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The Price of Freedom is Eternal Vigilance

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THOUGHTS OF THE WEEK:

“Few can contemplate without a sense of exhilaration the splendid achievements of practical energy and technical skill, which, from the latter part of the seventeenth century, were transforming the face of material civilisation, and of which England was the daring, if not too scrupulous, pioneer. If, however, economic ambitions are good servants, they are bad masters. The most obvious facts are the most easily forgotten. Both the existing economic order and too many of the projects advanced for reconstructing it break down through their neglect of the truism that, since even quite common men have souls, no increase in material wealth will compensate for the arrangements which insult their self-respect and impair their freedom. A reasonable estimate of economic organisation must allow for the fact that, unless industry is to be paralysed by recurrent revolts on the part of outraged human nature, it must satisfy criteria which are not purely economic.”

R. H. Tawney – *Religion and the Rise of Capitalism*, 1922.

GOVERNMENTS CREATED THIS MURRAY-DARLING CRISIS By Alan Moran

The Murray-Darling is the only major region where irrigation plays a prominent role. Water availability there has the urgent attention of politicians because locals, unhappy at measures that have deprived farmers of water, have helped displace Nationals representatives in favour of those from the Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party. Drought Minister David Littleproud is to meet farming representatives on (8th October) to discuss a fivefold increase in prices of Murray-Darling water. The minister attributes this to speculator hoarding together with another villain, climate change, which he says “is leading to hotter days, meaning droughts”. Neither of these factors are the cause of the farmers’ discontent. Although the Murray-Darling, like much of Australia, is in serious drought, this is not unusual. Other areas are seeing record rainfall; for Australia as a whole, rainfall has increased during the past century.

As for the minister’s attack on speculators, he targets an ever-convenient and populist scapegoat. Independent ownership of water was facilitated when the rivers’ water was formally made tradeable in 2014 (before which trades were informal and ostensibly water could be owned only by the landowner). Unless they are monopolists — and the sheer number of water owners makes this impossible — speculators simply respond to market opportunities. In this way, speculators perform a useful function in ironing out supply and demand imbalances and selling scarce supplies to those whose willingness to pay shows they need them most. The real reasons behind the distress of irrigated agriculture are government policies that have reduced water availability. Across the course of the 20th century, irrigation had transformed the Murray-Darling Basin from an arid region to one that produced more than 40 per cent of the nation’s agricultural output. The basin’s irrigators have long seen rival claims to the water from those at the Murray mouth, where allocated flows have created artificial permanent freshwater lakes.

But, alternative uses were claimed in the 1990s by activists, calling themselves the Wentworth Group, whose members included Tim Flannery, David Karoly and Mike Young, the author of a column (Oct 4, 2019) in *The Australian* (“Drought of good ideas has drained water policy”). In addition to claims that irrigation was depriving natural vegetation of water, the Wentworth Group sought to wind back irrigation use on the basis of salinity with bloodcurdling claims such as “Salt destroying our rivers and land like a cancer”. The fact is the Murray-Darling has become a working river. It experiences highly irregular annual flows of between 7000 and 118,000 gigalitres within an average 34,000GL.

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By 1997, dams along the system had allowed about 12,000GL a year to be granted to irrigators under levels of accessibility that vary with each year's water availability. This not only brought the region's agricultural bounty but converted a highly irregular river into placid waterway for tourists.

Wentworth Group activists recruited the ABC and other media as supporters in its agenda to reallocate the water flows from agriculture. In response, the Howard government bought up water from farmers for environmental purposes and, in doing so, set in place bureaucratic machinery that could readily expand the reallocation. This was tailor-made for the election of the Rudd government when climate change psychosis became the catalyst for further reducing irrigation water.

The 2008 Garnaut report, which was written by Steven Kennedy, who recently was appointed Treasury secretary, claimed that climate change meant the Murray-Darling area would be faced with permanent drought.

The report argued that we should start now to reduce water use generally in preparation for the period under which no irrigation would be possible.

Under Rudd's radical environmentalist water minister, Tony Burke, the stakes were raised and 2750GL were

to be bought from irrigators or created (by water-saving expenditures). At a cost of \$13bn, this meant taking 20 per cent of a vital input into farming. Inevitably, reduced output as well as higher prices, have been caused by this government-induced scarcity. Ironically, the reduction in farmers' water availability took place when the government was proclaiming a new dawn in demand for farm produce from the burgeoning Asian economies. While making minor revisions, today's federal government has accepted the thrust of the policy set up by its predecessor.

Blaming twin bogeymen of speculators and climate change is no solution to the problems governments have created. The Murray-Darling water policy has been a disaster for the region and the nation.

The solution is to accept the reality that the river system, before recent years' reallocation of irrigation water, was in good condition. The more regular flows that the dams have allowed contributed to this as well as creating a thriving agricultural province. The only way of repairing the damage must start with the government selling back to irrigators the stocks of water that it now owns. ***

Source: www.regulationeconomics.com

Alan Moran is a director of the Australian Environment Foundation.

THE MINISTER FOR WASTING WATER, DAVID LITTLEPROUD, MUST RESIGN By Ron Pike

The Saltbush Club today called for the immediate resignation of Mr. David Littleproud from his position as Minister for Water on the grounds of incompetence in his management of the Murray-Darling Basin Authority. The call was made by Mr Ron Pike, the Saltbush Club Water Adviser with a lifetime of experience and information on Murray Darling Basin water supply, storage and use. "Under Mr. Littleproud's stewardship this Authority has grown to be a law unto itself and is repeatedly lying to both the people and the Government. As an example; 'we had to drain Menindee Lakes, or the water would have been lost to evaporation.' "We now have the wicked and unjust situation where this out of control Authority is denying available water to desperate end users by claiming that they are compelled by law to release this fresh water to the sea, while farmers and Municipalities are left without water.

"In a worsening drought no one in their right mind would condone wasting fresh water to the sea, while denying the people the water they desperately need. But Mr. Littleproud is. "This is not only unjust it is a crime against the people perpetrated by a Federal Minister. "Given that Mr. Littleproud has several advisors, he should have been aware that the MDBA were fabricating stories, just as they now are about releases from Wyangala Dam. "Not only are the actions of the MDBA leaving the Government with little credibility they are exposing the Government to billions of dollars in

compensation for lost businesses, especially the death of permanent plantings; something that has never happened since we built the dams on our western rivers. "David Littleproud is responsible for a Government Authority that is denying the people their most basic of rights; that is access to water. Mr. Littleproud has broken his oath of office "To well and truly serve the people of Australia." "David Littleproud you have broken that vow and the people no longer trust you. You must resign now". ***

The whole river system managed by the MDBA is a very different one today. It can no longer be called a 'natural' system. Man's ingenuity has transformed it to be a magnificent asset whereas previously parts of it in drought times were reduced to a series of connected lagoons. Storage dams, locks and barrages now maintain water at higher levels. In addition, hundreds of kilometres of pipelines and open channels have delivered water for irrigation to productive land.

The barrages near the mouth of the Murray control the flow to the sea and thus by keeping the river level higher than the sea, the seawater cannot penetrate the lower lakes which results in a vast quantity of useful freshwater being available. I must stress that no extra water flow is needed for this advantage - the barrages are simply like the locks further upstream where water is held to a higher than normal level.

For a number of years the river flow has been so little that virtually zero amount of water passes the barrages to the sea. This would have caused closure of the mouth unless sand pumps were employed to discharge sand to the ocean. The cost of \$6m per annum is shared by member States of the MDBA. Both Mr Alan Moran and Mr Ron Pike do not appear to have an accurate view of the above matter.-ND

THE I AM LEGEND VACCINE By Mrs Vera West

This reminds me of the movie *I am Legend* (2007), where a genetically engineered cancer vaccine goes wrong and destroys the human race, but that was a movie, and what could go wrong with a vaccine?

<https://www.naturalnews.com/2019-10-10-who-unicef-admit-polio-outbreaks-caused-by-vaccines.html>

‘After nearly two decades of having been declared “polio free” by the World Health Organization (WHO), the Philippines is now experiencing its first polio outbreak in 19 years – and authorities are actually admitting that the cause was the polio vaccine itself! Health Secretary Francisco Duque III announced at a recent press conference that at least one person, a three-year-old girl in the southern Lanao del Sur province, has contracted the virus, which has also been detected in waterways throughout the southern Davao region, as well as in sewage in Manila. These three vector points are enough to declare an official polio outbreak, officials say, which is creating something of a panic as polio was previously thought to have been completely eradicated.

“As long as one single child remains infected, children across the country and even beyond are at risk of contracting polio,” added UNICEF Philippines representative Oyon Dendevnorov in a statement. In a joint statement, both the WHO and UNICEF admitted that the type of poliovirus that’s currently spreading is vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2, which once again means that vaccines are the source and cause of this first-in-nearly-20-years polio outbreak.

“The weakened virus used in vaccines replicates for a short time in children’s intestines and is excreted in their feces,” writes Carley Petesch for the *Associated Press* (AP). “In rare instances ... the weakened virus can strengthen in areas with poor sanitation and hygiene.’

Then we have the coming super-vaccine:

<https://www.zerohedge.com/health/new-vaccines-are-our-future-will-literally-change-your-dna>

‘The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) has launched efforts to create a vaccine that would protect people from most flu strains, all at once, with a single shot. This shot would be a DNA-based vaccine that will literally change your body’s DNA. With mandatory vaccinations increasingly being legislated, this bodes a very dangerous health future. Politicians and Big Pharma are pouring a lot of money into this and at first glance, **it may appear that your health and well-being are their concern. That could not be further from the truth.** Massachusetts Senator and big spender, Ed Markey, has introduced a bill that would shovel no less than a billion dollars toward the universal flu-vaccine

project. Here is a sentence from NIAID press release that mentions one of several research approaches: “NIAID Vaccine Research Center scientists have initiated Phase 1/2 studies of a universal flu vaccine strategy that includes an investigational DNA-based vaccine (called a DNA ‘prime’)...”

–*Technocracy.News*

This is horrifying if you know what the phrase “DNA vaccine” means. It refers to what the experts are touting as the next generation of immunizations.

Instead of injecting a piece of a virus into a person, in order to stimulate the immune system, synthesized genes would be shot into the body. This isn’t traditional vaccination anymore. It’s gene therapy.

In any such method, where genes are edited, deleted, or added to living organisms, there are always “unintended consequences.” These vaccines will permanently alter your DNA. Once injected, there’s no going back either. The reference is the *New York Times*, 3/15/15, “Protection Without a Vaccine.”

It describes the frontier of research—the use of synthetic genes to “protect against disease,” while changing the genetic makeup of humans. This is no longer science fiction: By delivering synthetic genes into the muscles of the [experimental] monkeys, the scientists are essentially re-engineering the animals to resist disease. “*The sky’s the limit,*” said Michael Farzan, an immunologist at Scripps and lead author of the new study. The first human trial based on this strategy— called immunoprophylaxis by gene transfer, or I.G.T.—is underway, and several new ones are planned. [That was three years ago.]

I.G.T. is altogether different from traditional vaccination. It is instead a form of gene therapy. Scientists isolate the genes that produce powerful antibodies against certain diseases and then synthesize artificial versions. The genes are placed into viruses and injected into human tissue, usually muscle.

–*The New York Times*

With mandatory vaccine laws being written, it is foreseeable that these vaccines will be forced on people at gunpoint. You will have your own DNA altered without your consent. Public health officials state that vaccines for children and adults are safe and effective, but the truth is far more complicated. Vaccination is a serious medical intervention that always carries the potential to injure and cause death as well as to prevent disease. Coercive vaccination policies deprive people of free and informed consent—the hallmark of ethical medicine. Americans are increasingly concerned about vaccine safety and the right to make individual, informed choices together with their healthcare practitioners.’ ***

ALARMIST OVER-REACH By Viv Forbes

For over 15 years the global warmists have become progressively more outspoken with their scare stories, and less careful with facts and science. But their latest tactics of promoting Extinction Hellions and exploiting a teenage Swedish Doomsayer represent alarmist over-reach. Ordinary people are becoming suspicious: "If their science is sound, why do they resort to media scare stories, traffic disruption, street rebellions, school truants, religious zealots and academic purging?"

We are close to the peak of this global warming madness. Their models and forecasts have failed and consumers suffer soaring electricity cost and blackouts while tenured academics produce Play-School plans for 100% "Green" power. Climate sense is finally starting to ooze through the cracks in the stone wall built to keep Skeptics out of the flimsy marquee that shelters the warming nobility.

It is downhill from here for the alarmists and bad news for their academic mercenaries, Hollywood backers, Rebellion puppets, business vested interests and alarmist propaganda machines like Australia's ABC, UK's BBC and Guardian, Canada's CBC and CNN in USA. They are losing their credibility and their thinking audiences just when they will need them for backpedalling, explanations and apologies. ***

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To *The Australian* You are right that Aboriginal constitutional recognition "barely registers with voters" ("A voice to government for all indigenous Australians", 30/10). There is something for you to learn from that. Yes, it is true that *The Australian* has "consistently supported such recognition", but it has been consistently wrong in doing so.

The term "indigenous" and the pseudo-definition of Aboriginality that was brought in by the first Whitlam government both fudge the issue. Most so-called Aboriginals are part-Aboriginals only and it is by no means ethically clear why they should be, two centuries after settlement, especially privileged over other Australians, huge numbers of whom were born here and have no other citizenship.

Ken Wyatt says he wants his people "to be heard". As though they aren't being already, and with excessive media and government megaphones provided at no cost to them but plenty to the rest of us. Persistence in an unjust cause will hinder reconciliation or (a better term) mutual understanding, not help it.

Nigel Jackson, Belgrave, Vic.

TARGET FOR THE WEEK

Could you imagine the Automobile Association advocating us to be rid of cars? Well it appears the National Farmers Federation and the National Party would like Australia to be rid of a substantial number of our farmers! It begs the question, "Who do they really represent?"

A substantial part of NSW and Qld is in severe drought but Government has been reluctant to offer much meaningful support. Tax relief for example, will be little help to a farmer struggling to survive because there is no stock feed and certainly no income! Other schemes such as funds to beautify main streets in country towns may offer a slight benefit but the first priority needs to be support for the lifeblood of the communities; namely the farmers.

Former leaders of the Nationals including Mr Doug Anthony and Mr John Anderson have advocated a reduction of farmers. To repeat the call at this stage shows the party has learnt nothing. Any farmer wishing to sell in current conditions could only expect a minimal price. Bargain hunters would likely be foreign corporations.

Federal member for Kennedy, Mr Bob Katter, has called for genuine direct help to farmers from a planned Reconstruction Bank offering very favourable terms.

Readers are encouraged to support Mr Katter and also contact their local federal MP urging support for the Katter proposal. Stress the fact that Australia is losing too many farmers now (one dairy farmer leaves farming each week) and we need schemes to keep farmers not to get rid of them.

Simply address them at:

'Parliament House, Canberra. ACT 2600'

-ND

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