

AT LAST !! A STEP FORWARD

MILITANTS FORM A LEFT WING MOVEMENT

At a representative conference held in the Trades Hall, Brisbane, on Sunday, November 23rd, a left-wing movement was formed.

Comrade F. W. Patterson, B.A., was in the chair.

Reports.—The provisional committee selected to draw up a proposed agenda paper at a previous conference reported they had completed their labours and submitted the results to the conference.

After prolonged discussion the following programme was adopted:—

1. **The Revolutionary Goal.**—Realising the impossibility of abolishing capitalism by a policy of gradual nationalisation. The Minority Labour Movement shall keep before the workers its ultimate object, namely, the socialisation of the means of production and exchange by confiscation and revolutionary methods.

2. **Wages, Hours and Conditions.**—At the same time the Minority Labour Movement recognises the necessity for the workers to resist the attacks of the capitalists on hours, wages and working conditions. In all these struggles, therefore, it shall take an active part, and in order to arouse the workers, it shall carry on a vigorous campaign in the unions on the job, and in A.L.P. branches, urging the workers to rally round the following programme of immediate demands:—

- (a) A minimum wage of £5 per week.
- (b) Payment of full basic wage to all workers.
- (c) A 40-hour week of five days.
- (d) Absolute preference to all trade unionists, and abolition of all scab organisations among the working class.

3. **Workshop Organisation.**—The Minority Labour Movement recognises

that workshop organisation alone will enable the workers to overcome division in their ranks, to develop class solidarity, to defend their interests, and finally to capture and control industry. It will therefore carry on an energetic campaign to build up workshop committees, which shall be elected by all the workers assembled on the job. These shall become the fighting organisms, both for the immediate and final struggles against the capitalist class.

4. **War.**—The Minority Labour Movement shall carry on a vigorous propaganda campaign against all preparations for war. It shall point out clearly the economic causes of wars, and shall strive to create a strong anti-war sentiment among the workers. In particular it shall warn them of the possibility of a big war in the near future in the Pacific, to decide which group of capitalists will exploit China, in order that the workers of the Pacific may be prepared for that possibility, and may be able to take effective action in the event of war.

5. **Women in Industry.**—No working-class movement can hope for permanent success unless it secures the active co-operation of both male and female workers. This co-operation, however, is weakened by the practice of paying women lower wages than men. This is a powerful weapon in the hands of the capitalist class, and is used to force down the wages of men workers, and in consequence is a direct menace to the whole working class. The Minority Labour Movement shall point out the dangers of this lack of co-operation, and demand equal pay for men and women, and strive to unite them, in order that the working class may be united for the common struggle against the capitalists.

6. **Working-class Education.**—Education will play a very important part in developing an intelligent and militant working-class movement. It must, however, be based on the class struggle, and be carried on with the definite purpose of training the workers for the task of overthrowing the capitalist system. The Minority Labour Movement realises that such an education, with a purpose so fundamentally harmful to the profits of the capitalist class, will not be provided by institutions which are directly or indirectly controlled by that class. It therefore urges all its members and sympathisers to try to establish study classes on the job, in the unions and in A.L.P. branches, and to build up a class-conscious workers' educational organisation, controlled solely by the workers themselves.

7. **International Trade Unionism.**—The Minority Labour Movement shall carry on an energetic campaign urging the Trade Unions to affiliate with the Red International of Trade Unions.

8. **The Minority Labour Movement,** not being in a position at present to have a press of its own to voice its legitimate demands, advises its members to support the only revolutionary paper in Queensland, "The Toiler," at the same time, recognising the necessity of carrying on propaganda in the unions on the job and in A.L.P. branches for control of the "Labour Daily" by the unions.

Election of Officers.

The following members were elected officers of the Left-wing Movement:—

President: F. W. Patterson, B.A.

Vice-President: J. McGuire.

Treasurer: Mrs. Edmonds.

Secretary: F. Lockyer.

Press Secretary: J. W. Roche.

The basis of organisation decided upon was as follows: All workers being in sympathy with the aims of the Minority Labour Movement, and willing to accept and carry out its programme, are eligible for membership, new members to serve a probationary period of one month, an initiation fee of 1/- to be paid by new members, the annual subscription fee for all members to be 12/-.

A council to be composed of delegates elected from groups on the job, and from groups in the unions, shall be the governing body. The council to elect a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Press Secretary each year.

Meetings.—The Minority Labour Movement to meet fortnightly at a time and place to be advertised.

Official Name.—The name of the organisation to be "The Minority Labour Movement."

The next meeting of the Minority Labour Movement will take place on Sunday, December 7th, at 2.45 p.m. in the Trades Hall.

are the unions and the rank and file members of the A.L.P. In the meantime let us go on with the cleaning-up process within the recognised organisations of the working class, and thus prepare for the ultimate aim of the working class—the overthrow of capitalism by revolutionary action and the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

ONE MAN, ONE JOB

GREATER BRISBANE ELECTIONS.

The elections to be held early next year under the Greater Brisbane scheme are of considerable importance from a working-class point of view, as many things could be done in the interests of the workers by a Greater Brisbane Council, controlled by genuine representatives of the working class. Civic affairs in the past have been controlled by the exploiters of Labour, and even the present City Council, which is allegedly controlled by Labour, the majority of the aldermen hold down other jobs and naturally devote fragments of their spare time to Council affairs. The principle of "one man one job" has been unanimously endorsed by the recent Greater Brisbane Labour Convention, and should be strictly adhered to. Of course the Q.C.E., at the request of those whom it really represents, may turn the proposal down, but after all the rank and file are the people who can finally decide the question. A number of A.L.P. branches and industrial organisations have affirmed the principle of "one man one job" in no uncertain terms, and it is up to all workers who have a vote in the plebiscites to roll up in strong force and vote for the rank and file men, and cut out the publicans, land agents, professional politicians, business managers, petty employers, and other petty bourgeois elements, whose

impudent claim to represent the sweating toilers is one of the arodoxes of the Labour Movement. It is pleasing to note that the workers are beginning to wake up to the fact that these gentry of the "one man many jobs" brigade have been putting it over them, and it is about time that they turned a cold eye on these people who are busily engaged in performing the acrobatic feat of hanging on to the coat tails of the boss with one hand and the worker's bowyangs with the other.

Keep the ball rolling, and insist, through the unions and A.L.P. branches, on the principle of "one man one job," and if you insist on municipal representation vote only for rank and file candidates. We understand that there is another move on the part of a few misguided individuals that needs squelching, and that is the running of so-called "industrial candidates" in opposition to the A.L.P. candidates. This foolish move is being made by a group of alleged "militants" who are too muddle-headed to understand that they are only adding to the confusion and are making it harder to fight the reactionary Labour leaders and clean them up. When it becomes necessary to break away from the Parliamentary machine of the A.L.P., the only people who have the right to take this step

Toiler, (Brisbane Branch CPA)
(Mitchell)

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