'first' bank, the Bank of N.S.W. (today's Westpac). Slowly he rose through the ranks to the position of chief metropolitan inspector of the Bank of N.S.W. whilst also being the personal assistant to its general manager, Mr. John Russell French. They formed a lasting friendship and a working relationship that proved crucial in the months ahead.

During 1910, Mr. Miller studied banking overseas on a 12-month working holiday with his young family. Back home, the evolving national bank concept was being supported in our Federal Parliament by Prime Minister Andrew Fisher's Labor Government.

King O'Malley and Prime Minister Fisher were slowly forcing through Parliament the necessary Federal legislation and associated regulations for a people's national bank to begin operations. They faced much opposition and ridicule from the conservative opposition. "Sovereigns for all" was a common taunt in Parliament. Cartoons denigrating King O'Malley particularly, were

regular features of Punch magazine, good examples being those reproduced in this article.

Quite specifically, O'Malley and P.M. Fisher refused to issue 'subscribed stock' (or shareholdings) to private banking interests; the bank would be completely owned and controlled by the Nation. It would be independent of both Government and private banking interests.

With the potential of a major, new banking competitor, Mr. J.R. French, general manager of the Bank of N.S.W., could see the benefits that may accrue to his bank by being aligned to the new bank, rather than fighting it. Thus, Mr. French was a supporter of Mr. Miller's being appointed as the founding Governor of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia and on the 14th May 1912, Mr. Miller was offered the job, accepting it a few days later. The *London Economist* reported on the 29th June 1912 that "Miller is held in high repute".

The alliance between Mr. French and Governor Miller establishing the C.B.A. proved critical to the success of our national bank.

In order to grasp the significance of this alliance, we need to understand that the vast majority of 'money' changes hands in public, not as notes and coins, but as cheques drawn upon different, private banks. These cheques are 'cleared' daily and debited and credited respectively against drawers and depositors accounts. The actual amount of real cash circulating within the Nation is never more than 5%, maybe 6% of the total 'legal tender' that we use daily. Increasingly today, 'credit cards' are used as a method of providing liquidity; and entailing huge interest and bank charges.

The proof of this is simple. If we, the public, wish to collapse the private banking system, all that is necessary is that we require our different private banks to pay our

deposits IN CASH within a brief period of time. The 'real money' simply doesn't exist. The banking system does not possess sufficient notes and coins to meet its total obligations, or 'deposits'. Banks fear 'runs' on their 'liquidity'.

Our financial system functions on the supply of 'credit' in the hands of the private banking system, which it creates from thin air or 'debt' in our hands, and on which we pay interest to the private banking system. Thus, the importance of Sir Josiah Stamp's observations above.

Mr. Miller was appointed for a period of seven years, with a commencing salary of £4,000, the second highest banking salary in the land!!!! He commenced operations, or 'hostilities', as the private banks saw him, on 1st June 1912, by selecting an assistant and a messenger boy!

15th July 1912 saw the fledgling Commonwealth Bank of Australia begin trading through 489 savings bank agencies within Victoria and a loan of £10,000 from the Commonwealth Government. By 23rd October 1912 he had settled on a site for his head office in Sydney, which had to be acquired compulsorily. Later that year, in December, he appointed, as his Deputy-Governor, Mr. James Kell. By mid January 1913, there were functioning savings offices in all states of Australia with general banking facilities, (i.e. chequeing facilities), established in all capital cities and London.

The people's bank of Australia was underway. Absolutely fundamental to its success was that the Bank of N.S.W. cleared cheques drawn upon the Commonwealth Bank of Australia. The other private banks finally realized they would have to deal with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia as an equal.

The Bank was an outstanding success immediately, having repaid its debt to the Commonwealth by 1915. By

1930, it had generated total profits for Government in excess of £21 million. It financed loans at low, fixed interest rates created against the security of the Nation to finance World War 1, our Pt. Augusta/Kalgoorlie rail line, Government infrastructure, farmers' produce, family homes and small businesses.

Activities which the Commonwealth Bank helped finance, or upon which Sir Denison advised, included Commonwealth Oil Refineries and the Australian National Shipping Line. Prime Minister Billy Hughes bought 15 ships whilst in England, in June 1916 for a net cost of £2,047,900. The deal was financed by an overdraft from the Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

This particular National Debt was paid out from the profits earned by the 15 ships being paid directly into the above overdraft account. As Treasurer, Sir John Forrest said at the time, "It is intended that all moneys earned by the ships shall be paid into the credit of the overdraft account, also moneys required for meeting the expenses of the fleet will be, from time to time, reduced by the net earnings of the steamers".

In 1919, ship construction began at Williamstown in Victoria, at Walsh and Cockatoo Island, Sydney, and at Maryborough in Qld and at Port Adelaide, S.A. with finance from the Commonwealth Bank.

However, following Sir Denison's untimely death, very powerful shipping interests, combined with a conservative Government led by Mr. Stanley Morris Bruce, managed, in 1923, to wind down and sell off what had been delivered by Billy Hughes and the C.B.A. so that private international shipping interests again controlled the exports of our Nation.

Who, today, remembers our Commonwealth Woollen Mills?

From August 1913, when the Commonwealth Woollen Mills and Clothing Factory operated at Corrio Bay, Geelong, the hand of Sir Denison Miller and his Bank was evident. When war broke out in 1914, the Woollen Mills and Clothing Factory produced very good quality clothing for our people and uniforms for our Armed Forces.

Senator Reid is recorded in Hansard, Vol. 86, page 6907 as saying; "Indeed, I do not think that any civilian in the Commonwealth is clothed in better material than is being turned out today at the Geelong Mills. Upon this matter I claim to speak with some authority because I have been in the woollen business myself. Similar classes of material are being sold wholesale in Flinders Lane by private firms at 17/6 to 20 shillings per yard, yet that very cloth is being produced in the Commonwealth Woollen Mills for 6/6, 7/6 and 8 shillings 6 pence per yard. The best quality cloth manufactured there could not be bought elsewhere for less than 25 shillings per yard. But for the operations of this factory we would be paying twice or three times as much for the cloth in question."

A Royal Commission was demanded to investigate the activities of the Mills in 1917 and Messrs. W.G. McBeath, James Chalmers and Frank A. Verco were appointed.

They reported: "The Government factories, and the ease with which their various activities co-ordinate, have proved valuable assets to the Administration."

Senator Foll was a Parliamentarian who took an interest in the Royal Commission and he reported as follows: "What impressed me was the fact that these Mills could turn out a three piece suit and cap for 30 shillings. It behoves the Minister to ascertain why the public have to pay 7 pounds 7 shillings and up to 9 guineas for their suits" ... *et cetera*.

Following the end of W.W.I. the Australian Imperial Forces began returning home for demobilization and, of course, they had to clothe themselves. It is a hard fact to accept but it was the exorbitant cost of clothing that resulted in our soldiers getting together to negotiate with the Commonwealth Mills for the supply of good clothing at a reasonable cost. THE RETURNED SAILORS AND SOLDIERS IMPERIAL LEAGUE was the result. Thus the origins of our R.S.L. today.

The financing and guiding hand of Sir Denison Miller was evident within our Mills until the 12th May 1920, when the last W.M. Hughes Government began the steady attrition of the Government Mills. One can only speculate what a 1990's Commonwealth Woollen Mills, with help from Sir Denison, would have achieved as our National wool industry faced disastrous prices, a huge stockpile and little demand within a Nation battling high unemployment

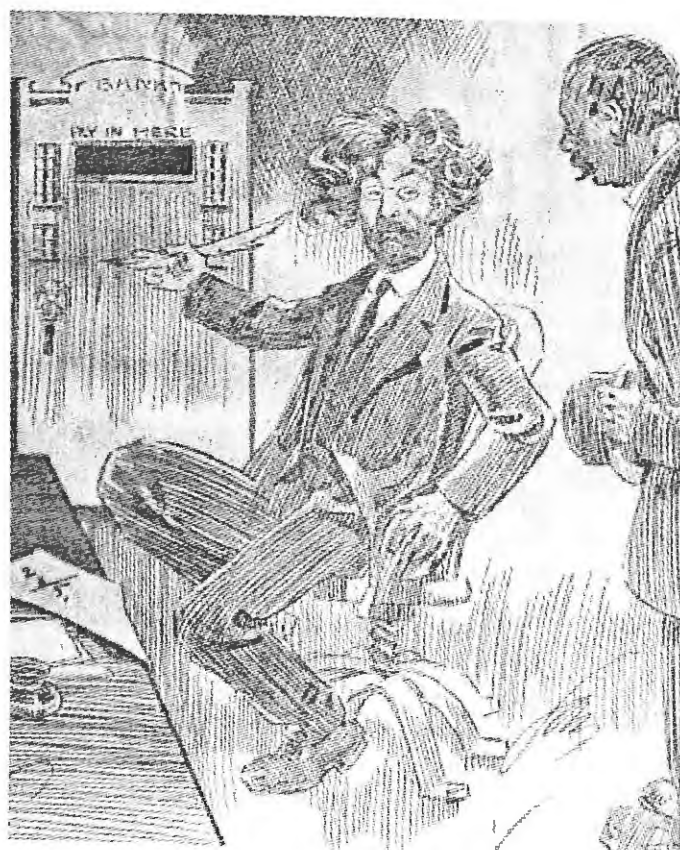
and dying industries.

The range of banking assistance Sir Denison considered was unlimited, demonstrated by the following transcript. He had been approached by a deputation of unemployed workers for help in 1921:

• Mr. Scott, (a member of the deputation): "In your address in London, Sir Denison, you stated that to meet the necessities of war certain things had been done by you, which before the war would not have been dreamed of. You financed Australia for 350,000,000 pounds for war purposes, and had the war continued, you could have financed another £350,000,000. Are you now prepared to finance Australia £350,000,000 for productive purposes?"

Sir Denison responded, "Yes, I shall do my best."

Mr. Scott, "Ah, that is the point! Thanks, Sir Denison."



THE NATIONAL BANK
THE PEOPLE - "But how will you run this bank? What is your banking system?"
O'MALLEY - "Simplicity itself. You put your money in the slot; we do the rest."

But, unfortunately, Sir Denison died before he could fulfil his intentions. He had suffered many family misfortunes and banking pressures were exhausting him. His son, Lieutenant Clive Miller, had been killed at Messiness in 1916 and his other son, Gunner John Miller, had been twice wounded and suffered gas poisoning before being invalided back home to Australia.

His remarkable services to the British Empire during World War I had been recognized in June 1920 when he was knighted and made a K.C.M.G.

There was national mourning following the death of Sir Denison in 1923. The Nation had grown to understand his compassionate banking practices, rather than the avaricious policies of the private system with which we now contend.

Following his death in 1923 the steady, remorseless gutting of the C.B.A. as a National Bank of Credit began, finally completed by Paul Keating in 1991 with the Federal Government sale of the C.B.A. to private shareholders.

An interesting observation of Sir Denison Miller was his consideration of his bank staff. Given all the stresses of financing the War effort and guiding the Nation through one of the worst droughts in our history, Sir Denison turned his attention to the welfare of his staff. The Officers' Fidelity Guarantee Fund was established in January, 1916 as an early form of superannuation. Every officer was required to contribute a quarter of one percent of his individual salary to his own retirement fund!

There are many National Treasures we Australians now

honour who reflect our past, our history, indeed our Centenary of Federation. We would do well to recognize two bank buildings in Griffith, N.S.W., as part of our 'Centenary of Federation.'

Within the City centre of Griffith one can still see, on diagonally opposite corners, the C.B.A. and the Bank of N.S.W. - two decades-old bank buildings, complete with brass plaques noting their origins. They are typical of banks in every town across our Nation.

Yet, these two are very special. Note the ease of exchanging cheques drawn upon each other's accounts; bank tellers simply walked across the intersection to exchange the other's cheques at the close of a day's business. The sheer importance of Griffith as a rural centre in the middle of N.S.W. (where the Bank of N.S.W. was very powerful), meant the other private banks could attack neither it nor the C.B.A.

The other, hostile, private banks had no option but to 'clear' their opponents' cheques. Thus, the Bank of N.S.W. thwarted the private banks' determination to ruin the C.B.A. through depriving it of a clearinghouse for its own cheques. The Bank of N.S.W. and the C.B.A. in Griffith are very important monuments to Sir Denison Miller's achievements and the story of our National bank.

Upon entering the C.B.A. one faces the teller's bench which, when built, was faced with beautiful, hand made, glazed tiles that depict the history of the C.B.A. and its banking practices. They are still there today. Indeed, one features a portrait of Sir Denison.

A tile offers borrowers the following: "Borrow up to £10,000 for up to 41 years @ 4.5% fixed with half yearly repayments of £74.00 pounds annually". Would you accept a 40-year loan today committing you to total, fixed interest charges of \$6,068 on a \$10,000 loan and with no fees, 'margins' nor other hidden charges? Our politicians constantly remind

us this is the era of 'market competition', of 'the global village'. One cannot help but wonder how current banks would compete with Sir Denison Miller's 1920 offer so clearly advertised and still visible today.

Another tile states, "The Bank you own reports to you." Hmmm . . . well, it did when Sir Denison Miller was alive.

Long may we remember the financial institution left our Nation by Sir Denison Miller, and long may we honour this unique Australian patriot who built the basis of a strong, resilient, debt-free Nation, free from the shackles of private banking credit. Wherever there stands a Commonwealth Bank of Australia there stands a memorial to an outstanding patriot of our Nation, Sir Denison Miller, K.C.M.G., 1860 -1923.

SOURCES:

- AUSTRALIA'S GOVERNMENT BANK, by L.C. Jauncey.
- O'MALLEY, M.H.R., by Larry Noye.
- ENCYCLOPAEDIA BRITANNICA
- THE ESSENTIALS OF SOVEREIGN CREDIT, by Laurence J Molloy.
- THE STORY OF THE COMMONWEALTH BANK [and associated series], by J.D. Amos.
- CARTOONS FROM Australia's Gov. Bank, pages 46, 146 and 200.



THE FIRST TEST

(Having some doubt about the utility of the State Bank from the workers' point of view, the latter may be expected to put it to the test at the earliest opportunity.)

WORKERS: - "Here we are, Mr. O'Malley, bright and early, eager to be your first customers."

BANKER O'MALLEY:- "Certainly, gentlemen; what do you want?"

WORKERS (unanimously) - "A nice big overdraft apiece, please."

CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOMED

Articles and other contributions, together with suggestions for suitable HERITAGE material, will be welcomed. However, those requiring used or unused material to be returned, should enclose a stamp and addressed envelope.



A LESSON IN SUPPRESSION

A tale of arrogant overriding of Labor Caucus, winks, nods, and behind-the-scenes collusion



By Larry Noye

One of the real heroes of the story of the Commonwealth Bank is Denison Miller.

When he was appointed by the Fisher Labor Government to run the new bank in 1912 its role as protector of the public interest was guaranteed.

Miller had been chief assistant to Sir John Russell French, general manager of the Bank of NSW and was its metropolitan inspector. Interviewed by Prime Minister Andrew Fisher, he immediately impressed with his assurance and self confidence.

Reporting this in his colourful *The Great Bust* (Angus and Robertson, 1962) J. T. Lang, a Premier of NSW, is enormously praiseworthy of Miller, attributing him with being quiet of manner, but of great ambition and deeming the job his great opportunity in life.

With a bank board being decided against, Miller as Governor got almost absolute powers. "The private banks worked it out that with one of their own in the box seat they had no further cause to worry," writes Lang. "... Slowly it began to dawn on

them that they may have harboured a viper."

From the start the bank governor resented interference, "demonstrated his vigour" in banking decisions in day-by-day operations and in being "prepared to fight all comers".

His "whiffs of independence" included using the bank's own finance for its development and undercutting the powerful and usual source of finance of the London market. An instance was the generous terms for a Melbourne Board of Works Loan.

Lang tells the saga of the Australian Government's obtaining finance to run the Great War - a story in itself - besides financing wool and wheat farmers, orchardists and soldiers. Miller also gave a dramatic illustration of his real powers in quietly providing £3 million for Prime Minister Billy Hughes to clinch a deal in London to buy some 30 ships. It thwarted British shippers - out to increase freight rates - by launching the Commonwealth Shipping Line.

Sir Denison Miller continued on in his important role of strengthening the public interest for 11 years -- until his death on June 6, 1923. He was said to have been "mourned as few men are mourned."

"His death removed at a critical moment the one man capable of defending the citadel of Australian financial independence," observed Lang.

The non-Labor Bruce-Page Government was by then in power. Page, as Country Party Federal Treasurer, conferred with the retired King O'Malley in Melbourne and took legislative steps that consolidated the role of the Commonwealth Bank. O'Malley has lauded him highly.

But Bruce, most solicitous toward private bankers, appointed a board to run the bank. "The history of appointments to the old board shows that nobody was appointed who did not have very conservative views," declared Ben Chifley in Parliament on March 28, 1950. "A great deal of the misery, suffering and starvation would have been avoided and ... probably 70 per cent of the effect of the Depression ... removed if there had been wise financial and economic administration."

Decades later, when the Keating Government, with Coalition support, took the Commonwealth Bank to 100% private ownership in December 1993, it marked an historic low for Australia, playing right into the hands of private banking interests, who resumed a control over finance that had been countered when the Fisher Labor Government created the Government competitor in 1911.

As its founder, King O'Malley, put it, it had forced fairness on "the kingdom of Boodledum". The situation was summed up by economist D.J. Amos. His *Story of the Commonwealth Bank* attributed the Government at that time with taking the first step in channelling the banking system toward its proper function of serving the public good.

"The credit of Australia could be used in accordance with the needs of the nation," he wrote.

The seriousness of the underhand Keating push to take the Commonwealth Bank out of public hands can thus be seen. Likewise the Coalition support. Without that, since the Democrats, Greens and Independents opposed it in the Senate, the 100% privatisation couldn't have been enacted.

The "people's bank" had been created out of a groundswell that began when despair lay heavy across the land in the early 1890's. People lost their savings through private bank actions, which saw at least one banker jailed.

The American adventurer, King O'Malley, preached a Government-owned bank for a decade. When Labor founded it in 1911, amid bitter opposition from the "boodlers" O'Malley assailed, it ushered in a new day.

His cry "for the prosperity of generations yet unborn!" was to become reality. In day-by-day banking, the foundation Governor, Denison Miller, planted the flag of prosperity.

The 1920's, with the Bruce-Page Coalition, had mixed fortunes for the bank. Dr Earle Page had been a founder both of the Coalition which exists to this day, and of the Country Party. Stanley Melbourne Bruce, who, with Page, participated in founding the Coalition, was Prime Minister.

Page reminisces fondly in his memoirs, *Truant Surgeon*, how he strengthened the bank. That was after conferring with King O'Malley, only too ready to have the good his bank was doing further improved. Page tells how he was influenced by the awful trials farmers underwent in the 1890's as he went about his legislative enactments.

On the other hand, Bruce, unpopular in history, set about undermining the bank. He appointed a board of private businessmen to run the bank. *Smith's Weekly* termed it 'privatisation'. On that basis the Commonwealth Bank had a measure of



SIR DENISON MILLER
by Low of *The Bulletin*

privatisation for years, for it had been riddled like Gorgonzola cheese with men whose directorships had included finance houses from well before the official privatisation bid was first taken up in 1990.

Labor's Ben Chifley considered the board of the 20's, and the economic aftermath of its actions, behind much of the suffering of the Depression years. Author Amos, in his sobering study, wrote that the shackling of the Commonwealth Bank, from its easy terms for farmers and business, was behind a third of Australians eating 'the bitter bread of charity'.

The year 1938 saw a less-subtle bid to further privatise the bank. The non-Labor Lyons Government announced legislation to appoint men to become shareholders, with private gain from the bank. The Labor leadership, with men like Chifley and Curtin, were sternly opposed, unlike Paul Keating and NSW Right wheeler-dealers who sponsored the bank's privatisation in more recent years.

As Amos colourfully put it, in the outcry at the legislation, voting members of Parliament, confronted with demand forms as to how they voted, 'found it advisable to swim with the torrent rather than struggle against it.' That legislation was withdrawn.

This ushered in a revitalisation of the bank under Chifley's Prime Ministership, plus an all-too-little known sponsorship of a competitive Government Bank by Bob Menzies. That particularly applied to the Country Party Treasurer, Artie Fadden, of whom Bank Governor Nugget Coombs writes with enthusiasm in his *Trial Balance* (MacMillan, 1981).

The loss of R.G. Menzies and his small-L Liberal Treasurer, Harold Holt who

had succeeded Fadden, was to signal in a growing loss of the Commonwealth Bank's protecting power. The right-wing Treasurer and later Prime Minister, William McMahon, is recalled by writer J.C. Horsfall, foundation editor of *The Financial Review* and author of *The Liberal Era* (Sun Books, 1974), as being part of growingly permissive finance.

Malcolm Fraser tried to force interest rates down, but he obviously met blockading tactics by the right-wing Treasurer, that same John Howard who is Prime Minister today. Howard was cast aside as Opposition leader in a push against his high-handed Coalition rulings as chairman. That included a reported over-riding of a Joint Party meeting majority against a casino for Canberra in November 1988. Andrew Peacock was back as Liberal leader.

Then came John Hewson, from a background steeped in private banking as a director of Macquarie Bank, and with a wife also in private banking. Hewson

sponsored deregulation. However, the electorate failed to make Hewson Prime Minister. They weren't then fully aware of pernicious Paul.

In 1988, the Federal Labor Conference outvoted a bid by Keating, as Treasurer, and Hawke, as fellow-travelling PM, to privatise the Commonwealth Bank. With characteristic highhandedness, Keating carried on regardless.

To a shocked Australia-wide ALP he announced on August 26, 1990, that the beleaguered State Bank of Victoria would be bought by the Commonwealth bank -- but only if the Commonwealth was privatised 30%.

The party erupted. Meetings in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane contested the part loss of the party's proud achievement of the people's bank (a consistent privatisation foe in gnarled old Clyde Cameron saw the bank as "probably Labor's greatest achievement to protect Australians from exploitation.")

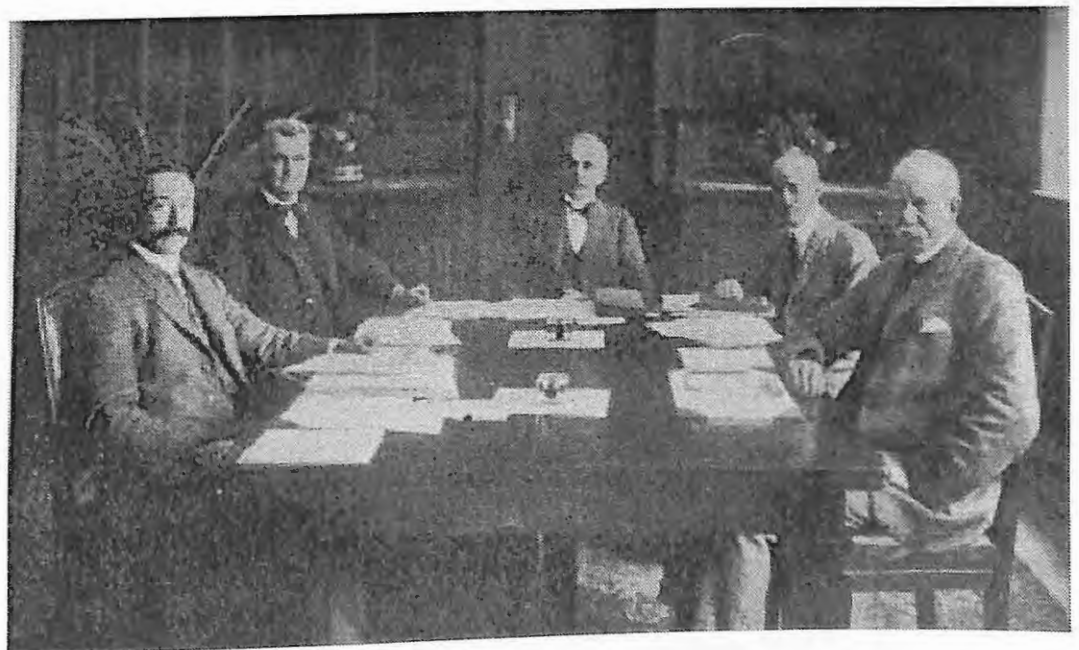
The Left in Sydney



A secretive Paul Keating is depicted by Pryor in the *Canberra Times* in 1995 with Ralph Willis, carrying out the privatisation of the Commonwealth Bank.

claimed overwhelming support for a resolution put privately at a protest meeting, a course they claimed was necessitated by the NSW Right chairman ruling a protest resolution against the Federal Government was out of order.

The brazen attitude of Paul Keating was revealed in the *Sydney Morning Herald* of Saturday September 1, 1990. Pundit Alan Ramsey reported on the hot reception by Federal Labor Caucus of what the same paper had headed "ALP fury over bank deal."



FIRST MEETING OF THE AUSTRALIAN NOTES BOARD, DECEMBER 17, 1920
L to R: Mr. C.J. Cerutti, Mr. J.J. Garvan, Sir Denison Miller (Chairman),
Mr. H.T. Armitage (Secretary), Mr. G. Swinburne

Keating, said Ramsey, had "made the Labor Party accept (the purchase)." Good God! This was the same ALP whose Federal Conference had decided two years earlier that the bank wasn't to be privatised. But there was that bitter pill. Keating would allow the Commonwealth Bank in the bidding for the Victorian Government bank only if it could sell 30% of itself. Privatisation!

Moreover, demanded the Bankstown Bonaparte, "this element was non-negotiable," wrote Ramsey.

Where the historical assault on the Government Bank was coming from could only be speculated on. Glenda Korporaal in *The Bulletin* offered a clue on November 8, 1988.

She wrote that "market expectations" (presumably private banks, etc) were that "the government might move quickly after the next election to privatise it in some way." If the Liberals had won that election it seems apparent they would have done that 'moving quickly'. They would have applied their policy of 100% privatisation of the bank. Labor's move had been backed with churchmouse quietude. Private bankers didn't need Liberals at that time.

Came a "Special Conference on Privatisation" on September 24, 1990, in Canberra. It dealt with such items as Telecom and the Airlines - the Commonwealth bank was kept off the agenda, aided by a message circulated throughout Australia to ALP members from a national office then headed by secretary, Bob Hogg.

It made the bank sell-off appear to be accomplished fact, with supporting comments in which I, as a monitor of the bank issue, saw shocking flaws.

Kim Beazley, later presented as bank spokesman, like Ralph Willis, to give it a more presentable front than the growingly-unpopular Paul Keating, launched out to usher in one part of the "Special Conference on Privatisation". The speed and fluency of his delivery brought to mind how *a fluent flow doth not sincerity make*.

It reminded how his father, Kim Beazley Senior, got up a case in an academic journal in 1963 against King O'Malley, purporting to show that O'Malley was a liar in claiming fatherhood of the Commonwealth Bank. It influenced academics throughout Australia against the immortal O'Malley; a case I've found tough going in trying to get media space to answer, though I've found Beazley senior courteous in dealings.

The push to privatise the people's bank has been secretive but very definite. There was a vast valuation of more than 11,000 Commonwealth Bank properties Australia-wide. Word slipped out in *The Weekend Australian* property section of January 20-21, 1990. It was like a 'military operation'. A big team of valuers were ferreting out facts, with a deadline - significantly - after a coming election.

It supports the theory that, had the Coalition won that election, the Commonwealth Government would have silently taken the bank to immediate privatisation. Who knew about that 'military operation'? It was as unknown to Australia at large as the Gallipoli evacuation was unknown to the Turks in 1915.

In September-October 1993, Parliament endorsed further privatisation to

49.6%. The bill was slipped into the Senate after 9pm when many a protester would have been deep in slumberland, including Pressmen.

When the bill in question had made its practically-unreported entry into the House of Representatives some evidence of the awful results of Labor-Coalition policies on banking was voiced. A rebel National Party member, Bob Katter of Queensland, opposed the sale. He told of a constituent who, having shot 200 calves, shot himself.

Farmers, faced with the impossible matter of survival in the face of King O'Malley's 'Boodle Bludgers' took ill, broke up their farms and even took their lives. How awful for their families.

The whole operation had been conducted without media debate on the historic role of the Commonwealth Bank; how it helped launch big operations like BHP and the steel industry at Newcastle in 1915, General Motors and the Holden car in the 40's, and a host of agricultural and industrial projects



J.T. LANG,
Caustic foe of underminers of the "people's" bank

for Government and private enterprise through the years. The Press certainly has not been investigative of the takeover by the privateers. True, such as the *Canberra Times* exposed Keating's part in the surprise final sell-off to 100%. It and the *Sydney Morning Herald* recounted backstage dealings that were behind his escaping with a surplus in the 1995 Budget by selling the rest of the bank for some \$4 billion.

Treasurer Willis did the announcing, but the *Canberra Times* of May 11, 1995, saw "Keating's fingerprints all over it". The *SMH* of May 11,



A young Paul Keating, with Jack Lang, sometimes referred to as his 'mentor'. But Mick Harfield, of Strathfield, NSW, made pertinent comment in a letter published in the *Independent Monthly* of Dec-Jan, 1993. He had been chaplain at Rookwood Cemetery with Fr. Flynn for Lang's funeral. "Paul Keating did not attend, was not invited to be a pall bearer and had not visited Lang (at Lang's request) for two years before the big fella died."

1995, told of a tight rein on any escape of the plot, with officials of the bank itself and pertinent politicians evading any embarrassing phone calls.

The SMH declared that even Cabinet only learned of the giant exercise shortly before the Budget announcement. It reported that the decision followed "an extraordinary clandestine process of winks and nods".

Caucus obviously had the potential to revolt. This was strongly evident when the leadership, treating rank and file like serfs, introduced legislation for the sell-off to 100%. Word got out in the *Melbourne Herald-Sun* of October 18, 1995.

A 'revolt' was headed by an ACT MHR, John Langmore -- a consistent thorn-in-the-side for Paul Keating. He

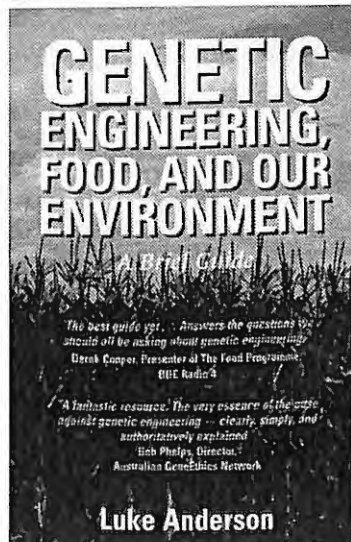
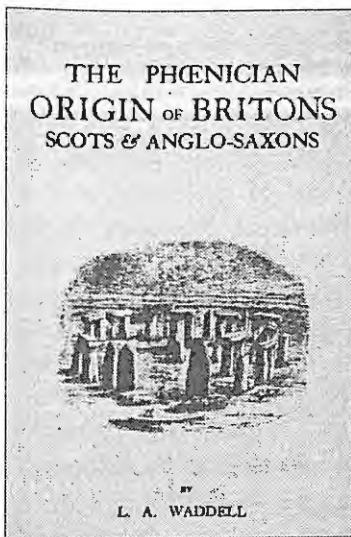
upset the customary rubber-stamp by demanding the issue first be considered by the Caucus economics committee.

"The Government ... narrowly avoided a humiliating rebuff," the newspaper said. The Langmore protest was lost by 40 votes to 34.

It was a moral victory when one considers the votes of MP's whose ministry or preferment depended Keating's nod.

And so a "People's bank" passed out of the people's control; an historic and tragic Government surrender of King O'Malley's counter to the "Kingdom of Boodledum" which had such a grand record of protecting the exploited.

Incidentally, across the Tasman a New Zealand Labor Government is now considering launching a "people's bank" through Post Offices. Perhaps a Good Idea will not be buried forever.



THE PHOENICIAN

L.A. Waddell

DISCOVERED BY PHOENICIAN AND SUMERIAN INSCRIPTIONS IN BRITAIN BY PRE-ROMAN BRITON COINS AND A MASS OF NEW HISTORY.

A reading must for all interested scholars and enthusiasts searching for the truth. It is a most interesting book, which certainly appears to scratch out the 'pre' from the so-called 'prehistoric' period in which the origin of our island ancestors was deemed lost. Dr. Waddell's book exercises a convincing effect - his own conclusions and discoveries are remarkable, and they are advanced in a manner essentially that of the scientific historian. Deduction follows deduction until the complete edifice is revealed with every stone in place. **'A real romance, a book that you have to tear yourself away from.'**

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GENETIC ENGINEERING, FOOD & OUR ENVIRONMENT

Luke Anderson

A timely book, author Luke Anderson has presented a clear picture of all aspects of the debate concerning genetically engineered foods. In particular the question is answered as to who is making the crucial decisions about the future of our food supply. Why are living organisms being patented? What are the implications to our health, the impact upon farming and the environment? Unsustainable chemical/industrial farming practices have already turned much arable land into desert, yet the Australian Government is pouring approximately \$80 million this year into gene technology.

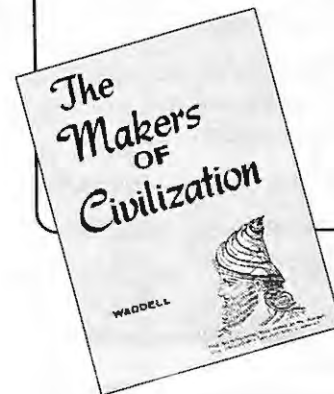
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The Makers of Civilization in Race and History L.A. Waddell

This distinguished author has, in these pages unfolded before us the history of human existence from the remotest possible date in a very systematic manner in lucid and romantic style. The rise of the Aryans or Sumerians; their originations and propagation of civilization; their extension of it to Egypt and Crete; He has reconstructed his thesis from Babylonian, Egyptian, Hittite, Indian and Gothic sources. It will be no exaggeration if we say that Dr Waddell has laid the basis of study of world civilization.

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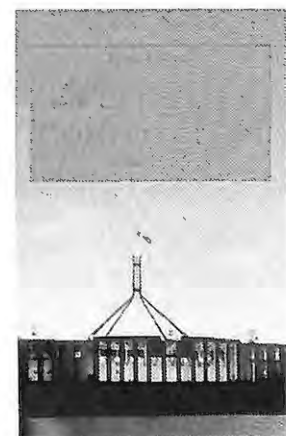
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Petition to The Queen

Magna Carta invoked after over 300 years

By Ashley Mote

A significant step towards the systematic dismantling of the British constitution and the reduction of the United Kingdom into regions of the European Union took place at the end of last year – and hardly anyone noticed. The governments of the 15 member countries signed the Treaty of Nice.

None asked the opinion of the people on whose behalf they signed. Most governments told their people that Nice was merely about “enabling” several Eastern European countries to join.

Nothing was further from the truth.

In Britain, many thousands of active opponents of the EU and its interference in British affairs decided the Nice Treaty was the last straw. Enough was more than enough. Over the last few months a constant barrage of opposition has developed which will continue until Nice is destroyed. One of the most active groups determined to stop the Nice Treaty is Sanity (Subjects Against the Nice TreatY). This is a cross-party coalition of activists determined to use every constitutional and legal means to stop

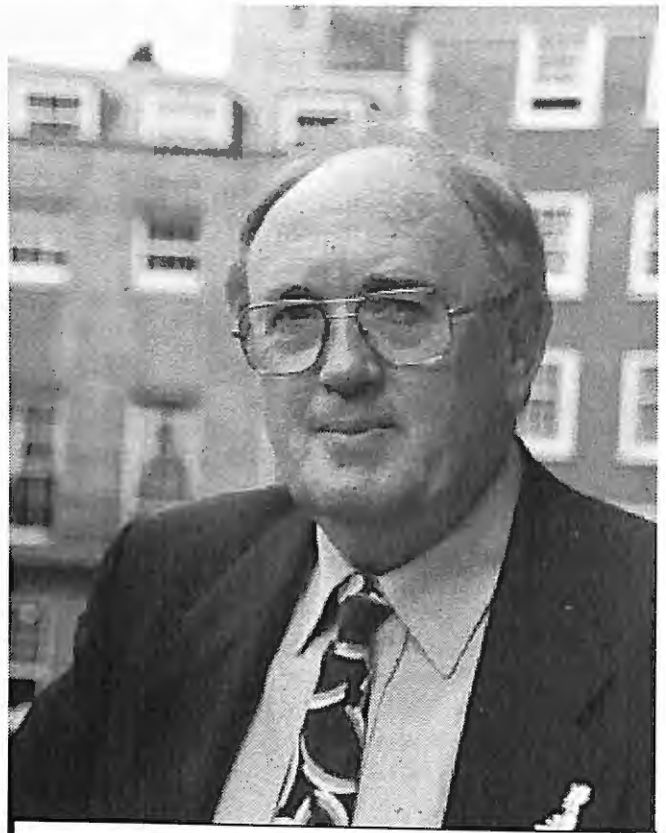
ratification by the UK government.

To set the tone, and underline the magnitude of the project and its purpose, Sanity invoked Magna Carta – something that had not happened in over 300 years. We exercised our ancient rights under Magna Carta to petition the monarch via the House of Peers.

The House of Lords Records Office confirmed in writing as recently as September 2000 that Magna Carta, signed by King John in June 1215, stands to this day. Home Secretary Jack Straw said as much on 1 October 2000, when the UK government’s Human Rights Act came into force. Halsbury’s Laws of England says: “Magna Carta is as binding upon the Crown today as it was the day it was sealed at Runnymede.”

Clause 61 permits the sovereign’s subjects to present a quorum of 25 barons with a petition which four of their number are then obliged to take to the monarch, who is equally obliged to accept it. The monarch then has forty days to respond.

Winston Churchill was confident of the safeguards



Photograph with acknowledgement to Derek Bennett
(Ph: 01922 631970)

Ashley Mote ~ Author

Defence of the Realm (April 2000)

Vigilance, A Defence of British Liberty (April 2001)

Co-founder SANITY (Subjects Against the Nice TreatY)

contained in Magna Carta. Writing in his *History of The English-Speaking Peoples*, he said:

“...and when in subsequent ages the state, swollen with its own authority, has attempted to ride roughshod over the rights and liberties of the subject it is to this doctrine that appeal has again and again been made, and never, as yet, without success.”

The document was created by calligraphy on parchment. The full text appears in the box alongside this article. It was supported by the signatures of over 7000 loyal subjects, many of whom signed on behalf of organizations with tens of thousands of members.

The people’s petition asking Her Majesty The Queen to

withhold the Royal Assent from the Nice Treaty was presented to a meeting of peers of the realm at the Palace of Westminster on Wednesday 7 February. Most were hereditary peers who had been thrown out of the House of Lords by the Blair government shortly after it took office in 1997. In the end, 28 peers signed the petition, three more than were necessary. In addition, messages of support were received from another 60 who could not attend.

Introducing the meeting, unique in modern times, Lord Ashbourne emphasised that they did not wish to involve The Queen in politics. “We are concerned solely with the constitutional issues raised by the Nice Treaty.

A ✚ P ✚ E ✚ T ✚ I ✚ T ✚ I ✚ O ✚ N

TO

HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Presented under Clause 61 of Magna Carta 1215

February 2001

TO DEFEND

BRITISH RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

*Madam, may it please Your Majesty
as our humble duty, we draw to Your Majesty's attention:*

1. *the loss of our national independence and the erosion of our ancient rights, freedoms and customs since the United Kingdom became a member of the European Economic Community (now the European Union) in 1973;*
2. *the terms of the Treaty of Nice, 2001 which, if ratified, will cause significant new losses of national independence and further imperil the rights and freedoms of the British people, by surrendering powers to the European Union:*
 - (a) *to enter into national treaties binding on the United Kingdom, without the consent of your Government;*
 - (b) *to ban political parties, deny free association and restrict the free expression of political opinion;*
 - (c) *which can be used to introduce an alien system of criminal justice, abolish the ancient British rights of habeas corpus and trial by jury, and allow onto British soil men at arms from other countries with powers of enforcement;*
 - (d) *to create a military force which will place British service personnel under the command of the European Union without reference to British interests, and contrary to*
 - (i) *the oath of personal loyalty to the Crown sworn by British forces,*
 - (ii) *the Queen's Commission, and*
 - (iii) *the United Kingdom's obligations to the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation*
 - (e) *which remove the United Kingdom's right to veto decisions not in British interests;*
3. *the creation by the European Union of a Charter of Fundamental Rights, which purports to give it the power to abolish such "rights" at will;*
4. *the unlawful use of the Royal Prerogative to*
 - (a) *suspend or offend against statutes in ways which are prejudicial and detrimental to your sovereignty, contrary to the Coronation Oath Act 1688;*
 - (b) *subvert the rights and liberties of your loyal subjects, contrary to the ruling in Nichols v. Nichols, 1576;*

WHEREFORE *it is our humble duty TO PETITION Your Majesty*

- ✚ *to withhold the Royal Assent from any Parliamentary Bill which attempts to ratify the Treaty of Nice unless and until the people of the United Kingdom have given it clear and specific approval;*
- ✚ *to uphold and preserve the rights, freedoms and customs of your loyal subjects as set out in Magna Carta and the Declaration of Rights, which you, our Sovereign, swore before the nation to uphold and preserve in your Coronation Oath of June 1953.*

We have the honour to be Your Majesty's loyal and obedient subjects

The European Union seeks powers to set up a military force which will place British service personnel under its direct command, restrict the free expression of political opinion, and permit the introduction of an alien system of criminal justice which will abolish the ancient British rights of habeas corpus and trial by jury, and allow onto British soil men-at-arms from other countries with powers of enforcement.

“These are all issues of major constitutional importance. They directly threaten our rights and freedoms, and destroy the oaths of loyalty to the Crown sworn by Privy Counsellors, British armed forces and the police. Such fundamental matters cannot be considered merely the stuff of day-to-day politics. They concern every British subject, and generations yet unborn.

“Without this petition it is certainly true that The Queen might have found it difficult in today’s political climate to raise these issues with her ministers. With it, Her Majesty has ample justification. It is the clear wish of the people.

“To those who say such procedures and rights no longer apply today, I ask them this – when, precisely, were they abolished, by whom, and how? On whose authority were they abolished, and by what right? These rights may not have been exercised for three hundred years, but only because they were not needed. Well, we need them now. They may be a little dusty, but they are in good order”, Lord Ashbourne told the crowded Jubilee Room in the House of Lords.

The Treats Hidden in the Nice Treaty

So why all the fuss? Well, the Treaty of Nice signed by the British Government in December 2000 includes several crucial clauses that seek to destroy the British constitution and the rights of the Queen’s subjects.

Article 24 transforms the EU into an independent state with powers to enter into treaties with other states which would then be binding on all member states, subject to agreement determined by qualified majority voting (QMV). **Article 23** allows the EU to appoint its own representatives in other countries, effectively with ambassadorial status. The result of the clauses being ratified will be to turn the UK into a province of the United States of Europe.

Article 191 assumes for the EU the right to “lay down regulations governing political parties at European level [ie: in the EU]” and withdraw or prevent the funding of political parties which do not “contribute to forming a European awareness.” This is a clear restriction of free speech and free political association. It also introduces two particularly abhorrent propositions - taxation without representation and the use of sanctions to suppress public opinion.

Articles 29 and 31 establish common policing and judicial co-operation (Eurojust). **Article 67** allows matters of justice and home affairs to be agreed by QMV. These articles open the door to the imposition of Corpus Juris on the UK. Corpus Juris is the Napoleonic code of

criminal justice which, if introduced into the UK, would abolish – in addition to the priceless rights mentioned by Lord Ashbourne above - the rights of British subjects to a presumption of innocence and freedom from double jeopardy. **Article 31** specifically calls for cross-border policing and prosecution, the removal of conflicts of jurisdiction, and the deployment of armed Europol law enforcement officers on the streets of Britain.

Article 17 establishes a common foreign and defence policy for the EU, with its own military force, to which the UK must contribute. The House of Commons was told on 11 December 2000, that: “The entire chain of command must remain under the political control and strategic direction of the EU. NATO will be kept informed.” This Article totally ignores the centuries-old relationship between the British crown and our armed forces. The Queen is Colonel-in-Chief of 46 regiments of the British army, and every other regiment owes its loyalty directly to The Queen through another member of the Royal Family as its Colonel-in-Chief.

The loss of the UK veto applies to 39 new areas of EU “competence”, including indirect taxation, the environment, immigration, trade, employment, industrial policy, and regional funding. The EU also has plans for QMV to be expended to other areas not agreed at Nice, and without further treaty negotiations.

Although not part of the Nice Treaty, the EU’s Charter of Fundamental Rights was

signed at Biarritz, France, only a few weeks earlier. **Article 52** purports to give the EU the power to abolish these same “rights” at will, effectively making them meaningless. The whole proposition that the state has the right to grant and abolish fundamental human rights [ie: those we inherent at birth and hold in trust for future generations] is not only absurd but also contrary to Magna Carta, 1215, the Declaration of Rights, 1688, and the Bill of Rights 1689.

The Historic Background

Sanity’s petition made a number of references which might need some clarification for people not familiar with the minutiae of English constitutional history.

Clause 61 of Magna Carta was last invoked when the Bishop of Salisbury (Gilbert Burnet) acted on behalf of the barons and bishops of England to invite William of Orange and Mary to come to London in 1688, after King James II had failed to re-establish Roman Catholicism in England, and lost the confidence of the people. His act of abdication was to throw the Great Seal into the Thames and flee the country. There is also some evidence to indicate that clause 61 had previously been used against King James II, which triggered the sequence of events which led to his abdication.

The ruling in *Nichols v Nichols* 1576 included the words: “Prerogative is created for the benefit of the people and cannot be exercised to their prejudice.” (The Royal Prerogative is the power delegated by the sovereign to ministers to sign treaties on behalf of the nation.)

In 1707, Queen Anne withheld the Royal Assent from the Scottish Militia Bill

when it became apparent that James Francis Stuart (pretender Prince of Wales, and the Queen's half-brother) was planning with Louis XIV of France to invade Scotland from Calais in an attempt to establish a Jacobite sovereign. Were such an invasion to be successful, the Queen feared a Scottish militia might be turned against the monarchy. Thus, parliament's will was denied in the interests of the sovereignty of the nation and the security of the realm.

Addressing both Houses of Parliament on 20 July 1988, at an historic meeting of both houses to mark the 300th anniversary of the Declaration of Rights, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II said that it was "still part of statute law...on which the whole foundation and edifice of our parliamentary democracy rests."

The Declaration of Rights, 1688, spelt out the details:

"...the said Lords...and Commons, being the two Houses of Parliament, should continue to sit and...make effectual provision for the settlement of the ...laws and liberties of this kingdom, so that the same for the future might not be in danger again of being subverted. ... the particulars aforesaid shall be firmly and strictly holden and observed ... and all officers and ministers whatsoever shall serve their Majesties and their successors according to the same, in all time to come."

Both Magna Carta and the Declaration of Rights are contracts between the sovereign and the people. Because they are not statute law they cannot be repealed. Both proclaimed what were taken to be self-evident freedoms which exist by right. Equally, both were based on a concept of permanence.

Lord Ashbourne later wrote to *The Times*: "A government which has introduced a succession of Bills and Acts of Parliament which deal with various aspects of the constitution needs to be reminded that they have no right to exceed the powers vested in them. We, the people, own the rights to our own property - in this case Britain.

"Every five years we might be said to 'lease' its care to 'tenants' (parliament) who have an obligation to look after our property and act in our best interests as the ultimate owners.

"Our 'tenants' do not own the title to our deeds, nor any right of ownership over the property itself. They merely own the right of abode, and duty of care, for a maximum of five years. They are caretakers - no more. They have no right to sign away those title deeds. They did not own them in the first place", Lord Ashbourne wrote.

In reality, the parliamentary practices which have grown up since the Declaration of Rights, 1688 - collective cabinet responsibility, organised political parties, career politicians, and the whip system which denies politicians the freedom to vote according to their conscience - are not based on legislation, nor on common law, nor even on the law of parliament.

Sir Ivor Jennings pointed out in *Law and the Constitution* that these conventions had never been formally recognised by parliament or the courts. The courts recognised a constitution based primarily on the Bill of Rights, 1689.

To explain away this perversion and destruction of our legal constitution, politicians like to suggest that we have an unwritten one,

consisting of 'conventions' which they themselves have devised to regulate and give an appearance of legality. According to Walter Paley's *Political and Moral Philosophy* such activities are unconstitutional and illegal.

The Accompanying Letter

When Lord Ashbourne and I visited the Palace to arrange the presentation of the petition, we met the Queen's private secretary, Sir Robin Janvrin, who was kind enough to invite Lord Ashbourne and his fellow peers to accompany the petition itself with an additional letter of amplification.

The petition and the letter were presented at the Palace on Friday 23 March 2001. They were handed over by four peers - the Duke of Rutland, Viscount Massereene & Ferrard, Lord Hamilton of Dalzell, and Lord Ashbourne.

In the accompanying letter, their Lordships assured Sir Robin that the petition was concerned solely with the major constitutional issues raised by the Nice Treaty - issues which directly threatened British rights and freedoms, and undermined the oaths of loyalty to the Crown sworn by Privy Counsellors, the armed forces, and the police.

"As you know, the wording of clause 61 says: '...and, laying the transgression before us, petition to have that transgression redressed without delay...And we shall procure nothing from anyone, directly or indirectly, whereby any part of these concessions and liberties might be revoked or diminished; and if any such things has been procured, let it be void and null...'

"We have petitioned Her Majesty to withhold the

Royal Assent from any Bill seeking to ratify the Treaty of Nice because there is clear evidence (which we shall address in a moment) that it is in direct conflict with the Constitution of the United Kingdom. It conflicts with Magna Carta, with the Declaration and Bill of Rights and, above all, with Her Majesty's Coronation Oath and the Oaths of Office of Her Majesty's ministers. Every one of these protections stands to this day, which is why they are now being invoked by our petition.

"Ultimately, our supreme protection is Her Majesty's obligations under the Coronation Oath. The Queen has solemnly promised to govern the peoples of the United Kingdom "according to the Statutes in Parliament agreed on and according to their laws and customs." Her Majesty also swore to preserve "all rights and privileges as by law do or shall appertain to any of them".

"From the spiritual point of view, it is unimaginable that Her Majesty would seek, in effect, a divorce from her duty. From a secular point of view, the Coronation Oath is a signed contract.

"Recent statements by ministers, and by the previous prime minister, confirm that they would not advise any measure which might tend to breach the Coronation Oath nor betray Her Majesty's promise to her loyal subjects. Her Majesty accepts the advice of her ministers. Conversely, it is their duty to advise in accordance with the Coronation Oath. They cannot lawfully advise a breach. Nor can they gain or remain in power without swearing allegiance to the Crown. Yet the Treaty of Nice represents precisely such a breach, and it has now been signed by the foreign secretary using the Royal Prerogative.

"Blackstone's Commentaries (volume 1, page 239) says of the Royal Prerogative: 'The splendour, rights, and powers of the Crown were attached to it for the benefit of the people. They form part of, and are, generally speaking, as ancient as the law itself. *De prerogativa regis* is merely declaratory of the common law... The duties arising from the relation of sovereign and subject are reciprocal. Protection, that is, the security and governance of his dominions according to law, is the duty of the sovereign; and allegiance and subjection, with reference to the same criterion, the constitution and laws of the country, form, in return, the duty of the governed... We have already...observed that the prerogatives are vested in him for the benefit of his subjects, and that His Majesty is under, and not above, the laws.'

"For such words to have meaning, the act of signing the Treaty of Nice by the foreign secretary demonstrates that ministers have *de facto* renounced their oaths of allegiance.

"Indeed, faced in due course with a Bill seeking ratification of the Treaty of Nice, the only options appear to be for Her Majesty to dissolve Parliament, or for the government to resign and fight an election on the issue. The ex-government would then be faced with seeking elective power to introduce new oaths of loyalty under a new constitution as part of their new manifesto. This would distil the issues as perhaps nothing else might, since it would allow the people of the United Kingdom to decide whether or not they wished the constitution to be breached in this way, their rights and freedoms to be curtailed, and the position,

powers and responsibilities of their sovereign to be diminished.

"Of course, for the many thousands of subjects who have supported our petition, no such option exists. As the Act of Supremacy and the Bill of Rights put it: '...all usurped and foreign power and authority...may forever be clearly extinguished, and never used or obeyed in this realm. ... no foreign prince, person, prelate, state, or potentate ... shall at any time after the last day of this session of Parliament, use, enjoy or exercise any manner of power, jurisdiction, superiority, authority, pre-eminence or privilege ... within this realm, but that henceforth the same shall be clearly abolished out of this realm, for ever.'

"So it is clear that no-one - neither sovereign, nor parliament, nor government, nor people - may tamper with, dismantle, destroy or surrender our constitution. We are all tenants of it, and trustees. We inherited these rights, and we have a supreme responsibility to pass them in good order to future generations. They are not ours to discard or diminish.

"Which is why oaths of allegiance place an essential limitation on parliament's power, and why the Queen's Coronation Oath is crucial. The Coronation Oath is a moral obligation, a religious obligation, a sworn obligation, a contractual obligation, a statutory obligation, a common law obligation, a customary obligation, an obligation on all who swear allegiance, it is the duty of government, and it is sworn for the nation, the commonwealth and all dominions.

"The Coronation Oath is the peak of a pyramid, and all

subordinate oaths are bound by its limitations. The armed services swear allegiance to the sovereign, not to the government of the day. This helps clarify the principle that allegiance is necessary, and not optional - an essential part of the checks and balances of our constitution. Without these oaths, and their lawful enforcement, we have little to protect us from government by tyranny.

"We return now to our reasons for stating that the Treaty of Nice is unconstitutional. Our petition highlights several such clauses. We draw particular attention to article 191, which seeks to restrict the political freedom of Her Majesty's subjects.

"Our political freedom is absolute. The Bill of Rights says so. It cannot be limited in any way. Her Majesty is rightfully inscribed on our coins of the realm as 'Fid. Def.' and 'Lib. Def.' - *Libertatis Defensor*, Defender of the Freedom of the People.

"It has been suggested to us that a referendum or plebiscite might be an acceptable response to the question of ratification of the Treaty of Nice, but we do not hold that view. A referendum or plebiscite which purported to make lawful the infringement of our common law rights would itself be unlawful.

"We come back to the oath of allegiance. Magna Carta says: 'We will appoint as justices, constables, sheriffs, or other officials, only men that know the law of the realm and are minded to keep it well...' How can such officers of the Crown organize such a referendum or plebiscite?"

Finally, Lord Ashbourne's letter asked Sir Robin, in the event that the Treaty of Nice

were to be considered for Royal Assent, that Her Majesty grant an opportunity for the Baron's Constitutional Committee, which Lord Ashbourne has set up specifically for the purpose, "to examine the opinion of those who seek to alter our constitution by contrary advice".

The Queen's Reply

Exactly 39 days later - in clear acknowledgement that Magna Carta has force today, the peers received a reply from Her Majesty. Sir Robin wrote:

"I am commanded by The Queen to reply to your letter of 23rd March and the accompanying petition to Her Majesty about the Treaty of Nice.

"The Queen continues to give this issue her closest attention. She is well aware of the strength of feeling which European Treaties, such as the Treaty of Nice, cause. As a constitutional sovereign, Her Majesty is advised by her Government who support this Treaty. As I am sure you know, the Treaty of Nice cannot enter force until it has been ratified by all Member States and in the United Kingdom this entails the necessary legislation being passed by Parliament."

The phrase "continues to give this issue her closest attention", especially when read with "well aware of the strength of feeling" which follows, is clearly supportive, and goes much further than the standard reply coming out of the Palace to loyal subjects writing as individuals.

The phrase "Her Majesty is advised by her Government" is also an important change from the usual wording "Her Majesty takes the advice of her ministers".

The parliamentary and international hurdles mentioned at the end of the letter also seem to suggest a line of thinking and action about what might happen next. It is implicit in that final remark that the granting of the Royal Assent is itself a part of the parliamentary procedure – in other words it is not just a formality and cannot be taken for granted by the government.

It may be bland, but lawyers and others used to de-coding messages from the Palace, were convinced that there

were some important signals in Sir Robin's letter.

Since its receipt, of course, the Irish people have heartily rejected the Nice Treaty when their government put the question to a referendum.

So the Queen may be proved right in the end – for if one country fails to ratify the Treaty of Nice, it falls for them all.

Meanwhile, Sanity will continue the battle, alongside many other organisations and individuals who have joined the fight. The Queen is daily receiving many hundreds of letters pleading for the Royal Assent to be withheld from any Bill attempting to ratify the Treaty of Nice. MPs and members of the House of Lords are similarly being

deluged with letters. A mass lobby of Parliament – aimed at bringing the business of the House to a complete standstill - is planned for October when the Bill to ratify Nice reaches its final stages.

Finally, there is now the real possibility of direct legal action being initiated against Tony Blair and his ministers. Legal advice is currently being taken on whether or not they have committed treason. That, too, hasn't happened in over 300 years!

⌘

SANITY'S campaign headquarters are at 66 Chippingfield, Harlow, Essex, CM17 0DJ, England. The organisation receives no funding other than from its

own supporters. All contributions will be acknowledged with a free copy of Ashley Mote's pamphlet *Defence of the Realm*.

Ashley Mote's new book *Vigilance - A Defence of British Liberty* is available direct from the distributors. The cost, including packing and overseas airmail, is £20.95. Gazelle Book Distributors accept credit cards and can be reached on +44-1-524-68765 or by e-mail at gazelle4go@aol.com

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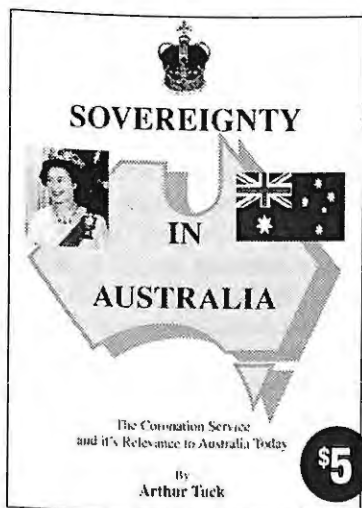
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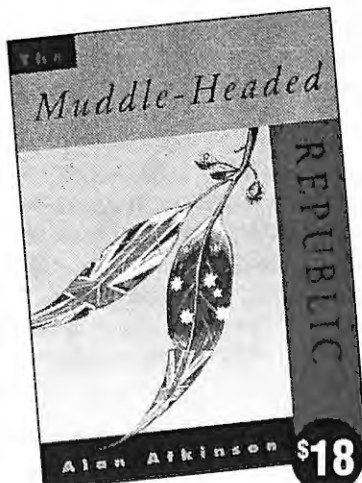


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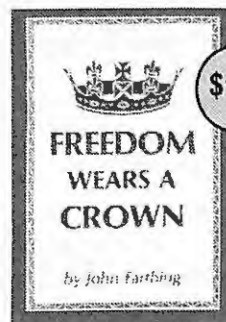


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The Brief for the Prosecution *VIGILANCE: A DEFENCE OF BRITISH LIBERTY*

Ashley Mote

289 pages with index, laminated papers. £12.95 Tanner Publishing P.O.
Box 67 Petersfield, HAMPSHIRE, GU32 3YQ.

This is a big book, big in size, big in content, big in theme and big in research, a total demolition of the walls of secrecy, lies and treason surrounding the E.U. Ashley Mote is an award-winning author, former journalist and businessman and this is his seventh book and second about the E.U.

The research is dazzling, but this is not a dry, academic text with pages of footnotes. It is written in a racy, readable, move-along style and has the grip of a thriller whilst retaining the authority of a definitive text:

"One day this book may be banned. One day, to express these views may be illegal. The British right to freedom of speech will have been abolished."

That is the opening salvo. Is it rhetoric? Yes, and fine rhetoric too, but it is backed up by citations of E.U. statements and E.U. actions.

Chapter One - "Clearing the Smokescreen" - is a book in itself which succeeds in clearing away the debris of obfuscation and brings the debate down to brass tacks, incidentally quoting a little-known passage from Chesterton.

Chapter Two - "It's the Principle of the Thing ..." unapologetically drags us away from the endless, and totally irrelevant, argy-bargy about 'benefits' to face the essence of the thing -- the E. U. is the Fourth Reich! This is not a mere assertion, unsubstantiated; it is a fact uncovered by meticulous research.

C.H.Douglas began his monograph, "Programme For the Third World War", with the words: "I don't know if there are any readers of these words who believe that if Adolf Schickelgruber ... had, in the wisdom of Providence, been dropped from a second storey window at an early age, there would have been no World War ... to any such, I will render the only service to them in my power. I advise them not to read any further".

Ashley Mote traces the roots of the E.U. to its shadowy origins in the Policy of Germany, a policy which would have been pursued whether Hitler had existed or not, and which is still being pursued.

The author does not ignore the economic aspects of the E.U., though he rightly regards them as secondary. The price of freedom may not only be eternal vigilance, it may also be loss and some belt-tightening, but would this be such a bad thing? A poorer Britain might be less able to tear up its grass and grain lands to cover them with bricks and concrete; it would certainly be less of an attraction to illegal immigrants!

I am left with a question at the end of this book. Why have we not specified the penalties of E.U. treason which will be exacted from both politicians and high-ranking officials when Great Britain is once more free? For Great Britain will be free again, even if it takes us the seventy years it has taken Russia. Those penalties ought to be plainly specified and it ought to be understood that they will be pursued against both the carcasses and estates of deceased traitors. There is plenty of room where Cromwell's skull stood on Tower Hill!

The Review of *The Keys to Avalon*, by Steve Blake and Scott Lloyd, appearing in our Autumn edition - No. 96 - was written by Nigel Jackson, not Anthony Cooney. We apologise for the error.



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Whether or not the first Rothschild ever did say "Give me control of a Nation's money and I care not who makes its laws," the statement is one of simple truth. Dr. Burkitt, Senior Lecturer in Economics at the University of Bradford and Director of its European Economies Research Unit, has produced a paper which amply demonstrates that truth. He states, even-handedly, the case for a single currency and then, lucidly, the case against a single currency. Of greatest interest is his analysis of the devastating effect of "EMU" upon British democracy and sovereignty in which he dismisses, once and for all, the nonsense that 'sovereignty' can be 'pooled.' A state is either sovereign - that is its laws and actions are not subject to a higher, external power - or it is not; there is no "halfway house" between sovereign independence and subordination. Dr. Burkitt's conclusion is concise:

"A United States of Europe would be economically disastrous and politically undesirable. It is a tragic error of historic proportions for the EU to try to bond member countries into one evermore closely integrated entity." Perhaps something more needs to be said on 'Sovereignty.' The Europeans like to mock those who speak of it, representing them as bandying about an obsolete term. Well, let us substitute the phrase 'Self-determination,' a very much 'in-word' with the liberalist consensus. So are they for Self-Determination or not? Well certainly they are, in Vietnam, South Africa, Kenya, etc., etc., then why not for Great Britain?

In the months ahead everyone who wishes to enter the debate intelligently will need this book to hand, especially for writing letters to the press or contributing to radio phone-ins. The publishers urge people to donate copies to their local library. Whether you do so or not, order a copy for yourself, you will not be armed and ready without it.



Some Thoughts on the State of the Nation

The greatest issue before the Australian people remains the challenge by republicans to our monarchical constitution and its associated traditions. The struggle over the next referendum is being waged now; and small efforts by a few patriots in one area might be decisive. That could be you in your area!

Recently I chatted for an hour with the national chairman of the Australian Monarchist League, Philip Benwell MBE. This conversation further added to my high estimation of the AML, first formed when I read its publicity statements for the election for positions at the Constitutional Convention. Every devoted monarchist should subscribe to this group and, by the time this column appears, I will have done so myself.

A next step is to lobby parliamentarians to ensure that the AML has a fair representation in all future government presentations of the monarchist case to the public. This was not the case in the 1999 constitutional referendum. Only Australians for Constitutional Monarchy was allowed this power; and ACM showed that it cannot be trusted to fully and fairly present the monarchist case.

The major defence of the Crown remains that it is a sacred institution, in which each new sovereign at the coronation ceremony pledges to serve the divine source of all creation and all order. Currently, when we express our allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, we are inevitably *looking upwards* not only at our worldly superior but towards the glorious divinity she serves. The effect on the *psychology of the nation* of this temporal and sacred vision is profoundly inspiring. No imaginable Australian president under any republican constitution will be able to carry out that function.

Sacred traditions inevitably clothe themselves within peoples in rituals and symbols of great beauty and dignity, in ceremonies and customs that have a profoundly ennobling effect on the souls

of individual persons. The British monarchy has accumulated over eleven centuries' worth of such magnificence; and no republic could match that in twice as many centuries. It matters little that the Australian monarch, being also the British monarch, can spend only limited time each decade or so on Australian soil. The magnificent ritual and symbolism is shared by each nation for every day of every year.

Constitutional safeguards

The second most important defence of the Crown remains its constitutional protection of the subjects of the realm from unjust treatment by "the barons" - in modern terms, the elites based upon financial power and operating through big business (national and international), big media (the *de facto nomenklatura* of big business) and big political parties (which have become largely mechanisms for careerists bent upon self-promotion and who are willing as part of the deal to act as front men for "the barons" while pretending to be "democratic representatives of the people"). It is these elites which have been steadily whittling away the national estate and shepherding us towards helothood under the New World Order (or whatever other title the tyranny chooses to adopt).

It is not easy to convey to the ordinary man and woman in the street the many ways in which the Crown protects us and our hard-won liberties; and another important task of monarchists, in which the Australian League of Rights can give a lead, is the preparation of updated fliers, posters, brochures and booklets which state, in differing patterns of complexity for different audiences, the protective role of the monarchy. These particularly need to be circulated among young people, university and school students notably, who will be voters in the next referendum. They may be able to be attracted to the monarchy as a cause that *in reality* is *against* "the Establishment".

Australians for Constitutional Monarchy failed to place adequate stress on these positive defences of the Crown during the 1999 referendum. The pragmatic reliance on public distrust of politicians and on a divide-and-conquer tactic to split republicans was, in itself, sensible politics; but it should always have been given third place after the major positives. That the ACM failed to do this lends credence to the view that it is, in fact, a front organisation for the Liberal Party and that one of its purposes is to hinder the formation of a more truly conservative and traditionalist political party which, if it were successful, might checkmate both the Liberal Party and some of the "barons" behind it.

Party Corruption

This brings us to another major issue that lies before the Australian people: what to do about the corruption of the Liberal Party and, to a lesser extent, the National Party. The coalition can no longer be relied on to defend either traditional Australia (a fundamentally British creation) or Australian independence. The questions arise as to whether or not One Nation can be developed into a viable conservative party capable of effectively governing the nation and whether an alliance between Graeme Campbell and Pauline Hanson is a necessary ingredient for such development.

The Australian in May and June ran a number of stories on the attempt by Mr. Campbell to win endorsement as the One Nation Senate candidate for Western Australia. It appeared that his refusal to kowtow to the politically correct taboo against the Australian League of Rights was a factor in Mrs. Hanson's reservations about his candidature.

The Courage of Conviction

Now it cannot be too strongly asserted that no "third party" of a conservative, nationalist and traditionalist kind is going to have any chance of rallying the Australian people in sufficient numbers

if it funks the necessary open and frank rejection of current political taboos against forthright criticism of racial egalitarianism and certain policies of the major Jewish agencies. Any kind of cowardly fear of being termed "racist" or "anti-Semitic" - or even any allegedly pragmatic avoidance of "extreme" positions and groups - will be fatal. "Who will gird himself for battle if the sound of the trumpet falters?" And who will really feel confident in a new party that at the start runs away from some of the major battlegrounds?

The War Crimes Act

There are two vital areas in which the Liberal Party failed Australia during the last year or two. One is the "Nazi war crimes" controversy. The surreptitious amendment of the War Crimes Act followed by the decision to facilitate the Latvian request for extradition of Konrads Kalejs, almost certainly for the 'pragmatic' reason of not wanting to offend the financially powerful Jewish lobby, is one of the most disgraceful events of our short political history. Its significance is well indicated by an article in the Melbourne *Age* by Kalejs' lawyer, Mr Gerard Lethbridge, "The shameful sacrifice of Konrads Kalejs" (June '30).

Mr Lethbridge exposes the astonishingly meagre nature of the claims made against Kalejs. "Latvia does not allege Mr Kalejs personally committed any atrocities." He points out that in the extradition hearing "there was no consideration of the sufficiency of the *evidence* against Mr Kalejs. All that was considered was whether there was a sufficient *allegation* against him".

After commenting on the unsatisfactory situation whereby the final decision on his extradition will be made by a politician and not a judge, and after questioning the wisdom and humanity of so pursuing an *eighty-eight year-old man who has difficulty even in recognising his lawyers*, Mr Lethbridge points out that Mr Kalejs is "an Australian citizen who has individual rights ... designed to protect us from unfairness and abuses (which) should not be sacrificed to expediency or politics. Even in unpopular cases." I believe that he has unerringly established the danger to *all Australian citizens in the future* of the coalition Government's behaviour in this case.

A day later, in the Melbourne *Sunday Herald Sun*, Michael Barnard ("'Old' justice lacks appeal") exposed the double standards of Jewish groups and the nation of Israel in the refusal to pursue in the same way Jewish "war criminals" such as Nachman Dushanski and Solomon Morel.

Political Censorship

The other area of astonishing failure by the Liberal Party is that of "racial vilification legislation", where the Victorian Opposition allowed the passage of the Racial and Religious Tolerance Bill through the lower house when there had manifestly been insufficient time for public scrutiny of the revised version of the Bill - a point made by the new Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne, Archbishop Dennis Hart, as well as by others.

This Bill is widely seen as a clear step towards political censorship; and overseas experience of analogous legislation supports such a view. The Bill had been opposed by Liberty Victoria, Free Speech Victoria and the RSL. The Victorian Government had admitted that most of the 5500 submissions on the first version of the Bill had opposed it (but refused to specify how many had opposed any version of such a Bill). No significant opponent of the first version had declared satisfaction with the second version. It is quite plain that the State Opposition could have insisted on several months more of public discussion - or even on a state referendum; and that it could also have publicised important implications of the legislation which the Melbourne *Age* refused to have mentioned even in its letter pages and which the *Herald Sun* only very briefly allowed to appear in its letters pages. Instead of such a responsible approach, which there is every reason to believe would have had the support of the large majority of Victorian citizens, the Opposition helped rush the Bill through the Legislative Assembly and its leader, Dr Denis Napthine, even boasted about his role in enabling this extraordinary acquiescence!

Free speech and the rights to a fair trial - any political party which fails to defend these deserves to be consigned to the dustbin. But a One Nation party which does not openly and honourably oppose the elites which pressured the Liberals into their betrayals of these rights is no better!

This column is being composed at the beginning of July and will, God willing, be being read in spring as Australia approaches another federal election. Despite the foregoing criticism of the Liberal Party and the coalition Government, it seems clear that the best possible result in the election will be the return of the Howard Government with a substantial vote for One Nation and the election of several of its representatives to the Senate.*

Hidden dangers of Reconciliation

This is because of the announced ALP policy of an official apology to "the Aboriginal people" (many of whom, of course, are not full-blood representatives of traditional Aboriginal society). Perhaps the greatest current scam in national politics remains the hypertrophy of reasonable efforts to support and sustain Aboriginals into a quasi-religious movement of "reconciliation" (the present buzz word - or should I write "Pavlovian button"?). Bearing in mind the extraordinary consequences in Canada of a similar apology, whereby the Episcopalian Church and other bodies appear likely to be ruined by a battery of consequent financial claims, it would seem that the "reconciliation" scam is designed to deal a body blow to traditional and British Australia, while also helping to line the pockets of lawyers in future compensation cases. And the ethnic identity of many of those lawyers is not in doubt.

Thus, the election of the ALP is to be avoided at all costs; and any attempt by One Nation spokespeople to favour ALP candidates over coalition candidates must be firmly resisted. Let's not cut off our nose to spite our face! The correct strategy is to try to build up a responsible One Nation party, increase its vote and thus eventually swing more and more coalition personnel back towards the defence of traditional Australia. This almost certainly means an attempt to strengthen the claims of Mr Tony Abbott to leadership of the Liberal Party after Mr Howard retires, rather than those of Mr Peter Costello, who appears devoted to the "globalist" model of One World Government and the semi-secret nexus of elites which support it for their personal advantages in terms of power and wealth.*

Intellectual treachery

The struggle is made more difficult for us by the continuing *trahison des clercs* (treachery of the intellectuals). No significant educationalist appears to have publicly opposed the Racial and Religious Tolerance Bill in Victoria, despite its profound threat to educational integrity in the teaching of political, religious, cultural and scientific issues. The Anglican Church leadership joined with that of the Uniting Church to support the Bill, neither leadership straightforwardly addressing the major objections of its opponents. And the soul of the nation, meanwhile, was further weakened by the appalling waste of eight million dollars on a grotesquely unpleasant painting by Lucien Freud, grandson of the well-known Jewish "father of psychoanalysis", Sigmund Freud.

Study of that painting as reproduced in the newspapers suggests that it has indeed been painted with masterly skill. It appears to show the *tristitia post coitum* (depression that follows sexual intercourse) of an unimpressive-looking man, whose paramour, a dumpy-looking woman, with some show of feminine compassion, is endeavouring to soothe him. Another dumpy-looking naked woman is bringing in some tea or coffee, which strongly suggests (as does the title's reference to a Cezanne painting) that the scene takes place in a brothel. There is a dual objection to this purchase: the morally repulsive subject matter of the painting and the *grossly excessive price*. Justifying references, sometimes by "art experts", were made to the "success" of Gough Whitlam's folly, *Blue Poles*, thrown together (literally) by the American yahoo Jackson Pollock; and it was claimed that this folly was now an acknowledged coup because the "work" is now said to be worth a few more millions than those paid for it under the Great Gough! Perhaps One Nation can include a policy of selling off such paintings to suckers elsewhere while the absurd prices still carry credulity and credit!

British foundations censored

Other issues that simmer in the background are the campaign to change the national flag and the widespread dissatisfaction with the "national anthem" *Advance Australia Fair* foisted

upon the nation by republican forces which lacked the grace to wait until Australia had become a republic before dispensing with the stirring, unequivocal and emphatic *God Save the Queen*.

Bernard Lane wrote an interesting discussion of *Advance Australia Fair* in *The Australian* on June 25. He included the three verses of Scottish Presbyterian Peter Dodds McCormick (who composed the piece in the 1880's) which Bob Hawke omitted. It is interesting, now, to revisit these and reflect on their relevance and usefulness today. Here they are:

When gallant Cook from Albion sail'd,
To trace wide oceans o'er,
True British courage bore him on,
Till he landed on our shore.

Then here he raised Old England's flag,
The standard of the brave;
With all her faults we love her still,
'Britannia rules the wave!'...

While other nations of the globe
Behold us from afar,
We'll rise to high renown and shine
Like our glorious southern star;
From England, Scotia, Erin's isle,
Who come our lot to share,
Let all combine with heart and hand
To advance Australia fair! ...

Should foreign foe e'er sight our coast
Or dare a foot to land,
We'll rouse to arms like sires of yore
To guard our native strand;
Britannia then shall surely know,
Beyond wide ocean's roll,
Her sons in fair Australia's land
Still keep a British soul

It is a shock to realise how ruthlessly and wrongfully Hawke and his ALP Government deleted just reference to the British foundation of Australia. At the same time, it must be admitted that some parts of these stanzas (which I have italicised) are no longer appropriate.

The archaic names should be dropped, as should the out-of-date references to the British Empire. A new verse should be written to celebrate the genuine Aboriginal heritage we share; and the contribution of post-British immigrants' needs to be fairly represented.

The flag, of course, should retain the Union Jack for its Christian and British references, but could possibly benefit from the addition of a silver boomerang to represent Aboriginal tradition.

Celebrating individuality

Waltzing Matilda should remain our national song. Its relevance to our patriotic strivings should not be forgotten. It should be noted that the swagman is an *individual* and that the song celebrates the fact that the *individual human spirit* cannot be crushed by the injustice of human groups. The squatter does not represent "the wealthy"; rather, aided by the troopers three, he represents selfish injustice, for *any man is entitled to take sufficient for his daily nourishment*, irrespective of any laws. There is an ethics, a morality, which takes precedence over any legalities -- as the inimitable confrontations of Jesus with the Pharisees remind us. As for the leap into the billabong (and water, often shown as lake or sea, is a symbol of the manifested universe with its unending ebb and flow), this is honourable suicide; it is also the unexpected leap sideways of the hare (a good symbol for intuition and lateral thinking); it is brave, decisive and retains freedom for the swagman. His act is justified by the continuance of his voice, just as the voice of John Bunyan and many others remains heard today.

We cannot demand any more an *exclusive* role in Australia's ongoing life for either Christianity or British identity. What we can fairly demand is that the British contribution in our foundation be properly honoured and not swamped by a neo-Rousseau obsession with Aboriginality, linked to a spurious "multiculturalism". This demands the retention of whatever of our British inheritance is truly valuable, including free speech, the presumption of innocence, the right to a fair trial, and the precedence of mercy over justice in dealing with those caught up in war or who are of great age. This will require the *reversal* of recent capitulations to the Jewish lobby in the contexts discussed above.

As for Christianity, we are entitled to demand that fellow-Australians who are not Christians accept for the foreseeable future our arrangement of sharing a Christian monarch with our mother-country, Britain. This is the only *practicable alternative to an effectively non-religious, if not aggressively atheistic, republican president.* In return, we should moderate the sacred language we use in our public procedures so that, as much as is possible, it is *inclusive of all valid sacred traditions* and not offensively exclusive. Representatives of other sacred traditions should be invited to participate on an equitable basis in these procedures.

The Substance and the Shadow

Finally, the difference between real and feigned *democracy* needs to be steadily publicised. A just dictator provides more *real* democracy than does a "representative" Parliament that has been corrupted by money and ideology. Democracy is not, as Plato knew, sacrosanct or even the best form of government. Rather, aristocracy (the rule of *quality*), presided over by a monarch limited by tradition and law, and guided by a non-worldly caste of truly initiated priests (*brahmins*), seems to be the proper and best form of political order for mankind. At the

present time "democracy" is sedulously promoted because it functions as a shield for selfish and corrupt elites. Even in the 1950's the wise and serene novelist Charles Morgan (1894-1958) was advising that the word "democracy" should be given a long rest! Let us counter the parrot cries for "democracy" with calls for an Australia that embodies justice, equity and quality on a foundation of sacred tradition, truth and the splendour of constitutionally limited royal majesty!

**The Australian Heritage Society is strictly non-party and disassociates itself from Nigel Jackson's personal recommendations on voting.*

**ESSENTIAL READING
THE COMMONWEALTH STORIES**

By D. J. Amos

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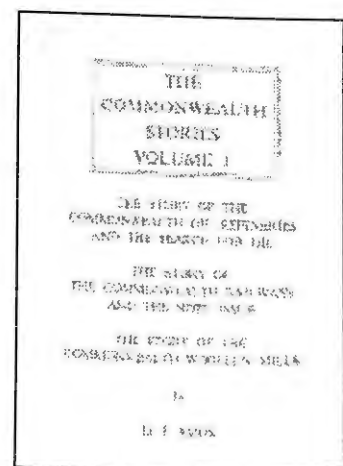
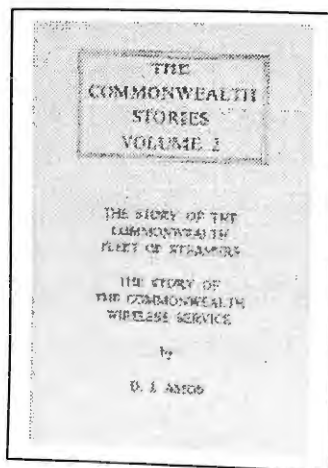
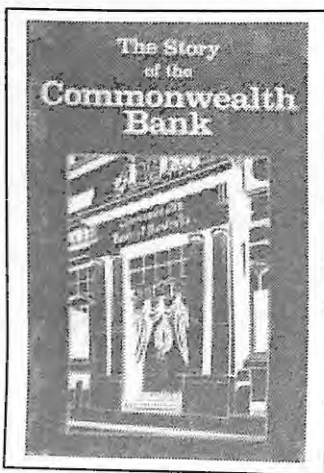
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THOSE BLACK SOIL PLAINS

By Tony Symonds

Have you heard that eerie sound of a windmill swinging in the wind? On a still summer's day, all is quiet until a slight breeze comes through from a different direction from the previous one. So the windmill head is turned by the wind pressing on the sail.

That is just one of the childhood memories of growing up on the Darling Downs, that naturally treeless expanse of black soil. It was so rich that Americans out here during the Second World War seriously considered bagging it up and taking it home as fertilizer. Our home was at the foot of Mt. Russell, on what my father referred to as drift soil. It wasn't quite the heavy black of a few miles further out, reputed to be the heaviest in the world. With that slight degree of elevation, we could see the trees which lined the Condamine River at Cecil Plains, some twenty-five miles away.

That tree line was one of the features which dominated our lives, as did the Bunya Mountains to the north, and Mt. Russell to the east. Going east, there was Mt. Russell, then Mt. Taylor, and Mt. Tyson, which looked down on the township of Mt. Tyson. A low hill to the north was known as Mt. Maria. There was a homestead on Mt. Russell, but it burnt down before my memories began. A large steel water tank still stood there, filled by a bore, I suppose. A previous owner, Australia's first millionaire, James Tyson, couldn't find water for stock under those porous black soils, so he laid pipes down the road we referred to as the pipeline. The water came from a well in the hills somewhere.

Evanslea railway station was on the edge of Mt. Russell. There were originally gates which blocked off the railway line. When a train was due, the gates were swung out to block the roadway. I assume Evanslea was a manned railway station then. The

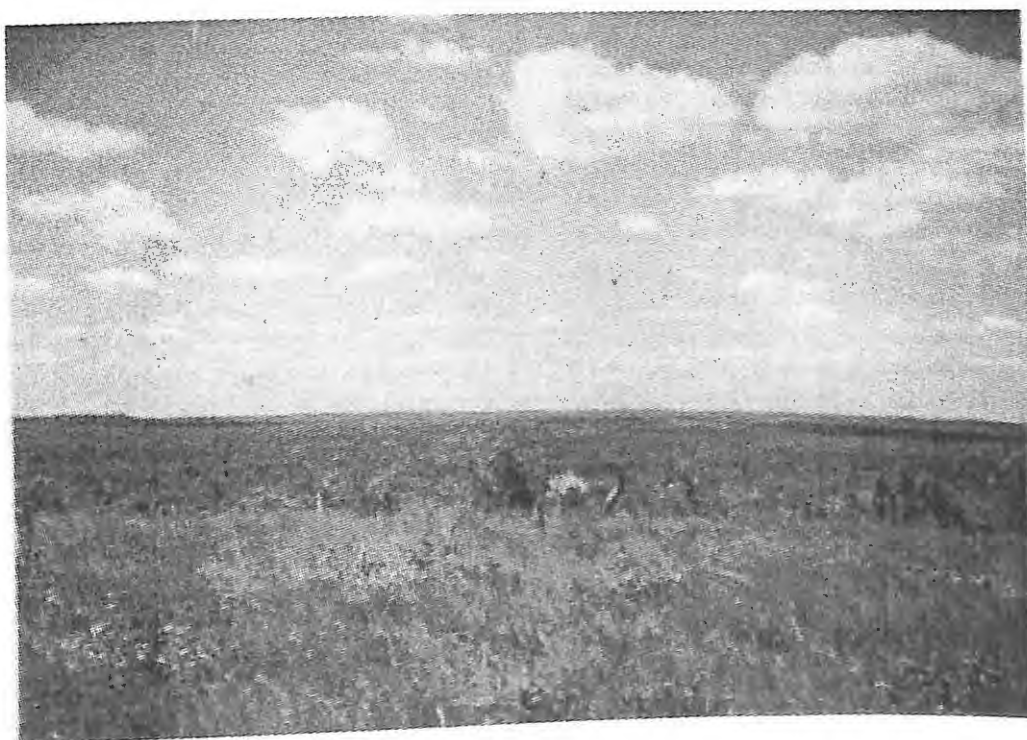
line went down the southern boundary of our farm. Occasionally, a lone railway wagon, which had escaped from Mt Tyson, would race out of the hills and finally come to a halt well out on the plains, probably in the Norwin area. After the gates were smashed a few times by these runaways, they were dispensed with.

Evanslea sported a large grain shed which was filled with bagged wheat at harvest time. That shed is now at the Jondaryan woolshed complex. The next siding was Norilee which was a loop line for parking railway wagons. There was a waiting room, but it was gone before my time. Next there was Bongeene with a school, shop, garage, grain sheds and a few houses. Bongeene scored one of the first concrete bulk grain storages when they began to be built.

An Englishman working for Dad set out to walk to Bongeene. Mother assured him that there were no other stations between Norilee and Bongeene. I don't know what was worrying him, since one could see Bongeene from home, and could hardly get lost. Anyway, he returned and assured Mother that there **was** another station named Whistle. That was the sign that told the train drivers to sound their

whistles. There are many stories of newcomers becoming completely lost out on the plains in broad daylight, let alone at night.

The train brought our meat, bread and other necessary items from Mt Tyson. They were offloaded on our boundary. Apparently, it was an illegal stop. In appreciation, we gave the crew melons and other produce, even bags of grain for fowl feed. I suppose the drop-off point was a quarter mile from the house. I used to be terrified that the train would roll off the line onto us. It was so big! The mail came in our private mail bag, tied up with a leather strap. To send the bag back, someone had to stand alongside the line, holding the bag by the strap. The guard would lean out and grab the bag from his hand while the train was still moving. That was scary. One day a large carton arrived. While some of us began to roll it home going thump, thump, thump down the road, others went home to tell Mother about it. They soon scurried back to tell us to stop. It was full of new crockery. Dad picked it up with the truck, and some anxious moments were experienced as it was opened.



Thankfully, nothing was broken.

If the train's smoke hung low, there was rain about. If it drifted upwards, the weather would stay fine. The clearer the sound of the whistle, the greater the chance of rain. The creek, or dry watercourse, ran from the hills around Irongate township, and crossed under the line in Percy Reimers' farm, and came through the corner of our farm, "Iona". The 1956 floods actually bent the lines out of shape. That was as far as the trains came for a while.

Our house was a timber one. Being on black soil, it was forever moving. A good fall of rain, and another door or window wouldn't close properly! Jump on the back verandah, and Dad's afternoon sleep would be disturbed on the front verandah! And he would let us know about it! Substantial renovations were carried out when I was very young. I can just remember the cool safe with its air vent through the ceiling and roof, and the rotor on top to drive cool air down through it. A kerosene fridge replaced it. That cool safe is still in the family, storing welding rods in a workshop. There was some type of lighting system that had to be lit. That was replaced with 32 volt electricity.

The sound of that Southern Cross diesel motor dominated our lives. It lived out in the car shed, and was cranked up each evening. The bank of batteries supplied power requirements for minor things during the day. Last job at night was to switch it off. On still summer nights, it was quite loud, even though the exhaust pipe ran into a pit which acted as a muffler.

Having been built for coolness during the hot part of the year, the house was ever so cold in winter. A previous owner had planted three rows of pepperina trees on three sides of the homestead area. They gave good protection against the westerly winds, but not from the raw, raw cold of frosty mornings. Water pipes froze regularly. A combustion heater in the dining room offered some warmth, as did the kitchen stove. When my parents left New South Wales in 1943



with their four small children, they were assured that Queensland was a hot place, so they left behind a quantity of warm clothing, much to their regret.

Speaking of 1943, the journey to Queensland by Mother and her four small children was a notable event. Her brother packed them into his charcoal-burning car, and drove them up, Dad having already gone ahead. They reached Warwick at night, but had to travel to Allora to find accommodation, which they did at 11.00.p.m. Next morning, the first Queensland newspaper she read reported the sinking of the hospital ship, "Centaur", by a Japanese submarine. Mother telephoned me on the fiftieth anniversary to tell me this, and I said she should write the story of a family moving to Queensland in 1943. Sadly, she passed away without doing so.

The house was cool in summer. Those breathless summer days, when the black soil reflected the heat, reached extreme temperatures, but it didn't take much of a breeze to keep the house cool enough at night to ensure a good night's sleep. During heatwaves the nights stayed unbearably hot. On the summer days a mirage formed on the horizon, looking for all the world like a sheet of floodwater. An Englishman, who later became a good friend of the family, drove out onto the Downs

for the first time on a summer's day, and turned back. He thought the mirage was floodwaters.

The road to the front gate from the Evanslea - Jondaryan road was a dirt track until gravelled in the 1950s. Many a visitor or family member had to leave their vehicle on the hill and walk, in wet weather. Many an eagerly-anticipated outing was wrecked by wet roads. Gravel to the front gate shortened the walk, but there was still the creek to cross. A friend helped Dad build a super-duper rock and concrete ford in the creek bed, which was supposed to last forever, but it suffered damage with ensuing floods. Nothing was sacred in that black soil. We had some corker floods in the 50s. In 1956 we stood on the verandah and watched a massive expanse of floodwater roll over a new fence and carry it downstream. That was the daddy of all floods, and is still talked about. The black soil could bog for weeks in a wet season. Weeds grew, crops were downgraded or lost, machines were bogged, livestock suffered. Not that we had many livestock. House cows, horses, chooks, a few pigs, and, usually, a dog.

On another occasion, some of the older siblings went to Oakey for some reason, and took the telephone for repairs. There was a cloudburst in the hills, and they couldn't get home, so they back-

tracked to Mt Tyson, and stayed with the Bradfords. Without a phone, our parents spent a worrying night wondering where they were.

Our beautiful collie had to be restrained whenever the fuel truck came, to prevent it coming to grief under the wheels. The way it carried on, it was always in danger of being hit. One day, the dog was in the school house when the truck came, and I was responsible for letting it slip out a partly-opened door. Sure enough, it was killed. Another dog we had would go berserk if anyone tried to hit me.

Our telephone line was two wires strung across the paddocks on poles. It gave heaps of trouble, as when the wires crossed in the wind. Driving around the countryside, one would often see a rock wired to a line to prevent it from swinging in the wind, and shorting out on the other wire. A good storm made hearing difficult, and the batteries could go bad at the wrong time.

We had a haystack near the schoolhouse. I can remember the hay being made. Someone arrived with a reaper and binder, and made the oaten crop into sheaves. That was in a small paddock nearby. There was a haystack built in 1947, because Dad was on top building it, when a runner arrived from the house to say that his wife had delivered twin sons. There were several fenced paddocks for livestock, but the rest of the 735 acres was unfenced, which was convenient when Dad had to bring home a tractor and the truck. He set the caterpillar going in the direction of the house, and then drove the truck home. When the tractor came near to the homestead, having drifted a little off course, Dad would walk out, climb onto the back of it and drive it the rest of the way.

Sounds travelled out there. Around sundown, Angus from a neighbouring farm would often practise his bagpipes. We could hear them a mile away. The phone lines would hum in the cold. One weekend, a strange sound could be heard from the direction of our

neighbour Percy's farm. It was assumed to be phone lines. On Monday, our mechanic arrived via Percy's farm, Percy having been away for some days. The mechanic found that a bird had alighted on the lever which activated the horn on the tractor, which stayed on when the bird flew away. A few wires were red hot.

After the wheat harvest, the stubble was burnt. Night after night, the horizon would be a ring of stubble fires. This practice has now ceased with conservation tillage practices. Speaking of night lights, the fox shooters used to use old aircraft searchlights for their spotting. They were powerful beams. To swing them across, they would arc them up into the sky, visible for a long way. One night, Charlie rushed in from milking the cow after dark to say the sky was on fire. It was the Southern Aurora, a display of reflected sun-light occasionally seen over the South Pole. We all traipsed outside to look at it. I remember feeling scared by it all, and wishing we would go inside.

One phenomenon we witnessed was a bank of soil which built up against the western boundary fence. Strong easterly winds, blowing across the cultivated paddocks, swept fine silt-like soil against the fence, and built a bank probably two feet high. Opinion was that it was caused by the wind draughts coming down from Mt Russell. I suppose, in hindsight, it was the first sign of soil degradation owing to the farming practices of the day.

The kitchen stove was run on coke, which was mongrel stuff. It made the kitchen walls sooty. Occasionally a truck would arrive and tip a load into the half tank it was stored in. There was firewood with which to light the stove, then the coke took over. Just past the wood heap was the outside toilet, which was a long way from the house in cold or wet weather or at night. At least we grew up being well aware of the stars. Modern communities wouldn't be aware that the drum of human waste had

to be taken out and buried before it overflowed.

Two large tanks which were filled from the windmill sat on a raised stand. The stand was closed in for us to shower under on a hot day. The windmill had to be pulled up on occasions to replace the leather washers in the pump, and replace corroded pipes and pump rods. The plumber from Mt Tyson, Jimmy Tyson, would perform these jobs. It was while he was up the windmill tower that Ken and I found out that he didn't wear underpants. Jimmy didn't like the winter, so each autumn he would relocate to Caloundra and return in the spring. A water trough catered for the livestock needs. I once saw a large black dog standing in the trough, but I don't think anyone believed me. The family vegetable garden was close by, and, next to it, was the fowl run.

A large machinery shed was built a bit further over when I was about eight. It adjoined the old blacksmith's shop which was cluttered up with the old-style blacksmithing gear which Dad still used. It was a time of some excitement when the gang of carpenters built that shed. Sometimes it was used to store bagged grain. If the mice arrived, they created an unholy mess. During plagues, one could go over at night with a torch and shine it on the ground, which would appear to move as the mass of mice was disturbed. Naturally, we spent a lot of time mice-hunting. The cat population would increase. At one stage, we had seventeen, but some disease cleaned most of them up. The cats were so well-fed that they would play with the mice, throwing them up and catching them before dining.

The old shearing shed, or woolshed as we called it, was not used for shearing any more. It was a type of barn. Dad had 44 gallon drums in rows with timber planks to store things on, that had to be kept away from the mice and rats. One time, during one of our mice hunts, I moved a header sieve, leant it against the timber planks, and left it there. Next wet day, Dad and Laurie spent a lot of time

repairing the damage the mice caused when they ran up the sieve into the bags of grain. I wasn't too popular over that.

Just off the road to the house was the orchard. Dad had been assured that fruit trees wouldn't prosper on the black soil. The roots would knot up. Dad dug holes and made a bed of bones over which to spread the roots. It appeared to work. He used to water them with a bucket, at night after a day's work. Quite some feat.

Behind the woolshed were the cowyards and milking bail. The house cow would be sent away for months, and, in adulthood, I worked out why. We didn't keep a bull. The cow kindly put her head through the stocks to gobble up the grain placed in her feed trough, and the milkman would close up the stocks to keep her there while the milking was done. I can remember seeing the cow turn her head and look at us one night while she was being milked. Her head hadn't been through the stocks when it was pinned into place. I think she stayed until the milking was finished.

One Jersey cow used to give me asthma. It appeared the cream in the milk set it off. A truck came one day to pick up a cow. The driver used an electric prodder to load it, after it fell down in the race. We children were quite distressed about it. Another beast died (we think of snake bite) after it had been sold, but before it was picked up. That was Dad's loss.

There were pigsties across from the cow yards. Dad reared a few store pigs, and sent them off to the bacon factory in Toowoomba. One would be killed and cured, to be returned for home consumption.

Snakes were a constant problem. Mother had a plaited wire snake whacker, about six feet long. It was extremely effective in dispatching them.

Last on the list is the schoolhouse. Previously, it had been the workman's cottage. Dad employed an Irishman named Martin whom I can just remember. We called him Munny. I think he must have been the last. Laurie came home from boarding school to

help on the farm about this time. When Ken and I, twins and the youngest, were due to start school, Mother decided the school system wasn't up to scratch, so she kept Christine and Charlie home, and taught the four of us on primary correspondence lessons. She was a former teacher, and believed in strict school hours. When Ken and I eventually fronted up to the Pittsworth Convent, part way through Grade Seven, we were up with, and probably ahead of the other children, much to her credit. It really was a mammoth task she took on. Mary and Elaine had a year at home helping after their boarding high school finished.

Prior to that, my older siblings rode on horseback to Bongeem school, which would have been at least three miles, probably four. I imagine there would have been some hot, cold or wet rides. Years later, I met one of their former classmates who told me that he used to climb on one of their horses as they passed his front gate. That saved him a walk.

That black soil is a rarity. Dad always said that if you stuck to the black soil in the dry times, it would stick to you in the wet. Stick it did. The heels of one's rubber boots jacked up inches with a wad of mud. The mud was great fun in bare feet. We children sloshed around in it. The odd prickly weed didn't worry us much, since we spent most of the year in bare feet, which would become like leather on the soles. Come drought, and the soil would open into huge cracks so large that I once dropped my seven year old foot down one, and took a great chunk of skin off the ankle bone.

Contrasting with this was Mt. Russell, which featured a council gravel pit. We often went walking on the hill, exploring the rough stony slopes. Being a nature lover, Mother loved those nature strolls. We largely played silly games. We paid a visit to the Bunya Mountains when I was about nine, and it took me forty years to return to them.

One of our amusements was to



obtain a 44 gallon drum each and walk on it, making it roll across the yard. We must have travelled miles doing that. It became quite an art to stay on top as it rolled along.

Visitors were a bit rare, so the sight of a strange vehicle often sent us under the bed. Travelling salesmen sometimes called. There were visits from mechanics, other tradesmen, Dad's insurance agent who was an ex-international footballer, fuel trucks and so on. The groceries were delivered by truck from Mt. Tyson. But, by and large, it was pretty quiet out there in the 1950's, particularly for company of our own age, and probably more so for us, because we didn't have family in the vicinity -- in fact, none in Queensland. At least when the southern relatives came up they stayed a while. We would travel to Oakey aerodrome to meet Mother's sisters when they flew up for a visit.

One day, while Dad was ploughing, a Tiger Moth aeroplane landed in the paddock beside him and the pilot asked for directions to Oakey. Then he took off and headed in the right direction.

Wheat harvest was a buzz of activity. Dad would pick up a truckload of new wheat bags, and our job was to lay them out in the sun to soften up. They would come in bales the size of wool bales, tied up with hoop iron. This was cut off, and the bags came out in packs

of fifty. I suppose there were thousands of them. That job earned us our Christmas spending money. No crop, no money. Once the harvest was in full swing, the bag sewers arrived. A husband and wife team were our regulars. Decked out in large straw hats, they toiled away in the December sun, keeping up with the headers as they delivered bags of grain in neat rows across the paddock. Then the carriers arrived, loading the bags with hydraulically-operated elevators. We loved being down there, with our tomato and onion sandwiches for lunch. Mother would pack us a picnic lunch, and send us off across the paddocks to Dad if he was doing something interesting. One pastime was to grab onto the harrows if he was planting into the soft moist soil, and let the tractor drag us around on our stomachs. It didn't go down well with the washerwoman, Mother. Cool water was supplied with the canvas water bags. Hung in the shade, if possible, these bags kept the water pleasant for drinking. One thing was for certain. If there was a wheat harvest, the bush flies came out in even larger numbers than usual. Those wretched little things were a constant source of discomfort.

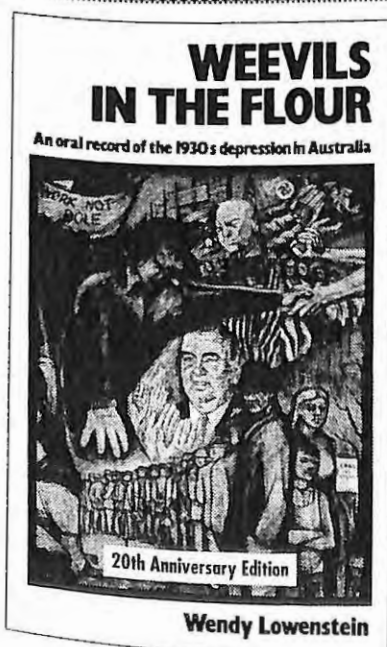
Moths created a similar problem. On hot summer nights, they would arrive in copious numbers. We would switch out the

light over the meal table, and leave lights on in adjoining rooms to draw the moths away.

Our neighbour, Percy, had a smaller property and would often finish his harvest before we did. Then the shout would be heard, "Percy's here!" Without any official invite, he would pull into our paddock with his header and help with our harvest. There was never any mention of payment. One year a fire broke out in a wheat crop. I suppose it was caused by a spark from a machine. Some unharvested crop was lost, and some bagged grain damaged. We saw some great whirly winds. Columns of stubble or burnt stubble would rise up and whirl around.

The farming plant of the 1950's was fairly basic. There were two D2 caterpillar tractors, each with a sundercut, combine, harrows and header. Cultipackers, or serrated rollers were used to pack the ground after planting. Dad was particular about keeping his machinery under cover and well-maintained. I can still hear the sound of the D2s coming home after dark.

There were more than a few worries from Nature in the farming programme, and weeds were one of the main ones. Turnip weed would just take over in some years. I remember paddocks of it so high that you couldn't see the tractors in it. One year when the turnip was



WEEVILS IN THE FLOUR by Wendy Lowenstein

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bad, someone decorated the altar in the Aubigny church with it. The farmers weren't all that impressed!

Dad did some pioneering work with broadacre spraying of weeds in crops, in conjunction with a neighbour. He scraped up the necessary gear in the form of tank, hoses, booms and motor, which was no mean feat in the immediate post war years. Apparently, even the government agricultural men from Toowoomba came out to see what he had done. Black oats was a menace in winter crops, and there was no control for them then.

Another weed was the roley poley, which ripened off to form a ball of prickly material up to three feet across. These balls would blow across the paddocks once they broke off, often with help from us. We would arm ourselves with pitchforks and build up heaps of them and drop a match. Great fires! One heap we lit up was, to our dismay when we realised it, close to the phone lines, but no damage was done.

Oakey was our main centre for those terrible things in a small boy's life, i.e. doctor, dentist and Church. In the early years, we went to Mass at Aubigny twice a month, and Mt. Tyson once. One Sunday a month was a miss, until we youngsters were considered old enough to travel further on the gravel roads to Oakey or Pittsworth. Those gravel roads! Rough and dusty, designed to induce car sickness. Toowoomba was thirty-two miles away, but at least the last section was sealed. Toowoomba was our main centre for shopping when it came to clothes and such like. I have vivid memories of Coles corner and Cathro carpark and the QCWA child minding centre. I was an inmate there on many occasions. There would have been quite a few trips to the doctor in Oakey. I was taken to be stitched up twice, and Charlie once. It must have been a constant worry to my parents being so far from urgent medical help. At times, that help would have been unavailable with wet roads. Australia may well remember its pioneers, but my parents did it tough, too, in the 1940's and 50's.

The radio was a centre of home life. We listened to such shows as "Life with the Lions" or "Life with Dexter". Many a time we were roused at for making a noise while the news was on. Card games were a social activity the grown-ups enjoyed with visitors. We children would be sent to bed fairly early, much to our dismay. Many a night or weekend was spent by the family playing Monopoly, Scrabble or card games at home. Television changed all that.

I can remember a fundraising function at home. It was at night, and, apart from the crowd, I can really only remember winning a hamper of groceries on the chocolate wheel.

Speaking of grown-ups, I have vivid memories of the social interaction after Mass at Aubigny. While we tucked into the sandwiches out of the boot of the car, having fasted from midnight, as Catholics did then, the grown-ups would discuss the worrying issues of the day, like inflation at 1%, bank interest rates at seemingly astronomical rates, and the latest drought or flood. Then they would say, "Have faith in the future!" and drive home for another week's work. What would they say now? In seventeen years, Dad paid for his farm, sent children to boarding school, bought new machinery, built a large machinery shed, and so on. I don't think one could do that now on the same acreage.

We scored a few holidays. Mother took us to Sandgate, and I remember travelling there by train. She was assured that the next station was Sandgate, but as she was about to alight, realised it wasn't, and stayed on. A man who had overheard the advice was already on the platform, and couldn't get back on the train before it moved off. He said, "Bugger!" which really sent us innocent country children into a spin. Such language! We took a taxi from the station to our holiday home and we said to the driver, "Is that the ocean?" It was only Moreton Bay, but he said, "Yes, sonny, that's the ocean." Who were we to disbelieve him?

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DECISIONS! DECISIONS!

Oh Grandpa, Oh Grandpa, Oh what shall I do?
In another few months my school years will be through,
And then in the open I'll likely be hurled,
To the wide-open arms of this wicked old world!

*Oh Grandson, Oh Grandson, if you listen to me,
You'll abandon the land for a life on the sea.
A life on salt water grows hair on the chest,
And a sailor's the man all the nice girls love best!*

Oh Grandpa, Oh Grandpa, I dread such a leap;
The Ocean's too wide and the Ocean's too deep!
And if on a voyage I find myself bound,
The damned ship might sink, and then I'll be drowned!

*Oh Grandson, Oh Grandson, just try growing spuds,
It's a fashionable pastime 'mongst all the young bloods,
The quickest and fastest return money-maker,
And might give you three hundred dollars an acre!*

Oh Grandpa, Oh Grandpa, that's no good to me,
I'm not sure I'd not rather take a chance on the sea!
For although there is always the risk I might drown,
You surely recall I don't like bending down!

*Oh Grandson, Oh Grandson, have you thought of the Army?
You can get to the top if you ARE slightly barmy!
Though the pay and conditions are not too pretentious,
I have heard the profession is highly licentious!*

Oh Grandpa, Oh Grandpa, I fear that it's true,
I don't like at all being told what to do!
That kind of life might suit me O.K.
If I gave the orders and others obey!

*Oh Grandson, Oh Grandson, have you thought of the Church?
A rod for your back, for your backside a birch,
For the faithful your prayers and your sermons could cater,
And I'm sure you've an elegant leg for a gaiter!*

Oh Grandpa, Oh Grandpa, that might suit me fine,
I'm sure I could preach with a spirit divine,
But although of conversions I might get a lot,
I'm also informed that the pay's not too hot!

*Oh Grandson, Oh Grandson, have you thought of the Law?
There's one for the Rich and one for the Poor.
And even if wages and prices do freeze,
The sky is the limit on barrister's fees!*

Oh Grandpa, Oh Grandpa, that's a thing I might dig,
I'm sure I'd look simply superb in a wig,
But to wear a black cap, and have fellows hung,
I fear they might think me a trifle too young!

*Oh Grandson, Oh Grandson, there's always the stage,
Your talents are suited to this day and age,
You might even end up among the big names,
And you'll spend all your time among beautiful dames!*

Oh Grandpa, Oh Grandpa, that's quite an idea,
And one that - at times - I'm ready to share;
But to be really honest, there's no room for me
While Olivier's still at the top of the tree!

*Oh Grandson, Oh Grandson, if you have ambition,
You just might become a new-look politician.
Though a fellow has only the brains of a mouse,
He can score with a speech from the floor of the House!*

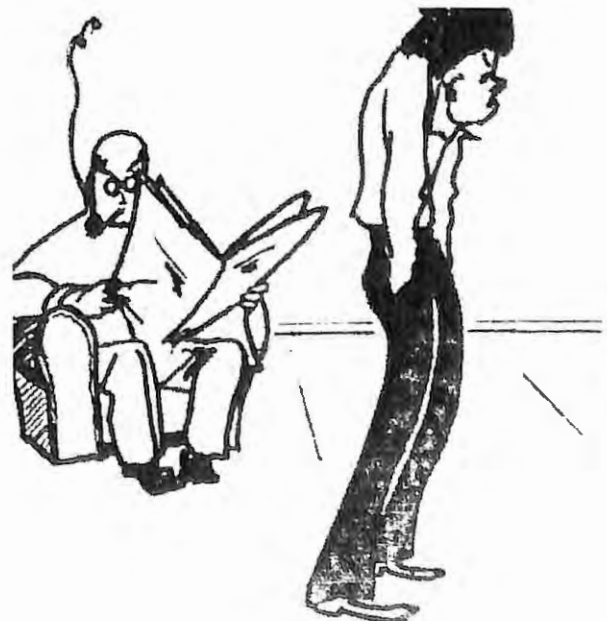
Oh Grandpa, Oh Grandpa, you must think I'm daft!
The profession is rife with corruption and graft!
In fact the whole set-up is thoroughly sinister.
I wouldn't be in it (except as Prime Minister)!

*Oh Grandson, Oh Grandson, what else for the best?
I really can't figure out what to suggest.
My ideas and suggestions are no use to you.
So it's now YOUR decision what you want to do!*

Oh Grandpa, Oh Grandpa, I do not agree,
That I'm choosy or fussy to any degree.
Although you may think I'm a bit of a flop,
I'll take any old job . . . if I start at the top!

*. . . And now from old Uncle comes a new ray of hope!
Get a car, get a girl, and simply elope!
But see you make sure, before crossing this ditch
That the girl of your choice is incredibly rich!*

By "Pomme de Terre"
(circa. 1973)



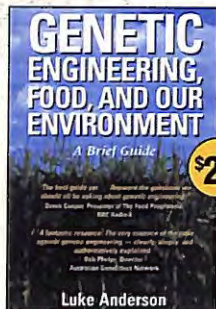
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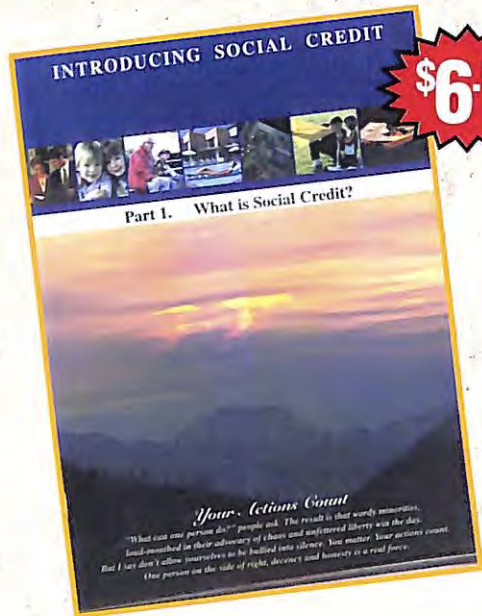
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Luke Anderson

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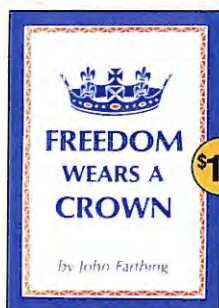
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FREEDOM WEARS A CROWN

John Farthing

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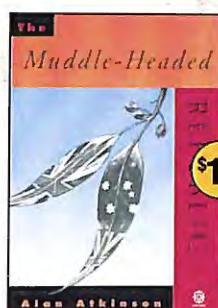


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Alan Atkinson

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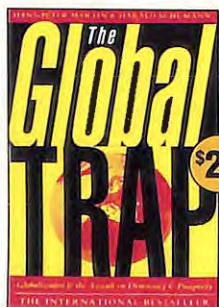
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Joe Vials

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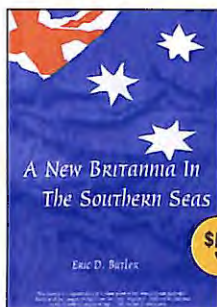
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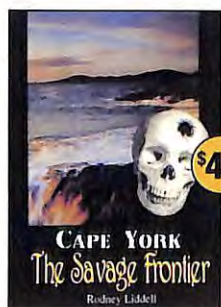
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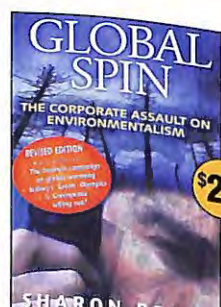
At a time when the previous unity of the British world has been badly fractured, and Western Civilisation, of which Australia is a part, displays all the signs of being gripped with a death wish, Australians must face the question of what is their future. We can at least thank Prime Minister Keating for raising the question, even if he gives the wrong answer, insisting that Australia's destiny is in Asia



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Sharon Beder

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