

14th March, 2014.

Mr. Ken G. Wyatt A.M.
Chairman,
Joint Select Committee of Constitutional
Recognition of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Peoples,
Parliament House,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

Dear Mr. Wyatt,

REVIEW OF THE AUSTRALIAN CONSTITUTION.
PREAMBLE.

Christianity seems to have given little thought to the words of
Emeritus Professor Rene Dubos, who wrote in "A God Within":-

"Whilst the living earth still nurtures and shapes
man, he now possesses the power to change it and to
determine its fate, thereby determining his own fate.

The Biblical injunction of Genesis 2:15 "MAN WAS PUT
IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN TO DRESS IT AND TO KEEP IT" is an
early warning we are responsible for our environment.

To strive for environmental quality might be considered
as an eleventh commandment".

The Garden of Eden was a world in ecological balance; and man
together with all living creatures and plants dressed it;
but man was also commanded in Exodus 2:8 to "REMEMBER THE
SABBATH DAY TO KEEP IT HOLY" - the Sabbath when God rested
and saw his creation was good, according to the King James
Bible translation by Cambridge scholars.

Islam also places emphasis on the environment - as the Imam
exclaimed in "Gardening Australia" on the A.B.C. last weekend.

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Enclosed is a CONSTITUTIONAL PREAMBLE composed from ideas put
forward by eminent Australians at the proposed Republic Referendum.

In the "Christian" nation of Australia, I would appreciate your
Panel consider this Preamble which gives credit to the Aboriginal
Nation's stewardship of the land which we - now one Nation before
GOD by whatever name - have in two centuries exploited and
degraded through our lack of understanding of Aboriginal peoples'
stewardship. This Preamble should make us value our legacy.

Yours truly,

(Mrs.) V.D. BURNETT. (AN ELDER AGED 86)
TRUSTEE - ESTATE G.G. BURNETT (DECD.) (AIF.QX.893)

A CONSTITUTIONAL PREAMBLE.

A COMPOSITION OF IDEAS PUT FORWARD BY PROMINENT AUSTRALIANS
PUBLISHED IN "THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN" ON P.14/15, 27/3/99,
AND WORDS OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS BIOLOGIST RENE DUBOS ("A
GOD WITHIN"); J.J.ROUSSEAU (RENOWNED AUTHOR) AND DR.ROGER
SHORT (HEALTH CARE NETWORK, ROYAL WOMENS & CHILDRENS HOSPITAL,
CARLTON - CO-AUTHOR OF "SINCE ADAM & EVE").

On this day, one hundred years since
Federation, we, the people of this
southern continent, Australia, and
its satellite islands -

one nation before God -

hereby acknowledge its first inhabitants,
the Aborigines, together with other living
things, dressed this ancient land and kept
it as a Garden of Eden in accordance with
the precepts of Genesis 2:15 for many
thousands of years.

We acknowledge our responsibility in this
new millennium to protect and conserve
our land, waters, air, flora and fauna.

We pledge to honour our commitment to
representative democracy, the heritage
and cultural diversity of all Australians,
to the right of all citizens to human
dignity, education, health, affordable
justice, fairness and equality under
the law and to freedom of speech,
association and religion.

In trust and hope, we reaffirm our existing (*)
Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia.

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(*) This may depend on outcome of
Republic Referendum!