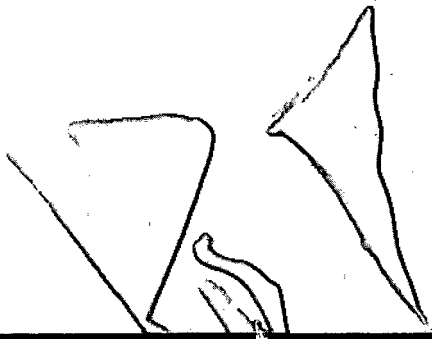
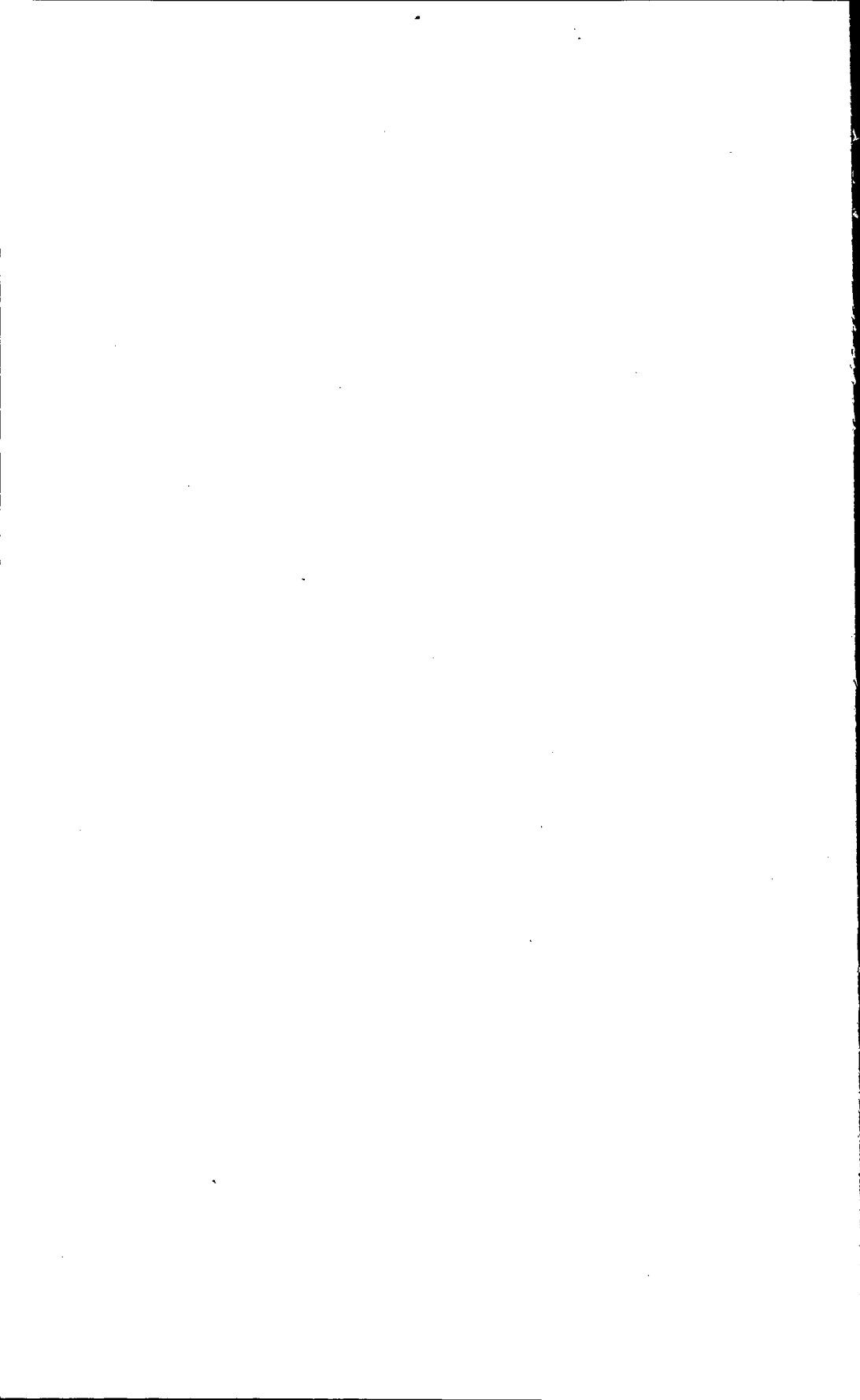


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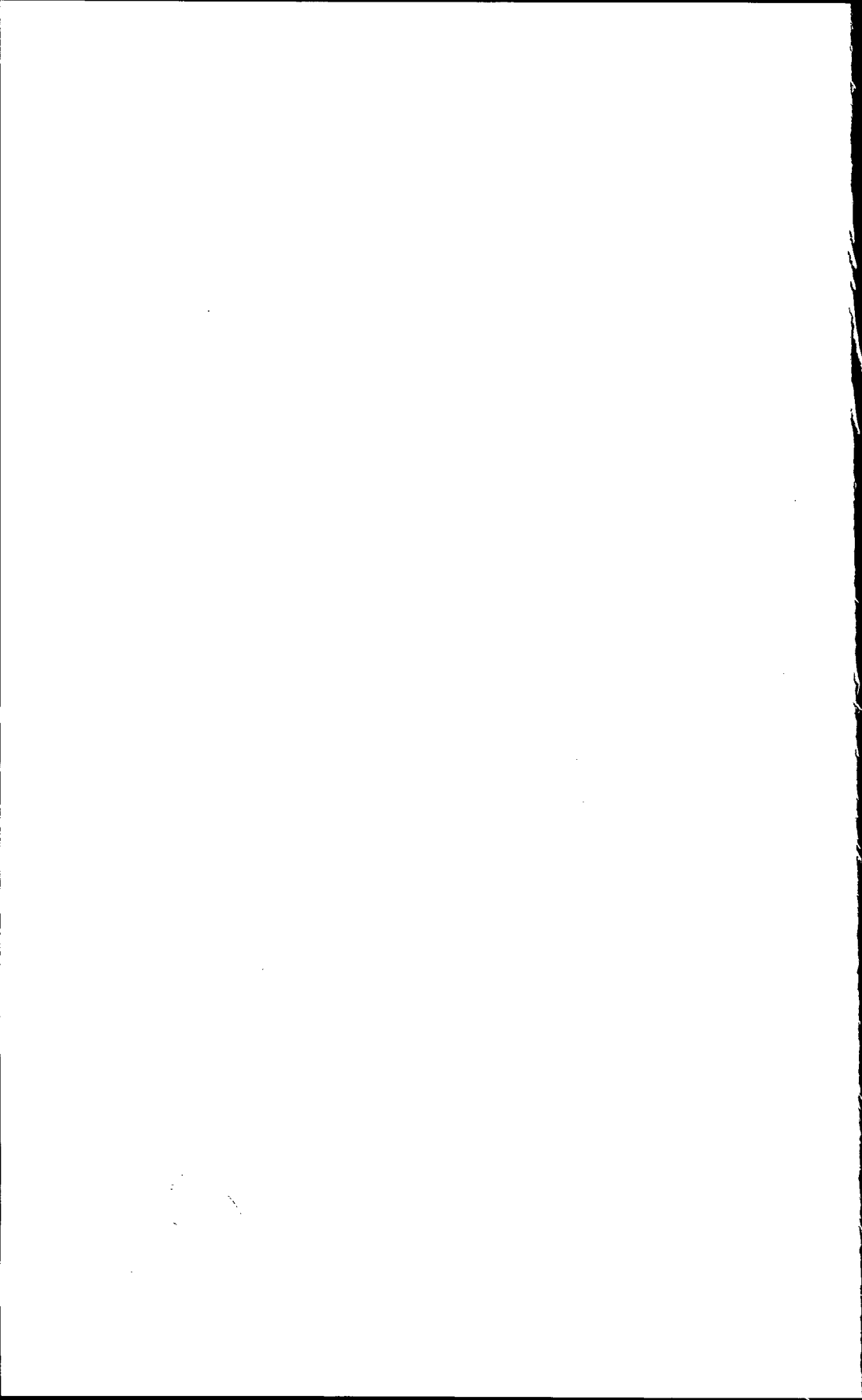
AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY

PLATFORM, CONSTITUTION
AND RULES

as approved by the
27TH COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE
ADELAIDE 1967



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CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
PREAMBLE TO PLATFORM	
	7
FEDERAL PLATFORM	
I Objective	9
II Interpretation of Democratic Socialisation	9
III Principles of Action	9
IV Methods	9
V Economic Planning	10
VI Education	11
VII Science and Technology	14
VIII Cultural Affairs	16
IX Housing	16
X Health	18
XI Social Services	20
XII Repatriation	20
XIII Industrial	21
XIV Technical Change	21
XV Rural	22
XVI Transport	23
XVII Northern Development	24
XVIII Immigration	24
XIX Broadcasting, Television and the Press	25
XX Aborigines	26
XXI Papua/New Guinea	26
XXII Defence	27
XXIII Foreign Affairs	28
XXIV Civil Liberties	30
XXV Social	31
XXVI Electoral	31
XXVII Land	31
XXVIII National Insurance Office	31
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE 1967 CONFERENCE	
1 Alcoholism	32
2 Cancer	32
3 State Housing	32
4 Housing Enquiry	32

	<i>Page</i>
5 Vietnam	32
6 Aid to Vietnam	33
7 Defence Forces	33
8 Air Force	34
9 Navy	34
10 Greece	34
11 Conscription for overseas service	34
12 Party Campaign on Defence	34
13 Middle East	34
14 Conscription Ballot	35
15 Concessions for Servicemen	35
16 Aid to India	35
17 Donations to Aid Funds	35
18 Statement on British Defence Policy	35
19 C.S.I.R.O.	36
20 Purchase of Rolling Stock	36
21 Enquiry into Poverty	36
22 Mental Retardation Enquiry	36
23 National Welfare Scheme	36
24 Medical Entitlement Card	36
25 Deserted Wife's Pension	37
26 Abolition of Means Test	37
27 Review of Social Services	37
28 Improved Social Services	37
29 National Superannuation Scheme	37
30 Pension Rate	37
31 Civilian Widows	37
32 Mental Hospital Patients	37
33 Pensioners Allowance	37
34 Automation	37
35 Commonwealth/States Financial Relations	38
36 Foreign Capital	38
37 Labor's Economic Programme	38
38 Educational Requisites	39
39 Child Minding Fees	39
40 Profiteering Enquiry	39
41 Dairying Industry	39
42 Australian Products	39
43 Queensland Fishing Industry	39
44 Wool	39
45 Northern Development Statement	39
46 Meteorological Information	40
47 Northern Education	40
48 Ord River Scheme	40

	<i>Page</i>
49 All Weather Roads	40
50 Decentralisation	40
51 Mineral Resources	40
52 Adult Apprentice Scheme	40
53 Leave	41
54 Technological Changes	41
55 Redundancy	41
56 Status of Women	41
57 Unemployment Benefits	41
58 Servicemen Killed During Service	41
59 Wage Protests	41
60 Superannuation Entitlements	41
61 Annual Holidays	42
62 Postal Employees	42
63 Standard Clothing Sizes	42
64 Charter for Women	42
65 Discrimination Against Women	42
66 Maintenance of Full Employment	42
67 Total Wage Decision	42
68 War Service Homes	43
69 Repatriation Act	43
70 Aborigines' Social Service Entitlement	43
71 Commonwealth Scholarships Schemes	43
72 University Finance	43
73 Royal Commission on Press	43
74 Smoking	44
75 Political Freedom	44
76 Demonstrations	44
77 Vandalism	44
78 Nazi Activities	44
79 Conjoint Elections	44
80 Polling Hours	44
81 Migrant Pamphlets	44
82 Tours by Overseas Socialists	44
83 Party Publicity	45
84 Inflammable and Unsafe Products	45
85 Statement on Northern Australian Development	45

GENERAL POLICY DECISIONS

A Constitutional Reform	48
B Repudiation of the Communist Party	48
C Direction of Members of the F.P.L.P.	48

	<i>Page</i>
D Members Initiating Legal Proceedings	49
E Uniform Taxation	49
F Union Elections	49
G Peace Organisations	51
H Peoples Republic of China	51
I Australian Sovereignty	51
J Penal Clauses	51
K Medical and Hospital Benefit Funds	52

CONSTITUTION, RULES, ETC.

Federal Conference Rules	53
Federal Conference Standing Orders	57
Constitution of Federal Labor Women's Organisation	60
Standing Policy Committee Rules	62

DECISIONS ON PARTY ORGANISATION 64

PREAMBLE

to the Federal Platform of the Australian Labor Party setting out the nature and general philosophy of the Party

The Australian Labor Party is a movement having as its purpose the development of a free, independent and enlightened Australian nation within the British Commonwealth of Nations.

It had its origin in the aspirations of the Australian people for a dignified and constructive way of life.

The Party as a Parliamentary force grew out of the national sentiment and the Trade Union Movements of the 19th century. The entry of Labor into Parliament transformed the political issues in this country to questions of social, economic and industrial reform.

The Australian Labor Party in the Commonwealth and States is democratic, national and constitutional.

It is democratic in that it believes that politics should be conducted within a framework of free elections on the basis of universal adult suffrage; that Governments may be freely elected and freely dismissed by the electorate; that the right of constitutional opposition to a Government is essential to freedom, and the Party rejects the conception that any Government once installed is irremovable.

The Australian Labor Party is national in that it considers that the Welfare of the Australian community cannot be secured by any political movement subject to international discipline, such as the Communist Party.

The Australian Labor Party stands for the most efficient and scientific defence of the Commonwealth, by naval, military, aerial and civil defence, by scientific research, and by a properly planned migration policy.

The Labor Party is constitutional in that it believes that its objectives must be attained by the constitutional utilisation of Federal, State and Local Governments; and that the Constitution should be altered by decisions of the Australian electorate.

The Australian Labor Party rejects theories of revolution, and asserts that these theories have disastrous consequences to the people, and do not attain real and lasting benefits.

The Labor Party policy is made by Federal Conferences of delegates from all States, and the Party policy within the States is framed by conferences of delegates elected by the constituent branches and affiliated unions. Its policy is not framed by directives from the leadership, but by resolutions from the members within branches and affiliated unions.

The Labor Party supports at all times the basic civil rights guaranteed in the past by such historic documents as Magna Carta, the Bill of Rights, and Habeas Corpus; it supports the separation and independence of judicial power from the Executive and the Legislature, freedom of worship, of the Press, of speech, assembly and association.

Political freedom can exist securely only in a society free of the social tensions which issue from poverty, economic injustice and gross economic inequality.

The Labor Party believes in the utilisation of the powers of government to maintain full employment, maximum standards of health and physical efficiency, to

abolish poverty, to clear slums and unhealthy environments, to prevent monopolist concentrations of property, to stabilise the economy, and to ensure freedom from want.

The future of Australia depends in a great degree upon the intelligent use of land for primary production. The Labor Party believes in a public works programme and agricultural policies designed to stabilise agriculture, conserve the soil and forests, provide irrigation and power, and to be the material basis of a prosperous rural community.

The Australian Labor Party believes that the security of the family should be a primary aim of Government. This is best attained by freedom from unemployment, home ownership, and the recognition of the rights of parents in the training and education of their children. The maintenance of the highest standards of moral, academic and technical education requires that the Party at all times should concentrate an adequate part of the national resources on education.

The Labor Party supports international associations and organisations, such as the British Commonwealth of Nations and the United Nations, because they promote peace and international order.

The Party is open to all residents in Australia who are prepared to accept its programme and methods, and who have associations with no other political party.

PLATFORM OF THE AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY

I: OBJECTIVE

The democratic socialisation of industry, production, distribution and exchange — to the extent necessary to eliminate exploitation and other anti-social features in those fields — in accordance with the principles of action, methods and progressive reforms set out in this Platform.

II: INTERPRETATION OF DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISATION

Labor believes that democratic socialisation is the utilisation of the economic assets of the State in the interests of citizens, and that man is greater than the machine he uses or the environment in which he lives.

Labor believes that scientific and technological advancement shall serve the interests of all and not be the exclusive right of the few.

The economic aims of social ownership or social control are full employment, higher production, a rising standard of living and social security.

The Australian Labor Party seeks to secure through democratic socialism —

- (a) Social justice and economic security.
- (b) Freedom of speech, education, assembly, organisation and religion.
- (c) The right of the development of the human personality protected from arbitrary invasion by the State.
- (d) Free election under universal adult and secret franchise, with government by the majority, with recognition for the rights of minorities.
- (e) The rule of law to be the right of all.

III: PRINCIPLES OF ACTION

- (a) Constitutional action through State and Commonwealth Parliaments, municipal and other statutory authorities.
- (b) National planning of the economic, social and cultural development of the Commonwealth.
- (c) Cultivation of Labor ideals and principles, such as enforcement of human rights, correction of injustice, help for the underprivileged, building Australian nationhood and abhorrence of war.
- (d) Promotion of the spirit of community service and of the acceptance of the duties and responsibilities of citizenship.
- (e) Co-operative activities involving training of workers and other producers in the duties and responsibilities of management and where necessary subsidising such activities.
- (f) Achievement of progressive reforms hereinafter described.

IV: METHODS

1. Complete self-government through the Federal Parliament for Australia as a member of the British Commonwealth of Nations, with the Crown or its representative at all times acting solely on the advice of Commonwealth Ministers.
2. Cultivation of Australian National sentiment based on democracy and the development of an enlightened and self-reliant community.
3. Amendment of the Commonwealth Constitution —

- (a) (i) to clothe the Commonwealth Parliament with unlimited powers and with the duty and authority to create States possessing delegated Constitutional powers;
 - (ii) to abolish the Senate; and
 - (iii) pending the achievements of the aims set out in sub-paragraphs (i) and (ii) to remedy defects as they appear and to keep the Constitution abreast of changing conditions.
- (b) To invest the High Court of Australia with final jurisdiction in all questions and matters.
4. Nationalisation of —
- (a) Banking, credit and insurance.
 - (b) Monopolies.
 - (c) Shipping.
 - (d) Radio services and television.
 - (e) Sugar refining.
5. (a) Effective tariff protection of Australian industries and import embargoes in favour of Australian industries capable of supplying the home market — in each case subject to control of prices, to protection of Australian working conditions and to due efficiency in production.
- (b) No tariff preference to another country except upon equitable reciprocal basis.
6. (a) Uniform income taxation to be imposed exclusively by the Federal Parliament.
- (b) Adequate grants in aid to the States by the Federal Parliament with special consideration for the disabilities under Federation of the States of Western Australia, South Australia and Tasmania.
7. No knighthoods or like honours to Australian citizens.
8. Abolition of the State Legislative Councils and of the office of State Governor.
9. Appointment of Australian citizens to the office of Governor-General.

V: ECONOMIC PLANNING

1. Full employment to be promoted and maintained by ensuring sufficient purchasing power and adequate social expenditure and, in particular, by —
- (a) Immediate increases in social services.
 - (b) Provision of immediate and adequate financial aid for education and scientific research to meet all urgent needs and to plan over at least a five-year period.
 - (c) Provision of increased funds through Commonwealth-States housing arrangements so that many more new houses can be built and substandard houses replaced.
 - (d) (i) establishment of a Home Finance Commission to provide finance to construct homes and to guarantee loans from those who will lend at low interest and on low deposits;
 - (ii) encouragement of savings banks and assurance societies to lend more of their funds for housing.
 - (e) Establishment of a Works Planning Council to plan public works nationally over at least a five-year period.
 - (f) Establishment of Regional Development Authorities to provide services and co-ordinate development within their regions.

Such a national policy to promote and maintain full employment will encourage the expansion of the economy and will be limited only by available resources and effective plans to use them.

Inflation can occur in an expanding economy. Unless this is recognised, and provision made to meet it, full employment and economic growth cannot be maintained.

2. Inflation to be prevented and other general economic benefits secured by —
- (a) Regulation of hire purchase and fringe institutions in conformity with regulation of the trading banks.

- (b) Selective regulation of imports to ensure that overseas funds are protected and used in accordance with reasonable priorities in the interests of the community.
- (c) National planning to co-ordinate private and public development, to provide an overall framework for national expenditure and to ensure the best use of resources, particularly the development of mineral and oil resources.

In relation to these measures it will be necessary to use the Commonwealth powers of taxation and subsidy to achieve appropriate regulation, allocation and expenditure in the interest of the national plan and of the community, and for other purposes, such as the regulation of large companies.

3. The pattern of taxation and deductions to be reviewed —
 - (a) To reduce taxation on lower incomes.
 - (b) To adjust the system of deductions to remove inequities.
 - (c) To prevent avoidance of taxation by formation of companies, trusts, or in any other manner.
 - (d) To redefine income for taxation purposes so that a fair share of taxation will be paid by those who benefit from the sale or revaluation of assets and who receive capital gains or issues of bonus shares.
 - (e) To tax company income at graduated rates.
 - (f) To reduce indirect taxation until it is finally removed, except where an indirect tax is needed to achieve the purposes of planning or regulation.
4. Public enterprise to be permitted and required to compete actively with private enterprise in banking, consumer finance, housing and transport.
5. Public enterprise to be established or extended in insurance, stevedoring and overseas shipping and marketing.
6. The severance of the Postmaster-General's Department from Public Service Board control and the Department to be controlled by a Corporation.
7. A continuing Commission to investigate monopolistic industries and, where appropriate, recommend action —
 - (a) To legislate against monopolistic and restrictive practices.
 - (b) To establish or extend public enterprise as a competitor.
 - (c) To nationalise any industry or part thereof.
 - (d) To protect small primary producers, retailers and others.
8. Every encouragement, advice and assistance to be given by governments to the smaller businessman similar to that provided by the Agricultural Extension Services of Australian governments and by the Small Business Administration of the United States government.
9. The re-establishment of the Commonwealth Equipment Pool to enable Local Authorities to draw supplies so preventing exorbitant overhead for plant, etc., and thus releasing funds for other purposes.

VI: EDUCATION

1. Labor education policy depends on the application to education of the democratic principles of freedom and equality. A democratic educational system would be one in which all individuals were given equal opportunities to develop their innate capacities for leading free, happy and useful lives. In particular, it would give all children favourable conditions for the free and harmonious growth of their intellect, emotions and abilities.
2. Education should promote the love of freedom by developing critical judgment, the ability to choose rationally, the capacity for self-Government, and a sense of social responsibility. It should also be used to instil a belief in the equal rights of all men and a respect for the essential humanity of all individuals, irrespective of differences in nationality, colour or belief.
3. It is the obligation of the State to provide a universal free, compulsory, secular

system of education, open to all citizens and planned to develop the set of values enunciated above.

4. (a) Citizens who do not wish to use the school facilities provided by the State, whether for conscientious or other reasons, shall have the absolute right to develop an independent system of schools of a recognised standard provided that the cost of the capital development of this system is not a charge on any government; further that the existing policy of a full public inquiry by the Commonwealth into primary, secondary and technical education in both government and non-government schools be confirmed.
- (b) Pending a determination of conditions under which assistance may be given under Clause 4(a), any forms of benefit existing in a State or Territory at the time of this Conference may be supported in any State or Territory.*
5. Equality in education means that all people are entitled to a universal basic minimum of education, which should provide every individual with the skills and knowledge required for life in a modern community. It is not only the technologist, but the ordinary citizen who should be able to make intelligent use of the fruits of technology. This is particularly so because the growth of education carries the potential danger of widening and entrenching social differences based on specialisations and professionalism, which can lead to great inequalities of opportunity, of income, and of social status between the educated and the uneducated. Only a community of educated people is in a position to resist these tendencies.
6. Equality means, further, that all persons are entitled to have equal efforts spent on their education, that an apprentice is entitled to have the same effort spent on his education as a University student, and that individual capacities are not simply innate and unchangeable, but can be materially affected by social conditions. Equality demands not only the removal of social obstacles for talented individuals, but the provision of social conditions which will give all individuals positive inducements to achieve the realisation of their own capabilities. Such a belief in the personal worth of each individual also demands the recognition that different individuals require different treatment, and that equality in education is achieved not by uniformity, which ignores these differences, but by diversity.
7. This applies particularly to the following special classes of people —
 - (a) Slow learners and handicapped children and adults.
 - (b) Outstandingly gifted children.
 - (c) Adults desiring further education.
 - (d) Workers displaced by technological changes, for whom re-training is needed.
 - (e) Aborigines.
8. To meet Australia's rapidly growing educational needs, specific policy objectives should be based on five considerations —
 - (a) The realisation of the general aims formulated above.
 - (b) The necessity for immediate action to relieve the crisis in Australian education.
 - (c) The raising of public expenditure on education to a point where it no longer compares unfavourably as at present with that of other countries at a similar level of social development.
 - (b) The necessity to improve not only the quantity, but the quality of educational effort by reviewing all important aspects of the educational system.
 - (e) The recognition that these objectives can only be attained by vigorous action on the part of the Commonwealth, in collaboration with the States.

IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVES

9. A short-term programme of action aimed at providing adequate standards of operation within the shortest possible time. Such standards would apply to the numbers and qualifications of teachers, the size of classes, standards of school

building and facilities, and the level of financial assistance to students through bursaries and scholarships. Specific action to include the following —

- (a) A Federal Labor Government will assist and itself share in the production of educational books, aids, equipment, devices and materials.
 - (b) A Federal Labor Government will enable sufficient teachers to receive an adequate professional education to meet the essential requirements of both government and non-government schools along the lines recommended by the Martin Committee.
 - (c) A Federal Labor Government will review Commonwealth scholarship schemes with a view to extending universal free education to qualified university and technical students and progressively introducing living allowances for all students above sixteen years of age.
 - (d) A Federal Labor Government will operate and sponsor educational television services.
 - (e) Other grants in aid for backward sectors of the educational system.
 - (f) A national Conference to follow the recommendations made by the Australian Educational Council in 1960 to determine and recommend priorities for action.
10. An adequate policy of university development to provide —
- (a) A long-range plan for the establishment of more universities in decentralised areas as well as capital cities to keep pace with the ever-increasing demand for university education.
 - (b) The introduction of a wider and more flexible range of institutions of tertiary education.
 - (c) The recognition of higher technological education as an integral part of tertiary education, and the expansion and strengthening of institutions of higher technological education for this purpose.
 - (d) The expansion of facilities for educational research at the higher secondary and post-secondary levels, including detailed studies of the growing demand for education, the problem of student wastage and failure rates, and methods of selection for university entrance.
 - (e) Special action to strengthen honours work, post-graduate study, and research in the university, and to ensure that adequate staffing of the present and additional universities envisaged in (a) is available.
 - (f) More residential accommodation for students.
11. An immediate review of the elements contributing to the continuing shortage of trained teachers, with appropriate action to overcome this lack in the near future. Matters which should be reviewed include —
- (a) The present system of "bonding" teachers.
 - (b) The number of scholarships and bursaries available for teacher training and the conditions that are attached to these awards.
 - (c) Steps necessary to retain the services of women teachers.
 - (d) The provision of improved facilities for the training of kindergarten teachers.
12. The establishment of a Commonwealth Department of Education and of a corresponding Ministerial portfolio. The functions of this department would include the following —
- (a) To strengthen and enlarge the present activities of the Commonwealth Office of Education, in connection with research, statistics, and international co-operation, etc.
 - (b) To support educational research through grants to universities and research institutes, the encouragement of national conferences, etc.
 - (c) To administer educational grants, and be responsible for legislation.
 - (d) To provide an administrative centre for various investigatory and advisory bodies such as the Australian Universities Commission, an Australian Educational Council of Federal and State Ministers meeting frequently, a Standing Committee of Directors of Education and appropriate specialised panels.

13. This new Department should also be responsible for organising local and continuing enquiries into the whole range of educational problems for the purpose of —
 - (a) Providing a sound basis for concerted national education policies.
 - (b) Promoting a greater and better informed public understanding and appreciation of educational matters.
14. These enquiries shall include such topics as—
 - (a) Educational finance and administration.
 - (b) The training of teachers.
 - (c) Inter-State co-operation and reciprocity.
 - (d) The quality and supply of school textbooks.
 - (e) The equipping, stocking and staffing of libraries.
 - (f) The teaching of science at school.
 - (g) Technical education, viewed as a whole.
 - (h) Further education for adults.
 - (i) Teaching methods.
 - (j) The education of non-academic children in secondary schools.

[*NOTE: The following interpretation of Clause 4 was adopted by the July 1966 Conference:

Pending determination of conditions under which assistance may be given the prohibition against providing the cost of capital development to private schools as contained in Clause 4 shall not operate if in fact capital grants are being made to private schools in any State or Territory at this date.]

VII: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Science must not be regarded as a compartment, separate from other aspects of life. It is a fountainhead of human progress, the source from which technological and social changes spring, and it affects all aspects of life.

Australia desperately needs national scientific policies which will embrace not only planning for scientific research and development, but also enable the results of scientific research and development in Australia and elsewhere to be applied in every aspect of Australia's industries and in its culture.

Labor therefore proposes —

ADMINISTRATION

1. A Minister with direct responsibility for Science and Technology.
2. An Australian Science Council, with a rotating membership of senior academic, industrial and governmental scientists, and a secretariat, to assist Parliament and the Minister on science and technology.
3. A Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, charged with reviewing policy on science and technology, and the scientific aspects of general governmental policy.
4. To spend more on scientific and technological research and development, and to introduce long-term budgeting for this.

ORGANISATION

Australia needs to expand its activities in scientific and technological research and development, and its scientists need greater independence from unnecessary controls.

Labor therefore proposes —

5. A review of the organisation of governmental scientific and technological research, and of research funding bodies, to be carried out by the Australian Science Council.
6. Maintaining C.S.I.R.O. and freeing it from Public Service Board control.
7. Expansion of research work in the universities.

8. Establishment of a body similar to C.S.I.R.O. to conduct research in the social sciences.
9. An independent National Science Foundation to distribute funds to individuals and teams in universities, research institutes and industry, and for research in physical and social sciences and technology.
10. Geological research and survey, forestry research and atomic energy research to be carried out in C.S.I.R.O. or similar independent statutory organisations.
11. Establishment of a representative and expert working party on all aspects of air and water pollution.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Australia's future, and the well-being of its people, depends on the scientific development of its natural resources. Development is not mere exploitation; it means wise use of natural resources. Non-renewable resources, such as minerals, should be used without waste, with research and planning for alternatives. Yields from renewable resources, such as soil, water, plants and animals, should be maintained or increased. Enough of both kinds of resources, and particularly of our natural landscapes, must be reserved for social, cultural, educational and scientific purposes.

Labor therefore proposes —

11. The establishment within the Department of National Development of divisions dealing with the scientific assessment and utilisation of natural resources.
12. A natural Resources Council to assist the Minister for National Development in formulating policy for the scientific development of natural resources.
13. Co-ordination of the activities of bodies involved in nature conservation and the establishment, with the co-operation of the States, of a nation-wide system of national parks and wild-life reserves.
14. Field study centres, to be established in consultation with Commonwealth and State Departments of Education, and the Australian Universities Commission.
15. Expansion of activities in land research and regional survey, and commencement of a biological resources survey.
16. A National Institute of Oceanography to conduct research and survey in all aspects of oceanography.

APPLICATION

The present time-lag between the making of scientific and technological discoveries and their application by primary and secondary industry and medicine must be reduced. Furthermore, Australia has, in the past, lost most of the benefit of certain discoveries made by its scientists and technologists because insufficient provision has been made for developing a discovery to the point where it can be applied.

Labor proposes to close this development gap by —

17. Creating a Development Division in C.S.I.R.O., or a Research Development Corporation, to develop and exploit the results of research.
18. Improved extension services to industry, agriculture and medicine, including regional agricultural centres and programmes of further education.
19. Tax incentives to industries to conduct research and development.
20. Expanding government and government-subsidised testing laboratories.
21. Reduction of Customs duties on materials and equipment used in research.
22. Hiring or lending expensive scientific equipment.
23. Encouraging the establishment of industry research associations.

INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE

Scientific and technological research is an international activity in which Australia must participate fully if she is not to be cut off from the mainstream of developments. Furthermore, Australia has a responsibility to assist the developing nations to raise

the standards and scope of their scientific and technological research programmes.

Labor therefore proposes —

24. Strengthening Australia's participation in international scientific activities.
25. A scheme of post-doctorate and senior fellowships to enable Australian scientists and technologists to obtain overseas experience, and to enable qualified persons from overseas to carry out research in Australia.
26. Special provision for the exchange, on a temporary basis, of personnel between governmental research organisations within the Commonwealth of Nations.

CONCLUSION

The achievement of the foregoing proposals depends on —

- Adequate science education at every level.
- More and better-trained science teachers.
- More graduates, especially with higher degrees.
- Maintenance of the traditional freedoms of scientists.

VIII: CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Cultural affairs form a vital part of Australian life and can be only adequately developed with enlightened encouragement and financial support from the Commonwealth Government. Government support for cultural matters need not, if properly administered, threaten the individuality or integrity of Australian art and can provide guidance and assistance.

Labor would create a Minister of Cultural Affairs, with responsibility for the general cultural development of Australia, particularly —

- (a) administration of the Commonwealth Literary Fund and similar schemes;
- (b) subsidies for approved cultural undertakings and support for major festivals such as the Adelaide Festival of Arts and the Festival of Perth;
- (c) sponsorship of international goodwill visits to and from Australia by leading artists, musicians, literary figures, theatrical companies, etc.;
- (d) censorship;
- (e) support for the Institute of Aboriginal Affairs in its study of the important aspects of aboriginal life, art, music, and lore, aiming especially at the training of suitable, interested aborigines to carry out the work of editing and transmitting aboriginal culture.

IX: HOUSING

PREAMBLE

The aim of a Labor Government would be to ensure that every family can secure accommodation of its own choosing, appropriate to its own needs.

The Commonwealth can, itself, undertake the construction and financing of houses for present and former members of the Forces, Commonwealth employees, migrants, Social Service beneficiaries and residents of the Territories.

The Commonwealth can make grants to the States for any housing or environmental purpose, can grant benefits to tenants and purchasers of houses, and can regulate the amount and terms of housing loans by banks and insurance companies.

Labor's housing programme would be planned to —

COMMONWEALTH GRANTS

1. (a) Make grants to the States to construct houses at the lowest possible interest rate for sale or rental, with priority to those most in need, in conditions which conform to specified standards of services, amenities and accessibility.
- (b) Make conditional grants to the States for the reclamation and rehabilitation of depressed areas in accordance with modern town planning.
- (c) Make additional special grants to enable States to engage in forward acquisition of land for State housing projects, for development and/or sale.

- (d) Make grants to the States for the provision of such community amenities in housing estates constructed with Commonwealth grants as the Commonwealth itself provides in housing estates in the Territories.

COMMONWEALTH SUBSIDIES

2. Provide subsidies —
 - (a) For tenants or purchasers who through bereavement or injury become unable to meet a prescribed economic rental or repayment.
 - (b) For bereaved or invalid persons who cannot secure housing within their means.

COMMONWEALTH INSTRUMENTALITY

3. Expand the War Service Homes Division to cater for all persons who come within the Commonwealth's constitutional responsibility.

AGED PERSONS HOMES ACT

4. (a) Extend the Commonwealth subsidy of \$4 for \$2 allowed under the Aged Persons Homes Act to cover Local Government, trade unions and other approved bodies.
 - (b) Amendment of the Act to authorise the Commonwealth Government to subsidise State Government instrumentalities on all moneys spent in building homes or infirmaries for the aged.

RURAL AREAS

5. Provide special aid for housing in rural and decentralised areas by indemnifying lending authorities against loss.

WAR SERVICE HOMES

6. Raise the War Service Homes loan limit to \$12,000 and extend the purposes for which supplementary loans can be made available at $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.

HOMES SAVINGS GRANT SCHEME

7. Remove anomalies from the Home Savings Grant Scheme, including the age limit of 36 years and the exclusion of savings deposited with credit unions and super-annuation savings scheme.

BUILDING SOCIETIES

8. Ensure adequate finance to Building Societies by requiring banks and assurance companies to divert a prescribed proportion of securities to a central Building Society pool for allocation by a high council of Society representatives to individual Societies.

COMMONWEALTH BANK

9. Establish a Homes Finance Division of the Commonwealth Bank incorporating architectural, inspection and insurance services, to provide finance at $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. and up to 95 per cent. of the value of a couple's first home to a limit of \$12,000.

MARRIAGE GRANTS

10. Reduce Home Mortgages by way of a Commonwealth grant of \$200 in respect of each child born during the period of the mortgage.

NATIONAL INQUIRY

11. Institute a comprehensive national inquiry into housing needs and all associated matters.

BUILDING RESEARCH

12. Expand and develop the Building Materials Section of C.S.I.R.O. with respect to research and the application of that research and stimulate the efforts of other research bodies.

UNIFORM STANDARDS

13. Institute negotiations with the States to attain uniformity of building codes, standards and practices.

STAMP DUTIES

14. Indemnify such States as forgo stamp duties and conveyancing fees on housing transactions.

X: HEALTH

PREAMBLE

Believing that health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity, and that the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is a fundamental right of every citizen, a Labor Government would promote the establishment of a comprehensive public health service available to all who choose to use it and staffed by those who choose to serve in it.

OBJECTIVE

1. The establishment of a comprehensive Health Service providing both government and private services.

GENERAL PRACTITIONER SERVICE

2. The provision of General Practitioner Medical Services staffed by salaried medical practitioners willing to join and available without charge and without Means Test to persons who choose to use such services.
3. The payment of Commonwealth benefit to all patients who choose to use private services irrespective of their membership of voluntary insurance organisations.

HOSPITALISATION

4. A national hospital service, including hospitalisation without charge and without Means Test, in public wards of public hospitals and appropriate financial provision in approved private beds.
5. Additional grants to the States for hospitals supplying the following services: (a) Salaried in-patient specialist staff, (b) salaried out-patient specialist staff, (c) obstetrical, (d) domiciliary, (e) geriatric, (f) dental, (g) optometrical, (h) rehabilitation, (i) ambulance, and such other services as are necessary for comprehensive medical care, on a regional basis.

SPECIALIST SERVICE

6. Grants to the States to provide that patients in all wards of public hospitals have the option of using, without charge, the services of specialists, remunerated by salaries or sessional fees.

MENTAL HEALTH

7. Grants to the States for Mental Health Services to provide for —
 - (a) The training of specialist and ancillary personnel.
 - (b) The raising of present Mental Hospitals in all States to the highest standards.
 - (c) Services for rehabilitation.

(d) Day hospitals.

(e) Facilities for treatment separate from, but in association with general hospitals.

DENTAL HEALTH

8. (a) The formation of a Division of Dental Health within the Commonwealth Department of Health.
- (b) The provision of Dental Services to be conducted by salaried dental staff willing to join and available without charge and without Means Test to persons who choose to use such services.
- (c) The establishment of a Post Graduate School of Dentistry at the Australian National University.

OPTICAL SERVICE

9. The provision of Optical Services staffed by salaried qualified personnel willing to join and available without charge and without Means Test to persons who choose to use such services.

ARTIFICIAL AIDS

10. Artificial limbs and hearing aids to be provided without charge for all who need them, and for this purpose the Commonwealth Artificial Limb Factories and the Commonwealth Acoustic Laboratories to be expanded.

RESEARCH

11. The promotion of health research under the over-all aegis of the National Science Foundation.
12. The Foundation to sponsor visits to and from overseas research centres.
13. The promotion of research in the field of new pharmaceutical products.
14. The establishment of a Health Computer Service on a national basis in which the details of an individual's medical record may be recorded, with the person's consent, for the purpose of research, statistics and the individual's medical treatment.

MEDICAL EDUCATION

15. The establishment of an Australian Medical Education Advisory Committee comprising representatives of Australian Medical Schools and the appropriate professional bodies to advise on the revision of facilities for and the training of medical students.

HEALTH CAMPAIGNS

16. (a) The development of Public Health and Industrial Medicine campaigns by the Commonwealth Department of Health in co-operation with the States.
- (b) Larger grants to the States for Physical Fitness to enable the National Fitness Councils set up by the Government to more adequately promote physical fitness campaigns.

REGISTRATION

17. The Commonwealth to approach the States and the appropriate professional bodies to achieve national recognition of qualifications, registration and uniform discipline for general medical practitioners, medical specialists and other qualified personnel.

NATIONAL STANDARDS

18. The Commonwealth to approach the States to achieve national drug and food standards.

19. The Commonwealth to approach the States to achieve national registration and control of irradiation apparatus, radio-active materials and other biophysical substances and equipment.

COMMONWEALTH SERUM LABORATORIES

20. The promotion of the manufacture, bulk purchase and wholesale distribution of pharmaceutical products through the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories.

PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS

21. The dispensing of prescriptions without direct charge to the patient.

GENERAL

22. The conclusion and ratification of Conventions and the development of programmes under the auspices of the General Assembly and the Specialised Agencies of the United Nations in order to promote national and international good health.

XI: SOCIAL SERVICES

1. The payment of Social Service benefits at the highest possible rate warranted by the respective services.
2. The payment of Social Service benefits to assist the needy sections of the community and thus remove gross inequalities in living standards.
3. The progressive easing of the Means Test with a view to its ultimate abolition.
4. No Australian citizen shall be disqualified from receiving a Social Service pension on account of the period of residence in Australia.
5. Australian citizens shall not cease to receive pensions because of residence abroad.
6. A full pension for the wife of an aged or invalid pensioner who does not qualify in her own right.
7. The appointment of a Parliamentary Committee to keep social services under constant review.

XII: REPATRIATION

1. Liberal treatment to be extended to all soldiers disabled as a result of war service and to their dependants. Creation of an Independent Appeal Board to finally decide all appeals relating to pensions.
2. Sympathetic administration of repatriation in relation to the valuation and terms and conditions of occupancy of farm properties and homes provided for returned soldiers and their dependants.
3. Cancer patients to receive repatriation benefits whether the cancer is war caused or not.
4. The Totally and Permanently Invalid Pension to be raised to not less than the adult minimum wage as determined by the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission.
5. War pensions, including the general and special rate, and family allowances, shall not be taken into consideration as income for the payment of service pensions or corresponding social service pensions. This proposal to be implemented within three years with substantial relief being granted in the first year.
6. War pensions paid to dependant children shall be continued up to the completion of full-time education.
7. Free medical and hospital treatment for all ex-servicemen of the Boer War and the First World War will be implemented in the first year of a Labor Government. The ultimate objective will be to grant free medical and hospital treatment to all ex-servicemen.
8. Funeral benefit to be raised to at least \$100.
9. War Widows' pensions to be restored to not less than the 1949 value.

XIII: INDUSTRIAL

1. A working week to consist of not more than five consecutive days, with a maximum of 35 hours and with a progressive reduction to 30 hours.
2. Wage standards to be progressively increased as industrial productivity expands.
3. A complete overhaul of the functions of the Commonwealth Commission of Conciliation and Arbitration to ensure regular periodical enquiry by the Commonwealth Commission of Conciliation and Arbitration into standards of wages and working hours, and the re-introduction and maintenance of the principle of quarterly Basic Wage adjustments on the basis of statistical cost-of-living figures.
4. A referendum to give the Commonwealth Parliament the power to make laws with respect to terms and conditions of industrial employment, including power to make laws with respect to the prevention and settlement of industrial disputes by means of conciliation and arbitration and to establish authorities of the Commonwealth and authorise authorities established or under the law of a State to determine terms and conditions of industrial employment and to prevent and settle industrial disputes.
5. Preference to unionists.
6. Department of Industrial Statistics to be established under the direction of a council, including representatives of employees and employers.
7. No discrimination between the sexes with the introduction of —
 - (a) Equal pay for work of equal value.
 - (b) The rate for the job in those professions, trades or callings where there is no male equivalent.
 - (c) The I.L.O. Convention No. 100, and Article 5 of Recommendation 90 of equal remuneration for men and women workers for work of equal value.
 - (d) The establishment of a Women's Bureau, within the Department of Labour and National Service.
8. Creation of an efficient inspectorate acting in co-operation with trade union officials to police and enforce Federal Industrial Acts and Awards.
9. Appointment of Federal industrial magistrates to deal with breaches of Awards and industrial laws.
10. Amendment of Workers' Compensation Acts to provide compensation for sufferers of all industrial diseases and to secure adequate entitlements for injured or disabled workers, the scheme to be based on the compulsory insurance by employers of all workers.
11. Adequate representation of trade unions on boards, commissions, trusts or similar government-created bodies.
12. Enactment of a Commonwealth Mines and Regulation Act.
13. Commonwealth legislation to provide for a bond to be given by travelling theatrical bodies to ensure the return of employees to Australia.
14. All contracts made by the Commonwealth authorities shall provide for preference to unionists, and observance of Award rates and conditions by contractors and sub-contractors.
15. Amendment of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act to provide right of entry to industrial establishments for trade union officials during working hours.
16. The Commonwealth to promote the conclusion, ratification and application of conventions and recommendations of the International Labor Organisation.

XIV: TECHNICAL CHANGE

Believing that the purpose of automation and technology must be to provide a better and fuller life for all, a Labor government will ensure that the benefits flowing from contemporary and future techniques are distributed in a fashion consistent with

the maintenance of full employment, improved living standards, educational facilities and cultural and leisure opportunities.

A Labor government will have a Minister with special responsibility for automation and technology.

The Minister will be charged with the responsibility of planning for the smooth, efficient and just introduction of mechanisation and automation.

A Labor government will immediately establish a permanent standing committee to advise the Minister, composed of representatives of the employers, trade unions, State governments and consumer interests. The Committee will have power to appoint special industries committees.

A Labor government will urge upon the States the need to establish similar committees at State levels in order to ensure the maximum co-ordination between all governments.

A Parliamentary Committee will be established to report on the activities of the various instrumentalities involved.

An inter-Departmental Committee will also be established to co-ordinate the activities of the various government departments affected by the transition into the automated society.

To encourage the use of leisure time the Department would collaborate with the Department of Cultural Affairs.

XV: RURAL

1. The encouragement of co-operation among primary producers.
2. Australia-wide co-operative pools for the marketing and financing of the sale of farm products.
3. The granting of relief to necessitous primary producers against the ravages of drought, fire, hail, flood and pests, and the establishment of a grain and fodder reserve against periods of short supply.
4. Better rural facilities for postal, telegraph and telephonic communications and the introduction wherever possible of television to rural areas together with improved radio broadcasting facilities.
5. (a) Increased trade commissioner appointments in overseas countries to establish markets for Australian products.
(b) The appointment of a special investigation authority to investigate and report on action necessary to rapidly expand the marketing of Australian primary products in Asia, Africa and South America.
6. Efficient meteorological facilities for recording and publishing information with regard to weather, rainfall and river gaugings.
7. Majority representation of primary producers upon all boards affecting the handling and marketing of their products.
8. All Commonwealth primary products marketing legislation to be reviewed and, where necessary, amended to provide for the more effective co-ordination, control and marketing of primary products in Australia and overseas by the Marketing Boards concerned.
9. The establishment of an Export Credit Corporation as an ancillary of the Commonwealth Bank to provide long-term non-interest loans to overseas countries to assist the sale of Australian primary products.
10. The payment of a Commonwealth contribution to Wool Promotion Funds provided by woolgrowers. This contribution to be reviewed annually in relation to any variation in woolgrowers' contributions.
11. Co-operation with the States for the following purposes —
 - (a) The initiation of an effective system under which land will be made available for productive use.
 - (b) The establishment, wherever practicable, of factories for the production of agricultural plant and machinery in competition with private enterprise.
 - (c) Water conservation and irrigation accompanied by an investigation of the

water resources of Australia, including the desalination of water with priority for less developed areas.

- (d) The encouragement of secondary industries and the provision of cheap light and power in rural areas, with Commonwealth assistance wherever possible, for the establishment of nuclear and tidal power stations, and the effective use of natural gas resources.
 - (e) Extension of civil aviation and improved radio communication to country districts.
 - (f) Construction of railways, roads, aerodromes and the development of ports as a means of bringing producers in touch with their natural markets by the shortest routes.
 - (g) The comprehensive development under Government control of Australia's mineral resources, with emphasis on the need for discovery of new deposits.
 - (h) Research work for the improvement of rural production and the further development of extension services to ensure that producers receive the benefit of such research.
12. The provision of fertiliser subsidies.

XVI: TRANSPORT

PREAMBLE

1. (a) Establish the Inter-State Commission to co-ordinate all types of inter-State transport in Australia, including rail, road, air, water and pipelines (except for water and town gas pipelines) and to regulate conditions of carriage.
- (b) Commonwealth grants to the States with a view to co-ordinating all forms of transport.
- (c) The Commonwealth to operate any railways, ports, air routes, shipping services or pipelines referred to it by any State or States.
- (d) The Commonwealth progressively to construct, charter and operate sufficient ships to carry an equitable share of Australia's exports and imports.
- (e) The Commonwealth to build roads to promote exports and inter-State traffic.
- (f) The Commonwealth to compete actively with private enterprise in inter-State transport by sea, air or road.
- (g) A referendum to give the Commonwealth Parliament complete powers to make laws with respect to all forms of transport.

SHIPPING

2. Modern shipping services to be maintained by Australian built, owned and manned ships, and for this purpose the continuance of a Commonwealth owned shipping service.
3. The Commonwealth to construct and maintain adequate dry-docking facilities.
4. The Commonwealth to establish a Merchant Marine College.
5. A referendum to give the Commonwealth Parliament the power to make laws with respect to navigation and shipping.

ROAD

6. The Commonwealth to spend the full tax paid by road users on the construction, improvement and maintenance of roads.
7. The Commonwealth to seek to achieve uniform traffic laws.

RAIL

8. The standardisation of Australian rail gauges to 4 ft. 8½ ins.
9. Undertake as a matter of urgency the construction of the North/South standardised rail link in the interests of national defence, national development

and to provide feeder services for the vast cattle-raising resources of the Northern Territory and the western area of Queensland.

CIVIL AVIATION

10. Examine the detrimental effects of the rationalisation policy on T.A.A., the travelling public and on the development of Australia.
11. Support the policy of Government business being carried by Government-owned airways.
12. A referendum to give the Commonwealth Parliament the power to make laws with respect to aviation.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

13. The Commonwealth to promote the conclusion, ratification and application of transport conventions under the auspices of the General Assembly of the United Nations and its specialised agencies.

XVII: NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

1. The establishment of a Commonwealth Department for the development of Northern Australia and of a corresponding Ministerial portfolio. The area involved shall not only include the Northern Territory, but also the northern parts of Queensland and Western Australia, which shall be determined after consultation with the State Governments concerned.
2. The Department shall be subject to the authority of a full-time Minister and shall be composed of experts in the various fields of social, physical and biological sciences and of engineering which may be deemed necessary. Any project which may be considered shall be subject to the prior condition of intense and expert research. The Department shall act as a planning and co-ordinating authority with power to initiate projects in its own right or in consultation and co-operation with the States. A further function of the Department would be to co-ordinate the application of the existing constructional resources of Commonwealth, State and local governments.
3. Adequate finance shall be made available to permit the Department to discharge its responsibilities.
4. Decentralisation of those functions of Commonwealth Government Departments and instrumentalities relevant to the administration and development of Northern Australia.
5. Establishment of an office of the Australian News and Information Bureau at a suitable point in Northern Australia for the purpose of publicity and promotion of the North for dissemination through overseas and domestic media.
6. (a) The Northern Territory to have a fully elected Legislative Assembly and the question of referred powers to be one for negotiation.
(b) The establishment of local government in the Northern Territory wherever practicable.
7. With a view to applying taxation concessions, both personal and company, an investigation shall be made as to their extent in various areas having regard for the degrees of economic and physical hardship.

XVIII: IMMIGRATION

Convinced that increased population is vital to the future development of Australia, the Australian Labor Party will support and uphold a vigorous and expanding immigration programme administered with sympathy, understanding and tolerance. The basis of such policy will be—

- (a) Australia's national and economic security.
- (b) The welfare and integration of all its citizens.

- (c) The preservation of our democratic system and balanced development of our nation.
- (d) The avoidance of the difficult social and economic problems which may follow from an influx of peoples having different standards of living, traditions and cultures.

XIX: BROADCASTING, TELEVISION AND PRESS

TELEVISION

The Australian Labor Party asserts that because of the development of monopolistic control over commercial television in Australia, this most powerful form of mass communication has failed to carry out its proper role of providing programmes which inform, entertain and educate the Australian people.

The grant by the Government of a licence for a commercial television station confers upon the licensee a quasi-monopolistic right to telecast programmes. This is a highly privileged position and it carries corresponding responsibilities of a national character.

There is grave public concern that commercial television has fallen largely into the hands of a privileged few who already control the main monopoly newspaper and radio interests in Australia. There is also great disquiet at the excessive amount of advertising on commercial television and, as evidenced by the report of the Senate Select Committee on Television, at the high proportion of imported programmes depicting crime, horror and violence.

The Australian Labor Party believes there should be a much greater degree of public participation in and control of this most important medium. Television can do much to improve the educational, cultural and artistic standards of Australians in an entertaining and informative manner, and in order to provide better programmes and to overcome the dangers inherent in the present monopolistic trend, as immediate objectives a Labor Government will—

- (i) Ensure that the general principles set out in the recommendations of the report of the Senate Select Committee on Television of October, 1963, are implemented. In particular, the obligations of the Australian Broadcasting Control Board and the commercial television stations, as emphasised by the Senate Select Committee, will be enforced.
- (ii) Encourage the Australian Broadcasting Commission to provide wider coverage and more comprehensive programmes to serve the best interests of the general public.
- (iii) Undertake a complete review of the conditions upon which television licences are granted.

BROADCASTING

Commercial broadcasting stations have obligations and responsibilities similar to those of commercial television stations, and the licensees, as in the case of television licensees, have failed to carry out their obligations to provide programmes which inform, entertain and educate.

As immediate objectives a Labor Government will—

- (i) Undertake a complete review of the conditions under which radio licences are issued and renewed to commercial broadcasting stations.
- (ii) Take steps to increase the Australian content in radio programmes.
- (iii) Expand the existing network of the Australian Broadcasting Commission.
- (iv) Establish and maintain the principle of fair and unbiased reporting in broadcasting material relating to current affairs and other programmes of a controversial nature.

PRESS

- (i) The establishment of an Australian Newspaper Commission to publish newspapers in Canberra and in the capital of any State which authorises the Commission to function in that State.

- (ii) The Commission shall—
 - (a) consist of persons occupying specified positions in selected institutions;
 - (b) appoint editors and have the sole right to direct them on policy;
 - (c) have power to appoint committees to advise on the policy and economics of each of its newspapers.
- (iii) The newspapers to be operated on a commercial basis in competition with existing newspapers.
- (iv) Newspapers to be first established in those capitals where the existing newspapers are controlled by one company or by associated companies.

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES

To ensure that an accurate and comprehensive portrayal of Australia is presented to overseas countries, and in order to obtain the widest coverage possible, a Labor Government will restore the Commonwealth News and Information Bureau to its former role as a Department of Information and greatly expand its operations and activities.

XX: ABORIGINES

1. A Ministry of Aborigine Affairs to be established to administer and exercise the new powers conferred on the Commonwealth Parliament by the 1967 Referendum.
2. Aborigines to have rights and opportunities equal with all other Australians.
3. Aborigines to receive the standard rate of wages for the job and to receive the same industrial protection as other Australians. Special provision for employment to be provided in regions where they reside.
4. Detribalised aborigines to have free and compulsory education, and tribal and nomadic aborigines to have special provision for education. Adult education to be fully available.
5. Special provision for aborigines to secure houses wherever they choose to live.
6. A health offensive to be launched to eliminate leprosy, yaws, hookworm, tuberculosis and contagious diseases and to reduce infant mortality. Efficient mortality statistics to be maintained to measure the effectiveness of these policies among aborigines.
7. Aborigines to have the right to receive social services in the same way as all other Australians.
8. Special provision for aborigines to reside in reservations where they prefer. Forms of titles and land ownership to be investigated.
9. Every form of discrimination against aborigines to be ended.
10. A Parliamentary Committee to be established to study all aspects of policy affecting aborigines.

XXI: PAPUA/NEW GUINEA

Australia's administration of Papua and New Guinea must be to work to bring about independence and an economically viable nationhood as early as possible.

The political, educational, social and economic development of Papua and New Guinea involves a heavy burden upon Australia, and financial and technical assistance should be sought from the United Nations and its agencies.

Labor's programme for the progress of New Guinea shall include—

1. A common roll for Parliamentary and Local Governments elections with adult suffrage for all resident citizens.
2. A Representative Parliament with single member constituencies, one vote one value and open candidature. Gradual elimination of the right of veto by the Administrator and the Governor-General over ordinances of the Parliament of the Territory.
3. Development of a ministerial system of Government, responsible to the Parliament.

4. Extension of the Local Government system with enlarged powers and increased finance by subvention from public funds and contribution by estates; extension of elected municipal councils.
5. Free and compulsory education of all children. English to be taught in all schools and to be, as far as possible, the language of instruction. An efficient system of education, pre-school, primary, secondary and university, to be established. The immediate aim of education to be to create a core of skilled people for the needs of nationhood. Immediate expansion of secondary schools with scholarships to students to induce them to undertake higher education.
6. (a) No alienation of land in the Territories from Indigenes, except to or for Indigenes.
 (b) The acquisition of land by purchase or resumption where it is established that the interests of the Indigenous people require it, or abuses have occurred.
 (c) Leasehold policy to be decided henceforth by the Parliament of Papua and New Guinea.
7. The preparation of a housing and town planning programme to improve the standard of housing for all peoples, to eliminate and avoid slum concentrations around the major settlements and to provide accommodation for indigenous public servants wherever they are posted.
8. Government finance and other necessary forms of assistance to enable land settlement co-operatives to be established and developed by New Guineans and to develop co-operatives for the treatment, milling, shipping and marketing of production by New Guineans.
9. Government-owned and operated shipping services, including a coastal shipping service, to compete with existing shipping services.
10. The Commonwealth to establish enterprises by itself or in partnership with others with a view to transferring the Commonwealth interest to New Guinea governmental enterprises as early as possible.
11. Prohibition of all forms of economic, social or political discrimination.
12. Abolition of the native contract system, and its replacement by a system of conciliation and arbitration for laying down a proper standard of wages and working conditions. Every facility shall be provided for the organisation of strong trade unions.
13. A continuing campaign of preventive medicine in co-operation with the World Health Organisation. Free medical and hospital treatment.
14. A complete review of all wage and salary scales for overseas and local officers in the public service. The introduction of an adequate compensation scheme for overseas officers replaced by local officers.
15. Arrangements with the States for skilled officers to be loaned to the New Guinea public service without loss of emoluments and opportunities.

XXII: DEFENCE

1. Australia's national policy must be to ensure her territorial security, the security of her overseas trade and her development as an independent but co-operative nation.

The nation's defence must be so arranged that the intention of Australia to defend herself to the limits of her ability is clear beyond all doubt to her own people, to her allies and to any potential aggressor.

A mutual defence system should be developed among nations within the South-East Asia and Indian sub-continental areas and beyond, consistent with the requirements of the United Nations Charter and with the general provisions of Australia's existing defence treaty commitments.

Labor's defence and foreign policies are based on the conviction that war can and must be prevented and Australia has a part to play in its prevention.

Australia asserts the right to consultation in the great decisions of peace and war, and should not be committed to any course of action without consultation.

2. Provision of strong defence forces :—
 - (a) Properly equipped and provided with modern weapons of war.
 - (b) Capable of great mobility in areas necessary for Australia's defence.
 - (c) Having sufficient range and strike power to deter aggressors.
 - (d) Capable of being used for maintenance and supervision of peace as part of United Nations forces or for carrying out international peace keeping agreements.
 - (e) Australian forces should not interfere in the internal affairs of any country, and should not be used to impose or enforce forms of government on any people.
3. Provision of strong regular and citizen defence forces which can be rapidly mobilised in time of war.
4. In procuring and servicing defence supplies and equipment, the Australian government should as far as practicable promote Australian aircraft, shipbuilding, electronics and communications industries.
5. Provision of ports, airfields, roads and railways, which will contribute to the mobility of defence forces and the material development of the nation.
6. Government control of the manufacture of munitions and the prohibition of the private export of arms and munitions.
7. Comprehensive and self-contained Australian legislation to apply to Australian forces serving inside and outside Australia.
8. Revision of procedures to facilitate access to the Courts Martial Appeals Tribunal and incorporation of the Tribunal in the Commonwealth Superior Court.
9. Defence forces not to be used in industrial disputes.
10. (a) Commonwealth responsibility for Civil Defence and for the financing of civil emergency services; and the establishment of professional civil defence and civil emergency services.
- (b) Proper missile protection of strategic and industrial areas against air attack.
- (c) Regular consultation between the Commonwealth and the States concerning the siting or extension of defence installations.
11. Only the armed forces shall provide military training and it shall be illegal for any other person or organisation to do so.

XXIII: FOREIGN AFFAIRS

1. PREAMBLE

The Labor Party, as a democratic socialist and internationalist Party, believes that every nation must share in the skills of mankind and the resources of the world according to its needs and must contribute to those skills and resources according to its capacity.

The Labor Party believes Australia cannot isolate herself from the struggles of the peoples of the world for economic development, security and self-government.

Australia should give firm and unwavering support to the United Nations and its Agencies, and to the United Nations Charter, and every effort should be made to make the United Nations an effective instrument for justice, peace, political, social and economic advancement.

As a member of the Commonwealth of Nations, Australia should foster it as an instrument for peace, understanding and for political, social and economic advancement.

The alliance with the United States is of crucial importance in the foreign policy of Australia and it should be an instrument for justice, peace, political, social and economic advancement.

Australia should co-operate in the development of the South East Asian area to strengthen the fabric of peace and freedom and to uphold the principles of democracy, individual liberty and the rule of law, and to promote economic well-being and development.

Australia should take initiatives for the maintenance of peace and good relations

between herself and her Asian and Pacific neighbours and should proffer her good offices to further peace in her region.

Australia should honor all her treaties and alliances; and all treaties and alliances should respect the freedom and security of the peoples, and their right to determine their own forms of government without external interference.

2. AID

Since hunger and poverty cause violence and unrest the solution must be found in other than military action.

- (a) Australia should contribute not less than one per cent of her national income to developing nations and should encourage and match increasing contributions by other developed nations.
- (b) Australia should aim and should encourage other nations to channel international aid as much as possible through international agencies.
- (c) The Colombo Plan should be supported and extended.
- (d) Australia should initiate a development plan for the pooling of capital, technical and training resources to assist the peoples of South-East Asia and the Pacific area to make political, social and economic advancement.
- (e) Australia should accept the aid which developing nations may provide.

3. DISARMAMENT

The security of mankind lies ultimately in agreement for total disarmament.

Labor declares its opposition to nuclear tests at any time by any nation. Australia should take all necessary steps to initiate conferences of all nations directed towards banning tests, verifying the effectiveness of the bans, and arranging regional bans as an interim policy.

Labor is opposed to the development, possession and use of nuclear weapons. Australia should initiate conferences among all nations directed to the establishment of nuclear free zones and in particular a zone in the region of Australia.

In her attempt to secure a nuclear free zone, Australia should assure the nations with which she confers that she will not manufacture, acquire or receive nuclear weapons provided they similarly agree not to do so and provided the existing nuclear powers are willing to endorse and guarantee such an agreement by undertaking to respect the zone.

Australia should work to modernise the Hague Conventions to secure universal prohibition of nuclear weapons, bacterial and germ warfare, napalm, nerve gases and all lethal gases, and weapons of chemical warfare which have been developed or may be developed since the signing of the Hague Conventions.

4. REGIONAL TREATIES

Australia should take the initiative to obtain regional arrangements within the United Nations Charter and to make pacts of friendship, trade and non-aggression with all her Asian and Pacific neighbours.

5. ANZUS

The alliance with the United States and New Zealand is essential and must continue.

6. SEATO

The South East Asia Collective Defence Treaty is not operating to ensure peace in South East Asia. Some of its signatories have virtually repudiated it. It should be recast to increase its membership among South East Asian nations who are willing to make it work as a force for peace, stability, political, social and economic advancement in South East Asia.

7. BASES

Labor is opposed to the existence of foreign-owned, -controlled or -operated bases in Australian territory, especially if such bases involve a derogation from Australian sovereignty.

Labor is not opposed to the use of Australian bases by Allies in war time, or in periods of international tension involving a threat to Australia, provided that Australian authority and sovereignty are unimpaired, and provided that Australia is not involved in hostilities without Australia's consent.

8. FORCES OVERSEAS

Australian forces should not be committed overseas, except subject to clear and public international agreements which accord with the foregoing principles.

9. DECOLONISATION

Labor urges effective steps towards creating viable independent nations in what are at present colonial territories.

Australia should take the initiative within the South Pacific Commission to co-ordinate action to promote independence of all territories in the South Pacific.

10. BORDER DISPUTES AND SELF-DETERMINATION

Australia should seek the establishment under United Nations auspices of a permanent mediation authority to settle border disputes and to solve problems of self-determination.

11. SPACE CONTROL

Space should not become a military zone and a new source of disaster to the human race. Australia should seek and support agreements which will ensure the peaceful use of space for communications and scientific advance, and these agreements should be under United Nations auspices.

12. DISCRIMINATION

Labor opposes any form of segregation or discrimination on the grounds of color, race or creed, and will insist on ending every form of such discrimination within Australia and in Australian administered territories. It supports action, including sanctions, through the United Nations to end such segregation or discrimination.

XXIV: CIVIL LIBERTIES

1. The Constitution to be amended to provide for the protection of fundamental Civil Rights and Liberties.
2. The Commonwealth and State Parliaments to pass Acts providing for civil liberties and to take all possible legislative, administrative and legal action to prevent and combat racial, religious and political discrimination and intolerance.
3. The Australian Security Intelligence Organisation to be placed under Ministerial control.
4. A Commonwealth Court to review, without cost, administrative decisions taken on security grounds which adversely affect any citizen or immigrant.
5. The Crimes Act to be amended—
 - (a) To repeal the sections which permit a person to be convicted on evidence of reputation rather than on proved facts establishing his guilt.
 - (b) To clarify the rights of public servants and former public servants concerning their discussion of matters coming to their knowledge in the course of their duties.
 - (c) To abolish the death penalty.
 - (d) To repeal the sections which make it an offence to take part in industrial action and which permit the Attorney-General to deport members of associations declared unlawful.
 - (e) To provide for the proper identification of places which are declared "prohibited places" for the purposes of the espionage, sabotage and official secrets sections.
6. Telephone tapping and the interception of letters and telegrams for security purposes to be prohibited, except upon authority of the Prime Minister after disclosure to the Leader of the Federal Opposition.

XXV: SOCIAL

1. Civil equality for men and women.
2. Uniform laws of marriage and divorce.
3. Abolition of capital and corporal punishment.
4. Censorship not to be exercised on political grounds, but to ban obscene matter.
5. The children and spouses of Australian citizens to be entitled to Australian citizenship.

XXVI: ELECTORAL

1. Members of States Parliaments not to be disqualified as Federal Parliamentary candidates while holding such membership.
2. Public servants to have full rights of citizenship.
3. Candidates for election to the House of Representatives to be elected on the basis of the greatest number of votes to any candidate, i.e., 'first past the post' and on the basis of one vote one value.
4. Electoral franchise for all persons reaching 18 years of age.
5. Full voting rights for the representative of the Northern Territory in the House of Representatives and full voting rights for representatives of the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory in the Senate.

XXVII: LAND

1. No further alienation of Commonwealth Crown land.
2. No sale of the freehold of any land held or acquired by the Commonwealth.

XXVIII: NATIONAL INSURANCE OFFICE

The establishment of a Commonwealth Government Insurance Office actively competing with private companies in all States in the field of life assurance, fire, accident, workers' compensation and other forms of insurance. Such activity to be conducted on a non-profit-making basis by way of rebating surpluses to insurers when renewing premiums.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE 1967 CONFERENCE

1. ALCOHOLISM

That alcoholism be recognised as a medical disability and accepted as such for all purposes.

2. CANCER

Conference emphasizes that a Labor Government will assume full responsibility for the investigation and treatment of cancer, in approved public health services, and pursue a vigorous campaign of education regarding recognition of the symptoms.

3. STATE HOUSING

Conference requests the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party to continue its endeavours to secure the implementation of Labor's Housing Policy, which, with respect to State housing, is based on the principles of the 1945 Commonwealth State Housing Agreement, and from which the present Government continually departs.

4. HOUSING ENQUIRY

Conference requests the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party to move in the Parliament for a comprehensive national enquiry into housing needs and all associated matters, particularly to cover such matters as the over-production of certain types of housing, the shortage of housing for low-income families, and the examination of human problems arising from the experience of tenants and housing authorities concerning high-density housing projects.

5. VIETNAM

The Labor Party is opposed to the continuance of the war in Vietnam, and to Australian participation in it. The Party will work to end the war and to end Australian participation in it.

The war has ceased to have rational objectives.

It was claimed that it would give the South Vietnamese people a chance to decide their own future free from the pressures of terrorism.

In fact, by the methods of counter terrorism, a power struggle is sustained between Southern generals who, even if sincere and patriotic, are not aiming at freedom for ordinary people.

Civilised values are destroyed by the spectacle of Western forces attacking jungle villages with napalm, phosphorus bombs and fragmentation bombs.

Sometimes the villagers are not Vietcong supporters, sometimes the population is of mixed sympathies, sometimes the people are Vietcong supporters, and sometimes they are even Cambodians over the border.

Whoever they are, they are not being educated in democracy but confirmed in the view that terrorism is the essence of politics.

The belligerents are frozen in postures of pride and inhibited from taking steps to peace.

No obligations under ANZUS, SEATO, or the U.N. Charter are involved in this war.

Labor rejects the idea that it is beyond the wit of statesmanship to devise a solution.

Labor opposed the intensification and spread of the war.

Labor rejects the government's thesis that what is really involved is the thrust of Chinese power. This thesis is never pressed to its logical conclusion in terminating trade with China, so that trade with an alleged enemy becomes a major feature of government policy.

China is not involved in the war except indirectly in some supplies and moral support. With the cessation of bombing of the North; with an end to the use of horror weapons which must alienate the people of Vietnam, and with recognition of those actually involved in the conflict as parties to negotiations Labor believes an atmosphere could develop in which conferences to end the war could take place.

The war is increasingly purposeless. The war is increasingly destroying the possibility of creating viable democratic institutions. The war is creating nothing but anarchy and suffering. The war is increasingly dangerous to world peace. It should stop.

Satisfied that the war in Vietnam does not involve any obligations for Australia under ANZUS, SEATO or the U.N. Charter, and does not assist the Vietnamese people to determine their own affairs, and that no threat to Australian security from China is involved, the A.L.P. seeks primarily to bring the war to a conclusion. To do so, the A.L.P., on achieving office, will submit to our allies that they should immediately —

- (a) cease bombing North Vietnam.
- (b) recognise the National Liberation Front as a principal party to negotiations,
- (c) transform operations in South Vietnam into holding operations thereby to avoid involvement of civilians in the war, cease the use of napalm and other objectionable materials of war and provide sanctuary for anyone seeking it.

Should our allies fail to take this action, the Australian Government would then consider that it had no alternative other than to withdraw our armed forces.

The A.L.P., as a Government, would thereafter assist in providing all forms of aid necessary to restore the damage done by the war to Vietnam and to aid her political, economic and social advancement.

6. AID TO VIETNAM

Conference believes that Australia should give Vietnam the fullest possible assistance in medical, economic and technical assistance and in any other way to compensate the people as much as possible for the suffering inflicted upon them by the war, and to allow them to make rapid progress in the future.

7. DEFENCE FORCES

The Labor Party insists upon the adequate defence of Australia and asserts the need for defence forces of the highest professional standards.

A strong citizen army should be created for the defence of Australia and her overseas territories. If this force can be raised by voluntary means then it should be a volunteer force. If such a force cannot be raised voluntarily and if the international situation is deemed to indicate a threatened attack on Australia and her overseas territories, then the force should be raised or augmented on a National Service basis.

The Regular Army is one of the nation's essential occupations.

The Party believes that sufficient numbers can be obtained by voluntary means.

Under the practice of the Holt Government it is admitted that a two year period of conscripted services suffices. There is, therefore, no military reason why there should not be a two year period of voluntary enlistment.

The defence services must be recognised to be as necessary and their conditions made as attractive as any other pursuit in the community.

The best way to attract and retain regular soldiers is to guarantee that they and their dependants will be and will remain on a par with civilians of the same age.

They should have war service homes, repatriation health benefits, civilian training, scholarships for their children and reasonable retirement or resettlement allowances.

A regular soldier should not have to wait until he has served overseas before he can obtain a War Service home loan; he should not be denied further War Service Home loans if his service requires him to move from one house to another.

The Repatriation Department should provide health services for servicemen and their families during and after their service. More intensive and generous rehabilitation and retraining programmes should be provided for servicemen at the end of their service. Scholarships should be given to their children, whose education is so often disrupted as they have to move from State to State.

The Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Fund should no longer be conducted like the Public Service Superannuation Fund, since the two Funds have to cater for men in greatly different careers.

A Labor Government would establish a Standing Parliamentary Committee to enquire into and report upon the conditions of employment of servicemen and the position of their dependants.

8. AIR FORCE

The Air Force needs the backing of an aircraft and electronics industry supported by public funds to assist it to the highest standards of efficiency, maintenance and replacement; and the procedures of procurement of aircraft from overseas need speeding up. At present the Royal Australian Air Force waits most of a decade for a new aircraft type.

9. NAVY

The capital ship of today is the submarine of the most advanced design and the Australian Navy should possess these.

10. GREECE

The Labor Party deplores, at all times, the overthrow of democratic Parliamentary institutions by military force and therefore condemns the military coup in Greece, the birthplace of democracy. Labor deplores the imprisonment of citizens for political opinions, the imposition of censorship and the repressive measures against trade unions and other democratic organisations.

Labor calls for free elections so that the Greek people can choose their own government, for the release of all political prisoners and for the lifting of censorship and other repressive measures.

Labor strongly deplores the business and employment pressure on Greeks in Australia who have protested against these events in Greece.

11. CONSCRIPTION

Conference opposes conscription for Vietnam or anywhere outside Australian Territory except in time of declared war.

12. PARTY CAMPAIGN

Conference authorises the Federal Executive to approach the State Branches and the Commonwealth Labor Advisory Committee to initiate a vigorous campaign on the Party's Defence and Foreign Affairs policy.

13. MIDDLE EAST

Conference expresses its deep concern at the outbreak of war between Israel and the Arab States. It welcomes the cease fire, which was accepted by all parties in compliance with the Security Council resolution.

Conference recalls the part played by the Chifley Labor Government in the decision of the United Nations General Assembly leading to the creation of the State of Israel and declares that it is the duty of the United Nations and its member nations to ensure the safety, security and independence of all the States in the Middle East, free from external interference in their affairs.

Recognising that while the present circumstances continue the Middle East will remain a threat to world peace and the stability of the whole area, Labor believes:—

- (a) That the United Nations should seek to establish an international peace-keeping force in the area.
- (b) That an international commission should be appointed under the International Refugee Organisation to settle the question of Arab refugees and that a world refugee fund be established to assist in financing this resettlement.
- (c) That the United Nations and its Members should use all their endeavours to bring the Arab Nations and Israel to the conference table to seek a permanent settlement of all problems in the area.

- (d) That Israel must be given the right of access through the Suez Canal and in the Gulf of Aqaba.
- (e) That freedom of access to the Holy Places of the Jewish, Christian and Islamic faiths should be established.
- (f) That incitement to war and genocide in press, radio and television campaigns in the Middle East should cease.

14. CONSCRIPTION BALLOT

Conference condemns the ballot system and requests the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party that so long as the existing system of selection for national service continues, to press the Federal Government to arrange that the numbers drawn from the barrel, with the names, addresses and occupations, shall be published.

15. CONCESSIONS FOR SERVICEMEN

The provision for service personnel of concessional postal rates and of concessional public telephone charges from facilities on service establishments.

16. AID TO INDIA

Conference requests the Holt government to provide transport for dried milk and other foodstuffs and other essential aid donated by the Australian public to relieve the needs of the starving people of India and to allow money donated for Indian relief as allowable deductions from personal income tax.

17. DONATIONS TO AID FUNDS

Conference supports legislation to amend Commonwealth Income Tax to provide that a donation to a fund maintained by an organisation established in Australia (such as Community Aid Abroad) for the purpose of furnishing assistance to raise the living, health and educational standards; the productivity or earning capacity; or the economic welfare of economically underdeveloped communities outside Australia be allowable deductions.

18. BRITISH DEFENCE POLICY

1. The phased withdrawal of British Forces from Malaysia and Singapore emphasises the need for more urgent and deeper Australian interest in this area.
2. The Australian Government should welcome and support the British Government's policy 'to foster developments which will enable the local peoples to live at peace without the presence of external forces'. Labor will act as Britain is acting.
3. It was to be expected that Britain, having granted and sustained the independence of Malaysia and Singapore, should plan to withdraw her forces.
4. The Australian Government knew of the likely British withdrawal well before it was announced. The Australian Government gambled on Britain not carrying out her clear intentions. It offered no facilities to Britain in the hope that she would therefore remain indefinitely in Malaysia and Singapore. It aimed to go on getting defence on the cheap. The gamble failed and the panic statements by the Prime Minister were designed to obscure his own failings. The Government, not the Australian people, has been living in 'lotus land'.
5. Labor has long insisted that Australia's arrangements with Malaysia and Singapore should not be a postscript to arrangements between Malaysia and the United Kingdom. Labor's stand has been fully vindicated.
6. Australia should not respond to the British decision as a mere matter of replacing some military forces by other military forces, but as an opportunity to develop Australia's relations with South-East Asia in a more progressive and effective manner.

Australia should not give the impression that she is seeking beyond her means to fill a power vacuum in South-East Asia.

Such a vacuum can properly be filled only by the political, economic and social advancement of the peoples of South-East Asia.

Australia must determine to understand and aid that advancement.

7. Britain has announced her intention to have mobile forces available for use, if required, in the area. Australia must recognise Britain's intention and co-operate with it.

Australia must develop flexible forces in accordance with the modern trend.

These forces should be capable of ensuring Australia's security as well as co-operating with allies in the area.

Australia should be prepared to provide assistance to train military forces in Malayasia and Singapore and to make Australian defence facilities available to Britain.

8. Australia must work to form a mutual defence system including all her neighbours. No defence arrangements in her area can be fully effective unless they include Indonesia. Indonesia should be encouraged to participate in regional arrangements for the development and security of the area.
9. Australia must increase economic assistance to Singapore and Malaysia to absorb some of the losses they will sustain as a result of the withdrawal of Commonwealth forces.
10. Australian policies towards Asia must be based on the assumption that Western forces on the land in Asia can only be temporary and that, in the long term, Australia can be secure only through an enlightened and active foreign policy backed by strong, self-reliant defence forces.

19. C.S.I.R.O.

Conference would view with concern any proposal to bring C.S.I.R.O. under the direct control of the Minister of Education and Science and re-affirms that a Labor Government would maintain C.S.I.R.O. and free it from Public Service Board control.

Conference declares that the C.S.I.R.O. has played an important role in agricultural and other forms of scientific research, and the independence of the organisation, which has made a marked contribution to its success, would be jeopardised by departmental control.

20. PURCHASE OF ROLLING STOCK

Conference strongly condemns the Commonwealth Government for purchasing rolling stock overseas, and supports the principle of rolling stock being constructed in Australian workshops.

21. ENQUIRY INTO POVERTY

The establishment by the Commonwealth Government of an enquiry into poverty in the Australian community with the objective of establishing the extent of need and the means by which those so suffering can live in dignity and security and with the objective of ensuring that all citizens share fully in the opportunities of the affluent society.

22. MENTAL RETARDATION ENQUIRY

Conference requests the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party to again move in the Parliament for an enquiry into the causes and incidence of mental retardation, physical handicaps and child neglect and into related matters.

23. NATIONAL WELFARE SCHEME

The establishment of a universal National Welfare Scheme by grouping age, invalid, widows, unemployment and sickness benefits to guarantee a high basic income to all citizens.

24. MEDICAL ENTITLEMENT CARD

Conference endorses the principle that a medical entitlement card shall be issued to all persons of pensionable age and to all persons in receipt of a Social Service and/or Repatriation Pension.

25. DESERTED WIFE'S PENSION

Conference urges the Government to remove the six-months period before a deserted wife or the wife of a prisoner qualifies for a widow's pension.

26. ABOLITION OF THE MEANS TEST

That Conference consider the establishment of policy which will provide for the complete abolition of the Means Test during the life of two Parliaments and that this matter be considered by the Economic Planning Committee for the purpose of costing the proposition and outlining a working programme to achieve this end.

27. REVIEW OF SOCIAL SERVICES

That Federal Executive be asked to review the Social Services structure in its entirety, and that consideration be given to a type of sheltered workshops to permit pensioners to supplement their pensions and to government-controlled convalescent homes to care for the infirm.

28. IMPROVED SOCIAL SERVICES

That in view of the rapid deterioration in value of current social services and financial allowances, Conference demands the provision of adequate Government allowances for widows and children, aged and invalid pensioners, and the introduction of marriage allowances, motherhood endowment and provision for all children with the objective of improving the status of family life and guaranteeing adequate incomes and conditions for all persons outside the work-force and those not in regular employment.

29. NATIONAL SUPERANNUATION

That the question of establishing a national superannuation scheme be referred to the Economic Planning Committee and other appropriate Committees to devise a plan as soon as possible.

30. PENSION RATE

That social service pensions for married pensioner couples be at least equal to the minimum wage and the principle of movements in the minimum wage be applied to the pension. To attain this objective a Labor Government would implement it preferably within the first term of office but no later than its second term.

31. CIVILIAN WIDOWS

Conference endorses the principle that the pension rate for all classes of civilian widows, including domestic and child allowances, should not be less than the amount paid to a war widow. Civilian and war widows shall be paid adequate allowances to compensate for the loss of the husband's earning power and make possible the support and education of children.

32. MENTAL HOSPITAL PATIENTS

Conference requests the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party to press the Federal Government to reverse its unjust policy of refusing to pay social service pensions to patients in mental hospitals.

33. PENSIONERS ALLOWANCE

Conference urges that married couples receiving age or invalid pensions be paid the same allowance as single pensioners.

34. AUTOMATION

Conference believes that few industries will be immune from the march of automation, but with adequate planning automation will result in improved standards of living.

Labor is not opposed to automation or other forms of technological change. Labor believes that it must plan ahead so that automation can be made the servant, rather than the master, of the Australian people.

There must be joint consultation between government, trade union and employer organisations, and there is urgent need for workers organisations to be advised and consulted before any of the new methods are introduced.

The Commonwealth Government should be taking the lead in this matter and should initiate policies directed to maintaining full employment and increasing the level of purchasing power. Instead it has ignored the requests of the trade union movement for such action and has failed to establish a full-time section of the Department of Labour to co-ordinate remedial measures that must be taken to replace labour and overcome the social problems involved.

This Conference supports the policy of the Australian Council of Trade Unions calling for :—

- Increased production to be reflected in increased purchasing power.
- Joint consultation to ensure planned introduction of automation with the least possible dislocation.
- Maintenance of full employment.
- Training and re-training programmes to be provided where necessary.
- Severance pay.
- Increased leisure as living standards increase.
- Planned re-settlement of displaced labour.
- Reduction in hours of work.
- Increased wages.
- Greater job security.

Conference urges the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party to take every available opportunity to raise this matter in the Parliament and elsewhere.

35. COMMONWEALTH/STATES FINANCIAL RELATIONS

This Conference expresses grave concern at the critical position which has developed in Commonwealth and States financial arrangements, caused by the failure of the Holt Government to face up to its responsibilities.

Conference requests the Economic Planning Committee and the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party to examine the position to determine what measures should be taken to enable the States to meet their development needs and the cost of their services.

36. FOREIGN CAPITAL

- (a) Conference declares that the Government should restrict the flow of overseas capital into Australia to the creation of new industries and not for the absorption of existing industries.
- (b) That the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party be requested to investigate charges made recently at the opening of Edgell's new production centre at Dubbo, N.S.W., to the effect that the inroads of overseas interests into the Australian food industry have reached alarming proportions, that many manufactured food products displayed in Australian stores are produced in enterprises owned and controlled by foreign companies, and that the profits derived from the sale of such goods are diverted from Australia and Australians to the coffers of investors residing in other lands. We declare that these charges, if true, are indicative of a gross abuse of foreign capital investment in Australia, and constitute an indictment of the Holt Government's policy of encouraging uncontrolled financial exploitation of Australia by overseas companies.

37. LABOR'S ECONOMIC PROGRAMME

That the Economic Planning Committee investigate and report regarding the extent to which it considers that the economic policy of the Australian Labor Party may be implemented during the first three year term of the next Labor Government,

with a view to clearly stating to every section of the community just how this policy would affect their way of life and the general economy of the nation, without depriving any citizen of their individual rights.

38. EDUCATIONAL REQUISITES

That all taxes on educational requisites be abolished.

39. CHILD-MINDING FEES

That the Federal Parliamentary Labour Party be requested to consider making child-minding fees an allowable tax deduction for working mothers when the children are attending a registered child-minding centre.

40. PROFITEERING ENQUIRY

- (a) That the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party be urged to open for public discussion the whole question of profiteering in the necessities of life which is rampant in Australia at present. Conference particularly asks for an inquiry into the profits being made in materials and installations required for home building and on foodstuffs.
- (b) This Conference declares that the maintenance of our present living standards will be threatened unless the prevailing wave of unbridled profiteering is brought within bounds. This Conference calls on the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party to give the closest attention to the effects of the policy of financial inflation being operated by the Holt Government including —
- (i) Hardships caused by constant rising prices of food, clothing and housing and other necessities;
 - (ii) diminishing value of people's savings;
 - (iii) escalation of wage and salary earners into higher income tax brackets resulting in a shift of the burden of taxation disproportionately on to the productive section of the community;

and recommends that a campaign be waged to expose the detrimental consequences of the Federal Government's financial policy in accordance with the Platform of the Australian Labor Party.

41. DAIRYING INDUSTRY

Conference believes that a positive programme in co-operation with the States should be implemented with the dual objective of allowing more efficient dairy production by amalgamation of some farms and the diversion of unsuitable dairy land into beef production or other use.

42. AUSTRALIAN PRODUCTS

Conference wholeheartedly supports the principle that any product manufactured wholly from Australian materials in Australia should be free to compete with any other wholly Australian products.

43. QUEENSLAND FISHING INDUSTRY

Conference requests the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party to investigate and report upon the possibility of establishing a fishing industry in North Queensland.

44. WOOL

Conference urges the Commonwealth Government to initiate a Parliamentary enquiry into the expenditure of woolgrowers' monies on sometimes futile promotion and conference calls for urgent improvements in the system of marketing to safeguard the woolgrower and the nation from the ravages of price fluctuation.

45. NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT STATEMENT

The Northern Development Committee recommends to Conference that the Committee should be commissioned by Conference to prepare a comprehensive policy pub-

lication detailing a full Party statement on all aspects of northern development, and further recommends that this report be submitted to the next Federal Conference for publication and distribution as a major policy statement prior to the next Federal elections in 1969.

46. METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION

That primary data recording necessary for forward planning (e.g. rainfall intensity recording) be carried out over a wide area of Northern Australia and that this objective be treated as a matter of the utmost urgency.

47. NORTHERN EDUCATION

Conference notes the expansion and development of Townsville University College and states it shall be an aim of Labor policy to accelerate this and hasten autonomy from the University of Queensland. Conference agrees with recently-stated comments of the Australian Universities Commission that the development of a University institution at Townsville gives a singular opportunity for valuable research into the social and scientific problems of a tropical environment. This research could be of great significance to Northern Development in Australia and to adjacent nations with comparable environments.

48. ORD RIVER SCHEME

That the Northern Development Committee initiate a full enquiry into the financial needs of the Western Australian Government in completing, without undue delay, the Ord River Scheme and that policy recommendations on this subject be made to the next Federal Conference.

49. ALL-WEATHER ROADS

Conference is of the opinion that macadam all-weather roads should be completed as a matter of high priority in order that the Northern Territory may be more effectively integrated as an economic unit with urban centres of Northern Australia along the Queensland coast.

50. DECENTRALISATION

That it be the policy of the Australian Labor Party to concentrate on selected centres to accelerate regional development with a view to raising the population in these centres to a size which is recognised as a self-generating point.

51. MINERAL RESOURCES

Conference directs attention to the significance of the discovery and development of vast resources of valuable minerals in Australia. This imposes an obligation on State and Federal Governments to ensure that these resources are applied in the public interest. Conference believes that these resources represent an unprecedented opportunity to raise the national standard of living and the quality of life both in Australia and adjacent underdeveloped nations. It shall be the aim of Labor policy to maximise the role of public enterprise in the further discovery, development and realisation of these resources.

52. ADULT APPRENTICE SCHEME

Conference supports the Trade Union Movement's opposition to and rejection of the Federal Government's attempts to force acceptance of an Adult Apprentice Scheme.

Conference affirms that the continuing shortage of skilled tradesmen is a direct result of the failure of employers to recognise and accept their obligation to train adequate numbers of apprentices in the several skilled trades.

Conference declares that the Federal Government should be required to assist the States to broaden the scope of existing Technical Education facilities by the provision of urgently needed additional Commonwealth funds; and the implementation of practical forms of assistance that will encourage all employers to take and train their full quota of apprentices.

Conference states that a constructive solution to the problems associated with this subject cannot ignore the need for a complete overhaul of the apprenticeship system including a recognition of the need to provide greater incentives for youths to enter into apprenticeship and on completion of that indenture to continue their employment as a skilled tradesman.

53. LEAVE

- (a) Conference declares its support for the aim of the A.C.T.U. for the provision of Long Service Leave for casual workers.
- (b) Conference supports the Joint Councils of the A.C.T.U., the H.C.C.P.S.O. and A.C.S.P.A. in their campaign for additional annual leave.

54. TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGES

That Conference refer to the Commonwealth Labor Advisory Committee the technological changes which may occur within industry.

55. REDUNDANCY

That the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party be requested to press the Government to make available grants to States where industrial redundancy occurs, such grants to be used for re-training of displaced employees and to provide compensation for loss incurred in sale of homes in cases where it is necessary for displaced or down-graded employees to move from their home towns; also to press the Federal Government to encourage light industry in country areas so affected by means of freight concessions, taxation rebates, allocation of governmental and semi-government contracts and other suitable measures in co-operation with State Governments.

56. STATUS OF WOMEN

That the Commonwealth Government be urged to establish a Commission on the Status of Women.

57. UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Unemployment and Sickness benefits be paid from the first day off work, and for the full period of unemployment.

58. SERVICEMEN KILLED DURING SERVICE

Conference endorses the principle that an amount equal to workers' compensation be paid to service personnel killed during service.

59. WAGE PROTESTS

Conference requests the Commonwealth Labor Advisory Committee to raise with the Australian Council of Trade Unions ways and means of launching the most effective form of protest in which the whole of the Labor Movement may express a united and co-ordinated voice against this decision of the Commonwealth Arbitration Commission.

Conference declares that it is completely unjustified to allow prices to remain unregulated and therefore continue to spiral while wage levels are suppressed below a just and reasonable level.

60. SUPERANNUATION ENTITLEMENTS

- (a) That the C.L.A.C. investigate the principle that all Superannuation Funds should provide that after 10 years employment any employee should have the right to enjoy superannuation entitlements in full, or alternatively that their accrued credits be transferred by an employer or Government Department to another employer or Government or Statutory Body or University. Attention be drawn to the provision inherent in the British Civil Service that an officer can retire upon reaching the age of 51 years and can have his Pension frozen until he reaches the age of 60.
- (b) That after 10 years employment with one employer an individual shall receive, on

leaving the employment, the total amount accrued under any particular superannuation or provident fund scheme, including both employee's and employer's contribution together with additional financial benefit if any.

61. ANNUAL HOLIDAYS

Conference declares that paid annual holidays are the right of Australian workers and should not be subject to interference.

62. POSTAL EMPLOYEES

Conference deplores the growing practice of the Post Office in replacing male workers by females and juniors at lower rates of pay and strongly supports the Postal Workers' Unions in their endeavours to have these practices stopped.

63. STANDARD CLOTHING SIZES

That the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party be requested to press for the establishment of a Bureau, perhaps under the auspices of the Department of Trade and Industry, to determine standard sizes of clothing measurements, and obviate the extreme inconvenience of variations in size according to the manufacturer.

64. CHARTER FOR WOMEN

That the Commonwealth Labor Advisory Committee be requested to prepare a Charter of standards for Women Workers, to state clearly attitudes on provision of part-time work for mothers, child-minding and child care for children of working mothers, protection against dismissal from employment on grounds of marriage and/or maternity, equal opportunities in education including scholarships, cadetships and technical education, equal remuneration and opportunities for promotion, special re-training facilities for women returning to employment after raising families.

65. DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

Conference recommends the amendment of all laws, Commonwealth and State, which discriminate against married women being employed on a permanent basis in public employment.

66. MAINTENANCE OF FULL EMPLOYMENT

Conference condemns the Holt Government for its failure to maintain full employment and in particular points to the position in the building industry which is suffering grave disabilities because the Federal Government refuses to grant the States sufficient finance for home building and Commonwealth works. Conference views with alarm the continued decrease in the numbers employed in the building industry and the decline in the intake of apprentices.

67. TOTAL WAGE DECISION

Conference condemns the decision of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission handed down on 5th June, 1967, implementing the total wage and abolishing the Basic Wage and Margin as clearly defined and recognisable components of the Wage Structure of Federal Awards.

Conference affirms its support for the Wages Policy of the A.C.T.U. and joins with the A.C.T.U. in deprecating this Total Wage decision by the C.C. & A.C. as being a blatant repudiation of previous unequivocal statements by the Commission not to consider the Total Wage concept until the completion of the Work Value Investigation on Margins being conducted into the Federal Metal Trades Award.

Conference condemns the partisan submissions made by the Commonwealth Government in the course of the 1967 National Wage Cases and declares that rather than being submissions legitimately made 'in the public interest' they were in fact supporting the employers' submissions.

Conference declares that the Commonwealth Government should accept its responsibility and obligation for controlling the national economy and states that such responsibility does not rest with the Commission.

Conference declares that the maintenance of real wage standards requires effective Commonwealth and State legislation that will ensure control of prices and at the same time afford protection to those of the community who are forced to live on fixed incomes or who are dependent on any of the several forms of Social Services Benefits.

Conference condemns the present system that permits an unrestricted escalation of prices without public enquiry with resultant devaluation of real wages but requires that workers submit their wages claims to Industrial Tribunals for public examination and regulation by those Tribunals.

68. WAR SERVICE HOMES

- (a) Conference believes that ex-service personnel who have reached pensionable age and who have not used the facilities of the War Service Homes Act shall be provided with the opportunity of purchasing or renting small home units constructed under the Act.
- (b) Conference believes that consideration should be given to extending the War Service Homes Act to cover ex-service personnel who remain single, are divorced and war widows without dependent children under the age of 16.
- (c) Conference believes that the War Service Homes Act shall be amended to provide for (a) raising the maximum loan to 95% up to a maximum of \$12,000 and extending the purposes for which supplementary loans are made at reasonable interest rates; (b) extending the Act to cover all ex-service personnel and (c) embracing eventually all service personnel.
- (d) Conference urges the repeal of the ministerial direction under the War Service Homes Act so as to permit an advance to discharge all or part of an existing mortgage up to \$12,000.

69. REPATRIATION ACT

That the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party be requested to immediately consider the rephrasing of Section 42 of the Repatriation Act to ensure that injustices are no longer perpetrated, and of Section 47 — onus of proof — to ensure that its original purpose is carried out.

70. ABORIGINES' SOCIAL SERVICE ENTITLEMENT

Conference believes that the discrimination now exercised against aborigines with respect to Social Service benefits should be ended.

71. COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS

- (a) Conference requests the Economic Planning Committee to review all Commonwealth Scholarship schemes with a view to increasing the number of scholarships and to removing the means test on living allowances.
- (b) That Commonwealth Scholarships and living allowances be not taken as income for taxation purposes, and this proposal be referred to the Economic Planning Committee for consideration.

72. UNIVERSITY FINANCE

This Conference deplores the severe cuts in finance being made by the Commonwealth Government to Universities and considers that additional funds should be made available for education at all levels.

73. ROYAL COMMISSION ON PRESS

Conference believes that a Royal Commission should be established to enquire into all aspects of the ownership, control and operation of newspapers, radio and television stations.

Conference further believes that consideration should be given to the implementation of the Vincent Report on Australian productions and of the Weeden Report on educational television.

74. SMOKING

That Federal and State authorities aim at the complete prohibition of cigarettes and tobacco advertising on television and radio.

75. POLITICAL FREEDOM

Conference believes that the presence of Police or Security Officers of the Commonwealth at functions where Australians should have the right to register their political views with due regard to law and order and without fear of intimidation or penalty unduly inhibits free expression and restrains citizens from exercising the full degree of political freedom which should be a feature of democratic life.

76. DEMONSTRATIONS

Conference strongly condemns the undue use of force and violence employed by the police in various States during peaceful demonstrations in protest against the Federal Government's use of conscripted youths in the war in Vietnam.

77. VANDALISM

This Conference expresses profound concern at the wave of violence and lawlessness sweeping several States of Australia, together with the enormous losses caused by vandalism and theft, and believes that a many-sided approach is needed to grapple with this problem, and recommends to the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party that a call be made for a top-level conference of all relevant authorities, not only of those concerned with law enforcement but also of child welfare and educational authorities, as a necessary first step towards the solution of this problem and the restoration of the personal physical safety of citizens.

78. NAZI ACTIVITIES

Conference condemns the recent outbreak of Nazi activities in Melbourne, where a campaign of terror, including the use of explosives and threatening letters and telephone calls, has been waged against certain people, including Jewish citizens and members of the Party.

Conference requests the police authorities to take stronger measures to outlaw these activities.

In so far as a small group of migrants is involved, the authorities should make it clear to the offenders that these neo-nazi and fascist methods will not be tolerated in Australia.

Conference appreciates the great contribution made by the overwhelming majority of New Settlers to Australia's progress, and urges the migrant communities to help discourage the tiny minority who have not yet acquired a sense of responsibility towards the Australian community and the Australian way of life.

79. CONJOINT ELECTIONS

Conference endorses the principle that Senate and House of Representatives elections should be held conjointly and that the re-establishment of this procedure be discussed with the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party at the appropriate time.

80. POLLING HOURS

That the hours of polling for all elections be changed to 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

81. MIGRANT PAMPHLETS

That consideration be given by the National Organising and Planning Committee to the production of pamphlets outlining Party policy for the benefit of migrants.

82. TOURS BY OVERSEAS SOCIALISTS

Believing that the creation of the right climate of public opinion is necessary in order to increase electoral support, Conference requests the Federal Executive to examine the possibility of organising tours of Australia by prominent overseas socialists.

83. PARTY PUBLICITY

That the Federal Executive establish a Committee to investigate giving an effective voice to Party policies at both National and State levels through the mass media now available and that this Committee report back to the Federal Executive within nine months.

84. INFLAMMABLE AND UNSAFE PRODUCTS .

Conference urges that legislation be introduced by the various instrumentalities to curb the sale of inflammable and unsafe products and further calls upon the Commonwealth Government to convene a conference to secure the prompt collaboration of all authorities concerned to achieve this objective.

85. NORTHERN AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT

CREATION OF A MINISTRY FOR NORTHERN AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT

Labor believes that the development of the whole of North Australia is both necessary and urgent. Therefore the whole attention of a Minister should be devoted to it.

Co-operation and co-ordination with Queensland and Western Australia with respect to development will be achieved through the establishment of a *North Australian Development Organisation* consisting of Commonwealth and State Ministers concerned with the resources of Northern Australia, along the lines of the N.A.D.C. successfully established by the Chifley Government but abandoned by the Menzies Government.

WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Labor will immediately initiate a full scale investigation of the areas which have been devastated by droughts to ascertain the most feasible methods of assisting these areas from the viewpoint of large and small scale water storages.

Proven Areas

Priority will be given to the proven and established areas in coastal Queensland where huge economic losses are incurred in every major drought period and where the major share of Australia's surface water is located but which is at present almost completely undeveloped.

The investigation and development of the Burnett, Fitzroy, Pioneer, Burdekin and Herbert River Systems will be undertaken on a national basis utilising the Snowy Mountains Authority in conjunction with State organisations.

Pastoral Areas

Labor will determine priorities for the steady development of water resources both for stock and agricultural purposes in the less developed and lower rainfall areas. Labor will honour the Commonwealth's obligation to the West Australian and Northern Territory people and will ensure that the Ord River Project will be completed without delay.

Power

In the assessment and determination of water development action, top priority will be given to power projects urgently needed to promote industrialisation particularly in Central and Northern Queensland where the basic resources for power generation are available.

Snowy Mountains Authority

Long term utilisation of the Snowy Mountains Authority in investigation, design and construction of water and power development will be the hard core of Labor's positive policy towards the systematic development of water resources. This work would be carried out in conjunction with water conservation authorities in the States of Queensland and Western Australia and in the Northern Territory.

Priorities

Priorities and programmes for water conservation projects for irrigation, power and flood mitigation will be a function of the N.A.D.O.

ROADS

The implementation of a long term fully co-ordinated road development programme taking into account the present and future requirements of the pastoral, agricultural processing and servicing industries. These development roads would broadly follow the priorities established by the Commonwealth Beef Roads Report.

LONG TERM DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

(i) *Interest Rates*

The provision of realistic low rates of interest (2-3% p.a.) for long term development loans in line with successful policies followed by overseas Governments. (The present high rate of interest for development loans in Australia is the result of the reluctance of the Government to compete with Private Banks, Private Lending Institutions and Hire Purchase Companies.)

(ii) *Development Loan Funds*

Labor will reconstitute the present ineffective Farm Loan Fund in order to provide a satisfactory policy to those applicants who possess sound financial propositions but who do not meet the rigid criteria of present banking policy. In addition the Fund will be expanded to cater for small secondary industries which are an essential part of regional development. This policy will involve the expansion of the Development Bank.

COMMONWEALTH-PRIVATE ENTERPRISES PARTNERSHIPS

In order to promote basic industrial development — e.g. steel, power, paper — Labor will not hesitate to take the initiative and, if necessary, will enter into partnership with private organisations which do not possess the necessary resources to initially finance the establishment of industry.

If it appears that the development of our natural resources — particularly mining — would be ruthlessly exploited by overseas interests, Labor will not hesitate to establish Commonwealth owned processing works.

TAX FREE PROVISIONS FOR PIONEERING INDUSTRIES

Labor will initiate income tax free provisions along the lines adopted in New Guinea and other developing countries to assist pioneering industries in Northern Australia during their initial development period. These tax free provisions will be administered within specific zonal areas.

REVISION OF ZONAL BOUNDARIES AND TAXATION ALLOWANCES

Labor will authorise a revision of the existing zonal boundaries in Northern Australia which are now completely outmoded. In addition a review of existing taxation allowances, social services and general living conditions within these particular zones will be made with the overall objective of alleviating the severe economic disabilities being encountered in these areas.

SUGAR INDUSTRY

Labor recognises that the sugar industry is the backbone of the economy of Northern Queensland. It will appoint a Committee of Enquiry to investigate whether this industry would be better served by expanding the functions of the Australian Sugar Board so as to give cane producers greater responsibility in the production and marketing of raw and refined sugar. The Committee of Enquiry would be given full powers to investigate the costs of refining sugar and the establishment of new refineries in North Queensland.

The Committee will also report on the practicability and desirability of giving the responsibility for the sale of export sugar to the expanded Australian Sugar Board as compared with the present practice of allowing the C.S.R. Company to have a complete monopoly of the sale of export sugar.

PERCENTAGE OF ANNUAL BUDGET TO BE DEVOTED TO NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

Labor will demonstrate its genuineness to assist in the systematic development of Queensland, Western Australia and the Northern Territory by making provision for a

permanent allocation in each budget for development work. This allocation will be tied to a specific percentage of an economic measure in the budget which will thus remove northern development from the atmosphere of emotionalism and general political pressures. The provision of an annual floor allocation will allow both Commonwealth and State Governments to plan for the steady growth of the northern areas.

TROPICAL UNIVERSITY

Labor believes that a first class University should be located in Northern Australia preferably at Townsville. A tropical University could lead the world as a training ground for tropical disciplines particularly post-graduate work in tropical livestock, pastures, marine science and engineering. If we are to successfully undertake northern development, University facilities must be available to train students — particularly those who live in these areas.

FINANCE

Portion of the funds required for a steady rate of northern development will come from current and future repayments being made by the States for development projects. Funds from these repayments would form a *Development Revolving Fund*.

GENERAL POLICY DECISIONS

This section contains general policy resolutions approved by various Commonwealth Conferences which have continuing application.

A: CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM

(Adopted at 1961 Commonwealth Conference)

- (i) That the decision of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party to support all the proposals of the Constitution Review Committee be approved.
- (ii) That the Party support any of such proposals submitted to a referendum by the present Government.
- (iii) That if returned to power at the elections Labor will submit all the recommendations to a referendum and allow electors to vote separately on each of them.
- (iv) That the date and order of the referenda be determined by the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party in consultation with the Federal Executive.

B: REPUDIATION OF COMMUNIST PARTY

(Adopted at 1948 Conference)

1. Conference reaffirms its repudiation of the methods and principles of the Communist Party and the decisions of previous Conferences that between the Communist Party and the Labor Party there is such basic hostility and differences that no Communist can be a member of the Labor Party. No Communist auxiliary or subsidiary can be associated with the Labor Party in any activity, and no Labor Party Branch or member can co-operate with the Communist Party.
2. Conference further declares that the policy and the actions of the Communist Party demonstrate that the Party's methods and objects aim at the destruction of the democratic way of life of the Australian people and the establishment in its place of a totalitarian form of government which would destroy our existing democratic institutions and the personal liberty of the Australian people. We therefore declare that the A.L.P., through its branches, affiliations and members, must carry on an increasing campaign directed at destroying the influence of the Communist Party wherever such exists throughout Australia.
3. We affirm that the Labor Movement offers the most effective and safest methods of preserving democratic liberties, of protecting and improving workers' living standards, and we —
 - (a) Congratulate those sections of the Labor Movement who are carrying on a persistent and determined campaign against Communist influence in their respective organisations.
 - (b) In order that the menace of the Communist Party might be understood by all, we recommend to the Executive that it prepare and issue a report on the working and policies of the Communist Party in Australia.

C: DIRECTION OF FEDERAL P.L.P. MEMBERS

(Adopted at 1948 Conference)

That this Executive reaffirms the decision made by the Federal Executive in April, 1937, namely, that the Executive declares that no State Executive may direct members of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party in regard to matters affecting the Federal Platform and/or proposed legislation which the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party has to deal with in legislature, and the Executive now further declares that no State Executive may direct members of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party in regard

to any matters the subject of consideration by any meeting of members of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party.

D: MEMBERS INITIATING LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

(Adopted at 1955 Conference)

This Conference resolves that as a general principle it cannot concede the right of any member of the Party to initiate legal proceedings for the purpose of establishing the constitutional behaviour of the Labor Movement. We emphasise that, with a few isolated exceptions, the history of our Party discloses we have functioned on a basis of complete determination in accordance with our own rules and our own interpretation of them. We insist we must continue to create our own procedures, taking care of our own business without the introduction of lawyers and law courts.

E: UNIFORM TAXATION

(Adopted at 1957 Conference)

Conference reaffirms that the system of uniform taxation, if fairly and justly administered, is the best and most adequate system of serving the Australian people. This Conference of the Australian Labor Party emphatically declares that failure by the Menzies-Fadden Government to justly reimburse the States has caused friction in the working of the Federal system and seriously hindered the States in continuing and improving their various responsibilities.

Conference specifically condemns the discriminatory financial policy of the present Federal Government, which enables only the Commonwealth to finance many of their public works projects from "Revenue", whilst demanding that all State public works programmes, including the building of schools and hospitals, and the provision of transport facilities (which in many instances are necessary only because of Federal policy, such as its Immigration) be financed from Loan funds involving high interest charges.

Conference therefore requests that a Committee comprising representatives of the Federal Executive, Federal Parliamentary Labor Party and leaders of the respective State Parliamentary Parties or their nominees be set up, which will forthwith examine ways and means of retaining the principles of uniform taxation while providing more flexible machinery for securing adequate reimbursements to the States, and enabling such Governments to carry out policies which are in the interests of the people and/or endorsed by them without restriction by the Commonwealth.

F: UNION ELECTIONS

1955 CONFERENCE DECISION INDUSTRIAL GROUPS

Conference endorses the decision of the Federal Executive in removing political recognition of Industrial Groups in Victoria in the belief that such recognition has materially assisted in group organisation entering fields other than those intended by their founders. It is emphasised that this decision of the Executive does not disband Industrial Groups. No authority is possessed by the Executive to so disband.

In respect to the question of Group organisation generally, official A.L.P. recognition shall be withdrawn by all State Branches. State Branches shall be requested to conduct an educational campaign to expose the international Communist conspiracy against democratic Trade Unionism and democratic forms of Government.

We are of the opinion that any form of industrial organisation designed to combat Communist activity in the unions should be a matter for the sole determination of the members of the unions concerned.

Conference reaffirms its complete opposition to Communism and all forms of totalitarianism, and emphasises that only a strong united Labor Movement can prevent the growth of these evils.

1957 CONFERENCE DECISION

(Adoption of Federal Executive Report)

At the Executive meeting held in Canberra on September 10, 1956, the following question was referred to the officers to make a recommendation —

"Does a member of the Labor Party commit an offence against this Party if he

permits his name to appear on a How-to-Vote ticket with a member of the Communist Party or any other Party opposed to the Labor Party?"

The officers' recommendation was as follows —

"The answer to this question lies in an interpretation of the decision of the 1948 Federal Conference, which reads as follows: 'No Communist auxiliary or subsidiary can be associated with the Labor Party in any activity and no Labor Party Branch or member can co-operate with the Communist Party.'

"The Executive's interpretation of this decision is that any member of the Labor Party who agrees to join with members of the Communist Party and/or any other Party opposed to Labor on any How-to-Vote tickets commits an offence against this Party.

"We therefore direct State Branches to protect the policy of the Party by taking action against any members who so offend."

1959 CONFERENCE DECISION

We declare that, in accordance with democratic ideals of the Australian Labor Party, there should be no interference with the internal affairs of the Trade Unions, and that members of Unions in accordance with the Rules should have complete freedom to nominate for office.

Conference is aware of the blatant interference by Liberal Q.L.P. and D.L.P., and particularly the Communist Party with full-time organisers constantly seeking to place Communist members in responsible Trade Union positions.

We declare it is the responsibility of all A.L.P. members to ensure that the Trade Unions remain in control of Executives sympathetic to and supporting A.L.P. policy.

Conference reaffirms previous decisions of the Hobart and Brisbane Conferences in respect to Unity Tickets, and warns members that on no occasion can they allow their names to be associated with members of any other political party on any How-to-Vote Ticket.

Any member breaking this policy must be summoned before the respective State Executives and, failing a satisfactory explanation, dealt with in accordance with the Rules.

1963 CONFERENCE DECISION

Conference believes that industrial legislation should provide for trade unions to properly determine their own internal policies in accordance with their rules and constitutions, and deplores interference in Trade Union activities by any Government, outside individuals or organisations. Conference accordingly calls upon all trade unionists to refrain from interference in the internal affairs of another Trade Union.

1965 CONFERENCE DECISION

Conference reaffirms existing Party Policy on Unity Tickets, and further declares —

1. Any member of the Australian Labor Party shall be guilty of an offence if he consents to his name appearing on a Unity Ticket or if he associates in the formation or distribution of a Unity Ticket as defined.
2. A Unity Ticket shall mean a How-to-Vote guide or other election material in an election for Trade Union office where A.L.P. members appear with members of another political party for the purpose of securing a common result.
3. Where such ticket appears in any State, the State Secretary or other appropriate officer shall, on becoming aware of it and without delay, call upon the member/s concerned to explain their position.
4. Where an A.L.P. member claims that his name has appeared without his knowledge or consent, he shall sign a Statutory Declaration to that effect, and the State Secretary or his Deputy shall cause such Statutory Declaration to be inserted in at least one daily newspaper circulating in the area concerned and the appropriate Trade Union Journal.
5. Failure or refusal by the member concerned shall be accepted as his guilt, and he shall be expelled from the Party subject to appeal to his State Conference or the Federal Executive, provided that the Federal Executive may review the decision of a State Conference relative to an appeal.

6. Where there is doubt as to the bona fides of the member signing the Statutory Declaration, the fullest investigation shall be undertaken by the State Branch concerned. Where guilt is established by this investigation he shall be expelled subject to the appeals procedures described in Paragraph (5).
7. All complaints of breaches of this rule, which come to the knowledge of officers of a State Branch, shall be immediately reported to the Federal Secretary, followed by a detailed report of action taken. The Federal Executive shall be responsible for ensuring the enforcement of this policy in every State.
8. In the event of the Federal Executive being dissatisfied with the State Branch Report, pursuant to the issue of an alleged Unity Ticket, the Federal Executive shall have authority to initiate an investigation into suspected Unity Tickets and to determine the question of guilt and the decision of the Federal Executive shall be binding on State Branches.

G: PEACE ORGANISATIONS

(Adopted at 1963 Conference)

That having regard for the reports submitted by State Branches on this question, the Federal Executive recommends to Conference —

1. That State Branches continue to watch the position in their respective States on the basis of the 1951 Conference decision and report to the Federal Executive any body which, in their opinion, is dominated by the Communist Party, and the Federal Executive shall take all action, in its judgment, which may be warranted. (The 1951 decision referred to, inter alia, is as follows: "The Labor Party defines from time to time bodies which are Communist influenced, and does not intend to discourage organisations genuinely concerned for peace, free from Communist influence.")
2. The attention of Branches be drawn to the decision of the Party directed towards the establishment of vigorous peace bodies within the Constitution of the A.L.P., and members are expected to fully participate in their activities.

H: PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

(Adopted at 1963 Conference)

Conference believes that the exclusion of the People's Republic of China from officially recognised international discussions will be fatal to the efforts aimed at total and universal disarmament and extremely dangerous to the peace of the world. Conference therefore asks the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party to do all in its power to encourage the Australian Government to assist in paving the way for full participation of China in the disarmament negotiations.

I: AUSTRALIAN SOVEREIGNTY

(Adopted at 1963 Conference)

Conference affirms that the Australian Federal and State Governments shall be supreme throughout the whole Commonwealth and its territories and that no other Government shall be given jurisdiction of any part thereof, whether for defence or any other purpose, and that the safeguards adopted by the Special Conference in March, 1963, be adopted as a general principle, i.e. —

- (i) Australian sovereignty is maintained.
- (ii) Australian citizens engaged at the station are subject to Australian law.

J: PENAL CLAUSES

(Adopted at 1963 Conference and re-affirmed in 1965 and 1967)

- (a) Conference supports the A.C.T.U. policy on penal clauses.
- (b) Conference affirms the right of workers to strike, and further a Labor Government be pledged to a complete redrafting of the Crimes Act, also the Penal Clauses

of the Commonwealth Arbitration Act, with a view to having objectionable penal clauses and amendments repealed. This action to be taken in conjunction with the A.C.T.U.

K: MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL BENEFIT FUNDS

(Adopted at 1965 Conference and re-affirmed in 1967)

To ease the financial burden imposed by illness, the Labor Party will urge —

- (a) The appointment of a Committee of Enquiry into existing Medical and Hospital Benefit Funds.
- (b) Immediate action to ensure that funds pay a greater amount in benefits.
- (c) The removal of anomalies from existing benefits.
- (d) Benefits to be paid for the cost of para-medical services. Pensioner Medical Service to be available to all pensioners under the Commonwealth Social Services Act.

THE RULES AND STANDING ORDERS

of the
Federal Conference of the Australian Labor Party

(As amended by the 1967 Commonwealth Conference — Adelaide)

FEDERAL CONFERENCE RULES

1. NAME

The name of the Party shall be "The Australian Labor Party".

2. OBJECTIVE

The Democratic Socialisation of Industry, Production, Distribution and Exchange — to the extent necessary to eliminate exploitation and other anti-social features in those fields — in accordance with the Principles of Action, Methods and Progressive Reforms set out in the Party Platform from time to time.

3. HEAD OFFICE

The Head Office of the Party shall be established in any one of the Australian capital cities, as determined from time to time by the Federal Executive of the Party.

4. COMPOSITION

The Party shall consist of State Labor Parties, The Northern Territory (hereinafter referred to as State Branches) and other branches established in Commonwealth Territories, as constituted from time to time and approved by the Federal Conference of the Party.

5. STRUCTURE OF PARTY ORGANISATION

(a) The Party shall function upon the following basis—

- (i) Federal Conference;
- (ii) Federal Executive;
- (iii) Federal Parliamentary Labor Party;
- (iv) Federal Labor Women's Organisation.

(b) The Federal Conference shall be the supreme governing authority of the Party and its decisions shall be binding upon every member and every section of the Party.

(c) The Federal Executive shall be the chief administrative authority of the Party, subject only to Federal Conference.

(d) The Federal Parliamentary Labor Party shall have authority in properly constituted Caucus meetings to make decisions directed towards establishing the collective attitude of the Parliamentary Party to any question or matter in the Federal Parliament, subject to—

- (i) At all times taking such action which may be possible to implement the Party's Platform and Conference decisions;
- (ii) on questions or matters which are not subject to Federal Platform or Conference or Executive decisions, the majority decision of Caucus being binding upon all members in the Parliament;

- (iii) no attitude being expressed which is contrary to the provisions of the Party Platform or any other decision of Federal Conference or Federal Executive.
- (e) The Federal Labor Women's Organisation shall function in accordance with the rules that may be approved from time to time by the Federal Executive and subject to its control and jurisdiction.

6.

CONVENING FEDERAL CONFERENCE

- (a) (i) Each State Branch shall be entitled to send seven (7) delegates to the Federal Conference, one of whom shall be the State Parliamentary Leader or his nominee as approved by the State Executive.
- (ii) The Northern Territory Executive shall be entitled to send one (1) delegate to Federal Conference.
- (iii) The Leader and Deputy Leader of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party and the Leader and Deputy Leader in the Senate shall be seated at Federal Conference as full delegates.
- (b) Ordinary Conferences shall be held once in each two years, and the venue shall be determined by the Federal Executive, which shall have regard to the claims of all States.
- (c) Special Conferences may be held for specially stated purposes, and shall be called in the manner prescribed by these Rules.
- (d) (i) The Federal President need not be a delegate to Federal Conference, but Conference Standing Orders shall provide that where the President is not a delegate he shall have full powers of speech, but no vote.
- (ii) The Federal Secretary shall not be a delegate to Conference, but shall have full powers of speech, but no vote.
- (e) The Federal Secretary, after receiving instructions from the convening authority, shall observe the following procedure for the purpose of establishing Conference agenda—
 - (i) Give the following bodies three months notice to send items for inclusion on the agenda: State Branches, Federal Labor Women's Organisation, and Federal Trade Unions, provided that all State Branches of the unions are affiliated with the Party in each State.
 - (ii) Send printed copies of the agenda and any other documents related to Conference that may be in his possession one (1) month before Conference meets to the bodies referred to in the preceding paragraph.
 - (iii) No item shall be placed upon the Agenda unless it has been approved by a State Conference, State Executive, Conference of Labor Women's Organisation, Federal Executive or a Federal Trade Union whose State Branches are affiliated with the Party in each State.

7.

FEDERAL EXECUTIVE

- (a) The Federal Executive of the Party, which shall be the chief administrative authority, subject only to Federal Conference, shall be constituted in the following manner:—
 - (i) Two delegates from each State Branch and one delegate from the Northern Territory Executive.
Each State Branch and the Northern Territory shall determine the method of selection of its representatives and may take any action to ensure full representation at all meetings of the Executive by proxy delegates when original delegates are unable to attend.
 - (ii) The President, unless he is otherwise elected a delegate with the full rights of a delegate except that of voting.
 - (iii) The General Secretary shall not be a delegate but shall have the full rights of a delegate except that of voting.
 - (iv) The Leader and Deputy Leader of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party and the Leader and Deputy Leader in the Senate.

(b) (i) Officers of the Party —

The Federal Executive shall elect the following officers :

President;
Senior Vice-President;
Junior Vice-President.

- (ii) The President and Vice-Presidents shall be elected at the first meeting after May in each year, and shall hold office until the first meeting after May in the following year.
- (iii) The Secretary shall be the permanent officer of the Federal Executive, subject to good conduct, satisfactory performances of duty and adherence to the policy and objects of the Party. His services shall be terminable by the Federal Executive or by the Secretary by one month's notice by either party. In the event of a vacancy occurring in the position of Federal Secretary, the Federal Executive may appoint an Acting Secretary, who shall hold office until the next Conference is held, when the position shall be filled by Conference.
- (iv) The Federal Executive shall elect each year a person to fill the office of Treasurer, who shall serve in an honorary capacity.

(c) Powers and Duties of Federal Executive —

Decisions of the Federal Executive shall be binding upon all sections and members of the A.L.P. subject only to appeal to Federal Conference. The Federal Executive shall :

- (i) be the administrative authority carrying out the decisions of Federal Conference, and in the interpretation of any Conference decision, the Federal Platform and the Constitution and Rules of the Party, and the direction of Federal Members.
- (ii) convene ordinary Federal Conferences in accordance with these rules.
- (iii) convene Special Conferences when requested by not less than four State Branches for special purpose/s providing that such purpose/s is/are Federal in character. The Federal Executive may also, on its own motion, convene such Conferences.
- (iv) meet at least three times a year, and at such other times as the Executive may determine, for the purpose of considering and determining all matters that are properly before it. Subject to these Rules, only State Branches, Federal Parliamentary Labor Party, Labor Women's Organisation, and those Federal Trade Unions whose State Branches are affiliated to the Party in each State, shall be competent to send matters to the Federal Executive. The Executive shall determine the time and place of all meetings.
- (v) initiate discussion on any question of a Federal nature if a majority of the Executive so decides.
- (vi) (a) The Federal Executive shall hear appeals from any affiliated organisation or individual member on the decision of any State Conference or State Executive where leave to appeal is granted to the appellant(s) by the State Executive or State Conference concerned.
(b) The Federal Executive shall be competent to hear and decide appeals on the decision of any State Conference or State Executive on any matter affecting the Federal Labor Platform or Federal Policy or the attitude of any members of the A.L.P. thereto.
(c) The Federal Executive shall hear and decide any appeal from any candidate for Federal Elections whose approval or endorsement as a candidate has been with-held or unduly delayed for any cause which, in the opinion of the Federal Executive, affects the Federal Labor Platform or Federal policy or the attitude of any member(s) of the Party thereto.
- (vii) have plenary powers to deal with and decide any matters which, in the opinion of at least seven members of the Executive, affects the general

welfare of the Labor Movement, provided that no decision of Federal Conference shall be abrogated under this rule.

- (viii) in the case of any State Executive, State Branch or section of the A.L.P. acting or having acted in a manner deemed by the Federal Executive to be contrary to the Federal Constitution, Platform and Policy of the Party as interpreted by the Federal Executive, the Federal Executive may overrule such State Executive, State Branch or Section, and/or may declare that same no longer exists, and shall set up in place thereof organisation competent to carry out the Federal Constitution, Platform and Policy of the Australian Labor Party. Pending the hearing of any appeal, the decision of the Federal Executive shall operate. In the event of the Federal Executive taking any action under this subclause, the Federal Executive shall be the body to approve any selection which otherwise would have been made by the body affected by the Federal Executive decision.

8.

DUTIES OF PRESIDENT

The President, when available, shall attend and preside over all meetings of the Federal Executive and conduct such meetings on the basis of the Standing Orders as applicable to Federal Conference. The President may carry out any other duties that the Executive may deem fit.

9.

DUTIES OF VICE-PRESIDENTS

The Vice-Presidents, in order of seniority, shall take the Chair in the absence of the President, and shall perform any other duties that may be referred to them by the Executive.

10.

FINANCE

- (a) To meet the general expenses of the Party, each State Branch shall pay to the Federal Executive through the Secretary, not later than December 31 each year, a sum representing \$32 per thousand male members and \$16 per thousand female and junior members.
- (b) In the event of a State Branch being more than six months in arrears in its contributions to the Party, the Federal Executive may decide that such Branch shall not be entitled to be represented at any meeting of the Federal Executive or Federal Conference, or be consulted on any question that may be subject to a ballot of State Branches, until such arrears are paid.
- (c) State Branches represented at Federal Conference shall be financially responsible for their delegations.
- (d) Subject to any recommendation to Federal Conference by Federal Executive, State Branches shall, with the exception of Western Australia, pay all expenses incurred by their delegates. In the case of W.A., the Executive shall meet 50 per cent. of such expenses.
- (e) The Federal Executive shall meet the expenses of the Federal President attending Federal Conference and the expenses of any officers associated with any duty being carried out on behalf of the Federal Executive.
- (f) Each State Executive shall pay to the Federal Executive not later than December 31 of each year the further sum of 0.021c per member for international affiliations or activities associated therewith.
- (g) The Federal Officers together with the Federal Leader and the Deputy Leader shall constitute a Finance Committee over which the Treasurer shall preside, and that this Committee submit to Executive meeting statements of receipts and expenditures.

11.

PLATFORM REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Officers of the Federal Executive, together with the Officers of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party, shall act as a Platform Review Committee and further act as a consultative body for the purpose of removing misunderstandings provided that no action shall be taken to disturb the constitutional functions of each body.

- (i) No State Executive may direct members of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party in regard to matters affecting the Federal Platform or policy or upon legislation before the Parliament or any matters the subject of consideration by the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party.
- (ii) The power of direction, advice and/or guidance is reserved for the Federal Conference and, between conferences, the Federal Executive.
- (iii) No State Branch shall approach the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party except through the Federal Secretary who will report to the Federal Executive on any action taken.

FEDERAL CONFERENCE STANDING ORDERS

CHAIRMAN OF CONFERENCE

1. The Federal President shall preside over Conference with the power of speech, but no vote. In his absence the senior officer present shall preside. If no Officers are present a Chairman shall be appointed by and from Conference. Such appointment shall not disturb the full voting powers of the delegate so appointed.

SESSION TIMES

2. Conference shall meet each day from —

9.30 a.m. to 12.45 p.m., and
2.15 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.,

subject to Conference at any time, determining on motion or amendment without debate, and without rescission of any previous decision as to meeting times, to meet at any other times.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

3. The order of business shall be as follows —

- (a) Reading and confirmation of minutes;
- (b) reports;
- (c) correspondence;
- (d) Agenda items;

subject to Conference, at any time on motion without debate, determining some other order of business.

4. No discussion shall be allowed except on motion or amendment duly proposed and seconded.
5. Any member desiring to propose a motion or amendment, or to discuss any matter under consideration, must rise and address the Chair. No member shall address the Conference unless called by the Chairman.
6. All questions shall be determined in the following manner—
 - (a) The mover of the motion shall have seven minutes to present argument in support of his motion and five minutes to reply.
 - (b) The seconder of such motion, and all other speakers, shall be limited to five minutes.
 - (c) Conference on motion without debate may extend the time of any speaker; such extension of time shall not exceed five minutes. Conference may agree to further extensions on the same basis.
 - (d) The Chairman shall call attention to the time of all speakers one minute before such time expires. Motions for extensions may be made when the Chairman so calls, but not later.
 - (e) After the motion has been moved and seconded, and no speaker rises to oppose or move an amendment, the Chairman shall proceed to put such motion to a vote of Conference.
 - (f) All votes of Conference shall be subject to the following procedure —

- (i) The Chairman shall call upon those who support the question to say Aye, and those who are opposed to say No :
- (ii) he shall then declare the question carried or lost.
- (g) Any delegate not satisfied with the Chairman's decision may, by standing in his place, call for a show of hands. The Chairman shall proceed to determine the question by calling upon those who support the motion to raise their right hands, and those opposed to act similarly. The Chairman shall appoint two tellers to take the count and they shall be representative of the opposing viewpoints. When the tellers are agreed upon their count the Chairman shall declare the result by quoting the figures for and against.
- (h) Any delegate not satisfied with the count as declared by the Chairman may, by standing in his place, call for a division. If supported by not less than seven other delegates standing in their places, the Chairman shall proceed to conduct a division. This shall be done by the Chairman calling upon all delegates who support the question to leave their places and stand on his right. He shall then call upon those who oppose, to stand on his left. He shall appoint two tellers representative of the opposing viewpoints to count the delegates so standing. When the tellers are agreed upon their count the Chairman shall declare the result by quoting the figures for and against.
- (i) The names of all delegates participating in a division shall be recorded in the minutes.
- (j) When any question voted upon by Conference results in equal numbers for and against, the Chairman shall declare such question lost.
- (k) Any motion or amendment affecting the Pledge, Platform or Constitution of the Party shall be declared lost if less than a majority of delegates credentialled to the Conference vote for it.

AMENDMENTS

- 7. (a) At any time during debate on any motion it shall be competent for any delegate to move an amendment. All amendments must be seconded. Motions may be amended by adding words, by deleting words, by deleting words and inserting others in their place. Providing that the effect of any proposed amendment is not to establish a direct negative to the question contained in the motion.
- (b) Any number of amendments may be proposed and discussed simultaneously with the original motion, notwithstanding Standing Order 13. At the close of debate amendments shall be put in the order they have been moved.
- 8. No member shall speak more than once to any question before the Chair, unless by way of personal explanation or with the consent of Conference. Such consent shall not be given unless by a majority of those present.
- 9. At any time during debate on any question it shall be competent for the Chairman to accept a motion "that the question be now put" or "that the question be adjourned". Provided at least two speakers have spoken for and against. A member having spoken to the question shall not be competent so to move. Such motions shall be immediately put without debate, provided that in the event of Conference agreeing "that the question be now put" the mover of the original motion shall have the right of reply.
- 10. On Conference agreeing "that the question be now put" it shall mean not only the question contained in the motion, but in any and all amendments.
- 11. No question shall be debated for a longer period than one and a half hours, subject to Conference agreeing on motion or amendment put without debate to extend such time. A two-thirds majority of those present shall be required to approve any such extension.
- 12. Motions directed towards the re-consideration of any decision reached by Conference shall fail unless carried by a three-fourths majority of the delegates credentialled to Conference.
- 13. Not more than two delegates in succession shall speak for or against any question.

14. All questions involving an interpretation of policy on any section of the Platform or the direction of members of the Parliament in accordance with the principles and methods of the Party, shall be subject to decision by Conference on the basis of these standing orders and not by a ruling of the President.
15. Questions other than those contained on the Agenda shall not be discussed unless agreed to by two-thirds of the delegates credentialled to Conference, and no delegate shall canvass the subject matter of the proposed new business when seeking Conference approval for discussion of same.
16. Rulings given by the Chairman on any question shall be subject to motion calling upon Conference to disagree with any ruling. In the event of such motion, the mover shall be permitted not more than five minutes to support the motion and the Chairman shall be permitted not more than five minutes to defend his ruling. There shall be no other speakers. The Vice-President or any other delegate appointed by Conference shall occupy the Chair during the currency of such motion.

THE CONSTITUTION AND RULES *of the* FEDERAL LABOR WOMEN'S ORGANISATION

COMPOSITION

1. State Labor Women's organisations as approved by the respective State Executives of the Party in each State.

OBJECTS

2. (a) Promote the organisation of women in the Australian Labor Party.
(b) Educate women politically and industrially.
(c) Co-ordinate the work of women members of the Australian Labor Party.
(d) Pay special attention to the interests of women and children. Support and advocate the Constitution and Platform of the Australian Labor Party, as set out by the Federal and State Conferences of the A.L.P. and to consider and decide (subject to the Constitution and principles aforementioned) questions which affect the Labor Women of the Commonwealth as a whole.

EXECUTIVE BODY

3. An Executive body shall be established consisting of a President, two Vice-Presidents (senior and junior), a Secretary-Treasurer, who shall be known as the Officers, and one representative from each State where such State does not provide any one of the officers named herein.

The Executive shall be elected by the Federal Labor Women's Conference, and any member of the Labor Women's organisation with not less than one year's membership shall be eligible.

EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

4. (a) The Executive shall meet at least once in each year.
(b) The President shall convene special meetings when requested by a majority of the Executive to do so.
(c) Special meetings shall be held if four State Labor Women's Organisations so petition the President.
(d) A majority of the Executive shall constitute a quorum.

POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE

5. The Executive shall be empowered to deal with —
 - (a) Matters referred to it by :
 - (i) State Labor Women's Organisations.
 - (ii) The Federal Executive of the A.L.P.
 - (iii) The Labor Women's Federal Conference.
 - (b) Any matter of an urgent nature, providing that the urgency of any such matter shall be determined by a majority of the Executive, either assembled in meeting or by telegraphic or postal vote.
 - (c) Organise Federal Labor Women's Conferences in accordance with the requirements of these Rules.

- (d) (i) Upon approval being granted by the Federal Executive A.L.P. arrange for representation on other conferences which may be convened by other organisations having similar objects to the Labor Women's Organisation.
- (ii) The methods to determine such representation shall be as follows: Where time permits, nominations shall be invited from the State Labor Women's Organisations, to be received by a returning officer appointed by the Executive. A ballot, if necessary, to be conducted by the returning officer at the next Federal Labor Women's Conference. Where time does not permit, the Executive shall make the selection.
- (iii) Any member of the Labor Women's Organisation with not less than one (1) year's membership shall be eligible for selection.
- (e) Arrange for representation on national and international bodies on the principles and methods laid down in (d) hereof.

FEDERAL CONFERENCE

- 6. (a) A Federal Conference of Labor Women shall be held every two years.
- (b) The time and place of the Conference shall be determined by the Executive.
- (c) State Labor Women's Organisations shall be notified by the Secretary-Treasurer of the time and place of such Conference not later than three months prior to the opening of the Conference.
- (d) The convening notice shall also call for items to be placed upon the Conference agenda, and shall be in the hands of the Secretary-Treasurer not later than one month prior to the opening of Conference.
- (e) Conference items received after the time specified in (d) hereof shall be placed in the category of "Late Items" and Conference shall determine whether such items will be considered.
- (f) Conference shall consist of three representatives from each State, providing that where any State is not able to send three representatives, but sends a lesser number, the lesser number shall be empowered to exercise the full voting strength of the State of three votes.
- (g) A quorum shall consist of representatives from a majority of those States which are eligible and have signified their intention to be represented.
- (h) Special Conferences shall be called if a majority of States with Labor Women's Organisations petition the President for this purpose.

FINANCE

- 7. (a) For the purpose of financing the Federal Labor Women's Organisation each State Labor Women's Organisation shall contribute not less than ten dollars (\$10) per annum.
- (b) The Officers authorised to operate the Banking Account of the Federal Labor Women's Organisation shall be the President, the Secretary and two trustees. Funds may be drawn over the signatures of the Secretary and one of the remaining three officers appointed.
- 8. Any member of the Federal Executive of the A.L.P. shall have the right to be present at any Conference of the Federal Labor Women's Organisation in the capacity of an observer.
- 9. The Secretary of the Federal Executive shall be advised of the election of Officers of the Federal Labor Women's Organisation.
- 10. A.L.P. Federal Conference Standing Orders shall apply to all meetings.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEES

Conference and Related Decisions affecting the Establishment, Working and Procedure of the various Standing Policy Committees of the Federal body.

A: APPOINTMENT AND COMPOSITION

(Decision of July 1966 Conference)

Conference directs the Federal Executive to establish and maintain Standing Policy Committees on the various heads of policies, such Committees to be constituted in the following manner :

- (a) All Standing Policy Committees shall consist of nine members comprising:
 - (i) One member elected by and from the Federal Executive who shall be Chairman of the Committee;
 - (ii) One member elected by the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party;
 - (iii) Five members elected by the Federal Executive; and
 - (iv) The Leader and Deputy Leader of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party shall be automatically ex-officio members of all Committees.
- (b) The General Secretary of the Party shall be ex-officio member of all Committees and may opt as to which Committees he will serve as Secretary.
- (c) Prior to the selection of Committees, the General Secretary shall give adequate notice to the States in order that they may submit for the consideration of the Executive names of people to serve on the Committees.
- (d) Policy Committees shall be elected after each biennial Federal Conference.

With the exception of Clause (d), this decision shall not apply to the National Advisory Committee on Education, which shall continue to be appointed in the manner determined by the 1963 and 1965 Conferences.

B: PROCEDURE

(Decision of 1963 Commonwealth Conference)

The Federal Executive, after having examined the Functioning of the Standing Committees established under Federal Conference authority and their relationship to the Federal Executive and Conference, resolves the adoption of the following procedure to facilitate the work of Conference —

- (a) Wherever possible, all reports of Standing Committees shall firstly be submitted to the Federal Executive for examination, which shall have authority to amend.
- (b) The Chairman of a Standing Committee or an approved member of the Committee, irrespective of whether he is a delegate to Conference or not, shall have the right to present the Committee's report to Conference.
- (c) On presentation of the reports, Conference shall be informed of any differences between a majority view of the Committee and a majority view of the Federal Executive.
- (d) When Conference Agenda items have been submitted to a Standing Committee, the report shall clearly show the manner in which they have been dealt with.
- (e) All reports shall be subject to normal Standing Orders of Conference and no State Branch shall be prejudiced in the right of its delegates to move Agenda items.

C: CIVIL LIBERTIES COMMITTEE
(Decision of 1963 Commonwealth Conference)

Conference directs the Federal Executive to maintain the Civil Liberties Committee as a permanent Standing Committee to advise on civil liberties matters from time to time and requests all Branches and their affiliates through the appropriate channels hereafter to notify the Committee of any cases of infringement of civil liberties which may come to their knowledge.

D: NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
(Decision of 1963 Commonwealth Conference)

The Federal Executive shall establish a National Advisory Committee on Education, comprising a member of the Executive as Chairman, a representative of the Federal Parliamentary Party, one representative from each State, and four other members chosen for their special knowledge and interests in the educational field.

(Decision of 1965 Commonwealth Conference)

That the National Advisory Committee on Education, as approved by the 1963 Conference, be established and replace the Standing Committee on Education, and assume its duties.

PARTY ORGANISATION

1967 Commonwealth Conference Decision on Matters Affecting Party Organisation

(Note: Those decisions of the 1967 Conference which altered the Federal Rules have been incorporated in the Rules which appear earlier in this book and are not reproduced here.)

1. WOMEN'S ORGANISATION

- (i) The Labor Women's Organisation Executive shall be recognised as the Standing Policy Committee on Women's Affairs.
- (ii) The Labor Women's Organisation Executive shall be asked to nominate a woman to serve on each Policy Standing Committee.

2. YOUTH COMMITTEE

A youth advisory committee shall be established comprising one member elected by and from the Federal Executive who shall be chairman, together with one delegate, under the age of 30 years, appointed annually by each State Branch where a Youth Organisation operates, to advise the Executive on all matters affecting young people and the cost of delegates attending meetings, other than the chairman's shall be borne by the youth organisation in each State. The Committee shall only meet at such times as may be required by the Federal Executive.

3. FINANCE

- (a) The Finance Committee shall be charged with the task of raising ordinary and special funds for the development and expansion of the Party and for the conduct of elections.
- (b) An immediate appeal for \$100,000 be launched to provide a base for the Party's operation.
- (c) A bank order system be instituted through which members, friends and supporters can donate regularly to Party funds.
- (d) A scheme be launched to obtain 2,000 members who will collect from 20 other people a minimum of 10 cents per week thus raising \$200,000 a year which will enable the Party at both State and Federal levels to function effectively.

4. MEMBERSHIP

- (a) That 1968 be declared Membership Year with a target 100,000 individual members.
- (b) The N.O.P.C. to prepare a detailed programme to attract members including:—
 - (i) special television and radio programmes;
 - (ii) the production of special pamphlets and other publications;
 - (iii) the organisation of special rallies, meetings and conferences throughout the Commonwealth;
 - (iv) special articles by leading Party members for reproduction in Union Journals;
 - (v) the organisation of special functions designed to appeal to professional and other social groups.

5. LOCAL BRANCHES

- (a) To encourage effective branch meetings. State Branches be requested to review their rules and Standing Orders to provide for streamlining of business.

- (b) That to train Party members in the duties and functions of branch presidents, secretaries, treasurers, etc., and in election organisations, special day, weekend and week schools be organised.
- (c) Such schools to be arranged on local, regional, State and Federal basis.
- (d) Similar schools to be arranged on the history, aims, ideals and policy of the Party.
- (e) That at Federal level, Summer schools of a week's duration be arranged to embrace courses on organisation and Policy.
- (f) To assist Party members to attend such schools, State Branches and trade unions be urged to award scholarships.
- (g) As a further aid to improving the efficiency and standard of the Party, a National Labor Correspondence College be established to conduct postal courses for Party members.
- (h) A regular publication be issued on organisational matters.
- (i) Regular discussion notes to be circulated to all units to stimulate discussion on the aims, objectives and policy of the Party.
- (j) Local branches to be encouraged to organise their own evening schools on the above topics.
- (k) Federal Party organisations to be encouraged to arrange schools on an electoral basis.

6. ELECTORAL ORGANISATION

- (a) That where practicable candidates be selected at least two years before an election.
- (b) Candidates and key Party personnel to be trained at both State and Federal levels in the techniques of television, radio and public speaking.
- (c) Publicity for an election to continue throughout the years between an election.
- (d) Publicity be prepared to aim at special members of the Community.
- (e) That the principle be approved of the establishment of a television and broadcasting studio for training, filming and recording purposes.
- (f) That regular radio programmes be prepared Federally for replay on Labor Stations in the respective States.
- (g) That immediate concentration on marginal Federal Electorates be undertaken by the State Branches in conjunction with the Federal Secretariat.
- (h) To ensure that the maximum benefit is gained from the use of leading personnel, itineraries for the Parliamentary leaders shall be arranged by the Federal Secretary in consultation with the State Secretary concerned.
- (i) That urgent consideration be given to the implementation of field organising in marginal electorates under control of State Branches in conjunction with the National Organising and Planning Committee.
- (j) That a handbook on the organisation and conduct of elections be prepared for use by all sections of the Party.
- (k) That State Branches allocate Senators to cover marginal Electorates.
- (l) That State Branches continue the practice of allocating sitting Members to cover marginal electorates.
- (m) That when a decision is made by the N.O.P.C. in respect to the interstate movement of Federal Members such member shall be informed of the decision by the Federal Secretary who shall also be empowered to re-imburse the expenses incurred from a fund to be established.

7. TRADE UNIONS

- (a) Subject to the approval of the A.C.T.U., an approach be made by the C.L.A.C. to A.C.S.P.A. to join that body in a mutually agreed status.

- (b) State Branches be encouraged to seek the closest possible contact with professional associations.
- (c) That the Federal Executive establish a Consultative Committee consisting of members of professional and salaried associations, provided such members are also members of the A.L.P.
- (d) A special campaign be commenced to inform all trade unionists of the advantages of affiliation with the Party.

8. INTERNATIONAL

- (a) That with affiliation to the Socialist International steps be taken to secure a seat on the Bureau.
- (b) With the need for closer relationship with New Zealand, close contact be established with the New Zealand Labor Party by the exchange of delegations to Party Conferences and the establishment of a Liaison Committee.
- (c) That to gain a first hand knowledge of Asian affairs, arrangements be made for the exchange of delegations.
- (d) That when leading members of the Party are touring overseas, they advise the Federal Secretary who will arrange contact with Labor Parties in the countries they are visiting.
- (e) Upon the return of members from overseas, whenever possible, arrangement shall be made for him to address meetings of Party members.
- (f) That the Federal Executive should explore the possibility of creating a closer link with Asian socialists.
- (g) That the Party consider the adoption of an orphanage and that the International Refugee Organisation be requested to advise in connection with the proposal and this advice be presented to the Federal Executive.
- (h) That every assistance be given to the development of a Socialist Party in New Guinea.

9. SUPERANNUATION SCHEME

That the possibility of the establishment of a national superannuation scheme be examined, to cover officers and staff willing to join, and that the proposal be examined in detail on the basis of a report to be submitted by the Federal Secretary to the Federal Executive, which shall have the power to act.

Union Offset Co, Pirie St., Fyshwick, A.C.T.

