# A WEEKLY COMMENTARY



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The Price of Freedom is Eternal Vigilance

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# PLANNED UNCERTAINTY By Arnis Luks

Whether it be transnational treaties, adventurous High Court decisions, or the proposal for a Constitutional change allowing a Voice to Parliament, each consideration draws greater uncertainty into our daily lives. Analysis of the proposed Voice, more than suggests a permanent imposition of land rent payable to an entity based on the likelihood of a Treaty being struck between Aboriginals and all other Australians. The New Zealand example, as are the North American examples, demonstrative of the policy objectives - to disenfranchise and ultimately dispossess the average person from unfettered ownership of property - you will own nothing and be happy.

Activists, for climate, sustainability, or the Voice are each pursuing policy for the benefit of transnational entities controlling the WEF through the UN. We are living in a post-responsible-government era. The uncertainty of this 'rules-based order' is inherent within its design and purpose. Unlike the fixity of true Law that holds all, including government, the bureaucracy and industrial and financial elites equal before the Law, arbitrary decrees emanate to the benefit of those particular entities at the exclusion of all others, as the new-world-order decree.

# The Ugly Face of Communism

The uncertainty of arbitrary law through decrees, and financial insecurity through increased taxation, rising interest rates, energy price hikes, and inflation remove any chance of certainty to plan for a future. Government policy continues to drive communist objectives of breaking down the nation state resulting from the ensuing chaos.

## Victoria - Tax Hikes For The Small End Of Town

As part of the Victorian 2023-24 State Budget the Treasurer has introduced a new COVID Debt Repayment Plan to help manage the COVID debt and increase revenue collected by the Victorian government. The Plan involves a "COVID Debt Levy" to be shouldered by (small-ed) businesses and landowners for 10 years to 30 June 2033. The levy comprises the following two components:

- Increased land tax on taxable landholdings; and
- Increased payroll tax for businesses with annual Australia-wide taxable wages above \$10m

# West Australia - Tax Relief for The Big End of Town

WA government introduces land tax relief to inspire rental supply

https://www.smartpropertyinvestment.com.au/research/24723-wa-govt-introduces-land-tax-relief-to-inspire-rental-relief

The Land Tax Assessment (Build-to-Rent) Bill 2023, introduced into state parliament on Wednesday, 17 May, will provide a 50 per cent land tax exemption for up to 20 years for eligible BTR developments with the hope of reducing the costs required to complete such projects.

In order to qualify for the exemption, which will be available in the 2023–24 assessment year, a BTR development needs to:

- Contain at least 40 self-contained dwellings available for residential leases
- Be owned by the same owner or group of owners and managed by the same management entity
- Be completed between 12 May 2022 and 1 July 2032

The Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), was signed in Santiago, Chile, on 8 March 2018, having been negotiated in secret which allows transnational corporations to sue nationstates over national laws affecting profit before a world-bank-appointed-court. Mind you that projection of profit appears to be arbitrary when the initial investment up to the point of national intervention does not come into the equation. Pakistan was a recent example where they were successfully sued through this secret court and found liable for billions, even though that already impoverished nation's gross domestic product GDP was of a comparable value to the finding. The then Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan sought a thorough investigation as to how this had ever been agreed without first recognising the full ramifications of any adverse finding.

There is no financial fixity, no stability, nor permanence within the law nor within the economy.

#### The Rule of Law

For several months I have been seeking to find a copy of Sir Walter Murdoch's The Australian Citizen in the hope that his assessment on this vital subject will open a timely conversation on all matters civic. I have managed to locate a copy which will become available later next month. In the meantime, I have been fortunate to locate two complimentary documents by eminent individuals on - The Foundations of the Australian Legal System by Augusto Zimmerman and Gabriël Moens, and, the Annotated Constitution of the Australian Commonwealth by Quick and Garran. These two meaty works have provided a firm foundation of our cultural inheritance, of the evolving pursuit of responsible and representative government from the earliest colonial days of Australia. Our cultural inheritance goes back before Alfred the Great (King of the West Saxons from 871 to 886, and King of the Anglo-Saxons from 886 until his death in 899) having laid down the 'already' existing civil and ecclesiastical law in the *Domsboc* – DoomsBook, which was restated under Magna Carta, and implanted within each of the British Commonwealth of Nations' and USA 'Constitutions'.

Self-government and achieving statehood across the various Australian colonies came about from the 1840s until 1890, and preceded Federation only by 10 years. Each State evolved from a colonial outpost under British law, to achieve constitutional self-government under the trinitarian model of equally powered Bicameral Houses and a Governor as the Queen's Representative.

The various Australian outposts established as penal colonies soon received an influx of new arrivals, pursuing that which all new arrivals hope to achieve, a better way of life. With that First Fleet came all the Laws of England, *Blackstones* law books and a preacher all arriving together.

The Quick and Garran's 'record' (1901) reveals the steady legal progress and cultural advancement, from a militaristic governorship, towards responsible government under Constituted States, and then representative government by the voting franchise; from a penal outpost to a Constituted Nation.

Australia was federated into a Constituted Nation by 3 Acts of the British Parliament.

The Royal Commission of Assent which allowed the Monarch to Assent to the Australian Constitution Act The Australian Constitution Act, which established the

#### **Australian Constitution**

The *Letters Patent*, which established the office of the Governor-General of Australia.

Royal Commission of Assent 9 July 1900 (UK) https://www.foundingdocs.gov.au/item-sdid-83.html https://www.foundingdocs.gov.au/resources/transcripts/cth2\_doc\_1900a.pdf

The Australian Constitution Act was developed across at least 50 years of considered discussion and debate, comparing the best-of-the-best constitutional arrangements from across the English-speaking world, but specifically concentrated across the period 1890s - 1900. The Constitutional Conventions occurred as the final crescendo to bring the Australian people into a federated nation, – the Commonwealth – with statesmen leading the way. While Quick & Garran is a tome of 1100 pages, it is a very important read for the student of history, of the evolving law within Australia. Constitutionalism in Australia's case, is agreed, limited, lawful government – the governed have been consulted and then agreed by referenda as to how they will be governed.

## **The Pursuit of More Power**

I noted the various State Constitutions, given the opportunity should the government hold sway in both houses of Parliament, are able to alter their own Constitution in a never-ending expansion of powers. This was apparent in the evolutionary course of the Victorian Constitutional Act 1855 which was passed as an (enabling) Act of the British Parliament 16th July 1855, until 1975 when the Constitution became an Act of the Parliament of Victoria - Constitution Act 1975 (The Constitution Act 1975 was reserved for the Royal Assent on 20 May 1975 and assented to on 22 October 1975. Proclamation of the Royal Assent was published in the Victoria Government Gazette on 19 November 1975 and the Act came into operation on 1 December 1975: Government Gazette 26 November 1975 page 3888.).

Version 224 of the Victorian 'Constitution Act 1975' became effective on 29 March 2022. To my simple mind that illustrates 224 adjustments made by the Victorian Parliament as to the forever expanding limits of its powers. http://www5.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/vic/consol\_act/ca1975188/notes.html

I also note the Victorian 'Constitution Act 1975' was never voted by the people of Victoria in a referendum, but proclaimed a mere 8 days into the tumult that began on the Whitlam Dismissal (11th November 1975) under Liberal Premier Dick Hamer. The Victorian Parliamentary Executive seized on the moment to exclude the people of Victoria from any decision as to The Constitution Act 1975's validity nor endorsement - the governed have not been consulted, nor have agreed by referenda as to how they will be governed. Neither, to my knowledge, has any other state within Australia.

## The Inversion of Law

Sydney Powell in her weekly newsletter *Defending The Republic* insists upholding the law is the remedy for totalitarianism. I sense a couple of qualifications are necessary, in that firstly the law must have some degree of fix-ed – a permanency. The law must be promulgated so that all have a ready appreciation of its existence. The law must be fair and just and equitable to all - equally.

The law must never enter into those inalienable rights of any individual that emanate from God alone. The law must identify and punish the evil rather than restrict the free and honourable.

In the instance of Covid, masks, lockdowns and mandated jabs, the decrees were issued by the WHO of which our National Cabinet enforced as a carefully measured intrusion into the rights and privacy of a person's own body. Never before has eugenics been so brazenly attempted. Full-term abortion-infanticide, and euthanasia laws were each part of the prelude to mandated Covid jabs. The foundational assumption from which these emerge, is that man is god.

Yuval Noah Harari (Hebrew: ירה חנ לבוי [ju'val 'noax ha'ʁaʁi]; born 1976) is an Israeli public intellectual, historian and professor in the Department of History at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He is the author of the popular science bestsellers Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind (2014), Homo Deus: A Brief History of Tomorrow (2016), and 21 Lessons for the 21st Century (2018). His writings examine free will, consciousness, intelligence, happiness, and suffering. Worse still than law by decree, is arbitrary law to favour some over all others. The WHO is financed and controlled by vested interests. The jab, the masks, and the lockdowns promoted policies that complemented the monopolists' grip over the world's medical and industrial economy. Environmentalism achieves a similar result.

Sustainable development, which includes herding people into smaller and smaller dwellings, opens vast tracts of land for exploitation. Setting aside this land under World Heritage Listing, after suitable firestorms allows the asset to be exploited. Kangaroo Island biochar is but a recent example that has already with the wildfires created a significant CO2 footprint. And vet this process of double firing to turn into biochar is deemed 'sustainable', and peculiarly to the benefit of monopolists. Noises coming from the environmental activists appear muted with little momentum regarding various other wildfires in national parks allowing rapid exploitation of the reserves, having been previously ignored without escalating demonstrations and corresponding media coverage. Almost as if the political will, the desire is deliberately withheld. Perhaps the policy of saving the planet is only the responsibility of the little people like you and I, while the monopolists are given free rein to ravenously exploit the planet for profit of course.

Native forest logging back in the spotlight in NSW

after changes in Victoria

https://www.smh.com.au/national/native-forest-logging-back-in-thespotlight-in-nsw-after-changes-in-victoria-20230528-p5dbus.html

Insurance Company 'State Farm' Will No Longer Accept

New Applications for California Property Insurance Due
to Wildfires, Inflation, Historic Construction Costs

https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2023/05/state-farm-will-no-longer-

accept-new-applications/

Activists for the 'Global Warming and Environmental' movements promote the production of wind turbines, solar panels and significantly large battery storage, all in preference to abundant, locally-available coal or natural-gas fired boilers to drive turbines to produce electricity. The wind turbines, solar panels and significantly large battery storage facilities all have a relatively limited life and require massive amounts of electrical and hydrocarbon energy to be produced — with an embarrassingly low ratio of energy-produced in comparison to energy-outlay (to be manufactured). Coal fired boilers, some lasting 100 years, are located alongside these 'environmentally friendly' industries to manufacture these green 'lemons'.

The wind farms, solar panels and batteries cannot reproduce themselves. They are unsustainable (as a base load power supply) and incapable of producing a permanent answer to the human energy requirements. This is exactly the purpose, or policy being pursued, to optimise the monopolists' grip over manufacturing and markets, all the while small package nuclear reactors are being rolled out to the direct benefit of monopolists (from all political philosophies) - how fortunate.

http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article93351952

## **GOOD CITIZENSHIP**

(1924, April 19). *Kalgoorlie Miner* (WA: 1895 - 1954), p. 4. Professor Murdoch, of the University of Western Australia, is an acknowledged authority on civics. By the printed word and from the platform he has discussed at length the principles that underlie good citizenship, and he has given attractive verbal form to the ideals that those who desire to perform the duties and secure the rights and privileges that go to make a worthy citizen.

To a crowded audience in a hall in one of the suburbs of Perth, a week ago, he again traversed the old familiar ground, and by cogent argument and happy illustration, invited his hearers steadily to travel in the paths where are to be found those virtues and graces that are inseparably associated with good citizenship. The gravity with which the professor insisted upon the supreme importance of the personal factor in the make-up of a citizen doubtless aroused mixed emotions in the minds of many of those who heard him. There are those amongst us - and their numbers are by no means few — who cherish the notion that, because they are sturdy democrats or staunch supporters of a certain political party, they therefore cannot be otherwise than good citizens. But on the definitions as set out by Professor Murdoch there is not necessarily any relationship between political creeds and the qualities that are essential to satisfactory citizenship. The vicious man may be a pillar in the cathedral of his political faith, but the vicious man's ethical standard is too warped to permit of his being a good citizen.

With the rise of democracy and social development, and moral progress, have come enlarged standards as to civic rights and duties.

It is certain that the person who in Ancient Athens, or in Old Rome, was regarded as a worthy citizen would today find, if he came back to earth, that his ethical notions and ideas of citizenship were out of harmony with those that are now accepted among thinkers and exponents of social betterment in civilised communities.

Passing over the "dark and desolation of the centuries between" the Fall of Rome and the grey dawn of democracy's morning, a vast change in ethical standards is noticeable, slavery among European peoples has almost disappeared, and in a dim kind of way, it is being recognised that every person has a right to some degree of liberty.

In a later century public opinion as regards personal freedom has hardened and the liberty of the person is guaranteed by law. But citizenship, as it is now conceived, had still no defining place in the social cosmos. What would today be considered as unwarrantable tyranny was still accepted as a matter of course. The public conscience was still in embryo and could not make itself heard against such relics of savagery as bull-baiting, cock-fighting, public executions and floggings, the stocks and the ducking stool, the stool of repentance in places of worship, and quite a number of other immoral heirlooms from a dark past. In these former periods it was largely held that knowledge of right and wrong was inherent and to that was due in no small measure the countenancing of many things which are repugnant to the awakened social conscience of today. But social evolution has fully demonstrated the inaccuracy of the conception. Every age has condemned practices that were allowed, and even regarded as right and proper in an earlier one. And the process is going on continuously.

In his address Professor Murdoch alluded to several features in the social practice of today which must be regarded with disapproval, as they were more or less hindrances to good citizenship.

It is, unfortunately, quite easy to agree with the professor on this point. But it may also be suggested that the subtle and active forces which have evolved a public conscience powerful enough to sweep away many obstacles that barred the path to social and ethical betterment, are still actively at work, and that, by their effort, the abuses and dangers which the professor noted may in course of time entirely disappear.

Critics — and more particularly foreign critics — of social environment in Australia, fasten with some degree of unanimity upon the Australian's love of sport and upon the comparative prevalence of the gambling habit. These contentions admittedly have a good deal of solid foundation underlying them. But the critics do not always take sufficient account of some essentially Australian

phenomena. The average Australian earns more wages than the average European and the Australian climate is almost a perennial invitation to be out of doors. But that horse racing is indulged in, to a greater extent in the Commonwealth than in any other country may be true, and it is equally true that, in the present stage of ethical development, it is impracticable to dissociate gambling from it. But there does not appear to be any sound reason why some of the abuses that at present attend wagering on horse races should not be reduced to a minimum, if they cannot be blotted out altogether.

But, if to accept the standards demanded by exponents of ideal citizenship, then the financial magnate who speculates in the world's currency exchanges, and the exporter who adventures a cargo of goods to a foreign market are as deserving of censure as the hopeful racecourse frequenter who does business with the bookmaker or the tote.

Every citizen claims the protection of the laws of the country, and the corollary to this claim is his debt of duty to the society of which he is a unit. Nor in the carrying out of this duty is it necessary that the citizen should make parade of special virtues or display unusual qualities,

"The virtues of the citizen", as Professor Murdoch has aptly put it, "are just the plain, everyday virtues we learn in our homes. It is there we are taught the great lessons of love and kindness, of obedience and truthfulness, of courtesy and consideration for others, of respect for what is higher and of compassion for what is weaker than ourselves".

If the average citizen may not always live up to the high ideal as expressed by the professor, it is comforting to reflect that the public conscience is active and that its impulses are in the direction of those things that make for social progress. The lessons of the past point to the conclusion that what is usually called good citizenship is not altogether due to clear recognition of what is right or what is wrong conduct, but that it is in no small measure a matter of convention, varying at times and places in accordance with the degree of social development that has been attained.

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