



ON TARGET

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The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance—

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Thought for the Week: " A man's reasons for not wanting his country to be ruled by foreigners are very like his reasons for not wanting his house to be burned down; because he could not even begin to enumerate all the things he would miss. "

- G.K. Chesterton.

SLOWING DOWN THE FABIAN PROGRAMME: It is no secret that Australia's Fabian Prime Minister, Mr. Bob Hawke, is already campaigning for the next Federal Election, which possibly will be held some time later in the year. If victory is to be achieved, the projection of Hawke as a type of Messianic figure, with a "special relationship" with the Australian people, will have to be maintained. Compared with Opposition leader John Howard, Hawke still rates highly in the popularity polls. But the polls, and Hawke's close victory at the last Federal Elections, mask the reality that the Bicentenary year ended with few of Hawke's visions being realised. The Fabian programme for the creation of a Socialist Republic has been seriously dented.

Bob Hawke was prominent among those who believed that by the year 1988 effect would be given to the Labor Party's official platform calling for the creation of an Australian Republic. The 1984 Labor Party national conference, meeting in Canberra, called for the preparations for the Bicentennial celebrations to be used to initiate moves for the creation of a new flag, a new national anthem and a new national day. Far-reaching constitutional changes were envisaged.

At the height of his early rating as some type of political pop-star, Australia's spiritual Republican Prime Minister created the impression that he would carry all before him. He started by decreeing that Australians would start singing Advance Australia Fair as their national anthem. ~~Very few Australians even~~

~~Fair as their national anthem.~~ Very few Australians even know the words, re-written at Mr. Hawke's request, of a song which is much less known than Waltzing Matilda

The campaign to impose a new national flag upon the Australian people has been another dismal failure. Prime Minister Hawke and his fellow Republicans made every effort to play down the nation's British background during the Bicentennial celebrations. But they grudgingly had to accept the First Fleet re-enactment. Bob Hawke's Australia Day address in Sydney was disgraceful. It was left to Prince Charles to up-stage Hawke and others with a brilliant address in which he stressed that the Bicentennial celebrations were primarily about the nation's Constitution.

The Royal reminder about the vital importance of the Constitution was not very pleasing to a Prime Minister who had said in his policy speech at the 1983 election, that 1988 should be made the "target date" for major changes to the Constitution. But events did not work out as envisaged by Hawke and his fellow Fabian planners. The very Constitutional Commission set up to condition the Australian people for constitutional changes, proved counter-productive - and highly expensive - with the Hawke government then rather hurriedly only submitting four proposals at the referendum of September 3rd. The result was a massive re-buff of the proposals by the Australian people.

During the Hawke government's approaching six years in office, it has had to retreat from the Aboriginal land claims programme, inherited from the Fraser government, has had the Bill of Rights rejected, along with the ID card legislation and as yet has not fulfilled the Prime Minister's promise to establish a Treaty with Australians of Aboriginal background. It is now being suggested that the Prime Minister may have to enlist the disastrous Malcolm Fraser in an attempt to achieve the Treaty objective!

Well aware that the League of Rights has played a major role in exposing the Hawke government's long-term programme. and in acting as a catalyst for much of the growing grass-roots opposition to its policies, the Bicentenary year saw the amazing spectacle of the Fabians and their allies using some Members of the National and Liberal parties to mount a national smear campaign against a non-party, service movement, with a long history of defending traditional Australia. But the year ended with growing alarm among Liberal and National party members, with even some Labor Members privately expressing their concern about the

proposed all-party investigation of the League of Rights. The latest news is that the inquiry by the House of Representatives standing committee on Constitutional and Legal Affairs will be replaced by an inquiry into "racism" by Irene Moss of the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission.

Although the Hawke governments have since 1983 inflicted great damage on the Australian people, we are encouraged by the fact that the Fabian programme has suffered serious set-backs. More breathing time for regeneration has been made available. Our greatest fear is that if the Hawke government fails at the next elections, primarily because of financial policies which press heaviest upon middle Australians, the Coalition parties will fail to implement policies necessary to provide substance for fine-sounding rhetoric. But such a failure would bring Australia to a new and critical period in its history. The League of Rights will continue with its mission of attempting to equip as many Australians as possible to play a decisive role in that period.

BRIEF COMMENTS: Professor Geoffrey Blainey's surprise resignation from the Melbourne University must be rated as one piece of good New Year news. While Professor Blainey insists that he has always had complete freedom to speak his mind at the University, he believes he will have more time to make speeches and to forward his views after his retirement. It is pleasing to note that he appears to have rejected suggestions that he should seek a political career, correctly pointing out that while he has "a limited amount of influence in the political sense at the moment", this would be a lot more than as a back-bench Member at Canberra. Blainey is reported as saying, "What's more, I have independence, which is a lot more than I would have up there" (at Canberra)

Professor Blainey has emerged as one of Australia's natural leaders.

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Once again Prime Minister Hawke has demonstrated how selective he can be concerning past history. Reflecting the pressure of the Zionist lobby in Australia, the Hawke government has passed legislation designed to have witchhunts conducted against those Australians who, before coming to Australia many years ago, allegedly committed "war crimes". Any of those charged will be elderly. But we must never forget, say^s Mr. Hawke. Prime Minister Hawke used the Bicentennial year to lecture his fellow Australians on how they should remember injustices done to

Aboriginals as far back as 200 years. But the same Bob Hawke

neglects to refer to the death and suffering of thousands of his fellow Australians under the Japanese less than 50 years ago. Without canvassing the question of whether Japanese Emperor Hirohita should have been held responsible for Japanese aggression and atrocities during the Pacific War, was it necessary for the Australian Prime Minister to send such a fawning official note to Japan?

There are good reasons why the Japanese should be respected. They have demonstrated the value of maintaining a homogeneous people. But a cringing Australian attitude, dominated by a fear of possible lost markets, is a manifestation of a lack of proper national pride, and is not likely to win any respect from the Japanese. Under sane financial and economic policies, Australia would have less need for Japanese markets than the Japanese have for Australia's natural resources.

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It did not need an expensive Muirhead Commission to investigate the problem of why many Australians of Aboriginal or part - Aboriginal background commit suicide when imprisoned. As admitted by the Muirhead Commission, large numbers of Europeans also commit, or attempted to commit, suicide when imprisoned.

Dr. Ernest Hunter, a psychiatrist who has been researching Aboriginal deaths of all kinds, believes that the Muirhead Commission's focussing upon suicides is obscuring a "massive change in the way Aboriginal people are dying nation-wide - particularly in the North. " Dr. Hunter says that alcoholism is the major problem, and that this must be addressed on a non-partisan basis. Unrestricted access to alcohol is similar to giving small children unrestricted access to matches or fire-arms. But any comments like this have the do-gooders throwing up their arms and shrieking about the "evils of discrimination." The reality is that all people are not equal, a reality which the unfortunate police have to contend with.

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THE BASIC FUND: Contributions to the Annual Basic Fund slowed down over the holiday period and still has to pass \$50,000. A minimum of \$60,000 is necessary for the big programme ahead. All donations to Box 1052J., G.P.O., Melbourne.

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