



A WEEKLY COMMENTARY

ON TARGET

- NEWS HIGHLIGHTS
- BACKGROUND INFORMATION
- COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS



The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance –

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December 4th, 2004

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "Why does Sir Stafford Cripps, as gentle a Parlour Pirate as ever slit a cream bun, advocate the wholesale looting of the well-to-do, when he would faint at the suggestion that he should steal a teaspoon? We are not seriously helped ...by saying that what this country needs is a little common honesty. It needs a great many things. Additional grey matter between the ears of some of its leading men would be a help. There is small doubt, however, that Great Britain and America are handicapped by a system of political thought which takes its immediate rise from Puritanism, although Puritanism, as well as what is commonly called 'capitalism', which is an ally of Puritanism, can be traced much further back.

"Philosophically, one of the characteristics of Puritanism is the transcendence of God, as distinguished from the immanence of God. Arising directly out of this philosophy there has grown up a convention, to use the mildest description, that to be respectable it is necessary to be 'other worldly'.

"'Thy kingdom come' is noble, but 'Give us this day our daily bread' is vulgar, and 'Let me get at the bread which is going to waste', is downright immoral."

"The Enemy" by C.H. Douglas, The New English Weekly, 1933

WHITLAM'S 1975 'DISMISSAL' by Betty Luks:

Who remembers the year of 1975 and the so-called 'constitutional crisis'? I remember it well.

I, along with other League folk, trudged the footpaths around the towns and cities of the nation, requesting electors' signatures on a petition calling for Sir John Kerr, then Australia's Governor-General (G-G), to withdraw Gough Whitlam's commission to form government, thus sending the matter back to the people to decide at a federal election.

The constitutional 'reserve powers' of the Governor-General: Over the years, the League through its journals has published Sir David Smith's papers and speeches on the matter. Sir David was official secretary to a number of Governors-General, including Sir John Kerr a Whitlam-government appointee. The whole episode clearly demonstrated the importance and effectiveness of the G-G's constitutional reserve powers.

The 'dismissal' was an historic and dramatic episode for many Australians, and even yet raises the ire of those who supported and approved of Fabius Maximus' vision of a new world era, which, at the time, he was hurriedly attempting to implement.

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Sir David's address does 'set the record straight', as far as it goes, but nowhere does it touch on "the deeper implications of this affair" which Eric Butler wrote on in July 1975.

BELOW THE SURFACE OF THE FROTHY 'LOANS AFFAIRS': But let's turn to Eric Butler's report in the July 18th, 1975, edition of *On Target*, bearing in mind that at the time, Whitlam's Government was only doing what all previous Governments had done – except in a different manner.

As the situation was developing Eric Butler wrote: "The froth of what has been termed the "foreign loans scandal" has unfortunately obscured the deeper implications of this affair. Intent on stressing the point that Whitlam, Connor and Cairns had gone about their attempted loan-raising in a secretive and unorthodox manner, dealing with shadowy figures some only hinted at but not named, the media generally has been more concerned with providing Australians with sensationalism than the real essence of the loans issue.

While it is true that *The Age*, Melbourne, on its own admission, bought evidence "which had been withheld from the Parliament and the people", and paid for documents "which revealed previously unpublished facts bearing on the credit and the credibility of the Government's financial dealings", it, along with most of the media, also seized the opportunity to present the affair as some type of human interest saga. Circulation is as important to the press as the 'public interest'.

"Admittedly all the ingredients of human drama have been present: There was the mysterious T. H. Klemlani, the intermediary who was to lead Mr. Connor to the fabulous petrodollars. Senior Treasury officials so strongly disapproved of Mr. Connor's fund-raising methods that they had Scotland Yard make investigations about Mr. Klemlani. "Uncle Harry" Gilham, the London finance broker, made a distinctive contribution with sold documents, claiming that he also had others damaging to the Whitlam Government. There were stories of documents forged, and of others being burnt.

"The activities of Phillip Cairns, exploiting his position as a member of his stepfather's staff, in association with the incredible Sear Cowles, a self-confessed liar, are but incidental to the main story. But they didn't help Dr. Cairns, who emerges as a man who could not be trusted to run even a school tuck shop, still less a major Government Department.

"Irrespective of how Dr. Cairns came to sign the fateful letter to Melbourne businessman George Harris, offering a brokerage fee of 2.5 per cent if a foreign loan could be arranged, the truth is that Treasury officials brought a copy of the letter to the attention of Dr. Cairns and urged him to withdraw it...

"While Prime Minister Whitlam had no alternative to first removing Dr. Cairns as Treasurer and then from the Ministry, he was no doubt hopeful that this would not only remove the strongest potential thwart to his leadership of the Labor Government, but also tend to direct attention away from the loan-raising activities of Mr. Rex Connor. But this was not to be and so, in typical Whitlam manner, a special meeting of the House of Representatives was called for Wednesday, July 9th, with the Opposition challenged to "put up or shut up". It must be conceded that after a massive build up by the media, the Parliamentary clash was a non-event.

"Mr. Whitlam admitted that Mr. Connor had been authorised to raise loans of up to \$4,000 million. **But his Government was only doing what all previous Governments had done, except in a different manner. Nothing illegal had been done, a point which Mr. Whitlam challenged the Opposition to dispute. The debate did not touch the fundamental question of why the Government was attempting to obtain loans at all.** The only suggestion, supported by Mr. Frank

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IT'S TIME FOR THE WHOLE TRUTH: In the July 1975 edition of *On Target* the 'thought for the week' came from Dr. Revilo P. Oliver's "Christianity And The Survival of The West". It read:

"The visible consequences of the withering of our religion are enormous, overshadowing, frightening. Christianity was much more than a religion comparable to the religion of Osiris in early Egypt, the worship of the Olympian gods, the Orphic mysteries, or Mithraism. Unlike these cults in their time and place, Christianity for a large part of our history was the whole formal basis of our entire culture, the absolute from which were deduced our moral codes, our laws, and our political systems; it largely informed our art, inspired our literature, animated our music, and sustained our men of science."

The ABSOLUTE from which we deduced our moral codes, laws, and political systems?

Let's stop right there and gather our thoughts. Something *absolute* is 'perfect or complete or pure'; it is "not capable of being violated or infringed." (Eric Butler was fond of using the law of gravity to illustrate an *absolute*. We can't 'see' the law of gravity but we sure as hell can and do experience the effects of it!)

We were cautioned on another matter two thousand years ago: You cannot serve God and Mammon (money). Also known as *The Great Harlot*, or the *Whore of Babylon*, 'Mammon' was the corrupt and fraudulent system of usurious banking and finance, and what effect such a corrupt system had on the souls of men: "What if you should gain the whole world and lose your own soul..."

Throughout recorded history the human leeches with their corrupt system have attached themselves to venal kings and parliaments, and, by perverting the true purpose of the nations' accounting (money) systems, have brought about ruin and despoliation.

UKRAINE ON BRINK OF CIVIL WAR? Both sides in Ukraine's disputed presidential election have warned of a civil conflict, as tens of thousands of people continue to protest in Kiev.

Opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko rejected the official results declaring Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych as president, and urged a general strike. Outgoing President Leonid Kuchma called on world leaders not to interfere. US Secretary of State Colin Powell said Washington "cannot accept" the election result as legitimate and correspondents say the opposition supporters show no signs of ending their three days of protests.

Calling for a general strike, Mr Yushchenko told a vast crowd of supporters in the central Independence Square that Ukraine was on the brink of a "civil conflict".

LAWMAKERS PUSH TO IMPEACH BLAIR: Prime Minister Tony Blair faced fresh accusations that he misled Britain about the case for war in Iraq, as lawmakers stepped up their campaign to have him impeached. Twenty-three lawmakers have signed a motion calling for a parliamentary committee to investigate Blair's conduct in the run-up to the war and decide whether he should be removed from office. Several celebrities, including former Monty Python comedian Terry Jones, actor Corin Redgrave and author Frederick Forsyth, are backing the impeachment bid, the first in Britain for more than 150 years. "What we are seeking to do is decide as Parliament whether Tony Blair is a fit person to hold that post," Liberal Democrat lawmaker Jenny Tonge told a news conference. The motion was included today on the House of Commons order paper, meaning that it could eventually be debated, at the discretion of parliamentary officials.

But it stands virtually no chance of being passed in a vote. With only 23 lawmakers backing the motion, campaigners are more than 300 votes short of the majority they would need to prevail in the 659-member Commons.

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