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*The pride of Freedom is eternal vigilance—*

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Thought for the Week: "For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him".

- St. John 3:17

THE END OF AN EXPLOSIVE YEAR: Throughout most of 1984 there was a carefully orchestrated campaign which, in the words of Mr. Phillip Adams, echoing Zionist leader Mr. Isi Leibler, was designed to so isolate the League of Rights that it could have no influence on the mainstream of Australian politics. It can be said that this campaign has failed, although this does not mean it will not be continued and, if possible, intensified.

As realists, we believe that the election results were, along with the decisive rejection of Senator Gareth Evans's referenda proposals, the best that could be expected. It was clearly demonstrated that, contrary to media adulation, Prime Minister Hawke is mortal after all. Buoyed up by his own sense of being a man of destiny, and a popularity rating in the polls which owed much to the media, Mr. Hawke did not feel that he had to do much explaining to the Australian electors. What he failed to sense was a deep disquiet among more thoughtful electors. There is little doubt that Hawke was a victim of the polls which, right up until the last week, showed Labor heading for a massive victory. The instincts of a sizeable minority produced a last-minute view that it would be dangerous for any government, still less one in which there were many declared revolutionary Socialists, to have such a threatened majority. That minority decided either to vote for non-Labor candidates, or to swell the big informal vote.

The obviously shaken Mr. Hawke, along with some of his colleagues, made the bad mistake of blaming the big informal vote on the inability of electors to follow the new simplified voting system, insulting their own Labor supporters by claiming that their informal votes had been responsible for Labor losses. This was the excuse used by bitter anti-League of Rights Labor Member, Mr. Pete Steedman of Casey, Victoria. Mr. Steedman, former radical student

leader, who has never grown up, once apologised in Parliament for having Mr. Eric Butler as one of his electors. Mr. Steedman was beaten by that responsible minority which had been influenced by in-depth League of Rights campaigning.

Mr. Hawke's excuse about the informal vote resulted in a flood of letters to the Australian media. The most striking feature of these letters is that they were written by literate, responsible electors, who had made a conscious decision to vote informally because they felt that they could not vote for either side. It was significant that many mentioned basic issues not being dealt with; Immigration, Aboriginal land rights, defence, the Constitution, and similar issues. These are all issues which the League has been stressing.

The high conscious informal vote reflects support for a theme which the League of Rights has developed over recent years: That a responsible elector cannot take the view that he must merely "Vote for the lesser of several evils". We rate the high informal vote at the 1984 Federal elections as one of the most significant developments in Australian political history. Political party leaders would be well advised to take careful note of a development which we are sure is going to grow.

GOODBYE GARETH EVANS: Having been blasted out of his ivory tower by the election and referendum results, the pragmatic Mr. Hawke, now realising that he is fighting for political survival, quickly grasped that Senator Gareth Evans, protege of Mr. Justice Lionel Murphy, was a major political liability and had to be moved from the key position of Attorney-General. A consistently bitter critic of the League of Rights, Senator Evans no doubt hoped that by "playing down" the referendum proposals, they would automatically be passed by an electorate besotted by the alleged Hawke charisma.

But constant campaigning by the League of Rights, whose supporters also co-operated with the Council for a Free Australia, and the national distribution of well over one million copies of the Council for Free Australia's magazine, Wake Up, and tens of thousands of League brochures on the referendum issues, played a vital role in a result which we found pleasantly surprising. The massive NO vote in what we felt would be the key State of Western Australia, was a tribute to all those who campaigned so hard at a very difficult time.

The dropping of Senator Evans and the appointment of the much more conservative Lionel Bowen, a practising Catholic, to take his place, was one of the major victories of the elections. Mr. Bowen has already made it clear that he is not over-enthusiastic about the proposed Bill of Rights, suggesting that the proposed legislation be scrapped. Mr. Bowen points out that if a Bill of Rights is to be incorporated in the Constitution, a referendum will be necessary. Mr. Bowen must know that such a referendum has little chance of being passed. The radicals are already in full cry and there is no doubt

that Lionel Bowen is going to be subjected to tremendous pressure. He must be given every encouragement to stand firm.

ABORIGINAL LAND RIGHTS: Both the Labor Party and the Opposition Parties found themselves under increasing pressure on the Aboriginal Land Rights issue throughout the year, both agreeing that the League of Rights had been the main driving force behind the campaign of opposition to the land rights programme. The engagement of Fabian Socialist K.D.Gott, at public expense, to "monitor" and to report on the League of Rights proved counter-productive. The attempt by the United Church, which produced its own smear document on the League, to address Victorian meetings arranged by the Church, resulted in the first meeting at Sea Lake, ending in complete disaster for Mr. Gott and the promoters as a result of League questioning. We understand that all other planned Gott meetings were then cancelled, with the Uniting Church now badly divided about the League.

The Opposition parties eventually attempted to grasp the land rights issue, even if only tentatively, but insisted that they had nothing to do with the League of Rights. Mr. Hawke wisely decided before the elections to "play down" the land rights issue, and was assisted by the weak attitude of the Federal Opposition. The Western Australian State Liberals have continued to keep the land rights issue before the people and this probably explains why the Liberals did relatively much better in W.A. than in any other state.

With Mr. Clyde Holding re-appointed as Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, it appears that the second Hawke Government will make some attempt to push forward their national land-rights programme. They will, of course, be under tremendous radical and United Nations pressure. But they also know that any attempt to continue with the proposed programme will re-activate the grass roots movement which has developed as a result of the League's original programmes this year.

HAWKE DENIED SENATE CONTROL; The Hawke thrust to gain control of the Senate, was a failure, with enough people grasping the basic issues involved. As we go to press, the final results have not yet been reached. But it is certain that there will be a division of power, with the Democrats holding the balance. The strong vote for the Nuclear Disarmament Party did not surprise us. Large numbers of young electors voting for the first time reflected the brainwashing they received from Socialist schoolteachers. When the pragmatic Bob Hawke told Senator Susan Ryan that she had to stop her assault on the private schools, the militant pro-Marxist Australian Teachers' Federation was badly upset and openly criticised the Hawke Government. The Federation was responsible for much of the vote for

the Nuclear Disarmament Party, as were, of course, the different Marxist parties. The NDP received enormous media coverage, and it was obvious that the new party had enormous funds to spend. The media gave practically no coverage to the Call to Australia Senate team, or to that headed by Brian Peachey in Western Australia. But the votes recorded by these groups demonstrated the potential for building a coalition of genuine conservatives.

LIBERALS FOOLING THEMSELVES: While the election results have provided Mr. Andrew Peacock with a reprieve from an immediate leadership challenge, they will only delay temporarily the disintegration of the Liberal Party. The Liberals are fooling themselves with their claims. Generally overlooked is that the total national Liberal vote was slightly lower than at the 1983 elections, while that of the National Party increased, the biggest increase being in Queensland. The deteriorating rural situation, which is going to worsen next year, is going to put the National Party under increasing pressure to come forward with constructive finance-economic policies along the lines consistently proposed by the League of Rights.

THE CHALLENGE OF 1985: As stressed by the League, the so-called economic recovery was primarily the result of massive doses of the debt drug by the Hawke Government. The same debt drug was liberally proscribed by the first Reagan Administration. But now the "side effects" are starting to show. The same is going to happen in Australia. The international crisis is going to deepen rapidly, with desperate efforts by the plotters of the New World Order to exploit the situation to advance their programme. Right around the Crown Commonwealth the League of Rights has been a catalyst of an emerging grass-roots movement of constructive resistance, particularly in Australia and Canada. That is why it is under such a vicious attack everywhere, particularly in Australia and Canada.

1984 saw The Australian League of Rights subjected to its biggest test and challenge. It came through with "flying colours" and is now ready to face the even bigger tests of 1985.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS: This is our last issue for 1984, and we thank our supporters, both old and new, who never faltered in the heat of the battles of 1984. They demonstrated that traditional Australia and traditional values are still alive. We extend Christmas Greetings to all, trusting that they and their families have a Happy and Holy Christmas, that they benefit both physically and spiritually from the Christmas break, prepared to return to the on-going battle for freedom.

A CHRISTMAS PRESENT: The best Christmas present supporters can send is their contribution to the Basic Fund, which now stands at \$35,030.

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