

From the Editor

Chris Berg

In around 1950, *Look Magazine* published the ‘Road to Serfdom in Cartoons’—a version of the Hayek classic drawn for a popular audience. (The cartoon is available on the web at <http://www.mises.org/TRTS.htm>). In the most accessible way possible, the anonymous artist sketches out how national planning instituted during wartime can be embraced after the conflict concludes, and how this necessarily leads to a loss of freedom.

Few would still advocate this approach—grand, national-scale economic planning has been disgraced since the Cold War. But, as Alan Moran argues in the cover story, ‘Planning restraints: A plague on wealth and the democratic process’, governments have nonetheless embraced planning in different areas, to the disadvantage of their citizens.

Instead of allowing individuals to use their land as they see fit, urban planners subvert basic property rights for a host of aims—including environmental, transportation, ideals of equal access and, as Louise Staley argues, often dubious notions of heritage value.

The April *IPA Review*, like the others before it, covers a huge range of issues. Alec van Gelder looks at the ‘digital divide’, and concludes that aid programmes would be better focused on broader development and economic liberalization than popular fashions like telecommunications.

Ken Phillips reassesses the food manufacturing industry five years after the IPA published the landmark report ‘Take Away Take-Away’, and finds that little has changed. The sector needs to undergo dramatic change if it is to stay globally competitive.

Ari Sharp visits North Korea looking for signs of capitalism, Mike Nahan visits Victoria looking for signs of fiscal responsibility, and Sinclair Davidson and Alex Robson visit the opinion pages of *Sydney Morning Herald* looking for signs of economics.

Andrew Kemp looks at the elusive genre of heavy metal, Hugh Tobin tries to confiscate mobile phones, and Scott Hargreaves urges Mark Latham to read Max Weber.

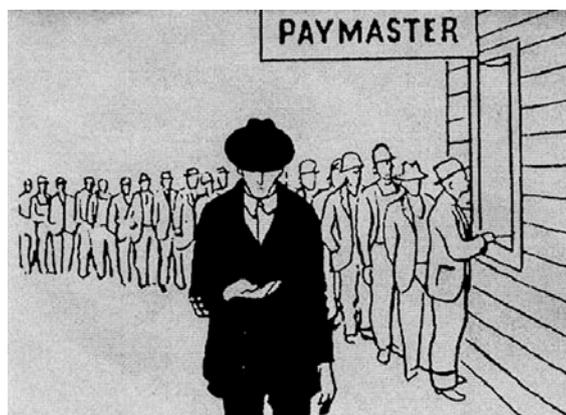
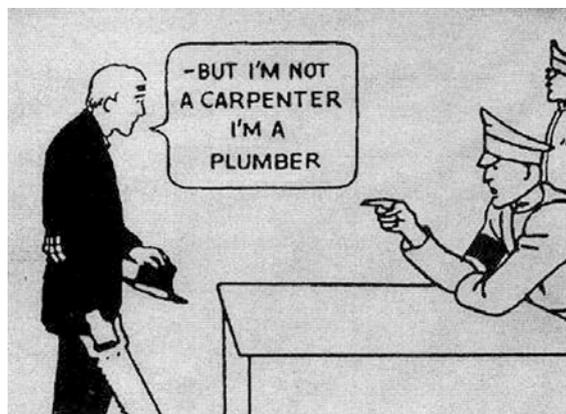
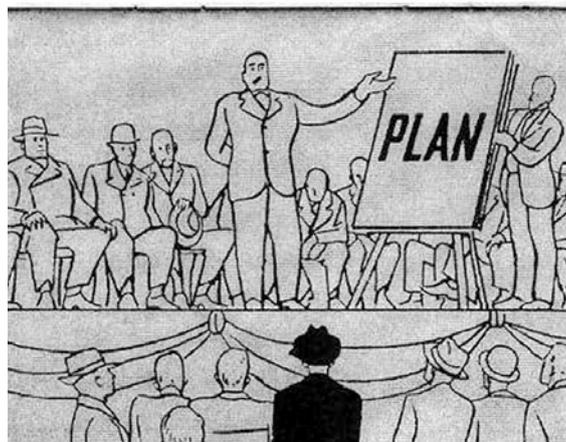
Amber Agustin scrutinizes the High Court and finds that the appointment process threatens federalist principles.

There’s a great deal more, including *Strange Times* (with a special focus on Loch News Monster news), analysis of salinity fears, media policy and, of course, a wide range of book reviews.

T H E R O A D T O S E R F D O M

The “Planners” promise Utopias

A rosy plan for farmers goes well in rural areas, a plan for industrial workers is popular in cities—and so on. Many new “planners” are elected to office



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REVIEW

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