THE NEW
CITIZEN®
Vol 7 No 9 April/May/June 2013 $2.00 (inc GST) Print Post: 30601/00002
Official Publication of the Political Party
Citizens Electoral Council of Australia

For More Information:
CONTACT US
1800 636 432
PO Box 376
Coburg Vic 3058
Web:www.cecaust.com.au
Email:cec@cecaust.com.au

Glass-Steagall, or the British Crown's Mass Murder:

Do You Intend To Die For The Banks?

10 April 2013—*Just like the people of Cyprus, Australians and much of the rest of the world's population will soon see their bank deposits confiscated and themselves plunged into not merely poverty, but mass starvation and death. Supposedly, all this is necessary to bail out the bankrupt, London-centred world monetary system. But that's just the excuse. Prince Philip and Queen Elizabeth II have openly, repeatedly proclaimed their intent to kill some six billion of the world's seven billion human beings, in order to consolidate permanent, worldwide British imperial rule.*[1] *The present global banking crisis happens to be a convenient vehicle to conduct that mass murder.*[2]

*But precisely because their system is bankrupt beyond repair, the Crown and its financial oligarchy can be defeated—*if *the targeted populations, and that means* you*—choose to fight. This issue of* The New Citizen *explains, step by step, how you can do that.*

To achieve its goal of reducing the world's population down to less than a billion people, the British Crown (left) through its City of London interests is dictating the stealing of deposits and enforced starvation now under way in Cyprus (right), and planned for the rest of the world.

The financial crisis that erupted in Cyprus in late March has turned into the Great Cyprus Bank Heist, and a death sentence for Cypriots. Faced with the collapse of Cyprus' banks and the entire euro system, the Troika of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), European Central Bank (ECB) and European Union (EU) which dictate monetary policy to the nations of Europe under the direction of the British financial oligarchy (see below), sprang into action with a scheme, planned well in advance, to steal depositors' funds ostensibly to save the banks. Forced temporarily to back away from the original intention to seize a percentage of all deposits, the eventual "bail-in" mechanism involved the seizure of all deposits in the largest banks, including the Bank of Cyprus, above 100,000 euros, 37.5 per cent of which were forcibly converted to shares in the bank, 22.5 per cent written off, and the balance of 40 per cent frozen, but to supposedly accrue interest.

Even before its implementation, the plan caused a 100 per cent freeze on liquidity in the banking system, imposed to avert an entirely predictable "run" on the banks. Under these conditions, the people of Cyprus are suffering such a sharp economic collapse that many face starvation. Cypriots can only withdraw 300 euros per day, and use only cash—cheques and credit cards don't work. Businesses cannot function. Suppliers who ship the food and other goods that the island nation depends upon are refusing to accept bills of credit from Cypriot banks, so goods are disappearing from supermarket shelves and many stores have closed. Food lines are growing in the cities, and some Cypriots are stockpiling essentials such as baby formula, canned food and olive oil. Electricity consumption has plunged 25 per cent in just two weeks.

The suffering in Cyprus exposes the true intention of those in the British financial oligarchy who are calling the shots on the global financial crisis: it's not really your money they want—*it's your life!* Supposedly, the system for which the people of Cyprus—just like the people of Greece, Spain, Ireland et al.—are being sacrificed, is the $1.4 quadrillion ($1,400 trillion) global bubble of unpayable and toxic derivatives obligations, i.e. gambling debts, centred in the City of London. But the British know very well that that is impossible. As former Morgan Stanley derivatives trader Frank Partnoy exposed in his incisive 1997 book *F.I.A.S.C.O.: Blood in the Water on Wall Street*, derivatives are bets made to cover losses, and to make losses appear to be gains for short periods of time. British insiders boast that the present British empire is a City of London-centred "informal financial empire", including its colony on Wall Street. However, since The City is where most of the world's derivatives bets are laid, that empire is now terminally bankrupt, the $1.4 quadrillion derivatives bubble the tab of its accumulated losses. But in the British system of monetarism, it is the people who have

Continued page 2

Enact a Glass-Steagall Banking Separation, NOW!

The U.S. Congress is now considering a bill, *House Resolution 129*, to re-enact the *Glass-Steagall Act 1933*, which split commercial banks that hold deposits, off from risky investment banks. The *Glass-Steagall Act* protected America's depositors until its repeal in 1999 led directly to the creation of the Wall Street megabanks, their reckless gambling losses that caused the global financial crisis, and the trillions of dollars in government and central bank bailouts.

Politicians in Italy, Iceland, Belgium, Sweden and Switzerland are working on Glass-Steagall laws; on 18 March the Iceland Parliament's Economics and Trade committee unanimously passed a motion for a banking separation. In the U.K. more than 60 per cent of British MPs support a full-scale Glass-Steagall-style separation for their banking system.

Australian politicians must recognise that the financial danger their international counterparts are acting to avert is a global threat from which Australia is not immune, and move urgently to enact a Glass-Steagall separation for the Australian financial system.

Risky Business

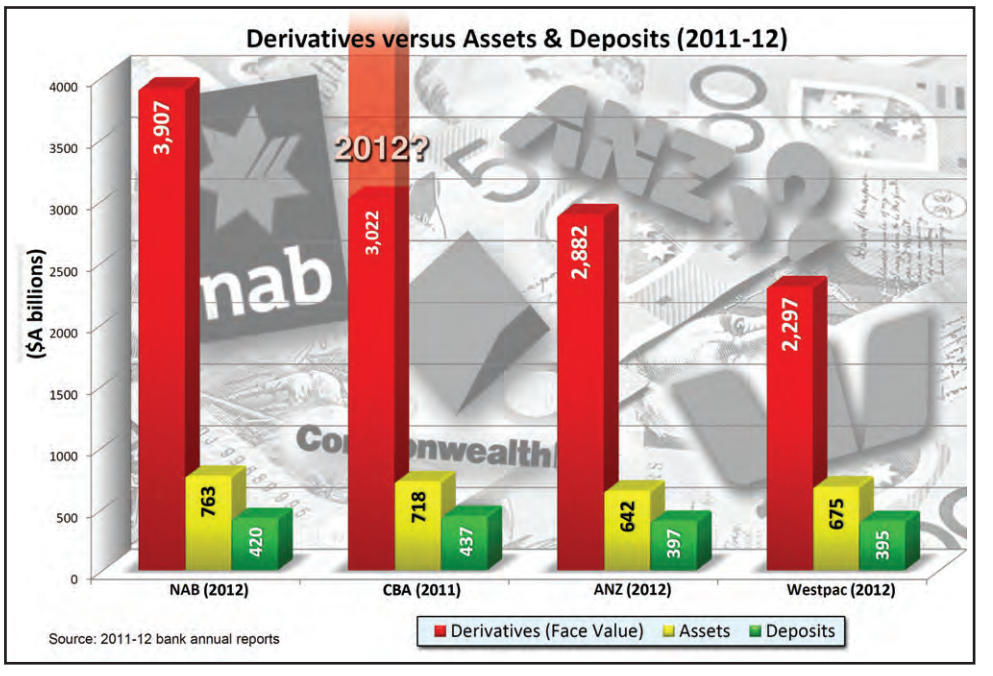
By the Glass-Steagall standard, Australia's banks are a nightmare.

Four major banks—CBA, ANZ, NAB and Westpac—dominate Australia's financial system. The same banks dominate New Zealand. The IMF noted with concern in November 2012 that the level to which the domestic financial system is concentrated in these four banks, which between them hold 80 per cent of Australian residents' assets, makes them systemic—a crisis in these banks is a crisis for the entire system.

The Big Four banks are each conglomerates, combining the traditional banking of deposits and loans with the riskier financial activities of investment banking, funds management, stockbroking, and insurance. This structure is precisely what the architects of the *Glass-Steagall Act* recognised posed such a risk to the security of depositors.

There is an assumption that the Big Four won't get into crisis, as they are the strongest banks in the world. This is the same assumption that every nation presently in financial crisis held about their own banks when they were riding high. Not only was it proved wrong for those nations, it has already been proven wrong for Australia. The supposedly "sound" Australian banks almost went bankrupt when the GFC erupted in Sep.-Oct. 2008; unable to repay their enormous foreign debts, they had to beg the Rudd government to go guarantor for new foreign borrowings to roll over their existing loans. The banks told Rudd that without the government guarantee "they would be insolvent sooner rather than later", recounted Ross Garnaut and David Llewellyn-Smith in their book *The Great Crash of 2008*. They are still teetering on the edge. From its recent analysis of the Australian financial system, the IMF warned that the capital

Continued page 4



For 20 years, as did the rest of the Big Four banks, the CBA disclosed its exposure to derivatives—until 2012. However, following a recent explosion in derivatives speculation which outpaced even that of the other big banks, CBA now suddenly refuses to release its true exposure. But, whether hidden or disclosed, the derivatives obligations of all Big Four banks swamp the value of their assets and deposits. When the banks blow, as, without Glass-Steagall they assuredly will—what will happen to your deposits?

From page 1

always borne the losses, through poverty, starvation, disease and war, all to ensure British imperial rule, itself an unbroken continuation of the imperial system stretching back through Venice, Byzantium, Rome, and to Babylon before them.

Quantitative Stealing

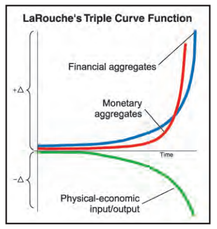
Without knowing what would soon erupt in Cyprus or the details of the new "bail-in" policy, but fully cognizant of the British monetarist system, U.S. statesman and physical economist Lyndon LaRouche warned in a 15 February 2013 international webcast that the oligarchy was well aware that their present policy of monetary bailouts called "quantitative easing"—hyperinflationary money printing—could never possibly work. In the more than four years since the derivatives bubble went into meltdown in 2007-08, U.S. Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke and his fellow central bankers in the ECB, Bank of England and Bank of Japan have printed $4.4 trillion, and plan to print another $6 trillion in the next two years. The British oligarchy, LaRouche warned, have a different endgame:

"They would not try to bail out Ben Bernanke and his operation; they would do something much nastier. They would dump Ben Bernanke, dump the existing financial system itself, ignore the system they cancelled, and put in their own new system. … And what happens in a case like this: The amount of debt outstanding on account of this bailout system, a monetarist system—a financial easing, a monetary easing—has got to be cancelled! So, there will be no such money available! There will be no such reserves. What will happen will be that an international cabal will create a new system of money, which will be much smaller, much more feasibly handled than the present one. What will happen to all the people who are excluded from the use of this more limited quantity of money? They will starve to death!"

LaRouche was spot-on, because it has just recently emerged that plans for this new and exclusive monetary system have been in place for a number of years, most notably in a 10 December 2012 paper jointly authored by the Bank of England (BoE) and the U.S. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) entitled "Resolving Globally Active, Systemically Important, Financial Institutions" (known to insiders as G-SIFIs). The plan, directed top-down by the Bank of England, involves identifying by the end of this year which of the world's banks they deem to be G-SIFIs, which will be the banks that are saved while the rest are allowed to fail. The mechanism to save the G-SIFIs will be depositor "bail-ins": "unsecured creditors [i.e. depositors] can expect that their claims would be written down to reflect any losses that shareholders cannot cover, with some converted partly into equity..." The BoE-FDIC document describes how this forced co-option of deposits would produce a new financial system: "The resulting new private sector operations would be smaller, more manageable—and perhaps more profitable..."

For most people, Cyprus was a shocker: the realisation that financial authorities would openly steal their deposits in order to prop up banks. But the BoE/FDIC plan was just the latest, most sweeping version of a number of other "bail-in" plans that pre-date Cyprus, which have now come to light:

• On 6 June 2012, the European Commission issued a plan for "Bank Recovery and Resolution", centred around a bail-in scheme for deposits above 100,000 euros.



LaRouche's "Triple Curve" illustrates the inevitability of the total breakdown of the present economic system.

• In late 2012, non-EU member Switzerland followed suit, providing for deposits over 100,000 Swiss francs to be part of the bail-in capital.

• On 21 March 2013, just days before Cyprus erupted, Canada's Ministry of Finance released its "Economic Action Plan 2013", which declared, "The Government proposes to implement a 'bail-in' regime for systemically important banks."

• In Spain, five banks, including the giant Bankia, had already in recent years succeeded in convincing depositors to convert their deposits to "preferred shares"; in the same week as Cyprus, Spain's bank reorganisation agency announced haircuts of 39-50 per cent on all preferred shareholders!

New Zealand and Australia

The sleepy hollow of New Zealand seems to be leading the charge for "bail-ins", just as it led the world in mass privatisations (mass looting) in the 1980s. The New Zealand Reserve Bank has worked with the Bank for International Settlements (BIS, the international clearing house for the Nazis during World War II) to develop a prototype for "bail-in" that could be applied globally. Importantly, whereas financial authorities in other countries have sought to downplay the controversy over bail-ins by studied ambiguity about whether or not "unsecured creditors" means depositors—Cyprus notwithstanding—the New Zealand Reserve Bank's "Open Bank Resolution" (OBR) policy leaves no doubt: "Under OBR, shareholders are the first to bear the bank's losses, followed by its subordinated debt holders. If there are any remaining losses, these are then allocated to the bank's unsecured creditors, including its depositors", reads the September 2011 *RBNZ Bulletin*, "A primer on Open Bank Resolution".

There is no doubt this is being planned for Australia as well. A well-placed source has informed *The New Citizen* that Australia's regulators are coordinating with their international counterparts in the BIS and BoE to establish a depositor bail-in regime for the Australian banking system. Its schemers, the source revealed, are fully aware that this plan will be extremely unpopular with the public, and expect that its implementation will "bring down the government".

Glass-Steagall

Besides the British Royals' own repeated proclamations, the proof of the deliberate, murderous intent behind this criminal policy is the fact that there is a clear-cut alternative: a Glass-Steagall separation between the banks that hold deposits and service daily commerce, and the investment banks that ran up the derivatives gambling losses. Such a separation, based on the demonstrably successful U.S. *Glass-Steagall Act* that was in place from 1933 to 1999, would instantly protect essential banking services and the deposits of the population, and trigger an orderly collapse and write-off of the derivatives bubble. The financiers behind "bail-in" are desperate to stop any move to Glass-Steagall, knowing it will strip them of power. Said LaRouche about the British-led financial oligarchy in his 15 February webcast, "I know exactly what they're doing, because I know how systems work. This is the greatest population-reduction scheme so far in known history. And that's what the policy of the people who oppose Glass-Steagall is—whether they themselves know it or not. But they will be held accountable for the effect of that policy."

In this special election edition of *The New Citizen*, the CEC presents the three policies which LaRouche has specified that governments must implement to ensure the survival of their nations and put them on the road to recovery and ultimate prosperity. It all starts with implementing a Glass-Steagall banking separation. Otherwise, Australia's derivatives-riddled banking system will assuredly collapse and many, many Australians will die.

1. See, for instance, the October/November 2011 *New Citizen*, "Defeat the British Crown's Green Fascist Dictatorship" [www.cecaust.com.au/pubs/pdfs/cv7n6_part2of2.pdf] for the Royal pronouncements for genocide, and for the creation of Prince Philip's WWF and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) by the leaders of the British Eugenics Society. Once you take the Royals at their mass-murderous word, the purpose, for example, behind the present, relentless elimination of Australian agriculture through shutting down the Murray-Darling Basin food bowl; through the Coles-Woolies "price wars", through the infinitely expanding "green" restrictions on family farming; and through the sell-off or shut-down of our prime agricultural land under one shameless pretext after another, becomes immediately transparent. With all of this in plain view, who but an hysterical coward would not recognise the obvious, and fight it?

2. They have another option on tap as well: inducing their mentally-ill puppet, U.S. President Barack Obama, to launch thermonuclear war against Russia and China. Those two great powers well understand that the endless process of "regime change" which began with the "colour revolutions" starting in the 1990s, and has continued through the invasions of Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, and the present targeting of the governments of Syria, Iran and North Korea for overthrow or war, ultimately converges upon them. All this as the U.S. forges ahead with a global Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) system in which it refuses to collaborate with Russia or China, even as it rings their borders with ABM facilities. And if such a war does eventuate, Australia, as the centrepiece of Obama's "Asia pivot" will most certainly be targeted. See the June/July 2012 *New Citizen*, "British Crown's End-Game: Financial Crash and Nuclear War" [www.cecaust.com.au/pubs/pdfs/cv7n7_Final.pdf].

If you want to live:

1. Call your MP and demand to know if they have signed on to a "bail-in" plan for Australia.
2. If not, then demand that they immediately commit to passing two urgent pieces of legislation, including by themselves introducing Private Members Bills for:
   a) Glass-Steagall
   b) The CEC's already drafted legislation for a National Bank.

Australia Must Establish a National Bank for Public Credit

Glass-Steagall is the emergency tourniquet, to stop the financial haemorrhaging, but the key institution to generate an economic recovery is a national bank. The CEC has drafted a bill to establish the Commonwealth National Credit Bank (CNCB), through which the government can direct public credit in the form of low-interest loans into the long-term investments in physical infrastructure and productive industries that are the foundation of any economy.

Commonwealth National Credit Bank Bill

The CNCB bill repeals the *Reserve Bank Act 1959*, completely replacing it. It amends the *Banking Act 1959*. In particular, it removes the Governor-General's powers and grants them to the board of the new bank, comprised of the Commonwealth Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, Treasurer, five Commonwealth Ministers relevant to primary industry, secondary industry, defence health and education, and the Premiers of each state and the Chief Ministers of the Territories; in effect, the CNCB board replaces the existing Council of Australian Governments (COAG). It establishes a bank which is responsible to Parliament, instead of to the private individuals who currently run the Reserve Bank, and mandates, by law, the bank to function in such a manner as to increase Australia's capacity to support a growing population at an increasingly higher standard of living, achieved through a rise in the physical output of the nation and in the rate of introduction of new technologies into the economy.

The "powers" of the proposed new Bank are greater than those of the existing Reserve Bank, and in addition to those of the Reserve Bank, include power:

1. To issue notes and establish credits to acquire, support and retain the sovereignty of Australia and for the defence of the lives, liberty and happiness of the Australian people;

2. To control, and if necessary, prohibit, the movement and dealing in currency, of foreign exchange and financial instruments of the widest definition;

3. To plan, measure, and map the economic state of the nation;

4. To provide credits under a *National Emergency Credit Issue Act* to guarantee up to $100,000 per individual person, the deposits of such persons in the event of a financial collapse of a substantial percentage of the existing trading banks.

CNCB credit will come from three sources: its start-up capital; deposits; and created credit. The capital will come from taking over the Reserve Bank. Deposits will come from the revenues of the federal government, and, within Constitutional constraints, state and local governments too.[1] Deposits in the national bank, while being 100 per cent safe, will earn interest lower than "market" rates, which is a positive: the same governments will benefit immensely from being able to borrow long-term loans from the CNCB at low interest for investments in infrastructure.

The power to "create" credit, as if from nothing, is precisely the same power that central banks have today. However, all new credit-creation by the Bank shall, by the terms of this Bill, be tied to tangible hard commodity production, and the present Reserve Bank's ability to create or extinguish credit by "open market operations" is expressly forbidden. The difference between the credit-creation of the national bank and the quantitative easing central banks employ to expand the overall money supply in the money markets, is that the national bank credit is directed into specific productive sectors that guarantee growth in the nation's physical productive capacity. It is this growth that gives value to the created credit.

National Banking Built Nations

There are numerous precedents for the CNCB, going back to the system of national banking invented in the United States of America by the first U.S. President George Washington's Treasury Secretary, Alexander Hamilton. Hamilton designed a unique financial system based upon utilising public credit to foster national economic development. The Hamiltonian system broke away from the British model of a monetary system, in which the basis of wealth is reserves of money, usually in gold or silver, the control of which, in private hands, is a source of enormous power. In Hamilton's public credit system, the basis of wealth was the future productivity of the population of the nation.

> *"I am humble Abraham Lincoln. My politics are short and sweet... I am in favour of a national bank, the internal improvement system, and a high protective tariff."*

Left to private financiers, many industries and infrastructure projects would not be funded, deemed not sufficiently profitable. With public credit however, such industries and projects can be funded, and return long-term benefits to the nation, far beyond merely short-term monetary profit.

The national bank that Hamilton established, called the First Bank of the United States, demonstrated this principle very successfully in the period it operated under its 20-year charter, 1791-1811. Promoting its establishment, Hamilton predicted, "The tendency of the national bank is to increase public and private credit... Industry is increased, commodities are multiplied, agriculture and manufactures flourish; and herein consists the true wealth and prosperity of a state."

Four years into its operation, Hamilton informed Congress in his 1795 *Report On Public Credit*, "No well-informed man can cast a retrospective eye over the progress of the United States... without being convinced that they owe, in a great degree, to the fostering influence of credit, their present mature growth. This credit has been of a mixed nature, mercantile and public, foreign and domestic. Credit abroad was the trunk of our mercantile credit, from which issued ramifications that nourished all the parts of domestic labor and industry... If the individual capital of this country has become more adequate to its exigencies than formerly, it is because individuals have found new resources in the public *credit*—in the funds to which that has given value and activity."

From this beginning, in every instance where governments have used national banking, it has driven incredible advances in national economic development:

• America's 1816-36 Second Bank of the United States fostered an incredible program of "internal improvements", including a massive increase in iron production, the construction of 61 railroads, and a canal construction program centred in the state of Pennsylvania which to that time was the biggest project in world history.

• President Abraham Lincoln (1861-65) used public credit to establish a national currency backed not by gold or silver but by the wealth of the nation. Lincoln's "greenbacks" were central to both the war effort, and his launching of the greatest period of economic development in world history, around the development of transcontinental railroads that united the continental U.S. and spurred unprecedented economic growth.

• The American immigrant, King O'Malley, who organised tirelessly to establish a Hamiltonian national bank for Australia in 1911, the Commonwealth Bank, declared in 1909, "I am the Hamilton of Australia... The American experience should determine us to establish a national bank which cannot be attacked." In its first decade, coinciding with WWI, the Commonwealth Bank averted a war panic-triggered "run" on the private banks; raised £250 million in war loans; financed the overnight creation of the Commonwealth Shipping Line; financed national "pools" for agricultural products so farmers could be paid to keep producing; financed the construction and purchase of desperately-needed housing for returned soldiers; and advanced credit of almost £10 million to local councils for roads, bridges, drainage, gas and electricity, tramways, sanitation, harbour improvements and buildings.

• U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt used public credit issued by his Reconstruction Finance Corporation to fund the major infrastructure and other projects which pulled the United States out of the Great Depression.

• In WWII, Prime Minister John Curtin and his Treasurer Ben Chifley, gave the Commonwealth Bank complete authority over the private banks, so that the government could direct maximum credit to the war effort, and transform the Australian economy from an agrarian backwater into an industrial powerhouse, with advanced manufacturing capacity in auto, aircraft and machine tools. Remarkably, the Commonwealth Bank's controls ensured little or no war-time inflation. After the war, the Commonwealth Bank financed post-war reconstruction, including the signature post-war project, the Snowy Mountains Scheme.

• Public credit issued through Germany's Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau bank unleashed that nation's post-WWII "economic miracle".

1. Under the Australian Constitution, state governments can form their own state banks; if they choose not to, they'd be mad not to bank with the CNCB.

New Citizen

Published & printed by:
Citizens Media Group Pty Ltd
595 Sydney Rd Coburg Vic
PO Box 376 Coburg Vic 3058
ACN: 010 904 757
Tel: 03 9354 0544
Fax: 03 9354 0166
Editor Craig Isherwood
cec@cecaust.com.au

From page 1

of Australia's banks is only six per cent of their assets. This enables the banks to rack up bigger profits, but it leaves them extremely vulnerable—a mere six per cent decline in the value of their assets will wipe them out.

Adding to the structural vulnerability, the four banks are very similar businesses:

• They are each heavily exposed to the inflated domestic property market, which accounts for more than 50 per cent of their lending. A property market decline in Australia similar to that suffered in every other economy whose property bubbles burst would be enough to collapse all four banks.

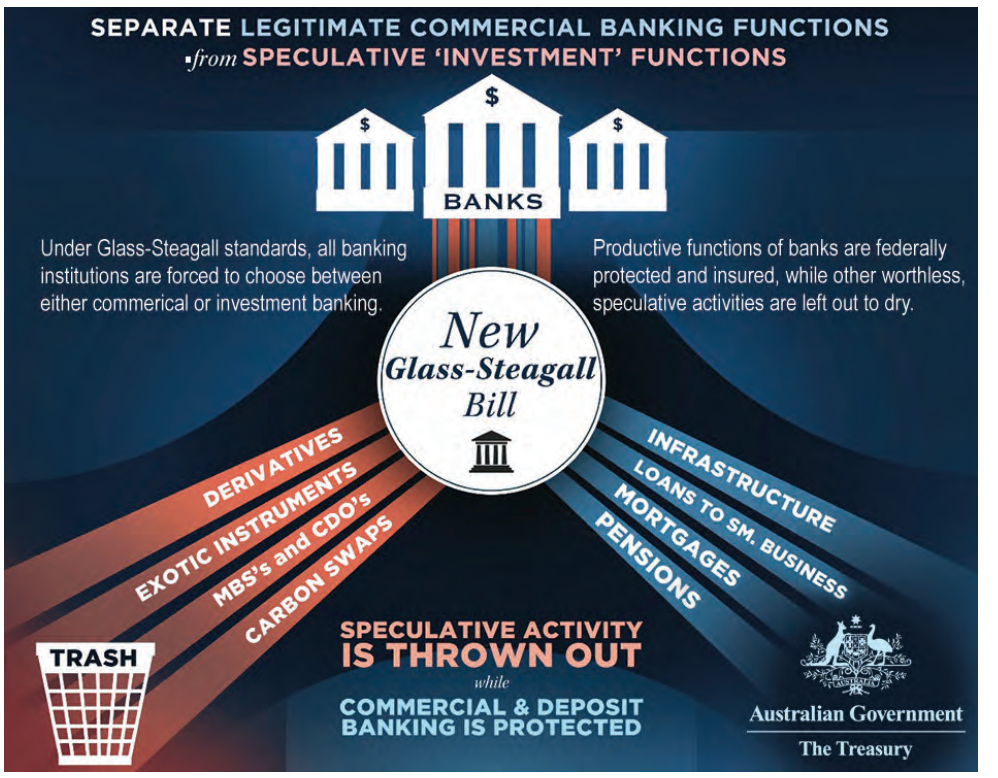
• Each bank is dangerously exposed to toxic derivatives contracts, with a notional value many times the bank's assets. The Reserve Bank reports total derivatives exposure for all Australian banks is a fraction short of $20 trillion; total bank assets by comparison are $2.85 trillion. This exposure is kept "off-balance sheet". In August 2012, when former Citigroup Chairman and CEO Sandy Weill told CNBC television that Glass-Steagall should be restored, he added, mindful of the destruction that derivatives had wreaked on Wall Street in 2008, "There should be no such thing as off-balance sheet."

• The four banks are also heavily reliant on foreign loans. More than half, $802 billion as of September 2012, of Australia's gross foreign debt of $1.4 trillion is owed by banks, the majority of that by the Big Four. Some $513 billion is short-term debt, one year or less maturity; another $340 billion is 90 days or less. It is this short-term debt which virtually bankrupted them in 2008.

Australians Call for Glass-Steagall

A number of Australians with intimate knowledge of the Australian financial system have called for Glass-Steagall. The most prominent is former NAB CEO and BHP Chairman Don Argus. Argus told the 17 September 2011 *The Australian*, "People are lashing out and creating all sorts of regulation, but the issue is whether they're creating the right regulation. What has to be done is to separate commercial banking from investment banking. I challenge any commercial bank board to really understand investment banking risk. It's different and needs to be properly priced. But you actually don't want it on a commercial bank balance sheet that comprises depositor funds".

The 6 August 2012 *Australian Financial Review* reported an unnamed "retired senior local banker" who was raising "concerns about the potential for a local bank to get into strife". Under the headline "Big four might make a better eight", the *AFR* revealed that their source, careful to remain anonymous due to his present position, echoed Wall Street banker Sandy Weill's call for Glass-Steagall: "Australia's banks were too big and complex and should be broken up".



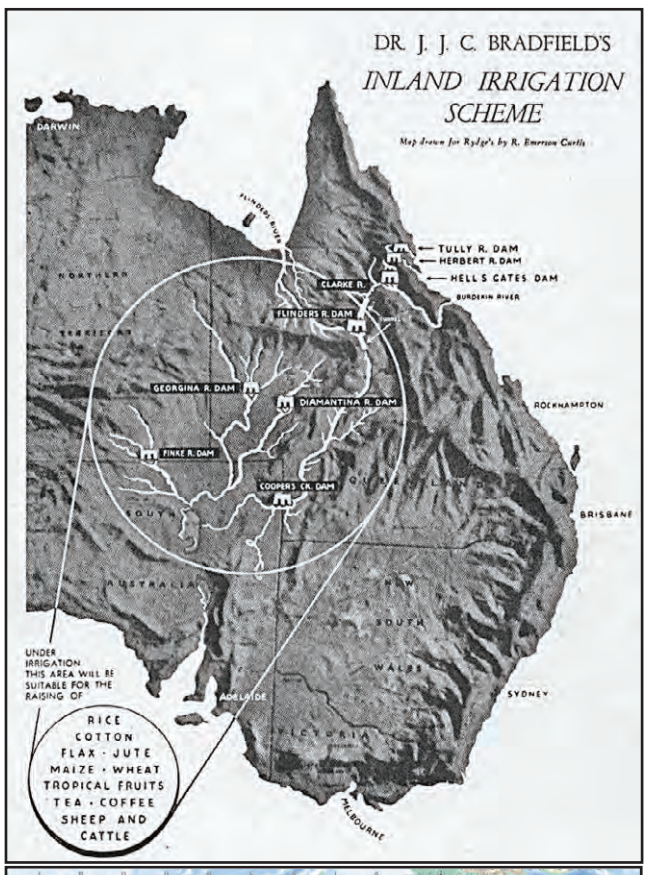
Build the Future through Great Infrastructure

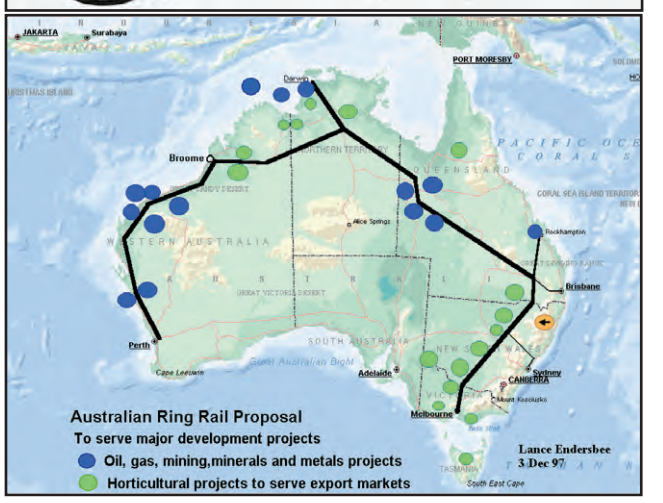
With a national bank, Australia can set out to rebuild its physical economy, which has been devastated by decades of disinvestment and outright looting through scams such as privatisation, as have most other nations. In 2011, Infrastructure Partnerships Australia, the nation's peak infrastructure body representing government and business, estimated that Australia had an infrastructure deficit of $770 billion. Addressing this crisis is the key to Australia's economic recovery and prosperity. Millions of productive jobs will be created through infrastructure construction alone, and such projects will stimulate productive industries that will create millions more jobs. In 2002 the CEC collaborated with the late Emeritus Professor of Engineering at Monash University, Lance Endersbee, to produce a comprehensive blueprint for infrastructure development in Australia called "The Infrastructure Road to Recovery", [reprinted in *The New Citizen* April 2006] which featured plans for 18 major water projects for flood control, drought-proofing Australia, and conquering salinity, along with plans for high-speed rail and shipping, cutting-edge nuclear power technology, and conquering space. Following are three of the key projects in water management, transport, and nuclear power which the CEC is committed to building immediately. As government projects funded by a national bank, they will put Australia on the path to prosperity.

The Bradfield Scheme

Dr. J.J.C. Bradfield, the engineer behind the iconic Sydney Harbour Bridge and Sydney's underground rail network, also designed a grand scheme for harnessing the immense rainfall of far-north Queensland to water the inland. The "Bradfield Scheme" was featured on the list of great Post-War Reconstruction projects planned by the Chifley government, of which only the Snowy Mountains Scheme was ever built. (Robert Menzies, who opposed even the Snowy, killed the plan together with Post-War Reconstruction Minister Nugget Coombs.) Promoting his idea in 1941, Bradfield wrote, "To populate and develop Australia, we must spend money to make money. The money spent would all be for labour and materials of Australian origin... Australia must control her own economic independence, not London... The nation without vision perishes, but the heart and mind of any vigorous people responds to the dreams of its national destiny and will endeavour to make full use of its heritage..."

The North-East Coast Division of Australia's water catchments, running the narrow length of the Queensland coast east of the Great Dividing Range, experiences 21.1 per cent of Australia's surface run-off water. This compares to the much larger Murray-Darling Division, which experiences just 6.1 per cent but produces the majority of the nation's food, and the Lake Eyre Division which experiences only 1.9 per cent. Bradfield's scheme will dam and divert the headwaters of the Tully, Herbert and Burdekin rivers in the highest-rainfall area of the North-East Coast Division, across the Great Dividing Range through a series of tunnels and channels, and down into Central Queensland's Flinders and Thomson rivers and eventually into Lake Eyre. The water will irrigate an explosion of agricultural production and drought-proof inland Australia. In 1984, at the direction of Bob Katter Jr., then the Minister for Northern Development in the Queensland state government, four of Australia's best known hydraulic engineering firms formed the Bradfield Study Consortium, but due to a change of government in Queensland the Consortium's report was never released. In 1993 the relevant Shire Councils of North and Central Queensland formed the Northern Australian Water Development Council, to fight for a revised version of the Bradfield Scheme, which at that time was estimated to cost a mere $2.49 billion. Queensland's Office of Northern Development projected that the scheme would create $2.02 billion annually in direct agricultural output, not to mention the billions saved in drought losses.





Top: A WWII-era illustration of the Bradfield Scheme. Above: Professor Lance Endersbee's proposal for the Australian Ring Rail, centred on the Melbourne to Darwin Asian Express.

The Australian Ring Rail

The late Professor Lance Endersbee put five years professional work into developing a detailed proposal for a high-speed, double-tracked, Melbourne to Darwin Asian Express for fast freight, which he later expanded to go around the top end of the continent and terminate in Perth. Prof. Endersbee called it the Australian Ring Rail, and he envisioned it would serve major development projects in resources and horticulture for export markets. The railway could link with fast shipping in Darwin, to get goods into the huge ports of Southeast Asia in just three or four days.

Infrastructure of this quality would open up and develop Australia, in the way Abraham Lincoln's transcontinental railroads developed the United States in the 19th century. For example, it would transform the Murray-Darling Basin food bowl, because irrigators would not be limited to tyranny-of-distance crops such as rice and cotton, but be able to produce high-value horticultural crops such as vegetables, for rapid distribution around Australia and into Asia. An Australian Ring Rail should also use the most cutting-edge technology, which is magnetic-levitation, already operating in Germany and China, in which the trains travel on a frictionless magnetic field and can reach 500 km/h. An even further advance is vacuum-tube maglev technology, in which trains can reach 6,000 km/h. Never in a million years would the private sector construct such projects. But built through a new public authority funded by 30-year, low-interest credit from a national bank, they would transform the economy.

Expand Generation Capacity with Nuclear Power!

Australians must adopt nuclear power to ramp up our baseload power production for a secure and growing future economy.

Despite recent declines in electricity consumption (actually a sign of an economy in collapse rather than much lauded energy efficiency) our electricity generation infrastructure struggles to supply power during peak periods. Increased generation capacity is urgently required to significantly exceed current "peak demand" and allow a generating surplus for new industry and a projected growing population.

Nuclear power must be adopted along with new coal-fired power plants, while the expensive, inefficient and intermittent wind and solar power should be left as a big mistake in the history books.

There are now 436 nuclear reactors operational in 30 nations around the world, producing 2,518 billion kilowatt hours of electricity a year. There are currently 62 reactors under construction—26 in China alone. In addition, 44 nations are now either planning to build or have proposed to build another 484 reactors. China alone has 51 planned reactors and another 120 proposed reactors and is also planning to build 363 new coal-fired power plants.

Australia is sitting on top of the biggest reserves of uranium and thorium in the world—enough to power the entire world for at least tens of thousands of years. However, both Labor and the Liberal/National Coalition not only have no policy to produce nuclear power, but they are committed to idiotic, actually genocidal schemes for "reducing carbon dioxide emissions".