Militants form a Left Wing movement

At a representative conference held in the Trades Hall, Brisbane, on Sunday, November 20th, a left-wing movement was formed. Comrade F. W. Patterson, B.A., was in the chair.

Reports.—The provisional committee selected to draw up a proposed programme reported that they had completed their labour and submitted the results to the conference.

Further discussion of the following programme was adopted:

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

2. Wages, Hours and Conditions.—At the same time the Minority Labour Movement shall press for the following conditions, namely:
   (a) A minimum wage of 25 per week.
   (b) Payment of full base wage to all workers.
   (c) A 40-hour week of five days.
   (d) Protection of all trade unionists, and abolition of all anti-social unions; and
   (e) The right to organise and to strike by all workers.

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

4. War.—The Minority Labour Movement shall carry on a vigorous propaganda campaign against all preparations for war. It shall point out clearly the economic causes of war, and shall strive to create a strong anti-war sentiment among the workers. In particular, it shall warn them of the possibility of their being in the future in the Pacific to destroy an instrument of capitalist interests; and in order that the men of the Pacific may be prepared for this probable event, and may be able to take effective action in the event of war.

5. Women in Industry.—No working-class movement can have permanent success unless it secures the active cooperation of the women, and in A.L.P. branches, urging the women to follow the same programme, and to form women's organisations

6. Working-class Education.—Education will play a very important part in forming an intelligent and militant working-class movement. It is the duty of the workers to educate, not merely on the class struggle, but on the definite purpose of the working-class movement, not just to overthrow the capitalist system, but to enable the workers to form a class-conscious working-class organisation, with a purpose so fundamentally human to the profits of the capitalist class, will not be provided by institutions which are directly or indirectly controlled by that class. It therefore urges all its members and sympathisers to try to establish study classes on the job, in the unions and in A.L.P. branches, and to build up a class-conscious workers' educational organisation, controlled solely by the workers themselves.

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

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

Election of Officers.

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

President: F. W. Patterson, B.A.
Vice-President: A. McIntyre.
Treasurer: Mrs. Edmonds.
Secretary: F. Lockyer.
Press Secretary: J. W. Rocha.

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

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

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

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

The next meeting of the Minority Labour Movement will take place on Sunday, December 7th, at 3.25 p.m. in the Trades Hall.

The elections to be held early next year under the Greater Brisbane scheme are of considerable importance from a working-class point of view as it will be done in the interests of the workers by a Greater Brisbane Council, controlled by genuine representatives of the working class. Civic affairs in the past have been controlled by the exploiters of Labour, and even the present City Council, which is allegedly controlled by Labour, the majority of the aldermen hold down other jobs and naturally devote fragments of their spare time to Council affairs. The principle of "one man one job" has been unanimously endorsed, the great Brisbane Labour Convention, and should be strictly adhered to. Of course the O.C.E. is a request of the workers and 100% of the money it really represents, may turn the proposal down, but after all the rank and file will eventually decide the question. A number of A.L.P. branches and industrial organisations have affirmed the principle of "one man one job" in no uncertain terms, and it is up to all workers who have a vote in the plebiscites to roll up in voting force for the rank and file men, and cut out the publicans, land agents, professional politicians, business managers, petty employers, and other petty bourgeois elements, whose impudent claim to represent the sweating toilers is one of the badges of the Labour Movement. It is pleasing to note that the workers are beginning to wake up to the fact that there is such a thing as the "one man many jobs" brigade having put it over them, and it is about time that they turned a cold eye on these people who are busy engaged in performing the sacrificial act of hanging on to the cost tails of the boss with one hand and the worker's bowstrings with the other.

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

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THE TOILER, December 15, 1924.

ONE MAN, ONE JOB.

GREATER BRISBANE ELECTIONS.

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