

# GUARDIAN

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED 'THE WORKERS' VOICE')

Guardian Telephone Numbers  
 EDITORIAL - - C 1909  
 DESPATCH - - C 4739  
 ADDRESS - - 340 Little Collins St., Melbourne.

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No. 383. THE GUARDIAN, MARCH 4th, 1949 Registered at the G.P.O., Melbourne, for transmission by post as a newspaper. PRICE

## NEWPORT POWER MEN SAY: 'AC

### 15 COMMUNISTS FOR VICTORIAN FEDERAL SEATS

"The Communist Party will fight the Federal elections with a record number of candidates, including 15 in Victoria," Mr. Ralph Gibson, State President of the Party, said yesterday.

"Communist Senate teams will stand in all States, thus making possible a strong nationwide campaign and a full estimate of the voting support of the Communist Party on a national scale. With a full Senate team of seven in Victoria, the Party will be able to take its policy effectively to people all over the State."

"The Communist Party will come before the people with the *its policies* *and the* *control* *of industrial* *production* *and* *a planned economy.*"

**PARTY OF PEACE**  
 "It will also come before the people as the only Party of peace, offering friendship with Russia instead of acts of war, for the curbing of the atom bomb, for world-wide reduction of arms, and for practical aid to the Malayan peoples and all other fighters for freedom."

"Big Business policies, carried out in one form or another by all the ruling classes, are responsible for the crippling of the unions by wage-cutting through inflation, support of American war measures and the operation of Australia as a great American war base—which is exacted mercilessly by Communist candidates and campaigners."

**DRIVE MENZIES OUT**  
 "We will answer Menzies' call for an atom bomb war, the ending of the Communist Party and the crippling of the unions by giving to inflict on him a defeat which will finally drive him out of Australian public life. Menzies and Fadden candidates will be faced last on every Communist seat."

"The successes of socialism, and a crack-up of capitalism on a world scale, will be explained by Communist speakers in a campaign which will win tens of thousands to the support of socialism in Australia."

"Communists at Canberra would be a powerful aid to the people in every battle for peace, liberty or other standards of life. The people should vote Communist for their own future."

## AGAINST PRICES'

Newport Powerhouse workers are ready to take direct stop-work action with other unions to force back price levels.

A lunch-hour meeting on Tuesday decided this after hearing Rail Union Secretary J. J. Brown. In a resolution the workers:

- Condemned the action of the Government in granting rises in gas prices and rail fares.
- Recommended that all workers make direct action.
- Threatened a stop-work action against the increases.
- Demanded an immediate increase in the basic wage.
- Three Victorian branches of the Pulp and Paper Workers' Federation have also threatened to take direct action against price increases.

A resolution proposing industrial action against high prices was adopted by the union's Victorian executive, and forwarded to the Premier (Mr. Hollway) and to Mr. Cain, Opposition leader. The Newport meeting decided to make common cause with SEC workers who also work at the powerhouse.

**T.H.C. CONDEMNED**  
 After Mr. Brown had explained the splitting tactics of the Trades Hall Council executive the meeting carried another resolution condemning the THC for its inactivity in the campaign for higher wages and lower prices and called on it to readmit the suspended militant delegates. A mighty wave of protest is mounting in opposition to the Hollway Government which is blatantly authorizing price increases at the behest of its big business masters.

**UNIONS PROTEST.**  
 Telegrams expressing opposition to the rises have been sent to Mr. Hollway and Mr. Cain by the following unions:—  
 Tramways, Railways, Carpenters, Painters, Ironworkers, Butchers, Seamen's, Dockers, Firemen and Engine-men, and the Clothing Trades.

### FIGHT AGAINST THE SPLITTERS STEPPED UP

From now on the Combined Unions' Committee will meet weekly to step up the struggle against the splitting tactics of the Right Wing Trades Hall Council executive.

A spokesman for the Committee yesterday ridiculed the suggestion that the Committee was a breakaway group. "Suspended unions on the Committee want to get back on the Council," he said. "The Committee has functioned in all important struggles over the past three years, so it is not new. The way back to the Council is to expose the splitting moves of the THC executive and to show the workers how these moves help the boss to resist the trade union movement's demand for higher wages and lower prices," he concluded.



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## French Workers Rally To Defend Leaders

From RUPERT LOCKWOOD

LONDON.—French workers are preparing defensive action to prevent attempts to gaoil Communist Party leaders Maurice Thorez and Marcel Cachin, and to frame other workers' leaders as "spies" for refusing to support aggression against France's ally, and refusing to surrender France's independence.

The General Confederation of Labor, embracing the vast majority of unionists, threatens mass action if the Government lays hands on Thorez, L'Humanite's publisher Cachin, or Deputy Florimond Bonte, as threatened. Interior Minister Moch's police are raiding union and newspaper offices and private homes. Ramadier, Daladier, Gaullists and other Rightists sponsored by the Americans, want the whole Central Committee of the French Communist Party tried. Some demand the outlawing of the party—"the party of the executed" (so-called from the fact that 75,000 French Communists lost their lives in the Resistance.) The ground of the threatened prosecution of Cachin is the printing in L'Humanite three months ago of the solemn pledge: "The people of France shall never make war against the Soviet Union."

The ground of the threatened prosecution against Thorez is a speech, widely misquoted by press and radio. His actual words were: "If the common efforts of all liberty-loving, peace-loving Frenchmen do not succeed in bringing our country into the camp of democracy and peace, if as a result our people are dragged against their will into a war against the Soviet, and if under these conditions the Soviet Army, defending the cause of Socialism, was led to pursue aggressors right on to our soil, could the workers of France behave differently toward the Soviet Army than the workers and people of Poland, Rumania, Yugoslavia and so on?"

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### SOVIET CUTS PRICES: WE CUTS JOB

LONDON.—The Union this week re prices by up to 30 per cent without wage cuts or employment.

Meanwhile in the US an unemployment is soaring, are being cut and the necessities remain high. In Moscow on Monday Stalin signed a sharply reducing the price of food, clothing, household and other goods ranging television sets.

This means a big rise in real wages of Soviet citizen there is no question of unemployment or wage cuts. In the United States where of jobs nears 4,000,000, other 4,000,000 on part-time. Although necessities dear, wages are beginning in the United States. From 270,000 employees of the Motor's suffered cuts weekly and further cuts a tail to follow.

In Belgium, most "Marxist" of all West European countries, unemployment rose 87,221 at the end of 1947 following a total of 2,522 at the end of 1946. Western Germany, unempl jumped by 201,393 in Jan pass the 1,000,000 mark. Numbers of jobs are falling rapidly in Italy (2,500,000), France (2,000,000), Switzerland and Finland.

## Party Launches £20,000 Fighting Fund In Victoria

THE Communist Party in Victoria has launched a £20,000 fighting fund. When plans to launch the fund were announced at the last meeting of the State Committee of the Party, members pledged themselves to give more than £600. Most of the Committee are Party functionaries on low wages. If this flying start is maintained the fund should fill rapidly. It will

officially open next month and close in September. Director of the Fund (Mr. Bernard Taft) said yesterday that Communists in many countries were sacrificing their lives in the cause of human progress. It was not asking too much of Communists here to sacrifice a few pounds. Mr. Taft said the fund was the best investment for a secure and happy future.

Every day it is becoming more and more obvious that the Communist Party is the only Australian political party which is carrying on a real fight in the interests of the people against profiteers, wage-mongers, and the curtailment of democratic rights. To wage this fight effectively the whole work of the Party needs to be

stepped up. The fund will do this. It will be used for:  
 • A mighty expansion of Communist Party publicity and organisation.  
 • Election of Communists to the Federal Parliament.  
 • Defeat of the Hollway Government.  
 • Higher living standards, peace, and extension of democratic rights.