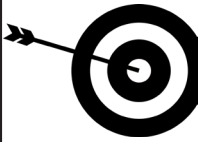


A WEEKLY COMMENTARY



ON TARGET

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The Price of Freedom is Eternal Vigilance

Vol. 62 No. 23

19th June 2026

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The Cost of Paper By Neville Archibald

‘Data centres are the libraries of the future!’ so, it is said.

What future are we really heading toward, and is it truly for our benefit in the long run? I must ask these questions now, as the monstrous builds being pushed onto us threaten to add significant costs to our future. Not just monetary cost either, cost in terms of resource usage (water, power, diesel for back up generation and more), significant environmental changes if you live nearby, and lastly the social aspect (possibly the biggest threat, and the most neglected in the media).

I’m no Luddite, clamouring for the destruction of the looms that are putting us out of work. No, I long for the day that machinery takes over all my mundane work. The only issue I have is the connection of this ‘freedom from drudgery’ to earning a living! I may not work at producing the mundane things of life that machinery makes, but how then, am I to share in its product - without a wage for making it? Leisure is the intended outcome of labour saving; however, unaccompanied by monetary reward (wages) I cannot enjoy the outcome! Unemployment becomes simply un-employment, and a disconnection to the larger economy, which relies solely on wages for income, for the sharing of these benefits of being ‘at leisure’.

This discrepancy, this failure to take into account the natural extension of labour-saving devices in our economy, has driven us into a poverty of sorts, whereby we must find alternative work, at unproductive endeavours to substitute that ‘lost’ wage.

The inability of our existing economy to deal with this natural rise of leisure and still distribute the resultant continued production, is dragging us down.

Removing us from the advances it promised so well in the beginning.

I say that this inability is not so much that we are not capable of solving the problem, but that it serves those who 'run' the economy to keep it from us. It helps create the very Feudal architecture we are seeing as the outcome of keeping this freedom from us. Big business and billionaires (behind the scenes in many cases) now control both our government policy development and our working lives. With their finger in every pie, we try to take our own little slice of, all pieces are contaminated by them, they get a part of every portion. Kings in their international castles, they appear to be untouchable by the serfs we've become.

This is where my paper cost comes in. Data centres are now the growth industry of choice, getting special treatment in development departments and fast tracking to builds on a grand scale. In the last few On Targets I have mentioned this and the more concerning surveillance side which is being overlooked. Now I am going to ask you what sort of future do you see with their rise?

If they truly are the 'libraries of the future,' what does this look like in reality? Like the disconnect of wages and leisure before it, what sort of manipulation may very well accompany this stash of information?

We saw television as a good idea for increasing our knowledge and community connectedness but have seen it turn into divisive and advertising riddled programming, along with continual bad news stories and violence in shows and movies. They tell us that they are only pandering to our desires, that numbers watching are the driver of programming, but I do not believe it has all been our decision. I now believe it divides us more than ever before.

Data collections and storages are huge, and AI is now being used to retrieve and present this material. Manipulation of data via algorithms (or programming/software) is ever present and used currently for nefarious reasons.

For an idea of just how much this affects us, see:

Weapons of Math Destruction, by Cathy O'Neil.

<https://www.penguin.com.au/books/weapons-of-math-destruction-9780141985411>

Thinking about this usage and the perversions it is capable of, you must ask yourself if this current climate of increasing control over us, makes this a good time to bring it in? It is the history of political and financial manipulation and the pedigree of those driving this push, that worries me most. Are we handing loaded rifles and handcuffs to our feudal lords? Are we now looking to build our own prisons too?

While I believe the electronic storage and retrieval systems are a big boost for availability of information, the cost in all terms of providing it, eclipses the cost and availability via traditional libraries, both public and technical. Not only that,

the cost to community engagement is huge! Having paper-based libraries and the interactions that occur within them, make a far better social impact than just sitting alone in your darkened room on a computer. To remove all social contact and rely on screens and words to convey any thoughts or discussions, removes the personal side. Expressions read on faces and the casual physical interaction, brings human moments into our community equations; the side that you miss in face-time or 'zoom' meetings. The clinical approach of social interaction over devices, without these real moments, is a difficult thing to quantify – but I do believe we are seeing some of that impact now. I don't like what it appears to be doing. Think about it!

Paper itself is recyclable, it lasts well when looked after and is only ever upgraded if it is truly out of date or damaged. The worst pollution outcome is mild. I cannot say the same for the items in the digital revolution.

I miss the days of Maps: real, folding, paper maps! Navigating from the same issue of Melways I had as a youngster (I probably could update that), or the planning and long view of getting to your destination. The towns on the way, the various roads and sights that might be encountered. Paper maps never ran out of power, or lost connection to a server. They opened out to see the whole distance being travelled. Words, names and marked interest spots never faded from view as you looked at the bigger picture. It cost but a few dollars for a map, you stored it in your glove-box or seat-back. You didn't pay a monthly fee, or one to upgrade your purchase. It didn't rely on running a complete infrastructure of power hungry devices and repeaters, nor did it incur the costs we are now being asked to foot the bill for, for these new data centres (and we will foot the bill – they are profit making enterprises relying on us, the consumer to pay in the long term).

What is the real impact of going fully digital? Is there a price to pay for 'convenience' that is actually greater than the monetary cost? Every-time we advance, it is not always in a forward direction, sometimes there are unseen ramifications that take time to see. The difference between being prepared and convenience, is also a mental one. Forward thinking and planning, rather than relying on instant access, I liken to processed foods, convenient; but not healthy in the long run.

Like built in obsolescence (that we now almost take for granted), these digital map readers, be they dedicated, or phone based, are subject to a continual upgrade cycle. It is this push for growth, that props up our failing economy. This never-ending growth cycle that we must have to keep GDP high, has no real regard to the social or environmental impact on the greater community. I ask at this point, where is the concern for 'climate change' now? Each centre proposes to use the equivalent of thousands of homes in power consumption, the

same with water. If we were so concerned about emissions before, why are they allowing this. They will also have around one hundred big diesel generators (with thousands of litres of diesel stored) to be used to supplement-and-ensure power availability (that number will vary with size – I am using figures from the ABC link here). Look to the plans being spoken of, and listen to the impacts that the likes of Erin Brockovich and others are talking about.

More on Diesel and data centres here in this ABC clip:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9EEjJCzVVQ>

Erin Brockovich interviewed on American PBS:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dWNNgltZSIA>

Scott Kuru provides a good overview here, although he does seem to like economic growth and AI more than I do, it is a good primer for what is going on.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vv-zglknZHw>

Even Senator Hanson-Young has this to say! Despite the fact that I disagree with a lot of what she says, a broad view from all sides is required to make an intelligent decision. I can only continue to emphasise that each of you, needs to take personal responsibility for forming your own views, learning to look for the truth in all cases.

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/DZwS33exAdR/>

There are many others posting about data centres at the moment, few are dealing with the social impact side of going fully digital or making the connection to surveillance centres and the coming digital ID (and possibly even Chinese style Social Credit). Keep these risks uppermost in your mind when researching this subject. The hidden questions are often the most important ones.

As for society and its direction, is this advance truly one which will make us more connected in reality? Or is it just wiring us together on a long lead to be pulled in a desired direction.

AI manipulation of information availability.

It is not just map reading skills that suffer either, our ability to think and reason is being eroded too. With everything at our digital fingertips, actually knowing things is not important – we can just look it up! This has two problems, the first being that we rely on it more and more, and use our brain less and less. We are learning to be dumbed down. I see many who automatically reach for ‘google’, when confronted with a simple problem. This brings us to that second problem, we are being conditioned, often without realising it. When selected answers are the only answers, or the first, second and third options, then social conditioning is complete.

Currently the information we do get, is increasingly selected for us!

The case in point here is the rise of AI in search engines. Google has lost a significant market share to 'duck duck go' in recent times, as consumers are increasingly fed up with searches that yield the same result, despite the asking of different questions. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z7BzWgxfFeM>

AI in almost all search engines, makes the prediction of what it is you are looking for, it provides the answer (subject to algorithms based on marketing and the woke political ideals of the time, in many cases)! While the links to the articles the AI answer is based on appear, we do not have to decide which of those possible answers is the real, or true, one.

I recently searched for 'social credit Douglas', and it took five pages to find a link mentioning Douglas (C.H.Douglas), the rest were Chinese social credit and no mention of Douglas, despite it being my third word. I know we are 'persona non grata' in economic circles and therefore listed as undesirables, but it makes a mockery of the concept of a search engine, does it not?

When I did find an article, it was a debunking of the theory (at least it mentioned it I suppose), and further scrolling found more. I ask you, how many scroll past the first page? How many know exactly what they are looking for when asking about facts they know little about. As a repository of knowledge, data centres could be of benefit, (like a library), but if the librarian only pulls books from the censored section, the politically correct section, then we only get selected facts. We are directed to believe! It becomes the ministry of truth from Orwell's 1984.

Another side of this, it is affecting those who publish on social media or the web itself, reputable organisations, medical journals and other legitimate research sites are now suffering from these AI led answers. Google and others with their summarised answers, provide a short synopsis and therefore no need to visit to the original sites for the full version. This means no funding from logged views of the site that provided the information, thus true research misses out on the benefits of the traffic.

There is always more than one view on a subject, sometimes many, and debates and clarifications occur until the truth is arrived at. Even then, new discoveries or further refining of research can change things radically. I have lost count of the times I have heard something, only to look for it and find it is a wrong interpretation or entirely made up! April fools day is no longer limited to just April now.

Bioethics gone bad

A recent discussion in the US senate, concerned the number of biological research labs still operating. Laboratories conducting this research are still being funded and, I suspect, still engaging in viral experimentation. Doing this in

normal times is risky enough, but the fact that some of them are in the Ukraine and some in other areas subject to bombing or destruction, gives rise to the question of just how safe are they? Containment of Frankenstein virus samples is bad enough when labs are intact, but when subject to the damage associated with war, who knows just what might leak. This comes to light now, after Tulsi Gabbard declassified information that for years critics (of gain of function work), were told were conspiracy theories.

'A renewed debate over gain-of-function research, overseas biological laboratories, and government transparency is gaining momentum after Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard declassified documents detailing U.S.-supported biological research programs worldwide.

"For years, when people pointed out that these labs existed in places like Ukraine, they were told it was a conspiracy theory," Paul said. "Now we're finding out they did exist." says Senator Rand Paul.

'According to Gabbard, the newly declassified documents show that the United States supported or funded more than 120 biological laboratories across more than 30 countries, including facilities in Ukraine that worked with potentially dangerous pathogens.'

See: <https://abc45.com/news/nation-world/rand-paul-calls-for-new-scrutiny-of-overseas-biolabs-after-gabbard-declassifies-documents-covid19-trump-administration-biological-research-ukraine-dangerous-pathogens-research-experiments-influenza-pentagon>

This continued questioning finally yielded the above results: this dangerous research is still going on! Couple this with the research paper I wrote about in last week's *On Target* (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/42246480/>) and all those we do not know about yet (which are in the process of being written up or still ongoing), and it becomes just a matter of time before something happens.

Where is the accountability, where is the learned lesson from COVID? Why are these people not listening? Are we not yet loud enough? This continued research and the denial that it has been going on for so long, is another reason for the growing mistrust in our government agencies. It is even more reason to vote appropriately at election times and keep on badgering our political representatives to do our bidding, the electorate's, not the lobbyists. Keep this in mind when next you are asked to trust or vote for them.

The Diversions of Woke

We are at a crucial time in our history. We can, most of us, see the decline happening around us. While our leaders continue to tell us they have policies to deal with it, or economic adjustments to fix it, each time they make a change, the only thing that results, is further centralisation of control and increased economic

hardship. You would think we would know this by now, yet the diversions of woke keep us busy – too busy to think clearly.

What is a woman? ... seriously!

How many Genders are there? ... seriously!

Hate speech, when you don't like debate! ... it keeps on keeping on.

There are ludicrous claims or observations being made, that are as ridiculous as we are, for debating them. We waste far too much valuable time and court space on this rubbish, we are almost forced to take a side – no thanks! All you are doing in participating is deflecting from the real issues we face. This attempt to break us all into conflicting tribes of every imaginable grouping and get us fighting each other, is done so that we are too busy to fight the real fight, against an increasingly feudal society, where the multinational and mega rich entities (the new lords) create the landscape into which we must fit, - or be outcast.

The test run we had during COVID, to make the 'unvaccinated' outcasts, worked to some degree, but it also woke many from their slumber. We must capitalise on these dichotomies that divide us, and colour them in, make them stand out as the ridiculous concepts they truly are. We must show why they are being used on us: as a deflection from the true issues, we face. This smoke and mirrors of social programming is fragmenting us like never before. Opinions are being treated as sacrosanct, almost like a line in the sand you must die over. Common sense is not allowed to prevail and alternative opinions must be shut down. This is the example being set for us by selected celebrity or influential social manipulators and we need to call it out! Not doing so, only allows this division to grow. It must be done from a factual stance, calmly and with truth out front. There is no need to violently argue, that in itself is the purpose these absurdities were created for. We are being played and we need to realise it, but not accept it. We must stay silent no more.

And the future?

Whoever we are, our future should have some common ground for us to look forward to. A vision, of sorts, of what we expect, what could be. This should be our coming together point, our reason to unite and create something better going forward.

This ideal is in us, it just needs to find expression and it cannot take hold while we are at each other's throats over the ridiculous!

Unlike our leaders, who only seem intent on managing our decline, with words like 'the new normal' and 'we won't be going back to old Australia', we must focus ourselves on what can unite us in a positive way. We must revisit the concept of a fair and forward-looking Australia and point out what our future could be.

Many of our leaders are bound to the WEF concepts of fifteen-minute cities and micromanaged lives (ours, not theirs). What we now have to look forward to (according to them), will be of a lesser not a greater expectation. This despite our continued technological advancements and the reduction of labour in the production process. When are we to see this concept of leisure celebrated, not sneered at.

In the past our civilisations built great things on the back of slaves, the ruling population had plenty of leisure! Now that we have mechanical slaves doing our work, we still have no leisure. Our unemployment is seen as a bad thing, for we have not dealt with the concept of less work for more production, and monetary policy is still strictly connected to work (which we are no longer required to do to achieve the same production results).

This monetary discrepancy is at the heart of our problem! This is the talking point we should all be getting our heads around. Never before in our history have we had the ability to be so well off, without the enslavement of a part of the population. This ability has been sabotaged by economic absurdities, like 'a favourable balance of trade', where we compete to give away real wealth for bits of foreign paper! Or the idea of ploughing in crops that could feed the hungry, simply because someone won't issue the tickets to allow them to be used. It has already been grown; but they want us to destroy it in case someone gets it for free and upsets the economy! This is truly absurd!

We need to be asking ourselves these basic questions: what is the economy for? How is it that money, a unit of exchange, can vary in value? Do builders have to deal with shrinking centimetres? Do butchers have to keep adjusting the kilograms on their scales?

No! These things are set values, as our monetary system should be. What good is it saving \$10,000 over 10 years, if it will then only buy half of what it was worth ten years on. The real labour, the real wealth it represented then, should be of equal worth now should it not.? These ponderings are the core of our problems. The same people manipulating our lives, manipulate the money market and issue the 'credit' which we must use to exchange our real wealth. They also claim full ownership of what it represents, not just a printing, or management fee. It is not their wealth they are monetising, it is ours! We are making a future claim on an action or produced object of worth, our product, all we need is a paper that recognises this value so that we can exchange it. The banker is the middleman in the transaction, not the owner of the wealth being transferred. Why is it that we must pay it back as if we did not own it, just borrowed it?

As mechanisation replaces labour, so too must the economic distribution allow us to buy what is produced, regardless of our employment in its production.

In a fully automated factory, who gets the wages to spend on what is made? Expand this out to include the automation of a majority of production, and the wage discrepancy must have an impact! This is what we are seeing now - yet no one will talk about it! We must, for if not us, then who?

We must be the ones raising these talking points in conversation. Pushing others to think about the culture we wish to retain, the concepts we have of good and evil! It is truly that simple – we seem to have lost our sight when it comes to what the future should look like. We are being told to focus on past issues, many of which are already resolved.

We must push people to look to the future and try to define what it is that everyone has in common; that they want out of our association as a society. We must be the agents of positive change! ***

From the Archives: <https://alor.org/Storage/navigation/Library1.htm>

J.D. Malan - Natural Cost and the Ownership of Money
A realistic examination of the basic cause of inflation

Natural Cost And The Ownership Of Money

Before embarking on any course of action a belief must exist that the objective is attainable. At present there is a general belief, encouraged by propaganda from apparently reliable sources, that inflation is an extremely difficult problem with no easy or popularly acceptable solution. The purpose of this paper is to demonstrate that, on the contrary, inflation is a simple financial phenomenon capable of eradication without social upheaval, once the correct cause has been examined and understood. To do this it is necessary to understand the importance of the question of ownership of a community's money supply and to introduce the concept of "Natural Cost".

What Is Meant By "Cost"?

When the word "cost" is used by an accountant, economist, business man, or anyone else, it is assumed that the meaning is clear and needs no further definition. But is it clear? The dictionary definition of "cost" is no help because it is simply equated with "price", while "price" in its turn is equated to "cost". As the term is used in accounting, it is simply the addition of all the money expended in the production of the article under consideration, irrespective of when the expenditure occurred or what has happened to the money in the meantime. If "profit" is considered to be one of the components of "cost", then "cost" and "price" would be the same figure, but there is a vital difference between this figure and "natural" cost.

What Is “Natural” Cost?

Natural cost is the real, or physical, cost of producing an article or a service. It could be expressed in symbolic form by listing the individual items in terms of weight, volume, energy units, etc.—and such lists could be used to compare the relative costs of two articles, or of the same article produced at different times or under different conditions. But comparisons of cost expressed in such a multiplicity of units are unnecessarily difficult, and can be simplified by combining them using one common symbol—money. This has one other important advantage by enabling us to observe differences between the figure thus obtained for “natural” cost and what accountants simply refer to as “cost”, but which should be described as “financial” cost. These differences will be items included in financial cost but not in natural cost, and they will all have one common feature—they will relate to items which were physically completed at some time in the past. If price is based on financial cost, as is inevitable under our present financial system, cost inflation is unavoidable. It is the primary theme of this paper to demonstrate that prices **MUST** be related to natural cost before inflation can be eliminated.

What Is Inflation?

Inflation is considered by both “experts” and the general public to exist in two forms—demand inflation and cost inflation. Since all inflation results in a rise in both prices and the amount of money available to match them, much discussion occurs on the quite unimportant question of which is the cause and which the effect. In other words, do we have demand inflation in which “too much money chases too few goods” or do inflated costs, and hence higher prices, cause the demand for more money? The question, in that form, is both futile and unanswerable. Demand inflation is a relic of days of physical shortages and is not important today. It did, however, give rise to the so-called “law” of supply and demand, which is the only basis on which present-day economists try to build their explanations. They have no explanation for cost inflation. But inflation, no matter what adjective is used to qualify it, is in reality only the effect of a fundamental fault in the way our money symbols are used. Examination of the so-called “cures” for inflation shows that they are based on the erroneous belief that the problem is simple demand inflation, while the occasional references to “cost” inflation, and the need to reduce “costs”, shows that there has never been any attempt by economists to look at the question of “natural” cost. ***

Postal Address: PO Box 27, Happy Valley, SA 5159.
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On Target is printed and authorised by Arnis J. Luks
13 Carsten Court, Happy Valley, SA.