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The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance —

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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "Free market policies are killing the Australian economy and causing hardship and ruin for millions of Australians. The economy has been brought to its knees by financial and economic de-regulation, the elimination of tariffs, unsuccessful structural reforms in industry, free trade in agriculture, open slather for imports, privatisation, repressive monetary policies, a taxation system that favours consumption over saving and investment, and is an administrative nightmare, and budgetary policies that treat surpluses as triumphs of financial management."

- Russell Matthews: Emeritus Professor of Economics at the Australian National University, as quoted in Shutdown.

AN AGENDA FOR REVOLUTION: Media baron Rupert Murdoch makes no secret of the fact that he is a staunch internationalist. Obviously this philosophy has the backing of the international banks to which Murdoch is deeply in debt. As Murdoch now admits, by 1990 he was in deep trouble, and facing a demand that he start to liquidate his media empire. "I had to beg," Murdoch recalls. Eventually he was permitted to continue.

It is important to bear Murdoch's business background in mind in assessing what he and his media promote. He has recently on Australian television frankly admitted that he thinks the Monarchy is now "irrelevant" and that it is only a matter of time before it disappears. The Murdoch media promotes economic internationalism. It is significant that Murdoch supports what is generally termed "economic rationalism". Consider the editorial in The Australian of October 21st, concerning the Federal Opposition's industrial relations policy, as revealed by John Howard. The editorial supports the reform because "It is a change that is fundamental to the successful internationalisation of our economy".

As long as it is insisted that the purpose of the production system is to provide "full employment" and to strive to "capture" export markets, those operating that system, whether management or rank and file workers, are at the mercy of an unrealistic policy. Numerous

examples can readily be given of work practices which are designed to try and ensure that workers do not lose their jobs. But these are effects, not causes. As witnessed by what has happened in the United Kingdom, the policy of "economic rationalism" in the absence of a major change in the debt financial system, can only lead to revolution. The Major Government (U.K.) closed coal mines with little consideration of the social implications. The dismantling of the protection of Australian industries, forcing Australian workers to compete against much cheaper Asian labour, is taking Australia towards complete disaster. John Howard's work reforms offer no genuine solution to the nation's plight.

ACADEMICS HIT BACK AT "ECONOMIC RATIONALISM": The dismantling of the protection of all Australian industries is, as thoroughly exposed by Mr. Jeremy Lee in his devastating exposure of "The New World Order", a major feature of a programme to "internationalise" the Australian economy. Until recently, this programme has been the result of those academics in the Treasury, the Taxation Department and many of the Universities who endorse this programme, dominating much of the Australian political agenda. The "economic rationalists", as they are generally known, first dominated the thinking of Labor Governments starting with Gough Whitlam, and now have their champions inside the Liberal Party, the main exponent being Dr. John Hewson; The National Party simply trails along behind Hewson. But as the Australian crisis has deepened, a number of prominent academics started to express grave doubts about the anti-protection programme being supported basically by all the major political parties. Articles by John Carroll, a reader in Sociology at the LaTrobe University, Melbourne, and Gregory Clark, a Professor of Japanese Studies, Sophia University, Tokyo, were among the first to challenge what had become economic orthodoxy. Then Mr. Robert Manne, editor of the well-known cultural magazine, Quadrant, opened his pages to a discussion on the subject. All this was encouraging to those who had watched the destruction of Australian industries without some coherent opposition.

This type of opposition has now emerged with a well-produced book, Shutdown, in which for the first time a group of prominent academics present a wide-ranging case against the "economic rationalists". None of these can be dismissed as "right-wing extremists". Edited by John Carroll and Robert Manne, this work is packed with the type of information and arguments which are essential for those who wish to play a role in turning back the tide of disaster now openly threatening Australia. Needless to say, this work of nearly 200 pages does not probe too deeply the basic financial causes of the present economic madness, but coming from a wide range of academics who span the political spectrum, it makes a most valuable contribution at the present time.

The League has obtained a limited supply of this work, which can be obtained from all League bookshops. Moderately priced at \$16.50, or \$18.00 posted, it would make an excellent Christmas present for any academic or friends concerned over economic matters.

DAVID IRVING BANNED FROM CANADA: By their intolerant and totalitarian attitude, Zionists continue to fan anti-Jewish sentiment. Zionist organisations have pressured the Canadian Government into preventing British historian David Irving from entering Canada. Irving was scheduled to conduct an extensive speaking tour, his topic being "The Dangers of Censorship in History". The Canadian Government has cited the possibility that Irving might commit a crime with his conviction now under appeal in Germany for "defaming the memory of the dead". This is an offence unknown to Canadian law. Irving was fined by a German court for giving a lecture in which he said that since the collapse of the Soviet Union, evidence had become available confirming the view of those who had insisted that the mass gassing of Jews at Auschwitz was a gigantic hoax. It is legitimate for scholars and others to question the validity of traditional Christian history, even to raise doubts about whether Christ ever existed, but the "Jewish Holocaust", even if disputed by some prominent Jews, cannot be questioned, according to the Zionist totalitarians.

We are informed that Irving is appealing the Canadian decision and that if this appeal fails, provisions are being made for Irving to communicate with Canadian audiences. We can imagine Canadian halls being packed to see David Irving on wide screen telling Canadians what he has not been allowed to tell them in person.

We have been informed by Irving's representatives in Australia that he plans to conduct a lecture tour in Australia early next year. We will inform readers when this tour is confirmed and give details.

UPPER HOUSE TO RESTRAIN "NAKED EXECUTIVE POWER": For many years the League has pressed for the re-introduction of an Upper House in the Parliaments of Queensland and New Zealand. In the League's submission to the enquiry into the Queensland electoral system, we suggested the re-introduction of the Queensland Legislative Council as a brake on the abuse of power by the Legislative Assembly. Even when Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen was Premier of Queensland, such a House of Review would have been extremely valuable, and could have perhaps prevented some of the "corruption" that the Fitzgerald Enquiry uncovered.

We now note that the restoration of Queensland's Upper House is exactly what is proposed by Sir Max Bingham, the retiring Chairman of the Queensland Criminal Justice Commission. Sir Max specifically called for an Upper House in order to control "the naked power of the executive". He pointed out that across the country, the proliferation of Royal Commissions and other high-level enquiries supported the view that the Parliamentary system throughout Australia had suffered by the dominance of Parliament by the executive.

"WHEELS COMING OFF...": In his criticism of burgeoning executive power, Sir Max is reported as having said (The Australian, 22/10/92): "Parliament doesn't really have much in the way of power these days

and any intrusion on executive power is treated (by governments) as an attack. You've only got to read today's papers to get a glimpse of the problem through the W.A. Inc. report. It's a problem that has emerged out of what we used to call the Westminster system, and slowly the wheels are coming off that system because the roles of the executive and Parliament have changed..."

Sir Max pointed out that the Parliamentary committee system, which could be drawing attention to the excesses of the executive, just isn't working. Mechanisms need to be found to renovate the Parliamentary system, and reduce the potential for the abuse of power. Even in States with Upper Houses, Premiers like Brian Burke, Cain, Dowding, Bannon, Greiner, Wran, etc., have all manipulated Parliament. In Queensland this could be minimised in two ways.

The first way to minimise abuses of power is to reconstruct Upper Houses to operate independently of party power politics. For example, perhaps Legislative Councillors should serve without the prospect of superannuation payouts, and be ineligible to serve in the Executive (Cabinet). The second useful mechanism, of course, is direct participation by the electorate, with the system of initiative and referendum.

According to the Australian report, Queensland's Legislative Council was abolished in March, 1922, by the vote of the majority of Labor Councillors, in line with A.L.P. policy after the Theodore Labor Government appointed sufficient A.L.P. Councillors to ensure a Labor majority. Queenslanders were left without effective protection from the executive.

SLOW BASIC FUND RESPONSE: We appreciate the plight of many of our traditional supporters of the Basic Fund, who are apologising because economic circumstances make it difficult for them to contribute as generously as in the past. However, if those who can afford to do so, can contribute just a little extra, and if all supporters pull together, the moderate target of \$60,000 will be reached. We make a special appeal to those readers who have never contributed to the Basic Fund. We believe that crisis conditions bring out the best in Australians. So rush YOUR contribution in IMMEDIATELY, irrespective of how small it is. Last week a further \$3,680 was contributed, taking the total to \$9,233.