A Brief Account

From 1788 to Today: The British Empire's Ongoing War Against Australian Sovereignty

by Robert Barwick

Throughout our history, the British have repeatedly crushed any attempt to establish actual sovereignty on this continent in the interests of Australia herself, and her own citizens. Instead, they have cynically used our country as a colonial outpost to further British imperial designs. This was true from the first settlement of Australia, and it remains true today. As demonstrated on p.10, far from the pathetic cover-story that Australia was founded as a dumping ground for excess convicts, the Lords of the late-18th Century British oligarchy devised a settlement in New South Wales as a military/strategic outpost in the Asia-Pacific region. It was crucial to gaining ascendancy in Britain's fierce, imperial rivalry with Europe's other powers, France, Spain and the Netherlands, and to consolidating a London-centred worldwide imperial rule.

Great Britain in 1788 was licking its wounds following its defeat in the American Revolution, and its enraged ruling class was not only determined to reconquer the United States, but to stamp out any similar republican spark in its other colonial possessions. And ever since 1788, every time potent Australian political leaders threatened to follow the American example and to set us on a path to true "freedom and independence", in the words of our greatest republican leader, Dr. John Dunmore Lang, that British rage has erupted to crush such threats, to keep Australia firmly in Britain's imperial stable, and at all costs to stop Australia from becoming another United States.

As is clear even from the following brief chronology, together with our pp. 8-14 feature, that is the "secret" to understanding the actual history of Australia, which is otherwise a mere jumble of disconnected dates and random "facts", all recounted so as to cover up our actual history, and therefore a clear vision of what Australia really can be.

A Political Torture Chamber

More than 160,000 convicts were transported to Australia between the First Fleet in 1788, and when transportation ended in 1868. By far the single greatest number of them were Irish political prisoners, along with a number of Scots and even some English. Ireland and Scotland had become hotbeds of enthusiasm for the just-concluded American Revolution, an enthusiasm which infected many in England itself. Many from the British Isles immigrated to America to fight against the British, while those who didn't, posed an increasing threat at home. Revolutionary penman Thomas
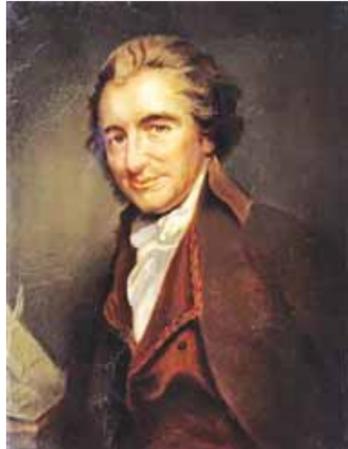
Thomas Paine, English agitator for the American Revolution, and its republican principles.

Paine's *Rights of Man* sold an amazing one million copies in England, at a time when the English population numbered only 14 million, and Thomas Muir, Scottish poet Robbie Burns' inspiration for *Scots Wha Hae,* was sentenced to 14 years transportation for distributing Paine's tract. The Irish were then desperately fighting a rearguard action to keep the independence which they had forced Britain to grant them in 1782.

A century before the British invented concentration camps to crush the Boers in South Africa, they had devised the bloody, inhuman torture of convict transportation, to such sadistic hell-holes as Port Arthur, Port Jackson, Moreton Bay and, worst of all, Norfolk Island. See pp.13-14 for first-hand accounts of the appalling suffer-

> *"I have only, in conclusion, to desire that you will in the whole course of your inquiries constantly bear in mind that transportation to New South Wales is intended as a severe punishment, applied to various crimes; and as such must be rendered an object of real terror to all classes of the community." — Lord Bathurst, British Secretary of State.*

ing the convicts endured, first on their 8-month voyage immobilised in filth in the hulls of modified slave-running ships, and then as actual slaves in the new colony, forced to toil under the lash, and the constant threat of the gallows. The torture meted out to the convicts was not the work of the occasional overbearing guard; rather, it was official policy, systematically applied with the intent to destroy the very humanity of its victims, to crush the republican political aspirations which so threatened the British. British Secretary of State for War and the Colonies, Lord Bathurst declared to Thomas Bigge, a British investigative commissioner in New South Wales in 1819: "I have only, in conclusion, to desire that you will in the
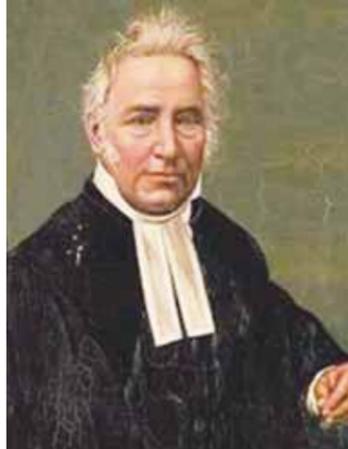
Rev. Dr. John Dunmore Lang, Australia's founding father.

whole course of your inquiries constantly bear in mind that transportation to New South Wales is intended as a severe punishment, applied to various crimes; and as such must be rendered an object of real terror to all classes of the community."

Tragically, in many cases, the horrors the convicts were forced to endure did destroy their humanity, which has cursed Australia with a legacy of mental illness and sexual abuse that has been passed down through the mere handful of generations since first settlement. However, lawfully, the British oligarchy's evil design often backfired, serving to fan the embers of the republicanism which would surface again and again throughout Australia's history.

John Dunmore Lang

If one may speak of the "Founding Father" of a truly sovereign Australia, it is the Scottish Presbyterian minister, the Rev. Dr. John Dunmore Lang (1799-1878). Inflamed with admiration for the ideals of the American Revolution, Lang proclaimed that Australia must, and inevitably would become what he termed the "America of the Southern Hemisphere", or, alternatively, the "United States of Australia". From when he first immigrated to New South Wales as a 24-year-old in 1823, Lang threw himself into nation-building in his new home, on numerous fronts. He organised shiploads of skilled tradesmen and single women as free settlers from his native Scotland, which the 15th October, 1831 *Sydney Gazette* called, "the most important importation the colony ever received, and certainly the boldest effort ever made by a single individual to advance Australia". He founded a newspaper in 1835, *The Colonist*, and he constantly lobbied the British government to fund improvements and initiatives in the colonies. On one of his trips to lobby the British in 1840,
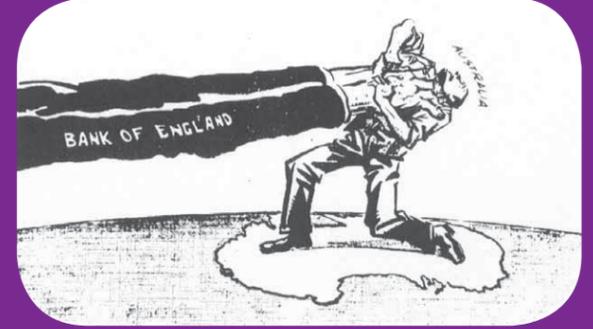
Lang returned via the United States, to solicit America's assistance "for the intellectual, the moral and the spiritual advancement of the future America of the Southern Hemisphere."

In 1837, alarmed at a military rebellion in Canada, as well as the direction of Lang's work in New South Wales, the British Colonial Office commissioned one Edward Gibbon Wakefield (see below) to devise the fraud of "responsible government", whose intent was to placate colonial aspirations for self-government and independence, but under a form of administration devoid of a U.S.-style, popularly elected executive. Instead, the executive was to be a council of ministers responsible to the legislative assembly, and serving only at the pleasure of the Crown.

Lang denounced "responsible government" as a transparent fraud, but once it was foisted upon the colony, he continued his struggle for sovereignty in this venue by being elected to NSW's first Legislative Assembly in 1843, where he served on and off until 1869. The British oligarchy tried desperately to keep Lang out of Parliament: in 1851, he was jailed for four months for libel, the first of a number of prison terms. Notwithstanding that sentence, and the constant bombardment of libel in the major press, he topped the poll at the next election, and was escorted to take his seat in parliament by a cheering crowd of 10,000, at a time when Sydney boasted only 51,000 in total.

The Brits were terrified, and inserted a clause in the 1853 *Constitution Act*, specifically to exclude ministers of religion from Parliament. In 1854, during a period of political turmoil which included the gold rush and Eureka Stockade, the British launched another attack on Lang, by framing his son George for allegedly stealing 10,000 pounds from the Bank of New South Wales and jailing him for five years. Lang campaigned tirelessly for George's exoneration, incurring many more libel suits along the way. Despite all this, he won re-election in 1859, following repeal of the earlier exclusion clause from the *Constitution Act*. Though he never achieved his dream of an American-style republic, he

Slavery advocate Edward Gibbon Wakefield, designer of British colonisation.

sowed the seeds for the republicanism which re-emerged in the mass-strike period of the 1890s, and is an immortal inspiration to us still today.

Edward Gibbon Wakefield Propounds "natural slavery"

In its panic at the prospect of losing its Australian colonies to U.S.-style republicanism—"government of the people, for the people and by the people"—the British unleashed a type of "anti-Lang", Edward Gibbon Wakefield (1796-1862), whose sordid presence in history serves at least one purpose—to demonstrate the evil intentions of British imperialism. Wakefield came from an English banking family, with strong connections into some of the great banking families of Europe, including the Kleinworts, the Bensons and the Barclays. A personal degenerate (like most British influentials then, and still today), he was jailed for three years for eloping with a 15-year-old. He passed his time in jail by writing a proposal for what he called "systematic colonisation". This was an early form of public-private partnerships (PPPs), in which he advocated that the British government develop new colonies by granting large tracts of land to private companies, which companies would manage the colonisation. He insisted that land be priced out of reach of ordinary people, who should therefore be forced to constitute the workforce for the private company. Wakefield promoted
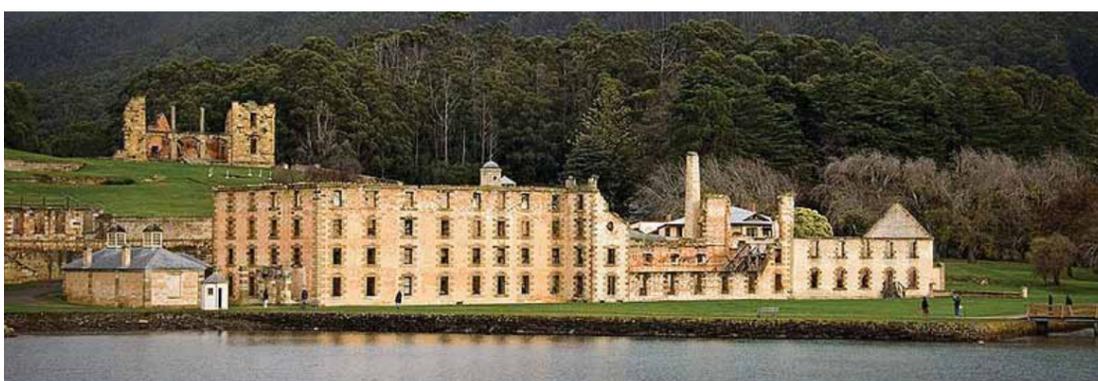

Above: The Port Arthur penal settlement in Tasmania; (r.) Inside Port Arthur's dungeons. The British meant for penal settlements like Port Arthur, Moreton Bay, and Norfolk Island to be political torture camps, to break the Irish and other political prisoners inspired by the American Revolution.
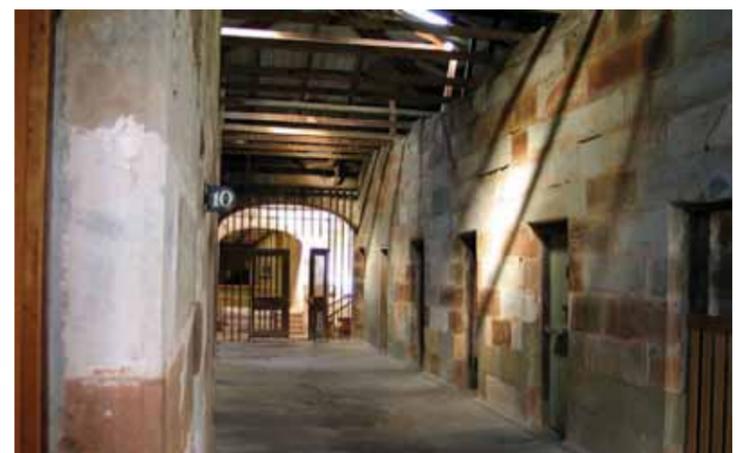
Chinese opium addicts, "consumers" of British free trade.
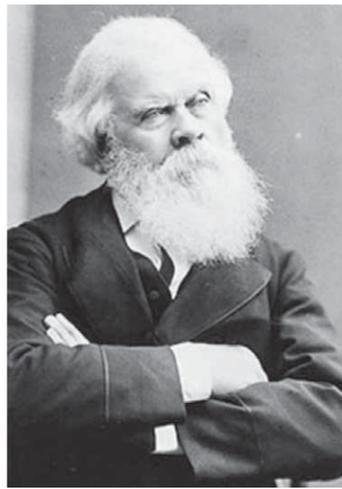
NSW Premier Sir Henry Parkes, Britain's point-man for "Federation under the Crown".
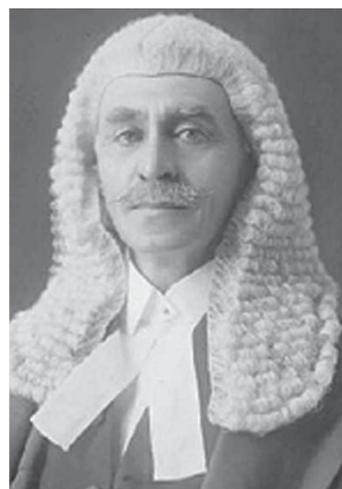
British agent Sir Isaac Isaacs was Australia's 9th Governor-General.

Lord Carrington, Governor of NSW, secretly directed Parkes to stymie an Australian republic.

this state as "natural slavery ... the natural subordination in which the greater part of mankind always has been, and probably always will be," as he advised the British Parliament's Select Committee of the Disposal of Land in the British Colonies, in 1841.

As profits soared from their India-to-China international opium trade, the British handed the relatively unprofitable slave trade over to the Spanish, thereby also freeing up more ships to carry dope. In a burst of sanctimonious hand-wringing, they officially outlawed the slave trade in 1807, and then slavery itself in 1834, with the telling exception of the "territories in the possession of the East India Company". Those acts notwithstanding, Wakefield seven years later not only campaigned in Parliament for "natural" slavery, but his ideas shaped the development of at least three British colonies—Canada (see "Responsible Government" above), South Australia, and New Zealand. And like Macquarie Bank today, Wakefield profited handsomely from his promotion of PPPs: his New Zealand Company, for instance, was granted 900,000 acres from the Crown to do with as it liked. The conditions of its colonisation in New Zealand were so bad, they were denounced even by the establishment's flagship paper, *The Times* of 4th May, 1840, as "oppressive and unjust … hitting … upon the poorest emigrants."

Smashing Republicanism in the 1890s

The victory of the Abraham Lincoln-led North against the British-organised and financed, slave-based Confederacy in the U.S. Civil War of 1861-65, unleashed the greatest industrialisation in history. Spurred by

(l.) Republicans George Black and (r.) John Fitzgerald. (Below) A commemorative print from Philadelphia's Centennial Exhibition in 1876, a remarkable exhibition of machinery produced in the post-Civil War industrialisation of America, which other nations strove to emulate.

the remarkable exhibition of machinery at the U.S. Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia in 1876, nations all over the world emulated the "American System" of protective tariffs, national banking and great railroad construction. Germany, Japan and Russia, for instance, were industrialised almost overnight by aid of American advisers by these methods of what were called the "American System" of economics, as opposed to the "British System" of free trade, pauperisation, and slavery, actual or de facto. The British were terrified, and the 1890s saw a decade of fierce global struggle between British free trade and the American System. American-style republicanism and its economic system inspired Australia's growing trade union movement and early Labor Party, championed by the likes of George Black and John Fitzgerald, with an influence not seen since the time of J.D. Lang. The British response was to launch a war on the labour movement, using the mega-rich pastoralists who were agents for the London pastoral companies and finance houses, which triggered the violent Maritime Strike of 1890 and the Shearers' Strike of 1894. The repression backfired, however, and galvanised the labour movement into the Australian Labor Party, which opposed British free trade, supported the establishment of a national bank, and became a bastion of republicanism. To combat the push for a republic, the British had deployed the anglophile Sir Henry Parkes (under the secret direction of Her Majesty's NSW Governor-General Lord

Charles Robert Carrington) to launch a movement in 1889 for "Federation under the Crown". A parallel operation to play on racist fears of the "yellow hordes" of Asia swamping Australia, duped many otherwise decent union leaders to back away from their support for Australia becoming a completely independent republic, and to settle instead for British "protection" as a "self-governing colony" of the Crown.

Federation "Under the Crown"

The American influence in Australia in the 1890s was so strong that the Labor Party adopted the American spelling of L-A-B-O-R for its name, and the participants at the 1890s Constitutional Conventions copied many

> "It is essential to bear in mind two cardinal features of our political system which are interwoven in its texture and ... radically distinguish it from the American Constitution. One is the common sovereignty of all parts of the British Empire [i.e. the Crown]; the other is the principle of responsible government... the institution of responsible government under which the Executive is directly responsible to—nay, is almost the creature of the Legislature. This is not so in America..." — Sir Isaac Isaacs

of the features of the American Constitution, including the names for the houses of parliament ("the House of Representatives" and "the Senate"), and Section 51, intended to give Parliament control over the issue of money. However, the British were determined that the new constitution would instead enshrine the principle of Responsible Government, as enunciated by one of their own agents at the Conventions, and later Governor-General, Sir Isaac Isaacs:

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To guarantee the new Constitution didn't stray too close to American constitutional principles, the British Colonial Office secretly rewrote it, and then instructed George Reid, Parkes' replacement as Premier of New South Wales, to submit the Colonial Office's changes under his own name. Their intent was to ensure control of all essential matters by the Crown, with any appeals to be settled by the Crown itself via its Privy Council (known formally as "the Queen in Council"), especially in matters that threatened the hold of British investors over the Australian economy. As one Colonial Office memorandum clucked: "It cannot be for the benefit of the colonies to alarm those investors. They are also very numerous and powerful and the amount invested is very large. They will no doubt oppose any proposal to abolish the appeal to the Queen in Council." The Crown's sacking of Jack Lang, the Privy Council's overturning of Chifley's bank nationalisation, and the Crown sacking of Whit-

lam, all demonstrably on behalf of British investors (see below), demonstrates the ominous foresight of the Colonial office's action.

Thus, instead of becoming a republic, in 1901 an Act of British Parliament constituted Australia as a federation under the Crown, a "self-governing colony, for the purposes of the act", but self-governing in name only.

World War I and Gallipoli

When King Edward VII and his fellow oligarchs schemed to instigate World War I, their plans factored in a reliance on colonial manpower from Britain's Dominions—Australia, New Zealand, Canada and South Africa—as cannon-fodder in what became history's bloodiest conflict. In Australia, the weakness in early Labor that saw its leadership back away from establishing a republic in the 1890s in favour of federation under the Crown, was on display again when war erupted in August 1914 and Labor Prime Minister Andrew Fisher declared Australia's support for the Mother Country "to the last man and the last shilling". As often, in this instance also the British-influenced leadership of Australia was out of step with the people, who voted twice in referenda to oppose conscription for what they regarded as an unnecessary war, and one in which Australia had no business in any case.

But for Australia's young men who were variously enthused, cajoled and even shamed into volunteering to fight on the other side of the world, it was a bloodbath in which 60,000 of them were sacrificed to British imperialism, out of a total population at the time of only four million. What history blames on incompetence, especially the bloody fiasco of Gallipoli, actually exemplified the oligarchical mindset personified by First Lord of the Admiralty Winston Churchill, who regarded the wasteful, criminal loss of life as the highest honour to which His Majesty's subjects could aspire. For example, when the disaster of Gallipoli was such that in November 1915 even Lord Kitchener withdrew his support, and advised Churchill the campaign

should be abandoned, Churchill protested to Parliament, "But it seems to me that if there were any operations in the history of the world which, having begun, it was worthwhile to carry through with the utmost vigour and fury, with a consistent flow of reinforcements, *and an utter disregard of life*, it was [Gallipoli]."

8,700 Australians died in that one campaign, for nothing. Gallipoli and the other horrors of WWI shifted the attitudes of many of the once bright-eyed volunteers who survived, and on their return they became politically active, oriented to labour causes. But beginning with Rupert Murdoch's father Keith Murdoch, then editor of the *Melbourne Herald*, a propaganda campaign was launched to glorify Gallipoli, which even denounced the ranks of veterans who'd become anti-British as "imposters". This was the forerunner to today's farcical annual Gallipoli-fest used by its Establishment organisers to trumpet the message that Gallipoli is the "defining moment" in Australia's history.

Wrecking the Commonwealth Bank

In 1911, over the fierce opposition of London's agents in the Collins St. banks in Melbourne and their pressure on the Andrew Fisher Labor government, American immigrant King O'Malley and his "Torpedo Brigade" of Labor MPs forced through the establishment of the Commonwealth Bank—an American-modelled national bank. O'Malley described himself as "the Alexander Hamilton of Australia", America's first Treasury Secretary and the founder of its First National Bank. The bank was established under the sole-governorship of one of the most able financiers of the day, Denison Miller, who had been handpicked by O'Malley himself.

The new Bank was spectacularly successful: it forced the private banks to compete, which drove down interest rates and fees; it stopped a panicked "run" on the private banks, by standing behind their deposits; it financed the national wool clip, Australia's most important export; and it supported major infrastructure development,

Gallipoli, the deep scar on our history: on this Peninsula, 8,700 Australians were blindly sacrificed to the British Empire, for nothing; 51,000 more perished in Europe fighting King Edward VII's imperial war.

including the enormous Indian-Pacific Railway project (modelled on the U.S. Transcontinental Railroad completed in 1869) which united the continent, constructed under the direction of O'Malley himself as Minister for Home Affairs from 1910-13.

In his book, *The Great Bust*, former NSW Premier Jack Lang described the City of London's terrified apprehension of the Commonwealth Bank:

"Denison Miller had gone to London after the war had finished and had thrown a great fright into the banking world by calmly telling a big bankers' dinner that the wealth of Australia represented six times the amount that had been borrowed, and that the bank could meet every demand because it had the entire capital of the country behind it. The bank had found 350 million pounds for war purposes.

"A deputation of unemployed waited on him after he arrived back from London at the head office of the Commonwealth Bank in Martin Place, Sydney. He was asked whether his bank would be prepared to raise another 350 million pounds for productive purposes. He replied that not only was his bank able to do it, but would be happy to do it.

"Such statements as these caused a near panic in the City of London. If the Dominions were going to become independent of the City of London, then the entire financial structure would collapse. The urgent problem was to find ways and means of re-establishing the financial supremacy that had been lost during the war."

When Denison Miller died suddenly in 1923, the City of London pounced: the aristocratic English toady Prime Minister Stanley Melbourne Bruce replaced Miller with a private finance-dominated board, which immediately scaled back the Bank's activities, especially those that competed with the private banks. When the Great Depression hit six years later, the Commonwealth Bank board acted on behalf of the Bank of England, and not on behalf of the people as Miller had.

The Bank of England Unleashes Fascist Armies

The growing tendency for Australian patriots in the Labor Party to demand Australian sovereignty over national finance, acquired a new impetus in the Great Depression, and the Bank of England moved quickly to smash it. Following the 1929 election of the Labor government of James Scullin, formerly a member of King O'Malley's Torpedo Brigade, the new Labor Treasurer, "Red Ted" Theodore, moved to reactivate the Commonwealth Bank, and to order the Bank to issue 18 million pounds in notes for public works, to provide jobs for the more than 30 per cent of Australian men who were unemployed, and whose families were starving. The Chairman of the board of the Commonwealth Bank, Sir Robert Gibson, refused: "You ask me to inflate the currency. My answer is that I bloody well won't."

In July 1930, Bank of England head Montagu Norman despatched his number two man, Sir Otto Niemeyer, to Australia to demand that the Prime Minister and Premiers slash wages for all workers across-the-board by 25 per cent, in order to prioritise

paying Australia's 55 million pound interest bill to British lenders—most of which had been incurred by Australian spending for Britain's World War I. The Premiers agreed, except for NSW firebrand Jack Lang, who declared a moratorium on any further debt payments. However, the Money Power was prepared: at the same time as Montagu Norman was financing the rise of Hitler's Nazi Party in Germany, his acolytes in Australia including Sir Robert Gibson and Melbourne's Baillieu clan, supported the rise of secretive, paramilitary, pro-fascist armies like Sydney's notorious New Guard (which included former PM John Howard's father), and the more secretive but even more powerful Melbourne and rural-based Old Guard, 1930-31 and Melbourne's White Army—all armed, drilled and prepared to run a coup d'état against Lang in NSW, and against the Federal Labor Government.

The Money Power vs. Lang and Anstey

The Money Power prepared the secret armies to stage a coup, in case Labor instituted national banking or even anything close to it. The armies were not deployed, but only because Federal Labor lost office in 1931, after the bankers orchestrated a split in the Cabinet over Lang's opposition to the Niemeyer Premier's Plan. The leader of the pro-Lang forces was Frank Anstey, another member of O'Malley's Torpedo Brigade, who shared with Lang a deep understanding of the evil nature of the Money Power. Anstey told the government, "If I have to make a choice between this government, constantly belly-crawling to the banking power, and John Lang, then give me John Lang." Anstey was dumped from the Cabinet; his protégé John Curtin went to NSW to campaign for Lang's re-election.

Tasmanian Labor MP Joe Lyons led the pro-British faction of the Cabinet. He split from the government in 1931 to join forces with the arch-Anglophile Nationalist MP Robert Menzies, whose legendary eloquence was usually deployed in service to grovel to Britain. Against Lang's plan to cut or postpone interest payments to British bondholders, in order to feed starving Australians and keep them in their homes, Menzies thundered: "If Australia were going to get through her troubles by abating or abandoning traditional British standards of honesty, of justice, of fair play, of resolute endeavour, it would be far better for Australia that every citizen within her boundaries should die of starvation during the next six months."

Campaigning against "Niemeyerism", Lang had swept to an overwhelming re-election victory in October 1930. However, when he refused to make debt payments to British bondholders, he was sacked by the Crown's representative, Governor Sir

Philip Game, on 13th May, 1932. On 5th June, the largest crowd in the history of Australia to that time, estimated at between 300,000 and 500,000 people, turned out in Sydney's Moore Park to support him. As historian John Moloney observed, Lang's sacking was vital if the Oligarchy were to keep Australia under control: "He [Lang] went from office convinced he was right... Right he may have been in that his action of repudiating debts, if followed at a federal level, would have so alienated Britain and Australia from each other that some form of an Australian republic could have eventuated."

Self-important British financier tool, Commonwealth Bank Chairman Sir Robert Gibson.

The Brisbane Line Plot to Hand Australia to Japan

The British deliberately left Australia defenceless at the outbreak of World War II, as per the longstanding British strategy to give imperial Japan all of Southeast Asia and Australia. Already in 1915 the British under Prime Minister Herbert Asquith secretly discussed ceding Australia to Japan; Asquith's leading civil servant Edwin Montagu remarked, "I would far rather cede Australia to the Japanese, than cede to Australia anything the Japanese want."

The British plan to "defend" Australia was the "Brisbane Line"—an invisible (and indefensible) line between Brisbane and Adelaide separating the populated southeast corner from the rest of the country. This farce of a strategy had originally been devised by Lord Kitchener in 1910, when he visited Australia to overhaul its defences as part of a reorganisation of British imperial forces for the impending world war, for which Britain had been scheming since the 1890s. Britain and Japan had been in official alliance since 1902, which remained unbroken until the eve of World War II. (Britain and Japan also drafted secret plans for a simultaneous attack on the U.S., with Japan's role being to destroy the major U.S. Pacific naval base at Pearl Harbour, Hawaii. Recognising the threat, the U.S. formulated its "War Plan Red" and "War Plan Orange", to defend against this British-Japanese alliance, which it maintained on its military planning

(l.) Huge crowds flocked to the opening of the Commonwealth Bank headquarters, Martin Place, Sydney. (Above l.): King O'Malley and (r.) Sir Denison Miller, the fathers of Australia's Hamiltonian national bank.

books up until World War II. When Japan did attack the U.S. in December 1941, it was at Pearl Harbour—just as she had planned when allied with the British.)

During the 1920s and 1930s, patriotic Labor Party leaders, including King O'Malley's closest friends Dr. William Maloney and J.H. Catts, and later John Curtin, were warning of the growing threat from Japan, and fighting to boost Australia's defences to meet it.

Meanwhile, the British directed their Australian toadies like Robert Menzies to hang Australia's entire defence on Britain's pledge to protect Australia with its fleet in Singapore. Labor leader John Curtin blasted this strategy: "The dependence of Australia on the competence, let alone the readiness, of British statesmen to send forces to our aid is too dangerous a hazard on which to found Australia's defence policy." However, Menzies repeatedly ignored Curtin and even the likes of BHP chief Essington Lewis, to continue to base Australia's security on a British pledge, *which he and Winston Churchill knew to be a lie:* Already in 1919, Britain's First Sea Lord, Lord Jellicoe, had stated that a British fleet would not be sent to the Pacific in the event of a simultaneous threat in Europe; and on 13th June, 1940, Britain's Secretary of State for the Dominions Lord Caldecote sent Menzies a secret message, that "It would be most unlikely that we could send adequate reinforcements to the Far East."

Australia was saved only by Prime Minister John Curtin's extraordinary courage in breaking with Britain, and his turn to the United States. When America's General Douglas MacArthur arrived in Australia to take command of the South Pacific theatre following Curtin's appeal to President Roosevelt, he was appalled by Australia's lack of defences, later describing it as the "greatest shock of the war". Working closely with Curtin, MacArthur scrapped the Brisbane Line strategy, and initiated a forward defence strategy that saved Australia, and won the war.

The Privy Council Squashes National Banking

The 1936-37 Royal Commission on Banking, which included future Labor Prime Minister Ben Chifley, was appointed to investigate the behaviour of the banks, and especially the Commonwealth Bank, during the Great Depression. So notorious had the banks been in restricting vital credit for agriculture, industry and social welfare, that even this conservative-dominated Commission declared that the Commonwealth Bank should have expanded credit, rather than restricting it, that the government must control the Bank such that, in case of a conflict between the two, "the views of the government should prevail." Chifley wrote a dissenting report, arguing the Commission's recommendations did not go far enough—Australia's banking system was so important, and its power to turn on and off credit had such a deep impact on the economy, that it should be nationalised, in the same way that utilities like power and water were government-owned, he said.

The Lyons-Menzies government, a puppet administration controlled by the private banks, had appointed the Royal Commission, but ignored its unwelcome findings. It wasn't until John Curtin and Labor took office during World War II, and Chifley was Treasurer, that they were finally enacted, using special wartime emergency powers. The results were brilliant: back under strict government control, the Commonwealth Bank whipped the private banks into line and forced them to function for the war effort and the common good. The banks were licensed, and the Commonwealth Bank regulated their investment portfolios, controlled their advances and interest rates, and stipulated the volume of funds which the banks had to deposit in special accounts in the Commonwealth Bank. Under this régime, war loans were filled, industry was financed, and Australia's physical economy underwent a miraculous war-time transformation from a mining/grazing backwater to an advanced industrial economy. Throughout it all, wartime profiteering

Map 1

The Brisbane Line, Britain's plan to cede Australia to the fascist empire of Japan, was foiled by PM John Curtin when he broke with Britain, and "looked to America".

Labor stalwarts against the Money Power: (l.) NSW Premier Jack Lang and (r.) Federal Labor MP Frank Anstey, future Prime Minister John Curtin's mentor.

was curtailed and the nation's financial system suffered no bank-induced inflation, despite the rapid growth of the economy.

In January 1945, with the end of the war on the horizon, Chifley tabled legislation to make the wartime controls of banking permanent. He said in Parliament, "The intention of this legislation is to ensure that the banking system of this country shall work in the interests of the people as a whole. … That final authority over the monetary policy of the country, shall rest with the Government, which is responsible to the Parliament, and the people. No longer shall we leave control … in the hands of the people ... whose interests are personal and material and are associated with 'big business'.'."

The British-controlled private banks hadn't dared to resist the government whilst the war was on, but now they went on the attack. The Melbourne City Council, owned lock, stock, and barrel by the Collins Street banks around the corner, took the government to the High Court, which in 1947 overturned whole sections of Chifley's legislation. Chifley, by then Prime Minister, hit back by introducing a new bill providing for the Commonwealth Bank to take over all private banks. The private banks launched a two-pronged assault: first, as insurance, they raised another clandestine private army like the New Guard and Old Guard of the Great Depression, this time a 100,000-strong force under the leadership of returned General Sir Thomas Blamey called "The Association"; second, they contested the bank nationalisation in the High Court, where it was again overturned. In 1949, when the High Court's decision was appealed to the Privy Council in London, the Privy Council duly ruled for British financial interests, against the people, just as the Colonial Office had provided for back in 1901. The last attempt to bring the Money Power under government control was squashed, Chifley lost that year's election to the arch-Anglophile Menzies, and two years later he was dead. Former Labor Treasurer Dr. Jim Cairns told the *New Citizen* in 2003 that Chifley's defeat on national banking destroyed the soul of the Labor Party: "It was very important to the Labor Party, and the action of the Privy Council took away the meaning, the real meaning, of Labor policy. [There was] a great deal of support, for what Chifley did."

Blocking Australia's Post-War Reconstruction

U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt's vision for the post-WWII world was for a community of sovereign nation-states, free from European colonialism and British imperialism, advancing the living standards of their peoples through economic development. Australian Prime Minister John Curtin shared Roosevelt's vision, and his government laid plans for Australia's post-war economic development, by establishing a Department of Post-War Reconstruction in 1942, which developed plans for at least seven great infrastructure projects, on the scale of, and including, the Snowy Mountains Scheme. The other six were: 2) the

Yass-Jervis Bay Regional Co-Development Plan for a railway and agricultural corridor between Yass and Jervis Bay; 3) The Clarence River Hydroelectric Scheme in northern NSW; 4) The Dawson Valley Irrigation Scheme west of Rockhampton in Queensland; 5) the Bradfield Scheme to turn Queensland's northern rivers inland; 6) the Reid Scheme in the Gulf of Carpentaria and Cape York Peninsula to irrigate Western Queensland via the Flinders and Diamentina Rivers; and 7) The Ord River Scheme in northern WA.

Central to the viability of these visionary projects was Chifley's banking legislation, which was intended to harness the credit for Australia's economic development. Chifley told Parliament in 1947, "Essentially the task of the new [banking] organisation will be to provide a financial mechanism appropriate to the needs of our rapidly growing economy. Australia is destined to see great developments in the coming years and this process, which is already underway, must be promoted by every means possible... The banking system must anticipate these needs..."

Therefore, when the British Money Power squashed Chifley's banking plans, it also squashed most of the post-war reconstruction program. Of the seven great projects, only one—the Snowy—was fully completed, and one partially, the Ord. The key agent for the British was H.C. "Nugget" Coombs. Curtin unfortunately appointed Coombs as Director-General of the Department of Post-War Reconstruction in 1943, and Chifley appointed him Governor of the Commonwealth Bank in 1949—positions of immense influence over Labor's post-war plans. What Curtin and Chifley didn't know about London School of Economics-educated Coombs, is that he represented the very Money Power they were dedicated to destroy. Coombs later boasted that he was a "member of the international freemasonry of central bankers", which, he noted, had been founded by Bank of England Governor Sir Montagu Norman. Coombs admitted that he purposefully squashed most of Labor's great projects. Despite being a Labor appointment, and over fierce oppo-

Labor Prime Minister and banking expert Ben Chifley.

sition, the Anglophile Menzies kept Coombs on as Commonwealth Bank Governor when he took office in 1949, and later appointed him as the first Governor of the Reserve Bank when the private bankers directed Menzies to split it off from the Commonwealth Bank in 1959. Coombs ran the central bank until 1968, when he retired to become the "father of Aboriginal land rights"—a Prince Philip-concocted scam to lock up vast tracts of Australia from any economic development, and for the benefit of the Crown-centred raw materials cartel.

Prince Philip's WWF and the Australian Conservation Foundation

During the 1963 Royal Tour of Australia, Prince Philip established the Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF), the genesis of the "green" curse that not only smothers any real economic development in Australia today, but is also purposely dismantling whole areas of Australia's vital agro-industrial capacity, such as the Murray-Darling Basin. Philip and former Nazi Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands had founded the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) in 1961. Funded by a who's who of the world's biggest multinational corporations, the intent of the Anglo-Dutch behind the WWF was to savagely reduce the world's population, under cover of "environmentalism". So Philip recruited Australia's establishment powerbrokers into his ACF. Leading the charge was Sir Maurice Mawby, head of Conzinc Riotinto of Australia (CRA), who chaired the ACF's Benefactors and National Sponsors Committee. The CRA was the Australian arm of Rio Tinto, in which the Queen herself has

> *"The intention of this legislation is to ensure that the banking system of this country shall work in the interests of the people as a whole. That final authority over the monetary policy of the country, shall rest with the Government, which is responsible to the Parliament, and the people. No longer shall we leave control ... in the hands of the people ... whose interests are personal and material and are associated with 'big business'." — Ben Chifley*

long been the major stockholder. The ACF spawned the entire spectrum of green movements, as well as Aboriginal "land rights" movements in Australia ever since QC Sir Garfield Barwick, who spearheaded the British Money Power's counterattack against Ben Chifley's banking legislation, became the ACF's inaugural President.

Prince Philip was President of the ACF from 1971-76, and later was succeeded by central bank svengali H.C. Nugget Coombs.

Sacking Whitlam

The long arm of British control grabbed Australia by the throat again in 1975, when the Queen sacked the Whitlam Labor government. In a period of global instability following the dismantling of the Bretton Woods monetary system, the British and their American agents like Henry Kissinger and George Shultz had unleashed globalisation and free trade, to smash sovereign nation-states once and for all. However, in Australia, the first Labor government for 23 years was elected in 1972, which still held to many of the principles of national sovereignty and the common good, of Jack Lang, John Curtin and Ben Chifley, which had made them such a threat to the Money Power. From the British standpoint, foremost among the new threats in the Whitlam government were Treasurer Jim Cairns, and Minerals and Energy Minister Rex Connor. Connor's popular "buy back the farm" campaign would have stripped multinational—mainly British—companies of their control of Australia's enormous resource wealth, and none stood to lose more than the Queen's CRA. With an enormous propaganda assault provided by Rupert Murdoch, the Whitlam government was hounded over the so-called "loans affair"—which a Liberal Party investigation led by none oth-

er than future PM John Howard later concluded was baseless—and crippled when the Senate blocked the passage of the bills of supply. Again, the Colonial Office's redrafting of the Constitution paid dividends for the Crown, and Governor-General Sir John Kerr dismissed the Whitlam government.

Free Trade Looting of Australia

From almost the outset, the British intended Australia to be a free trade colony, which would supply the raw materials of coal, minerals, and wool for the British empire. This clashed with the natural aspirations of the ordinary people who populated the new colony, and who aspired to industrial progress and nationhood, the model for which was the protectionist ideas of the United States of America. Over time, the protectionist view prevailed, especially during World War II and its immediate aftermath, when the small Australian economy transformed from an agrarian backwater into an industrial powerhouse, a transformation driven by the Curtin-Chifley war-time economic mobilisation, under the organisation skills of the great industrialist Essington Lewis, and reinforced by the post-war protectionist policies of Country Party leader John "Black Jack" McEwen.

However, in 1947, the British Crown formed an economic warfare unit among a group of European aristocrats and Austrian economists, many former Nazi sympathisers, named after the Swiss mountain on which they met, the Mont Pelerin Society (MPS). The Queen's personal financier, Harley Drayton, arranged the finances for the MPS, which started a global campaign to revive free trade. From 1975, the Crown unleashed the MPS in Australia, through fronts like the Centre for Independent Studies (CIS) and the Institute of Public Affairs (IPA), which ran operations in the major political parties to purge them of economic "wets", leaving only the hard-core, "dry" economic rationalist position that emerged in the early 1980s. With both sides of politics so reshaped, the free trade looting of Australia began: Bob Hawke and Paul Keating, with the full support of the Liberals, deregulated domestic banking and opened Australia up to multinational banks; floated the dollar; destroyed manufacturing by slashing tariffs; looted public assets through "privatisation"; and devised National Competition Policy to dismantle all the internal protective regulations which underpinned local industries, which gutted the nation's industrial base.

The destructive impact of free trade

on Australia was well-known before the fact: a 1929 Tariff Board report had cautioned that if Australia were to return to British free trade, the Australian economy would be based on grazing and mining, and have a maximum population of just five million people.

Macquarie Bank

The "Millionaires Factory", Macquarie Bank, originally known as Hill Samuel Australia, was founded in 1969 as a subsidiary of that lynchpin of British imperialism, London's Hill Samuel Bank, whose chairman Sir Kenneth Keith had run British intelligence following World War II. It spearheaded "privatisation" in Australia, which was cooked up by the City of London to loot and destroy sovereign nation states.

Executive Intelligence Review's economics editor John Hoefle told the *New Citizen* April/May 2008, "Macquarie is the Australian version of Enron, both sent on kamikaze missions by the British to act as battering rams to further their imperial control. Like Enron, Macquarie will not survive the process, but its masters will be able to pick up the pieces at pennies on the dollar. Macquarie is just a tool to push privatisation, using money from the financial bubble to buy control of physical assets, control which will pass to Macquarie's controllers once Macquarie collapses. It is already dead, whether it realises it or not."

Macquarie typically hires those officials (or their relatives) who push its agenda while in public service; grants them gigantic salaries once they retire; and then deploys them as influence peddlers on their mates who are still in office. The following examples of current or former Macquarie personnel, by no means comprehensive, are typical of that modus operandi:

Fred Hilmer, architect of National Competition Policy (NCP);

Graeme Samuel, enforcer of NCP, first through the National Competition Council, then as chairman of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission;

Alan Stockdale, awarded hundreds of millions in fees to Macquarie as Treasurer of Victoria under Kennett;

Max Moore-Wilton, Secretary of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet under John Howard, then Executive Chair of Macquarie's Sydney Airports Corporation;

Paul McClintock, Secretary to the Cabinet under Howard;

Stan Howard, John Howard's older brother and chairman of Sydney's M2 toll road;

Ann Keating, Paul Keating's younger sister;

Bob Carr, a fanatic privatisation advocate as NSW Premier, now on $500,000 per year from Macquarie as a "consultant".

Huge pipes carrying water to turbines in the Snowy Mountains Hydroelectric Scheme, the one great Post-War Reconstruction project not squashed by the City of London.

Tunnelling on the Snowy Mountains Scheme, one of the engineering wonders of the world.

Macquarie banksters: (l.-r.) Fred Hilmer, Graeme Samuel, Alan Stockdale, Bob Carr.