



# ON TARGET

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*The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance —*

Vol. 20 No. 2 Registered by Australia Post — Publication No. VBH 0999 January 28th., 1983.

Thought for the Week: "There is nothing so degrading as the slave who has come to love his chains." - Unknown author.

THE SERVILE STATE: Many years ago the distinguished English writer, Hilaire Belloc, wrote a prophetic book with a most descriptive title, "The Servile State". Belloc feared that step by step the individual would be persuaded to sacrifice his freedom in exchange for a minimum of material security. The Welfare State was promoted by those who, like the British planner, Lord Beveridge, insisted that the individual must be prepared to go halfway to Moscow in order to avoid the complete totalitarian State. The Welfare State has cushioned the impact of the present Depression by ensuring that no one actually starves to death. It has had a subtly degrading impact on many people.

Those who have attended Mr. Eric D. Butler's Basic Anti-Subversion School will recall his example of how while a frog thrown into boiling water will try to jump to safety, the same frog placed in cold water can be boiled alive if the temperature is not increased too suddenly. Many can be slowly conditioned to eventually accept what once would have produced violent reaction. The scars of the Depression of the thirties were so deep that for a long period after the Second World War, the provision of "full employment" was generally regarded as a major test for governments. As a result of a credit squeeze - allegedly designed to fight the same inflation Mr. John Howard is still battling - and a minor recession compared with what is taking place now, the Menzies-Fadden Government was nearly swept from office at the 1961 Federal Election. Unemployment was only a fraction of what it is today, but it was the major issue in the election campaign.

Twenty-two years later unemployment is now approaching the level of the thirties, but there is no evidence that it is producing the type of electoral backlash of the past. There is, of course, a degree of truth in the widely held view that the Labor Party has no constructive alternative to offer. Mr. Hayden insists that Labor must offer only "responsible" economic policies, which means that

Labor proposes no challenge to the policies which have produced the present disaster. But we fear that many people, particularly amongst the young, have been conditioned to believe that the present Depression is something inevitable, the result of international factors beyond Australia's direct control, and that the Welfare State does at least make possible minimum physical requirements. While the Marxists are having some success in recruiting young people, they are also admitting that the present crisis is different from that of the thirties. Growing numbers of young people are either turning to violent non-political crime, or to drugs and other forms of escapism. There is a widespread air of resignation. Much of this attitude reflects the success of the false theme that Australia has "been living beyond its means" and that a "wage freeze" makes some kind of sense.

The truth is, of course, that Australia is one of the wealthiest nations in the world, and there is no physical reason why all Australians cannot be guaranteed both security and freedom. Mr. W. Aberhart, Premier of the Albertan Social Credit Government in the thirties, the only government which has in this century attempted to challenge the Money Power and its agents of revolution, is credited with having told his audience that if they had not suffered enough to make them react, then it was their God-given right to suffer some more. Like the depression of the thirties, the present world-wide depression has been deliberately produced to further a long-term strategy, the ultimate objective being to drive a desperate and morally defeated people into the World State. The promoters of this strategy have already inflicted tremendous physical and moral damage on the peoples of the world.

However, there is a limit beyond which even the most conditioned cannot be driven without reaction. We do not predict what that limit is, but there is a growing ferment, which, given direction and correct information, could express itself in effective action. The battle for the world is now entering a final and decisive stage, one which will shape the future of mankind for centuries to come. The lead against the descent into slavery can only come from those who have grasped that genuine freedom is a spiritual necessity, and who are prepared to fight to ensure that it is unnecessary to surrender freedom in order to gain security.

BIG, BIGGER, BUST: By Neil G. McDonald.

"Get bigger or get out", was the official advice offered to farmers only a few years ago. The pressure to grow, amalgamate, and incur debt in order to survive is now changing ecstasy into agony. Dazed with drought and lesser yields, the way of escape without financial loss seems blocked.

Bigness was never more efficient than smallness. Bigness needs more control with supervisors to keep the wheel spinning. When properly organised, bigness can deliver mass products to a time-decreasing schedule. Radios, shirts, cars are born in almost limitless

abundance. But, a setback - strikes or sabotage - can strangle the big show with results that make Gulliver appear a quick-release artist. Bigness of government needs bureaucrats galore. They put costs and not production into the system. They prod, probe, and gradually destroy what was meant to be an efficient organisation. Now, in industry the big firms are collapsing. Private companies - efficiently run now, with stockpiles of cars, tractors, books and biscuits. Internationals, once thought impregnable, have joined the casualties (Daimler, Leyland, and DeLorian). Qantas and British Airways fly with almost unliftable debts, while Laker and Braniff are receiver-held memories. But, productive efficiency has little to do with the failure (impending or actual) of many crash-dive firms. Established with immense loans, they survive temporarily, only because the day of reckoning is advanced into the future.

The killer is a phantom, more skilled than Sherlock Holmes, and more tenacious than the Saint. A mere will-o'-the-wisp; a set of financial symbols having no reflection of reality - is the enemy which slays industry with more stealth than a group of commandos. American President Abraham Lincoln said; "I have two great enemies; the Southern Army in front of me, and the financial institutions in the rear. Of the two, the one in the rear is my greatest foe."

With financial symbols alone, unable to fully distribute the abundance and release the untapped potential, survivors will need to be in the mould of army commandos. Revival of close family units, with debts under easy personal control, are required. Fifty years ago, the (then) Prince of Wales (later the Duke of Windsor) said, "The depression of economic disturbance has been largely caused by a maladjustment of distribution. The potential output is far greater than ever before."

Small, skilled units - the self-employed builder, electrician, or plumber, are more cost-efficient than when employed by a larger organisation. Overheads and disruptions then begin to erode the personal pride in a job well done.

The boot-repairer, hairdresser, service-station owner, are a vital part of daily living - each able to give better personal service than any larger group.

Therein lies a threat to world planners and agents of amalgamation: Nothing is so dangerous as individual initiative.

There is no threat to banks or budgets from either large firms or unions. All receive their licence to live from the financial veil they dare not lift.

Individuals and small, informed groups are the only challenge to a faulty system which restricts production and penalises every citizen because of millions, or billions, or unrepayable debt. The apples are on the ground rotting. Everywhere, gates are locked and workers idle.

Urgently needed are not large majorities, but small groups of concerned - even angry producers - determined to remove the obstacles which stand between production and consumption.

Voters policy Associations, armed with information and energy, appear to be the best way to slay the Deficit dragon.

BRIEF COMMENTS: Prime Minister Fraser has sunk to a new low in treacherous hypocrisy with his threat that West Indian cricketers playing in South Africa will be banned permanently from entering Australia, and that even English cricketers playing in South Africa might be banned from coming to Australia. Much as we may deplore the professionalism of cricket along with other sporting activities, the fact is that the West Indian cricketers have gone to South Africa as paid performers. Mr. Fraser expresses concern about the Third World, but when professional cricketers from a Third World country seek to obtain financial security for their families, the Australian Prime Minister seeks to interfere with a basic right. Playing sport in Communist countries is, of course, all right. And exporting to the Communists on credit is highly laudable. Mr. Hayden's instant agreement with Mr. Fraser about the West Indian cricketers merely confirms that the major political parties are like Tweedledum and Tweedledee. Hopefully the humbug of Prime Minister Fraser and Mr. Hayden will be challenged at the next elections.

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Britain's inflation rate has been reduced to 5.4 per cent, the lowest for 12 years, while the American inflation rate is the lowest for a decade, 3.9 per cent. Both inflation rates have been achieved by savage credit restrictions which have forced hundreds of thousands of businesses into bankruptcy and pushed unemployed figures to new record levels. The low inflation rates are described as a "glimmer of light". If and when credit restrictions are eased, we can predict with complete certainty that inflation will start to rise again. There is no way out of the growing crisis under present financial policies.

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BASIC FUND: The League's annual Basic Fund for 1982-83, set at \$45,000 has moved from \$24,609 over the holiday period to \$26,903. This leaves a big gap yet to be filled. One of the biggest League projects in history is "on the drawing board" and this is going to require at least \$10,000 to adequately launch nationally. Other work continues. The need was never greater as the crisis we predicted deepens rapidly. The great majority have not yet contributed. Please rush YOUR contribution in today. Thank you.

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