

50th ANNIVERSARY DINNER ISSUE

THE NEW TIMES

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"Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free"

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"A SUSTAINING SPIRITUAL FEAST"

The 39th Annual Dinner of "The New Times", commemorating 50 years of continuous publication, was aptly described by one guest as a "most sustaining spiritual feast." Those who could not make the Dinner missed a most inspiring historical event.

The evening moved from one highlight to the next. Guest of honour, Mr. Barry Tattersall, Principal of Canaan College, was described as a "man of the future", one who was a link between what had happened over the past half century, and those children he was influencing for the future. Mr. Tattersall was accompanied by his charming wife Isabelle. He gave one of the most inspirational addresses ever heard at a Dinner, maintaining a tradition of excellence over the years.

Previous guests of honour have included people like Mr. Bruce Ruxton, RSL leader, Mr. Ron Gostick, National director of the Canadian League of Rights, Mr. Patrick Walsh, former undercover agent with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Dr Geoffrey and Elizabeth Dobbs, both who had worked with C.H. Douglas, Mrs. Joyce Mew of the British Housewives' League, Mr. Ivor Benson, the distinguished South African journalist and author, Sir Raphael Cilento, Lady Phyllis Cilento, and many others.

The Dinner was packed out in spite of some last minute cancellations. One of the features of the Dinner was the large numbers of young people present. Chairman Jeremy Lee pointed out that nothing so demonstrated the concept of the extended family than the fact that the young men moving and seconding the toast to *The New Times*. Mr. Robert Cook and Mr. David Lloyd, were grandsons of pioneer supporters of *The New Times*. Both came from families fully involved in the movement associated with *The New Times*.

Mr. Jeremy Lee said he was proud to introduce his sister Nancy, to propose the Loyal toast, which was a tribute to Miss Lee. Jeremy Lee was also accompanied by his daughter Susan.

There were guests present from all States, with the young New Zealand National director, Mr. Bill Daly, being given a very warm welcome. Bill Daly brought a personal message from New Zealand and at the National Seminar, made a moving appeal for a revival of the Anzac spirit between Australia and New Zealand.

One of the features of the Dinner was the wide display of historical material, covering the 50 years of *The New Times*. In his Dinner address, Mr. Eric Butler paid a special tribute to veteran campaigner Mr. Norman Rolls, who had recently reached his 80th birthday. Mr. Rolls was one of those interviewed on video film by Mr. Stephen Lloyd during the evening. There was a special display of photos and other material concerning Norman Rolls, who has pushed a bike many thousands of miles and who early in the Second World War had campaigned with a two-horse drawn caravan. There were photos of Norman Rolls dressed as Montagu Norman, Governor of the Bank of England, selling *The New Times* in Swanston Street, Melbourne.

Mr. Eric Butler's new book, described by one as "an historical bombshell", was rushed at the Dinner, the initial supply of 200 being quickly exhausted. Further supplies are now coming from the League's printers and orders can be filled almost immediately.

As usual, there were messages from all around Australia and the English-speaking world. These indicated how highly *The New Times* is regarded. All messages are published in this special issue.

The second part of the National Weekend, the League's National Seminar, held on Saturday, October 5, was well attended, with massive book sales. In opening the Seminar, Mr. Eric Butler briefly referred to the Phillip Adams smear of late last year and how it was answered in his new book. Mr. Butler revealed the decisive role the Social Credit Movement had played in changing the Federal Government late in 1941, when Independent Mr. Alec Wilson, a *New Times* supporter, decided to support the Curtin Labor Party, which was at least indicating some understanding of the type of financial policy essential for a realistic war effort.

Led by Mr. Bruce Ruxton, all speakers at the Seminar presented extremely high quality Papers, with Mr. Barry Tattersall and Dr Rupert Goodman making an extremely valuable contribution on the importance of education. All speakers were video taped and tapes are available for \$35 posted.

At the Action Seminar on the Sunday, with probably the best attendance ever, a relatively large amount of time was devoted to the League's concept of a much greater use of videotapes. A committee is being formed to consider the preparation of suitable video resource material for schools. While the seriousness of the situation was accepted, there was a tremendous note of enthusiasm running right throughout the Action Seminar. Some most inspiring reports were provided.

One of the highlights of the National Seminar was a spontaneous suggestion from the floor, following Mr. Bruce Ruxton's Paper, that a resolution be put concerning the



Mr. Bruce Ruxton asks, "Can Australia be Defended?"

forced resignation of State Governor Sir Brian Murray by Premier Cain. The Chairman accepted a resolution conveying support and best wishes to Sir Brian and Lady Murray. This was carried unanimously. If the founders of *The New Times* could have been present

at the commemoration Annual Dinner, and the League's 1985 National Weekend, they would have been delighted to see the growth which has taken place since they planted their seeds back in 1935. The whole weekend was a truly inspiring spiritual feast.

"WE ARE THE BEARERS OF THE SEED OF THE FUTURE"

It was appropriate that the first of the many messages read by the Chairman at the Dinner, should be from Dr Geoffrey and Elizabeth Dobbs of Wales, United Kingdom. Their message read as follows:

Dear Friends,

First of all, this is once more to send our love and good wishes, from Elizabeth and me, to you all for another splendid Dinner occasion, which will inspire you for the year to follow.

I do not have to tell you that we are the bearers of the seed of the future. Another analogy from the New Testament which appeals to me even more (as a mycologist or student of fungi) is the of *leaven* or *yeast* — living, budding cells — which, as every bread-maker knows, must be well mixed into the dough to make it rise.

There are so many Movements, which exist for themselves, and suck people in to magnify their own power. For the most part they preach only to the converted, blasting off denunciations of everyone else to cries of "Hear! hear!; Rah! rah! rah!; Jolly good!; Just what I've always said!; Couldn't have put it better myself!" That way, any truth they may have grasped is sealed off as a set of partisan opinions, peculiar to that particular gang or cult or what have you.

We have all known for a long time that Social Credit is not a Party. Our history has taught us all that lesson; and also that it is not a cult, or sect, or a special set of opinions either. It is not 'partisan' at all — any more than is engineering, or geology, or cooking, or forestry, or law. We are all students and practitioners of a subject which happens to be of vital importance in the World today; the social credit, the mutual confidence which binds Society together and enables it to work smoothly according to the principles of human association for a common purpose.

If that sounds rather alarming and academic, it is not meant to be so, for even after 60 years, we are still at primary school, learning the alphabet and a few simple words and sums, and how to apply them; and we are only beginning to glimpse the huge and exciting adventure which Douglas

opened up before us.

In the light thrown upon the social credit and the principles of human association, we need not only a new economics but a redevelopment and re-application of every subject relating to human affairs. Of course, it is not only *we* that need this, but most of our fellow men and the Society in which we all live. The social credit is not only our property but theirs also, and a growing understanding of it offers not only hope for the future, but balance and direction of purpose and peace of mind here and now. Yet the surface of our Society is so corrupt that people look askance at anything offered. It is better to realise that the task is far beyond our powers by ourselves, and quite humbly to beg for help; and we may be surprised where it may come from, for there is a component of social credit in everyone, even among those we regard as opponents, who have so many of the skills that are needed.

The real world of our experience of people has evil in it sufficient for the day, but far more goodness in it than the imaginary pseudo-world of selected and magnified crime, lies, anger, fear, misery, disaster and despair presented by the symbols and images of the mass media. For instance, how often have you heard actual racial abuse, as compared with the frequency with which the media retail it or drag it in? We are told that in Britain one marriage in three ends in divorce; but not that that is a statistical projection (i.e. a guess). Anyway, another way of putting it is that two marriages out of three ends only "when death do us part!"

The poet Keats, in his famous lines, opened his magic casement "on the foam of perilous seas, in faery lands forlorn." But our happier task is to throw wide the windows in a crowded room, choking with goblin debts and media bogeys, opening on the fresh air, and fertile fields, and glorious landscape, of God's real world.

"WE ARE TRULY BLESSED IN OUR GENERATION"

In proposing the loyal toast, Miss Nancy Lee stressed the Christian aspect of the Monarchical system of government. She said that it was a privilege and an honour to propose the toast, and to salute the courage and integrity of those who have over the years presented Truth through the pages of *The New Times*.

Miss Lee said, "It is no exaggeration to say if it had not been for the work of those who supported *The New Times*, there might not have been a Sovereign to toast tonight."

Miss Lee pointed out that "Our Sovereign is not only the symbol of the sovereignty and independence of our nation, but of the sovereignty and independence of every individual in the nation."

It was inspiring to read again the conduct of the Coronation Service, in which the Queen pledged herself to serve God on behalf of her people.

Miss Lee reminded her audience that the practice of anointing the Monarch goes back deep into history and has always been an essential part of the making of Monarchy in Christian Europe.

She said, "This sacrament is an outward and visible sign of an inward spiritual reality and we Christians feel that a special gift is given of God's spirit to fit the Queen for her work."

But Miss Lee stressed that the people have to play their part in making this splendid idea reality. The Monarchy is under attack from many of the politicians the people elect. The Queen has never failed in her duty towards her people.

Miss Lee concluded by saying, "We are truly blessed in our generation by being the subjects of a courageous and dedicated Monarch, and as we rise to toast the Queen we might pledge ourselves to work harder to frustrate the white ants in our system and to make her reign a happy and glorious one!"



Mr. Robert Cook stresses importance of natural laws in Dinner address.

"CANNOT DISTINGUISH THE REAL FROM THE UNREAL"

In proposing the toast to *The New Times*, Mr. Robert Cook said, "As you may have all noticed the quotation at the top of *The New Times* has only two words that appear twice — 'the truth'.

"What is Truth? Mr. Collins in his dictionary states that truth is a concept, or a system of concepts, regarded as accurately some aspect of the world.

"As a result of our educational system, the mass media and the activities of our pseudo-intellectuals, a smokescreen has developed which distorts and hides the truths that are embodied in the policy of social credit. So we now have a large proportion of the population who cannot distinguish the real from the unreal. Just try and tell some that credit can be created by the stroke of the pen, and they look at you and say we have got a "live" one here.

The further the natural laws are deviated from, the more problems arise, and it is no use trying to remedy them until we get back to the Truth. Every engineer knows this. Engineers spend four years at university learning about natural laws so that they can make buildings and bridges a reality. Imagine a layman trying to build a bridge; I think people would trust that bridge as much as I trust the advice of economic and social experts.

Earlier this century a man called Douglas recognised the natural laws that govern money and the community. He then realised what could be achieved through the application of those natural laws and proceeded to tell others about it. The founders of *The New Times* grasped what Douglas had to say.

"Let us use a different angle to look at the quote at the top of *The New Times* — 'Ye shall not know the Truth and be out in chains.' The founders of *The New Times* realised that ignorance of Truth concerning social and economic laws would result in slavery. *The New Times* was established to enunciate Truth, and in doing so 50 years ago provided an opportunity for future generations to create a society based on social credit.

"In an effort to reduce the level of ignorance we must skilfully use every opportunity to teach other people what is put forward in *The New Times*. Let us ensure that the efforts of the founders of this journal were not in vain."

"LEARN AS MUCH OF THE TRUTH AS WE CAN"

Supporting Robert Cook's toast, Mr. David Lloyd said he felt honoured to have the opportunity of sharing a little of his own thoughts concerning *The New Times* and the movement it supported.

David Lloyd said he was privileged to have grown up in a Christian family where the principles of *The New Times* were discussed. It was satisfying to a Christian to know that these principles were tied to Biblical principles.

"As a Christian, I am saddened to see the world moving away from the teachings of Christ. I find it most interesting that the principles upon which our system of government is based are those of the Trinity — three separate but vital parts, all designed to complement and to safeguard one another."

David Lloyd referred to the article "A Christian Response to State Slavery", in the September issue of *The New Times*, concerning the Trinitarian form of government, commenting that "To our horror, we see governments of today destroying this beautiful balance, destroying the freedom the system provides, the freedom for which our forefathers died."

David Lloyd said that modern governments openly lusted for power, "which can only end in the loss of individual freedom and the destruction of Civilisation. As Christ rejected the power concept, what right have governments to

have such power.

He concluded by saying, "The challenge constantly before us is to hold on to what we believe, and learn as much of the Truth as we can. *The New Times* provides the information Christians need to make a fight on behalf of freedom."

"GOD WORKS THROUGH PEOPLE"

In a personal message on behalf of New Zealanders, New Zealand National Director Bill Daly said that the real battle throughout history has been between good and evil, or, as the Christian puts it, between Christ and the anti-Christ.

Mr. Daly said that a study of history was rewarding as it revealed that while there have been periods when Evil appealed to be in the ascendant, Evil societies have always collapsed. God works through individuals. One little piece of Truth can overcome a mass of lies.

Mr. Daly said that while good may appear to be submerged at present, there were right around the world little pockets of burning candles reflecting the Truth which Christ brought 2000 years ago.

Mr. Daly stressed that there was regeneration at the grass roots in New Zealand, the same type of regeneration, which he had encountered during his short tour of Australia. He expressed confidence that by drawing on Christian faith League of Rights supporters would produce the type of leadership required for the terrific battles ahead.

"TWO PARTS TO THE CHRISTIAN GOSPEL"

Jeremy Lee Responds to Toast to "*New Times*".

Replying to the toast to *The New Times* ably proposed by Mr. Robert Cook and seconded by Mr. David Lloyd, the chairman, Mr. Jeremy Lee, recalled his own first contacts with the Australian league of Rights, and his subsequent discovery of Social Credit.

He said that to be motivated solely by opposition to totalitarianism was a dangerous position, leading ultimately to a violent outlook. Only when the individual developed a way of life based on realistic principles could he become an effective and constructive force.

Mr. Lee suggested that there were two parts to the Christian gospel, which at first glance appeared contradictory to many. The first was the Gospel of Salvation; well understood by soundly based denominations. In this the individual was called on to establish the right relationship with his Creator, through faith in Christ.

The second aspect could be called the Gospel of Peace, heralded by the angelic chorus at the Nativity, calling for "peace on earth, goodwill towards men."

To the faithful, this envisaged a new way of living, initiated by the Incarnation, which obviously embraced all aspects of social, economic and political associations, including government itself. Too often the Christian found himself stranded in one or the other of these seemingly opposed positions, as though they were contradictory, sooner than complimentary.

Mr. Lee illustrated his point in describing a recent two-hour meeting with a prominent church leader who had a large ministry soundly based. Although the leader felt compelled to seek a role in the obvious social upheaval and disintegration in society, he was at a complete loss where and how to start. He had only a minimal understanding of how Christianity applied to the social order.

Mr. Lee said he believed there was a growing understanding that these two divided parts of the Gospel should be reconciled into a mature church position, which would have an immense impact in the period ahead. He claimed that Social Credit was the weld for such a balanced completion.

"CANADIANS ARE WITH YOU IN SPIRIT AND SALUTE YOUR VISION"

From Mr. Ron Gostick, National Director, Canadian League of Rights.

Dear friends and colleagues in the defence of freedom and the survival of our stream of history:

Greetings and best wishes from Canadian patriots and League supporters on the occasion of your 50th birthday. Just 'surviving' half a century in this battle against the entrenched, labyrinthian power of Satan is in itself somewhat of a miracle, proving that the roots and growth of the New Times Family are essentially of the Spirit and firmly rooted in Reality.

The New Times has long been one of the vital instruments in the educating and equipping of those of us around the Commonwealth concerned with the defence of our Christian heritage, and today it is playing an important role not only in propounding realistic economic principles and monetary reform, but in binding together and coordinating the efforts of Christian patriots all around the English-speaking world.

I view your FIFTIETH Birthday, yet my thought is not so much of 'age' as it is of maturity, of growth and strength and increasing faith to meet the challenges of coming years, to hold high a beacon of realism and common sense, and thereby make some little contribution towards a return to sanity.

May this special Birthday Dinner and Weekend be an enjoyable and memorable occasion, as you renew old acquaintances and recharge your batteries for the coming year. We Canadians are with you in spirit and salute your vision, your initiative, your tenacity and integrity — remembering the old saying that "*Life Begins at Fifty!*"

"CUSTODIAN OF THE TRUTHS C.H. DOUGLAS GAVE US"

From Phillip D. Butler, Assistant National Director, Canadian League of Rights, Vancouver.

Greetings from Canada, particularly from the West Coast, where Canadians have a very healthy distrust of politicians who reside in such Eastern Canadian cities of Ottawa, Quebec City and Toronto.

What an event you are celebrating this evening. One, which I most certainly would have liked to be at. 50 years of continuous publication of *The New Times* is indeed a remarkable achievement in this day and age, when we see so many publications of political comment come and go.

However, more important is that *The New Times* just did not become a publication which one would read and throw away, it developed an action programme, out of which came the birth of the League of Rights Movement, which today, without any argument, is the custodian of the Truths Clifford Hugh Douglas gave us in the form of Social Credit.

I am sure that the enemies of Freedom — Freedom being, when one stops to think about it, the practical application of Christianity to our social, political and economic institutions — would dearly love to see the end of "*The New Times*" and the League of Rights. We certainly know this in Canada, because the enemies of Freedom are working overtime attempting to either silence individuals through the courts, or ban reading material from being imported into Canada.

However, I have news for the enemies of Freedom, as one of the people responsible for printing and circulating the North American, U.K. and European edition of *The New Times*, I am pleased to announce that the circulation is indeed INCREASING! And the best news of all, because of this increased circulation here in Canada and the U.S.A., more and more people are now reading the works of C.H. Douglas

and other Social Credit related materials.

Therefore, if one is to look, that little seed, which people like the late Tome Moore planted when they first launched *The New Times*, has certainly bloomed right around the English-speaking world. It also proves the point, as I stated in my message last year, that 50 years is not really all that long in history, and I would suggest that it is the Truths published, and action generated by the writings in *The New Times*, which is paving the way for the new civilization we are laying the foundations for.

It is keeping this in mind, and my own privilege of over the years of meeting many of the personalities associated with *The New Times* that I send you greetings from Canada. I am certainly with you, as are the many readers and supporters of The Canadian League of Rights, in spirit this evening, and lift our glasses in drinking a toast to another successful 50 years for "*The New Times*".

"IT IS IMPORTANT FOR US ALL TO STAND TOGETHER FOR FREEDOM"

From Mr. Doug Christie, the fearless Canadian barrister who defended Ernest Zundel and Jim Keegstra.

In these days of increased censorship and thought police I am increasingly grateful to those who dare to think and speak out on the important matters of our time. It is important for us all to stand together for freedom even though we do not always agree on everything. We face an organised tyranny, which *The New Times* has been helping to combat.

GREETINGS FROM SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

From Jim Townsend, Editor-Publisher *The Educator*.

The staff of The National *Educator* sends their hearty congratulations to another successful year of *The New Times* a fearless publication that has the guts to call it like it is, and still make it interesting reading. May you grow ever greater in the years ahead. The World needs to know the things you put in print.

"CHRISTIANS THROWN TO THE LIONS"

From Mr. Fred Kirkman, Economist, Victoria, B.C. Canada.

May I submit any or all of the following comments for consideration and publication in the special Dinner issue?

Once again, re-acting in frenzy under the discomfit besetting the political and monetary economic Zionists are



Mr. Bill Daly, "Can we Revive the Anzac Spirit?"

having Christians thrown to the lions by the Second Roman Empire of unholy writ and debauchery.

Why do Peoples' democratic governments subscribe to the un-constitutional and anti-constitutional practices of indulging the incredible hoax of borrowing, for use as currency, fiat from private, fractional-reserve, counterfeit money and credit conjurers, at premium levies and usury rates of interest, raised as debt and deficit causing destabilization and negative taxation, when the Treasury can constitutionally create par-value money, in the same amounts, premium-free, debt-free, interest-free and tax-free?

Why is there no backlash to the continued, pervasive madness and tax-happy lock-on applied to everything that is essential for living from food, to fuel, to housing, to transportation, to production and back to consumerism as a reflex, easy way out instead of dealing head-on against the Protocols of Zion?

Why is money theologized as a commodity of debt and Governments function as henchmen and hatchet men for private usurers and banks while the artifice of pretending to remove debt and deficit by way of increased borrowing, prices and taxes, with attendant poverty for the masses, is practised as a sly hoax?

The return of Crown-Constitutional, democratic-social-conservatism in independent, solvent sovereignty is long overdue.

"ALL OUR FREEDOMS COME FROM GOD"

The central theme of Mr. Barry Tattersall's Dinner address was that Humanism and Christianity could not exist.

Mr. Barry Tattersall started his address by thanking those present for the opportunity to share with them. He said that some people shudder at the thought of being asked to speak at, or attend a League of Rights function. He had been warned and counselled against speaking at a League function. "But I feel at home", he said.

Mr. Tattersall related how he had come to love and appreciate the people associated with *The New Times*. He agreed that Australia was at the eleventh hour.

Mr. Tattersall said that step-by-step the Church had retreated in the face of humanism. "Humanism has become the true catholic faith of Western man and the Church today is but a fringe cult. The Church is full of liberalism and humanism, run by the Church Pharisees of our time", he charged.

Mr. Tattersall said that in a democracy people get the society they deserve. "In a democratic society we have more responsibility for what is happening than in other countries. We have not taken that responsibility. We have surrendered it. We put our hands up in horror and say, 'Look what they have done to us.' I strongly suggest that we should say, 'Look what we have done to ourselves.'

Drawing a disturbing parallel between the Soviet Union and Western countries like Australia, Mr. Tattersall pointed out that the Soviet Constitution states that people have freedom of religion. But they must get the permission of the State to grant permission to practise religion. People in Australia are told that they have freedom of education, but in reality the State increasingly insists upon what type of education may be obtained. He provided a glimpse of the continuing battle he has had to keep his own Canaan College open.

Mr. Tattersall said that the concept of governments guaranteeing freedom was absurd and self-contradictory, stressing that all freedoms come from God.

Mr. Tattersall concluded his address by stating that Humanism and Christianity could not co-exist. "We are at war", he said, and "as loyal soldiers of Christ we are on the winning side."

He appealed to Christians to demonstrate the same

VALE JEANETTE GOSTICK

Supporters of "The New Times" everywhere with be saddened to know that on September 25, following a long illness, Mrs. Jeanette Gostick, wife of Canadian League of Rights National Director, and veteran Social Crediter, passed away. A remarkable woman, outstanding teacher, mother of six children, Jeanette Gostick played a major role in assisting her husband in the pioneering of the Canadian movement now recognised as the major non-party political movement in Canada.

Upon behalf of "The New Times" and our worldwide group of supporters, we extend our deepest sympathy to Ron Gostick and his family at this time of great loss.

dedication to their Lord Jesus Christ as the humanists demonstrated to the State. There was an urgent need for greater commitment. Christianity must permeate every aspect of life. His prayer was that the League's National Weekend would turn the tide against the growing threat of humanism.

"WE HAVE ALMOST LOST CONTROL OVER THE AFFAIRS OF OUR NATION"

From Mr. Christopher Steele, Adelaide.

Right now a revolution is under way in Australia, but because the shots being fired don't actually kill anyone, few comprehend what is happening. The fact is we have almost lost control over the affairs of our country. The existence of a voting system tends to disguise this situation.

South Africans take note!

Everywhere today, people are regarded simply as units of production and consumption. A real-life game of Monopoly is being played on a world scale. The daily fall and rise of share markets is the paramount consideration of those who abstractions like NIEO.

As Mammon seems on the point of triumph, it is hardly surprising there is a deep spiritual malaise in the land. However, while the lead-time has been very long, the climax of our discontent is near. The League of Rights has paralleled this time in our nation's history. The credit for its resilience must surely go in particular to our National Director — Eric Butler and, I'm proud to say, my own State Director — Frank Bawden, too.

These gentlemen have maintained a faith, which will soon be tested when the pieces have to be picked up. Are the rest of us going to show the same tenacity and courage in that task which awaits us? Only you, as individuals, can answer that. Think about it — the challenge is awesome, but an appropriate consideration on this the 50th anniversary of the founding of *The New Times*.



"I am saddened to see the world moving away from the teachings of Christ" — David Lloyd in seconding toast to "New Times".

"I THANK GOD THAT HE HAD RAISED UP SUCH MAGNIFICENT LEADERS"

From Monsignor W. Batchelor, Wangaratta, Victoria.

I enclose \$100 cheque for the Basic Fund. I offer my best wishes for the success of *The New Times* Dinner. I first came into contact with *The New Times* in 1943, so I have had a long association. I have always believed that in the League of Rights we have our best, maybe our only hope for the survival of our Christian Civilisation. I thank God that He has raised up such magnificent leaders for our times. It is wonderful to know that there are so many younger leaders preparing to shoulder the burdens of the future.

WHY OUR FLAG MUST BE DEFENDED

Dr Rupert Goodman from paper given at 1985 League of Rights National Seminar.

I note the theme of your seminar is Australia's national crisis and I commend you for providing a forum where the major issues confronting this nation might be highlighted. Australians everywhere want a safe, secure and happy society that will continue into the future, one in which we can hand on to our children and grandchildren with pride and with confidence.

Australians do not want to see a society doomed to disaster, one which will fall on easy prey to stronger powers, not one in which our children and grandchildren will be corrupted by drugs and pornography and the evils of humanist values.

Over the past few years we have lost a number of seemingly inconsequential things — the big ones are yet to come — the Flag, the Constitution, our Parliamentary System, and the Monarchy.

That is why it is time for all loyal and patriotic Australians to call a halt, to cry "Enough". We must halt the downward slide to oblivion.

All societies aim to survive and to that end build social institutions and adopt social policies that will strengthen the society. National insignia, national colours, national coats of arms, national anthems, national flags are important in building national identity and help to develop patriotism and pride in one's country. They evolve over many generations, reflecting the nation's history and traditions. They are not changed lightly. The Flag is not lowered except after occupation by a foreign power or after a violent revolution, which thanks be to God, has not been Australia's lot.

Of course the Flag must be defended — defended from whom? Not at this time from any enemy without, but from within this country.

We are now in a position to draw the battle lines. We know those groups of people who are planning to pull down the Flag, even if we don't know the names of all the individuals involved.

- Communists, socialist and left wing groups who have long range plans to change the nature of our society.
- The ALP with its stated official policy for a new flag.
- The Hawke Government quietly and sneakily supporting this movement.
- Atheists, agnostics, anti-Christians and humanists who want to remove the Christian significance of the Flag.
- The Ausflag 88 organization.
- Anti-royal, anti-British Republicans.
- Misguided, ill-informed and ignorant idealists who seek change for change sake.

PATRIOTISM AND SACRIFICE

This, our flag must be defended because it represents the sacrifices of generations of Australians in building this great society. In peace and war this Flag has epitomised the essential character of the nation, hard-working pioneers,



"We must halt the downward slide to oblivion" — Dr Rupert Goodman at League National Seminar.

dedicated Christian men and woman who taught traditional family values, servicemen and service women who gave the best years of their lives to defend this democratic way of life. There is a rich heritage in our literature and culture symbolised in our Flag and with national events associated with our Flag, the opening of our first Parliament at Canberra in 1927, the victories won by our sportsmen and women at international contests.

People of the older generation will remember standing to attention as the Flag was hoisted at Monday morning school assemblies, reciting the pledge:

*/ Love God and my Country,
I Honour the Flag,
I will serve the King
And cheerfully obey my parents,
Teachers and the laws.*

Patriotism, service, obedience, these were the values instilled in young Australians as they saluted the Flag. They learnt to honour and respect the Flag, for it represented pride in their country, in the achievements of their forebears and in the heritage, which had come to them from Britain.

The development of national pride and patriotism is essential if Australia is to become a great nation. It is true that patriotism reached its peak in times of war, as the Flag was raised on battlefields around the world. Some may recall an old post card, sponsored by Champion Tobacco during the grim years of the First World War. Printed on it were the well-known lines:

*It's only an old piece of bunting,
It's only an old coloured rag,
Yet thousands have died for its honour
And shed their best blood for the Flag.*

As we celebrate Anzac Day, which some argue should be our National Day, we recall the sacrifices of other generations. On occasions, the National Flag and the colours of the regiment are reverently laid up in a church or war memorial. Some may have seen the colours laid up in the historic church of St Clement Danes, close to Australia House, London. Underneath one of these are the memorable lines of General Sir Edward Hamley:

*A moth-eaten rag on a worm-eaten pole,
It doesn't look likely to stir a man's soul,
'Tis the deeds that were done 'neath the moth-eaten rag
When the pole was a staff and the rag was a Flag.*

DO THESE TRADITIONS MEAN NOTHING? Must we scrap all our past history and start again with a new Flag? Is this the way to develop national feeling and national identity — a new flag every 80 years? Is this the way to keep our sacred promises to those who gave their lives in defence of Australia? Recall the immortal lines:

*To you from failing hands we throw
The torch, be yours to hold it high,
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders Field.*

We of our generation have a sacred duty to defend our Flag.

POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Then there are political reasons why we must defend our Flag, reasons that go to the heart of our free and democratic society.

The change to our Flag is a critical part of the ALP's plan for changing the nature of our society. Let me quote from the ALP's 1982 Platform:

CI8. To bring about the complete separation of Australia from the United Kingdom, crown and Parliament.

CI 13. Reform of the Australian Constitution and other political institutions and the existence of Australia as an independent republic.

What are the implications of these plans, if implemented?

- The abolition of the office of Governor-General.
- The abolition of the office of State Governors.
- The withering away of State Parliaments.
- The destruction of the Constitution, now possible by the decision in the Dam's Case and the use of the External Affairs Power.
- The centralisation of all power in a one house "People's Parliament" in Canberra.
- The creation of the office of President.

In such a scenario our beautiful Flag would be irrelevant.

Our society is now at the crossroads of history. This Commonwealth Government is hell bent on transforming our society into one of the socialist republics of South-East Asia. The cynics say, one of the poorer republics. It would be necessary to have an innocuous neutral Flag, one that will not remind people of freedoms lost, a heritage destroyed.

So much is being done by stealth, without the consent of the majority of the population, that we must be ever vigilant to protect our Flag.

Overnight we saw national tune proclaimed a national anthem. We have seen the Crown removed from our passport, the Governor-General no longer Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces, the Queen's Medal and the Victoria Cross under threat. We've seen the cunning attack on the Flag by elevating green and gold as national colours, from the Medicare card to the Bicentennial House Flag. "Royal" and "Loyal" have become dirty words for this Government.

The attack on the Flag epitomises the attack on the traditional values of our society.

We must all stand up and tell our political masters—

*WE DON'T WANT A MARXIST FLAG,
WE DON'T WANT A SOCIALIST FLAG,
WE DON'T WANT A REPUBLICAN FLAG,
WE DON'T A SCRUBY FLAG, OR ANY OTHER
NEW DESIGN.*

We must tell them constantly and loudly that we want to keep this our National Flag forever.

We must tell them that any political party tampering with our Flag will meet the greatest political disaster ever, at the next election.

The National Flag Association believes the Flag should be above politics, representing the continuity of the nation, whatever government or political party is in power, for the time being.

The Flag should not be changed to meet the ideological philosophy of any political party, especially the one in government.

Politicians have a duty to honour and respect the Flag, thereby expressing their loyalty to the nation.

Indeed, it behoves all those in positions of authority, especially those in a position to influence public opinion — politicians, the media, members of the teaching profession -

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to encourage people to honour and respect our Flag, not to undermine it, to denigrate it or to advocate change.

It is significant that the 1981 Flags Act of New Zealand, which incidentally re-affirmed their national flag — has a clause making it an offence to dishonour the flag. Perhaps we should have a similar clause in our Flags Act.

In some less democratic countries of the world persons who burnt the flag or trampled it in the dust or dishonoured it in other ways would be guilty of treason and promptly executed. If we wish to preserve our Flag we must take positive action to promote it, to see that children understand its history, its symbolism, its traditions and are taught to honour and respect it.

Our Flag must be defended from that vocal minority clamouring to change the Flag, with a well-organized campaign designed to confuse people with illogical arguments, half-truths, misrepresentation and at worst straight out lies.

We must not underestimate the power and influence of this organization, with its strong media coverage, able to influence public opinion. .

They are indeed shrewd, clever and ruthless operators; witness the plan to use school children in designing a new flag, on the assumption that the present flag is no longer acceptable.

They have many friends in the Hawke Government, which is desperately seeking some sneaky, underhand way to changing the Flag, while arguing this is what the majority of people want.

That of course is an outright lie. Not one valid poll in any State has shown a majority of Australians want to change our Flag. Most valid polls range around 70 per cent no change, while a poll in the Australian went as high as 77 per cent.

This did not deter the Hawke Government from donating \$3,000 to this shadowy organization to pay the postage of the competition entry forms to schools. All this as part of International Youth Year grant! What political humbug.

Quite recently, this Government claimed the National Party in Queensland was giving away too many free Flags to approved organizations and institutions, so it must ration them. It cannot find money for \$15 dollar flags, but its expenditure to favourite causes is well known. What pettiness!

Again, as you know, Senator Durack moved a private member's Bill through the Lower House amending the Flag Act of 1953 to make it necessary to hold a referendum before changing the Flag. This has been stalled in the House of Representatives because the Government does not want any avenue to change the Flag blocked off.

This from a political party that campaigns as a loyal Australian organization beneath the National Flag.

What hypocrisy!

THE CHRISTIAN HERITAGE IN THE FLAG

Why our Flag must be defended, indeed. All Christians should be concerned at the attempts to remove the Union Jack, with its crosses of St. George, St. Andrew and St. Patrick from our National Flag.

This should be viewed in the context of recent events denigrating our Christian heritage. The removal of God from the oath of allegiance, the proposals to remove "the blessings of Almighty God" from the Preamble to our Constitution, the political attacks on our church school, the removal of subsidies from religious sponsored tertiary residential colleges, the suppression of Christian Education schools, the promotion of humanism and non-Christian world religions in our schools are all pointers to the anti-Christian philosophy of the present Commonwealth Government. The initials F.D. — Defender of the Faith — were quietly removed from our coinage in the Whitlam years.

Never before has Australia been governed by such a collection of agnostics, atheists, non-Christians and anti-

Christians, heretics, heathens, hedonists and humanists, as the present Commonwealth Government.

Let me illustrate this by reference to the figures of 1983 swearing in ceremony of the Hawke Government in Canberra. Among the ALP Senators, 22 out of 30 Senators rejected the Bible and made an affirmation instead. For the ALP in the House of Representatives the figure was 28 out of 74, giving a total of 50 out of 104, or 48 per cent of ALP Members rejecting the Bible. For the Opposition the figure was only 2 out of 79, or 2.5 per cent.

No wonder such a Government is dedicated to the removal of our Christian heritage, wherever it appears, as in our National Flag.

Of course, they put the argument that Christianity is no longer relevant to modern society and point to the declining number of churchgoers. Nevertheless, other criteria suggest they are wrong. At the last Census some 11 million people professed to being Christian, even though many of them have forsaken the formal practices of Christianity. The fact remains that Australia is a Christian society in that so many of our social institutions are based on Christian precepts. As well as the above reference to The Constitution we are reminded that Parliament opens daily with prayer, including the Lord's Prayer, (even though there are moves to abolish this.)

In the legal system there is frequent reference to Christian justice, witnesses generally swear an oath on the Bible (Fewer than 1 in 100 reject the Bible), the Law Year invariably commences with traditional church services. The majority of marriages are solemnized in a church; most accept Christian names, although Government documents now use "given" names. Many participate in sacraments such as baptism and in various forms of the mass.

At the end of their lives most expect a "Christian" burial, with a clergyman conducting the service. Christian practices govern the lives of most people from birth through to death.

Our Christian heritage must not be thrown away lightly. Our National Flag is the symbol of the Nation and the Union Jack in our Flag is of deep spiritual significance.

All Australian Christians should be aware of the inroads into our Society made by the secular humanists. To replace the three Christian crosses on our Flag by an animal must be seen as sacrilege, an insult to all Christians. We must defend the flag, to protect our Christian heritage.

THE UNION JACK

Yes, this Union Jack in our Flag is the chief target of those who want to change the flag; aided and abetted by what has been described as the most anti-British government this country has ever seen.

The "change the flag lobby" has also been working on this theme, to encourage the idea that we should get rid of the Union Jack from our Flag. They work on slogans, such as "This is not our Flag", "This is somebody else's Flag", "It represents our colonial status". In this they have been helped by some sections of the media. The anti-British lobby is making — and will make more capital out of the Maralinga Royal Commission. It has also received support from the recent wave of revisionist history writers from the Manning Clark School, not born when World War II was on, proclaiming as truth, propositions that Britain was the archenemy, prepared to sell out Australia to the Japanese. It is seen in recent Australian films from Breaker Morant to Gallipoli.

This anti-British lobby is associated with anti-royal, republican groups, promoting the theme that Australia should shed its colonial status and become an independent nation, with its own flag.

What a gross distortion of history!

To remove the Union Jack from our Flag would be like tearing pages out of a history book. To replace it with the

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endangered kangaroo would make us a laughing stock in the eyes of the modern world.

OUR GOODLY HERITAGE

There is no more fundamental reason for protecting our Flag than to protect our goodly heritage.

When we look at our society, with its social order, the freedom of the individual, our religious liberty, our open electoral system, our responsible government, unsupported by any military faction, we have much for which to be thankful.

Truly, we can say with the Psalmist, "Yea, we have a goodly heritage".

That is what the Flag debate is all about — our goodly heritage and whether our Flag should reflect and remind us of our goodly heritage. It is not merely an argument about a piece of fabric, but what that fabric represents in terms of our constitutional fabric, our social fabric, our political fabric.

This goodly heritage came to us from Britain — nowhere else. That's why the Union Jack must remain in our Flag.

Our Westminster system of government, hammered out over the centuries, beginning with Simon de Montfort's first Parliament in 1265 A.D. has given us a parliamentary system, which is the envy and despair of socialist republics around the world.

Our legal system, the heritage of English common law dating back centuries into history, highlighted by Magna Carta in 1215, the liberty of the subject, trial by jury, the Habeas Corpus Act — these are some of the priceless legal freedoms we enjoy. We don't need a Bill of Rights to tell us we have these basic freedoms.

These have come to us as part of our British heritage, not from countries in South-East Asia, not from the endangered kangaroo, the piddling koala or from the aborigines. They came to us from Britain and it is right and proper that our National Flag should reflect these origins.

What history there is in our Flag! What ignorance of our heritage is shown by that hotchpotch of radical revolutionaries, socialist reformers and misguided idealists who say our Flag is not relevant, that our Flag does not reflect our identity!

CONCLUSION

An early poet once wrote of the Australian,
Towards undreamed of destinies
He slouches down the centuries.

Truly, Australians are a mob of slouchers, content to leave it to others. That is the greatest danger to our Flag and to our nation. If we continue as a mob of slouchers we will not be moving down many more centuries. We will have a date with destiny in the near future.

That is why we must rouse everyone to get behind the National Flag Association in each State.

I said earlier that all societies aim to survive. But history has given us many examples of societies that have passed away.

Assyria, Greece, Rome, Carthage.

Where are they now, asked the poet?

Some have been swept away by natural disasters, but many have committed national suicide by living a life of affluence and ease, with good men doing nothing to save their society.

Wake up, Australians. Defend the Flag and all the freedoms that go with it.