Science, Technology and Engineering Perspectives in the Process of Public Policy Making

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Parliament and Policy

- Policy *exploration* – especially *choices*
- Policy *scrutiny* – effectiveness

An *iterative* process

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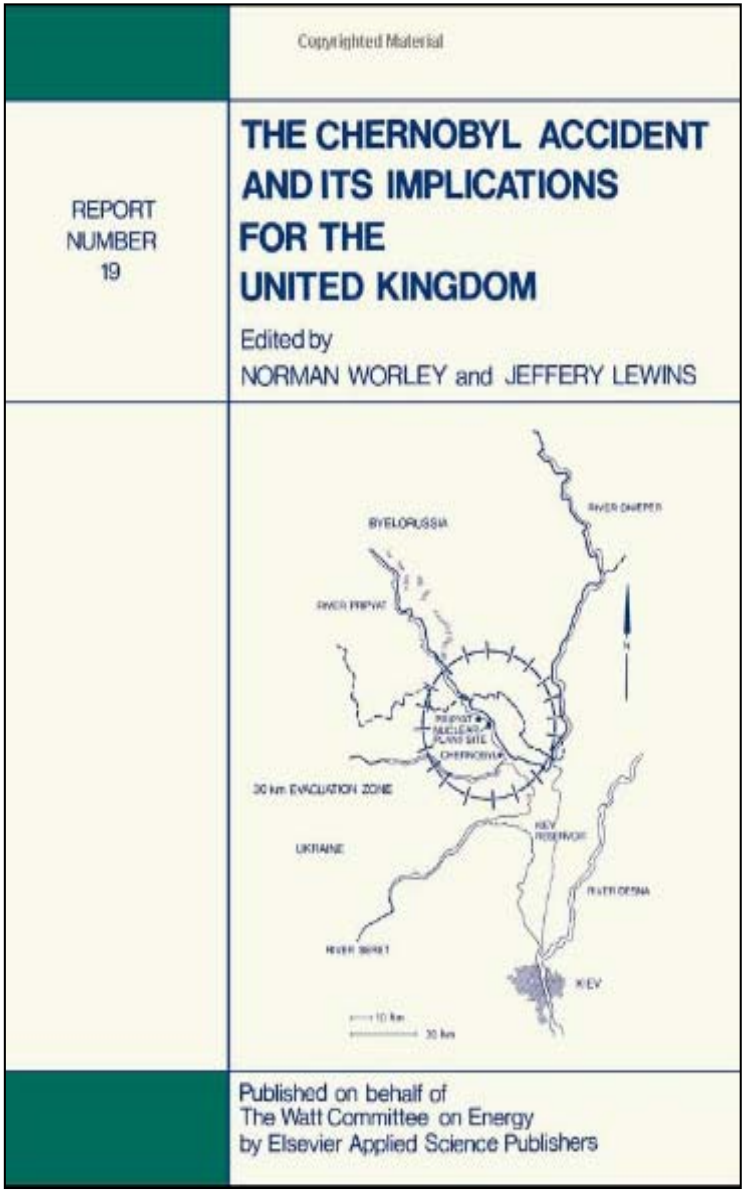
Alvin Weinberg, 1915-2006

A 5000 Reactor World

About 400 Reactors currently

A world where nuclear electricity is unexceptionally contributing a major share of electricity production



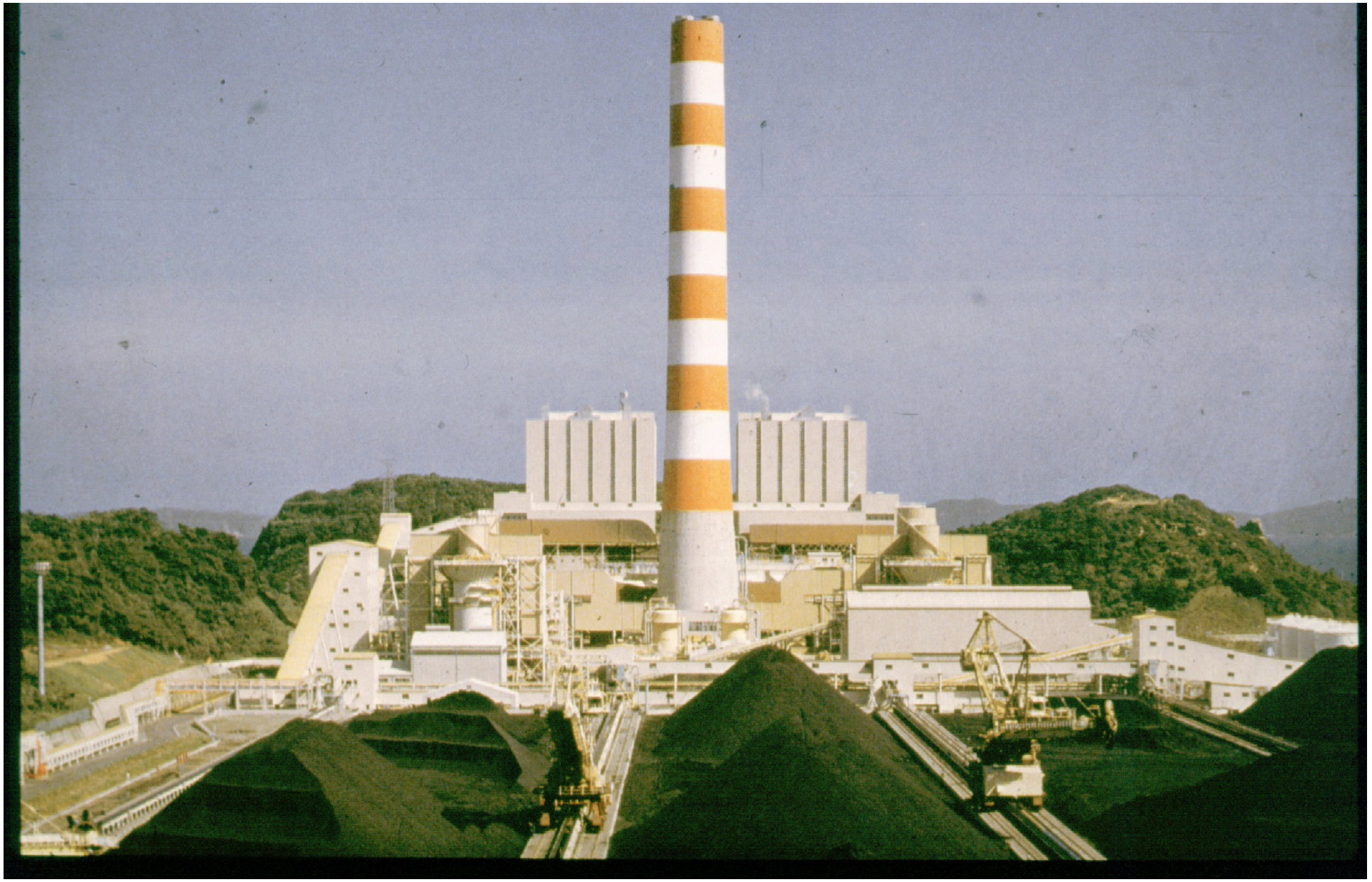
1988

Section	**8**	*International dimensions of the implications of the Chernobyl accident for the United Kingdom*	
		DAVID COPE	71

1994 “archive” nuclear expertise for potential use in the future

2005 UK government initiative announced – KNOO – 4 years, £6 million

KNOO
Keeping the Nuclear Option Open



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6. The Future of Nuclear Power in Japan

Professor David Cope

Disclaimer

I should begin by emphasising that I am speaking in a personal capacity and in no sense representing the views of the Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology, still less those of Parliamentarians, whose positions on nuclear power are as diverse on this as on any other subject.

Introduction

People often ask me if I am 'pro' or 'anti' nuclear power or, more emotionally, if I 'believe' in nuclear power. I have always found these questions strange, particularly the latter, which seems akin to asking whether I believe in ships. Ships can sometimes have adverse environmental impacts but they can also carry cargo and encourage contact and trade between people. Often, there are alternative forms of transport, which may be preferred to ships, but for some purposes, they are the most efficient way to move goods or passengers. Furthermore, the situation can change over time - a new bridge may replace a ferry, for example.

Overall, this seems a good analogy for nuclear power. My position is that nuclear electricity generation has to be assessed alongside other means of achieving the same end - producing electricity. A choice has to be made, taking into account a wide

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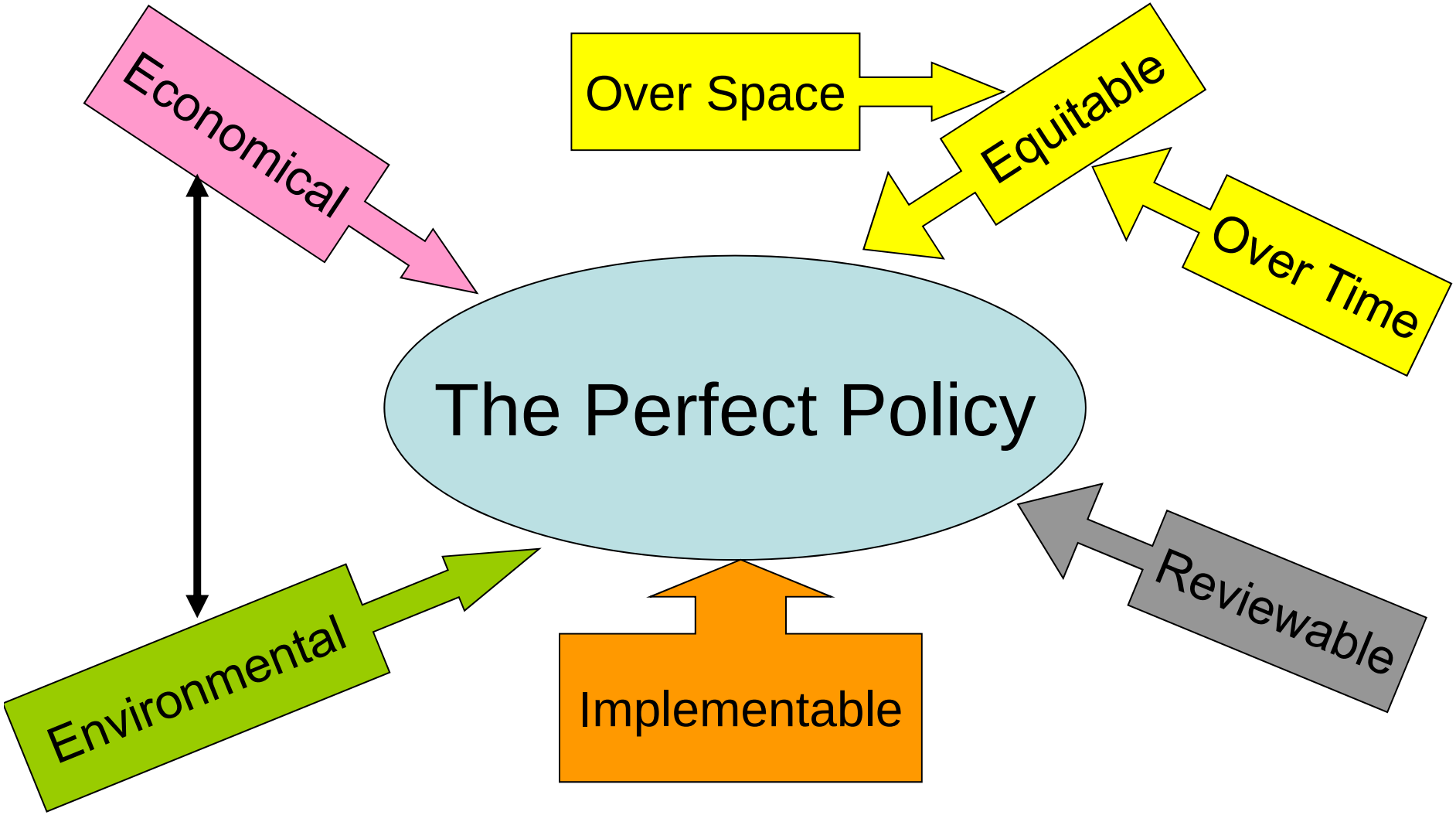
Economical
Over Space
Equitable
Over Time
The Perfect Policy
Environmental
Implementable
Reviewable

An amusing warning sign you can buy on the internet!

First, establish or augment:

Trustworthiness

then establish or augment

Trust

“Scientists should be on tap, but not on top”.

Winston Churchill

Randolph S. Churchill, *Twenty-One Years* (1964), p12


SHINWA
12 cm

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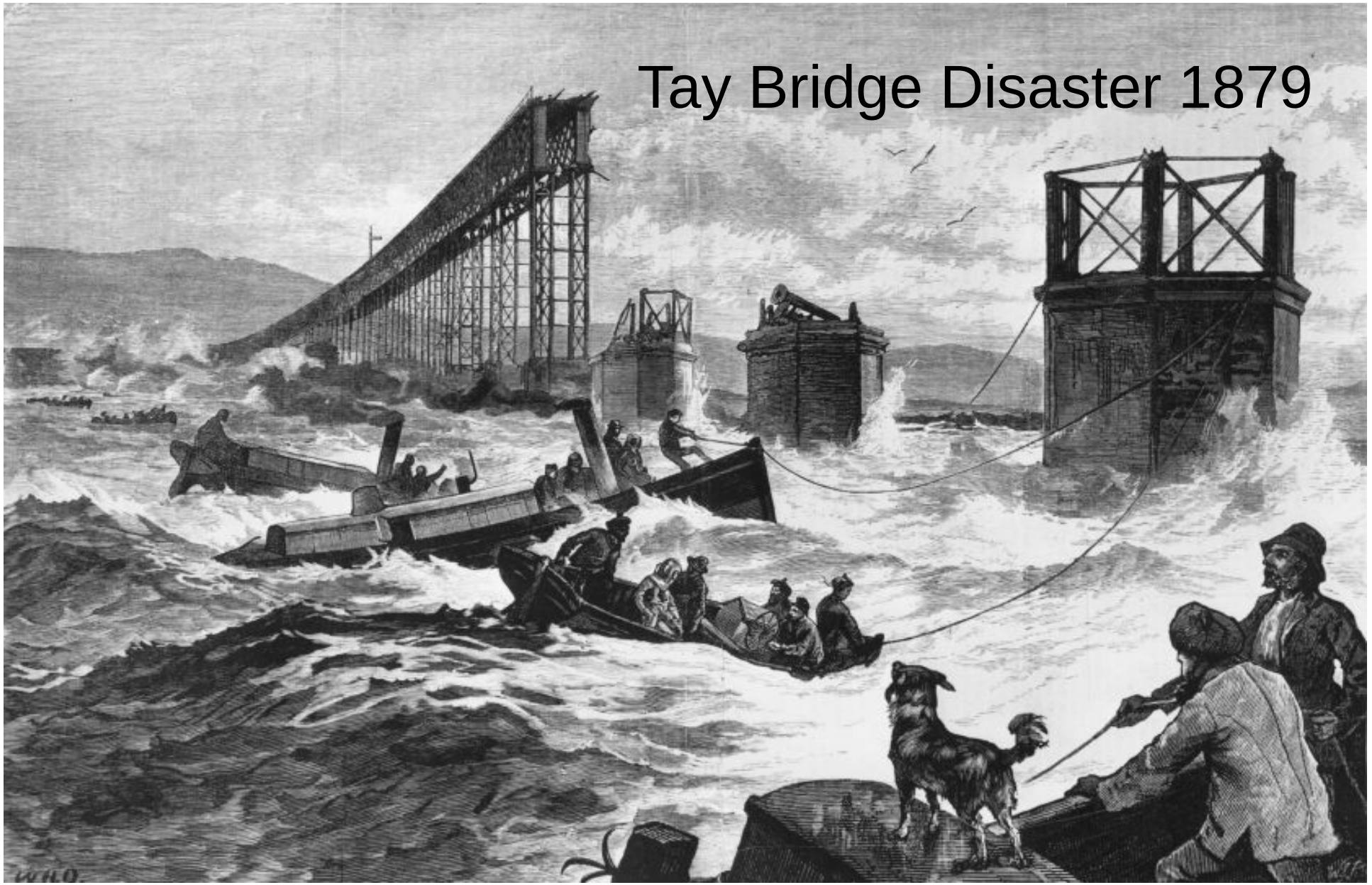
Tay Bridge Disaster 1879



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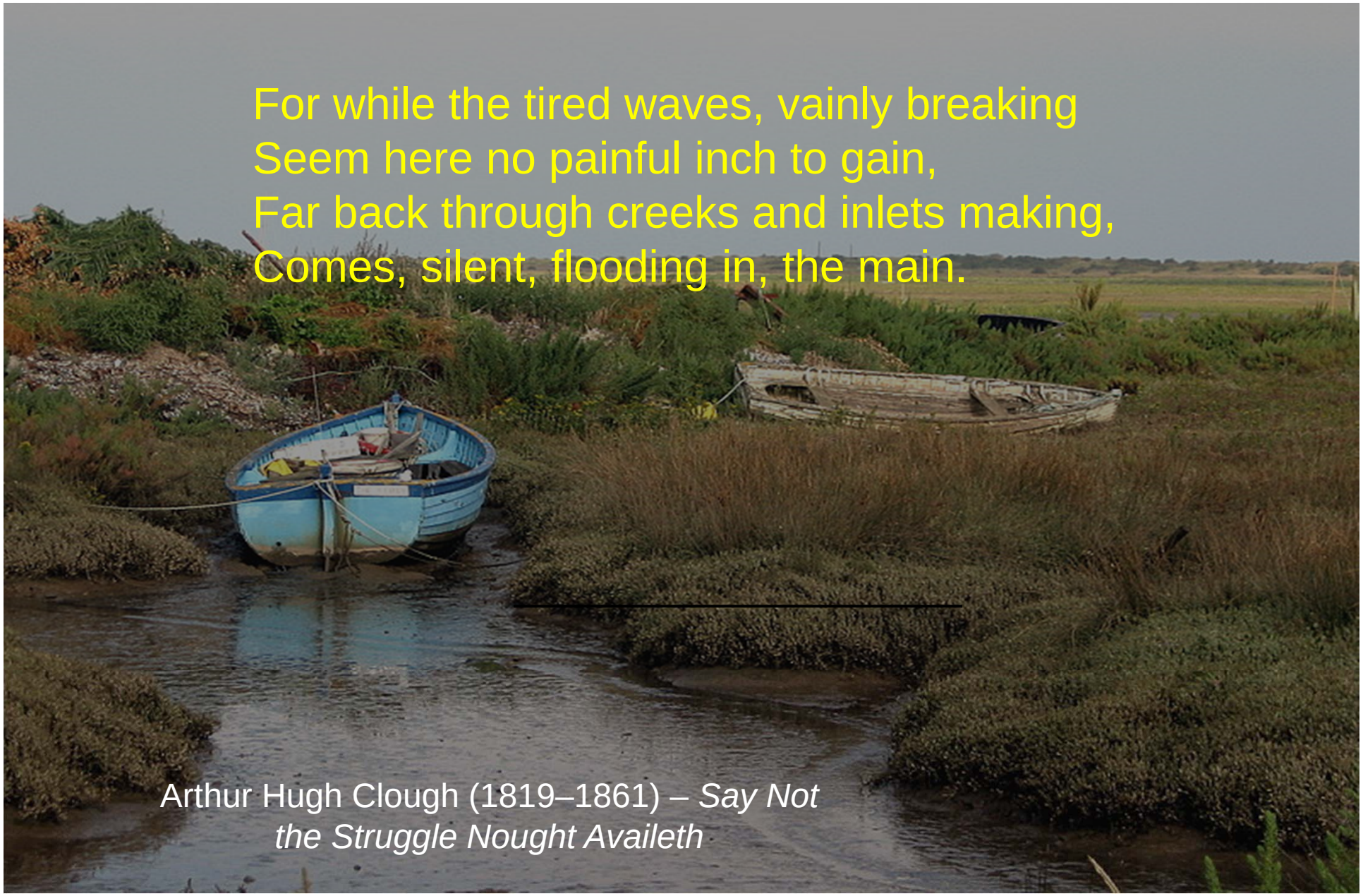

Arthur Hugh Clough (1819–1861) – *Say Not the Struggle Nought Availeth*