

LANCE ENDERSBEE (1925-2009)

Humanity Loses A Champion

by Robert Barwick

Civil engineer Lance Endersbee, a long-time collaborator of the LaRouche movement in Australia and of *21st Century Science & Technology*, died of cancer Oct. 1, 2009.

Lance's career as a civil engineer spanned the wonderful Snowy Mountains Scheme, on which he worked under the great William Hudson while still an engineering student; Tasmania's brilliant hydroelectric system; dam construction in the Mekong Delta; and engineering projects in the United States. Also an educator, Lance was Dean of Engineering (1976-1988) and pro-Vice Chancellor at Melbourne's Monash University.

He was a world authority on rock behavior and tunnelling, a former president of the Institution of Engineers Australia, and a recipient its highest award, the Peter Nicol Russell Memorial Award.

Lance met the LaRouche movement in Australia, the Citizens Electoral Council or CEC, in 1997, when he was involved in the fight against electricity privatization. This led to a rewarding collaboration around great infrastructure projects, which was his true passion. Lance spent his active retirement self-funding surveying trips all over Australia and designing great infrastructure projects to see Australia into the future.

He told a CEC conference that his motivation for this work was witnessing young engineering students forced to expand their course to include business and commerce options, only because, unlike the hands-on opportunity the Snowy Scheme afforded him as a student, there were no equivalent nation-building projects to be tackled by his own students.

Lance's designs included a Melbourne-to-Darwin fast-freight railway, an Australian Ring Railway, and an economi-

Endersbee addressing a Citizens Electoral Council conference, talking about Australian development projects.



CEC

cally viable Clarence River hydroelectric power and irrigation scheme.

LaRouche Youth Movement members and others would remember Lance from his work on underground water, which he showed is fossil water that is not being recharged, as was the common assumption. Further, he said, the extraction of this fossil water is causing land subsidence over the Ogalalla Aquifer, and other places.

His 2005 book, *A Voyage of Discovery*,¹ includes an examination of underground water worldwide. *21st Century* published a chapter from his book in Spring 2006, "The World's Water Wells Are Drying Up!"

Fighting Climate Superstition

In the final years of his life, Lance threw everything into the fight against the superstition of man-made global warming. He last addressed a CEC conference in February 2007, where he expressed his personal sense of outrage as a scientist at the Al Gore claim that "the debate is over." Through his many scientific contacts, Lance was instrumental in galvanizing honest scientists to not be intimidated and speak out against the global warming lie. This has helped to smash the consensus line, and throw the Australian debate about cap-and-trade

into turmoil.

Earlier in 2009, Lance organized a Symposium on Global Warming at Monash University, where he said: "The purpose of the symposium is scientific, and directed to demonstrating that the global climate is determined by natural driving forces. We are of the firm opinion that the present claims about man-made global warming are wrong, and that the predictions from computer models of climate are seriously misleading. It will be shown that the immediate prospect for the global climate is not warming, but continued and deeper cooling."

Lance's son Philip recounted that his father fought to the end: Just 12 hours before he died, Lance said of the cap-and-trade bill to come before the Parliament, "Don't let them pass that emissions trading scheme."

Lance is survived by his wife, Margaret, three children, and 11 grandchildren.

Footnotes

1. Lance Endersbee's book, *A Voyage of Discovery: A History of Ideas About the Earth, With a New Understanding of the Global Resources of Water and Petroleum, and the Problems of Climate Change*, is available from the Monash University Bookstore website, <http://bookshop.monash.edu.au>.