AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY

PLATFORM, CONSTITUTION AND RULES

as approved by the

29th

COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE

1971

LAUNCESTON
AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY

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29th COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE
LAUNCESTON 1971

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PREAMBLE

to the Federal Platform of the Australian Labor Party setting out the nature and general philosophy of the Party

The Australian Labor Party is a movement having as its purpose the development of a free, independent and enlightened Australian nation within the British Commonwealth of Nations.

It had its origin in the aspirations of the Australian people for a dignified and constructive way of life.

The Party as a Parliamentary force grew out of the national sentiment and the Trade Union Movements of the Nineteenth century. The entry of Labor into Parliament transformed the political issues in this country to questions of social, economic and industrial reform.

The Australian Labor Party in the Commonwealth and States is democratic, national and constitutional.

It is democratic in that it believes that politics should be conducted within a framework of free elections on the basis of universal adult suffrage; that Governments may be freely elected and freely dismissed by the electorate; that the right of constitutional opposition to a Government is essential to freedom, and the Party rejects the conception that any Government once installed is irremovable.

The Australian Labor Party is national in that it considers that the Welfare of the Australian community cannot be secured by any political movement subject to international discipline, such as the Communist Party.

The Australian Labor Party stands for the most efficient and scientific defence of the Commonwealth, by naval, military, aerial and civil defence, by scientific research, and by a properly planned migration policy.

The Labor Party is constitutional in that it believes that its objectives must be attained by the constitutional utilisation of Federal, State and Local Governments; and that the Constitution should be altered by decisions of the Australian electorate.

The Australian Labor Party rejects theories of revolution, and asserts that these theories have disastrous consequences to the people, and do not attain real and lasting benefits.

The Labor Party policy is made by Federal Conferences of delegates from all States, and the Party policy within the States is framed by conferences of delegates elected by the constituent branches and affiliated unions. Its policy is not framed by directives from the leadership, but by resolutions from the members within branches and affiliated unions.

The Labor Party supports at all times the basic civil rights guaranteed in the past by such historic documents as Magna Carta, the Bill of Rights, and Habeas Corpus; it supports the separation and independence of judicial power from the Executive and the Legislature, freedom of worship, of the Press, of speech, assembly and association.

Political freedom can exist securely only in a society free of the social tensions which issue from poverty, economic injustice and gross economic inequality.

The Labor Party believes in the utilisation of the powers of government to maintain full employment, maximum standards of health and physical efficiency, to abolish poverty, to clear slums and unhealthy environments, to prevent monopolist
concentrations of poverty, to stabilise the economy, and to ensure freedom from want.

The future of Australia depends in a great degree upon the intelligent use of land for primary production. The Labor Party believes in a public works programme and agricultural policies designed to stabilise agriculture, conserve the soil and forests, provide irrigation and power, and to be the material basis of a prosperous rural community.

The Australian Labor Party believes that the security of the family should be a primary aim of Government. This is best attained by freedom from unemployment, home ownership, and the recognition of the rights of parents in the training and education of their children. The maintenance of the highest standards of moral, academic and technical education requires that the Party at all times should concentrate an adequate part of the national resources on education.

The Labor Party supports international associations and organisations, such as the British Commonwealth of Nations and the United Nations, because they promote peace and international order.

The Party is open to all residents in Australia who are prepared to accept its programme and methods, and who have associations with no other political party.
PLATFOR\NM OF THE AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY

I: OBJECTIVE

The democratic socialisation of industry, production, distribution and exchange — to the extent necessary to eliminate exploitation and other anti-social features in those fields — in accordance with the principles of action, methods and progressive reforms set out in this Platform.

II: INTERPRETATION OF DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISATION

Labor believes that democratic socialisation is the utilisation of the economic assets of the State in the interests of citizens, and that man is greater than the machine he uses or the environment in which he lives.

Labor believes that scientific and technological advancement shall serve the interests of all and not be the exclusive right of the few.

The economic aims of social ownership or social control are full employment, higher production, a rising standard of living and social security.

The Australian Labor Party seeks to secure through democratic socialism —

(a) Social justice and economic security.

(b) Freedom of speech, education, assembly, organisation and religion.

(c) The right of the development of the human personality protected from arbitrary invasion by the State.

(d) Free election under universal adult and secret franchise, with government by the majority, with recognition for the rights of minorities.

(e) The rule of law to be the right of all.

III: PRINCIPLES OF ACTION

(a) Constitutional action through State and Commonwealth Parliaments, municipal and other statutory authorities.

(b) National planning of the economic, social and cultural development of the Commonwealth.

(c) Cultivation of Labor ideals and principles, such as implementation of human rights, correction of injustice, help for the underprivileged, building Australian nationhood and abhorrence of war.

(d) Promotion of the spirit of community service and of the acceptance of the duties and responsibilities of citizenship.

(e) Co-operative activities involving training of workers and other producers in the duties and responsibilities of management and where necessary subsidising such activities.

(f) Achievement of progressive reforms hereinafter described.

IV: CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

1. The restoration of Parliament as the principal organ of democracy and social and economic change. The maintenance of effective parliamentary supervision over the administration. The adaptation of procedures and privileges of Parliaments and their committees to contemporary standards of efficiency and justice.

2. Amendment of the Commonwealth Constitution —

(a) (i) to clothe the Parliament of Australia with such plenary powers as are necessary and desirable to achieve international co-operation, national planning and the Party's economic and social objectives;

(ii) to ensure that the House of Representatives and each State House of Parliament is composed of members directly elected from electorates in each of which the number of people is as nearly as practicable the same;

(iii) to abolish the Senate; and
(iv) to synchronise elections for the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(b) Alteration of administrative arrangements —

(i) to balance the functions and finances of the Commonwealth, State and Local Government to ensure adequate services and development of resources;

(ii) to entrust to the Inter-State Commission, the Commonwealth Grants Commission, the Education Commissions, the Hospitals Commission, the Conservation and Construction Commission and the Fuel and Energy Commission the functions set out elsewhere in this Platform and to charge those commissions with the responsibility of making periodic reports to every Parliament; and

(iii) to include on the Loan Council a representative chosen by local government and semi-government authorities in each State.

(c) Constitution of the High Court as the final court of appeal for all Australian cases, the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council to be constituted by its Australian members sitting in Australia until appeals to it from State Courts are abolished.

3. No titles to be conferred but appropriate recognition to be given to persons who have rendered exceptional service to the community or to mankind.

4. The office of State Governor, and State Legislative Councils, to be abolished, this aim not to be interpreted in such a way as to prevent steps being taken to effect reform of those Councils.

5. Records, resolutions and recommendations of conferences of Commonwealth and State Ministers to be tabled in their Parliaments.

6. The Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory to be represented by Senators with full voting rights.

7. In bicameral legislatures Ministers to be rostered to answer questions in both Houses.

V: ECONOMIC PLANNING

1. Institute indicative planning and programmed budgeting for economic growth and social justice by the Commonwealth, in co-operation with the States, local authorities and organisations of employees and employers; this planning to be consistent with the maintenance of full employment and the conservation of natural resources.

2. Balance the functions and finances of the Commonwealth, States, regional and local authorities to ensure that resources are adequately developed and services adequately provided.

3. With the object of achieving Labor's socialist objectives, establish or extend public enterprise, where appropriate by nationalisation, particularly in the fields of banking, consumer finance, insurance, marketing, housing, stevedoring, transport and in areas of anti-social private monopoly.

4. Identify, publicise and otherwise expose unfair prices or practices and the exploitation of consumers and in conjunction with the States to operate Australia wide price control. This policy to be supplemented by the use of power of government to purchase goods and place orders.

5. Legislate against monopolies and strengthen existing trade practices legislation.

6. Assist small primary producers, retailers and others to adjust to changing economic conditions by expanding Agricultural Extension Services, by using Rural Reconstruction Boards, by establishing a Small Business Administration and by instituting programmes to retrain and resettle small producers and retailers.

7. Regulate hire purchase, fringe banking and other credit-creating institutions, in order to control effective demand.

8. Use selective interest rates, particularly in areas such as housing.

9. Sever the Postmaster-General's Department from Public Service Board control.
10. Establish clearer guidelines for overseas investors, for the benefit both of these investors and of the Australian community. Overseas investment in Australia to be encouraged only where it introduces new technology and expertise, includes plans for Australian participation in the enterprise, and/or otherwise shows itself to be in Australia's national interest.

11. (a) Reserve income tax exclusively to the Commonwealth Parliament.
(b) Review the Australian taxation system, especially in order to
   (i) reduce taxation on lower and middle incomes;
   (ii) adjust the system of deductions to avoid inequities;
   (iii) prevent avoidance of taxation by formation of companies, trusts, partnerships, or in any other manner;
   (iv) re-define 'income' for taxation purposes so that a fair share of taxation will be paid by those who benefit from the accumulation of assets;
   (v) tax company income at graduated rates;
   (vi) redress the incidence of indirect taxes on essential goods.

12. Protect Australian industries, where necessary, by tariffs, import controls, and/or subsidies in order to safeguard Australian living standards and to develop Australian resources. The use and level of, and choice between, means of protection to be determined after examination and report by an independent, fully equipped, government authority which will consider, among other things, efficiency, growth prospects, trade practices and pricing policies.

VI: EDUCATION

OBJECTIVE

1. Education should promote love of freedom and justice and should develop critical perception, ability to choose intelligently, capacity for self-government and a sense of social responsibility. It should instil belief in the equal rights of all people and respect for their essential humanity, irrespective of nationality, colour or creed. It should ensure free and harmonious development of intellect, physique, emotions and abilities. It is the obligation of the State to provide a universal, free, compulsory, secular system of education open to all citizens.

CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS

2. (a) Everyone has the right to education. It is the obligation of the Commonwealth and the States in co-operation to provide and operate educational services, which shall be available to all without charge.
(b) The Commonwealth can provide benefits to students, maintain a liaison with the States and with other countries on matters relating to education, undertake research relating to education and conduct educational services by radio and television.
(c) The Commonwealth can provide buildings, equipment and services and train and pay teachers for the education of present and former members of the Forces, Commonwealth employees, migrants, Aborigines, social service beneficiaries and residents of the Territories.

AUSTRALIAN PRE-SCHOOL COMMISSION

3. Government responsibility for education includes the obligation to ensure that a pre-school education is available for every child. The Commonwealth to establish an Australian Pre-School Commission to define and examine regularly the aims of pre-school education and to recommend grants which the Commonwealth should make to the States to ensure that pre-school centres are located, staffed and equipped on the basis of needs and priorities. Where the need exists child care centres should be provided in conjunction with pre-school Centres.

AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS COMMISSION

4. (a) The Commonwealth to establish an Australian Schools Commission to examine and determine the needs of students in government and non-
government primary, secondary and technical schools and recommend
grants which the Commonwealth should make to the States to assist
in meeting the requirements of all school-age children on the basis of
needs and priorities.

In making recommendations for such grants to the States, the Commission
shall have regard to

(i) the primary obligation of governments to provide and maintain
government school systems of the highest standard open to all
children;
(ii) the numbers of students enrolled in the various schools;
(iii) the need to bring all schools up to acceptable standards;
(iv) the need to ensure optimum use of resources in the establishment,
maintenance and extension of schools.

(b) The Commonwealth to review secondary and technical scholarships to
ensure that every student who has successfully completed all but the
last two years of his full course will receive financial assistance to enable
and encourage him to proceed with his education. The value of such
scholarship to be the same, regardless of the school attended by the
student.

(c) The Commonwealth to review and adjust annually all living allowances
to students to accord with rises in the cost of living.

TERTIARY EDUCATION

5. (a) The Commonwealth to assume responsibility for co-ordinating and fully
financing tertiary education, including post-graduate study and research,
colleges of advanced education and the education of teachers (prefer-
ably in autonomous institutions), on condition that the additional
funds thus released to the States are spent in other educational areas.

(b) The Commonwealth to establish further tertiary institutions in regional
centres in both rural and urban areas.

(c) The Commonwealth to ensure the provision of tertiary education without
fees and regularly to review and extend the payment of living
allowances.

(d) The Commonwealth to establish an Open University and Open Institutes
of Tertiary Education which will accept students whatever their academic
qualifications and utilise the techniques of radio and television, corres-
pondence courses and a regionally-organised counselling system to
provide university and other tertiary educational opportunities unin-
fluenced by geographic, occupational and academic barriers. The aim of
such institutions should be to provide educational opportunities for those
who for any reason have not had such opportunities.

VOCATIONAL RETRAINING

6. The Commonwealth to ensure the provision of retraining schemes and
allowances.

FURTHER EDUCATION

7. The Commonwealth to make grants to the States for further education,
including extension services.

DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN

8. (a) The Commonwealth to provide teaching services, educational books,
aids, equipment, devices and material in those schools where the
numbers of (i) Aboriginal and (ii) migrant children make special
assistance desirable.

(b) Government responsibility for education includes the obligation to pro-
vide an effective education for persons with special handicaps, including
mental, physical and social handicaps. The Commonwealth to make
grants to the States to provide special schools and equipment, courses
of training for specialist teachers, travelling allowances and residential accommodation.

(c) The Commonwealth to make grants to the States to establish and assist sheltered workshops and to undertake research, since the education of the handicapped is often meaningless unless they can hope to become at least partially self-sufficient as adults.

ACCOMMODATION AND EQUIPMENT

9. (a) The Commonwealth to make grants to the States for the construction and maintenance of residential accommodation for tertiary and secondary students where the need is shown.

(b) The Commonwealth to make capital and recurrent grants to the States for the establishment and maintenance of adequate library services.

(c) The Commonwealth to assist and share in the production and provision of educational books, aids, equipment, devices and materials.

(d) The Commonwealth to operate and sponsor educational television services.

(e) The Commonwealth to make grants to the States adequate to bring State Reference Libraries to the highest standards as central libraries for research, as sources of book supply to public libraries and as centres for recreational reading. It will seek the regular advice of the Australian Advisory Council in Bibliographical Services to keep such reference libraries at high standards of excellence, and it will finance the work of that Council.

(f) The Commonwealth to establish a National Book Resources Development Committee as a permanent basis to advise on measures necessary to build up general public and regional libraries to optimum levels of reference, information, educational and recreational services for the public and to plan the systematic development of such libraries over 5 year periods.

QUALIFICATIONS

10. The Commonwealth to consult with the States and the appropriate professional examining bodies to achieve Australia-wide recognition of certificates, diplomas, degrees and similar qualifications.

COMMONWEALTH ACTIVITIES

11. The Commonwealth to strengthen and enlarge its activities in research, statistics and interstate and international co-operation relating to education.

VII: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Science must not be regarded as a compartment, separate from other aspects of life. It is a fountain-head of human progress, the source from which technological and social changes spring, and it affects all aspects of life.

Australia desperately needs national scientific policies which will embrace not only planning for scientific research and development, but also enable the results of scientific research and development in Australia, and elsewhere, to be applied in every aspect of Australia's industries and in its culture.

Labor therefore proposes —

ADMINISTRATION

1. A Minister with direct responsibility for Science and Technology.

2. An Australian Science Council, with a rotating membership of senior academic, industrial and governmental scientists, and a secretariat, to assist Parliament and the Minister on science and technology.

3. A Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, charged with reviewing policy on science and technology, and the scientific aspects of general governmental policy.

4. To spend more on scientific and technological research and development, and to introduce long-term budgeting for this.
ORGANISATION

Australia needs to expand its activities in scientific and technological research and development, and its scientists need greater independence from unnecessary controls.

Labor therefore proposes —

5. A review of the organisation of governmental scientific and technological research, and of research funding bodies, to be carried out by the Australian Science Council.


7. Expansion of research work in the universities.

8. Establishment of a body similar to C.S.I.R.O. to conduct research in the social sciences.

9. An independent National Science Foundation to distribute funds to individuals and teams in universities, research institutes and industry, and for research in physical and social sciences and technology.

10. Geological research and survey, forestry research and atomic energy research to be carried out in C.S.I.R.O. or similar independent statutory organisations.

11. Establishment of a representative and expert working party on all aspects of air and water pollution.

12. Portability of superannuation between scientific and technological establishments throughout Australia.

CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENT

The advance of agricultural pursuits and the expansion of cities and their industries have been the cause of much of the natural habitat of Australia's native flora and fauna being severely reduced and in some cases lost completely. Our natural heritage should not be allowed to be wasted, but should be fostered and our natural landscapes be preserved for the sake of social, cultural, educational and scientific purposes as well as for Australia's future tourist potential.

Labor therefore proposes —

19. The establishment of a central body with power to control and co-ordinate the activities of bodies involved in nature conservation.

20. Provision of increased funds for research into the preservation of the natural flora and fauna of this country to the C.S.I.R.O. as well as other approved bodies.

21. The establishment of a nation-wide system of National Parks and Wild Life Reserves, in co-operation with the States, and the adequate provision of funds for the maintenance and care of all such parks and reserves.

22. The establishment of field study centres in consultation with the Commonwealth and State Departments of Education and Australian Universities Commission.

23. Expansion of activities in land research and regional survey, and the commencement of a biological resources survey.

24. A National Institute of Oceanography to conduct research in and survey all aspects of oceanography.

25. Creating a Development Division in C.S.I.R.O., or a Research Development Corporation, to develop and exploit the results of research.

26. Improved extension services to industry, agriculture and medicine, including regional agricultural centres and programmes of further education.

27. Grants and tax incentives to industries, aimed at promoting the establishment, maintenance and growth of indigenous research and development activities in Australian industry.

28. Expanding government and government-subsidised testing laboratories.

29. Reduction of Customs duties on materials and equipment used in research.

30. Hiring or lending expensive scientific equipment.
31. Encouraging the establishment of industry research associations.
32. The creation of a portfolio concerned with resources development, environment and conservation to be closely associated with the Science and Technology portfolio.

INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE

Scientific and technological research is an international activity in which Australia must participate fully if she is not to be cut off from the mainstream of developments. Furthermore, Australia has a responsibility to assist the developing nations to raise the standards and scope of their scientific and technological research programmes.

Labor therefore proposes —

APPLICATION

33. Promoting the growth of science-based industries.
34. Regulation of take-overs of Australian science-based industries by foreign interests.
35. Strengthening Australia's participation in international scientific activities.
36. A scheme of post-doctorate and senior fellowships to enable Australian scientists and technologists to obtain overseas experience, and to enable qualified persons from overseas to carry out research in Australia.
37. Special provision for the exchange, on a temporary basis, of personnel between governmental research organisations within the Commonwealth of Nations.

CONCLUSION

The achievement of the foregoing proposals depends on —

Adequate science education at every level.
More and better-trained science teachers.
More graduates, especially with higher degrees.
Maintenance of the traditional freedoms of scientists.

VIII: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

The future of Australia and the well being of her people depends on the scientific development of her natural resources. She has the raw materials and human skills to become a world leader in metallurgy, metal fabrication and engineering.

Furthermore, she has world ranking supplies of fissionable materials and substantial fuel and energy resources.

To encourage Government and private co-operation in the development of national industries for the greatest advantage of Australia, Labor will:—

1. Secure and promote Australian control of resources and industries—
   (a) by encouraging the A.I.D.C. to invest in approved development projects and basic industries, and
   (b) by granting life assurance companies the same taxation incentives to invest in approved development projects and basic industries as are granted for investment in Commonwealth and public securities.

2. Ensure at least a majority Australian control over both equity and policy. In particular, investigate immediately the feasibility of establishing an integrated Iron and Steel Industry under public ownership and control, if necessary, in conjunction with a minority private participation.

MINERAL RESOURCES

To encourage the treatment and fabrication of mineral resources in Australia, Labor will only allow the export of minerals:

(a) where they are sold at full world market price;
(b) where they are reasonably beyond Australia's prevailing treatment and fabrication capacity;
(c) where their export will not unreasonably reduce Australia's treatment and fabrication potential;
the comprehensive development under Government control of Australia's mineral resources with emphasis on the need for discovery of new deposits and the direct Commonwealth and State participation in oil and mineral search and exploitation throughout Australian land and offshore territories.

**FUEL AND ENERGY**

1. Labor will establish a joint Federal/State Fuel and Energy Commission to devise and implement an integrated and co-ordinated national fuel and energy policy.
   The Commission will
   (a) regulate the exploration, development, transportation, marketing and use of oil, natural gas, coal, fissionable materials and generative water,
   (b) prevent depletion of fuel and energy resources needed to match Australian requirements in mineral processing, general industry and national development, and
   (c) guard the ecology and environment from pollution by fuel extraction and energy generation.

2. Labor will stimulate the growth of nuclear technology, particularly by the earliest possible Commonwealth initiative to establish nuclear power stations using enriched uranium in reactors of basically similar design.
   Labor will work for the enrichment of Australian uranium resources in plants which are located in Australia and which have at least a majority Australian control of equity and policy.
   Labor will not use the development of a nuclear industrial capacity for the purposes of creating a nuclear weapon component in Australia's defence force.

**WATER RESOURCES**

The establishment of a Conservation and Construction Commission —
(a) to ensure full and pure supplies of water including treated and recycled waste water for agricultural, pastoral, industrial and urban development;
(b) to incorporate the Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation and the River Murray Commission;
(c) to co-operate with State and Regional water conservation authorities; and
(d) to achieve desalination of sea, surface and sub-surface water by solar and nuclear energy.

**IX: CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

Cultural affairs form a vital part of Australian life and can be only adequately developed with enlightened encouragement and financial support from the Commonwealth Government. Government support for cultural matters need not, if properly administered, threaten the individuality or integrity of Australian art and can provide guidance and assistance.

Labor would create a Minister of Cultural Affairs, with responsibility for the general cultural development of Australia, particularly —
(a) administration of the Commonwealth Literary Fund and similar schemes;
(b) subsidies for approved cultural undertakings and support for major festivals such as the Adelaide Festival of Arts and the Festival of Perth;
(c) sponsorship of international goodwill visits to and from Australia by leading artists, musicians, literary figures, theatrical companies, etc.
(d) censorship;
(e) support for the Institute of Aboriginal Affairs in its study of the important aspects of Aboriginal life, art, music, and lore, aiming especially at the training of suitable, interested Aborigines to carry out the work of editing and transmitting Aboriginal culture.

**X: CITIES**

**PREAMBLE**

The aim of a Labor Government is to ensure that every family can secure accommodation of its own choosing appropriate to its own needs; that accommoda-
tion is provided in conformity with proper principles of town planning and community development; and that incentives and opportunities are provided for the growth of existing regional centres and the establishment of new centres.

The Commonwealth can, itself, undertake the construction and financing of houses for present and former members of the Forces, Commonwealth employees, migrants, social service beneficiaries and residents of the Territories.

The Commonwealth can make grants to the States for any housing or environmental purpose, can grant benefits to tenants and purchasers of houses and can regulate the amount and terms of housing loans by banks and insurance companies.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING, URBAN AFFAIRS AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Establish a Department of Housing, Urban Affairs and Regional Development.
   (a) to maintain liaison with and between the Departments of Housing, Shipping and Transport, Civil Aviation, Interior and Works and the Bureaux of Roads and Transport Economics with respect to urban development;
   (b) to advise the Australian Government on proposals for urban and regional development received from the States and Local Government;
   (c) to initiate and co-ordinate research into urban and regional development;
   (d) to provide advice and assistance requested by the States and their authorities in the preparation and implementation of plans for cities and regions;
   (e) to use Commonwealth economic powers and structures to promote and concentrate regional development;
   (f) to preserve the quality of the environment within the Territories and to co-ordinate environmental preservation on a national basis;
   (g) to forecast the nation's housing needs, to identify problems and shortcomings within the building industry and to set priorities for the allocation of housing finance; and
   (h) to retain all land now vested in the States or Commonwealth in public ownership and when it is to be developed to do so on a leasehold basis. Where possible all new development in urban areas, especially on their fringe, to be undertaken by creating development commissions having the power to acquire the necessary land, hold it in public ownership and develop it on a leasehold basis. Where necessary, the Commonwealth to enter into arrangements with the States to provide financial and technical assistance for such development commissions.

COMMONWEALTH GRANTS

2. Authorise the Commonwealth Grants Commission to recommend the nature and amount of Commonwealth financial assistance required to remove inequalities in servicing proposed and developing suburbs, cities and regional centres.

3. Re-allocate State interest payments and capital repayments on inter-capital railway projects for city public transit systems.

4. Make grants to the States —
   (a) to acquire on just terms and to sub-divide, service and lease or sell substantial tracts of housing land under the auspices of a joint Commonwealth-State planning commission in each State;
   (b) to sub-divide, service and lease or sell at cost available State Crown land, particularly on the fringes of the cities, under the auspices of a joint Commonwealth-State planning commission in each State;
   (c) to construct houses at the lowest possible interest rate for sale or rental, with priority to those most in need, in conditions which conform to specified standards of services, amenities and accessibility;
   (d) to provide such community amenities in housing estates constructed with Commonwealth grants as the Commonwealth itself provides in housing estates in the Territories; and
(c) to reclaim and rehabilitate depressed areas in accordance with modern town planning.

COMMONWEALTH SUBSIDIES

5. Provide subsidies —
   (a) to tenants or purchasers who through bereavement or injury become unable to meet a prescribed economic rental or repayment;
   (b) to bereaved or invalid persons who cannot secure housing within their means; and
   (c) to institutional lenders to reduce by 2% the rate of interest paid in the first 10 years of marriage.

6. Amend the Aged Persons Homes Act to permit grants to the States for homes or infirmaries for the aged, to permit grants to trade unions to build houses for their retired members and to permit loans to individuals to extend houses for their aged relatives.

7. Remove anomalies from the Home Savings Grant Act, including the age limit of 36 years and the exclusion of savings deposited with credit unions and superannuation funds.

8. Reduce home mortgages by granting $200 for each child born during the period of mortgage.

COMMONWEALTH INSTITUTIONS

9. Enable the Commonwealth Bank and the War Services Homes Division to lend up to 100% of the value of properties against which their advances are made.

10. Establish a revolving fund within the War Services Homes Division to cater for all persons who come within the Commonwealth’s constitutional responsibility.

11. Extend the purposes for which additional and supplementary War Service Homes advances can be made.

12. Establish a Finance Division of the Commonwealth Bank incorporating architectural, inspection and insurance services and providing finance at 3.5% to a limit of $15,000.

COMMONWEALTH LANDS

13. Use available Commonwealth lands in the States
   (a) in promoting and concentrating regional development;
   (b) in providing housing land at the cost of subdivision and servicing; and
   (c) in constructing housing estates with such community amenities as the Commonwealth provides in the Territories.

RURAL AREAS

14. Indemnify institutional lenders against loss on housing loans in rural and decentralised areas.

BUILDING SOCIETIES

15. Ensure adequate finance for building societies by requiring banks and insurance companies to divert a prescribed proportion of securities to a central building society pool for allocation by a high council of society representatives to individual societies.

BUILDING RESEARCH

16. Promote research and the adoption of new technology by
   (a) putting into effect proposals for a research levy initiated by the building industry;
   (b) expanding and developing the Building Materials Section of the C.S.I.R.O.;
   (c) introducing a system of national awards for the application of new technology; and
   (d) requisitioning reports from the Australian Universities Commission and the Advisory Committee on Advanced Education on the scope and nature of higher education for the building industry.
UNIFORM STANDARDS

17. Expedite negotiations with the States for uniformity of building codes, standards and practices.

STAMP DUTIES

18. Indemnify such States as forego stamp duties and conveyancing fees on housing transactions.

XI: HEALTH

PREAMBLE

Believing that health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity, and that the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is a fundamental right of every citizen, a Labor Government will promote the establishment of a comprehensive public health service available to all who choose to use it, and staffed by those who choose to serve in it. Such a scheme will be free of means test and financed from the introduction of a specified social services contribution.

OBJECTIVE

1. The establishment of a comprehensive health service providing both government and private services.

GENERAL PRACTITIONER SERVICE

2. The provision of general practitioner medical services staffed by salaried medical practitioners willing to join and available without charge and without means test to persons who choose to use such services.

3. The payment of Commonwealth benefit to all patients who choose to use private services irrespective of their membership of voluntary insurance organisations.

HOSPITALISATION

4. The establishment of an Australian Hospitals Commission to promote the modernisation and regionalisation of hospitals.

5. A national hospital service, including hospitalisation without charge and without means test, in public wards of public hospitals and appropriate financial provision in approved private beds.

6. Additional grants to the States for hospitals supplying the following services: (a) salaried in-patient specialist staff, (b) salaried out-patient specialist staff, (c) obstetrical, (d) domiciliary, (e) geriatric, (f) dental, (g) optometrical, (h) rehabilitation, (i) ambulance, and such other services as are necessary for comprehensive medical care, on a regional basis.

SPECIALIST SERVICE

7. Grants to the States to provide that patients in all wards of public hospitals have the option of using, without charge, the services of specialists, remunerated by salaries or sessional fees.

MENTAL HEALTH

8. Grants to the States for mental health services to provide for (a) the training of specialist and ancillary personnel, (b) the raising of present mental hospitals in all States to the highest standards, (c) services for rehabilitation, (d) day hospitals, (e) facilities for treatment separate from, but in association with, general hospitals and (f) the right to legal advice and a jury decision by individuals not of the medical or allied profession before depriving any person of civil rights under mental health law, with later access by that person to legal counsel, a jury and an ombudsman at intervals to be prescribed by such a jury.
DENTAL HEALTH
9. (a) The formation of a Division of Dental Health within the Commonwealth Department of Health.
   (b) The establishment of a comprehensive school dental service, providing dental care and education aimed at total elimination of caries and other dental diseases.
   (c) The provision of dental services to be conducted by salaried dental staff willing to join and available without charge and without means test to persons who choose to use such services.
   (d) The establishment of a Post-Graduate School of Dentistry at the Australian National University.

OPTICAL SERVICE
10. The provision of optical services staffed by salaried qualified personnel willing to join and available without charge and without means test to persons who choose to use such services.

ARTIFICIAL AIDS
11. Artificial limbs and hearing aids to be provided without charge for all who need them, and for this purpose the Commonwealth Artificial Limb Factories and the Commonwealth Acoustic Laboratories to be expanded.

RESEARCH
12. The promotion of health research under the over-all aegis of the National Science Foundation.
13. The Foundation to sponsor visits to and from overseas research centres.
14. The promotion of research in the field of new pharmaceutical products.
15. The establishment of a health computer service on a national basis in which the details of an individual's medical record may be recorded, with the person's consent, for the purpose of research, statistics and the individual's medical treatment.

MEDICAL EDUCATION
16. The establishment of an Australian Medical Education Advisory Committee comprising representatives of Australian medical schools and the appropriate professional bodies to advise on the revision of facilities for and the training of medical students.

HEALTH CAMPAIGNS
17. (a) The development of public health and industrial medicine campaigns by the Commonwealth Department of Health in co-operation with the States.
   (b) Prohibition of cigarette and tobacco advertising in all forms coupled with a vigorous campaign to educate the public, especially young people, on the serious health hazards associated with cigarettes and tobacco.

REGISTRATION
18. The Commonwealth to approach the States and the appropriate professional bodies to achieve national recognition of qualifications, registration and uniform discipline for general medical practitioners, medical specialists and other qualified personnel.

NATIONAL STANDARDS
19. The Commonwealth to approach the States to achieve national drug and food standards.
20. The Commonwealth to approach the States to achieve national registration and control of irradiation apparatus, radio-active materials and other biophysical substances and equipment.

COMMONWEALTH SERUM LABORATORIES
21. The promotion of the manufacture, bulk purchase and wholesale distribution of pharmaceutical products through the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories.
PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS

22. The dispensing of prescriptions without direct charge to the patient.

MINISTRY OF PHYSICAL CULTURE, SPORT AND RECREATION

23. The establishment of a Commonwealth Ministry for Physical Culture, Sport and Recreation, the responsibility of which will include:

(a) Making grants to States to ensure adequate facilities for all physical culture and sports programmes.
(b) Making grants to States to ensure that National Fitness Councils are provided with adequate finance for promoting physical fitness campaigns;
(c) Making grants to State and national physical culture groups and sporting teams where such assistance is deemed to be in the general interest of the nation; and
(d) Arranging the interchange of physical culture groups and sporting teams between Australia and other countries where such groups or teams are selected on other than a racial basis.

GENERAL

24. The conclusion and ratification of conventions and the development of programmes under the auspices of the General Assembly and the specialised agencies of the United Nations in order to promote national and international good health.

XII: SOCIAL WELFARE

1. The provision of social service benefits which will promote the well-being of the nation by means of economic justice and maximum social participation of all citizens.

2. (a) The provision of social security benefits in such contingencies as, for example, sickness, unemployment and old age, and including a national compensation scheme to replace third party and workers' compensation insurance and covering all disabling injuries suffered by any member of the community, so as to guarantee families and individuals a minimum income sufficient in general to maintain an acceptable standard of living.
(b) Social security payments tied to a proportion of the average weekly earnings so that persons receiving benefits will receive automatic increases as either productivity increases or as other factors increase general prosperity or as inflation occurs.

3. The provision to persons in particular need of such additional benefits and welfare services as may be necessary to maintain their real standard of living at an acceptable level including co-operation with State, Local Government and regional authorities on these matters: and Commonwealth financial allocations and the establishment of administrative machinery to govern the standard which these Commonwealth finances should achieve to promote the development of regional health and welfare programmes.

4. Gradual abolition of the Means Test over the life of two Parliaments by means of the introduction of a National Superannuation Scheme.

5. No Australian citizen shall be disqualified from receiving social service pension on account of the period of residence in Australia or because of residence abroad.

6. The appointment of a Health, Education and Welfare Parliamentary Committee to keep national domestic policy under constant review and to promote integration of services.

XIII: REPATRIATION

1. Liberal treatment to be extended to all soldiers disabled as a result of war service and to their dependants. Creation of an Independent Appeal Board to finally decide all appeals relating to pensions.

2. Sympathetic administration of repatriation in relation to the valuation and terms and conditions of occupancy of farm properties and homes provided for returned soldiers and their dependants.
3. Cancer patients to receive repatriation benefits whether the cancer is war caused or not.

4. The Totally and Permanently Invalid Pension to be raised to not less than the adult minimum wage as determined by the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission.

5. War pensions, including the general and special rate, and family allowances, shall not be taken into consideration as income for the payment of service pensions or corresponding social service pensions. This proposal to be implemented within three years with substantial relief being granted in the first year.

6. War pensions paid to dependent children shall be continued up to the completion of full-time education.

7. Free medical and hospital treatment for all ex-servicemen of the Boer War and the First World War will be implemented in the first year of a Labor Government. The ultimate objective will be to grant free medical and hospital treatment to all ex-servicemen.

8. Funeral benefit to be raised to at least $100.

9. War Widows' pensions to be restored to not less than the 1949 value.

XIV: INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Labor's Industrial Policy places human rights and values first and provides for the development of full human dignity in the industrial sphere. It emphasises the right of full employment; real economic justice; freedom and security; the right to work in just and favourable conditions; freedom from unemployment; and freedom to choose employment. It decrees a full and proper share in the nation's productivity and asserts the right of every man ready, willing and able to work to a living standard for himself and his dependants commensurate with modern concepts and national prosperity.

Wage and salary standards must grow in relation to the benefits of technological advance and increased productivity. Labor's policy on wage and salary standards applies equally to all workers irrespective of their colour, race, sex, creed or politics. It demands the right to leisure and to working hours and holidays geared to technological change.

Labor declares that every citizen has the right to industrial equality, and freedom from outmoded master and servant attitudes — the active pursuit of human values to ensure that the innate satisfactions and qualities of life never become secondary to productivity goals or ruthlessly sought-after efficiency.

1. CONSTITUTION

The Commonwealth's power to deal with industrial matters derives from a Constitution seventy years old. It is no longer adequate. It was found by Committees which examined the Constitution in 1929 and again in 1959 to be inadequate and to have led to excessive technicality and complexity.

To allow it to remain in its present form is like expecting to control modern motor traffic with laws taken from horse and buggy days.

Labor believes the Constitution must be amended to allow the system to be modernised. Its policy, then, is expressed firstly as proposed constitutional amendments:

(a) to enable the Parliament of the Commonwealth to establish industrial machinery for the resolution of all questions relating to and the determination of the terms and conditions of employment and the terms and conditions of contractual relationships with independent contractors and so as to extend Federal jurisdiction to State-employed teachers, nurses, police officers, fire-fighters and the like; and to give the Commission power to grant applications for a common rule for all employers in a particular industry;

(b) to abolish the present system under which judicial and arbitral powers in industrial matters must be exercised by different bodies;

(c) to enable Federal jurisdiction in industrial matters to be exercised by State industrial tribunals and wages boards;
(d) to limit the High Court's powers of intervention to cases where a question of law is referred to it.

2. CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION ACT

Because an amendment of the Constitution is neither quick nor easy, Labor's policy must provide for amendments to the Conciliation and Arbitration Act within the present constitutional powers. It is proposed that the Act be amended to provide for:

(a) the appointment of conciliation committees and employee-employer councils in addition to existing machinery;
(b) fixed term appointments for members of the Commission and conciliators;
(c) the appointment of members of the Commission with appropriate qualifications in other fields in addition to members with legal qualifications;
(d) the condition that if objection is made by a union or an employer to a Federal award being made in place of a State award, determination or agreement the Federal award shall be made only if by reason of the nature of the industry it is in the national interest for the award to be made;
(e) the repeal of all penalties for strikes and lockouts against arbitral decisions of the Commission or a conciliation committee;
(f) full protection against victimisation of union officials, job representatives and union members;
(g) right of entry to accredited officials during working hours;
(h) accrued annual leave, long service leave and pro rata leave to be a right which shall not be subject to forfeiture;
(i) a prohibition against the Commission making an award requiring claims for recovery of amounts underpaid to be made within a period of less than twelve months;
(j) a prohibition against an employer terminating the services of an employee while the employee is absent on workers' compensation, accrued sick leave, annual leave or long service leave;
(k) the creation of an efficient inspectorate acting in cooperation with trade union officials to police and enforce Federal industrial Acts, awards and safety regulations;
(l) the establishment of a Bureau of Industrial Statistics to compile and record uniform statistics concerning:
   (i) cost of living,
   (ii) productivity,
   (iii) industrial safety and the cause and incidence of industrial accident and disease in various industries in each State and Territory of the Commonwealth, and
   (iv) other matters relevant to industrial affairs.
(m) the establishment of an Office of Economic and Social Research to compile information for the use of the Commission, employers and employees; and
(n) a free transcript of all proceedings of the Court or Commission to be supplied to parties involved in such proceedings.

3. UNIONS

There are well-known difficulties and undue technicalities arising from the separate registration of unions of employees and employers under both State and Federal laws. Labor will legislate to remove these and seek the co-operation of State Governments in securing the passage of the necessary complementary State legislation. Labor will also ensure a system of democratic control of all unions, allowing the fullest participation by members in their union affairs, a system of participatory democracy.

It is proposed that the Conciliation and Arbitration Act and Regulations be amended to provide for:

(a) the integration of organisations registered under the Federal Act and their branches registered under State legislation;
(b) the registration of a Federal registered union or its branch under any relevant State legislation;
(c) the validation of existing registrations and rules of employer and employee bodies, providing such rules are reasonable, democratic and equitable;

(d) the empowering of the Industrial Registrar to make an order validating all acts of an organisation of employers or employees, its officers, employees or agents, its committees or other bodies done bona fide up to the date of validation — and also to make an order curing an invalidity or its consequences and to give directions to enable a union to bring itself into a state of valid operation, notwithstanding the invalidity, in a manner similar to that provided for under the uniform Companies Act;

(e) participatory democracy in union affairs including provision —
   (i) that all members of a union committee exercising any powers of management shall be elected by and made subject to the effective control of the membership,
   (ii) that all full-time officers who are members of a union committee exercising any powers of management shall be elected and no officer so elected shall be dismissed from office except for embezzlement of union funds, grave breach of rules or policy, gross misbehaviour or neglect of duty,
   (iii) that union elections shall be held to fill elective positions at regular intervals, and
   (iv) that no financial union member shall be deprived of the right to vote in union elections and no candidate shall sit in judgement on a rival’s right to nominate for office;

(f) a speedy method of amalgamation of unions subject to endorsement by plebiscite of the membership; and

(g) the immunity of unions from action for tort in respect of torts alleged to have been committed by or on behalf of a trade union in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute.

4. AGREEMENTS

Good industrial relations will be best achieved by agreements initially arrived at between trade unions and employers.

It is fundamental to a successful system of collective bargaining that voluntary agreements, freely negotiated, be honoured by the parties thereto. The A.C.T.U. has never repudiated an agreement, and has always insured the observance of agreements made under its auspices and has publicly stated its intention to adhere to such a policy. Given the kind of industrial law reform proposed by Labor, the existing machinery of the A.C.T.U. and the various Labor Councils (with variations if necessary) would be adequate to ensure the observance of all agreements made under the auspices of the A.C.T.U. and/or the respective Labor Councils concerned.

There should be a panel of mediators and arbitrators of whom one can be chosen by unions and employers to assist them to reach agreement in settling or preventing disputes between them independently of the Conciliation and Arbitration Commission.

An agreement shall, when registered, have the force of an award of the Conciliation and Arbitration Commission provided that —

(a) such agreement has been recommended by the union’s management committee and approved by the union members affected;

(b) no agreement shall operate for a period of more than 3 years and during the period fixed it may be re-opened by leave of the Commission or by agreement of the parties;

(c) when a division of opinion exists as to the interpretation of an agreement, a presidential member of the Commission shall be empowered to issue a certificate of interpretation in accordance with the spirit of the negotiations which shall be conclusive proof of the parties’ intent in any proceedings for implementation of the agreement;

(d) an agreement shall not operate to prevent strike action in respect of a matter not covered by the agreement; and

(e) in the event of there being persistent breaches of an agreement, either party would have the right to apply to a presidential member of the Conciliation and Arbitration Commission for cancellation of the agreement.
operation of the States for the ratification of such decisions so that their benefits may be enjoyed by all Australian employees.

8. GENERAL

(a) Preference to unionists.
(b) Adequate representation of trade unions;
   (i) on boards, commissions, trusts or similar government-created bodies; and
   (ii) in the managements of banking and insurance; mass media; communications and transport; natural resources development; and secondary industry.
(c) Mining legislation to be enacted for the Territories of the Commonwealth.
(d) Commonwealth legislation to provide for a bond to be given to ensure the return fare of theatrical groups or of other persons leaving Australia for employment overseas.
(e) A complete overhaul of the apprenticeship system including a recognition of the need to provide greater incentives for youths to enter into apprenticeship and on completion of indentures to continue their employment as skilled tradesmen. Intensive apprenticeship training for Commonwealth Government employees and Commonwealth co-operation with the States to the full extent of its powers in improving the technical training system with uniform trade courses and conditions including residential colleges for youths from country areas.
(f) The establishment of a Women's Bureau within the Department of Labour.

9. TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE AND RELATED ISSUES

A growing feature of our society is the introduction of automation and technological change and its merger of businesses. Employees must be granted a fair share in the economic and social benefits resulting from this. Real wages and salary incomes must be raised to provide the appropriate demand for the increasing supply of goods and services resulting from automated processes. Moreover, there may result unnecessary hardship to employees and a grave loss of skills to the community.

It is the responsibility of society to ensure that there is adequate notice of changes, that there is, where possible, absorption of employees affected so that losses to them may be minimised and that there is proper and adequate planning for and retraining of employees who become redundant.

The effect on employees will vary, but those with specialised skills and those of mature age who are made redundant are likely to be most affected.

The following principles will be adopted —

(a) Adequate notice of changes likely to cause redundancy and notice of retrenchment must be given, and there must be joint consultation between the parties affected.
(b) Employees rendered redundant will be entitled to payment of pro rata long service leave and all accumulated superannuation or pension fund benefits arising from employer and employee contributions, except where alternate employment is provided in which case such benefits should be portable.
(c) Severance pay will be given to workers dismissed because of these changes — the amount of the pay will be based on a number of weeks pay in respect to each year of service.
(d) Employees who because of age and length of service are not able to be retrained to be retained in employment until normal retiring age unless satisfactory arrangements are made for payment of superannuation benefits as if normal retirement age had been reached and if necessary supplementary assistance including travelling expenses to be provided by the employer and/or Government for the period until normal retiring age is reached.
(e) Assistance to be given by the employer and a Government body to employees to obtain alternative employment.
(f) Compensation for travelling expenses and/or loss of equity in their homes suffered by dismissed employees who have to transfer to other localities.
(g) Schemes of training and retraining (including adult apprenticeship) within the industry or otherwise outside the industry with the assistance of the employers.
by agreement with all the unions concerned to equip employees whose skills or age would prevent them from obtaining other suitable employment, to occupy other positions within the industry or, in the cases of redundancy, to obtain employment outside the industry. There should be no limitation on appropriate training and retraining.

(h) Make-up pay by the last employer where retrenched employees in career industries with an appropriate length of service or with long service fail to secure new positions at the rate of pay that they would have enjoyed if retained in their first employment.

(i) Appropriate extension of the Technological Change Section of the Department of Labor to enable it to undertake research and studies into these and other matters of concern to the unions and workers likely to be affected by technological change.

(j) Superannuation deeds to give retrenched employees full entitlement to the amounts standing to their credit (with appropriate interest thereon).

10. PREVENTION OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT AND DISEASE AND REHABILITATION OF THE INJURED

The toll of personal injury is one of the disastrous incidents of social progress and calls for a co-ordinated response from the nation as a whole. Towards this end a Federal Labor Government would act —

(a) to establish mandatory occupational safety and health standards applicable to all employees of the Commonwealth, of Commonwealth authorities, of Commonwealth contractors, in the Territories and in interstate trade and commerce;

(b) to provide for the effective enforcement of such safety and health standards;

(c) to provide for research relating to occupational safety and health;

(d) to provide for training programmes to increase and improve personnel engaged in the field of occupational safety and health;

(e) to delineate more clearly the responsibilities of the Commonwealth Government and the States for their activities relating to occupational safety and health;

(f) to provide grants to the States to assist them in identifying their needs and responsibilities in the area of occupational safety and health and to develop plans to conduct experiments and demonstration projects in connection therewith; and

(g) to provide for appropriate accident and health reporting procedures which will help achieve the foregoing objectives.

11. WORKERS’ COMPENSATION

Pending the adoption of a social welfare scheme to cover all personal injuries caused by accident whether on the road, or at work, or in the home, Labor will legislate for a uniform law in respect to workers’ compensation applicable to all employees of the Commonwealth, of Commonwealth authorities, of Commonwealth contractors, in the Territories and in interstate trade and commerce including provision for —

(a) full wages during full period of incapacity plus lump sum compensation for scheduled injuries;

(b) life-time compensation to widows;

(c) injury, disease or death to be deemed to have been caused by or to have arisen out of the employment unless an employer can prove otherwise;

(d) heavy penalties on employers found guilty of violating safety regulations or with subjecting an employee to health hazards;

(e) full cost of funeral, medical expenses and out-of-pocket expenses;

(f) suitable alternate employment for partially incapacitated employees;

(g) rehabilitation of injured employees;

(h) lump sum compensation for loss or impairment of function of any limb, organ or faculty or for facial or bodily disfigurement with no set-off in respect of weekly payments;

(i) full compensation entitlements to voluntary workers who assist in saving life or property; and

(j) no time limit on claims for compensation.
XV: RURAL

1. The encouragement of co-operation among primary producers.

2. Australia-wide statutory marketing and stabilisation schemes, where practicable, for the disposal of primary products. Majority representation of primary producers upon all boards affecting the handling and marketing of their products. Professional experts on marketing boards and authorities to be independent of commercial interests.

3. The granting of financial relief to necessitous primary producers against the ravages of drought, fire, hail, flood and pests, and where practicable establishment of a grain and fodder reserve against periods of short supply.

4. Better rural facilities for postal, telegraph and telephonic communications and the introduction wherever possible of television to rural areas together with improved radio broadcasting facilities.

5. (a) The appointment of more trade commissioners and agricultural attaches in overseas countries to establish markets for Australian products.

(b) The appointment of a special investigation authority to investigate and report on action necessary to rapidly expand the marketing of Australian primary products in Asia, Africa and South America.

6. Efficient meteorological facilities for recording and publishing information with regard to weather, rainfall and river gaugings.

7. All Commonwealth primary products marketing legislation to be reviewed and, where necessary, amended to provide for the more effective co-ordination, control and marketing of primary products in Australia and overseas by the marketing boards concerned.

8. The establishment of an Export Credit Corporation as an ancillary of the Commonwealth Bank to provide long-term non-interest loans to overseas countries to assist the sale of Australian primary products.

9. The payment of a Commonwealth contribution to wool promotion funds provided by woolgrowers. This contribution to be reviewed annually in relation to any variation in woolgrowers' contributions.

10. Co-operation with the States for the following purposes:

(a) The initiation of an effective system under which land will be made available for productive use;

(b) The establishment, wherever practicable, of factories for the production of agricultural plant and machinery in competition with private enterprise;

(c) Water conservation and irrigation accompanied by an investigation of the water resources of Australia, including the desalination of water with priority for less developed areas;

(d) The encouragement of secondary industries and the provision of cheap light and power in rural areas, with Commonwealth assistance wherever possible, for the establishment of nuclear and tidal power stations, and the effective use of natural gas resources;

(e) Extension of civil aviation and improved radio communication to country districts;

(f) Construction of railways, roads, aerodromes and the development of ports as a means of bringing producers in touch with their natural markets by the shortest routes;

(g) The comprehensive development under government control of Australia's mineral resources, with emphasis on the need for discovery of new deposits and

(h) Research work for the improvement of rural production and the further development of extension services to ensure that producers receive the benefit of such research,

11. The provision of fertiliser subsidies.

12. The Commonwealth to provide funds where necessary to obviate the disparity
between urban and rural areas in the cost of education, medical services, communications and other public utilities.

13. Appropriate measures to adjust the levels of farm production in balance with realistic domestic and overseas market demands, in order to provide satisfactory prices to farmers and consumers, with the aim of establishing industry on an economic self-supporting basis within a definable period.

14. Quotas for primary products to be transferable to achieve the best utilization of resources.

**XVI: TRANSPORT**

**PREAMBLE**

1. (a) Establish the Inter-State Commission to co-ordinate all types of inter-state transport in Australia, including rail, road, air, water and pipelines, and to regulate conditions of carriage.

(b) Commonwealth grants to the States with a view to co-ordinating all forms of transport and upgrading public transport.

(c) The Commonwealth to operate any railways, ports, air routes, shipping services or pipelines referred to it by any State or States.

(d) The Commonwealth progressively to construct, charter and operate sufficient ships to carry an equitable share of Australia’s exports and imports.

(e) The Commonwealth to provide finance for roads to promote trade, interstate traffic and defence requirements.

(f) The Commonwealth to compete actively with private enterprise in interstate transport by sea, air or road.

(g) A referendum to give the Commonwealth Parliament complete powers to make laws with respect to all forms of transport.

(h) Transmission of natural gas by an interstate ring main to ensure continuity of supplies and uniformity of price.

**SHIPPING**

2. Modern shipping services to be maintained by Australian built, owned and manned ships, and for this purpose the continuance of a Commonwealth owned shipping service.

3. The Commonwealth to construct and maintain adequate dry-docking facilities.

4. The Commonwealth to establish a Merchant Marine College.

5. A referendum to give the Commonwealth Parliament the power to make laws with respect to navigation and shipping.

**ROAD**

6. The Commonwealth in co-operation with the States, to maintain the highest standards in road construction and maintenance.

7. (a) Labor will take the initiative to actively promote research into Road Safety, in co-operation with the States.

(b) Provide the States with adequate finance to promote effective road safety education campaigns.

(c) Co-operate with the States to standardise road laws and regulations.

**RAIL**

8. The standardisation of Australian rail gauges to 4 ft. 8½ ins.

9. Undertake as a matter of urgency the construction of the North/South standardised rail link in the interests of national defence, national development and to provide feeder services for the vast cattle-raising resources of the Northern Territory and the western area of Queensland.

**CIVIL AVIATION**

10. Examine the detrimental effects of the rationalisation policy on T.A.A., the travelling public and on the development of Australia.

12. A referendum to give the Commonwealth Parliament the power to make laws with respect to aviation.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

13. The Commonwealth to promote the conclusion, ratification and application of transport conventions under the auspices of the General Assembly of the United Nations and its specialised agencies.

XVII: NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

1. The establishment of a Commonwealth Department for the development of Northern Australia and of a corresponding Ministerial portfolio. The area involved shall not only include the Northern Territory, but also the northern parts of Queensland and Western Australia, which shall be determined after consultation with the State Governments concerned.

2. The Department shall be subject to the authority of a full-time Minister and shall be composed of experts in the various fields of social, physical and biological sciences and of engineering which may be deemed necessary. Any project which may be considered shall be subject to the prior condition of intense and expert research. The Department shall act as a planning and co-ordinating authority with power to initiate projects in its own right or in consultation and co-operation with the States. A further function of the Department would be to co-ordinate the application of the existing constructional resources of Commonwealth, State and local governments.

3. Adequate finance shall be made available to permit the Department to discharge its responsibilities.

4. Decentralisation of those functions of Commonwealth Government Departments and instrumentalities relevant to the administration and development of Northern Australia.

5. Establishment of an office of the Australian News and Information Bureau at a suitable point in Northern Australia for the purpose of publicity and promotion of the North for dissemination through overseas and domestic media.

6. (a) The Northern Territory to have a fully elected Legislative Assembly and the question of referred powers to be one for negotiation.

(b) The establishment of local government in the Northern Territory wherever practicable.

7. With a view to applying taxation concessions, both personal and company, an investigation shall be made as to their extent in various areas having regard for the degrees of economic and physical hardship.

XVIII: IMMIGRATION

The A.L.P. supports an immigration policy administered with sympathy, understanding and tolerance.

The basis of such policy shall include —

(a) Australia's national and economic security.

(b) The capacity to provide employment, housing, education and social services.

(c) The welfare and integration of all its citizens.

(d) The preservation of our democratic system and balanced development of our nation.

(e) The avoidance of the difficult social and economic problems which may follow from an influx of peoples having different standards of living, traditions and cultures.

(f) The avoidance of discrimination on any grounds of race or colour of skin or nationality.

XIX: ABORIGINES

1. The Office of Aborigine Affairs be upgraded to Ministerial level and the Commonwealth assume the ultimate responsibility for Aborigines and Islanders accorded it by the referendum of 1967. Labor will evolve ways to regularly
consult representatives of Aboriginal and Island people as to their wishes when policies are being developed and legislation prepared.

2. Aborigines to have equal rights and opportunities with all other Australians, and every form of discrimination against Aborigines to be ended.

3. Aborigines to receive the standard rate of wages for the job and to receive the same industrial protection as other Australians. Special provision for employment to be provided in regions where they reside.

4. Provide educational opportunities in no way inferior to those of the general community, with special programmes at all levels where necessary to overcome cultural deprivation and meet special needs. Pre-school education to be provided for every Aboriginal child including teaching indigenous languages where desirable. Adult education to be provided as broadly as possible.

5. Labor will give priority to a vigorous housing scheme in order to properly house all Aboriginal families within a period of 10 years. In compensation for the loss of traditional lands funds will be made available to assist Aborigines who wish to purchase their own homes. The personal wishes of Aborigines as to design and location will be taken into account.

6. A health offensive to be launched to eliminate leprosy, yaws, hookworm, tuberculosis and contagious diseases and to reduce infant mortality. Efficient mortality statistics to be maintained to measure the effectiveness of these policies among Aborigines.

7. Aborigines shall have the right to receive social services in the same way as all other Australians.

8. All Aboriginal lands to be vested in a public trust or trusts composed of Aborigines or Islanders as appropriate. That exclusive corporate land rights be granted to Aboriginal communities which retain a strong tribal structure or demonstrate a potential for corporate action in regard to land at present reserved for the use of Aborigines, or where traditional occupancy according to tribal custom can be established from anthropological or other evidence. No Aboriginal lands shall be alienated except with the approval both of the trust and of Parliament. Aboriginal land rights shall carry with them full rights to minerals in those lands. The sacred sites of the Aborigines will be mapped and protected.

9. Australia to ratify International Labor Organisation Conventions No. 107 (The Indigenous and Tribal Population Convention 1957) and No. 111 (The Discrimination, Employment and Occupation Convention 1958) and these Conventions apply to all indigenous peoples under Australian authority.

10. A Parliamentary Committee to be established to study all aspects of policy and report to Parliament regularly and continuously.

11. Every Australian child shall be taught the history and culture of Aboriginal and Island Australians as an integral part of the history of Australia.

12. That trained Social Workers be provided in every area where housing of Aborigines has been undertaken.

**XX: DEFENCE**

**GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

1. Australia’s national policy must be to ensure her territorial security, the security of her overseas trade and her peaceful development as an independent nation.

2. Labor’s defence and foreign policies are based on the conviction that war can and must be prevented and that Australia has a part to play in its prevention. Nevertheless, a strong and valid defence must be maintained. This defence capability must be so effective as to demonstrate beyond all doubt Australia’s intention to defend herself and her vital interests.

3. A strong defence capability can be further enhanced by participation in mutual defence arrangements with other nations in South-East Asia and the Pacific and Indian Ocean areas consistent with the requirements of the United Nations Charter and the objectives of existing treaties.
4. Australia asserts the right of consultation in the great decisions of war and peace and should not allow herself to be committed to any course of action without consultation and agreement.

DEFENCE FORCES

5. All defence policy rests ultimately upon the possible deployment of the armed forces. Labor's policy is to provide a strong regular and citizen defence force which can be rapidly and efficiently mobilised in time of need.

This force must—

(a) be a balanced force — Naval, Military, Air and Fleet Air Arm — properly equipped with the best and most up-to-date weapons;
(b) be capable of flexible mobility in Australian-owned air and sea transport to areas necessary for the defence of Australia or her vital interests;
(c) have sufficient range and striking power to deter any would-be aggressors; and
(d) be capable of deployment for maintaining and supervising peace as part of a United Nations force or for carrying out international peace-keeping agreements.

6. To these ends, the regular forces must be maintained at viable levels whilst the citizen forces must be maintained as an essential force and as a means for training those with the wider skills required for general mobilisation.

DEFENCE MOBILISATION AND PROCUREMENT

7. The defence capability of the nation depends primarily upon national development and the resulting capacity to manufacture, procure and maintain supplies and materials.

Labor shall—

(a) encourage the procurement and servicing of defence supplies and equipment wherever possible from within Australia with the aim of promoting the growth of Australia's defence-aligned industries;
(b) encourage Australian industries capable of conversion to defence production in time of war under an overall industrial mobilisation plan;
(c) ensure that procurement which of necessity is placed abroad is obtained under contracts affording the maximum offset purchasing advantages to Australia and the maximum scope for manufacture under licence within Australia;
(d) provide and develop ports, airfields, railways and roads which will contribute to the mobility of the defence forces as well as to the material development of the nation; and
(e) ensure exclusive government control over the manufacture and export of arms and munitions.

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

8. Recognising that service in the regular forces constitutes one of the nation’s essential occupations, and insisting upon the highest of professional standards, Labor asserts that full and continuing attention must be paid to all aspects of conditions of service in order to attract and to retain an all-volunteer army and other services.

9. Conditions of service of members must maintain parity with the conditions of civilians of the same age and qualifications and must allow for the inherent disadvantages and special requirements of the profession of arms.

Labor shall provide war service homes, repatriation health benefits, civilian rehabilitation training, scholarships for their children and generous re-engagement, retirement and re-settlement allowances for members of the Forces.

10. Easier access must be given to the Courts-Martial Appeals Tribunal and the Tribunal incorporated in the Commonwealth Superior Court.

11. Comprehensive and self-contained Australian legislation must apply to Australian forces serving both inside and outside Australia.

CIVIL DEFENCE

12. Under Labor the Commonwealth will bear the responsibility for civil defence
and for the financing of a civil emergency service and will establish a professional civil defence service within the Department of Defence.

GENERAL

13. All forces should be made up of volunteers and conscription as such shall be abolished. In the national interest however, the right must be retained to raise a national service force should the security of Australia be threatened.

14. Labor is opposed to the private traffic in arms, to private military training and to the use of the armed forces in industrial disputes.

15. There shall be regular consultations between the Commonwealth and the States concerning the siting or extension of defence installations.

XXI: FOREIGN AFFAIRS

1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The Labor Party, as a democratic socialist and internationalist Party, believes that every nation must share in the skills of mankind and the resources of the world according to its needs and must contribute to those skills and resources according to its capacity.

The Labor Party believes Australia cannot isolate herself from the struggles of the peoples of the world for economic development, security and self-government.

The Labor Party gives firm and unwavering support to the United Nations and its agencies and to the United Nations Charter and will make every effort to make the United Nations an effective instrument for justice and peace and political, social and economic advancement.

The Labor Party seeks close and continuing co-operation with the people of the United States and New Zealand to make the ANZUS Treaty an instrument for justice and peace and political, social and economic advancement in the Pacific area.

The Labor Party will foster the Commonwealth of Nations as an instrument for peace and understanding and for political, social and economic advancement and will in particular seek close relations with the Commonwealth nations in South-East Asia and the Pacific and Indian Ocean areas.

The Labor Party will co-operate in the development of South-East Asia and the Pacific and Indian Ocean areas to strengthen the fabric of peace and freedom and to uphold the principles of democracy, individual liberty and the rule of law and to promote economic well-being and development.

The Labor Party will take initiatives to obtain regional arrangements within the United Nations Charter and to make pacts of friendship, trade, non-aggression and mutual defence with Australia's neighbours in South-East Asia and the Pacific and Indian Ocean areas.

The Labor Party will honour all Australia’s treaties and alliances which respect the freedom and security of the peoples in the treaty areas and their right to determine their own forms of government without external interference.

2. ISLANDS OF THE PACIFIC

Labor will grant increasing financial assistance to Papua-New Guinea.

Labor will establish a Pacific Islands Division within the Department of Foreign Affairs to second and support skilled personnel requested by Papua-New Guinea and other islands of the Pacific for their civil and armed forces.

Labor will support an expanding social and economic development programme for Papua-New Guinea to be administered by a joint Australia-New Guinea Commission.

Labor will seek a defence treaty with Papua-New Guinea.

3. AID

In accepting the United Nations programme to work towards a national contribution of 1% of gross national product, the Labor Party recognises that the quantity of aid is not the full measure of its effectiveness. In pursuit of a more meaningful aid programme the Labor Party proposes —

(a) to establish an Institute of Development Studies for the overall examination of the problem of social and economic development;
(b) to reorganise the administration of the various Australian aid programmes and to establish a mutual co-operation agency, and
(c) to support an increase in the opportunities for less developed countries to sell their goods.
A Labor Government will be sensitive to the quality of aid and the impact of aid on social values.

4. DISENGAGEMENT AND DISARMAMENT

Labor will seek to end all foreign military presence in Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and East and West Germany. All such occupations represent either a jockeying for strategic positions for a prospective world war, thereby increasing the likelihood of such a war; or a determination to impose on other people ideologies and systems of government which they do not want.

Labor will aim for effective disarmament agreements.
Labor opposes the development, proliferation, possession and use of nuclear, chemical and bacteriological weapons.
A Labor Government will work to modernise and apply international conventions to secure universal prohibition of nuclear, chemical and bacteriological warfare.

5. BASES AND FACILITIES

Labor is opposed to the existence of foreign-owned, -controlled or -operated bases and facilities in Australian territory, especially if such bases involve a derogation from Australian sovereignty.

Labor is not opposed to the use of Australian bases and facilities by Allies in war-time, or in periods of international tension involving a threat to Australia, provided that Australian authority and sovereignty are unimpaired, and provided that Australia is not involved in hostilities without Australia's consent.

The tenure of these bases and facilities by other powers should not be of such a character as to exclude properly accredited access by authorised Australians charged with the duty of evaluating Australian defence policy, whether members of the Australian Parliament, defence departments or armed services.

6. FORCES OVERSEAS

Australian forces should not be committed overseas except subject to clear and public international agreements.

7. BORDER DISPUTES AND SELF-DETERMINATION

Australia should seek the establishment under United Nations auspices of a permanent mediation authority to settle border disputes and to solve problems of self-determination.

8. THE SEAS AND SEA-BED

Each nation has the right to control the exploration of the natural resources around its coasts, within its gulfs, around and between its islands and on its continental shelf.

Each nation has the duty to allow the ships of other nations to pass for peaceful purposes through its coastal waters, between its islands and along its inter-sea canals and international rivers.

All nations should ensure the peaceful and equitable use of the sea-bed and the ocean floor beyond the limits of national jurisdiction.

9. SPACE CONTROL

Space should not become a military zone and a new source of disaster to the human race. Australia should seek and support agreements which will ensure the peaceful use of space for communications and scientific advance, and these agreements should be under United Nations auspices.

10. DISCRIMINATION

Labor opposes any form of segregation or discrimination on the grounds of colour, race, sex, creed or politics and will insist on ending every form of such discrimination within Australia and in Australian administered territories. It supports action, including sanctions, through the United Nations to end such segregation or discrimination.
XXII: CIVIL LIBERTIES

1. The Constitution to be amended to provide for the protection of fundamental Civil Rights and Liberties.

2. The Commonwealth and State Parliaments to pass Acts providing for human rights and civil liberties, and to take all possible legislative and administrative action and judicial proceedings to prevent infringement of such rights and liberties and in particular to prevent discrimination on the grounds of colour, race, sex, creed or politics.

3. Australia to pass laws and to press for world-wide and regional implementation of international covenants on human rights. The States also to pass any laws necessary for such implementation.

4. An administrative court of appeals to review administrative decisions, and in particular, to review at the instance of any adversely affected citizen or migrant any decision alleged to be made on security grounds, and to lay down regulations governing the conduct of members of A.S.I.O. and other security organisations and to hear, determine and report to Parliament on the breach of any such regulations.

5. The right to privacy to be protected by Commonwealth and State laws and vigilant administration of those laws. The Commonwealth and States to pass laws prohibiting the use of any device for the invasion of privacy and to include postal, telegraphic, telephonic and other like services.

6. In any civil or criminal proceeding no one to be compelled to incriminate himself and no party or witness to be subjected to anything calculated to impair his dignity.

7. Trial by jury to be preserved and extended as far as practicable in all serious civil and criminal cases.

8. The censorship laws to conform with the general principles that adults be entitled to read, hear and view what they wish in private or public and that persons (and those in their care) be not exposed to unsolicited material offensive to them. For the purpose of implementing those principles a judicial tribunal to be established to hold public hearings and to give published reasons. The Commonwealth laws for censorship of imported books, records and films to be altered accordingly.

9. All delegated legislation to be publicised and to be subject to disallowance by Parliament. Such legislation not to trespass on civil rights and liberties; not to make the rights and liberties of citizens unduly dependent upon administrative and not judicial decisions; and to be concerned with administrative detail and not matters of substance.

10. Restrictions on freedom of expression of public servants and former public servants to be reduced to the minimum necessary for the conduct of affairs of State. Public servants to have the maximum possible freedom to exercise the civil and political rights enjoyed by other citizens.

11. The Parliamentary Labor Parties on all possible occasions in Government or opposition to endeavour to secure the alteration of any legislation which offends against the rule of law or principles set out in this platform.

12. The Australian Security Intelligence Organisation to be placed under Ministerial control.

XXIII: LAW REFORM

1. Amalgamation of the legal profession.

2. Simplification of the laws and reduction of costs of litigation especially by elimination of unnecessary procedures and paperwork.

3. Publication of all legislation in consolidated form at frequent intervals.

4. Elimination as far as practicable of orders for costs in industrial courts and other jurisdictions.

5. A system of legal aid to ensure ready and equal access to the courts.

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6. Clear consumer protection laws against unjustifiable price rises and unfair methods in trade and commerce.

7. The Attorney-General of the Commonwealth and public officers under his control to investigate breaches of Commonwealth law and to initiate proceedings for enforcement of laws, especially in areas such as consumer protection where such an action is beyond the resources of the citizen.

8. The Federal criminal law to place emphasis on prevention of crime, protection of society and rehabilitation of offenders rather than on punishment. Agencies to be established to implement these aims. A system to be established whereby compensation may be paid to the victims of criminal or other unlawful action.

9. Full facilities to be provided for civil marriages at reasonable hours at night and weekends and at other places in addition to registry offices.

10. Adulthood for electoral, marriage and other purposes to be recognised as at 18 years.

11. Laws on divorce and other social issues to be reformed in the light of modern sociology and standards.

12. Capital and corporal punishment to be abolished.


14. The law and administration of divorce, custody and other family matters to be altered to remedy existing abuses especially in regard to oppressive costs, delays and indignities. A parliamentary committee to inquire into the growing complaints that the divorce, custody and maintenance laws are operating unjustly and inefficiently.

15. Authors to have a public lending right.

16. Appeal rights to the High Court in criminal cases to be extended.

17. In any matter in which the community standards or the behaviour of the average person calls for consideration, the courts should, if requested, receive and apply expert evidence on that issue.

18. Law on defamation to be simplified and expressed so as to ensure a proper balance between the right to freedom of expression and the right of the person not to be exposed to unjustifiable attacks on his honour and reputation.

19. The Commonwealth to legislate for regulation and exploitation of the Continental Shelf and off-shore resources.

20. Protection of citizens from invasion of privacy by credit agencies, data banks, I.Q. tests, personality tests.

21. Imprisonment not to be imposed in default of payment of costs in any proceedings.

22. Exemption by contract from consumer protection provisions of the law to be prohibited.

23. Abolition of legal actions for seduction and enticement, and damages for adultery.

24. Naturalised Australians to be treated for all purposes as Australians and not to be liable to deportation or cancellation of citizenship except for substantial fraud in application for citizenship.

25. Aviation laws and conventions to be amended to provide full compensation for death or injury.

26. Alcoholism and dependency on other drugs to be treated as an illness, provided that no person is deprived of his liberty without due processes of law.

27. The defence of insanity in criminal cases to be redefined.

28. Discrimination against women obtaining loans and entering other financial transactions to be removed by legislation and administrative direction.

29. The Attorney-General to be required to make an annual report to Parliament on the working of —

(a) A.S.I.O., and any infringement of the regulations and action taken in
regard to such infringements; and
(b) the Telephonic Communications (Interception) Act.

30. Accident and other insurance to be brought under Commonwealth control and the power and authority of the Commonwealth Insurance Commissioner to be extended.

31. Evidence obtained by illegal invasion of privacy such as telephone tapping not to be admissible in the courts.

XXIV: NATIONAL INSURANCE OFFICE

The establishment of a Commonwealth Government Insurance Office actively competing with private companies in all States in the field of life assurance, fire, accident, workers’ compensation and other forms of insurance. Such activity to be conducted on a non-profit-making basis by way of rebating surpluses to insurers when renewing premiums.

XXV: ARTS AND MEDIA

1. Participation in the creative arts and publication, performance and other exhibition of the arts should be actively encouraged and assisted by government.

2. Labor will encourage and support the arts in such a way as to maintain freedom of expression and to allow artists to exercise freely their creative and performing talents.

3. Labor will promote the creative talents of Australians by providing guidance and assistance for all creative and performing artists. This will apply to new arts and new developments in old arts, as well as the traditional arts.

4. Labor will establish a Ministry of the Arts to encourage and support all cultural activities.

5. Labor will provide Commonwealth financial support and assist States, Local Government and other interested organisations.

MEDIA

As well as being a medium of entertainment, television and radio profoundly affect the educational, cultural and artistic standards of Australians.

Because of the limited number of frequencies available for radio and television, it is necessary for government to regulate these areas in order to ensure that the public interest is protected, but, as far as possible, the traditional freedom of the press should apply to radio and television.

1. The dual system of national and commercial radio and television is to continue. The tendency to monopoly is especially dangerous and must be resisted by appropriate legislation.

2. A fairness principle will be included in the legislation regulating radio and television so that opposing viewpoints will have a fair opportunity of expression.

3. The political independence of the Australian Broadcasting Commission should be secured by amendments to the Broadcasting and Television Act and by proper administrative arrangements, including finances provided on a long term basis.

4. The Australian Broadcasting Commission should be able to determine its own programmes and, subject to the fairness applicable to commercial stations, to exercise its functions free of improper pressure from any source.

5. The general principles of the Senate Select Committee on Encouragement of Australian Productions for Television will be implemented.

6. Legislative and administrative steps will be taken to increase Australian content and to preserve a reasonable balance between material of Australian and overseas origin. Minimum quotas with appropriate weighting according to the nature of the programme for Australian dramatic, professional variety, and educational programmes will be established and enforced for both national and
commercial stations. Taking into account the different nature of radio programmes, endeavours will also be made to encourage Australian content on radio in neglected fields.

7. To ensure that the programme standards of television and radio are maintained at the highest level, Labor will undertake a complete review of the conditions upon which licences are granted and renewed. All applications for issue and renewal of licences will be heard in public.

8. The Board or any interested person or body will be enabled, in case of any dispute or difference, to apply to an appropriate tribunal for an interpretation of the Act, standards, licence conditions or quota provision and obtain a decision as to whether the same have been or are being observed.

9. A Labor Government will initiate a study into the feasibility of establishing an Australian Newspaper Commission along lines similar to the Australian Broadcasting Commission and, if feasible, will establish such a commission.
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE 1971 FEDERAL CONFERENCE

1. DISCRIMINATION

That, pending the implementation of Labor's immigration policy the F.P.L.P. be requested to intensify its agitation in the forthcoming Parliamentary session towards:

(a) The cessation by the Malaysian Government of its partisan employment policy that denies those of its citizens of Chinese origin and products of overseas student training schemes operated by the Australian Government, equal professional opportunity with other elements of the Malaysian community.

(b) Immediate action by the Commonwealth Government to become a signatory to the refugee Seaman's Agreement.

2. OWNERSHIP OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The Federal Executive make recommendations to the next Federal Conference as to the manner in which the Party's Socialist objective may be implemented as it applies to the ownership, control and development of Australia's natural resources and industry.

3. ABORIGINAL REPRESENTATION

Labor will provide special representation of Aboriginal members of the Legislative Council of the Northern Territory.

The Provision of Aboriginal representation in State and Federal Parliaments is referred to the Legal and Constitutional Committee with the request that they find legal and constitutional steps necessary to achieve such representation and recommend them to the next Conference.

4. DENTAL HEALTH

(a) Establishment in colleges of advanced education in all States for training of dental therapists.

(b) Tied grants to be paid to all States to establish a comprehensive school dental service, based on school dental officers and dental therapists. The scheme to commence at all primary schools and extending to pre-schools and secondary schools. The service to provide a programme of total dental care including education in dental health.

(c) The provision of salaried dental officers in regional centres to attend pensioners, the physically handicapped and other disadvantaged groups.

(d) The promotion of research and the expansion of government dental services with a view to elimination of dental disease.

5. KANGAROO CONTROL

Proper control and conservation of kangaroos to prevent their extinction and legislation to force manufacturers of pet foods to state exact contents on all labels and packages.

6. OFFSHORE DRILLING

That companies engaged in oil drilling operations in coastal waters adjacent to the Australian mainland be compelled to have available suitable and efficient materials in close proximity to deal with any escape of oil or other pollutants as a result of such operations.

7. BURDEKIN RIVER BASIN

That Conference confirms the progressive development of the Burdekin River Basin as a national project.
8. QUARANTINE STATION

Labor will implement as a matter of urgency the establishment of an animal quarantine station and laboratory to facilitate the introduction of new and improved plant and genetic material.

9. WOOL MARKETING

Labor will legislate for a statutory wool marketing authority to acquire and/or market the Australian clip in the most efficient way. Reserve bank funds will be made available to finance the authority. Labor will reconstitute the A.W.I.C. and the Australian Wool Board on a democratically elected basis and have an investigation and evaluation of wool promotion and research.

10. BOUNTIES

Output bounties may be paid on farm products to offset cost disabilities caused by tariffs where necessary, so as not to exceed the direct costs imposed by tariffs as assessed by independent authorities.

11. WHEAT INDUSTRY

(a) Labor will endeavour to make wheat quotas negotiable, i.e. transferable between producers throughout Australia at mutually acceptable prices. Transactions must be conducted through a government or government controlled authority;
(b) investigate the desirability of exporting wheat for stock feed markets. Stock feed exports would be regarded as non-quota, and growers would receive market price only;
(c) initial quotas granted to individual growers would be related to a base production period.

12. PRIMARY PRODUCTS SURVEY

Labor will conduct and promote economic studies and research of the utilisation of primary products for secondary and tertiary purposes for example power alcohol from water.

13. NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Any projected land settlement or irrigation schemes requiring Commonwealth funds must be subjected to a cost benefit analysis. Results must be published prior to Commonwealth decision.

14. ENVIRONMENT

Stringent safeguards against the pollution of the natural environment will be implemented and administered by an office of Natural Environment.

15. RURAL INDUSTRIES

Effective protection of rural industries in accordance with realistic market demand and see that positive action be taken to protect the viability of the traditional producer.

16. MERINO RAMS

An embargo should remain on the export of merino rams and their semen, until a majority of the persons affected have decided by referendum or other fair means in favour of removing or relaxing the embargo.

17. DISASTER RELIEF

The Labor Party deplores the lack of alertness and the lack of concern of the Federal Government in the failure to take generous action to assist the victims of disaster in the Nigerian civil war, the earthquake in Peru, the tidal wave in East Pakistan and the refugees from East Pakistan in India. The Party in office will take positive action in such disasters to provide effective aid, and will maintain a hospital ship as a form of mobile medical aid where needed, and donations to meet the relief of disasters overseas sponsored by private organisations within Australia should be made allowable deductions for taxation purposes.
18. PAPUA-NEW GUINEA

The Labor Party will ensure the orderly and secure transfer of Papua-New Guinea to self-government and independence in its first term of office.

19. ANTI-WAR MOVEMENT

(a) Labor recognises the importance of the anti-Vietnam war movement in Australia and encourages members of the A.L.P. to participate in these activities in so far as they are consistent with the policies of the A.L.P. Conference affirms that the election of a Federal Labor Government is the most effective means of ending Australia’s involvement in the Vietnam war.

(b) Labor reaffirms its support of the principle of Vietnam Moratorium demonstrations provided such demonstrations are planned and executed on a peaceful and orderly basis. Conference, in calling for greater participation in anti-Vietnam war activities calls upon members of the A.L.P. to express their support by co-operating in the Vietnam Moratorium activities on a State and locality basis, under the control of the State branches.

20. MIDDLE EAST

The situation in the Middle East remains the greatest threat to the peace of the world. Labor recognises the necessity to renew efforts through the United Nations and otherwise to persuade the Arab nations and Israel to accept a permanent settlement of all problems in the area.

21. CHINA

Conference is gratified by the support now given at home and abroad to the A.L.P.’s policy established by the 1955 Conference of recognising the People’s Republic of China and working for her admission to the United Nations. Conference applauds the initiative of the Federal Executive in seeking and arranging a delegation to visit China to discuss relations between the two countries.

22. PINE GAP AND WOOMERA

Conference protests at the Federal Government’s refusal to inform the Parliament and public of the general purposes and possible consequences of the joint defence installations and facilities at Pine Gap and Woomera. It deplores the Government’s action in not offering or agreeing to deny, access to Australian members of Parliament. Conference also protests that the full details and implications of the proposed Omega communications station have also been denied to the Parliament and people.

23. INDO-CHINA

Conference is gratified by the support now given at home and abroad to the A.L.P.’s policies enunciated at its 1965, 1967 and 1969 Conferences of opposition to the continuance of the war in Vietnam and Australian participation in it.

Conference recalls the resolutions of those conferences in favour of international arrangements for the economic and social recovery of Indo-China and the territorial integrity of Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Thailand.

An Australian Labor Government will stand ready to work with the Geneva participants or the United Nations or any other agency established for the purpose of rehabilitating and neutralising Indo-China.

24. NATIONAL SERVICE ACT

(a) A Labor Government will repeal the present National Service Act and annul its penal consequences.

(b) A Labor Government will grant full repatriation and rehabilitation benefits to all national servicemen, and sympathetically investigate the possibility of compensating those who have suffered penal consequences of the National Service Act.

(c) Conference notes with approval the following decision of the Federal Executive taken on 17th June, 1971:

“That the Federal Executive declares its support of Victorian Australian Labor Party members, Barry Johnson and Tony Dalton, due to face court proceedings
on Friday, 18th June, for breaches of the National Service Act which could result in two year terms of imprisonment.

"This Executive again emphasises the A.L.P.'s opposition to the principles of the National Service Act and declares its support for all those young men who have refused to be conscripted for the undeclared war in Vietnam.

"This Executive asks all members of the Party in Victoria to protest in their own way in favour of Barry Johnson and Tony Dalton and others who are refusing to comply with the provisions of the Act."

(d) Conference also calls on the Federal Government for the immediate release of Geoff Mullen and Charles Martin, who are in prison as a penal consequence of the Act.

25. CADET TRAINING
Cadet training should not be compulsory.

26. EQUAL PAY
That this Conference condemns the 1969 decision of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission on equal pay as being unjust in the conditions laid down for equal pay and supports the trade union campaign for a more realistic award.

Conference reaffirms previous policy regarding equal pay and pledges that the Labor Party upon election to government will take immediate steps to implement equal pay in accordance with A.C.T.U. policy, for employees of the Commonwealth Government and of Commonwealth authorities.

27. SUPERANNUATION
Labor will consider legislation to ensure that the superannuation paid to retired members of the Scheme will be adjusted at least every year in accordance with the cost of living.

Conference recommends that the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party's Industrial Relations Committee invite the Miners' Federation to explain the pension scheme to the Committee and that the said Committee be requested to examine what action, if any, can be taken to meet the Union's wishes.

28. RURAL SUBSIDIES
(a) The Commonwealth undertakes to subsidise for 5 years the interest rate above 3 per cent. on the loan indebtedness of primary producers who, in the opinion of the State's Rural Reconstruction Authority would, with this assistance, have reasonable prospects of again becoming viable.

Stay Orders to be declared over such properties for the 5 year period or lesser period as determined by the Authority.

That the present States Grant (Rural Reconstruction) Act be amended to provide for the use of part of the $100 million to re-establish in new callings farmers who may have to leave the land because of lack of prospects of reconstruction.

(b) The Commonwealth to financially assist the States on a dollar for dollar basis in the establishment of Regional Growth Centres as an essential component of Regional Decentralisation.

29. ABORTION LAW REFORM
This Conference recommends that the Party and its various groups such as the Parliamentary Parties should take a non-party attitude and vote according to their conscience on the issue of abortion law reform.

30. STANDARDISED SERVICE EQUIPMENT
That a Federal A.L.P. Government shall co-ordinate the Army, Navy and Air Force to attain greater efficiency and liaison by the provision of common training and logistic facilities and by attaining economies by the provision of standardised equipment for the three Services.

31. POLICY STATEMENT ON UNEMPLOYMENT
Unemployment as a blanket term to cover those out of work should be analysed to differentiate the various aspects of this problem.
1. The Chronically Unemployed and Unemployable

This small hard core of unemployed require more than unemployment benefits; they need real help. Such help should include —

(a) psychological investigation and vocational guidance,
(b) education and training based on the results of the psychological investigation,
(c) sheltered employment until fully rehabilitated and
(d) care for their dependants so that they can live, be educated and develop despite the inadequacies of the bread-winner. This care should be more positive than a benefit; it should include psychological assistance to help offset the lack of a father as well as lack of money.

2. The Transient Unemployed

(a) Seasonal unemployment — The Department of Labor must co-ordinate the types and places of seasonal employment so that seasonal workers are assisted to find a regular and adequate pattern of employment. Transport should be provided by the department to ensure an adequate supply of labour for seasonal needs throughout the country. The department should in effect be the continuous employment agency for this type of labour, so that it will be able to establish paid holidays, sick leave, long service leave and superannuation funds for this class of worker.

(b) Economic depression unemployment — A detailed plan for continuous, controlled and socially desirable expansion should be drawn up to prevent such occurrences. This should be done by a Commonwealth Development Agency, charged with the responsibility of continuously surveying the development in all sectors of the country and determining the future needs and planning accordingly.

(c) Technological unemployment due to automation and redundancy — Establishment in conjunction with the Commonwealth Development Agency of a series of Rehabilitation Centres where redundant workers can be helped to decide what type of employment and training they desire and then be given it. During this period of retraining a proper salary should be paid by the Commonwealth to permit the uninterrupted growth and development of the student and his family.

1. TAX ZONES
That the present zones for taxation purposes be reviewed to eliminate anomalies which exist at present.

2. SALES TAX
That action be taken to amend the existing sales tax regulations to remove the inclusion of freight from capital cities to country centres as part of the landed cost of any item despatched.

3. GRANTS TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES
That the Economic Committee investigate the feasibility and report on the practicability of including in Labor's fiscal policy, an annual independent grant or allocation of finance to local authorities, as a percentage of their annual budget.

4. EMERGENCY EDUCATION GRANTS
A Federal Labor Government will make emergency grants to provide adequate standards of operation within the shortest possible time, including the numbers and qualifications of teachers, the size of classes, standards of school buildings and facilities, and the level of financial assistance to students through scholarships. Notwithstanding any other provision of the policy or platform, any emergency grant made by the Commonwealth for education shall be such as to give government schools a sum that is not less per student than any grant made to non-government schools.

Any forms of benefit existing in a State or Territory as at the time of this Conference may be supported in any State or Territory.

5. GREAT BARRIER REEF
That all possible legislative and administrative steps be taken to protect and preserve the Great Barrier Reef off the Coast of Queensland and, in particular, to prevent harmful effects by oil drilling, or any other activities considered destructive to this unique natural phenomenon.

6. PROMOTION OF POLICY
That the Federal Executive establish a national publicity committee to advise on ways and means of promoting the Party's policy through the mass media.

7. NATIONAL LABOR JOURNAL
That the Federal Executive examine the feasibility of establishing a national Labor Party monthly journal.

8. BROADCASTING AND TELEVISION ACT
That the Federal Executive and the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party be asked to examine whether any amendments to the Broadcasting and Television Act are necessary to secure to the Australian Broadcasting Commission financial independence and freedom from political interference.

9. EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION
That Conference condemns the Commonwealth Government's failure to implement the general principles of the Report of the Senate Select Committee on Television and the Weeden Report on Educational Television. Conference draws attention to the recent UNESCO report by Lord Willis recommending the establishment in Australia of a Film and Television School and urges speedy Commonwealth action to accomplish the objectives of these three reports.
10. CHOWILLA DAM

Recognising the very real need for the continuing conservation of water in all parts of the Commonwealth, the Federal Conference considers that a National Water Resources Authority should be established over all water where two or more states are involved and should employ the investigation, design and construction teams of the Snowy Mountains Authority as well as those of the State Water Conservation Authorities.

The Conference deprecates the situation under which work has been suspended on the Chowilla Dam after an expenditure of $5.2 million and despite authorising Acts of the Commonwealth, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australian Parliaments.

The Conference recognises that over 85 per cent. of South Australians are dependent on water from the River Murray for their continued industrial existence and expansion in addition to their domestic needs and rural production.

The Conference supports the claims of the South Australian Labor Leader, Mr. D. A. Dunstan, that South Australia has a right to Chowilla and calls upon the Federal Government to continue the building of Chowilla irrespective of any decision regarding the building of Dartmouth.

11. TERRITORIAL WATERS

That the A.L.P. includes in policy that “The Continental Shelf, the Gulf of Carpentaria and, in particular, the Great Barrier Reef be declared territorial waters.”

12. FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

Because of the nature of control exercised over the mass media, it is very difficult for dissenting groups to publicise their point of view. Therefore to be able to exercise their right to dissent they need the right to demonstrate by means of outdoor meetings, processions and distribution of handbills. As these rights are part of the broad, fundamental freedoms of expression and assembly, the exercise should be subject to no interference other than enforcement of the competing need for public order, which means that all such activities must be conducted in a peaceful manner.

The Australian Labor Party believes that freedom of expression and assembly provides the basic condition necessary for dissent and that maximum freedom for dissent is essential to the well-being of a democracy.

13. SOLDIERS’ BASIC RIGHTS

That the Australian Labor Party pledge itself to a complete review of the Australian Military Regulations and Orders, so that certain basic rights shall be preserved to the private soldier, that his status be raised to a level more consistent with the concepts of individual liberty and human dignity that prevail in our community and that Military prisons be subject to civilian inspection and control.

14. CRIMES ACT

Conference supports the repeal of political and industrial sections of the Commonwealth Crimes Act and urges that the next Commonwealth Labor Government repeal, as a matter of urgency, this legislation and all similar Commonwealth legislation including Section 66 of the Commonwealth Public Service Act, which forbids Public Servants the right to strike.

15. OMBUDSMAN

That Conference endorses the principle of an ombudsman and requests the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party to do all in its powers to secure such an appointment by the government.

16. AID

That Conference agrees that where underdeveloped countries complain about the standard and quality of food supplies received under aid programmes that such complaints be investigated by F.A.O. of U.N.O. to ensure that in future such food supplies conform to the highest standard.
17. MEDICAL SCHEME REBATES
As only approximately 65 per cent. to 75 per cent. of health costs are covered by present rebates, including the Commonwealth Government contribution, this Conference accepts the principle that rebates should be increased to a level that alleviates hardship, pending the implementation of the Federal Health Platform.

18. PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS
That contraceptives, when prescribed by a Doctor, be available on the free list of pharmaceutical benefits.

19. PENSIONS
That when a man becomes the recipient of a pension his dependent wife be also granted a pension regardless of her age.

20. METHOD OF PENSION PAYMENTS
That where pension cheques, posted to old-aged and invalid pensioners are misappropriated before receipt by the pensioner and where the offender has not been apprehended, that the Department of Social Services obtain the value of the cheque for the pensioner from the business house or bank accepting the “Not Negotiable” cheque, rather than compelling the pensioner to take his own legal action against the business house or bank.

21. PENSION PAYMENTS
We strongly condemn the Federal Government on its complete lack of understanding of the present day conditions in which the vast majority of pensioners exist, as displayed by the meagre grants to pensioners in the recent Budget. We urge a more realistic review of all pensions and the introduction of a supplementary budget to give justice to this section of the community.

22. TRAVEL CONCESSIONS
The Conference calls upon the Commonwealth and State governments to initiate negotiation with all other State governments to grant reciprocal travel concessions to all pensioners when travelling interstate on government transport. Further to seek free travel for pensioners on trains and buses in their own States.

23. MATERNITY ALLOWANCE
Conference views with alarm the failure of successive Liberal-Country Party Governments to raise the maternity allowance above that fixed by the Curtin Government in times of necessary budget stringency in 1943, and we support the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party in their persistent efforts to gain the restoration of the value of maternity allowances that were granted.

24. CHILD ENDOWMENT
Child endowment payments be substantially increased because no substantial improvements have been effected for the last 20 years, and the payment for the first child be brought up to the rate for the others.

25. REPATRIATION
That Conference approve a Bill to assist young service personnel returning from Vietnam or any other field of service, or after actual training course, through a rehabilitation course or some other informative training to improve their future prospects. The defunct Rehabilitation Act should be re-introduced.

26. APPLE AND PEAR INDUSTRY
That the Federal Labor Government will confer with apple and pear growers in order to advise a stabilisation plan for the industry.

27. ASSISTANCE TO PRIMARY PRODUCERS
That the Commonwealth Development Bank pursue an active policy of assisting farmers to meet the technological and other changes shown to be necessary by scientific investigation and provide for generous financial assistance at the lowest possible interest rate.
28. RE-AFFORESTATION
That a comprehensive re-afforestation scheme be undertaken to acquire unproductive farm land and that the farmers on this land be given the opportunity to work on these re-afforestation projects.

29. CONTROL OF INSECT PESTS AND PLANT DISEASES
That an A.L.P. Government initiate a broad long-term research into ways and means of controlling insect pests and plant diseases by means other than the use of D.D.T. and other pesticides, with special attention to the use of scientific organic compost fertilisers, and also the practicability of biological control of pests and exotic diseases.

30. CONSERVATION
An Australian Federal Labor Government would produce plans to conserve range and arid zones, introduce legislation to ensure that all holders of lands, whether Government, Local Authority, private or Company, are encouraged to carry out the directions of the Australian Range Lands Institute to conserve and protect land against loss, drought, overstocking or erosion.

31. RESERVES AND SETTLEMENTS
The Queensland Branch A.L.P. wishes to draw to the attention of the Federal Conference the shocking living and working conditions now existing at Bamaga on the northern-most tip of the Cape York Peninsula, in relation to wages, cost of living, etc., and asks the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party to act urgently to force Commonwealth action to remedy the distressing situation that exists on this Queensland Government Reserve and further requests that the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party seek Commonwealth intervention to improve conditions on all native reserves and settlements.

32. GURINDJI LAND RIGHTS
That efforts be made through the appropriate channels to have the Gurindji claim to their ancestral land brought before the United Nations.

33. SOUTHERN AFRICA
(a) Conference condemns the segregationist policies of South Africa and Rhodesia, because such policies are an affront to the dignity of man and a defiance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
(b) A Federal Labor Government would support all U.N. measures to apply human rights throughout Africa and would seek more effective measures to enforce them.

34. GREECE
Conference deplores the continuing military dictatorship in Greece, it condemns the imprisonment and torture of the regime's opponents, the suspension of Parliament, the purging of the judiciary and the repression of the Trade Unions. It deplores the business and employment pressure on residents in Australia who have protested about the events in Greece or have failed to support the regime.

35. NORTHERN IRELAND
Conference deplores the unequal franchise and other undemocratic practices in Northern Ireland.

36. NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY
A Federal Labor Government will sign the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons Treaty and will work to secure its acceptance by other governments.
GENERAL POLICY DECISIONS

This section contains general policy resolutions approved by various Commonwealth Conferences which have continuing application

A: REPUDIATION OF COMMUNIST PARTY

(Adopted at 1948 Conference)

1. Conference reaffirms its repudiation of the methods and principles of the Communist Party and the decisions of previous Conferences that between the Communist Party and the Labor Party there is such basic hostility and differences that no Communist can be a member of the Labor Party. No Communist auxiliary or subsidiary can be associated with the Labor Party in any activity, and no Labor Party Branch or member can co-operate with the Communist Party.

2. Conference further declares that the policy and the actions of the Communist Party demonstrate that the Party's methods and objects aim at the destruction of the democratic way of life of the Australian people and the establishment in its place of a totalitarian form of government which would destroy our existing democratic institutions and the personal liberty of the Australian people. We therefore declare that the A.L.P., through its branches, affiliations and members, must carry on an increasing campaign directed at destroying the influence of the Communist Party wherever such exists throughout Australia.

3. We affirm that the Labor Movement offers the most effective and safest methods of preserving democratic liberties, of protecting and improving workers' living standards, and we—

(a) Congratulate those sections of the Labor Movement who are carrying on a persistent and determined campaign against Communist influence in their respective organisations.

(b) In order that the menace of the Communist Party might be understood by all, we recommend to the Executive that it prepare and issue a report on the working and policies of the Communist Party in Australia.

B: DIRECTION OF FEDERAL P.L.P. MEMBERS

(Adopted at 1948 Conference)

That this Executive reaffirms the decision made by the Federal Executive in April, 1937, namely, that the Executive declares that no State Executive may direct members of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party in regard to matters affecting the Federal Platform and/or proposed legislation which the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party has to deal with in legislature, and the Executive now further declares that no State Executive may direct members of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party in regard to any matters the subject of consideration by any meeting of members of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party.

C: MEMBERS INITIATING LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

(Adopted at 1955 Conference)

This Conference resolves that as a general principle it cannot concede the right of any member of the Party to initiate legal proceedings for the purpose of establishing the constitutional behaviour of the Labor Movement. We emphasise that, with a few isolated exceptions, the history of our Party discloses we have
functioned on a basis of complete determination in accordance with our own rules and our own interpretation of them. We insist we must continue to create our own procedures, taking care of our own business without the introduction of lawyers and law courts.

**D: UNIFORM TAXATION**

*(Adopted at 1957 Conference)*

Conference reaffirms that the system of uniform taxation, if fairly and justly administered, is the best and most adequate system of serving the Australian people. This Conference of the Australian Labor Party emphatically declares that failure by the Menzies-Fadden Government to justly reimburse the States has caused friction in the working of the Federal system and seriously hindered the States in continuing and improving their various responsibilities.

Conference specifically condemns the discriminatory financial policy of the present Federal Government, which enables only the Commonwealth to finance many of their public works projects from “Revenue”, whilst demanding that all State public works programmes, including the building of schools and hospitals, and the provision of transport facilities (which in many instances are necessary only because of Federal policy, such as its Immigration) be financed from Loan funds involving high interest charges.

Conference therefore requests that a Committee comprising representatives of the Federal Executive, Federal Parliamentary Labor Party and leaders of the respective State Parliamentary Parties or their nominees be set up, which will forthwith examine ways and means of retaining the principles of uniform taxation while providing more flexible machinery for securing adequate reimbursements to the States, and enabling such Governments to carry out policies which are in the interests of the people and/or endorsed by them without restriction by the Commonwealth.

**E: UNION ELECTIONS**

1955 CONFERENCE DECISION INDUSTRIAL GROUPS

Conference endorses the decision of the Federal Executive in removing political recognition of Industrial Groups in Victoria in the belief that such recognition has materially assisted in group organisation entering fields other than those intended by their founders. It is emphasised that this decision of the Executive does not disband Industrial Groups. No authority is possessed by the Executive to so disband.

In respect to the question of Group organisation generally, official A.L.P. recognition shall be withdrawn by all State Branches. State Branches shall be requested to conduct an educational campaign to expose the international Communist conspiracy against democratic Trade Unionism and democratic forms of Government.

We are of the opinion that any form of industrial organisation designed to combat Communist activity in the unions should be a matter for the sole determination of the members of the unions concerned.

Conference reaffirms its complete opposition to Communism and all forms of totalitarianism, and emphasises that only a strong united Labor Movement can prevent the growth of these evils.

1957 CONFERENCE DECISION

*(Adoption of Federal Executive Report)*

At the Executive meeting held in Canberra on September 10, 1956, the following question was referred to the officers to make a recommendation —

“Does a member of the Labor Party commit an offence against this Party if he permits his name to appear on a How-to-Vote ticket with a member of the Communist Party or any other Party opposed to the Labor Party?”
The officers' recommendation was as follows—

“The answer to this question lies in an interpretation of the decision of the 1948 Federal Conference, which reads as follows: ‘No Communist auxiliary or subsidiary can be associated with the Labor Party in any activity and no Labor Party Branch or member can co-operate with the Communist Party.’

“The Executive's interpretation of this decision is that any member of the Labor Party who agrees to join with members of the Communist Party and/or any other Party opposed to Labor on any How-to-Vote tickets commits an offence against this Party.

“We therefore direct State Branches to protect the policy of the Party by taking action against any members who so offend.”

1959 CONFERENCE DECISION

We declare that, in accordance with democratic ideals of the Australian Labor Party, there should be no interference with the internal affairs of the Trade Unions, and that members of Unions in accordance with the Rules should have complete freedom to nominate for office.

Conference is aware of the blatant interference by Liberal Q.L.P. and D.L.P., and particularly the Communist Party with full-time organisers constantly seeking to place Communist members in responsible Trade Union positions.

We declare it is the responsibility of all A.L.P. members to ensure that the Trade Unions remain in control of Executives sympathetic to and supporting A.L.P. policy.

Conference reaffirms previous decisions of the Hobart and Brisbane Conferences in respect to Unity Tickets, and warns members that on no occasion can they allow their names to be associated with members of any other political party on any How-to-Vote Ticket.

Any member breaking this policy must be summoned before the respective State Executives and, failing a satisfactory explanation, dealt with in accordance with the Rules.

1963 CONFERENCE DECISION

Conference believes that industrial legislation should provide for trade unions to properly determine their own internal policies in accordance with their rules and constitutions, and deplores interference in Trade Union activities by any Government, outside individuals or organisations. Conference accordingly calls upon all trade unionists to refrain from interference in the internal affairs of another Trade Union.

1965 CONFERENCE DECISION

Conference reaffirms existing Party Policy on Unity Tickets, and further declares—

1. Any member of the Australian Labor Party shall be guilty of an offence if he consents to his name appearing on a Unity Ticket or if he associates in the formation or distribution of a Unity Ticket as defined.

2. A Unity Ticket shall mean a How-to-Vote guide or other election material in an election for Trade Union office where A.L.P. members appear with members of another political party for the purpose of securing a common result.

3. Where such ticket appears in any State, the State Secretary or other appropriate officer shall, on becoming aware of it and without delay, call upon the member/s concerned to explain their position.

4. Where an A.L.P. member claims that his name has appeared without his knowledge or consent, he shall sign a Statutory Declaration to that effect, and the State Secretary or his Deputy shall cause such Statutory Declaration to be inserted in at least one daily newspaper circulating in the area concerned and the appropriate Trade Union Journal.

5. Failure or refusal by the member concerned shall be accepted as his guilt, and he shall be expelled from the Party subject to appeal to his State Con-
ference or the Federal Executive, provided that the Federal Executive may review the decision of a State Conference relative to an appeal.

6. Where there is doubt as to the bona fides of the member signing the Statutory Declaration, the fullest investigation shall be undertaken by the State Branch concerned. Where guilt is established by this investigation he shall be expelled subject to the appeals procedures described in Paragraph (5).

7. All complaints of breaches of this rule, which come to the knowledge of officers of a State Branch, shall be immediately reported to the Federal Secretary, followed by a detailed report of action taken. The Federal Executive shall be responsible for ensuring the enforcement of this policy in every State.

8. In the event of the Federal Executive being dissatisfied with the State Branch Report, pursuant to the issue of an alleged Unity Ticket, the Federal Executive shall have authority to initiate an investigation into suspected Unity Tickets and to determine the question of guilt and the decision of the Federal Executive shall be binding on State Branches.

F: PEACE ORGANISATIONS
(Adopted at 1963 Conference)

That having regard for the reports submitted by State Branches on this question, the Federal Executive recommends to Conference —

1. That State Branches continue to watch the position in their respective States on the basis of the 1951 Conference decision and report to the Federal Executive any body which, in their opinion, is dominated by the Communist Party, and the Federal Executive shall take all action, in its judgement, which may be warranted. (The 1951 decision referred to, inter alia, is as follows: "The Labor Party defines from time to time bodies which are Communist influenced, and does not intend to discourage organisations genuinely concerned for peace, free from Communist influence."

2. The attention of Branches be drawn to the decision of the Party directed towards the establishment of vigorous peace bodies within the Constitution of the A.L.P., and members are expected to fully participate in their activities.

G: AUSTRALIAN SOVEREIGNTY
(Adopted at 1963 Conference)

Conference affirms that the Australian Federal and State Governments shall be supreme throughout the whole Commonwealth and its territories and that no other Government shall be given jurisdiction of any part thereof, whether for defence or any other purpose, and that the safeguards adopted by the Special Conference in March, 1963, be adopted as a general principle, i.e. —

(i) Australian sovereignty is maintained.
(ii) Australian citizens engaged at the station are subject to Australian law.

H: PENAL CLAUSES
(Adopted at 1963 Conference and re-affirmed in 1965 and 1967)

(a) Conference supports the A.C.T.U. policy on penal clauses.
(b) Conference affirms the right of workers to strike, and further a Labor Government be pledged to a complete redrafting of the Crimes Act, also the Penal Clauses of the Commonwealth Arbitration Act, with a view to having objectionable penal clauses and amendments repealed. This action to be taken in conjunction with the A.C.T.U.

I: MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL BENEFIT FUNDS
(Adopted at 1965 Conference and re-affirmed in 1967)

To ease the financial burden imposed by illness, the Labor Party will urge —

(a) The appointment of a Committee of Enquiry into existing Medical and Hospital Benefit Funds.
(b) Immediate action to ensure that funds pay a greater amount in benefits.
(c) The removal of anomalies from existing benefits.
(d) Benefits to be paid for the cost of para-medical services. Pensioner Medical Service to be available to all pensioners under the Commonwealth Social Services Act.

**J: NORTHERN AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT**

*(Adopted 1967 Federal Conference — re-affirmed 1969)*

**Creation of a Ministry for Northern Australian Development**

Labor believes that the development of the whole of North Australia is both necessary and urgent. Therefore the whole attention of a Minister should be devoted to it.

Co-operation and co-ordination with Queensland and Western Australia with respect to development will be achieved through the establishment of a *Northern Australian Development Organisation* consisting of Commonwealth and State Ministers concerned with the resources of Northern Australia, along the lines of the N.A.D.C. successfully established by the Chifley Government but abandoned by the Menzies Government.

**Water Resource Development**

Labor will immediately initiate a full scale investigation of the areas which have been devastated by droughts to ascertain the most feasible methods of assisting these areas from the viewpoint of large and small scale water storages.

**Proven Areas**

Priority will be given to the proven and established areas in coastal Queensland where huge economic losses are incurred in every major drought period and where the major share of Australia’s surface water is located but which is at present almost completely undeveloped.

The investigation and development of the Burnett, Fitzroy, Pioneer, Burdekin and Herbert River Systems will be undertaken on a national basis utilising the Snowy Mountains Authority in conjunction with State organisations.

**Pastoral Areas**

Labor will determine priorities for the steady development of water resources both for stock and agricultural purposes in the less developed and lower rainfall areas. Labor will honour the Commonwealth’s obligation to the West Australian and Northern Territory people and will ensure that the Ord River Project will be completed without delay.

**Power**

In the assessment and determination of water development action, top priority will be given to power projects urgently needed to promote industrialisation, particularly in Central and Northern Queensland where the basic resources for power generation are available.

**Priorities**

Priorities and programmes for water conservation projects for irrigation, power and flood mitigation will be a function of the N.A.D.O.

**Roads**

The implementation of a long-term fully co-ordinated road development programme taking into account the present and future requirements of the pastoral, agricultural processing and servicing industries. These development roads would broadly follow the priorities established by the Commonwealth Beef Roads Report.

**Long Term Development Finance**

(i) **Interest Rates**

The provision of realistic low rates of interest (2-3% p.a.) for long term development loans in line with successful policies followed by overseas Governments. (The present high rate of interest for development loans in Australia is the
result of the reluctance of the Government to compete with Private Banks, Private Lending Institutions and Hire Purchase Companies.)

(ii) Development Loan Funds

Labor will reconstitute the present ineffective Farm Loan Fund in order to provide a satisfactory policy to those applicants who possess sound financial propositions but who do not meet the rigid criteria of present banking policy. In addition the Fund will be expanded to cater for small secondary industries which are an essential part of regional development. This policy will involve the expansion of the Development Bank.

COMMONWEALTH-PRIVATE ENTERPRISES PARTNERSHIPS

In order to promote basic industrial development — e.g., steel, power, paper — Labor will not hesitate to take the initiative and, if necessary, will enter into partnership with private organisations which do not possess the necessary resources to initially finance the establishment of industry.

If it appears that the development of our natural resources — particularly mining — would be ruthlessly exploited by overseas interests, Labor will not hesitate to establish Commonwealth owned processing works.

TAX FREE PROVISIONS FOR PIONEERING INDUSTRIES

Labor will initiate income tax free provisions along the lines adopted in New Guinea and other developing countries to assist pioneering industries in Northern Australia during their initial development period. These tax free provisions will be administered within specific zonal areas.

REVISION OF ZONAL BOUNDARIES AND TAXATION ALLOWANCES

Labor will authorise a revision of the existing zonal boundaries in Northern Australia which are now completely outmoded. In addition a review of existing taxation allowances, social services and general living conditions within these particular zones will be made with the overall objective of alleviating the severe economic disabilities being encountered in these areas.

SUGAR INDUSTRY

Labor recognises that the sugar industry is the backbone of the economy of Northern Queensland. It will appoint a Committee of Enquiry to investigate whether this industry would be better served by expanding the functions of the Australian Sugar Board so as to give cane producers greater responsibility in the production and marketing of raw and refined sugar. The Committee of Enquiry would be given full powers to investigate the costs of refining sugar and the establishment of new refineries in North Queensland.

The Committee will also report on the practicability and desirability of giving the responsibility for the sale of export sugar to the expanded Australian Sugar Board as compared with the present practice of allowing the C.S.R. Company to have a complete monopoly of the sale of export sugar.

PERCENTAGE OF ANNUAL BUDGET TO BE DEVOTED TO NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

Labor will demonstrate its genuineness to assist in the systematic development of Queensland, Western Australia and the Northern Territory by making provision for a permanent allocation in each Budget for development work. This allocation will be tied to a specific percentage of an economic measure in the Budget which will thus remove northern development from the atmosphere of emotionalism and general political pressures. The provision of an annual floor allocation will allow both Commonwealth and State Governments to plan for the steady growth of the northern areas.

TROPICAL UNIVERSITY

The Townsville University could lead the world as a training ground for tropical disciplines particularly post-graduate work in tropical livestock, pastures, marine science and engineering. If we are to successfully undertake northern develop-
ment. University facilities must be available to train students — particularly those who live in these areas.

**FINANCE**

Portion of the funds required for a steady rate of northern development will come from current and future repayments being made by the States for development projects. Funds from these repayments would form a *Development Revolving Fund*.

**TOURISM**

That depreciation be an allowable income tax reduction on approved tourist resort projects.

Approved tourist resort developments be eligible for long term finance within the provisions of the development bank.

**K: FOREIGN CAPITAL**

*(Adopted 1967 Federal Conference)*

(a) Conference declares that the Government should restrict the flow of overseas capital into Australia to the creation of new industries and not for the absorption of existing industries.

(b) That the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party be requested to investigate charges made recently at the opening of Edgell's new production centre at Dubbo, N.S.W., to the effect that the inroads of overseas interests into the Australian food industry have reached alarming proportions, that many manufactured food products displayed in Australian stores are produced in enterprises owned and controlled by foreign companies, and that the profits derived from the sale of such goods are diverted from Australia and Australians to the coffers of investors residing in other lands. We declare that these charges, if true, are indicative of a gross abuse of foreign capital investment in Australia, and constitute an indictment of the Holt Government's policy of encouraging uncontrolled financial exploitation of Australia by overseas companies.
THE RULES AND STANDING ORDERS

of the

Federal Conference of the Australian Labor Party

(As amended by the 1969 Commonwealth Conference — Melbourne)

FEDERAL CONFERENCE RULES

1. NAME

The name of the party shall be “The Australian Labor Party”.

2. OBJECTIVE

The Democratic Socialisation of Industry, Production, Distribution and Exchange — to the extent necessary to eliminate exploitation and other anti-social features in those fields — in accordance with the Principles of Action, Methods and Progressive Reforms set out in the Party Platform from time to time.

3. HEAD OFFICE

The Head Office of the Party shall be established in any one of the Australian capital cities, as determined from time to time by the Federal Executive of the Party.

4. COMPOSITION

The Party shall consist of State Labor Parties, The Northern Territory (hereinafter referred to as State Branches) and other branches established in Commonwealth Territories, as constituted from time to time and approved by the Federal Conference of the Party.

5. STRUCTURE OF PARTY ORGANISATION

(a) The Party shall function upon the following basis —
    (i) Federal Conference;
    (ii) Federal Executive;
    (iii) Federal Parliamentary Labor Party;
    (iv) Federal Labor Women’s Organisation.

(b) The Federal Conference shall be the supreme governing authority of the Party and its decisions shall be binding upon every member and every section of the Party.

(c) The Federal Executive shall be the chief administrative authority of the Party, subject only to Federal Conference.

(d) The Federal Parliamentary Labor Party shall have authority in properly constituted Caucus meetings to make decisions directed towards establishing the collective attitude of the Parliamentary Party to any question or matter in the Federal Parliament, subject to —
    (i) At all times taking such action which may be possible to implement the Party’s Platform and Conference decisions;
    (ii) on questions or matters which are not subject to Federal Platform or Conference or Executive decisions, the majority decision of Caucus being binding upon all members in the Parliament;
    (iii) no attitude being expressed which is contrary to the provisions of the Party Platform or any other decision of Federal Conference or Federal Executive.

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(e) The Federal Labor Women’s Organisation, the Australian Capital Territory and the Young Labor Association shall function in accordance with the rules that may be approved from time to time by the Federal Executive and subject to its control and jurisdiction.

6. **Convening Federal Conference**

(a) (i) Each State Branch shall be entitled to send seven (7) delegates to the Federal Conference, one of whom shall be the State Parliamentary Leader or his nominee as approved by the State Executive.

(ii) The Northern Territory Executive shall be entitled to send one (1) delegate to the Federal Conference.

(iii) The Australian Capital Territory shall be entitled to send one (1) delegate to the Federal Conference.

(iv) The Young Labor Association shall be entitled to send one (1) delegate to the Federal Conference.

(v) The Leader and Deputy Leader of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party and the Leader and Deputy Leader in the Senate shall be seated at Federal Conference as full delegates.

(b) Ordinary Conferences shall be held once in each two years, and the venue shall be determined by the Federal Executive, which shall have regard to the claims of all States.

(c) Special Conferences may be held for specially stated purposes, and shall be called in the manner prescribed by these Rules.

(d) (i) The Federal President need not be a delegate to Federal Conference but Conference Standing Orders shall provide that where the President is not a delegate he shall have full powers of speech, but no vote.

(ii) The General Secretary shall not be a delegate to Conference, but shall have full powers of speech, but no vote.

(e) The Federal Secretary, after receiving instructions from the convening authority, shall observe the following procedure for the purpose of establishing Conference agenda —

(i) Give the following bodies three months’ notice to send items for inclusion on the agenda: State Branches, Federal Labor Women’s Organisation, the Australian Capital Territory, and the Young Labor Association, and Federal Trade Unions, provided that all State Branches of the unions are affiliated with the Party in each State.

(ii) Send printed copies of the agenda and any other documents related to Conference that may be in his possession one (1) month before Conference meets to the bodies referred to in the preceding paragraph.

(iii) No item shall be placed upon the Agenda unless it has been approved by a State Conference, State Executive, Conference of Labor Women’s Organisation, Conference of the Young Labor Association, Conference of the Australian Capital Territory, Federal Executive or a Federal Trade Union, whose State Branches are affiliated with the party in each State.

7. **Federal Executive**

(a) The Federal Executive of the Party, which shall be the chief administrative authority, subject only to Federal Conference, shall be constituted in the following manner:—

(i) Two delegates from each State Branch and one delegate from the Northern Territory Executive, and one delegate from the Australian Capital Territory.

Each State Branch and the Northern Territory shall determine the method of selection of its representatives and may take any action to ensure full representation at all meetings of the Executive by proxy delegates when original delegates are unable to attend.
(ii) The President, unless he is otherwise elected a delegate with the full rights of a delegate except that of voting.
(iii) The General Secretary shall not be a delegate but shall have the full rights of a delegate except that of voting.
(iv) The Leader and Deputy Leader of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party and the Leader and Deputy Leader in the Senate.

(b) (i) Officers of the Party —
The Federal Executive shall elect the following officers:
President;
Senior Vice-President;
Junior Vice-President;
Treasurer.

(ii) The President, Vice-Presidents and Treasurer shall be elected at the first meeting commencing after May 31st in each year, and shall hold office until the first meeting commencing after May 31st in the following year.

(iii) The Secretary shall be the permanent officer of the Federal Executive, subject to good conduct, satisfactory performances of duty and adherence to the policy and objects of the Party. His services shall be terminable by the Federal Executive or by the Secretary by one month’s notice by either party. In the event of a vacancy occurring in the position of General Secretary, the Federal Executive may appoint an Acting Secretary, who shall hold office until the next Conference is held, when the position shall be filled by Conference.

(iv) The Federal Executive shall elect each year a person to fill the office of Treasurer, who shall serve in an honorary capacity.

(c) Powers and Duties of Federal Executive —
Decisions of the Federal Executive shall be binding upon all sections and members of the A.L.P. subject only to appeal to Federal Conference. The Federal Executive shall:

(i) Be the administrative authority carrying out the decisions of Federal Conference, and in the interpretation of any Conference decision, the Federal Platform and the Constitution and Rules of the Party, and the direction of Federal Members.

(ii) Convene ordinary Federal Conferences in accordance with these rules.

(iii) Convene Special Conferences when requested by not less than four State Branches for special purpose/s providing that such purpose/s is/are Federal in character. The Federal Executive may also, on its own motion, convene such Conferences.

(iv) Meet at least three times a year, and at such other times as the Executive may determine, for the purpose of considering and determining all matters that are properly before it. Subject to these Rules, only State Branches, Federal Parliamentary Labor Party, Labor Women’s Organisation, and those Federal Trade Unions whose State Branches are affiliated to the Party in each State, shall be competent to send matters to the Federal Executive. The Executive shall determine the time and place of all meetings.

(v) Initiate discussion on any question of a Federal nature if a majority of the Executive so decides.

(vi) (a) The Federal Executive shall be competent to hear and decide appeals from any affiliated organisation or individual member against the decision of any State Conference or State Executive alleged to be inconsistent with any Federal decision or matter.

(b) Where any member or affiliated organisation desires to appeal to the Federal Executive on a question which does not involve
any Federal decision or matter, leave to appeal must first be obtained from the State Branch concerned.

(c) The Federal Executive shall hear and decide an appeal from any person seeking to be a candidate for Federal Elections against a decision of any State Conference or State Executive affecting his preselection or endorsement, providing that leave to appeal is granted by the Federal Executive. Such leave to appeal is not to be granted except by a decision in which 10 members vote affirmatively.

(vii) Have plenary powers to deal with and decide any matters which, in the opinion of at least nine members of the Executive, affect the general welfare of the Labor Movement, provided that no decision of Federal Conference shall be abrogated under this rule.

(viii) In the case of any State Executive, State Branch or section of the A.L.P. acting or having acted in a manner deemed by the Federal Executive to be contrary to the Federal Constitution, Platform and Policy of the Party as interpreted by the Federal Executive, the Federal Executive may over-rule such State Executive, State Branch or Section, and/or may declare that same no longer exists, and shall set up in place thereof organisation competent to carry out the Federal Constitution, Platform and Policy of the Australian Labor Party. Pending the hearing of any appeal, the decision of the Federal Executive shall operate. In the event of the Federal Executive taking any action under this sub-clause, the Federal Executive shall be the body to approve any selection which otherwise would have been made by the body affected by the Federal Executive decision.

8. DUTIES OF PRESIDENT
The President, when available, shall attend and preside over all meetings of the Federal Executive and conduct such meetings on the basis of the Standing Orders as applicable to Federal Conference. The President may carry out any other duties that the Executive may deem fit.

9. DUTIES OF VICE-PRESIDENTS
The Vice-Presidents, in order of seniority, shall take the Chair in the absence of the President, and shall perform any other duties that may be referred to them by the Executive.

10. FINANCE
(a) To meet the general expenses of the Party, each State Branch shall pay to the Federal Executive, through the Secretary, a sum in each year representing $32 per thousand male members and $16 per thousand female and junior members. The total due shall be paid in four quarterly instalments, viz., 1st January, 1st April, 1st July and 1st October.

(b) In the event of a State Branch being six months in arrears in its contributions to the Party, the Federal Executive may decide that such Branch shall not be entitled to be represented at any meeting of the Federal Executive or Federal Conference, or be consulted on any question that may be subject to a ballot of State Branches, until such arrears are paid.

(c) State Branches represented at Federal Conference shall be financially responsible for their delegations.

(d) Subject to any recommendation to Federal Conference by Federal Executive, State Branches shall, with the exception of Western Australia, pay all expenses incurred by their delegates. In the case of W.A., the Executive shall meet 50 per cent. of such expenses.

(e) The Federal Executive shall meet the expenses of the Federal President attending Federal Conference and the expenses of any officers associated with any duty being carried out on behalf of the Federal Executive.
(f) Each State Executive shall pay to the Federal Executive not later than December 31st of each year the further sum of 0.21c per member for international affiliations or activities associated therewith.

(g) The Federal Officers together with the Federal Leader and the Deputy Leader shall constitute a Finance Committee over which the Treasurer shall preside, and that this Committee submit to Executive meeting statements of receipts and expenditure.

(h) The Federal Executive shall, from time to time, determine the manner in which the Party's accounts shall be operated, including the signatories to the Party's bank accounts.

11. PLATFORM REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Officers of the Federal Executive, together with the Officers of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party, shall act as a Platform Review Committee and further act as a consultative body for the purpose of removing misunderstandings provided that no action shall be taken to disturb the constitutional functions of each body.

12. FEDERAL PARLIAMENTARY LABOR PARTY

(i) No State Executive may direct members of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party in regard to matters affecting the Federal Platform or policy or upon legislation before the Parliament or any matters the subject of consideration by the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party.

(ii) The power of direction, advice and/or guidance is reserved for the Federal Conference and, between conferences, the Federal Executive.

(iii) No State Branch shall approach the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party except through the General Secretary who will report to the Federal Executive on any action taken.

FEDERAL CONFERENCE STANDING ORDERS

CHAIRMAN OF CONFERENCE

1. The Federal President shall preside over Conference with the power of speech, but no vote. In his absence the senior officer present shall preside. If no Officers are present a Chairman shall be appointed by and from Conference. Such appointment shall not disturb the full voting powers of the delegate so appointed.

SESSION TIMES

2. Conference shall meet each day from —
   9.30 a.m. to 12.45 p.m., and
   2.15 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.,
subject to Conference at any time, determining on motion or amendment without debate, and without rescission of any previous decision as to meeting times, to meet at any other times.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

3. The order of business shall be as follows —
   (a) Reading and confirmation of minutes;
   (b) reports;
   (c) correspondence;
   (d) Agenda items;
subject to Conference, at any time on motion without debate, determining some other order of business.

4. No discussion shall be allowed except on motion or amendment duly proposed and seconded.

5. Any member desiring to propose a motion or amendment, or to discuss any matter under consideration, must rise and address the Chair. No member shall address the Conference unless called by the Chairman.
6. All questions shall be determined in the following manner —
   (a) The mover of the motion shall have seven minutes to present argument
       in support of his motion and five minutes to reply.
   (b) The seconder of such motion, and all other speakers, shall be limited to
       five minutes.
   (c) The Movers and Seconders of Motions and Amendments must exercise
       the right to speak at the time of moving and not subsequently subject to
       the right of reply by the Mover of the Motion.
   (d) Conference on motion without debate may extend the time of any
       speaker; such extension of time shall not exceed five minutes. Conference
       may agree to further extensions on the same basis.
   (e) The Chairman shall call attention to the time of all speakers one minute
       before such time expires. Motions for extensions may be made when the
       Chairman so calls, but not later.
   (f) After the motion has been moved and seconded, and no speaker rises to
       oppose or move an amendment, the Chairman shall proceed to put such
       motion to a vote of Conference.
   (g) All votes of Conference shall be subject to the following procedure —
       (i) The Chairman shall call upon those who support the question to
           say Aye, and those who are opposed to say No;
       (ii) he shall then declare the question carried or lost.
   (h) Any delegate not satisfied with the Chairman’s decision may, by standing
       in his place, call for a show of hands. The Chairman shall proceed to
       determine the question by calling upon those who support the motion
to raise their right hands, and those opposed to act similarly. The
Chairman shall appoint two tellers to take the count and they shall
be representative of the opposing viewpoints. When the tellers are
agreed upon their count the Chairman shall declare the result by quoting
the figures for and against.
   (i) Any delegate not satisfied with the count as declared by the Chairman
may, by standing in his place, call for a division. If supported by not
less than seven other delegates standing in their places, the Chairman
shall proceed to conduct a division. This shall be done by the Chairman
calling upon all delegates who support the question to leave their places
and stand on his right. He shall then call upon those who oppose, to
stand on his left. He shall appoint two tellers representative of the
opposing viewpoints to count the delegates so standing. When the
tellers are agreed upon their count the Chairman shall declare the result
by quoting the figures for and against.
   (j) The names of all delegates participating in a division shall be recorded
in the minutes.
   (k) When any question voted upon by Conference results in equal numbers
for and against, the Chairman shall declare such question lost.
   (l) Any motion or amendment affecting the Pledge, Platform or Constitution
of the Party shall be declared lost if less than a majority of delegates
credentialled to the Conference vote for it.

AMENDMENTS

7. (a) At any time during debate on any motion it shall be competent for any
delegate to move an amendment. All amendments must be seconded.
Motions may be amended by adding words, by deleting words, by deleting
words and inserting others in their place. Providing that the effect of any
proposed amendment is not to establish a direct negative to the question
contained in the motion.
   (b) Any number of amendments may be proposed and discussed simultaneously
with the original motion, notwithstanding Standing Order 13. At the close of debate amendments shall be put in the order they have
been moved.
8. No member shall speak more than once to any question before the Chair, unless by way of personal explanation or with the consent of Conference. Such consent shall not be given unless by a majority of those present.

9. At any time during debate on any question it shall be competent for the Chairman to accept a motion "that the question be now put" or "that the question be adjourned". Provided at least two speakers have spoken for and against. A member having spoken to the question shall not be competent so to move. Such motions shall be immediately put without debate, provided that in the event of Conference agreeing "that the question be now put" the mover of the original motion shall have the right of reply.

10. On Conference agreeing "that the question be now put" it shall mean not only the question contained in the motion, but in any and all amendments.

11. No question shall be debated for a longer period than one and a half hours, subject to Conference agreeing on motion or amendment put without debate to extend such time. A two-thirds majority of those present shall be required to approve any such extension.

12. Motions directed towards the re-consideration of any decision reached by Conference shall fail unless carried by a three-fourths majority of the delegates credentialled to Conference.

13. Not more than two delegates in succession shall speak for or against any question.

14. All questions involving an interpretation of policy on any section of the Platform or the direction of members of the Parliament in accordance with the principles and methods of the Party, shall be subject to decision by Conference on the basis of these standing orders and not by a ruling of the President.

15. Questions other than those contained on the Agenda shall not be discussed unless agreed to by two-thirds of the delegates credentialled to Conference, and no delegate shall canvass the subject matter of the proposed new business when seeking Conference approval for discussion of same.

16. Rulings given by the Chairman on any question shall be subject to motion calling upon Conference to disagree with any ruling. In the event of such motion, the mover shall be permitted not more than five minutes to support the motion and the Chairman shall be permitted not more than five minutes to defend his ruling. There shall be no other speakers. The Vice-President or any other delegate appointed by Conference shall occupy the Chair during the currency of such motion.
THE CONSTITUTION AND RULES

of the

FEDERAL LABOR WOMEN'S ORGANISATION

COMPOSITION
1. State Labor Women's organisations as approved by the respective State Executives of the Party in each State.

OBJECTS
2. (a) Promote the organisation of women in the Australian Labor Party.
(b) Educate women politically and industrially.
(c) Co-ordinate the work of women members of the Australian Labor Party.
(d) Pay special attention to the interests of women and children. Support and advocate the Constitution and Platform of the Australian Labor Party, as set out by the Federal and State Conferences of the A.L.P. and to consider and decide (subject to the Constitution and principles aforementioned) questions which affect the Labor Women of the Commonwealth as a whole.

EXECUTIVE BODY
3. An Executive body shall be established consisting of a President, two Vice-Presidents (senior and junior), a Secretary-Treasurer, who shall be known as the Officers, and one representative from each State where such State does not provide any one of the officers named herein.

The Executive shall be elected by the Federal Labor Women's Conference, and any member of the Labor Women's organisation with not less than one year's membership shall be eligible.

EXECUTIVE MEETINGS
4. (a) The Executive shall meet at least once in each year.
(b) The President shall convene special meetings when requested by a majority of the Executive to do so.
(c) Special meetings shall be held if four State Labor Women's Organisations so petition the President.
(d) A majority of the Executive shall constitute a quorum.

POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE
5. The Executive shall be empowered to deal with —
(a) Matters referred to it by:
   (i) State Labor Women's Organisations.
   (ii) The Federal Executive of the A.L.P.
   (iii) The Labor Women's Federal Conference.
(b) Any matter of an urgent nature, providing that the urgency of any such matter shall be determined by a majority of the Executive, either assembled in meeting or by telegraphic or postal vote.
(c) Organise Federal Labor Women's Conferences in accordance with the requirements of these Rules.
(d) (i) Upon approval being granted by the Federal Executive A.L.P. arrange for representation on other conferences which may be convened by other organisations having similar objects to the Labor Women’s Organisation.

(ii) The methods to determine such representation shall be as follows: Where time permits, nominations shall be invited from the State Labor Women’s Organisations, to be received by a returning officer appointed by the Executive. A ballot, if necessary, to be conducted by the returning officer at the next Federal Labor Women’s Conference. Where time does not permit, the Executive shall make the selection.

(iii) Any member of the Labor Women’s Organisation with not less than one (1) year’s membership shall be eligible for selection.

(e) Arrange for representation on national and international bodies on the principles and methods laid down in (d) hereof.

FEDERAL CONFERENCE

6. (a) A Federal Conference of Labor Women shall be held every two years.

(b) The time and place of the Conference shall be determined by the Executive.

(c) State Labor Women’s Organisations shall be notified by the Secretary-Treasurer of the time and place of such Conference not later than three months prior to the opening of the Conference.

(d) The convening notice shall also call for items to be placed upon the Conference agenda, and shall be in the hands of the Secretary-Treasurer not later than one month prior to the opening of Conference.

(e) Conference items received after the time specified in (d) hereof shall be placed in the category of “Late Items” and Conference shall determine whether such items will be considered.

(f) Conference shall consist of three representatives from each State, providing that where any State is not able to send three representatives, but sends a lesser number, the lesser number shall be empowered to exercise the full voting strength of the State of three votes.

(g) A quorum shall consist of representatives from a majority of those States which are eligible and have signified their intention to be represented.

(h) Special Conferences shall be called if a majority of States with Labor Women’s Organisations petition the President for this purpose.

FINANCE

7. (a) For the purpose of financing the Federal Labor Women’s Organisation each State Labor Women’s Organisation shall contribute not less than ten dollars ($10) per annum.

(b) The Officers authorised to operate the Banking Account of the Federal Labor Women’s Organisation shall be the President, the Secretary and two trustees. Funds may be drawn over the signatures of the Secretary and one of the remaining three officers appointed.

8. Any member of the Federal Executive of the A.L.P. shall have the right to be present at any Conference of the Federal Labor Women’s Organisation in the capacity of an observer.

9. The Secretary of the Federal Executive shall be advised of the election of Officers of the Federal Labor Women’s Organisation.

 ADMINISTRATION DECISIONS

The following decisions were adopted by the 1969 Federal Conference in relation to the future functioning of the Federal Secretariat and Federal Executive Policy Committees:

1. Notwithstanding Rule 7 (b) (iii) the part-time Federal Secretary continue in office pending further consideration by the Federal Executive after consultation with the State Branches.

2. That the Federal Executive be empowered to investigate affiliations with Socialist Parties both on a world and Asian regional basis, and implement any necessary action after completion of such investigation.