

HERITAGE

VOLUME 28 No. 107 2004

LINKING THE PAST WITH THE PRESENT – FOR THE FUTURE

THE MIDDLE EAST

The great majority in both faiths long for peace but face a common enemy



Demonising Islam

“Holy War” despair & hope



Elma Joyce Butler

A life of commitment & loyalty



The Passion

A film with rave reviews & critics



The “Almost” Tank

Australian enterprise dumped



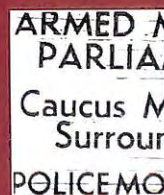
Kiwi Bank

Can Australia catch the fire?



Spirit of Service

Queen’s Christmas Message



Raid on Parliament

Police, batons & arrests



Halt the Salt!

Plough creates rich soil

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HERITAGE

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The Australian Heritage Society

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

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

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

"Our heritage today is the fragments 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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We have lost some good friends and inspiring colleagues in the last six or seven months, and Heritage takes this opportunity to give recognition to the contributions they have each made, in different ways, to the freedom and sovereignty we still enjoy in Australia.

Arthur Tuck died in August last year. His contribution to the cause of constitutional monarchy was incalculable, and will live on long after many reading this have also run their course.

Arthur's video *The Service of Freedom* is an excellent way to explain – particularly to young people – the advantages of constitutional monarchy over republicanism. It contains colourful and thought-provoking extracts from film of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, and explains the religious significance of the coronation ceremony itself.

Those fortunate enough to have experienced Arthur's Power Point presentation, *In Defence of Constitutional Monarchy*, acknowledge it as a teaching tool without comparison, with accompanying text that can be made use of by others less accomplished than Arthur himself in countering the push for a republic in Australia. His booklet, *Sovereignty in Australia*, is another useful tool in this field.

Sustainable Finance, another Power Point presentation Arthur put together, contains the substance of an address he gave to the Institution of Engineers Australia on Queensland's Sunshine coast in 2001, on the steps necessary to make financially possible what is physically possible - an engineer's answer to the debt problem. It is easy to follow this basic lesson in Social Credit.

What an incomparable legacy to leave his country!

Keith Fuss was another who made a significant contribution to the defence and preservation of freedom and sovereignty in Australia. His organizational skills were quite exceptional, and his untiring efforts to provide ways and means for the message to go out were second to none. He was overwhelmingly generous with his home, his resources and his time. Seminars and meetings can be a nightmare to organise, sound apparatus can be inadequate, venues can be too big - or too small, food can be inadequate, publicity can be insufficient; speakers' needs may be overlooked. A million details fell into place under Keith's expert guidance, and

CLOSING CHAPTERS

residents of South East Queensland are conscious of the huge gap he has left.

Betty Douglas was ninety-four years old when she died, but was an indefatigable letters-to-the-editor writer until the last few years of her life. It is hard to estimate how many people have had their horizons enlarged by the information she provided. She was a truly great example of the principle of service to her community.

Another whose life demonstrated his belief in Christ's teaching on the way men should relate to each other in society, was Denis Connolly. A long time supporter of Social Credit philosophy, he was a reliable and stalwart encouragement to the speakers and organizers in the movement.

Although we recently featured his life and work in a recent issue of Heritage, this acknowledgment would be incomplete without mention of Tom Fielder.

The library of audio tapes he patiently put together over more than thirty years provides a reference and education source of immense value to others. His "M.E.A. Tapes" are known the length and breadth of Australia, and overseas too, and have been used by many organizations, politicians and individuals to gain knowledge for themselves, and pass on the information provided in numerous fields.

Tom showed us how to do it, and he will be long remembered for his contribution to a free Australia.

Heritage salutes these mighty patriots!



Arthur Tuck



Keith Fuss




Betty Douglas



Denis Connolly



Tom Fielder



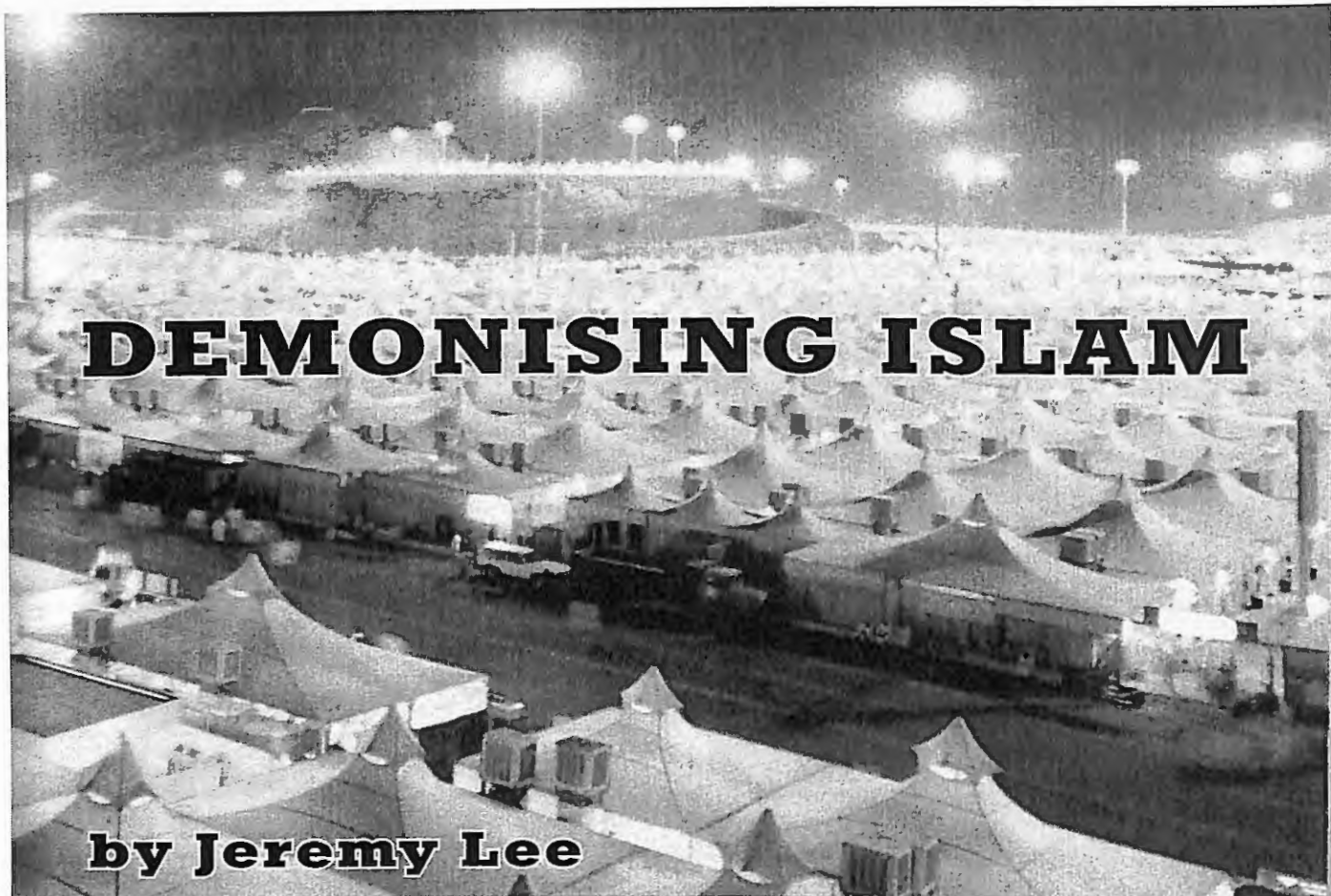
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DEMONISING ISLAM

by Jeremy Lee

DESPITE DISCLAIMERS FROM President Bush and other leaders, the recent wars in the Middle East have increasingly set themselves in the public eye as a conflict of religions. The perception of a 'Christianity versus Islam' global conflict is held by many, and is fanned by fundamentalist extremists on both sides – the Christian-Zionist Right, chiefly in the US, and the various groups fostering suicide bombing and other terrorist acts within the Islamic faith.

The 'holy war' is not confined to one side. The Christian-Zionist movement manages to ignore Christ's admonition to "love your enemies and do good to those that hurt you". Fundamentalists of Islam, in their zeal for Jihad, ignore many of the tenets of the Qur'an, which teaches:

Say ye: "We believe in God, and the revelation given to us, and to Abraham, Ismail, Isaac, Jacob, and the Tribes, and that given to Moses and Jesus, and that given to [all] Prophets from their Lord.

We make no difference between one and another of them, And we bow to God [in Islam]

CHAPTER 2, "AL BAQARA", VERSE 136

Obviously there are differences between the two faiths – chiefly those concerning the divinity of Jesus Christ and His resurrection. But the idea that this must result in a war to the death between rival religions is a concept that the enlightened in both would not countenance.

We should not forget that the great majority in both faiths long for peace.

There are 1.9 billion Christians in the world, and 1.1 billion Muslims which is easy to say, but both faiths are riven by divisions; Catholic and Protestant, to go no further in Christianity, and Sunni and Shiite to go no further in Islam.

Muslims can be found on every continent – 31 million in Europe for example, and over 5 million in North America. Because of wars and persecution, Muslim communities are becoming sizeable minorities in many hitherto Christian countries. Their zeal and devotion often puts Christians to shame. More people worship in Mosques in England, than in Christian churches. The challenges and demands they put on believers makes the average 'comfort-zone' Christian congregation look anemic. A Muslim prays, whether in public or private, five times a day, and gathers in community in his mosque at

noon on Fridays. He observes all the demands his faith requires, and in the ninth month of the Islamic calendar he fasts rigidly through daylight hours.

What do Muslims believe? A simple summary describes it thus:

"The central Muslim belief is that there is only one God, unique, incomparable, eternal, absolute, and without peer or associate. He cannot be perceived in this world but through His works.

Other important tenets of Islam are that God is the Creator of all that exists – and that His will is supreme; that He has sent messengers to humankind, of whom Muhammad was the "seal" – that is, the last; that the Qu'ran is the Very Word of God; that angels, immortal creatures, exist, as does Satan; that humans are responsible to God for their actions, and that, on Judgment Day, an all-knowing and merciful God will judge all mortals according to their deeds in this life".

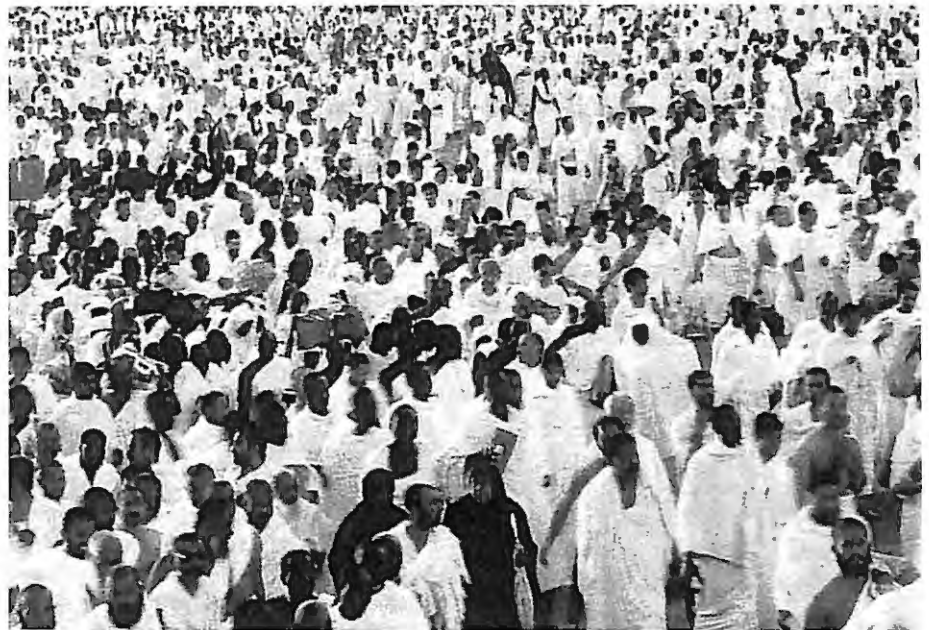
Once at least during a lifetime, every Muslim is expected to make a pilgrimage to Makkah (Mecca) for a ceremony known as *Hajj*, which occurs in the 12th month of the Islamic calendar. Here purification, prayer and ritual surround the *Ka'bah*, a black cubical stone structure in the courtyard of the Great Mosque at Makkah. Muslims believe this structure was built

by Adam and rebuilt by Abraham and his son Ishmael.

In a gathering that dwarfs any other regular assembly in the world it grows larger every year. In 1965, 294,000 gathered in the *Hajj*. In 2002 that number had swelled to 2,300,00. Just under a quarter-of-a-million came from Indonesia alone. Forty five per cent of those attending were women. The number of flights carrying pilgrims in 2002 was 6226. Over 1.2 million sheep and goats were needed to feed those assembled. Over 40 million loaves of bread had to be prepared. Over 14,000 people were engaged full-time in garbage collection and disposal.

Ask those attending how many agreed with terrorism and it would be a fraction of one per cent. There is widespread indignation at the West's treatment of Islamic minorities such as the Palestinians, and its predatory behaviour in attempts to control Middle East oil. But the vast majority want peace as much as anyone else.

How, then, can reconciliation be achieved out of these different faiths? Both would agree that the basic ingredients are justice and mercy. Both East and West is persecuted by the most



destructive religion of all – Mammon, or the almighty dollar.

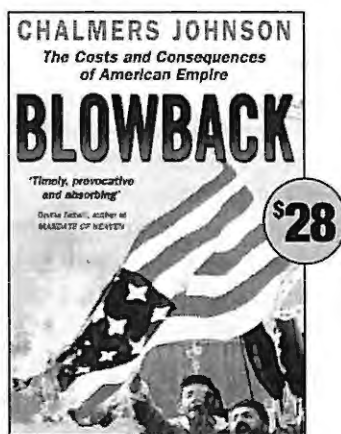
Increasingly, Christians and Muslims are beginning to meet in a common opposition to this common enemy.

Amongst the most authoritative and statesman-like voices for Islam in the world is that of Dr. Chandra Muzaffar of Malaysia.

His international Movement for A Just World draws on a panel of brilliant writers and commentators of all faiths

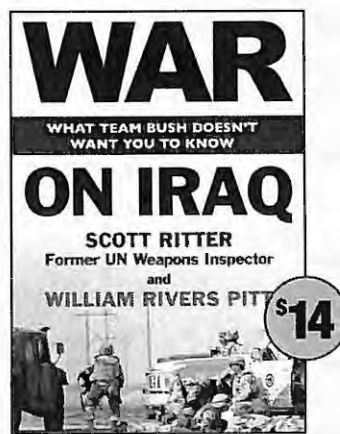
from round the world. He presents a voice for authentic Islam that is seldom heard, offering hope in a sea of despair. **(International Movement for a Just World, P.O. Box 288, Jalan Sultan 46730, Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia)**

Illustrations by Samia El-Moslimany and Marwan Naamani in Saudi Aramco World, depicting (a) the Hajj encampment that fills the narrow valley of Mina east of Makkah with 1.8 million pilgrims; and (b) the gathering of people for Hajj.



BLOWBACK
Chalmers Johnson

An explosive account of the resentments American policies were sowing around the world before 11 September 2001, and the economic payback that will be their harvest. Blowback – a term originally coined by the CIA, to describe the unintended consequences of American policies. In his devastating critique, Chalmers Johnson shows how this concept has challenged America's superpower status in the twenty first century.

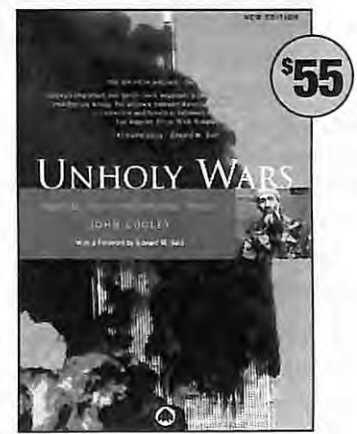


WAR ON IRAQ
What Team Bush

Doesn't Want You To Know

Scott Ritter & William Rivers Pitt

The definitive debunking of the arguments for a war on Iraq by the former weapons inspector who is a major voice throughout the international media, and who knows from the inside what the risks really are – both of not going to war and going to war.



UNHOLY WARS
John Cooley

Cooley focuses on the numerous riots, uprisings and terrorist acts in the Arabic-speaking parts of the Middle East over the last two decades. He examines ties even to the World Trade Centre and Kenyan and Tanzanian embassy bombings. This provocative and unsettling book is in the detail and provides insight into many events in the Middle East for the general reader.

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Heritage celebrates the life, and mourns the passing of Elma Joyce Butler



Born on the 25th September 1920, Elma passed away on the 31st December 2003. We salute a worthy Australian patriot, who lived her life with unstinting commitment to her family, the cause and the country she loved.

David Thompson, past National Director of the Australian League of Rights:

Even her reputation was inadequate preparation for a first meeting with Elma Butler. Encountered in her own setting at *Runnymede*, in the League's city office, or simply at Eric's side, she was always a larger-than-life figure.

My first sustained acquaintance with Elma was in 1975, when I first enjoyed her legendary hospitality at *Runnymede*. As little more than a boy far from home,



Pat Walsh, Eric and Elma 1968

Elma set out to mother me, and include me in her home. Although I could never have been a son to her as were Phillip and Dick, over many years and many visits, I came to feel a part of her family; a rare privilege.

And her hospitality *was* legendary. Whether catering for a dozen people at short notice, painting the house, cooking for an army of houseguests, or brewing her own ale (or mead), she never failed to make the visitor feel completely at ease. The number of people who passed wonderingly through her home and enjoyed her company, whether humble or exalted, is simply astonishing.

Elma lived life at a pace that few could match. Scornful of laziness or self-pity, she lived life on terms that insisted on action of a wartime nature. She was unfailingly cheerful, brutally efficient, and totally committed to Eric, her family, and the League. Elma Butler

was a glutton for life, and her death even a relief for those who loved her being forced to see her ill and incapacitated.

Even Elma's dearest friends could not exactly describe her as angelic or timid. When provoked, she was more than capable of a savage response. In her capacity as Eric's Melbourne office manager, she guarded his interests, and those of the League, like a tiger. In fact, her colleague of many years, 'Jim' Marsh, purporting to be thoroughly intimidated by her, took to referring to Elma as "The Panther". Those who managed to arouse her enmity can testify that it was as fierce as her loyalty.

To those who did not know Elma well, she may have appeared to live life in her husband's shadow. This was never the case. She was, of course, a most unusual person, as Eric Butler's wife would have needed to be, but Elma Butler was an exceptional individual in her own right.

Many a time, in accepting a fulsome vote of thanks at the conclusion of a meeting, Eric would pay a personal tribute to Elma. As a partial explanation of how he himself was able to achieve so much, Eric often said that such achievements were simply impossible but for Elma's vigorous support, encouragement and sheer hard work. The fact of the matter is that he was perfectly correct.

Eric himself is unquestionably an amazing man, and those who are privileged to know him well will testify that in Elma, he was not unequally yoked. She was a wonderful complement to Eric; a woman of fierce loyalties, exceptional personal standards, and a punishing work ethic. She accepted



Young Farmer Elma with her pet piglets

unquestioningly that the calling on her life was as a 'helpmeet' to Eric, and a mother to her sons. Perhaps the highest compliments that I can pay to her are that she laid down her life in that calling and that I loved her dearly.



Elma, the highland dancer

Elma's early years by her brother, Cedric Turner

There were six of us Turner children, who were fortunate enough to live on, and "off" the land. Elma was the fifth. Our parents were hardworking and generous. Each of us were taught something to enhance our talents: Anne – music and dancing; George – boxing; Margaret – violin and painting; Phil – top musician. Elma took dancing, and despite the roaming unemployed, it was considered quite safe for her, as a twelve year old, to travel from Merrigum to Kyabram on the motor rail for lessons. How times have changed!

At an impressionable age, she witnessed the desperation of men tramping the roads in search of work. They came to our area in the hope of some fruit picking. On our farm we stocked sheep, cattle, and grew wheat, and vegetables under irrigation to provide food for the people who, simply, lacked the little pieces of "paper and ink" called money. Elma frequently heard father rant of the injustice of the financial system that allowed starvation to exist in a land of plenty. The big question was, "who created and controlled the finances of



The Butlers in Trafalgar Square, May 1963

the nation?" There was finance for war, but none for the needy.

The large cast-iron pot sat on the side of the stove. A sheep would be butchered, vegetables thrown in, and the destitute callers fed. I remember Elma weeping, one day, as she removed thistles from the feet of a man whose city shoes had disintegrated.

Elma excelled at highland dancing. She won competitions wherever she went. At 16 she was appointed a Competition Judge. Both Elma and older sister Margaret were very good looking, and took pride in their dressing. They were the first to appear in slacks in the Merrigum township - apparently it caused a bit of a stir! The first I heard of it was when we all missed church on Sunday.

It was about this time that the Merrigum farm was sold and we moved back to the homestead farm at Pirron Yallock.

Life there was in keeping with general country living in pre-war times. Shopping in Colac once a week, pictures and, of course, balls were the rage for the young. Elma and Margaret (boringly to me) used to (sometimes in turns) be Belle of the Ball. Margaret would, mostly, make the floor-length gowns.

Elma played basket ball with the local team. She was good, and had the "right" temperament to excel. War brought a halt to that.

Family life, anywhere, is not always rosy. We experienced our share of pain, of tragedies, or regrets. We had barely returned to "Terlinga" when our mother died. Anne was married and had a family of her own. George suffered brain damage, Margaret married.

Basically, at about 17, Elma became chief

cook and Director of the Household. I remember family arguments about "this or that", but there was an aspect of the human nature between my father and Elma that I'll never forget. They could argue with some passion and then, immediately, resume a conversation as though the argument never existed. I ponder how many of us can do that!

When Eric appeared on the scene, life didn't alter much except that when I came home from school in the evening I'd sometimes find "darned Butler's typewriter" hogging the table!

War saw Eric in the Army, and they married while he was on leave, on July 4th. A typical winter's day, brother Phil managed to bog the bridal car twice. Elma made all the arrangements. Margaret was Matron of Honour. I can't remember who arranged the dressing, but they looked beautiful.

With Eric in the Army, we still had Elma at home with us for some years. Eric used to send reams of material home for Elma to dispatch to the *New Times*. The *New Times* was the sole organ of Monetary Reform and Social Credit in Australia, and was sold on street corners and in newsagents. (The *League of Rights*, *On Target*, *Intelligence Survey* and *Heritage* were post-war creations).



Eric Butler, Margaret and Elma Turner shopping in Colac, 1942

Much of Eric's letters and material were censored and cut to pieces. Elma used to have to decipher Eric's atrocious handwriting and type the contents. How the censors used to decipher his writing remains a mystery.

Back into civilian life, Eric and Elma bought their home and land at Panton Hill, and we at "Terlinga" lost another family member to a different life-style, under which she fulfilled her destiny.

If I could say a prayer from the heart, I would say to Elma, "God gave you many talents, the greatest was a tremendous spirit which saw you rise above the detractors of your husband, the League and yourself, and the problems and hardship you faced. I pray, and know, that God gave you the power of love which was always evident. We, who truly know and love you, believe that God will take your hand, and walk with you, always."



Eric Butler and Elma Turner married on the 4th July 1942

National Director of the British League of Rights

Donald Martin, and wife Jane

An era has ended with the passing of Elma Butler. Elma has been part of the team promoting The Australian League of Rights since its formation.

There would be literally thousands of Australian and overseas visitors who have enjoyed the hospitality of Eric and Elma Butler at their home "Runnymede". Whilst hospitality was given throughout the year, undoubtedly the highlight was always the annual League gathering at the beginning of October. Visitors seemed to come almost literally out of the woodwork and a plentiful supply of food appeared almost as if by magic. It appeared as if Elma seldom slept during this weekend as she seemed to be constantly "on the go".

For many, many years Elma looked after the League office and the dispatch of the many items of literature and mail. After a very full day in the office, Elma would then be hard at work in the evening back at "Runnymede".

Eric was often away campaigning around Australia and in other countries of the English speaking world, and it was Elma who kept "the home fires



At Eric's 80th birthday, celebrated with grandchildren Troy, Sandra, Michelle and Wade (Mark was absent)

burning" and maintained the constant office and home routine. On a few occasions Elma was able to join Eric on his campaigning and meet League supporters in the more distant parts of Australia and the world.

Elma's life has been one of service to the League and what it stood for as well as an able supporter of her husband, Eric, in all his work. She will be sadly missed, but nevertheless fondly remembered and admired for her loyalty and achievements.

We offer our thanks for the life and work of Elma Butler, on behalf of The British League of Rights and its supporters, and our condolences to her husband, Eric, and sons Phillip and Dick and their families.

Dick Butler

My Mum! What can I say? She was, and still is, my hero.

Mum never complained about anything, no matter how bad it was. She got on and got the job done. Mum never wanted to put people out.

Mum always called a spade a spade so everyone knew where they stood with her, and she was a very forgiving person.

Mum had extraordinary gifts. . . she ran the farm, milking thirty-odd cows by hand; got us boys off to school, and went to the city to run the office (where she got the name from Jim Marsh as *the Pink Panther*), then back home, milk the cows, cook our meals and all over again. Catching the first train in the

mornings then back home in the dark. Mum made everyone welcome in her home, and there was always a bed for whoever - football friends etc.

It did not matter what time of the day or night, she could always pull up something to eat and drag out the home brew!

So now she's finished her job here on earth and it's now time for her to move on and keep Jim, Tom, Keith and all her and Dad's other friends that have passed on, in line.

Be warned, Lord, that Your House is in order! She is one hell of a woman! We love you and will miss you, Mum.

Phillip Butler

When you speak of Mum - where do you start? She achieved so much and lived life to the full, be it milking cows by hand, wrestling bull calves down so they could be castrated, painting and hanging wall paper, cooking up a storm for guests. Then in particular when Dad was the Shire of Eltham President, attending balls in her best finery - and while she was never at ease in public speaking, opening fetes etc.

She was also a very impatient person - as us Butler menfolk found out. If she wanted a hole dug for plants or a post - she wanted it done "yesterday" and if we were too slow, next thing you would find her with the pick, or crowbar and shovel, doing the job herself!

Mum took "Runnymede" from a small old farm house and turned it into the livable home it is today. Wasn't backward in forcing her ideas on



The Butlers in South Australia in 1995, with League National Director Betty Luks



A formidable combination!

Dad either. When they first moved to "Runnymede" in 1948, in the front hallway there was a wooden archway, which Dad thought looked neat. Mum was insisting it had to be removed - and removed it was. I came home from school to find Mum up a ladder with a wrecking bar removing it.

Dad had a meeting that night and came home - as usual - late. It took 2 days for him to realise it had gone - so as she said "Tommy", - her name of endearment for Dad "... you haven't missed it and it looks better without it!" In other words "done and finished"!

Mum was creative with her hands - in particular doing needle point. When ever she travelled with Dad, she would sit at the back of the meeting venue and pull out her bag of thread and needles. The one she was really proud of was doing the Tom Roberts "Shearing of the Rams" which she had framed and presented to me on my 50th. Certainly a work to behold.

Mum made "Runnymede" a home for our family, and all were welcome. First thing on arrival she would ask "Have you eaten?" - out would come the homemade bread sandwiches and her special soup. Right up until she and Dad went to Vasey House, she was still doing it.

You could go on and on - however, she was (is) our Mum and was Dad's best mate There is little doubt she made an impact on anyone she met and certainly is going to be missed by her family and friends alike. Her genes have now also passed onto her grandchildren and great grandchildren. They, like Dick and I, have a proud heritage which has come down Mum's bloodline, and hopefully they will be proud of it.



Mum - you rest in Peace and PLEASE don't tell St Peter you want something done "yesterday"! We don't need any more thunder and lightning!

P.A. Yeomans and Keyline Farming

John Paine



P.A. Yeomans

Way back in the 'sixties, there was an upsurge of concern about burgeoning world population growth, and how the poor and hungry, worldwide, were to be fed.

A man with exciting and visionary solutions was Ian Idriess, who had wonderful new concepts. He saw the topography of our great country, west of the Great Divide, as perfect for storing water, were dams to be constructed to collect and feed the dry inland that vital element - water, of which millions of gallons hurtled unchecked to the sea in times of flood rain.

Sadly, political will to implement this idea on a national scale was not there.

Much attention was paid instead to encouraging Australia's wide range of livestock and grain producers to increase their yields. Massive publicity was given to the highest DSE (dry sheep equivalent per acre) achieved in each State. Someone who successfully ran twelve DSE's per acre was recognized as a top producer in rural Australia.

Advice to the rural community in those days, available from university-trained officers of State Agricultural and Primary Industries departments, concentrated mainly on the amount of 'super' (superphosphate), minerals and trace elements to use as pasture topdressing in order to achieve the highest possible DSE. Resulting pest and fungus outbreaks were solved, again with the best available scientific advice, with liberal treatments of toxic organo-phosphate sprays of one sort or another.

These new practices required large sums of money to effect. Rural indebtedness climbed alongside increasing production. Within a few

years prices were so low that Shire Councils had to introduce a system for stock owners to deliver their sheep to enormous Council pits, where men with rifles shot and buried thousands upon thousands of animals. This was known as Progress!

There were political consequences to the crisis this caused in country communities, and I remember with horror the National Party (at that time called the Country Party) solution. They introduced a new slogan: "Get big, or Get out!"

What advice to all the soldier settlers who had fought for this great country and been encouraged to settle on small farms after the war!

Alive and well at this time was my great Australian, P.A. Yeomans.

P.A. Yeomans was in business as a mining engineer in Papua New Guinea, where the success of his business depended on knowing and applying correct techniques for water conservation, as well as controlling that essential element in a way that provided for the needs of his business while also preventing rapid flows of water doing structural damage to the landscape.

P.A. Yeomans later applied the techniques he had developed to his property near Richmond in New South Wales, and to three other properties, one at Cambelltown near Sydney, one at Bathurst, and one near Orange.

Accompanied by two friends, one an open-minded and active rural radio station operator at Horsham, another a doctor who was becoming disillusioned with modern pill-popping practices in his profession, I made a trip to study these three properties in operation.

What a sight it was! I remember particularly the western properties developed in P.A.'s style. Where bush had been cleared, tree lines about a chain wide were left on these hilly landscapes, always on a contour, to provide shelter for stock and crops, and to prevent erosion.

P.A.'s most outstanding results, to me anyway, came from his use of the chisel plough to aerate the soil. Pastures that had been treated to perfection in this manner almost automatically gave him healthy stock. He was a great advocate of small paddocks that could be grazed rapidly. Stock could be moved frequently to fresh feed, reducing build up of parasite infestations in the stock, and allowing the pasture to recover quickly. He illustrated this theory with some very well arranged diagrams. It was fascinating to see this happening on our own property when it was put into practice.

The health of the soil depended on three essential elements, illustrated appropriately by an arrangement of three words around his "Y" stock brand:

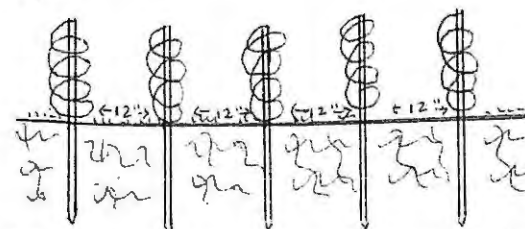


These were the three elements that P.A. insisted were the basic elements for healthy land, and stock as well.

How did he achieve this? With a chisel plough. He recommended chisel ploughing, on the contour, 2" deep the first year, 4" deep the second year and 6" deep the third year - enough for five or six years depending on the season, then you might do it once again to ensure penetration of those three vital elements, provided by our Creator, free, to maintain healthy stock by healthy soil management.

A perfect example was given of the effects on the soil of permanent stocking (see Fig. 3), and at a Field

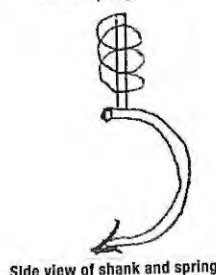
Fig. 1



View from behind plough after it has been through compacted soil, leaving minimum surface disturbance, and shattered sub-surface compaction.

Fig 2

Yeomans plough shanks



Day at Horsham I saw for myself the results of 4" deep ploughing year after year. There had been heavy rain after sowing this particular year, and regular ploughing at that depth had created a hard pan which held the water, turning the young wheat yellow and eventually drowning it.

Another Wimmera farmer found he had to use a bulldozer and ripper to break up the hard pan on his land.

On another occasion, after good autumn rains, the benefits of chisel ploughing were again demonstrated. Red legged earthmites were destroying a fine strike of clover in the un-aerated paddock alongside a healthy, pest-free aerated pasture. There could not have been a better example of soil aeration with a Yeomans chisel plough.

It is fifty years since I became involved in this method of farming, and I firmly believe P.A. Yeomans' Keyline farming is still the greatest advance in Australian farming practice. Chisel ploughing is



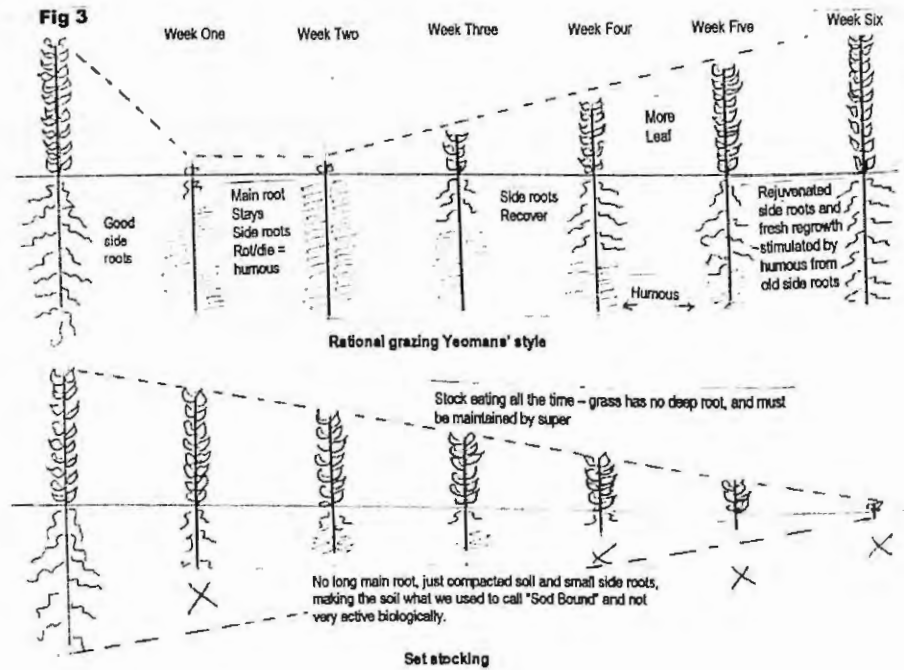
Keyline cultivation for soil and pasture development. The rough-finish cultivation provides the drastic soil aeration found to be so advantageous for rapid soil and pasture improvement.
(Photograph courtesy Alan Yeomans)

now almost universally accepted as best practice farming in Australia.

Unfortunately modern farming practice also includes the extensive use of chemicals, and I doubt if there would be many properties operating nowadays without a spray unit to control weeds,

pests and diseases, at considerable expense and to the detriment of both soil and stock - but perhaps to the benefit of the bank manager!

I, for one, firmly believe the great P.A. Yeomans left an invaluable legacy in the field of agriculture.



Aerial view of Narellan homestead, showing high contour dam and contour tree lines
(Photo courtesy A. Yeomans)



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"Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Acts 2:38

Halt the Salt!

The exciting twenty-first century sequel to the Keyline story

We acknowledge with gratitude the information provided for this article by The Bendigo Advertiser and Ross Hercott.



Ross Hercott demonstrates the depth of good soil on his Pyramid Hill property in Victoria.

Photograph by Peter Hyett

It's quite some plough, and it costs a sizeable amount of money to buy, but what it can do has the potential to change the face of farming, not only in Australia, but worldwide.

Combined brains and effort

The Eco-Plough 9 is the product of the combined brains of Ross Hercott, Pyramid Hill farmer, and Geoff Burnside, Wedderburn engineer, with up to date design innovations contributed by Matthew Cane, third year La Trobe University engineering student.

Matthew Cane knew nothing about ploughing, and had never been on a tractor when he approached Geoff Burnside for project work, but Burnside says the extra design work he applied to the original plough made Eco Plough 9 a revolutionary model.

"I knew straight away he was the person for the job. He had a real 'give it a go' attitude and wasn't tied down by preconceived ideas of what ploughing should be. The end result was amazing.

"The prototype was based on 1960s technology," says Matthew. "I've added a hydraulics system so all the controls (for the plough) are in the tractor with you. I also redesigned it so the points work at the right level, which makes it easier to pull and more economical to use."

Evolution of an Idea

The 1960s technology Matthew talks about no doubt refers to the plough developed by P.A. Yeomans in the 1960s (the subject of John Paine's article in this issue), and Ross Hercott himself is happy to acknowledge that he is standing on the shoulders of men like P.A. Yeomans and Geoff Wallace of the Kiwa Valley in Victoria, who first developed the concept of contour chisel ploughing to aerate the soil.

An inquiring mind

Perhaps because he grew up in the farming district of Mullawee west of Swan Hill, where he was born in 1940, Ross has been fascinated by water, and the science involved in its reticulation, ever since he was a child. During the first five years of his life all he knew was drought, and the need to treat water like gold.

We all learned about the water cycle – rain, growth, evaporation, clouds, and precipitation – when we were young, and grew up blithely turning on taps in the absolute conviction that water was infinite. Not Ross. He was obsessed with water, and what it can do, and fortunately his father and his science teacher recognized his interest and his ability, and did all they could to encourage him.

Based on his years of careful observation of the way water behaves, and his study of weather patterns, Ross eventually

came to the conclusion that the phenomenon of decreasing rainfall was due largely to the interruption of that basic water cycle by Man. Man-made artificial fertilisers block the air space between soil particles and cut the water cycle at the evaporation point, leaving the ground waterlogged and eventually too saline to use, and the surface crying for rain.

His theory held good when applied to farmland in Swan Hill where, by chisel ploughing at depth, and avoiding sulfuric-acid charged fertilizers, he was able to aerate the soil, restore the water cycle and deepen the topsoil, resulting in increased yields and improved plant health.



Geoff Burnside, Ross Hercott and Matthew Cane inspect the new plough
Photograph courtesy Peter Hyett and the Bendigo Advertiser

Pyramid Hill and Salt

The big test came when land was purchased at Pyramid Hill. Traditionally, Pyramid Hill averages 18 inches of rain annually. The last decade has seen this decrease to 12 inches.

The land had been labeled as class "D", or unusable for conventional farming. It had a salt reading of 58,000 EC units – two-thirds stronger than sea water, which is 35,000 EC units. Conventional agricultural advice was to retire the land, fence it off and move on.

Eco-Plough Mark I

From this challenging situation the Eco Plough was born. Created to cut through a barren wasteland of rock-hard, salt affected earth, caused by years of irrigation.

The ground was torn up and left to breath, and in 1994 the first crop was grown. No fertilizer was applied, but there was discernable improvement in soil health.

Silage was made from crop grown in the next treated paddock, and it yielded about 11 bags an acre.

The plough went through various modifications in the light of experience. In considering improvements Burnside and Hercott spent a lot of time redeveloping a set of points.

"We shaped them like a ship's front, and they cut through the dirt like a ship does the ocean," Ross explains. "They were reinforced, and designed to resharpen themselves as they worked.

"Most farmers go through three sets of points a day when they work in a paddock," he said. "These can cost up to \$50 each. Ours have lasted us three years so far."

Huge potential

At Pyramid Hill, interested visitors are now able to see for themselves that the plough has been instrumental in transforming hundreds of hectares into rich farming land.

Groundwater tests taken from a dam on the property in June 2003 returned a reading of 7.73 EC units, now safe and refreshing to drink. In 1993 the cattle on the property would not touch it.

Less than 50 metres from the dam's edge on a neighbour's unploughed property the salinity levels remain as bad as they were in 1993.

Ross Hercott attributes the amazing turnaround to opening up the ground and allowing it to breathe, so the water under the ground also gets to breathe. By doing this the quality of the water improves.

"We are told it takes hundreds of years to make good topsoil, by doing this I did it in two!"

The absence of fertilizer also aided the ground's recovery. "Salt in the ground is created when sulfuric acid gets trapped under the ground, lifting salinity levels," says Geoff Burnside. "Artificial fertilizer contains large amounts of sulfuric acid, and by cutting this out, the ground is able to breathe and repair itself."

Official skepticism

Water authorities don't accept Ross Hercott's explanation. They attribute the improved EC readings to nearby salt pumps which pump groundwater out of the area, enabling lush Lucerne and rye grass to thrive on Ross's property.

Ross himself wonders why, if this is

indeed the case, the properties on which the pumps are situated are as bad as ever. He points out also that the salt still has to go somewhere if it is removed in such a way, and the problem is not overcome.

Hope for the future

The dire warnings we hear daily from academic think tanks, government agricultural departments and water authorities on the rapidly deteriorating state of our inland rivers and saline soils, our wanton use of water - for all purposes, not only irrigation - and the already-designed legislation to remove control of water from landowners into the hands of private enterprise, present a frightening picture for Australians. It is a scenario being repeated all around the globe.

Is it over-estimating the Eco-Plough 9 to suggest it has the potential to reverse all this and restore our land to health and productivity, and our rainfall to the reliability it used to have?



Matthew Cane and Geoff Burnside inspect the ground after the new plough has worked the soil
Photograph courtesy Peter Hyett and the Bendigo Advertiser

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\$4

In the new millennium people are waking up to the realisation that almost every aspect of their lives is becoming affected by genetic engineering. Most of all they have been caught unprepared for the evidence of its health and other problems. It's time to wake up, think and act!

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TWO REVIEWS OF THE FILM "THE PASSION" By Mel Gibson

Heritage acknowledges churcheswithoutchurches@yahogroups.com for this material, with appreciation.

The majority of the media are complaining about this movie. Now Paul Harvey tells "The rest of the story" and David Limbaugh praises Gibson. Most people would wait and see a movie before giving the reviews that have been issued by the reporters trying to tell all of us what to believe.

Paul Harvey:

I really did not know what to expect. I was thrilled to have been invited to a private viewing of Mel Gibson's film "The Passion," but I had also read all the cautious articles and spin. I grew up in a Jewish town and owe much of my own faith journey to the influence. I have a life long, deeply held aversion to anything that might even indirectly encourage any form of anti-Semitic thought, language or actions.

I arrived at the private viewing for "The Passion", held in Washington DC and greeted some familiar faces. The environment was typically Washingtonian, with people greeting you with a smile but seeming to look beyond you, having an agenda beyond the words.. The film was very briefly introduced, without fanfare, and then the room darkened. From the gripping opening scene in the Garden of Gethsemane, to the very human and tender portrayal of the earthly ministry of Jesus, through the betrayal, the arrest, the scourging, the way of the cross, the encounter with the thieves, the surrender on the Cross, until the final scene in the empty tomb, this was not simply a movie; it was an encounter, unlike anything I have ever experienced.

In addition to being a masterpiece of film-making and an artistic triumph, "The Passion" evoked more deep reflection, sorrow and emotional reaction within me than anything since my wedding, my ordination or the birth of my children. Frankly, I will never be the same. When the film concluded, this "invitation only" gathering of "movers and shakers" in Washington, DC were shaking indeed, but this time from sobbing. I am not sure there was a dry eye in the place. The crowd that had been glad-handing before the film was now eerily silent. No one could speak because words were woefully



The Light of the World
Holman Hunt

inadequate. We had experienced a kind of art that is a rarity in life, the kind that makes heaven touch earth.

One scene in the film has now been forever etched in my mind. A brutalized, wounded Jesus was soon to fall again under the weight of the cross. His mother had made her way along the Via Della Rosa. As she ran to him, she flashed back to a memory of Jesus as a child, falling in the dirt road outside of their home. Just as she reached to protect him from the fall, she was now reaching to touch his wounded adult face. Jesus looked at her with intensely probing and passionately loving eyes (and at all of us through the screen) and said "Behold I make all things new." These are words taken from the last Book of the New

Testament, the Book of Revelations. Suddenly, the purpose of the pain was so clear and the wounds, that earlier in the film had been so difficult to see in His face, His back, indeed all over His body, became intensely beautiful. They had been borne voluntarily for love.

At the end of the film, after we had all had a chance to recover, a question and answer period ensued. The unanimous praise for the film, from a rather diverse crowd, was as astounding as the compliments were effusive. The questions included the one question that seems to follow this film, even though it has not yet even been released. "Why is this film considered by some to be "anti-Semitic?" Frankly, having now experienced (you do not "view" this film) "the Passion" it is a question that is impossible to answer. A law professor whom I admire sat in front of me. He raised his hand and responded, "After watching this film, I do not understand how anyone can insinuate that it even remotely presents that the Jews killed Jesus. It doesn't." He continued "It made me realize that my sins killed Jesus" I agree. There is not a scintilla of anti-Semitism to be found anywhere in this powerful film. If there were, I would be among the first to decry it. It faithfully tells the Gospel story in a dramatically beautiful, sensitive and profoundly engaging way.



Flowers and crown of thorns on the ancient pavement where Jesus stood before Pilate

Those who are alleging otherwise have either not seen the film or have another agenda behind their protestations. This is not a "Christian" film, in the sense that it will appeal only to those who identify themselves as followers of Jesus Christ. It is a deeply human, beautiful story that will deeply touch all men and women. It is a profound work of art. Yes, its producer is a Catholic Christian and thankfully has remained faithful to the Gospel text; if that is no longer acceptable behavior than we are all in trouble. History demands that we remain faithful to the story and Christians have a right to tell it. After all, we believe that it is the greatest story ever told and that its message is for all men and women. The greatest right is the right to hear the truth.

We would all be well advised to remember that the Gospel narratives to which "The Passion" is so faithful were written by Jewish men who followed a Jewish Rabbi whose life and teaching have forever changed the history of the world. The problem is not the message but those who have distorted it and used it for hate rather than love. The solution is not to censor the message, but rather to promote the kind of gift of love that is Mel Gibson's filmmaking masterpiece, "*The Passion*."

It should be seen by as many people as possible. I intend to do everything I can to make sure that is the case. I am passionate about "The Passion." You will be as well. Don't miss it! This is a commentary by DAVID LIMBAUGH



Part of the lithostroton, or large pavement of the Roman Praetorium where Jesus was judged by Pontius Pilate and mocked by the Roman soldiers

about Mel Gibson's very controversial movie regarding Christ's crucifixion. It, too, is well worth reading.

David Limbaugh:

MEL GIBSON'S passion for "THE PASSION"

How ironic that when a movie producer takes artistic license with historical events, he is lionized as artistic, creative and brilliant, but when another takes special care to be true to the real-life story, he is vilified. Actor-producer Mel Gibson is discovering these truths the hard way as he is having difficulty finding a United States studio or distributor for his upcoming film, "The Passion," which depicts the last 12 hours of the life of Jesus Christ.

Gibson co-wrote the script and financed, directed and produced the movie. For the script, he and his co-author relied on the New Testament Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, as well as the diaries of St. Anne Catherine Emmerich (1774-1824) and Mary of Agreda's "The City of God." "Gibson doesn't want this to be like other sterilized religious epics. "I'm trying to access the story on a very personal level and trying to be very real about it." So committed to realistically portraying what many would consider the most important half-day in the history of the universe, Gibson even shot the film in the Aramaic language of the period. In response to objections that viewers will not be able to understand that language, Gibson said, "Hopefully, I'll be able to transcend the language barriers with my visual storytelling; if I fail, I fail, but at least it'll be a monumental failure."

To further insure the accuracy of the work, Gibson has enlisted the counsel of pastors and theologians, and has received rave reviews. Don Hodel, president of Focus on the Family, said, "I was very impressed. The movie is historically and theologically accurate." Ted Haggard, pastor of New Life Church in Colorado Springs, Colo., and president of the National Evangelical Association, glowed: "It conveys, more accurately than any other film, who Jesus was."

During the filming, Gibson, a devout Catholic, attended Mass every morning because "we had to be squeaky clean just working on this." From Gibson's perspective, this movie is not about Mel Gibson. It's bigger than he is. "I'm not a preacher, and I'm not a pastor," he said. "But I really feel my career was leading me to make this. The Holy Ghost was working through me on this film, and I was just directing traffic. I hope the film has the power to evangelize."

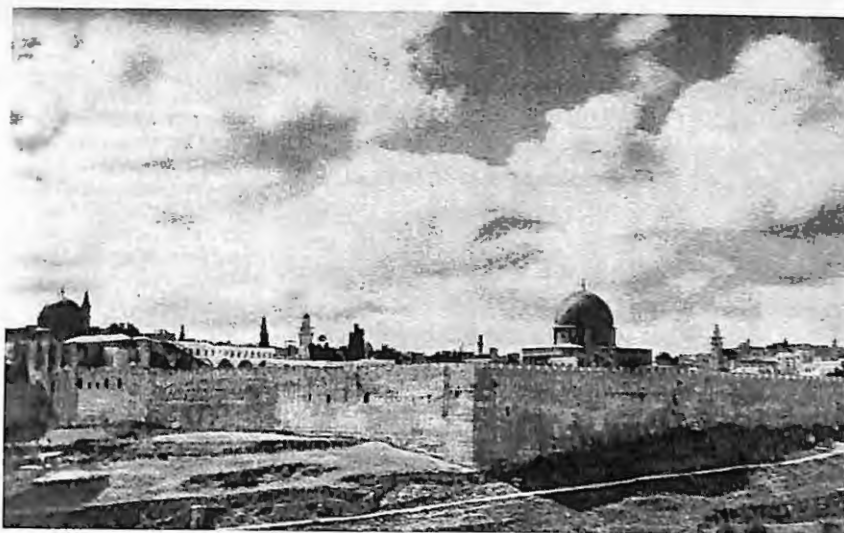
Even before the release of the movie, scheduled for March 2004, Gibson is getting his wish. "Everyone who worked on this movie was changed. There were agnostics and Muslims on set converting to Christianity...[and] people being healed of diseases." Gibson wants people to understand through the movie, if they don't already, the incalculable influence Christ has had on the world. And he grasps that Christ is controversial precisely because of WHO HE IS - GOD incarnate. "And that's the point of my film really, to show all that turmoil around him politically and with religious leaders and the people, all because He is Who He is."

Gibson is beginning to experience first hand just how controversial Christ is. Critics have not only speciously challenged the movie's authenticity, but have charged that it is disparaging to Jews, which Gibson vehemently denies. "This is not a Christian vs. Jewish thing. ' [Jesus] came into the world, and it knew him not.' Looking at Christ's crucifixion, I look first at my own culpability in that." Jesuit Father William J. Fulco, who translated the script into Aramaic and Latin, said he saw no hint of anti-Semitism in the movie. Fulco added, "I would be aghast at any suggestion that Mel Gibson is anti-Semitic." Nevertheless, certain groups and some in the mainstream press have been very critical of Gibson's "Passion."

The New York Post's Andrea Peyser chided him: "There is still time, Mel, to tell the truth." Boston Globe columnist James Carroll denounced Gibson's literal reading of the biblical accounts. "Even a faithful repetition of the Gospel stories of the death of Jesus can do damage exactly because those sacred texts themselves carry the virus of Jew hatred," wrote Carroll. A group of Jewish and Christian academics has issued an

18-page report slamming all aspects of the film, including its undue emphasis on Christ's passion rather than "a broader vision." The report disapproves of the movie's treatment of Christ's passion as historical fact.

The moral is that if you want the popular culture to laud your work on Christ, make sure it either depicts Him as a homosexual or as an everyday sinner with no particular redeeming value (literally). In our anti-Christian culture, the blasphemous "The Last Temptation of Christ" is celebrated and "The Passion" is condemned. But if this movie continues to affect people the way it is now, no amount of cultural opposition will suppress its force and its positive impact on lives everywhere. Mel Gibson is a model of faith and courage.



Jerusalem from the Jericho Road

The Two-day Course

There's a blight upon the country that's really quite degrading.
Invented by the bureaucrats to stop their jobs from fading.
A nasty imposition that has now been put in force.
It's become an obligation to attend a two-day course!

There are courses by the hundred to improve your education,
It's now become essential that you get accreditation.
You will need that bit of paper or you'll really be in strife.
Although what you will be learning, you've been doing all your life!

In the drought of '69 I cut scrub from dawn 'till dark,
And fence posts by the thousand I have hewn from iron bark.
Now it's hard for me to fathom that I could break a law,
If I dare to start the motor of my trusty old chain saw!

Take a chemical application, that's something I know best,
By now I must have sprayed every single living pest.
From cattle ticks to buffalo fly, from burrs to rubber vine.
But now a course I must attend or incur a whopping fine?

Just ask all those who know me, if I know how to use a gun.
From every sort of weapon, I've shot bullets by the ton.
Though I have been proficient since I reached the age of ten.
It seems that this is something I have to learn again!



I've studied maps upon computers, learnt how to market crops.
'Benchmarking' and "QA" - I've been to those workshops.
'Breed plan' is something, I now understand in full.
It took me two days to scrotum test a bull!

My stock is getting poorer from the lack of general care,
And all my bores and fences are in a sad state of disrepair.
You may think that I am lazy, but it simply isn't true,
I'd go to work tomorrow, but there's another course to do!

The bank would like to see me, for the funds are getting low.
And I'd like to get the time to plant the crops I need to grow.
My wife and kids all miss me, 'cause, I'm hardly ever there
I'd love to stay at home... but - there's this course in cattle care!

If I continue in this vein, I'll surely end up broke.
All the damned accreditations are really just a joke.
I'd rather wrestle with scrub bulls, or ride on bucking horses.
Than be subjected to all these two-day courses!

P.A. Burton, "Huntley" Clermont, Queensland

TWENTY CENTURY PANACEA

When you suffer with the flu
And you're feeling very blue;
When your temperature is high;
And it seems that death is nigh;
Take a pill!

When your chest is wracked with wheezes,
And you pant with coughs and sneezes;
When your eyes and throat are sore,
And you've tried remedies galore;
Take a pill!

If you've toothache, earache, asthma or the gout,
Arthritis, or "the thing that's goin' about",
Dyspepsia, or an ulcer causing pain,
Rheumatics, or an itching patch of brain;
Take a pill!

If the traffic or the children make you scream,
If you suffer with insomnia, or you dream;
If the phone or doorbell jars upon your ears,
And your life is made unpleasant with imaginary fears;
Take a pill!

If you're paranoid, neurotic, alcoholic or narcotic,
Don't despair like one bucolic!
When you want to give away the "booze" and "weed",
There's a simple answer to your "ail-amentary" need –
Take a pill!

If you suffer with amnesia,
Or you think you've had a seizure;
When you dread disease "pilgarlic",
Or you're told that you're "cathartic";
Take a pill!

If you've "castro-enteritis", the colic or burstitis,
Diverticulitis, a sinus or colitis;
"German" measles, or a touch of "Asian" iflu,
Hepatitis, or a coronary or two; -
Take a pill!

For blood-pressure and anaemia,
For a touch of septicemia,
For complexes psychiatric,
And a hernia hiatic;
Take a pill!

For your troubles catastrophic,
Legal, moral, philosophic,
Physical or mental,
Genetical or purely accidental; -
Take a pill!

A pill for this, a pill for that;
To make you thin, to make you fat!
To calm your heart, to clear your head!
To keep you alive until you're dead!
Take a pill!



There's little pills and big pills,
To help you thru' your mortal ills;
There's tinies, small ones and the grand kingsize;
To analyse and tranquilize.
Take a pill!

But now, O glory of the age!
We have ONE pill that's all the rage!
For man has reached the height of thrills!
By finding ONE to end all ills!
Take THE pill!

Now with this thing "Progesterone",
We clean up all the ills we own;
For in this wondrous year A.D.
We're living in the age B.C. (birth control!)
Take the pill!

.....

The year 2010 came to life;
But man had ended all his strife;
For spinning there was empty earth
- A planet void for lack of birth!

Ah! Lots of "things" that he had prized
Were there, "transistorized", "computerized".
A whirring, clanging population,
The joy and pride of man's creation!

But not one sound of childish glee!
To break the void's monotony!
To make the choice mankind was free –
A baby! or "economy"!

The T.V. glumly sat and stared;
The stereo rocked and wailed and blared.
The shiny car back-fired a moan,
"Oh, why are we left all alone?"

The jet flamed out, "Oh, dire disgrace,
This pillage of the human race!"
Now don't be such a stupid dill!!
For sure you've heard – THEY TOOK THE PILL!

- Louey
(Louis Pennier – a pseudonym)



The Tank that Never Was

By Marigold Paine (nee Manifold)

The little-known story of initiative, enterprise and expertise applied to solving Australia's lack of battle hardware in 1942; the enthusiasm and application of a group of patriotic Aussies who put it into effect, and the overwhelming of that effort by Uncle Sam, Australia's best friend.

They did it then – and we could do it again!

THINGS WERE GRIM IN 1942-43.

Singapore had fallen, hundreds of our soldiers were prisoners of the Japanese, and Australia lay wide open to attack from the north. It was openly accepted that nothing north of the "Brisbane Line" could be defended, and I can remember my father, who was in "Dad's Army" – the Volunteer Defence Corps – saying, "I suppose we can always throw road metal at them!"

Our own Cruiser Tank

Not long before all this happened, a decision must have been made somewhere, to build our own Cruiser Tank. It seems incredible now, in hindsight. But I know this is so because I was a tracer in the Drawing Office of Armoured Fighting Vehicles Production at Fisherman's Bend, a division of Australia's Ministry of Munitions.

The attraction for me in becoming a tracer had been that we were to work for three weeks and have one week off! That was incentive enough for me, as it enabled me to get home to the country. Added to this, the alternative could have been to work in the onion factory at Colac, as Man Power was in force in those days. Alas, I only managed that trip home once. From then on it was full steam ahead.

Home grown munitions

A team of designers led by Colonel Watson of the British Army worked feverishly to prepare engineering drawings, which then had to be traced in Indian ink on to waxed linen. These were then photographed, and became blueprints.

As I was not very proficient, the work I got was invariably very basic – usually washers or gaskets, but some of the assembly drawings were so big and intricate that two girls would work on them together. We were all very enthusiastic about the Australian Cruiser Tank No. 1, as we knew it to be first-class by British standards.

The Yanks roll in

But the blow then fell! Our new ally, America, cancelled the whole project! They had thousands of tanks all ready to move. We had produced exactly two. Unbelief gave way to bitter disappointment as we watched the entire drawing office dismantled.



CREWS PREPARING TO DEMONSTRATE how to tow out a tank during ditching and unditching tests



APPROACHING THE TARGET, the tank commander receives wireless communication from the control officer.



ADVANCING AND READY TO ENGAGE

In his farewell letter the Director, Mr. Code, said: "But while there is a natural disappointment, yet at the same time each of us can feel personal satisfaction in having contributed to the establishment, in the face of the greatest difficulties, of one of the biggest undertakings ever attempted in this country. . .

"The fact that the present trend of war makes the fulfillment of our work unnecessary and ordains that our future efforts should be directed to projects that now have priority in offensive strategy does not detract one iota from the value of the work we have done . . . I am sure that when all the facts can be made public after the war, all who have been engaged in our work will have ample cause to feel a sense of pride in having been part of a war organization that achieved so much, having regard to all the circumstances, in so brief a period."

Smith and Searls' canning factory, overalls and clogs

Suddenly out of work and thoroughly demoralized, I looked around for something really useful to do for the war effort.

A tiny factory in St. Kilda Road, used to make canning machinery, had been converted to munitions. With the exception of the manager, Mr. Jones, and another man to do the heavy lifting and make the tea, Smith and Searls' factory was staffed entirely by women. The lass who inspected the finished articles came from a beauty salon, one who turned her hand to fitting caps to telescopic sights came from a weaving factory. We produced steering worms for bren-gun carriers, telescope holders for 25 and 17-pound guns, reamed bushes, milled and trimmed specialist machinery and made cast-iron settings.

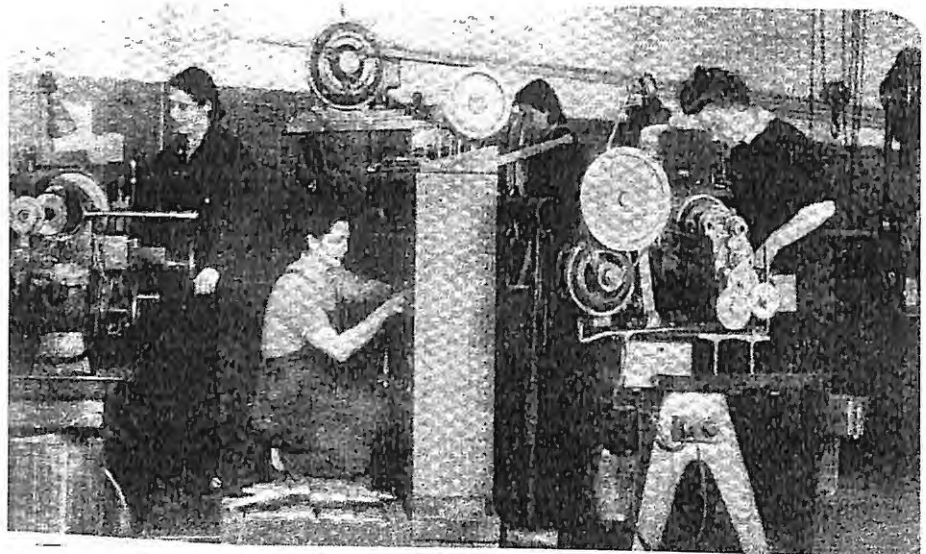
We wore industrial clogs, which had leather uppers and wooden soles, because steel filings got mixed with oil from the machines on the floor, and rotted the leather of ordinary shoes.

Iris Driscoll, who worked the milling machine for making worm drives for Bren Gun Carriers, had the job sewn up – she could read a magazine while the drill bored its way along the channel in the steel casing! Nothing was automatic, and that meant extreme accuracy was required by the operator to switch off

at the precise moment before screwing down the drill "5 thou." (if memory serves me that means five-thousandths of an inch!) for the return journey. I remember taking over her machine while she was ill, and expecting to have an easy few days. But not at all! I had to ask to be moved back to my machine after three traumatic days and nights – literally – having nightmares about where and when to turn off the switch. The thought of breaking the drill and incurring £5 worth of damage was more than I could stand! After that, I was happy to operate the turret lathe, making nuts and bolts, which hopefully had their uses somewhere, but sadly, not as vital parts of the Australian Tank Cruiser Tank No. 1!



The awesome milling machine, with its laid-back operator



View of the machines in operation. The author's machine is out of sight behind the girl kneeling down. She is second from right in the background



Bob Reid, with his white enamel teapot, always a welcome sight at smokoe time

Some Historical Notes on **The Tank that (almost) Never Was**

By Mike Cecil

Senior Curator, Military Heraldry and Technology Section
Australian War Memorial

AS a curator at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra, it is not unusual to field many inquiries and requests during the working week. While many are routine, there are a number that spark just that much more interest. So it was when I received a call from Nancy Lee, asking if I could provide some historical background on the Australian Cruiser tank project of the Second World War. Nancy kindly sent me a draft of Marigold Paine's article which is a fascinating insight into the human side of the Australian Cruiser tank story. I hope these few historical notes do her personal story justice.

Urgent priority

With the outbreak of the Second World War, Australia was in a parlous state in terms of mechanization, not only in armoured vehicles, but general mechanized transport of all types. The immediate and rapid expansion of the defence forces required the acquisition of all manner of equipment, much of which had previously been obtained from overseas sources. With allied countries under similar pressure to expand their armed forces, and with the early setbacks in Europe, there was precious little equipment available to Australia from overseas sources. Consequently, we had to look to local manufacture to provide for Australia's needs. The raising of the Second AIF saw four infantry divisions – the 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th Australian Infantry Divisions, raised for overseas service, along with 1st Australian Armoured Division. The problem with the latter, of course, was the absence of any modern armoured fighting vehicles (AFV) with which to train and eventually fight. With little prospect of obtaining AFVs from allied sources overseas, the Australian government authorized local development and manufacture. Several types of AFV were developed, either to local designs, or based upon United Kingdom designs adapted to local manufacturing methods. After some initial administrative problems, the Directorate of Armoured Fighting

Vehicles Production was established to design vehicles to Army requirements and coordinate production.

5,000 Machine Gun Carriers

The most successful of the local AFVs was the Machine Gun Carrier, of which nearly 5,000 were built. There were two derivatives: a mortar version, of which 400 were manufactured and 200 of the anti-tank gun version. Small numbers of scout and light armoured cars were also built, and attempts were made at a heavy armoured car and an armoured command vehicle, neither of which reached quantity production.

Probably the most ambitious AFV project was the design and manufacture of a tank. From the early concepts in 1940, it evolved into what became known as the Australian Cruiser Tank. It had many revolutionary features, including the casting of the armoured hull structure as a single piece, and the use of Australian-developed armour, called ABP3, which stood for 'Australian Bullet Proof'.

The early experimental models were constructed of pieces of cast armour, bolted together. These were three, designated 'E1' to 'E3'. They were used for testing and evaluation of ideas and design changes, and the third, 'E3', was apparently renumbered to become one of the first production model vehicles. The remains of one of these E-series tanks survives at the Melbourne Tank Museum in Narre Warren, Victoria.

Cruiser Tank AC1

The first production model was designated the Australian Cruiser Tank Mk1, or AC1, with the name of 'Sentinel'. It was powered by three V8 Cadillac 75 petrol engines, arranged in a 'clover leaf' and working through a common transfer case to a single drive to the gear box. In all, 65 of these tanks, armed with a 2-pounder gun, were built, but only a few were ever accepted by the Army, and then only provisionally, as they required a number of modifications and development changes to make them 'battleworthy'. There are three reasonably complete survivors: the

most original and complete is located at the Royal Armoured Corps Museum at Bovington in the United Kingdom, and two partially refurbished examples are located at the Royal Australian Armoured Corps tank museum at Puckapunyal, and the Melbourne Tank Museum at Narre Warren, both in Victoria.

AC2, AC3 and AC4

The AC2 was envisaged as a lighter, more easily constructed tank utilizing a number of readily available truck components. It was a design concept only, and none were actually built.

The AC3 'Thunderbolt' was a revised design armed with the much larger 25-pounder field gun, and with a number of structural and design changes to the hull and fittings. It dispensed with the hull machine gun (a very distinctive feature of the AC1!) and utilized a Perrier-Cadillac engine, which was three Cadillac 75 V8 engines clustered around a common crankcase, with a single output shaft. It was a smaller and more powerful configuration. The pilot model AC3 was delivered in June 1943, only a short time before the project was terminated by the Australian government. The sole AC3 built is housed at the Treloar storage annex of the Australian War Memorial in Canberra.

An AC4 tank, mounting the formidable 17 pounder anti-tank gun, was in the design phase when the project was terminated. Various photographs of one of an E-series tank with an experimental turret mounting the 17 pounder gun exist, but this model of the AC tank did not advance any further than that.

Termination

The project was terminated by Cabinet in August 1943, as a result of an extensive review conducted by Colonel Green of the US Army Ordnance Department. The United States had a vested interest in the project, as they were being asked to provide machine tools and many parts under the Lend-Lease program. An important consideration, and one which

carried some weight in the report, was that British and US built tanks had been arriving in Australia all through 1942 and 1943, to the point where nearly 1,500 were available in Australia by June 1943. This was nearly 300 more than the Army actually required.

Redeployment

Dismantling the project was a large undertaking in itself, as there were many local companies involved in the contract manufacture of parts, large stocks of parts already produced, and thousands of people directly employed on the project. DAFVP, where Marigold

worked in the Drawing Office, employed 586 male and 324 females spread between the Melbourne and Sydney offices, with the main office and experimental workshop located at Salmon Street, Fisherman's Bend. Many were redeployed with companies undertaking war-related work, such as ARC Engineering Pty Ltd of Ballarat Road, Sunshine, who absorbed 41 females described as 'Storewomen and Packers' and two males, described as 'Unapprenticed Youths'. Sadly, many others were simply let go to find their own way.

Perseverance and ingenuity

There is no doubt that the Australian Cruiser tank project was a particularly ambitious and bold one for a nation with very limited industrial capacity, and no experience in the design and manufacture of such a complex piece of war machinery. It is a credit to Australian perseverance and ingenuity that even one tank was completed, let alone nearly 70! Who knows what the project may have led to in the post-war period if momentum had been maintained, and the cruiser tank project brought to completion?

Letter to the Editor



WHAT TO DO WITH SADDAM?

Dear Editor,

Is it not curious? Now that Saddam Hussein has been arrested, no one quite knows what to do with him. Not even Professor Gillian Triggs, (Herald Sun, newspaper of Melbourne, 16.12.2003, page 19).

I think the whole idea of people going on trial outside their very own backyards of justice has created this human-made chaos.

The Human Rights watch doctors, the signing of the UN Security Council and the new International Criminal Court in the Hague!

With all this foreign interference our very own laws of justice are getting watered down. A country which has signed its rules of laws is to blame for not having proper hearing and rights.

Let's restore our proper common Westminster system, which worked perfectly in the past, and will work for us in the Australian future.

Yours sincerely,

Edith Knight

Montmorency, VIC 3094.



Responsibility

If they new the Law of Cause and Effect
These arsonists would know the debt they'd collect,
To learn to be good, and the bad to reject
Then this poor burnt land wouldn't be so wrecked,
That it's there for us to protect and respect.

If they are tempted to light these fires and ignite
For these brave men, risking their lives to fight
This aftermath such a frightening sight,
We would hope these arsonists see the Light.

The Universal Laws are justly made,
The bad that you do, returns to be paid
To teach lessons that you've betrayed,
For the bushland lost and the houses razed.

You have lost your way, and you must know
Life has a lot to give, if you wish to grow.
So make the decision and forward go
Knowing what you give out, and what you do,
is always by God's Law returned to you.

Delma McAloney, January 2002



KIWIBANK

CAN AUSTRALIA CATCH THE FIRE?



By Larry Noye

New Zealand continues to demonstrate how a Government bank can improve its fortunes – and much of our press hides it from Australian readers.

That country is using Post Offices as a base for branches of Kiwibank. There appears to be no reason why Australia should not do the same; our Post Offices are already transacting business other than mail.

Political will is lacking. Labor delivered up the Commonwealth Bank, which had traditionally undercut private banks in interest rates etc., as part of the curse of Keating. It has shown no inclination to return to representing the bank-battered underdog against the banking buccaneers.

No rejuvenation of the spirit of Ben Chifley, a wholehearted sponsor of government banking. Nor have the Liberals shown any return to policies adopted by Bob Menzies, another upholder of a competitive Commonwealth Bank.

Meanwhile, country towns are dying, with farmers bankrupted under the burden of repaying loans.

Labor Trailblazer

I speak as the author of a biography of King O'Malley (see *Heritage No. 96 2001*). That Labor trailblazer of the early 1900's launched the Commonwealth Bank, on the basis that economic woes weren't "the will of Allah". They were for want of banks operating on a Christian basis, he said.

New Zealand lost its government bank, the Post Office Savings bank, when the privatization spree was at its height in both New Zealand and Australia in the late 1980s. A Labor rebel of those years,



King O'Malley in 1913

Jim Anderton, continued to oppose that undermining of the public interest.

In a more favourable political climate in recent years, he and a small

band of supporters – the Progressives – have combined with the Labor Government led by Helen Clark, to found Kiwibank.

Media blackout

Australians are all too unaware of this bank. The extensive business pages of *The Age*, and perhaps the Fairfax Press generally, fail to carry stories about Kiwibank. *The Australian* has had a few, but long ago.

The rural weeklies took a stand during the time when Keating, the Bankstown Bonaparte, was quietly taking the Commonwealth Bank to its final one-third privatization in 1996. They came to ban publication of letters opposing that privatization. I had been writing such letters regularly for years. The New South Wales *Land* published one or two, and then none. *Queensland Country Life* and the Victorian-based *Stock and Land* continued to air my warnings. Then the ban extended. It looked suspiciously like editors got directions from the top. The independent West Australian weekly, *Countryman*, gave encouraging support for such letters.

Rural crisis

Yet the rural world was, and is, reeling. By 2000, Jeremy Lee, Toowoomba-based analyst and lecturer, was reporting, "About 70 percent of farms are in trouble economically. The situation is terrible; many country towns are dying, their hospitals and schools closing. The number of farmers is at an historic low; down to 80,000 where there were about 250,000 in the mid 1960s. Even with a good season and good crops, most of their money goes in servicing debts." He said that the last Labor politicians he recognised favourably were Jim Cairns and Clyde Cameron. He had a chapter in his book, *What Will We Tell Our Children?* on banks, and it was really good.

Labor leaders go soft

The writer recalls Cairns, speaking before a party branch in his Melbourne suburb of St. Albans, reporting he could not get "leaders" to support his policies in the Whitlam Government of the early

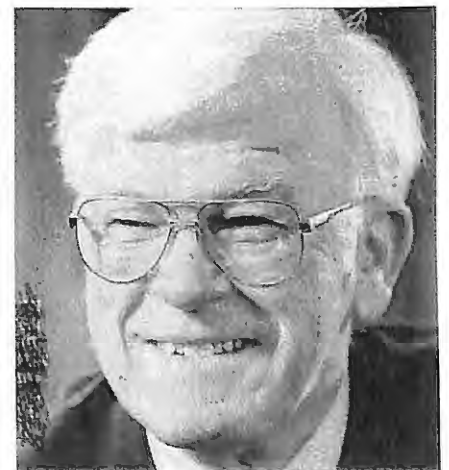
1970s. Whitlam had a wishy-washy record with the Commonwealth Bank. One minister, Clyde Cameron, reports his shock at failing to get Caucus support to stop Sir Brian Massey-Greene being reappointed to the bank board. Massey-Greene was a big-time businessman, one of several "barons of big business" Cameron assailed as board members. In 1911-12 his father, Walter Greene, later known as Massey-Greene, had been a senator when King O'Malley was winning the "people's bank". He consistently spoke against the bank's creation. Cameron says his opposition only held up Massey-Greene's appointment temporarily: ". . . thanks to the Hawke government, Sir Brian actually became chairman of the bank's board; and remained . . . until 1970, when replaced by Morrish Alexander Besley, another business tycoon."

Cuckoos in the nest

My research revealed that, while Besley was a director of nine companies, none was in the finance field.

John Ralph, appointed to the board in 1985 when Labor was in power, was then a director of Elders IXL Ltd., whose subsidiaries included Elders Finance and Investment Company – a foe of any interest-cutting Commonwealth bank.

Ralph quietly slipped into the Commonwealth bank chairmanship in 1999, by which time Howard and his Coalition were in authority, and the bank already privatized.



John Ralph, private tycoon appointed Chairman of the Commonwealth Bank in 1999

Fisher anticipated the danger

Well had Andrew Fisher, the miner who was Prime Minister when King O'Malley and Melbourne Trades Hall had won Fisher Government support for the new Commonwealth Bank in 1911, legislated for one-man bank administration. He was behind the historic appointment of Denison Miller as its first administrator. Fisher, against a board, said that members would have had to be drawn from men in finance jobs, with vested interests. The man appointed, Denison – later Sir Denison – Miller, set about using the bank in a nation-building role in the years before his death in 1923 (see *Heritage No. 97, 2001*).

This is colorfully recounted in Jack Lang's book, *The Great Bust*. He had one chapter, "King O'Malley's Dream", and also tells how Miller "demonstrated his vigour" in providing low-interest loans for government projects.

Miller used the Commonwealth Bank to provide finance for Australia's World War One commitment, and to enable BHP to establish port works at Newcastle and factory backup for the new steel city. He aided farmers and gained the support of an otherwise-critical New South Wales Labor Party, which had been talking of nationalizing steel.

The first knife

After Miller died in 1923, James Kell continued as one-man administrator. But the first of several steps to undermine the Commonwealth Bank through the years took place under the Bruce-Page government.

A Board was appointed to run the bank. Economist D.J. Amos, in his much-publicised booklet *The Story of the*

Commonwealth Bank, saw the board as "financial magnates (controlling) the destiny of the people's bank, although they might themselves be shareholders in private banks, and in spite of the fact that such institutions . . . were normally lenders of money at interest on a very large scale."

Later, on 28 March 1950, Chifley told Parliament, "A great deal of the misery, suffering and starvation (of the Depression) would have been avoided . . . if there had been wise financial and economic administration." Nobody appointed to the old board failed to have very conservative views, he said.

The inability of the Scullin Labor Government to counter the directions of the bank board, led by Sir Robert Gibson, is a dark chapter in Australian history

Chifley reversed that in the 1940s. He legislated for government to determine banking policy.

He also had a run-in with Sir Claude Reading, bank board chairman early in the Curtin government in the 1940s, when he was Treasurer.

L.F. Crisp reports graphically in his *Ben Chifley* (1961), that Chifley had issued an edict on interest rates. Reading had urgent phone talks with a private bank leader, and with Chifley.

He had returned to the bank board, after one talk with Chifley, "white with indignation." But, as the author put it, Reading was put in no doubt about who was in charge.

In the Hawke-Keating era, someone such as "Richo" (Graham Richardson) would have helped keep the people poor, by slipping among the contestants.

Cameron, still with us in Adelaide and now in his early nineties, was a lone Labor voice against the bank's privatization in the 1990s. He regarded sponsors of the move as "traitors".

Keating the Crafty

King Keating the Crafty seized on the failure of the State Bank of Victoria to launch the first shock privatisation of the Commonwealth Bank in 1990. This was in the face of the attitude of the 1988 Labor Conference in Hobart against its privatization.

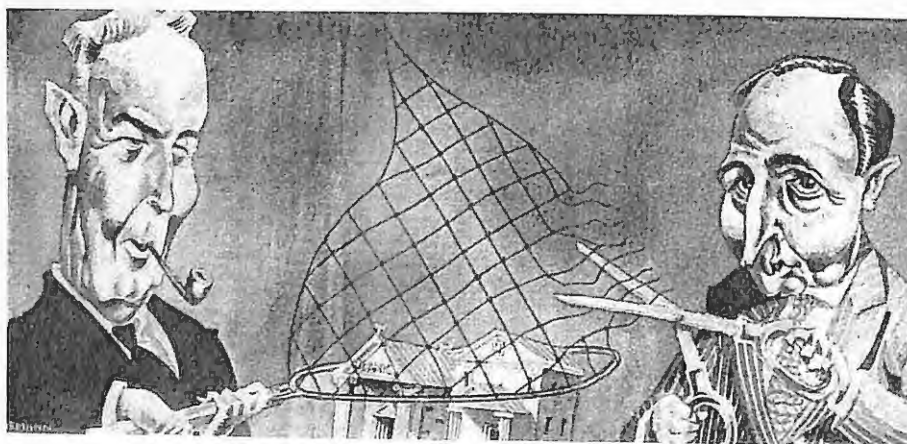
In the *Sydney Morning Herald*, Alan Ramsay – a journalistic foe of Keating – reported on September 1, 1990, that Keating went as far in Caucus as to make the bank privatization a "non-negotiable" condition of the Government deal with Victoria. How shockingly brazen! Ramsay wrote: "Keating would allow the Commonwealth Bank to join the bidding for the (State Bank of Victoria) only if it could sell 30 per cent of itself to pay for the deal. This element was non negotiable."

The New South Wales Right tightened its ranks. The *Financial Review* reported on September 17, a fortnight later, that "a meeting of ALP members in NSW yesterday broke down in chaos as the chairman, former NSW State Minister Mr. Terry Sheehan, twice refused to allow a vote to be taken on a resolution criticizing the Federal Government over the partial privatization of the Commonwealth Bank."

The report quoted ALP members as saying an informal vote taken on the prepared resolution was carried by 247 votes to 68. The State Council of the party in Brisbane on September 15 reaffirmed its opposition to asset sales, and criticized the Government for not consulting more widely in the party. Protests were also raised in Melbourne.

Bank of Victoria goes to the wall

A little-recognised loss was that of the State Bank of Victoria, which disappeared, just as did the State banks in South Australia and West Australia during those years of delivering banks run by governments into the hands of what O'Malley called "money mongers". This Bank had been more powerful than the Commonwealth Bank within Victoria. It was reported to be 2½ times bigger, through more generous housing loans.



Ultimate sabotage. Tiedemann cartoon depicting Keating's sabotage of Chifley's work
The Australian, 2001

The national office of the ALP in Canberra came to play a part, played by Party secretary Bob Hogg.

The Hawke-Keating government failed to put the bank privatization to the National Executive. The national office wrote members Australia-wide, reporting a "Special Conference on Privatisation", which was a show of party democracy.

I was in the party at the time, and recall Hogg reporting to Telopea branch in Canberra once that he found Keating "a very persuasive man" on the phone.

Forestalling Labor opposition

The missive to members listed the pros and cons of privatization, which then included airline and telecommunication privatization as well. They were listed for discussion at the conference. The Commonwealth Bank was covered, but only as if it was determined policy, not for the conference.

Came the conference on September 24, 1990. The deal was swallowed: no debate on the bank. It was left to Victorian rebel, Pete Steedman, to lead against privatization, but the party's bank was not discussed. It was not discussed – the fate of the bank which Clyde Cameron has stated was probably the greatest measure taken by Labor governments to protect Australians from exploitation.

Strange bedfellows

One is left to speculate on Bob Hogg's part in this. He was the subject of an interesting article in the *Good Weekend* section of such Fairfax papers as the *Age* and *Sydney Morning Herald* on September 26, 1998.

It said that the young political activist had denounced the bourgeoisie – but at 61 "he was now a member of it". Writer Richard Guillatt noted Hogg was "sitting in a curious place. (He is) sitting around a table with those arch capitalists from the business council of Australia and discovering they have a lot of ideas in common." The article went on to say that, in 1993, the former "crusading socialist" became a John Singleton Group executive. "Singo's history appalled many in the ALP". He had founded the right-wing Workers Party, attacked Whitlam and devised Liberal advertising campaigns.

"Financially the job certainly solved Hogg's post-ALP blues: in the past year he has cashed in more than \$200,000 worth of stock options and is sitting on another parcel worth nearly \$350,000 (at the time of going to press). Hogg had resigned from the Singleton board a month earlier.

Ironically, Hogg was quoted as calling Alan Bond "a two-bob crook". Those who knew of the National missive on the Commonwealth Bank could understand the article's reference to Hogg, in softening an ALP Conference opposition to uranium mining. He devised a "tortuously-worded policy".

Final sell-off

Keating took the Commonwealth Bank on to two further one-third privatizations, ending with his fortunate political exit in 1996.

Meanwhile, the rural world continued under the dark cloud of unsympathetic banks. Farmers continued to go to the wall. The electorate kicked out Labor.

The Liberal John Howard who, as Treasurer, had apparently opposed Malcolm Fraser's efforts to force interest rates down during the Coalition Government ending in 1983, took the stage. No relief from the banking buccaneers.

The sizzling undercurrent was evidenced in Queensland. A National MHR, Bob Katter, who had opposed losing the Commonwealth Bank in Parliament, as it represented "a mechanism for controlling the economy," was upheld by the wide rural electorate of Kennedy he represented. He stood as an independent eventually, and remains a pestiferous rebel in Parliament.

Among Coalition ranks, Howard, whose silence allowed Labor to privatize the bank, is at variance with the Liberals' much-lauded founder Bob Menzies, who is seen in the *Trial Balance* memoirs of Nugget Coombs, Commonwealth Bank Governor, as a keen protector of the beleaguered Coombs and his role in leading a competitive bank. Nor is John Anderson, Deputy PM and National leader, any modern day representation of his party's Dr. Earle

Page, a founder of the farmers' party. In the 1920s as Federal Treasurer, Page conferred with the retired King O'Malley and, to O'Malley's eternal appreciation, strengthened functions of the bank Labor had created a decade earlier.

How O'Malley would turn over in his grave today! When he was fighting off a privatization bid launched by the non-Labor Government in 1938, he issued a booklet, warning "all true Australians" of what the bank meant to a stable Australia.

That privatization was beaten off. The Labor Opposition led by Curtin and Chifley was opposed – they were true Labor men in those days.

In 1939, O'Malley, then 81 years old, had grim words of warning for Australians. "I call on all true Australians to swear by the tombs of their ancestors that they would never elect to Parliament men whose secret mission is to destroy the Commonwealth Bank," he wrote.

That bank has in fact been destroyed.

New Zealand example

The course today is to take some action, like New Zealand, to recover the situation. A new bank is needed, the agricultural and business world are still the long-suffering victims of what O'Malley called "the kingdom of Boodledum."

The use of Post Offices as a base, like New Zealand, is one possibility. Another is to act like Bob Menzies did in 1944, when he gathered together diverse non-Labor political groups to form the Liberal Party.

Labor could consider gathering together public-serving banks like the Bendigo Bank and, to a lesser extent, St. George, plus the new "workers bank", Members Equity. That little-known bank is owned



Paul Keating and Bobb Hogg

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth calls for a spirit of service from her people

I AM sure that most of you will be celebrating Christmas at home in the company of your families and friends, but I know that some of you will not be so lucky. This year I am speaking to you from the Household Cavalry Barracks in Windsor because I want to draw attention to the many Servicemen and women who are stationed far from home this Christmas. I am thinking about their wives and children, and about their parents and friends. Separation at this time is especially hard to bear.



It is not just a matter of separation. The men and women of the Services continue to face serious risks and dangers as they carry out their duties. They have done this brilliantly. I think we all have very good reasons for feeling proud of their achievements - both in war, and as they help to build a lasting peace in troubled spots across the globe.

None of this can be achieved without paying a price. I know that all our thoughts at this time are with the families who are suffering the pain of bereavement. All those who have recently lost a close relative or friend will know how difficult Christmas can be.

These individual Servicemen and women are our neighbours and come from our own towns and villages; from every part of the country and from every background. The process of training within the Navy, the Army and the Air Force has moulded them together into disciplined teams. They have learnt to take responsibility and to exercise judgement and restraint in situations of acute stress and danger. They have brought great credit to themselves and to our country as a whole.

I had an opportunity recently at the Barracks to meet some of those who played their part with such distinction in the Iraq operations. I was left with a deep sense of respect and admiration

for their steadfast loyalty to each other and to our nation.

I believe there is a lesson for us all here. It is that each of us can achieve much more if we work together as members of a team. The Founder of the Christian Faith himself chose twelve disciples to help him in his ministry.

I was reminded of the importance of teamwork as I presented, for the first time last Summer, the Queen's Awards for Voluntary Service by groups within the community. I have been struck by how often people say to me that they are receiving

their award on behalf of a team and that they do not deserve to be singled out. This annual award recognises the team rather than the individual.

In this country and throughout the Commonwealth there are groups of people who are giving their time generously to make a difference to the lives of others. As we think of them, and of our Servicemen and women far from home at this Christmas time, I hope we all, whatever our faith, can draw inspiration from the words of the familiar prayer:

Teach us good Lord
To serve thee as thou deservest;
To give, and not to count the cost;
To fight, and not to heed the wounds;
To toil, and not to seek for rest;
To labour, and not to ask for any reward;
Save that of knowing that we do thy will.

It is this knowledge which will help us all to enjoy the Festival of Christmas.

A happy Christmas to you all.

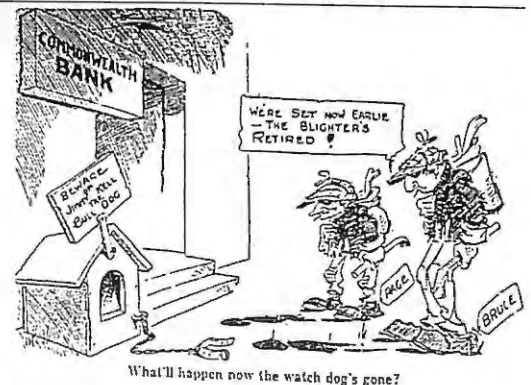
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by 43 super industry superannuation funds – so it has real dough behind it. Its Chief Executive, Anthony Wansteker, has said that since obtaining a banking license in 2001, its customer base has grown 30 to 40 percent each year.

Then there are the States – where Labor is in government throughout Australia.

Now denuded under privatization of their own Government-owned banks, they could either throw in with a Federal Bank, or start up their own.

Farmers are still going through the slough of despair, and need rescuing.





The Twilight of the Elites

By David Flint

Reviewed by John Brett

What this book is all about, the author summarises on the very last page. He relates the position of Australia fifty years ago, and I will quote it verbatim: "That Australia was not perfect. But our hospitals, our medical services, our schools, our universities, our insurance industry, our criminal justice system worked well and in many ways worked better than now. And we lived in a society where State governments guaranteed law and order to such an extent that any citizen who put bars on her windows or alarms on his car would have been thought of as eccentric. It was a tolerant society, welcoming – indeed warmly welcoming – immigrants, well before the word multicultural was even coined. And as well, a referendum on aboriginal issues had been passed and passed overwhelmingly. It was a society in which the family was the central core institution ensuring the well being of children".

Acts of God and man

If you do not like that regime, or disagree with it, you will be wasting your time reading this book, unless you honestly want to know what has caused our nation's decline, which is so adequately explained in it. There can only be two avenues through which to pursue the answer. One being that this tragedy is all an act of GOD, (like tidal waves, thunderstorms and earthquakes) and we cannot do anything about it – the fatalist path. The other being it has been a deliberate act of MAN – which means it can be altered and therefore there is hope. Then if it is an act of man, are the Elites truly the culprits?

The word ELITE in this book will be quite a worry to the guilty, but a vague notion to the enquirer, so perhaps at the outset we should put the ELITE'S philosophical identity and position beyond dispute. There are only two basic philosophies of man from which all thought and, hence, action are derived. The oldest by use is the belief that all POWER AND AUTHORITY is external to the individual, traditionally practised by Caesar and absolute Kings, and present day Marxists (and some Prime Ministers!), where both power and authority reside in the hands of a selected single person. The more recent discovery of 2,000 years ago is the antithesis of

that original philosophy, in that all POWER AND AUTHORITY arises from within the individual, which makes each individual responsible, not only for his/her actions, but also for his/her thoughts. Any exercise of power needed to be tempered by the authority of God. Western Christian Civilisation, of which our nation, and we ourselves, are a product, was built on that latter premise, and we still cannot get figs from thistles!

Politically correct

This point is important, for in a review of this book by Christopher Pearson in *The Weekend Australian* (22-23 November 2003), the critic very carefully tiptoes through the tulips by taking the dichotomy approach of 'right' and 'left'. This is a very safe political approach, (it being "politically correct") because nobody really can tell you the difference between these political parameters, whatever they are, but 'right' and 'left' was the invention of the early ELITES, born after the French revolution as they sought to 'divide and rule,' which produced the intellectual chaos that now reigns.

Well, I hasten to assure you that Professor David Flint is absolutely 100% soaked in the latter philosophy, of all power and authority arising from within the individual, and he makes very clear that his adversaries are firmly entrenched in the former philosophy. Right at the beginning of his book, in his own backyard of the Law, in the first chapter, he deals with the lawlessness of the lawyers, brilliantly paraphrasing what the lawyers have done to us, with the parable of the Australian Samaritan, who on the road to Canberra comes across an Australian taxpaying peasant bashed and robbed and left for dead by the roadside. The Samaritan rolls the victim over and aghast – exclaims, "We must find who did this and help him"! Well we all know what help the guilty receive, an enormous increase in salary from the public purse, together with promotion, and the adulation of the media.

Defence of Anglo-Celtic tradition

Professor Flint is at his best when dealing with our Crown and Constitutional institutions. The only emphatic critique from Christopher Pearson puts it so

clearly – "One of the great strengths of *The Twilight of the Elites* is the defence of our Anglo-Celtic tradition, particularly the role of the Crown and the Westminster system as the cornerstone of our constitutional framework. Flint makes the point that the very openness and flexibility of our tradition as one of the oldest democracies in the world derives from these traditions. The importance of the Anglo-Celtic tradition to modern Australia is endorsed by David Malouf in his recent *Quarterly Essay 12 – Made in England: Australia's British Inheritance*.

Defence of family unit

It is his defence and understanding of the family unit, as the whole basis of our previous stability and success, which is so important in this book. No fault divorce and abortion will destabilise any normal social structure and neither of these policies were derived from society as a whole, or mass protests, but were imposed by manipulation from what he calls "Judicial activism," whose amoral base was made safe by the withdrawal of the churches from the battlefield, taking with them what took more than a thousand years to mould, by the long process of trial and error, sometimes in the very face and out of the hands of the ELITES. When Mother Teresa spoke at one of President Clinton's breakfasts, she brought the whole assembly to many seconds of silence, when she asked the President: "How are you going to stop people murdering each other if you allow mothers to murder their own babies?" And as Professor Flint asks, "why do we resort to mass immigration to replace the 100,000 odd murders a year by abortion?"

In the first pages, Professor Flint quickly cites examples of how an infinitesimal minority has imposed a range of policies on the great majority of Australians, then poses the "fundamental question": how did this minority impose its agenda? Only by exposing the way the ELITES operate and, of course, their agenda, can the majority ensure that Australia is the country they wish it to be. That is the theme of this book. Then at the conclusion of that chapter, he tells us: "The way ahead for Australians is to understand how the elites – a small minority – have surreptitiously

achieved much of their agenda. Then the mainstream will never again be afraid to affirm the truth – that Australia was the success story of the twentieth century and remains so today.” To which I would add that Australia is the greatest success story in all history, attested to by the millions one way voting with their feet. So, the book is full of evidence to support that affirmation.

Border control

The author spends a lot of time dealing with the TAMPA and the border control issue, agreeing the incident arrived at the right result for the right reasons, but the episode is told from the appearance of the TAMPA on the scene as related by the ELITE’S media. Professor Flint refers to the TAMPA being “Norwegian-owned”, but I can only recollect the media telling us it was “Norwegian-registered”. Perhaps it was both, perhaps I have got it wrong, but I was personally alerted by the obvious inconsistencies in the unfolding drama, and the emphasis on “Norwegian” with the total disregard for the enormous losses being incurred by the non-complaining owners, whether they were Norwegian or some of the Elite’s friends, as surely the ship’s master must have been!

All acts of “God” like thunderstorms, tidal waves and earthquakes are preceded by warnings, as man made events cast their shadows before them. In the TAMPA case big long shadows were there for all of us to see. This container ship had had its containers arranged on deck with a space in the centre, which never happens in real practise for safety reasons, and this pattern would have been arranged only at a container terminal. Then one container at least had been fitted out with toilets, which requires some previous planning. The whole drama takes place over many days with the ships owner’s losing at least \$20,000 a day, but not a mention of the owners or a squeak out of them! Then there was the prior location of video cameras and twin-engined helicopters.

Media control

But this drama did foreshadow John Howard’s co-operation with George Bush in breaching Afghanistan and Semitic Iraq’s borders. Now, only the ELITES have the expertise and experience and control of the media to stage shows like this. (No concern about sponsorship). In this context we need to keep in mind the Twin Towers demolition job, where the owners, the

Rockefellers (being down to their last trillion dollars ?), were lucky enough to sell the building some months before its destruction, to the New York Port Authority. Not to mention the presence of the video cameraman who positioned his camera early on that fateful morning, well away from the drama but expertly focussed and ready to be hooked up to the ELITE’S worldwide TV audience! We must always ask: “How did the TV video man know beforehand?” Only the TV Elites have the answer. What we witness of world events is always through the ELITE’S video camera, with the ELITE’S voiceover. Ask John Pilger! Australians witnessed this recently with a flag-burning episode, a non-event without the co-operation of the TV.

Down the memory hole

But back to the book, which exposes so much of this world wide minority ELITE, and as such the ELITES will be making sure it goes down the memory hole as soon as possible, together with anybody extolling its virtues. Margaret Throsby’s producer will be making sure she does not interview Professor Flint on her prestigious A.B.C. FM interviewing programme, about this book, following his earlier book, ‘The Cane Toad Republic’. Journalists working for the ELITE can forget about it, unless they want to and can retire immediately!

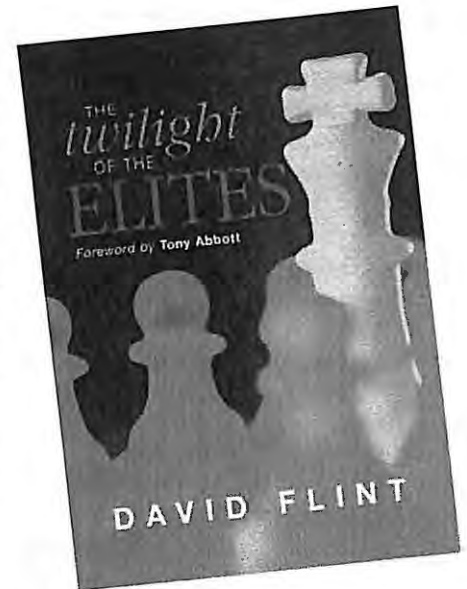
It was the great Edmund Bourke who said: “There is nothing more irritating than the pedigree of ideas”. This book is going to really irritate the ELITE for just that reason! However it is great vindication of those few Australians who tried so hard, for at least a generation after the war, to warn Australians about the ELITE’S power, when they were travelling in the vehicle labelled communism, and later when they were advertised as “small ‘l’ Liberals.” It was MARX (that) gave the ELITES their mission.” These early warners were only smashed by censorship and the use of the pejorative, not by facts, and Professor Flint deals very effectively with the use of this pejorative weapon.

Means and ends

If there is one single thing the ELITES can be accused of, it would be continuing to always elevate means into ends. Somebody once remarked that: “elevating means into ends will bring upon mankind all the penalties that are possible” and that is exactly what is happening to us. Money, a man-made ticket system (an abstraction) has been elevated from a ‘means’ into an

‘end’ in itself, and it is in this sphere that the ELITES are so powerful and impregnable.

I have not seen this book on view in bookshops, but I obtained my copy by order from Angus and Roberston. Now that it has been reviewed it till disappear from public view, but not from the memory of the ELITES. Hopefully it will enjoy the massive sales of Paul Sheehan’s unadvertised blockbuster *Among the Barbarians*. Anybody wanting to defend our rich and valuable heritage, will need a copy of *The Twilight of the Elites*, or better still buy two copies and give one to a friend who cares about our children and our nation’s future.



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"In Australia, class differences are economic rather than cultural."

M. Barnard Eldershaw, author. 1939.

IF, as we are told, M. Barnard Eldershaw's comment (above) on class distinction was quote of the year in 1939, the observation that the gap between rich and poor is widening at an ever-increasing rate is so commonplace in 2003-2004 as to be impossible to source.

Critical comment on our justice system is widespread too, as is the disaffection with politicians of all persuasions. The wishes of electors are not translating into government policy.

2004 is an election year, when hundreds of local government, State and Federal parliamentarians have to face their electors. There seems to be a nervous awareness among them that they had best listen carefully to their constituents if they want to be re-elected. Newspaper advertisements and "personal" letters to electors seek opinion as never before. "I'm listening! Tell me what you think!" our candidates implore.

Australian electors in general are now deeply cynical, and few really believe their opinions are canvassed in order to assist in policy formation: it's just an election ploy.

In ground such as this the seeds of first, disillusion, then apathy and disengagement, and eventually anger and rebellion germinate. . .

* * * * *

Heat, fires and war

1939 was a memorable year for a number of reasons. Australia experienced a record-breaking January heat wave – in Adelaide temperatures reached 116.9°F, the highest so far recorded, high enough for an egg to fry on the pavement in Hindley Street and buckle railway lines. In Victoria the worst fires in so far recorded history destroyed timber mills, homes, bridges, tramways and machinery, incinerating seventy people and injuring hundreds of others.

Australia won the Davis Cup from America

In March the first warplane made in Australia, the Wirraway, had its first test flight; early in April Prime Minister Joseph Lyons died of a heart attack, and by the end of the month Robert Menzies, leader of the United Australia



Queensland Parliament building from the botanic gardens

Party, was the new Prime Minister.

The outbreak of war in September overshadowed every other event.

Insurrection

In August of that year a dramatic event took place in Queensland – the invasion of Parliament House, and the attempted physical detention of the State Premier and his Ministers.

What a story! It made headlines at the time, but few seem to remember it today.

As far as it is possible to tell, the insurrection had its origins in central Queensland among members of the League for Social Justice.

The League for Social Justice

The League for Social Justice drew its members from all walks of life, and from all over Queensland. Its members did not fit into the category of disgruntled unemployed, or of activist union socialists. Their purpose was to study the social inequities of the day, and seek ways to address them.

The decade leading up to 1939 had been one of grinding poverty and hardship in Australia. Since 1930, in response to the worldwide Depression, a compliant Australian government had observed the dictates of British bankers to balance its budget and fund its overseas debt, resulting in reduced wages, lower commodity prices, drastically reduced incomes and widespread

unemployment. As a result, thousands of houses stood empty, vacated by unemployed and destitute tenants who camped with their families in public parks or joined the endless stream of job-seekers tramping from town to town. Local government soup kitchens fed thousands of starving people, while families tried to meet their needs with the government handout of 10/- a week. Not surprisingly there was considerable industrial unrest, as the few who did have jobs were asked to work long hours for low wages, and government policy came under critical scrutiny in the light of the new insights of British engineer, Clifford Hugh Douglas, on the cause of the depression and the manner in which money was created.

Sir Otto Niemeyer

The dire financial circumstance in which Australia found itself was due to the policies adopted by the federal and State governments in response to a visit by Sir Otto Niemeyer of the Bank of England, and Professor Theodor Emanuel Guggenheim Gregory, a member of the teaching staff of the London School of Economics. Sir Otto Niemeyer addressed a conference of Commonwealth and State Ministers in Melbourne in August 1930, and informed them that Australians were living beyond their means; they would have to reduce their standard of living, work harder and produce more. It was imperative that Australia now balance its budget and repay overseas debt, he said, "in order to reassure the world as to the direction in which she is going, financially and economically".

Government representatives dutifully responded. The overseas gods of finance had spoken! 'The Premiers Plan' was introduced; government



Courier Mail, Saturday August 5, 1939

borrowing ceased, public works came to a grinding halt. Private Banks were already calling up overdrafts and, not surprisingly, unemployment and business failures occurred in epidemic proportions.

NSW Premier Jack Lang

The only government to call this tremendous bluff was that of Jack Lang in New South Wales. Lang's policy, as stated at the time of the 1930 New South Wales election, was that until such time as Great Britain agreed to reasonable repayment terms, as she herself was receiving from the United States, Australia should cease to pay interest on overseas debt. Further, the interest rate to Australian bondholders and private finance should be reduced, and the existing system of currency be altered from that of a nominal gold standard to a system more suited to modern conditions, preferably the goods standard. Jack Lang refused to sacrifice the people on the altar of financial capitulation to the Bank of England. A policy of sacrifice in a country literally stacked with real wealth did not appeal to him as common sense.¹

Money, media and dirty tricks

At the time New South Wales made this courageous stand, its bank – the Government Savings Bank of New South Wales – was the second largest bank of its kind in the British Empire, but it was not large enough to survive the retaliatory guns of Money and Media. The newspapers trumpeted that “Lang will confiscate bank deposits!”; “Lang will smash the banks and seize your savings!”. They denounced Lang as a swindler and a thief. People were hired to walk in and out of the bank's premises as if a run had started. For seven months it put up a great fight, but in the end it was forced to close its doors.

This, then, was the environment in which the League for Social Justice grew.

Through members' personal experiences in trying to find employment, or finance their businesses and farms in this climate, and through the enlightenment they acquired by studying the writings of C.H. Douglas on money creation, and the takeover of national finance by powerful private banking cartels, these men were aware of the fraud being perpetrated against them, and felt totally justified in resorting to unconventional means in their efforts to restore the balance of justice.

List of demands

A list of demands was drawn up: the introduction of a 40-hour week; cooperative control by the farmer of all

until an undertaking was given to listen to their demands.

A simple, straightforward, *illegal* plan! As subsequent events were to show, members of the League were apparently well versed in the history of their forebears, and were inspired by such as Archbishop Langton, who brought about the capitulation of King John with the signing of the Magna Carta in 1215, as well as the 1746 uprising against the English by the Scots.

They had clearly concluded that individual rights were only as secure as individual will to defend them, legal or not. In their opinion, government in Queensland required similar intervention.

Why do people obey the law?

The people do not obey the law because they are commanded to do so; nor because they are afraid of sanctions or of being punished. They obey the law because they know it is a thing they ought to do. There are of course some wicked persons who do not recognize it to be their duty to obey the law: and for them sanctions and punishment must be inflicted. But this does not alter the fact that the great majority of the people obey the law simply because they recognize it to be obligatory on them. They recognize that they are under a moral obligation to obey it. For this reason, it is more important that the law should be just. People will respect rules of law which are intrinsically right and just, and will expect their neighbours to obey them, as well of course as obeying the rules themselves: but they will not feel the same about rules which are unrighteous or unjust. If people are to feel a sense of obligation to the law, then the law must correspond, as near as may be, with justice.

Lord Denning: The Family Story

An illegal plan, of necessity, must be secret, and while this may not be too much of a problem for conspirators who have the backing of a CIA or the resources of an Osama Bin Laden, for a group of cash-strapped country Queenslanders in 1939, the execution of such a bold move presented a considerable challenge. For the protection of their loved ones, it was essential that they be told as little as possible, and one can only speculate on the subterfuge employed

to keep them in ignorance. Legend has it that an important Brisbane cricket match was concocted, to explain the “training” sessions and planned absence from home!

This was to be no furtive fourth-form prank. Members of the League for Social Justice included thoughtful men of some standing in the community. They included professional businessmen, farmers and tradesmen. As already mentioned, some of them at any rate, had obviously studied the works, and probably attended the lectures of British engineer Clifford Hugh Douglas, on the flaws in the existing financial system and the measures needed to correct them. Major Douglas had conducted a speaking tour of the British

primary industries; full-time work for the unemployed; the removal of all road and bridge tolls; reduction in taxation and rates; public finance without debt; no alteration in legal hotel hours without a referendum. “The League for Social Justice wants a Twentieth Century Magna Carta!” stated the leaflet they drew up for distribution.

In the face of obdurate government refusal to receive their delegation, some members of this League decided to take direct action to enforce a hearing.

The plan

The plan was to enter Parliament House, forcibly detain members of Parliament, and stage a twenty-four hour sit-in, with the members of Parliament held hostage,

Commonwealth, including Australia, five years previously, attracting enormous crowds and considerable publicity. His proposals came to be known as Social Credit, and despite his warnings on the inherent dangers in party politics, Social Credit Parties had sprung up in Canada, New Zealand and Australia.

Two, if not more, of the planned raiding party were members of the Queensland Social Credit Party: the leader, George Gray, and Phillip Cameron, who was the Party's Secretary. Gray subsequently vehemently denied that the Social Credit Party had anything to do with the planning or execution of the raid, and although there was some evidence that the conspirators had made use of Party premises while assembling their gear, it figures no further in newspaper accounts of the event.

Publicity and drama were essential to the success of the plan. The men knew that there was widespread disillusionment and disbelief in the community regarding the reasons for the Depression and the handling of the nation's finance in general, and they were confident that their actions would be received with support in the community once they became known, increasing pressure on the government to listen to the demands put before them.

As strategies were considered, it was decided to conduct the raid on a caucus meeting of the Parliamentary Labor Party. This would involve all members of the executive, and avoid confining opposition members of parliament. They may also have given some consideration to the legal implications of taking arbitrary action to intervene directly in the legislative process. A caucus meeting was in the nature of a planning and discussion one.

Getting down to business, the group set about the manufacture of stout batons with which to arm themselves. Not just any old lump of wood either. They made a large number of well-turned batons, which they stained and finished with white cord-bound handles. It is not unreasonable to surmise that Arthur Stewart Ingham, one of the conspirators, had a hand in this part of the plan, as he was a carpenter by trade. The group also contained a Minister of the Church of England, the Rev. Father James Vincent Cavey, and the reality of what they were proposing must have struck him forcibly

at this stage, as he now protested at the violent connotations of batons, suggesting walking sticks might be more appropriate. Warning to their work, however, the others would have none of this! A compromise was agreed. The Reverend Father would not participate in the raid itself, but would wait in an office in King House in Brisbane for advice that the plan had been effected, and would then contact the Telegraph office and the Criminal Investigation Branch, and act as spokesman and publicity agent for the group.

Whether any womenfolk were involved in the preparations is not known, but some neat needlework was certainly involved in the preparation of identity buttons and red, blue and green ribbons to be sported by the raiders. Random numbers – one as high as 160 – were issued as well. These were to indicate at the time of the action that a large number of armed men were involved. The ruse was successful too, as newspapers subsequently reported that the raiders were apparently only some of a considerable number of members.

The raid was planned for the 4th August, 1939, around the time of the Brisbane Show. Logistics required an assembly point, as members came from several different places – Kingaroy, Canungra and Redcliffe; the five coming from Kingaroy to fly in on the morning of the

raid. A hall was hired under the guise of a group of pineapple growers needing premises to discuss the staging of their exhibit for the Show.

As the plan was set in motion, the opportunity to improvise and improve on the plan presented itself in the person of a pig farmer, who had just purchased a supply of barbed wire, and had it in the back of his truck "Bring it down! That will be part of the joke!" they told him. "We'll carry these coils upstairs, and it will make fine headlines in the press!" The press described this individual as an "unfortunate" pig farmer, without detailing whether he was one of the original thirty-seven who was interrupted in his daily work by the onset of events, if he did in fact accompany them to Parliament House, or if he merely permitted them to commandeer his barbed wire. In any event, the barbed wire arrived, complete with staples and hammers, at the rendezvous point. After checking their plan, donning their identifying ribbons, rubber gloves, buttons and numbered discs, and arming themselves with batons, they prepared to set off.

Whether or not it was due to the addition of the coils of barbed wire, a number of taxis were engaged to augment the transport facilities available, and off they set!


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37 CHARGED AFTER RAID ON LABOUR CAUCUS

Court Sits Until Midnight P.M. Refuses Bail

WEAPONS SEIZED



Courier Mail, Saturday August 5, 1939

Arriving at Parliament House, they dispersed as planned and marched into the building from various entry points, some carrying the barbed wire, and some brandishing batons. A number of them accosted a messenger at the Alice Street entrance, and ordered him to conduct them to the Caucus meeting room. The messenger attempted to divert the intruders along another corridor, but was sharply instructed to do as he was told. As they passed the switchboard attendant, she recognized the unorthodox nature of the procession, and left her post to warn other members of the staff. She was swept aside, as were the messengers posted in other parts of the House. They were told there was no intent to harm them, but they should not interfere with the delegation's progress.

By this time they knew where to go. After a short altercation with the attendant at the head of the stairs, who challenged them, they rushed the double doors leading to the old Legislative Council Chamber where the Party was meeting, and flocked into the room.

According to reports in the *Brisbane Courier Mail* the next day, and in subsequent court proceedings, events then proceeded as follows:

Astonished by the dramatic interruption of men brandishing batons, some bewildered Parliamentarians were at first under the impression that a sight-seeing party had taken a wrong turning. They realized their error when a tall man gave orders to his followers to encircle the room. The men took up their positions at the rear of the seats on which members of the Party were sitting.

Members who attempted to rise to their feet were pushed back into their seats. One of them was the Treasurer, Mr. F.A. Cooper. Mystified, he turned to the man who pushed him and asked indignantly, "Who are you – a detective?"

The man did not reply.

The leader shouted to the Parliamentarians, "Keep your seats!"

"What do you mean by this?" demanded the Premier (Mr. W. Forgan Smith), rising from his chair at the head of the centre table.

"Sit down!" commanded the tall man.

"I refuse to be instructed by you!" retorted the Premier. Walking the length of the chamber and standing in front of the man he exclaimed, "What do you

mean by this invasion of a meeting of the Labor Party assembled in Parliament House?"

"You will know in a minute, our leader is coming," the man in charge replied.

A tense situation was developing, but the Premier who remained calm throughout this extraordinary incident, urged his colleagues to restrain themselves.

Addressing the tall man, Mr. Forgan Smith said, "I am astonished at this display of force. This is a country in which such a demonstration is absolutely uncalled for."

The man in charge muttered some remark about a deputation to discuss grievances, whereupon the Premier retorted: "There is a constitutional method of approaching me for a deputation. This is a display of Fascism! I will not countenance such an outrage in Queensland! I refuse to be intimidated by you, individually or collectively, and I ask you to withdraw!"

The intruders refused to do so, and the leading man exclaimed, "Have you heard of Culloden Moor?"

"I have," said the Premier.

"Well, my ancestor fought there. They were rebels and I have a right to be a rebel!"

(The Battle of Culloden Moor [April 1746], where the Duke of Cumberland's army defeated the highland clans who had risen in rebellion in support of the Young Pretender, Charles Edward Stuart. Culloden ended the rising.)

"If you are a rebel you will have to take the consequences of being one!" retorted the Premier. He was still talking when the police arrived.

Police were telephoned

With considerable presence of mind, the Minister for Health and Home Affairs, (Mr. E.M. Hanlon) had slipped out of the room unnoticed in the excitement, and using a back entrance leading to the Premier's room at Parliament House, telephoned the Commissioner of Police (Mr. C.J. Carroll) appraising him of the situation and instructing him to send a strong party of police to the House immediately.

Meanwhile, the Clerk Assistant (Mr. R.L. Dunlop) had also telephoned the Roma Street police station.

Making his way down a back stairway,

Mr. Hanlon went around to the front gate and met the police, whom he ordered to surround the building to prevent anyone from leaving. Six luckless visitors to Parliament House, including a prominent businessman from Mackay, were detained for more than an hour and a half before they were able to satisfy the police that they had no connection with the affair.

All of the men who had caused the disturbance were taken into custody and placed in the large committee room on the ground floor under guard.

"You will need this!"

A Gilbertian touch in a scene which had all the elements of melodrama was provided when one member of the "deputation" dropped his baton just as the police rushed into the Chamber. The Treasurer, Mr. Cooper, picked the baton up and handed it to its owner, courteously remarking, "You will need this, won't you?" Mr. Cooper must have been a bit of a comedian, as he was reputed to have broken into a rendering of "*The Red Flag*" at some point in the confrontation.

The men were packed into the Black Maria and other cars and removed to the watchhouse at 3.30 p.m. after warrants for their arrest had been issued. Never had the Brisbane watchhouse had so many inmates at the one time!

A large number of batons and other paraphernalia were collected by the police. In addition to the supply of barbed wire which the visitors brought in cars, trophies of the police search included knuckle dusters, torches and shaving kits."

Doubtless the entire city was by now buzzing with news of the affair, and the Rev. Cavey duly arrived to provide support. The day was now drawing to a close, and the process of charging the prisoners was proving to be a lengthy one, as each one was charged separately.

Late Night Court hearing

Rev. Cavey approached the Police Magistrate, Mr. A.H. O'Kelly, and requested that a night court be held, as he wished to make application for bail on behalf of each defendant.

This request was met, and the court hearing was held, despite the late hour,

at 10 p.m., and continued until midnight. As they were led into court the men rubbed their hands together and pulled their overcoats closer against the chill of the winter evening and the wind rattling the windows of the court. The dock would not hold more than half of them, the rest having to be accommodated on chairs around the court room. They were charged on warrant with:

having assembled together and being so assembled conducted themselves in such a manner as to cause the subjects of our Sovereign Lord the King in the neighbourhood to fear on reasonable grounds that they would tumultuously disturb the peace.

The Magistrate was unsure of the connection between them and Rev. Cavey, or whether he had their authority to apply for bail, but the accused unanimously assured him that they were indeed asking for bail.

In official police style, Sub-Inspector R. Brannelly informed the court that it would be alleged certain acts of intimidation and violence had been committed at a Caucus meeting in Parliament. It would be some time before inquiries into the incident were completed, and until such time as they were, he strenuously opposed bail.

Bail was refused, and the men were remanded over the weekend.

Brisbane must have been a relatively law-abiding town in 1939, because the sudden influx of thirty-seven prisoners to the watchhouse considerably taxed its facilities. Extra blankets and mattresses had to be obtained from other Police Stations. Feeding the prisoners presented another problem. For their evening meal they ate 34/- (\$3.40) worth of sandwiches, and seventy four pies, although it was reported that they changed their minds about the pies. One can only speculate why; perhaps the prison officer warned them not to risk them, or perhaps they were going to have to pay for them personally!

By Monday the 7th August when the preliminary hearing resumed, the number of accused had increased to thirty-eight, as by this time the Police had evidence that Rev. Cavey was involved in the plot, and so his name was added to the list.

Those charged were:

Herbert Stanley Anderson, 40, Baker
George Henry Anderson, 52, produce

merchant and commission agent
Edward John Bunbury, 21, farmer
William Vessey Bunbury, 24, farmer
Richard Newton Boorman, 50, business manager
Francis Charles Harding Cain, 37, electrician
Phillip John Kellett Cameron, 22, journalist
Harry Algernon Cash, 50, broker
Ernest James Vincent Cavey, Church of England Minister
Edward Henry Churchward, 18, farmer
Frederick William Percival Carter, 21 farm labourer
Harold Dwyer, 26, baker
Charles Dunstan, 26 farmer
Richard Dunstan, 29, farmer
Leslie Euler, 22, farmer
George Henry Gray, 36, accountant
James Robertson Grimmett, 46, scrub faller
Arnold Victor George Hallam, 40, labourer
Alfred George Hubner, 38, dairyman
James Cranston Huxley, 36, salesman
Arthur Stewart Ingham, 42, carpenter
Arthur Edward Jordan, 44, farmer
Volney Arthur Kirk, 48, farmer
Henry William Alexander Kirk, 56, dairy farmer
Jonas James Kirk, 42, dairy farmer
Hugh McMartin, 55, farmer
Sydney David Protheroe, 48, blacksmith
Charles William Rackemann, 30, farmer
Raymond Herbert Rackemann, 27, farmer
Raymond Reynolds, 32, farmer
Reginald Horace Reynolds, 28, farmer
Alfred Riches, 54, labourer
Charles Schloss, 27, labourer
Harry Joseph Sims, 40, farmer
Gustav Torenbeek, 29, plumber
Herbert Stanley Tutt, 25, axeman
William Francis Wood, 33, labourer
John Woulfe, 41, labourer

Police Court hearings resumed on the 21st August before Police Magistrate P.M. Hishon, when the court heard evidence that George Gray, the apparent ringleader, had told a policeman it had

been their intention to erect a fence around the railing of the room upstairs where the Caucus was meeting, with the ten rolls of single-strand barbed wire they brought with them, of a total length of 50 chains, and stage a sit-down strike for twenty-four hours.

Magistrate Hishon committed the men for trial at the next sittings of the Supreme Court.

Supreme Court at City Hall

A scene without parallel in the history of the State was witnessed on the morning of 10th October 1939, at the City Hall, when the 38 accused appeared on individual indictments before the Chief Justice, Sir James Blair.

The spacious Brisbane City Hall was constituted as a Criminal Court in preference to the Supreme Court, because of the need to accommodate more than 600 jurymen who had been summoned to be in attendance. After empanelling of the jury the trial venue was transferred to the Supreme Court building, where the trial continued for nine days.

All pleaded not guilty, and were represented by an array of counsel. In front of the dais occupied by the Chief Justice were the star exhibits in the trial, a pile of coiled barbed wire, and beside a row of legal tomes on the bar table were ranged a row of batons, buttons and ribbons.

Eventually the trial drew to a close, and on the 17th October, counsel concluded their address and His Honour summed up

In his remarks to the jury he said:

“It has been said that because nobody interfered with them and no violence was wrought about by the use of batons, that there was no unlawful assembly. With all respect I tell you that in my view at any rate that is not the law.”

Did the jury think, he asked, that if these people succeeded in having a sit-down strike and compelling members of caucus to remain there until released that that would be an undue restraint on their liberty? Would that be an infringement of the law of security, liberty and property?

The law said it was not right and it was not lawful for anybody to seek to alter laws by a display of force or by an unlawful assembly coming into a

private caucus room and endeavouring to surround people there with barbed wire, imprisoning them until release came and using coercive tactics. "That is not the way to alter the law under our Constitution, and you are a part of the Constitution to see that it is not done."

"Ended in Fiasco"

"The idea was that they were to get into Caucus, make an apron fence, pull the wire down from supports, fasten it at the end with staples and sit down there. They had spied out the land, they knew where they were going, and they had found out on a previous expedition that there was a café there and they would be able to get food. When they were all in there on a sit-down strike the newspapers were to be telephoned. Well, it never got that far. The police came and the whole thing ended in a fiasco, although one of the men said it was the first time that a deputation had ever got to Caucus!

"What on earth they were going to do after they had got there, behind the apron fence and so on, I do not know. It was sure to end in a fiasco at some time or other, but it is the act charged that we are concerned with and I have to direct you on what I consider to be the law on it, and the result is for you"

"There is evidence that they had 300 batons turned out for them in a sawmill and that they took a certain number of them down to Parliament House along with other paraphernalia. What do you think of it? Do you think the Crown has made out its charge beyond reasonable doubt or not?"

"This kind of thing is rather a dangerous sort of method of opposing laws.

"To say that an assembly is not unlawful because violence is not committed is not the law as I understand it."

In conclusion, His Honour said:

"We know there is poverty, there is unemployment, and we know there is distress, but there is a way to go about alleviating that, and I venture to say it is not in the method adopted in this case."

Verdict of Not Guilty

The jury took 20 hours to reach their verdict. During that time they were confined to their room in the Court House. Blankets and mattresses were brought from a city hotel for their use. Some jurymen slept on the floor and

others on the verandah. Finally, at 7 a.m., they reached agreement.

Despite the pointed remarks to them by the Judge, the jury brought down a verdict of "Not Guilty", which was announced to a crowded court room at 10.30 a.m. on the 17th October, and repeated thirty-eight times by the foreman of the jury.

The accused were accordingly discharged.

The close was as impressive as the opening of the trial. None of the men showed any sign of elation when the Chief Justice turned to them and said, "You are discharged". In the circumstances it was probably as well they did not! They rose quietly, looked for their hats and left the improvised dock, shaking hands with the counsel and solicitors who had defended them, and exchanged greetings with friends before leaving the court. "Justice will prevail!" some one exclaimed.

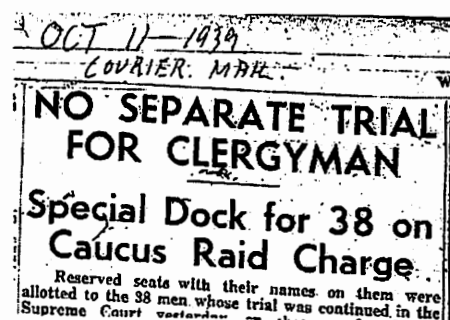
Outside it was a different story. A crowd outside waited to congratulate them. "We regard the verdict as a vindication of our aims, and a vote of censure on the Government!" said the Rev. Father E.J.V. Cavey. The League for Social Justice would continue, he added, but that did not mean there would be another demonstration, but members of the league had put their hands to the plough, and would continue with their work.

Astonishing verdict

This extraordinary trial cost the State more than £1,200. It was, considering the circumstances, an astonishing verdict, and was so regarded by the government and the Parliament.

On the 17th November Premier Forgan Smith initiated a Bill amending the Criminal Code in Queensland.

One of the objects of the measure was to give the Crown the right of appeal in criminal cases, but the other part of



Courier Mail, October 11, 1939

the Bill was a direct sequel to the raid on Parliament House. Offences against members of Parliament and disturbances that might take place in the vicinity of Parliament House were covered in a new section. The Code was amended to make disturbance in the vicinity when Parliament was not sitting an offence. While the Speaker was vested with ample power while Parliament was sitting, there was inadequate provision if a similar situation arose when Parliament was not in session. It was also made an offence to go armed to Parliament House without lawful excuse, and provided for arrest of persons by the police without warrant for interfering with His Excellency the Governor or Ministers of the Crown in the exercise of their duties or authorities.

It provided for dealing with people who disturbed Parliament or were guilty of disorderly conduct in the presence of Parliament that tended to interrupt its proceedings or impair its authority or the respect due to it; taking part in an unlawful assembly; taking part in a riot; going armed in public without lawful occasion in such a manner as to create fear in any other person.

There was almost general approval of the Bill.

"Mountain Out of Molehill"

Only one member of parliament, Mr. T. Nimmo (UAP, Oxley), disagreed with the necessity for the measure. During the debate on the second reading he asserted that a mountain had been made out of a molehill, and he did not think members required all the protection provided for in the Bill. No one dreamt that these men had any intention of using batons; they had them only for effect. Anyone could see that these men were respectable members of the community; they were good sound men.

The Premier, in reply, accused the Hon. Member of being a "special pleader", and suggested he had a wonderfully intimate knowledge of the mental process of the men who raided Parliament House. "I can tell the Hon. Member, as I told these people, that no display of force ever influences me, nor has it ever don so. They never asked for a deputation."

He recalled that on one occasion he had been assaulted, but he did not worry

about that. This was at the time of the Supreme Court hearing, on the 13th October. He had been accosted soon after leaving his car at the entrance to the Executive Building by a tall, well-built man who demanded an interview to discuss a 'grievance'. The Premier told him he understood his grievance had been settled. Without warning the Premier received a blow on the face which knocked him to the ground, and while down he was kicked. Although handicapped by the breaking of his glasses, the Premier was quickly on his feet, closed with his assailant and, after exchanging blows with him, threw him on the footpath. The Premier's chauffeur returned and held the man down. The Premier, however, told him to let the man go.

The Brisbane Show

There is no newspaper cutting to give veracity to the story, but legend has it that when the men were released on bail after the Police Magistrate's hearing in August, they were welcomed rapturously at the Brisbane Showground, and carried shoulder-high around the arena to the cheers of the crowd.

They're a rebellious lot in Queensland!

(Footnotes)

¹ *The Enemy Within the Empire*, by Eric D. Butler

This strange English Language

*We'll begin with a box, and the plural is boxes;
but the plural of ox became oxen not oxes,
One fowl is a goose, but two are called geese,
yet the plural of mouse should never be meese.
You may find a lone mouse or a nest full of mice;
yet the plural of house is houses, not hice.
If the plural of man is always called men,
why shouldn't the plural of pan be called pen?
If I spoke of my foot and show you my feet,
and I give you a boot, would a pair be called beet?
If one is a tooth and a whole set are teeth,
why shouldn't the plural of booth be called beeth?
Then one may be that, and three would be those,
yet hat in the plural would never be hose,
and the plural of cat is cats, not cose.
We speak of brother and also of brethren,
but though we say mother, we never say methren.
Then the masculine pronouns are he, his and him,
but imagine the feminine, she, shis and shim!*

GET THIS INTEYA

*Aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at an Elingsh uinervtisy,
it deosn't mtttaer in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod
are, the olny iprmoetnt thing is taht frist and lsat
ltteer is at the rghit pclae.*

*The rset can be a total mses and you can sitll raed
it wouthit problem. This is bcuseae we do not raed
ervey lteter by it slef but the wrod as a wlohe.*

*Reprinted with acknowledgment to the "Country Humour"
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**JULIAN
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Heritage is proud to number Julian Stanwix among its writers, and pleased to give readers the opportunity to learn more of his background and interests.

Julian is a country-bred West Australian. Born at Wongan Hills in 1945, he grew up on his parents' farm in the Hills area. They were anxious that he should not follow them into farming, so he was apprenticed as a mechanical fitter in the Government Railways at the transitional period between steam and diesel.

Moving on from that, Julian's working life was concentrated first in business in Northam, and later in the Hills as his own children grew up. He and his wife have now moved back to Northam, where their intention is to set up a second hand book shop. Julian's specialty in this field is historical and biographical, while his wife, being a school teacher has a special interest in children's books.

Julian has been a writer of ballad poems for many years, and has been published in magazines and newsletters such as *Potter's Asc* and *Carriage Driving*, as well as in a semi-government magazine in Queensland. He contributed to the letters-to-the-editor columns of local newspapers on controversial matters, and found that writing these in comical verse often made a telling impact, and were enthusiastically read. He refers to this as 'literary cartoon'.

POETRY PASSION

He has now abandoned this method of trying to change the world, but retains his passion for poetry. As famous mathematicians and musicians have noted, there is a close link between music, art, rhythm and mathematics, words, tone and sound. Julian is fascinated by the connection, and believes that poetry is similar in many ways to crossword puzzles, or mathematical problems, as there is a mixing of sounds and tones (he once had a speech impediment), the metre and beat (maths), story telling and description (art), words themselves (the puzzle) and in conclusion the poem or ballad which, like a painting is there forever in a succinct written picture.

With his contributions to *Heritage*, Julian has entered yet another phase of his writing career. He includes "the written expression of a personal feeling of the time" in his definition of inheritance, and enthusiastically supports the vision of the magazine for recording the history and philosophy of our people to refresh our minds and enlighten us.

You can contact Julian Stanwix via the administrative address of the Australian Heritage Society, or direct by email to mrbooks6556@hotmail.com

"BIG RED"

*The tree stump formed a headstone
For the man they called Big Red*

*The cross chopped in the weathered wood
Marked his final resting bed.*

*After fifty years, he had died alone,
Friendless along the country roads he'd ever slowly tread.*

*Acquaintances are many,
but friends we don't admit,*

*That's the first rule of a loner,
As in solitude we sit.*

*Around the campfire Red brought
A smile to many a face.*

*And sometimes a tear to a glistening eye,
With his observations of the human race.*

*And as we lay around the coals,
Looking up at the clear night sky,*

*For entertainment we would listen,
But the past we would never pry*

*And when the morning came,
We would go our separate ways,*

*There was a never a good-bye
As we knew we'd meet some day.*

*By coming upon Red's fire,
Burning clear and bright,*

*Where again we'd share our billy tea,
And pass away the night.*

*Red, my memories are many,
My possessions so frugal and few.
With my billy, mug and bedroll,*

*I know one day there will be a campfire
To share again with you.*

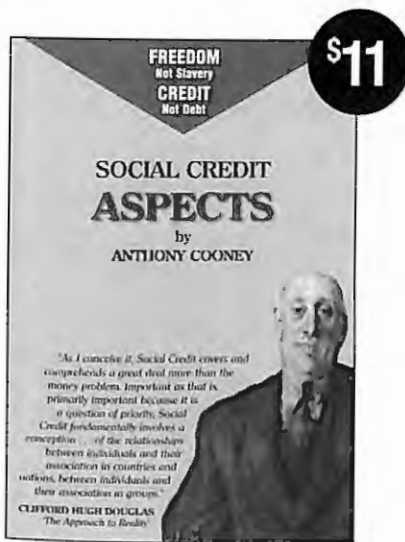
*Acquaintances are many,
But friends we don't admit,*

*That's the first rule of a loner
As in solitude I sit.*

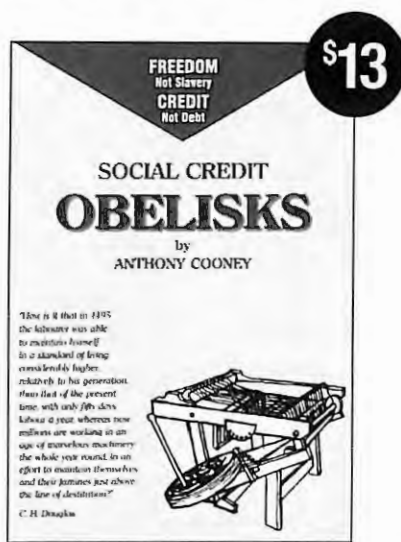
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SOCIAL CREDIT

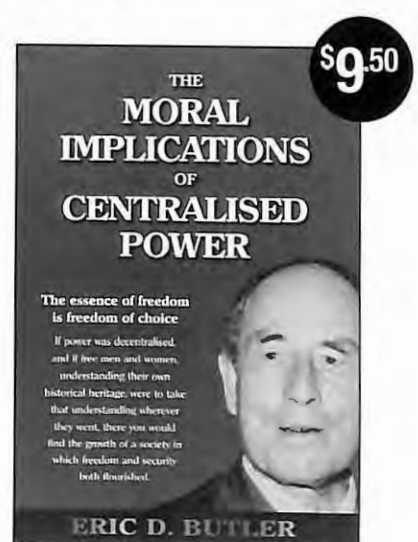
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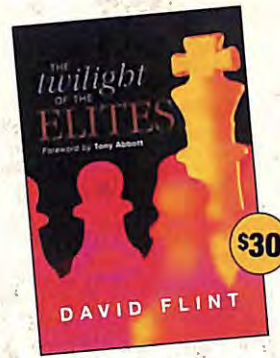
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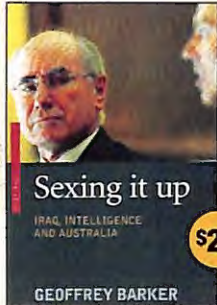


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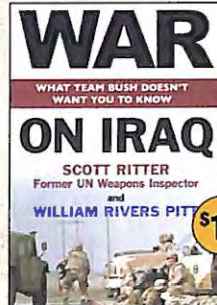


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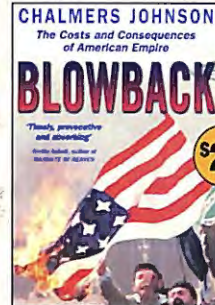
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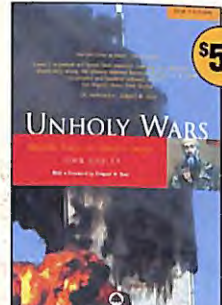


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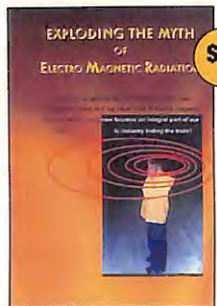


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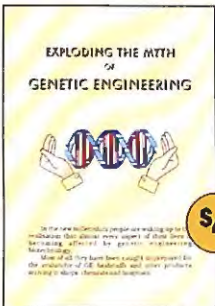


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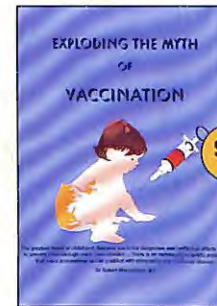


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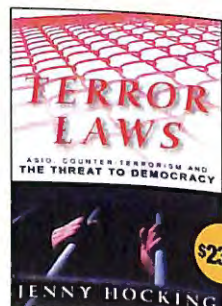
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