

# WE CAN MAKE OUR COUNTRY TRULY GREAT

If all the great industries are owned by the people and the wealth from these industries is used to provide all the necessities of life for the people. Such has been the dream of all men and women who raise the demand of SOCIALISM. This is no idle dream, for already in the last 40 years more than one third of the people of the world have built or begun to build socialism in their lands.

Russia was once a very backward country, the people were much poorer than we have ever been and many could not even read and write. In less than 40 years the people of that land, not withstanding terrible losses in the war against Hitler Germany, have raised their living standards so far that education is available for all young people up to the age of 17. Education at universities is quite free and living allowances are paid to students. Full wages are paid at 18, women get equal pay, you vote at 18, and there are new sports grounds, theatres and recreation centres being built each year. In this land things get better all the time. Although there are still problems of housing shortages and some goods in short supply, wages have continually risen since the war years and prices have gone down.

China, a country regarded by some Western countries as rather backward, is busy solving problems that have beset the land for generations. While our Hunter River floods and causes loss of life and costly damage they have set out to overcome the flooding of their rivers with immense construction projects.

Skilled educated people are becoming so widespread in countries like the Soviet Union that they are making amazing advances in science and industrial techniques.

In socialist lands people not profits are all-important and everything is done to improve things for people.

How will we get socialism in Australia?

Well, that's a question for us all to answer. Today the

Communist Party, and many of the trade unions, and organisations like our own are working for that aim. The Australian Labour Party has a policy of democratic socialism.

We believe that when the majority of the Australian people see that socialism is the answer to our problems we will elect to our Parliament a Government capable of leading the Australian people to a Socialist Australia.

*Capital of a Socialist country — Moscow, U.S.S.R.*



Eweka Youth League, Our Future:  
lets Make It.  
(Sydney) (1956?)

In "Australia's Path to Socialism," the Communist Party of Australia says:

The active people's movement uniting the majority of our people under the leadership of the working class, which is essential for winning a genuine People's Government, will develop as a result of the experience of many struggles — large and small — which our working people will find it necessary to wage in defence of their interests.

This mighty organised movement of the people led by a united working class will win real people's political power and a People's Government. The machinery of State will be transformed and the agents of Collins House and BHP, in positions of authority in the civil service, police, judiciary and the armed forces, will be replaced by determined and loyal supporters of the people's power.

Our parliaments will be filled by true representatives of the people's movement, who will be subject to recall at any time by a majority of their electors. The legislative and executive machinery of the country will be made continuously responsive to the democratic will of the people, and the whole of the people will be drawn into active participation in the control and administration of every sphere of national life.

The People's Government, arising from, and based upon the People's Movement and the People's Parliament, will immediately proceed to replace the present dangerous policy of war with a policy of peace, and to break the power of the small clique of industrial, banking and land monopolies as the essential condition for opening the way to the building of Socialism.

#### PEOPLE'S PROGRAMME

The People's Government, expressing the power of the people based on a united working class and a broad popular alliance embracing farmers, professional people, technicians and all those who work by hand and brain, would:

- Restore Australia's independence and pursue a foreign policy of peace.
- Assert this independence by proclaiming Australia a Democratic Republic, thus putting an end to interference in our domestic political life by imported Governor-Generals and Governors like Sir Phillip Game\*, representing the Crown.
- Break the power of the monopolies and big capitalists by the Socialist nationalisation of large-scale industries, banks, distributive monopolies, insurance companies and the land of the large landowners and introduce a government monopoly of foreign trade.
- Re-equip basic industries and power resources, build new power resources and develop a machine building industry to supply all Australia's production needs.
- Plan the economy on Socialist lines and secure an unparalleled growth of the productive forces, free from the crises inseparable from capitalist economy which inflict so much hardship on the toilers and at the same time impel capitalism towards war as a means of attempting to solve its economic problems. This would realise the objective of the Australian labour movement which has been defined in general terms as "socialisation of the means of production, distribution and exchange", and ensure a big rise in real wages, together with improved living conditions.
- Eliminate the national debt by cancellation of debts to foreign and big Australian bondholders, and by compensation to Australian small holders.
- Introduce measures, including democratic currency reform, necessary to combat inflation, reduce and stabilise the cost of living.
- Eliminate indirect taxation on necessities.

\* Governor of N.S.W. who dismissed the Labor Government of J. T. Lang in 1932, when its actions threatened big private financial interests.

- Break up the big landed estates in order to provide farms for those willing to work the land.
- End the ravages of ever-recurring droughts by a great national plan of water conservation and irrigation, flood control and prevention of erosion, together with afforestation, in order to safeguard the agrarian industries and the soil now endangered by ruthless exploitation. The inland and sparsely inhabited regions, an enormous part of our territory, present a challenge that only Socialism can meet. These lands, now deteriorating and subject to erosion, can be made fertile and add to the national wealth by means of provision of water, reforestation and other scientific measures. Socialism will make possible a vast plan for the remaking of nature and the rehabilitation of the present waste and semi-arid lands of our continent.
- Eliminate the heavy burden of debts which today weights down the farmer and stultifies his efforts to improve agriculture.
- End the monopoly and middleman control of farm needs and the handling of farm produce, giving planned assistance to the promotion of producer- and consumer-controlled co-operative marketing. The People's Government will also assist with machinery pools and in many ways the planned extension and improvement of agriculture, thus ensuring security and prosperity to the farming population.
- End the press monopoly of the millionaires. The giant printing plants and daily newspapers will be placed under the control of the democratic organisations of the workers and the farmers and their allies. This applies equally to radio and other forms of education and enlightenment now in the hands of those who are interested in the exploitation of the people.
- Guarantee freedom of religion, free speech and criticism, make available the press and public halls to the people.

- Take vigorous steps to advance our own specific Australian culture, while at the same time accepting all that is best in world culture.
- Transform the education system to provide equal opportunities for all children to obtain higher education and university training.
- Introduce the principle of equal pay for equal work and provide equal opportunities for women to enter all trades and professions.
- Reorganise the health services as a State medical service to provide free and efficient care for all working people.
- Establish a system of non-contributory social insurance to provide an adequate standard of life for sick, disabled, aged people and all those temporarily or permanently incapacitated for work.
- Provide adequate modern housing for all at low rentals or purchase price.

We believe that this policy would give young Australians all the main points expressed in our policy for education, recreation and working conditions and a guaranteed future in a wonderful country.