

IF I WERE DICTATOR FOR A DAY...

If I were dictator for a day
I would most certainly have my say.
The whole world would gape astounded
At the changes with which they were surrounded.

I'd ban all trips to outer space
Until our own world was a better place...
I mean why send rockets right up there
When our own public transport just doesn't compare?
They want to get us off the roads
By enforcing toll charges that cost us loads
Yet they won't make the buses and trains run on time...
For each delay I charge a fine!

On the subject of roads, I'd not tolerate
Those speeding road hogs that we all hate.
I'd not give them a chance by signing the traps
I'd just activate spikes so their tyres collapse!

I'm keen on all things environmental
But even this area I find temperamental.
There are products that are supposed to do good when they sell
But when it comes down to it don't work very well.
Low energy, *low efficiency*, light bulbs get me...
Environmentally sound - but they don't let you see!
You'd think if they can send people up to the moon
They'd have the technology to light up a room!

On food and nutrition I'd rule for organic
And I'd stop all these health scares that make us all panic.
First this is bad then that, we're going down the path
Where we'll either die eating or literally starve!

Preventative medicine? I'd make all that free.
For eye tests and teeth checks there would be no fee.
It's so expensive that people delay
Causing bigger expense for the nation to pay!

I'd put a stop to silly laws
That change things for no obvious cause.
The conversion to metric springs to mind...
Most people don't want it I think you'll find.
Have you ever heard anyone swap an ounce for a gram
When asking their butcher for a quarter of ham?
And as for the Eurodollar - well its not as much fun
If we can't change our money when we head for the sun!

Then there's those minor, niggly things that nevertheless
When all added up can cause us great stress.
Sit back for a moment while I tell you a tale....

I was sent on a mission that was doomed to fail.
One day my Dad sent me out to buy wood.
The instructions were technical. and I doubted I could.
'Two by four' he said, -'It is perfectly clear'...
I returned empty handed just as I'd feared.
One and seven eighths by three and seven eighths was the nearest I'd found
'Well that's right' said Dad, 'That's perfectly sound'.
Now I'd make it law that the 'Two by Four' name
Would mean just that and measure the same.

So you see, all these issues both big and small
Are equally important and I'd put right them all.
Now, I'll just make a list of what's to be done...
Oh yes, this dictatorship's going to be fun! I

Christine Barnes, Hayfield