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POLITICAL RESOLUTION

INTRODUCTION

Since our last Congress, which coincided with the victorious conclusion of the People's War against Fascism, the forces of Socialism and democracy have scored new tremendous victories all over the world. In the land of Socialism, in the New Democracies, in the capitalist and colonial lands, the toilers under the leadership of the Communists are displaying marvels of initiative and courage, of organisation and creative activity, and a fighting capacity that is winning one citadel after another from the class enemy.

In this year, the Centenary of the publication of the Manifesto of the Communist Party, world events are confirming, more strikingly than ever before, the role of the workers as the "grave-diggers of capitalism."

FOR PEACE, AGAINST THE WARMONGERS

The post-war world has been divided into two camps—that of the peace-loving, democratic and anti-imperialist forces, on the one hand, and that of the imperialists, the promoters of new wars, the anti-democrats who are attacking democracy while paying lip-service to it, on the other.

The first of these camps is composed of the great peace-loving Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the new People's Democracies and the labor and progressive movements in the capitalist and colonial countries. The second is headed by the Wall Street billionaires, the American military chiefs and the British monopoly-capitalists, and includes the fascist and reactionary elements in all capitalist countries.

Spurred on by growing economic crisis and hatred of progress and Socialism, the Anglo-American imperialists have assumed the role of Hitler and the Japanese military-fascists and, under cover of an intense anti-Communist campaign of lies and falsification, have set their course towards the domination and enslavement of the world.

In pursuance of this aim, the American imperialists are building up stocks of atom bombs and bacterial weapons. Ringing the globe with their naval, air and military bases and continually increasing their armed forces, they pretend all this is necessary for "American security" and "the defence of democracy," which are supposed to be menaced by the peace-loving, truly democratic Soviet Union.

The imperialists, despite the obvious dangers of a renewal of German and Japanese military strength, have decided to partition

Germany and to rebuild Western Germany as a war base and centre of domination in Europe, and to reconstruct a reactionary Japan for similar purposes in the East.

The United Nations Organisation, established to promote world peace and economic and cultural relations between the nations, is being attacked and undermined by the warmongers because they find it an obstacle to their world domination policy. Asserting that the principle of unanimity, or the right of veto, agreed upon by Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill is undemocratic, they seek to abolish or alter it so that American imperialism, with the help of its dollar-seeking satellites, can control UNO. The real aim of the opponents of the "veto" is to turn UNO into an instrument of American imperialism or destroy it.

The imperialists, shouting democratic slogans, have sent their armed forces to help crush the people's movements and bolster up dictatorships in Greece and China. At the same time they have extended their patronage to the bloodstained fascist regime in Spain. With the false cry of "combating the extension of Russian imperialism" on their lips, the imperialists have declared war on the democratic people's movements everywhere and have openly threatened to use armed force against people who dared revolt against their reactionary rulers. They have used their power to oust Communists from the governments of Italy and France and make these governments subservient to their will. They support de Gaulle's pretensions to dictatorship in France and an Italian fascist revival.

This aggressive policy of Anglo-American imperialism has divided the world.

War is a profitable business for the big trusts and financial institutions. Hence, the aggressive policy of the Wall Street billionaires, their ceaseless propaganda to get the people to accept the "inevitability" of a new war, and their efforts to paint the Soviet Union as an aggressor about to launch a sudden attack on the capitalist countries.

In this way, the real instigators of war seek to hide their own aggressive intentions from the masses.

THE SOVIET UNION STANDS FOR PEACE

The Soviet Union has consistently pursued a peace policy. Had the peace policy of the Soviet Union been accepted in pre-war times, the Second World War would have been avoided.

Hating the Soviet Union, the imperialists of Britain, France and the USA preferred Munich, the policy of appeasement and the building up of fascism as a weapon against the Soviet Union, thereby preparing the way for Hitler's war.

The Soviet Union, a Socialist State, today continues the fight for peace. The Soviet representatives have proposed the outlawing of atomic weapons and disarmament and have pointed

out that co-operation for peace is possible between the two different systems existing in the world today, the Socialist and the Capitalist systems.

These Soviet peace overtures have been rejected by the imperialists, who continue their propaganda and preparations for war.

Despite the colossal sacrifices of the Soviet people in the common struggle against the fascist Axis, the Anglo-American imperialists deny them just reparations from Germany and Japan and instead build up these countries as anti-Soviet bases. The American imperialists, as part of their war conspiracy, are denying credits to the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies and restricting mutual trade in the vain hope of weakening these countries.

A POLICY FOR PEACE

The democratic, peace-loving forces of the world, led by the working class, are stronger than are the forces making for war. This assures victory in the struggle for a durable peace providing that the war incendiaries are ruthlessly exposed and the struggle against them is conducted with unity, courage and determination.

It is the duty of Communists to lead the resistance to the warmongers and to organise peace-lovers around a broad program of peaceful co-operation among the nations, for the restoration of UNO as a peace-preserving organisation, for the outlawing of atomic weapons and war propaganda, for universal disarmament and the ending of armed intervention in Greece, China and other countries struggling for liberation.

This is the way to a lasting peace.

FOR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE, AGAINST IMPERIALISM

The aim of the dollar imperialists is world domination. The majority of the capitalist countries have been seriously weakened by the war. American imperialism seeks to take advantage of this to subject them to its will, gain control of their economy, dictate to them politically, rob them of their independence and transform them into the colonies of Wall Street.

The much-vaunted "Marshall Plan" for Europe has this aim. That is why the Soviet Union, the new People's Democracies, the great Communist parties of France and Italy, trade unions and other progressive forces, oppose the "Plan."

The American Imperialists wish to subject the peoples of the British Empire. The anti-Soviet, warmongering policy of Churchill, which is so faithfully implemented by Bevin and supported by Dr. Evatt, the policy of an "Anglo-Saxon bloc," has already reduced Britain to the role of junior partner of American imperialism. Relentlessly, the American rulers pursue

the aim of making Britain, Australia, New Zealand and Canada more dependent upon them.

Instead of resisting the American encroachment, the monopolists and their labor allies are becoming more subservient to Wall Street and are resorting to all manner of arguments to justify their capitulation.

The foreign policy of the Federal Labor Government, which allies itself with the American imperialists, in the preparation of an anti-Soviet war, under the false plea that Australia will be attacked and, therefore, urgently needs American "protection," leads to submergence of Australia's national interests, as can be seen in the Government's acquiescence to American plans to re-establish a reactionary Japan, which can again threaten Australia, and the proposals for U.S. naval bases adjacent to Australia.

The Communist Party calls on the Australian people, who have long since rebelled against domination from London, to now guard against domination from Wall Street, and to continue to struggle for Australian independence.

Australian independence and security can best be assured by a policy of international co-operation, as laid down in the UN Charter. This demands a struggle against the policy of aggressive imperialism, of anti-Sovietism and war preparation. The defence of Australian independence means a break with the present policy of the Federal Government and a struggle against economic penetration of Australia by Wall Street financiers. It demands a policy of friendship and mutual trade relations with the Soviet Union and the new democracies as well as all other nations.

This Congress fully endorses such a foreign policy. It calls on all Party members and friends of peace, all those who value Australian independence and liberty, to struggle ceaselessly for this policy.

HOW TO FIGHT ONCOMING DEPRESSION

The capitalist world, already deeply affected by the general crisis which was worsened by the war, is about to plunge into the biggest of all its economic crises.

Since the war the peoples of capitalist countries such as Britain, France, Italy and Western Germany, have been plunged ever deeper into poverty and hunger because their governments, operating on the basis of the monopoly-capitalist structure and striving to preserve this at all costs, have not been able to solve their pressing economic problems.

There is a sharp contrast between the growing crisis in the capitalist countries and economic advances in the Soviet Union and People's Democracies. The Soviet Union, despite its enormous losses and the fact that some of the war-destroyed industrial centres have not yet been restored and others only partly so, is,

on the basis of its Socialist planned economy, already exceeding prewar standards of output, has halved the cost of living, abolished rationing and assured plentiful food supplies for its people. Poland has increased production 50% above prewar level, and Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and other People's Democracies, which have nationalised heavy industry and distributed the land to the peasants, are also recording remarkable economic successes.

The USA, Canada, Australia and a few other countries that escaped the destruction of their industry during the war, and were able greatly to expand their productive forces, have experienced a post-war boom. This boom period is recognised, even by the spokesman of the ruling class themselves, to be the prelude to economic crisis, which they fear will be more catastrophic than all previous crises.

The fall in grain, livestock and other prices in the USA, which reflects the degree of over-production, shows that the boom period in the wealthiest and most developed capitalist country is giving way to economic crisis. Already in the USA there are 3,000,000 unemployed and 8,000,000 workers on part time. The economic crisis in the USA will add to the chaos in the West European countries and accelerate and deepen the crisis throughout the whole of the capitalist world.

Seeking new markets in its feverish attempts to lessen the crisis, Wall Street has already forced Britain to scale down Empire preference as a condition for further "aid". The effects of the Geneva Trade Agreement will soon be felt in Australian industry and agriculture. The "dollar shortage", caused by the fact that American exports are so much greater than imports—in 1947, 16 billion dollars exports against 9 billion dollars worth of imports—is already undermining Australian economy and threatening us with unemployment.

The Federal Government, which earlier predicted a Golden Age, now warns of the economic dangers ahead and has set out to nationalise the private banking institutions to counter the effects of the coming depression.

The Communist Party, refuting the Labor Party's Golden Age theory, was the first to warn the toilers of the inevitability of the coming crisis. While supporting the decision of the Chifley Government to nationalise the private banks, the Communist Party holds that nationalisation of banking by itself will prove inadequate to prevent economic crisis. It is necessary to fight for nationalisation of the big monopolies and key basic industries, especially iron, steel and coal, to create the economic basis for a planned national economy to end the cycle of boom and economic crisis inherent in the capitalist "free enterprise" system. Only the Communist Party consistently fights for such a nationalised, planned economy.

In past crises, irrespective of whether Labor or Liberal Governments were in office, the main burden was placed upon the

back of the working class which was compelled to accept lowered living standards, unemployment and the dole. This happened in the economic crisis of 1929-32, when the Scullin, Lang, Hogan and Hill Labor Governments enforced the Premiers' Plan of severe salary, wage and pension cuts upon the working people.

With a new crisis approaching the working class must refuse to accept lowered living standards. It should unite its ranks, build the trade unions and support the Communist Party's policy for a substantial increase in the basic wage, reduction and strict control of prices and nationalisation of basic industries, as well as the private banks, as the way to combat the threat of economic crisis, unemployment and poverty and develop the struggle for Socialism.

THE STRUGGLE AGAINST AUSTRALIAN REACTION

The parties of reaction, the open servants of monopoly-capital, the so-called "Liberal" and "Country" parties, are taking fullest advantage of the many weaknesses of the Labor Party to build up their forces and seriously to challenge the position of the Labor Governments.

These reactionary parties aim to destroy the labor movement and reduce the standard of living in order to increase the profits of big business. They proclaim their aim of shackling the trade union movement by suppressive legislation similar to the infamous Taft-Hartley Bill, which enslaves the American workers and which has been described by the U.S. trade union movement as "a long step towards fascism". The parties of reaction, recognising the Communist Party as the spearhead of the labor movement, proclaim their intention of making yet another attempt to ban and destroy it by tyrannical legislation.

To this end, and to promote anti-Sovietism and warmongering, reaction has launched a ceaseless campaign, heavily financed by the big capitalists, of abuse, slander and the most absurd inventions and lies against the Communist Party. This campaign is also directed at the trade unions and at undermining the electoral support for the Labor governments. In the name of "democracy" and "freedom" reaction attacks everything progressive: price control, the nationalised industries, wage increases, and the very citadel of democracy—the great Australian labor movement.

Reaction wants price control removed so that profits, which already exceed the enormous wartime level, can be further increased. This would reduce real wages, cut the purchasing power of other small incomes, and rob workers, farmers and middle class people of their savings.

Reaction aims to destroy wheat stabilisation and other farm schemes. It wants a return to the "open shop", speculator control, which will create anarchy in the primary industries.

Declaring that public ownership of industry is "totalitarian" and puts an end to "human freedom", Collins House fights against nationalisation of the banks and monopolies. Concealed behind this hypocritical talk of "freedom" is the real aim, to preserve the "right" of a handful of parasitical millionaires to continue to exploit and plunder the Australian people.

This false cry must be exposed. Without public ownership of the banks and basic industries there can be no economic security and, consequently, no real democracy for the working people. The small clique of financiers which owns the banks and industries dominates existing governments and controls the lives of the people. The first condition for personal freedom for the great majority of the people is to smash monopoly-capitalist control.

Under cover of high-sounding democratic titles like "Citizens' Rights" and "Democratic League", reaction is setting up a network of anti-labor organisations in town and country. These organisations preach hatred of progressive measures and advocate strike-breaking and violence against the labor movement. They are, in essence, fascist or potentially fascist, because their inspiration and finance come from monopoly-capital, the foundation of all fascist movements and totalitarian dictatorships.

It is the task of the labor movement to unmask these pseudo-democrats and relentlessly fight their organisers and leaders, the servants of big capital and enemies of labor, democracy and progress.

Australian reaction, the clique of monopoly-capitalists and its political servants, is today becoming utterly subservient to American imperialism. It gleefully supports American imperialism's attempts to suppress the progressive forces of the world and its preparations for war against the Soviet Union and other genuinely democratic states. The W.A. Liberal Government is handing over Yampi ores to Wall Street capital.

Australian monopoly-capital, for its own selfish class interests, is sacrificing Australia's national independence. In direct opposition to the people's desire for peace, Australian monopoly-capital is dragging the nation into the train of the imperialist warmongers. It accepts the position of "junior partner" which, in reality, means subordination to American imperialism.

The chief centre of reaction in Australia is in Collins House, Melbourne.

360 Collins Street is the centre of the giant B.H.P. octopus, N.Z. Loan and Mercantile, Goldsbrough Mort, Textile, Automobile, Rubber and many other monopoly Australian industries. At the head of this powerful monopolist ring stand such multi-millionaire families as the Baillieus, the Robinsons, Massey Greene, York Syme, Colonel Cohen, Sir Keith Murdoch, Sir Frank Clarke, Sir Norman Brookes, and Sir William Angliss.

Here are to be found the financiers and monopolists who in reality dominate the economic and political life of our country

and people. It is they who, controlling industry and finance, draw an enormous tribute from the working class and the toiling farmers.

In order that these parasitical millionaires should live in luxury, wages are kept low and the farmers reduced to the conditions of debt-serfs.

It is this Collins House clique of wealthy men who have unloosed the drive to ban the Communist Party and smash militant unionism.

It is in their interests that the newspapers and radio stations blare forth hourly the savage hate campaign against Communism and everything that savours of the working class and the cause of progress.

It is this handful of moneybags who employ hundreds of agents throughout the land to invent and circulate ever new lies and fabrications against everything that is decent and democratic in the nation.

It is in their interest that the Menzies', Faddens and Abbotts express, with slaving jaws, the hatred and spleen of these financial magnates against our glorious, fighting labour movement.

It is to safeguard the Collins House exploiters and their moneybags that so many restrictions have been placed on Australian democracy.

It is this Collins House clique who, in their own selfish class interests, in frantic fear for their outworn capitalist system, would forego Australia's national independence, converting us into a mere satellite and dependancy of aggressive United States imperialism. In Collins House are to be found the real Fifth Columnists who would bring us under the domination of a foreign power.

It is the Collins House monopolists who finance and promote the savage hymn of hate against our glorious wartime ally, the Soviet Union, the most consistent fighter for peace and progress. The Collins House millionaires hate the Soviets with a splenetic class hatred, because the Soviet Union has abolished the capitalist system of exploitation, private ownership of natural resources and the means of production, and has socialised its industries and utilises its production for the welfare of the masses. For this reason Collins House hates the Soviet Union, fearing that the Australian people will follow its historic example in putting an end to the rule of capitalist millionaires and making the masses the real owners and rulers of their own country.

It is the Collins House millionaires who wish to join their fellow monopolists of Britain and Wall Street in an aggressive war against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies and for the suppression of progressive labor movements everywhere.

It is Collins House monopolists who are the robbers and plunderers, the mortal enemies of the Australian people.

Peace, independence, economic security and democracy cannot be assured for the people until the stranglehold of the Collins House plutocrats on the economy of our country has been shattered, until their system of private ownership of the means of production has been superseded by the social ownership of the means of production.

It is against the Collins House plutocracy that the Australian masses have always had to fight—at Eureka, in 1890 and 1917, in the present-day battles of our great labor movement alike. It is against their rule that the Communists now call the toilers to new struggles.

The Communist Party, therefore, must lead the masses in the most resolute struggle against the Liberal and Country parties, the political servants of the monopolists, the centre of Australian reaction, junior partners of the war incendiaries and imperialists, enemies of labor and progress and promoters of fascist ideology, who are selling Australia's independence and who look upon a new "depression" as a favourable opportunity to crush the working class.

THE DEFENCE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY IS THE DEFENCE OF DEMOCRACY

The central aim of the campaign of Collins House is to attack, and, if possible, destroy the Communist Party. The anti-Communist slander campaign to which the Australian people have been subjected without cessation since the close of the war is intended to pave the way for the destruction of democratic liberties by banning the Communist Party and shackling the trade union movement.

Fascism in Germany and elsewhere began by driving the Communist Party underground, gaoling and murdering its members, then dealing with the trade unions in similar fashion, and finally with all other democratic parties and organisations. Australian reaction, pretending to be defending democracy against "totalitarianism", is proceeding in the same fashion as did the Hitlerites, that is, to endeavour to destroy first of all the Communist Party.

The campaign for the ban on the Communist Party, therefore, is something that is the concern not only of the Communists and their supporters, but of every true democrat, every progressive Australian. The defence of the Communist Party is the defence of Australian democracy. And this must be recognised by everyone if the fascist aims of monopoly capital in this country are to be frustrated.

Collins House recognises in the Communist Party the leader, in particular, of the post-war struggles of the Australian working class. These struggles have won considerable economic gains and the early application of the forty hour week to industry.

The people who have everything to lose and nothing to gain from a new, reactionary war must organise and fight for a new foreign policy.

Australia must break from the camp of the warmongers and take her rightful place alongside the countries fighting inside and outside UNO to defend world peace and democracy.

PALESTINE

This Congress declares that the present crisis in Palestine is the product of Anglo-US imperialist policy in Palestine and the Middle East, which aims to secure economic domination, suppress the national-liberation movements of the Arabic and Jewish peoples, and in particular, use that area as a centre of preparation for World War III against the Soviet Union and other freedom-loving peoples. Events in Palestine, therefore, constitute a direct threat to the peace and welfare of the peoples everywhere.

The action of US imperialism in betraying the United Nations' decision for the establishment of free and independent Arab and Jewish states in Palestine led to the present outbreak of armed clashes, which now threaten to develop into full-scale war. Mercenary troops of King Abdullah and other puppets of imperialism, armed and led by British and former Nazi officers, threaten the very existence of the Jewish people in Palestine.

Soviet policy on Palestine once again emphasises its undeviating championship of the freedom and national independence of small nations.

Congress, therefore, calls upon all Australian democrats and peace-lovers, Jewish and non-Jewish alike, to unite for the demand of implementation of the United Nations decision which provides the basis for an immediate solution, and for the eventual creation of a single free, democratic, independent Palestine in which Arabs and Jews would enjoy equal status and live in peace and friendship.

MASS EXECUTIONS IN GREECE

This Congress condemns the dastardly mass execution of Greek trade unionists, whose only crime is that they fought for Greek democracy against the present fascist dictatorship of the Greek collaborators with Hitler.

Congress calls on the Australian Government to demand united nations action to end the Anglo-American intervention in Greece which is keeping the present Government of executioners in power, contrary to the democratic principles on which UNO is based.

Congress urges all Australians, particularly Australian trade unionists, to voice their immediate protest against the barbarous action of the Greek Government and to act quickly to save more hundreds of Greek democrats due to face the firing squad.

BAN AMERICAN SYNDICATED MATERIAL

The 15th Congress of the Australian Communist Party declares its support for the rights of Australian writers, journalists and artists against the menace of dollar "culture" and for the independence and expansion of Australian literature and art.

The evil influence of the cheap syndicated comic strips and other material from the United States flooding this country must be combatted. Congress calls upon the people to demand that the Government prohibit its entry into Australia.

Congress also protests at the continued publication of American magazines such as True Confessions, True Love Stories, Readers' Digest, produced under licence in Australia and using up the limited supply of paper from dollar areas, when Australian writers cannot get their work published because of the shortage of paper.

This invasion of Australia by so-called American "culture" is part of the preliminary campaign by dollar imperialism to infiltrate and soften up this country in its attempt at political and economic conquest of the world, and must be fought as a material threat to the independence of Australia.

AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINES

This Congress draws to the attention of the Australian people the deplorable plight of the native aboriginal race. Australia's first inhabitants, who from the first days of European settlement have suffered relentless persecution, the alienation of their tribal lands, the rape of their women folk, inhuman exploitation under the conditions of serf labor, massacre and death from malnutrition and disease. The Government of the day, like its predecessors, has failed to ameliorate the lot of this persecuted minority and the people must demand a complete change of policy on this question. Past and present policy implies the ultimate extinction of the Aborigines as part of the "White Australia" policy.

In the Central, North and North-west of Australia about 50,000 full blood black Australians, the remnant of a population once numbering from 300,000 to a million, are now being deprived of the basis of their existence as a people.

To arrest the extinction of the native race, to enable them to survive and develop, it is urgently necessary that all further alienation of tribal lands cease immediately and that each tribe and tribal remnant be given the best part of its own tribal land to be inviolable, the Aborigine people being given full ownership of these areas and the mineral, timber and other resources.

Instead of the paltry, and often harmful, piecemeal welfare work through mission organisations, the Government must assume full responsibility to establish organisation with selected personnel and adequate funds to supply a complete medical service, improve