

Good Morning, Listeners. This is John McLaren, your endorsed A.L.P. candidate for Indi, speaking to you on behalf of the Australian Labor Party.

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~~etex~~ As the forthcoming Federal elections draw nearer, a mounting barrage of promises and criticism is being heard from the various candidates contesting this poll. Yet amid all this noise one fact remains clear - that the choice you make on November 22 may be the most vital one in the history of Australia. For you are faced with the necessity of making a clear distinction between the present government, on the one hand, and the Australian Labor Party on the other, A vote for any of the non-Labor parties in this election is a vote of confidence in a government which has ~~xxx~~ shown itself so little concerned with the opinions of the electors that it has bothered neither to give account of its stewardship in the past nor to outline any plan for its conduct in the future. To vote for this government is to vote for one party rule in Australia.

We all know that no party is perfect, but the essence of parliamentary democracy is that every three years the party in power must come before the people for a renewal of its mandate to govern. If it fails to face this election honestly, and relies on smearing, its opponents, it is ~~xxxxxxx~~ undermining the very foundation of democracy, and, unless the people of Australia are awake to this danger, we will follow France into dictatorship.

The question of Communism is not an issue at this election. Any fair-minded person will recognise that all the major parties are opposed to the principles of totalitarian Communism, which robs the people of their most fundamental human rights, which warps the minds of its followers, and which is responsible for ~~xxx~~ some of the

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the most brutal acts by any government in modern history. But, just as the Communists are willing to use hatred of Nazism and Fascism to attain power for themselves, so are some Fascist groups willing to use the fear of Communism to attain their own ends. One such group was led by the late Senator McCarthy in America, and similar groups exist under various disguises in Australia. These are the people who would prevent any expression of radical views in case they might co-incide with the views of the Communists. These are the people who would stop any communication with one half of the world because its rulers are Communists. These are the people who would substitute guns for words, and destroy civilization with nuclear weapons in order to destroy this particular enemy. Their minds are so warped by fear that they can no longer see the logical consequence of their actions, and they honestly believe that they are defending democracy when in fact they are white-washing its very foundations. Only your vote at the polls can destroy their influence.

The ~~ix~~ Australian Labor Party believes that Communism is an idea which can only be fought by advocating a better idea. Communism overseas must be fought by proving that democracy works better than any other form of government. The Labor party believes that the main principle of our foreign policy should be to aid those countries which are trying to make democracy work. We believe that this aid must be given on a large enough scale to be really effective, and must go far beyond the merely token contributions of our present Colombo plan.

Communism at home can only be fought by destroying the conditions which breed Communism. It cannot be fought by any smear campaign directed against men who have devoted their lives to working for the welfare of their fellow workers. It cannot be fought by any interference by outside bodies in the affairs of the unions. It can only be fought by offering men better conditions than Communism can match

In this struggle for the minds of men, the Australian Labor Party stands for the true principles of democracy. We believe that the struggle must be carried on in accordance with these principles, for the moment one act of injustice is tolerated in the name of anti-Communism, the claim of the democracies to moral superiority is weakened.

Keep these facts in mind when you cast your vote on November 22. Remember that in this struggle, only a true democracy can eventually win. Do not be misled by fear, but vote courageously for the only party which has always fought Communism at home and abroad - the Australian Labor Party. The present government is trying to divide the Labor vote through the existence of splinter groups. ~~But~~ a vote for any of these parties is a vote for ^{one-party} the Liberal Party Government.

Put Australia First.

Put Labor First.

for Indi, vote McLaren One.

~~THE XXXXX~~ Dr. Evatt, as a member of the A.L.P., introduced the first legislation in the Federal Parliament for secret ballots in the unions.

Dr. Evatt led the attack in the U.N. against the Hungarian government for the trial of Cardinal Mindszenty.

But the Australian Labor Party is constructively anti-Communist. It follows the principles of the late Ben Chifley, who warned us that "you must not be frightened and made to get over to the right because of the whispered word "Communist." The Australian Labor Party is constructively anti-Communist.

~~Labor's plan for the family has been generally welcomed.~~

Labor's plan for social welfare has been generally welcomed, even in the Liberal press. The Melbourne Herald regretted that the Liberal policy did not make any similar provision for pensioners. The Sydney sun said that the "Labor party is planning for an expanded economy, the Menzies Government, with its heavy restrictions on spending, has planned for a static or even a contracting one." But in many quarters the suggestion has been made that labor cannot find the money for its plan, or that, even if it can, it would create ~~galkp~~ further inflation.

Yet the "Financial Review," another conservative publication, said on the 25th. of October, that "Labor's plans present few signs of irresponsible inflation. Indeed, for the private ~~xxxxx~~ sector of the economy, they appear to give more hope of a renewal of expansion than ~~anything~~ what has so far emerged from the Menzies Government."

I would like to draw your attention to the words "For the private sector of the economy." Labor is presenting no wildly socialist view, it is presenting a plan which will benefit every section of the community.

Before turning to the question of where Labor will find the money, I would like to point out that Labor's policy of social services will, in most cases, merely restore their value to what it was before the Menzies government took office. If the country could afford ~~to~~ at that time to pay adequate child endowment and reasonable pensions, it can afford to do so again. For, while the pension has remained virtually stationery, the price of flour has trebled, of milk, ~~xxxxx~~ eggs, butter, tea, bread, and meat, doubled or more. Justice demands that social services be increased also.

It has been suggested that the Labor party is making a political football out of pensions, or offering a bribe to the electors merely in hoping for the reward of power, but our policy is nothing of the sort. The Australian Labor Party

has always stood for the principles of social justice, and its present policy is based purely on an examination of the problems of the community today, and a determination to remedy injustice where it exists. In doing this, it is merely following the intentions of its founders, who dreamt of the day when Australia would show the world a model of social welfare. At one time we did lead the world in such measures as pensions, child welfare, and social security, but today we have fallen far behind such progressive countries as ~~the~~ Denmark, ~~Sweden, xxxxx~~ ~~Britain~~ or the other Scandinavian countries.

Australia's greatest problem today is that we have idle resources and idle hands. To bring the two together, money is required. But this money is not forthcoming, and the economy is shrinking. The number of houses being built each year is shrinking. The number of men employed has remained stationary at less than one and a half million. In fact, between 1956 and 1958 the number actually fell by more than eight thousand, although during this time the demand for jobs from migrants and boys leaving school has been continually increasing. Unemployment now stand at 68,000 registered, and many more not eligible for benefits. During the last three years the number of men actually receiving unemployment benefits has increased by 20,000 a year. This stagnant economy can only be revived by restoring the purchasing power of the community, and this is what Labor's policy will do.

The reason the present government cannot find the money for these services is that it is being spent on public works which should be paid for out of loan funds. But the government has destroyed the loan market, so that, even when it offers extravagantly inflated interest rates, it cannot fill the Loan Council's allocation without using money filched from the taxpayer.

This is because the small investor has lost confidence in the loan market, and the big investor has found ^afar more

a far more profitable field for investment in hire purchase. The constant rise in the interest rate has reduced the capital value of the older loan issues, and the galloping inflation which arose from the lifting of all controls on the economy has halved the purchasing power of the bonds at maturity. The result is that this year the government expects to raise only £35,000,000 from public loans, compared with £100,000,000 in the last year of the Chifley government, when prices and income were only half their present level.

The Labor party policy will restore justice and prosperity to the community, and so pay for itself. A restoration of the loan market will divert taxation to pay for these essential social services. In the interim, the gap will be filled by sounder budgetary principles, an elimination of wasteful spending, and treasury loans, which are at present being wrongly used by the Liberal government to finance normal administration.

The Australian Labor Party is the only party which is in a position to carry out a policy to restore Australia's economy, to restore the purchasing power of the community, and to restore justice to pensioners and ~~others~~ others who have suffered under the ~~Menzies~~ inflation.

of the last nine years. ~~Any~~ A vote for any other party is a vote for the continuation of the Menzies muddle.

Can you afford not to vote Labor?

Put Australia first.

Put Labor first.

And for Indi, Vote McLaren One.

Some ignorant enemies of Labor have been accusing the Australian Labor party of opposition to migration. This is, of course, nonsense to anyone who realises that the whole post-war immigration scheme was a Labor idea, introduced under the guidance of the present Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Calwell. This is the policy which has been carried on by the Liberal government, but with some significant differences.

Labor has never believed that an immigration policy is just a matter of carting people across from their homelands and expecting them to make good in their new country. We believe that if immigrants are to become happy members of our community, we must go out of our way to help them to settle in. While Labor was in office, homes were built before the emigrants left England. Today, far fewer migrants are even leaving England, and the number coming from ^{Europe,} Europe has dwindled, because the new arrivals have found ^{particularly Nthn.} that Australia offers them little practical welcome. An immigration problem cannot be run without a buoyant economy, which makes adequate provision for houses, schools, jobs, hospitals, and social services for both old and new citizens.

This burden the Commonwealth has hitherto left entirely to the states. No provision has been made for any financial assistance to them in their problems which have been brought on them by Commonwealth policy. As a result, schools are ~~inadequate~~ ^{overcrowded}, hospitals inadequate, houses unobtainable. The migrants, instead of being given an honourable place in the community, have been used to create an unemployment pool in the country. They have often been looked on as chief labour, and a number of cases have been brought to our notice where they have not been given the justice to which every human being is entitled. Unless the number of jobs in this community is increased beyond the figure at which it has been stationary since May, 1956, this situation will continue, and further cuts may have to be made

in the immigration programme, to the detriment of the whole nation.

The Liberal party and its allies have attempted to mislead many New Australians into believing that the democratic socialism of the Australian Labor Party is not social democracy as it is known in Europe. In fact, the A.L.P. is a member of the Congress of Social Democratic Parties which is attended by social democratic parties throughout the world, including ~~the~~ ~~British~~ ~~Labor~~ ~~Party~~, ~~the~~ ~~Italian~~ ~~and~~ ~~Social~~ ~~Democratic~~ ~~Parties~~, and the Hungarian Social Democratic Party in exile.

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It is on the basis of these social democratic principles that the immigration policy of the Australian Labor Party is based. We believe that the migrant must be treated not just as an economic unit, but as a person who requires a home, an interesting and worthwhile job, adequate pay, education for his children, and the time and opportunity to mix with his fellow workers. He cannot do this if he has to work day and night for the bare necessities of life. Too many of our migrants have had to sacrifice ~~the~~ ^a normal social life while they have slaved to establish themselves financially. This has delayed their assimilation into our community, and helped to create the problem of different national groups, who keep their native way of life to themselves instead of sharing it to our benefit.

The question of education is vital in the problem of migration. Unless we can provide adequate schooling for these children the whole program to build a new nation is doomed to failure. Yet the provision of schools is left entirely to the states, whose economic position has steadily declined in the years of liberal administration. Instead of being independent and sovereign bodies they are now beggars at the Commonwealth's rich table, and are quite unable to provide the schooling and other facilities

which have been made necessary by the Commonwealth's migration policies.

Australia has a great heritage, which it must develop not only in its own interests, but in the interests of the world at large. The time is past when we can allow ~~the~~ resources of a country to be plundered in the interests of private speculators. We need a national plan to provide the basic public works for development, and to care for the people who make this development possible. Both state and federal governments must play their proper parts in this plan, and to do this they must both be in a healthy economic state. Labor will provide the lead in reviewing their present financial relationships so that they may recover the full equality and dignity envisaged at federation.

In this plan for development we need as many migrants as we can obtain. We need a migrant intake not from any particular country or group of countries, but from all the nations of Europe, so that we may share in their rich variety of culture. But they must come to a country prepared to receive them, a country with the buoyant economy only Labor can give.

On November 22, remember that there is only one alternative to the present government - an Australian Labor Party Government.

Put Australia first. Put Labor first.
Vote McLaren 1.