

Voltaire no plagiarist

Mais oui, that Jens Andersen can certainly write devastating letters. Perhaps the reason is that he plagiarizes from me. I refer, of course, to his mention of the Biblical story of God forcing Ezekiel to eat bread with manure. I originally brought up the incident in my *Philosophical Dictionary* (of "Ezekiel") along with God's admission to Zeke that he gave mankind bad laws.

But at least the thief didn't cop my punch-line "He who likes the prophecies of Ezekiel deserves to have lunch with him." (or something to that effect; it is difficult to verify the exact wording when one is rotting away six feet under.)

At any rate it is a good thing no one reads me any more. If people found out what I actually wrote my fame might turn to the notoreity that Monsieur Andersen now enjoys. Au revoir for now.

Marie Arouet de Voltaire
Dead CCII



Quixote

by David
Marples

Are you perturbed by rising inflation, by floating interest rates, by a dollar which suffers a fit of giddiness every time Jimmy Carter sneezes? Then rest assured that a solution is at hand; not in Alberta or even in Canada, but in "jolly old GB," where Margaret Thatcher has had the good sense to grant Milton Friedman a free hand to solve the economic problems. The process is worth examining, because elements of Friedmanism are clearly present in the workings of the Canadian economy and were rampant in the U.S. until Friedman's chief devotee was impeached.

The 68-year-old New York native is one of the chief advocates of the system known as monetarism, which rests on the delightful premise that all economic activity is dependent on the changes in money supply. Thus, it is claimed, prosperity can be achieved if the central bank stabilizes the supply of money at a rate equivalent to the real growth of the economy. Friedman eventually took his

process one step further and maintained that a constant rate of increase of the money in circulation was desirable, since this would effectively restrict both governmental activity and interference.

Governments are anathema to Friedman, they are simply an unnecessary impediment to the natural processes of the free market. The key factor in a healthy country, in his view is "competitive capitalism," which should have the "freedom" (a much abused word) to run roughshod over such unpleasanties as

welfare payments, unemployment, in fact over anyone not actively engaged in the process of accumulating money. Friedman recognizes that such a system will initially entail some problems, but is convinced that in the long run, the controlled money supply and the suzerainty of the central bank over the elected government, will ensure prosperity.

Margaret Thatcher thinks so too and together with her sidekick Sir Keith Joseph, has imposed "Friedmanism" wholesale on the British Isles. Admittedly, one is speaking of one of the most narrow-minded and unimaginative national leaders around today, but the results of less than a year of the Thatcher government are still staggering. The limits imposed upon the money supply have had little effect on inflation. One must find other reasons to account for this. In turn, wage increases have been rigidly set at around five per cent whilst prices rise by almost twenty per cent. The immediate result of "prosperity for all Friedmanism" is a fifteen per cent drop in purchasing power for the long-suffering British worker.

Take for example the striking steelworkers, engaged in one of the most arduous and thankless tasks of production. Are they being exorbitant in merely wishing to *maintain* their current standard of living? They will soon join a veritable labour army of three million unemployed, Thatcher's unwanted surplus labour force and the necessary sacrificial victims of the early stages of monetarism. Nationalized companies are being allowed to die gracefully, whilst the recent budget benefitted only small private businessmen, who may not actually add a great deal to the production line, but at least know how to amass capital in an era of recession.

The only bright note in this bleak picture is that the Thatcher government has presented us with a clear conception of Friedmanism in all its naked tyranny. It does indeed bring prosperity — prosperity to a handful of rich capitalists who are prepared to have a feast while ninety per cent of the population go hungry. Of course, one can look at the system another way and elaborate on the joys of free enterprise embalmed in monetarism. Personally however, I would like to deposit Milton Friedman down the nearest coalmine, provide him with a wife and six kids and then dock *his* wages by fifteen per cent. Then I would be quite happy to listen to his soliloquies on the need for competitive capitalism.

Socialist menace everywhere

Living as we do in a society in which the socialist menace is eroding our basic freedom on a daily basis, perhaps it is time to reflect on the heritage of thought and inspiration which has led to our greatness as a nation.

The individual, of course, is central. Around him revolves the world in its beauty and potential. The individual is the cornerstone of society: individual initiative invents great ideas; individual toil moves mountains. There is nothing greater than the individual and the individual knows nothing greater than itself.

There is also the struggle — this glorious struggle of free individuals, tangled in tenacious interaction, which is the very basis of our conservative philosophy and of our freedom. For the individual is born to participate in this battle, we humans being the superior creatures of the earth. It is this battle which awakens us, bright and fresh, every morning of our lives, to wrestle for our existence with our fellow creatures. "To win is everything," it has often been said. And how true it is, for this struggle takes us sometimes, yes, but gloriously, unto our very death.

Why, indeed, should we give up that for which we have so valiantly fought in this battle of life? It is ours and ours alone, despite the attempts of those more common, more slothful, and those less courageous than ourself to rob us of the rightful and just fruits of our labours. Yes, the socialist menace is at hand, lurking everywhere. Through its avenue the less diligent, the less gifted, those of less noble birth threaten the very structure of power and the rightful authority of those who have struggled so courageously to attain it. The common becomes the standard of achievement, and the individual loses the initiative for life's daily battle, falling back to gay comradeship and sloth. Think of it and be warned — my God, if we were to lose the struggle.

While considering the subject, thought should be given to great conservative philosophers of the past and present: Hobbes, Machiavelli, Ayn Rand, and, of course, to the most mis-

understood of all, Adolf Hitler. Maligned by socialist propaganda, the real value of Hitler's work has seldom been considered. Nowhere has the cause of conservatism been better stated and more clearly outlined than in his master-work, *Mein Kampf*. And what, indeed, is all the fuss about his alleged crimes? All he did was try to relieve the world of its less desirable elements and to make it free for any of us who show

individual initiative. It is time that the *Gateway* saw clearly that this is and always will be the will of the people and the average student. It should heed the words of such journalists as William F. Buckley, Roy Farran, and Lubor Zink rather than imitate nonsense propagated by bigoted Marxist pseudo-intellectual fagpinkos.

Charles Usher
"Chuck U" Farley

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