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The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance—

Vol. 13 No. 7

March 11th, 1977.

Thought for the Week: "Contemporary man in the Western World is living in an environment which has a mediaeval character. In place of the Dance of Death presented to his ancestors by plague and pestilence, his own Dance of Death is presented to him by crime, with its gun-men and its bomb-men. He cannot rely upon his government, to which hitherto he gave his allegiance, in return for the protection it formerly gave him, to ensure his safety; for the men who administer that government, through their lack of moral courage, and the presence in them of fear, have failed in their societal responsibility. If moral courage is absent in them, why should it be present in him?"

Dr. Walter Henderson, in Conservatism and Society.

MONARCHY SERVES WELL: "It is noticeable that those who most vociferously demand a republican structure for our governments, State and Federal, are singularly devoid of tolerance, decency, and care for the individual as taught...by the Founder of Christianity..."

- Sir Mark Oliphant, in The Age (Melbourne) March 5th.

The Age (Melbourne, March 5th) published a very good Review; "The Royal Connection". The case against the Monarchy was put by Professor Manning Clark, of the Australian National University, Canberra. His political leanings are well-known to us: we reported in these pages recently that a Manning Clark was listed in a Communist weekly as being the donor of a not insignificant amount of money to a Communist Party appeal. As this has not been denied, we assume that the donor was, in fact, Professor Manning Clark.

The case for the Monarchy was put by Sir Mark Oliphant, former Governor of South Australia, and one of the world's notable nuclear physicists. The article is so good that we regret that we are unable to reproduce it in full, and must be content with picking the eyes out of it.

Sir Mark takes a swipe at Republican America which "left her (Britain) to rot, while building anew the economies of her enemies, Germany and Japan." We would hesitate to condemn the American people over this, as such policies were framed by the Hierarchy of Finance in the U.S.A.

which plays the tune to which mere politicians dance frantically. But we take Sir Mark's point, the "great Republic" ratted on her ally; quite so. A further shaft, not in support of republicanism, was the headache for Australia, and others, arising from "Republican Indonesia's" policy of confrontation under President Soekarno. These references just mean that republicanism doesn't guarantee any superior sort of conduct from nations.

With respect to the systems of honours, Sir Mark notes that: "When the (Whitlam) Labor Government threw away imperial honours as unsuitable, because of their titles, for a self-governing classless society, it realised rapidly that some alternative honours system was necessary. The British Monarch became Queen of Australia, and in her capacity as titular Head of State, it is she who awards the new Australian honours. It is difficult to reconcile this fact with the claim that the Labor Party wants a republic. Recently, too, a prominent member of that Party accepted a knighthood, leading one to speculate how many others would lay aside their republican convictions if offered such distinction. Those surviving Labor men who were knighted in the past have not abandoned their honours."

As the the egalitarianism of the Socialists and Communists, it is mere rubbish, for: "free men... can never be equal. Rightly, they demand equality of opportunity, but they recognise that equality of achievement is impossible." Sir Mark makes reference to Bertrand Russell, who said that anyone who has had anything to do with education cannot believe that all men are equal. And yet, we daresay that many of our angry young school teachers are even now bemused by the myth of the "equality of man"; i.e. everyone is the same; no better, no worse; no smarter, no duller. It suits Socialist egalitarianism to believe this; its nonsensical idealism helps to propel the Socialist legislation along. The envy, which lurks in most hearts, is sated in the more immature by the spectacle of those with superior attainments, and possessions, being levelled to the Socialist norm. Socialism is sustained by envy. Sir Mark concedes that we cannot escape change, and that even the Westminster system of government must be moulded to the needs of the times. He warns: "The greatest danger we face today arises not from the continued existence of the Monarchy, nor from a filial loyalty to Britain, but from the almost complete suppression of individual liberty among Party members elected to Parliament." Sir Mark went on to outline many failings and shortcomings of the Party system with which League supporters are quite familiar: viz. the Member's first loyalty is to the Party; he dares not be honest, his career is at stake, he has sold his soul. So...."a referee, not answerable to either Party, must therefore exist." We are told that the President of the U.S.A. must spend about 30% of his time in election campaigning; and finally...."Whatever the merit or otherwise of the action taken by the Queen's representative in dismissing the Labor Government, it resulted in the end in an election, the supreme

democratic process."

Sir Mark Oliphant is doing Australia quite a favour by telling us some plain home truths; he should be thanked.

IS "VALUE ADDED TAX" LURKING AROUND THE CORNER? "In the great tax debate, value added tax has a special place. A nightmare place, horrendously complicated, but inevitable."

Anthony Clarke, in Sunday Press (Melbourne) March 6th.

This "value added tax", usually referred to as just "V.A.T.", may well be the "reform" which Mr. Fraser, and his colleagues, are mentioning. All this will mean is that the taxation emphasis will be shifted, along with a bemusing public relations campaign, from the personal collection to indirect collection of taxation. At the present time personal tax revenue accounts for 57% of total; customs and excise 18.1%; sales tax 8.5% and company tax 14.5%.

In V.A.T. an accruing tax is levied on an item of production at every stage of its "development", from the raw materials, and/or imports, right through all processes, until it finally reaches the consumer. There's no doubt that if V.A.T. is introduced into Australia that the bureaucracy could not be held down to present levels; the Sunday Press article states that 12,000 (twelve thousand) bureaucrats in the U.K. are required to administer V.A.T. alone. It also states that experience has shown in Europe that V.A.T. is inflationary: we don't have to be told that. ALL taxation is inflationary. In the U.K., V.A.T. rates are 8% for most goods and services, and 25% for luxury items; and this is arbitrary. What is a "luxury" item? It's what some team of bureaucrats say it is, that's what.

ATTACKS ON THE AUSTRALIAN CONSTITUTION INTENSIFY: "The Australian Constitution should be scrapped because it had created confusion, controversy, and conflict, the Opposition's Defence spokesman, Mr. Hayden, said yesterday."

- The Sun, (Melbourne) March 2nd.

According to Mr. Hayden, a doctrinaire Socialist, we should have a new Constitution based on "democratic" principles (our present Constitution, by implication, is not democratic.) The ceremonial Head of State is to have no political powers (out with the Westminster system of government which has served us so well for so long, AND prevents dictatorships.) Upper Houses of Parliament are to be emasculated, so that Socialist legislation can be rammed through the lower house into law, without any checks by a powerful Senate, as fully intended by the Constitution, to represent the States, not any political Party. It is true that the Senate has suffered because of the Party system therein, but it proved its effectiveness all the same. The Senate saved us from even worse Socialist legislation during the three-year Whitlam era; which could return unless the Fraser Government performs much better in the field of economic management. For example, we probably would have had ex-Senator

Murphy's "Bill of Rights", a great confidence trick, if ever there was one. Mr. Hayden now says that we must have a Bill of Rights, which will no doubt be pretty much the same as Senator Murphy's proposed legislation. Incidentally, we still have supplies of the League of Rights brochure - "Senator Murphy's Fraudulent 'Human Rights' Bill". Those interested should send for some copies, and send a small donation, say one dollar, to cover handling and postage. Even Mr. Malcolm Fraser is showing some interest in a Bill of Rights.

Mr. Hayden laments: "The fact is that we do not have a firm and undeniable commitment to the basic right, that every adult citizen in this country can vote at elections." Every adult citizen in any Communist country has this magnificent "right", but that does not allow them the freedom to throw off the worst political tyranny yet seen in Man's history. Australia is one of the very few Western countries which has so-called "compulsory" voting. "Ballot-box democracy" is a hoax, as under the Party game, politicians claim that they always represent the "majority": rule by the majority. But this is a deception, and the situation is not as it seems, James Guthrie summed it up well in his little masterpiece - "Our Sham Democracy" (not available): "...Those in control of the modern State can, and do, penalise minorities, because they claim that they represent a majority - the fact being overlooked that we are all, at one time or another, a member of a minority. Parents are in a minority; farmers are in a minority; the country dwellers are in a minority; skilled men are in a minority; the politically wise are very much in a minority. "But so-called democratic governments demand the right - and they continually exercise this right - to over-rule every minority, which together make the majority. In other words, in practice we are witnessing governments using the technique of the manipulated mass-vote to disfranchise successive minorities, and transfer their rights to the manipulators."

MARCH ISSUE OF "THE NEW TIMES" NOW AVAILABLE: There are many League supporters who have never seen the League's monthly journal of political economy, "The New Times." The March (1977) issue contains a review of Dr. Antony Sutton's "Wall Street and the Rise of Hitler", a summary of the 1974 Per Jacobbsen Conference of economic One-Worlders, an article on the Passing of Douglas Reed, and some little-known notes of C.H. Douglas. Send one dollar for a copy of this issue. Yearly subscription is \$7.00.

"ON TARGET"

March 11th, 1977

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"ON TARGET" is published and printed by The Australian League of Rights
273 Lt. Collins Street, Melbourne. Subscription rate \$8.00 per annum,