



A WEEKLY COMMENTARY

ON TARGET

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The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance -

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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "A democratic Parliament is from its inherent nature an assembly of **representatives**, not of **delegates**. It is concerned with impressing the **will** of the people upon the institutions of industry, agriculture, and commerce, and that will can only be concerned with **results**. **Methods** are for experts, and popular election is an unsound method by which to appoint experts."

— C.H. Douglas in **The Alberta Experiment**

GRAEME CAMPBELL POLITICAL BOMBHELL: Late last week the Independent Candidate for Kalgoorlie dropped a political bombshell into the Federal Election campaign. In a press statement Campbell said that the impossible promises and cynical pork-barrelling of both Coalition and Labor were destroying public trust. "Everybody expects campaign promises to be broken. No one trusts any of the political parties it is a sad reflection on Australian politics that politicians don't trust the Australian people. Neither Keating nor Howard are really consulting the electorate. They insult the electorate by arrogantly telling us what they will do to us."

Graeme Campbell then challenged the Party political leaders, including Democrat leader Kernot, "to join me in a demonstration of trust for our voters by agreeing to support voters' referendums. Give the Australian people the chance to initiate referendums on any issue of substance that bothers them, and agree to abide by the results. Let them show that they are not afraid of real democracy". Campbell says that he will be sponsoring a private members' bill in the new Parliament for referendums to be initiated by electors. He says, "All major parties denigrate me, but they refuse to ask electors what they want. I know the majority of electors agree with me."

Graeme Campbell has received powerful support from Mr. Ted Mack, former Independent Member for North Sydney and long-time advocate of the principle of direct democracy, who has issued a statement urging the electors of Kalgoorlie to re-elect Campbell. Mack says that "the two major parties are rife with careerists, cronyism, nepotism and the fostering of corruption. They have become like two mafia gangs vying for power, to gain control of the Australian treasury to distribute benefits to those who fund them and their 'mates'." This scorching comment from a

man who has served in both Local and State Governments, is being widely distributed in Kalgoorlie. Ted Mack says that Graeme Campbell had proved himself to be one of the most active and fearless Members of Federal Parliament, adding, "He will be even better now that he is free of the yoke of those who control the Labor Party."

Then came another body blow for the major political parties, particularly the Liberal Party. Former Senator Reg Withers, a Liberal Party Minister in the Fraser Government, has entered the election campaign, urging Kalgoorlie electors to send Campbell back to Canberra. Withers says, "Graeme, rightly or wrongly, believed he was sticking up for what his electors wanted; now if that is to be a crime in a political party, then God help us. I rather thought he was there to represent the electors of Kalgoorlie, and not just be a voter for the A.L.P. in Parliament." Withers has rocked the Liberal Party with some scathing comments concerning the state of his own Party.

Former Finance Minister in the Hawke Government, Senator Peter Walsh, has also joined the growing chorus of support for Graeme Campbell. We have consistently maintained that Graeme Campbell was a political phenomenon which could shape the future of Australia. irrespective of whether Keating or Howard is Prime Minister after the coming Federal Elections, they will find themselves dealing with a completely new force in Australian politics. It will be instructive to see how many Members of Parliament will join with Graeme Campbell in passing legislation which will indicate trust in the Australian electors. History is being made.

PROFESSOR BLAINEY REJECTS ASIANISATION: *The Sunday Age*, Melbourne, of February 25th, carries an interesting article by Doug Aiton on Australia's most distinguished historian, Professor Geoffrey Blainey. Blainey gives his views on several questions, including religion, which clearly he sees as most important: ... "I'm religious in an unorthodox sense. For all its faults, religion is the most influential force for good in history." Blainey admires some aspects of Paul Keating, but says it would have been much better for Australia if Keating had been a stockbroker or a trade union organiser. But he emphatically disagrees with Keating concerning Asia. "I don't see Australia as part of Asia. And I don't see why the majority of migrants should come from Asia." Blainey made it clear that he was not anti-Asian in any way; he had been to a number of Asian countries on several occasions, and was interested in the diversity. He makes the telling point that "I see no more reason why Australia should take a majority of Asian migrants than that the Chinese should take a majority of European migrants".

Blainey's commonsense view contrasted vividly with that of Paul Keating, who continues to insist that Australia's future depends upon a closer relationship with Asia. Keating continues to put the view that the slightest suggestion of "racism" in Australia will prevent Asian nations trading with Australia. The reality is that the Asian nations could not care less about what Paul Keating is saying; they will trade with Australia only if they feel it is to their advantage. Just as the Japanese economy has collapsed, so eventually will the economies of the Asian "tigers". Australia should maintain its independence by diversifying its trading programme.

BUCHANAN PHENOMENON STUNS UNITED STATES: Pat Buchanan, campaigning for the Republican Party nomination for the United States Presidency, has badly shaken his Republican opponents by winning the crucial New Hampshire Primary contest last week. Historically, New Hampshire is a key ballot and the majority of those who win in this important ballot go on to win their Party's nomination for President.

Buchanan's victory over Senate leader Bob Dole has caused consternation among the Republican Party leadership. Having Buchanan as their presidential nominee is a nightmare that the Republicans will avoid at any cost: not because he has no chance of becoming President but because if he won the Republican nomination, **he would have every chance of becoming President.** This would be anathema to the U.S. Establishment, dominated by the Council on Foreign Relations and the Trilateral Commission who have controlled every presidential nominee since before World War II, because of Buchanan's policy positions.

Buchanan has made it clear that he rejects the internationalist agenda that the U.S. Establishment consistently promotes through their Presidents. He has campaigned strongly against the "free trade" agenda which the U.S. has promoted throughout the world as being against the interests of the United States itself. He proposes the breaking up of the North American Free Trade Association, which had to be rammed through Congress by Mr. Clinton, with many Congressmen under immense pressure from their constituents not to agree to a global programme that threatens United States industry, and therefore domestic employment. Although low by international standards, the unemployment rates in the United States are now directly linked to the policy of farming out U.S. industry to third world countries like Mexico where wage rates are at slave labour levels.

Buchanan also rejects the politically correct "united front" that the two major political parties have presented on the immigration issue. Pointing to an illegal immigrant problem that has assumed epidemic proportions, particularly along the Mexican border, Buchanan proposes to **halt all immigration for five years.** Pat Buchanan has hit a rather raw nerve by opposing the way in which American troops have been "used" by the United Nations for "peacekeeping" adventures in many parts of the globe, particularly in Bosnia. He has proposed that at a very beginning no American troops shall be commanded by foreigners in any circumstances, a constitutional requirement that has been flouted by Clinton.

A traditional Catholic himself, with a huge television programme following, Buchanan has picked up strong support from the "fundamentalist Christian" constituency for his unequivocal stand against abortion, irrespective of the cause of pregnancy. His position on other moral issues reinforces this support base, but Buchanan's main strength is that at last a candidate is resolutely suggesting that voters in the next presidential contest due later this year **put American interests first.**

THE STRATEGY TO DESTROY BUCHANAN: His determination to represent the interests of the United States as a priority has also hit another very raw nerve in Washington when Buchanan insists that many aspects of the U.S.-Israeli alliance have also been to the detriment of the United States. In particular, Buchanan points to the huge aid programme financed by the United States, much of which goes directly to military expenditure. The Israeli record of military aggression against Palestinian (many of which are Christian) targets is a serious embarrassment to the United States.

Buchanan has become an unexpected political phenomena in the United States, made the more powerful because he clearly gives expression to the very large proportion of Americans frustrated with and ignored by big government. Increasing proportions of Americans feel alienated from a government that appears to take Americans for granted, while pandering to minority interest groups or foreign interests. Buchanan's popularity is a direct reflection of this and a direct challenge to the "U.S. Establishment". What can be done to stop Buchanan?

The first strategy to stop Buchanan is already going into top gear throughout the United States, that is personal denigration and smearing with such charges as anti-Semitism, racism extremism, etc. His position on such issues as Israel is being twisted into anti-Semitism. His position on immigration is being misrepresented as "racism", and Buchanan is now accused of consulting with "extremist groups" like the Ku Klux Klan. Anyone on Buchanan's staff who have ever had any links with such groups are now being rooted out, and held up as reasons why Buchanan cannot be trusted.

Pat Buchanan now faces a media hate barrage the like of which the United States has not seen since the destruction of Senator Joe McCarthy, who insisted that communists who had infiltrated the U.S. administration should be exposed. If the insiders of the Republican hierarchy cannot successfully destroy Buchanan politically, the threat he poses the financial establishment in the United States may even resort to assassination.

ALBERT LANGER IMPRISONED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT: The case of communist agitator and Maoist, Albert Langer, is perhaps one of the most unusual of recent times. Langer has been imprisoned for contempt of court for refusing to desist in a campaign to inform voters that they **are not compelled** to allocate their preferences when voting for the House of Representatives. Langer highlights a curious bureaucratic anomaly in the Electoral Commission Act. It is illegal to encourage an informal vote once the writs have been issued for an election. At the same time, it is illegal to inform voters that there is a technical method of casting a vote for the preferred candidate in the House of Representatives, but then preventing the transfer of the second, third, etc., preferences afterwards. According to the *Sun-Herald* (20/2/96), this is achieved by rejecting candidates for which the voter has no preference by putting the same number against their name on the ballot paper, placing them equal last, after voting for the candidate of choice.

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