Will the REAL republicans please stand!

Who can we trust in the republic debate?

Monarchy V Republic
Why a Monarchy?

Alexander Solzhenitsyn
Insights on two books

Sister Elizabeth Kenny
Medical Pioneer

Forgive us our Debts
Tragedy of increasing debt

Stability & Change
Australian Society 1950's

Divorce Australian Style
Reverting to Injustice
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 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 required 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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"The wisdom of our forefathers placed the prize of supreme power without the sphere of human passions. Whatever the struggle of parties, whatever the strife of factions . . . there has always been something in this country round which all classes and parties could rally.

"Others are elected to represent our different and conflicting interests and opinions, but the Queen belongs to no class and no party, and her interest is that of a nation as a whole. She is the sole common denominator of our democracy, and the representative not of a party of the people, but of the people themselves.

Her hereditary throne links the whole nation in a timeless union, the component parts with one another, and the living with the dead."

Former British Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli.

THE Federal Constitution states that the Commonwealth government consists of three parts: The House of Representatives, The Senate, representing the states and the Governor-General, representing the Crown. Like the traditional British system of government, upon which ours was based, the system of government in Australia is Trinitarian, a reflection of its Christian roots. It seeks to protect the individual by the division of power.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CROWN AS A BARRIER AGAINST THE THREAT OF TYRANNY

An expression of loyalty to the Queen of Australia is not a matter of meaningless sentiment but a simple affirmation of the fact that Australia has a royal and not a republican system of democratic government. The royal system of government represents a completely different idea of social order from that of the republican idea. The royal idea of government is deeply rooted in human history.

The idea is not a British monopoly, but it is an historical fact that the British monarchical order, which Australia has inherited, has developed and preserved the idea in its most developed form. The future of the royal idea of government is directly related to the future of a Civilization which is obviously disintegrating.

One of the most influential Marxist theoreticians of the last century, Professor Harold J. Laski, who indoctrinated thousands with the Marxist virus at the London School of Economics, said "that the major barrier to the establishment of the type of Monopoly Socialist State he envisaged was the Crown."

One of the first acts of the Bolsheviks when they seized power in Russia in 1917, was to murder members of the Russian Royal Family. This shocking deed had nothing to do with the alleged failings of the Tsar and his family, but was symbolic of the hatred of the Marxist for the royal idea of society.

Not only the Russian Monarchy, but a number of European Monarchies disappeared in the welter of revolutionary ferment at the end of the First World War. This was hailed by many as "democratic progress." But what has been the verdict of history? Was the Monarchical Europe of pre-First World War a better place in which to live than the Europe of Republics? Consider the case of Germany. Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany may have been in many ways an undesirable King, although it is now conceded that he attempted to play a restraining role before and during the First World War. But would any rational person today suggest that Adolph Hitler was an improvement on the German Monarch? Would anyone seriously suggest that the Communist thugs that imposed their brutal tyrannies on countries like Hungary and Rumania were an improvement on the Monarchs these nations had? These questions surely answer themselves.

THE MANIFESTATION OF THE REPUBLIC IDEA

Most opponents of the royal idea argue, however, that while they reject any system of dictatorship, it is more "progressive" and "logical" to have a Republican-type Government. The Crown is alleged to be "irrelevant" and "meaningless". But where is the logic in changing to a Republican form of Government without being able to demonstrate that it would be superior to the Monarchical form? Germany, France and Italy, hardly provide inspiring examples of the Republican idea. Although the Americans have perhaps the finest written Constitution ever produced by man, and inherited most of their traditions from Britain, the American Republic is progressively shaken by one internal convulsion after another. Corruption has reached a level of such proportions, that as yet is unthinkable in a British Crown nation.

The Crown is an essential feature of a constitutional system which has its roots deep in the Christian concept of the sanctity of each individual person and in the personal ideal of freedom.

At the Queen's Coronation Service she was asked "Will you to the utmost of your power maintain the laws of God and the true profession of the Gospel?" The Coronation Service reflects the Christian concept of Monarchy, the Monarch
accepting with humility the necessity to serve the people and to act as a living symbol of the nation's traditions and historical continuity. This is a service which no elected President can provide.

Because of her unique position in the constitutional system which Australia has inherited from Great Britain, the Queen cannot be tempted with bribes of power or money. So long as the Crown remains, there is always an area of power and influences which the politicians can never invade.

Cabinet Ministers are constantly reminded of their correct role by their titles: "Ministers of the Crown." The very existence of the Crown limits the power aspirations of the politician. The Monarchy is not an infallible barrier against dictatorship, but so long as the Monarch or her representatives function, the aspiring dictator can never gain total power.

**THE FUNDAMENTAL RULES OF MONARCHY**

The hereditary Monarchy fosters national unity and social stability. Immediately the Monarch dies, the eldest member of the family, trained and educated for a task of destiny, ascends the Throne and claims immediate allegiance.

"Le roi est mort. Vive le roi!" (The King is dead. Long live the King.) There is no power struggle, no friction, but a sense of continuity. The Monarch has no political past and no party followers to reward, and has no party opponents who detest the Monarch. There is no need for spectacular triumphs, promises, gimmicks or expensive media advertising to win popular support.

The history of the British Crown has been one of personifying continuity with sensible change. The late Duke of Windsor wrote in a "A King's Story" that "I had no notion of tinkering with the fundamental rules of Monarchy. My modest ambition was to broaden the base of the Monarchy a little more; to make it a little more responsive to the changed circumstances of my times.

Queen Elizabeth has continued that process, while providing in her domestic life an example of constancy. Parliament should represent the popular will but the continuing Crown represents nationhood, unity and ancestry.

It is true that in spite of the hereditary principle, reinforced by specialised training from birth, and vast experience, some Monarchs have acted foolishly. But the record of British Monarchs compares more than favourably with that of politicians. And much more favourably with the record of past and present Presidents. In spite of the truth that human nature responds to pageantry, with which Monarchy must of necessity be associated, the small-minded critics often charge that the monarchy "costs too much." The financial cost of the Crown in the United Kingdom, or in any of the Crown Commonwealth nations, is much less than the cost of maintaining a Republic of comparable size.

The most shallow argument of all against the Crown, is that it is "Not our own" and that Australians are "clinging to the relics of their colonial past by expressing their allegiance to a British Monarch". This is NOT true. The fact that many Australians do not understand that Queen Elizabeth II is as much Queen OF AUSTRALIA as she is Queen of the United Kingdom, or of Canada or New Zealand, is a serious reflection upon the Australian educational system. Her Governors and Governors-General are Australian in the sense that they work to maintain the Royal system of Government in the Australian context. They are just as Australian as are the Australian Parliaments and the Courts, where the Queen's writ runs.

**THE SHARING OF THE MONARCH AND OUR ESSENTIAL HERITAGE**

The sharing of the person of the Queen with other countries may appear illogical to many. But in fact this unique international constitutional arrangement provides an example of that true internationalism which the world so desperately requires if Civilization is to survive. What would it gain Australia to throw away this precious feature of its essential heritage? So far from benefiting Australians, it would be an act of national vandalism and the death of the real soul of the nation.

The essential soul of a nation is its character, its culture and tradition. This develops organically over a long period of time. The Monarch is a living symbol of the values of the Australian nation, values which Captain Cook did not find lying around on the shores of Eastern Australia when he sighted them. Australia is a British nation in all its essentials and to attempt to deny this with talk about gaining "self-respect", is a manifestation of childish ignorance.

The Queen is not only the embodiment of culture and tradition. She is the symbol of the nation's sovereignty and independence. As such she is Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, which are the ultimate sanctions. The Oath of Loyalty to the Queen is more than an oath to another human being; it is an oath to uphold all that the Queen represents. Republicans often overlook the fact that in the United States, for example, the individual does not take the oath of loyalty to the President, who is basically just another politician; the oath is to the written Constitution of the United States. That Constitution was framed by great statesmen to reflect the values underlying the type of nation envisaged in the United States. The oath of loyalty is in essence to those values. But a written Constitution, however excellent, suggests a static society. The truth is that a healthy society must grow.

The Crown is a living symbol of the values upon which Australia was developed, and the Royalist believes it is a superior institution than a written constitution.

The knowledge contained in this editorial is essential for all Australians, as there is no doubt that, regardless of which party is elected to government in this year's Federal election, the will to power and the seething desire to build monuments whilst in power, will undoubtedly lead once again to the drive for a "Republic" for Australia.
Dear Editor,


I refer to pages 5 -7, 2006 where the author Denis Ross states that Nikola Tesla, famous Inventor and Genius was 'Croatian' born.

It is a complete misconception that Nikola Tesla’s nationality was Croatian, his true nationality was Serbian.

Nikola Tesla was born at precisely midnight between July 9th - 10th 1856, in the village of Smiljan, province of Lika, modern Krajina, between Krajina’s Velebit Mountains and the Eastern shore of the Adriatic Sea. The tiny house in which he was born stood next to the Serbian Orthodox Church, presided over by his father, Reverend Milutin Tesla, who sometimes wrote articles under the nom-de-plume 'Man of Justice'.

After completing his studies at the University of Prague in 1880, Tesla worked his way through Europe and embarked for New York in 1884. He became a U.S. Citizen in 1889.

Early industrial America had begun to build on direct current (DC) power systems, which were given great impetus by Thomas A. Edison. These systems had inherent distance limitations, however, and the motors required costly and troublesome commutators. Alternating current (AC) had been known and used for lighting, but the system had no motor. Based upon his discovery of the rotating magnetic field principle, all-inclusive patents were issued to Tesla in 1888 for an alternating-current system (polyphase) of power transmission, the essence of which was an induction motor of ideal simplicity. By 1895 Niagara had been harnessed with this system to generate 15,000 hp, giving birth to the industrial power systems now universally employed.

From 1891 to 1893 Tesla delivered a series of lectures in the United States and Europe, outlining his achievements in the field of high frequencies and high voltages. He was the first to demonstrate the insensible physiological effects of these currents, as well as neon and fluorescent lamps, induction heating, and methods of conversion to high-frequency currents by means of the loosely coupled resonant transformer, or "Tesla Coil". In almost no instance was Tesla able to profit directly from these many fundamental discoveries, because their advanced nature restricted immediate practical use.

At the Royal Institution of Great Britain in 1892, and in lectures in the following year, Tesla set forth the essential elements of radio communication: antenna and ground circuits coupled with transmission and receiving circuits similarly tuned. Because of the lack of commercial development, which would have substantiated technical arguments little understood at the time, in 1915 Tesla was denied an injunction against Guglielmo Marconi’s claim to all basic radio patents. In a 1943 review of this decision, however, the U.S. Supreme Court held the basic Marconi patents invalid because they had been "anticipated".

Tesla received many honors for his scientific accomplishments, including the Elliot Cression, John Scott, and Edison medals. He was granted 112 U.S. Patents.

Tesla died on January 7th, 1943, in the seclusion which he had maintained throughout his life. His estate, consisting of extensive undisclosed papers and experimental apparatus, was claimed by Yugoslav heirs; in cooperation with the Yugoslav government, a national Tesla Museum was established at Belgrade. In his centennial year (1956), the International Electrotechnical Commission named for him the unit of magnetic flux density in the MKS System, the "tesla" (T).


S.D. Filipovich, Fern Tree Gully, Victoria.
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Essential viewing for all families

World Government?
We already have it!
Jeremy Lee at Inverell N.S.W. 2007

This stirring address was given in March 2007 at the Inverell Forum. Jeremy, is just as dynamic as he ever was. His contention, in this DVD, is that we need not wait for a coming World Government for it is already here. A combination of the United Nations and world banking have slowly enmeshed the people of the world in a growing evil web of control, which, if it is not countered quickly by a resurgence of moral rectitude, will see us all end up in slavery.

He believes the organised church is not speaking up as it should and that the nation suffers because of it. He points out how UNESCO has managed to make itself the manager of World Heritage areas and is part of the horrendous policy of debt for equity swaps, which can only result in the land being sold out from under us. A very thought provoking DVD.

$20.00 Posted.

Government Sponsored Conspiracy Theories
Dave vonKleist

Dave vonKleist musician and host of the American radio show "The Power Hour," speaking at the Inverell Forum, 2007, proves that "Terrorists," living in caves in Afghanistan, did not carry out the attacks on the Trade Centres. Since that is the case, he contends, then the official story of what happened in New York in 2001 just cannot be true.

He does not attempt to tell you what really happened, but does show you what didn’t happen. He reveals the evidence and allows you to make up your own mind and the evidence he reveals is eye opening.

Dave also shows that his talents are not confined to investigative journalism, but range to a very entertaining singing voice, which, like a chameleon can be used to impersonate almost anyone. This is not only an informative DVD, but a very amusing and entertaining one.

$20.00 Posted.

POISONING THE WORLD
Depleted Uranium- Friend or Foe
David Bradbury at Inverell.

David Bradbury, film maker and director of the controversial DVD, "Blowing In The Wind" gave this speech at the 2006 Inverell Forum to an audience of over 200 people. It was received with horror and incredulity, but no one could turn away from the well documented evidence.

David provided an excerpt from "Blowing In The Wind", and backed the excerpt up with further evidence of governmental use of depleted uranium, and its detrimental effects on all life. He pointed out that this dangerous substance is being used extensively by the U.S. Navy in their bombardment of Shoalwater Bay and other areas in Australia.

Australian, British and American troops in Iraq are put at great risk by the use of depleted uranium weapons. The civilian populations of Iraq, Bosnia, and Afghanistan are without a doubt heading into a dreadful future, where their babies are being born disfigured and without any real life expectancy.

This is “Genocide” being committed without compunction or conscience.

$20.00 Posted.

Blowing in the Wind
David Bradbury

A controversial DVD by two-time Academy Award nominee, David Bradbury -- arguably Australia’s most contentious and provocative documentary film maker.

It examines the secret treaty that allows the US military to train and test its weaponry on Australian soil. It looks at the impact of recycled uranium weapons and the far-reaching physical and moral effects on every Australian. The Film’s release is timely as government currently moves to approve more uranium mining while arguing the contrary that by going nuclear we are both "safe and green."

Blowing in the Wind reveals that Iraqi babies are now being born with major birth defects. Bradbury wonders whether Australians living downwind from the military testing ranges will be next. He argues that we were lied to by the British over the Woomera and Maralinga atomic tests.

Can we trust another equally powerful partner in our "war on terror"?

$20.00 Posted.

Order From: your State Heritage Bookshop or Mailing Services: Addresses featured inside front cover.
LAST year I reread Cancer Ward and The First Circle and realized just what they had done for me and how extraordinarily relevant they are to our own decaying and corrupted political order. The purpose of this essay is to point to some of the key passages and comment on the insights therein. Anyone striving to help rebuild Australia as a truly independent and free nation should immerse himself or herself in Solzhenitsyn’s works.

In the 1970’s I read five items by the great Russian writer: his novels, One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich, Cancer Ward, The First Circle and August 1914 and his Nobel Prize Acceptance Speech, One Word of Truth. These works profoundly affected me and inspired much of my political action and writing thereafter. I did not suspect at the time that my own nation, Australia, would gradually fall towards such a sad state of tyranny as described in those books and that one day I would become a dissident and parish as Solzhenitsyn was in the Soviet Union; but it is happening. Unless the trend can be halted and reversed, it is only a matter of time until we have our own equivalent of the Gulag.

THE FIRST CIRCLE

In Chapter Six there is an important passage on the failures of Soviet education: ‘The girls had done very little maths or physics at school. In their final years it had come to their ears that the headmaster was always reprimanding teachers for failing too many students, and they realized that they would scrape through even if they knew nothing. As a result, when the time came to go to university they were completely lost in the jungle of mathematics and radio technology. The ignoramuses could easily have been shown up if the examiners had asked enough questions at the orals, but the teachers themselves were overworked... Failing their students meant extra work examining them a second time. Besides, if their students failed, the teachers suffered, just like factory workers turning out defective goods - on the well-known principle that there are no bad pupils, only-bad teachers. No wonder that they didn’t try to catch their students out but did their best to get them through as quickly as possible and with the highest possible marks.’

Having spent nearly forty years as a secondary schoolteacher of English and various humanities subjects, I know only too well how similar that picture is to what happens in Victoria. One result is that astonishingly few young teachers can write reports on their students in error-free English!

Our education systems need to be decentralized (the reverse has been happening) and we need to find ways of defending the authority of teachers so that they will have the confidence to assess with integrity according to clear and appropriate criteria. In my view such will not happen until society has regained a much firmer appreciation at all of the vital role played by the Sovereign in our political order.

In Chapter Nine Gleb reflects further on his need to acquire an understanding of history: “Why on earth had he ventured into the lions’ den from which professional historians had fled to take refuge in the distant past? What was it that drove him to try to solve the riddle of the grim monster who had only to move an eyelash for Nerzhin to lose his head?” A deep and true grasp of our own history is essential if we are to achieve a cultural and political restoration of our nation; and that will include a reappraisal of Christian tradition from the early centuries A.D., when clearly disastrous mistakes of interpretation were solidified into a theological model that then held sway for over a millennium and a half and is still powerful today.
Also in Chapter Nine Gleb rebukes the opportunist Verenyov, who happily builds a professional career by means of acquiescence in Stalin's tyranny: 'Let them admit first that it's not right to put people in prison for their way of thinking!' Quite plainly Solzhenitsyn would be no supporter of the gaoling of Holocaust revisionists - nor of those masses of intellectuals who, in the latest trahison des clercs, decline to speak out publicly against that wickedness.

Nor did he worship at the stye of human equality. In Chapter Eleven he reflected on 'the unaccountable superiority of certain human beings'. In a healthy political order such people rise to the top and lead; in a corrupt social order they are suppressed, if not actively punished. And, as Plato knew, democracy is not a very healthy political order. An uncorr upt aristocracy presided over by a monarchy embedded in sacred tradition is beyond doubt the ideal. We are very far from that in Australia in 2006. In Chapter Thirteen the young rebel Ruska comments on the sad fact that in history the best of men were often cruelly treated by mobs of lesser men.

In Chapter Twenty-three the Christian Agnia provides an interesting definition of persecution: 'Of course they're being persecuted! If people are allowed to say and write what they like about the Church without it being able to answer back, if church valubl es are confiscated and priests banished - isn't that persecution?' One cannot help noticing the similarity of the situation she describes with that of Holocaust revisionists in our own time, as recently indicated by the savagely hostile reporting in our major media of the Tehran conference on the Holocaust, with no defence of the conference and its speakers being allowed even in letters to the editor.

Solzhenitsyn in this novel does not hold up old-fashioned theology as the solution and road to salvation for mankind. In Chapter Forty-two he invokes a less dogmatic, but very powerful symbol of the living truth which is, always and everywhere, the bane of tyranny and which is symbolized in the Gospels by the figure of Jesus the Christ. Very lovingly we are given a detailed description of Kondrashov-Ivanov's painting depicting the moment when Sir Parsifal sees the castle of the Holy Grail.

In Chapter Fifty-seven is one of Solzhenitsyn's most famous statements, which he surely knew was true of himself, as it certainly is: The word 'government' comes from the Latin word gubernator, the steersman of a ship. A man like Solzhenitsyn, through his writings, provides a direction forwards and upwards for a whole people, perhaps (in this era of globalization) the whole of humanity. It should be noted that such a role cannot be undertaken by cults, including various Christian cults composed of well-meaning but fatally limited enthusiasts. With cults there is only the blind leading the blind.

Paradoxically, although aware that narrow-minded dogmatism of political or religious ideologies is injurious to the health of political orders, Solzhenitsyn nevertheless insisted, as did Tolkien (in his famous statement by Aragorn to Eomer), that there is a fundamental cleavage and opposition between Good and Evil. The humble worker Spiridon expresses this vividly in Chapter Sixty-three: 'Wolf-hounds are right and cannibals are wrong.' Wolf-hounds are those people who defend humanity from tyrants; cannibals are those people who prey on others for their own survival. The same point is made by Gleb in Chapter Eighty-six in conversation with a communist security officer: 'No one should ever try and reconcile the white rose of truth with the black toad of evil.'

Solzhenitsyn has sometimes been accused of anti-Semitism; but in this novel in Chapter Sixty-eight he gives a philo-Semitic account of the way in which in 1949 (the year in which the novel is set) the compliant newspapers of Stalin's Russia began an anti-Semitic campaign. 'It had all begun in the spring with an article denouncing certain theatre critics, and at first people might have thought there was nothing very sinister about the way the real Jewish names of some of the critics were added in brackets after their adopted Russian names. Then the whole business had begun to spread to the writers in general.

'Next, a certain minor and very odious newspaper supposedly concerned with literature had poisonsly launched a new watchword: 'cosmopolitan. And, hey presto, this noble word formerly used to denote the unity of the whole world, this proud title given only to the most universal geniuses, such as Dante, Goethe and Byron, suddenly became mean, crabbed and vicious, and hissed out from the pages of the newspaper in the sense of "Yid".'

We, too, live in a nation in which the major newspapers run campaigns in favour of current power elites. We have only to think of recent examples against 'racists', 'anti-Semitism', 'Nazi war criminals' and 'Holocaust deniers'. Such unholy misuse of the mass media is a sure sign of major political corruption behind the scenes. The first step to righting the situation is to denounce such campaigns; but far too few Australian intellectuals are brave enough to stick their necks out. Only a renewed sacred tradition can provide such people with the strength to give true witness.

In the same chapter the Jewish communist Adam Rotman notes without doubt that in 1917 all the Jews 'had been on the side of the Revolution which delivered them from pogroms and the Pale of Settlement.' Fairly recently Solzhenitsyn published a huge two-volume work in Russian amplifying the simple but hotly disputed claim that the Revolution was largely a Jewish operation. Quite rightly he is opposed to ill treatment of Jews, but also to ill treatment of others by Jews. The latter insistence has caused a cooling towards him in the Western press since he returned to Russia.

Another defence of intellectual freedom comes at the end of the chapter when Adam remembers with shame how he helped persecute a Christian schoolboy who had asserted that 'Everybody has the right to say anything he thinks. Everybody should be able to say what he likes.' Solzhenitsyn learned the truth of this
through bitter experience under Stalin’s tyranny. Australians should not allow such freedom to be lost in their land. Interestingly enough, the schoolboy concerned had been denounced as ‘an accomplice of the anti-Semites’. The same accusation is currently made in and by our major media against those who today defend such a principle of intellectual freedom.

Adam pondered the question: ‘If you wanted to put the world to rights, who should you begin with: yourself or others?’ Solzhenitsyn clearly believed that we must begin by developing in ourselves sufficient strength of soul to be able to resist tyranny before embarking on programmes of social reform, as had many socialists, communists and anarchists in 1917. Again I remark that this strength needs to be based in sacred truth - and not in mere religious cults.

One aspect of human integrity is well brought out in Chapter Eighty-one, when Gleb remarks: ‘Perhaps I shall die forgotten in Siberia. But if you die knowing that you are not a swine, that’s something, isn’t it?’ Solzhenitsyn knew from direct personal experience that such was the fate of many good men and women under Stalin. One must be prepared to lose on behalf of God. One reason he wrote his prodigious collection of works, including The Gulag Archipelago, was to be the spokesman for such unjustly silenced persons.

It seems, too, that men of integrity gain support from mysterious depths within themselves. Reflecting on a decision of his own involving self-sacrifice, ‘Gleb was profoundly glad that he had acted as he had. It even seemed as though the decision had not been his own.’ A deeper part of his soul had taken command.

At the end of the novel, in Chapter Eighty-seven, Gleb and some other men, including others who have refused to be bought by the tyranny, are being taken to labour camps in which they may well die. Yet this is their state as described by the author: ‘No fate on earth could possibly be worse. Yet they were at peace within themselves. They were as fearless as men are who have lost everything they ever had - a fearlessness hard to attain but enduring once it is reached.’

A similar nobility of soul can be felt throughout this great novel, from beginning to end; and Solzhenitsyn does not just celebrate the dignity of his heroes. With a Shakespearian insight and magnanimity he appraises with pity and sympathy the souls of those who served the regime and those who co-operated with it despite disbelieving in it. That appraisal is carried out with a capacity for wise judgement that is found only in the very greatest of writers.

**CANCER WARD**

In this novel the heroic figure comparable to Gleb Nerzhin is Oleg Kostoglotov. In Part One Chapter Eleven he is talking to the self-satisfied, long-suffering communist Pavel Rusanov, who angrily rebukes him: ‘There are questions on which a definite opinion has been established, and they are no longer open to discussion.’ That, of course, is exactly the same antiintellectual and unintelligent position that is currently proclaimed by self-righteous defenders of the Holocaust story. It is interesting to note Kostoglotov’s response: “Why can’t I discuss them? No one on this earth ever says anything “once and for all”. If they did life would come to a stop and succeeding generations would have nothing to say But why try to stop a man’s mouth just when he has started to think about the meaning of life... or perhaps you think Tolstoy should have been burnt at the stake? Why stop a man from thinking?” Solzhenitsyn’s rejection of claims by the State or by other human authorities to have the right to forbid the expression of certain points of view is completely clear.

In Part One Chapter Fifteen we are shown how Rusanov views newspapers: ‘He regarded newspapers as a widely distributed instruction, written in fact in code; nothing in it could be said openly but a skilful man who knew the ropes could interpret the various small hints, the arrangement of the articles, the things that were played down or omitted, and so get a true picture of the way things were going.’ There used to be an old joke in the Soviet Union that the way one found out what was happening was to study Pravda (the officially approved newspaper) and take note of what was omitted!

Even in Australia it is clear that the major newspapers are by no means entirely honest and honourable organs of information, but that certain contentious issues or positions either receive the ‘silent treatment’ or are presented with very definite slants. Thus our own media are used by powerful interests to signal to those who care (the Rusanovs of our society) what attitudes they are to take on certain matters and what views and persons they are to reject. The Russian word Pravda means ‘Truth’; but the truth was often suppressed or distorted in that paper. Nevertheless, it is truth alone which has the power and capacity to contend with the corruption of the press, one of the great contemporary ills of the Australian and Western political orders.

In Part One Chapter Twenty-one Solzhenitsyn exposes the way tyranny damages the literature of a people. Aviette, a communist intellectual, has this to say about sincerity in literature: ‘Sincerity can’t be the chief criterion for judging a book. If an author expresses incorrect ideas or alien attitudes, the fact that he’s sincere about them merely increases the harm the work does. Sincerity becomes harmful. Subjective sincerity can militate against a truthful presentation of life. That’s a dialectical point What we see today with the unaided human eye is not necessarily the truth. The truth is what we must be, what is going to happen tomorrow. Our wonderful “tomorrow” is what writers ought to be describing today.’ That, of course, is literature in the service of ideology and, in this case, an ideology itself at the service of naked tyranny. Solzhenitsyn rightly despised such an attitude.
It is pleasing to note that the great Russian has a splendid understanding of the nature of woman and what her special beauties are. Through his lovable character Vera, in Part Two Chapter Four, he has this to say about Ernest Hemingway and his attitude to love: 'Hemingway's supermen were creatures who had not raised themselves to human level. Hemingway was a shallow swimmer. Ideas on what women should be like were even more confused. The most feminine of them all, people thought, was Carmen. They reckoned the most feminine was the one most aggressive in her search for pleasure. But this type was a pseudo-woman, a man in woman's clothes.' The two heroines in Cancer Ward, Vera (a doctor) and Zoya (a nurse), have careers and work hard; but neither has been fooled into losing her essential femininity and Oleg is strongly drawn to both. Such femininity is needed in a healthy human society for many reasons, one of which is its perennial capacity to inspire and support creative and heroic achievements by men. Both kinds of achievement are feared by tyrants.

In Part Two Chapter Six the topic of trials of 'Nazi war criminals' is touched on. Rusanov is reading a series of approved articles in Pravda. One is 'about the inadequacy and leniency of the West German trials of those who had helped run concentration camps.' Solzhenitsyn is aware of the irony here: this from the atrocious tyranny that was running the Gulag at that very moment. Calls for such punishments in Australia today, as in the Charles Zentai case, are likely to be more expressions of ideology than of a pure love of justice.

In Part Two Chapter Eight Rusanov and Kostoglotov are again engaged in argument and Rusanov accuses his foe of 'ideological sabotage'. Kostoglotov indignantly replies: 'Every time someone disagrees with you you call it ideological sabotage.' Once again Solzhenitsyn has identified the tendency in tyrannies to use words and phrases for purposes of obfuscation, so that the truth may neither be known nor spoken.

In Part Two Chapter Ten Solzhenitsyn continues his attack on the use of 'politically correct' language by tyranny for its nefarious purposes. Shulubin, a man who is wracked with shame at the memory of how he has spent a life kow-towing to Stalinism, tells Oleg about Francis Bacon's doctrine of idols. 'He said that people are not inclined to live by pure experience, that it's easier for them to pollute experience with prejudices. These prejudices are the idols.' Bacon called them the 'idols of the tribe' or 'idols of the cave'.

Shulubin gives examples. 'The idols of the theatre are the authoritative opinions of others which a man likes to accept as a guide when interpreting something he hasn't experienced himself.'

Part Two Chapter Ten: Shulubin gives examples.
'The idols of the theatre are the authoritative opinions of others which a man likes to accept as a guide when interpreting something he hasn't experienced himself.'
Forgive us our debts

by Jeremy Lee

“No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.” Matthew 6:24

(This prayer, used in our first Prayer Letter in August 2002, was provided by Ted Rock, 13 Nardoo St. Cape Paterson, Victoria 3995, who has used it for many years).

“Our Father and our God, who bestowed on all peoples their own peculiar sovereignty, we pray for the extension of sovereignty in all its forms, and the defeat of those who seek to overthrow this gift. We pray particularly for Australia’s constitutional sovereignty, so that we as a people may enjoy that freedom you have given us to express the unity-in-diversity bestowed on all peoples their own peculiar ownership.

To this end we pray that both money and government shall become the servants of the people under the authority of Your Son and Our Saviour Jesus Christ Our Lord, that every Australian may enjoy this gift of financial and political freedom. We ask for these most precious gifts in the Name of Your Son, Who taught us that whatsoever you ask in My name, I will do for you.

A
S the bitter name-calling and allegations in the Federal Parliament grow more strident and acrimonious in the jostling for votes in the coming election, one stark and shameful set of figures marks the eleventh anniversary of the Coalition government - the debts of Australian families.

Six months before the Howard government gained office in March 1996, a World Bank Survey of 192 nations concluded that Australia was by far the richest per capita country on the face of the planet. Its mineral, manufacturing and agricultural wealth was fabulous, with an asset valuation well over $1 million per head of population, and a sophisticated infrastructure - ports, harbours, railways, roads, communications etc. - built up by our forefathers. Yet Australians were heavily in debt. The average debt of Australian households when John Howard and John Anderson gained office was 60% of annual income. Five years later this figure had reached 100% of average annual income.

In Australia’s case the power over notes and coin, banking, borrowing, promissory notes and matters pertaining thereto, are laid out in Section 51 of the Commonwealth Constitution. It is beyond question that every power necessary to lift the debt-load from the backs of the Australian people lies in the hands of the elected Federal Government - if it only dared use them! Instead, it has allowed the world of private trading banks to take over the money-creation process, and to use it exclusively to assume ownership of Australia, its people, its homes, its industries, its infrastructure and, apparently, its politicians. The only portion of Australia’s Money Supply still created by government is Notes & Coin - an ever-diminishing and miniscule percentage of the whole.

Under the Howard government the total Money Supply has increased at an astounding rate - all as interest-bearing debt. The banks, which are licensed to create this new money, have had a ball! The following figures, under the heading ‘Monetary Aggregates’ are taken from the Reserve Bank (Australia’s Central Bank) Bulletin, available online to anyone who cares to download it: (Cont.)

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Date</th>
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<td>192.9</td>
<td>300.9</td>
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<td>(+ 15.3 in 12 months)</td>
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<td>(+ 53.5 in 60 months)</td>
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<td>(+ 142.2 in 48 months)</td>
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<td>678.4</td>
<td>764.5</td>
<td>(+ 217.7 in 60 months)</td>
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<td>35.6</td>
<td>747.3</td>
<td>841.2</td>
<td>(+ 73.7 in 12 months)</td>
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<td>Jan '2007</td>
<td>37.0</td>
<td>803.1</td>
<td>907.9</td>
<td>(+ 64.7 in 7 months)</td>
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</table>

Remember, this is only public debt. It does not include private or household debt, which averages about 140% of average annual income - a little behind Australia.

How is it possible for elected governments - whether in Australia, the United States or, for that matter, anywhere else - to burden their subjects with such intolerable and unpayable levels of debt? How is debt created? Who owns it? If all nations in the world are in debt, who is the mortgagee?

In Australia’s case the power over notes and coin, banking, borrowing, promissory notes and matters pertaining thereto, are laid out in Section 51 of the Commonwealth Constitution. It is beyond question that every power necessary to lift the debt-load from the backs of the Australian people lies in the hands of the elected Federal Government - if it only dared use them! Instead, it has allowed the world of private trading banks to take over the money-creation process, and to use it exclusively to assume ownership of Australia, its people, its homes, its industries, its infrastructure and, apparently, its politicians. The only portion of Australia’s Money Supply still created by government is Notes & Coin - an ever-diminishing and miniscule percentage of the whole.

Under the Howard government the total Money Supply has increased at an astounding rate - all as interest-bearing debt. The banks, which are licensed to create this new money, have had a ball! The following figures, under the heading ‘Monetary Aggregates’ are taken from the Reserve Bank (Australia’s Central Bank) Bulletin, available online to anyone who cares to download it: (Cont.)
Thus, between March 1996, when the Coalition government took office, and January of this year, 2007, just under 11 years the Money Supply was allowed to increase by over half a trillion dollars! (Is this what Treasurer Costello means by a ‘booming economy’?)

The increase under Howard and Costello has been $3.8 billion per month, or $126 million every 24 hours.

Howard’s 11-year Money Supply increase works out at $25,000 for every living Australian, or $100,000 for the average family of four. If the increases had been credited to Australia instead of being debited, we’d be living in an entirely different nation—free, with widespread home and property ownership, stable families, security for the elderly and plenty of opportunity for young Australians. The chance for young families to own their own home without life-time mortgages would be the norm. It would be easily possible for married couples with young families to live on one income—as once happened in Australia’s past.

Today, the bulk of Australia’s title-deeds are lodged with the banks, adding to immense asset portfolios, while the majority of Australians live in a frenetic system of debt-and-mortgage wage-slavery.

It is increasingly understood that banks create the money they lend in a costless transaction that increasingly enslaves borrowers, and periodically dispossesses them. The same system prevails in every country. It was well described by a former President of the Bank of England, Sir Josiah Stamp in the first half of the 20th Century:

“The modern banking system manufactures money out of nothing. The process is, perhaps, the most astounding piece of sleight of hand that was ever invented. Banking was conceived in iniquity and born in sin. Bankers own the earth. Take it away from them but leave them the power to create money, and with a flick of a pen, they will create enough money to buy it back again.

Take this great power away from them and all great fortunes like mine will disappear; for then this would be a better and happier world to live in. But if you want to be the slaves of bankers and pay the cost of your own slavery, then let bankers continue to create money and control credit”.

Would it be possible for an Australian Government to resume its responsibility to create any new money required by the economy as a credit sooner than a debt? The question was raised emphatically during the Great Depression of the 1930s, leading to a Royal Commission into the banking system in 1937. At that time the Commonwealth Bank was publicly owned, and served government policy since its foundation. Section 304 of the Royal Commission’s findings read:

“... the Commonwealth Bank can increase the cash reserves of the Trading Banks; for example, it can buy securities and other property, it can lend to the Government or to others in a variety of ways, and it can even make money available to the Governments and to others free of any charge...”

As this last clause led to a good deal of controversy as to its exact meaning, Mr. Justice Napier, Chairman of the Commission, was asked to interpret it, and his reply, received through the Secretary of the Commission (Mr. Harris) was as follows:

“This statement means that the Commonwealth Bank can make money available to Governments or to others, on such terms as it chooses, even by way of a loan without interest, or even without requiring either interest or repayment of principal...” (emphasis added)

How much money should a government prudently create? The first logical step would be the preparation of a National Balance Sheet, to include all items—trading balance, profit-and-loss, assets and liabilities, appreciation and depreciation, production and consumption etc—as required by any commercial enterprise. Depending on final balance growth, an equivalent increase in the Money Supply should be credited to Australia Pty Ltd’s shareholders—the Australian people. Such credits would progressively diminish the household debt, finally putting the nation in the black.

What chance is there of this happening? At present, none at all. No aspiring candidate advocating such a policy would ever receive endorsement from a major political party. Each one dances to the tune of its financial masters.

So great is the rate of money-creation by the Federal Reserve System in the United States, that eighteen months ago it was announced that the M3 figures would no longer be published! One commentator has said that a major recession is only being staved off by massive credit-creation. The art is to create money at a faster rate than the price structure rises! But the consequence is that money loses its value at an ever-increasing rate. The world is on the edge of a precipice.

Only informed People-Power will ever force a change: and who will inform and motivate the people? Why, the Christian Church, of course—just as soon as it once again takes up the battle against mammon! So far, there is no sign that it even recognizes the nature of the battle. At the moment it cannot muster enough fortitude to organize a publicly-announced National Day of Prayer for rain! When it comes to the social order and justice, the Church has used more soap to wash its hands than Pontius Pilate! May the day of courageous Christian regeneration come—before it is too late!
Self confessed Republican to be Governor of South Australia

By Philip Benwell, M.B.E.

The following article has been published with the kind permission of Mr Philip Benwell, M.B.E., National Chairman of the Australian Monarchist League.

On the 3rd May 2007, the Premier of South Australia, Mr Mike Rann announced that his nomination for the next State Governor is Rear-Admiral Kevin John Scarce AO RAN (Rtd.)

One would have thought that being a naval officer who had sworn allegiance to serve The Queen (as he will do on his swearing-in as Governor) the Rear-Admiral would be a loyal subject of Her Majesty, but in his first interview he admitted being a republican and worse said that: “When the time comes I will be supporting Australia becoming a republic.”

Not only is this indirect contravention of his oath both as a Naval Officer and the one he will swear on being appointed as the Representative of The Queen, it is constitutionally improper for any person who is, or who is to be, a vice-regal representative of The Queen to voice a political opinion.

I have written to Rear Admiral Scarce protesting strongly that he is allegedly proposing to use his position as Governor of South Australia to support moves towards a republic.

The problem is that the appointment and dismissal of vice-regal officials lies within the hands of the head of the relevant government. Constitutionalists and even Monarchists have, for years, applauded James Scullin when he stood his ground, in the misguided name of national sovereignty, and forced the Queen’s Grandfather, King George V, to terminate royal discretion on any appointment.

Her Majesty must therefore constitutionally accept the nomination of her Premier. The people should likewise be able to expect the Governor to also obey constitutional convention and not use vice-regal office to promote personal political aims.

We should not approach The Queen as, in doing so, we can cause embarrassment. However by making this comment, Rear Admiral Scarce has shown himself to be unfit for this office. If you feel likewise (as I hope as a Monarchist you do) please write to the Premier, to Rear Admiral Scarce and also telephone your local talk-back radio station and thus air our concerns to hundreds and thousands of listeners.

Address Details are:
Mr Mike Rann
Premier South Australia
Office of the Premier
15th Floor, State Administration Centre,
200 Victoria Square,
ADELAIDE. SA. 5000.
Ministry Telephone: 8463 3166
Ministry Facsimile: 8463 3168
Email: premier@saugov.sa.gov.au

Rear Admiral K.J. Scarce AO RAN (Rtd.)
C/o Government House
GPO Box 2373
ADELAIDE SA 5001
Telephone: 08-8203 9800
Facsimile: 08-8203 9899
Email: governors.office@saugov.sa.gov.au

An Open letter to Rear Admiral Scarce, Governor Designate for South Australia

I have today 4/5/07 written to the Governor-Designate of South Australia as follows:

Dear Rear Admiral Scarce,

I am afraid that we cannot congratulate you on your nomination as Governor of South Australia.

You are reported as having proclaimed that you are a republican and that you have furthermore stated: “When the time comes I will be supporting Australia becoming a republic”.

It is constitutionally improper for any person who is, or who is to be, a vice-regal representative of The Queen to voice a political opinion. We protest strongly that you are allegedly proposing to betray your oath of allegiance to The Queen and use your position as Governor of South Australia to support a republic.

Yours faithfully,
Philip Benwell
National Chairman
Australian Monarchist League

Contributions
Heritage welcomes readers' humorous stories, anecdotes, riddles, poems or jokes. Better still if accompanied by an illustration!
REPLY FROM REAR ADMIRAL SCARCE

Friday 18 May 2007
Mr Philip Benwell, National Chairman Australian Monarchist League
PO Box 1068 Double Bay NSW 1360

Dear Mr Benwell,

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of 4th May 2007 concerning my appointment as Governor of South Australia.

As you may well appreciate reports of press conferences often contain a small fraction of the proceedings. What I said was that at some time in the future I expect that Australia would become a Republic and that when that time comes it would have my full support. I also remarked that becoming a Republic was not the most critical national issue.

Until the time comes when Australians consider the future of the constitution, we have a framework of checks and balances in place that requires Governors and Governor Generals to exercise their duties. I have served in this system for the past thirty five years during my service in the Royal Australian Navy and sworn allegiance to the Queen on numerous occasions. Whilst our constitutional monarchy remains, I will serve our constitution with the same dedication as I have done in the past.

I am unapologetic about my longer term preference for a Republic. My views should not however, be construed as any sort of criticism of Her Majesty The Queen, who has led the Commonwealth with distinction for more than fifty years and like most Australians I hold her in the deepest admiration.

I wish you the best for the future.

Yours sincerely,

Signed - Kevin Scarce

RESPONSE TO REAR ADMIRAL SCARCE

24 May 2007, Rear Admiral K J Scarce AO RAN (Rtd.)
c/- Government House GPO Box 2373 ADELAIDE, SA 5001

Dear Rear Admiral Scarce,

Thank you for your letter of the 18th May 2007.

With respect, Admiral, you fail to comprehend the seriousness of your comments. The reason why The Queen is barred from voting is because the Monarch must not express any opinion of a political nature. To do so could well divide the Nation. It is for this purpose that Bagehot defined the constitutional duties of the Monarch in these words: "The Sovereign has, under a Constitutional Monarchy such as ours, three rights: the right to be consulted, the right to encourage and the right to warn. And a King of great sense and sagacity would want no other."

Being a republican is, of course, a matter for your own conscience. However to proclaim yourself as such, and worse, in your words: "at some time in the future I expect that Australia would become a Republic and that when that time comes it would have my full support" is nothing less than a politically partisan position, alienating a large section, if not the majority, of what are to be your people. It is for this purpose that a vice-regal representative should never openly support, or even voice, opinions of a political nature.

For example, Sir William Dean was Governor-General during the referendum debate on constitutional change, but he never once aired his personal views on the subject. Conversely, we recently experienced the debacle of the controversial Governor-ship of the vocal Richard Butler in Tasmania.

The fact that you have publicly expressed an exceptionally divisive opinion, and worse, are 'unapologetic' for so doing, has not only demeaned the Office you are to hold, but, I am afraid, will always hitherto taint your governorship.

Yours sincerely,

Philip Benwell
National Chairman
Australian Monarchist League

RECOMMENDED READING

Available from Australian Heritage Society. See order form in this issue.

Sovereignty in Australia
The Coronation Service and its relevance to Australia today

The Governor General IS AUSTRALIA'S HEAD OF STATE
By Sir David Smith
In this well researched and authoritative booklet, Sir David Smith, former Official Secretary to five Governors-General, demolishes the case for an Australian republic with a President as Head of State and presents probably the most important and convincing argument for the retention of Australia's constitutional Monarchy.
What if God went on strike?

It’s just a good thing God above
Has never gone on strike
Because He wasn’t treated fair
On things He didn’t like.

If He had ever once sat down
And said “That’s It – I’m through
I’ve had enough of foolish men
So this is what I’ll do:

I’ll give my orders to the sun
cut off the heat supply.
And to the moon – no more light
I’ll run the ocean dry.

Then, just to make it tougher still,
and put the pressure on
I’ll take that old earth’s air supply
Til every breath is gone.”

I’vepose God would be justified
If fairness was the game,
Cause no one has been more
abused
Than God, and His Good Name.

And yet, His patience still abounds
He favors you and me
Supplying everything we need,
And everything is free.

Men say they want a better deal
And so, on strike they go
But what a deal we’ve given God
To whom everything we owe.

We don’t care who we’ve hurt or harmed
To get the things we like
But what a mess we’d all be in
If God should go on strike.

Anonymous

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PRINCE SICK OF ‘POPA PIL’ HEALTH CULTURE

THE Prince of Wales says he is in despair at the growing influence of a “pill for every ill” culture at the expense of finding the true causes of ill health, such as bad diet.

Prince Charles, a long-time champion of alternative medicine, said prevention was the best cure – not a quick fix in the form of a tablet or medicine bottle.

“I suppose the concept of being able to pop a pill that claims to solve your problem without you having to actually do anything is enormously attractive – an easy way of avoiding boring exercise or whatever,” he said in an interview with Esquire magazine.

“Perhaps it’s the media or advertising but people somehow seem to think it’s easier to get a quick fix, regardless of whether a quick fix is merely suppressing the symptoms and not necessarily dealing with the root cause.”

Last year 2006, Britain’s drugs bill rose to 9.65 billion pounds ($23.2 billion), up from 9.2 billion pounds the previous year – more than 10 per cent of National Health Service spending.

Prince Charles said people seemed to have forgotten about prevention and regarded worrying about their diet as a “bit of a bore”.

The Prince, who has converted his Highgrove farm to organic production, said he had come to the conclusion that many people were adversely affected by the foods they loved most and insisted: “You are what you eat.”

Having been recently accused of being a “meddling Prince” because of his habit of writing to Cabinet Ministers, Prince Charles talked about his need to be cautious with his influence. “Obviously I do have to be careful. I don’t want to overdo it,” he said.

The Prince said he knew his views alienated some people and said it was “no fun” plucking up courage to win over those who were openly hostile to his views.

“All the time I feel I must justify my existence,” he said. “What I’ve done is a mere pinprick but at least it is something.”

Source: London Telegraph

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BILDERBERG DIARY

By Jim Tucker

In Bilderberg Diary Jim Tucker lays out – for the first time – his entire remarkable history of covering Bilderberg, his infiltration of Bilderberg meetings, the procurement of their private documents, and the shining of the spotlight of public scrutiny on Bilderberg’s shadowy affairs.

Tucker’s colourful prose will introduce you to the little-known arena of the Bilderberg elite, a memorable and panoramic journey that lays bare the realities behind modern-day international power politics in a way never seen before.

Michael Collins Piper

Author of Final Judgement, The High Priests of War, and The New Jerusalem.

Softcover: 253 pages

Source: Heritage - Vol. 31 No. 119 2007 - Page 13
WHEN the Australian Labour Party led by Gough Whitlam came to power in 1972 after 23 years of conservative Liberal-Country Party coalition government in Australia, one of the first of the many pieces of legislation it passed was a revolutionary overhaul of Australian divorce law to allow “no fault” divorce actions in the nation's courts and eventually in the newly constituted Commonwealth Family Court, sole arbiter of family matters.

Until 1972 divorce was difficult and expensive for the average working class Australian trapped in a failed marriage. The rich made their compromises and colluded in obtaining divorces when they desired, despite the illegality of such collusion. The poor could not afford such luxury or convenience. That again is happening in the modern Family Court system.

To obtain a divorce one partner had to “find fault” with the other which a State Supreme Court, or the High Court of Australia when the parties resided in separate states, would uphold as sufficient reason to allow a divorce. There were basically three grounds for legally obtaining a divorce—adultery by one spouse; desertion by one spouse; and five years of separation in marriage. Other less common grounds were cruelty, physical or mental in the marriage (a plea often used by the rich) and refusal to cohabit with a spouse, both variations on desertion.

The party at fault was penalised in any of several ways by the court when granting a divorce. Costs of any legal action went against the party “at fault”. Custody of children usually went against the partner “at fault”. Maintenance could be awarded to a wronged woman or denied if she was “at fault”, leaving her to find ways and means of obtaining income that often ventured into illegality and injustice to other men including her spouse.

From 1948 when the Australian Labour party government of Ben Chifley passed the Social Security Act, widows, deserted wives and women whose husbands were imprisoned could with sufficient proof obtain a “Widows’ Pension” from the Commonwealth government. Married women who had deserted the home, or who bore other men’s children but obtained maintenance from an absent husband placed under threat or fact of imprisonment for “desertion” represented by “failure to maintain his spouse”, often abused this government largesse. Using a court maintenance order obtained against the “errant” husband the wife, claiming desertion if he had left the home, or constructive desertion that forced her to leave if it was she who had left, could parlay a maintenance order into a Commonwealth Widows’ Pension.

Many women claiming desertion or constructive desertion by their husbands lived in de facto marital situations collecting income from their live-in partner while also illegally collecting a Widows’ Pension. The tough divorce laws did not stop marriages breaking down or stop couples from separating. They just made marriage breakdown more miserable and expensive than it should have been for the parties involved. You cannot legislate happiness.

Divorce then too often relied on paying smart lawyers and smarter private detectives to catch errant spouses in compromising situations relating to adultery. Divorces based on the “fault” of adultery were the quickest and therefore cheapest way to terminate a marriage. The tough divorce laws did not stop marriages breaking down or stop couples from separating. They just made marriage breakdown more miserable and expensive than it should have been for the parties involved. You cannot legislate happiness.

So Gough Whitlam’s Attorney General Mr Lionel Murphy QC completely revised the divorce code. All that was required in law for a divorce was proof that the marriage had broken down, proof permitted by a simple 12 months’ period of separation of the couple even if they shared the same...
This coincided with the rise of feminism. The two factors, the lowered age of maturity from age 21 to age 18, and the feminist movement, altered relationships between women and men and the nature of marriage, ultimately altering relationships between women and their children and helping break up the extended family in Australian society.

Where troubled relationships once turned to extended family or friends for help, the family in distress is often distracted by work commitments. Friends, also in the workforce, too often advise an aggrieved partner “there is no need to put up with that” so rather than repair a marriage divorce action ensues. Any need for children to have full-time parental care if only by one parent is not considered. And government gives little counsel or support to marriages in trouble. Such support as the government may be prepared to offer is “outcomes” based and the easiest, quickest outcome from the view of a government employee is separation and divorce.

Anecdotes abound about Centrelink employees (which replaced the Social Security Department) stating they could do something for the aggrieved individual, usually meaning a supply of money, if they were separated. Society no longer supports marriage as a desirable relationship.

Marriage has been replaced by partnerships. Men enter into de facto relationships with the full consent of women and the couples stay together or drift apart by agreement. Things get messy when children, and thus money, income, and the need for parental care, are involved. Normal Australian morality is being suborned and raped by a lust for money and an avoidance of responsibility.

Another of Lionel Murphy’s reforms, his anti-abortion law granting Single Mother’s Pensions to women bearing children out of wedlock, further changed women’s attitudes to marriage and relationships with men. This law was designed to save young people from rushing into either “shotgun weddings” which rarely endured or abortions when an unplanned pregnancy occurred to a courting couple. It gave the woman the option of bearing the child while being supported by a government pension to relieve her of financial worries when the child was born. It was planned to save three lives, the woman’s, the child’s and the man’s from the disastrous social accident of unplanned pregnancy while holding out the possibility or hope the parental couple could unite in marriage at some future time.

It was a humane gesture abused almost immediately by young women wanting to obtain economic and social independence from their families. Girls as young as 13 imbued with the spirit of feminism rushed to have babies to free themselves from parental control by exploiting the Single Mothers’ Pension. It is still happening. Tragically, women who obtained the Single Mothers’ Pension often wound up on a roundabout of relationships with men, in revolving door de facto situations or in serial marriages, bearing more children with each relationship. Eventually they often ended up alone with several children to care for, with no father-figure in the home for the children, but collecting the equivalent of an average worker’s weekly wage in untaxed government supporting payments. The government, supported by the feminist movement, wants such women to dump their children into daycare facilities and seek employment in the workforce, a task for which they are ill-equipped and to which they are resistant for family reasons arguing children should be brought up in the home not in a crèche.

Couples over age 18 now rushing into marriage are equally rushing to get divorced when lust has diminished and ego been satisfied. Marriage no longer is a lifetime partnership to bear and rear children. In the most extreme of the feminist movement’s advocacy men are superfluous, are mere fashion accessories for women while children, the feminists assert, only need parental “quality time” nurturing of a few hours a day in the home, the rest of the time they can be placed in outside childcare allowing the mother to work and secure an independent career or income free of reliance on a man. Thus children too become a fashion accessory for women, not the centre of home life and marriage. When the marriage breaks down fashion accessories are unwanted and are cast off as a burden on one’s lifestyle.

Now the Family Court set up by Lionel Murphy in 1974 as the sole body adjudicating on family and divorce matters, is turning the clock back to the dark days of injustice in divorce by making matters unnecessarily complex for the parties involved and by openly and unjustly favouring the arguments of women over men. It has become a feminist Women’s Court diametrically opposed to everything Murphy wanted and upheld in law.

Divorce matters once again are in the hands of expensive lawyers and the
procedures are muddied when one spouse, usually the woman, charges the other with "child abuse" to deny them the right of child custody when children are involved. There is little or no attempt to ascertain the facts of "abuse", just the charge is enough to sway the court to government action to remove the children from the care of the "abusive" parent and favour the spouse making the complaint.

This largely is a matter of greed on the part of the wife who does not merely want to punish the husband by denying him the custody of children, but who does not want to relinquish, indeed wants to gain and maintain through the children the right to income from the husband. She does not want to give up her accustomed income which she would have to do if she did not have custody of the children...and the Court allows this to happen with all its inherent injustice.

A result of this has been anguish and bitter men wronged by the system have made attempts on the lives of various Family Court officials.

In all matters before the Family Court nowadays there is again an attempt to "find fault" when settling property matters and awarding custody and costs. The wheel of divorce law has almost turned full circle back to what happened before Lionel Murphy’s reforms. There is a mindset especially among women that divorce should be punitive, a matter of exacting revenge for the time, the loss of beauty through ageing or childbirth, the abandoning of career prospects, the expenditure of devotion that the failed relationship may or may not have entailed, and not a matter to be settled rationally, amicably, free of guilt or in the best interest of any children involved. The Family Court seems to operate now on the principle Napoleon the pig espoused in George Orwell’s Animal Farm: All animals are equal but some are more equal than others.

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He graduated from Sacramento City College, earned B.A. and M.A. degrees at Sacramento Baptist College, attended San Francisco Baptist Theological Seminary and earned a degree in history from Baptist Christian University. However, whatever expertise he may have in the present subject is due mainly to his deep desire to know truth and his persistent investigative journalism.

Ginn, feels that the truth though often traumatic, is beneficial.
In this booklet, Professor Flint does more than just lay out the now well-understood argument against becoming a republic. He also articulates compelling reasons for remaining a monarchy. The case against any form of republic is a strong one, as the 1999 referendum result demonstrated. The case for the monarchy is equally strong but much less frequently put as it relies on instincts which are deeply felt but not so easy to justify in a relentlessly utilitarian age.

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A.S. Kline

That earth and what is human should not stifle. That the heart should be greater than the head: that the spirit should be more than mind alone: that the body should itself remain sacred.

That the earth should not die from commerce, or the love of the earth become trade, that the violence of the mind should be defeated, as much as the violence of the flesh.

That every rage should be a rage of light.

That the poem should remain greater than the poet, and the highest values be love and freedom, and never the one without the other.

That we should go naked through all being, and all of being nakedly through us.

That we should learn to hate our prisons and our chains, that we should learn how to love and to be free, and know all human futures are in freedom, and the future of the mind to be in love.

A.S. Kline
A comparative study of British and Victorian steam locomotive wheel arrangements.

by Stephen C. Phillips

The leaders in British steam tradition were mostly of the six driving wheel arrangement, while in Victoria the smaller diameter eight couples constituted a greater majority of classes of locomotive. In this article, Stephen C. Phillips offers an explanation for this difference in dominant forces between these two railways.

The population of steam locomotives in many countries reached a peak in the mid 1950's because this is when steam locomotive manufacturing commenced its decline as the first diesels were commissioned. Thus in Britain, the first mainline diesels (other than shunters) were built in 1957 and the last steam locomotive (Evening Star) was built in 1960. In Victoria, the J-class was the last steam locomotive to commence work in 1953-'54 while the B-class diesel made its debut in 1952.

This peak period of steam domination and its rapid collapse soon afterwards, saw the principle of "survival of the fittest" put into practice. On British Railways, the less efficient classes of locomotive were soon retired, while many of the tendered locomotives fitted with Walschaert’s valve gear gained favouritism, such as Bulleid’s “Battle of Britain” and “Merchant Navy” classes, Stanier’s “Princess”, “Coronation” and “5MT” classes, Gresley’s “A3”, “A4” and “V2” classes, Thompson’s “A1” and “A2” classes and the “Britannia”, “Jubilee” and “BR5” classes. All of these classes of locomotive had six driving wheels, each exceeding six feet in diameter. The number of classes of tendered locomotives with eight driving wheels was considerably less, although one such class, the Stanier 8F proved to be a particularly successful model with many of the hundreds used in Europe and Persia during the second world war being reclaimed by British Railways for post-war service. None-the-less, six couple tendered locomotives out-numbered eight couple tendered locomotives by more than five to one.

Conversely, on Victorian Railways, the Walschaert fitted six couple tendered locomotives constituting the S, R and part of the A2 classes (a total of 134 locomotives) were out-numbered by those in the eight couple C, K, N, X, H and J classes (269 locomotives) by two fold. If we consider just one specific wheel arrangement, the 4-6-2 (Pacific); Victorian Railways had only one such type (the S class), while British Railways had eleven classes of this type (A1, A2, A3, A4, Battle of Britain, Merchant Navy, Princess, Coronation, Britannia, Duke of Gloucester and Clan).

To understand why six couples were favoured on British Railways while eight couples were more common on Victorian Railways, we need to consider the mechanics of motion of these two locomotive types. There are five variables that govern the conversion of steam pressure into wheel rotation. These five variables are boiler steam pressure, piston cylinder diameter, piston stroke length, number of pistons and wheel diameter. If none of these variables differ between any two locomotives, then the two locomotives can be expected to have the same tractive effort. Thus the Victorian K, N and J classes all had the same operating boiler steam pressure of 175 lb/sq.in., two piston cylinders each with a diameter of 20 in. and stroke displacement of 26 in. and driving wheels of 4 ft. 7 3/16 in. diameter. Not surprisingly then, all three classes of locomotive generated the same tractive effort of 28,650 lb.

It stands to reason that the greater the steam pressure, the greater will be the force exerted upon the pistons and hence the transfer of this greater force to the driving wheels. For example, the British class A2 type 4-6-2 which included the well known locomotive “Cock O The North” had one member of the class different from the rest in that it had a reduced operating boiler pressure. Thus while most produced a tractive effort of 40,430 lb. with an operating boiler pressure of 250 lb/sq.in., locomotive number 60508 with an operating boiler pressure of 225 lb/sq.in. produced a tractive effort of only 36,390 lb.

The diameter of the piston cylinder, the length of the piston stroke and the number of pistons all influence the amount of force that the boiler’s steam pressure can exert upon the driving wheels. To add an extra dimension of complexity to this consideration, the Walschaert’s valve gear allows for a variable cut-off in the valves so that at any speed, the driver can change the amount of steam entering the piston cylinder by moving the gear lever away from full forward (or fall backward) so that the valve gear does not entirely open the port entry to the piston cylinder during each cycle. Thus the amount of steam used in each stroke cycle can be varied.

Wheel diameter has a profound influence on locomotive performance, because this parameter converts the stroke displacement in the piston cylinder to the distance that the locomotive travels along
the track. For example, the Victorian 2-8-0 C class and 4-6-4 R class both have a 28 in. stroke, but the C class has 5 ft 11/16 in. diameter driving wheels while the R class has 6 ft 0 15/16 in. diameter driving wheels. Thus for each forward and backward stroke of the piston resulting in one complete rotation of the driving wheels through 360 degrees, the C class travels about 16 ft. 1 7/8 in. along the track while the R class moves a distance of approximately 19 ft 1 1/4 in. The British Stanier class 8F 2-8-0 and Stanier class 5MT 4-6-0 share the same operating boiler pressure (225 lb./sq.in.), the same number of cylinders (2), the same cylinder diameter (18 1/2 in.) and the same stroke movement (28 in.), but the class 8F has 4 ft. 8 1/2 in. diameter driving wheels while the class 5MT has 6 ft. 0 in. driving wheels. Consequently, with each forward and backward movement of the piston, the class 5MT travels 18 ft. 10 1/4 in. while the class 8F travels 14 ft 9 1/2 in. So the class 5MT travels 1.27 times (27%) further than the class 8F locomotive for the same amount of steam used. However, the class 8F generates 32,440 lb. of tractive effort, which is 27% more than the class 5MT's 25,455 lb. of tractive effort. The general rule of physics of "trading distance for force" shows that the class 5MT is a faster locomotive, but the class 8F is capable of hauling heavier loads. Not surprisingly, the world speed record of 126 miles per hour for a steam locomotive is held by a two cylinder Walschaert geared eight coupled locomotive, "Mallard", while heavy freight specific locomotives were eight coupled or ten coupled.

The popular technique for increasing the tractive effort of British locomotives that had large diameter wheels was to increase the number of piston cylinders. Thus Bulleid's 4-6-2 "Battle of Britain" and "Merchant Navy" classes had three cylinders which gave them a tractive effort of 27,700 lb. and 33,490 lb. respectively, while Stanier's 4-6-2 "Princess" and "Coronation" classes had four cylinders producing 40,300 lb. and 40,000 lb. of tractive effort. With rare exceptions (such as the Britannia class) no two cylinder locomotive with six driving wheels could produce a tractive effort over 30,000 lb., while all eight couple classes had only two cylinders and their tractive efforts all exceeded 30,000 lb. (with one exception which had a lower boiler pressure by British standards).

Similarly, even though the Victorian 4-6-2 S class had a smaller cylinder diameter (20 1/2 in.) and lower boiler pressure (200 lb./sq.in.) than the 4-6-4 R class (21 1/2 in., 210 lb./sq.in.), the three cylinder S class had a significantly greater tractive effort (41,670 lb) than the two cylinder R class (32,080 lb). The greater tractive effort of the two cylinder six couple R class over that of the two cylinder eight coupled K, N and J classes can be attributed to the larger diameter of its cylinders, longer strokes of its cylinders and its greater boiler pressure.

The consequences of combining the increased tractive effort due to a third piston cylinder with the greater tractive effort characteristic of the smaller diameter driving wheeled eight couple locomotives is evident in the Victorian 4-8-4 H class which produced a tractive effort of 55,000 lb.

Of course, the benefits of increased power due to more than two piston cylinders comes at a cost. The disadvantage of incorporating a third or forth piston cylinder into a locomotive relates to the increased time and awkwardness of service and repair of such cylinders and their associated valve gear within the locomotive frame. From a maintenance point of view, a two cylinder Walschaert geared eight couple is favourable over a three cylinder six couple, and this consideration may well have been in the minds of Victorian Railway Board members when commissioning new classes of locomotives. Another factor relates to the geography of the two railways: Britain and Victoria both have an area of approximately 88,000 square miles, but in 1960 there was just over 50,000 miles of railway track in Britain which is 14 times greater than that in Victoria. Since the amount of track per head of population is about the same (1170 miles per million people in Victoria, 980 miles per million people in Britain), the enormous difference in railway development parallels the human population growth. The large diameter wheels of a six couple locomotive makes it ideal for fast passenger services, and the addition of a third piston cylinder gives it the tractive effort needed to engage steep gradients or for performing general freight work. However the small diameter wheels of an eight couple is a permanent restraint on maximum speed regardless of the tractive effort produced, and so such locomotives have a design which is biased against high speed express work. It would seem then, that the fleet of steam locomotives in Britain was composed with a greater regard for fast passenger transportation, while the Victorian fleet placed greater emphasis on mixed traffic designs.

References:
ONE of the first jobs a young Irish veterinarian was called to undertake when he arrived in New South Wales, fresh from County Kilkenny, was to administer a drench to a horse on a country property.

An unromantic enough task it may sound, but for the young man concerned, by name Michael Kenny, it was to lead to a life-long romance.

He went to Wollambi, in the Hunter River district, New South Wales, there he tended the sick horse, and at the same time fell in love with Mary Moore the daughter of the house.

The couple were married shortly afterwards and settled in the same district as the bride's parents and began farming themselves at Kelly's Gully. They started early on the rearing of a large family. In all they had nine children, two of whom however, died. The youngest daughter, and next to youngest of the brood, was Elizabeth, born in 1886. Like her elder brothers and sisters she was entirely without fear in the bush, though shy and reticent in the presence of strangers. She loved more than anything else to ride horseback with the wind lifting her long hair as she galloped recklessly across country. From an early age she helped with the stock and rode into the township to pick up the mail and stores.

On one occasion, when she was eight years old, she had been exploring near the homestead when she was confronted by a death adder, the most deadly of Australian snakes, lying across the path. She seized a stick and with all her strength struck it with what she considered a mortal blow. Proudly she picked up the body and carried it to her mother, who was working in the flower garden. She laid her prize before her on the ground to show how brave she had been. The snake gave a slight shudder, as if to throw of the stunning effect of the little girl's blow, and then hurried away about its own business.

THE KENNY FAMILY
MOVE TO QUEENSLAND

About this time there was a series of bad seasons. Month after month for three years heavy rains soaked and soured the land of the district, until the whole place was a mire impossible for grazing. Finally, Elizabeth's father decided he could support his family there no longer, and they must look for another home. Regretfully they packed their belongings and moved to Queensland, into the Toowoomba district.

Soon after their arrival Elizabeth decided that she would try out the Queensland horses, to see if they were as good as those in the Southern State. She was ten at the time, and rising early, went out to the paddock and saddled herself a mount. She cantered smoothly across country, and then put the horse into a gallop. Hardly had it commenced to gather speed than she realised she had not fastened the saddle properly. She tried her hardest to pull the horse up, but he too, was enjoying the freedom of the morning air, and refused all attempts to slow down. The saddle slipped and she was thrown to the ground. Then, and only then, did the horse politely stop. But it was too late, for her wrist was broken and she found she was unable to fix the saddle.

There was nothing for the little girl to do but walk home. Before she arrived, however, she was seen from the distance, so that she was greeted by her brothers and sisters with cries of "You can't ride a horse, you fell off." This was too much. The pain in her arm was bad enough, but to be laughed at in this manner broke her spirit, and Elizabeth burst into tears.

Her mother quickly bathed and bound the damaged wrist, and said that she must go into the doctor's in Toowoomba, forty miles away. Her sisters then clustered round and insisted that as she was the first in the family to visit the doctor she must be dressed for the occasion, and ignoring her protests, commenced to dress her in her best frock and brush and comb her unruly hair into some form of order.

This particular incident is important in the life of Elizabeth Kenny, for it led to her first meeting with Doctor Aeneas John McDonnell, who was to have so great an influence on her life. When this small country patient arrived he regarded the broken wrist seriously, and told her mother that it may mean permanent deformity, if not treated with the utmost care. He said the child must stay in town for a while. Her mother suggested that they would put up at a hotel, but Doctor McDonnell invited Elizabeth to stay as his guest, saying he had been greatly taken by the little girl.

Elizabeth's mother, knowing her daughter's shyness, did not think she would agree, but when the Doctor told her he would take her for a daily ride behind his spanking team of horses, he won the day.

As Elizabeth passed into her teens she became more and more worried...
about her young brother, Bill, three years her junior and the baby of the family. All the rest of the Kenny’s enjoyed robust health, and were filled with inexhaustible energy. Bill alone was different. He was delicate, and his legs were thin and puny, so that he tired easily and had to be frequently carried by the stronger members of the family.

Elizabeth began to read books to find a way of helping him. She learnt all about muscles and where they were placed in the human body. She even rigged up a mechanical wooden man with pulleys and strings to demonstrate the working of the muscular system. She found Bill was as eager as she to increase his strength, and he became a willing patient in her hands, following her instructions implicitly regarding the exercises he should do. The result was that Bill was to grow up to become a hero of the First World War.

ELIZABETH VENTURES INTO THE WORLD OF MEN’S AFFAIRS

When Elizabeth was twenty-one she went to stay with her Grandmother in New South Wales. She found there had been a bumper season in the district which had caused a glut on the market, so that the local producers could hardly give their goods away and were thus in severe financial straits. She was particularly moved by the plight of a young married man with a family of children. She felt sure firms with whom her father had dealings in Queensland would be only too willing to buy from him, so she wrote letters of inquiry.

Within the week she had received fifteen telegrams ordering goods, obviously more than the one farmer could supply. For a while she did not know what to do, then her organising ability came to her aid and she called a meeting of local farmers and explained the position to them. At first they were sceptical as to whether these unknown buyers would be financial, but Elizabeth assured them her father had always been paid promptly, and then called on the local bank manager, who supported her in her statement regarding the good standing of the firms concerned. So the goods were freighted north, and money came into the little township.

Her venture into the world of men’s affairs, however, did not make her popular among the women of the town, whom, with their children, it had been her dearest wish to help. They felt she had forgotten her sex and position and had behaved in a most unladylike manner. Elizabeth for her part, felt isolated and misunderstood, and determined that she would go as a missionary to India.

She still had this career in view when she returned to Queensland, where she called on her old friend Doctor McDonnell on her way home. He suggested that if she wished to be a missionary it would be very helpful if she trained as a nurse first. She immediately saw the wisdom of his advice.

During her period of training she spent some of her free time as a guest of a friend in the country. There, one evening, news was brought to them of the sickness of a woman on a desolate farm three miles away. Elizabeth set out to aid her, and realised then the loneliness of such people and the real need for missionary work right here at her own back door. So she changed her plans and decided to be a bush nurse instead of a missionary in India.

SISTER ELIZABETH KENNY BEGINS HER CAREER AS AN AUSTRALIAN "BUSH NURSE"

She finished her training in 1911 and took charge of the district round Clifton. Here, with no doctor near, she had to be doctor, nurse and midwife herself.

As was only natural, she came to have a special affection for the families she served, especially those where she had brought a baby into the world.

In one such family there was a little two-year-old girl whose baby brother she had delivered, and who was her special pet. The child would always run out to greet her when she paid a visit, so that when she was summoned there on one occasion and no little girl appeared on the pathway she wondered in dismay what could be wrong. She entered the house with trepidation and found her little favourite desperately ill.

The nearest doctor was McDonnell, forty miles away in Toowoomba, and to him she sent a telegram describing the illness and asking for instructions as to its name and the correct treatment. McDonnell recognised the disease and sent back the reply, “Symptoms you describe clearly indicate infantile paralysis (Poliomyelitis). Use your best observation and judgement.”

Sister Kenny soon found herself battling with a small epidemic of infantile paralysis. The disease was outside her experience, and in the absence of specific instructions from the physician, she used, as he had told her, her “best observation and judgement.” Whether or not she gave the correct treatment is still a matter of debate, but her observations at the time laid the foundations for her future work with sufferers from the disease.

She was unaware that the affected parts of the body should, according to medical practice, be kept immobilised with splints or casts, as it was considered that the muscles were slack and sagging, and by this method the strong normal muscles would be prevented from pulling the weak ones out of place and thus causing deformity. According to her observations the muscles appeared to contract in pain, and as she did not know how to treat the disease, she decided it would be best to treat the symptom and try to relieve the muscular spasm. To do
this she used water, heat, blankets and her own hands, and she found that after a few days her patients became more comfortable.

When Elizabeth next went to Toowoomba on leave Dr. McDonnell was most anxious to hear how she had fared with her poliomyelitis cases, and was absolutely incredulous when she told him that in each case there was no deformity but that every victim was now entirely normal.

At this time he himself had a patient, a young boy with the disease, so he decided to turn the child over to Sister Kenny for treatment to see what she had done in the other cases.

"YOU ARE IN COMPLETE CHARGE," HE TOLD HER. "NOW SHOW US WHAT YOU DID."

Taking no heed of the protests of those who had been brought into watch, Sister Kenny removed the splints and bandages from the little limbs and asked for boiling water and blankets. The latter she tore into strips which she rung out in the water and packed round the affected parts, continually replacing them as they cooled. A few days later she began moving the patient’s arms and legs, and massaging them, finally encouraging the child to move them himself. In three or four weeks he was entirely cured and able to run and play as he had done before his illness.

In spite of this success with his own patient, Dr. McDonnell was, nevertheless, sceptical about Sister Kenny’s methods, although he could not help admitting to himself he was impressed to a certain degree.

During the First World War Sister Kenny joined the A.A.N.S., where her work was on transports. In all, she made fifteen round trips between Australia and Great Britain, and became known and loved by thousands in the Commonwealth forces. It was during this period that she invented and patented a special transport stretcher, the purpose of which was to render stable the wounded person’s body whilst he was being carried, thus reducing the amount of necessary suffering.

With the end of the First World War, and back into civilian life again, Sister Kenny carried on her work of nursing, quietly and unobtrusively ministering to the needs of the sick.

**INFANTILE PARALYSIS EPIDEMICS ON THE INCREASE**

Then in 1933 an epidemic of infantile paralysis broke out in Queensland. There had been an increasing number of such epidemics in recent years and the Government was becoming more and more alarmed. Elizabeth Kenny herself felt keenly on the subject and opened a clinic for treatment in Townsville.

As her method of treatment was inexpensive and required very little equipment the Government decided to sponsor a clinic using her methods, and during the next year one was opened at the public expense. Such recognition of the work of a person who was not a qualified doctor immediately caused many conservative medical men to dispute the Kenny method. In 1935 a Royal Commission was set up to compare her treatment of poliomyelitis with the orthodox one. It was three years before the report of the findings was ready, and it spelt disappointment to Elizabeth Kenny. An inch (25mm) thick, and three hundred pages in length, the report was denunciatory.

Sister Kenny’s feelings at the time can only be imagined. She had failed in her own country; she was a prophet without honor there, so she decided to go to London. In the capital of the Empire her method was also studied, but the most favourable report it received was "Harmless, but of unproved value."

And now Sister Kenny, supported by the knowledge of the results she had obtained by her treatment, set out for America armed with letters of introduction from the Queensland Government. A few physicians at the University of Minnesota and the Minneapolis General Hospital had already heard about her and were willing to give her a hearing. As a result, the Minneapolis General Hospital donated a few hundred dollars for the equipment she required, and the University Medical School secured a grant from the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis to pay the assisting nurses and technicians.

So, under the supervision of Dr. Wallace H. Cole, Professor of Orthopaedic Medicine, and Dr. Miland E. Knapp, Professor of Physical Therapy, both of the University of Minnesota, Sister Kenny began her work in America. And thus began to also, build up a reputation for herself in the States which was to spread from coast to coast.

A year later the findings of her supervisors were published in the “Journal of the American Medical Association,” America’s number one medical publication, and in November of the same year, Dr. Wallace Cole spoke of the “definite contribution” which Sister Elizabeth Kenny had made in the American fight against the dreaded disease. He noted that her best work had always been done with patients brought to her within two weeks after contracting poliomyelitis.

**SISTER KENNY RECOGNISED FOR HER WORK**

Recognition of the Australian nurse passed beyond the borders of the United States, and during the Canadian epidemic of infantile paralysis in 1941, the Children’s Hospital in Winnipeg requested her help. She immediately went to Canada, and arranged to teach her method to local nursing and medical staff. But they were crying out for her
in the States again as an epidemic broke out all over the country, so she journeyed to Memphis, Tennessee, and Little Rock, Arkansas.

In Minneapolis alone, Sister Kenny instructed some forty nurses and physiotherapists in her method, although her technique of muscle re-education is very intricate and takes time and skill to master. The city finally voted to move three important clinics out of its large public health centre so that the space could be turned over to her.

In 1942, with facts and films to describe the success of her method, the support of outstanding American scientists, and the editorial approval of the April issue of the “Journal of the American Medical Association,” Sister Elizabeth Kenny lectured before the New York State Medical Society. She told her audience of her full recoveries in seven cases out of eight spread over eighty-four infantile paralysis patients she had treated in Minneapolis. Nevertheless, many of her listeners as well as medical men throughout the country were still openly sceptical.

In 1948 she was listed among the ten most outstanding personalities in the United States, according to an opinion poll conducted by the Women’s Home Companion, a famous American magazine. She was, incidentally, the only foreigner in the selection.

Not only in America has the work of Sister Kenny received acclaim, but doctors from Greece, Russia, Turkey, Belgium, Germany, Sweden, and also China had studied at her institute at Minneapolis, and taken her theories and methods back to their own homelands.

The life of Sister Elizabeth Kenny had been a battle against prejudice and honest scientific opinion as well, for the majority of those who were against her methods were equally sincere in their desire to do their utmost to control and cure the terrible disease of poliomyelitis. Nevertheless, she has had her influence on the most conservative medical thought. As one eminent doctor said, “Even those who still use splints remove them regularly for movement and massage.” The layman cannot even begin to essay an opinion regarding the Kenny method, but to those many who suffered from infantile paralysis, their loved ones, and their future families to come, Sister Elizabeth Kenny will forever remain a symbol of courage, goodness and hope.

Compiled by Eve Bennetts.

THE STORY OF HER LIFE MADE INTO A FULL-LENGTH FILM

The degree of interest throughout America generally in the Australian nurse was shown when United Artists decided they would make a full-length film of the story of her life. When Sister Kenny was approached with the proposition she agreed, but on the one condition that Rosalind Russell be allowed to play the name part. And so the amazing life story of this remarkable woman appeared on the screen.

In 1942, Sister Kenny was presented with a diminutive gold key on a fine gold chain. This was the Golden Key of Physical Medicine, awarded by the International Council for Physical Medicine. She was the first non-M.D. to receive the honor. Honorary degrees have been conferred on Elizabeth Kenny in many places. She became a Doctor of Humane Letters of the University of Rochester, and a Master of Arts of the University of New Jersey.

THE LONG SLOW DEATH OF WHITE AUSTRALIA

Or was it buried alive by bureaucrats and politicians keen to present a new face of Australia to the world? The Long, Slow Death of White Australia is an important and timely book about an issue at the heart of Australian life since federation. It offers new insights into Australia’s past and present place in the world, and the ideals that shaped the nation.

Compiled by Gwenda Tavan.
Stability and change:
Australian Society in the 1950's

By Roger Hughes

A USTRALIA in the 1950's, under the leadership of Robert Menzies and a Liberal-Country Party coalition, is often seen as stodgy and conservative. In actual fact there were radical changes underway and fundamental shifts in the way our society was heading.

The decade, unfortunately, began with Australia involved again in a war overseas when we sent troops to support the United States in Korea. The conflict started in June 1950, when the North Koreans crossed the 38th parallel that divided the two Koreas. Four days later the Menzies government announced that ships of the Royal Australian Navy were at the disposal of the United Nations. Another day later 77 Squadron of the Royal Australian Air Force was made available and this squadron saw its first action on the 2nd July 1950. In September of the same year 1,000 of our ground troops arrived in Korea.

Australians played an important part in a number of battles including the Battle of Yongyu and the Battle of Broken Ridge. Our troops did not follow the Americans to the Yalu River but they did fight the Chinese at Kapyong, just south of the 38th parallel. It was here that the Chinese advance was halted.

The conflict ended in July 1953 by which time 281 Australians had been killed and 1,257 had been wounded.

The fight against communism continued at home. A bill to ban the Communist Party was passed by the Menzies government but was later declared unconstitutional by the High Court. The proposal was put to the people in a referendum but was narrowly defeated.

The government had more luck with the Petrov affair when in 1954 a Russian diplomat and self-confessed spy defected. The government's action against the spy ring helped them win the next election. The Labor Party on the other hand split and a breakaway group formed the Democratic Labor Party. This helped to keep Labor out of office for years to come.

Both sides of politics supported an increase in population and were helped in this regard by the post-war baby boom that continued throughout the fifties. The birth-rate peaked at 3.58 per 1,000 in 1961. The immigration program that had started under Ben Chifley's Labor government was continued by Menzies. At the time British migrants predominated but there were also plenty of Italians, Greeks, Germans and other Europeans. Along with these we took in thousands of refugees, with about 171,000 arriving between 1947 and 1952. Most of these came from Poland, Yugoslavia and the Baltic states. A lot of them went to work on the Snowy Mountains Scheme.

WHITE AUSTRALIA POLICY

The White Australia Policy was in force at the time and very few non-white people were allowed into the country. When the Menzies government came to power it promised to maintain a racially exclusive immigration policy but administer it in a more "humane" way. A few of the previous government's deportation orders were reversed and 800 Chinese wartime refugees were allowed to stay in this country.

There was also a large increase in foreign, mainly Asian, students coming to study in Australia under the Colombo Plan, and hundreds of other Asians were given temporary visas. Permanent migration of Asians increased slightly, including mixed race Burghers from Sri Lanka and partly coloured Dutch and American soldiers who had served in Australia during the war. Hundreds of Japanese war-brides were allowed to join their Australian husbands.

More radical changes were made to immigration when a new Migration Act was introduced in 1958. This included a number of reforms including the dropping of the dictation test and placing curbs on the powers of ministers over deportation. Some people claim that this was the end of the White Australia Policy but as late as 1963 only an estimated 1,500 coloured migrants entered Australia.

THE GROWTH OF THE AUSTRALIAN ECONOMY

Australia's economy was generally pretty robust during the fifties. Throughout the decade there was generally a low level of unemployment and a high level of economic growth. Only in one year (1952-53) did the...
Stability and Change: Australian Society in the 1950's

In other years it grew at rates ranging from 1.4% to 7.4%.

The growth in the economy and living standards accelerated a growth in consumerism. Refrigerators, electric washing machines, vacuum cleaners and a wide range of electrical appliances became household necessities in the fifties. At the start of the decade only one in ten Australians owned a car, by 1960 it was one in four. Television came to Australia in 1956 but four years later, even though most people outside the capital cities could not pick up a television signal, a third of homes had a television set.

Movie theatres continued as popular places of entertainment and as were drive-in theatres when they were introduced. Unfortunately the local film industry was having trouble competing against the imported product and what people saw on the screen came largely from Hollywood. Nevertheless we managed to produce a few memorable films such as "Bitter Springs", "Captain Thunderbolt", "Smiley" and "Jedda". These featured famous Australian actors such as Chips Rafferty, Jack Fegen and Rod Taylor, but in 1959 when a film version of the Ray Lawler play "Summer of the Seventeenth Doll" was produced it featured American actor Ernest Borgnine.

When in the same year the American producer Stanley Kramer made "On the Beach" in Melbourne he brought over Gregory Peck and Ava Gardner to play the lead roles.

EMERGENCE OF ROCK AND ROLL AND A NEW SUB-CULTURE

A feature of society in the fifties was the emergence of a teenage sub-culture. Perhaps the most notable was popular music, especially rock and roll. This was given a boost in 1955 when the movie "Blackboard Jungle" was given a sneak preview in Brisbane. The film's soundtrack included Bill Haley's "Rock around the Clock" and the craze spread from there.

1956 saw Brisbane's first rock and roll dances and concerts. Often accompanied by rioting "bodgies" and their female companions the "widgies". While there seems to have been plenty of local performers to play at these events, the majority, with a few exceptions like Johnny O'Keefe, passed into history without any enduring fame. In 1957 Bill Haley himself toured Australia and became the biggest crowd puller until seven years later when the Beatles toured.

OTHER BIG EVENTS OF THE FIFTIES

Included Queen Elizabeth II's Royal Tour in 1954 and Melbourne's Olympic Games held in 1956.

Queen Elizabeth had planned to visit Australia two years earlier while still a princess but this tour had to be cancelled when news came that her father, King George VI had died. In February 1954 however the royal yacht "Gothic" entered Sydney Harbour carrying the newly crowned Queen. Elizabeth made a 16 kilometre trip through the city accompanied by a guard of mounted police. An estimated million and a quarter people turned out to see the Queen and the lights and fireworks put on later in the evening to celebrate her visit. In a marathon tour that took almost two months to complete she visited many provincial areas and the other five states before boarding the "Gothic" in Perth.

At the time Australian Aboriginals did not have quite the same level of rights as they do now. Nevertheless a few were becoming prominent in different fields including art. The most famous Aboriginal artist of the time was Albert Namatjira who was introduced to the queen during her tour. Shortly afterwards an exhibition of art produced by Aboriginals, including Namatjira, was held at Anthony Hordern's Art Gallery in Sydney. It sold out almost instantly.

Two years later Melbourne hosted what were to be our most successful Olympic Games up to that time. Post-war enmities were still active at the time of the games and it was even suggested that the Japanese should not be invited. A games village was established at Heidelberg but an original plan to allocate national teams to broad continental groupings had to be revised due to hostilities in Europe and the Middle-East.

More distance was put between Arabs and Israelis, and between Russians and Hungarians, while Australians were moved from the Asiatic region to a place among fellow English-speakers. Some streets were to be named after famous battles but were hastily renamed so that Germans were not
housed in Tobruk Street and Indians would not be in Lucknow Avenue.

Australians had competed in every summer Olympic Games since 1896 but our successes had been limited. In 1956 however we won 35 medals including 13 gold. Notable sports achievers during the decade included Jimmy Carruthers who held the world bantamweight boxing championship from 1952-54, Stuart MacKenzie, winner of the Diamond Sculls of Henley Royal Regatta for five years from 1957, and Jack Brabham who won the World Driver's Championship in 1959.

Australia in the fifties appears to have been a pretty stable society but not one too conservative to accommodate changes. On the other hand multiculturalism had not been dreamed up and migrants were expected to, and generally did, assimilate to the Australian way of life.

Main Sources:
Carroll, Brian "The Menzies Years" Cassell Australia 1977.
Murphy, John and Smart, Judith (eds) "The Forgotten Fifties". Melbourne University Press 1997

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IN 1951, King George VI had endorsed the Australian Governments recommendation to use the Commonwealth blue ensign as the Australian National Flag. The Flags Act 1953, passed by the Australian Parliament in December, proclaimed the Australian blue ensign as the national flag, and the Australian red ensign as the flag for merchant ships registered in Australia. The Act was signed into law by Queen Elizabeth 11 on 14th February 1954, after she opened the Australian Parliament.

The Shipping Registration Act 1981 which came into operation on 26th January 1982 confirmed the Australian red ensign as the official flag to be flown by Australian registered merchant ships.

Today, the Australian National Flag is a symbol of the entire nation. Australians also recognise other important flags that represent areas or groups within the nation, such as the state and territory flags, the Australian Aboriginal Flag, the Torres Strait Islander Flag and the ensigns of the Australian Defence Force.

PROTECTION FOR THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL FLAG
On 24th March 1998, the Flags Amendment Bill became law. It amended the Flags Act 1953 to ensure that the Australian National Flag can only be changed with the agreement of the Australian people.

In the event that a poll is required, the existing design of the Australian National Flag must be one of the designs in any selection put to the people.

The Australian National Flag will turn 106 years of age on the 3rd September this year (2007).

On 28th August 1996 the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, Sir William Deane, proclaimed 3rd September as "Australian National Flag Day" to commemorate the day in 1901 on which the Australian National Flag was first flown. Most Calendars reflect that fact today.

Source: The Australian National Flag Association 2007

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A Yankee View
Carleton Putnum

Preface by Jared Taylor.

This book is a single contribution to an understanding of the race controversy.

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The Australian National Flag

This article has been compiled specifically to dispel wrong information which is often circulated with the aim to denigrate the icon which is the AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL FLAG. It may also serve to settle the odd bar room argument.

The Australian National Flag Association: W.A. Inc. – President: Mr Bert Lane.

EVERY sovereign nation on earth flies its own National Flag, the symbol of the country, of the people and of the ideals and beliefs that those people live by and proclaim.

The Australian National Flag Association was formed in 1983 and exists in all states. The Association is primarily focused on retaining the Nation’s chief symbol in its present form, and protecting it from the constant barrage of threats to change it. It is the belief of the Association that, whether or not this country becomes a Republic, our proud 100 year old Flag SHOULD NEVER CHANGE.

Readers of this article may be aware that there are people within our society who, for mostly inexplicable reasons, are hell-bent on changing our Flag. Some of these people are not even Australian citizens whose hidden agendas are sometimes quite obvious. However, the Australian National Flag Association is working very hard on behalf of loyal Australians to counter future threats against the flag of our wonderful free country.

The Australian National Flag was born

Our Flag evolved from an open, worldwide competition in 1901. It attracted 32,823 entries and five equal winners were declared. The first named winner was Western Australia’s own Annie Dorrington, who was born in England in 1866 and died in Perth in 1926. In 1998 her unmarked grave at Karrakatta Cemetery was discovered by the Australian National Flag Association and is now adorned with a befitting memorial. This grave has been included as part of the Karrakatta Cemetery Historical Walk Trail 1.

For the Australian people, the Australian National Flag is profoundly symbolic – it is their Chief National Symbol. The beautiful blue flag was officially flown for the first time ‘aloft and free’, at the Royal Exhibition Building in Melbourne on 3rd September 1901. The unfurling was performed by the Countess of Hopetoun, the wife of our first Governor General, the Earl of Hopetoun, in the presence of our first Prime Minister The Hon. Edmund Barton.

In 1996, the Governor General, Sir William Patrick Deane, acting on the advice of the Federal Executive Council, declared 3rd September to be designated Australian National Flag Day.

The third of September 2001 represents the 100th anniversary of the first time the Flag was officially flown.

The ‘Change the Flag’ lobby as part of their propaganda campaign, will try to tell you that Australia never had a flag until 1953. Well, when you look at our Flag, you are indeed looking at 100 years of Australian history in war and peace.

This is the flag which King Edward VII and the then Governor General, The Earl of Hopetoun, proclaimed in 1903 as The Flag of the Commonwealth of Australia.

This is the flag which covered the coffin of The Unknown Soldier as he was laid to rest in the Old Parliament House and now lies at the Australian War Memorial.

This is the flag which now resides in the Australian War Memorial.

This is the flag which covered the coffin of the unknown soldier of all ex-servicemen as they are borne to their last resting place.

This is the flag which was carried on the march of 5000 Australian troops through London on Anzac Day 1919 – the flag which now resides in the Australian War Memorial.

This is the flag which was carried on the Residency in Darwin when it was bombed by the Japanese on 19th February 1942. It was riddled with bullets and was the first flag to be flown at the peace ceremony in 1946, flanked on one side by the flag that flew at Villers-Bretonneux in 1917 and on the other side by the flag flown by HMAS Sydney when it destroyed the Italian Cruiser “Bartolomeo Colleoni” in the Mediterranean in 1940.

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This is the flag that was raised by Sgt. Derrick on a shell-torn tree at Sattelberg in 1945. Sgt. Derrick was later awarded the Victoria Cross.

This is the flag that was raised over Kokoda, Lae, Buna, Gona and other towns in New Guinea as were retaken from the Japanese in WW11.

This is the flag commemorated on a special plaque at Lae which reads “Here on the 16th September 1943 the Australian National Flag was raised by the Commander 25th Australian Infantry Battalion to mark the capture of this important base from the Japanese”.

This is the flag that was paraded at the Japanese surrender ceremonies and in victory marches.

This is the Australian National Flag that hung in Amiens Cathedral in France for 46 years and now rests in the Australian War Memorial – having been replaced by the 19th Battalion Association during the unveiling of the Mont St. Quentin Memorial 29th August 1971.

Yet there are those say we never had a flag until 1953!!

This is the flag that featured dramatically and with great reverence in the Sydney Welcome Home Parade for Vietnam Veterans – when 508 Australian National flags were paraded, one for each Australian who lost his life in that campaign.

This is the flag that was raised by the released POW’s at Changi in 1945.

This is the flag that flew throughout the Korean campaign beside that of the United Nations.

As previously stated, the Australian National Flag Association will fight on behalf of patriotic Australians to retain our National Flag against those who threaten to replace it with a nondescript item, completely unrelated to anything of the past 100 years.

As we look at the Australian National Flag today, we should all remember that we are honouring a priceless piece of this country’s history and heritage. Loyal and patriotic Australians have the task ahead of them to protect our National Flag against those who threaten to replace it with a nondescript item, completely unrelated to anything of the past 100 years.

A Bush Christening
Banjo Paterson

On the outer Barcoo where the churches are few, And men of religion are scanty,
On a road never cross’d ‘cept by folk that are lost, One Michael Magee had a shanty.

Now this Mike was the dad of a ten-year-old-lad, Plump, healthy, and stoutly conditioned;

He was strong as the best, but poor Mike had no rest For the youngster had never been christened.

And his wife used to cry, “If the darlin’ should die Saint Peter would not recognize him.”
But by luck he survived till a preacher arrived, Who agreed straightaway to baptize him.

Now the artful young rogue, while they held their colleague, With his ear to the keyhole was listenin’;
And he muttered in fright, while his features turned white, “What the devil and all is this christening?”

He was none of your dolts — he had seen them brand colts, And it seemed to his small understanding, If the man in the frock made him one of the flock, It must mean something very like branding.

So away with a rush he set off for the bush, While the tears in his eyelids they glistened — “Tis outrageous,” says he, “to brand youngsters like me; I’ll be dashed if I stop to be christened!”

Like a young native dog he ran into a log, And his father with language uncivil,
Never heeding the “praste”, cried aloud in his haste “Come out and be christened you divil!”

But he lay there as snug as a bug in a rug, And his parents in vain might reprove him,
Till his reverence spoke (he was fond of a joke) “I’ve a notion, says he, “that’ll move him.

“Poke a stick up the log, give the spalpeen a prog; Poke him aisy — don’t hurt him or maim him; Tis not long that he’ll stand, I’ve the water at hand, As he rushes out this end I’ll name him.

Here he comes, and for shame! Ye’ve forgotten the name Is it Patsy or Michael or Dinnis?”
Here the youngster ran out, and the priest gave a shout “Take your chance, anyhow wid ‘Maginnis’!”

Is it Patsy or Michael or Dinnis?”
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Is it Patsy or Michael or Dinnis?”
Here the youngster ran out, and the priest gave a shout “Take your chance, anyhow wid ‘Maginnis’!”

As the howling young cub ran away to the scrub Where he knew that pursuit would be risky, The priest, as he fled, flung a flask at his head That was labelled “Maginnis’s Whisky”!

Now Maginnis Magee has been made a J.P., And the one thing he hates more than sin is To be asked by the folk, who have heard of the joke, How he came to be christened Maginnis!
The noted American writer Mary McCarthy once famously observed of the equally noted but politically discredited playwright Lillian Hellman: "every word she utters is a lie, including 'and' and 'but'". As we have seen over the past ten or so years, the same can be said of the Howard Government from the children-overboard scandal, to "there will never be a GST" to "yes, there are weapons of mass destruction in Iraq". Now - joined by misguided and misinformed politicians and a few scientists who should know better - the Australian government is embarked on another mendacious, ill-advised, and downright dangerous enterprise: transforming Australia into a nuclear-powered, uranium-exporting nation, deploying as a rhetorical fig leaf the spurious message that nuclear power is emissions-free, green and safe and will save Australia - and indeed the world - from the effects of global warming. Let's pull away that tattered fig leaf and look at the facts.

DANGEROUS ELEMENTS OF GLOBAL WARMING

The global warming carbon dioxide (CO2) gas is released at every stage of the nuclear fuel cycle - from uranium mining and milling, from uranium enrichment, from construction of huge concrete reactors, and from the transport and long-term storage of intensely radioactive waste. Nuclear power plants generate only one-third as much CO2 as a similar-sized gas-fired plant. But because the supply of highly concentrated uranium ore, which is relatively easy to mine and enrich, is limited, the energy eventually required to mine and enrich uranium will greatly increase. If today's global electricity production was converted to nuclear power, there would only be three years' supply of accessible uranium to fuel the reactors. Uranium therefore is a finite commodity.

CO2 is not the only global warming gas emitted by nuclear power. The Pacudah enrichment plant in Kentucky, which processes uranium from many countries, including Australia, annually leaks 93 per cent of the CFC-114 gas released by the U.S. Banned under the Montreal protocol, CFC is a prodigious destroyer of the Ozone layer and it is also a potent global warming agent.

Furthermore, nuclear reactors routinely emit large amounts of radioactive materials, including the fat-soluble noble gases xenon, krypton and argon. Deemed "inert" by the nuclear industry, they are readily inhaled by populations near reactors and absorbed into the bloodstream where they concentrate in the fat pads of the abdomen and upper thighs, exposing ovaries and testicles to mutagenic gamma radiation (Like X-rays).

Tritium, radioactive hydrogen, is also regularly discharged from reactors. Combining with oxygen, it forms tritiated water, which passes readily through skin, lungs and gut. Contrary to industry propaganda, tritium is a dangerous carcinogenic element producing cancers, congenital malformations and genetic deformities in low doses in animals, and by extrapolation in humans.

IN THE AGE OF TERRORISM

In the age of terrorism, nuclear reactors are inviting targets. It is relatively easy to induce a reactor meltdown by either severing the external electricity supply, by disrupting the 3 million litres a minute intake of cooling water, by infiltrating the control room, or by a well-co-ordinated terrorist attack. Surprisingly the U.S. Regulatory Commission has failed to upgrade security at the 103 nuclear reactors since the September 11 attack. A meltdown at the Indian Point nuclear power plant 56 kilometres from Manhattan could render that city uninhabitable for thousands of years if prevailing winds blew in the right direction.

Above all, nuclear waste is the industry's Achilles heel. The U.S. has no viable solution for radioactive waste storage. A total of 60,000 tonnes are temporarily stored in so-called swimming pools beside nuclear reactors, awaiting final disposal. Yucca Mountain in Nevada, transected by 32 earthquake faults, has been identified as the final geological repository. Made of permeable pumice, it is unsuitable as a radioactive geological receptacle and recent fraudulent projections of the mountain's ability to retard leakage by the United States Geological Survey have rendered this project to be almost untenable.

CONTAMINATED FOOD CHAIN

Already, radioactive elements in many nuclear-powered countries are leaking into underground water systems, rivers and oceans, progressively concentrating at each level of the food chain. Strontium 90, which causes bone cancer and leukaemia, and cesium 137, which induces rare muscle and brain cancers, are radioactive for 600 years. Food and human breast milk will become increasingly radioactive near numerous waste sites. Cancers will inevitably increase in frequency in exposed populations, as will genetic diseases such as cystic fibrosis in their descendants.

Each typical 1000-megawatt reactor makes 200 kilograms of plutonium
a year. Less than one-millionth of a gram is carcinogenic. Handled like iron by the body, it causes liver, lung and bone cancer and leukaemia. Crossing the placenta to induce congenital deformities, it has a predilection for the testicle, where inevitably it will cause genetic abnormalities. With a radiological life of 240,000 years, released in the ecosphere it will affect biological systems forever.

Because only five kilograms of plutonium is critical mass, countries importing our uranium to fuel their nuclear reactors could, theoretically, manufacture plutonium for many nuclear bombs each year. The under-resourced International Atomic Energy Agency admits that it is physically impossible to prevent a determined country, whether signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty or not, from using imported uranium or its by-product, plutonium, to make nuclear weapons.

A truly informed national debate about the production, export, and use of Australian uranium is imperative as China, Taiwan and India line up to receive our yellowcake.

Time is short. Once waste is produced, its legacy will affect all future generations. END

Editors Note:

On April 28th John Howard gave the green light to nuclear power in Australia, revealing that he will lift restrictions on uranium enrichment and nuclear power stations.

The Prime Minister’s provocative announcement sought to eclipse the April, ALP National conference held in Sydney, where delegates were to vote to abolish Labor’s 25-year ban on new uranium mining.

Nuclear power and enrichment in Australia is opposed by the ALP, which says that climate change should be tackled through clean coal technology and the increased use of gas and renewable energy.

Mr Howard said he will commit to starting work “immediately” to remove legislative constraints on an expansion of the uranium industry, including amending the Biodiversity Conservation Act which prohibits nuclear activity, and addressing restrictions on transporting uranium and disposal of radioactive waste.

Australia will also join an international group which collaborates on the development of the latest generation of nuclear reactors – known as Generation Four reactors. Countries such as the US, Britain, Canada, France and Japan are part of the 11-member Generation Four International Forum. Canberra will also fund a skills and training package to ensure Australia is prepared for the nuclear industry. Mr Howard hopes the necessary legislative changes will be in place by next year. Beyond that, how soon Australia’s first reactor could be built will be determined by business.

The proposal is in response to a report released in December 2006 by the Government’s nuclear task force, headed by Ziggy Switkowski, which found 25 nuclear reactors could produce a third of Australia’s power by the year 2050.

The report found nuclear reactors would need to be built close to population centres, but said nuclear power would not be competitive with coal unless a price was placed on carbon emissions.

Following the report’s release in December, Dr Switkowski said Australia could have its first nuclear reactor in 10 years if it moved quickly, but it more than likely would take 15 years.

Mr Howard has attacked Labor’s refusal to embrace nuclear technology, saying nuclear power was a “clean green fuel” that needed to be considered if Australia wanted to lower greenhouse gas emissions.

Australia has 38 per cent of the world’s total identified resources of uranium.

In February 2007, Mr Howard and Treasurer Peter Costello came under fire from Labor after admitting to being tipped off by Liberal heavyweight Ron Walker that he was starting a company to look at nuclear power in Australia.

Australia Nuclear Energy was registered in June 2006, five days before the Switkowski report was announced.

Editor

ESSENTIAL READING:

Nuclear Power Is Not The Answer
Helen Caldicott. $29.95 Posted

DVD Blowin’ In The Wind (Depleted Uranium)
David Bradbury. $20.00 Posted

DVD Poisoning The World
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THEIS IS WEIRD!

How smart is your right foot ??

Just try this. It is from an orthopaedic surgeon. See if you can outsmart your foot - you can’t. It’s preprogrammed in your brain!

1. While sitting where you are at your desk in front of your computer, lift your right foot off the floor and make clockwise circles.
2. Now, while doing this, draw the number “6” in the air with your right hand. Your foot will change direction - no matter how hard you try!

And there’s nothing you can do about it!

TAKE TIME TO LAUGH!
THE TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILWAY LINE IS COMPLETED

The most important project in the history of the Australian nation

In all the swashbuckling history of Western Australia's settlement and development, no feat of endeavour can match the building of the transcontinental railway for boldness of concept, social, political and industrial impact and mind-boggling working conditions.

Jim Oliver, President of the WA Branch of the Australian Railway Society, says the rail link transformed the State. Dr. Paul Wild, former chairman of CSIRO and the Sydney to Melbourne Very Fast Train enterprise, went even further when he wrote in a book foreword: “It could well be argued that the building of the transcontinental railway was the most important project in the history of the Australian nation.”

They are big calls but the fact remains that the construction of the railway across one of the hottest, loneliest, flattest, most fly-infested places on the planet, was one hell of an achievement.

LINKING THE GAP BETWEEN KALGOORLIE AND PORT AUGUSTA

Linking the rail gap between Kalgoorlie and Port Augusta had been then Premier John Forrest's dream for years. He knew that without this vein of steel the western half of the nation would wither and die, and he was prepared to keep WA out of the Federation unless he received an undertaking that the line would be built.

His problems were twofold. There was the exasperating lack of interest amongst politicians on the eastern seaboard and there was the cost of $4.7 million, not much by today's standards but in 1913, when the project got under way, it represented more than 25 per cent of national revenue.

Sir John brought the roof down when he announced to Parliament: “The people of Western Australia will never be contented as part of the Australian Commonwealth unless we give them means of communication by railway. In fact, I would never be content and would use all constitutional means in my power - even to undo this Federation, rather than that such an injustice be done to the people of the great western State of it.”

“Treason!” was the cry from some quarters. But the cards were on the table - no railway, no Federation. The critics took pause, the costs and benefits were weighed, and the decision was made. And the result - the nation was linked (albeit with three different rail gauges) and the premier had nothing more to bellyache about (a matter of solace, even for Sandgropers).

The sheer size of the project and the difficulties imposed by the heat and extreme isolation remain almost unimaginable.

“What is the country like in the desert?”

Few people had even seen the Nullarbor, in fact one of the first questions Lady Forrest was asked when she arrived in Kalgoorlie on the inaugural crossing, was: “What is the country like in the desert?” (Even today, there are few visitors to the real Nullarbor - the country traversed by Eyre Highway is positively leafy compared with that along the trans-line.)

In the event, one track-laying team began pushing east from Kalgoorlie while another headed west from Port Augusta in South Australia. Between them was 1682km of tortured country that yielded scarcely a drop of water to slake a man’s thirst.

The teams advanced like slow-moving armies with camel trains of 20 beasts, turbaned Afghans, horses, steam traction engines and “tumbling tommies” (horse-drawn earth scoops). At the peak of construction 3395 men were toiling under the desert sun, tormented by flies, filthy dirty and beset by dust-filled willy-willies.

THE TWO TEAMS MEET IN THE MIDDLE

In October, 1917, the two teams met, slap-bang in the middle of the Nullarbor. To conjure the image of two mighty but ponderous workforces appearing, first as specks on one of the world’s longest land horizons, and drawing ever closer to each other until they meet, is to imagine an epic moment in history.

The vein of steel was joined, the nation was united - and a year later John Forrest was dead.

THE INDIAN PACIFIC

It would be another 53 years, from 1917 to 1970, before a standard gauge rail...
The Transcontinental railway line is complete.

link was completed between Perth and Sydney. Until 1970, passengers travelling coast-to-coast had to make multiple changes on a journey that took about four days.

The Indian Pacific’s arrival in Perth on the new standard gauge, February 26, 1970, was cause for as much celebration as the recent Ghan journey from Adelaide to Darwin. Crowds gathered on country railway stations to wave it past and 10,000 people were at the East Perth Rail Terminal to greet the flag-bedecked train and its passengers. A band added to the occasion with an enthusiastic rendition of Waltzing Matilda.

Two diesel locomotives had hauled 26 silver carriages, uninterrupted by gauge changes, all the way from Sydney, covering the Kalgoorlie-Perth leg in a record seven hours and 55 minutes.

Even then almost seven decades after the event, the link between Federation and the east-west railway, was as strong as ever.

Later a passenger on the first Indian Pacific crossing was moved to describe the train as “a silver symbol of what Federation was all about”. Today the rail journey to Sydney takes about 70 hours.

Source: Defining moments 'West Australian'. Cyril Ayris.

**Shocking & Enlightening Facts About Education**

The late 1960's and early 1970's weren't only about Woodstock, flower power and Vietnam moratoriums: at the same time that feminism, multi-culturalism and victim politics emerged, the 'cultural warriors' of the left decided that the quickest way to change society was to take the long march through the education system.

_The result of these 'culture wars'?_  
Competition and rewarding merit are replaced by the notion that everyone succeeds; black armband history teaches students to feel guilty about the past; and the 3 R's are rebadged as 'reconciliation, the republic and refugees'. Out the window go classic subjects and tried-and-tested teaching methods and in come 'outcomes-based education', 'whole language', fuzzy maths' and an English syllabus which puts Big Brother and Australian Idol on the same stage as Shakespeare.

Ultimately, our kids are shortchanged and have little opportunity to study history or literature in a systematic or balanced way. And while the truancy rate soars, academic standards plummet and students are left morally adrift.

In _Dumbing Down_, acclaimed education expert Dr. Kevin Donnelly advocates an alternative based on a liberal/humanist approach, where the focus is on education, not indoctrination and where students are taught to think independently. Shocking and enlightening _Dumbing Down_ is essential reading for anyone concerned about how we can strengthen our education system and safeguard the nation's future. Softcover: 230 pages.

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