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LABOR UNITY SPELLS VICTORY

WHY COMMUNIST PARTY SEEKS A.L.P. AFFILIATION

THE AUSTRALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY HAS WRITTEN TO THE AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY ASKING FOR AFFILIATION.

The conference of Sunday, January 16, when the Communist and State Labor Parties amalgamated into one party decided to seek this affiliation.

The letter to the A.L.P. Federal Executive stresses that affiliation would strengthen the whole of the Labor Movement, unite more firmly all supporters of the Federal and State Labor Governments, and help to realise the aims of the Curtin Ministry for victory and post-war reconstruction.

Mr. Miles' letter, dated January 25, 1944, and addressed to the Secretary of the Australian Labor Party Federal Executive, Mr. D. L. McNamara, M.L.C., reads:—

"Dear Sir,—On behalf of the Australian Communist Party I am instructed to request the Australian Labor Party to grant affiliation to our organisation.

"This means that our organisation would accept the Constitution of the Labor Party and the decisions of Labor Party Conferences. Constitutional difficulties could be overcome by the Labor Party making provision to extend to our organisation obligations and rights similar to those provided for affiliated trade unions.

"We believe affiliation would strengthen the Labor Party and the whole Labor Movement and would more firmly unite all supporters of the Federal and State Labor Governments. A united Labor movement would strengthen the hand of the Federal Labor Government to carry through its programme for the victory of the United Nations over fascism, its reconstruction plans for the well-being of the Australian people, and for Australian co-operation to ensure peace and economic security in the post-war world.

—Yours sincerely,
J. B. MILES,
General Secretary."



GENERAL GOROD, commanding the great Russian offensive at Leningrad.

Lord Mayor Thanks Communists

The Secretary of the Victorian State Committee of the Communist Party has received the following letter from the Lord Mayor of Melbourne:—

"Dear Sir,
Will you kindly convey to the President and Members of the Victorian State Committee of the Communist Party of Australia my sincere appreciation of their ready response to the Bush Fire Relief Fund by forwarding me a cheque for £50.

"This splendid contribution to such a worthy cause is indeed helpful and will be of great assistance to the unfortunate sufferers in the devastated areas.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed)
T. S. NETTLEFOLD,
Lord Mayor.

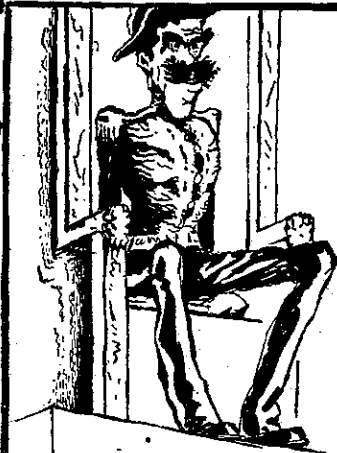
UNWANTED MAN MOUNTS BENGAL THRONE

While Bengal men, women and children starved in the streets, Mr. R. G. Casey, well-dressed, well-dressed product of the United Australia Party, sat on a silk-canopied, silk-cushioned silver throne to be sworn in as Governor of Bengal.

The throne, placed on a marble dais, in the white and gold throne room, was, according to the "Sydney Morning Herald" correspondent, captured from the Sultan of Mysore in 1799.

Turbaned, lance-carrying members of Mr. Casey's body-guard were round the throne; a salute of 17 guns was fired as this U.A.P. reactionary from Victoria took office.

The starving people of Bengal don't want Casey; they don't want throne-room paucity and 17-gun salutes. They want food and freedom.



There was a young man from Geelong,
"White Australia" he'd accepted so long,
the Bengalese thought it thick
that this slippery Dick
should rule where he didn't belong.



Unwanted by democratic Australia, Mr. R. G. Casey, by grace of British capitalism, now rules

EDITORIAL

AUSTRALASIA MOVES TO FULL NATIONHOOD

Australia and New Zealand have grown to nationhood. That is the meaning of the new Australia—New Zealand agreement.

The agreement shows that the two Dominions have become less dependent on Imperial Britain and that they want to limit the plans of certain very Imperialistic politicians in the U.S.A.

Lenin declared that the role of the Australian Labor Party in history was to establish an "independent capitalist state." The Australia—New Zealand agreement bears out this forecast. The two Dominions have declared that in all vital matters—winning the war, settling the peace, trade, aviation, immigration, production—they intend going their own way.

They declare in Article 16 that: "construction and use of naval, military and air installations . . . in time of war by any Power . . . does not in itself afford any basis for territorial claims."

They pledge themselves to act in concert with other freedom-loving nations for the winning of the war and the peace. They declare their desire to join the "international organisation referred to in the Moscow Declaration of October, 1943."

This proves once again that the present war has killed the old "isolation policy" of the Australian Labor Party.

Nothing is said in the agreement about the rights of the Indian and Chinese people, or about justice for the New Guinea and Australian natives. The agreement regionally would attack the "Soviet Union and China. Here are seen the influence of Imperialist views and the fear of socialism and national freedom.

The Labor Movement must fight against these views and aim to use all the combined influence of Australia and New Zealand to bring about real co-operation of all the Pacific peoples.

This is the only sound basis for peace and universal social progress in the Pacific area.

VICTORY FOR MINERS AT KORUMBURRA PITS

Korumburra coal miners will now resume work under satisfactory conditions as the result of decision of the Federal Government last week-end.

The Federal Government is to provide £1150, which, in addition to the previous State grant of £2000, will be used to

improve safety and ventilation in the Austral and Sunbeam mines. A stone drive is to be put through the Sunbeam mine.

The State Government guarantees the wages of the Korumburra miners. During the week the Coal Commission is to call a conference of the State Government, the Miners' Federation and the owners to settle outstanding matters.

This is an important victory for the Victorian miners who have struggled for months to clear up the primitive conditions which would have made continued production at Korumburra impossible.

This victory prevents the loss of an important source of coal supply for the war effort.

DON THOMSON RE-ELECTED

Mr. Don Thomson has been re-elected as Secretary of the Building Trades Federation.

This is the seventh time Mr. Thomson has stood for the position—the sixth time unopposed.

This outstanding record proves the confidence of the workers in Mr. Thomson, who is a well-known Communist, and the value of his militancy to the welfare of building trade workers.

"Victory Girls" To Boost Factory Drives

Interviewed concerning the big competition in Victorian clothing factories agreed to at the last general meeting of the Clothing Trades Union, Mr. Smith, Acting Secretary, said detailed plans will be discussed by the Executive after the annual elections of the Union, to be held in the next few weeks.

The proposed competition would result in the election of Victory Girls in each factory, who would be the spearhead in a drive for a better war effort and better conditions in the industry to attract more and more women to this essential work.