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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "...The free trade system is destructive. It breaks up the old nationalities and pushes the antagonism of the proletariat and the bourgeoisie to the extreme point. In a word, the free trade system hastens the social revolution. It is in this revolutionary sense alone, gentlemen, that I vote in favour of free trade".

Karl Marx, "On the Question of Free Trade".

ABBOTT GOVERNMENT EXAGGERATING BENEFITS OF CHINA F.T.A.?

According to Professors Peter Dixon and Maureen Rimmer both at Victoria University, Tony Abbott is not presenting all the facts about the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement. Their article appears on the Conversation website where they quote Tony Abbott's 'dire warning' were the Agreement to fail because of Bill Shorten and the Labor Party opposing it. (Where have you been all this time boys? The League has been bringing the matter to fellow Australians' attention for many a day).

"Earlier this month Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott sounded a warning on the impact to Australia's economy if the recently signed China-Australia Free Trade Agreement were to fail.

In a statement, Abbott said: "If Bill Shorten and the Labor Party try to reject the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement they will be sabotaging our economic future and they will be turning their back on one of the greatest opportunities our country has ever been offered."

Economic modelling for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade by the Centre for International Economics (CIE) demonstrates the gains of the agreement will be modest. The CIE estimates the gain in economic welfare from the three North Asian FTAs (the recently activated agreements with Japan and Korea and the agreement with China awaiting parliamentary ratification) will be 0.4%.

We could call this an annual boost in welfare of A\$3 billion or A\$300 per household or A\$130 per person. If we want an impressive number we could work out the present value of a A\$3 billion annuity, and call the gain A\$50 billion. All of these numbers are being quoted by proponents of the agreements. But whatever way we dress it up the gain is still 0.4%..."

Read further here... <http://theconversation.com/whats-really-at-stake-if-the-china-fta-falls-through-47150>

AN ECONOMY BASED ON BANKS AND BURGER BARS

"While Obama Fiddles, The West Burns" wrote Paul Homewood at Not a Lot of People Know That, September 6, 2015 from the *Telegraph*: The owner of Britain's biggest steelworks has reported losses more than doubling as it buckles in the face of high taxes and energy costs, the strong pound and cheap Chinese imports.

Tata Steel UK, which owns the giant Port Talbot and Scunthorpe plants, posted a pre-tax loss of £768m in the year to the end of March, up from a £354m loss last year. The move deeper into the red was partly driven by the company – an offshoot of Indian conglomerate Tata – taking a £314m hit from restructuring and impairments. The company could face more charges this year, having cut 1,000 staff and agency jobs since July. Revenues also fell, down 7.3pc to £4.2bn and production was down due to "operational issues" at plants. Steel-making is an energy intensive process that needs 570 kilowatt hours of power to create a tonne of the metal.

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The poor performance is partly due to imports of cheap Chinese steel, according to a source close to the business. About half of the 1.6bn tonnes of steel made worldwide each year comes from China, which is now exporting about 100m tons a year as its economy slows.

In its annual accounts Tata Steel UK said that average revenue per tonne of steel it produced had fallen 6pc, because of “downward pressure on steel selling prices, caused primarily by lower raw material prices”.

Britain’s steel industry faces a unique set of pressures, according to Gareth Stace, director of trade association UK Steel. “It’s an unsustainable situation for the industry,” said Mr Stace.

“Chinese imports were 2% of UK steel demand in the first half of 2011, that’s expected to be 8% this year. Britain’s steel makers also face a strong pound, high energy costs, environmental levies and high business rates that foreign competitors don’t. “The industry is not asking for a handout, just level playing so it can compete,” he added. A spokesman for Tata Steel UK said: “We continued to make good progress in areas under our control... but external factors are having an increasingly damaging effect on the European steel industry, including the UK’s. International steel prices are still well below the pre-crisis peak and EU demand is growing, at best modestly, the rise in steel imports into Europe is cause for great concern.”

He added that some countries are beginning to adopt protectionist policies against imports, meaning even more steel could be pushed towards the “relatively unprotected” EU market.

This is a complex situation, and it would be wrong to blame any one particular set of circumstances. However, when I left the Steel Industry in 1990, British Steel was reckoned to be one of the most efficient steel producers in the world. Even then we were faced with subsidised competitors, particularly those with subsidised energy costs. It is no surprise that the Chinese can undercut British costs on the basis of cheap labour. However, needlessly adding to our uncompetitiveness with ludicrous energy policies is really just hammering the nails into the coffin. As a nation, we cannot live with an economy simply based on banks and burger bars. I feel sad.

THE 2030 AGENDA...

This Month The UN Launches A Blueprint For A New World Order With The Help Of The Pope By Michael Snyder

Did you know that the UN is planning to launch a “new universal agenda” for humanity in September 2015? That phrase does not come from me – it is actually right in the very first paragraph of the official document that every UN member nation will formally approve at a conference later this month. The entire planet is going to be committing to work toward 17 sustainable development goals and 169 specific sustainable development targets, and yet there has been almost a total media blackout about this here...

The 2030 Agenda is taking the principles and goals laid out in Agenda 21 to an entirely new level. Agenda 21 was primarily focused on the environment, but the 2030 Agenda addresses virtually all areas of human activity. It truly is a blueprint for global governance. And later this month, nearly every nation on the entire planet is going to be signing up for this new agenda...

The United Nations General Assembly today approved a resolution sending the draft ‘2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development’ to Member States for adoption later this month, bringing the international community “to the cusp of decisions that can help realize the... dream of a world of peace and dignity for

all,” according to Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. “Today is the start of a new era. We have travelled a long way together to reach this turning point,” declared Mr. Ban, recounting the path the international community has taken over the 15 years since the adoption of the landmark Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) towards crafting a set of new, post-2015 sustainability goals that will aim to ensure the long-term well-being of our planet and its people.

Who doesn’t “dream of a world of peace and dignity for all”?

They make it all sound so wonderful and non-threatening.

They make it sound like we are about to enter a global utopia in which poverty and inequality will finally be eradicated. This is from the preamble of the official 2030 Agenda document...

This Agenda is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. It also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. We recognise that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and

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an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. All countries and all stakeholders, acting in collaborative partnership, will implement this plan.

We are resolved to free the human race from the tyranny of poverty and want and to heal and secure our planet. We are determined to take the bold and transformative steps which are urgently needed to shift the world onto a sustainable and resilient path. As we embark on this collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets which we are announcing today demonstrate the scale and ambition of this new universal Agenda.

What does “sustainable development” actually mean, and how does the UN plan to ensure that it will be achieved globally?

This is something that was discussed in a recent WND article...

But what is “sustainable development?”

Patrick Wood, an economist and author of “Technocracy Rising: The Trojan Horse of Global Transformation,” says it’s clear the U.N. and its supporters see sustainable development as more than just the way to a cleaner environment.

They see it as the vehicle for creating a long-sought new international economic order, or “New World Order.”

Wood’s new book traces the modern technocracy movement to Zbigniew Brzezinski, David Rockefeller and the Trilateral Commission in the early 1970s.

...The environment is a perfect vehicle for the elite to use to bring in their version of utopia, because just about every possible form of human activity affects the environment in some way. Ultimately, they hope to centrally plan and strictly regulate virtually everything that we do, and we will be told that it is necessary to “save the planet”.

And they will never come out and openly call it a “New World Order” because “sustainable development” sounds so much nicer and is so much more acceptable to the general population. Needless to say, there wouldn’t be much room for individual liberty, freedom or good, old-fashioned capitalism in the world that the elite are trying to set up. In fact, the U.N.’s number one sustainable development official has essentially publicly admitted this...

*“This is probably the most difficult task we have ever given ourselves, which is to **intentionally transform the economic development model, for the first time in human history,**” Figueres, who heads up the U.N.’s Framework Convention on Climate Change, told reporters in February.*

“This is the first time in the history of mankind that we are setting ourselves the task of intentionally, within a defined period of time, to change the economic development model that has been reigning for at least 150 years, since the industrial revolution,” Figueres said.

...In ancient times, Babylon was the very first attempt to create a type of “global government”, and ever since then the global elite have been trying to recreate what Babylon started.

The promise is always the same – the elite swear that they have finally figured out how to create a perfect society without poverty or war. But in the end all of these attempts at utopia always end up degenerating into extreme forms of tyranny.

On September 25th, the Pope is traveling to New York to give the opening address at the conference where the 2030 Agenda will be launched. He will be urging all of humanity to support what the UN is trying to do. There are countless millions that implicitly trust the Pope, and they will buy what he is selling hook, line and sinker.

Don’t be fooled – the 2030 Agenda is a blueprint for a New World Order. Just read the document for yourself, and imagine what our world would actually look like if they have their way.

They want to fundamentally transform our planet, and the freedom that you are enjoying today is simply not acceptable. To the elite, giving people freedom and liberty is dangerous because they believe it hurts the environment and causes societal chaos.

According to their way of thinking, the only way to have the kind of harmonious utopia that they are shooting for is to tightly regulate and control what everyone is thinking, saying and doing. Their solutions always involve more central planning and more control in their own hands.

So what do you think?

Should we hand the global elite that kind of power and control? If not, then we all need to start speaking out about this insidious agenda while we still can.

Read: <http://alor.org/Library/Lee%20J%20%20-%20New%20World%20Order.pdf>

Read: <http://alor.org/Library/Lee J - Australia 2000.pdf>

Read: <http://joannenova.com.au/2015/09/flashback-ipcc-official-admits-un-climate-meetings-redistribute-wealth-largest-economic-conference-since-wwii/>

Ref: <http://endoftheamericandream.com/archives/the-2030-agenda-this-month-the-un-launches-a-blueprint-for-a-new-world-order-with-the-help-of-the-pope>

ARE WE PRESENTED THE WHOLE TRUTH?

Cyberspace is running red hot as news of the immigrant invasion of Europe continues. It has been important to sift through that which passes for news and the blatant propaganda being ‘churned out’.

Of course the photograph of the young toddler who drowned with the Turkish policeman cradling his limp body would have wrenched most mothers’ and fathers’ hearts – but let’s dig a little deeper. What happened that we don’t as yet know? Andrew Bolt has filled us in with the following:

“Aylan Kurdi and the death of truth” 8 September 2015

Labor frontbencher Chris Bowen on the photo of three-year-old Aylan Kurdi, the Syrian boy photographed lying dead on a beach in Turkey:

He said (about) the image - “(this is) the most important photo that has been taken this decade, this century so far” ... Labor had suggested an immediate intake of 10,000 [Syrians].

Queensland Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk: Australia should have a wake-up call and look at how the rest of the world is treating these poor people who are actually fleeing wartime situations.

Socialist writer Naomi Klein: The photo was a “harrowing image of abandonment and neglect”, Klein said.

In Melbourne: Up to 10,000 people held a candlelight vigil in Treasury Gardens, and thousands more rallied across Australia, in response to pictures of Aylan Kurdi, the Syrian toddler whose death shocked the world into action after his body washed up on a beach in Turkey...

Mohammad Ali Baqiri, a law student at Victoria University and an Afghan refugee, last night addressed the Light The Dark rally in Melbourne. “It’s because in life-and-death situations a parent will do anything they can to provide comfort and protection for their child,” Mr Baqiri said.

The truth:

Aylan was not in “harm’s way”. He was not a refugee. His family was not fleeing danger... Aylan’s family, while originally from the Syrian border town of Kobani, recently besieged by IS, had actually been living in safety in Turkey for three years. Their Facebook page shows them in Istanbul, feeding pigeons by the great New Mosque. Aylan’s father, Abdullah, worked on construction sites.

No wonder, perhaps, that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees would not recognise the family as refugees. But Abdullah Kurdi had a sister in Canada, Tima Kurdi, who sent money to help pay the rent.

Tima Kurdi applied to Canadian immigration officials to bring in another brother as a refugee, and was asked to supply more information. She planned to later sponsor Abdullah Kurdi’s family, too.

So ... what exactly was he “fleeing” when he paid a people smuggler thousands of dollars to bring his family — without safety vests — to Greece, to join that irresistible army of illegal immigrants now smashing through Europe’s borders?

Tima Kurdi explained... “The situation is that Abdullah does not have any teeth... So I been trying to help him fix his teeth. But is gonna cost me 14,000 and up to do it ...

“Actually my dad, he come up with the idea, he said to me, ‘I think if they go to Europe for his case and for our future, I think he should do that, and then we’ll see if he can fix his teeth’.

“And that’s what I did three weeks ago.” She sent her brother the money for people smugglers.

Now, it is terrible to have no teeth. Awful to be poor. A misery to have your children denied chances.

But can the West really take in not just real refugees, but the Third World’s poor as well, including those in search of better dentistry?

FATHER OF DEAD TODDLER A PEOPLE SMUGGLER

A woman on the same boat as Alan Kurdi says the boy’s father is a people smuggler who begged her not to dob him in. Zainab Abbas said Abdullah Kurdi had lied to the world after the image of his dead three-year-old son on a Turkish beach sparked a global outpouring of support for Syrian refugees.

“Yes, it was Abdullah Kurdi driving the boat,” Ms Abbas told Network Ten through her cousin Lara Tahseen today.

Ref: <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/in-depth/europes-migrant-crisis/migrant-crisis-father-of-dead-toddler-a-people-smuggler/story-fnws9k7b-1227523338355?sv=5b4a6377bbe3617094aa9e0253e3bbbf>



Arabs looking for salvation from the West? This may be an opportunity for Arab governments to demonstrate superior moral and political leadership, writes Ashraf.

Afzal Ashraf is a consultant fellow at Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies (RUSI) and served in the UK Armed Forces. He was involved in developing a counterinsurgency strategy and in the policing and the justice sectors in Iraq. The image of a 3-year-old drowned boy, Aylan Kurdi, lying face down on a beach had a huge symbolic effect on Europe. It has affected it more than the greater tragedies of over 2,500 refugees of all ages who died or went missing trying to get to Europe, or the 71 people, including four children, who suffocated in a truck in Austria.

Even previously reluctant European leaders, such as the United Kingdom's Prime Minister David Cameron, have responded with promises to take in more Syrian refugees. Well-meaning as they are, these promises are as representative of the size of the crisis as the limp body of little Aylan.

Photos of drowned Syrian boy spark outcry

The Syrian conflict has created over four million refugees. Add to that nearly two million more fleeing persecution in Afghanistan, Iraq and Somalia, and this becomes a crisis that no amount of European generosity can address.

The problem is likely to get worse. The war in Yemen, which resulted in almost 80 percent of the population needing humanitarian assistance, and the long-running Libyan conflict have yet to release their burden of displaced and desperate people. When they do, it could add millions more to the region's refugee exodus. Of course, the solution has to be an end to these conflicts and the associated persecution. But none of these conflicts shows signs of abating soon.

Mixed reactions

So, the refugee crisis not only demands an urgent solution but also raises fundamental questions about the nature of politics and leadership in the Arab and Muslim world.

Western Europe is habitually avoiding any connection of the crisis with religion or racial identity, but others are less coy. Senior officials in Eastern Europe have openly declared their opposition to taking in Muslim refugees.

Beneficiaries in the Gulf: Why are some Muslim governments seemingly indifferent to this plight, and why are people from the region fleeing to Europe for safety and prosperity? It is not because regional countries lack the capacity to cope with the problem.

The region has unimaginable wealth. It has constructed the tallest buildings, built lavish palaces, provided spectacular places of worship and created universities so big that they have their own railways.

The region has no shortage of space or jobs. Millions of professionals and labourers are imported from across the world to service the lifestyles, ambitions, and enterprises of these states.

Whatever Western countries do for the refugees, it will only be a sticky plaster solution. The number of refugees is already too large for a viable resettlement programme outside the region.

Some might argue that the West has the responsibility to deal with the problem because it has been caused by Western involvement in the region, ranging from the Sykes-Picot to the recent wars in Iraq.

Whatever the validity of that argument, most Middle Eastern states are beneficiaries of historic agreements and recent Western military interventions. It is in their interest to deal with the consequences if only to maintain the status quo.

Others may argue that the refugees represent a potential extremist threat. However, the threat is no less for the Western countries that have already taken in these people. Indeed, the apparent failure of Muslim governments to look after fellow Muslims is being exploited by extremists' propaganda. On various social media posts, they allege this is further evidence of current Muslim rulers' "apostasy" and disdain for the "ummah", arguing that only their Islamist state or caliphate can provide for Muslims' welfare.

'They want to go back'

The rate of the flow from current conflicts and the likely new sources from the Libyan and Yemeni wars could transform the crisis into a catastrophe in the months to come.

The most profound words in recent days came from a 13-year-old Arab refugee. He didn't want asylum or a hand-out. He simply asked that the war in Syria be stopped.

His striking good looks, bright intelligence and clear articulation symbolised the tragic loss of dignity of his people. The video of his noble challenge has gone viral. Every cloud has a silver lining. This may be an opportunity for Arab governments to demonstrate superior moral and political leadership.

By addressing the needs of the refugees, they will do more than any amount of rhetoric to counter extremists and legitimise their power. Above all, it will allow these regimes to justify their claim of Islamic authenticity by delivering the Prophetic model of "rahmat ul-alameen" - a mercy for mankind.

Source:<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2015/09/refugee-crisis-gulf-countries-50905085458691.html>

Wallace Klinck received the following web-link to watch – <https://dotsub.com/media/72457cbc-fe18-4053-ae3f-6c7639cf4e79/embed/> The British presenter is expressing his opinion on Islam and the Immigrant Invasion.

Here is Wallace's response: What he does say is impressively presented and certainly asserts with strength and eloquence the legitimate and indispensable right to free speech and thought in the quest for truth - which is supposed to be our British and Christian Heritage. Moreover, much of what he says is no doubt credible and deserves serious consideration. We certainly do have the right to defend our cultural integrity and legal-Constitutional institutions.

We are not obligated to admit foreign individuals or groups whose policy from the outset is to undermine or subvert them. One must, however, surely recognize in his comments an uncompromising bias—to which, of course, he is entirely entitled regardless of its obvious inadequacies.

He does not mention that we of British-European background have ourselves committed the most horrible unwarranted atrocities against our own people in the form of military conflicts highlighted by two obscene and unprecedented destructive “world” wars.

He does not mention the shadowy elements who incited and fomented those wars—not to mention the dreadful tyranny established in the Soviet bloc which resulted in the liquidation of some sixty to seventy millions of innocent people—with Christians being especially targeted.

Nor does he mention the “religious” factors or individuals involved.

Nor the role of international finance or the principal individuals at its apex.

Nor does he mention the fully exposed and illegal deliberate Western (Zionist) attack on a growing number of Middle-Eastern states with the object not of assisting them but of destabilizing them.

THE GENIE IS OUT OF THE BOTTLE

Israel has granted oil exploration rights inside Syria, in the occupied Golan Heights, to Genie Energy. Major shareholders of Genie Energy – which also has interests in shale gas in the United States and shale oil in Israel – include Rupert Murdoch and Lord Jacob Rothschild.

- - Mark Gray, David Pascoe's Facebook

Anything to do with the Troubles and Weakened State of Syria?...

For Israel to seek to exploit mineral reserves in the occupied Golan Heights is plainly illegal in international law...

Nor the religious-financial and economic factors behind this naked aggression against independent states.

Nor does he mention the obvious targets in that region as tending strangely to be those with most secular leadership.

Nor does he explore the suspect and specious origins of forces dubbed ISIL or ISIS, etc.

Needless to say, he makes no mention of the origins of our present dysfunctional financial system or of the technical reasons for this dysfunction, or of its inevitable, and intended, consequences—or of it being the primary impetus to dissension and war amongst nations—nor who benefits from this strife, both financially and economically, not to mention in terms of ever-centralizing world power-politics.

He defends freedom of speech but carefully avoids references to the influences in our society which have been most diligently attempting to suppress it through increasingly restrictive legislation.

In short, he is a very eloquent propagandist. What he says has much merit but what he does not say reveals his bias—and that bias itself may prove fatal to our hope of being a future free and civilized people.

It is one thing to rail against something but quite another to go through the constructive exercise of providing an effective alternative. Blind reaction or mere ineffective rear-guard action is not enough.

We would, I think, present a much more convincing example to the world if we displayed an ability better to solve our own problems rather than a presumed Divine Right to transmit them by force to other peoples and nations of the world.

Watch: <https://dotsub.com/media/72457cbc-fe18-4053-ae3f-6c7639cf4e79/embed/>

Japan was successfully sued by Singapore before the International Court of Justice for exploitation of Singapore's oil resources during the Second World War....

Israel tried to make the same move twenty years ago but was forced to back down after a strong reaction from the Syrian government, which gained diplomatic support from the United States...

Continue reading...

<https://www.craigmurray.org.uk/archives/2013/02/israel-grants-oil-rights-in-syria-to-murdoch-and-rothschild/>

KEEP THE SAFETY ON AUSSIE GUN

CONTROLLERS by John Steele

The most recent gun control article which I have come across is by Tory Shepherd "Keep the Safety on Aussie Gun Controls", *The Advertiser*, September 2, 2015, p.13. As predicted the article discusses John Howard's 1996 gun grab and praises it is leading to a safer Australia, as "fewer guns mean fewer deaths".

But then Shepherd mentions Switzerland which has one of the highest gun ownership levels in the world with proportionately less gun crime than similar countries with fewer guns.

She explains this by saying that Switzerland has a culture which respects guns. This begs the question of why Australia can't foster such a culture instead of the socialistic dependent Big Sister state which we now have.

Although semi-automatic weapons have gone the Australian gun stockpile now is as large as it was before the Port Arthur massacre. I hope that it continues to grow at a geometrical rate!

AUSTRALIAN CITY REFUGEES

by Richard Miller

Much of what we oppose at this site arises from urban centres, the cities. There is, though, a line of thought which holds that cities are becoming less affordable and liveable and that young people are failing to get jobs and housing. One response to this is that "city refugees" will go to what are now dying regional and rural centres and revitalise them. (*The Australian*, September 7, 2015, P.5)

Although such ideas are part of conventional thinking, there is a slant that can be made to issues concerning us. The logical conclusion of cities becoming less liveable is that they ultimately become unliveable and collapse. Cities are highly vulnerable and completely dependent upon the outside for energy, water and food.

Rural settlements are slightly less dependent, and more open to self reliance.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE AGE

Your otherwise excellent editorial on the achievements of Her Majesty the Queen ('The crowning reign of Queen Elizabeth II', 9/9) neglects to mention the very basis of her character and performance, which is her deep faith in one of the world's great sacred traditions, Christianity.

It should also be noted that, while she has undoubtedly furthered 'democratic ideals', this does not mean that she has promoted egalitarianism, but that she has given her British and other subjects what they really want, namely a quality of leadership you have summed up so well.

Nigel Jackson, Belgrave

SILENT SPRING: When the Bees Die

by Brian Simpson

Research published in the *Journal of Experimental Biology*, July 10, 2015, has shown that herbicides such as glyphosate (Roundup) affects the ability of bees to navigate back to their hives. It may also have a part to play in Colony Collapse Disorder which is devastating bee populations across the world.

Glyphosate impairs the cognition capacities of bees and the effects of the herbicide are likely to be cumulative, building up over time. Glyphosate also affects the bee's ability to forage. The chemical is transferred back to the hive contaminating the hive.

This is but one more example of how the technological and technocratic society, which has long departed from natural and organic methods, may ultimately self-destruct from technological collapse. The solution is to move away from Big Agri to holistic and organic farming methods which preserve nature rather than destroy it.

A CULTURE CELEBRATING THE END OF MEN

by Mrs Vera West

Although I don't go to the "flicks" any more - at least since the death of John Wayne - my grandsons do go on occasion. They have reported to me over tea and biscuits that there are no longer "boy's" movies. The action movies up to the 1980s have been replaced by leading female heroes who walk all over the males.

Why are men portrayed so "hapless and despicable", as Brian Appleyard has recently asked? (*Weekend Australian Magazine*, oops, lost the reference - well, I'm heading towards 90!)

The answer is simple dear: it's all part of an open conspiracy to ring in the "end of men" as one book put it. It is to create a society more readily controlled but also one heading towards racial extinction as marriage and the family breaks down and birth rates crash. I really hope that I can see a change in the tide before I die. This is one of the tragedies of being very old and seeing the true horror of reality.

THE AUSTRALIAN

The Queen's mighty achievement of becoming the longest-serving monarch in eleven centuries of British history includes her provision of a wonderful stability to the political order of Australia which is the envy of many other nations and which is a major reason why so many persons wish to emigrate here. The current republican tactic of highly praising Her Majesty while continuing to attack the institution itself is illogical: the Queen's magnificent leadership for sixty-three years and longer could not have happened if the monarchy did not exist. It is impossible to imagine a republican equivalent.

Nigel Jackson, Belgrave

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE AGE -Phil Cleary has a belief in the wisdom of 'the people' that I do not have ('How to restore confidence in our democracy', 7/9). The story of the choice of Barabbas in the Gospels sums it up. The people are too easily fooled into acting against their interests; and his proposed republican model wouldn't work. Yet Cleary is surely right to feel anguish at the corruption of Australian society and to advocate a search for a better political order that can produce 'independent, objective thought' in governance, rather than 'partisanship and cronyism'.

The only way forward, however, is a revived sacred tradition (not 'revival'), something that is an essential for the inculcation of ethical and altruistic behaviour in individuals and then groups; and such a renewal requires a widely cherished monarchy and hierarchy, not populist egalitarianism. *Nigel Jackson, Belgrave*

THE AUSTRALIAN - Rowan Callick is right to note ('Long to reign over us', 9/9) that the Queen has ruled with a style that is 'more gracious, if also more reticent' than 'the dominant modern template.'

Her modest and self-effacing character, together with her liberal philosophy, has enabled her to represent over this historic span of years a religious faith and a hierarchical political order built up from that faith which are far superior to the various ideologies that have elsewhere done so much human damage during her lifetime.

Australia will be wise to continue to cherish in its own constitutional structure this monarchical model and royal idealism.

- *Nigel Jackson, Belgrave*

FASCIST EUROPE RISING (R. Atkinson)

As the constitution of the Danish people rightly asserts "It is by law you build the land" and no regime in world history has achieved so much imperial conquest by merely generating the law to build their land as has the so-called "European Union".

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