MANIFESTO of the
REPUBLICAN PARTY of AUSTRALIA
for the FEDERAL ELECTION
SATURDAY, MARCH 24th, 1990

The following PHILOSOPHICAL STATEMENT & PARTY PLATFORM is printed in green for very good reasons. What follows is a "greenprint" for Australia's future. For it is THE FUTURE that we are about. Our candidature in Election '90 is a stepping stone to Election '93 & beyond. Real issues are addressed. We deem ourselves to be the Harsh Reality Party &/or Hard Options Party - Australian Patriots - catalysts for responsible change. We have been formed since January, 1982 and we have contested several House of Representatives by-elections (LOWE & FLINDERS in 1982; ADELAIDE, GROOM & OXLEY in 1988) and three Senate elections (in 1983, 1984 & 1987) in between. So we are not a "here today - gone tomorrow" outfit. On one occasion we were instrumental in determining an Election outcome - the 1987 Victorian Senate election. Whether or not we carry any influence in Election '90 is immaterial. The REPUBLICAN PARTY of AUSTRALIA is "being there & doing that," so to speak. And just how progressive & alternative are we?

We champion: CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM — we have a 32 point platform — a lot of which is included inside.

DEVOLUTION & INTERCHANGE of GOVERNMENT POWERS
ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTALISM & LIFESTYLES
ZERO POPULATION GROWTH
VERY MUCH RESTRICTED IMMIGRATION — a net 10,000 per annum
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS REFORM — to strengthen the Small & Middle Business sectors — see inside for details
MICRO-ECONOMIC REFORM — to the extent necessary
FULL DE-REGULATION of the LABOUR MARKET
UNIFORM NATIONAL LAWS & INDUSTRIAL AWARDS
LEGALISING but CONTROLLING the DISTRIBUTION of all DRUGS of DEPENDENCE
RE-REGULATION of the FINANCIAL SYSTEM
The PRINCIPLES & VALUES of HUMANISM & INDIVIDUALISM — see full statement (opposite column)
which incorporates our Civil Liberties stand
INTERNATIONALISM — let's advance "The Australian Way!"

PRACTICALISM over PRAGMATISM
NATIONAL PLANNING in the NATIONAL INTEREST — not Sectional/Parochial interests
DECENTRALISATION — our Regional Co-Operative Government Plan shows how!
COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL from the ANZUS TREATY
ARMED NEUTRALITY — let's be the "Switzerland of the Pacific & Indian Oceanic Hemisphere!"

It's patently clear that we are a "Thinking Voters Party" — not a Single Issue Party or some such grouping.

THE AFFIRMATION OF HUMANISM:

A Statement of Principles and Values

We are committed to the application of reason and science to the understanding of the universe and to the solving of human problems.

We deplore efforts to denigrate human intelligence, to seek to explain the world in supernatural terms, and to look outside nature for salvation.

We believe that scientific discovery and technology can contribute to the betterment of human life.

We believe in an open and pluralistic society and that democracy is the best guarantee of protecting human rights from authoritarian elites and repressive majorities.

We are committed to the principle of the separation of church and state.

We cultivate the arts of negotiation and compromise as a means of resolving differences and achieving mutual understanding.

We are concerned with securing justice and fairness in society and with eliminating discrimination and intolerance.

We believe in supporting the disadvantaged and the handicapped so that they will be able to help themselves. We attempt to transcend divisive parochial loyalties based on race, religion, gender, nationality, creed, class, or ethnicity, and strive to work together for the common good of humanity.

We want to protect and enhance the earth, to preserve it for future generations, and to avoid inflicting needless suffering on other species.

We believe in enjoying life here and now and in developing our creative talents to their fullest.

We believe in the cultivation of moral excellence.

We respect the right to privacy. Mature adults should be allowed to fulfill their aspirations, to express their sexual preferences, to exercise reproductive freedom, to have access to comprehensive and informed health-care, and to die with dignity.

We believe in the common moral decencies: altruism, integrity, honesty, truthfulness, responsibility. Humanist ethics is amenable to critical, rational guidance. There are normative standards that we discover together. Moral principles are tested by their consequences.

We are deeply concerned with the moral education of our children. We want to nourish reason and compassion.

We are engaged by the arts no less than by the sciences.

We are citizens of the universe and are excited by discoveries still to be made in the cosmos.

We are skeptical of untested claims to knowledge, and we are open to novel ideas and seek new departures in our thinking.

We affirm humanism as a realistic alternative to theologies of despair and ideologies of violence and as a source of rich personal significance and genuine satisfaction in the service to others.

We believe in optimism rather than pessimism, hope rather than despair, learning in the place of dogma, truth instead of ignorance, joy rather than guilt or sin, tolerance in the place of fear, love instead of hatred, compassion over selfishness, beauty instead of ugliness, and reason rather than blind faith or irrationality.

We believe in the fullest realization of the best and noblest that we are capable of as human beings.

UNOFFICIAL REFERENDUM

To the Question: "SHOULD AUSTRALIA BECOME A REPUBLIC" . . .

The "answer" is "YES" so Vote 1 for your REPUBLICAN candidates in New South Wales
(the Senate & Representatives Seat of Grayndler) or Queensland (the Senate & Representatives Seat of McPherson)
1. THE AUSTRALIAN ECONOMY

Since the Labor Government came to Office 7 years ago (a) Labor has kept the Yen at a dollar parity, and a foreign debt has grown from a relatively manageable SA $35 billion to a chronic SA $142 billion i.e. it has QUADRUPLED! or has grown by more than four times. (b) The Yen has been a dollar for every month of the 84 months they’ve been there. Our foreign debt under the Labor Government has become so pressing that (a) our economic sovereignty has eroded to the point where Japan now has an effective veto over our foreign investments. (b) We have the highest under-lying rate of inflation in the industrialized world at (at least) 8%. (c) We are just one of 7 Leste and Hawke’s Labor Government we have become the “poor white trash” of our trading region—second class citizens of the Pacific rim. A January 1990 report in the respected British magazine “THE ECONOMIST” stated: “A major reason for Australia’s corporate problems was that when the Labor Government did get control of one part of the financial system in the early 1980’s, it had ignored a range of loopholes that remained in another. By not retaining sufficient regulatory controls & fuging the nexus between the financial system and the labour market, the Labor Government has presided over an enormously serious inflation situation which is forcing the managing of the debt situation harder. It is an increasingly unsustainable current account position— we are, indeed, living on a shoestring, our “short term survival”. The Hawke Labor Government wants to further fuel the inflationary pressures via the Accord Mark 6, (which incidentally, is the first such deal “stitched together” during an election). “Safety First” measures which guarantee a form of full indexation that is meaningless. The Accord measures which generated income or make transactions on all goods 8% on hard alcohol beverages, 36% on cigarettes, 18% on lottery tickets and tobacco, 27% on tobacco, 27% on tobacco, 27% on tobacco. The Taxation system thereby has to be heavily loaded & simplified. The best way to simplify our budgeting reveals 80% of our income tax is levied on a very narrow basis, 70% of the 1989-1990 total tax the Hawke Government has to judge the success of the tax regime, it is using the ACCC when we assert that further legislation is necessary to solve the industrial problem and we therefore advocate an ecologically sustainable forest plan for Australia which would:

- Protect the National Estate;
- Urge the Federal Government to take action on inclusive national forestry, therefore necessary steps to overcome State decisions;
- Increase the level of RECYCLING both personally and commercially (including newsprint);
- Increase the planting of eucalypts for both pulp and sawlogs;
- Replace paper and pulp imports with environmentally sound (non bleached) paper products;
- Reduce wasteful uses of paper and timber.

2. THE ENVIRONMENT

We Republicans are as “green” on Environmental & Ecological issues as any other party if not more so. Our environment policies would include the following:

- No inroads or tree felling in declared virgin forests, National Parks or World Heritage areas. And no exploration or mining in these areas either (let’s protect our remaining wild rivers, rainforests, wilderness areas, marine life, undertake grand scale afforestation programs to satisfy our timber requirements (the National Nursery Plan). Let’s work & compromise in dealing with fauna & flora on the utmost practicable extent. Also, let’s combat soil erosion and promote agricultural biology & organic farming methods to the nth degree. Let’s study, learn from the “Green Anthropology” and practise “greening”. Let’s support caring ecologist movements & “Trees on Farms” and “Greening Australia”.

A forest is a complex living community. Its canopy is a blanket which protects a teeming army of life below. Independent pollution critics (birds, mammals, insects, reptiles and plants dwell within the forest. The soil that forms the forest floor contains a multitude of invertebrates, bacteria, fungi which play an essential role in cycling nutrients in the soil and the forest. Forests are important to our survival. They provide us with clean water and prevent soil erosion. They act as a storehouse of carbon which, if cut down, burnt or destroyed, leads to greenhouse gases being released into the atmosphere. Our forests are also a place of respite from the hustle and bustle of everyday living. We are at one with the ACF when we assert that further logging of native forests is necessary to solve the timber industry’s problems and we therefore advocate an ecologically sustainable forest plan for Australia which would:

- Protect the National Estate;
- Urge the Federal Government to take action on inclusive national forestry, therefore necessary steps to overcome State decisions;
5. THE MULTIFUNCTION POLIS
We favour it sitting at Badgery’s Creek, New South Wales.

6. THE 3rd RUNWAY AT MASCOT
We favour it whilst the new Badgery’s Creek airport is fast tracked to (a) serve the same ends as London’s Gatwick Airport & (b) make the MFP project internationally viable.

7. NEW INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT at DARWIN (the front door to Australia) – we’re for it.

8. MEDIUM DENSITY HOUSING...
...to contain land costs and reduce urban sprawl of cities e.g. Sydney & Brisbane – we’re for it.

9. TOURISM INDUSTRY STIMULATION...
(a) We want Departure Tax abolished
(b) we want Penalties Rates for workers dispensed with &
(c) we hold that there is to be continuous Government marketing to maintain Australia as an entity and existing place for overseas residents to want to visit.

10. RESETTLEMENT PLANS for INDIGENOUS ENDANGERED SPECIES – we favour it.

11. For INTERNATIONAL ENDANGERED SPECIES e.g Rhino, Elephants & Tigers we feel that the established small lots in the Kimberleys could easily be extended to create the breeding & living space for the animals and others like them. With their numbers built up we could re-exploit them to their native countries.

12. We need to get THINKING...
—an serious, analytical appraisal of issues, current affairs onto the Educational Curricula to counter mental business practices & the effects of lowest common denominator pap served up in so many areas of day life. Therewith, let’s develop the intellectual marketplace.

13. Let’s have competition between the bureaus for diversity of ideas and to assist the micro economic reform process.

14. A MAXIMUM 15 INDUSTRY BASED UNIONS should be legislated into existence forthwith – we have a lot of catching up to Sweden & West Germany in this regard.

15. We favour the PRIVATISING of the ENTIRE WATERFRONT & COASTAL SHIPPING.

16. We are strongly in favour of the STANDARDISING OF RAILWAY GUAGES
Australia-wide. We see great possibilities issuing from a linking of Penrith Railway & Sydney Metro & the dire necessity of devising a “CITIES PLAN” i.e. capital cities plan. The Scandinavian model would be most applicable to Australia’s needs. The National Urban Plan accommodates environmental considerations, regional government ends, private sector involvement, foreign investment into and the goods or betterment of the urban dwellers. To coin a word.

29. NATIONAL URBAN PLAN
Incorporating aspects of the ‘Engineered Australian Plan’ (see Laurie Hogan’s book “MAN MADE MOUNTAIN”) we believe it necessary of devising a “CITIES PLAN” i.e. capital cities plan. The Scandinavian model would be most applicable to Australia’s needs. The National Urban Plan accommodates environmental considerations, regional government ends, private sector involvement, foreign investment into and the goods or betterment of the urban dwellers. To coin a word.

30. We should export more expertise, advisers, trainers, lecturers, surgeons, etc., and most certainly, we should instigate a system of Australian universities overseas (ASIA, AFRICA, SOUTHERN & CENTRAL AMERICA)! There are only too many reasons why:
* Overcrowding would be reduced at Australian universities;
* New job opportunities would be created for Australian academics;
* Building staff, maintenance and accommodation charges would be lower in these developing countries;
* The cost of attending these universities would be much less for the students, and
* The presence of an Australian tertiary institution overseas would promote good relations with the host country.

31. THE ROAD BUILDING PROGRAM...
we are categorically in favour of better expressways, urban corridors and freeways (environmentally land-scapeed) being constructed for they are conducive to more road safety, more jobs, savings on fuels, reductions in travelling times & increases in Australian Industry competitiveness.

32. INTERNATIONALIST POLICY...
we should be prepared to trade with, communicate with and play sport with ALL overseas countries.

33. We oppose...
planned obsolescence exponential or unplanned growth technocratic extravagance phone tap legislation; what price civil liberties or privacy? retrospective legislation of any kind.

34. We propose...
“sunset” clauses with all new legislation “justification codes” with all new legislation — who wins & who loses? technology impact statements being prepared whenever new machinery or work methods are introduced.

35. The C.S.I.R.O. should be re-structured to better relate with Industry. This extraordinary body needs a doubling of its existing funding – especially in the light of the involvement it is likely to have in networking in advanced scientific technology.

36. For Australia’s long term energy requirements we favour the engenering of solar, wind and water power technological research. We believe also in the furtherment of super conductivity research.

37. Australia needs a strategic economic policy authority (S.E.P.A.) similar to Japan’s Ministry of International Trade & Industry to correct the new great problem of economic imperialism. We mean a directed model with substantial public sector aid and government preferential industral policies geared to designated growth areas for Australian owned and controlled companies. This S.E.P.A. could be the key to bargaining for large-scale exporting of Australian products.

How to Vote

REPUBLICAN in the N.S.W.
House of Representives seat of GRAYNDLER

[Ballot Paper]

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[Names]

6 ADRA
3 WELCH
4 PEPPER
10 WILSON
9 FARES
7 DER MATASSION
1 URBAN, Paul
5 BENNETT
9 McLEAY
21 HENNESSY

[Handwritten Notes]
THE NEW AGENDA FOR THE 1990's

For politicians and would-be politicians a new agenda has been "set." It involves labour market de-regulation, a shift towards productivity as the basis of wage fixing, tougher compliance provisions in the industrial arena, privatisation of government enterprises, continuing micro-reforms based upon the destruction of union and marketing monopolies, further opening of markets and lowering of protection, comprehensive policies of "sustainable development" to meet environment concerns (the rare domain of greater State involvement), the shift towards a more broadly based indirect tax, a continuing effort to shift attitudes towards savings at the expense of consumption and the emergence of a new brand of Australian regionalism, the product of greater economic fluidity and diversification, signs of which are now evident.

We Republicans have the capacity to comprehend the balance between economics and compassion. At the very least we are prepared to "go into bat" for this posited new agenda.

THE REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES
in ELECTION '90:

N.S.W. — for the Senate — PETER CONSANIDE, Entertainment Consultant
— for the House of Representatives seat of GRAYNDLER — PAUL URBAN, Lawyer.
QUEENSLAND — for the Senate — MARK CRESSWELL, Psychologist.
— for the House of Representatives seat of McPHERSON — OTTO KUHNE, Builder.

REPUBLICANISM & THE MONARCHICAL/BRITISH COLONIAL CONNECTION

"The greatest threat to Australia's security is not Indonesia or the possibility of mistakes in military planning. It is the hangover of a colonial mentality which has arrested our cultural development and which is at the root of our present economic difficulties, it displays itself in its most virulent form in the belief that we cannot defend ourselves without the help of 'great & powerful friends'. This belief amounts to a declaration of national inferiority which means that we are failing to fully declare ourselves as a nation with our own interests which may not be in the interest of other nations."

It is when one reads considered opinions such as respected journalist Ken Davidson has written above that one ponders 'what hope for this country.' A few more examples: Roberta Sykes, Social Commentator: 'The Commonwealth Games should more appropriately be named the Colonial Games;'
Author Bill Hudson: "Never having opted for independence, never having struck out on her own separate path with her own ideals and purposes Australia was at a loss . . . she knew what it was to be British (but) no framers of a declaration of independence had given her a vision of what it was to be Australian;"
And television documentary maker Peter Luck (reviewing the telefilm of the 1954 Royal Tour): 'the first visit by a reigning monarch to this colony with forelock tugging and group grovel on a grand scale;'
Book reviewer Ross Fitzgerald: 'In 1942 we finally achieved 'nationhood' — only to replace the British with the Americans as our overlords. The time has come to decide whether we consider this nation worth defending by ourselves.' Indeed!

For an unofficial REFERENDUM on the issue.
Q. Are you in favour of Australia converting from Constitutional Monarchism to Constitutional Republicanism. i.e. Changing the Government system from one in which the Head of State is an unelected Foreigner to one in which we elect our own Australian Heads of State?
A. (If Yes) . . . then VOTE 1 for PETER CONSANIDE — for the Senate in N.S.W. or MARK CRESSWELL — for the Senate in Q.'D. and VOTE 1 for PAUL URBAN in GRAYNDLER and 1 for OTTO KUHNE in McPHERSON.

Let's ditch the collective cultural cringe, collective inferiority complex, pseudo-patriotism, sham citizenry and appalling lack of National Identity and National Objectives.

Let's set the REPUBLICAN wheel in motion!! Australia has everything to gain if we do!!

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REPUBLICANISM: THE "Sleeper Issue"!

Rather than have the media or the discredited 2 major political parties determine what the issues are in Election '90 — why not make an issue of REPUBLICANISM for AUSTRALIA by voting for Republican candidates! Sleepers Awake!!