

### CONSTITUTION OF THE EUREKA YOUTH LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA.

The Eureka Youth League is a non-party, self-governing, socialist organization which unites and educates the young working people in the principles of scientific Socialism-Marxism-Leninism. The League assists all bodies and welcomes the co-operation of all bodies which serve the working people, but remains organizationally independent of them.

The E.Y.L. struggles to keep alight the torch of liberty and progress kindled by the pioneers of our country and carried on by the militant Labor movement, whose aim is to unite in struggle the leading force of our people, the working class, the only class which can lead our people to establish Socialism.

The League honors the deeds of our ancestors who broke the convict system, who fought for liberty at Eureka, who established self-government, who won the eight hour day, established our great Trade Union movement and the workers' Communist Party. It honours the men and women of all countries who gave their lives for the destruction of Fascism and who fought in the people's war against Fascism.

The League strives for secure and lasting peace. It recognizes that such a Peace can only be secured through a consistent struggle against Imperialism and by the elimination of Fascism in all forms. This calls for the firm defence of the independence of Nations, support for the National Liberation movements and for the forward advance to people's democracy and Socialism. The League supports the closest co-operation between the democratic people's of the world through their great international organizations, the World Federation of Trade Unions, the World Federation of Democratic Youth, the Women's International Democratic Federation and the International Union of Students...

The League works for the restoration of the United Nations Organizations as an effective International instrument for the preservation of World Peace in accordance with the principles laid down in its Charter.

The League strives in every way to fit the young generation of Australians to carry forward our great heroic Australian traditions; to make them part of a mighty people's movement which will lead to the establishment of a Socialist system, in which the exploitation of man by man is no longer possible; a society in which all working people, youth and adult, will have economic security and equal opportunity for the development of a cultured and useful life.

#### NAME.

The name of the organization shall be the Eureka Youth League of Australia.

#### EMBLEM.

- a) The emblem of the League shall be the Eureka Flag.
- b) This emblem shall be the the badge of the organization.
- c) For parades and other official occasions, members shall be encouraged to wear the following which shall be recognised as the official E.Y.L. uniform:  
GIRLS. Dark skirts, white blouse, dark shoes.  
BOYS. Grey trousers, white shirt, light blue tie, dark shoes.  
The letters E.Y.L. to be worn on left pocket of blouse or shirt.

#### OBJECTIVES.

1. To unite in its ranks all young fighters for Socialism, to work and fight for a Socialist Australia.
2. To unite and work for a lasting peace of friendly co-operation in a world of free and independent nations.
3. To develop the health and morale of young people by securing

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recreational facilities for working class youth, students, farming youth, and for youth in the armed forces.

4. To uphold and extend Democratic liberties in Australia and territories controlled by Australia.
5.
  - a. To encourage young workers to join the Trade Union of their calling and help strengthen militant Unionism.
  - b. To encourage students to join and strengthen student and professional organizations.
  - c. To encourage young farmers to join and strengthen farmers' organizations.
6. To provide educational facilities, including education in the Socialist principles and aims of the militant labor movement, its history in Australia and other lands.
7. To foster among young people an understanding and appreciation of science, art and culture to enrich and develop the democratic Australian tradition.
8. To foster a spirit of internationalism and to co-operate with democratic young organizations in all lands. To further these aims by maintaining and strengthening the affiliation of the E.Y.L. with the World Federation of Democratic Youth, the recognized leadership of the democratic youth of the world.

#### RULES

##### MEMBERSHIP.

1. The League shall consist of an unlimited number of young people, between the ages of 14 and 30, irrespective of race, nationality, religion or political party who enrol in a branch and support the objectives of the E.Y.L. and are prepared to learn about its aims, pay the membership subscription and observe the rules. Exceptions to the upper limit may be made by the State and National Councils, to retain experienced members who desire to continue membership, and such members shall retain full membership rights.

##### ORGANIZATION.

2. 

- a) Members are organized in branches in factories, industries, schools and localities. Each branch shall decide its own appropriate name to which shall be added "Branch of the Eureka League." Branches shall democratically decide upon their rules, activities, and leaders, provided there is no conflict with this Constitution.
- b) Branches are linked together in the State through State Conferences and State Councils. States are linked together through National Conferences and National Council.

##### DUES

3. 

- a) States shall decide their own membership fees. State Councils shall pay to the National Council a monthly quota to be decided upon by the respective State Council in consultation with the National Council.
- b) Only financial members of the League shall be eligible for election to official positions in the League.
- c) Members are considered financial during periods of illness or unemployment.

##### AFFILIATIONS.

4. 

- a) Organizations of young people supporting the aims of the League may affiliate to the League. Details of the affiliation fees, representation on Committees and Conferences shall be mutually decided between the affiliating organizations and the appropriate State Council or National Council.

- b) The E.Y.L. may affiliate to any organization concerned with the welfare of youth, in order to further its aims and objectives, provided there is no conflict between its constitution and the organization concerned. Such affiliation shall be carried out by the National Council on behalf of the League as a whole, and State Councils on behalf of State Branches.

#### AREA ORGANIZATION.

5. Branches in an area may be linked together according to structure and rules approved and endorsed by the State Council of the League.

#### NATIONAL CONFERENCE.

6. The Supreme governing body of the League shall be the National Conference which shall be held once every two years. Representation at Conferences shall be decided by the National Council on a democratic basis, having regard to the organization and development of the League in each State.

An Extraordinary Conference shall be called:-

- a- At any time the National Council may deem it necessary.
- b- At the request of three State Councils. Any branch or affiliated organisation shall have the right to propose items for the Conference agenda. So far as possible, the proposals of branches, State Councils and the National Council shall be in the hands of the branches one month before the date of the Conference.

#### NATIONAL COUNCIL.

7. a) The Council shall consist of President, Vice - President, Secretary and twelve other members. All members of the National Council shall be elected at the National Conference. The National Council shall elect an executive of five with the right to co-opt members, subject to the endorsement of the National Council.
- b) Voting for office holders shall be by secret ballot.

#### MEMBERS RIGHTS AND DUTIES.

8. All members shall be encouraged to participate in the activities of the League. Members are expected to observe the discipline of the League, abiding by the decisions of the majority and at all times to conduct themselves in a manner befitting the great aims of the League. Any member committing any action against the interests of the League shall be liable to disciplinary action by the Branch, up to expulsion from the League. The final decision in such cases shall rest with the State Council. Disciplinary action cannot be taken against any member in absence, unless there is a refusal to attend the meeting when the case is being discussed. Any League organisation or member has the right to offer any suggestions or constructive criticism of any committee of the League.

#### ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION.

9. The Constitution of the League may be amended at National Conference of the League or at any extraordinary conference called for that purpose by a two thirds majority of those members present.

#### BY-LAWS.

10. a) All State Councils shall, in line with this Constitution and in consultation with the National Council, make such by-laws as are necessary to meet the conditions applying in their particular State.

#### AUDITING.

- b) All books of account and financial records of the National Council shall be subject to a regular audit by a certified auditor. A printed or roneoed balance sheet including a statement of income and expenditure shall be forwarded to all sections of the League annually.

(4)

BANKING RULES (c)

1. A bank account shall be opened in the name of the National Council, Eureka Youth League of Australia.
2. The bank account may be operated upon the signatures of two members of the National Executive.
3. Cheques payable to the National Council, Eureka Youth League of Australia may be endorsed by either one of the two officers in Clause (2) above.
4. Should at any time the National Treasurer be absent for a period exceeding one week, authority to sign cheques is to be granted to a officer of the Council other than those officers mentioned in Clause (2)
5. All State Councils, Committees or Executives shall open a bank account in the name of the E.Y.L. of Australia into which all monies is to be banked. An inventory of all Equipment shall be drawn up in the name of the E.Y.L. of Australia, a carbon copy to be kept by the National Council for States and by State Councils for Branches. Where a Branch, Committee or Executive becomes inactive or ceases to function all monies shall be returned to the State Council which will decide how it is to be disposed of. In the case of a State Council, the National Council shall take similar action.