

The Green Queen Is Destroying Australia's Food Supply

The LaRouche Show Internet [radio](#) host Marcia Merry Baker interviewed Jean Robinson of the [Citizens Electoral Council \(CEC\)](#) of Australia, along with CEC leaders Craig and Noelene Isherwood, on May 25, 2013. Robinson is the CEC Secretary for West Australia (W.A.), and a candidate for Federal office from the O'Connor District; the elections are in September.

Marcia Merry Baker: We have three people from the Citizens Electoral Council of Australia, which is part of the world effort working closely with Lyndon LaRouche and associates elsewhere, and it's based in Melbourne. First, I'd like to welcome from way across the continent of Australia, inland from Perth, Jean Robinson. She is in the wheat belt, one of the world's foremost wheat belts.

From Melbourne, we're very glad to have Craig Isherwood, the National Secretary of the CEC, and Noelene Isherwood, who is on the National Executive Committee, and very much involved in the rural affairs of Australia.

We have a world food calamity unfolding, and Australia, along with portions of North America, Eurasia, and Europe, are zones for a world annual level of production which has been below what's needed. You have a debacle in Africa. . . .

Jean Robinson in Western Australia (W.A.) has been speaking out on this, because we've reached the end stage of supportability and liveability on the Earth—not because we've run out of resources or water—you get lies about that—but we've had a policy of delimita-



Jean Robinson: "What we're seeing is the attack on Australia by the Queen of England and the British Empire."

tion of those resources. And we'll be talking about that because it stems right from what's best called the British Empire, that *wants* the depopulation on the scale of genocide.

So, unless we deliberately throw off this kind of outlook, and the practices that go with it, we're dead ducks. And so, the particulars of what's going on in Australia in agriculture are a world issue. Australia is one of the bread-baskets, as well as baskets of other good things to eat.

Jean, do you want to start out by describing the situation you've got there on your hands, with the actual physical condition, the crop, its importance, and the crisis in credit?

The Take-Down of Agriculture

Jean Robinson: You're exactly right in saying that this is fundamental crisis for humanity, because what we're seeing is the attack on Australia by the Queen of England and the British Empire. We've seen a crisis in agriculture for a long time developing, with the continued policies of free trade and deregulation, to the point now that it's the only industry that's actually left in W.A.—and of course, is very important for the world—because we only have a mere 4,300 wheat farmers left, and they produce anything from about 8 to 15 million tons of grain a year, depending on the season.

And as you just explained for the United States: Because there has been no substantial water development, the farmers are very vulnerable to the weather conditions, because we haven't built the projects to waterproof the state, like NAWAPA-type ideas which have

FIGURE 1



been on the drawing board for 50-60-70 years. The wheat farmers in Australia are probably the best and most efficient dryland farmers in the world, with what they actually produce. But there has been an accumulation of many years of these policies—and also the deliberate attempt that you see now, where the politicians aren't doing anything; yet they could actually fix the problem immediately by having a debt moratorium, or moratorium on farm foreclosures, and creating credit for carry-on finance [operating capital—ed.] for farmers. Because at the moment, about 30% of farmers are not having received carry-on finance, forcing approximately 50% of farmers to sell off assets. Another 35% are being requested that they put their farms on the market, because they're not receiving any financing.

So, what you have is this total collapse going on in a big area of the state, and it's not being addressed at all. And this is creating serious problems for all the communities, because as soon as you have a collapse in agriculture, as you would know, you have a collapse in all the

communities, and a takedown of all the services, to the point that most children have hardly anywhere to go to school.

So, this is a very serious problem, and we're doing whatever we can to try to get our farmers to realize that they're being lied to. The methods that are being used have been used for a long time, like in the 1991-1992 crisis in farming, which was in the pig industry, which we were all part of. And the same thing happened: You had crisis meetings and all the politicians come along, everybody's going to do something—but nothing ever gets done. Because that's actually the intention to carry on these policies.

So now, in W.A., you've got only the wheat industry left. And of course the other industry that's also on the rack—which is also being orchestrated, particularly by the media, and also by the Green movement, which is the work of Prince Philip—is the takedown of the live export industries. And that's also a result of these free-trade policies, where, for 30-40 years, farmers have been told that you don't have to worry about the domestic marketing, because you can export.

And, as I read in *EIR* a long time ago—it was very funny, because when we were involved in the pig industry, we were told, don't worry about the threat of imports coming into Australia, from Canada, because we could export all our pork to China. And I remember reading an article, which was written by you [Baker], in *EIR*, saying that the biggest exporter of pig meat in the world at the time was China.

So, that's why we got out of the industry.

It's a tragedy, but unfortunately, as *EIR* and La-Rouche have been saying, this is a deliberate attempt by the British Queen, in particular, at reducing the world's population. And it's very ironic that most of W.A. has now been locked up under the Green policies—all the sections that have either been made into international reserves, or bought up by Rio Tinto—which, of course, is the Queen's mining company.

Baker: So, the actual land area is tied up. Well, that's dire.

You said the politicians—if they're doing any-



EIRNS

Farmers protest the takedown of the Australian Wheat Board before the vote in Parliament, Canberra, June 15, 2008. The Wheat Board was later privatized and sold off.

thing—they're grandstanding, because they're not doing anything. And there is this policy to try and induce, with peanuts, that farmers should quit. You issued a media statement on that, right?

Robinson: Yes, that's correct. It's a real insult, because they're offering farmers AUS\$20,000¹ to leave their farms, and in actual fact, no farmer has applied for that so far; and the state government's offering AUS\$25,000 to farmers for carry-on for farming, which is ridiculous, because most have to borrow anywhere between \$1 million and \$4 million to put their crops in. I think four farmers have applied for that. So you can just see that it's ridiculous beyond belief.

The politicians are dedicated to the free market, so therefore, you can't interfere with the market. And of course, you've got this cost-price squeeze, where you've seen the hyperinflation in all the costs, import costs, of everything, and then now, because we have virtually complete control of the process by the major grain cartels. The Australian Wheat Board was privatized and sold off, just like the Canadian one has been, so that means that companies like Cargill and Archer Daniels Midland have got tremendous control over the markets now. And Bunge is building a massive grain

1. AUS\$1 = US\$.96

terminal in one of their major ports over here as well.

So, the only institution that's left is the CBH, which is a farmers' cooperative, and the other push is to privatize it and sell it off, which would mean a bailout for the banks, because this institution, which has been going for 80 years, which is responsible for the logistics of moving and storing grain, and also marketing it, is worth between \$4 billion and \$6 billion. So, by forcing its privatization, that will, in effect, all end up in the hands of the banks.

And as we know, because of the bankruptcy of the banks, they're reducing the credit to the farmers. This makes it impossible for the wheat farmers, who, because of the cumulative impact of the so-called free-trade decades, have an unpay-

able debt burden right now of AUS\$12 billion. When you put that in the context of the Federal government's offer of AUS\$60 million of so-called aid deals, this amount wouldn't even cover the interest bill. And as we know, the banks would end up with the money anyway.

As LaRouche always said, if anybody supports free trade, they're actually supporting mass murder. And unfortunately, that's where we're headed.

Beef Producers Under Attack

Baker: Then you have parallel situations with the live export industry—that would be goats or beef cattle. Noelene, you have an overview on that.

Noelene Isherwood: Yes. What Jean has just described as the situation facing our wheat growers, is repeated all across the country in virtually every farming community, and every industry. I think perhaps the most egregious of those outside of W.A., is the beef industry, and that is our second-largest farming export market. And it's been devastated over the last couple of years.

In particular, there were moves several years ago to highlight cruelty to animals, and in particular, the export trade of live beef to Indonesia. And as a result of that, the green groups and the animal liberation groups put pressure on the government to ban the live trade. And as a result of that, we're now in a situation where there's over

4.2 million excess head of cattle in the northern part of Australia, that have no market to go to. And all of those northern regions have been hit with drought over the last two years. So, with no market, and no food left—and these are enormous [ranches], they measure land in the northern part of Australia by so many million square kilometers, so you can't just go and put a bale of hay out, and hope that that's going to feed your stock. So, it's impossible.

And so, a lot of those cattle are being dumped onto the domestic market. All of our meatworks and sale yards are choked, and booked out until much later in the year, September, October this year—there are no vacancies. So, many farmers are being forced to shoot their stock in paddock. There has been a move, just in the last week or so, by the Queensland government, to open up the national parks—these are conservation regions—that used to be operated as grazing properties, but have been locked up by the environmentalist movement. And the Queensland government, under emergency conditions, has agreed to allow grazing in those areas.

However, the Federal government has tried to overrule their right to do that. So, it's quite a showdown, again, between the green/environmentalist circles, and our food-producers. And there's a similar crisis looming in many other industries as well; the dairy industry has been hard hit. We have fruit-growing orchardists in the southern part of Australia, who have had contracts cancelled for one of the biggest fruit canneries in the country. And in each case, we have farmers who are almost on their knees, begging and pleading with the government for some kind of emergency aid and intervention, and in every single case, Marcia, they're being told: Sorry, this is the free market. If you can't pay your debts, if you can't remain viable under these circumstances, then you shouldn't be in business.

So, it's this ruthless backing-away by government, under exceptional circumstances, that's leaving all of



CEC/Glen Isherwood

Noelene Isherwood: There is "quite a showdown between the green/environmentalist circles and our food-producers."

our farmers, pretty much every industry in the country, in a total disaster. And that's not just a disaster for Australia, but it's a huge tragedy for the whole world, which depends on our food exports. So, it's very, very serious across the board.

Baker: What you say about the cannery, or the packing house, the freezing facility, or anything, being booked, or not being prepared to contract to buy the produce that an orchard or field production of fruit or vegetables was producing—we're finding this arbitrary, radical free-market kind of thing in the United States as well. Cargill shut a huge beef-processing plant in western Texas, with two weeks notice. The company in the United States that monopolizes 30%

of all the fluid milk, fresh milk, they arbitrarily are now closing many of their 70 bottling plants, milk-processing plants around the country, including Buena Vista, Calif., and so forth.

So, again, you're saying that the farmers are stuck, and the orchardists, it's just like having to shoot your cattle. You can't produce anything....

'National Food Plan': Grow Your Own

Robinson: In Southern Victoria, where this particular cannery is—it's called SPC Adminor—it's actually owned by Coca-Cola Amatil. And they've halved the contracts to all of their local growers, to the peach and pear producers. And what that means is that there are millions of fruit trees that are going to be bulldozed, just removed from production, because there are no contracts, there's no demand for it.

Meanwhile, that cannery is sourcing a lot of produce from Asia—China and places like that. So, they can bring it in at a fraction of the cost, and sacrifice the growers literally that live on their doorstep, in order to reduce their production costs. That's the free market at work. And probably, within a very short period, they will move that processing plant to Asia, like most others have been as well. So, it's the story we hear in every industry, from

every country. But this is the British System of free trade. And that's how it's designed to work. And at the end of the day, it's total devastation for local communities, and production.

I just wanted to add one thing, but I've only just discovered this overnight: that our federal government has been working for some time on a National Food Plan. They promote this as looking at all the various issues that must be addressed in order to guarantee a reliable food supply for the country, for food security. But, their recommendations are shocking, truly shocking.

In their great National Food Plan, they're going to provide funding to improve farmers' competitiveness, so that they can expand into new markets—that means, compete with China. And they're going to make small grants of AUS\$10,000 to AUS\$25,000 available to small community farmers, community gardens, farmers' markets, and the like. So, this is the way they're going to secure our food supply, by promoting this cottage industry, local "grow your veggies in the back yard"—which is all very nice, if you've got a back yard. But it doesn't feed the world. And this is what we've come to expect from the government. It's pathetic.

Baker: I'm sad to say, it sounds very familiar here. About two years ago, Prince Charles came to Washington, D.C. to Georgetown University, and gave a speech called "The Future of Food." And this has been turned into a book, and this is the Michelle Obama White House kind of policy, that there should be community gardens, gardens everywhere, eat local. It's this royalist "Let them eat cake," and I'm afraid to say, you go on the U.S. Department of Agriculture website under the Obama Administration, and this is the major thrust. . . .

Jean, you're running for office. Do you want to say something about that? You put out some of the emergency measures that should be taken directly for agriculture.

Robinson: I'm standing for the federal seat of

FIGURE 2
The Murray-Darling Basin



O'Connor, which is actually massive—it's 920,000 square kilometers, so it takes in about a third of the state. And the process we also see happening, is the depopulation of our nation, in regional areas, to the cities, because of the collapse.

So, we've embarked on doing some ads as part of my campaign, because this is a very good way of reaching people—and it's an emergency. We need people to act now, to stop this collapse. We only have one commercial radio station that covers the entirety of that area, which is made up by one company, Radio West, which is owned by the McQuarry group, but there are 12 different radio stations covering this area, and we're playing these ads for the next two weeks.

And they're based on the call for Glass-Steagall, and the fact that governments can save banks, but they can't save anybody else. So, we're saying that they can actually

intervene and save our agriculture. So, we've got the ads playing two a day, for two weeks. And while we've got the majority of our farmers—they are seeding, so they're sitting on their tractors for very long hours all day, and most of them will be listening to the radio. Even though the media here is playing up that everything's back to normal now, and everybody's seeding—and a majority of farmers *are* seeding—they're not seeding anywhere near the amount of acreage as they normally do. Because they're restricted in finance. That's the underlying problem on that.

Water-Proofing Agriculture

Baker: You mention these decades and years, and then currently, the obstruction of what you called water-proofing agriculture—meaning, to do the best you can to ensure that there's plentiful water. One of you may want to say more about that, in the sense of what we're up against, if you recap some of the law applying to one of the most beautiful water projects, the Murray-Darling Basin (**Figure 2**).

Craig Isherwood: Noelene was reporting about Federal Environment Minister Tony Burke trying to stop farmers from putting their cattle into the national parks. Well, this is the same Burke who presided over the shutdown of Australia's food bowl, which covers four states. The same minister ironically did the same with what we call the Alpine region cattle farmers here in Victoria. The cattle were allowed into the National parks, and they chewed down the weeds, and they kept the national parks much freer for fire hazards.

Baker: It's cheap, too.

Craig Isherwood: Yes, it's cheap. And there's a certain amount of refertilization capacity from cattle too, of course. But the state government overruled the Federal government in order to have the Alpine farmers have their cattle back in. So what did Burke do? He introduced federal legislation to kick them out again. This guy is a rabid Green of the worst particular type. He's overseen the shutdown of the buyback of border allocations in the Murray-Darling Basin, where they intend to remove an enormous amount of water and put it into what's called environmental flows. In other words, fill up the swamps again, in order to be able to bring back the mosquitos. That's their intention; it's to have wetlands for birds. So what's happening is that those water flows are being taken away from farmers.

And we're talking about areas, Marcia, that are being farmed, that were taken out of the desert for 100 years—100 years ago they were desert—and consequently, turned into valuable irrigated farmland. This is the direction. And all of this ideology, as we've put out in our publications, is a result of what we call the British Crown's green-fascist agenda. And it's the other side of the same coin as free trade, as globalization, privatization, deregulation, economic rationalism.

Some of your listeners may have heard the horror



CEC/Glen Isherwood

Craig Isherwood: "They didn't have to do shock therapy [in Australia] like they did in Russia, because we've been accepting shock therapy for the last 40 years. It's the same thing."

story that's taken place in Russia, with the collapse of population there, and in Ukraine, under the shock therapy that was introduced in the early '90s. Well, Australia's part of the British Commonwealth, part of the British Empire, to use the actual term. So consequently, the British already control our banking system lock, stock, and barrel. They control the economy. So, they didn't have to do shock therapy like they did in Russia, because we've been accepting shock therapy for the last 40 years. It's the same thing.

And one of the markers for this, Marcia, just happened yesterday, that one of

our car manufacturers, Ford Motor Company, after 70 years in producing the Model-T Ford initially in Australia, has decided to stop car manufacturing here, and 1,100 jobs are going to be sacked. And one whole town of Geelong is going to basically die because of this; and also Broad Meadows, which is part of Melbourne. You're talking about the shutdown of the machine-tool sector here, and this has solely to do with British free trade again.

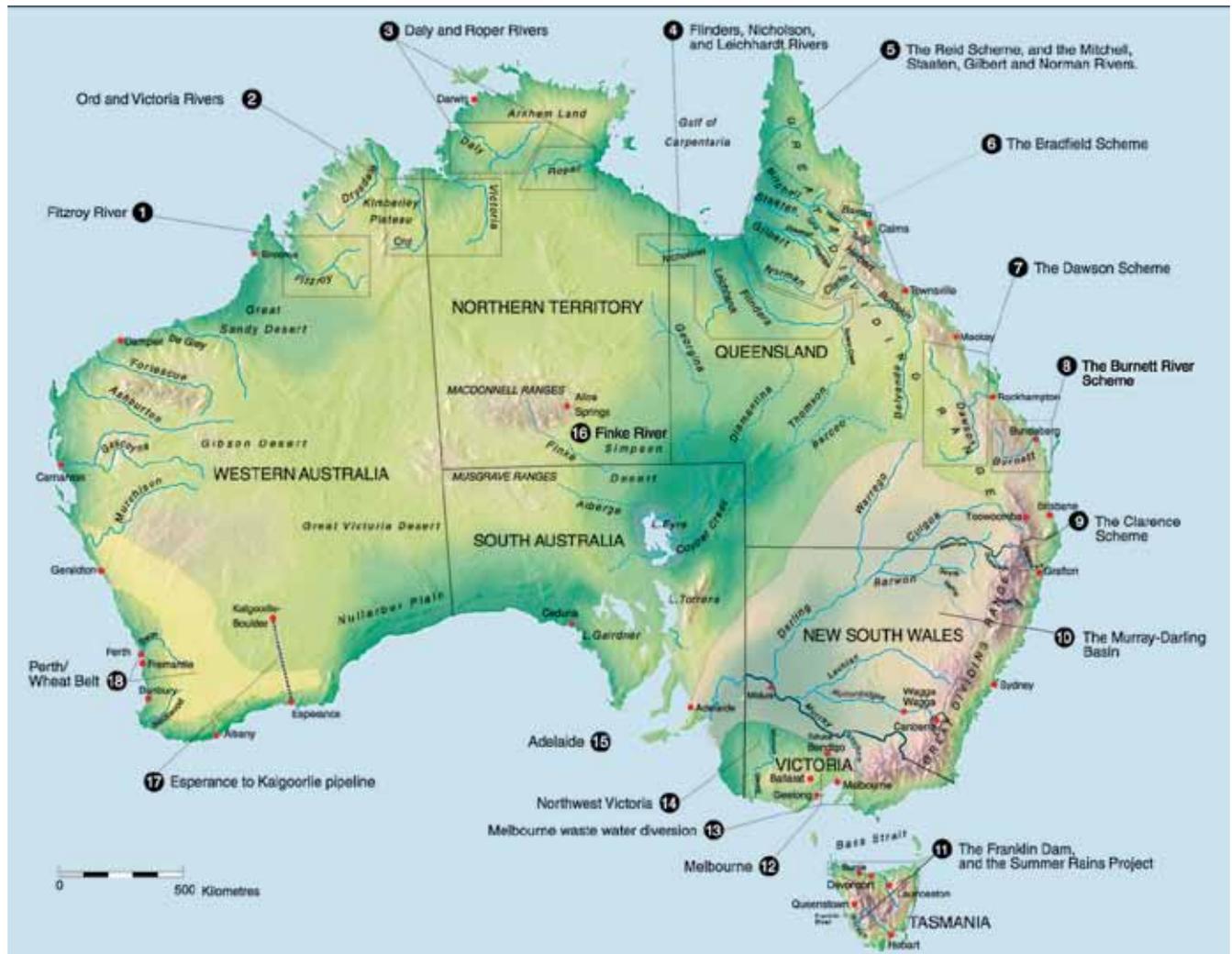
So it's not just the agricultural areas that are suffering.

An Australian NAWAPA

The solution is what Mr. LaRouche has been proposing, and particularly recently, he's been re-emphasizing: first of all, Glass-Steagall, separate out the legitimate commercial banking system, protect it, and develop credits for national banking, to able to fund large-scale infrastructure development projects. Back in 2002, we outlined for our country the equivalent of the Australian NAWAPA, the Australian North American Water and Power Alliance, which was a series of 18 different water projects for Australia (**Figure 3**).

We have a bit of a difficulty here in Australia, in that most of our water falls in the North, and you're talking meters of water, not just a little bit of water, but meters—

FIGURE 3
Australian NAWAPA



2, 3, sometimes 4 meters of water would fall every year. And there were proposals by people, for example, Dr. J.J.C. Bradfield. He's the guy who built the Sydney Harbour Bridge that people might know—we call it the giant coat hanger. Well, he proposed to build a Bradfield scheme, which was to take the enormous volumes of water up in the North, and turn them inland, so you'd literally be able to have permanent water streams, water in the inland of Australia.

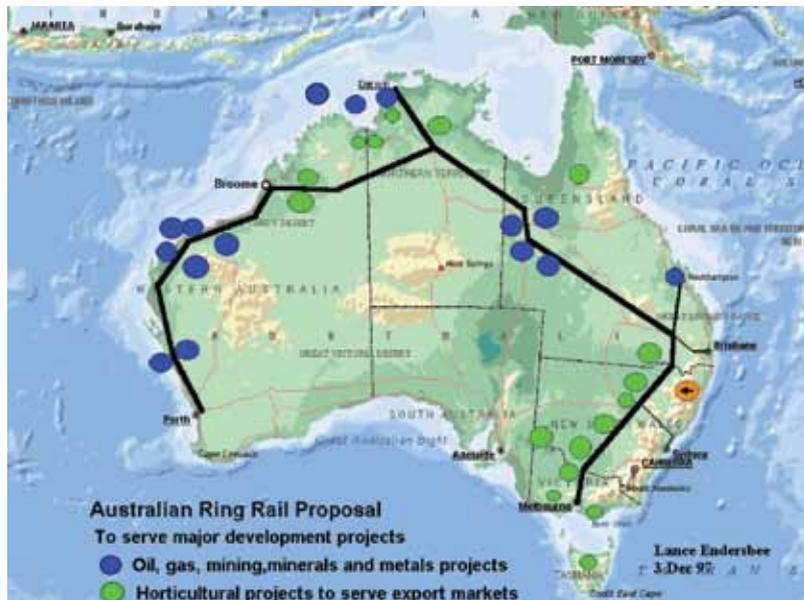
He was back in the early 1920s, talking about biospheric engineering, because what he was talking about was that, by taking those huge volumes of water and turning them inland, you would change the climate for hundreds of thousands of square kilometers

to the east of those water flows. You'd have much higher water density, water-vapor density, in the air, and consequently, the potential for more rain. So he was talking about literally changing the climate on the East Coast of Australia, and bringing more rain to that area.

So, that's just one project. We've got other projects which involved hydro-electricity generating capacity, pump storage, things on the Clarence River—that would feed the Murray-Darling Basin river system. That's the one that Burke is trying to shut down.

Look, in Western Australia, you have the Ord River, stages 2 and 3, but they're actually going ahead, with Chinese development. You have the huge Fitzroy

FIGURE 4
Lance Endersbee's Australian Ring Rail Proposal



River development area—the Fitzroy River is one of these huge rivers that flows just out to the sea on the northwest coast of Australia, and there's a huge area of land to the south of that, that could be developed for broad acre irrigation, and so forth.

And so, Prof. Lance Endersbee, whom we worked with very closely—he was one of the original engineers on the Snowy Mountain Scheme—actually trained under the Tennessee Valley Authority, back in the '30s—he proposed that with all the different infrastructure that we could develop, like high-speed rail, high-speed shipping, we could have a food bowl to the north of us, Marcia, which would be able to support about 100 million people (Figure 4).

Now, at the moment we've got 23 million people, and a population density of 2 people per square kilometer. So, you're not talking about a huge increase when you're talking about 100 million people in this country, compared to population density in relatively different parts of the world. And if we're given a chance we could develop the water, develop the high-speed infrastructure like rail, and we could even develop nuclear power in this country—I mean we have

the highest reserves of thorium. We don't even mine one ton. We have 300,000 metric tons of thorium. We have the second-largest reserves of uranium, yet we don't have a nuclear industry (Figure 5).

With these sorts of projects, combined with water projects, combined with actual support for agriculture, I think people could get a picture of just how extremely wealthy this country actually is, but we're being made into slaves and paupers, because of this damned British Empire.

And I don't think Mr. LaRouche ever exaggerates about how destructive this British Empire is. I had the opportunity of going to Antietam Battlefield when I was last in the United States, where 23,000 people were mortally wounded in that one battle. And you think, that's the actual ugly face of the British-backed Confederacy, and the British sort of operations that

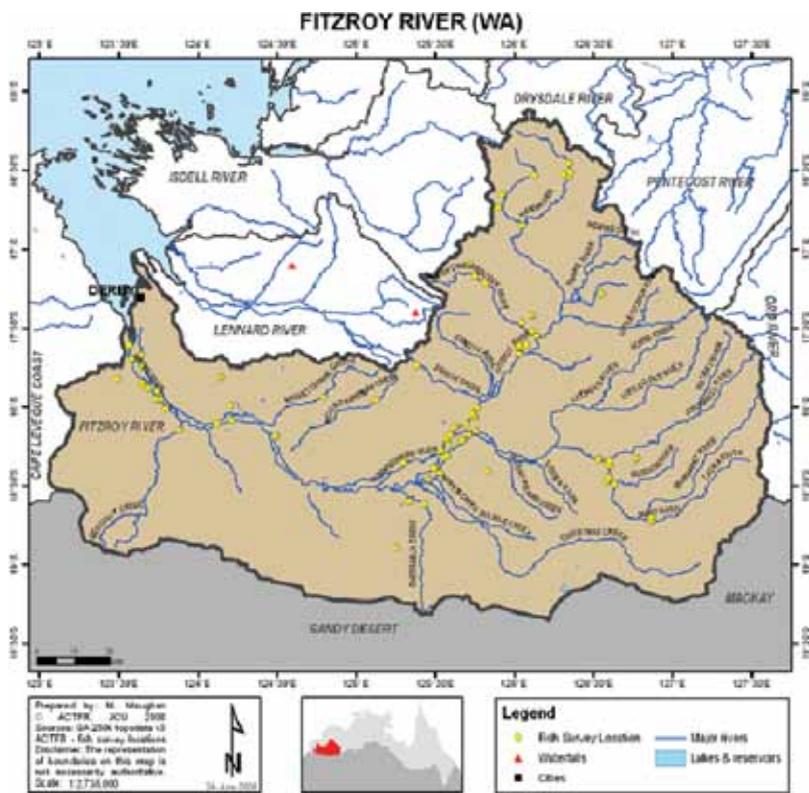
America itself has to fight.

So, this is not an abstract discussion about the Brit-

FIGURE 5
Australian Resources



FIGURE 6
Fitzroy River (Western Australia)



ish Empire. Our food supply is being literally taken off the table by the British.

A Development Perspective for Western Australia

Baker: And what you were describing in Western Australia, implied that in the past there were more farmers, more growing communities, more diversity of production. In the release you put out earlier in May about this crisis, you said that 20 years ago, in 1991, in Australia as a whole, there were 120,000 farmers. That was down from 204,000 in 1953, and now it's down to 40,000. Is that right—across all of Australia?

Robinson: Yes, that's correct; that's precisely what's happening. I was just going to add on to what Craig was developing on the water projects, because, of course, that's what Mr. LaRouche has been saying—this is the most important aspect to create an actual economic recovery. Because as a result of losing all your manufacturing and agricultural industries, which is why we have this depopulation going on. And in the state of Alcona—it also covers a huge amount of the

mining part of Australia, and of course the most famous of all, which is actually Kalgoorlie.

Now, Kalgoorlie is a city of about 22,000 people, but it's just a big hole in the ground, and it's ironic to think that this is probably the wealthiest square mile on the planet, because it's a gold mine. It's mainly gold mining there.

And today, after 200 years, you've got this desperate town that's got nothing. It has one pipeline for water, a couple of roads going in, one very antique railway line, and the population has nothing. It's just a culture of gambling, pubs, and there's nothing there.

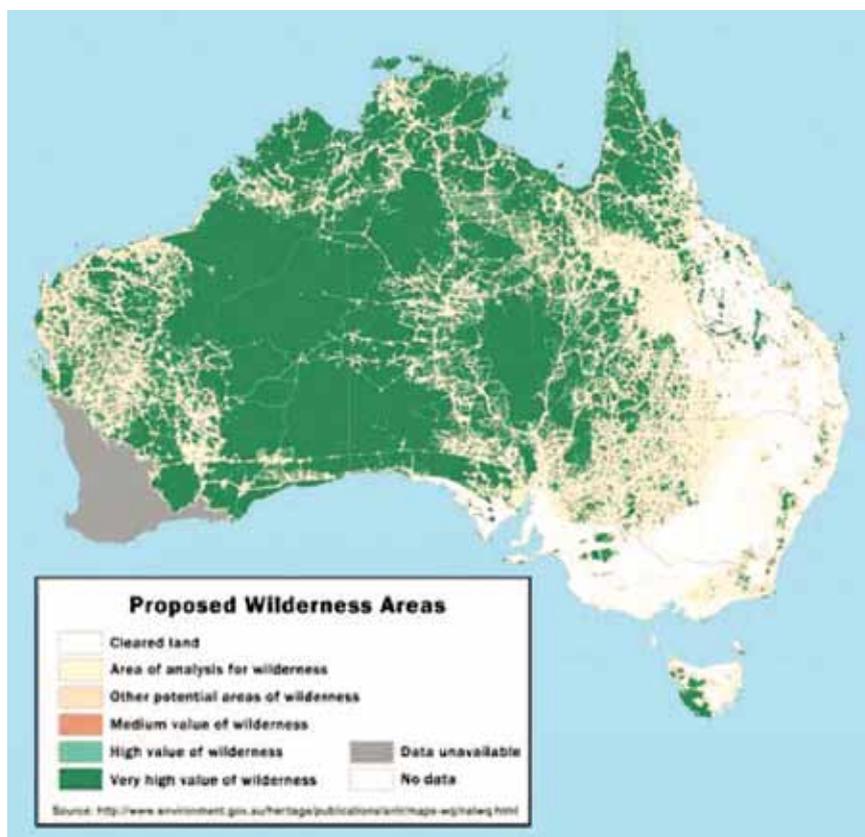
So, potentially for W.A., as Craig was saying with the Fitzroy River (Figure 6), because this river is massive—it's the second-biggest flowing river on the planet when it's in flood—and potentially, we could drought-proof not just W.A., but also South Australia, because if the infrastructure was built to create development corridors—like all the way from the northern part of the state down to the South—it could be brought down to Kalgoorlie.

And then, with a high-speed rail system, you could actually turn Kalgoorlie into an industrial hub for W.A., which we hardly have any more, because we're not manufacturing anything. We're just digging up all our very valuable minerals, and selling them off for virtually nothing, to China and elsewhere.

We need to be building the steel mills and manufacturing everything that we used to do in this country, because just south of Kalgoorlie is a major port, Esperance, and we can have many other industries. There are huge brown coal deposits at Esperance as well, which could all be developed into making textiles, and petrochemical industries as well. Also around Kalgoorlie, you have all the other minerals as well. There's masses of copper and nickel and all the things that you need for making modern metals today. So, that's one way of actually reversing this complete slide of the population into the major cities—we only have one major city in W.A. [Perth], because we're a very sparsely populated state.

That's the sort of thing that's actually required to reverse this collapse. It's to have the population become

FIGURE 8
Proposed Wilderness Areas



excited about the potential of what can actually be done. Because Kalgoorlie should have universities. It should become the center of all the research to do with generating whole new industries. The Kimberleys, the more tropical areas, and even right down in the Outback—the soil in W.A. is phenomenal, and as Lance Endersbee designed, you could have mass irrigation.

And that's the other problem we've had. There's no mixed farming left in W.A. at all now, because the dairy farmers are virtually gone. The fruit and vegetable growers are virtually gone. The pig industry's actually gone. So therefore, we've gone in this direction of monocultures as well, which is actually not very good for the soils. And instead of our farmers desperately having to try to plant every square meter of their soil with crops like canola and wheat, they could actually be irrigating sections of their farms, and becoming far more intensive, and going back to actually having livestock as well. Because that needs to happen to bring back the fertility of the soil.

And the other great problem which has created the

collapse, is the takedown of our meat abattoir [slaughterhouse] facilities. Now we've lost about 80% of our abattoirs, and the three major ones that are export-accredited have all just been taken up by foreign interests. So, we no longer actually have the ability to supply meat for our domestic market any more. It's been taken out of our hands, because we don't have control of the abattoirs, and, of course, the meat that is being processed is being exported. So, it's the same British doctrine of free trade, isn't it?

A Conscious Policy of Genocide

Noelene Isherwood: I was just going to add on that that there's a study that's just been released by Edith Cowan University in W.A., that has announced now that one-third of all of the pastoral properties in Western Australia—that used to be family-owned grazing operations—are no longer owned by family farmers, but they're in the hands of mining companies, Aboriginal groups, and

conservation organizations. And that the single-largest leaseholders of land in W.A. are the mining companies. So, they're virtually taking over all of this productive land. They may run a few head of cattle on it, but there's no serious food-production enterprise going on in those areas.

You can just see the counterposition of what Jean was describing as the potential for increasing the energy-flux density and the productivity of the land—it's been headed in exactly the opposite direction, and just closing it down, turning it into a wildlife preserve, and indigenous playgrounds (**Figure 7**). And the mining companies just sit on it, with the prospect of one day potentially mining it, but doing nothing productive with it.

What strikes you is that there is no way that you can look at what's happening universally across the entire country without concluding that this is a top-down, deliberate, conscious policy of food reduction, depopulation, and genocide. There's no other conclusion that you can draw.

But even for many of our farmers, who are on the receiving end of this crisis, and the consumers who are paying the price for that kind of policy, it's still a very difficult challenge to convince them that there could be such an agenda. So, that's part of our political challenge and political fight, to really go behind the scenes, behind the symptoms of the crisis, to get people to think much more deeply about the cause of this, first of all, and then once people start to look at the cause, then they're empowered to do something about it. We've got quite a challenge on our hands in that respect.

Baker: This is very impressive, with hardly anyone there. If you're thinking about it from a distance, it just seems insane to talk about locking anything up at all.

In a very sped-up way, this same process, of farm/rural areas being depopulated, is happening here to the extreme in North America. For example, New Mexico, in the upper reaches of the Rio Grande River, called the Rio Bravo in Mexico, people are leaving counties. In Western Kansas, they're leaving counties. One county—the state may have 50 to 100 counties, there's only 500 people in one of them, because of the combination of the financial market-monetarist speculation crash, and the physical-economic conditions, the lack of water or your well has gone so deep that you might only be bringing up lots of sand with the water, that you do get, and it's ruining your machinery.

But take [Glass-Steagall sponsor] Sen. Tom Harkin's state of Iowa, which has beautiful soils—it's between two rivers, the Mississippi and the Missouri, and it's the most cultivated state in the country. That is, most of its land is under the plow, metaphorically. Sixty-six out of 100 counties in Senator Harkin's state are losing population. They have fewer people than years ago, and that's not just because, "Gee, how are you going to keep them down on the farm, they can all go to Des Moines." It's just depopulation, just in the way you're saying, Jean: losing services, churches, schools; no stores, no hardware store. I'm just throwing this in because of what you said about top-down in Australia, top-down worldwide.

Robinson: Definitely. And that's the conclusion I think that, at long last, even some of our long-suffering farmers and other citizens are starting to draw, with help from us, of course. That this has to be a conscious, top-down policy, because there's no rational justification for the destruction of industry, the destruction of communities, otherwise.

But that's a hard thing for most people to come to terms with.

The other aspect which Craig touched on, was the Ord River development, which is the other big river in the top of W.A.—there was an Ord River scheme, the Ord River Dam was built back in the 1950s. And the second stage of that project actually has been built, which is good, but the problem is, it's not being used to grow food. Basically what's happening is, they've planted half of it for sandalwood trees, which are just useless for humanity anyway. This has normally been a huge sugar cane-growing area, and quite ironically, about 5-6 years ago, the Australian local cane producers up there were going bankrupt, and they were losing their processing mill, and they asked the state government to put in \$300 million, and of course, [W.A.] Premier Colin Barnett refused to do that.

So, the industry went bankrupt. And now it's just being revamped under the Chinese, and guess who's helping to fund the reconstruction, or the take-up of the new mill? The government. So, they're happy to give funding to foreigners.

But the other aspect, under this sort of de facto grain policy, driven by forms of tax evasion, is planting of the Southwest to trees also. We've got this industry called the bluegum plantation, which actually now takes up 400,000 square hectares, which actually are, traditionally, the other food bowl. So, this bluegum planting is in all your high rainfall areas that actually go around the coastline, which is where normally it's all fruit, veggiegrowing, dairy, meat producing, all the way from down round the southwest coast for about 100 kilometers, because bluegums require a reasonable rainfall. So, the higher rainfalls of the Southwest are planted by these terrible trees, which actually just rob the soil, and lock up all this area. And that has also contributed to the shutdown of many, many communities and the ongoing businesses as well.

So, you've got this whole attack, where it doesn't matter where you are, it's all being shut down, in the name of some green policy. And food production is being completely sacrificed.

So, the writing's on the wall. And we need the population to actually realize that there's a bigger agenda going on here, to shut down food production not just here, but worldwide, as part of the British monarchy's effort to reduce the world's population down to less than a billion people.