



A WEEKLY COMMENTARY

# ON TARGET

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*The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance —*

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**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:** "We deny the snobbish English assumption that the uneducated are the dangerous criminals ... We say that the dangerous criminal is the educated criminal. We say that the most dangerous criminal now is the entirely lawless modern philosopher. Compared to him, burglars and bigamists are essentially honest men ... They accept the essential ideal of man; they merely seek it wrongly. Thieves respect property. They merely wish the property to become their property that they may more perfectly respect it. But philosophers dislike property as property; they wish to destroy the very idea of personal possession ... the evil philosopher is not trying to alter things, but to annihilate them."

- G.K. Chesterton

## **THE PLANNED MURDER OF RURAL AUSTRALIA** by Eric D. Butler:

It is now official that traditional rural Australia is to be sacrificed on the altar of debt finance and a soulless internationalism. The Age, Melbourne, of April 7th, carries a report by Nicholas Johnston from Canberra, which begins, "The National Farmers Federation yesterday supported a call by the head of the Australian Bankers Association for struggling farmers to leave the land before they were forced off by banks." Mr. Rick Farley, Executive Director of the NFF, supports comments made by Mr. Alan Cullen of the Australian Bankers Association, who says that farmers, particularly woolgrowers, "had to prove their long-term viability or leave their farms". Mr. Cullen makes the breathtaking claim that "The banks have really put a lot of effort into getting it right in the farm sector ... They (the farmers) have got to accept that they are in business and that it hasn't worked out for reasons which may have nothing to do with anything but bad luck. The banks can't carry them forever".

The banking system provides a most valuable bookkeeping service, with a licence from the Federal Government to carry on that service. As every informed person knows, they have the power to create the bulk of the nation's money supply in the form of financial credit. But unlike the primary producer, they do not create any real wealth. Wool, for example, is real wealth and while, of course, drought is a

major problem, it is the very system of debt finance operated by the banking system, which is directly and indirectly responsible for the crisis gripping the wool industry. We have the idiotic suggestion from France that the Australian wool industry can only revive itself by either burning the big stockpile or dumping it in the seas. Much more sensible would be to dump the debt into the seas and to treat wool as real wealth for use in the future.

But Rick Farley will have none of this. He openly defends the present debt system and says, "My organisation has been saying for many years now that it is better for farmers to leave with some dignity and some equity rather than getting into a situation where they stretch out their operation and finally leave with nothing." This is a call for a progressive surrender by rural Australia, with no end in sight because no permanent solution is possible under debt finance. What happens to rural Australia will determine the very future of traditional Australia. It is much later than many realise.

(As a chilling supplement to Mr. Eric Butler's contribution, the following report comes from a Queensland correspondent - Editor, OT.)

**DUNKIRK SITUATION FOR AUSTRALIA'S PRIMARY PRODUCERS:** The ghastly situation which has come to a head in drought-stricken Queensland is finally forcing leaders to face issues they have found it easier to ignore for the last 20 years. Strangely - or perhaps not so strangely - in the deluge of letters and statements appearing in the rural press, none have urged the National Farmers Federation into action. It is almost as though the organisation is a 'non-event'; written off in peoples' minds as though it is past redemption and hope.

It is a minority of leaders, speaking more as individuals with nothing to lose than spokesmen for the legion of bureaucracies which broke farmers have somehow funded with millions of dollars, who are now "telling it like it is".

Former State National leader Russell Cooper, writing in the Queensland Country Life on April 8th, called for a "radical financial solution".

"... Debt will have to be forgiven to a considerable extent; credit will have to be extended over a long period at negligible rates of interest," he said.

He added, "Poor market prices, droughts, exposure to foreign imports and savage Government imposts have torn the viability of rural Australia to pieces. Canberra bureaucrats want to get rid of at least 30 percent more farmers to satisfy their need for "economic rationalisation" of the rural sector. Every man, woman and child, every politician of all persuasions, every organisation, town and country, must rise up as one to protect the major productive sector that has made this country what it is..."

Noted Queenslander Hilary Russell of Jimbour was quoted on the front cover of the same issue as saying: "Last week 500 desperate landholders, some of whom had travelled 750km, overflowed the Charleville Hall to bring their plight to the notice of the RAS advisory committee," she said. "That same day Mr. Goss chose to denigrate our Queen and sought to remove all references to the Crown from State oaths, affirmations and legislation. Bear in mind that \$50 million of Queensland taxpayers' money has already been spent on the Gold Coast Indy Grand Prix and a few more million will go the same way next year ..."

Queensland Graingrowers President Ian MacFarlane wrote: "... As I sit, wait and ponder on whether or not Simon Crean will react to the desperate message from Charleville, I can only guess at how much pressure farmers can apply or for that matter, are prepared to apply if the Minister does nothing. Will the politeness shown in Charleville continue? Will our heritage of the landed gentry - that desire to always fight by the Marquis of Queensbury rules - hold us back? Will pride and the "stiff upper lip" of our Anglo-Saxon background stop us showing our true emotion and our despair at the hurt and suffering of those farmers pushed to the brink? I hope not! If we do, the rural sector can only expect to be ignored."

Under State President of the United Graziers Association, Bill Bonthron, a demand has been made for a list of measures starting with a three-year moratorium on interest and capital repayments.

We suggest to the UGA that three years is now too short, and that Mr. Crean's attention should be directed to the 5-year moratorium his own party put forward in its Federal Rural Policy in 1971 - long before the intensity of the existing catastrophe, and before we had lost the 127,000 farmers who have been driven off since then.

Miraculously, through the work of a new and self-funded rural movement - The Union of Farmers - three brilliant tools have been made available with the potential for a tremendous breakthrough for rural Australia. They take the form of three videos - the first a graphic and hard-hitting guide in self-help steps for farmers threatened with foreclosure, "DEFY AND WIN". It cannot be recommended too highly.

The second, by the Union's Executive Officer Jeanine McRae, "FOR WOMEN ONLY", throws down a graphic challenge to Australian women everywhere. Many are already shouldering tremendous burdens on behalf of their families.

The third, only just available, scripted by Jeremy Lee, is called "THE MONEY GAME". By far the most professional and ambitious video we've seen, it contains two hours of original footage, dramatic interviews with Australian producers in city and country, and some

invaluable history on such topics as money, the Commonwealth Bank, King O'Malley and the 1971 ALP programme for a debt moratorium.

It is now urgent that these three videos be got to all besieged producers and communities throughout Australia. All readers should arm themselves with these videos, organising their own video evenings, making contact with rural spokesmen and news editors, shire and city councillors and church groups.

(The prices of the videos, available now from all League addresses, are as follows: "The Money Game", by Jeremy Lee, \$32.50 posted; "For Women Only", by Jeanine McRae, \$23.50 posted; "Defy and Win", by Grant Bird, \$23.50 posted.)

**BRIEF COMMENTS:** The Federal Government suffered a rebuff in the Federal Court last week when it sought to have dismissed British historian David Irving's appeal against his banning from entry into Australia. Spokesman for David Irving, Mr. Murray Pope of Veritas Publishing Pty. Ltd., commented in a news release that "it would appear that the new Minister has intentions of using whatever power and legislation he can to prevent Mr. Irving from gaining his day in court". In rejecting the Government's application, Justice Robert French listed April 30th for the main hearing concerning the David Irving case. So determined is the Government, reacting to Zionist pressure, to keep David Irving out of Australia that we will not be surprised if it seeks to appeal a decision favourable to Irving on April 30th.

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The Australian Jewish News of April 9th carries the menacing headline, WA MAY ACT ON HOLOCAUST DENIAL. The report says that well-known West Australian Jewish leader Doron Ur has met with the new Liberal Attorney-General Cheryl Edwardes to request that that State's legislation concerning incitement to racial hatred be amended "to specifically identify Holocaust denial as form of racism". The Jewish News report says that Ms. Edwardes told Mr. Ur that "she would consider his proposals" and referred them to other departments. The Doron Ur request echoes that of Australia-Israel Publications Director Mr. Jeremy Jones who has advocated that Holocaust denial be identified as a form of racism. Jones claims that "Holocaust denial is a very real and common tool that racists use to spread contempt and hatred towards Jews". If Australia, starting with Western Australia, adopts the blatantly totalitarian proposal now being advocated by Zionist leaders, even if granted a visa to visit Australia, David Irving could be arrested if he mentioned the Holocaust in any of his lectures. Zionist leaders are making it clear that they are determined to move Australia towards the totalitarian abyss.

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