

COMMUNIST ELECTION MANIFESTO

Vote Communist!

WHY THE ELECTIONS?

The Federal Elections, rushed through in an endeavour to stampede the workers and small farmers into a panic vote for Capitalism, gives a very clear indication of the precarious position of Capitalism, and the necessity for still more vicious attacks upon the living standards of the toiling masses in the struggle to overcome the crisis of Capitalism.

Unable, in 1929, to continue the attacks that had been launched by them upon our conditions because of the growing hostility of the workers, the Bruce-Page Government deliberately raised the "Arbitration" issue to enable their Government to be defeated, and a "Labor" Government to be returned to carry on the attacks against our class, realising that the "Labor" Party, having a certain amount of prestige amongst the toiling masses, would be far more able to continue their attacks than the Bruce-Page alliance.

Now the position is altered: the Labor Government has held office for two years, and under cover of the Arbitration Court—the Court that was to be made an instrument of our class—under the cover of the Statistician's lying figures, and various other such deceptive measures, the living standards of the workers and small and middle farmers have been consistently worsened.

At the same time the prestige of the "Labor" Party has been sinking, the toiling masses are becoming disgusted with such a reactionary organisation, so once more the Bosses call for an Election so that the open Bosses' Parties, Nationalists, U.A.P., etc., can carry out the attacks that are necessary to them, and the "Labor" Party, becoming the "Opposition," can, by sham attacks upon the Government, endeavour to regain their lost prestige and still keep the toiling masses from revolutionary struggle.

The Communist Party states definitely that all parties, with the exception of the Communist Party, that are contesting the Federal Elections, are parties of Capitalism, parties of wage-cuts, worsened conditions, parties of starvation and misery for the toiling millions. Then, what sections do these various parties represent? What is the meaning of the disagreement between them?

THE INTERESTS OF THE NATIONALIST PARTY.

The Nationalist Party, as a whole, represents the interests of those Bankers, Federal and State Bondholders, shipping corporations and others connected exclusively with the exploitation of the primary producers in Australia. They maintain strong ties with British Imperialism and strive to maintain the old system of furnishing raw materials to British industries and keeping Australia as a market for the finished product of British industry.

(P.T.O)

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THE COMMUNIST MANIFESTO

THE INTERESTS OF THE AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY.

The Australian Labor Party as a whole is the Party of those capitalist elements who fight for the building up of a self-sufficient industrial machine in Australia. The high tariff policy of the Federal Labor Government is in the interests of that section of the Capitalist class, and is designed to shut out the overseas competition on the "home market" thereby enabling it to charge monopolistic prices for its products here.

Certain capitalist elements, among these being the U.A.P., having investments in both "primary" and "secondary" industry, flounder back and forth between the Nationalist, Country and Labor Parties, one time

believing that the solution of their difficulties lies in developing "home industries," another time thinking that everything should be sacrificed for the "primary industries," and strengthening of "Empire ties."

During elections all these Parties attempt to convince the capitalist that they alone can serve the interests of the entire capitalist class; in other words, serve that mythical entity, "the people." In power, all these Parties represent capitalism, and the conflict between the various Parties fades into insignificance before the united efforts of the whole capitalist class to place the burden of the crisis upon the backs of the workers and small farmers.

THE "LABOR" PARTY IN OFFICE.

In all States of Australia for a number of years the "Labor" Party has held office and carried on the most vicious attacks upon all sections of our class; they have made full use of the armed forces of the State to impose wage-cuts, evictions, smashing workers' demonstrations, evicting farmers, and in all ways beating down our living standards.

The "Left Revolutionary" Lang and his henchmen taking office from Bavin, by making use of all sorts of demagogic slogans and phrases, making all sorts of "promises" to fool the workers and small farmers so as to ensure his being returned to power, has also since gaining office, been carrying on, endeavoring to place the burden of the crisis upon the backs of the toiling masses.

In the Federal House the Scullin Government, also returned to power by the use of delusive "promises" to restore the workers' wages and conditions, to assist

the farming community by a "bounty," "to tackle the unemployed problem," etc., has proved beyond a doubt that "Labor" in office carries on as a better agent of capitalism than the open agents, the Nationalists, Country Party, etc., because it is able, by its hold upon the official machinery of the Trade Unions, etc., to tie large sections of the workers to the A.L.P.

By this method they have been able to carry on the attacks against our conditions for the past two years. Having forgotten their "promises" they work the "Neimayer" agreement, then the "Premiers' Plan," with the result that the wages of our class have been reduced by over thirty per cent. Old-age, invalid and soldiers' pensions being reduced, maternity bonus being slashed, and the unemployed army, which stood at 100,000 during the 1929 Elections, and was going to be reduced by the imposition of the tariff, now stands at nearly 600,000, and is constantly growing.

THE PRESENT ELECTIONS.

In spite of their glaring anti-working class actions, this capitalist Party comes to the working class with exactly the same promises as were made to us by these hypocrites in 1929. In his policy speech at Richmond Town Hall, Mr. Scullin said, in effect: "We will tackle the problem of unemployment first. We must not let our people suffer want." This in spite of the starvation that has been rampant amongst the toiling masses

for the past three years, in spite of the worsened conditions imposed upon us by the "Labor" Government.

The other capitalist Parties, Nationalist, U.A.P., etc., are also endeavoring to blind the workers and farmers with their hypocritical cries of "Work for all," "Better conditions," and other such deceptive slogans, each blaming the other for the crisis, but all united in their statements of "Smashing Communism."

THE COMMUNIST PARTY.

Against all these Parties of capitalism the only workers' Party—the Communist Party—is contesting the Elections with a concrete programme of demands around which we will organise the workers to struggle.

Against the false, lying "promises" of the Nationalists, U.A.P., Labor Parties etc., we call upon the

workers, small and middle farmers, to unite their forces and demand with the Communist Party:—

1. Restoration of all wage reductions and the abolition of all forms of rationing of employment.
2. Seven-hour day and five-day week, without wage reductions. Six-hour day and five-day week in hazardous industries.

Senate Vote 1 PARTRIDGE, H. F. K.

3. Six-hour day and five-day week, with two fifteen-minute rest periods each day, for women and young workers. Equal pay for equal work.
4. Restoration of all cuts in pensions and maternity bonus, and pensions to be paid at the age of 50 years at full wages.
5. National Unemployment Insurance to be paid to ALL unemployed workers at full wages, the same to be raised by a tax on industry, and to be administered by Workers' Committees.
6. No evictions of Unemployed from their homes. Free lights and fuel, free travelling facilities for unemployed workers.
7. Free food at school for children of unemployed workers.
8. Abolition of taxes on workers' wages, and for ruthless taxation of Capital, big Estates, etc.
9. Abolition of the "Inheritance" Law. Death duties to be complete confiscation of the inheritance of the rich.
10. Abolition of all expenditure on armaments and cancellation of all existing contracts in connection therewith.
11. No eviction of forced sales of property of small farmers.
12. The cancellation of all farm debts and mortgages.
13. The cancellation of all farmers' debts for Government relief.
14. Lower rents for middle farmers' holdings. Rents for small farmers' holdings to be abolished.
15. Australia to conduct its foreign policy entirely independent of the British Government.
16. The cancellation of all debts, at home and abroad. Compensation for workers and working middle class people who have invested their savings in these bonds.
17. Development of economic relations with the Soviet Union.
18. The right of self-determination for all native races subject to Australia, in New Guinea and other Pacific possessions, and the abolition of the White Australia policy.
19. Disarming and disbanding of the New Guard and similar Fascist organisations and the arming of the workers against Fascist attacks.
20. Repeal of Bruce's Amendment to the Crimes Act and all other legislation repressing the working-class movement.

THE PROBLEMS OF THE WOMEN.

The Communist Party is the only Party that raises the demand that women should enjoy equal rights with men. For the housewives, for those who have the burden and misery of attempting to feed their families on the miserable wages of their husbands, and those who face the starvation and degradation which comes with unemployment in the family; for those workers, the Communist Party demands the right for a decent living standard by increased wages, increased unemployment insurance, and free medical attention for all unemployed workers, irrespective of race, sex or creed.

For the unemployed girls, our Party also recognises their right to a decent living, and demands Unemployment Insurance equal to the men, for these workers, instead of their being forced to attend the relief centres for one or two days per week for a miserable allowance, far below even that of the men.

The Communist Party demands, and calls upon, the women workers to organise and struggle with us for the demand:—

"Equal rights for the women workers on an increased living standard."

COMMUNIST PARTY LAUNCHES COUNTER OFFENSIVE.

In this Election Campaign the Communist Party, the vanguard of the working class, continues the policy it has followed in the everyday economic struggles—mobilisation of the working class for the purpose of generating sufficient power to launch a counter-offensive against capitalism. We participate in this Campaign in order to prove to the workers the fact that they can never attain their emancipation from wage slavery through Acts of Parliament, or through the Parliamentary form of government, which is a special class institution that enables the capitalist class to impose its will by force and violence upon the working class. We utilise this campaign in order to win the masses of workers away from the treacherous Australian

Labor Party, which is to-day the leader of the capitalist offensive, and enlist them in the ranks of the revolutionary party of the working class.

During the campaign and after the campaign, just as before this election campaign started, the Communist Party will continue to organise the workers in industry, on the basis of factory committees, committees of action, and during strikes will set up rank and file strike committees as the machinery through which the economic struggles can be carried on and developed into political struggles against the capitalist class. As these mass struggles reach higher stages, our partial demands and slogans will be replaced by ever more revolutionary demands.

When elected to Parliamentary office, the Communist legislators will in no sense endeavor to uphold the laws of the State of the Commonwealth, but will utilise such positions to expose and ridicule such laws. Instead of speaking to the servile lackeys of capitalism

representing the Nationalists, the Country Party and the Australian Labor Party inside Parliament, to speak over their heads to the masses outside in order to discredit Parliament and all organs of the capitalist State, and mobilise the workers for their destruction

COMMUNISTS RESPONSIBLE ONLY TO THE WORKING CLASS.

Communists in Parliament are the direct representatives of the working class, and responsible only to the working class. That responsibility is maintained through living, constant contact with the masses in industry. Workers in all big industries (metal, railway, mining, water transport, electrical power, public service, etc.), and in the Unemployed Workers' Movement, will be requested to elect delegates as advisers to Communist members of legislative bodies; delegates, who will present to the representatives of the working class in Parliament the everyday problems of the workers as they arise in the factories, the mines, on the railroads, and in every other industry, and who will report back to the masses of workers the activity of their Parliamentary representatives.

The Communist members of Parliament will, in turn, become connected with workers' committees in the industries, and aside from their services in Parliament, will actively aid in carrying on the everyday struggle in the industries against the bosses.

In the same way will contact be built up through the Communist legislators and the rank and file of the army, navy, and all branches of the so-called defence forces, so that these workers in uniform may be mobilised as a part of the working-class struggle against capitalism.

In this campaign, as in all others, the Communist Party fights as the implacable foe of capitalism and all its agents. We hold aloft the banner of revolution—the crimson emblem of CLASS AGAINST CLASS.

The Communist Party calls upon the workers and farmers to rally to the one Party that serves the class interests in this campaign. Only by treading the revolutionary path of the Communist Party will the workers and poor farmers, in the growing economic and political struggles, be able to destroy the State power of capitalism and establish in its place a workers' and farmers' Government, on the basis of the Dictatorship of the Proletariat.

Workers of BATMAN

Vote Communist thus:
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1 Hannan, J.

FOR THE SENATE **1** PARTRIDGE, H. F. K.
AND OTHERS IN THE ORDER OF YOUR PREFERENCE.