

20 January 2020

WHAT MIGHT THE WORLD AND NEW ZEALAND LOOK LIKE BY 2030

Agricultural/economics meeting - a group of six people present were asked at the beginning of the meeting to give their thoughts as to what they thought 2030 might look like - they had 45 minutes to get their thoughts together during the main speaker address and then each had to address the meeting for six minutes - there was a lot of discussion after these six speakers had completed their addresses.

These are the thoughts that Pita, as one of the six, scribbled down on paper for his six minute address.

- (1) There are 70 billion animals killed around the world each year - we would have to think that sheep, cattle, goats, pigs and other meat animals will be less in 2030 than now. NZ has already reduced its sheep numbers by 43 million and Australia by 100 million over the last 40 years.
- (2) Zero carbon emissions by 2050 is the in phrase - I can't fault the target - but sometimes I wonder whether this target is unrealistic and some warming will take place regardless of human endeavour - this makes me think that we are not spending enough time thinking and planning for Plan B - that is a warmer world - banks and insurance companies are already onto this to some extent, but nobody wants to talk or write about Plan B - especially the world's politicians because they have no idea how Plan A or Plan B will be paid for and by whom and when.
- (3) Another key challenge of our time is automation. Technology can improve lives, but it can also take away jobs. 78% of people in the USA already live from pay day to pay day - maybe this figure is close to being a worldwide figure for some countries. We are looking down the barrel of being at the mercy of the big tech companies. Maybe people do need to be before profit - but while our capital system is not perfect, it presently is still second after breathing.
- (4) The world's meat eating habit is responsible for almost 20% of global greenhouse gas emissions, around 33% of arable land use and more than 10% of the worldwide fresh water footprint, the present agricultural inputs to produce 1 kg of meat have always surprised me - the rise of plant and cell based meat is an emerging trend - this is all in its infancy but the trend and the dollars being thrown at it are very strong - our lamb and grass fed beef are special high quality products and in NZ we only need probably around 40 million consumers and we will hold our position but by 2030 this trend will show up much more.
- (5) Unless central banks decide to keep borrowing rates low indefinitely, then by 2030 a roughly 22 trillion dollars USA overall debt will cause trouble for the world. In USA terms, one trillion is one thousand times one billion - in British terms, one trillion is one million times one billion. The USA is the largest economy in the world and if they sneeze severely then the rest of the world catches a cold or worse very quickly.
- (6) China is a big player now in all respects, but wants to be a much bigger player by 2030. The Chinese Communist Party may well develop an entirely new internet because control of any economy will, by 2030, be substantially through control of their internet - our worldwide high tech companies have already demonstrated this on a privately owned basis - China, though, will be something else again.
- (7) NZ scientists rabbit on about freshwater, but we are lucky on this issue - there will be major, major freshwater issues in India, Africa and Asia - there will definitely be wars regarding water by 2030.
- (8) By 2030, 'Boomers' as they are called (born between 1946 and 1964) will be starting to disappear right around the world and their vote will not be significant after that - up until then, 'Boomers' have played a big role and have voted things their own way - listen to your children as they will pick/decide upon your rest home and when.

- (9) The world's population is estimated at around nine billion people by 2030 - this is triple the world's population in 1960 - a tripling over 70 years - much of this increase will come in India, South America and Africa - India's increase is close to one million a month. Africa on its own is estimated to hold nearly half of the world's population by 2050. Two issues arise here - firstly, the world is spending an enormous financial sum every year on prolonging life - secondly, I doubt whether the world is ready to cope with this explosion - if not, you can guarantee there will be major conflicts bringing about issues regarding global economy, immigration, hunger and environmental.
- (10) Deep down, I am an optimist and feel that normally attack is the best defence - I am, though, more optimistic inside my own gate than outside the gate, but I have faith in people or at least 90% of them. My optimistic hope by 2030 is that we have more truth around the world than we have right now.



Pita Alexander
PS Alexander & Associates Limited
DDI: 03 364 9330
M: 021 465 426
E: pita@alexanders.net.nz



Alister Stevenson
PS Alexander & Associates Limited
DDI: 03 364 9332
M: 021 843 820
E: alister@alexanders.net.nz



Karen Prue
PS Alexander & Associates Limited
DDI: 03 364 9344
M: 027 535 3191
E: karen@alexanders.net.nz