



A WEEKLY COMMENTARY

ON TARGET



- NEWS HIGHLIGHTS
- BACKGROUND INFORMATION
- COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS

The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance –

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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "Real history is crystalised politics, not the listing of a series of disconnected episodes. If it is clear that over a period of time there has emerged in events a consistent pattern, then behind that pattern there is conscious *design*. Writing about the French Revolution, Lord Acton said that behind all the smoke and chaos, there was design. Where there is design, there are designers. Behind the *Red Pattern of World Conquest* there is a long-term strategy and a design to further it. The plight of the world has not "just happened"; *it has been made to happen.*"

– Eric D. Butler in "*The Red Pattern of World Conquest*"

ELECTION FEVER by Jeremy Lee:

The first whiff of election fever is in the air. The strongest sign is that Prime Minister Howard is down-playing the idea that he will go early. That should make anyone who has looked at "Honest John's" record suspicious!

Howard thrives in the crisis environment – whether it is a refugee crisis or the prospect of war. Without these two he would have already returned to the Opposition benches.

Just at the moment there doesn't seem to be an imminent threat in this quarter. Howard, therefore, must start dealing with the long line of issues queuing up for attention – the health crisis, the education crisis, the threat that interest rates will start rising, the troubling trade deficit, the gradually-accumulating evidence of duplicity in the reasons given for war in Iraq, etc. All these can be made into grist for an Opposition mill – even an Opposition with such mediocre leadership and such internal divisions.

Howard has a number of legislative blockages stored up which can be triggered for an early election at any time. Common sense would tell party leaders in office to go to the elections before the issues start catching up with him.

So we just may see a pre-Christmas federal election – although anything can happen in politics. Howard would probably get back at the moment with a reduced majority. We could well see an

IN THIS ISSUE: • *Thought for the Week* • *Election Fever* • *Should Electors Have A Say?* • *One That Worked* • *The True End Of Economics*

"ON TARGET"

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Page 1 (145)

additional few independents joining Peter Andren, Tony Windsor, Bob Katter and Meg Lees. The best man currently in Parliament, Senator Len Harris, would have an uphill task to retain his Senate seat, although Pauline Hanson's incarceration might give him a lift.

Few people who think at all fail to get caught up to some degree in election fever and anxiety. It is only a small minority which has grasped that modern elections make no difference. Neither of the main parties give their allegiance to the electorate. Each has jumped into bed with corporate interests and donors. Apart from shuffling round our grossly-swollen taxation revenue between begging hands of interests in the electorate, they are both travelling in the same direction – globalism, free trade and international control of the world's money system. These are untouchable sacred cows. Woe betide the member of parliament who interrupts worship at these shrines.

Frankly, from the thinker's viewpoint, there is not much that can be done at election time. It is now work between elections that is increasingly important – the time that voters retreat into inaction because they believe that elections are the only possibility for change.

None of this is new to social crediters. The nature of the battle has been pointed out for 70 or 80 years. C.H. Douglas, for instance, speaking in 1937, made these points:

"The whole technique, as I see it, by which power has been filched from the House of Parliament, has been the technique for making it quite impossible for the average Member of Parliament to give an intelligent opinion upon more than one half per cent of the things he is asked questions about ... The questions which come up in Parliament are obviously immensely remote from the place where the action takes place, and to expect them to be decided by Members of Parliament who have been elected by vote (even if they were really elected by the process by which people think they are elected) would be sufficiently grotesque. But when you think that each one of them is carefully vetted to take care that he knows nothing about things which are likely to be dangerous, the thing is even more grotesque. The consequence is that we have got now in the House of Commons (or the House of Representatives – *Ed.*) nothing but a rubber stamp for actions taken by the Cabinet....."

If that was true in 1937, as it undoubtedly was, how much worse is it now? Parliamentary salaries and perks, the massive influence of corporate money and the immense power of the media have combined to produce a position where the average member of parliament has sold his soul before even taking his seat.

So no real changes can be expected in elections, until a realignment of will is mad amongst voters to get different results. The first step is to decide not to give legitimacy to the present process by being a passive partaker. Douglas put it this way:

"... You have to get an undertaking on the part of a sufficient number of people to bring effective pressure To bear upon the Member of Parliament so that he will do what you want, that is to say, you have got to make your Member of Parliament a *representative* – not a *delegate*"

Which leaves the question, "How many is a 'sufficient number' of people to do this?" The answer is

"Not nearly as many as you might think. A very small number with a common philosophy and an idea of the techniques necessary, can achieve great things."

One of the most interesting things is that the small number who reach this position, having left the confrontational "party game" behind, are able to work peacefully and enthusiastically together in a way hitherto impossible.

SHOULD ELECTORS HAVE A SAY? *BusinessWeek*, in the US, has recently written about the crisis in California, which it attributes to the provision that the people can initiate or strike out particular legislation, and recall the Governor if they think he's out of line. In other words, California has its own version of Citizens Initiative and Referendum (CIR).

This has been used a considerable number of times, and, according to *BusinessWeek*, the foolishness of the people has defied sensible economics, resulting in the crisis. The article said:

"As a result of several progressive measures added to California's constitution nearly 100 years ago to protect citizens from manipulation by 'moneyed interests', Californians can enact laws through voter initiatives, repeal laws through voter referendums, and recall their governor. Ironically, during the past 20 years an exploding number of initiatives and referendums Has usurped the intent of California's direct democracy provisions. ..."

According to the article, two referendums have caused the present crisis – one in 1979 which halved local property taxes, and one in 1988 which directed 40 per cent of government revenue into primary and secondary education.

All went well while the economy was booming. But as things slowed down the State could not meet its obligations – the direct result of foolish voters, the magazine believes.

Normally, the government would raise taxes to meet the crisis. But its hands have been tied.

How easy to blame voters for foolish decisions! It may well be that the problems lie in completely different directions – for instance the massive population of illegal immigrants in California, who are entitled to welfare benefits before becoming citizens. The number exceeds three million, with more arriving every day.

Who is to say that Californians, perceiving the situation, may not initiate further measures dealing with the real problems? Nobody has ever claimed that CIR would instantly fix every problem. But it makes the government more accountable – and that's a real start!

ONE THAT WORKED: Sweden has voted against Europe's common currency! *The Australian Financial Review* (17/9/03) told us:

"... Sweden is the latest country to snub the Euro. Denmark did so in 2000, and the United Kingdom is not even bothering to ask its people."

"Despite a long campaign with near universal political and business support, 80 per cent of Swedes turned up for a referendum on Sunday, with 56 per cent voting against joining the Euro. Even the murder on the eve of the vote of their pro-Euro Foreign Minister, Anna Lindh, could not sway the result.

"The Swedes are a fairly friendly and cosmopolitan bunch, but they thumbed their noses at elite opinion and dire predictions of economic isolation. Even more galling to pro-Euro advocates, the Swedish economy has been doing just fine"

So the people know better than the experts? Whatever next?

THE TRUE END OF ECONOMICS by Betty Luks:

The first policy of the Australian League of Rights is the Christian revelation of God. In that revelation, is a new concept of 'righteousness' – God's righteousness based on His abundant Providence: "in good measure, pressed down and shaken together." In men's minds this new concept displaced the old concept of strict justice. "I have come that you might have life and have it more abundantly... Friend, I do thee no wrong. Didst thou not agree with me for a penny? Take that thine is, and go thy way. I will give unto this last even as unto thee."

This *righteousness* includes the concept of *equity*, which contains the meaning of right as in nature – Natural Law. Man-made laws are but an imperfect expression of Natural Law.

This is the 'rightness' of which Clifford Hugh Douglas wrote:

"To the extent that man seeks, finds and obediently adheres to the Canon – the Law of Rightness governing the Universe – he will find himself in harmony with creation and attain satisfaction and happiness in which he strives... To the extent man ignores the Canon or flouts it, he will bring disaster upon himself."

The true goal of Economics (i.e., household management) is the earthly use of goods to satisfy man's needs – the needs of all men. To join goods to needs; food, drink, clothing and shelter this is the true goal, the *true end* of economic life. Economics can be called 'good' management when it reaches its true end; that for which it was meant. It is here that the Law of Rightness running through the Universe comes into play. "Life is more than food and the body more than raiment." Food is the *means* and Life is the *end* purpose of it.

When are politicians going to realise that in an industrialised, technological, automated, computerised age, more than enough for an abundant life could be supplied to each and everyone within the nation, with less and less human effort? We don't need 'full employment'. What we do need is a financial system based on the Law of Rightness, providing the financial means, over and above the employment system, to distribute the goods where and when needed, and, at the same time, paying the wage earners and the salaried employees a just return for their efforts, and the investors for their investments.

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