



ON TARGET

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The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance —

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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "While a few years ago no one would have believed it possible that a scale of taxation such as that at present existing could be imposed upon the British public without revolution, I have every hope that with skilful education and propaganda this scale can be very considerably raised."

- Sir Josiah Stamp, Director of The Bank of England, as quoted by C.H. Douglas in Dictatorship by Taxation (1936).

THE HEWSON TAXATION FRAUD: The higher echelons of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank will no doubt be purring with satisfaction as they consider how Australian Opposition leader Dr. John Hewson is skilfully attempting to condition the Australian people, that with the adoption of his Consumption Tax "reform" programme, Australia will be on the way to economic recovery. The concept of a General Services Tax has long been the policy of the I.M.F. It should never be forgotten that the I.M.F. and the World Bank were established as a result of the 1945 Bretton Woods (U.S.A.) Agreement, the main architect of this agreement being Harry Dexter White of the American Treasury Department. White was subsequently exposed as a top Soviet agent. As documented by Jeremy Lee in his best seller, "The New World Order" And The Destruction of Australian Industry, (\$10.00 posted), since the end of the Second World War there has emerged an unholy alliance between International Finance and International Socialism (under various guises) in an attempt to centralise power on a global scale.

All that needs to be said at present is that Dr. John Hewson's proposals threaten to increase the present financial stranglehold on the Australian people. A problem correctly stated is a problem already half-solved. What is the major problem confronting Australians today? In spite of record post Second World War unemployment, and a number of restrictive practices in industry, the actual or potential production is adequate to meet all requirements. If there are necessary capital

works, such as improving Australia's transport system, then why are those works not being carried out? According to the "experts", and Dr. Hewson clearly regards himself as one of these, it would be too "simplistic" and would threaten an increase in inflation, if new financial credits were made available for such purposes. Australia is being strangled by debt, as is every nation in the world operating under orthodox financial rules, but Dr. Hewson offers no answers. He does suggest that Australians should work harder and become more efficient! The whole thrust of the Hewson programme is concerned with how to get more taxes from the Australian people in the most "efficient" manner. There is no suggestion that TOTAL TAXATION is going to be LESS. Dr. Hewson and his echo, National Party colleague, Mr. Tim Fisher, have boldly stated that if the 15 percent G.S.T. were ever increased, they would resign from Parliament. Big deal! Anyone capable of doing a little elementary arithmetic can demonstrate that as inflation continues, and the G.S.T. makes that certain, then the 15 percent must result in increased tax revenue. It is a system of taxation which feeds upon itself.

Manipulating public opinion has reached the stage where the promoters of the G.S.T. stress that many other nations have adopted it. The G.S.T. propagandists should be asked to nominate that nation where they believe it has been a great success. Our New Zealand friends will be amazed to know that the G.S.T. has been an outstanding success, and that the majority of New Zealanders are very happy with it. When faced with a few realities, the G.S.T. propagandists are slightly discomfitted, as witnessed by the criticism of Mr. Brian Grey, of Compass Airlines. No one will dispute that under de-regulation, Compass has revolutionised air services in Australia, bringing fares down to a level which makes it possible for more Australians to use air travel inside Australia. This has assisted a tourist industry collapsed by the pilots' strike. As Mr. Grey says, air travel and tourism has been one of the few growth industries. Mr. Grey says it is a strange way to reward incentive by imposing a 15 percent tax on it!

Dr. Hewson's programme is not merely an economic strategy, as witnessed by the fact that it is conceded that lower income earners will require concessions. In other words, there is the important question of not losing too many votes! Probably the most astonishing aspect of the Hewson propaganda circus is otherwise sensible people appear to believe that the G.S.T. might be worth trying. We must warn that the G.S.T. in Australia would be just as disastrous as it has proved elsewhere.

As C.H. Douglas has said, "the heavy taxation under which we suffer works directly to the advantage of financial houses which control the banking system."

VALUE - A BIT VAGUE by Neil McDonald:

A consumption tax is really a villain in disguise - value added tax. All but fools know what tax is - the spoils that Robin Hood took from the rich to feed the poor.

Our tax comes without escape from rich and poor. How, then, can value be added to tax? Only in the mind, because value is a variable. C.H. Douglas in Social Credit defined value as "that quality which gives to anything maximum exchangeability under present conditions".

The value of a boat is its ability to transport across a river with minimum inconvenience and maximum speed. A fee would vary patronage in proportion to urgency and other boats. A nearby bridge would almost eliminate the value of a boat. But, if the bridge was occupied by enemy soldiers, the urgency of escape would greatly increase the value of the boat.

The value of the proposed consumption tax can be compared accurately if present sales and other taxes are defined and held firm. If inflation does not complicate, there is only one reason to prefer a consumption tax - better value. Unless John Hewson can promise that a consumption tax will not cost more increases, is consideration worthwhile?

The known devil is a lesser risk than the unknown. Give John Hewson's gang a serve of rejection. The choice between two evils offers one genuine alternative. When in doubt, leave out.

A certain way to reduce taxation is to amputate. Chop off excess public service bureaucracy. Oust overheads. Write off the national debt. Sever overseas dependency. Become self-reliant.

Australia can survive physically by using Australian labor. With much better bookkeeping, debts can be turned into credits. The orthodox way leads only to ruin and rising inflation.

A few centuries ago, bridges and cathedrals were built without "one penny of debt". Wealth creates assets - not debt.

Amongst suffering Australians, surely somewhere is statesman material, desperate to find a way to unlock physical riches without impossible financial debt? Debt is merely figures in books, intangible, uneatable and without value.

IS THE N.F.F. CHANGING TACK? by D. Thompson:

In what must be regarded as a dramatic about-face, the National Farmers Federation, at their General Council Meeting last week, passed a resolution calling for a halt to any existing reforms of protection measures in agriculture. N.F.F. President, Mr. Blight, is reported as saying "I think we've done enough, and I don't see why we should give away any protection we've got left - and God help us, it's very

minimal - while we still have a lot of the regulations and the inefficiencies we have out there".

CAN THE N.F.F. COME TO GRIPS? While a change of heart by the N.F.F. could be a vital breakthrough, they have still failed to grasp the main nettle! What emergency measures are they proposing to keep farmers on their properties under crisis conditions? Will they demand a halt to unnecessary food imports? Will they demand a moratorium on rural debt, now out of control? Will they commit the massive \$11 million "Fighting Fund" to mount a public campaign to save rural Australia; to fight for farmers?

As yet, the answer appears to be no they will not. Mr. Blight believes that the N.F.F.'s most important currency in dealing with politicians and senior bureaucrats is "credibility". Such radical solutions will damage "credibility", and must presumably be left to "perfidious" groups like the League of Rights. Primary producers must be sacrificed on the altar of the N.F.F.'s 'credibility'. In fact, the N.F.F. has declared its intention to commit the "Fighting Fund" to bashing the unions, but certainly not the banks! (Australian, 20/11/91). We note that one of the Trustees of the "Fighting Fund" is Mr. Nobby Clarke, former manager of the National Bank. Surely farmers and unionists could co-operate for vital protection for their industries? How many unionists are unemployed because their industry has been sacrificed to the 'global market'?

WILL THE 'CLOSET PROTECTIONISTS' EMERGE? We believe there are many "closet protectionists" who may emerge following the first timid statements of those like Mr. Blunt's. Mr. Doug Anthony was one of the first. In a letter to the Weekend Australian (23/11/91), he said that Blunt's statement "indicates that at long last it (N.F.F.) has seen the folly of the devastating "level playing field" philosophy it has been pursuing for the last seven years..." Much could be said about the failure of the Nationals to recognise the same folly!

In a dramatic call from the heart, the author Morris West, himself never a farmer, is calling for an immediate moratorium on rural debt. He takes a swipe at the banks, Government and Opposition for refusing to acknowledge the gravest rural crisis in our history: "I feel like the child in the crowd, staring at a naked king heading a procession of his fawning courtiers. I want to shout as loudly as I can: 'The king has no clothes!'"

BASIC FUND SURGING FORWARD: There has been a most inspiring response to the League's Basic Fund Appeal. The Fund has now passed \$30,000. But this is still just below the halfway figure. We can assure supporters the League has some most ambitious and inspiring programmes on the "drawing board". Why not a really worthwhile Christmas present for the League? All donations to Box 1052J, G.P.O., Melbourne, 3001.