



ON TARGET

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The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance—

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Thought for the Week: "I have always voted at my party's call,
And I never thought of thinking for myself at all."
- H.M.S. Pinafore, (Gilbert & Sullivan).

Jeremy Lee reports from Queensland: "This morning, July 23rd, the State Conference of the National Party opens at Caloundra. A number of crucial issues, notably whether or not the Party will rescind its policy for a State Bank, are due for discussion. This conference will surely decide whether Premier Joh's leadership is waxing or waning.

Two nights ago, the A.B.C.'s "Nationwide" featured a segment on a recently-formed Queensland Association called "The Enterprise Queensland Association" led by a Darling Downs graingrower, Mr. W. Jauncey. The programme pointed out the Association had some prominent sponsors, including a former State President of the R.S.L., the Chairman of the State's biggest Dairy Co-op, and a Director of a Meat Processing Company. According to its leader, Mr. Jauncey, the organisation was concerned at the undermining within the National Party of the Premier's position on a number of issues. As far as the public is concerned, the claim seems obvious enough. The State President, Sir Robert Sparkes, appears to have deliberately canvassed a number of policy matters in public, and to many in the Party his actions smack of washing dirty linen in public in a manner aimed at embarrassing the Premier.

Asked to comment on Mr. Jauncey's charges, Sir Robert gave a smooth display of smear. Enterprise Queensland, he claimed, was a front for the League of Rights, which was pushing its "funny-money social credit policies, aimed at printing unlimited debt-free credit." He claimed the Premier had disassociated himself from the Association, in contradiction of Mr. Jauncey, who said the Premier appreciated the efforts of his group. What the truth is on these claims is unclear. To date the Premier is "lyin' low and sayin' nothin'."

We cannot vouch for all Sir Robert's claims, but if his remarks on the League are anything to go by, he has not allowed the truth to qualify his remarks. He knows very well that the League has never

advocated the printing of "unlimited debt-free credit". Of this there is no doubt, for Sir Robert himself personally invited me to give evidence, along with economists H.W. Herbert and Mr. Jensen, at a special meeting of the Party's management committee over ten years ago.

Sir Robert has never bothered to ascertain whether there is any connection between the League of Rights and Enterprise Queensland Association. He is therefore open to the charge that he is using the League of Rights as a club to attack anyone within his own Party who disagrees with him, thus stifling discussion of major issues on their merits.

I have appeared as a guest speaker on Mr. Jauncey's platform in his battle to defend Section 92 of the Constitution, a year or two ago. Thus I have been a guest for both Sir Robert and Mr. Jauncey in the past! None of this has hindered Sir Robert from using an unfounded League of Rights smear when it has suited his purpose. In fact, although Sir Robert himself started a public controversy over National Party policy, I wouldn't be surprised if Mr. Jauncey is expelled from the National Party by the imperious Sir Robert for his public response to Sir Robert's actions.

None of this petty intrigue within the National Party would be worth much attention were it not for the fact that behind it is a much more serious move to shift the clear-cut position the Premier has taken in times past, and replace it with the "progressive" image that has become such an infection in other parties throughout Australia. At the moment Joh Petersen appears to be being led by the nose within his own Party, and rank-and-file members, who are much closer to general opinion in Queensland than a power-hungry party executive, are becoming increasingly concerned at the Premier's reluctance to "tell it like it is" within the National Party.

Of greatest concern would be a compromise on the State Bank issue, allowing Sir Robert's concept of a "merchant bank partnership" to slip in. Such a compromise would be seen as a serious blow for the Premier, from which he would find it increasingly difficult to recover, as Sir Robert consolidates his own increasingly autocratic power base within the Party.

THE DISAPPEARING BRITISH STOCK: We normally do not feature letters to the Editors of newspapers in the body of On Target, preferring to publish them in the On Target Bulletin. Occasionally, a letter of such signal worth is published in the newspapers as to have us relax our convention. The following is such an example: it was published in The Australian, July 23rd. The letter was published under the above heading, and featured in a box:

"I should like to know where Senator Gareth Eyans gets his figures from when he states that 44% of Australians are not of British background. I believe that despite the influx of immigrants from southern Europe and from Asia since World War 2, the most recent figures show that 85%

are of British origin, and 15% of other origins.

"However, if for the sake of argument we accept Senator Evan's contention that 44% of Australians are not British and that therefore the Flag should be changed, it establishes the principle that the criterion for choice of a flag is the supposed wishes of a 44% minority.

"In this case, surely Senator Evans will agree that when he and his 'multicultural' friends succeed in so flooding the country with the hordes of Asia that Australians of British descent become a minority of 44%, then the Flag should revert to its present form to please the 44% minority!

"When this point is reached, we Anglo-Celtic Australians, now toiling and battling to support our wives and families, can look forward to better times. "Having 'attained our minority', we will qualify for underdog status, with all the resources of the race relations industry at our command. Al Grassby may take an interest in us. We can agitate for 'positive discrimination', low-interest housing loans, a special free Anglo-Celtic legal service, and even land rights. And perhaps the United Nations Organisation may proclaim an 'International Year of the White Anglo-Celtic Christian family man', on behalf of an endangered and disappearing species deserving protection."

This excellent letter was published over the name of a "J.R. Kennedy", of Coldstream, Vic.

BRIEF COMMENTS: The Age (Melbourne), July 24th, ran a half-page, semi-smear article on Mr. Bruce Ruxton, President of the Victorian Branch of the Returned Services League (R.S.L.).

What struck us was the old, old, old confusion-technique of advancing opinions as facts - e.g.:

"But his (Ruxton's) unsolicited, outrageous (our emphasis) views which flow freely across such emotive issues as immigration, defence, immigration, Aboriginal land rights, and many, many, more, are true to form."

The writer of the article does not mention the fact that the views of Mr. Ruxton, which are outrageous (apparently to him) are those which have been endorsed by the whole body of the R.S.L. in Victoria. Our own opinion is that such views (above) would be endorsed by the majority of Australians if put to a proper referendum.

Further, our opinion (and it is at least as good as the opinion of the journalist in question) is that Mr. Ruxton should not be in the least concerned about derisory articles on himself in the newspapers. They give him further publicity, and a further broadcast of his views.

The inevitable political facts of life are emerging more quickly now in Zimbabwe. The Editorial in The Australian (July 26th) spells it out quite well. As would be anticipated, the Editorial bewails the emergence of the inevitable facts of life: politicians do this sort of thing also.

First the Editorial stresses that "until 1979, Zimbabwe's political system was racist and repressive" (an opinion advanced as fact). We

wonder how many of the blacks in Zimbabwe would prefer to return to those terrible days under Mr. Ian Smith, or "enjoy" Mr Mugabe's idea of democracy?!

Then the admission: "Unfortunately, the new Zimbabwe has already given plenty of evidence that it is well along the road to becoming just as oppressive...."

Now the reality: "the Government (of Zimbabwe) has announced its intention to making two fundamental changes in Zimbabwe's Constitution. The first proposal is to remove the 20 seats allocated to white representatives in the Parliament. The second is to make Zimbabwe into a One-party State, thus making illegal any organised opposition to the Government."

Finally a warning of the obvious: "...the course Zimbabwe is following can only encourage those right-wing South Africans who argue that any concession to majority rule will inevitably lead to a black dictatorship."

We, ourselves, forecast the descent of government in the former Southern Rhodesia into revolutionary chaos some few years ago. But those were the 'paranoid ravings' (the trendies love that phrase) of an extremist, racist, organisation.

* * * * *

Mr. John Howard, the Federal Treasurer, is sweating tears of blood for us all! He loves us so much: It is all like a "Mo letter" from The Children of God. He reckons that the Federal Government expects to recover some \$450 Million from us of retrospective laws governing taxation. ("Bottom of the Harbour" swifties, which aren't so difficult to follow) But how about this?!

"I don't think any government can stand idly by in the face of this (tax avoidance) and allow the general public to suffer so much. The failure to pay these taxes has represented an unfair increase in the tax burden of the ordinary taxpayer, and particularly the P.A.Y.E. (pay as you earn) taxpayer.

We have commented in these pages earlier this year that the Government is throwing away countless millions of dollars in "aid" to various "developing" countries (none are "under-developed", just developing), in Immigration that most Australians don't want, and down various other bottomless pits. Better to cut costs there than squeeze the entrepreneurs who provide employment with their various industrial projects. Squeezing the entrepreneurs is largely killing the goose that lays the golden egg.

Under modern finance-economic conventions this is going to happen anyway, as forecast by C.H. Douglas some 60 years ago ("The Breakdown of the Employment System"). Mr. Howard is just hurrying it along a little in Australia.

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