irrigation water. Then there was the dream of cheap, clean hydro-electric power.

A dream indeed. These days the Snowy is merely a puny reserve power supply for the massive coal-fired plants which provide over 90% of NSW’s power. The price has been the desolation of a truly unique sub-alpine area. Roads and transmission lines criss-cross the high plains. Dams and tunnels provide an intricate marvel of engineering, built at a cost of some 300 lives and billions of dollars for a small percent of electric power needs and an ecologically damaging water control system.

Quadrant’s punchline? “Judging by the treatment being accorded the Very Fast Train project, the third runway at Mascot or mining in Coronation Hill, it is a safe bet that no such scheme as the Snowy now stands a chance in Australia until the same majority of Australians put the greenies in their place.”

Eric still hates Jews

Eric Butler’s League of Rights is often thought of as a rather quaint far Right group of Empire loyalists, a kind of British lion with its fangs drawn.

No so. The League is active and virulent as ever, largely in the bush, so perhaps the perception displays urban bias. The League has always stoutly denied its anti-semitism and usually keeps it under wraps. But occasionally it slips out. In their newsletter On Target (February 9) the following is printed under the heading ’War Crime Trial Obscene’:

“An old man of Polish background, who has lived a quiet and law-abiding life all the years he has been in Australia, is being charged with crimes, not against Australians, but against Jews, which allegedly took place in another part of the world nearly fifty years ago. It is symbolic of the state of the nation when the announcement of Australia’s first war crime trial came on Australia Day. Australia Day commemorates the birth of a new nation of British origins. Those Zionist Jews and others who have called for War Crimes Trials have demonstrated their rejection of the Christian foundations of the British judicial system. The ”justice” they talk about is the same type of justice which Shakespeare’s Shylock called for.”

The bosses’ junket machine

For years there have been rumours about the Harvard trade union program and the various figures who have attended it. Not surprisingly, considering the indescribable intellects it has attracted. These include former NSW Premier Barrie Unsworth; Vehicle Builders Union secretary Joe Thompson; Vehicle Builders Union secretary Joe Thompson, and Macquarie Bank, Caltex, Esso, James Hardie and Westpac.

NCC takes its ball home

Further to Loose Cannon’s report of the Left successes in Victorian unions, Newsweekly offers the following fascinating insight into power-games on the Right in Victoria.

“In a small way, there is a lesson in the total defeat of Centre Unity forces. Some of their leaders have made it clear that the NCC was not wanted as a force in Victorian unionism.

“Centre Unity could do the job better. For the NCC to be active would split both the effort and the vote. So, in Victoria, it has abstained. Result - Centre Unity thrashed everywhere. That policy, at least, has no future and changes will be necessary.”