

Report re "People's Voice" newspapers of 20th and 27th November, 1957. Continued. 3.12.1957.

9. On Page 3 appear the names of George Edward JACKSON and Hugh John McLEOD, National Chairman and Auckland District Secretary of the Communist Party of New Zealand respectively who are reported as having spoken to the Auckland Cargo Workers at a lunch hour election meeting. Also on page three appear the names of Donald McSWEN, Auckland and John COOKBURN (West Coast) both of whom have been connected with the Communist Party election campaign on the West Coast.
- The Jack CAUNDLE who is referred to on the same page under the heading of "Hellaby's Hold biggest Election Meeting" is on record and was referred to previously in the "People's Voice" of 31st July, 1957 page 5.
10. Of those listed in the \$550 Election Fund" list appearing on page 4, the following would appear to apply:-
- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Arthur R. (Glen Afton) \$4 | : Arthur ROBINSON |
| W.L. (Waihi) \$2 | : William Howell LEY |
| E.B. (Glen Afton) \$5 | : Ernest BARATTO; |
- all of whom are on record in connection with Communist Party activity.
11. Of those named in the section headed "Letters to the Editor" the following would seem to apply:-
- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| James F.L. ANDREWS | : James Frederick Langdon ANDREWS of Christchurch. |
| M. ANTUNOVIC | : Mate ANTUNOVICH, Okaihau |
| K.L.M. - K.M.L. | : Kathleen Muriel LUCKENS of Titirangi, Auckland. |
| E.L. MAITLAND | : Edwin Louis MAITLAND, Auckland. |
- all of whom have been subject of previous correspondence.
12. George Edward JACKSON is again referred to on page 8 of this issue.

[REDACTED]

FIELD OFFICER

The Director,
WELLINGTON.

3rd December, 1957.

Forwarded for Headquarters record purposes.

[REDACTED]
FOR DISTRICT OFFICER.

~~SECRET~~21/2/8
278DISTRICT OFFICE:

CHRISTCHURCH

District File ref:Date:

2nd December, 1957.

SUBJECT:NEW ZEALAND COMMUNIST PARTY, Meeting
of No.1 Branch on Thursday 21/11/57INFORMATION:

1. This meeting was held at 37 Pavitt Street, Christchurch, and among those present were the following:-

COX, Jim
EMPSON, Geoff
HEPBURN, Mavis

HOBSON, Peggy
MURRAY, Bill
McNULTY, Frank

2. The Bulletin advised that George JACKSON would speak at the Addington Workshops during the lunch hour on the 26th November; also that Christchurch had raised only \$12 of its \$40 election quota. A special circular from the National Office appealed for more work in connection with election finance, as with only a week to go the target was a long way from fulfilment. The National Office is desperate for money and Auckland, particularly, is lagging badly.

3. McNULTY advised that it is costing the National Office an extra \$100 for Don McEWEN to stand on the Coast. MITCHELL could not stand there as he is the selected local candidate standing for President of the Mine Workers' Union.

SOURCE:DISTRICT OFFICER'S COMMENTS:

The above information was received by me from [redacted] on 26/11/1957. The following persons referred to in the report of D.1. have been mentioned in previous secret correspondence full names where known being shown hereunder:-

COX, Arnold James.
EMPSON, Geoffrey Ley.
HEPBURN, Mavis Laura.
HOBSON, Margaret Jessie.

MURRAY, William Cox.
McNULTY, Francis Edward.
McEWEN, Donald.
JACKSON, George Edward.
MITCHELL, Robert Henry.

[redacted]
District Officer.
Christchurch. 2/12/1957.

COPY ON

COPY FROM 21/8/1

FILE.

3 12/19 [redacted] Initials

~~SECRET~~

Nov. 1957

21/2/8 366

Communist Party Of New Zealand NATIONAL COMMITTEE

grams: "Necompas"
Telephone 45-526

308 PACIFIC BUILDINGS,
WELLESLEY STREET.
All Communications to:
P.O. Box 1785,
AUCKLAND.
21st October 1957.

The Secretary,
Industrial Council.

Dear Comrades,

We wish in the next issue of the "P.V." to have a series of statements from our respective candidates. Will you therefore please arrange for your Election candidate to prepare such an article.

Some thought should be given to the link up of general policy with important local issues as well as the principle National issues. A further aspect which it is necessary to emphasize is the significance of the working class doing their utmost to return a Communist M.P. We can show by reference to our policy and our principle that the masses are the real makers of history; the role of the Party in leading the masses to secure advances through their own activity in contrast to the other political parties who say "leave it to us", or the fatal results of the Labour Party opposition to mass movement embodied in the slogan - "don't embrace the Government".

Where a comrade has specialized knowledge of trade union, or industry, matters, these should be related to the relevant aspects of the programme.

This first statement may be of approximately 600 words. It should be followed weekly by brief but pointed comment by the candidate on significant aspects of the campaign, extracts from speeches and experiences in the campaign - i.e. the reaction of workers, sales of the "P.V.", leaflets, activation of non-party people, etc.

The District or Branch Secretary should ensure that details of the campaign, organization, finance, "P.V." and pamphlet sales and successes in establishing contact with industrial workers, is forwarded regularly and promptly to the National Centre, and to the "P.V." In other words, everything possible must be done to ensure the fullest success in the Election campaign which is the key point at the present time in carrying forward the basic tasks laid down by our National Conference.

District and Branch Secretaries are asked to make sure that the candidate's initial statement reaches the "P.V." not later than Wednesday, 20th October.
Best wishes, and cordiality to National Secretariat. *Wm*

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only for 21/9/21

EXTRACTS/COPIES
TAKEN
14/9/59

Obtained from source [redacted] July 19 58 file

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

277

From (source): Dist. Off. AUCKLAND Reference: 57/545 Date: 22nd November 1957
 For File No. 21/2/8
 Original on 21/3/8
 Received on 25th November 1957 Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 27th November 1957

ACTIVITY OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY IN AUCKLAND.

.....

Many of the members doubted the wisdom of the National Committee decision to stand candidates (see National Conference discussion material on this point). One cannot doubt the correctness of the line from the Communist viewpoint (DIXON, the Australian delegate to the Triennial Conference gave added clarity on this point), but in standing Communist Candidates one wonders if the party hasn't fallen into the old error of "attempting too much by too few".

[REDACTED]
District Officer

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

276

From (source): Dist. Off. AUCKLAND Reference: _____ Date: 21st November
 For File No. 21/2/8
 Original on 21/2/9
 Received on 26th November 1957 Extracted/Copied by  On 11th November 1957

SUBJECT: 40th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOLSHEVIK REVOLUTION

-
7. The celebrations in the Auckland District were limited to a reception by the Auckland Branch of the Society for Closer Relations with Russia. This reception which has been subject in two separate reports was given to the Charge d'Affaires of the Soviet Legation in Wellington - Georgij Mikhailovich RODIONOV and his wife - Anna Petrovna RODIONOVA, and the 2nd Secretary - Anatolij Ivanovich IVANTSOV and his wife - Zinaida Mikhailovna IVANTSOVA, who visited Auckland for the occasion.

The reception was held at the Royal Empire Society's rooms in the Queens Arcade, Auckland and commenced at 8 pm on 15th November, 1957.

8. The Society for Closer Relations with Russia in Auckland were the sole organisers of the function referred to in para. 7 at which there were approximately 160 persons. Although a few known G.P. members were seen to attend, a reliable source reported that Party members generally were officially discouraged from attending.

COMMENT:

It is possible that the Party executive was desirous of members putting their time and money into the General Election effort, rather than into less important events such as the S.C.R.R. celebrations.


Field Officer

~~SECRET~~

21/2/10

"Grey River Argus" 20-11-57.

CORRESPONDENCE.

COMMUNIST REPLY

(To The Editor).

Sir,—Owing to misrepresentation, I wish to reply to your Tuesday editorial.

The reason why Communist candidates are standing in Labour-held electorates is simple. The Communist Party, as a working class party, stands in the strongest working class electorates, just as the Labour Party did 40 years ago.

In these seats there is no fear of splitting the vote. What use would there be in standing in blue ribbon National seats?

The National Party as the political representative of big business, has worsened the living standards of the working people. The Communist Party wants them removed, and the only alternative is the Labour Party.

The Communist Party naturally hopes to see its candidates elected. Therefore, our slogan, toss out the Tories, return a Labour Government, with five Communist M.P.s., is a straightforward expression of our policy.

Communist M.P.s. are pledged to vote for the formation of a Labour Government, and to keep the Labour Party on the Treasury Benches, while on those issues not in the interests of the working class, disagreement will be voiced. A negative vote would be registered only in an occasion when the National Party joined with the Labour Party on an issue detrimental to the interests of the working class.

Who are the patriotic people? Those who desire oil fueled gas works, or those who strenuously support the use of West Coast coal? Who is allowing duty-free oil to enter New Zealand, and to have preferential treatment over New Zealand coal? The Communists? Or the National Party Government.

There are many other examples, Mr. Editor, of powerful overseas monopolies getting rich at the expense of the New Zealand people, and while this continues, the voice of the Communist Party will not be silent.

The Communist Party does not stand alone when it calls for a withdrawal of troops from Malaya. The Australian Labour Party and the Malayan Labour Party are both opposed to sending troops.

Your editorial of August 12, commenting on the National Party conference, said this: "It will not reconsider the policy of sending New Zealand troops to fight in overseas theatres, even though this policy is patently absurd."

A few days later, the Argus held a Gallup style poll, and it was reported thus: "Greymouth is against sending New Zealand troops into Malayan jungles."—the main local news article. You stated that if the Government had held a referendum, Greymouth people would have probably voted more than two, to one against sending troops.

The Communist Party calls for the withdrawal of troops, the Argus encourages such a viewpoint in August, but now has reversed its position.

Contrary to what you believe, there is nothing "foreign" in pointing out that new markets for our primary produce must be found. If there are no new markets, what incentive is there for bringing in the waste land on "the Coast." If this land is not brought in, how can the decline in population be arrested?

The most patriotic duty and the main objective of the working class on the Coast is the protection of the mining industry and the development of industry using local materials.

In conclusion, may I state that the Tories can only be tossed out by achieving the fullest degree of unity in the working class, a lesson better learnt before than after the elections, I am etc.,

DON McEWEN.

[We do not think Mr McEwen has answered our contention that it is strange for the Communists to seek Labour-held seats if they really want the election of a Labour Government.

[Patriotism is usually defined as allegiance to Queen and country above all else. If Mr McEwen had declared that to be his outlook we would have been happy to take his word for it.

[We can find nothing in our editorial either opposing or advocating the withdrawal of troops from Malaya. We merely commented that this was one of the measures in accordance with Russian foreign policy, which Mr McEwen advocated. Others were his condemnation of the Anzus and Seato Pacts.

[In view of these facts we cannot agree that either Mr McEwen or his party were misrepresented.—Ed.]

21/2/10

The Grey River Argus

TUESDAY, November 19, 1957.

A PECULIAR PLATFORM

THE ATTITUDE OFFICIALLY adopted by the Communist Party of New Zealand towards the current General Election must be among the strangest in the Dominion's political history. According to Mr Don McEwen, who is contesting the Westland seat for Communist interests, his party's immediate hope is the election of a Labour Government. He said the Communist election slogan was: "Toss out the Tories and return Labour, strengthened by the candidature of the five Communist nominees." But if this is really the Communists' ambition they are choosing a very strange way to achieve it. For the five Communists who will seek votes on November 30 are all contesting electorates at present held by Labour Members. Could anyone seriously suggest that the way for one political party to help another is to create additional opposition in a poll? Surely if the Communists were genuine in their professed desire to help Labour they would have sought their votes in National strongholds. Any schoolboy could see that the only possible effect of the procedure which the Communists are following would be to cut Labour's electoral support. Fortunately, the losses are not likely to be severe, as New Zealanders are not as gullible as the Communist Party might wish, but it is irksome to see these people constantly trying to fatten themselves off the Labour Party, like a parasite on a warrior.

EFFORTS BY THE Communists to establish the impression of affinity between themselves and the Labour Party constitute one of the most tiresome problems which Labour policy-makers are called upon to solve. For more than 20 years Labour speakers have at every opportunity denied that any resemblance exists. They have repeatedly denounced the thinly veiled objectives which lie behind the Communists' pretence of concern with the welfare of the workers. Yet, after all this, men like Mr McEwen get up at public meetings and advocate "a Labour Government strengthened by the candidature of Communist nominees," as if it was an accepted fact that these groups would work together in Parliament. He knows full well that the Labour Party would almost certainly be in more violent opposition to any Communist Members of Parliament than it has ever been to the Nationalists. For while Labour and the present Government might differ on practically all aspects of domestic policy, they at least share the attribute of patriotism—something which the Communists have long abandoned.

WHY THE COMMUNISTS sought a platform in the current election campaign was clearly apparent throughout Mr McEwen's speech. He repeatedly glibed at "the money-bags of America," and deplored any influence which that country might obtain in New Zealand. He demanded that New Zealand withdraw from the Anzus and Seato Pacts, and bring home the troops operating against Communist terrorists in Malaya. His sole contribution in the realm of foreign trade was that New Zealand's exports to Russia should be increased. In short, he faithfully expounded Russian foreign policy as it is applied to this country. And in doing so he revealed what the Communist Party really stands for—a foreign type of government, a foreign way of life and objectives solely for the benefit of foreigners. We rarely find ourselves in agreement with anything Prime Minister Holyoake might say. But when he recently doubted the validity of the Communist Party as a political organisation in New Zealand we feel that his argument might not have been completely without merit. A political party in New Zealand should be primarily concerned with the welfare of the people it hopes to govern. It should have no stronger affiliation with the world-wide establishment of a certain ideology. Labour's interest is almost solely devoted to the wage-earners of this country. That is why it can find no common ground with the Communists.

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

275

From (source): Distr. Executive Reference: Date: 11 Nov. 1957.
 For File No. P.F./ 21/2/8.
 Original on 21/2/33.
 Received on 12th Nov. 1957 Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 16th Decm. 1957.

SPECIAL CIRCULAR TO ALL BRANCH EXECUTIVES AND D.C. MEMBERS.

Dear Comrades,

We have four days to complete our Election Fund Campaign.

1. Please see that all money is paid to the District Office by Friday November, 29th.
2. Collect and check all cards issued to comrades and return them to the District Office without delay.
3. Prepare to discuss in your branch the strengths and weaknesses of the work of your branch as a collective and comrades individually, with particular emphasis on how to keep and improve contact with new friends. Take good minutes of your discussions for the information and guidance of the District Office and Political Committee.

ELECTION & DAY SOCIAL :

As pointed out in the District Executive circular of last week, the traditional activity of our party on election day has been curtailed by the new legislation. The Election Committee is organising transport for voters to all pooling booths.

SOCIAL:

Issued with this circular are a number of invitations for comrades to give to friends who may care to come along. Details are in last weeks' circular.

THE NEXT D.C. MEETING:

Is for D.C. members only and is set down for Saturday December 7th and 9 a.m. sharp. The agenda is review of the Election Campaign. Task for the New Year, the P.V. fund and review of Party work.

PARTY EDUCATION:

The School for branch comrades who have not been members for a long period or others who would like to attend and party friends is now set down for Sunday December 15th. The tutor will be Comrade Bill Anderson. The reading material is already in the hands of branch Executives.

DISTRICT FAIR FRIDAY NOVEMBER 29TH.

Would you please speed up the sending of all materials? Have it in at least by Thursday night November 28th.

HELPERS are required at the District Office and town hall Thursday night. All comrades who can do so please take the day off on Friday to assist.

comradely greetings,

~~SECRET~~

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE.

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY//

G.D.D.—11

21/2/8.
274

From (source): "PEOPLE'S VOICE"

Reference: LIBRARY

Date: 6.11.57

For File No.

21/2/8

(C.P. Election campaign)

Original on

P.V.

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 12.11.57

Page 7.

ELECTION WORK AT MANGAKINO

Mangakino
Twenty-five copies of "Toss out the Tories" have been sold by one member of the Communist Party canvassing his job.

The pamphlet is being well received. Comments by workers have been mainly centred around the need to oust the Tories, but some are in doubt as to what better lead Labour can give them when already they are not prepared to publish their policy now.

Others have commented on the ever-growing strength of the Monopolies and a need to have price control reinstituted.

~~SECRET~~

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~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY//

21/3/78

G.D.D.—11

21/2/8

273

From (source): "PEOPLE'S VOICE"

Reference:

LIBRARY

Date: 6.11.57

For File No.

21/30/8

(C.P. Election Campaign)

Original on

P.V.

Received on

Extracted/Copied by



On 12.11.57

Page 3:

SOCIAL HELD FOR ELECTIONS

Another most successful social evening was held here recently with over 80 people in attendance.

The evening went off with a swing to the music of Pat Waratene and his electric guitar combination.

Many items were given by the guests which added light to the evening. A fine supper was prepared by the women's committee.

The social was in aid of Communist Party branch funds and the election appeal. Further activity arranged by the branch is the careful preparation of the 10th anniversary issue of Spark, to be out in circulation soon.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY/

From (source): "PEOPLE'S VOICE"

Reference: LIBRARY

Date: 6.11.57

For File No.

21/2/8

(C.P. Election Campaign)

Original on

P.V.

Received on

Extracted/Copied

On 12.11.57

Page 3;

ELECTION 'FREEDOM'

TORIES DENY C.P. DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS

By the Chairman C.P.N.Z.

GEORGE
JACKSON
COMMENTS
ON THE
NEWS

As the Election campaign commences we find many issues of democratic rights revealing the undemocratic nature of our society.

The medium of the radio, which reaches into every home, has been denied to the Communist Party.

The Prime Minister, Mr Holyoake, outlined the requirements of parties to national broadcasts, and the Communist Party complies with them all.

We are a national party of over 36 years standing, hold regular national conferences and have a constitution covering our objectives and operations.

The Communist policy is publicised and supported in a nationally distributed newspaper, the People's Voice, responsible only to its readers, the working people of New Zealand.

Today, every effort is made to defend the two party system by which a party with a minority of the votes becomes the Government.

It is true that our loyalty is continually attacked and name-calling resorted to in order to defend the undemocratic actions of the Government.

Bernard Shaw once stated that "patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel".

When the late leader of the Labour Party, H. E. Holland, was speaking in the House of Representatives on October 30, 1918, he stated: "The Government then had no case, and could not meet the charges which the Labour Party levelled against them, and so they called us names."

"We were referred to as Bolsheviks, sometimes as Sinn Feiners, sometimes even as Anarchists."

Our experiences are not new.

The next medium is the press, and in some centres a semblance of "freedom of the press" is maintained, but in Auckland they exercise only their freedom to abuse, or else maintain a lofty silence.

This leaves us with the age old freedom to speak on the street, and that we will continue to exercise.

It may be said that National Party speakers are now addressing street meetings, and it is true, but the reason is not their inability to pay the rent of the halls, but the fact that few people go to hear them.

We then come to the large advertising agencies and their hoardings, As far as we know, these are available to those who can pay.

In the past the Communist Party and the Labour Party have used small posters in places where there was no charge for advertising purposes.

Apparently, it was to meet this situation that the Auckland City Council decided that this is illegal and parties are to be advised of the position.

At the same meeting they discussed an advertising agency's application to erect in a busy city street an animated figure, 20ft x 10ft., displaying a girdle.

This will probably be added to all the other advertising that plasters our streets. It may be a suitable "foundation" for the rapidly growing hordings of "Forward with National."

The best answer to all this undemocratic procedure will be to forward your donation ~~SECRET~~ to the Communist Party Election fund, and we will carry the message to the people.

Dear Comrades,

The most important political task before our District at the present time is the election campaign.

A full outline for the possibilities for us extending the work and influence of our party among the people was fully set out in our district circular on the elections, of 7-10-57.

It is necessary for all branches to re-study the content of this circular and its application to their branch, and the work of individual comrades in the branch.

Set out below is a summary of the points dealt with in the Circular of the 7-10-57.

- 1.....The role of our Party.
- 2.....Extracts from National Conference resolution.
- 3.....Lessons of 1954.
- 4.....Why a change of candidate.
- 5.....Strong branches mean a strong Party.
- 6.....Who is to take part in the campaign.
- 7.....Relations with the Labour Party.
- 8.....How branches can take part in the campaign.
- 9.....Direct assistance to the Labour Party.
- 10.....Campaign quotas.

The immediate need for our whole district is to get really cracking on the election fund. To date we have in approximately £17 of the £250 we have to get to fill our quota.

The same detailed attention is required by all comrades that was displayed in the P.V. appeal. Wellington have set us a good example in the election fund, they have already collected 1/3rd of their quota of £150.

(2) The widest possible sale of Toss out The Tories, pub canvasses when the campaign warms up is just one successful method tried out in the past.

(3) Consistent work to gain our 250 new P.V. sales before Xmas.

(4) Prompt reporting of experiences and payments into the District Office of fund money.

Trade union and job activity for the campaign. Comrades will read in this weeks P.V.No.42, of the lead given in the Otahuhu shops on independent job and union activity around defeating the Tories and returning labour.

This is an example that can be followed by almost all other jobs, particularly where there is Party influence.

One of the key points is the issuing of independent job or union bulletins or leaflets, stressing the particular demands of the workers on the job which they desire the labour party to struggle for.

Comrades will readily see the implications of this in developing the mass movement not just in the election period, but for the future. Now is the time to start while the political atmosphere is most favourable.

Party bulletins. The District Executive recommends to all branch executives that in their next Party bulletin they carry an article or message purporting to come from Comrade Jackson, our candidate for Ponsonby, on a particular issue concerning their job, union or area. All such articles to be checked with Comrade Jackson through the District Office, but not written by him originally.

Consideration will show that there will not be many jobs or
 ur ns in Auckland that have not got a Ponsonby elector among them.
 For example.... City put out a bulletin on the waterfront.

Otahuhu to freezing industry..Westfield in particular.
 Building workers to the Bridge.

Comrade Jackson will speak on these and many other jobs during the campaign
 and such articles will help to stimulate interest.

Meetings. The nightly street meetings have now commenced, and with this
 bulletin each branch will receive a detailed list of places
 and speakers. Also comrades on the list will receive individual letters
 for confirmation of whether or not they can attend on the particular
 evening. Branch Executives are asked to check the lists and also check
 with the comrades in their branch.

On Saturday evening, November 2nd at 8.p.m. Comrade Jackson
 will be guest speaker at the Fabian Club Rooms, 3 Queen Street.

Party comrades are invited by the Fabian Club to attend the
 meeting.

Also comrades with time to spare in other branches are urged
 to attend the street meetings to assist City, Metal and Building Workers.

Party Fair. Branches are asked to check again the circular dealing with the
 the Fair, and particularly make a drive now for donations of
 backing, jams, pickles, flowers and vegetables. Also send in names of
 people available to assist on the day.

Friday evening coffee. Coffee and biscuits are being served for one
 shilling at Room 36 every Friday evening. The
 purpose of these evenings is to give comrades an opportunity of bringing
 their friends closer to the Party and allowing them to discuss any problems
 with the party leadership.

Nevertheless comrades are welcome to arrive by themselves as it
 gives them an opportunity of meeting others.

Properly used this is a good opportunity for extending the
 work of the party.

Friday has been selected as the most suitable time as many
 shoppers feel like somewhere to rest and would rather give their money
 for coffee to a good cause than to the usual coffee bars.

It will take some time, however to pay for the capital outlay and
 the regular maintenance costs are not low, so comrades are urged to
 patronise this service; as soon as possible; as often as possible.

The "Coffee evenings" are organised by the propaganda sub-
 committee.

Comradely Greetings
 District Executive.

~~SECRET~~
EXTRACT/COPY//

21/2/8
269

From (source): "PEOPLE'S VOICE" Reference: LIBRARY Date: 30.10.57
For File No. C.P. Election Campaign 6.11.57
Original on P.V.
Received on Extracted/Copied/by [REDACTED] On 11.11.57

£550 ELECTION FUND.

		<u>QUOTA:</u>			<u>SUBSCRIBED</u>					
					30.10.57			6.11.57		
								<u>Total</u>		
AUCKLAND	£250	17	2	6	17	2	6	17	2	6
WELLINGTON	£150	51	12	6	51	12	6	85	3	1
CHRISTCHURCH	£40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DUNEDIN	£10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GREYMOUTH	£25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HASTINGS	£10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HUNTLY	£10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MANGAKINO	£30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NEW PLYMOUTH	£5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NAPIER	£10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BULLER	£10	5	0	0	5	0	0	5	0	0

Received direct,
"Red & Black"
Nelson 19 10 0
1 0 0

Total
£94 5 0 £127 15 7

~~SECRET~~

PERSONAL and **SECRET**

21/2/8



268

Telephone:
Reference: 21/2/8

P.O. Box 6456, Te Aro,
Wellington C. 2.

25th October 1957.

Dear Mr Marshall

During our discussion on Wednesday I mentioned that we had made a brief study of the Communist Party Election tactics. I enclose a copy of the study with this note.

While most of the material comes from overt sources, certain of the information is of rather delicate origin.

Since the study was written the Communist Party has announced that Don McEWEN has been selected as candidate for the Westland seat. McEWEN was Secretary of the old Auckland Carpenters' Union before it was de-registered.

Yours Sincerely
[Signature]

The Hon. J. R. Marshall,
Parliament Buildings,
WELLINGTON, C.1.

Returned by Ministry
per 4 Nov. 1957
[Signature]

5.7.57

PERSONAL and **SECRET**

to work longer overtime." The 40-hours-week legisla-
tion is said to be in no way in accord with actual

~~SECRET~~

267

ELECTION TACTICS OF THE NEW ZEALAND COMMUNIST PARTY.

1. The material in the summary is based upon the "People's Voice", the C.P.N.Z. pamphlet "Toss out the Tories", and a secret source of accepted reliability.

CANDIDATES.

2. The C.P.N.Z. proposes to nominate 5 candidates for the elections on 30th November. These candidates are as follows: -

Pomsonby	-	G.E. JACKSON	-	National Chairman C.P.N.Z.;
Island Bay	-	R. NUNES	-	Wellington District Executive, C.P.N.Z.;
Christchurch Central	-	J. LOCKE	-	District Chairman C.P.N.Z.;
Mornington	-	J. MARSTON	-	leading C.P. member;
West Coast	-	not yet finalised.		

FINANCE.

3. The cost of the campaign is to be met from an election fund amounting to £550. This money is to be raised by the increase of sales of the "People's Voice" and the issue of numbered collection cards. It is worthy of note that Party Branches have been asked to keep a systematic check on the collection of money for the fund and to record all details fully.

CRITICISM OF THE GOVERNMENT.

4. The Party pamphlet, "Toss out the Tories", emphasises four principal points against the present Government: -

- (a) Living standards have been reduced, due to rising prices and higher taxation. This allegation is supported by comparative price-lists and by the statement that it is the policy of the present Government to include more people in the tax paying class;
- (b) Family life has been undermined by longer hours and by the necessity for wives to work. The pamphlet states that "the National Government, once so anxious to safeguard the family life, has even changed the Factories Act to make it easier for women to be forced to work longer overtime." The 40-hours-week legislation is said to be in no way in accord with actual working hours.
- (c) The National Government's industrial policy is indicted. Bad relations have allegedly been fostered in industry. "Free enterprise" is not attacked in principle, but it is claimed that under the National Government it has led to "private empires", and reference is made to "the New Zealand and overseas monopoly concerns which virtually control the country today." At one time the present Government is said to have stressed "profit sharing." This was only to

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"disarm the Trade Unions and lull the workers into a state of docility favourable to undisputed stock-piling of profits by big business." The theory that "wage rises cause price rises (inflation)", is described as "just silly". It is answered by the false analogy that a capitalist can no more urge wage restraint upon workers than he can urge his fellow-capitalists to restrain a rise in profits. It is said that monopolies, and not wages, are responsible for price rises. The National Government is attacked for using "naked force in 1951." Industrial legislation at this time, described as "anti-workers laws", is misrepresented in the following terms: - "It is an offence for unionists to cease work, slow down, or refuse overtime (or even support actions). It is an offence to 'boycott' goods selling at exorbitant prices. It is an offence to have any document intended to 'excite disaffection against the Government.' You are guilty unless you can prove you are innocent."

- (d) The foreign policy of the present Government is said to have resulted in a wasteful defence expenditure. The Government is said to have fostered Japanese and German rearmament and to have refused to recognise the Chinese People's Republic. The ANZUS and SEATO Pacts are criticised, as also is the sending of N.Z. troops to Malaya.

CRITICISM OF THE OPPOSITION.

5. The Labour Party is attacked for its failure to produce "a bold and imaginative policy". It is said to have possessed such a policy when it won the Elections in 1935 and 1938. Then it attacked monopolies and "showed big business as an enemy of the people." It was allegedly the memory of this policy which enabled the Labour Government to win the 1943 and 1946 Elections. The Trade Unions and the Labour Party are said to have achieved better conditions for the workers, but to have failed to make any positive effort to change class structure. The Labour Party consistently refuses to do this, and sees reforms in working conditions as ends in themselves. Hence, according to Communist logic, it tends to use reforms to quieten the necessary struggle of workers against capitalism. The Labour Party can, therefore, give to the working people no permanent solution to their problems. It stands "for the perpetuation of capitalism no matter what curbs and restraints it may propose to put on monopolies." The basic Communist dogma is repeated: - "Whoever holds the economic power also has the real political power in our country." The aim of the Communist Party is described as the achievement of a socialist society, "but the N.Z. Labour Party leaders have long since tossed aside the banner of socialism."

ATTEMPTED CO-OPERATION WITH THE OPPOSITION.

6. While stressing their differences from the Labour Party, N.Z. Communists state that they realise that "the defeat of the National Party can only be achieved by the return of a Labour Government. Hence Communist candidates will be stood only where it cannot harm Labour's immediate election prospects." Policy instructions to Communist Branches contain the following points on "the split-vote bogey" : -

- (a) It is to be pointed out that this issue "was raised when Labour was battling to win their first parliamentary seat";

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- (b) In Ponsonby the Communist candidate is said to be confident that he will defeat his Labour opponent. There, the Nationalists have no chance. Rather than splitting the vote, greater interest will be provoked which will assist the Labour Party to win several Auckland marginal seats. The Labour candidate should concentrate "on a policy in the interests of the people, plus going to work on the Tories, instead of red baiting."
- (c) If canvassers stress the fact that "we are the party of the working class, and stick at it, the whole question of a split-vote will die away, or at least become less of a bogey. We are in the field in the interests of our class and not just putting up a front to bluff somebody else, or ourselves."

On the question of direct assistance to the Labour Party, the ruling of the Auckland District Executive of the C.P.N.Z. is as follows: - "Where the most friendly relations exist with the Labour Party branches, yes, but we do not become hacks for the Labour Party, for, if this happens, our independent work suffers, and in some cases becomes non-existent."

COVERT COMMUNIST POLICY.

7. It is the object of the Party to use its campaigning activities to increase its own strength. The Party Secretary, Victor George WILCOX, commented on the results achieved after the 1954 Elections, remarking that the Party had not made the most of its opportunities. It had been hesitant as to national policy and it had dispersed its forces. The campaign should have been used to "make contact with the masses, to take our policy to wider sections of the people generally." This lesson is to be applied to the present election campaign. Canvassing by all members of the Party is to take place within factories and at social gatherings. Wherever possible, Communist Party influence is to be extended within Trade Unions. Canvassers are instructed to point out firmly that they belong to a legally constituted party, "loyal to the working class of New Zealand."

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8. The C.P.N.Z. election manifesto propounds the following policies: -

- (a) Award rates for a living wage for a 40 hour week;
- (b) Strict and efficient control of prices, profits, rents and capital issues, and the reintroduction of import selection. Nationalisation of major industries and key companies;
- (c) Re-institution of building control and restoration of State Rental Housing;
- (d) Abolition of conscription, withdrawal from SEATO and ANZUS Pacts and return of N.Z. troops abroad. Banning of nuclear tests;
- (e) The development of markets for N.Z. produce in Communist and Afro-Asian countries;
- (f) Raising of income tax exemption level, increase of taxation on high personal incomes;

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P.O. Box 4456, Te Anau
Wellington C. 2.

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25th October 1957.

- (g) The defeat of the National Government and the return of a Labour Government.

CONCLUSION.

9. It is noteworthy that the whole stress of Communist propaganda for the election is on phrases such as, "the achievement of socialism", and not upon such less acceptable terms as, "the dictatorship of the proletariat." The revolutionary aims of the Communist Party are nowhere stressed, and its policy is slanted to hide its Marxist-Leninist basis and to win support from unthinking or uneducated people.

While most of the material comes from overt sources, certain of the information is of rather delicate origin.

Since the study was written the Communist Party has announced that Don McSWAN has been selected as candidate for the Westland seat. McSWAN was Secretary of the old Auckland Carpenters' Union before it was de-registered.

James Scully
W. J. G. G. G.

The Hon. J. E. Marshall,
Parliament Buildings,
Wellington, C.I.

*Returned by Ministry
on 9 Nov. 1957
H. J. G.*



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"...a longer overtime." The 48-hour-week legislation is said to be in no way in accord with actual working hours.

- (a) The National Government's industrial policy is criticised. Bad relations have allegedly been fostered in industry. "Free enterprise" is not attacked in principle, but it is claimed that under the National Government it has led to "private empires", and reference is made to "the few hundred and overseas monopoly concerns which virtually control the country today." At one time the present Government is said to have stressed "profit sharing." This was only to

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21/2/8

25th October 1957.

... During our discussion on Wednesday I mentioned that we had made a brief study of the Communist Party Election tactics. I enclose a copy of the study with this note.

While most of the material comes from overt sources, certain of the information is of rather delicate origin.

PF. D. McEwen

Since the study was written the Communist Party has announced that Don McEWEN has been selected as candidate for the Westland seat. McEWEN was Secretary of the old Auckland Carpenters' Union before it was de-registered.

The Hon. J. R. Marshall,
Parliament Buildings,
WELLINGTON, C.I.



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ELECTION TACTICS OF THE NEW ZEALAND COMMUNIST PARTY.

1. The material in the summary is based upon the "People's Voice", the C.P.N.Z. pamphlet "Toss out the Tories", and a secret source of accepted reliability.

CANDIDATES.

2. The C.P.N.Z. proposes to nominate 5 candidates for the elections on 30th November. These candidates are as follows: -

Ponsonby - ^{George Edward} G.E. JACKSON - National Chairman C.P.N.Z.;
Island Bay - ^{Rabinal} R. NUNES - Wellington District Executive, C.P.N.Z.;
Christchurch Central - ^{John Salmon} J. LOCKE - District Chairman C.P.N.Z.;
Morningside - ^{John Leslie} J. MARSTON - leading C.P. member;
West Coast - not yet finalised. *Donald McEwen.*

FINANCE.

3. The cost of the campaign is to be met from an election fund amounting to £550. This money is to be raised by the increase of sales of the "People's Voice" and the issue of numbered collection cards. It is worthy of note that Party Branches have been asked to keep a systematic check on the collection of money for the fund and to record all details fully.

CRITICISM OF THE GOVERNMENT.

4. The Party pamphlet, "Toss out the Tories", emphasises four principal points against the present Government: -

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- (g) The defeat of the National Government and the return of a Labour Government.

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EXTRACT/COPY

262

From (source): Dist. Off., WN.

Reference: 587/57

Date: 24.10.57

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/6/1

Received on 24.10.57

EXTRACT/Copied by [REDACTED]

On 6.11.57

District Office: WELLINGTON.

SUBJECT: Central Branch, Wellington/Communist Party.

INFORMATION:

1. On Thursday, 3rd October, 1957, the Wellington District Communist Party, Central Branch met at 8 pm at the GODDARD residence, 82 Evans Bay Road. The following were present:

POTIKI, Paul F.K.	Chairman
GODDARD, Nancy	Secretary
MCCARTHY, Dennis Augustus	
CHANG, Alvin G.M.	
GLASS, Ivan William	
MITCHELL, Ian Rex	
COLEMAN, Norman	
TRUEMAN, Maureen	
WILKINSON, Maxwell Touhy	
JOSEPH, Edwin James	
2. Donald McEWEN, Auckland was also present. He appeared to be staying at the GODDARD's and apparently arrived that day by train from Auckland.
3. It was mentioned that Communist Party candidates would contest the Ponsonby, Island Bay, Christchurch Central, Morningside and Westland electorates in the forthcoming General Election.
4. A social evening was held at 10 Balmoral Terrace on the evening of 28th September (the home of William Ivan GLASS) and at this branch meeting there was a mention of a flat being available for a similar purpose in Elizabeth Street. The occupant is a Mr. FERGUSON. He buys the "People's Voice" regularly, and has also promised a donation of beer.
5. Peter ARNOLD is a Communist Party member, possibly the Wellington South Branch.
6. Alvin CHANG is a technician at 2 ZB.
7. District monthly expenses are : Salary (NUNES - Secretary) £12; telephone £6; rent £6; tram fares for assistant Secretary £2; extras £19.
8. District Communist Party will hold a shop day at Unity Centre on Friday, 25th October.
9. The meeting concluded with a talk by Chairman POTIKI on election policy.
10. Vladimir Nikolaevich DUBININ, a U.S.S.R. Legation Third Secretary, is very sociable, likes to find out a lot about the people he talks to, and speaks good English. He has a good knowledge of newspapers and aircraft. His wife does not appear to speak good English.

SOURCE:

[REDACTED] by written report.

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(cont.)

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261

From (source): Dist. Off., MM.Reference: 587/57Date: 24.10.57For File No. 21/2/8Original on 21/6/1Received on 24.10.57~~EXTRACT~~ Copied by On 6.11.57

(cont.)

PAGE 2

COMMENTS:

The report was received by post and there has not been any discussion to elaborate on points of interest therein. The report is files in this office.

Paragraph 1. and 6. Alvin CHANG may be now positively identified as Alvin Gee Mung CHANG who has been previously recorded. Otherwise, those present are already on record for Communist Party activity.

Paragraph 2. McEWEN's visit is the subject of separate reports on his file.

Paragraph 3. The position there has now been clarified by the "People's Voice" of 16th and 23rd October and Raphael NUNES is the only district identity directly concerned. He is to stand for Island Bay electorate.

Paragraph 4. I have not yet identified "Mr. FERGUSON" of Elizabeth Street.

Paragraph 5. Probably Peter Kenyon ARNOLD, Commercial Artist, of 4 Upper Kellow Street, Upper Hutt.

Paragraph 7. The total here is some \$75 and this is a more likely amount than the \$150 mentioned in paragraph 4 of a reported similar meeting on 19.9.57 from the same source. The receipts figure \$90 per month is also suspect.

Paragraph 10. This item was submitted as a supplementary report. The agent is obviously on chatting terms with Vladimir M. DUBENIN. The sociability he mentions is in accordance with the current Moscow Line,

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EXTRACT/99PX////

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From (source): "PEOPLE'S VOICE"

Reference: LIBRARY.

Date: 16.10.1957 and
23.10.57

For File No.

21/2/8

Original on P.V.

Received on 29.10.57

Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED]

On 4/11/57

ELECTION PROGRAMME on pages 4 and 5 of issue dated 16.10.57

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION:-

GEORGE JACKSON, the Communist Party candidate for the Ponsonby seat, is National Chairman of the Party - a position which testifies to his life of service with the working class.

Born at Edivale, Southland, in 1908, he was educated in Dunedin and served his apprenticeship at the Hillside Railway Workshops as an engineer's fitter.

RAY NUNES, candidate for Island Bay. Age 40. Born in London, came to New Zealand with family at the age of nine. Educated at West Christchurch Boys' High School.

Became interested in socialism as a result of the anti-fascist struggle before the second world war. Disappointed with the class collaboration policy of the Labour Party, joined the C.P.N.Z. in January, 1941. Served in the armed forces from 1941 to 1944, including two years overseas with the Third Division.

JACK LOCKE, the Communist candidate for Christchurch Central, is the Chairman of the Canterbury District of the Communist Party and a widely known freezing worker.

Born a Cockney in England, he arrived in New Zealand in 1926, and tried his hand in dairy farms, in freezing works and tanneries, but for the last seven years has been a freezing worker. On several occasions has been elected labourers' delegate.

While in the Waikato he played a leading part in the formation of a Dairy Farm Workers' Union, which was later absorbed into the New Zealand Workers' Union.

JACK MARSTON, the Communist Party candidate for Dunedin, has been a boilermaker for most of his working life.

Born at Dunedin in 1913, he was educated at the St. Clair State School and King Edward Technical College before entering the Hillside Railway Workshops.

Although he left there in 1940 he still works at his trade, and has lost none of his zeal for working class progress.

DONALD McEWEN, has been selected as the Communist Party candidate for the Westland seat during the forthcoming Elections.

Born in England in 1907, Mr. McEwen arrived here five years later for his education and apprenticeship as a carpenter.

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21/2/8.

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REPORT ON THE ELECTIONS

to the Political Committee Meeting, 10/9/57,

****by G.E. Jackson.

Comrades,

The election which will take place in our country in three months time will be a period of heightened political activity -- a period of concentrated activity, the outcome of which will influence the politics of the period ahead, but only within the outlook on a wider scale as seen by our National Conference.

The world situation today is very different from that of 10 years ago. Today, on the one hand, there exists the ever-expanding and developing world system of Socialist Nations, embracing over 900 million people, and bound firmly together on the basis of friendship and mutual assistance and co-operation.

On the other hand, we have the world system of imperialism with its ever-diminishing boundaries, and wracked by sharpening contradictions that are manifestations of the deepening general crisis of capitalism. This is further shown in the crisis in the colonial system of imperialism and the developing liberation movement which has already resulted in the breaking of their colonial bonds by a number of former colonial countries, and their establishment as independent nations.

In the Socialist sector we find a rapidly advancing technological superiority with levels of industrial productivity constantly rising to the targets set in a planned programme. In agriculture also, levels of output are rising, and farm production is striving to attain the output recorded in the U.S.A. The extremely rapid tempo of this plan is being realised with enthusiasm.

The forces for peace and progress have grown immeasurably stronger. Not only do they possess overwhelming moral strength but they also possess the material superiority in the technique of war. The fact that this strength is used to further the struggle for peace continues to increase the moral strength of the forces for peace.

Hence, a policy of peaceful co-existence between the capitalist and socialist systems is the only alternative to that of mutual destruction on a world-wide scale.

The position of Britain has deteriorated after the debacle of Suez, and she is being forced into a European agreement where Germany, her old imperialist rival of two wars, will be the dominant partner.

The capitalist markets for New Zealand farming produce will further deteriorate, but our imports will continue to enrich monopoly concerns dictating to N.Z. monopoly prices.

The British iron monopoly already exacts a tribute of £20 per ton more on steel supplied to New Zealand buyers than to British consumers. This kind of tribute will tend to increase with Britain tied to the European Common Market.

This makes it most urgent for New Zealand to take every step to open up markets with the socialist countries which have a stable economy, and so assist in offsetting the decline in the one market where the bulk of our produce is sold.

These conditions make it important for us to make separate agreements wherever possible and on terms of mutual advantage.

The reserves held in the various primary produce accounts of N.Z. are now seen as having an ability to cushion the effects of price decline for only a very short period. If the price drop became catastrophic, their protective value

would be negligible.

Even before the effects of price drops have had much influence there has been a decline in the number of job vacancies.

In the main our economy still remains extremely vulnerable to the effects of price drops overseas.

In spite of these indications, the elections will probably be held in a situation where standards remain relatively high and the conditions of the moment will be more decisive than the indications for tomorrow.

The Communist Party will be contesting on a small scale but the policy put forward will in reality be the alternative to which the working class movement must be won and embrace as its own.

The policy of the Communist Party was clearly defined at our National Conference -- to secure the defeat of the National Government and the election of a second Labour Government. The resolution stated;

"We endorse the outline given in the report of our "Holland Must Go" campaign, and stress the need for persistent explanation of the effects of the policies of the Holland Government, policies that serve only the interests of foreign and domestic monopoly capitalism. This needs to be stepped up, and particularly in this election year when the question of politics comes more sharply to the forefront."

"Hence the present situation is one in which a great deal more must be done by the Party to rouse the workers to the need to struggle against the pro-monopoly policies of this Government and to work actively to ensure its defeat at the forthcoming election and to return a Labour Government."

Every effort of the Communist Party must be directed to that end. This must be done by independent work.

The defeat of the National Party, as the mouthpiece of monopoly must be followed by intensification of the struggle to end monopoly's domination of our economic lifelines.

Let us look at the last election campaign to see what lessons can be learned in order that we may be a more effective force on this occasion.

In February, 1955, Comrade Wilcox was reporting to the Political Committee and this extract from his report should be studied today.

"However, it must be said that we did not utilise the election period, with its added opportunities of contact with the masses, to the full as far as our objective of taking our policy to wider sections of the workers and people generally was concerned.

In the early stages we were hesitant nationally, and in all districts as to what we could do, what was practical at present strength and contact, what was primary and important and what had to be left out. It was but an exhibition of the old weakness of having grandiose schemes to cover everything, thus dispersing our forces on too wide a field. Again, many leading comrades failed to see clearly that with the election, the Party campaign became our primary activity, even if certain other work was to suffer temporarily. Some comrades remained submerged in other work, vital work, important work maybe, but not important enough to enable them to say "I leave the election campaign to others." The fact is that under the conditions in New Zealand in an election period nothing much other than routine activity continues

in other spheres. Thus our paying full attention to the election campaign is not as big a loss in other directions as it may at first appear, while on the other hand the gains of a well-planned, active Party campaign are tremendous. Those of us who took a full and active part in the campaign know what considerable fresh contact with the workers on the jobs and in the areas are made; we now know many more people, have the ear of many more, even if they are not as yet prepared to vote for us. Thus as a result of the campaign our policies of struggle in the trade union field, in the areas, and everywhere, will be put forward by a much wider section. We ourselves were greatly strengthened by our contact with the workers through the campaign."

"The first obvious mistake that we made in our approach to the General Election was, in my opinion, a lack of early attention to the question of convincing our own membership of the importance of the election campaign; it was not till towards the end that anything like a reasonable mobilisation of members was achieved as far as activity was concerned."

We should also examine the extent to which we have been guilty of a lack of continuity in work, of sporadic bursts followed by a period of hibernation.

In the campaign, the National Party will have a tremendous publicity machine working, claiming the years of prosperity to be the result of their government. With Holland discarded they will advance with the youngest team the Tories have ever produced.

The effect of 10 years continuous Red-baiting and conscious work to destroy the class independence of the labour movement has produced a feeling of apathy which even extends into the Communist Party.

The Labour Party as the only alternative government needs a class policy which will sharply differentiate it from National. The outlook expressed in the "pop" song - "Anything you can do, we can do better" - will not be good enough. The Labour Party policy will need to do things National would not want to do if it is to rally the New Zealand people and become the Government.

The Social Credit policy will appeal to some sections of farmers, middle and working class people. It promises to carry out a policy which will meet many of their objectives; it appears to attack money power, when in reality it is a mass of superficial and frequently incorrect criticism of the banking system, while all the time it promises not to disturb the private ownership of the means of production. It ignores the basic contradiction in capitalist society.

We must point out that the peoples' desires can only become realities when a policy is pursued that takes this into account.

Unless action is taken to deal with the private control of the wealth socially created, then the basic cause of our difficulties will remain. Control of banking cannot achieve this unless measures are taken to curb the power of the industrial and financial monopolists.

In order to achieve this objective, the Labour movement must be united around a programme of demands which will make for decisive change, and which will have such widespread support among the working farmers also, that a Labour government will legislate to give effect to the popular demand.

The objective of the Communist Party is, we believe, merely the expression of the desires and feelings of our working people everywhere, but these feelings must be developed as a class outlook reflecting class interests and building class organisation to secure their realisation.

This election work must be seen as a vital and necessary part of the application of our general policy of extending our contact with the working class. It must be concentrated first in those workplaces and industries where Party Branches have been trying to extend influence and contact and, then, in the next most important concentrations of working people. It must be as extensive and wide a campaign of this character as is possible with the forces available.

We must also see the significance of keeping this in the forefront in all our election work in the area, in the sales and canvassing for the "P.V." and in the distribution of our election propaganda.

This is in line with our Conference decisions to concentrate our activities on limited objectives. Briefly what is the base of this plan.

Capitalism creates in large-scale industry the decisive section of the working class who are brought together, taught solidarity and class consciousness by the operations of capitalism itself. These are the class who will develop a united labour movement and win allies among other sections of self-employed, but nevertheless, working people.

The strength of this movement will enable monopoly to be defeated and a wide alliance under working class leadership to go forward on a programme of radical transformation of society to a socialist future.

The Communist Party works to develop a consciousness of this role among the people and so lift their level of struggle to that of a conscious movement drawing its strength from its class position.

In order to do this the circulars "First Steps" and "Urgent Tasks" outlined the detailed lines of approach. These must be the guides to our work, and the election campaign seen as a very important period of heightened activity in which the working class are not only receptive but expect leadership.

The Communist Party stands candidates in order to develop this consciousness of their role among the sections of the workers who can play a decisive role in building a United labour movement. Against all the illusions of class collaboration we must build the outlook expressed by the first Leader of the New Zealand Labour Party, H.E. Holland. --"In the hour of its greatest need the working class must know that it has to stand alone..."

It is only by "standing alone" as separate and distinct from the capitalist class that it will win the allies necessary to give it victory.

Our candidates and our Party must campaign to build this consciousness among the working class, to develop their feeling of class strength, to defeat the National Government and to return a Labour Party as the second Labour Government.

Our candidates and the whole party must campaign to bring to the workers a consciousness of the necessity of electing Communists to Parliament, to show them the tremendous significance that even a single Communist M.P. in the last Parliament would have had for the whole working class, to explain the even greater significance of this in the situation ahead.

This plan can only be realised by independent Party work.

Where we are not standing candidates the same objectives must guide the Party and so independent work is vital.

To confine work to assisting the Labour Party would reduce our Party to activity around only one aspect of our Conference decisions.

The facilities provided by the state would enable a Communist M.P. to expose to the people of town and country their

common enemy, monopoly capitalism; to show that a definite working class policy is the only answer to the problems of that class, and all the other working people.

We could show the people the power that rests in them, and the necessity to call it into activity in defence of their interests, against the ever-growing attacks of monopoly capitalism.

We would show the colossal waste of money and energy in our pursuit of the American policy of S.E.A.T.O.

We could be a real focal point in rallying all the best elements of the working class movement to a united class approach in defence of peace and living standards.

This activity would help to build a movement whose policy, and ability to carry it out, would make it a real and definite opposition to the power of capital.

ELECTION COMMITTEES. Our attitude to election Committees should be to secure the widest participation in both Labour Party committees, Trade Union election committees and Communist Party election committees. We should campaign for worker participation in these committees according to workers' desires and consciousness.

Trade Union Committees should work according to their objectives and retain their complete independence of operation consistent with those objectives.

FINANCE. The raising of finance is the indispensable key to a successful campaign. Without funds we cannot carry our message to the people. The only source of funds for us is from the working people, and the ones on whom we must rely to collect it are our active party members.

A Campaign Fund with a target of £550 should be opened.

At this figure the necessity of overfulfilment will be apparent but it is preferable to setting a higher target.

This will provide a local expenditure of £40 per candidate making a total of £200.

£150	for National propaganda:
£70	" special expenses of certain candidates:
£40	" a National tour:
£100	" sundry expenditure.

With a total of £560 it will be necessary for this money to be raised by collection sheets, "P.V." campaign, and collections at meetings.

A limited number of Hall meetings should be held and well-planned, but the main concentration should be on work places and street meetings. Concentration should be considered in all the planning. Use a bullet rather than a shotgun.

PROPAGANDA. The National pamphlet will be a well-produced document with a telling story, setting out policy and applicable everywhere. It should be available at all meetings and made the vehicle of a major sales drive.

National leaflets are planned including local details for each electorate.

1. To be produced in Sept. - a leaflet dealing with Communist Party - Labour Party relationships and the importance of the mass movement.
2. October --- How to organise defeat of the National Party.
3. November --- A Programme for the people.
4. Each issue of the "P.V." will carry material which must reach new readers. Every meeting or canvass

should introduce the "P.V." to new readers and help to secure a permanent increase in sales of our Number 1 propaganda and organisational weapon.

RESOLUTION ON THE GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1957.

by the Political Committee Meeting, 10/9/57.

The Election takes place under conditions in which there is steadily mounting evidence of the inability of the capitalist economic and social system to ensure that the vast forces of social production operate to serve the material and cultural well-being of the working people of the capitalist world, including New Zealand, which is part of the world imperialist system.

This is shown by the deepening agrarian crisis. Bountiful harvests threaten ruin to working farmers. Industry producing for civilian consumption works under capacity. Monopoly prices exact ever-growing tribute from the people. At the same time, vast industrial capacity is geared to war production.

In New Zealand, these signs of deepening capitalist crisis are not yet clearly discerned by the majority of the working people. But because there is "no finance", urgent development works are being cut although there is no shortage of labour or materials. Yet £155 millions are to be spent on "defence".

The National Party Government has clearly stated its intention of cutting consumption. Living standards, working conditions and trade union rights have been persistently attacked. Unemployment is beginning to appear. All this reflects the policies of foreign and domestic monopoly capitalism and its tightening stranglehold on New Zealand's economic lifelines. It is these interests which dictate the policies of the National Party Government.

Deepening capitalist crisis is evident in the sharpening contradiction between the imperialist countries, in the struggle for domination of sources of raw material and markets within the diminishing sector of the world still subject to imperialist exploitation.

So long as New Zealand with its onesided, dependent economy, confines its economic activities solely within this diminishing imperialist sector, the economic well-being of our people will remain in constant and growing jeopardy.

But in the world of today, there co-exists alongside the diminished imperialist world, a growing developing and expanding world system of socialist nations. In this socialist world system, the economic basis ensures the maximum satisfaction of the ever-rising material and cultural requirements of its more than 900 million people.

Hence, there exists the possibility of New Zealand overcoming certain problems of markets for primary produce and at the same time, securing capital equipment necessary to develop our economy in a more all-sided way.

In these circumstances it is vital for the working people of town and country to demand that every step possible be taken to open trade on any mutually acceptable basis with all countries but particularly with socialist countries having an economy not subject to the convulsions of capitalism.

The importance of developing strong independent class organisation is necessary to meet the threats of capitalist crisis today.

Those who have advocated the mutual benefits of class collaboration by offering some crumbs of increased production to the working class, will try to have the working class share the burdens of capitalist crisis under the guise of national difficulties. The Communist Party warns the working class of the dangers of this policy, and calls for the building of strong independent class organisations.

It calls on all Party members, friends and supporters to rally behind and work for the election of Communist M.P.s; to campaign energetically to win the working people to understanding the tremendous significance for the whole working class of even a few Communist Members of Parliament.

The Communist Party calls on every Party member, and all workers, to actively take part in the Election campaign to defeat the National Party and return a second Labour Government.

The working people of New Zealand require to develop peaceful relations of mutual benefit with all countries, and to that end must demand that all our relations with other countries be based on that objective. This would require that we withdraw from S.E.A.T.O. and other alliances not founded on these principles.

In the election period the most important task is to awaken the consciousness of the working people to the necessity of taking an independent class stand in relation to the problems facing them.

They will come to realise in this way that the social problems created by private monopoly can only be solved by a working class government converting such*to social ownership, and by that act, removing the basic cause of periodic crises and inflation. insert - *(capitalist property)*

work-
places

In order to make the most effective use of its forces in this task, the Communist Party must concentrate on the important each district has determined in relation to the decisions of Conference.

The election period should be seen as one of increased and sharpened political activity, during which the working class can be made increasingly aware of the real problems before them, which they alone have the power to solve.

To this end the Political Committee calls on all Party members to intensify their activity, and by means of the sale of the "People's Voice", the election pamphlet, the organisation of meetings, and the distribution of leaflets, to make their greatest contribution to the defeat of the National Party.

21/2/8

P.O. Box 5140,
WELLINGTON.

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17th July, 1957.

The Director,
N.Z. Security Service,
WELLINGTON.THE ROTORUA DISCUSSION GROUP

The monthly meeting for June of the Rotorua Discussion Group was held at the home of Mr. Lewin LEWIS. The meeting lasted from 7.30 pm to 10.45 pm, and the following persons were present:-

Lewin LEWIS
Sarah ANN (Mrs)
Rex Hilton LEWIS
Victor Hope PIPER
Bernard William HORNFECK
Victor Francis AUSTIN
Joyce Mary AUSTIN (Mrs), nee BAGLEY
Rita Margaret GLENNISTER (Mrs)
Harold Gordon KISSEN

The meeting discussed current affairs with special emphasis on the Middle East situation and Algeria, Disarmament and France's bankrupt condition. The discussion on New Zealand affairs was confined mainly to the policy issued by the Communist Party with respect to the standing of candidates in the forthcoming Parliamentary Elections.

It was stated that the Party policy would be to stand candidates in those electorates which would not prejudice Labour's chances. In the discussion, many members stated their opposition to this policy and were agreed that the money spent on the Communist election campaign would be put to better use in assisting the finances of the People's Voice newspaper which are very low. It was agreed however, that the National Body had made the decision and there was little that the Discussion Group could do about the matter. It was decided that Mr. Rex LEWIS write a letter on behalf of the Group to the Editor of the People's Voice putting the Group's point of view on this matter.

Further discussion took place on the Government's ban on the Communist Party having time on the air, and considered this poor treatment as compared with that given to Sydney Wilfred SCOTT recently.

Victor Francis AUSTIN read out and discussed the report to the Chinese Party on the rectification of the "cult of the individual".

It was announced that Bernard William HORNFECK and his wife Wharekura HORNFECK would be leaving shortly for the Soviet Union. Mr. HORNFECK is a very new member of the Group, and it was thought by some of the members that he may have attended the Discussion Group for the purpose of giving him some background for his trip. Mrs. Joyce AUSTIN, however, stated that he had taken an active interest in similar matters for several years.

HORNPECK also sought some financial assistance towards his trip and Lewin LEWIS said he was willing to assist him but it is not known or disclosed that he had done so.

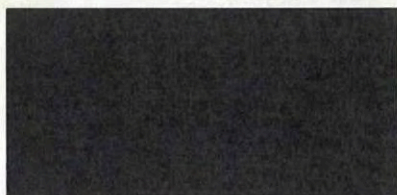
Harold Gordon KISSEN moved that the Group discuss at the next meeting the expulsion of Sydney Wilfred SCOTT and others. This was agreed to, although there was considerable opposition from Victor Francis PIPER.

COMMENTS:

Bernard William HORNPECK and his wife Wharekura are attending the 1957 Youth Festival at Moscow. Photographs, Pass Book particulars and other details have already been forwarded from this office.

The fact that KISSEN wants a discussion on the expulsion of SCOTT and others appears to indicate that he is favourably disposed towards SCOTT, and further reports on this question will be of interest.

It would appear from discussions which I have had that the Rotorua Discussion Group is virtually a branch of the Communist Party.



Senior Detective, 3272.

Extract from "Peoples Voice" Newspaper
Published at _____, on [date] 31/7/57 245
SUBJECT: Political Parties — Broadcasting Time

Legal Parties should have use of radio

WELLINGTON. — The Communist Party—to take one example from the list of those who were denied broadcasting time—was a legal political party, and so long as it was legal it had the same rights as other contenders in elections, said Mr W. J. Scott, chairman of the executive committee of the National Council for Civil Liberties in Wellington.

Speaking at the Council's annual meeting, Mr Scott said it was manifestly unjust and intolerable that persons and parties could be attacked over the air and have no right of reply.

The allocation of broadcasting time to political parties before elections in New Zealand was "grossly unjust and shamefully discreditable to the leaders of both major parties," he said.

A member said he would not be very happy if a Fascist party put up candidates and got time on the air.

"I hope I would have enough courage to insist that they should have the same rights as everyone else—that is the whole point of our protest," replied Mr Scott.

Voices: Hear, hear.
The Government was not allowed to decide the allocation of broadcasting time to religious groups, said Mr J. W. Winchester.

This was done by an independent Council, and the Government followed its directions. In this way minority religious groups could be heard, though not as often as the major sects.

Broadcasting time must not be allocated on the basis of the parties' comparative success at the

previous election, said Mr R. E. Strobant.
Parties just starting out also had a right to be heard, and the electorate had a right to hear them, he said.

Copy for
✓ 1/ 26/8/6.
✓ 2/ J.W. Winchester
✓ 3/ W.J. Scott.

3

W.J. Scott
J.W. Winchester

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EXTRACT/COPY

244

From (source): Dist. Office, Ch'Ch. Reference: _____ Date: 10.6.57.
 For File No. 21/2/8.
 Original on 11/11/55.
 Received on 16th June, 1957. Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 22nd Nov. 1957.

RELATIVE TO : COMMUNIST PARTY AND SUCILLARY ORGANISATIONS,
CHRISTCHURCH. Known activities during the
 period from 24th May to 10th June 1957.

CANTERBURY HOUSEWIVES' UNION. Executive meeting held at the
 Christchurch Co-operative Book Society Shop on Wednesday evening 10th
 May, 1957.

It is gathered that among those present at this
 meeting were the following :-

ANDERSON, Lily
 DUNMILL, Kath
 OGG, Lillian

RANHELT, Mrs.
 RYAN, Joan.

A letter was received from the Prime Minister
 regarding the H-bomb. The reply was similar in context to the
 broadcast given by the Prime Minister.

A letter was received from the Minister of Housing
 regarding the complaint re the building of luxury flats.

The collection taken up at the recent H-bomb meeting
 sponsored by the C.H.U. amounted to £5, donations £1. Advertising
 is assessed to exceed the collection.

One Henry SPENCER was present at the H-Bomb meeting.
 He is known to be a great friend of John RYAN'S. It was
 decided to organise further H-Bomb meetings and to attend any
 other meetings which may be convened by other organisations.
 This meeting was of the opinion that the best speaker at the
 H-Bomb meeting sponsored by the C.H.U. was the Rev. BRASH.

The forthcoming General Election was discussed when
 it was decided that as the C.H.U. is a non-party political
 organisation they cannot take part.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

It has been suggested that Jack LOCKE will stand as
 the Communist Party candidate in the Pongaitan electorate at
 the forthcoming general election, but whether or not he will
 agree to stand is still in doubt, as he is still very confused
 on political matters. LOCKE is supposed to be organising
 instruction classes for persons likely to become members of the
 Communist Party, but up to date he has not moved in the matter.

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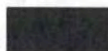
243

From (source): Dist. Office, Ch'Ch. Reference: _____ Date: 13.6.57
 For File No. _____
 Original on 21/11/55.
 Received on 16th June, 1957. Extracted/Copied by  On 22nd Nov, 1957.

Page 2.

Geoff SIMPSON is thought to be unsuitable as a Communist Party candidate as he is considered to have insufficient initiative. Frank McNULTY has plenty of confidence and is tick-skinned, but he is considered unsuitable because he has not a good enough command of the Queen's English.

Sophie RHODES has heard that Mr. CURRIE who spoke at the C.N.U. H-Bomb meeting has since addressed another meeting and it appeared that he had had some change of opinion. Sophie thinks that probably the Rev. BRASH has been talking to him.

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G.D.D.—11
242

From (source) Dist. Off. CH.OH. Reference: 1/57/90 Date: 6th June 1957
For File No. 21/2/8
Original on 21/11/11
Received on 14th June 1957 Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 22nd Nov. 1957

RELATIVE TO: COMMUNIST PARTY AND ANCILLIARY ORGANISATIONS,
CHRISTCHURCH. Known activities during the period
from 4th to 6th June, 1957.

.....

.....

[The Communist Party is to stand a candidate at the next
General Election who will contest the Fendalton seat, it having
been decided to attack Mr. Holland in his own electorate.

.....

[REDACTED]

Mr. Holland,

WHO IS DISLOYAL ?

It is your party that should
be refused election radio time

Mr Holland,

Is it disloyal to advocate peace, the cessation of all nuclear tests?

Is it subversive to advocate a living wage for a 40-hour week, raised pensions, equal pay, the repeal of anti-union legislation, peaceful trade with socialist countries, tax exemption raised to £600.

If these demands constitute disloyalty, then the Communist Party is guilty.

But think again, Mr Holland!

Who said he would "stick to America through thick and thin, right or wrong?"

Are you being subversive by following alien policies that intensify the war danger? Who was it that allowed Mr Dulles to sit in on a Cabinet meeting?

Whose secret policemen provide the United States Central Intelligence Agency with local information?

Who is encouraging the vampire of U.S. capital here?

Are you being disloyal by increasing the burden on the backs of the wage earners, who are the majority of our population?

You say your Government also has a reservation that the radio services should not be used for the dissemination of disloyal or subversive policies and utterances.

There are laws that provide penalties for disloyalty and subversion.

And you, Mr Holland, like all other opposers of change, have added to these laws extensively to prevent any working class moves that threaten your conservative way of life . . . and you know very well that the Communist Party leads the forward march of the workers.

And yet you have been unable to find any evidence—in spite of your highly paid, well staffed secret policemen—that could launch even a small subversion trial.

In other words, Mr Holland, you have a remedy for "subversion" and, until you find a real case of what your own laws call subversion, you have no right to accuse any party of it and use that inference for a radio ban.

RADIO BAN

Mr Holland, you have stated that only nation-wide parties "which fulfil obvious and reasonable requirements" will be given adequate opportunity to present their policies in election radio broadcasts.

A few days after this statement you refused written application for radio time by the Communist Party of New Zealand.

And to say that "the radio is free from political propaganda other than at elections," is a straight out lie.

Commentaries on news and talks are regularly given attacking both the practice and theory of socialism. But no one is allowed to attack capitalism.

To do so would be "disloyal" or "subversive" in your view, Mr Holland, because it would threaten the giant profits of monopolies.

CHALLENGE

Real disloyalty and real subversion are practices that do not benefit the majority of the people—that harm them.

The People's Voice challenges you, Mr Holland, to set your policy beside that of the Communist Party for the people to judge which is disloyal.

The seven-point programme of the Communist Party is set out in an accompanying article.

It is the programme the Party wishes to present to the people of New Zealand over the radio.

Read this banned programme

This is the seven-point programme which the Holland Government has forbidden the Communist Party of New Zealand to present to the people over the radio during the election campaign.

The Government alleges disloyalty and subversion . . . presumably to monopoly capitalism!

1. A living wage for a 40-hour week. Raise pensions and other social security payments correspondingly. Equal pay for women. Repeal the anti-union amendments to the I.C. and A. Act and the Police Offences Act.
2. Strict and effective control of prices, profits, rents and capital issues and the re-introduction of import selection. Nationalisation of the major monopolies.
3. Reinstitution of building controls, with the accent on making housing for the people a priority. Restoration of State housing programme, financed at low rate of interest. Low interest loans for family home builder. Cessation of mass immigration programme until housing catches up with increased population.
4. Abolition of conscription and the reducing of war expenditure. Withdraw from SEATO and ANZUS and bring home troops and planes from Malaya and Korea. Banning nuclear tests and weapons.
5. Development of new markets for New Zealand exports on basis of reciprocal trade with socialist countries and countries of the Afro-Asian bloc which have achieved or are seeking to achieve national independence. Urge Britain, still our main market and supplier, to follow a similar policy.
6. Raise the income exemption to £600 with allowance of £200 for wife and £100 for each child. Increase rate of taxation on higher incomes and on company profits.
7. Defeat the National Government and return a Labour Government.

John Foster Dulles briefing S. G. Holland before the latter tied New Zealand to the aggressive ANZUS Pact. Later, Dulles and the U.S. Ambassador sat in on a Cabinet meeting on New Zealand's military aims. Is this loyalty, Mr Holland?

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EXTRACT/COPY

240

From (source) [REDACTED]

Reference:

Date: 5th May, 1957

For File No.

P.F./ 2/2/8

Original on

21/11/11.

Received on

Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED]

On 29th Jan. 1958

RELATIVE TO: COMMUNIST PARTY AND ANCILLARY ORGANISATIONS, CHRISTCHURCH. Known activities during the period from 24th April to 16th May, 1957.

N.Z. COMMUNIST PARTY. Meeting of No.1 Branch held at 37 Pavitt Street on Thursday evening 2nd May, 1957.

It is fathered that among those who were present at this meeting were the following persons :-

COX, Jim	HOWLEY, Bill
EMPSON, Geoff	MOSES, Julie
GIBSON, Mil	MURRAY, Bill
HEPBURN, Mavis	ROSS, Jack.

An apology was received from Frank McNULTY who was attending the Federation of Labour Conference and therefore could not give a report at this meeting on the National Communist Party Conference.

Mavis HEPBURN advised that all delegates to the Conference held in Auckland had supported the Party stand on the SCOTT issue, and the general opinion of many was that SCOTT had "ratted" on the Party and that the matter should not be taken too seriously.

There was considerable difference of opinion as to whether or not Communist candidates should stand against Labour candidates at the next Parliamentary election. Comrade DIXON of Australia swayed the issue on this point, stating that members of the Communist Party must remember that the Communist Party is an independent party with the overthrow of capitalism as its ultimate target, and that the Party will never overthrow the system here until Communist Party members get into Parliament. He also paid particular emphasis to the international aspect of the Party and cables of greeting from Russia, India, China and Hungary were read.

The Conference felt that a clearer understanding of Party theory as applicable to New Zealand is needed, and District Committee members are to help form executives in each branch and ensure that the best people are in the jobs not just the best talkers.

Communist Party finance is fairly desperate at present and if they had not been able to get credit for expenses the conference could not have been held. There is not enough finance on hand at the present time to even pay the full time functionaries' wages. Christchurch was the only district which had made any decent contribution to delegates' expenses.

The Branch decided to put out a general bulletin in two weeks' time on the H-Bomb tests and the Federation of Labour Conference. The Campaign for the increase of sales of the "People's Voice" has not had any real success to date.

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Wellington
29.4.57

Meeting of Central Branch Communist Party
Wellington

On Thursday 25.4.57 it is stated that a meeting of the Wellington Central Branch Communist Party was held at Ray Nunes' flat on The Terrace. Known to be present were Ray Nunes, Nancy Goddard, Jim Smith, Dennis McCarthy, Norman Coleman, Jim and Mrs Delahunty, Paul Potiki.

Discussion was in the main on finance and it appears that 2 appeals for funds are to be held this year, 1 being for the People's Voice and 1 for an election fund.

It was also mentioned that there are 7 branches - Porirua, Hutt, Central, Varsity, Maritime, South and Palmerston North.

Varsity must be a small group as the quota for their branch is £5 compared with £45 for Central.

It is also understood that the Communist Party want "Ban Nuclear Tests" committees set up in all big unions and anywhere where large groups meet.

An aggregate meeting is to be held on Wednesday to study the Report on the National Conference held in Auckland over Easter. A reliable source states that 7 delegates went up from Wellington.

~~SECRET~~

21/2/8
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Extract from "DOMINION."
Published at WELLINGTON. , on [date] 3/4/57. " Newspaper
SUBJECT: COMMUNISTS NOT TO GET ELECTIONEERING BROADCASTING TIME.

Communists Not To Broadcast

The Communist Party will not get broadcasting time during the election campaign later this year. The Prime Minister, Mr. Holland, reiterated this yesterday, saying that he has not altered his 1954 decision.

Mr. Holland said that he had received a request from the Communist Party seeking radio time. He had told them that there was no change in the policy of refusing the party broadcasting time.

FILE.

/ / 19

Initials

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From (source): Spec. Bran. AUCKLAND. Reference: 57/67 Date: 13/2/1957
For File No. 21/2/8
Original on 21/4/18
Received on Extracted/Copied by [redacted] On 22/4/1958

SUBJECT: Communist Party of New Zealand - meeting of Auckland
City Branch held on 30/1/57 - report dated 31/1/57
by [redacted]

I forward herewith copy of the report referred to above.

The identity and full names of the persons referred to therein who are already on record are as follows:-

- Elizabeth ARYA
- George FRASER
- Harold (known as Harry) GREEN
- Harold Alexander OSTLER
- Donald Hugh ROSS
- Marion Lesley ROSS
- Joseph Sylvester RAFFERTY
- Sidney Wilfred SCOTT
- Elizabeth WALL
- Alan Lawry WHEELER
- John James MITCHELL

The following is relative to the contents of the attached report:-
paragraphs 3,4,5 and 9:

Alan Lawry WHEELER - source has since told me that Harold GREEN (known as Harry GREEN) did not enlarge upon his statement that "members were quite likely to meet with a hot reception at his (WHEELER'S) home in Kingsland".

A reliable contact I have made at the Colonial Ammunition Co. Ltd. has told me that the management have it in ~~me~~ mind to dismiss WHEELER for his troublesome tactics, that it is well known in the factory that he is a Communist, that he does not appear to have any close friends in the factory, that he enquires from the staff what their wages are and seems to have usurped the authority of the union shop steward.

The same source told me that a Felix FOWLER commonly known as Chuck FOWLER of 22 Ngake Street, Orakei, a de-registered watersider worker who has been in the employ of the Colonial Ammunition Company Ltd. since 1951 and is known as a leading factory hand, has quite openly stated on numerous occasions in the factory that he is a Communist, and for that reason is accepted as such by the other employees. However, he does not appear to associate with WHEELER [redacted]

The name Felix John Gordon FOWLER, watersider, 22 Ngake Street, Orakei, is listed in the Tamaki General Roll published on 17/8/54. This person is no doubt identical with Felix FOWLER now employed with the Colonial Ammunition Company and of whom we have no previous record. His employers speak of him to me as being a good employee and is not known to be associated with WHEELER in any of his activities.

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

From (source): Spec. Bran. AUCKLAND. Reference: 57/67 Date: 13/2/1957

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/4/18

Received on

Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED]

On 22/4/1958

paragraphs 6 and 7:

A copy of the National Secretariat circular ("First Steps") was forwarded under cover of my report of 31/1/57 re meeting of the Auckland City Branch of the Communist Party of New Zealand held on 16/1/57.

paragraphs 7 and 8:

Concerning the proposed waterfront activity, I wish to draw attention to the fact that Edward Emanuel ISBEY referred to in S.56/328 is president of the Auckland Cargo Workers' Union, and his brother David ISBEY, also referred to in S.56/328 is a mobile crane driver employed by the Auckland Harbour Board.

paragraph 9:

Marion Lesley ROSS terminates her employment with National Airways Corporation Air Centre, Commerce Street, Auckland in about two weeks time. She then intends to proceed to Greymouth as soon as suitable housing accommodation can be obtained there. It is believed that her husband, Donald Hugh ROSS will accompany her to Greymouth. When it is known that Marion Lesley ROSS has left for Greymouth a separate report will be forwarded.

paragraph 10:

For previous reference to Whitsun Crescent (not Terrace) flats please see my report of 6/2/57 re meeting of the Auckland City Branch of the Communist Party.

paragraph 11:

The pamphlet referred to in this paragraph is the one referred above as "First Steps". SCOTT referred to is Edney Wilfred SCOTT, recently expelled from the Communist Party of New Zealand.

FINANCIAL BREAK, - means a break in the proceedings to enable members to pay their financial dues.

paragraph 14:

The identity of members of the Propaganda Committee will be ascertained in due course when a further report will be forwarded.

[REDACTED]
Senior Detective, 2960~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

From (source): [REDACTED]

Reference:

Date: 1st February 1957.

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/8/1

Received on

Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED]

On 2/5/58

REPORT OF : [REDACTED]

RELATIVE TO : COMMUNIST PARTY AND ANCILLARY ORGANISATIONS? CHRISTCHURCH
Known activities during the period from 26th January
to 1st February, 1957.

NEW ZELAND COMMUNIST PARTY. Meeting of No.1 Branch held at 37 Pavitt
Street on 31/1/57.

Among those present at this meeting were:-

EMPSON, Geoff
GIBSON, Mil
HEPBURN, Mavis
HOBSON, Peggy
HOWLEY, Bill

MOSES, Julie
MURRAY, Bill
McNULTY, Noeline
ROSS, Jack

The Bulletin advised that the sum of £187 had been collected by the P arty in the special Christmas effort period and that after paying out £93 in expenditure and the National quota there was still £40 in credit over the period. In addition the special P.V. fund collection amounted to £23.7.6 at Christchurch. The amount paid each month to the National Office is £27. So far only £6 had been collected by No.1 Branch in January but it was a holiday period.

At this meeting much time was given to a discussion on democratic centralism, unity and Party security. These are matters which are to be discussed frequently prior to the holding of the National Conference at Easter.

The major task of the Party this year is to use all methods of work and propaganda to defeat Holland in the election. There was considerable discussion on what industries are to be concentrated on this year, but it was left to the District meeting which is to be held on Sunday evening 3/2/57 to make a decision. Likely industries for Communist penetration are Borthwicks Freezing Works or Transport. Three members of the District Executive, John COLE, Jack LOCKE and Frank McNULTY are employed at Borthwicks.

The Party is feeling well satisfied with the financial position particularly over the Christmas period. The Party considers that in the past its work has been considerably hampered by lack of finance, but the strain has been eased by the lesser pay-out to a part-time Secretary and it is now being considered whether or not the Party should continue to pay rent for an office when the work could well be done at home by the Secretary. This would effect an additional saving of over £100 a year which could be used for other purposes. The present office - a small one - is used for Secretary's business and small meetings only. This work could be carried out in private houses. For larger functions the Party rents a hall.

Noeline McNULTY is a new member of the Communist Party at Christchurch.

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EXTRACT/COPY

From (source): [REDACTED]

Reference: [REDACTED]

Date: 31/1/1957

For File No. ~~Pf/WARR~~ Elizabeth File no. 21/2/8

Original on 31/4/18

Received on [REDACTED]

Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED]

On 22/4/1958

Report submitted by [REDACTED] re weekly meeting of the City Branch of the Communist Party on the 30/1/57.

A weekly meeting of the City Branch of the Communist Party was held on 30/1/57 in Room 13, Tabernacle Buildings, Karangahape Road at 8 p.m.

Those present were Harry GREEN, Marion and Don ROSS, Joe RAFFERTY, Beth WALL, George FRASER, Betty ASHA.

Harry GREEN stated that Allen WHELAN may not be attending branch meetings in the future owing to ill health.

Betty ASHA said that Comrade WHELAN was owing approximately 5-6 weeks subscription to the P.V. and thought that a member should contact him (WHELAN's weekly P.V. round numbers approx. 30), so that his commitments could be brought up to date.

Harry GREEN said that if he were contacted at his work (Colonial Ammunition Co.) it would be more desirable as members were quite likely to meet with a "hot" reception at his home in Kingland.

Don ROSS stated that a discussion on the National Secretariat's pamphlet "First Steps" should be held and asked for contributors.

Betty ASHA spoke for some time on the circular "First Steps" emphasising certain points among which she stated that there should be more organized activities in the branch, especially on the waterfront.

She said that though the party had several contacts, there were no members working in that area. However, if the branch in the Bulletin concentrated its articles on that particular field and by P.V. reports on the question of conditions, pay etc., infiltration through this medium was possible.

As Marion ROSS was shortly to leave Auckland, another P.V. seller was required by the branch. Another role of the branch concerned its work with industry. ASHA stated that Alan WHELAN who worked in the Colonial Ammunition Company was in contact with 300 workers and to many he sold P.V.s. She (ASHA) suggested that as this number was too great to cope with by WHELAN alone, it would be an idea that the branch take over this responsibility. Branch members should not however, forget their area work (i.e.) "pub" sales, canvasses etc., and should be able to approach the staff for betterment of conditions etc.

Work should also start on the Whitson Inc. Plate and suggested that Johnny MITCHELL be approached to see if a meeting could not be arranged with P.V. sellers.

Also OSTLER spoke on the pamphlet and praised its content. Stated that pressure should be brought to industry, especially through P.V.s (stated on time that Bill ASHBRON was the District Chairman). OSTLER attacked the SCOTT element for creating ideological differences in certain Auckland branches (not stated) and warned members to be on their guard against this faction.

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EXTRACT/COPY

From (source): [REDACTED] Reference: [REDACTED] Date: 31/1/1957
 For File No. ~~PH/1000/Elizabeth~~ 21/2/8
 Original on 22/4/5
 Received on [REDACTED] Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 22/4/1958

Page 2a

FINANCIAL BUREAU:

The election of ten new members to the branch executive was held and those elected were George FRASER and Beth HALL. The next executive meeting was to be held on February 7th at the house of Don ROSS at 7.30 p.m.

Betty ARYA moved that Beth HALL be elected and Don ROSS moved that FRASER be elected to the branch executive.

FRASER gave a talk on Party propaganda for the coming elections. At the conclusion Betty ARYA moved that FRASER should take the report along to the Propaganda Committee as it was considered a most important document. GILLER stated that the document be taken up on a national basis.



~~SECRET~~

Does "revolution" mean violence?

QUESTION: The Communist Party stands for revolution. Will not the people, though desiring Socialism, shun the violence associated with revolution and turn to the Labour Party to achieve it by constitutional means? — J. M. Sydney.

ANSWER: Last week I pointed out: 1. The welcome change in the Labour Party's policy from a reactionary to a progressive one with the breaking of Grouper domination.

2. That this change was of great importance to aid the building of the unity of the people to fight for their immediate interests and further progress of the labour movement.

3. That it would be rash, as yet, to conclude that the Labour Party, as a whole, had made a decisive turn towards Socialism from its traditional non-socialist stand.

With that understood, we can proceed to the question, which clearly comes from a believer in Socialism.

He affirms that constitutional means are better than revolutionary means for achieving Socialism.

What he means, I think, is not revolution versus constitution, but violence versus non-violence. These are not the same thing.

A revolution is a fundamental change, a change which alters the whole nature of a thing.

When applied to present society, it means confiscating the property of private monopolies in banks, industries, mines, shipping, etc., and placing it in the hands of the people.

Will this change, this revolution, be violent or not; with civil war or without? That is the question.

No move to replace capitalism by Socialism (by whatever means) would be attempted or urged by Communists until a majority of the people actively favours such a change.

This side with the majority has the winning hand.

The holder of a royal routine does not resort to weapons to win the jackpot. But the loser may.



This question, which appeared in the Sydney Tribune and was answered by Eric Aarons, is of interest and value in New Zealand.

It is a question that worries many people.

In the past (Russia and China, for example) the local and foreign millionaires resorted to bloody wars to try to frustrate the will of the people.

The Soviet Revolution of October, 1917, was virtually bloodless, but capitalists from 14 nations conspired with the local capitalists and landlords to force more than five years of bloodshed on the Soviet people.

The victories of the people in the Socialist countries and the general strengthening of the

forces of peace, democracy and Socialism everywhere have created the possibility that the assassins' hand can be stayed.

These new possibilities are recognised in our programme. It states:

"The Communist Party at all times stands for a peaceful solution of the political, economic and social issues of our time."

But our peaceful desires and intentions do not lull our vigilance. If reaction heeds the will of the majority, there will be no violence.

If reaction raises the sword, it shall perish by the sword.

But what of the constitution?

The Australian Constitution certainly protects the private monopolies. It hinders control by the Central Government over them, and in particular their transference to public ownership.

Measures which would change the constitution without harming the interests of the people in other ways have always been advocated and supported by us.

All this is important but the main question is the struggles of the people.

We do not say, as other politicians do, "Leave it to us, boys, and it will be all right," no "Leave it to this or that institution."

We say to the people, rather "Only when you act resolutely in your millions will big changes occur."

Politics in general, and Socialism in particular, is not a matter of academic discussion, but of mass action, mass movement.

People will take to resolute action only to solve acute problems of living.

Capitalism causes these acute problems.

That is why Socialism will surely come.

When the majority are ready to act, it will not be difficult to solve the constitutional problem in whatever form it may exist at that time.

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

From (source): [redacted] Auckland Reference: 56/244 Date: 14th May 1956
For File No. 21/2/4
Original on 21/4/13
Received on 4th June 1956 Extracted/Copied by [redacted] On 4th Sept. 1958

Report dated 14/5/56 re weekly meeting of the Auckland City Branch of the Communist Party.

On 10/5/56 at 7.30 pm. the weekly meeting of the City Branch of the Communist Party was held in Room 13, Tabernacle Bldg., Karangahape Road, Auckland.

Those present were:- Sid SCOTT; Nellie SCOTT; Len SMITH; Steve [redacted]; Alan WHEELER; George FRASER; Frank and Neeline KNIPS (KNIPS); Marion ROSS; [redacted] SMITH (wife of Len SMITH); Kay [redacted] (works in Progressive Books) and husband Frank (Canadian); Mary DILLON; Joyce EWER; Alec OSTLER; Joe HAPPERTY.

P.V. Members were asked to make sure that their P.V. subscribers names and places of occupation be given by next meeting.

Meetings: Executive to meet next Monday night at 7.30 at home of Nellie SCOTT.

Study: A study class is to be held at home of Len SMITH, Sunday 20/5/56 at 9 am.

Civic Bldg. Dispute: Frank KNIPS stated that the Watersiders will declare all materials black on Civic Bldg. job. Len SMITH stated that the situation at their job was mostly over pay, as workers reinstated in the job were put on the casual labourers' wage which was lower to their previous payment.

A discussion was held on the compatibility of right wing political parties with the C.P. Both Sid SCOTT and OSTLER spoke on the issue. SCOTT stressed the danger of associations of the party with the leftist organisation as one of their main aims was the destruction of the N.Z.C.P. However, on Union jobs or where members were mixing with labour supporters, their criticism should be on a co-operative basis rather than of an isolationist one.

OSTLER who had written an article in '51 on the role of the Party towards the Right Wing was asked to add his comments. He stated that Party Policy had changed, but the Party is theoretically correct in placing the Right Wing and Imperialist Forces as being decadent and therefore the downfall was not far away.

The danger now lay in the Labour Party and stressed SCOTT's comments on the fight of the Party against this neo-workers (Labour) Party.

Meeting concluded 9.20. At a restaurant nearby where members of the City Branch congregate after the weekly meeting, it was noticed that members of the "Builder?" Branch were also there. There were 6 members present amongst whom were :- Jack MACKIE and Mike [redacted].

It has been stated by Neeline KNIPS that the whole of the Christchurch District Branches (City 1, City 2 and [redacted]) consist of only 35 members.

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219

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

Special Branch,
WELLINGTON.

8th November, 1954.

REPORT OF: J.W. Pullman, Det. Sgt No. 3284.

RELATIVE TO: COMMUNIST PARTY STREET MEETING, PETONE,
5th November, 1954.

I have to report having attended an election meeting held at the corner of Buick and Jackson Streets, Petone, on 5th November, 1954, in support of the Communist Party Parliamentary candidate, Mrs Constance Alice BIRCHFIELD.

Owing to the late arrival of Mrs Birchfield the meeting did not commence until 7.45p.m. William George John DURNING was the chairman.

Maxwell Charles BOLLINGER was the first speaker and he spoke mainly on the theme that the present Government, in particular the Prime Minister, Mr Holland, was following the lead of the U.S.A., right or wrong, and leading New Zealand into war and into the hands of the capitalists.

Mrs Birchfield then briefly addressed the meeting, concentrating upon the cost of living and the position of the housewife. She also spoke upon the necessity for a better housing policy. She concluded her address by pointing out the merits of having a Communist representative in Parliament, who would move among the people continuously, in contrast to other politicians who met the people at election time only. Mrs Birchfield appealed for electors to vote against the National Party, to vote for the Communist Party where there was a candidate standing, but otherwise to vote for the Labour Party.

Durning concluded the meeting with a speech on "freedom." He complained that the Party had been denied the use of broadcasting facilities and were watched at all meetings by the "political police."

The audience was very small, there being no more than half-a-dozen people present. A few passers-by stopped to listen for a short time only.

O.F.M. STAVELLEY was selling the "People's Voice" newspaper on the street nearby and disposed of two copies during the meeting, which closed at 8.15p.m.

The Officer in Charge,
Special Branch,
WELLINGTON.

J.W. Pullman
Detective Sergeant.

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Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

X 54/185

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[Form No.



21/2/810
214

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

R. (a) file as is

Subject: COMMUNIST PARTY 1954 GENERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN in Dunedin.

"Vide attached"

100,000-2-30-4312

The Superintendent of Police,
DUNEDIN.

Please see my report attached
hereto.

R. Jones

Detective Sergeant 3272.
30.11.54. 54/245.

The Commissioner of Police,
WELLINGTON.

The attached report, which
is forwarded for your information,
summarises the recent communist elect-
ion campaign in Dunedin.

W. Lines

Superintendent of Police.
30.11.54.

*records
to
copy*

*Take extracts as necessary for
C.I.F.S. from all papers*

RECEIVED
TAKEN [redacted]

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~Special Branch,
DUNEDIN.

30th November 1954.

REPORT of Detective Sergeant R. Jones No; 3272.
relative to COMMUNIST PARTY GENERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN in Dunedin.

I respectfully report that the General Election Campaign of the Dunedin Branch of the Communist Party was centred round the sole communist candidate, ⁸⁸John Joseph HANNAN, for the Mornington Electorate. This electorate has been a Labour stronghold for many years and was again retained by the Labour Mr. HUDSON, M.P.

⁷⁸ HANNAN was nominated as a Parliamentary candidate by David Godfrey BROWN, a welder, employed at Hillside Railway Workshops, and living at 27 Crammond Avenue, Corstorphine, and ⁸⁸Robert William Tolmies TATE, bus driver, employed by the Dunedin City Tramways and living at 53 Panmure Avenue, Corstorphine. Both BROWN and TATE are on record at this office.

The campaign was opened on 14.9.54 when a meeting was held in the Mornington Community centre under the chairmanship of John Leslie MARSTON, who is on record at this office. Ten persons were present, of whom six were Communist Party members.

On 26.10.54 Victor George WILCOX, General Secretary of the N.Z. Communist Party, arrived in Dunedin by air from Auckland. On the evening of the same day he addressed a meeting in the Orphans' Hall. There were 52 persons present and of these at least 30 were University students who had no sympathy with the speaker. WILCOX left for Christchurch by the first plane on 27.10.54.

A lunch-time meeting was held on the wharves on 27.10.54 for the benefit of waterside workers. The Party, in the People's Voice newspaper, claims that 92 persons were present. I had no information that this meeting was to have been held, but subsequent enquiries showed that the meeting was poorly attended and little interest was shown in the speaker, HANNAN, or his policy.

On 2.11.54 a meeting was advertised to be held in the Forresters' Hall, Green Island. Only two persons were present apart from HANNAN, MARSTON, Harold SILVERSTONE and Leonard Phillip Charles HILL. The last two named are on record at this office.

On 3.11.54 a meeting was advertised to be held in the Corstorphine School, but this was abandoned, only David Godfrey BROWN and HANNAN attending.

On 4.11.54 a meeting was advertised for the Oddfellows Hall, Forbury Corner. This meeting was abandoned. HANNAN, MARSTON, SILVERSTONE, Madge SILVERSTONE, Samuel IKIN and Martha Louise Pansy McLACHLAN and one elderly lady, not identified, were present.

⁸⁸Mrs. McLACHLAN is secretary of the Peace Union (not Peace Council) and is previously referred to as Martha Louise McLACHLAN and also Isabella McLACHLAN. Her correct name is Martha Louise Pansy McLACHLAN. The errors in giving her correct name on previous occasions arose through incorrect information having been given me. It was learnt on 4.11.54 that Mrs. McLACHLAN is not a member of the Communist Party.

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212

On 8.11.54 a meeting was held in the Macandrew Road Intermediate School under the chairmanship of Edgar Wilson HUNTER. Others present were, Harold and Madge SILVERSTONE, Margaret Helen HUNTER, John Leslie MARSTON, Samuel IKIN, Leonard Phillip Charles HILL, and 12 others who were obviously not Communist Party supporters.

The Party was to have held a final meeting on the evening of the 11.11.54 at the Mornington Tram sheds but this was cancelled, HANNAN remarking to me that it was "only pouring more money down the drain by holding it". The meeting of the 8.11.54 served as the final meeting.

The Communist Election campaign was, of course, built round the slogan, "HOLLAND MUST GO". The attack on the Government was mainly on foreign affairs, - support of the Anzus Pact and SEATO, non-recognition of the Central People's Government of China, while on domestic matters the Party attacked housing and the cost of living.

Propaganda pamphlets sold during the campaign were, "HOLLAND MUST GO" and "WAGES". There were no chalking campaigns.

Rank and file support of the meetings was conspicuous by its absence, even on the occasion of the visit of the General Secretary, Victor George WILCOX. This, I think, is an indication of the general attitude towards the Communist Party in this city, where its membership is lower per head of population than in the other main centres.

The financial aspect of the campaign was therefore discouraging from the communist viewpoint. Far from obtaining extra contributions to Party funds, the campaign would undoubtedly show a loss. Even at WILCOX's meeting it was noted that at least three-fifths of the audience failed to contribute anything to the collection. Literature sales and collections would not meet the commitments of hire of halls, advertising, WILCOX's travelling expenses and loss of deposits.

The provisional count on the voting showed that out of a total vote of 12,575 in the Mornington electorate, HANNAN polled 117 votes or one in every 107 (see People's Voice newspaper dated 17.11.54). This showed an increase of 4 votes on the 1951 election.

The communist vote, of course, cannot be taken as a measure of communist membership or support. People vote communist for a variety of reasons. The purpose of the Party is to use an election campaign for ideological proselytism; as a cover for their clandestine activity; and to test public reaction.

From the latter viewpoint it can be said that communist influence in Dunedin remains unaltered. Notwithstanding greater activity, voting returns in other electorates where communist candidates stood, showed similar results to Dunedin, if not some measure of retrogression.

Obviously communist ideology has no appeal to the New Zealand electorate as voters who were dissatisfied with the two main parties cast their vote with Social Credit on this occasion.

The Political Committee of the N.Z Communist Party is very much alive to the many weaknesses that are evident in the Party ranks. The election campaign will serve to show still further that the members at District and Branch levels have failed to get out of the narrow, sectarian circle which has hampered the Party in the past, and they have failed, to use their own term, "to take the Party to the People".

The Superintendent of Police,
DUNEDIN.

~~SECRET~~

Detective Sergeant 3272.

~~SECRET~~Special Branch
AUCKLAND
18th., November 1954REPORT of Sub-Inspector O. S. Power
Relative to Communist Party - General Election 1954

I attach reports covering the Communist Party campaign in Auckland for the General Election held on 13th., November.

This party's policy for this election was based on their slogan "Holland Must Go". Locally, the activity of the Communist Party followed the general policy of supporting the Labour Party except in those electorates in which Communist candidates were standing. This proclaimed support of the Labour Party was a matter of embarrassment to that party and members of the Labour Party from Mr. Nash downwards went to great trouble to dissociate themselves from the unwanted Communist Party.

Of the eight Communist candidates throughout New Zealand three were in the Auckland district :-

Auckland Central	- Victor George Wilcox	PF
Grey Lynn	- Lillian Rita Smith	PF
Ponsonby	- Hugh John McLeod	PF

Only one indoor meeting was held - that in the Lewis Eady Hall on 4th., November when the three above candidates spoke.

Outdoor meetings consisted mainly of addresses through a loudspeaker mounted on top of a sometimes moving motorcar. A blanket permission was given by the Auckland City Council to all political parties for the use of such loudspeakers during the course of the election campaign and free use was made of this method.

With changes of electoral boundaries, changes in numbers of voters and seats not contested in previous elections, no absolute basis for comparison with past elections exists but on announced results the following are the percentages of total votes cast :

Auckland Central	Total votes cast	10415	
	Communist percentage		1.5%
Grey Lynn	Total votes cast	12056	
	Communist percentage		.9%
Ponsonby	Total votes cast	13159	
	Communist percentage		1.3%

Perhaps the method used by the "People's Voice" itself is as good a means as any of assessing the amount of Communist support ("People's Voice" 17.11.54 p. 1).

The "People's Voice" gives the figures for the past four elections :

1946	- 3	communist candidates-	total poll	1181	-average	393
1947	-16	"	"	3499	"	216
1951	4	"	"	476	"	119
1954	8	"	"	1043	"	130

With the districts represented broadly by Auckland 3, Wellington 2 and Christchurch, West Coast and Dunedin 1 each, a reasonable cross section is obtained.

In the figures for each electorate given in the "People's Voice" the total poll figures for Grey Lynn and Ponsonby have been transposed. With the correct figure used for calculation the references should be :

Grey Lynn : "One person in every 103 voted Communist"

Ponsonby : "One person in every 78 voted Communist"

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There were no incidents during the progress of the campaign calling for special mention.

E. Howes
Sub-Inspector

The Senior Superintendent
AUCKLAND

COPIES
TAKEN
[REDACTED]
3/6/54

The Commissioner of Police
WELLINGTON

[Signature]
Superintendent of Police
19th., November 1954



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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

21/2/8

232

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

SUBJECT: Communist Party election campaign meeting

The Superintendent of Police,
WELLINGTON.

For the information of
the Commissioner, please.

12.8/54

W. Pullman
Det. Sergt.
No. 3284
16.11.54

The Commissioner of Police,
WELLINGTON.

J. Edwards
Superintendent of Police,
WELLINGTON.
16.11.54

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

231

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

Special Branch,
WELLINGTON
13 November 1954

REPORT of: Wilson, T.H. Acting Detective No. 4020,
RELATIVE TO: Communist Party election campaign meeting

I have to report that I attended a Communist Party election campaign meeting at Wellington South School, Newtown, on 10 November 1954 when Ronald Joseph SMITH, the Party candidate for Island Bay, spoke to an audience of 15 persons on party policy.

I have not yet identified the chairman but he was obviously nervous and new to such undertakings and from the Party viewpoint, would no doubt benefit from the experience. The majority present were either Communist Party members or sympathisers and I was able to identify the following:

Thomas Sidney HEPTINSTALL
Dennis Augustus McCARTHY
David Wesley HOOKER
David COHEN
Homer Barclay OLIVER
Selwyn McDonald DEVEREUX
Ian Rex Mitchell (who left at 8.30p.m.)
and Colin Henry ROLLINSON
and 4 women, including:
Mary Ann HEPTINSTALL
and Dorothy Judith STANTON.

There was a collection of literature available but no buyers, no film was shown, and no collection taken.

Smith spoke from 8p.m. until 9.15p.m. on external affairs (including a discourse on the construction of atomic and hydrogen bombs when he said that Russia was first in the field with each and whereas, the American "H" bomb was so amateurish its weight was 64 tons, the Russian bomb was more compact and was constructed with the "H" portion incorporated in the "A" bomb casing; used by Russia, of course, only for peaceful purposes such as electric-power generation).

Only the last portion of Smith's address was given to Party policy with the usual party line that the Labour candidate was to be supported in electorates where no Communist candidate was standing, and he promised to ally himself with the Labour Party vote in Parliament so that his election would not mean a reduction of one in Labour Party voting strength in the House.

Interjections were all of an affirmatory nature and mostly from DEVEREUX who also asked two inane questions before the meeting was closed at 9.50p.m. The chairman had to be prompted by Smith (in an aside) to invite all present to the Town Hall to hear WILCOX speak on the night of 11 November.

I observed D.J. Stanton handing out bundles of papers and there was a short meeting of those present at the school gate before moving off. I gained the impression that the papers distributed were designed for letter-boxes and the meeting was to allocate streets. Smith left on the pillion of Rollinson's motor-cycle and the others departed along Mein Street in an easterly direction.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

54/753

~~SECRET~~

21/2/10

54/753

NEW

ZEALAND

POLICE

366

Special Branch,
Auckland.

15th November 1954.

REPORT OF Senior Detective J. P. Marsh, No. 2960
 RELATIVE TO Communist Party of New Zealand - pamphlet "The Saga
 of Shifty Sid".

I forward herewith pamphlet referred to above received from a regular source [redacted] with the information that it was produced by Gordon William John DRYDEN, on record, and that Dick WOLF (Richard Charles WOLF - on record) had possession of pamphlets for distribution from room 36, St. Kevin's Arcade, Karangahape Road, which is the address of the District Office of the Communist Party of New Zealand at Auckland.

The Officer in Charge,
SPECIAL BRANCH.

J. P. Marsh
 Senior Detective, 2960
 15th November 1954

The Senior Superintendent,
 AUCKLAND.

Will you please forward
 to the Commissioner.

16/1/54
19/1/54
Howe
 Sub-Inspector.

The Commissioner of Police,
 WELLINGTON.

16.11.54
 Senior Superintendent of Police,

~~SECRET~~

54/753

21/5/7

~~265~~

THE SAGA

OF

SHIFTY

SID



IN 1949 SID WOODED
THE ELECTORS WITH
SWEET PROMISES



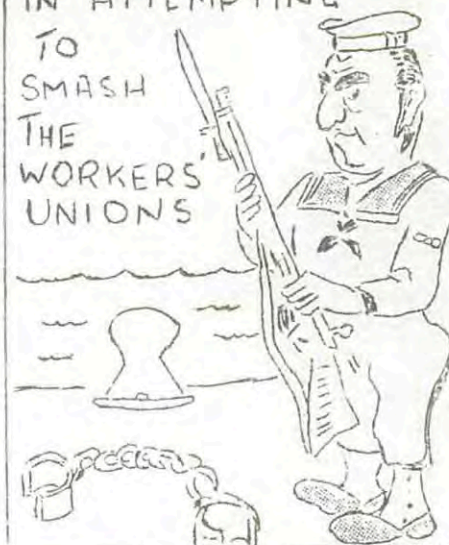
DID HE KEEP THEM?

DID HE WHAT!
HE LAY DOWN ON THE
JOB OF BUILDING
STATE HOUSES AND
SCHOOLS —
ALTHOUGH HE
COLLECTED
MORE TAXES
THAN EVER!



THEN
SID LOCKED
OUT N.Z.
WHARFIES
AT THE
SHIPOWNERS'
DICTATES —

—AND USED THE FULL
POWER OF THE STATE
IN ATTEMPTING
TO
SMASH
THE
WORKERS
UNIONS



NEXT SID
PUSHED UNION-
SMASHING
LEGISLATION
THROUGH
PARLIAMENT

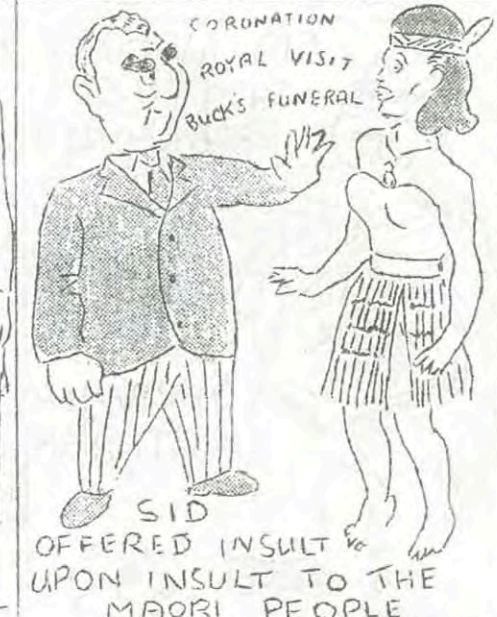


THEN
TOOK THE
LID OFF
PRICES

IN
IN

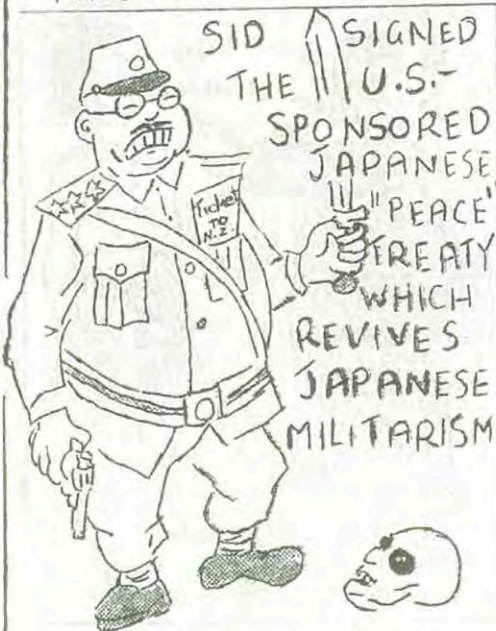


BUT
KEPT PENSIONS
BELOW
SUBSISTENCE LEVEL



SID
OFFERED INSULT
UPON INSULT TO THE
MAORI PEOPLE

HE HAD SHOWN HIS "PATRIOTISM" EARLIER BY WALKING OUT OF THE WAR CABINET WHILE N.Z.ERS WERE AWAY FIGHTING FASCISM! HE LIVES UP TO HIS RECORD TODAY



AND WITH OUR TAXES SENT N.Z. SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN TO KEEP DOWN THE PEOPLE'S MOVEMENTS IN CYPRUS AND MALAYA, AND SENT N.Z. ARMS TO THE INDO-CHINA WAR

SID GAVE MURUPARA AND MANY LUCRATIVE CONTRACTS TO AMERICAN BIG BUSINESSES SO TODAY HE IS ALLOWING OUR RESOURCES TO BE PLUNDERED FOR WALL ST.



BY NOW SID'S PARLOUR TRICKS WERE BEGINNING TO TIRE N.Z.



EVERY TIME HE OPENED HIS MOUTH HE PUT HIS FOOT IN IT!

HE OFFENDED BRITAIN OVER A.N.Z.U.S.



SID'S "AMERICA RIGHT AND WRONG" WAS IN FULL VIEW.

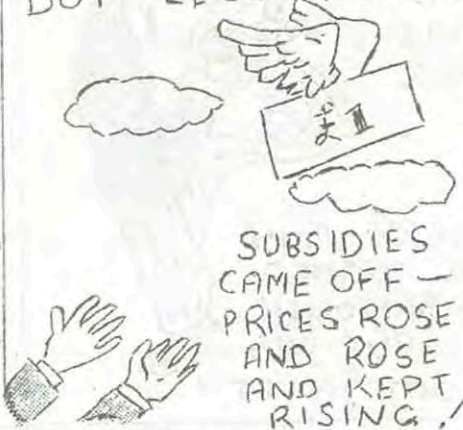


BY 1953 THE WORKERS WERE MAKING THEIR PROTESTS FELT AT KAWERAU AND EVERYWHERE!

SID AXED OUR ONLY
N.Z. NEWSREEL "WEEKLY
REVIEW", MADE BY THE
GOVT. FILM UNIT



BUT IN SPITE OF
ALL HIS CHEESE -
PARING HIS ~~2~~
BOUGHT NOT INORE
BUT LESS AND LESS



SUBSIDIES
CAME OFF -
PRICES ROSE
AND ROSE
AND KEPT
RISING!

BECAUSE THEY FIGHT
HIS POLICY OF WAR
AND BIG PROFITS,
SID BANS COMMUNISTS

FROM THE
AIR AT
ELECTION
TIME

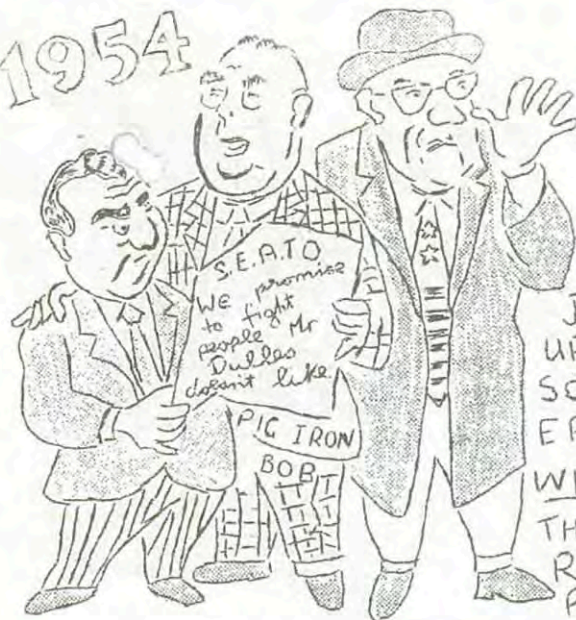


THO' SID'S GOVT.
BELIEVES IN
RECOGNISING
PEOPLE'S CHINA

-SID WON'T!
AMERL 600 MILLION -
I CAN'T SEE
'EM



1954



SID
JOINED N.Z.
UP IN THE
SO-CALLED SOUTH-
EAST ASIA PACT
WITHOUT ASIANS
THUS WORSENING
RELATIONS WITH
PACIFIC NEIGHBOURS

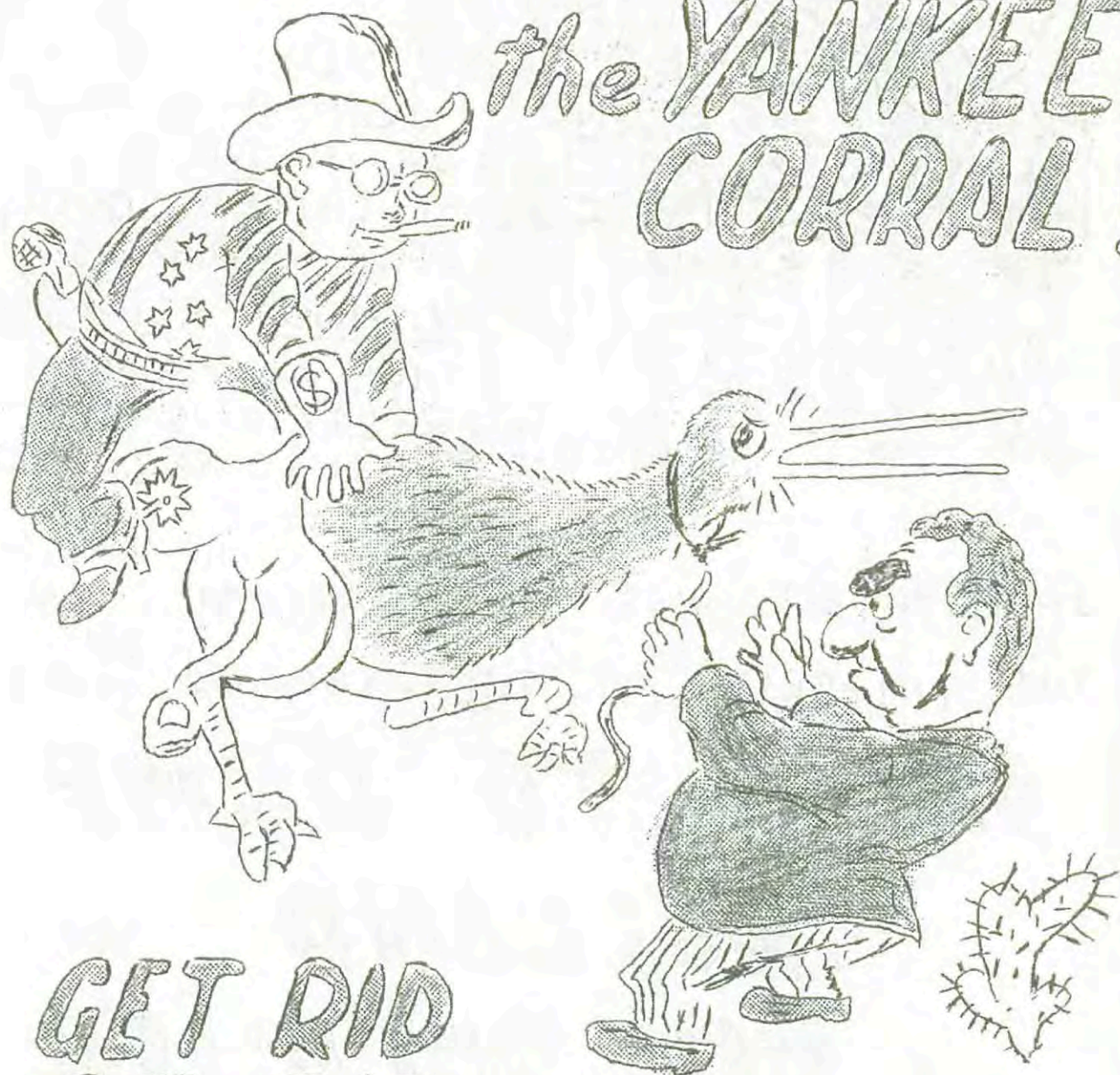


IN FACT, HOLLAND HAS NOT DONE ONE THING
IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

**UNITE TO DUMP
HOLLAND
and HIS POLICIES**

- a Communist Publication

KEEP N.Z. OUT of
the YANKEE
CORRAL!



GET RID
OF SID -

ON NOVEMBER 13th.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

21/2/8

229

Subject: COMMUNIST PARTY STREET MEETING, 12.11.54.

The Superintendent of Police,
WELLINGTON.

The Communist Party street meeting held in Allen St., Wellington on the evening of Friday, 12.11.54 was broken up by good-natured interjection but there were no disturbances.

1254/54

J. Sullivan
Det. Sergt.
15.11.54

The Commissioner of Police,
WELLINGTON.

J. Edwards
Superintendent of Police,
WELLINGTON.
15.11.54

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
NEW ZEALAND POLICE

228

Special Branch,
WELLINGTON
13 November 1954.

REPORT of: Wilson, T.H. Acting Detective. No. 4020.
RELATIVE to: Communist Party street meeting

I have to report that on 12 November 1954, I attended the Communist Party election campaign street meeting in Allen Street.

Although the principals were on the scene at 7.30p.m., no attempt was made to open the meeting until 8p.m., probably due to the small number of persons then in that section of the city. Maxwell Charles BOLLINGER was chairman and by 8.15p.m. there were at least 150 people assembled and at various times the audience consisted of up to at least 200 persons. Due to a constant flow of good-natured interjection, it was impossible to hear what Bollinger said and at times, even his voice was inaudible above the roar of the crowd.

There was comparative silence when Bollinger introduced Sydney Edward SMITH as the next speaker, and after Smith thanked the crowd for turning out in such large numbers and expressed the hope that all would stay to hear what he had to say, the nature of the interjections can well be imagined. Smith was at his acrobatic best but no-one heard a word of his address.

Bollinger closed the meeting at 8.50p.m. and this was opportunity for a further burst of interjections as to why the meeting was not carried on until 9p.m.

Apart from constant uproar, cheers for Messrs Holland and Nash and the security police, and boos for the Communists, there were no incidents calling for police action. A sergeant and two constables from Taranaki Street police were in the immediate vicinity. By way of diversion, one interjector enacted the part of an auctioneer accepting bids for tomatoes, red ones.

Other than the persons named, the only other Communists present were William (Jock) HUNTER, who was probably due to have addressed the crowd but decided against such a course, and James Martin WINDSOR, who was offering the "People's Voice" and "Wages" pamphlet for sale.

The Officer in Charge,
Special Branch.
WELLINGTON.

T.H. Wilson
A.Det. 13/11/54.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

225

[Police Form 108]



NEW ZEALAND

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

Subject: COMMUNIST PARTY CHRISTCHURCH; Harold Alexander OSTLER, Communist Candidate for Christchurch Central Electorate hold meeting at the corner of Bedford Row and Manchester Street at 7.15pm on 11/11/1954. Vide attached

[100,000/2/53-13151]

The Superintendent of Police,
Christchurch:

For the Commissioner of
Police, please.

J. J. Macdonald

Senior Detective

15/11/1954



The Commissioner of Police,
WELLINGTON

Forwarded, please

D. R. Sugrue
Superintendent of Police,
Christchurch 15/11/54

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

224

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Special Branch,
Christchurch,
15th November 1954.

REPORT of, Detective Sergeant A.R. Grant.

No. 3247.

RELATIVE to, COMMUNIST PARTY CHRISTCHURCH; Harold Alexander OSTLER holds Street Election Meeting at the corner of Bedford Row and Manchester Street at 7.15pm on 11/11/1954.

'Vide attached'

I respectfully report that I attended the above mentioned meeting which commenced at about 7.15pm and concluded about 8.15pm on 11/11/1954.

The Chairman of this meeting was John Gibson LOCKE, who had little to say other than to comment on the importance of the Election, conclude the meeting etc.

Rex Chell HOLLISS was selling copies of the 'PEOPLE'S VOICE'.

The vehicle used by the Communist Party as a speaker's platform and to transport the loud speaker equipment was a large motor truck registered No. H.9570. This truck is registered by Roberts Bros. Market Gardeners, of 47 McFaddens Road. The owners of the truck thus appear to be Thomas Henry ROBERTS, Junior, and William Owen ROBERTS, both of that address. I waited about for some considerable time at the conclusion of the meeting but Ostler was speaking to different persons, the departure of the truck was delayed and when it finally departed I was not close enough to be able to see who was driving it.

A man whose identity is not known to me took up a collection for the Communist Party Election fund. He appeared to be about 30-34 years of age, about 5'7" in height, of medium build, fresh complexion, dark almost black hair. He was still about when the truck was driven away and I am inclined to think that he was the driver of the truck but of that I cannot be certain. This man is possibly either William Owen or Thomas Henry ROBERTS (Jnr).

Also present at the meeting was Francis Edward McNULTY, and William Cox MURRAY.

All persons mentioned above in this report are subjects of subversive History Sheets.

The address by OSTLER on this occasion was a repetition of matter previously dealt with by him at previous election meetings during this Election Campaign.

OSTLER had an audience of about 100 people many of whom would stop for a short while and then pass on.

The Officer in Charge,
Special Branch,
CHRISTCHURCH.

A.R. Grant.
Detective Sergeant No. 3247.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

223

[Police Form 108]

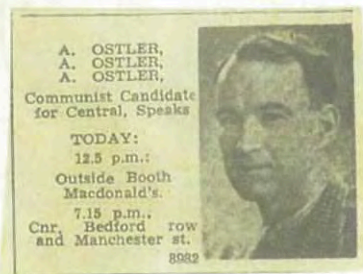


NEW ZEALAND POLICE

Subject: COMMUNIST PARTY, CHRISTCHURCH: General Election Street-Meeting,
11/11/54: Harold Alexander Ostler, Candidate, ChCh Central.

100,000/2/53-13151

-Christchurch "Press", 11/11/54-



Detective-Sergeant Grant:

Please attend the meeting advertised for this evening, and render report.



J. J. Halwood

Senr. Det. No. 2814

11/11/54

The Officer in Charge,
 Special Branch,
 CHRISTCHURCH.

Meeting attended by me. Please
 see report on same attached.

H. R. Grant

Detective Sergeant No. 3247.

15-11-1954.

~~SECRET~~

2/12/8

230

Special Branch,
WELLINGTON

13th November 1954.

Report of Acting Detective D.A.DAVEY, No.4411.

relative to: Communist Party - street meeting at Wellington,
on the 12th November 1954.

I respectfully report that from 7.30pm until 8.20pm on the 12th November 1954, I attended a Communist Party meeting held at the corner of Emmett and Riddiford Streets, Newtown, Wellington.

The meeting was abandoned at 8.20pm, when it became apparent that nobody was interested in the policy of the Communist Party. Up till that time it had been a dismal failure, with the speaker talking to a virtually non-existent audience.

Communist Party supporters were conspicuous by their absence, and Albert James BIRCHFIELD, (Chairman), and Ronald Joseph SMITH were the only persons present known to me.

When speaking, Ronald Joseph SMITH frankly admitted that he had little hope of capturing a seat in Parliament, but told electors that they would be quite safe in voting for him as the "National" had no show of beating Mr. A.H. Nordmeyer in the Island Bay electorate. He advised those people who felt that they could not vote for a Communist candidate to vote solidly for the return of a Labour Government. He concluded his remarks by thanking all persons who had in any way assisted with the campaign, but did not mention any names.

The Officer in Charge,
Special Branch,
WELLINGTON

D.A. Davey
Acting Detective.

The Superintendent of Police,
WELLINGTON.

W. Pullman
Det. Sergt.
15.11.54

1523/54

The Commissioner of Police,
WELLINGTON.

J. Edwards
Superintendent of Police,
WELLINGTON.
15.11.54

~~SECRET~~

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

21/2/8

220

SUBJECT:

COMMUNIST PARTY STREET MEETING, PETONE,
5th November, 1954.

The Superintendent of Police,
WELLINGTON.

For the Commissioner's information and
records, please.

A. S. Peterson

Det., Sgt
Nov. 10, 1954

The Commissioner of Police,
WELLINGTON

J. Edwards
Superintendent of Police,
WELLINGTON
Nov. 10, 1954

~~SECRET~~

1226/54

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

227
21/2/8

SUBJECT..... Communist Party-- Street Meeting, Garrett Street,
5th November, 1954.

The Superintendent of Police,
WELLINGTON

For the Commissioner's information
and records, please.

A. S. Salerson

Det., Sgt
Nov. 9, 1954

The Commissioner of Police,
WELLINGTON

J. Edwards.
Superintendent of Police,
WELLINGTON
Nov. 10, 1954

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

1222/54

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

226

Special Branch, Wellington,
9th November, 1954.

REPORT OF Acting Detective R.A. Austin. No. 4205.
relative to Communist Party--Street meeting, Garrett Street,
5th November, 1954.

I respectfully report that I attended a Communist Party Street Meeting held in Garrett Street, Wellington, between 7-30 pm and 9 pm on the 5th November, 1954.

The chairman for the evening was John Andrew MANSON, who introduced George GODDARD as the first speaker. Goddard spoke about the rising cost of living, and the worker's decreasing share of the national income, supporting his argument with a mass of figures which clouded rather than clarified the issue; and then spoke at length on the reputed remarks of the Prime Minister the Right Honorable S.S. Holland "where America goes, we go right or wrong" and "If there is any thing else you want us to do, say so and we will do it", both allegedly made by the Prime Minister during his recent visit to the United States of America. Both the subsequent speakers also allocated speaking time to these remarks. Goddard stated that a vote for the National Government was a vote for the "American war mongers", but a vote for the "Labour frock-coated politicians" would not be much better unless the workers backed their unions and supported 'progressive organisations' to force the Labour Government to complete its former policy of the socialisation of the means of production, distribution and exchange.

Goddard introduced Manson as the second speaker and he spoke primarily on the morals inquiry, sandwiching in the middle of his speech a reference to the presence of a "security cop" pointing me out to the spectators but this drew no reaction.

Sydney Edward SMITH was the final speaker of the evening, but his talk consisted mainly of a reiteration of what Goddard and Manson had said. Throughout the evening there was one man who made persistent interjections many of them humorous and well timed, much to the amusement of the spectators. Apart from shouts of 'shut up' and 'go home' from the party supporters no effort to silence him was made, perhaps because he was standing in the immediate vicinity of the two members of the uniform branch on duty at the meeting. Very shortly after this man left at about 8-45 pm (during Smith's address) approximately 60% of the spectators drifted away.

The meeting was orderly and one of the best attended I have experienced for some time, there being a fluctuating attendance of from 20 to 60 spectators.

I identified the following supporters at this meetine:-
William Maurice CORCORAN, who took a collection but raised no more than 3/6d.
John Augustus GRANT-MACKIE, who distributed publicity pamphlets;
Edward John HARVEY who took no active part in the meeting;
Colin Henry ROLLINSON who arrived at about 8-45 pm; and,
Selwyn McDonald DEVEREUX who arrived just as the meeting concluded at 9 pm.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

R.A. Austin
Acting Detective, 4205
9.11.54

Special Branch,
WELLINGTON

8th November 1954.

Report of Acting Detective D.A.DAVEY, No.4411.

relative to: Communist Party - street meeting held at Wellington,
on the 5th November 1954.

I respectfully report that from 7.30pm until 8.45pm on the 5th November 1954, I attended a Communist Party meeting held at the corner of Emmett and Riddiford Streets, Newtown, Wellington.

The meeting was poorly attended, the audience numbering no more than six persons at any stage of the evening.

Chairman of the meeting was Ian Rex MITCHELL, and speakers were David Wesley HOOKER, Albert James BIRCHFIELD and Ronald Joseph SMITH. Colin Henry ROLLINSON arrived shortly after 8pm with a flashlight camera and attachments. After a short discussion with Charles Whittington JONES who was handing out invitations for a forthcoming meeting, he crossed the street and took up a position near George MDIWANI (A.L.46652) who was the only person on that side. It appeared that MDIWANI who was standing in the darkness had been mistaken for a member of the Security Branch, for when ROLLINSON edged closer and prepared to take a photograph MDIWANI became alarmed and left the meeting in great haste.

Deleted from DB

David Wesley HOOKER denounced the South East Asia Treaty Organisation, and claimed that Nationalist China should be admitted to the United Nations without delay.

Albert James BIRCHFIELD said that the working-class were worse off under the "Holland Government" than they had ever been in the history of this country. He warned those present that if the National Party were returned to power, the "People's Voice" would be 'smashed' or declared illegal.

Ronald Joseph SMITH dealt mainly with domestic policy, and covered most of the points in the Communist Party election manifesto. He claimed that the recent Convention on International Relations held at Auckland, had proved an outstanding success.

Although the meeting was quiet and orderly Albert James BIRCHFIELD and Charles Whittington JONES approached two persistent interjectors who were present for a time when Ronald Joseph SMITH was speaking. I am not aware what was said between the two parties, but noted that the interjectors appeared somewhat disgusted and immediately took their leave.

The Officer in Charge,
Special Branch,
WELLINGTON

J.P. Davey
Acting Detective.

The Superintendent of Police,
WELLINGTON
For the Commissioner, please.

W.S. Paterson
Det., Sgt
Nov. 8, 1954

The Commissioner of Police,
WELLINGTON

J. Edwards
Superintendent of Police, WGTN
Nov. 8, 1954

21/2/8
Anderson
 Special Branch,
 AUCKLAND.
 6th. November 1954. 221

Report of; Acting Detective M. Joblin. No. 4070.

Relative to; Communist Party Election Campaign 1954 ----- Public meeting held in Lewis Eady Hall, Queen Street, Auckland on Thursday, the 4th. November 1954.

I respectfully report having attended a public meeting held by the Communist Party in Lewis Eady Hall, Queen Street, Auckland, on Thursday, the 4/11/54.

The chairman for this meeting was Gordon Harold Andersen. There were three speakers, Victor George Wilcox, Communist Party candidate for Auckland Central.... Hugh John McLeod, Communist Party candidate for Ponsonby... and Lillian Rita Smith, Communist Party candidate for Grey Lynn.

The above mentioned four are on record at this office.

There were between 60 and 70 people present at this meeting, and amongst these I recognized the following;

Eugene Desmond Patrick McCarthy.
 John Onslow Hoffman.
 Elizabeth Arya.
 Gordon William John Dryden.
 August Frederick Smith.
 Lenard Thomas Smith.
 Gressida Laurel Smith.
 Alexander Drennan.
 Joseph Sylvester Rafferty.
 Raymond Bernard Gough.
 Aubrey Bruce Skilton.
 Donald McEwen.

All the above mentioned persons are on record at this office.

The meeting was orderly.

The Officer-in-Charge
 Special Branch.

M. Joblin
 Acting Detective.
 6/11/54

211

~~SECRET~~

: N E W Z E A L A N D P O L I C E :

Special Branch,
Auckland.
6th., November, 1954.

REPORT OF: Detective A.W. KAY. No. 4259.

RELATIVE TO: Communist Party Election Candidates - identity of nominators.

I respectfully report that I have made further enquiries in connection with the matter referred to above and have interviewed the Returning Officers for Ponsonby, Auckland Central and Grey Lynn. I have checked the nomination papers for the Communist Party candidates and found that the names given on these papers were as follows;

Candidate: Victor George WILCOX^{PF} (on record). Auckland Central.

NOMINATORS:

Esther HUSBAND no doubt identical with Esther Rose^{PF} HUSBAND, who is on record.

David Thomas HUSBAND^{PF}, who is on record.

John James MITCHELL^{PF}, who is on record.

George Edward SIDDINS, and

Madge SIDDINS, both of 25 Phillipp Street, Auckland.

There is no previous record at this Office of either Mr. or Mrs. SIDDINS, but it would appear likely that George Edward SIDDINS is identical with a man of the same name who is referred to in Police Gazette 1938 page 126 and Photo 1931 page.

Candidate: Hugh John McLEOD^{PF} (on record) Ponsonby.

NOMINATORS:

mp/f - E. AYO. no doubt identical with Eleanor Matilda AYO, who is on record.

Richard Charles WOLF^{PF}, on record.

E. NUNES. no doubt identical with Eveline NUNES-VAZ, who is on record.

V. PURDUE. no doubt identical with Valma Margarette PURDUE, who is on record.

P.J. McDEVITT. no doubt identical with Peter James McDEVITT, who is on record.

Candidate: Lillian Rita SMITH^{PF} (on record) Grey Lynn.

NOMINATORS:

Donald McEWEN^{PF}, who is on record.

J. EWEN. from the signature no doubt identical with Joyce Maimie EWEN who is on record.

One other nominator's signature was not decipherable but the address was 13 Bannerman Road, and there was a printed notation of Houswife after the name. There is living at this address a Cicely FRENCH and her husband George Sturtevant FRENCH, neither of whom have come under the notice of this Office previously.

EXTRACT
TAKEN
[REDACTED]
The Officer-in-Charge,
Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.

Alan W. Kay
Detective, 4259.
6.11.54.

The Senior Superintendent,
AUCKLAND.

The Commissioner of Police,
WELLINGTON.

Will you please forward
to the Commissioner.

Senior Superintendent of Police,

6/11/54
Sub-Inspector

~~SECRET~~Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.

November 3. 1954.

REPORT OF: Detective R.C. Cooper No. 4423
RELATIVE TO: Communist Party General Election meeting held
during the evening of Tuesday 2.11.54.

I have to report that during the evening of Tuesday 2.11.54 I attended an open air meeting which was held at the intersection of Napier Street and Hepburn Street, City.

The chairman of this meeting was John James MITCHELL and the speaker was Victor George WILCOX.

The vehicle on which the loudspeaker was mounted was No. L.44 255 which is owned by Ramond John DOWLE, who was present at the meeting.

These three persons have been the subject of previous correspondence.

The audience at this meeting did not exceed ten persons. A private motor car No. 372 781 was parked alongside the footpath where WILCOX was speaking. A man and a woman were in the car and appeared to be very interested in what was being said. This car is registered in the name of the Royal Insurance Company, Queen Street, City. This car is driven by George Leslie SANDFORD, chief in-spector of the above firm. He has not previously come under notice at this office.

Two other meetings were scheduled to be held during the evening, one at the intersection of Dryden Street and Baildon Road, Grey Lynn and the other at the intersection of Great North Road and Ivenhoe Street, Western Springs.

Between 7.30p.m and 8.30p.m I visited each of these places four times, no meetings were held. At the intersection of Dryden Street and Baildon Street a large notice tied to a telegraph pole announced that Hugh McLEOD would speak there during the evening. When I visited this spot at 8.20p.m the notice had been removed. I patrolled streets in the vicinity but was not able to locate any other open air meetings.



Detective 4423
3.11.54.

The Officer in Charge,
SPECIAL BRANCH.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~ 21/2/8 217

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

Special Branch, Auckland.
2nd November 1954.

REPORT OF Detective A.W. KAY, No. 4259
RELATIVE TO Communist Party General Election meeting held on the evening of 1.11.54.

I respectfully report that I visited two Communist Party General Election meetings held during the evening of 1.11.54.

The first meeting was held at the corner of Monowai Street and Cook Street at which the speaker was Victor George WILCOX, on record and the chairman was Gordon William John DRYDEN, also on record.

This meeting was conducted with the aid of loudspeaker equipment mounted on a small van L57.443 which is registered in the name of Adelaide WILCOX who is on record. There were no members of the public present.

The second meeting was held at the corner of John Street and Richmond Road.

At this meeting Sidney Wilfred SCOTT, was speaking when I arrived and it would appear that he was the chairman of this meeting as he stated that Hugh John McLEOD would be the speaker for the meeting. Present also at this meeting were Helen Jane SCOTT and Lenard Thomas SMITH. All these people are on record.

This meeting was conducted with the aid of loudspeaker equipment mounted on the top of car number 233.884 which is registered in the name of Rudolf George SUNDE who is on record. SUNDE was not present at the meeting. There were no members of the public present.

A third meeting was advertised as being held at the corner of Raymond Street and Pt. Chevalier Road but there was no one present at 8.10 p.m. when I visited this area.

The Officer in Charge,
SPECIAL BRANCH

Alan W. Kay
Detective, 4259
2nd November 1954

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

Special Branch,
WELLINGTON.

2nd November, 1954.

REPORT OF: A.E.V. Lane, Det. Sgt No. 3992.

RELATIVE TO: COMMUNIST PARTY ELECTION CANDIDATES -
IDENTITY OF NOMINATORS

I respectfully report that I discussed the request of the Auckland Special Branch concerning nomination papers of the Auckland Communist Party election candidates with Mr L. Irwin, Deputy Chief Electoral Officer, Wellington. He stated that there is nothing particularly secret about the nomination papers of election candidates and that they are quite often examined by persons (including newspaper reporters) other than those officially concerned with them.

Mr Irwin stated that he was quite sure the Auckland Police would be extended every facility for examining the Communist candidates' nomination papers if an approach was made to each of the Returning Officers concerned. This procedure has the official sanction of the department. The said papers must remain with the Returning Officers concerned until after the election when they are forwarded with the ballot papers to the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

The Officer in Charge,
Special Branch,
WELLINGTON.

A.E.V. Lane.

Detective Sergeant.

The Superintendent of Police,
WELLINGTON

Would you please transmit for the Special
Branch at AUCKLAND.

Det. Kay
5/11/54
Officer [unclear]
[unclear]

D.S. Paterson

Det., Sgt
Nov. 2, 1954

The Officer-in-Charge,
Special Branch.

The Senior-Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND

Please see my report attached.

Alan W. Kay
Detective, 4259.
6.11.54.

J. Edwards
Superintendent of Police,
WELLINGTON
Nov. 2, 1954

Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.

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November 1, 1954.

REPORT OF: Detective R.C. Cooper No. 4423.
RELATIVE TO: Communist Party General Election Campaign 1954.
Open air meetings held on 28.10.54.

I have to report that during the evening of Thursday 28.10.54 I attended two open air meetings which were sponsored by the Communist Party in connection with the above mentioned campaign.

The first meeting was held at the intersection of Kingsley Street and Edgar Road, Ponsonby. This meeting commenced at 7.45p.m. The meeting was conducted from inside a private motor car No. 344 793 which is owned by Colin Douglas MARSH. The only speaker was Hugh John McLEOD who sat in the front seat of the car and introduced himself over the loudspeaker system. McLEOD said that it had been intended to hold a full scale meeting that evening but it had now been decided to drive round the streets and speak for a short time on each corner.

The loudspeaker system was apparently connected up to the car radio, as for a few minutes before the meeting commenced part of a radio programme was relayed over the amplifier. With this arrangement it was quite easy for the car to be driven anywhere without upsetting the loud speaker system. The car was driven by Colin Douglas MARSH. Whether or not McLEOD did speak from any other points I was not able to verify.

The second meeting was held at the intersection of Woodward Street and Willcott Street, Mt. Albert. The speaker at this meeting was Lillian Rita SMITH, the only other person I recognised was Kathleen Theresa JERMYN who I believe chaired the meeting as she was standing by the side of SMITH. The car used to convey the amplifier was No. 255 180 which is owned by Jack RENNIE. From a description I believe it was RENNIE who was driving the car. There was an audience of about thirty persons, of whom at least one third were school children.

A third meeting was scheduled to be held at the intersection of Wellington Street and Franklin Road, Ponsonby. I visited this area three times between 7.30p.m and 8.30p.m but no meeting was held.

All the persons mentioned in this report have been the subject of previous correspondence.

R. C. Cooper
Detective 4423
1.11.54.

21/2/8

216

Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.
1st. November 1954.

Report of; Acting Detective M. Joblin. No. 4070.

Relative to; Communist Party Election Meetings 1954-----Street meetings held on Friday, the 29th. October 1954, in Howe Street, Newton....Corner of Turangi Street, and Great North Road, Grey Lynn.....Corner of Richmond Road, and Ponsonby Road, Ponsonby.

I respectfully report that accompanied by Constable Blaiklock of this office, I patrolled the above mentioned Election meetings of the Communist Party.

The first meeting was held in Howe Street, Newton, where the chairman was Lenard Thomas Smith, who is on record. Smith, after speaking for a few minutes then said, "I'll now hand over to a fellow party member, Frank." "Frank" then commenced to talk on the Communist Party, and I identified him as being Frank Knipe, who is also on record at this office.

Also present at this meeting were Elizabeth Arya, Raymond Bernard Gough, Gordon Harold Andersen, all of whom are on record.

Another meeting was held at the corner of Turangi Street, and Great North Road, Grey Lynn. The chairman at this meeting was Herman Nunes-vas, and the speaker, Aubrey Bruce Skilton, both of whom are on record. Motor car number 363-655, registered in the name of Herman Nunes-vas, was used to convey the speaker and chairman to the scene of the meeting.

A third meeting was to have been held at Three Lamps, Ponsonby, but a patrol of this area, revealed no Communist party meeting being held. However after visiting the meeting at Grey Lynn, I patrolled Ponsonby Road, and located Hugh John McLeod speaking from inside a motor car licensed number 344-793, which is registered in the name of Colin Douglas Marsh, both of whom are on record. This car was parked at the corner of Ponsonby Road, and Richmond Road.

Loud speakers were attached to the boot and front bumper of the car. It would appear that McLeod is using this means of covering various streets in quick succession. Marsh and McLeod were the only persons in the car.

The Officer-in-Charge
Special Branch.

M. Joblin
Acting Detective
1.11.54.

Extract from " " DOMINION "

S54/183.
" Newspaper.

Published at WELLINGTON, on [date] 28th. October 1954. 200

SUBJECT: Constance Alice BIRCHFIELD, C.P. Candidate addresses Election meeting at Petone.

28/10/54
The rearming of Germany is a crime against the living and the dead. It will create an army with the same Hitler generals and the same munition kings. Krupp's giant fortune has been restored to him and I. G. Farben, the chemical combine which supplied the gas for Hitler's ovens in which millions died, flourishes again with the same shareholders and directors—Mrs. C. A. Birchfield, Communist, Petone, at Petone.

EXTRACTS/COPIES
TAKEN

3/6/60

~~SECRET~~
NEW ZEALAND POLICE

196
Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.

October 28, 1954.

REPORT OF: Detective R.C. Cooper No. 4423
RELATIVE TO: Communist Party open air meeting scheduled to be
held in Victoria Street, City on Sunday October
24, 1954.

I have to report that during the afternoon of Sunday
24.10 54 I was present in Victoria Street, City from 2.15p.m
until 3.10p.m awaiting the commencement of an open air Communist
Party meeting.

During the whole of this period I saw no signs of any
person who appeared to be waiting for the meeting to start.

At 3.10 p.m I left the area as I had come to the conclusion
that no meeting would be held.

R. C. Cooper
Detective 4423
28.10.54.

The Officer in Charge,
SPECIAL BRANCH.

~~SECRET~~

197

Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.
27th. October 1954.

Report of; Acting Detective M. Joblin. No. 4070.

Relative to; Communist Party Election Meetings 1954.

I respectfully report that Communist Party Election meetings were to have been held on the night of Tuesday, the 26th. October, 1954, at the following places; France Street, and Dacre Street, City... Warnock Street, and Cumberland Street, Grey Lynn, Thomas Avenue, and Seaview Avenue, Avondale.

A patrol of these points, and the surrounding streets, from 7/30pm to 8/45pm, failed to trace any of the above mentioned meetings taking place.

The Officer-in-Charge
Special Branch.

M. Joblin
Acting Detective.
27/10/54

~~SECRET~~

Form 108

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

SUBJECT: Communist Party election candidates : identity of
nominators

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

The Senior Superintendent
AUCKLAND

Would you please forward to Wellington
for enquiries from Chief Electoral
Officer. If he is agreeable to this branch
having access to the information sought
ask that his attention be directed to
the desirability of the papers being
available at the fewest possible places,
rather than the returning officers in
each electorate being aware of the matter.

Efflower
Sub-Inspector
25.10.54

The Superintendent
WELLINGTON

P. Munro
Senior Superintendent
25th, October 1954

The Off. of,
Special Branch,
J. Edwards
Supt 27.10.54

At. Sgt. Lane
A.S. Peterson
S/Sgt
30 OCT 1954



~~SECRET~~ 1188/50

~~SECRET~~

: N E W Z E A L A N D P O L I C E :

208

Special Branch,
Auckland.
23rd., October, 1954.

REPORT OF: Detective A.W. KAY. No.4259.
RELATIVE TO: Nominators of Communist Party Candidates for the
 electorates of Ponsonby, Auckland Central and
 Grey Lynn.

I respectfully report that I have received information from a reliable confidential source, that the following named persons signed nomination papers for Victor George WILCOX, on record, who is the Communist Party candidate for the electorate of Auckland Central, in the forthcoming General Election;

Mr. and Mrs. HUSBAND, of 4 Gratten Street: No doubt identical with David Thomas and Esther Rose HUSBAND, of the address given, both of whom are on record.

J.J. MITCHELL, of 29 Phillipp Street: No doubt identical with John James MITCHELL, of the address given, who is on record.

Mr. and Mrs. SIDDINS, of 25 Phillipp Street: There is no previous record at this Office, of any one named SIDDINS, Living at the address given are the following;
George Arthur SIDDINS
George Edward SIDDINS,
P.G.88/126, Ph.81/41.
John Edward SIDDINS,
P.G.51/143, Ph.54/37.
Mrs. Madge SIDDINS.

2 cards destroyed. Only trace
[redacted] 42

A nomination paper signed by a Don McEWEN of 26 Montrose Street, Grey Lynn, nominating Lillian Rita SMITH, on record as the Communist Party candidate for the electorate for Grey Lynn, was also sighted. Don McEWEN is no doubt identical with Donald McEWEN of the address given, who is on record.

Candidates must be nominated by at least two electors from the candidate's electorate, but in some cases as many as nine persons have signed nomination papers.

It has been suggested that if permission could be obtained from the Chief Electoral Officer in Wellington, the Returning Officers of each of the three electorates in which Communist Party candidates are standing in Auckland, could be approached with a view to a check of the candidate's nomination papers being made by some one from this Office.

The Returning Officers for Ponsonby, Auckland Central and Grey Lynn, are as follows;
Mr. CLARKE, Vocational Guidance Officer, Auckland,
Mr. W.A. DOWD, Land and Deeds Office, Auckland, and,
Mr. COLBIE, State Advances Corporation, Auckland.

The Officer-in-Charge,
Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.

Alan W Kay
Detective, 4259.
23.10.54.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

: N E W Z E A L A N D P O L I C E :

198

Special Branch,
Auckland.
22nd., October, 1954.

REPORT OF: Detective A.W. KAY. No.4259.
RELATIVE TO: Communist Party General Election meetings to have
been held on the evening of the 21.10.54.

I respectfully report that the Communist Party General Election meetings to have been held on the evening of the 21.10.54, were not held.

Between 7.30 pm and 8.30 pm I visited the three points advertised as meeting places, twice, but could find no trace of the meetings. The inclement weather was no doubt the reason for these meetings being cancelled.

The Officer-in-Charge,
Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.

Alan W. Kay
Detective, 4259.
22.10.54.

~~SECRET~~

185
21/2/8
Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.
21st. October 1954.

Report of; Acting Detective M. Joblin. No. 4070.
Relative to; Communist Party General Election Campaign 1954 -- Street
meeting held at the corner of Daventry Street, and Saxon
Street, Avondale, Auckland, on Wednesday, the 20/10/54.

I respectfully report having attended the
above mentioned meeting of the Communist Party, held at the corner
of Daventry Street, and Saxon Street, Avondale, on 20/10/54.

The speaker at this meeting was Lillian Rita
Smith, and the chairman Herman Nunes-vas, (also known as Harry Nunes)
both of whom are on record.

The meeting was conducted with the aid of a
loud speaker attached to the roof of motor car licensed number 363-655,
registered in the name of Herman Nunes-vas.

There were five people present at the meeting,
three of whom appeared to come from houses in the vicinity, and two
who were sitting in a motor car licensed number 321-243, and who
appeared to be known to Nunes.

The registered owner of motor car 321-243, is
June Veronica GOLDFINCH, 27 Seacombe Road, Point Chevalier. We have
no record of Goldfinch in this office.

A meeting was also to have been held outside
the Freeman's Bay Hotel, but a patrol of this area, and enquiries
from the Freeman's Bay Police who also visited the area, shows that
no meeting was held.

The Officer-in-Charge
Special Branch.

M. Joblin
Acting Detective.
21/10/54.

Extract from " EVENING POST " Newspaper.

Published at WELLINGTON , on [date] 20th October, 1954.

SUBJECT: UNITY CENTRE BAZAAR

202

INTERESTED IN REAL BARGAINS? THEN REMEMBER TO VISIT THE

UNITY CENTRE BAZAAR

Thursday, October 21 and Friday, October 22

COMMENCING 10am EACH DAY.

GOODS INCLUDE . . .

Variety of well-made clothes for boys and girls, all new materials.
Beautifully framed prints, impressionist favourites, Hand-printed
scarves. Home-made soap. Honey-pickled onions, cakes, jams, etc.

ALSO there will be a good second-hand stall.

REMEMBER! UNITY CENTRE, 125 Cuba Street, Thursday, October 21.
Friday, October 22. (Tea will be available all day.)

554/173
201

Extract from " EVENING POST " Newspaper.
Published at WELLINGTON , on [date] 20th October, 1954.
SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY - 1954 GENERAL ELECTIONS

*Comrade Clerk PF
Ronald Joseph PF*

Withdrawal By Communist Party

The Communist Party has withdrawn its candidate from the Wellington Central Electorate, "in the interests of unity against the candidates and policy of the Holland Government," says an official statement issued by the Communist Party. It is now putting up only two candidates in the Wellington area, Mrs. C. A. Birchfield, in Petone, and Mr. R. J. Smith, in Island Bay.

In announcing this change the party stated today that a careful analysis of previous voting figures in the areas included in the completely changed electorate of Wellington Central indicated that it was a doubtful seat, and that it would take no step that would lead to a danger of a Nationalist being elected.

"We stress that the defeat of the Holland Government is a primary task for the working people," says the statement. "This important task can be accomplished if the working people are presented with a fighting alternative policy which will unite them. It would be of little use, however, to defeat Holland if his policies were to be continued in another form by the actions of the next Government."

EXTRACT
TAKEN
2/4/55

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

Special Branch,
Christchurch,

20th October 1954.

REPORT of, Detective Sergeant A.R. Grant.

No. 3247.

Relative to, Rt. Hon. S. C. Holland, the Prime Minister, addresses
a general election meeting held in the Theatre Royal,
Christchurch at 8pm on Monday 18/10/1954.

'Vide attached'

I respectfully report that I attended the above mentioned
meeting which commenced at 8pm and concluded at about 10pm on
18/10/1954.

About eight hundred persons were present at the meeting
which was well conducted. There was some heckling but no organised
attempt to disrupt the meeting.

I did not notice any persons who are known to me as being
on adverse record at this office, present at the meeting.

Generally the meeting was a quiet one and there was no
need for any Police action.

The Officer in Charge,
Special Branch,
CHRISTCHURCH.

A. R. Grant
Detective Sergeant No. 3247.

The Superintendent of Police,
Christchurch:

For the Commissioner of
Police, please.

J. J. Kaleson
Senior Detective
22/10/1954

The Commissioner of Police,
WELLINGTON

Forwarded, please

D. B. Angus
Superintendent of Police,
Christchurch 22/10/54

54/183
195

54
1114

Christchurch "PRESS" 15/10/1954.

Press 15/10

21.52

HEAR

THE PRIME MINISTER

Rt. Hon. S. G. HOLLAND

**THEATRE
ROYAL
Christchurch**

**MONDAY
OCTOBER 18th
8 p.m.**

**SPEAKING
ON VITAL
ELECTION
ISSUES**



N.Z. NATIONAL PARTY

Detective-Sergeant Grant:

Please attend this meeting, and render report.

Although there is no information to hand that the Communist Party and/or "front" organisations are organising any disruption of or heckling at the meeting, such methods may come within the orbit of the "Holland Must Go" campaign of the Party referred to.

J. J. Haesler

Senr. Det. No. 2814

18/10/54



21/2/8

184

Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.

October 20th 1954.

REPORT OF: D. A. Thresh, Constable 4679.

RELATIVE TO: Communist Party General Election meeting held during
the evening of Tuesday 19th October 1954.

I respectfully report that I attended two Communist Election Campaign meetings held in Auckland on the 19-10-54.

The first meeting was held at the corner of Richmond Road and Ponsonby Road. The speakers were Victor George WILCOX and Hugh John McLEOD their chairman was Alexander DRENNAN.

This meeting commenced at 7,30pm and was attended by about 16 people, among whom I recognised Lenard Thomas SMITH.

During the meeting SMITH handed out free copies of the "Peoples Voice" to various listeners. There was no literature sold nor a collection taken up.

Car number 236,086 was used as a stand for the loud speakers and is registered in the name of Henry JOHNSON of 69 Warnock Road, Westmere.

The second meeting was held at Rossgrove Triangle Mt. Albert, the speaker being Lillian Rita SMITH and the chairman Donald McEWEN. There were about ten people present among whom I recognised August Frederick SMITH.

Car, numbered 223,765, belonging to August Frederick SMITH was used as a stand for the loud speakers. Also in the near vicinity was a car, numbered 200,922 registered in the name of Janet COCHRANE of 26 Willcott Street, Mt. Albert. This car was driven away by a man with his woman companion after having attended the above meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm and there was no literature sold nor a collection taken up.

With the exception of Janet COCHRANE and Henry JOHNSON all the above mentioned are on record at this office.

DA Thresh
Constable 4679.

The Officer in Charge,
SPECIAL BRANCH.

21/2/8

Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.

October 15th 1954.

REPORT OF: D. A. Thresh, Constable 4679.

RELATIVE TO: Communist Party General Election meeting held during
the evening of Thursday 14th October 1954.

I have to report that during the evening of Thursday 14th October 1954, I attended three Communist Election meetings held in Auckland.

The first meeting was held at the corner of Dickens Street and Richmond Road, Grey Lynn, and commenced at 7,30pm. The speaker was Hugh John McLEOD and his chairman was Phillip SUNDE. I was unable to obtain the number of the car used to transport the loud-speakers.

There was no attendance of the public at this meeting although it was listened to from nearby windows and balconies.

The second meeting was held at the corner of England and Spring Streets, Freemans Bay. The speaker was Victor George WILCOX and his chairman Herbert Leonard SPILLER. Car number L57,433 registered in the name of Adelaide WILCOX, Ranui, Henderson, was used as a stand for the loud-speakers.

The meeting was attended by about six people, but owing to poor street lighting I was not able to recognise any one.

The third and final meeting for the evening was conducted at Fontenoy and Rawalpindi Streets. The speaker, in this case being, Lillian Rita SMITH and the chairman August Frederick SMITH.

Car number 223,765 was used as a stand for the loud speakers and is registered in the name of August Frederick SMITH. A car number 223,554 was parked near SMITH'S car, and is registered in the name of Victor Cecil DEVERICK. At the conclusion of the meeting this car was driven away by a man with a woman companion, whom I believe are identical with Victor Cecil DEVERICK and his wife Alma Victoria DEVERICK nee BENDER.

The three members of the public listening to this meeting were unknown to me. The meeting terminated at 8,30pm.

There was no collection taken nor literature sold at any of these meetings.

All the above mentioned names are on record at this office.

D.A. Thresh
Constable 4679.

The Officer in Charge,
SPECIAL BRANCH.

199
Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.

October 14, 1954.

REPORT OF: Detective R.C. Cooper No. 4423.
RELATIVE TO: Communist Party Election Campaign 1954 - street
meeting scheduled to be held on Monday October
11, 1954.

I have to report that an open air election meeting of the above party was scheduled to be held at the intersection of Westmere Crescent and Leamington Street, Grey Lynn, during the evening of 11.10.54.

The weather on this evening was very inclement and although I remained in the district from 7.30p.m until 8.30p.m I was not able to locate a street meeting.

R.C. Cooper
Detective 4423
14.10.54.

The Officer in Charge,
SPECIAL BRANCH.

Extract from "DOMINION" Newspaper.

Published at WELLINGTON, on [date] 12/10/1954

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY CANDIDATES - 1954 GENERAL ELECTION.

EIGHT COMMUNIST CANDIDATES FOR GENERAL ELECTION

AUCKLAND, October 11 (P.A.).—
Eight Communist Party candidates to
contest seats in the General Election
have been announced as follows:—

Mr. V. J. Wilcox (Auckland Cen-
tral), Mr. H. McLeod (Ponsonby),
Mrs. Rita Smith (Grey Lynn), Mrs.
C. Birchfield (Petone), Mr. R. Smith
(Island Bay), Mr. A. Ostler (Christ-
church Central), Mr. J. Hannan
(Morningside), Mr. R. Mitchell (West-
land).

EXTRA COPIES
TAKE

3/6/55

21/2/8 181
Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.
12th. October 1954.

Report of; Acting Detective M. Joblin. No. 4070.
Relative to; Communist Party General Election Campaign 1954- Street
meeting held at corner of Garnett Road, and Leamington
Road, Grey Lynn, Auckland, on Monday, 11th. October 1954.

I respectfully report having attended
the above mentioned street meeting of the Communist Party, held at the
corner of Garnett Road, and Leamington Road, Grey Lynn, on 11/10/54.

The chairman for this meeting was Cyril
John GOULD, and the speaker, who was introduced as the Communist Party
candidate for Ponsonby, was Hugh John McLEOD. Both are on record.

The only person I recognised among the
audience of four, was Cressida Laurel SMITH, who is also on record.

A loud speaker was in use at the meeting,
and was attached to the roof of a motor vehicle number L.51-381. This
vehicle is registered in the name of Kathleen Theseses JERMYN, on record

The Officer-in-Charge
Special Branch.

M. Joblin
Acting Detective.
12/10/54



21/2/8

180

Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.

October 11th 1954.

REPORT OF: D. A. Thresh, Constable 4679.

RELATIVE TO: Communist Party General Election meeting held during the evening of Friday 8th October 1954 at Auckland.

I have to report that during the evening of Friday 8th October 1954, in the company of Constable Blacklock, I attended two Communist Election Campaign meetings held in Auckland.

1 The first meeting was held in Howe Street, Newton, and commenced at 7.30pm the speaker was Victor George WILCOX, his chairman Gordon Harold ANDERSEN.

In the vicinity we recognised the following;

George Edward JACKSON.
Lenard Thomas SMITH.
Cressida Laurel SMITH.
Gordon William John DRYDEN.
Elizabeth ARYA.

An elderly woman who is identical with Adelaide WILCOX was present at this meeting.

A light van No. L51,381 was used to transport the loudspeaker equipment and is registered in the name of Kathleen Theresea JERMYN 78 Duke Street, Mt. Roskill.

Copies of the "Peoples Voice" and a pamphlet called "Wages a family affair" were offered for sale by DRYDEN. There were approximately fifteen members of the public at this meeting.

2 The second meeting was held at Three Lamps, Ponsonby in St. Mary's Bay Road. The speaker was Hugh John McLEOD and his chairman John Onslow HOFFMAN. There were about six members of the public present among whom we recognised Richard Charles WOLF.

Van number L51,374 registered in the name of Cecilia Orsala WOLF was used as a stand for the loudspeakers.

There was no literature sold nor a collection taken up at this meeting.

All those named in the above two meetings are on record at this office.

D.A. Thresh
Constable 4679.

The Officer in Charge,
SPECIAL BRANCH.

~~SECRET~~

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

21/2/8 179

Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.

October 7, 1954.

REPORT OF: Detective R.C. Cooper No. 4423.
RELATIVE TO: Communist Party General Election Campaign 1954 -
street meetings held on Wednesday 6.10.54.

I have to report that during the evening of Wednesday 6.10.54 I attended two street meetings which were held in connection with the above mentioned campaign. These meetings were organised by the Communist Party.

The first meeting that I attended was held in Ivanhoe Street, Grey Lynn. The chairman was August Frederick SMITH, and the speaker was his wife Lillian Rita SMITH. Both are on record.

There was an audience of between fifteen and twenty persons present at this meeting.

The vehicle used to convey the amplifier and equipment was No. 223 765 which is registered in the name of August Frederick SMITH.

The second meeting was held at the intersection of Wellington Street and Hepburn Street, Freemans Bay.

The chairman was Gordon Harold ANDERSEN and the speaker Victor George WILCOX, both are on record.

There was an audience of approximately 40 persons present, among whom I recognised the following:-

Lenard Thomas SMITH
Cressida Laurel SMITH
Elizabeth ARYA
Gordon William John DRYDEN

These four persons are on record. ARYA and DRYDEN were selling copies of the Peoples Voice newspaper.

The vehicle used at this meeting was No. L57 433 which is owned by Adelaide WILCOX, on record.

R. C. Cooper
Detective 4423
7.10.54.

The Officer in Charge,
SPECIAL BRANCH.

~~SECRET~~

Published at AUCKLAND

, on [date] 6th October, 1954

193

SUBJECT:

Communist Leaders To Tour New Zealand

Mr V. G. Wilcox, general secretary of the Communist Party of New Zealand, and Mr G. Jackson, national chairman, will tour New Zealand during the election campaign.

Mr Wilcox will speak at the following centres:

Dunedin, Tuesday, October 26.

Greymouth, Rathburns Hall, Wednesday, October 27.

Christchurch, Oddfellows' Hall, Thursday, October 28.

Auckland, Lewis Eady Hall, Thursday, November 4.

Wellington, Concert Chamber, Town Hall, Thursday, November 11.

Mr G. Jackson will speak at Wellington on the following dates:

Unity Centre, 125 Cuba Street, Thursday, October 28.

Allan Street, Courtenay Place, Friday, October 29.

EXTRACTS/COPIES
TAKEN

Extract from " **PEOPLE'S VOICE** " Newspaper.
 Published at **AUCKLAND**, on [date] **6th October, 1954** 192
 SUBJECT: _____

Camp Meeting On Holland Must Go

Worker Correspondent

MANGAKINO.—A public meeting was held at No. 2 camp here on why Holland must be defeated in 1954. It was organised by the Mangakino branch of the Communist Party.

The meeting was addressed by the branch secretary, Mr Percy Allison.

Mr Wally Tuuta chaired the meeting and apologised for Mr Bill Higgins, who was absent through illness.

The speaker outlined the Communist Party's attitude to the elections and explained that the need to oust the Holland Government could be seen here in Mangakino alone, besides the growing national problem.

Mr Allison showed in detail how the Government's treatment of hydro-construction workers was creating labour shortages in the important development of power schemes, thus preparing the way for a power crisis within a few years.

The meeting gave the speaker an attentive hearing.

Watson (Wally) or

Percy Allison P/H

EXTRACT COPIES
TAKEN

~~SECRET~~

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

21/2/8 178

Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.

October 5, 1954.

REPORT OF: Detective R.C. Cooper

No. 4423.

RELATIVE TO: Communist Party General Election meeting held at the intersection of Crummer Road and MacKelvie Street, Grey Lynn on Monday 4.10.54.

I have to report that during the evening of Monday 4.10.54 I attended an open air meeting which was held at the intersection of Crummer Road and MacKelvie Street, Grey Lynn. The meeting was sponsored by the Communist Party.

The meeting had commenced when I arrived at 7.30p.m. the chairman was James Gordon FOX who is on record.

There were two speakers, Lenard Thomas SMITH and Hugh John McLEOD, both of whom are on record.

The only person I recognised in the audience of five was Cressida Laurel SMITH, on record.

A private van license number L51 374 was used to convey the amplifier and equipment. This van is registered in the joint names of Richard Charles WOLF and his wife Cecilia Orsala WOLF. Both are on record.

This meeting was still in progress at 8.20p.m.

I did not see any person distributing literature.

R. C. Cooper
Detective 4423.
5.10.54.

The Officer in Charge,
SPECIAL BRANCH.

~~SECRET~~

21/2/8

172

Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.
5th. October 1954.

Report of; Acting Detective M. Joblin.

No. 4070.

Relative to; New Zealand Communist Party General Election Meetings,
held in Auckland on Friday, the 1st. October 1954.

I respectfully report that accompanied by Constable Blaiklock of this office, I attended three Communist Party Election meetings held in Auckland on Friday, the 1/10/54.

The first meeting was held in Howe Street, Newton, where the chairman was Gordon William John Dryden, and the speaker, Stanly Hooper Hieatt, both of whom are on record. The meeting was conducted with the aid of a loud speaker system, which was conveyed to the meeting in a motor car licensed number 241-670, and driven by Cyril John Gould, who is also on record.

Elizabeth Arya, and Harold Green, both of whom are on record, were also present at this meeting.

At Three Lamps, Ponsonby. Hugh John McLeod was the speaker, and his chairman was Lenard Thomas Smith, both being on record. This meeting was also carried out with the aid of a loud speaker, this being attached to the roof of a motor car licensed number 373-494, registered in the name of Harold Gordon Kissin who is on record.

Among the few people listening to this meeting, was Cressida Laurel Smith, and Richard Charles Wolf, both being on record.

At Hall Corner, Point Chevalier. Lillian Rita Smith was the speaker, and the chairman Basil James Holmes. Both are on record. A loud speaker was again used, and was attached to motor car licensed number 255-180, registered in the name of Jack Rennie, who is on record, and was present at the meeting.

A number of people stopped to listen to the meeting, but few stayed very long.

The Officer-in-Charge,
Special Branch.
Auckland.

M. Joblin
Acting Detective.
5/10/54.

21/2/8

Special Branch, 171
AUCKLAND.
5th. October 1954.

Report of; Acting Detective M. Joblin. No. 4070.

Relative to; Auckland District of the New Zealand Communist Party, hold public meeting in Victoria Street, Auckland, on Sunday, 3/10/54.

I respectfully report that I attended the above mentioned meeting held in Victoria Street, Auckland, on Sunday, the 3/10/54.

The chairman for the meeting was Lenard Thomas Smith, and the speaker, Hugh John McLeod, both of whom are on record.

Also present at the meeting were; Gordon William John Dryden... Elizabeth Arya... Eugene Desmond Patrick McCarthy... Cressida Laurel Smith, all of whom are on record.

Smith on opening the meeting, stated that he had great pleasure in introducing the Communist Party Candidate for Ponsonby, Hugh John McLeod. Smith went on to say that there were still hundreds of people not on the roll, and he urged these people to do so immediately and join the swelling mass of workers who were going to kick the Holland Government out of office on November the 13th. He stated that the L.R.C. and the T.U.C. (Labour Representation Committee and the Trade Union Congress) were holding a huge rally in the Auckland Domain on November the 7th., and it was up to every worker to see that he attended the rally.

McLeod also urged the people to make sure they were on the roll, and hoped that they would vote for his party which fought and would always fight for better conditions for the working class. He stated that his party were pressing for an increase of £3-10-0 a week for the workers, and better living conditions for the pensioners. He stated that the bludger class could always get a raise in pay, such as the Judges and Magistrates of our courts, and he had no doubt that the Security Police had also been given a bigger raise than the cop on the beat, but the working class had to fight and struggle hard to get a wage to live on.

He stated that today, the worker, worked 27 hours for himself, and 13 hours for the boss. It was high time that the huge profits the bosses were making at the expense of the worker was given back to the workers.

McLeod spoke on the finding of the recent Commission on the immoral conduct of teenagers, and blamed the Holland Government for this conduct by allowing thrashy comics and sex pictures into the country. He stated that although the Prime Minister found that this conduct took place, he would not be above sending these same immoral youths into the army to commit further immoral acts against the peaceful people of Asia. He stated that the S.E.A.T.O. pact was an amazing piece of paper, a pact to safeguard the people of Asia without a single Asian Country in it.

Apart from the persons already mentioned above there were about six other people listening to McLeod, but they were not known to me, and appeared to be Sunday strollers.

The Officer-in-Charge
Special Branch.

M. Joblin
Acting Detective
5/10/54

~~SECRET~~

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

21/2/8
Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.

October 5, 1954. 170

REPORT OF: Detective R. C. Cooper

No. 4423.

RELATIVE TO: Communist Party General Election meeting held at the intersection of Pember Reeves Street and Arthur Street, Ponsonby on Monday 4.10.54.

I have to report that during the evening of Monday 4.10.54 I attended an open air election meeting which was held at the intersection of Pember Reeves Street and Arthur Street, Ponsonby. The meeting was sponsored by the Communist Party.

The meeting commenced at 8p.m and was chaired by August Frederick SMITH who is on record.

The only speaker was Victor George WILCOX also on record.

A small private van licensed number L57 433 was used to convey the amplifier and equipment. This vehicle is registered in the name of Adelaide WILCOX, she is on record.

When I left the meeting at 8.15p.m the audience comprised of the persons.

I did not see any leaflets distributed.

R. C. Cooper
Detective 4423
5.10.54.

The Officer in Charge,
SPECIAL BRANCH.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

21/2/8

177

Special Branch
AUCKLAND

4th October, 1954

REPORT OF: Acting Detective R.C. Anderson.

No. 4649.

RELATIVE TO: Auckland district of New Zealand Communist Party - public meeting held in Victoria Street West, Auckland, on Sunday, 26th September, 1954.

I have to report that on Sunday, 26th September, 1954, I attended a public meeting in Victoria Street West, Auckland, which was held under the auspices of the Auckland district of the New Zealand Communist Party.

Gordon William John DRYDEN was chairman of this meeting, and George Edward JACKSON and John Onslow HOFFMAN were the 2 speakers.

DRYDEN began by attacking the authorities for failing to allow the Communist Party to voice their policies per medium of broadcasting. He then went on to outline what he called the Communist Party long term policy which, he said, consisted in reducing the profits of the big monopolists, and instituting a universal democracy in which those elected to the government would be made to carry out the wishes of the people. He then introduced JACKSON who, he said, would speak on the immediate policies of the Communist Party.

JACKSON spoke on New Zealand defence, saying that the best way to ensure our nation's security was to adopt a policy of peaceful co-existence with our Asian neighbours. He also said that the social security system in New Zealand would be re-organised under Communist Party rule. The money required to make the system function efficiently would be drawn from the profits of the big firms and not, as at present, from the pockets of the worker.

HOFFMAN's speech, much of which was garbled, consisted of a repetition of the points outlined by JACKSON regarding the overhaul of the social security system.

The meeting began at 2-30 p.m. and concluded at 3-30 p.m.

Although the meeting was opened for questions, none was asked.

There was no official collection taken but DRYDEN was distributing the Peoples Voice newspaper, calling for donations at the same time.

There were no more than 12 persons in attendance at this meeting at any one time.

Others present who are known to this office were:
Elizabeth ARYA Cressida Laurel SMITH
Lenard Thomas SMITH

HOFFMAN arrived at the meeting on a motor cycle No. 33-748 which is registered in his name.

All of the persons mentioned in this report are on record at this office.

R.C. Anderson.
Acting Detective No. 4649

The Officer in Charge
SPECIAL BRANCH

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

21/2/8 176

Special Branch
AUCKLAND

2nd October, 1954.

REPORT OF: Acting Detective R.C. Anderson.

No. 4649.

RELATIVE TO: Auckland City branch of New Zealand Communist Party -
public meeting held in Howe Street, Newton, Auckland,
on Friday, 24th September, 1954.

I have to report that on Friday, 24th September, 1954, I attended a public meeting in Howe Street, Newton, Auckland, which was held under the auspices of the Auckland City branch of the New Zealand Communist Party.

The meeting was opened, at 7-45 p.m., by Elizabeth ARYA, who had informed me, a few minutes previously, of the change of location of the meeting from Cobden to Howe Street. ARYA began by attacking the apathetical attitude adopted by most people nowadays towards election campaigns. She stated that there were many people outstanding in the Newton vicinity alone who had failed so far to register for the coming elections. After making reference to the fact that there would be several young people about with registration forms to be completed, during the course of the meeting, she introduced Victor George WILCOX as the speaker for the evening.

WILCOX dealt, in broad outline, with the domestic and foreign policy of the Holland government since coming to power in 1949. Mr Holland, he said, had pledged support to the U.S.A. many years ago, and it was this policy of subservience that was likely to drag New Zealand, in 12-18 months, into a 3rd world war which would not be fought for the benefit of the ordinary citizen but for the big monopolists.

In his discussion on domestic policy, WILCOX confined himself, in the main, to making a comparison of food and living costs in 1949 and 1954. He also touched briefly on the question of taxation, saying that the positions of citizens had now been reversed as the worker was now paying the larger portion.

At the conclusion of WILCOX's speech, John James MITCHELL took the stand, unannounced, and stated that, as chairman of the meeting, he would be glad to accept questions on WILCOX's behalf. Several unimportant questions were asked and answered briefly by WILCOX and MITCHELL.

When the meeting was about to conclude, at 8-50 p.m., Aubrey Bruce SKILTON took up a collection for the "Holland Must Go" campaign, but the amount collected was not announced.

Throughout the meeting Elizabeth ARYA was selling copies of the 2 pamphlets, "Holland must go", and "Wages, a family affair".

A van, number L.57-433, registered in WILCOX's name, was equipped with the loud speaker apparatus that was used for the meeting.

Others in attendance at the meeting who are known to this office were: Raymond Bernard GOUGH Cressida Laurel SMITH
John Onslow HOFFMAN Lenard Thomas SMITH
Norman Ridgeway GALE

All of the persons mentioned in this report are on record at this office.

R.C. Anderson
Acting Detective No. 4649

The Officer in Charge
SPECIAL BRANCH

~~SECRET~~

21/2/8

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Special Branch,
Auckland.

October 1st 1954.

REPORT OF: D. A. Thresh, Constable 4679.

RELATIVE TO: City Branch of the Communist Party of New Zealand holds public meetings at the corners of Gundry and Ophir St's. Newton, and John and Summer Streets, Ponsonby on Thursday 30th September 1954.

I have to report that during the evening of Thursday 30th September 1954 I attended two Communist Election meetings held in Auckland.

The first meeting was held at the corner of Gundry and Ophir Streets and commenced at 7.30pm. The speaker was George Edward JACKSON, his chairman was Gordon William John DRYDEN, both of whom are on record.

The meeting was conducted with the aid of a loud - speaker which was fixed to the top of motor car No. 252.310 registered in the name of John French TAYLOR of 12 Upham Road, Mt. Wellington.

During the meeting, DRYDEN left with a friend whom I was unable to identify, in motor car No. 296.930 registered in the name of Northern Drivers Union, Trades Hall, Auckland.

The meeting was attended by three members of the public.

The second meeting was held at the corner of John and Summer Streets and also commenced at about 7.30pm. The speaker was Hugh John McLEOD, his chairman was August Frederick SMITH, both of whom are on record. The loudspeaker system was again used, the speakers being placed on motor car No. 223.765 registered in the name of August Frederick SMITH of Scarboro Terrace, Parnell, Auckland.

There were about 20 people listening among whom I recognised the following;

Eugene Desmond Patrick McCarthy.
Constance Miriam BARTON.

There was no collection taken nor literature sold at either meetings. The above two meetings concluded at 8.30pm.

All the above mentioned are on record, except car number 296.930 which is registered in the name of Northern Drivers Union, Trades Hall, Auckland.

D.A. Thresh
Constable 4679.

The Officer in Charge,
SPECIAL BRANCH.

~~SECRET~~Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.

September 30, 1954.

REPORT OF: Detective R.C. Cooper

No. 4423.

RELATIVE TO: Communist Party General Election Campaign meetings
held on 27.9.54.

I have to report that during the evening of Monday 27.9.54 I attended two open air meetings which were conducted by the Communist Party.

The first meeting was held at the intersection of Melford Street and St. Marys Bay Road Ponsonby.

The Chairman was Cyril John GOULD, the speaker was Hugh John McLEOD, both of whom are on record.

McLEOD outlined the Communist Party policy. He said that he objected to the presence of security police at election meetings.

After the meeting closed at 8p.m I asked McLEOD if he would be speaking at any other meetings that evening. He said that he would be going to the intersection of Rose Road and Sussex Street, Ponsonby. I did not consider that it would be advisable for me to attend this meeting.

McLEOD went on to say that some weeks ago he had written to the Superintendent of Police of this City complaining of the presence of security police at Communist Party meetings. To date, he said, he had received no reply.

Whilst McLEOD was speaking he had an audience of one person, also present was Elizabeth ARYA on record and another middle aged woman whom I did not recognise. Both these women had pamphlets which they endeavoured to sell to the few pedestrians who passed by.

The motor car used to convey the amplifier and equipment was No. 373 494 which is owned by Harold Gordon KISSIN 34, Rutherford Terrace, Remuera. KISSIN is on record, I did not see him at the meeting, the car was driven by GOULD.

The second meeting that I attended was held at the intersection of Picton Street and Hepburn Street, Newton. The chairman was David Thomas HUSBAND and the speaker Aubrey Bruce SKILTON, both of whom are on record.

SKILTON said much the same thing as McLEOD regarding Communist Party policy. He went on to say that he had received a report from Dunedin which states that all meetings held in that district are covered by a man from the security police.

SKILTON also complained of the fact that the Communist Party have been refused time to speak over the air during this election campaign.

The audience during this meeting consisted of three women.

The car used to convey the amplifier and equipment was No. 255 658 which is registered in the name of Harriet J. Margaret SKILTON. This woman is on record.

The Officer in Charge,
SPECIAL BRANCH.

R. C. Cooper
Detective 4423
30.9.54.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

21/2/8

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: N E W Z E A L A N D P O L I C E :

Special Branch,
Auckland.
30th., September, 1954.

REPORT OF: Detective A.W. KAY. No.4259.
RELATIVE TO: General Election Meetings of the Communist Party
held in Auckland on the evening of the 28.9.54.

I respectfully report that I visited two Communist Party General Election meetings held on the evening of the 28.9.54.

One was held at the corner of Ponsonby Road and Richmond Road, where the Speaker was Lillian Rita SMITH, and the Chairman was Cyril John GOULD, both of whom are on record.

The Communist Party pamphlet "Wages, A Family Affair 1954" was being offered for sale by Elizabeth ARYA, who is on record.

The meeting was conducted with the aid of a loud-speaker, set up on the roof of a car the registered number of which was 241-670, which is registered in the name of Flora Wallace GOULD who is on record.

When I visited this meeting there were two members of the public present. Neither was known to me.

The second meeting was held at the corner of City Road and Liverpool Street. The Speaker at this meeting was Hugh John McLEOD, and the Chairman, Gordon William John DRYDEN, both of whom are on record.

This meeting was also being conducted with the aid of a loud speaker.

DRYDEN as well as being Chairman, appeared to be trying to sell pamphlets to the public. There were only three persons other than the Speaker and Chairman, present at the meeting when I visited it.

Both these meetings finished before 8.15 pm.

The Officer-in-Charge,
Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.

Alan W. Kay
Detective, 4259.
30.9.54.

~~SECRET~~

Published at AUCKLAND, on [date]

29.9.54.

SUBJECT: C.P. Election campaign

Another Communist Is Withdrawn To Strengthen Anti-Holland Fight

The Communist Party has withdrawn its candidate from the Wellington Central electorate.

Mrs C. A. (Connie) Birchfield will replace Mr K. S. C. Stanton as the Party's candidate for Petone, and Mr R. J. (Ron) Smith will replace Mrs Birchfield as the Party's candidate for Island Bay.

The Party's decision not to contest Wellington Central has been made in the interests of unity against the candidates and policy of the Holland Government, says a statement issued by the national secretariat last week.

"A careful analysis of previous voting figures in the areas included in this completely-changed electorate indicate that it is a very doubtful seat," says the statement.

"Consistent with the Party's slogan and campaign over the past

two years that "Holland Must Go", we will take every possible step to ensure the defeat of the National Party candidates, and will take no steps which would lead to a danger of Nationalists being elected in marginal or doubtful seats.

"We stress that the defeat of the Holland Government is a primary task for the working people of New Zealand, and we are confident that this important task can be accomplished if the working people are shown a fighting alternative policy

which will unite them.

"It would be of little use, however, to defeat Holland and his candidates, if his policies were to be continued in another form in the actions of the next Government.

"Many workers realise that the Holland Government took over and extended many of the worst features of policy of the last days of the Labour Government.

"We do not want that process to occur again in reverse when the Holland Government is defeated.

In Wellington Central, as elsewhere in New Zealand, a positive programme which will unite all anti-Holland forces must be put forward.

"The most essential point of such a programme must be putting an end to the policy of surrender and subordination to United States foreign and economic policies, an end to a policy which costs New Zealand £30 million a year in military expenditure and has been mainly responsible for the galloping inflation which so undermines workers' living standards at present.

"The Communist candidates for Petone, Mrs Birchfield, and Island Bay, Mr Smith, will be presenting such a programme for peace and progress, with controlled prices and profits, reduced taxation, higher wages and pensions.

CALL TO LABOUR

"We call upon all workers, housewives and pensioners in Wellington Central to demand such a policy from the Labour candidate, and to remind him persistently that a peace policy is the only way to social progress, higher living standards and overall prosperity."

Candidate Withdrawn To Avoid Split Vote

AUCKLAND.—In a statement issued today, the Communist Party of New Zealand announced the withdrawal of its candidate Mr G. E. Jackson as election candidate for Waitakere, Auckland.

The Communist Party statement says:

This decision has been made after extensive discussion with people in all parts of the electorate. We find a widespread fear that in view of all the circumstances prevailing, a split labour movement may make possible the election of the Nationalist candidate.

The Communist Party respects this large body of opinion, and has taken this important step in order to ensure the defeat at the polls of the Nationalist candidate.

Every working-class vote should be cast to ensure that this objective is realised.

Because there are so many vital issues before the people, the solution of which will not be made on election day, but will require the building of a strong, united, labour movement, the Communist Party will conduct a campaign to put its views before the people.

Basic issues will be discussed, such as the increasing influence

which the policy of the United States millionaires is having upon our economy and our relations with other countries.

Unless the people defeat the policy which allows this influence to grow, no matter from where it may come, then the maintenance of our standard of living, our levels of social security, and our ability to live in peace will become impossible.

Our expenditure on national defence is roughly £30 million yearly, twice the amount required to pay subsidies on basic foodstuffs.

This drags down our standard of life and fails to give us national security.

Our security is dependent upon achieving friendly relations of co-existence with our neighbours in the Near North and not in joining pacts directed against them, such as Auzus and Seato.

The Communist Party will campaign around these important issues in order that the people may defeat the Nationalist and any other similar policy.

Extract from "PEOPLE'S VOICE" Newspaper.

Published at AUCKLAND, on [date] 15.9.54.

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SUBJECT:

WELLINGTON READERS
DON'T MISS THIS!

A GRAND TWO-DAY "ELECTION" BAZAAR

is planned for

THURSDAY 21 & FRIDAY 22 OCTOBER

at

UNITY CENTRE, 125 Cuba Street

A BAZAAR FOR THE WORKERS WITH WORKERS' PRICES.

Much material is already prepared (e.g. Children's clothing, toys, pickled onions, jams, soap, novelties), but we can sell many more goods.

WILL YOU HELP?

By sending your contribution either to the above address or DIRECT to the organiser:

B. Hunter,
3 Kennedy St,
Mt Victoria, C.4

Published at Auckland , on [date] 8.9.54.

SUBJECT:

The Communist Party And The Elections

THE QUESTIONS PEOPLE ASK

By MERV WILLIAMS, Political Committee member, C.P.N.Z.

QUESTION: In view of the fact that the Communist Party says the first thing to do is to defeat the Holland Government and, in view of the fact that only the Labour Party can do that at the polls, why does not the Communist Party disband and its members join the Labour Party in order to strengthen its "left" wing and make that Party a Marxist Party? This seems the logical thing to do.

Prime Minister in New Zealand's first Labour Government, who said in the Auckland Town Hall shortly after the election of the Government in 1935 that "nobody had anything to fear—we are all workers". The "we" referred to were citizens representing bodies such as the chamber of commerce, and middle-class elements, as well as representatives of working-class bodies.

From this, it follows that the Communist Party and the Labour Party invariably approach questions from a different basis.

There are occasions when, even with this different approach, they arrive at the same conclusion for different reasons.

A good example was the unity achieved in the war against fascism.

But it is easy to see that, where a dispute arises, say, in industry between employer and employee, the Communist Party, basing itself upon the interests of the workers alone, and the Labour Party, which claims to base itself upon the interests of both the workers and employers, must have sharp differences of opinion.

Overall, too, there must be fundamental differences in general policy.

Thus, the policy of the Labour Party in application must tend to vacillate, the degree depending on which class exercises the greatest pressure upon it at a given time. Very often it vacillates to the side of the ruling class.

So we come to the "left wing" referred to in the question. "Left" of what? Of the ruling class? Of the working class?

It is this Labour Party lack of orientation, this basing itself upon all sections of society, that leads in practice to the negation of the historic role of the working class, failure to recognise its destiny as a future ruling class and an acceptance in practice of the bourgeoisie as an eternal ruling class.

The Communist Party believes in the destiny of the working class: conquest of political power by the proletariat.

This knowledge springs from a scientific understanding of the movement of history, which is the fundamental of Marxist political economy.

For Communists to join the Labour Party would be to accept its programme and principles or be quickly eliminated from its ranks. For all practical purposes it would mean the renouncing of Marxism and a Marxist Party.

The Communist Party holds that at the present time the main objective of the working class is the ousting of the Holland Government in the interests of the working class.

The Labour Party holds that at the present time the interests of capitalist society as a whole would be best served by the ousting of the Holland Government, based as it is almost solely on monopoly capital, and its replacement by a Labour Government which would administer New Zealand capitalism better than the Holland Government.

Here, therefore, the Communist Party and the Labour Party have one point in common: the dismissal at the polls of the Holland Government.

They arrive at this point for different reasons.

The Communist Party knows that at present the only practical alternative to the Holland Government is the Labour Party.

It also knows, however, that only a Party based upon the working class alone, with no interests separate and apart, a Party based upon Marxist principles, can ensure the ultimate victory of the working class.

This is why the Communist Party maintains its separate identity, and never will disband.

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21/2/8

55

SECRET

Obtained from Source
 [REDACTED] July 1998

File on CP election
 campaign (1994) file

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File
 22/11

February

24

Monday

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FEBRUARY 1958

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8th July, 19

Mr. H. G. Young,
Deputy leader,
New Zealand Social Credit,
Box 689,
HAMILTON.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of June 21st.

We are willing to debate with you, providing we can mutually agree on the subject and necessary organisation to ensure its success.

We have noted that you were unable to accept Dr. H. Silverstone's offer to debate with you on the subject "The people need Socialism not Social Credit", owing to it not being practicable for you to visit Dunedin during the Election Campaign.

As this was the sole reason suggested by you for your inability to accept, you will no doubt readily agree to accept an offer by a representative of our Party to debate you on the same subject, in your own district Auckland, at a time to be mutually agreed upon.

We are quite prepared to agree to your suggestion that the debate be held in the Trades Hall, before an audience of workers, providing the advertising and organisational steps, previously notified you, are agreed too.

Yours faithfully,

EDUCE SKILTON.
NATIONAL ORGANISING SECRETARY.

17th June, 1954.

Mr. R. G. Young,
Deputy Leader,
New Zealand Social Credit,
Box 539,
WELLINGTON.

Dear Sir,

Your letter to the "People's Voice", has been given to us for reply.

We are willing to accept your challenge to debate with you, but not on the subjects as formulated by you.

To confine the debate to the point that "Increased wages is the answer to the workers problem" and "Increased wages is not the answer and only Social Credit will give the workers a fair deal", is to narrow the whole question down and to suggest that the Communist Party considers increased wages in themselves as being the whole solution to the anti-social nature of the capitalist system and the workers' needs.

This does not represent the Communist Party point of view, as although we regard increased wages as one of the very necessary means of maintaining the workers economic position under capitalism, it is not the only measure advocated by our Party at the present time, and cannot be taken in isolation from the capitalist system as a whole.

We therefore agree to debate with you on the following conditions:-

- (1) The representative of the Communist Party will affirm "That Communism, not Douglas Social Credit, is the only solution to the workers' problems - for other mutually agreed subject".
You to negate the above.
A Chairman to be agreed upon after discussion.
- (2) The debate to take place in the Concert Chamber, Auckland, or Town Hall if available on a mutually

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30th July, 1954.

Mr. R. G. Young,
Deputy Leader,
N.Z. Social Credit,
Box 889
HAMILTON.

Dear Mr. Young,

I am sorry I missed you when in Hamilton. My visit was quite unexpected so I could not advise you. However, you would have been unable to discuss the matter owing to your engagement in Dargaville.

I am able to confirm the date of the debate, Thursday September 2nd in the Trades Hall, Hobson Street Auckland.

We are asking Mr. Monthieth, former workers representative on the Arbitration Court and well known personality in the Labour Movement to Chair the meeting. I will advise you on this and suggested speaking times as soon as possible.

In the meantime we enclose the suggested advertisement which will be used for newspaper advertising and stickers and if necessary leaflets.

We can assure you that we will do our best to get a good audience of workers and interested people.

We would like to make the arrangements for advertising as soon as we can so we would be glad to hear from you as soon as possible. We are again announcing it in the "People's Voice".

Yours faithfully,

BRUCE SKILTON.
NATIONAL ORGANISING SECRETARY.

agreed date and one that will give ample time for its organisation.

- (c) That both your Organisation and ours jointly undertake to back the meeting officially and to take all possible steps to get the widest public attendance.

These steps to include:-

(1) The publication of two 3" double column advertisements in both the "Herald" and the "Star" newspapers, notifying the subject and the speakers for each side under the joint auspices of our two organisations.

(2) To arrange to have a mutually agreed upon number of commercial radio announcements advertising the meeting.

(3) To print and distribute jointly a minimum of 30,000 leaflets house to house and in the principle workplaces advertising the debate along the lines suggested for newspaper advertising.

(4) That a strong financial appeal be made at the debate to cover actual expenditure on advertising the meeting after which the nett proceeds be paid on a 50 - 50 basis to the Election Funds of our joint organisations. This intention to be publicly notified in the advertising.

(5) That all accounts for hire of Hall, Advertising and other agreed organising expenses be charged to our Organisations jointly. Each Organisation give the other a written authority for this.

Any cash payment or advance required prior to the meeting, to be provided on a 50 - 50 basis.

If you agree to the above conditions for the debate, please advise as soon as possible by letter.

We will then arrange to meet you personally for a discussion on the advertising and other arrangements for the debate.

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

N.Z. SOCIAL CREDIT
POLITICAL LEAGUE

R. G. YOUNG, Dominion Secretary

Box 689, HAMILTON, Ph. 56-510

Dear Mr Skilton, July 31st 1954

Thank you for your letter of the 30/7/54 together with a copy of your proposed advertising.

It is quite satisfactory to me who ever you finally get as Chairman will be satisfactory to me.

The August issue of the N.Z. Social Creditor will contain an advertisement concerning the Debate.

Re speaking times

So long as both get equal time, I am content to leave this in your hands.
With regards.

Yours sincerely,

Robt. G. Young,
Deputy Leader.

N.Z. SOCIAL CREDIT
POLITICAL LEAGUE

R. G. YOUNG, Dominion Secretary

Box 689, HAMILTON, Ph. 56-510

July 28th 1954.

M^r Bruce Skilton.

P.O. Box 1485.

Auckland.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of July 23rd.

I have been in touch with M^r Young, who is away from home at the moment.

He says, yes he will be pleased to accept Thursday September 2nd for the debate.

Yours faithfully
(M^{rs}) Lucy B. Young.

24/6
NEW ZEALAND SOCIAL CREDIT
POLITICAL LEAGUE

R. G. YOUNG, *Deputation Secretary*

Box 659, HAMILTON, Ph. 56518

Mr Bruce Skilton,
National Organising Secretary,
Communist Party,
Box 1785,
Auckland.

June 21/26 1954

Dear Sir,

I have to thank you for your letter of the 17/6/54 in which you suggest changing the subject matter of my challenge, namely, "That increased wages is not the answer to the Worker's Problem" to, "Communism not Douglas Social Credit is the only solution to the Worker's Problems", is not acceptable for two reasons.

1. That the basis you suggest is far too wide.
2. That having read the People's Voice for several months, the whole basis of their writing is, that the worker's must demand more wages rises.

The worker's of this country know from bitter experience that wage rises are useless.

On that basis my challenge stands open whenever you care to accept it, before an audience of workers, either at a lunch hour address, say at the Otahuhu Railway workshops or a weekend meeting in the Trades Hall if you like, upon some date to be mutually agreed upon.

Excuse the writing as my typist is off sick.

Yours faithfully, R. G. Young, Deputy Leader.

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NEW ZEALAND SOCIAL CREDIT

POLITICAL LEAGUE

R. G. YOUNG, Dominion Secretary

Box 689, HAMILTON, Ph. 56-510

June 20th 1954

The Editor
People's Voice,
P.O. Box 2197,
Auckland.

Dear Sir,

I have to thank you for your letter of the 16/6/54 and note Dr Silverstone's refusal to meet me on the subject suggested.

His suggestion that I should meet him in Dunedin during the election campaign on the Subject

"The people need Socialism not Social Credit," is not practicable.

You, and he, will appreciate the fact that I will be very busy at that time and must be where the need is greatest, and that need will not be in Dunedin.

As requested, I enclose for your information our Policy Statement. I must point out however, that there is a new issue coming out soon in which there are amendments but no departure from Principles.

I have written on the cover, the major alterations as they affect the public.

Again thanking you for your interest.

Yours faithfully,

R. G. Young
Deputy Leader

NEW ZEALAND SOCIAL CREDIT
POLITICAL LEAGUE

R. G. YOUNG, Dominion Secretary

Box 689, HAMILTON, PH. 56-510

The Editor
Peoples Voice,
Box 2197, C.T.R.

June 12th 1954

Dear Sir,

As a reader of your paper I notice that you and responsible members of the C.P. are consistent advocates of increased wages as the answer to the Workers Problems.

I hereby challenge you or any member of the C.P. to debate the question with me at any week end any where in Otago or Auckland, either in a hall or open air before a public meeting of Workers. Your speaker to support the contention that

"Increased wages is the answer to the Workers Problem". I will take the other side that, "Increased wages is not the answer and only Social Credit will the Workers a fair deal."

You say you believe in the free expression of public opinion. Have any of your Executive Members the courage to face me before an audience of Workers? Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours faithfully
Robt. G. Young.
Deputy Leader.

JULY 1951

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Monday

19

July

Affirmative opens
 with 20 minutes
 negative 20 minutes
 followed by 10 minutes
 for affirmative
 negative closes
 with 10 minutes.

One go - debate

18th & 19th | 22nd August.

✓ T. Hall's presence today.

✓ TC ~~Don't forget~~

Submit draft admin.

to SC pay Hall here

known to be agreed where

Anything over to jointly

If we take responsibility for
advertising.

15th baby for SC weekly
to edit SC.
Bot 73 Opatoki last week.
July.

X Details of speaking times.

Gordon D has commitment

10 on Monday

Pulls of Organized

Ken
Hon Mr J A Young

13784

One hundred

35 Church St
Dunedin

R. G. Young, X 56-510
Box 689 Hamilton

Extract from " " PEOPLE'S VOICE "

254/185
188
" Newspaper

Published at Auckland , on [date] 9.6.54.

SUBJECT:

More Communist Candidates

Communist Party candidates who will contest four Auckland district electorates in November's General Election were announced last week. They are: Mr Vic Wilcox (Auckland Central), Mr George Jackson (Waitakere), Mr Hugh McLeod (Ponsonby), and Mrs Rita Smith (Grey Lynn).

Candidates announced previously are: Mr Ken Stanton (Petone), Mrs Connie Birchfield (Island Bay), Mr Ted Smith (Wellington Central), Mr Alec Ostler (Christchurch Central), Mr Bob Mitchell (West Coast), and Mr J. J. Hannan (Morningside).

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

Extract from " " THE PEOPLE'S VOICE " " Newspaper.

Published at AUCKLAND , on [date] 26.5.54.

SUBJECT:

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FREE SPEECH VICTORY

WELLINGTON.—A ban against Communist Party street meetings, which lasted six years, has been lifted by the City Council here after a long struggle. The Wellington District Committee of the Communist Party has gained an important victory in winning restoration of its right to speak regularly in the streets.

The Communist Party has now been granted permission to speak each Friday evening at the corner of Courtenay Place and Allen Street from 7.30 to 9 p.m.

This victory was won as a result of persistent applications to the council, frequent circular letters to all councillors personally, effective work and good support at the few meetings which were allowed before

municipal and general elections, and consistent propaganda on the right of free speech.

The meetings which have been held since the new permits were granted have been well supported by the public.

Attendance at the first (on April 30) ranged up to 100. The May 7 meeting had a stable attendance of between 40 and 60, a collection of £2/5/3 was raised, and, in addition

to good sales of the People's Voice and "Holland Must Go", large numbers of the leaflet "New Zealand Is In Danger" and "The Petrov Affair" were handed out.

Speakers have put forward the Communist Party's policy in regard to wages, prices, housing, the H-bomb threat, and the United States attempts to drag New Zealand into the war in Indo-China under the treacherous Anzus Pact.

SIS Declassification Policy

Publicly released under

Extract from "DOMINION" Newspaper.

154/185 187

Published at WELLINGTON, on [date] 25th May, 1954.

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY CANDIDATES - GENERAL ELECTIONS 1954.

Communist Party Candidates Selected

The Wellington district secretary, Mr. K. S. Stanton, announced yesterday that a recent district conference of the New Zealand Communist Party had endorsed three candidates for the general election. They are Mrs. G. Birchfield, housewife, for Island Bay; Mr. S. E. Smith, watersider, for Wellington Central, and Mr. K. S. C. Stanton, party secretary, for Petone.

EXTRA
TAKEN

Two More Communist Candidates

AUCKLAND. — Two more candidates have been announced to carry the Communist Party's policy to the people at the forthcoming general elections. They are Mr J. J. Hannan (for Mornington, Dunedin) and Mr R. Mitchell (for Westland).

Mornington

West Coast



Mr J. J. Hannan

... is a railway worker, being employed at the Hillside railway workshops, and Communist candidate for MORNINGTON.

Mr Hannan was educated by the Christian Brothers and at St Kevin's College, Melbourne. He worked on hydro-electric and water supply schemes and on other jobs in Australia before coming to Dunedin in 1935.

Since 1936 he has been a welder at Hillside, except for three years' service with the 2nd N.Z.E.F. in the Pacific and Italy.

He has had a long record as delegate to the Otago Trades Council and has held many union positions, including that of president in the Hillside branch of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants.

He is well known to Dunedin people for his activity in many progressive movements and campaigns.

For the last 16 years, Mr Hannan has been a member of the Communist Party, holding leading positions, including those of district secretary and district chairman.



Mr R. H. Mitchell

... is a miner, and the Communist candidate for WESTLAND.

Mr Mitchell was born in Christchurch and worked on farms, threshing mills, railway construction and quartz mining. In 1940, he began work as a miner at the Strongman mine, near Greymouth.

At school an outstanding athlete, he later became an Inangahua rugby league representative and a West Coast tennis champion. He has been president of the West Coast Lawn Tennis Association.

As a trade unionist, he has held many positions both before and since entering the mining industry. He has held the position of check inspector at Strongman mine and has been a union delegate to various trade union bodies. He was chairman of the miners' relief committee in 1951.

Mr Mitchell has also been prominent in the co-operative movement and the Greymouth Workingmen's Club.

~~SECRET~~

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

54/23

21/2/10
21/2/14

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Special Branch,
WELLINGTON.

29th January, 1954.

REPORT OF:

J.W. Pullman,

Det. Sgt

No. 3284.

RELATIVE TO:

NEW ZEALAND LABOUR PARTY - COMMUNIST INFILTRATION.

I respectfully report that I have received information from ex-undercover agent [REDACTED] that he has learned that the New Zealand Labour Party has been infiltrated at a high level by the Communist Party.

This information originated from [REDACTED] who is stated to be a member of the Victoria University College branch of the Wellington Communist Party.

No details concerning this information are available.

The Superintendent of Police,
Wellington.

54/324.

J. Pullman
Detective Sergeant.

The Commissioner of Police,
WELLINGTON.

J. Edwards
Superintendent of Police,
WELLINGTON.
29th Jan. 1954.

EXTRACTS/COPIES
TAKEN. [REDACTED]

23/3

~~SECRET~~

THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN

N 185/383
2/5/8 151
2/2/10

1. Introduction

Although the number of Communist Party candidates who contested the 1953 local body election were 22 compared with 44 in 1950 (14 in 1947) the results achieved were better than in 1950, gains having been made in all centres, except Auckland. The average vote per candidate in 1953, and the percentage of these votes in relation to the total number of valid votes cast shows however that the Communist Party has still some ground to cover before retrieving its 1947 position. Brunner, on the West Coast, is an exception. There, the Communist Party polled more votes than in 1947 or 1950, the Communist candidate coming within 16 votes of election to the borough council.

The Communist Party contested the elections in 10 centres, the same number as in 1950 and except for Lower Hutt where no Communist candidate stood in 1953, and in Hastings where the Communist Party put up one candidate for the first time, the centres contested are identical. In 1947 elections were contested in six centres.

Another feature of the election was that the Communist Party, for the first time put up candidates for hospital and harbour boards. There were two Communist candidates for each board at both Auckland and Wellington. The party did not contest hospital or harbour seats in any of the other centres.

2. The Election Campaign

The Communist Party's campaign for the 1953 local body elections was the widest and most intensive yet. The People's Voice (November 11, 1953) reported that 60,000 leaflets were distributed in the contested centres. In Auckland 10,000 were distributed; 59 street and 14 factory gate meetings were held, culminating in a general meeting at the Town Hall.

In Wellington, there were 11 street meetings, 1 job meeting and a house-to-house canvass with leaflets, particularly in the Te Aro district.

The Communist Party devoted its closest attention to Christchurch. There, the party conducted a wide house-to-house canvass in which 25,000 leaflets were distributed. Several factory meetings were held. Leaflets were distributed, houses canvassed and street and

factory meetings were held at Dunedin, Palmerston North, Napier, Greymouth, Brunner, New Lynn and Hastings.

3. Results

On a national basis the Communist Party increased its voting strength over 1950 and 1947. The average vote polled by each Communist candidate, and the percentage of these votes in relation to the total number of valid votes cast are:-

1947 :	2314 or 9.3 per cent
1950 :	922 or 11.6 per cent
1953 :	1124 or 15.8 per cent (*)

At Auckland A. Drennan polled 4170 votes or 14.1 per cent of the total valid votes cast as candidate for the Harbour Board. It seems that since Mr Drennan polled only 1941 votes as candidate for the City Council, the votes he received as candidate for the Harbour Board is a block vote of the deregistered waterside workers.

In Brunner, H. Browning, polled 240 votes or 52 per cent of the total valid votes cast. He was seventh in a list of nine candidates, coming within 16 votes of election to the borough council.

In Wellington, one of the 9 Communist candidates for the City Council, D. Austin, polled 3937 votes or 9 per cent of the total valid votes cast. He also polled nearly 12 per cent of the Harbour Board votes. It has been established that Mr Austin was confused with a Citizens candidate of the same name, Dr. A. Austin, accounting for the high number of votes polled in relation to the Communist Party runner-up, Mrs C.A. Birchfield, who polled 2298 votes. The same is held for the results Mr Austin achieved as candidate for the Harbour Board. He polled 4236 votes, whereas his Communist Party partner, F.S. Heptinstall polled 2654.

Nevertheless, the Communist candidates polled relatively well in Wellington. Mrs Birchfield polled 8 and 5.3 per cent of the total valid votes cast for the Hospital Board and the City Council respectively.

* See Appendix "A"

Other Communist candidates who polled well were those for Palmerston North 751 votes or 12.5 per cent; Napier 929 votes of 15.1 per cent; Greymouth 561 votes or 15.2 per cent; Brunner (referred to in Section 1) polled 240 votes or 51 per cent; New Lynn 595 votes or 30 per cent; Hastings 507 votes or 12.7 per cent. 149

4. Aims

The Communist Party election manifesto was a straightforward document dealing with matters which are very much local body matters, and emphasising aspects of local body administration which have met with criticism from the public. Transport and housing received most attention in the cities, as well as the raising of loans for local body construction work.

The street and factory meetings organised by the party followed the same lines of argument.

But, it is clear that the Communist Party did not contest the election with a view to improving local body administration, or with any hope of winning seats. V. Wilcox, the secretary-general of the Communist Party in New Zealand, stated:

The campaign was not merely an election campaign, it was a campaign to organise people into action. (People's Voice, November 11, 1953).

In effect, Mr Wilcox states that the campaign was in the nature of an "exercise". Judging by party propaganda and activities in the past six months the preparations are for the general election in 1954. The party slogan for this coming election is: "Holland Must Go".

Mr Wilcox commenting on the election result said:

Bearing in mind the Communist Party's immediate programme "Holland Must Go" campaign (the party) has immense possibilities in 1954 if a real campaign is effectively carried out from now on.

It is evident, therefore, that in addition to being an "exercise" in campaigning, the local body election was a test to find out the extent of support the party enjoys, in preparation for the general election. It is also evident, that the party is satisfied with the results and will probably contest the next general election with a greater intensity than at any other general election.

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This is borne out by Mr Wilcox's statement that:

More and more people are beginning to regard them (Citizens and the Labour Party) as tweedledum and tweedledee when it comes to policy...
(People's Voice, November 11, 1953)

This statement has been the policy of the Communist Party for sometime, and will be the party's major supporting slogan in the 1954 election campaign.

5. Conclusion

The specific aim of the Communist Party's local body election campaign was to develop the argument that the Communist Party is the only genuine workers' party. The proposition is not new, of course, but its application to New Zealand conditions is new.

The increased Communist vote in the local body elections of 1953 tends to demonstrate that the argument has succeeded at least in swinging a percentage of Labour's "Left Vote". In view of this development it is certain that the Communist Party will pursue with renewed vigour, the campaign to secure or improve footholds in the Labour Movement, particularly trade unions, which is a main objective for the party before it can proceed any further.

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CITY OF BOROUGH COUNCIL

HARBOUR BOARD AND HOSPITAL BOARD

CENTRE	Year	No. of Candidates	Average Vote,	Percentage*	No. of Candidates	Average Vote,	Perce
WELLINGTON	1947	2	5641	11.8			
	1950	9	1358	4.2			
	1953	9	1874	9.3	2 (2)	3445 (2265)	7.5
MISTCHURCH	1947	2	3146	8.4			
	1950	10	1392	3.9			
	1953	2	2605	6.5			
DUNEDIN	1947	1	1724	5.6			
	1950	2	1186	5.1			
	1953	1	1745	5.4			
DUNEDIN	1947	3	986	2.2			
	1950	12	2202	5.7			
	1953	5	1458	3.9	1	4170	11.1
DUNEDIN	1947						
	1950	2	815	6.9			
	1953						
PALMERSTON NTH	1947	4	771	9.6			
	1950	2	709	11.8			
	1953	1	751	12.5			
PIPER	1947	1	1269	18.4			
	1950	2	650	9.7			
	1953	1	929	15.1			
DUNEDIN	1947	NO CONTEST					
	1950	2	377	13.5			
	1953	1	561	15.2			
DUNEDIN	1947	2	150	19.4			
	1950	2	142	31.5			
	1953	1	240	52			
DUNEDIN	1947						
	1950	1	387	23.6			
	1953	1	595	30			
DUNEDIN	1947						
	1950						
	1953	1	507	12.7			

* of total valid votes cast.

** Hospital Board figures in brackets

21/2/10

CITY OF DUNDEE COUNCIL			HARBOUR BOARD AND HOSPITAL BOARD ++		
No. of Candidates	Average Vote.	Percentage*	No. of Candidates	Average Vote.	Percentage*
2	5641	11.6			
9	1356	4.2			
9	1674	9.3	2 (2)	3445 (2265)	7.9
2	3446	3.4			
10	1392	3.9			
	2605	6.5			
1	1724	5.6			
2	1186	5.1			
1	1745	5.4			
3	986	2.2			
2	2202	5.7			
3	1458	3.9	1	4170	11.1
2	815	6.9			
1	771	9.6			
2	709	11.6			
1	751	12.5			
1	1269	18.4			
2	650	9.7			
1	929	15.1			
NO CONTEST					
2	377	13.3			
	561	15.2			
	150	19.4			
1	142	31.5			
3	240	52			
1	387	23.6			
1	595	30			
1	507	12.7			

total valid votes cast.
 total Board figures in brackets

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

53/383

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21/5/53
21/2/10
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NEW ZEALAND POLICE

Special Branch,
Auckland.

5th November 1953.

REPORT OF Senior Detective J. P. Marsh, No. 2960
RELATIVE TO National Secretariat Circular 21/53 dated 23/10/53
issued by the National Secretariat New Zealand Commun-
ist Party re Labour Party and the Elections.

I forward herewith for the information of the Commis-
sioner and Headquarters' records original and two copies of circular
referred to above which I recently received from a delicate source.

Copies are being forwarded for the information of and
retention by Special Branches at Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin.

J. P. Marsh
Senior Detective, 2960
5th November 1953

The Officer in Charge,
SPECIAL BRANCH.

The Senior Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

Will you please forward to the
Commissioner.

DP
Sub-Inspector,
5. 11. 53.

2-82
127

The Commissioner of Police,
WELLINGTON.

[Signature]
Superintendent, for
Senior Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND. November 5, 1953.

~~SECRET~~

55/383

~~SECRET~~

21/5/8

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NATIONAL SECRETARIAT CIRCULAR 21/53.

23rd Oct. 1953.

LABOUR PARTY AND THE ELECTIONS

To all districts
and branches.

Dear Comrades,

Observations based on letters and reports indicates that there exists a degree of confusion in regard to the attitude to be adopted by Party members working in the Trade Unions and other mass organisations, in relation to the Labour Party as the Government. The question is posed as to the relation of the C. P., in its written and oral propaganda, to this question as if there were a conflict. That the raising in a union of the slogan "Return a Labour Government", would cut across the activities of "Holland Must Go" committees, and would be contrary to Party policy generally.

In line with Party policy the slogan "Return a Labour Government" is secondary to "Holland Must Go". However, it must be emphasised that Trade Unions and other mass organisations of the working class are not Communist organisations, composed of members with various political affiliations and others without any direct political affiliations.

We consider that it is quite correct for a Trade Union to come forward with a slogan, "Return a Labour Government" if there is a demand for it. To overlook the desires and aspirations of the non-party workers who still see the Labour Party as the answer would be to isolate ourselves from them and would be unpractical and as such un-marxist.

We must of course continually wage a campaign to get understanding and appreciation by the workers of fundamentals. Our aim must be to mobilise the workers around a correct policy and to endeavour to have the Labour Party bring forward in its programme and platform. If our members in Trade Unions and the unions themselves conduct the right campaign the Labour Party will become further exposed in action. The workers are looking to the Labour Party to adopt a programme which they will not adopt or if they do will only give, in the main, lip service to it.

The workers learn from their own experiences. Our job is to skilfully and flexibly bring the lessons to their notice. In doing so we will continuously expose the concepts of "class collaboration" and of Social Democracy generally. The Unions, and our members in them must have different tactics to that of the C. P. as a party which will not give the same emphasis to the slogan "Return a Labour Government" in its public presentation. The tactics will differ, but the overall objective will be the same; that of fighting for a progressive policy and mobilising the workers and the mass movement around that policy.

The main aim of Party members in these organisations is to develop activity along broad lines based on working class policy.

Yours fraternally,
NATIONAL SECRETARIAT.
N.Z.C.P.

~~SECRET~~

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

2/8/5
G.D.D.-11
144

From (source): Sp. Br. Dunedin

Reference: 53/650

Date: 20-10-53

For File No. 21/2/10

Original on 21/9/1

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 16-3-60

MUNICIPAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN 1953. Communist candidate Edgar Wilson HUNTER speaks at Morningson Community Centre at 8pm on 27.10.53.

I respectfully report that the Communist candidate for the Dunedin City Council, Edgar Wilson HUNTER, was the speaker at a public meeting held in connection with the Municipal Election Campaign, at the Morningson Community centre at 8 pm on 27.10.53.

HUNTER, who is the only communist candidate in the present elections was sponsored by Harold SILVERSTONE, university lecturer, and Walter Cecil ANDERSON, tramway employee.

Harold SILVERSTONE is on record at this office as having taken part in open activity of the Communist Party and the New Zealand Peace Council. I can find no trace in the records at this office of a Subversive History Sheet having been issued for SILVERSTONE. Should such a sheet be on record at Police Headquarters, it would be appreciated if a copy could be forwarded to this office, so that it can be amended and brought up to date.

Walter Cecil ANDERSON, has not previously come under notice and further enquiries are being made concerning him with a view to issuing a Subversive History Sheet.

There were 18 persons present at the meeting referred to above.

The chairman, Harold SILVERSTONE, in opening the meeting, introduced the candidate HUNTER, and stated that the latter had had some experience in municipal affairs, as he had been elected in 1935 on a Labour ticket to the St. Kilda Borough Council. As a trolley bus driver, the candidate also had first hand knowledge of the city's transport problems.

SILVERSTONE referred to an election plea attributed to the Citizen's and Ratepayers' Association "to keep party politics out of the present election campaign". It was impossible to do this and the plea was insincere. He drew the attention of the audience to the presence of the "representatives of the law" - one in uniform, and the other in plain clothes. In a situation such as this, he said that it was impossible to keep party politics out of the campaign. This concluded the chairman's remarks and he then called on HUNTER to speak.

SILVERSTONE is a poor speaker and appeared to lack confidence. He has an uneasy manner with his audience, and does not appear to be the type who would win recruits from the platform.

HUNTER stated that the Communist slogan for the election was "Elect P. G. CONNOLLY M. P. for Mayor, with one Communist and 11 Labour councillors". Labour had a good record in Dunedin for administering the city's affairs. He particularly instanced the successful housing scheme inaugurated by a Labour Council in 1930. The chairman of the Finance committee of that Council had been the late Mark SILVERSTONE, M. L. C. father of the chairman of the meeting.

HUNTER then proceeded to enumerate the points in his Party's platform, and did little better than to read off from the printed pamphlet, "SWEEP OUT THE TORIES", a copy of which I obtained from HUNTER after the meeting. A copy of this pamphlet is attached hereto.

HUNTER then went on to give some rather negative criticism of the Citizens' and Ratepayers' Association candidates and

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~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

143

From (source): Sp. Br. Dunedin Reference: 53/650 Date: 29-10-53
 For File No. 21/2/10
 Original on 21/9/1
 Received on / / Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 16-3-60

and propaganda. He said that there could be no measure of civic progress, and the promises of the Tories would be brought to nought while the policy of the central government continued. Support for the Communist and Labour candidates would lead to the establishment of a "progressive" state.

This concluded HUNTER's address and the chairman invited questions from the audience. Only one rather puerile question was asked, namely, - "Was the candidate in favour of closing down Balmacewan Golf Course and cutting it up for building sections?"

HUNTER stated that this was a most awkward question as it would involve other sports. If the Balmacewan Golf Course was closed as suggested, consideration would then have to be given to dealing similarly with the Oval, which would deprive workers of a playing area. HUNTER stated he would meet the questioner half way and propose the removal of all horse racing to the Wingatui race course and using Forbury Park for housebuilding sites.

Though more self-assured on the public platform than was SILVERSTONE, HUNTER showed himself to be a poor speaker, droning along in a monotonous monotone. If SILVERSTONE and HUNTER are the best samples of public speakers for the local Branch of the Communist Party, this might account for the relatively small numbers in the Branch.

Before closing the meeting at 9.20 pm SILVERSTONE invited those present to purchase from him copies of the "People's Voice" newspaper, and the communist pamphlet "HOLLAND MUST GO". SILVERSTONE did not appear to make any sales.

No collection was taken up to defray expenses.

John Leslie MARSTON, James Gillan JAMIESON and Robert McINTYRE (a Justice of the Peace) all subjects of Subversive History sheets, were identified as being present.

The following motor vehicles were parked in the vicinity of the hall, while the meeting was in progress, the numbers being taken by Constable C. Knight.

234-189 Hillman. Otago Labourers' Union (Robert McINTYRE, Secy)
 35-095 Chevrolet. John Netherton JAGO, 411 ANDERSONS Bay Road.
 26-489 Vauxhall. William James GEARING, 17 Argyle Street.
 35-703 Austin Catherine MacDONALD, 17 City Road.
 36-464 Vauxhall Reginald William KIRKBY, 5 Lesney Street.
 277-131 Morris John Leslie MARSTON, 48 Totara St. Ravensbourne.

No other meetings of the Communist Party have been advertised to take place in connection with the present Municipal Election campaign.

R. JONES.
 Detective Sergeant 3272

~~SECRET~~

21. 10. 53.

53/383
24/5/8 146
21/2/10

LIST OF PARTY CANDIDATES

AUCKLAND

City Council

- ✗ Andersen, G. H. (Bill), driver.
- ✗ Drennan, A. (Alex), labourer.
- ✗ McEwan, D. (Don), carpenter.
- ✗ Rait, A. (Alex), electrician.
- ✗ Smith, L. R. (Rita), housewife.
- ✗ Smith, A. F. (Ted), storeman.

Harbour Board

- ✗ Drennan.

NEW LYNN

Borough Council

- McWhirter, G. (George), builder.

PALMERSTON NORTH

City Council

- ✗ Manning, F. (Fred), fencer.

NAPIER

Borough Council

- ✗ Brown, C. J. (Chas.), engineer.

HASTINGS

Borough Council

- ✗ Hill, J. F. (Joe), carpenter.

CHRISTCHURCH

City Council

- ✗ Locke, J. E. (Jack), freezing worker.
- ✗ Ostler, H. A. (Alec), Party secretary.

DUNEDIN

City Council

- ✗ Hunter, E. W. (Ted), tramwayman.

GREY DISTRICT

Greymouth Borough Council

- Mitchell, R. H. (Bob), mine worker.

Brunner Borough Council

- Browning, H. (Hardy), mine worker.

Greymouth Harbour Board

- Doyle, J. (Jack), watersider (from Greymouth).
- Browning, H. (from Runanga-Brunner).

WELLINGTON

City Council

- Birchfield, C. A. (Connie), housewife.
- Austin, D. (Don), watersider.
- Harvey, E. J. (Ted), watersider.
- Hepinstall, T. (Tommy), seaman.
- Hunter, J. (Jock), union organiser.
- Nunes, R. (Ray), bookseller.
- Smith, S. E. (Ted), watersider.
- Stanton, D. J. (Judy), printing worker.
- Stanton, K. S. C. (Ken), Party secretary.

Hospital Board

- Birchfield.
- Stanton, K. S. C.

Harbour Board

- Austin.
- Smith.

~~SECRET~~

G.D.D.—11

EXTRACT/COPY/

145

From (source): Special Br.Auckland

Reference: S.52/703

Date: 24th November, 1952

For File No. 21/2/10

Original on 21/2/15

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 9.5.60

NEW ZEALAND COMMUNIST PARTY - FINANCE

.....

..... in 1949, Plato club drew a cheque for £2,000. payable to "cash". This was subsequently traced to the account of George Edward JACKSON, held at the Bank of New Zealand, Auckland. JACKSON, who is chairman of the National Committee of the Communist Party, and also at that time leader of the Party's candidates for the 1949 Parliamentary elections. It would appear that the £2,000 was paid to JACKSON to cover electioneering expenses. In October, 1949, a cheque for £200. from Plato Club was deposited to the account of Charles James BROWN and Frederick Athol MACE. It is believed that account was opened and used for the 1949 General Election Campaign, vide Det.Sgt. Reid's attached report dated 18.8.52.

.....

(Signed) R. Jones.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

From (source): C.I.B. Napier Reference: S.52/703 Date: 18th August, 1952
 For File No. 21/2/10
 Original on 21/2/15
 Received on _____ Extracted/Copied by  On 17.5.60

New Zealand Communist Party using pseudonyms as a cover
for financial transactions.

I respectfully report that I have carried out confidential inquiries into this matter.

My inquiries show that an account was opened with the Bank of New Zealand, Napier in October, 1949 in the names of "BROWN AND MACE". There were small lodgements made but the main one was on October 10th, 1949 - a cheque for £200. from Auckland, credit on account of WILCOX and SMITH, Commercial Bank, Auckland. It was paid into the account here which was in the name of the Communist Party (Napier Branch).

The account was closed on 4th January, 1950 with a balance of £61. 6. 7 which was paid to the National Executive of the New Zealand Communist Party at Auckland.

The account appears to have been opened and used for the General Elections Campaign in which BROWN stood for Parliament in the interests of the Communist Party at Napier.

~~SECRET~~

Secret 51/443 21/2/10 141

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

=====

Criminal Investigation Branch,
DUNEDIN,

DATE. 1st October 1951

REPORT OF :- J.C. Russell, Detective No. 2505

RELATIVE TO :- letter addressed to the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister,
signed Mark Silverstone, G.R. Glayton, Samuel
Ikin, L.B. Swan and R. McIntyre.

I respectfully report that Mark Silverstone is now deceased. Samuel Ikin is the Secretary of the Carpenters Union, with office at 360 Moray Place, he is the subject of subversive history sheet. Robert William McIntyre, is the Secretary of the Otago Labourers & Related Trades Industrial Union of Workers, with office at 99 Stuart Street, Dunedin. he is the subject of a subversive history sheet.

The two persons not previously mentioned as having come under notice are Leonard Basil Swan, he is secretary of the Otago & Southland Woollen Mills & Hosiery Factory Employee's Industrial Union of Workers, and resides at 111 Richardson St. St. Kilda, Dunedin. He came under notice during the recent Waterfront Strike, when his office at 99 Stuart Street was searched as it was suspected that he had published subversive leaflets. A number of leaflets were found but there was no evidence of publication.

When the office was raided John McLellan Jamieson, Communist, and Edgar Wilson Hunter, President of the local branch of the Communist Party were in the office, which showed he was associating with members of the Communist Party. I have submitted in duplicate a subversive history sheet of Swan which is attached. *Clad destroyed 1/6/57*

The other person is George Ronald Clayton. he is Secretary of the local branch of the N.Z. Amalgamated Engineers and Related Trades Industrial Union of Workers, with office at 238 Cumberland Street, Dunedin, he resides at 58 Earls Road, Dunedin. From confidential enquiries and information received I have ascertained that he has recently been induced to take a leftist attitude, with the consequence he signed the attached letter to the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, my informant stated that since my initial enquiry he has ascertained that Clayton is associating with members of the Communist Party. Subversive history sheet of Clayton in duplicate attached. *Destroyed 9/6/57*

J.C. Russell
Detective 2505
1/10/51

The Chief
Detective

DUNEDIN

*The Superintendent
Subversive history sheets for Swan
and Clayton have been filed.
J.H. Hall
Ch. Lab.
2. 10. 51*

The Commissioner of Police.
Wellington.

J. McIntyre
Supt.

3. 10. 51

File
Gr

51/443

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If any reply, please
quote this number:

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POLICE DEPARTMENT,

WELLINGTON C. 1. 11th September, 1951.

MEMORANDUM for

The Superintendent of Police,
DUNEDIN.

The attached correspondence which has been received from the Prime Minister's Office is forwarded for your information.

Of the persons who signed the letter addressed to the Rt.Hon. the Prime Minister, the following are already on record in my Special Branch:

Mark SILVERSTONE (now deceased)
Samuel IKIN
Robert William MCINTYRE

I have no previous information concerning J.B.SWAN and G.A.CLAYTON, and should be glad of any information that may be available concerning them.

O.S.C.

Special Branch.

For report, please.

McIntyre

Supt.

14. 9. 51.

Bruce Young
Commissioner of Police.

Detective Russell

McBrown

551
114

Sen. Det for blue Det
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NEW ZEALAND



PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE,
WELLINGTON.

5th September, 1951.

MEMORANDUM for:

The Commissioner of Police,
WELLINGTON.

I am directed by the Prime Minister to forward you herewith a letter which he has received from Mr. Mark Silverstone; Mr. G.A. Clayton; Mr. Samuel Ikin; Mr. J.B. Swan and Mr. R. McIntyre in regard to the use of radio facilities by the Communist Party, together with a copy of the Prime Minister's reply thereto.

Prof. Walker

Ann Sleight

Chief Private Secretary.

Encls.

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21 10 1951

To the Hon. The Prime Minister,
Parliament Buildings,
Wellington.

4th September, 1951.

It is generally accepted that all citizens jealously guard what is generally known as their freedom.

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of a letter signed by you and four others, undated, in regard to the refusal to allow the Communist Party the right to use the radio.

This is a matter which has received full consideration by the previous Government as well as this Government and the decision by both Governments was that the Government could not grant the use of the radio to the Communist Party.

In conclusion I wish to express my surprise that you and the other signatories to the letter appear to be so very much out of touch with the realities of the position as to lend your support to such a proposal.

Yours truly,

(Sgd.) "S.G. HOLLAND"

signed by:-

Mark Silverstone, Esq.,
536 Leith Street,
DUNEDIN.

Mark Silverstone
Johnston
Samuel Hain
L. B. Swain
R. M. Intyre

Dunedin

51/443

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27 Nov 1951

To the Hon. The Prime Minister,
Parliament Buildings,
Wellington.

It is generally conceived that all citizens jealously guard what is commonly known as their freedom.

Its most pertinent points must certainly be freedom in the broadest limits of the law, to assemble, form organisations, to express and consider opinions. To commit any act which will militate against, or infringe such rights must constitute a flagrant denial of the very basis of our democracy, as has been made clear by such great men as John Milton and John Stuart Mill.

Suppression of discussion leaves untouched the sources of discontent. These issues surely stand above politics in our society.

It is therefore with grave concern that we see our Government, with the consent of the Parliamentary Opposition, taking the leading role in the suppression of opinion, in denying one political Party right of access to our publically-owned radio. The lead of the Government is being followed by the Christchurch Star-Sun and the Auckland Star, by refusing advertisements from the Communist Party.

This would be serious enough at any time; it is of most particular seriousness at a time of election, which is supposed to be a crucial moment of citizen's decision, based on full, fair and free consideration of opinion. Moreover, the present suppression denies consideration of many urgent and vital issues on which the Communist Party presents a radical minority opinion.

So flagrant a suppression of discussion under such circumstances augurs ill for the future of our civil liberties, on which depends equally the development of our democracy, our literature and our arts. Accordingly, we call on all who are concerned with such matters to take most serious consideration of the dangerous trends at present manifested, and join with us in publicly denouncing these acts before it is too late.

signed by:-

Mark Silverstone
Abblayton
Samuel Hain
L.B. Dwyer
R. McIntyre

Deemed

The Dominion

Thursday, September 13th, 1951.

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21/2/10.

Australians Blame Wharf Strikes For N.Z. Labour's Eclipse

The common opinion of Australian Labour leaders is that unnecessary waterfront stoppages which antagonised the electorate have been responsible for the defeat of the New Zealand Labour Party in the last two years.

The secretary of the Federation of Labour, Mr. K. McL. Baxter, made this statement on his return yesterday from Australia where he attended the conference of the Australian Council of Trade Unions.

Mr. Baxter said a comprehensive report on the New Zealand waterfront dispute was submitted to the conference. It was significant that delegates from the Australian waterfront workers' unions did not seek to have the subject put on the agenda for discussion.

Part of the report presented to the conference read: "The A.C.T.U. sees no reason to depart from the responsibilities of our affiliation with the New Zealand Federation of Labour and the practice pursued by both organisations in recognising the decisions made by either with regard to internal industrial disputes. A premium cannot be placed upon the actions of any single union or unions, however economically strong, in breaking away from the national organisation and setting up a counter national body."

The power of Communists in Australian unions was demonstrated by the defeat of a move to support compulsory military training for home defence, said Mr. Baxter. This subject, as a policy matter, was presented to the conference by the executive of the A.C.T.U.

Newspaper columnists freely commented that Australian Communists, who had supported compulsory military training during the war when Russia was fighting on the side of the Allies, were now against training because they were opposed to Australian defence.

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EXTRACT/COPY

G.D.D.-11

From (source): Sp. Br. Auckland Reference: 21/2/10 Date: 28/7/61
 For File No. [REDACTED]
 Original on X 2.51/348 33/5/4
 Received on [REDACTED] Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 7/2/61

REPORT of - Detective Sergeant R. Jones No. 3272
 RELATIVE to - Communist Party Activities in Auckland - report dated
 16th July 1961, received from [REDACTED] forwarded.

I forward herewith in duplicate a report dated 16/7.51 received from
[REDACTED] relative to Communist Party activities in Auckland.

 Alan MONTGOMERY referred to in Paragraph 6 of the report is of
 course identical with Allan Courtenay MONTGOMERY who is the National
 Secretary of the New Zealand Peace Council. The attached report states
 that copies of the minutes of the Peace Congress which was held from
 the 8th to the 12th May, 1961, at Auckland were not available, but a copy
 of these minutes was obtained by me from a trade union source and forwarded
 from this office on the 6th July, 1961.

The information contained in the penultimate paragraph of Page 1
 of the report regarding Communist Party finances is of considerable
 interest. The fact that the miners and watersiders have contributed
 generously to the Party's finances in the past serves to confirm my report
 of the 5th March, 1961, relative to a questionnaire forwarded by the
 Honourable Minister of Labour wherein I stated that, if the waterside
 workers were beaten on this strike issue, the progress of the Communist
 Party in this country would be set back for a number of years.

The decision of the Government to hold a general election on
 September 1st has also adversely affected the Communist Party because,
 whereas in 1949 they were able to stand a relatively strong team of
 candidates for the Parliamentary Elections they are now forced, through
 lack of finance, to make only a nominal showing.

[REDACTED] informs me that the state of the Communist Party's finances
 has considerably worried them and particularly so in view of the General
 Election. He also verbally reported to me on 23.7.51 that a Special
 Conference of the Communist Party was held on Sunday the 22nd. July at
 which Morris John Rodwell HUGHES of the Australian Central Control
 Commission was present. At this conference the question of candidates
 for the General Election was widely discussed and the possibilities
 are that only two candidates will be standing in Auckland, namely Victor
 George WILCOX and John James MITCHELL, both of whom are subjects of
 subversive history sheets. However, Richard ARMSTRONG subject of a
 subversive history sheet and Allan Courtney MONTGOMERY previously referred
 to in this report, have pointed out to the Party their claims to stand as
 Independents with Communist support with a view to capturing the "Peace"
 vote. A further meeting was to be held on the evening of 23.7.51 and a
 further report will be submitted by [REDACTED] on any information that he is able
 to obtain.

In view of the limited resources of the Communist Party for this
 election, it seems to me very probable that the Communist Party will
 endeavour to adopt the United Front tactics and will make such proposals
 to the Labour Party. However, in view of past unsuccessful attempts
 and the already existing split between the Parliamentary Labour Party
 and the Federation of Labour, it is unlikely that such proposals will be
 acceptable to the Labour Party. However, the United Front tactics will
 be aimed at the rank and file members and supporters of the Labour Party,
 but the Communist Party expect opposition from the right-wing leadership
 of the Labour Party. By adopting the United Front, the Communist Party
 would also hope to strengthen its own ranks and those of the progressive
 forces generally.

As has been previously reported by me from this office, the
 Communist Party has been virtually underground since the commencement
 of the waterfront Dispute in February 1961, and no information has been
 received at this office that there has been either a District Conference

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R. Jones

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S.51/14.

21/2/10
134NEW ZEALAND POLICESpecial Branch, AUCKLAND.
5th April, 1951

Report of: Detective Sergeant R. Jones.

Relative to: BRITISH AND AUSTRALIAN COMMUNIST PARTIES - Controversy on attitude to the Labour Party, and relation of New Zealand Communist Party to the aforementioned parties.

Vide attached.

In the 'PEOPLE'S VOICE' newspaper dated 25th August, 1948, Page 4 appears "Australian Communists criticise policy of British Communist Party". The reply of the British Party to this criticism, which comes from a Sydney source, is also published. No comment, editorial or otherwise, is given in that issue or subsequent issues of the "PEOPLE'S VOICE" or other open sources regarding the differences of opinion between the Australian and British Communist Parties.

In the attached note, the National Secretary, New Zealand Communist Party is quoted as saying that the New Zealand Communist Party took no part in the controversy. Its present request for information would therefore appear to be one mainly of academic interest.

It is suggested in the last paragraphs of the attached note that the New Zealand Communist Party has close ties with Britain and are less under the influence of the Australian Communist Party than was previously thought to be the case. As the full text of the letter from the National Secretary, New Zealand Communist Party to the Communist Party, Great Britain has not been given, one is at a disadvantage in appraising the full worth of this statement in the light of local knowledge. My own view, however, is that the New Zealand Communist Party is now sufficiently developed to stand on its own feet and pursue an independent line of action within the framework of Marxist-Leninist theory, and that it is expected to rise or fall by its own efforts.

The correctness of my views can best be judged by a review of the New Zealand Communist Party's relationship with the New Zealand Labour Party and its present organisational strength.

In the years following the inaugural conference of the New Zealand Communist Party in Easter 1921, while the Party proceeded to organise as an independent entity, Communists were still permitted by the Labour Party to retain membership in that organisation, and many of them were, in fact, devoted and hard-working members of that Party. Communists were allowed to represent their Unions on Labour Representation Committees and at Labour Party Conferences. This state of affairs held until the Labour Party Conference of Easter 1925.

This Conference, despite the stern struggle put up by the Left Wing elements, introduced the so-called "Pledge", which directed that no member or delegate to the Labour Party could be a member of any other political party.

Over a long period of years the Communist Party strove to overcome the split brought about by the 1925 Labour Party Conference by means of a campaign to secure affiliation to the Labour Party. In New Zealand, as in Great Britain, the Labour Party presented certain features not exhibited, for instance, by the Continental Social-Democratic Parties. These special features lay in its organisational structure under which the greater part of its membership consists of affiliated trade unions; that is, most members of the Labour Party occupy that position not through individual membership but through membership of a trade union.

The objects of the Communist Party in seeking affiliation were two-fold; firstly, to retain the closest possible connections with the rank and file of the Labour movement; secondly, to prevent the Right Wing, reformist tactics of the political

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Labour leaders from becoming generally accepted by the mass of the rank and file workers.

The Communist Party carried on a consistent struggle against the "Pledge" and at the same time campaigned for affiliation. In the resolution of the 1929 Conference of the Communist Party it was stated:-

"The Party must conduct an unceasing agitation on the pledge issue and the refusal to grant affiliation. The campaign for affiliation must be forced, not from the formal standpoint as has been done in the past, but the widest number of rank and file workers must be drawn into the struggle".

As is well known, the struggles of the unemployed during the depression were largely led by members of the Communist Party and became struggles of a united front character. This united front represented unity of rank and file workers, but at the top level, however, no united front of political parties and trade union organisations was achieved.

Despite the correctness of the Communist Party resolution of 1929 and of the Communist participation in the struggles of the unemployed, it has been admitted in top Communist circles that in regard to overall strategy of the united front, the leadership of the Party did, over a number of years, display grave weaknesses.

Under the leadership of Frederick E. FREEMAN, who became Secretary in 1933, the Communist Party drifted into a position of Sectarianism. The expression of his sectarianism was the failure of the Party to realise that in the field of national politics the united front could express itself only in the form of a struggle to replace the Tory-Liberal Coalition Government by a Government based, in the main, on the Labour Party with as much Communist representation in Parliament as might be possible within the framework of the major objective.

A Plenary Session of the Central Committee (New Zealand Communist Party) in 1935 (Parliamentary Election Year) set the members of the Party,

"the task of explaining to the toilers that the policy of "Give Labour a Chance" is the most dangerous policy of all, allowing as it does the Labour Party to carry through the elections on the basis of its capitalist programme, confusing the workers as to the nature of this programme and holding them back from the struggle of their needs and thus paving the way for Fascism".

This, it was submitted, implied that a united front of struggle for the election of a Labour Government could be carried on only on the basis of subordinating the workers to the illusions of the Labour Party and surrendering the movement to the leadership of the right wing Labourites.

A resolution passed at the abovementioned Session recommended that in those constituencies where Communists were standing for election, an approach should be made for an electoral agreement, declaring the willingness of the Communist candidate to withdraw from the contest on the basis of a mutually acceptable policy programme to be endorsed by the Central Committee of the Communist Party and the National Executive of the Labour Party. Failing such agreement the maximum support must be won for the Communist candidate.

This policy was, in the main correct, but an error in tactics occurred in the attitude to electorates where no Communists were standing. In such electorates, the resolution declared "rather than give votes to the enemies of the workers, we should render the votes invalid".

This is in conflict to the policy as expounded by Lenin in "Left Wing Communism", - "that failing an agreement with the Labour Party, the Communists would put up candidates in a very few, but absolutely safe Constituencies, i.e., where our candidate would not let the Liberal in, in opposition to the Labour Candidate. We would take part in the Election Campaign, distribute leaflets advocating Communism, and in all Constituencies where we have no candidates, urge the electors to vote for the Labour candidate against the bourgeois candidate".

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It was not surprising therefore that the resolution referred to above, was met critically by the Communist Party. The Auckland Section, in particular, under the guidance of Sidney William SCOTT, presently General Secretary of the Party, was active in fighting for a correct line within the Party.

The eighth Conference of the Communist Party held in December 1935, following the general Elections adopted a resolution which stated in part:-

"The return of the Labour Government with mass support as demonstrated in the last election indicates a great forward move by the toilers of New Zealand. Recognising that under present conditions the Labour Government represents a direct blow against the forces of reaction, our support of the Labour Government against them must be unconditional".

The errors of the policy of a few months earlier were mildly castigated as an "incorrect application of the tactic of the united front at the time of the Election."

The Conference decided to relieve FREEMAN of his position as Secretary but during 1936 he remained virtually in a position of leader, the result being that during the year there was a prolonged struggle for the achievement of a correct policy.

The Australian Communist Party had been looking at developments in New Zealand with great interest and had written to the Central Committee of the New Zealand Party a letter, which stated in part:-

"At the present time the New Zealand working class occupies a unique position, for whilst elsewhere in the British Empire reactionary Governments are in power, in New Zealand there is a Labour Government. This fact greatly enhances the importance of the New Zealand Labour movement and gives it the possibility of becoming the pivotal point in the further development of the movement of the people within the British Empire The main task of the Communist Party is to point out clearly to the New Zealand people and particularly the working class, the path they must follow in order to help preserve peace and democratic freedom, and on this basis to rally and unite the masses in a demand that the Government take this path".

The letter continues:-

"We received the pre-Congress discussion material prepared by Mr. F. E. FREEMAN, entitled "Working Class Unity Against Reaction". The line advanced in this material is incorrect and would, if accepted, retard the progress of the united front movement and the whole mass work of the New Zealand Party. It reveals no deep understanding of the decisions of the 7th World Congress, nor the reasons for the changes in the United Front Tactics by the Communist Parties".

The letter goes to some length to expose the weaknesses of FREEMAN's discussion material.

The 9th Communist Party Congress was held in Wellington on 25th, 26th and 27th December 1936. Lawrence Louis SHARKEY of the Australian Political Bureau attended the Congress as a fraternal delegate. It would appear that SHARKEY was sent to New Zealand by the Australian Communist Party to put New Zealand Party on a correct line and effect certain organisational changes, following the receipt of FREEMAN's discussion material, which exposed the lack of understanding of a correct political line. It would seem also that at this time there was fairly close contact between the Australian and New Zealand Parties.

SHARKEY spoke for over two hours and the result was that a motion was carried endorsing the Australian letter and the Central Committee's recommendation that FREEMAN be removed from all official positions in the Communist Party (SHARKEY took part in the previous deliberations of the Central Committee).

The resolution adopted by the 9th Congress called for the defence of the Labour Government against reaction; stressed the need for unity of the working class; while at the same time drawing attention to the "hesitation of the Labour

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Government to restrict and suppress the activities of the reactionaries. These remained the guiding policies of the Communist Party up to 1939. The Central Committee was re-organised and many former members were replaced. Sidney William SCOTT, was moved to Wellington to take up a paid position in the Political Bureau, together with Leo SIM, Alexander GALBRAITH (present Chairman of the Party), Clement Gordon WATSON (killed in Italy in World War 2) and Albert James BIRCHFIELD.

SCOTT, through his position as Editor of the "PEOPLES VOICE" newspaper and more latterly as General Secretary of the Party, has more or less dominated the New Zealand Communist Party, for even in his capacity as Editor of the Party paper, he was responsible for the political report to successive conferences. It is largely through his guidance that the Party has, in my opinion, established its independence.

Correct policy was followed in support of the return of the Labour Government in 1938 and from the lesson learnt in that campaign, the Communist Party led popular movements uniting progressives with various political affiliations and drawing in numbers of trade unions and other organisations. The period of World War 2 gave particular emphasis to this and so successful was working class unity under Communist Party inspiration and leadership, that a firm stand was taken by the dominant leadership of the Labour Party.

As a result Communists lost control of many important trade unions and suffered generally as a result of anti-Communist propaganda both from local Labour Party circles and the Press.

A triennial Conference of the Communist Party was held in Wellington from 22nd to 24th May 1948. To all intents and purposes it was a normal routine conference but it followed closely after a conference of the Australian Communist Party and it appeared to have been called with a view to formulating a new "line" for the Party.

DRENNAN (who was then Chairman of the New Zealand Communist Party) in opening the Conference said, inter alia, that the crisis had reached extreme proportions and one of two courses had to be chosen. One, which was advocated by FRASER and SEMPLE, was the reform or adaption of working class conditions to Capitalism. The other was the real course, which was to struggle against Capitalism and Imperialist policies He was satisfied that if the problem was properly approached, by persuading the mass of the people, that the Communist Party could meet a situation requiring an alternative Government in New Zealand - that was the task ahead, to get a Government which would sustain a progressive policy.

The Political Report given by Sidney William SCOTT, dealing with the work of the Party states:-

"It is more necessary for the Communist Party to undertake this work of building a united front and people's front, because the Labour Party has failed so lamentably. The Labour Government, by identifying itself with the interests of New Zealand Capitalism and British and American Imperialism, has cut away its own support, and weakened its own political position The New Zealand Communist Party, therefore, despite the appeasement policy of the Labour Government does not desire a National Party victory. If such a victory takes place, it will not be the responsibility of the Communist Party, which will, however, endeavour to strengthen the Labour Movement generally by building, or at least organising towards a united working class, and people's front against reaction. This united front will be built not by formal alliance with leaders (although this possibility is never excluded) but by practical tasks carried out side by side with the rank and file of Labour Party members and supporters. Relations with the lower organs of the Labour Party must be strengthened and the trade unions can play an important part in this respect. There is definite opposition to the Policy of the Right Wing leadership within the lower and middle organs of the Labour Party, and this must be encouraged so as to bring pressure on the Parliamentary Labour Party and the Government The Communist Party more than ever, must constitute itself the champion and organiser of the New Zealand people in the struggle for peace, welfare and economic and national security".

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Claude JONES, President of the Queensland Communist Party, was present as a fraternal delegate at the Triennial Conference. The main purpose of his visit is not absolutely clear from the information available, but it appears that it differed from that of SHARKEY in 1936. No immediate changes were made in Party organisation, nor was the Party leadership reprimanded for following an incorrect line.

Following the Conference, JONES conducted a speaking tour throughout New Zealand, its object being to offset the anti-Communist propaganda which was so strong at that time. He was a most able and fluent speaker and apart from his ability in this direction, his visit appeared to be in the nature of a tonic for rank and file members who were wilting under the pressure of the "red baiting" propaganda. The New Zealand Communist Party is lacking in able public speakers.

I may be wrong in this assumption that JONES was here merely as an observer. However, the only real indication that the New Zealand Communist Party was tied to the Australian Communist Party was the fact that Victor George WILCOX and Aubrey Bruce SKILTON visited Australia shortly afterwards to undergo special courses at Marx House, Sydney, N.S.W.

At a meeting of the National Committee held on the 19th and 20th March, 1949, important decisions were made to intensify the work of the Party, and strengthen the National Executive. Sidney William SCOTT, was relieved of his editorship of the "PEOPLE'S VOICE" newspaper and appointed General Secretary of the Party. Aubrey Bruce SKILTON, former Wellington District Secretary, was appointed National Organising Secretary. These appointments, it was stated, would free Victor George WILCOX (former National Secretary) and Henry Mornington SMITH (Trade Union Organiser) for further intensive organisational work. WILCOX is usually styled Assistant National Secretary.

Main points in the Communist offensive were:-

1. The launching of a £6,000 (later increased to £10,000) fighting fund.
2. Increased propaganda in the form of bulletins from branches (Otahuhu Worker, North Shore Spark, News and Views) and the trade unions (Particularly waterside workers, miners, freezing workers and railway workers).
3. A very greatly increased number of Communist candidates at the 1949 General Elections.
4. Attacking the Labour Party, both through the Parliamentary Labour Party and the Federation of Labour; and
5. The campaign for higher wages.

There can be no doubt that the Communist Party propaganda during the General Election Campaign was so successful that it materially assisted in the defeat of the Labour Government.

A further split with the Labour movement came with the "walk-out" of the waterside workers and other militant delegates from the 1950 Federation of Labour Conference and the setting up of the Communist inspired Trade Union Congress. The Party has only been partly successful on the industrial field, as apart from the watersiders, only sections of the freezing workers, miners and odd local branches of unions remain affiliated to the Trade Union Congress.

The campaign for higher wages was built round the Trade Union Congress, the outcome of which is the present waterfront strike.

The Party issued the following statement following the 1949 National Committee Meeting:-

"The meeting of the National Committee of the Communist Party is considered to be the most important event in the history of the Party since the 1935 Conference. The changed role of the New Zealand Labour Government, the growing gravity of the international situation and of the internal political position have added to the importance of the

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New Zealand Communist Party's role, and the steps taken at the recent meeting will, it is felt, prove a turning point in the history not only of the Communist Party, but of the whole working class movement in New Zealand."

This statement appears to have been amply exemplified by subsequent events and actions of the Communist Party.

The activities and statements of the New Zealand Communist Party since 1949 contrast with those of the British Communist Party, as will be seen from the following excerpts taken from Harry POLLITT's report to an Extended Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Great Britain, February 26/27, 1949.

"Our failure adequately to refute teachings of the class enemies - be they Tories or right-wing Labour leaders - is a weakness equal in importance to our neglect of factory work. The responsibility for this rests with our Executive Committee and particularly with myself as General Secretary. In certain ways we have allowed ourselves to be influenced by the reformist ideas of the Bevin, Cripps, Attlee and Morrisons, and the middle of the road hikers. Especially must be remember to clarify the minds of the workers on the importance of the class struggle - blurred over, as I have described, by the present right wingers".

The initiative shown by the New Zealand Communist Party since 1949 would seem to confirm, in many respects my earlier submission that it now follows an independent line of action.

There would appear to be no great influence exerted on the New Zealand Communist Party by the British Communist Party and I think the same can be said of the Australian Communist Party. It is true that Claude JONES was present at the 1948 Triennial Conference, but the important decisions for re-organisation and the extended work of the Party were made by the Meeting of the National Committee in March 1949. At the latter Meeting there was no important delegate representing the Australian Communist Party, as was the case in 1936 when SHARKEY visited here.

Contacts between Australia and New Zealand have been few. Ronald William Jackson HURD, a leading Party member of Australia arrived in New Zealand in 1939 together with his wife, nee Pat DEVANNEY and Douglas James MOREY. Ronald HURD and MOREY were stated to have come here to assist in keeping the Party on a correct line. Shortly after their arrival both HURD and MOREY were appointed to what was then the Auckland Provincial Committee of the Communist Party. MOREY was somewhat of a "Yes" man for HURD. However, in 1940 both came in for extreme censure, HURD in particular, from the Party for their disruptive tactics, and their expulsion from the Party was under serious consideration. They dropped out of Party activity and returned to Australia in 1942.

Recent contacts have been James HEALEY, President of the Australian Waterwise Workers Federation and Rupert LOCKWOOD.

HEALEY's visit was primarily as a fraternal delegate to the 1949 Biennial Conference of the New Zealand Waterside Workers Union.

LOCKWOOD, a fluent public speaker, toured New Zealand under the auspices of the New Zealand Peace Council. As a member of the World Peace Committee, LOCKWOOD was a greater advertisement for the Peace Campaign than local speakers.

Some leading members of the New Zealand Communist Party, notably WILCOX, SKILTON and George CARROLL, now Waikato Organiser for the Party, have been trained as Communist leaders at Marx House, Sydney. The New Zealand Communist Party is not sufficiently strong numerically to support a training school such as that conducted at Marx House and the logical thing is to send New Zealand trainees to Sydney because of its comparative nearness to this country and the similarity of conditions and problems confronting the Australian and New Zealand Communist Parties.

It is significant that Sidney William SCOTT, General Secretary of the New Zealand Communist Party, has not been so trained. He has, however, been highly commended by Communist leaders outside New Zealand for his political perspicacity. It is because of SCOTT's ability that the New Zealand Communist Party is largely able to play an independent role.

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This report is, in the main, historical, but only in this way was it possible to establish that the New Zealand Communist Party has now reached a state of maturity, sufficient for it to take an independent attitude in the World Communist Movement, that is, independent of having any close ties with any particular Communist Party within the British Commonwealth.

For your information please.

(sgd) R.Jones.

Detective Sergeant 3272.

The Superintendent,
AUCKLAND.

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NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

X50/475

Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.

11th December, 1950.

REPORT of: Detective Sergeant R. JONES, No. 3272.

Relative to: Municipal Elections, 1950 - Communist Campaign.

I respectfully report that the Communist 1950 Municipal Election campaign was broadly speaking a half-hearted effort, and was in marked contrast with the enthusiasm shown by Communist Party members in the 1949 Parliamentary Elections.

Following the announcement that the Party would be standing a majority ticket, the rank and file openly expressed their disapproval of the decision. The general tenor of their complaint was that the Party was in danger of being declared an illegal Party, and while this threat prevailed it was dangerous to expose the rank and file to open activity which would be necessary in the organisation of public meetings, distribution of literature and other activities connected with election campaigns.

Further, that as the Party was being reproached with regard to the Korean war, the chances of enhancing its reputation in an election campaign would be very slight. The expense was therefore unwarranted.

Only one pamphlet, "Communists for Peace and Progress", was issued during the election campaign. This pamphlet was forwarded from this office.

Those taking part in meetings were confined to well-known Party members. In the many reports on these meetings which have been forwarded, it will be noted that in several instances, the candidates themselves also acted as chairmen of the meetings.

It would seem therefore, that the Party leaders were influenced by rank and file opinion in this instance.

The Communist campaign in this election cannot be entirely divorced from all parties.

The decision of Sir John ALLUM to stand as an Independent in opposition to the official Citizens and Ratepayers Association's official candidate, Mr. COAKLEY, resulted in splitting the anti-Labour vote, and finally the campaign became one of personalities. Sir John ALLUM headed the poll for the Mayoralty with an almost absolute majority over all his opponents. The figures were:

ALLUM	19,356
STEWART (Labour)	12,789
COAKLEY (Citizens)	6,076
WILCOX (Communist)	520

D. BROPHY (Labour), who topped the list of the unsuccessful candidates with 13,091, will be seen to have obtained more votes than STEWART, the Labour Mayoral candidate. It seems clear, therefore, that there was not a solid Labour vote. Many

Labour supporters are said to have supported Sir John ALLUM. WILCOX did not receive the support that Communist Council candidates received, and it is possible that some Communist votes were diverted to either ALLUM or STEWART.

Many rank and file Communists considered it a waste of a vote to cast it for WILCOX. A further explanation of WILCOX's low vote was given to me by [REDACTED] subject of a Subversive History Sheet and a member of the National Executive of the Communist Party. She informed me that many Party members and sympathisers are of the opinion that ballots for Local Body and Parliamentary Elections are no longer secret. Particularly is this opinion held by elderly people. They believe that ballot papers are subsequently scrutinised by the Police to ascertain who voted Communist. This could easily, in their view, be obtained in the election of the Mayor, but presents a much wider field for the election of the City Council, where there were 59 candidates seeking election.

[REDACTED] states: "We could always rely on at least 2,000 votes for the Communist Party in Local Body Elections in the past. I am quite sure that the fear of Police scrutiny of ballot papers has accounted for the low vote this time. Why, Party members and sympathisers are even too scared to turn out to Peace meetings now, for fear of being spotted by the "Gestapo".

[REDACTED] statement has been verified to a large extent from another reliable source.

The total Communist votes cast in the 1949 Parliamentary Elections in the city Electorates of Arch Hill, Auckland Central, Parnell and Ponsonby was 821, i.e. 301 more than that obtained by WILCOX in the present election.

The average Communist vote received in the present election for the City Council was 2202.

The average vote of the successful candidates is 15,003.

The average Communist vote is 14.6% of the average successful candidate.

Only 42.4% of the registered electors voted in this election. As against this, there is evidence that there was no "solid" Communist vote. The top Communist vote was received by George Edward JACKSON, namely 2,800, while SPILLER at the bottom of the poll received 1,523.

The average Communist vote percentage of the total number of votes cast is 5.6%, which is a much higher percentage than that recorded in the electorates at the 1949 Parliamentary Elections.

The average Communist vote percentage of the total number of electors on the municipal roll is 2.4%. This figure shows an increase of .6% on that recorded in the 1949 Parliamentary Elections.

In my report on the 1949 Parliamentary Elections, which was forwarded from this office on 5.12.49, I estimated, on a percentage basis, that there were 3,066 Communists and sympathisers in Auckland. When it is considered that the populated suburbs of Mt. Eden, Mt. Roskill, North Shore, New Lynn, Newmarket and Onehunga are not included in the Electors Roll for the City of Auckland, it would appear that the figure quoted is not exaggerated.

Municipal Elections in my opinion are, however, too unreliable on which to base any firm conclusions with regard to Communist strength, there being too many extraneous influences.

There were 2 Independent candidates in the present local body Elections, namely Richard ARMSTRONG and Ronald Edward JONES. ARMSTRONG, who is the subject of a Subversive History Sheet, stood for the Auckland City Council and polled 4,926 votes. He has been active in the New Zealand Peace Council.

Ronald Edward JONES is secretary of the Auckland branch of the Waterside Workers Union. He was nominated by his union as a candidate for the Auckland Harbour Board. His candidature was not accepted by the Auckland Labour Representation Committee. JONES's sponsors were furious at this rebuff, and he subsequently stood as an Independent. He polled 4,169 votes, as compared with 14,598 which was the lowest figure polled by a successful candidate.

Leslie Frederick KIRBY^{9/F} was re-elected for his second term as a Labour Councillor to the Onehunga Borough Council. He is identical with the person of the same name who is the subject of a Subversive History Sheet. KIRBY has not come under notice for some years in connection with any Communist activity. He is not suspected in Labour Party circles of having any Communist association.

On page 6 of the People's Voice Newspaper dated 29.11.50, an article "Labour Lets Workers Down" is devoted to discussing the Election.

For your information,



The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

Detective Sergeant, 3272

Citizens Hold 18 Seats

MISS RATTRAY HEADS LIST

The Citizens and Ratepayers' Association retained 18 of the 21 seats on the City Council. The three it lost were taken by Labour. All the unsuccessful candidates saved their deposits by gaining more than 10 per cent of the votes cast for the last successful candidate.

The voting for the individual candidates is as follows, an asterisk denoting a sitting member. Citizens' Association candidates are denoted by (C), Labour by (L), Independents by (I) and Communists by (Com).

Successful

*Joan Rattray (C) ..	19,138
*Barbara Roche (C) ..	18,854
*F. N. Ambler (C) ..	17,863
*A. S. Bailey (C) ..	16,862
*R. G. McElroy (C) ..	15,723
*K. N. Buttle (C) ..	15,369
*W. C. Mackay (C) ..	15,357
*W. M. Tongue (C) ..	14,919
W. Butler (L) ..	14,778
*R. S. Harrop (C) ..	14,671
*F. G. Lintott (C) ..	14,423
*Mary Wright (C) ..	14,288
T. A. Bennett (C) ..	14,082
*S. H. Hunter (C) ..	14,079
C. V. Austin (L) ..	13,988
J. M. Whittaker (C) ..	13,638
*H. M. Kirk (C) ..	13,582
H. S. Barry (C) ..	13,426
Agnes Dodd (L) ..	13,418
*J. W. Hyland (C) ..	13,352
R. H. MacKay (C) ..	13,259

Unsuccessful

D. Brophy (L) ..	13,091
H. F. Callagher (L) ..	13,050
W. Duncan (L) ..	13,042
G. G. Grant (L) ..	12,980
N. R. King (L) ..	12,977
*H. G. St. V. Boechey (C) ..	12,934
Margaret Warren (L) ..	12,739
*A. de C. Tronson (C) ..	12,700
P. Richardson (L) ..	12,680
M. C. Courby (L) ..	12,654
R. N. S. J. Wrathall (L) ..	12,603
A. R. Tanner (L) ..	12,600
J. D. Dimond (C) ..	12,333
J. H. Weaver (L) ..	12,190
F. J. S. Williams (L) ..	11,817
R. J. Katterns (L) ..	11,603
L. D. Murphy (L) ..	11,459
C. H. Penwill (L) ..	11,132
I. G. Paddison (L) ..	11,121
A. W. Panchard (L) ..	11,057
I. J. Millicich (L) ..	10,850
*H. E. G. Matthews (I) ..	10,830
A. C. Marks (I) ..	7,533
R. Armstrong (I) ..	4,926
G. V. Mullenger (I) ..	4,569
Amy Milburn (I) ..	3,295
G. E. Jackson (Com) ..	2,800
R. C. Black (Com) ..	2,794
B. Bray (Com) ..	2,714
Rita Smith (Com) ..	2,671
A. Drennan (Com) ..	2,583
D. McEwen (Com) ..	2,571
J. J. Mitchell (Com) ..	2,467
A. B. Skilton (Com) ..	1,615
F. D. Muller (Com) ..	1,581
W. McAra (Com) ..	1,577
A. G. Rait (Com) ..	1,526
H. L. Spiller (Com) ..	1,523

HARBOUR BOARD CHANGES

New Constitution

MR N. DONALDSON TOPS THE POLL

Mr N. Donaldson, former vice-president of the Auckland branch of the Waterside Workers' Union, headed the poll for five City members on the Auckland Harbour Board by a comfortable margin at Saturday's election. The chairman, Mr W. F. McCallum, was 30 votes behind the last successful candidate on the provisional count, with 1400 postal and declaration votes still to be counted.

Saturday's election was the first since non-elective membership was abolished.

The composition of the new board, on the provisional count, is:—

CITY

Successful

*N. Donaldson (L) ..	18,352
*B. Turner (C) ..	16,032
*L. D. J. Nathan (C) ..	15,234
J. Hamilton (L) ..	14,809
*A. G. Wilson (C) ..	14,599

Unsuccessful

*W. F. McCallum (I) ..	14,569
G. F. H. Forsyth (L) ..	14,132
J. D. McMillan (C) ..	13,731
P. L. Hodge (C) ..	13,656
*S. W. Huret (L) ..	12,823
J. F. C. Ostermeyer (L) ..	11,458
R. E. Jones (I) ..	4,169

MT. EDEN, MT. ALBERT, MT. ROSKILL

Successful

*G. E. Carr (C) ..	8,742
E. W. Turner (C) ..	8,038

Unsuccessful

T. H. Blackwell (L) ..	6,134
*R. Freeland (L) ..	6,040

ONEHUNGA, NEWMARKET, ETC.

Successful

*P. McLennan (L) ..	5,049
---------------------	-------

Unsuccessful

F. Livingstone (C) ..	4,180
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NORTH SHORE BOROUGH

Successful

*J. Melling (C) (unopposed).	
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WAITEMATA, NEW LYNN, ETC.

Successful

*T. A. Bishop (C) ..	8,184
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Unsuccessful

C. W. King (L) ..	1,317
T. C. Webster (I) ..	1,133

MANUKAU, OTAHUHU, ETC.

Successful

*W. W. Massey (unopposed).	
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FRANKLIN, PUKEKOHE, ETC.

Successful

R. J. Glasgow ..	1,118
------------------	-------

Unsuccessful

J. Dean ..	996
K. A. Murray ..	656

HAMILTON, TE AWAMUTU, ETC.

Successful

*C. Roose ..	4,466
--------------	-------

Unsuccessful

A. M. Bisle ..	1,804
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WAIKATO COUNTIES, ETC.

Successful

*A. S. Sutherland, M.P. (unopposed).	
W. J. Lusty (unopposed).	

GENERAL ELECTION, 1949

(30th November)

TELEGRAPHIC RESULTS

PARTIES

C.	Communist.	I.S.C.	Independent Social Credit.
D.L.	Democratic Labour.	K.	Kauhanganui.
I.	Independent.	L.	Labour.
I.L.	Independent Labour.	N.	National.
I.L. and R.	Independent Labour and Ratana.	R.S.	Revolutionary Socialist.
I. Lib.	Independent Liberal.		

* Denotes members of last Parliament.

Electorates.	Candidates.	Parties.	1st Progress Results.	2nd Progress Results.	3rd Progress Results.	4th Progress Results.	5th Progress Results.	6th Progress Results.	Final Results.
Arch Hill (15 polling-places)	*Parry	L.							8399
	Smith	N.							3225
	Wilcox	C.							343
Ashburton (63 polling-places.)	*Gerard	N.							7641
	Rose	L.							5257.
Auckland Central (10 polling-places.)	*Anderton	L.							5863
	Bradley	N.							3064
	Jones	I.							73
	Mitchell	C.							193
Avon (26 polling-places.)	Kinzett	N.							5284
	*Mathison	L.							9877
Awarua (83 polling-places.)	*Herron	N.							7997
	Pickering	L.							4818
Bay of Plenty (57 polling-places.)	Santon	L.							5313
	*Sullivan	N.							8993
Brooklyn (14 polling-places.)	Birchfield	C.							241
	Burns	N.							4220
	*Fraser	L.							7176
Buller (119 polling-places.)	McDonald	N.							5735
	*Skinner	L.							7941
Central Otago (102 polling-places.)	*Bodkin	N.							8457
	Rodgers	L.							4551
Christchurch Cent'l polling-places.)	*Macfarlane	L.							7589
	Marlow	N.							3952
	Ostler	C.							218

Electorates.	Candidates.	Parties.	1st Progress Results.	2nd Progress Results.	3rd Progress Results.	4th Progress Results.	5th Progress Results.	6th Progress Results.	Final Results.
Clutha ..	Keenan ..	L. ..							4902
(76 polling-places.)	*Roy ..	N. ..							8133
Dunedin Central	*Connolly ..	L. ..							6813
(22 polling-places.)	Murdoch ..	N. ..							5824
Eden ..	Curran ..	L. ..							4925
(13 polling-places.)	*Fortune ..	N. ..							7183
Egmont ..	*Corbett ..	N. ..							8693
(55 polling-places.)	Richmond ..	L. ..							4154
Fendalton ..	Gilmour ..	I. Lib. ..							565
(22 polling-places.)	*Holland ..	N. ..							8362
	Newman ..	L. ..							4286
Franklin ..	*Massey ..	N. ..							9635
(48 polling-places.)	Parsons ..	L. ..							4154
Gisborne ..	Dudfield ..	N. ..							7045
(71 polling-places.)	Keeling ..	L. ..							7534
Grey Lynn ..	Faulkner ..	N. ..							3159
(16 polling-places.)	*Hackett ..	L. ..							7362
	Lee ..	D.L. ..							2627
Hamilton ..	Granville ..	L. ..							6047
(16 polling-places.)	*Ross ..	N. ..							7652
Hastings ..	*Cullen ..	L. ..							6983
(28 polling-places.)	Jones ..	N. ..							7965
Hauraki ..	Peacock ..	L. ..							4566
(73 polling-places.)	*Sutherland ..	N. ..							8508
Hawke's Bay ..	Beattie ..	L. ..							4964
(111 polling-places.)	*Harker ..	N. ..							8406
Hobson ..	Lane ..	L. ..							4212
(113 polling-places.)	*Smith ..	N. ..							9280
Hurunui ..	*Gillespie ..	N. ..							7952
(61 polling-places.)	Smith ..	L. ..							5417
Hutt ..	Heatley ..	N. ..							5880
(15 polling-places.)	*Nash ..	L. ..							8153
	Simpson ..	R.S. ..							100.

Electorates.	Candidates.	Parties.	1st Progress Results.	2nd Progress Results.	3rd Progress Results.	4th Progress Results.	5th Progress Results.	6th Progress Results.	Final Results.
Invercargill ..	Denham ..	L. ..							6738
(31 polling-places.)	*Hanan ..	N. ..							7897
Island Bay ..	Childs ..	N. ..							4565
(17 polling-places.)	*McKeen ..	L. ..							7335
	Smith ..	C. ..							184
Karori ..	*Bowden ..	N. ..							8367
(17 polling-places.)	Harris ..	L. ..							4782
Lyttelton ..	Beauchamp ..	N. ..							6780
(45 polling-places.)	*McCombs ..	L. ..							7758
Manawatu ..	*Oram ..	N. ..							8174
(60 polling-places.)	Rodgers ..	L. ..							4741
Marlborough ..	*Shand ..	N. ..							7861
(82 polling-places.)	Wilson ..	L. ..							5999
Marsden ..	*Murdoch ..	N. ..							8746
(67 polling-places.)	Ross ..	L. ..							5470
Miramar ..	*Semple ..	L. ..							7193
(14 polling-places.)	Stanton ..	C. ..							229
	Taylor ..	N. ..							5878
Mornington ..	Hannan ..	C. ..							208
(23 polling-places.)	*Hudson ..	L. ..							9282
	Stephens ..	N. ..							5097
Mount Albert ..	*Freer ..	L. ..							7295
(15 polling-places.)	Judson ..	N. ..							6364
Mount Victoria ..	Hyde ..	I. ..							94
(13 polling-places.)	*Marshall ..	N. ..							6562
	Seddon ..	L. ..							4754
Napier ..	*Armstrong ..	L. ..							7384
(27 polling-places.)	Brown ..	C. ..							126
	Cummins ..	I.L. ..							118
	Tucker ..	N. ..							6663
Nelson ..	Marshall ..	L. ..							7047
(29 polling-places.)	*Neale ..	N. ..							8420
New Plymouth ..	*Aderman ..	N. ..							8250
(32 polling-places.)	Parker ..	L. ..							6733

Electoralates.	Candidates.	Parties.	1st Progress Results.	2nd Progress Results.	3rd Progress Results.	4th Progress Results.	5th Progress Results.	6th Progress Results.	Final Results.
North Dunedin .. (28 polling-places.)	Brickell ..	N. ..							6522
	Marston ..	C. ..							109
	*Walls ..	L. ..							7090
North Shore .. (17 polling-places.)	Eyre ..	N. ..							7835
	*Finlay ..	L. ..							6491
Oamaru .. (56 polling-places.)	Hayman ..	N. ..							7415
	*Nordmeyer ..	L. ..							6721
Onehunga .. (15 polling-places.)	Coates ..	N. ..							5955
	*Osborne ..	L. ..							8255
	Stanley ..	C. ..							198
Onslow .. (34 polling-places.)	*Combs ..	L. ..							9391
	Meadowcroft ..	N. ..							7464
Otahuhu .. (26 polling-places.)	Dixon ..	L. ..							7218
	Gotz ..	N. ..							8493
Otaki .. (43 polling-places.)	Capstick ..	L. ..							8166
	*Maher ..	N. ..							8540
Pahiatua .. (104 polling-places.)	*Holyoake ..	N. ..							8663
	O'Leary ..	L. ..							4156
Palmerston North (18 polling-places.)	Tennent ..	N. ..							7368
	*Wilson ..	L. ..							6850
Parnell .. (20 polling-places.)	*Rae ..	N. ..							6255
	Schramm ..	L. ..							5295
	Smith ..	C. ..							131
Patea .. (54 polling-places.)	Finer ..	L. ..							5961
	*Sheat ..	N. ..							7802
Petone .. (14 polling-places.)	Croft ..	N. ..							5194
	*Moochan ..	L. ..							7721
	Quinn ..	C. ..							207
Piako .. (41 polling-places.)	*Goosman ..	N. ..							9599
	Kenah ..	L. ..							3333
Ponsonby .. (13 polling-places.)	Jamieson ..	I. Lib. ..							169
	Kingston ..	N. ..							5161
	*Macdonald ..	L. ..							7439
	Smith ..	C. ..							140

Electorates.	Candidates.	Parties.	1st Progress Results.	2nd Progress Results.	3rd Progress Results.	4th Progress Results.	5th Progress Results.	6th Progress Results.	Final Results.
Raglan ..	*Baxter ..	L. ..							6824
(60 polling-places.)	Johnstone ..	N. ..							7846
Rangitikei ..	De Malmanche ..	L. ..							4791
(72 polling-places.)	*Gordon ..	N. ..							8101
Remuera ..	*Algie ..	N. ..							8878
(16 polling-places.)	Watt ..	L. ..							3799
Riccarton ..	Lake ..	N. ..							5906
(34 polling-places.)	*McLagan ..	L. ..							8613
	Taylor ..	C. ..							204
Rodney ..	Leaming ..	L. ..							5080
(74 polling-places.)	*Webb ..	N. ..							9626
Roskill ..	Freeman ..	L. ..							5957
(19 polling-places.)	*Langstone ..	I.L. ..							1097
	Rae ..	N. ..							7372
St. Albans ..	Manning ..	L. ..							6193
(20 polling-places.)	*Watts ..	N. ..							7335
St. Kilda ..	*Jones ..	L. ..							7310
(23 polling-places.)	Lyon ..	N. ..							6979
Selwyn ..	*McAlpine ..	N. ..							8205
(60 polling-places.)	Sharp ..	L. ..							6878
Sydenham ..	*Howard ..	L. ..							9246
(15 polling-places.)	Moody ..	N. ..							3603
Tamaki ..	Halstead ..	N. ..							8364
(33 polling-places.)	Jordan ..	I.S.C. ..							7123
	*Skinner ..	L. ..							7269
Tauranga ..	*Doidge ..	N. ..							9330
(52 polling-places.)	Pickett ..	L. ..							4735
Timaru ..	*Carr ..	L. ..							7364
(30 polling-places.)	Lockington ..	N. ..							6532
Waikato ..	Burfitt ..	L. ..							3499
(52 polling-places.)	*Sim ..	N. ..							9422
Waimarino ..	*Kearins ..	L. ..							7319
(142 polling-places.)	MacPherson ..	N. ..							7117

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

Electorates.	Candidates.	Parties.	1st Progress Results.	2nd Progress Results.	3rd Progress Results.	4th Progress Results.	5th Progress Results.	6th Progress Results.	Final Results.
Waimate (84 polling-places.)	Davison ..	L. ..							5699
	Hayes ..	I.S.C. ..							217.
	*Kidd ..	N. ..							7426
Wairarapa (52 polling-places.)	Cooksley ..	N. ..							7596
	Hansen ..	L. ..							6633.
Waitakere (34 polling-places.)	Jackson ..	C. ..							386
	*Mason ..	L. ..							8341
	Tapper ..	N. ..							7411
Waitomo (104 polling-places.)	*Broadfoot ..	N. ..							9026
	Kitts ..	L. ..							3947.
Wallace (90 polling-places.)	Freeman ..	L. ..							3868
	*Macdonald ..	N. ..							8379
Wanganui (20 polling-places.)	*Cotterill ..	L. ..							7336
	O'Keeffe ..	N. ..							6317.
Wellington Central (13 polling-places.)	Appleton ..	N. ..							4503
	*Chapman ..	L. ..							5078
Westland (84 polling-places.)	*Kent ..	L. ..							8013
	Mitchell ..	C. ..							328
	O'Regan ..	N. ..							5269

350/11/49-114201

Southern Maori Loukatene L. 970
 Bates N. 283

Eastern Maori - Omana L. 8487.
 Carroll N. 5276.

Western Maori: I. M. Ratana (L.), 9069; H. Marumaru (N.), 2752; R. Amohanga (L.), 118; H. T. Hovell (L.), 120; G. N. Matthews (L.), 326; K. Nutana (Kaibanganui), 219; R. M. Rangitaura (Dem. Lab.), 115; T. Tana (L.), 122; W. W. Wararua (L.), 154; T. T. Wirihana (L.), 302. Informal, 287. Majority for Ratana, 6317. Increase on election night majority 551.

Northern Maori
T. P. Paikea (L) 5841
J. T. Henare (N) 3812
M. Otene (L) 93
P. Tuwhare (K) 30
Informal 127
Majority for Paikea ... 2029
Mr Paikea's election night majority is increased by 17.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

(Commissioner's Office),

Wellington

115

~~Secret~~

Memorandum

16

December 1946

Re: Hon. Mr. Fraser

I forward herewith a report relative to the expenditure of the Communist Party on its election campaign

J. Cunningham
Comm Police

96
a.49/358~~SECRET~~

7th December, 1949.

COMMUNIST PARTY VOTE IN THE GENERAL ELECTION HELD
ON THE 30TH NOVEMBER, 1949. TO THE NEW ZEALAND
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

I am forwarding the following information concerning the Communist Party in the General Election held here on the 30th November as it will probably be of general interest to you and your staff.

The Communist Party candidates contested sixteen constituencies at the General Election as compared with three in 1946. The average result for the Communist candidates was no better than that which was experienced in the General Election held in November, 1946. In fact fewer people favoured the Communists in the recent Election than that held in 1946.

The total votes polled by Communist candidates in the sixteen constituencies was 3,267, whereas the provisional count, excluding absentee, postal and seamen's votes, shows that 193,138 votes were cast in those electorates.

In 1946 in three constituencies the Communist candidates polled a total of 1,138 votes from a provisional total of 35,942 votes.

The National Organiser of the New Zealand Communist Party, Mr V.O. Wilcox, was the Communist Party candidate for the Arch Hill constituency and he polled 321 votes. In 1946 he was the candidate for the Party in the same constituency and polled 534 votes.

I have attached a schedule showing the votes of all the candidates in the constituencies in which a member of the Communist Party was a candidate.

JG
Director of Security Intelligence.

Encl

~~SECRET~~

Enclosure to memorandum S.49/358 of the 7th December, 1949.
 from the Director of Security Intelligence, Wellington, N.Z.

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NEW ZEALAND GENERAL ELECTION - 30TH NOVEMBER, 1949

COMMUNIST PARTY CANDIDATES

(1) ARCH HILL

* W.E. Parry (L)	...	...	7,854
G.F. Smith (N)	...	...	2,989
PR V. Wilcox (C)	...	...	321
Majority for Parry	...	...	<u>4,865</u>

(Labour majority 1946: 6,585)

(2) AUCKLAND CENTRAL

* W.T. Anderson (L)	...	...	5,094
L.G. Bradley (N)	...	...	2,754
PR J.J. Mitchell (C)	...	...	193
H.K. Jones (I)	...	...	60

Majority for Anderson	...	<u>2,340</u>
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(Labour majority 1946: 3,478)

(3) BROOKLYN

* P. Fraser (L)	...	...	6,679
Mrs A. Burns (N)	...	...	3,838
PR Mrs C. Birchfield (C)	...	...	229

Majority for Fraser	...	<u>2,841</u>
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(Labour majority 1946: 3,935)

(4) CHRISTCHURCH CENTRAL

* R.M. Macfarlane (L)	...	...	7,163
K.J. Marlow (N)	...	...	3,655
PR H.A. Ostler (C)	...	...	210

Majority for Macfarlane	...	<u>3,508</u>
-------------------------	-----	--------------

(Labour majority 1946: 4,420)

(5) DUNEDIN NORTH

* R. Walls (L)	...	...	6,577
R.G. Brickell (N)	...	...	5,790
PR J.L. Marston (C)	...	...	103

Majority for Walls	...	<u>787</u>
--------------------	-----	------------

(Labour majority 1946: 1,630)

(6) ISLAND BAY

* R. McKeen (L)	...	...	6,771
H. E. Childs (N)	...	...	4,186
P R. Smith (C)	...	...	<u>171</u>
Majority for McKeen ..	...		<u>2,585</u>

(Labour majority 1946: 3,958)

(7) MIRAMAR

* R. Semple (L)	...	...	6,619
C. H. Taylor (N)	...	...	5,422
P R. Stanton (C)	...	...	<u>215</u>
Majority for Semple ..	...		<u>1,197</u>

(Labour majority 1946: 2,482)

(8) MORNINGTON

* W. A. Hudson (L)	...	...	8,671
G. H. C. Stephens (N)	...	...	4,628
P R. J. J. Hannon (C)	...	...	<u>200</u>
Majority for Hudson ..	...		<u>2,043</u>

(Labour majority 1946: 4,681)

(9) NAPIER

* A. E. Armstrong (L)	...	...	6,813
W. Tucker (N)	...	...	6,019
P R. C. J. Brown (C)	...	...	<u>118</u>
J. Cummins (I. L.)	...	...	<u>110</u>
Majority for Armstrong ..	...		<u>794</u>

(Labour majority 1946: 1,845)

(10) ONEHUNGA

* A. G. Osborne (L)	...	...	7,715
A. A. Coates (N)	...	...	5,516
P R. R. Stanley (C)	...	...	<u>187</u>
Majority for Osborne ..	...		<u>2,199</u>

(Labour majority 1946: 3,424)

(11) PAPUATU

* D. H. Rae (N)	...	...	5,595
F. W. Schreim (L)	...	...	4,913
Mrs L. R. Smith (C)	...	...	<u>116</u>
Majority for Rae ..	...		<u>682</u>

(National majority 1946: 206)

(12) PETONE

* H. Moohan (L)	...	...	7,265
H. P. Croft (N)	...	...	4,793
PF A. Quinn (C)	...	...	<u>190</u>
Majority for Moohan	...		<u>2,472</u>

(Labour majority 1946: 4,019)

(13) PONSONBY

* R. Macdonald (L)	...	...	6,755
D. H. Kingston (N)	...	...	4,671
W. F. Jamieson (I. Lib)	...	...	158
PF H. M. Smith (C)	...	...	<u>130</u>
Majority for Macdonald	...		<u>2,084</u>

(Labour majority 1946: 3,431)

(14) RICCARTON

* A. McLagan (L)	...	...	8,046
H. R. Lake (N)	...	...	5,471
PF R. Taylor (C)	...	...	<u>189</u>
Majority for McLagan	...		<u>2,575</u>

(Labour majority 1946: 3,875)

(15) WAITAKERE

* H. G. R. Mason (L)	...	...	7,761
R. Tepper (N)	...	...	6,895
PF G. Jackson (C)	...	...	<u>367</u>
Majority for Mason ..	...		<u>866</u>

(Labour majority 1946: 2,797)

(16) WESTLAND

* J. B. Kent (L)	...	...	7,520
P. J. O'Regan (N)	...	...	5,015
PF R. H. Mitchell (C)	...	...	<u>328</u>
Majority for Kent ...	...		<u>2,505</u>

(Labour majority 1946: ---Not known---
Labour majority 1947 by-election: 2,022)

* Sitting Member.
(L) Labour.
(N) National.
(C) Communist.
(I) Independent.
(IL) Independent Labour.
(ILib) Independent Liberal.

S.49/358.

[Form No. 108.

105

~~SECRET~~



NEW ZEALAND POLICE

Subject: COMMUNIST PARTY ELECTION CAMPAIGN (1949) - Review of

"Vide attached"

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

Please see my report
attached.

B. Jones

Det. sergt. 6.12.49

Forwarded to the Commissioner.

S. Hall

Superintendent of Police.

2.49

Seen

9.12.49

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

104

Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.

5 December 1949.

REPORT of Detective Sergeant R. Jones No. 3272
relative to COMMUNIST PARTY ELECTION CAMPAIGN (1949) - Review
of.

I respectfully submit the following review of
the Communist Party campaign in Auckland in connection with
the 1949 General Elections.

The Communist Party did not stand any candidates
in the 1938 and 1943 General Elections. In 1943 (a war time
election) the whole of the Communist Party organisation was
behind the Labour Government and many of its members functioned
on Labour Party Election Committees. While admitting many
weaknesses in Labour's policy, the Communist Party regarded
the return of a Labour Government as most desirable.

In 1946 the Communist Party sought an electoral
understanding with the Labour Party. In seeking a conference
with the Labour Party to discuss this matter Alexander DRENNAN,
then chairman of the NZ Communist Party, stated that his party
was considering contesting the elections in order to place its
independent views before the people of the Dominion. A
conference of the Communist Party had decided that the Party
was resolved to again work with intense earnestness for the
return of the Labour Government and this decision, it was
stated, would be acted upon whether or not there was a closer
understanding, official or unofficial, between the Communist
Party and the Labour Party. The extent of direct Communist
participation in the elections, it was further stated, would
be extremely limited and it would not in any way jeopardise
the Labour Government's return.

When a remit asking for the joint conference was
put to the Federation of Labour conference in June 1946, it
was lost by 141 votes to 81. The National Executive of the
Labour Party also rejected the proposal for a joint meeting
between the two parties.

The Communist Party stood three candidates in
1946 in the following electorates, - Arch Hill, Island Bay, and
Christchurch Central. Its slogan was "Return 77 Labour and
3 Communist candidates".

In the 1946 election, less than eighteen months
after World War II, the Communist Party were still basking in
the reflected glory of the legend of "our grand and gallant
Soviet Allies". There is no doubt that the Communist Party
then had the confidence and support of a fair number of
working people. Further, its influence in the Trade Union
movement was strong. Most of the militant unions in Auckland
had Communist leadership and the Executive of the Auckland
Trades Council was almost entirely comprised of Communists.

For the 1949 General Elections the Communist Party
faced an entirely different situation. The open antagonism
of Labour leaders to the Communist Party gradually led to the
defeat of Communist leadership in the militant trade unions
and Auckland Trades Council. The role of the Soviet Union
in the international sphere and the possibilities of a third

world war also mitigated against the mana of the Communist Party.

In 1949 no electoral understanding was sought by the Communist Party with the Labour Party. In an official statement on its relations with the Labour Government the Communist Party declared that in all main respects the National and Labour Parties were identical and that the Communist Party constituted the only working class opposition to capitalist policies.

The statement continued "We still pursue a united front policy both from below and on top. A united front with the New Zealand Labour Party is inconceivable. Our paths today diverge and no united front is possible with these top leaders, but we pursue the united front continuously with the rank and file and with honest and progressive men and women in various positions both inside and outside the Labour Party. The treachery of the Labour Government compels us to expose it although we know that many workers have not yet realised the extent of its treachery and hence continue to support it".

The keynote of the Communist Party election campaign was to carry out the strongest possible independent Communist Party campaign, firstly, in the electorates where candidates were standing and secondly, in every electorate where there were Communist Party branches, members or supporters.

The Communist Party stood 16 candidates in all, six of which were in Auckland, and in addition gave some measure of support to the Independent candidates, Mr. Frank LANGSTONE (Roskill) and Mr. John Alexander LEE (Grey Lynn).

In January 1949 the Communist Party opened a fund known as the "SOLIDARITY FUND". On 20.3.49 this fund was re-named the "ELECTION FIGHTING FUND" and the objective was to raise £10,000. The last total published in the People's Voice newspaper dated 30.11.49 shows that a total of £9,126/3/4d had been received, while from a reliable source it was learnt that £12,000 in pledges had been promised and £8,000 in cash had been paid in.

In former campaigns for funds it had been the practice of the Communist Party to publish the names of subscribers and in this way the names of many new Party members were learnt. During the present campaign, almost without exception, individual donations were not recorded, - only the amounts paid in by the respective branches being published.

One of the reasons for this is no doubt because the Communist Party in New Zealand, as well as in other parts of the Empire, fear that they will be declared an illegal party and are therefore preparing to work as an underground movement. Some further corroboration of this was gained when it was reported from a reliable source that the Party during the election campaign intended to use for open activity only those members who were well known to the Police. This practice was carried out and few new members were learnt at this office as a result of the election campaign.

William George WAKELEY, who is Auckland organiser for the Communist Party was to have been the election organiser. However he was laid off as a result of an ulcerated duodenum. He was replaced by Gordon Harold ANDERSEN, known as Bill ANDERSON, a member of the Auckland District Committee.

A large number of leaflets, copies of which have been forwarded from this office, were delivered to householders and at meetings. Sticker and poster campaigns were organised in the electorates and in regard to this Roy STANLEY and John Robert FRENCH (Stanley's organiser) were prosecuted on 24.11.49 under the Post and Telegraph Act for sticking posters on telegraph poles. Both defendants were convicted and discharged. Some leaflets

were distributed through the post.

In 1946 the cost of printing for the Communist election campaign amounted to £260. In 1949 the election literature was printed almost entirely by the Forward Press, which is owned by the Communist Party.

House to house canvassing and job and factory meetings met with little success.

Communist Party meetings were advertised over the Commercial Broadcasting Station 1ZB and in the New Zealand Herald newspaper. The proprietors of the Auckland Star newspaper refused to accept advertisements in connection with the election campaign or to report any meetings.

Following a precedent set up in 1946 Communist candidates were not granted time on the air to expound their policy.

Several resolutions of protest at the ban imposed on the Communist Party by the "Press" and Government radio were passed at many election meetings.

A supporting protest came from a number of "progressives" in Auckland and this was published on 15.11.49 in the form of a letter to the Editor of the Auckland Star newspaper. Those signing the original document were :

John Alexander LEE, publisher, and candidate for Grey Lynn;
Maurice George LEE, Tutor, Workers Education Association;
Archibald Joseph Charles FISHER, artist, Auckland
Willis Thomas Goodwin AIREY, Associate Professor (University);
Norman Vasey DOUGLAS, trade union secretary; Auckland;
Ronald Allison Kels MASON, poet and journalist; Auckland;
Frank LANGSTONE, candidate for Roskill;
Arthur Rex Dugard FAIRBURN, tutor, Devonport;
A. Hall SKELTON, barrister and solicitor; Auckland;
Trevor John Patrick POTTER, trade union secretary, Auckland.

On 23.11.49 it was announced in the People's Voice newspaper that the following persons had added their signatures :

Lincoln EFFORD (W.E.A)
John ROBERTS (President Trades Council),
Leo BENSEMAN, artist,
P.H.T. ALPERS, barrister,
A.B. GRANT, secretary Trades Council,
H.A. HOLMES, theatre proprietor,
C.W. COLLINS, librarian,
L.H. BOOTH, painter,
Doctor R.S. ALLEN, professor of Geology,
W. ROSENBERG, Lecturer of Economics,
P.J. ALLEY, Lecturer of Engineering,
H.G. KILPATRICK, Secretary Freezing Workers Union.

The Communist Party election programme was published in the People's Voice newspaper dated 19.10.49, together with the photographs of 15 candidates. The photograph for the 16th candidate (Morrington) was published in the People's Voice newspaper dated 9.11.49.

Meetings were held as follows :-

Electorate.	Hall	Open Air	Total
ARCH HILL			
Victor George WILCOX	6	15	21
AUCKLAND CENTRAL			
John James MITCHELL	7	16	23
ONEHUNGA			
Roy STANLEY	7	17	24
PARNELL			
Lillian Rita SMITH	5	16	21

<u>Electorate.</u>	<u>Hall</u>	<u>Open Air</u>	<u>Total</u>
PONSOBY			
Henry Mornington SMITH	3	15	18
WAITAKEKE			
George Edward JACKSON	11	5	16
TOTAL	39	84	123

In addition there was the opening meeting held in the Town Hall Concert Chamber on 19.10.49 and the meeting in the main Town Hall on 21.11.49.

For the most part, the meetings were orderly and Communist speakers did not meet the opposition which was so noticeable in the Conscription referendum campaign.

The following motor vehicles were used in the Communist election campaign :-

29-025	Adelaide WILCOX, mother of Victor George WILCOX,
34-350	James Sydney WILLIS,
44-240	Myrtle Rose RAIT,
239-518	Auckland Carpenters and Joiners Union,
44-647	Raymond John DOWLE,
23-388	John French TAYLOR,
L 48-956	William Herman GLADWIN, watersider,
L 25-479	Herman NUNES,
13-996	Frank WESTON,
L 38-213	Thomas Harold CRYER,
210-898	NZ Carpenters and Joiners Union,
245-843	NZ Carpenters and Joiners Union,
15-713	Joseph Graham ROBERTS.

Of the above-named registered owners of motor vehicles, GLADWIN and ROBERTS have not previously come under notice. Further enquiries will be made with a view to issuing Subversive History sheets.

Although liberally supplied with benzine for the campaign, only WILCOX's car was seen around the booths on election day.

Communists who acted as chairmen were :-

Gordon Harold ANDERSEN,	Elizabeth ARYA,
Constance Miriam BARTON,	Ben BRAY,
Thomas Harold CRYER,	John DICKSON,
John Robert FRENCH,	Cyril John GOULD,
Frank William HEMPLEMAN,	Stanley Hooper HIEATT,
Basil HOLMES,	William Donald Lachlan MACCALLUM,
Peter Wilfred George McARA,	Donald McEWEN,
George Edward McWHIRTER,	Laurence Trevor MOSLEY,
Herman NUNES,	Alexander George RAIT,
Joseph Graham ROBERTS	Aubrey Bruce SKILTON,
Robert SMALL,	Herbert Leonard SPILLER
Edgar Wallis TAYLOR,	Mervyn Haley WILLIAMS,
James Sydney WILLIS,	Richard Charles WOLF.

The above-named chairmen are well known, except Robert SMALL, who has not previously come under notice at this office. Further enquiries are being made regarding SMALL with a view to issuing a Subversive History sheet.

Supporting speakers and other assistants, such as People's Voice sellers and collectors were :

Desmond Kevin BALL,
George Lawson BROAD,
John Findlay EWEN,
Esther FREEMAN,
Oliver Bennett Young GREGORY,
John MACKIE,
Frederick Daniel MULLER,
James Gordon OLLERENSHAW,
George (Dick) RICHARDS,
August Frederick SMITH,
William Francis WALKERDENE,

Brian Kenneth BERG,
Emma Florence COTTINGHAM,
Francis FINAN,
Henry FREEMAN,
Douglas Bruce HART,
Douglas Murdoch MARTIN,
Brian Albert OLLERENSHAW,
Joseph Sylvester RAFFERTY,
Thomas Leslie RICHARDS,
Miriam Bridelia SOLJAK,
Frank WESTON.

All these are well known and Subversive History sheets have been issued in each instance.

Assisting as voluntary helpers at the various booths on election day the following were noted :-

Eric Charles ARNOLD,
Arthur COLLINS,
Mary Black DILLON,
John DICKSON,
Esther FREEMAN,
Minnie Lavinia C.S. JACKSON-THOMAS
Brian Albert OLLERENSHAW,
Peter Paul PURDUE,
Alexander George RAIT,
Thomas Leslie RICHARDS,
Joyce Maimie STANLEY,

Constance Miriam BARTON,
Emma Florence COTTINGHAM,
George William DUNCAN,
John Findlay EWEN,
Frank William HEMPLEMAN,
Florence Beryl NUGENT,
Tudor Guy PETERSON,
Joseph Sylvester RAFFERTY,
George (Dick) RICHARDS,
Francis Edward PINKER,
Helen Jane SCOTT.

All these are well known, excepting Arthur COLLINS. Further enquiries will be made with a view to issuing a Subversive History sheet. Four other persons were also assisting at the booths but they were unknown to me and have not been identified.

The results of the election and figures for comparison purposes are :

ARCH HILL.

Electors on roll	..	12,754
Total voted	..	11,164
Communist votes	..	321
Communist % of total votes cast	..	2.88%
Communist % of electors on roll	..	2.53%

In 1946 the Communist percentage of electors on roll was 2.01%. In 1946 the Communist percentage of the total number of votes cast was 4.23%. There would appear to be a loss of 1.35% in the number of Communist votes. However it must be borne in mind that in Arch Hill there has been a reduction of 1,143 registered voters, and as in other electorates the Labour majority was reduced.

In 1946 the Labour majority was	..	6585
In 1949 the Labour majority was	..	4865
Communist % of Labour majority 1946.		7.8%
Communist % of Labour majority 1949.		6.5%

CONTINUED OVERLEAF.

AUCKLAND CENTRAL.

Electors on roll	..	9,888
Total voted	..	8,101
Communist votes	..	193
Communist % of total votes cast	..	2.2%
Communist % of electors on roll	..	1.9%
1946 Labour majority		3,478
1949 Labour majority		2,340
1949 Communist % of Labour majority	..	8.2%

ONEHUNGA

Electors on roll	..	15,658
Total voted	..	13,418
Communist votes	..	187
Communist % of total votes cast	..	1.4%
Communist % of electors on roll	..	1.2%
1946 Labour majority	..	3,424
1949 Labour majority	..	2,199
1949 Communist % of Labour majority	..	8.6%

PARNELL

Electors on roll	..	12,497
Total voted	..	10,624
Communist votes	..	116
Communist % of total votes cast	..	1.1%
Communist % of electors on roll	..	.9%
1946 and 1949 no Labour majority, Seat won by National Party.		
1949 National majority increased by	..	476

PONSONBY

Electors on roll	..	13,774
Total voted	..	11,714
Communist votes	..	130
Communist % of total votes cast	..	1.1%
Communist % of electors on roll	..	.96%
1946 Labour majority	..	3,431
1949 Labour majority	..	2,084
1949 Communist % of Labour majority	..	6.2%

WAITAKERE

Electors on roll	..	17,131
Total voted	..	15,023
Communist votes	..	367
Communist % of total votes cast	..	2.4%
Communist % of electors on roll	..	2.1%
1946 Labour majority	..	2,797
1949 Labour majority	..	866
1949 Communist % of Labour majority	..	42.4%

The total number of Communist votes cast in the six Auckland electorates was 1314, or an average of 219 per electorate. The total Communist vote for the 16 electorates was 3267.

WELLINGTON (Average per electorate)	202.5
CHRISTCHURCH do. do.	199.5
DUNEDIN do. do.	151.5.

A strong branch of the Communist Party functions in the Roskill electorate and many Communists live in the working class electorate of Grey Lynn. There is no doubt that had not such men as LANGSTONE and LEE been standing as Independents in

these two electorates the Communist Party would have tried their strength in these two electorates. Communist Party branches function at Mount Albert, North Shore, Otahuhu, Orakei (Tamaki and Remuera electorates) and Eden-Roskill.

If the average of 219 is allowed for all 14 Auckland electorates we have a total of 3,066 or almost one in every hundred of the total population of this city who are possibly sympathetic towards the Communist Party.

The total number of registered voters in Auckland at the present time is 200,077. If the figure of 3,066 can be taken as a reasonable figure, and I think it can, of the measure of support the Communist Party can command, this represents 1.53 of the total voting strength of Auckland.

PARTY MEMBERS and sympathisers	in 1927 numbered	..	98
PARTY MEMBERS and sympathisers	in 1938 numbered	..	285
S.H SHEETS held for Party members	1949 numbered	..	500
Support for Communist Party as disclosed from voting in	.. 1949 numbered	..	3,066

On Election night the leader of the Communist Parliamentary candidates, Victor George WILCOX, when thanking his supporters from radio station LZB, stated, "We are elated with the result." On the figures shown above it may be considered that there is some ground for WILCOX's optimism.

The organisation and Communist propaganda in this campaign met with a fair measure of success. While urban seats were responsible for a swing to National, a slight movement is detected to the extreme Left. This is most noticeable in WAITAKERE where the Labour majority was reduced by 1931 votes in a total of 15,023. It was in this electorate that George Edward JACKSON, a fruit farmer by occupation, scored the highest number of votes received by a Communist candidate. This electorate is best described as part working class and part small farmer.

Following this election finance will not be so readily forthcoming and economies will therefore have to be made in Communist Party administrative costs. It seems likely that some of the paid functionaries, the number of which was increased this year, will be the first to go.

Sunday meetings held by the Communist Party in Myers Park were discontinued during the election campaign and there is every possibility of the Party going into recess until the New Year.

For your information.

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

A. Jones
Detective Sergeant 8272

6.12.49

Friday, December 2nd, 1949

Small Communist Vote

LITTLE SUPPORT SECURED

Although Communist candidates contested 16 seats at the general election, compared with three in 1946, the average result was no better than that three years ago. In the three electorates contested in 1946, fewer people favoured the Communists on Wednesday than at the previous election.

That the Communist position is insignificant in New Zealand politics is shown by the fact that Communist aspirants in the 16 constituencies polled only 3267 votes, whereas the provisional count, excluding absentee, postal and seamen's votes, shows that 193,138 votes were cast in those electorates. In 1946, contesting three seats, the Communist candidates polled 1138 votes from a provisional total of 35,942.

The candidate for Arch Hill, Mr V. G. Wilcox, attracted 321 votes. This compares unfavourably with his poll in 1946, when he contested the same seat and gained 534 votes. The greatest number of votes received by a Communist was 367 for Mr C. Jackson, at Waitakere, but this was far behind the 7761 polled by the successful candidate, the Hon. H. G. R. Mason (L). Of the other Communist candidates in Auckland, Mrs L. R. Smith (Parnell) polled 116 votes, Mr J. J. Mitchell (Auckland Central) 193, Mr H. M. Smith (Ponsonby) 130, and Mr R. Stanley (Onehunga) 187.

CH HILL.

*W. E. Parry (L.) .. 7854
G. F. Smith (L.) .. 2989
V. Wilcox (L.) .. 321

Majority for Parry .. 4865
(Labour majority 1946: 6585)

ASHBURTON.

*R. G. Gerard (N.) .. 7253
W. E. Rose (L.) .. 4922

Majority for Gerard .. 2331
(National majority 1946: 1453.)

AUCKLAND CENTRAL.

*W. T. Anderson (L.) .. 5094
L. G. Bradley (N.) .. 2754
J. J. Mitchell (C.) .. 193
H. K. Jones (L.) .. 60

Majority for Anderson .. 2340
(Labour majority 1946: 3478.)

AVON.

*J. Mathison (L.) .. 9307
G. N. Kinzett (N.) .. 4586

Majority for Mathison .. 4421
(Labour majority 1947 by-election: 4091.)

AWARUA.

G. R. Herron (N.) .. 7502
N. G. Pickering (L.) .. 4429

Majority for Herron .. 3073
(National majority 1946: 2588.)

BAY OF PLENTY.

W. Sullivan (N.) .. 8319
T. G. Santon (L.) .. 4952

Majority for Sullivan .. 3387
(National majority 1946: 1634.)

BROOKLYN.

P. Fraser (L.) .. 6679
Mrs. A. Burns (N.) .. 3838
Mrs. C. Birchfield (C.) .. 229

Majority for Fraser .. 2841
(Labour majority 1946: 3935.)

BULLER.

C. F. Skinner (L.) .. 7417
P. E. McDonald (N.) .. 5433

Majority for Skinner .. 1984
(Labour majority 1946: 2912.)

CENTRAL OTAGO.

W. A. Bodkin (N.) .. 7747
T. A. Rogers (L.) .. 4129

Majority for Bodkin .. 3618
(National majority 1946: 2909.)

CHRISTCHURCH CENTRAL.

R. M. Macfarlane (L.) .. 7163
K. J. Marlow (N.) .. 3655
H. A. Ostler (C.) .. 210

Majority for Macfarlane .. 3508
(Labour majority 1946: 4420.)

CLUTHA.

J. A. McL. Roy (N.) .. 7301
J. E. Keenan (L.) .. 4289

Majority for Roy .. 3012
(National majority 1946: 2140.)

DUNEDIN CENTRAL.

P. G. Connolly (L.) .. 6059
D. Murdoch (N.) .. 5082

Majority for Connolly .. 977
(Labour majority 1946: 2000.)

DUNEDIN NORTH.

R. Walls (L.) .. 6577
R. G. Briceall (N.) .. 5190
J. L. Marston (C.) .. 103

Majority for Walls .. 787
(Labour majority 1946: 1630.)

EDEN.

W. H. Fortune (N.) .. 6494
P. T. Curran (L.) .. 4544

Majority for Fortune .. 1950
(National majority 1946: 1281.)

EGMONT.

*E. B. Corbett (N.) .. 8317
B. Richmond (L.) .. 3840

Majority for Corbett .. 4477
(National majority 1946: 3398.)

FENDALTON.

*S. G. Holland (N.) .. 7756
R. T. Newman (L.) .. 3957
J. Gilmour (L.L.B.) .. 519

Majority for Holland .. 3799
(National majority 1946: 3004.)

FRANKLIN.

J. N. Massey (N.) .. 9007
J. Parsons (L.) .. 3862

Majority for Massey .. 5145
(National majority 1946: 4023.)

GISBORNE.

R. A. Keeling (L.) .. 7111
H. Duffield (N.) .. 6480

Majority for Keeling .. 631
(Labour majority 1946: 2015.)

GREY LYNN.

Hackett (L.) .. 6821
L. Faulkner (N.) .. 3870
A. Lee (D.L.) .. 2588

Majority for Hackett .. 2951
(Labour majority 1946: 5910.)

HAMILTON.

*Mrs. G. H. Ross (N.) .. 6926
J. Granville (L.) .. 5503

Majority for Mrs. Ross .. 1423
(National majority 1946: 327.)

HASTINGS.

S. I. Jones (N.) .. 7193
E. L. Cullen (L.) .. 6428

Majority for Jones .. 765
(Labour majority 1946: 463.)

HAURAKI.

*A. S. Sutherland (N.) .. 8038
P. Peacock (L.) .. 4348

Majority for Sutherland .. 3690
(National majority 1946: 2891.)

HAWKE'S BAY.

*G. G. E. Harker (N.) .. 7836
H. E. Beattie (L.) .. 4530

Majority for Harker .. 3306
(National majority 1946: 2014.)

HOBSON.

*S. W. Smith (N.) .. 8708
W. E. Lane (L.) .. 3941

Majority for Smith .. 4767
(National majority 1946: 3580.)

HURUNUI.

*W. H. Gillespie (N.) .. 7387
A. J. Smith (L.) .. 5040

Majority for Gillespie .. 2347
(National majority 1946: 1440.)

HUTT.

*W. Nash (L.) .. 7657
H. L. Heatley (N.) .. 5409
T. F. Simpson (Rev. Soc.) .. 94

Majority for Nash .. 2248
(Labour majority 1946: 2587.)

INVERCARGILL.

*J. R. Hanan (N.) .. 7114
W. M. C. Denham (L.) .. 6084

Majority for Hanan .. 1030
(National majority 1946: 224.)

ISLAND BAY.

*R. McKeen (L.) .. 6771
H. E. Childs (N.) .. 4186
R. Smith (C.) .. 171

Majority for McKeen .. 2585
(Labour majority 1946: 3958.)

KARORI.

*C. M. Bowden (N.) .. 7509
Mrs. E. Harris (L.) .. 4370

Majority for Bowden .. 3139
(National majority 1946: 2042.)

LYTTTELTON.

*T. H. McCombs (L.) .. 7219
R. R. Beauchamp (N.) .. 6248

Majority for McCombs .. 971
(Labour majority 1946: 1543.)

MANAWATU.

*M. H. Oram (N.) .. 7624
B. A. Rodgers (L.) .. 4433

Majority for Oram .. 3191
(National majority 1946: 2467.)

MARLBOROUGH.

*T. P. Shand (N.) .. 7091
J. H. Wilson (L.) .. 5488

Majority for Shand .. 1603
(National majority 1946: 179.)

MARSDEN.

*A. J. Murdoch (N.) .. 8218
D. L. Ross (L.) .. 5103

Majority for Murdoch .. 3115
(National majority 1946: 2149.)

MIRAMAR.

*R. Semple (L.) .. 6619
C. H. Taylor (N.) .. 5422
K. Stanton (C.) .. 215

Majority for Semple .. 1197
(Labour majority 1946: 2482.)

MORNINGTON.

*W. A. Hudson (L.) .. 8671
G. N. C. Stephens (N.) .. 4623
J. J. Hannon (C.) .. 200

Majority for Hudson .. 2043
(Labour majority 1946: 4681.)

MOUNT ALBERT.

*W. W. Freer (L.) .. 6838
R. F. Judson (N.) .. 5920

Majority for Freer .. 918
(Labour majority 1947 by-election: 1553.)

MOUNT VICTORIA.

*J. R. Marshall (N.) .. 5887
N. R. Seddon (L.) .. 4353
W. J. Hyde (L.) .. 84

Majority for Marshall .. 1534
(National majority 1946: 911.)

NAPIER.

*A. E. Armstrong (L.) .. 6813
W. Tucker (N.) .. 6019
C. J. Brown (C.) .. 118
J. Cummins (L.L.) .. 110

Majority for Armstrong .. 794
(Labour majority 1946: 1845.)

NELSON.

*E. R. Neale (N.) .. 7732
R. C. A. Marshall (L.) .. 6484

Majority for Neale .. 1248
(National majority 1946: 585.)

NEW PLYMOUTH.

*E. P. Aderman (N.) .. 7567
C. R. Parker (L.) .. 6321

Majority for Aderman .. 1246
(National majority 1946: 405.)

NORTH SHORE.

T. L. Eyre (N.) .. 7024
*A. M. Finlay (L.) .. 5892

Majority for Eyre .. 1132
(Labour majority 1946: 249.)

OAMARU.

T. L. Hayman (N.) .. 6769
*A. H. Nordmeyer (L.) .. 6116

Majority for Hayman .. 653
(Labour majority 1946: 232.)

ONEHUNGA.

*A. G. Osborne (L.) .. 7715
A. A. Coates (N.) .. 5516
R. Stanley (C.) .. 187

Majority for Osborne .. 2199
(Labour majority 1946: 3424.)

ONSLOW.

*H. E. Combs (L.) .. 8652
J. S. Meadowcroft (N.) .. 6972

Majority for Combs .. 1680
(Labour majority 1946: 1578.)

OTAHUHU.

F. L. A. Gotz (N.) .. 7877
A. B. Dixon (L.) .. 6735

Majority for Gotz .. 1142
(Labour majority 1946: 220.)

OTAKI.

*J. J. Maher (N.) .. 7720
J. J. D. Capstick (L.) .. 7474

Majority for Maher .. 246
(National majority 1946: 44.)

PAHIATUA.

*K. J. Holyoake (N.) .. 7996
G. P. O'Leary (L.) .. 3688

Majority for Holyoake .. 4808
(National majority 1946: 3697.)

PALMERSTON NORTH.

W. B. Tennent (N.) .. 6708
*G. H. O. Wilson (L.) .. 6339

Majority for Tennent .. 349
(Labour majority 1946: 928.)

PARNELL.

*D. M. Rae (N.) .. 5595
F. W. Schramm (L.) .. 4913
Mrs. L. R. Smith (C.) .. 116

Majority for Rae .. 682
(National majority 1946: 206.)

PATEA.

*W. A. Sheat (N.) .. 7312
F. W. Finer (L.) .. 5558

Majority for Sheat .. 1754
(National majority 1946: 870.)

PETONE.

*M. Moohan (L.) .. 7265
N. P. Croft (N.) .. 4793
A. Quinn (C.) .. 190

Majority for Moohan .. 2472
(Labour majority 1946: 4019.)

PIAKO.

*W. S. Goosman (N.) .. 9112
G. P. Kenah (L.) .. 3119

Majority for Goosman .. 5963
(National majority 1946: 5101.)

PONSONBY.

*R. Macdonald (L.) .. 6755
B. H. Kingston (N.) .. 4871
W. F. Jamieson (L.L.B.) .. 158
H. M. Smith (C.) .. 130

Majority for Macdonald .. 2084
(Labour majority 1946: 3431.)

RAGLAN.

Hallyburton Johnstone (N.) .. 7375
*A. C. Baxter (L.) .. 6374

Majority for Hallyburton Johnstone .. 1001
(Labour majority 1946: 13.)

RANGITIKEI.

*E. B. R. Gordon (N.) .. 7624
E. R. De Malmarche (L.) .. 4489

Majority for Gordon .. 3135
(National majority 1946: 2307.)

REMUERA.

*R. M. Algie (N.) .. 8075
H. Watt (L.) .. 3531

Majority for Algie .. 4544
(National majority 1946: 4410.)

RICCARTON.

*A. McLagan (L.) .. 8046
H. R. Lake (N.) .. 5471
R. Taylor (C.) .. 189

Majority for McLagan .. 2575
(Labour majority 1946: 3875.)

RODNEY.

*T. C. Webb (N.) .. 9031
A. Leaming (L.) .. 4769

Majority for Webb .. 4268
(National majority 1946: 2850.)

ROSKILL.

J. Rae (N.) .. 6773
J. Freeman (L.) .. 5582
*F. Langstone (L.L.) .. 1009

Majority for Rae .. 1191
(Labour majority 1946: 155.)

ST. ALBANS.

*J. T. Watts (N.) .. 6712
G. Manning (L.) .. 3752

Majority for Watts .. 900
(National majority 1946: 86.)

ST. KILDA.

*F. Jones (L.) .. 6770
G. Lyon (N.) .. 6373

Majority for Jones .. 397
(Labour majority 1946: 1248.)

SELWYN.

*J. K. McAlpine (N.) .. 7711
E. A. Sharpe (L.) .. 6341

Majority for McAlpine .. 1390
(National majority 1946: 472.)

SYDENHAM.

*Miss M. Howard (L.) .. 8866
O. G. Moody (N.) .. 3372

Majority for Miss Howard .. 5494
(Labour majority 1946: 6746.)

TAMAKI.

E. H. Halstead (N.) .. 7658
*T. E. Skinner (L.) .. 6740
F. C. Jordan (L.S.C.) .. 111

Majority for Halstead .. 918
(Labour majority 1946: 231.)

TAURANGA.

*F. W. Doidge (N.) .. 8609
H. J. Pickett (L.) .. 4403

Majority for Doidge .. 4206
(National majority 1946: 2704.)

TIMARU.

*C. L. Carr (L.) .. 6751
J. F. Lockington (N.) .. 5941

Majority for Carr .. 810
(Labour majority 1946: 520.)

WAIKATO.

*G. F. Sim (N.) .. 8898
J. R. Burritt (L.) .. 3213

Majority for Sim .. 5685
(National majority 1946: 4385.)

WAIMARINO.

*P. Kearns (L.) .. 6688
A. H. Macpherson (N.) .. 6551

Majority for Kearns .. 137
(Labour majority 1946: 681.)

WAIMATE.

*D. C. Kidd (N.) .. 6898
W. R. Davison (L.) .. 5141
M. J. Hayes (L.S.C.) .. 209

Majority for Kidd .. 1757
(National majority 1946: 789.)

WAIRARAPA.

B. V. Cooksley (N.) .. 7085
G. A. Hansen (L.) .. 5969

Majority for Cooksley .. 1116
(National majority 1946: 235.)

WAITAKERE.

*H. G. R. Mason (L.) .. 7761
R. Tapper (N.) .. 6895
G. Jackson (C.) .. 367

Majority for Mason .. 866
(Labour majority 1946: 2797.)

WAITOMO.

COPY ON _____
COPY FROM 26/15/3

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

From (source) Evening Post Reference: 49/559 Date: 21st Nov. 1949
 For File No. 21/2/10
 Origin of ~~From~~ copy on P/F of Leonard H. Booth
 Received on _____ Extracted/Copied by  On 3.6.66

(The original of this report cannot be traced at this date 3.6.66. This a copy taken from one of the P/Fs mentioned on cover sheet of 49/559)

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR PROTEST

Mr. R.A.K. Mason, of Auckland, who released a statement of protest against the denial of access for one political party to the publicly-owned radio last Tuesday, now advises the Press Association that the protest, which originally was signed by a number of prominent citizens, has received additional support.

Further signatories now named are Messrs. J. Roberts and A.B. Grant, president and Secretary of the Canterbury Trades Council, Dr. R.S. Allen, Messrs. W. Rosenberg and P.J. Alley (university lecturers), C.W. Collins (librarian), L. Benseman (artist) L.H. Booth (Painter), Lincoln Efford (W.E.A.) P.H.T. Alpers (barrister), H.G. Kilpatrick (union secretary), and H.A. Holmes (theatre proprietor).

Deleted from MRI  95

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

~~SECRET~~

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//EXTRACT/COPY

Ex S.49/558

80

From (source): Detective
D. McKenzie, Napier

Reference:

Date: 21-11-1949

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/9/9

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 6-7-1959

REPORT of : Senior Detective D. McKenzie No.2515

RELATIVE to : A public meeting held in Dalton Street, Napier
by the Communist Party's Parliamentary Candidate -
CHARLES JAMES BROWN - on evening of Friday, 18th
November 1949.

I respectfully report having attended the Meeting referred to above. There was an audience of approximately 450 persons most of whom - by their demeanour - were semi-hostile to the speaker.

As previously reported, the speaker was introduced by FREDERICK ATHOL MACE, Chairman of the Party's Political Campaign.

The speaker traversed the Party's policy previously outlined and reported on dealing with their endeavours for World peace, better pay for the workers, increased pensions for the aged, elimination of taxes for those on the standard of living wage, better and more adequate housing for all and a general uplift in the standard of living of the workers.

There was considerable interjection which was influenced by a young man in a tattered shirt who demonstrated his aversion to what the speaker had to say by shouting and shaking hands with himself in front of the crowd. He was subsequently told to desist.

The speaker then introduced Mr. Ron SEIGEL of the Longburn Freezing Works, Palmerston North; he proceeded to outline the difficulty he had in making a living, when in Napier in the depression days he had to obtain a meal by eating counter lunch at the Hotels.

Seigel continued his address along the lines of Brown dealing with better standards of living for the worker, increased pay and pensions and equality for all.

The speaker then dealt with his own difficulties in the manner of employment he followed and the physical effort he had to put into his daily toil. He finally concluded his address by extolling the merits of the local candidate - Mr Brown - who was a pretty good chap and to remember on Polling day to slip one in the ballot box for good old Charlie BROWN.

The thread-bare question was asked, what would Mr. Brown do if New Zealand went to war with Russia. His reply, as recorded in the attached newspaper clipping, shows that he would defend New Zealand.

The meeting terminated at 9.20 p.m. No exception could be taken to what was said by either speaker.

B. McKENZIE.

Senior Detective

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~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY/

79

"Daily telegraph"

From (source): Napier

Reference:

Date: 19-11-1949

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/9/9

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 6-7-1959

JEERS AND BOOSNAPIER STREET MEETING

Communists with Loudspeakers
Have Hectic Time.

FLOW OF INTERJECTIONSPennies Thrown In

When the first speaker, Mr. C. J. BROWN, the Communist Candidate for Napier, said he had visited 16 houses when canvassing one part of Napier and sold 13 pamphlets setting out the policy of his party, one person in the crowd clapped, nearly everyone gave a series of Bronx cheers, and several pennies were "thrown into the ring."

"There is no more sincere man than the Communist candidate for Napier", went on Mr. BROWN, but the remainder of his remark was lost in the uproar that broke out. When comparative silence returned, he went on: "Otherwise I would not stand up and take the abuse that people throw at me."

When Mr. Ron SEIGEL, of Palmerston North, a member of the Communist Party for 10 years, was introduced, someone in the crowd called for three boos, which were given.

"Well, ladies and gentlemen, thank you very much," he started, but a chorus of booing temporarily halted his discourse.

A woman in the crowd; Shut up. Give him a hearing.

This was met with a further outbreak of booing and jeering.

Man "From Russia"

Up to this stage in the meeting the crowd had kept back from the speaker's platform, and a young man dressed in rags, with red "weals" across his back and "blood" streaming down his face suddenly appeared in this open space. "I come from Russia," he cried, and received an ovation from the crowd. He harassed the speakers for a few minutes until a policeman spoke to him.

The interloper left, uttering as he went, the aside: "There's no freedom here."

The crowd started to close in on the speaker and three policemen appeared on the scene, standing in a semi-circle around the platform. Other policemen, some in uniform and some in plain clothes, mingled with the crowd, and their presence kept the crowd somewhat in check.

Upholding the working classes, Mr. SEIGEL said that during the war the workers put their backs into it.

Interjector: Did you say the wharfies? Haven't you heard of the 1944 coal strikes? (Cheers from the crowd).

Cup Winner Wanted.

Mr. SEIGEL said his party advocated a general £2 a week wage increase. "You may be happy with your wages, but I am not happy with mine," he said.

Interjector: You don't work hard enough.

When the chairman, Mr. F. A. MACE, said the speakers would answer

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EXTRACT/COPY/

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From (source): "Daily telegraph" Napier
 Reference: Date: 19-11-1949
 For File No. 21/2/8
 Original on 21/9/9
 Received on Extracted/Copied by/ On 6-7-1949

Napier Street Meeting Cont'd.

questions one was: "What's going to win the cup to-morrow?"

"If New Zealand went to war with Russia what side would you be on?" asked someone else.

Mr. Brown: I was asked the same question at the last meeting. The answer is that Russia is not an aggressive nation -

When the chorus of jeers and boos died down, Mr. BROWN said: "It is no good kicking up a row if you want me to answer questions. Give me a chance. Russia is not an aggressive nation -"

There was another hubbub, but Mr. BROWN was finally able to continue his reply to the question.

"- Therefore if this country is attacked by Russia I would defend New Zealand." he said and his remark was received with derisive cheers.

No Outside Finance.

"You have enjoyed yourselves and we have enjoyed it, too" said Mr. MACE, when asking members of the audience to contribute towards the cost of the Communist campaign. "The idea that the National Party is financing us has been exploded and we must have money to carry on," he said, speaking amid a general uproar. Few people dropped a coin in the box that was taken around and one man who said loudly, "here you are," was the cynosure of all eyes for yards around.

.....

~~SECRET~~

21/2/8 77

49/556

Police Station. GREYMOUTH

Date. 19th. November, 1949.

Report of; Detective Sergeant R.J.A.BERRY, No. 3341

Relative to; Robert Henry MITCHELL, Communist candidate for
WESTLAND ELECTORATE.

I respectfully report further to my report of the 4th. November, 1949 that MITCHELL has addressed a further eight meetings and arranged to address a further two meetings but owing to the non appearance of the public two meetings were abandoned.

I have prepared the attached schedule of meetings showing the locality, name of chairman, number of public present and conduct of the respective meetings.

All meetings have been well conducted and no subversive utterances have been made.

There has not been any organised interjectors and in most cases no interjections have been made during MITCHELL'S address.

The attendance of the public has been poor and from the general tone of the meetings it appears that the majority of the public have attended merely out of curiosity.

The South Island Communist Party Organiser, Hugh John McLEOD has attended all meetings and on four occasions has acted as Chairman. He has confined his remarks to introducing the candidate.

Richard MOTH of DOBSON has also presided as chairman at three meetings. MOTH is an active member of the Communist Party and I have submitted a separate report regarding his activities.

I will continue to submit reports on these meetings, still to be held.

R.J.A. Berry
Detective Sergeant No. 3341
19th. November, 1949.

The INSPECTOR of POLICE,
GREYMOUTH.

Forwarded to the Commissioner,

Inspector
Inspector

21/11/49.

EXTRACTS/COPIES
TAKE



LIST OF POLITICAL MEETINGS ADDRESSED BY

Robert Henry MITCHELL

COMMUNIST PARTY CANDIDATE FOR THE WESTLAND ELECTORATE.

<u>Date.</u>	<u>Place.</u>	<u>Speaker,</u>	<u>Chairman.</u>	<u>No. present.</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>
5-11-49	ROTOMANU	R.H. MITCHELL	John GRAHAM, farmer.	25	Meeting well conducted. Chairman not a Communist as far as is known.
5-11-49	MOANA	R.H. MITCHELL	Richard MOTH, miner	15	Meeting well conducted. MOTH is a Communist..Report submitted.
6-11-49	KOKIRI	R.H. MITCHELL	Richard MOTH, miner.	15	Meeting well conducted..
6-11-49	KOTUKU	R.H. MITCHELL	Richard MOTH, miner	19	Meeting well conducted.
7-11-49	GREYMOUTH.	R.H. MITCHELL,	Hugh John McLEOD.	13	Meeting well conducted. McLEOD is South Island Organiser for Communist Party.
8-11-49	PAROA (Greymouth)	R.H. MITCHELL,	Hugh John McLEOD	18	Meeting well conducted.
9-11-49	Te KINGA	R.H. MITCHELL	Hugh John McLEOD	35	Meeting well conducted.
10-11-49	KANEIRE	R.H. MITCHELL	Hugh John McLEOD	21	Meeting well conducted.
11-11-49	ARAHURA	Meeting advertised but as no members of the public attended meeting was abandoned.			
12-11-49	CAMERONS	Meeting advertised but as no members of the public attended meeting was abandoned.			

Detective Office,

GREYMOUTH.

COPY ON

COPY FROM

R. J. Barry
Detective Sergeant No. 3342

19th. November, 1949.

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G.D.D.-11

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~~SECRET~~
EXTRACT/COPY

From (source): Detective Office PALMERSTON NORTH Reference: Date: 18 Nov. 1949

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/9/12

Received on Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 4.2.1960

REPORT OF : Det. Sergt. J.G.LONG No.2994

RELATIVE TO : Communist Meeting held in Opera House Supper Room,
Palmerston North on 17th November 1949.

I respectfully report having attended the Communist Meeting held in the Opera House Supper Room, Palmerston North on night of 17th November 1949. Frederick William MANNING acted as Chairman, he being a communist previously reported on.

The meeting commenced at 8.10pm there being ten people present in the hall and during the course of the meeting the audience grew to thirteen. The Chairman introduced the first speaker, Ronald Andrew SEIGEL. SEIGEL commenced by outlining the Communist Party election policy which, he stated, was a general increase of £2 a week wages for the workers. He claimed this amount could be paid out of the profits made from the workers labour. A second plank in their policy was Social Security which would not be subscribed to by the worker but maintained out of the profits of the workers labour. He condemned the Arbitration Court and alleged that this Court had been useful to the present Government in keeping down the workers wages, but he did not offer any suggestion as to what his Party would put in its place. That appeared to be the Party's policy. He then went on to point out that the Nationalist and Labour Parties did not have any policy for the present election campaign but that both were working in the interests of Capital. He said a depression was close, that it had started in Capitalist America where there were 6,000,000 unemployed. That as England was controlled from America through American capital the slump would soon affect England and then it would follow that New Zealand would be affected. He attributed this coming slump to the Capitalist System.

He then made an attack on the Manawatu Daily Times claiming that when reporting a recent meeting held by the Party in The Square, the paper had published a pack of lies in the hopes that a prominent member of the Party would be dismissed from his position in the Government Service. He was also critical of what he called the policing of Communist Party meetings and said the Commissioner had admitted that he was using plain clothes women police as political spies at Communist Meetings. SEIGEL closed his speech at 8.45pm. He has previously been reported on.

The next speaker was Mrs Margartha MANNING, wife of the Chairman. She spoke until 9.30pm. She spent some time complaining about the trouble the Party was having to obtain permission to hold meetings, especially at the Band Rotunda. She also commented on the "Times" reports of meeting held at Palmerston North. She was critical of the Capitalist policies being put forward by the National and Labour Parties. She claimed that one third of the World's population was Communist and that Communism was the only way to World Peace.

A resolution was passed condemning the action of the Rt.Hon.P.FRASER for not allowing the Communist Party time on the air to put their policy before the people of the Dominion. Mrs MANNING has been previously reported on.

J.G.LONG
Det.Sergt. 2994.

MANAWATU EVENING STANDARD.

Wednesday, Nov. 16, 1949.

Communist Party

Mrs M.MANNING and Mr R.SIEGEL Will Speak on the General Election
OPERA HOUSE SUPPER ROOM - THURSDAY, Nov. 17th 8 P.M.

Question

~~SECRET~~

51/443



21/2/10

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PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE,
WELLINGTON.

5th September, 1951.

MEMORANDUM for:

The Commissioner of Police,
WELLINGTON.

I am directed by the Prime Minister to forward you herewith a letter which he has received from Mr. Mark Silverstone, Mr. G.A. Clayton, Mr. Samuel Ikin, Mr. J.B. Swan and Mr. R. McIntyre in regard to the use of radio facilities by the Communist Party, together with a copy of the Prime Minister's reply thereto.

Prof Walker

Ann Seight

Chief Private Secretary.

Encls.

21/2/10 138

51/443

To the Hon. The Prime Minister,
Parliament Buildings,
Wellington.

4th September, 1951.

It is generally conceived that all citizens jealously guard what is commonly known as their freedom.

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of a letter signed by you and four others, undated, in regard to the refusal to allow the Communist Party the right to use the radio.

This is a matter which has received full consideration by the previous Government as well as this Government and the decision by both Governments was that the Government could not grant the use of the radio to the Communist Party.

In conclusion I wish to express my surprise that you and the other signatories to the letter appear to be so very much out of touch with the realities of the position as to lend your support to such a proposal.

Yours truly,

(Sgd.) "S.G. HOLLAND"

Mark Silverstone, Esq.,
536 Leith Street,
DUNEDIN.

Mark Silverstone
Samuel Man
L. B. Howard
R. M. Intyre

51/443

21/2/10

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27 Nov 1951

Minister's Office

To the Hon. The Prime Minister,
Parliament Buildings,
Wellington.

It is generally conceived that all citizens jealously guard what is commonly known as their freedom.

Its most pertinent points must certainly be freedom in the broadest limits of the law, to assemble, form organisations, to express and consider opinions. To commit any act which will militate against, or infringe such rights must constitute a flagrant denial of the very basis of our democracy, as has been made clear by such great men as John Milton and John Stuart Mill.

Suppression of discussion leaves untouched the sources of discontent. These issues surely stand above politics in our society.

It is therefore with grave concern that we see our Government, with the consent of the Parliamentary Opposition, taking the leading role in the suppression of opinion, in denying one political Party right of access to our publically-owned radio. The lead of the Government is being followed by the Christchurch Star-Sun and the Auckland Star, by refusing advertisements from the Communist Party.

This would be serious enough at any time; it is of most particular seriousness at a time of election, which is supposed to be a crucial moment of citizen's decision, based on full, fair and free consideration of opinion. Moreover, the present suppression denies consideration of many urgent and vital issues on which the Communist Party presents a radical minority opinion.

So flagrant a suppression of discussion under such circumstances augurs ill for the future of our civil liberties, on which depends equally the development of our democracy, our literature and our arts. Accordingly, we call on all who are concerned with such matters to take most serious consideration of the dangerous trends at present manifested, and join with us in publicly denouncing these acts before it is too late.

signed by:-

Mark Silverstone
Blayton
Samuel Hkin
L. B. Dwan
R. McIntyre

Dunedin

The Dominion,

Thursday, September 13th, 1951.

X 51/363

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21/2/10.

Australians Blame Wharf Strikes For N.Z. Labour's Eclipse

The common opinion of Australian Labour leaders is that unnecessary waterfront stoppages which antagonised the electorate have been responsible for the defeat of the New Zealand Labour Party in the last two years.

The secretary of the Federation of Labour, Mr. K. McL. Baxter, made this statement on his return yesterday from Australia where he attended the conference of the Australian Council of Trade Unions.

Mr. Baxter said a comprehensive report on the New Zealand waterfront dispute was submitted to the conference. It was significant that delegates from the Australian waterfront workers' unions did not seek to have the subject put on the agenda for discussion.

Part of the report presented to the conference read: "The A.C.T.U. sees no reason to depart from the responsibilities of our affiliation with the New Zealand Federation of Labour and the practice pursued by both organisations in recognising the decisions made by either with regard to internal industrial disputes. A premium cannot be placed upon the actions of any single union or unions, however economically strong, in breaking away from the national organisation and setting up a counter national body."

The power of Communists in Australian unions was demonstrated by the defeat of a move to support compulsory military training for home defence, said Mr. Baxter. This subject, as a policy matter, was presented to the conference by the executive of the A.C.T.U.

Newspaper columnists freely commented that Australian Communists, who had supported compulsory military training during the war when Russia was fighting on the side of the Allies, were now against training because they were opposed to Australian defence.

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G.D.D.—11

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

From (source): Sp. Br. Auckland Reference: 21/2/10 Date: 24/7/51
 For File No. [REDACTED]
 Original on X 6.51/348 33/5/4
 Received on [REDACTED] Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 7/2/61

REPORT of - Detective Sergeant R. Jones No. 3272
 RELATIVE to - Communist Party Activities in Auckland - report dated
 16th July 1951, received from [REDACTED] forwarded.

I forward herewith in duplicate a report dated 16/7.51 received from
[REDACTED] relative to Communist Party activities in Auckland.

 Alan MONTGOMERY referred to in Paragraph 6 of the report is of
 course identical with Allan Courtenay MONTGOMERY who is the National
 Secretary of the New Zealand Peace Council. The attached report states
 that copies of the minutes of the Peace Congress which was held from
 the 8th to the 12th May, 1951, at Auckland were not available, but a copy
 of these minutes was obtained by me from a trade union source and forwarded
 from this office on the 5th July, 1951.

The information contained in the penultimate paragraph of Page 1
 of the report regarding Communist Party finances is of considerable
 interest. The fact that the miners and watersiders have contributed
 generously to the Party's finances in the past serves to confirm my report
 of the 5th March, 1951, relative to a questionnaire forwarded by the
 Honourable Minister of Labour wherein I stated that, if the waterside
 workers were beaten on this strike issue, the progress of the Communist
 Party in this country would be set back for a number of years.

The decision of the Government to hold a general election on
 September 1st has also adversely affected the Communist Party because,
 whereas in 1949 they were able to stand a relatively strong team of
 candidates for the Parliamentary Elections they are now forced, through
 lack of finance, to make only a nominal showing.

[REDACTED] informs me that the state of the Communist Party's finances
 has considerably worried them and particularly so in view of the General
 Election. He also verbally reported to me on 23.7.51 that a Special
 Conference of the Communist Party was held on Sunday the 22nd. July at
 which Morris John Redwell HUGHES of the Australian Central Control
 Commission was present. At this conference the question of candidates
 for the General Election was widely discussed and the possibilities
 are that only two candidates will be standing in Auckland, namely Victor
 George WILSON and John James MITCHELL, both of whom are subjects of
 subversive history sheets. However, Richard ARMSTRONG subject of a
 subversive history sheet and Allan Courtenay MONTGOMERY previously referred
 to in this report, have pointed out to the Party their claims to stand as
 Independents with Communist support with a view to capturing the "Peace"
 vote. A further meeting was to be held on the evening of 23.7.51 and a
 further report will be submitted by [REDACTED] on any information that he is able
 to obtain.

In view of the limited resources of the Communist Party for this
 election, it seems to me very probable that the Communist Party will
 endeavour to adopt the United Front tactics and will make such proposals
 to the Labour Party. However, in view of past unsuccessful attempts
 and the already existing split between the Parliamentary Labour Party
 and the Federation of Labour, it is unlikely that such proposals will be
 acceptable to the Labour Party. However, the United Front tactics will
 be aimed at the rank and file members and supporters of the Labour Party,
 but the Communist Party expect opposition from the right-wing leadership
 of the Labour Party. By adopting the United Front, the Communist Party
 would also hope to strengthen its own ranks and those of the progressive
 forces generally.

As has been previously reported by me from this office the
 Communist Party has been virtually underground since the commencement
 of the waterfront Dispute in February 1951, and no information has been
 received at this office that there has been either a District Conference

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R. Jones

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21/2/10
134NEW ZEALAND POLICESpecial Branch, AUCKLAND.
5th April, 1951

Report of: Detective Sergeant R.Jones.

Relative to: BRITISH AND AUSTRALIAN COMMUNIST PARTIES - Controversy on attitude to the Labour Party, and relation of New Zealand Communist Party to the aforementioned parties.

Vide attached.

In the 'PEOPLE'S VOICE' newspaper dated 25th August, 1948, Page 4 appears "Australian Communists criticise policy of British Communist Party". The reply of the British Party to this criticism, which comes from a Sydney source, is also published. No comment, editorial or otherwise, is given in that issue or subsequent issues of the "PEOPLE'S VOICE" or other open sources regarding the differences of opinion between the Australian and British Communist Parties.

In the attached note, the National Secretary, New Zealand Communist Party is quoted as saying that the New Zealand Communist Party took no part in the controversy. Its present request for information would therefore appear to be one mainly of academic interest.

It is suggested in the last paragraphs of the attached note that the New Zealand Communist Party has close ties with Britain and are less under the influence of the Australian Communist Party than was previously thought to be the case. As the full text of the letter from the National Secretary, New Zealand Communist Party to the Communist Party, Great Britain has not been given, one is at a disadvantage in appraising the full worth of this statement in the light of local knowledge. My own view, however, is that the New Zealand Communist Party is now sufficiently developed to stand on its own feet and pursue an independent line of action within the framework of Marxist-Leninist theory, and that it is expected to rise or fall by its own efforts.

The correctness of my views can best be judged by a review of the New Zealand Communist Party's relationship with the New Zealand Labour Party and its present organisational strength.

In the years following the inaugural conference of the New Zealand Communist Party in Easter 1921, while the Party proceeded to organise as an independent entity, Communists were still permitted by the Labour Party to retain membership in that organisation, and many of them were, in fact, devoted and hard-working members of that Party. Communists were allowed to represent their Unions on Labour Representation Committees and at Labour Party Conferences. This state of affairs held until the Labour Party Conference of Easter 1925.

This Conference, despite the stern struggle put up by the Left Wing elements, introduced the so-called "Pledge", which directed that no member or delegate to the Labour Party could be a member of any other political party.

Over a long period of years the Communist Party strove to overcome the split brought about by the 1925 Labour Party Conference by means of a campaign to secure affiliation to the Labour Party. In New Zealand, as in Great Britain, the Labour Party presented certain features not exhibited, for instance, by the Continental Social-Democratic Parties. These special features lay in its organisational structure under which the greater part of its membership consists of affiliated trade unions; that is, most members of the Labour Party occupy that position not through individual membership but through membership of a trade union.

The objects of the Communist Party in seeking affiliation were two-fold; firstly, to retain the closest possible connections with the rank and file of the Labour movement; secondly, to prevent the Right Wing, reformist tactics of the political

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Labour leaders from becoming generally accepted by the mass of the rank and file workers.

The Communist Party carried on a consistent struggle against the "Pledge" and at the same time campaigned for affiliation. In the resolution of the 1929 Conference of the Communist Party it was stated:-

"The Party must conduct an unceasing agitation on the pledge issue and the refusal to grant affiliation. The campaign for affiliation must be forced, not from the formal standpoint as has been done in the past, but the widest number of rank and file workers must be drawn into the struggle".

As is well known, the struggles of the unemployed during the depression were largely led by members of the Communist Party and became struggles of a united front character. This united front represented unity of rank and file workers, but at the top level, however, no united front of political parties and trade union organisations was achieved.

Despite the correctness of the Communist Party resolution of 1929 and of the Communist participation in the struggles of the unemployed, it has been admitted in top Communist circles that in regard to overall strategy of the united front, the leadership of the Party did, over a number of years, display grave weaknesses.

Under the leadership of Frederick E. FREEMAN, who became Secretary in 1933, the Communist Party drifted into a position of Sectarianism. The expression of his sectarianism was the failure of the Party to realise that in the field of national politics the united front could express itself only in the form of a struggle to replace the Tory-Liberal Coalition Government by a Government based, in the main, on the Labour Party with as much Communist representation in Parliament as might be possible within the framework of the major objective.

A Plenary Session of the Central Committee (New Zealand Communist Party) in 1935 (Parliamentary Election Year) set the members of the Party,

"the task of explaining to the toilers that the policy of "Give Labour a Chance" is the most dangerous policy of all, allowing as it does the Labour Party to carry through the elections on the basis of its capitalist programme, confusing the workers as to the nature of this programme and holding them back from the struggle of their needs and thus paving the way for Fascism".

This, it was submitted, implied that a united front of struggle for the election of a Labour Government could be carried on only on the basis of subordinating the workers to the illusions of the Labour Party and surrendering the movement to the leadership of the right wing Labourites.

A resolution passed at the abovementioned Session recommended that in those constituencies where Communists were standing for election, an approach should be made for an electoral agreement, declaring the willingness of the Communist candidate to withdraw from the contest on the basis of a mutually acceptable policy programme to be endorsed by the Central Committee of the Communist Party and the National Executive of the Labour Party. Failing such agreement the maximum support must be won for the Communist candidate.

This policy was, in the main correct, but an error in tactics occurred in the attitude to electorates where no Communists were standing. In such electorates, the resolution declared "rather than give votes to the enemies of the workers, we should render the votes invalid".

This is in conflict to the policy as expounded by Lenin in "Left Wing Communism", - "that failing an agreement with the Labour Party, the Communists would put up candidates in a very few, but absolutely safe Constituencies, i.e., where our candidate would not let the Liberal in, in opposition to the Labour Candidate. We would take part in the Election Campaign, distribute leaflets advocating Communism, and in all Constituencies where we have no candidates, urge the electors to vote for the Labour candidate against the bourgeois candidate".

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It was not surprising therefore that the resolution referred to above, was met critically by the Communist Party. The Auckland Section, in particular, under the guidance of Sidney William SCOTT, presently General Secretary of the Party, was active in fighting for a correct line within the Party.

The eighth Conference of the Communist Party held in December 1935, following the general Elections adopted a resolution which stated in part:-

"The return of the Labour Government with mass support as demonstrated in the last election indicates a great forward move by the toilers of New Zealand. Recognising that under present conditions the Labour Government represents a direct blow against the forces of reaction, our support of the Labour Government against them must be unconditional".

The errors of the policy of a few months earlier were mildly castigated as an "incorrect application of the tactic of the united front at the time of the Election."

The Conference decided to relieve FREEMAN of his position as Secretary but during 1936 he remained virtually in a position of leader, the result being that during the year there was a prolonged struggle for the achievement of a correct policy.

The Australian Communist Party had been looking at developments in New Zealand with great interest and had written to the Central Committee of the New Zealand Party a letter, which stated in part:-

"At the present time the New Zealand working class occupies a unique position, for whilst elsewhere in the British Empire reactionary Governments are in power, in New Zealand there is a Labour Government. This fact greatly enhances the importance of the New Zealand Labour movement and gives it the possibility of becoming the pivotal point in the further development of the movement of the people within the British Empire The main task of the Communist Party is to point out clearly to the New Zealand people and particularly the working class, the path they must follow in order to help preserve peace and democratic freedom, and on this basis to rally and unite the masses in a demand that the Government take this path".

The letter continues:-

"We received the pre-Congress discussion material prepared by Mr. F. E. FREEMAN, entitled "Working Class Unity Against Reaction". The line advanced in this material is incorrect and would, if accepted, retard the progress of the united front movement and the whole mass work of the New Zealand Party. It reveals no deep understanding of the decisions of the 7th World Congress, nor the reasons for the changes in the United Front Tactics by the Communist Parties".

The letter goes to some length to expose the weaknesses of FREEMAN's discussion material.

The 9th Communist Party Congress was held in Wellington on 25th, 26th and 27th December 1936. Lawrence Louis SHARKEY of the Australian Political Bureau attended the Congress as a fraternal delegate. It would appear that SHARKEY was sent to New Zealand by the Australian Communist Party to put New Zealand Party on a correct line and effect certain organisational changes, following the receipt of FREEMAN's discussion material, which exposed the lack of understanding of a correct political line. It would seem also that at this time there was fairly close contact between the Australian and New Zealand Parties.

SHARKEY spoke for over two hours and the result was that a motion was carried endorsing the Australian letter and the Central Committee's recommendation that FREEMAN be removed from all official positions in the Communist Party (SHARKEY took part in the previous deliberations of the Central Committee).

The resolution adopted by the 9th Congress called for the defence of the Labour Government against reaction; stressed the need for unity of the working class; while at the same time drawing attention to the "hesitation of the Labour

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Government to restrict and suppress the activities of the reactionaries. These remained the guiding policies of the Communist Party up to 1939. The Central Committee was re-organised and many former members were replaced. Sidney William SCOTT, was moved to Wellington to take up a paid position in the Political Bureau, together with Leo SIM, Alexander GALBRAITH (present Chairman of the Party), Clement Gordon WATSON (killed in Italy in World War 2) and Albert James BIRCHFIELD.

SCOTT, through his position as Editor of the "PEOPLES VOICE" newspaper and more latterly as General Secretary of the Party, has more or less dominated the New Zealand Communist Party, for even in his capacity as Editor of the Party paper, he was responsible for the political report to successive conferences. It is largely through his guidance that the Party has, in my opinion, established its independence.

Correct policy was followed in support of the return of the Labour Government in 1938 and from the lesson learnt in that campaign, the Communist Party led popular movements uniting progressives with various political affiliations and drawing in numbers of trade unions and other organisations. The period of World War 2 gave particular emphasis to this and so successful was working class unity under Communist Party inspiration and leadership, that a firm stand was taken by the dominant leadership of the Labour Party.

As a result Communists lost control of many important trade unions and suffered generally as a result of anti-Communist propaganda both from local Labour Party circles and the Press.

A triennial Conference of the Communist Party was held in Wellington from 22nd to 24th May 1948. To all intents and purposes it was a normal routine conference but it followed closely after a conference of the Australian Communist Party and it appeared to have been called with a view to formulating a new "line" for the Party.

DRENNAN (who was then Chairman of the New Zealand Communist Party) in opening the Conference said, inter alia, that the crisis had reached extreme proportions and one of two courses had to be chosen. One, which was advocated by FRASER and SIMPLE, was the reform or adaption of working class conditions to Capitalism. The other was the real course, which was to struggle against Capitalism and Imperialist policies He was satisfied that if the problem was properly approached, by persuading the mass of the people, that the Communist Party could meet a situation requiring an alternative Government in New Zealand - that was the task ahead, to get a Government which would sustain a progressive policy.

The Political Report given by Sidney William SCOTT, dealing with the work of the Party states:-

"It is more necessary for the Communist Party to undertake this work of building a united front and people's front, because the Labour Party has failed so lamentably. The Labour Government, by identifying itself with the interests of New Zealand Capitalism and British and American Imperialism, has cut away its own support, and weakened its own political position The New Zealand Communist Party, therefore, despite the appeasement policy of the Labour Government does not desire a National Party victory. If such a victory takes place, it will not be the responsibility of the Communist Party, which will, however, endeavour to strengthen the Labour Movement generally by building, or at least organising towards a united working class, and people's front against reaction. This united front will be built not by formal alliance with leaders (although this possibility is never excluded) but by practical tasks carried out side by side with the rank and file of Labour Party members and supporters. Relations with the lower organs of the Labour Party must be strengthened and the trade unions can play an important part in this respect. There is definite opposition to the Policy of the Right Wing leadership within the lower and middle organs of the Labour Party, and this must be encouraged so as to bring pressure on the Parliamentary Labour Party and the Government The Communist Party more than ever, must constitute itself the champion and organiser of the New Zealand people in the struggle for peace, welfare and economic and national security".

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Claude JONES, President of the Queensland Communist Party, was present as a fraternal delegate at the Triennial Conference. The main purpose of his visit is not absolutely clear from the information available, but it appears that it differed from that of SHARKEY in 1936. No immediate changes were made in Party organisation, nor was the Party leadership reprimanded for following an incorrect line.

Following the Conference, JONES conducted a speaking tour throughout New Zealand, its object being to offset the anti-Communist propaganda which was so strong at that time. He was a most able and fluent speaker and apart from his ability in this direction, his visit appeared to be in the nature of a tonic for rank and file members who were wilting under the pressure of the "red baiting" propaganda. The New Zealand Communist Party is lacking in able public speakers.

I may be wrong in this assumption that JONES was here merely as an observer. However, the only real indication that the New Zealand Communist Party was tied to the Australian Communist Party was the fact that Victor George WILCOX and Aubrey Bruce SKILTON visited Australia shortly afterwards to undergo special courses at Marx House, Sydney, N.S.W.

At a meeting of the National Committee held on the 19th and 20th March, 1949, important decisions were made to intensify the work of the Party, and strengthen the National Executive. Sidney William SCOTT, was relieved of his editorship of the "PEOPLE'S VOICE" newspaper and appointed General Secretary of the Party. Aubrey Bruce SKILTON, former Wellington District Secretary, was appointed National Organising Secretary. These appointments, it was stated, would free Victor George WILCOX (former National Secretary) and Henry Mornington SMITH (Trade Union Organiser) for further intensive organisational work. WILCOX is usually styled Assistant National Secretary.

Main points in the Communist offensive were:-

1. The launching of a £6,000 (later increased to £10,000) fighting fund.
2. Increased propaganda in the form of bulletins from branches (Otahuhu Worker, North Shore Spark, News and Views) and the trade unions (Particularly waterside workers, miners, freezing workers and railway workers).
3. A very greatly increased number of Communist candidates at the 1949 General Elections.
4. Attacking the Labour Party, both through the Parliamentary Labour Party and the Federation of Labour; and
5. The campaign for higher wages.

There can be no doubt that the Communist Party propaganda during the General Election Campaign was so successful that it materially assisted in the defeat of the Labour Government.

A further split with the Labour movement came with the "walk-out" of the waterside workers and other militant delegates from the 1950 Federation of Labour Conference and the setting up of the Communist inspired Trade Union Congress. The Party has only been partly successful on the industrial field, as apart from the watersiders, only sections of the freezing workers, miners and odd local branches of unions remain affiliated to the Trade Union Congress.

The campaign for higher wages was built round the Trade Union Congress, the outcome of which is the present waterfront strike.

The Party issued the following statement following the 1949 National Committee Meeting:-

"The meeting of the National Committee of the Communist Party is considered to be the most important event in the history of the Party since the 1935 Conference. The changed role of the New Zealand Labour Government, the growing gravity of the international situation and of the internal political position have added to the importance of the

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New Zealand Communist Party's role, and the steps taken at the recent meeting will, it is felt, prove a turning point in the history not only of the Communist Party, but of the whole working class movement in New Zealand."

This statement appears to have been amply exemplified by subsequent events and actions of the Communist Party.

The activities and statements of the New Zealand Communist Party since 1949 contrast with those of the British Communist Party, as will be seen from the following excerpts taken from Harry POLLITT's report to an Extended Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Great Britain, February 26/27, 1949.

"Our failure adequately to refute teachings of the class enemies - be they Tories or right-wing Labour leaders - is a weakness equal in importance to our neglect of factory work. The responsibility for this rests with our Executive Committee and particularly with myself as General Secretary. In certain ways we have allowed ourselves to be influenced by the reformist ideas of the Bevins, Crippses, Attlees and Morrisons, and the middle of the road hikers. Especially must be remember to clarify the minds of the workers on the importance of the class struggle - blurred over, as I have described, by the present right wingers".

The initiative shown by the New Zealand Communist Party since 1949 would seem to confirm, in many respects my earlier submission that it now follows an independent line of action.

There would appear to be no great influence exerted on the New Zealand Communist Party by the British Communist Party and I think the same can be said of the Australian Communist Party. It is true that Claude JONES was present at the 1948 Triennial Conference, but the important decisions for re-organisation and the extended work of the Party were made by the Meeting of the National Committee in March 1949. At the latter Meeting there was no important delegate representing the Australian Communist Party, as was the case in 1936 when SHARKEY visited here.

Contacts between Australia and New Zealand have been few. Ronald William Jackson HURD, a leading Party member of Australia arrived in New Zealand in 1939 together with his wife, nee Pat DEVANNEY and Douglas James MOREY. Ronald HURD and MOREY were stated to have come here to assist in keeping the Party on a correct line. Shortly after their arrival both HURD and MOREY were appointed to what was then the Auckland Provincial Committee of the Communist Party. MOREY was somewhat of a "Yes" man for HURD. However, in 1940 both came in for extreme censure, HURD in particular, from the Party for their disruptive tactics, and their expulsion from the Party was under serious consideration. They dropped out of Party activity and returned to Australia in 1942.

Recent contacts have been James HEALEY, President of the Australian Waterwise Workers Federation and Rupert LOCKWOOD.

HEALEY's visit was primarily as a fraternal delegate to the 1949 Biennial Conference of the New Zealand Waterside Workers Union.

LOCKWOOD, a fluent public speaker, toured New Zealand under the auspices of the New Zealand Peace Council. As a member of the World Peace Committee, LOCKWOOD was a greater advertisement for the Peace Campaign than local speakers.

Some leading members of the New Zealand Communist Party, notably WILCOX, SKILTON and George CARROLL, now Waikato Organiser for the Party, have been trained as Communist leaders at Marx House, Sydney. The New Zealand Communist Party is not sufficiently strong numerically to support a training school such as that conducted at Marx House and the logical thing is to send New Zealand trainees to Sydney because of its comparative nearness to this country and the similarity of conditions and problems confronting the Australian and New Zealand Communist Parties.

It is significant that Sidney William SCOTT, General Secretary of the New Zealand Communist Party, has not been so trained. He has, however, been highly commended by Communist leaders outside New Zealand for his political perspicacity. It is because of SCOTT's ability that the New Zealand Communist Party is largely able to play an independent role.

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This report is, in the main, historical, but only in this way was it possible to establish that the New Zealand Communist Party has now reached a state of maturity, sufficient for it to take an independent attitude in the World Communist Movement, that is, independent of having any close ties with any particular Communist Party within the British Commonwealth.

For your information please.

(sgd) R.Jones.

Detective Sergeant 3272.

The Superintendent,
AUCKLAND.

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

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NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

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Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.

11th December, 1950.

REPORT of: Detective Sergeant R. JONES, No. 3272.

Relative to: Municipal Elections, 1950 - Communist Campaign.

I respectfully report that the Communist 1950 Municipal Election campaign was broadly speaking a half-hearted effort, and was in marked contrast with the enthusiasm shown by Communist Party members in the 1949 Parliamentary Elections.

Following the announcement that the Party would be standing a majority ticket, the rank and file openly expressed their disapproval of the decision. The general tenor of their complaint was that the Party was in danger of being declared an illegal Party, and while this threat prevailed it was dangerous to expose the rank and file to open activity which would be necessary in the organisation of public meetings, distribution of literature and other activities connected with election campaigns.

Further, that as the Party was being reproached with regard to the Korean war, the chances of enhancing its reputation in an election campaign would be very slight. The expense was therefore unwarranted.

Only one pamphlet, "Communists for Peace and Progress", was issued during the election campaign. This pamphlet was forwarded from this office.

Those taking part in meetings were confined to well-known Party members. In the many reports on these meetings which have been forwarded, it will be noted that in several instances, the candidates themselves also acted as chairmen of the meetings.

It would seem therefore, that the Party leaders were influenced by rank and file opinion in this instance.

The Communist campaign in this election cannot be entirely divorced from all parties.

The decision of Sir John ALLUM to stand as an Independent in opposition to the official Citizens and Ratepayers Association's official candidate, Mr. COAKLEY, resulted in splitting the anti-Labour vote, and finally the campaign became one of personalities. Sir John ALLUM headed the poll for the Mayoralty with an almost absolute majority over all his opponents. The figures were:

ALLUM	19,356
STEWART (Labour)	12,789
COAKLEY (Citizens)	6,076
9/F WILCOX (Communist)	520

D. BROPHY (Labour), who topped the list of the unsuccessful candidates with 13,091, will be seen to have obtained more votes than STEWART, the Labour Mayoral candidate. It seems clear, therefore, that there was not a solid Labour vote. Many

Labour supporters are said to have supported Sir John ALLUM. WILCOX did not receive the support that Communist Council candidates received, and it is possible that some Communist votes were diverted to either ALLUM or STEWART.

Many rank and file Communists considered it a waste of a vote to cast it for WILCOX. A further explanation of WILCOX's low vote was given to me by [REDACTED] subject of a Subversive History Sheet and a member of the National Executive of the Communist Party. She informed me that many Party members and sympathisers are of the opinion that ballots for Local Body and Parliamentary Elections are no longer secret. Particularly is this opinion held by elderly people. They believe that ballot papers are subsequently scrutinised by the Police to ascertain who voted Communist. This could easily, in their view, be obtained in the election of the Mayor, but presents a much wider field for the election of the City Council, where there were 59 candidates seeking election.

[REDACTED] states: "We could always rely on at least 2,000 votes for the Communist Party in Local Body Elections in the past. I am quite sure that the fear of Police scrutiny of ballot papers has accounted for the low vote this time. Why, Party members and sympathisers are even too scared to turn out to Peace meetings now, for fear of being spotted by the "Gestapo".

[REDACTED] statement has been verified to a large extent from another reliable source.

The total Communist votes cast in the 1949 Parliamentary Elections in the city Electorates of Arch Hill, Auckland Central, Parnell and Ponsonby was 821, i.e. 301 more than that obtained by WILCOX in the present election.

The average Communist vote received in the present election for the City Council was 2202.

The average vote of the successful candidates is 15,003.

The average Communist vote is 14.6% of the average successful candidate.

Only 42.4% of the registered electors voted in this election. As against this, there is evidence that there was no "solid" Communist vote. The top Communist vote was received by George Edward JACKSON, namely 2,800, while SPILLER at the bottom of the poll received 1,523.

The average Communist vote percentage of the total number of votes cast is 5.6%, which is a much higher percentage than that recorded in the electorates at the 1949 Parliamentary Elections.

The average Communist vote percentage of the total number of electors on the municipal roll is 2.4%. This figure shows an increase of .6% on that recorded in the 1949 Parliamentary Elections.

In my report on the 1949 Parliamentary Elections, which was forwarded from this office on 5.12.49, I estimated, on a percentage basis, that there were 3,066 Communists and sympathisers in Auckland. When it is considered that the populated suburbs of Mt. Eden, Mt. Roskill, North Shore, New Lynn, Newmarket and Onehunga are not included in the Electors Roll for the City of Auckland, it would appear that the figure quoted is not exaggerated.

Municipal Elections in my opinion are, however, too unreliable on which to base any firm conclusions with regard to Communist strength, there being too many extraneous influences.

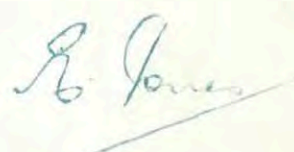
There were 2 Independent candidates in the present local body Elections, namely Richard ARMSTRONG and Ronald Edward JONES. ARMSTRONG, who is the subject of a Subversive History Sheet, stood for the Auckland City Council and polled 4,926 votes. He has been active in the New Zealand Peace Council.

Ronald Edward JONES is secretary of the Auckland branch of the Waterside Workers Union. He was nominated by his union as a candidate for the Auckland Harbour Board. His candidature was not accepted by the Auckland Labour Representation Committee. JONES's sponsors were furious at this rebuff, and he subsequently stood as an Independent. He polled 4,169 votes, as compared with 14,598 which was the lowest figure polled by a successful candidate.

Leslie Frederick KIRBY ^{P/F} was re-elected for his second term as a Labour Councillor to the Onehunga Borough Council. He is identical with the person of the same name who is the subject of a Subversive History Sheet. KIRBY has not come under notice for some years in connection with any Communist activity. He is not suspected in Labour Party circles of having any Communist association.

On page 6 of the People's Voice Newspaper dated 29.11.50, an article "Labour Lets Workers Down" is devoted to discussing the Election.

For your information,



The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

Detective Sergeant, 3272

Citizens Hold 18 Seats

MISS RATTRAY HEADS LIST

The Citizens and Ratepayers' Association retained 18 of the 21 seats on the City Council. The three it lost were taken by Labour. All the unsuccessful candidates saved their deposits by gaining more than 10 per cent of the votes cast for the last successful candidate.

The voting for the individual candidates is as follows, an asterisk denoting a sitting member. Citizens' Association candidates are denoted by (C), Labour by (L), Independents by (I) and Communists by (Com).

Successful

*Joan Ratiray (C) ..	19,138
*Barbara Roche (C) ..	18,854
*F. N. Ambler (C) ..	17,863
*A. S. Bailey (C) ..	16,862
*R. G. McElroy (C) ..	15,723
*K. N. Buttle (C) ..	15,369
*W. C. Mackay (C) ..	15,357
*W. M. Tongue (C) ..	14,919
W. Butler (L) ..	14,778
*R. S. Harrop (C) ..	14,671
*F. G. Lintott (C) ..	14,423
*Mary Wright (C) ..	14,288
T. A. Bennett (C) ..	14,082
*S. H. Hunter (C) ..	14,070
C. V. Austin (L) ..	13,988
J. M. Whittaker (C) ..	13,698
*H. M. Kirk (C) ..	13,582
H. S. Barry (C) ..	13,426
Agnes Dodd (L) ..	13,418
*J. W. Heyland (C) ..	13,352
R. H. MacKay (C) ..	13,259

Unsuccessful

D. Brophy (L) ..	13,091
H. F. Callagher (L) ..	13,050
W. Duncan (L) ..	13,042
G. G. Grant (L) ..	12,980
N. R. King (L) ..	12,977
*H. G. St. V. Beechey (C) ..	12,934
Margaret Warren (L) ..	12,739
*A. de C. Tronson (C) ..	12,700
P. Richardson (L) ..	12,680
M. C. Conroy (L) ..	12,654
R. N. S. J. Wrathall (L) ..	12,603
A. R. Tanner (L) ..	12,600
J. D. Dimond (C) ..	12,333
J. H. Weaver (L) ..	12,190
F. J. S. Williams (L) ..	11,817
R. J. Katterns (L) ..	11,603
L. D. Murphy (L) ..	11,459
C. H. Penwill (L) ..	11,132
I. G. Paddison (L) ..	11,121
A. W. Panchard (L) ..	11,057
I. J. Millicich (L) ..	10,850
*H. E. G. Matthews (I) ..	10,830
A. C. Marks (I) ..	7,533
R. Armstrong (I) ..	4,926
G. V. Mullenger (I) ..	4,569
Amy Milburn (I) ..	3,225
G. E. Jackson (Com) ..	2,800
R. C. Black (Com) ..	2,794
B. Bray (Com) ..	2,714
Rita Smith (Com) ..	2,671
A. Drennan (Com) ..	2,583
D. McEwen (Com) ..	2,571
J. J. Mitchell (Com) ..	2,487
A. B. Skilton (Com) ..	1,615
F. D. Muller (Com) ..	1,521
W. McAra (Com) ..	1,577
A. G. Rait (Com) ..	1,526
H. L. Spiller (Com) ..	1,523

HARBOUR BOARD CHANGES

New Constitution

MR N. DONALDSON TOPS THE POLL

Mr N. Donaldson, former vice-president of the Auckland branch of the Waterside Workers' Union, headed the poll for five City members on the Auckland Harbour Board by a comfortable margin at Saturday's election. The chairman, Mr W. F. McCallum, was 30 votes behind the last successful candidate on the provisional count, with 1400 postal and declaration votes still to be counted.

Saturday's election was the first since non-elective membership was abolished.

The composition of the new board, on the provisional count, is:-

CITY

Successful

*N. Donaldson (L) ..	18,852
*H. Turner (C) ..	16,032
*L. D. J. Nathan (C) ..	15,234
J. Hamilton (L) ..	14,809
*A. G. Wilson (C) ..	14,599

Unsuccessful

*W. F. McCallum (I) ..	14,599
G. F. H. Forsyth (L) ..	14,132
J. D. McMillan (C) ..	13,731
I. Hodge (C) ..	13,556
*S. W. Hurst (L) ..	12,823
J. F. C. Ostermeyer (L) ..	11,459
R. E. Jones (I) ..	4,169

MT. EDEN, MT. ALBERT, MT. ROSKILL

Successful

*G. E. Carr (C) ..	8,742
E. W. Turner (C) ..	8,038

Unsuccessful

T. H. Blackwell (L) ..	6,134
*R. Freeland (L) ..	6,040

ONEHUNGA, NEWMARKET, ETC.

Successful

*P. McLennan (L) ..	5,049
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Unsuccessful

F. Livingstone (C) ..	4,180
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NORTH SHORE BOROUGHES

Successful

*J. Melling (C) (unopposed) ..	
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WAITEMATA, NEW LYNN, ETC.

Successful

*T. A. Bishop (C) ..	8,184
----------------------	-------

Unsuccessful

C. W. King (L) ..	1,317
T. C. Webster (I) ..	1,133

MANUKAU, OTAHUHU, ETC.

Successful

*W. W. Massey (unopposed) ..	
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FRANKLIN, PUKEKOHE, ETC.

Successful

R. J. Glasgow ..	1,118
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Unsuccessful

J. Dean ..	896
K. A. Murray ..	656

HAMILTON, TE AWAMUTU, ETC.

Successful

*C. Roose ..	4,468
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Unsuccessful

A. M. Biele ..	1,804
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WAIKATO COUNTIES, ETC.

Successful

*A. S. Sutherland, M.P. (unopposed) ..	
W. J. Lusty (unopposed) ..	

GENERAL ELECTION, 1949
(30th November)

TELEGRAPHIC RESULTS

PARTIES

C.	Communist.	I.S.C.	Independent Social Credit.
D.L.	Democratic Labour.	K.	Kauhanganui.
I.	Independent.	L.	Labour.
I.L.	Independent Labour.	N.	National.
I.L. and R.	Independent Labour and Ratana.	R.S.	Revolutionary Socialist.
I. Lib.	Independent Liberal.		

* Denotes members of last Parliament.

Electorates.	Candidates.	Parties.	1st Progress Results.	2nd Progress Results.	3rd Progress Results.	4th Progress Results.	5th Progress Results.	6th Progress Results.	Final Results.
Arch Hill .. (15 polling-places)	*Parry ..	L. ..							8399
	Smith ..	N. ..							3225
	Wilcox ..	C. ..							343
Ashburton .. (63 polling-places.)	*Gerard ..	N. ..							7641
	Rose ..	L. ..							5257
Auckland Central .. (10 polling-places.)	*Anderton ..	L. ..							5863
	Bradley ..	N. ..							3064
	Jones ..	I. ..							73
	Mitchell ..	C. ..							193
Avon .. (26 polling-places.)	Kinzett ..	N. ..							5284
	*Mathison ..	L. ..							9877
Awarua .. (83 polling-places.)	*Herron ..	N. ..							7997
	Pickering ..	L. ..							4818
Bay of Plenty .. (57 polling-places.)	Santon ..	L. ..							5313
	*Sullivan ..	N. ..							8993
Brooklyn .. (14 polling-places.)	Birchfield ..	C. ..							241
	Burns ..	N. ..							4220
	*Fraser ..	L. ..							7176
Buller .. (119 polling-places.)	McDonald ..	N. ..							5735
	*Skinner ..	L. ..							7941
Central Otago .. (102 polling-places.)	*Bodkin ..	N. ..							8457
	Rodgers ..	L. ..							4551
Christchurch Cent'l .. polling-places.)	*Macfarlane ..	L. ..							7589
	Marlow ..	N. ..							3952
	Ostler ..	C. ..							218

Electorates.	Candidates.	Parties.	1st Progress Results.	2nd Progress Results.	3rd Progress Results.	4th Progress Results.	5th Progress Results.	6th Progress Results.	Final Results.
Clutha ..	Keenan ..	L. ..							4902
(76 polling-places.)	*Roy ..	N. ..							8133
Dunedin Central	*Connolly ..	L. ..							6813
(22 polling-places.)	Murdoch ..	N. ..							5824
Eden ..	Curran ..	L. ..							4925
(13 polling-places.)	*Fortune ..	N. ..							7183
Egmont ..	*Corbett ..	N. ..							8693
(55 polling-places.)	Richmond ..	L. ..							4154
Fendalton ..	Gilmour ..	I. Lib. ..							565
(22 polling-places.)	*Holland ..	N. ..							8362
	Newman ..	L. ..							4286
Franklin ..	*Massey ..	N. ..							9635
(48 polling-places.)	Parsons ..	L. ..							4154
Gisborne ..	Dudfield ..	N. ..							7045
(71 polling-places.)	Keeling ..	L. ..							7534
Grey Lynn ..	Faulkner ..	N. ..							3159
(16 polling-places.)	*Hackett ..	L. ..							7362
	Lee ..	D.L. ..							2627
Hamilton ..	Granville ..	L. ..							6047
(16 polling-places.)	*Ross ..	N. ..							7652
Hastings ..	*Cullen ..	L. ..							6983
(28 polling-places.)	Jones ..	N. ..							7965
Hauraki ..	Peacock ..	L. ..							4566
(73 polling-places.)	*Sutherland ..	N. ..							8508
Hawke's Bay ..	Beattie ..	L. ..							4964
(114 polling-places.)	*Harker ..	N. ..							8406
Hobson ..	Lane ..	L. ..							4212
(113 polling-places.)	*Smith ..	N. ..							9280
Hurunui ..	*Gillespie ..	N. ..							7952
(61 polling-places.)	Smith ..	L. ..							5417
Hutt ..	Heatley ..	N. ..							5880
(15 polling-places.)	*Nash ..	L. ..							8153
	Simpson ..	R.S. ..							100.

Electorates.	Candidates.	Parties.	1st Progress Results.	2nd Progress Results.	3rd Progress Results.	4th Progress Results.	5th Progress Results.	6th Progress Results.	Final Results.
Invercargill ..	Denham ..	L. ..							6738
(31 polling-places.)	*Hanan ..	N. ..							7897
Island Bay ..	Childs ..	N. ..							4565
(17 polling-places.)	*McKeen ..	L. ..							7335
	Smith ..	C. ..							184
Karori ..	*Bowden ..	N. ..							8367
(17 polling-places.)	Harris ..	L. ..							4782
Lyttelton ..	Beauchamp ..	N. ..							6780
(45 polling-places.)	*McCombs ..	L. ..							7758
Manawatu ..	*Oram ..	N. ..							8174
(60 polling-places.)	Rodgers ..	L. ..							4741
Marlborough ..	*Shand ..	N. ..							7861
(82 polling-places.)	Wilson ..	L. ..							5999
Marsden ..	*Murdoch ..	N. ..							8746
(67 polling-places.)	Ross ..	L. ..							5470
Miramar ..	*Semple ..	L. ..							7193
(14 polling-places.)	Stanton ..	C. ..							229
	Taylor ..	N. ..							5878
Mornington ..	Hannan ..	C. ..							208
(23 polling-places.)	*Hudson ..	L. ..							9282
	Stephens ..	N. ..							5097
Mount Albert ..	*Freer ..	L. ..							7295
(15 polling-places.)	Judson ..	N. ..							6364
Mount Victoria ..	Hyde ..	I. ..							944
(13 polling-places.)	*Marshall ..	N. ..							6562
	Seddon ..	L. ..							4754
Napier ..	*Armstrong ..	L. ..							7384
(27 polling-places.)	Brown ..	C. ..							126
	Cummins ..	I.L. ..							118
	Tucker ..	N. ..							6663
Nelson ..	Marshall ..	L. ..							7047
(29 polling-places.)	*Neale ..	N. ..							8420
New Plymouth ..	*Aderman ..	N. ..							8250
(32 polling-places.)	Parker ..	L. ..							6733

SECRET

EXTRACT/COPYX

G.D.D.-11

19

From (source): Auck. Special Br. Reference: Ex 49/554 Date: 21st Oct. 1949
 For File No. P.21/2/8 James (Jock)
 Original on 21/3/7
 Received on _____ Extracted/Copied by _____ On 7th July 1959

Opening Meeting in C.P. Election Campaign held in Concert Chamber of Auckland Town Hall at 8 pm. on 19th October 1949. Page 2.

WILCOX said "Ron SMITH says that the country where he found the most food was Hungary, and the most decadent country he saw was Britain - the lap dog of the capitalists."

You can't believe everything you read in the 'press' about the Communist Party. We are threatening the privileged class. We fight for the working people. The privileged class will undermine the Communist Party, here and everywhere. Those who have become slaves of Wall Street can't progress. They stand for bloodshed and a decadent system. The future of the country has been sold to American imperialism. The anti-Red campaign is being strengthened. During the anti-conscription campaign there were half-page advertisements in the papers against me. 'Bob' Semple has been hitting the hard liquor. He sees 'Red Eyed Monsters' now.

The real patriots are those who defend the rights of their people, and point out the inroads United States policy is making in our standard of living. The only way to get out of that domination is the establishment of a socialist world. We are the only major political party which is putting before the people a policy advocating socialism in New Zealand. We are proud to do this. They dodged that issue in the last election. Socialism is our objective. That is why we have so many enemies. When we get the opportunity there will be socialism.

First we will advocate for the repeal of peace-time conscription. It is not necessary, it is a waste of money, and not in the interests of the people of New Zealand.

Fraser in 1916 preferred to board a "black maria" instead of boarding a troopship. We are going to point out these things.

WILCOX then went on to enumerate and slightly enlarge upon the actual Communist Party platform: 1. Increase in wages and pensions; 2. Introduction of a thirtyfive hour week; 3. Control of prices; 4. Reduced taxation; 5. Improved Health Schemes; 6. Housing; 7. Free School Services; 8. Social, Cultural and Sporting facilities for youth; 9. Nationalisation of Industries; 10. Civil Liberties; 11. Equal pay for men and women; 12. Overhaul of voting methods in Local Body and Parliamentary Elections; 13. Closer Relations with Farmers; 14. No discrimination between Maori and Pakeha; 15. Programme for Peace; 16. Self Government for Samoa.

Mr FREEMAN who is standing for Roskill against that great old stalwart, Frank LANGSTONE, was a member of the Communist Party in Australia. He has attended plenty of my meetings, and in 1940 he applied to join my party. I stored my furniture in his house at Meadowbank while I was in the Air Force. I know Mr. FREEMAN all right.

We want vigorous youthful people in our socialist society. We appeal to you to assist in mobilising all support in the Socialist programme, the worker's programme, against 'Yankee' imperialism, and return the 15 Communist candidates in a peaceful world."

This concluded WILCOX's speech. MCARA then appealed to the audience for donations, and a collection was taken up by the following Party members. Henry FREEMAN, Augustus Frederick SMITH, George RICHARDS, and two members unknown to me.

Donations were made by James (Jock) CAMPSHILL, £25; Francis Edward PINKER, £5; Stanley Cooper HIZATT, £5; and several persons donated sums varying from 25 to 10/- notes. These were collected and taken to the Speaker's table. The larger donations were apparently collected from various groups, and not individual payments, as when these amounts were handed in the donors were collected as small individual sections of the audience. The amount

SECRET

~~SECRET~~

G.D.D.—11

EXTRACT/COPY

18

From (source): Auck. Special Br.

Reference: Ex 49/554

Date: 21st Oct. 1949

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 7th July 1959

Relative to: Opening Meeting in Communist Party Election
Campaign held in the Concert Chamber of Auckland
Town Hall at 8 pm on 19th October, 1949.

While the collection was being taken, the meeting was opened for questions.

One question which had been passed up during the meeting was as follows:—"Would you recognise the treaty of Waitangi?"

WILCOX replied, "Yes, we would recognise the Treaty of Waitangi, and press for payment of all Maori land claims. We would demand equality between the Maori and Pakeha."

Mr. Charles OPIE asked, "What is the attitude of the Communist Party towards pensions for politicians?"

WILCOX replied, "The politicians are not worth 2/6 per week. Members of the Communist Party would not accept any more than the ordinary pensioners are receiving."

A resolution endorsing support and confidence in the Communist Party was read by a man who had been sitting with Alexander DRENNAN. This person also attended the weekly meeting of the party in Myers Park on Sunday 16.10.49, in company with John James MITCHELL.

Francis Edward PINKER moved a resolution of his disapproval of the 'savage' sentence imposed on Lance SHARKEY and demanded that the Australian Government release him.

The ground floor of the Concert Chamber was filled almost to capacity, while a few more ~~extra~~ were also in the circle. I would estimate the attendance at 550 persons.

I would estimate that 90% of those present were Party members and sympathisers, but many left during the meeting.

The following wore Committee Members' Badges, George (Dick) RICHARDS; Henry FREEMAN; Laurence Trevor MOSLEY, and the two collectors who were unknown to me also wore Committee Badges, Herman NUNES also wore a Committee members' Badge.

The "People's Voice" Newspaper, and the pamphlet, "New Zealand Communists present their Case", were being sold at the door by Oliver Bennett Young GREGORY.

The meeting closed at 10 pm.

L.W. Wise
T/Constable

~~SECRET~~

on "DOMINION" Dated 17th. October 1949 87
Certificate of Registration No. 549/358
Application is made, stating which party
Application is to be made in the space provided in the presence of the officer of police to whom
[It shall be possible to write a thumb-print or finger-print or other means of identification]
Name of police-station where application is made: _____

**COMMUNIST
CANDIDATES
ANNOUNCED**

Fifteen Communist candidates will contest seats at the general election. They are: Arch Hill, Mr. V. Wilcox; Ponsonby, Mr. H. M. Smith; Onehunga, Mr. R. Stanley; Parnell, Mrs. Rita Smith; Auckland Central, Mr. H. Mitchell; Waiakere, Mr. G. Jackson; Brooklyn, Mrs. Constance Birchfield; Miramar, Mr. K. Stanton; Island Bay, Mr. R. Smith; Petone, Mr. A. Quinn; Christchurch Central, Mr. A. Ostler; Riccarton, Mr. R. Taylor; Dunedin North, Mr. J. Marston; Westland, Mr. R. Mitchell; Napier, Mr. W. Brown.

Mr. V. Wilcox has been appointed leader of the party, and will open its campaign in the Auckland Town Hall on Wednesday.

[Handwritten signature]
Name: _____ Sex: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____
Particulars of applicant's children resident in New Zealand, whether residing with applicant or not: _____
Name of (wife) (husband): _____
Nature of permit or certificate of registration issued on arrival: _____
Date and place of arrival in New Zealand: _____
Distinctive marks (scars, etc.): _____
Height: _____ Build: _____ Hair: _____ Eyes: _____
Complexion: _____ (Describe colour, amount, position, or character of marks)
Occupation: _____
Any former nationality: _____
Present nationality: _____
Sex: _____ Date of birth: _____ Place of birth: _____
Place of abode: _____
Signature: _____

Application for Registration as an Alien.

Thursday, September, 22nd, 1949

ELECTION CANDIDATES

Seats in Auckland Province

NATIONAL PARTY LIST COMPLETED

With the announcement last night of candidates for the Auckland Central and Grey Lynn seats, the nominations of the Auckland division of the National Party for the general election have been completed. The division area extends from the North Cape to Franklin and it has been responsible for the selection of 18 European and one Maori candidate. Eleven of the seats are now held by the Labour Party, seven by the National Party and one by an Independent Labour member.

The Auckland Labour Representation Committee is in charge of seven electorates in the area and has announced candidates for six seats, Auckland Central, Archhill, Eden, Grey Lynn, Parnell and Ponsonby. The candidate for the Roskill seat, held by Mr F. Langstone, now an Independent Labour member, has not yet been selected. Franklin and Northern Maori are the other seats covered by the Auckland division of the National Party's area for which Labour candidates have not so far been nominated.

Nominations Announced

Nominations announced for the seats in the area are as follows, (L) representing Labour Party, (N) National Party, (C) Communist Party, (Dem. Lab.) Democratic Labour, (Dem. Lib.) Democratic Liberal, (I) Independent, and (Ind. Lab.) Independent Labour:

Archhill.—The Hon. W. E. Parry, M.P. (L), Mr G. F. Smith (N), Mr V. Wilcox (C).

Auckland Central.—Mr W. T. Anderson, M.P. (L), Mr L. G. Bradley (N), Mr J. Mitchell (C).

Eden.—Mr W. H. Fortune, M.P. (N), Mr P. T. Curran (L).

Franklin.—Mr J. N. Massey, M.P. (N).

Grey Lynn.—The Hon. F. Hackett, M.P. (L), Mr J. L. Faulkner (N), Mr J. A. Lee (Dem. Lab.).

Hobson.—Mr S. W. Smith, M.P. (N), Mr W. E. Lane (L).

Marsden.—Mr A. J. Murdoch, M.P. (N), Mr D. L. Ross (L).

Mount Albert.—Mr W. W. Freer, M.P. (L), Mr R. F. Judson (N).

North Shore.—Dr A. M. Finlay, M.P. (L), Mr D. J. Eyre (N).

Onehunga.—Mr A. G. Osborne, M.P. (L), Mr A. A. Coates (N), Mr R. Stanley (C).

Otahuhu.—Mr A. B. Dixon (L), Mr F. L. A. Gotz (N).

Parnell.—Mr D. M. Rae, M.P. (N), Mr F. W. Schramm (L), Mrs Rita Smith (C).

Ponsonby.—Mr R. Macdonald, M.P. (N), Mr B. H. Kingston (N), Mr H. Smith (C).

Remuera.—Mr R. M. Algie, M.P. (N), Mr H. Watt (L).

Rodney.—Mr T. C. Webb, M.P. (N), Mr A. L. Leaming (L).

Roskill.—Mr F. Langstone, M.P. (Ind. Lab.), Mr J. Rae (N), Mr J. B. Kennedy (Dem. Lib.).

Tamaki.—Mr T. E. Skinner, M.P. (L), Mr E. H. Halstead (N), Mr F. C. Jordan (Social Credit).

Waitakere.—The Hon. H. G. R. Mason, M.P. (L), Mr R. Tapper (N), Mr G. Jackson (C).

Northern Maori.—Mr J. C. Henare (N), Mr M. Otene (I).

Other Provincial Electorates

All the National Party candidates for the ten remaining European seats in the Auckland Province have been

selected, while the names of Labour Party nominees for three of the seats have yet to be announced. Candidates are as follows:—

Bay of Plenty.—Mr W. Sullivan, M.P. (N), Mr T. G. Santon (L).

Gisborne.—Mr R. A. Keeling (L), Mr H. Dadfield (N).

Hamilton.—Mrs G. H. Ross, M.P. (N), Mr J. Granville (L).

Hauraki.—Mr A. S. Sutherland, M.P. (N).

Piako.—Mr W. S. Goosman, M.P. (N), Mr G. P. Kenah (L).

Raglan.—Mr A. C. Baxter, M.P. (L), Mr Hallyburton Johnstone (N).

Tauranga.—Mr F. W. Doidge, M.P. (N), Mr H. J. Pickett (L).

Waikato.—Mr G. F. Sim, M.P. (N).

Waimarino.—Mr P. Kearins, M.P. (L), Mr A. H. McPherson (N).

Waitomo.—Mr W. J. Broadfoot, M.P. (N).

The sitting Labour members for Otahuhu and Gisborne, Messrs C. R. Petrie and D. W. Coleman, respectively, are not seeking re-election.

All National Party candidates will attend a conference in Wellington at the week-end.

Communist Party To Contest Five Wellington Seats

The Wellington branch of the New Zealand Communist Party is to contest five seats, including the Prime Minister's, at the general election.

The district secretary of the party, Mr. K. Stanton, said yesterday that Communist Party candidates would be standing for Lower Hutt, Petone, Miramar, Island Bay and Brooklyn.

Candidates are: Lower Hutt, Mr. D. Austin, married, returned serviceman and watersider; Petone, Mr. A. P. Quinn, railway worker, Hutt Workshops; Miramar, Mr. K. Stanton, married, district secretary of the party; Island Bay, Mr. R. J. Smith, ex-air force member and public servant; Brooklyn, Mrs. C. A. Birchfield, member of the national committee of the party.

EXT
TA...

Thursday, September 1st, 1949.

Election Lists Growing

Auckland Candidates Announced

Straight-out contests between Labour and National Party candidates will probably be the exception in the Auckland district during the general election later this year. Three contestants have already been announced or are in sight in at least ten of the 15 electorates covering Auckland city and suburbs. In one of these, Roskill, a Labour candidate has been promised to make it a four-sided contest.

The names of 35 aspirants, including all the sitting members who are seeking re-election, have so far been announced for these Auckland seats. Those standing on behalf of the Labour Party, numbering 14, the National Party, 10, and the Communist Party, 6, make up the bulk of these.

Details of those so far announced as candidates for the 15 local seats are as follows, (L) indicating Labour, (Dem. Lab.) Democratic Labour, (I. Lab.) Independent Labour, (N) National, (C) Communist, (Dem. Lib.) Democratic Liberal and (I) Independent:—

Archhill.—The Hon. W. E. Parry, M.P. (L), Mr V. Wilcox (C).

Auckland Central.—Mr W. T. Anderson, M.P. (L), Mr J. Mitchell (C).

Eden.—Mr P. T. Curran (L), Mr W. H. Fortune, M.P. (N).

Grey Lynn.—The Hon. F. Hackett, M.P. (L), Mr J. A. Lee (Dem. Lab.).

Mount Albert.—Mr W. W. Freer, M.P. (L).

North Shore.—Dr A. M. Finlay, M.P. (L), Mr D. J. Eyre (N), Mr R. Armstrong (I).

Onehunga.—Mr A. G. Osborne, M.P. (L), Mr A. A. Coates (N), Mr R. Stanley (C).

Otahuhu.—Mr A. B. Dixon (L), Mr F. L. A. Gotz (N).

Parnell.—Mr F. W. Schramm (L), Mr D. M. Rae, M.P. (N), Mrs Rita Smith (C).

Ponsonby.—Mr R. Macdonald, M.P. (L), Mr H. Smith (C).

Remuera.—Mr H. Watt (L), Mr R. M. Algie, M.P. (N).

Rodney.—Mr A. L. Leaming (L), Mr T. Clifton Webb, M.P. (N).

Roskill.—Mr J. Rae (N), Mr F. Langstone, M.P. (I. Lab.), Mr J. B. Kennedy (Dem. Lib.).

Tamaki.—Mr T. E. Skinner, M.P. (L), Mr E. H. Halstead (N), Mr F. C. Jordan (Social Credit).

Waitakere.—The Hon. H. G. R. Mason, M.P. (L), Mr R. Tapper (N), Mr G. Jackson (C).

COMMUNIST ASPIRANT

DUNEDIN NORTH SEAT

(P.A.) DUNEDIN, Wednesday
The Dunedin branch of the Communist Party has decided to contest the Dunedin North electorate. Its candidate is Mr J. Marston, of Ravensbourne, a boilermaker. He served over four years in the armed forces, including three years in the Middle East.

DOMINION

2.10.49.

Communist Against Mr. McLagan.

Official Communist candidate for the Riccarton seat is Mr. R. Taylor, a school dental service officer. The seat is held at present by the Minister of Labour, Mr. McLagan.—P.A.

Application for Registration as an Alien.

" THE PRESS "

Friday, April 8th, 1949

21/2/10 114

fund No 49/33.

COMMUNISTS AT ELECTION

NINE LABOUR MEMBERS OPPOSED

Its intention to contest certainly nine, and possibly more, seats at this year's General Election has been announced by the New Zealand Communist Party. The nine seats already decided on are all in the cities, all held by Labour by good majorities, and all held by well-known members of the Government, three of them Ministers and one the Speaker.

The seats and their present Labour holders are Arch Hill (Mr W. E. Parry), Auckland Central (Mr W. T. Anderton), Waitakere (Mr H. G. R. Mason), Mornington (Mr W. A. Hudson), Brooklyn (the Prime Minister, Mr Fraser), Island Bay (Mr R. McKeen), Miramar (Mr R. Semple), Petone (Mr M. Moohan), and Christchurch Central (Mr R. M. Macfarlane).

In the 1946 General Election the party contested three seats, Arch Hill, Island Bay, and Christchurch Central, and was soundly beaten in all three, the total votes being cast for all three candidates amounting to a little more than 1000.

A meeting of the national committee of the party appointed organisers, including Mr Hugh McLeod, of Christchurch, a former official of the Public Service Association, as South Island organiser. It was decided to launch an appeal for a fighting fund of £6000.

4 to Keryie

113
21/2/10

Many Communist Candidates

Because, it says, the difference between the Labour Party and the Nationalist Party has been reduced almost to vanishing point, the New Zealand Communist Party will contest as many seats as possible in the forthcoming General Election.

In previous years the Communist Party has told its supporters to vote for the Labour candidate in those electorates it was not contesting itself.

"At a recent national committee meeting it was pointed out that since the conclusion of the war, the Labour Government has moved more and more to the Right and is now indistinguishable from the National Party," says the statement, which adds that an election campaign fund of £6000 has been launched.

Several changes in the executive positions of the party were made at the meeting which issued the statement. Mr. S. Scott, present editor of the "People's Voice," was appointed general secretary.

Mr. A. B. Skilton, at present secretary of the Wellington district of the party, was appointed national executive organising secretary. Mr. H. McLeod, of Christchurch, was appointed South Island organiser.

Mr. Skilton was for many years a branch official in the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, and served on a number of Labour Party committees, including the Prime Minister's election committee for Wellington Central.

Mr. McLeod until recently was a branch official and a vice-president of the Public Service Association.

Communist Party candidates are to contest the seats in Arch Hill, Auckland Central, Waitakere (Auckland), Mornington (Dunedin), Christchurch Central, and at Brooklyn, Island Bay, Miramar, and Petone, in the Wellington area. Other electorates are under consideration.

Communist Plans For Election

The following statement was received yesterday from the national executive of the Communist Party:—

"The national executive of the New Zealand Communist Party has announced its plans for the forthcoming general elections subject to any electoral agreements which may be concluded with the Labour Party or Democratic Labour Party."

[When the question of electoral agreements was referred to the secretary of the New Zealand Labour Party, Mr. A. J. McDonald, he said:

"As far as the Labour Party is concerned, there will be no agreements with the Communist Party or any other party."]

"The electorates which will be definitely contested," says the statement, "and the candidates endorsed are:—

Arch Hill, Mr. V. Wilcox; Auckland Central, Mr. J. Mitchell; Island Bay, Mrs. C. Birchfield; Brooklyn, Mr. A. Galbraith; Petone, Mr. D. Austin; Christchurch Central, Mr. A. Ostler; Mornington, Mr. E. Hunter.

In addition, the following electorates are under consideration and a final decision will be made shortly: Western Suburbs, Mr. G. Jackson; Ponsonby, Napier, Miramar, Mr. W. McAra; Wellington Central or Onslow, Mr. B. Skilton; Riccarton, Mr. J. Locke; Westland

T
P/F

Copy to P/F
V. G. WILCOX

The writer had an hour and a half conference with both Skilton and McAra recently and in discussion was given to understand that the finances of the Communist Party are not in a very healthy state. Every endeavour is being made to raise funds to pay expenses for Unity Centre and also to raise moneys for the "People's Voice".

21/2/10. When I last reported there was a suggestion to put forward 23 to 25 candidates at the next Parliamentary Election and in this connection it is estimated a sum of £5,000 will be required. Both McAra and Skilton were insistent of me taking part in their election campaign and that with my contacts I would assist them greatly in the raising of the necessary finance. This I have agreed to do and hope that data will become available to me, which will be valuable. I have agreed to prepare a list of names where canvassers may call and I hope that lists may become available to me.

It was disclosed that [redacted] of the Public Service Association who was the subject matter of my previous reports has now been taken off the rolls of active members of the Communist Party. This was disclosed by Skilton who stated that should any purge of the Public Service take place or any reaction from the interjectors at Garrett Street, they would be unable to prove [redacted] connection with the Party.

I have learned that [redacted] is now teaching at the Hutt Valley Memorial High School in a relieving nature.

I attended the meeting held at Unity Centre on Thursday, 7th. October, 1948, which was a combined meeting. 73 people were present but no propaganda or speeches were made. It was entirely a social evening, items were given and dancing took place, till 12 o'clock. I took [redacted] home in a taxi and her address is [redacted] Karori. W.3.

In the supper room, some seven or eight people were congregated, including McAra, Skilton and Mitchell and they were discussing the question that the Head Office of the Labour Party have issued an instruction that no members of the Labour Party branches will be acceptable to the party if they are members of the Closer Relations to Russia.

Since the City Council have refused a permit for the Party to speak at Garrett Street on Friday evenings, deliberations are now taking place to overcome this decision. The party intend to appeal against this decision of the City Council and in discussion with Mrs. Birchfield today, she told me that next Friday evening, members of the party intend to parade Cuba Street with Bill-boards, selling the "People's Voice" and appealing to the general public. Further she stated that they were referring the matter to the National Executive.

The Communist Party are very annoyed with Toby Hill of the Waterside Workers Federation who has promised on numerous occasions to address members in relation to the Communist Party's policy of an increased weekly wage, but after repeated promises he has finally refused to deliver this address. It is the opinion of both McAra and Skilton that Hill has been got at by the Prime Minister and they both state that it is their considered opinion that Hill is only feathering his nest at the expense of the working class. I then asked them was Hill a member of the Party and they stated that although he was sympathetic and a progressive, he had never been nor would he join the party.

[redacted]

~~SECRET~~

111
[Form No. 108.]



NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Subject: COMMUNIST PARTY ELECTION CAMPAIGN. Summary of.

100,000/1/41-14687

The Sub-Inspector (Detectives)

Please see my report herewith.

H. Jones
Det. sergt.
2.12.46

Stuart P. Roberts
DEC 2 - 1946

The Supt
S. Ball
Insk
2.12.46.

The Commissioner
In information
primary
Supt 2/12/46

SBL.

2/12/46

Ad PA

8 12 49

~~SECRET~~

110

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Special Branch,
Auckland Detective Office,

1st December 1946.

REPORT of Detective sergeant R. Jones No. 3272
relative to COMMUNIST PARTY ELECTION CAMPAIGN, - Summary of

I respectfully submit the following summary of activities of the Communist Party in connection with the recent Parliamentary Elections.

At a meeting of the National Executive of the Communist Party held at Auckland on 30.6.1946, it was decided that three Communist candidates would contest the Parliamentary elections. The electorates eventually decided on were :- Arch Hill (Auckland) Island Bay (Wellington), and Christchurch Central. All three electorates are predominantly working class areas.

The three candidates selected were Victor George WILCOX, for Arch Hill, Brian BERG for Island Bay and Harold Alexander OSTLER for Christchurch Central. All three are well known Communists. It is noted that each candidate selected had performed some service with the Armed Forces in World War II and this selection was no doubt actuated deliberately in order to add prestige to the Communist Party, to avoid awkward questions and to create popular appeal.

Many of the rank and file of the Communist Party questioned the wisdom of standing Communist candidates in view of the necessity of ensuring the return of the Labour Government. The Party Executive and speakers at their election meetings explained at some length the reasons for standing candidates. The main reasons can be summarised as follows :-

1. Wide sections of Labour Party supporters were allegedly opposed to Labour leadership's policy of banning the Communist offer of electoral unity.
2. Certain differences regarding domestic affairs. The fundamental issue being whether the interests of the working class should be adapted to the maintenance of capitalism or the building of a Socialist society.
3. The alleged weakness of the Labour Government in the realm of foreign policy.

The Communist Party slogan for the 1946 Election was "Return the Labour Government with Three Communists".

The full election policy as enunciated by the Communist candidates is set out on page 3 of the People's Voice newspaper dated 18.9.46.

On 25.9.46 the National Executive of the Party opened an Election Campaign Fund, having for its object the raising of £2,000. This fund was opened immediately after an appeal for the raising of £5,000 for the People's Voice Press Fund. For this latter fund the sum of £5,927/4/2d was raised between 1.6.46 and 25.9.46. The position of the Election Campaign Fund as at 27.11.46 was that £1262/7/9d had been raised. The organiser for this fund was Mervyn Haley WILLIAMS of the National Executive of the Communist Party.

The main activities commenced in the Arch Hill electorate on Sunday 13.10.46 when, led by William George WAKBLEY, campaign organiser and party member, a large number of Communist Party members conducted a concentrated house to house canvass of the Arch Hill electorate. A further concentrated house to house canvass was held on 27.10.46

held on 27.10.46 and the entire electorate was covered by these canvasses.

The opening meeting of the campaign was held on 17.10.46 at the Druids Hall, Galatos Street. A further 38 meetings were held. All were reasonably well attended although, as shown in the reports covering these meetings, a number of Communists from various branches in the city attended the meetings and considerably helped to swell the numbers.

Five of the meetings were held in halls, including the final meeting which was held in the Prince Edward Theatre. The remainder of the meetings were held at various street intersections throughout the electorate.

For the street meetings a truck was hired from which the speakers addressed the audiences. The speakers spoke with the aid of an hired public address system. As many as two meetings a night were addressed in this manner and no part of the electorate remained uncovered.

Following is a list of Chairmen and Supporting Speakers who were employed during the campaign. These people will represent the leading members in the several branches in Auckland at the present time.

CHAIRMEN.:-

Constance Miriam BARTON,
Ben BRAY,
Alexander DRENNAN,
Esther FREEMAN,
Basil HOLMES,
Mrs. HUMPHRIES,
Robert Garfield LYALL,
Ian Stuart MacDOUGALL,
Richard Patrick MURPHY,
Dorothy Madge PERRY,
Mrs. SPILLER,
Lillian Rita SMITH,
Richard Charles WOLF.

Mrs. BARRINGTON,
Beryl Adele DAY,
Elizabeth DRENNAN,
Esme Blanche HELLRIEGEL,
Stanley Hooper HIEATT,
Solomon KAY (known as "Sid" KAY)
Eileen Olga LYALL,
John James MITCHELL,
Donald McEWEN,
Alexander George RAIT,
Augustus Frederick SMITH+
Mervyn Haley WILLIAMS,

Holmes has previously been mentioned in correspondence from this office. Other new members are Mrs. BARRINGTON, Mrs. HUMPHRIES, and Mrs. SPILLER. Subversive History sheets will be forwarded for these as soon as they have been correctly identified.

SUPPORTING SPEAKERS.:-

Norman Leckie ACHESON,
Constance Miriam BARTON,
George CARROLL,
Henry FREEMAN,
George Edward JACKSON,
Frederick Royston LLOYD,
Douglas Murdoch MARTIN,
Donald McEWEN,
George ROBERTS,
Henry Mornington SMITH,
Roy STANLEY,
Edward Alick WHITLOW,

Walter ASHTON,
Ben BRAY,
Leonard Vernon CLAPHAM,
Stanley Hooper HIEATT,
John Salmond KYDD,
John MACKIE,
Frederick Daniel MULLER,
Trevor John Patrick POTTER,
Allan Rongo ROSS,
Herbert Leonard SPILLER,
William George WAKELEY,
Mervyn Haley WILLIAMS.

Subversive History sheets have been issued for all the above mentioned speakers with the exception of George ROBERTS. He has been mentioned before but has not been correctly identified.

Communist stood for Parliamentary honours was on the occasion of the Auckland West by-election held on 18.5.1940. The following figures are given for the purpose of comparison.

AUCKLAND WEST

Number of registered electors	...	...	18,300
Total number of votes cast	...	...	9,314
Total number of Communist votes	...	...	368
Communist percentage of total number of votes cast (provisional count)	...	...	3.95%
Communist percentage of total number of electors	...	...	2.01%.

The total number of anti-Government votes in Auckland West 1940 and Arch Hill 1946 were approximately one-third in each case. The Auckland West electorate was also predominantly a working class area.

On the basis of the percentages shown above there is an apparent increase of Communist support of .28%, which can be regarded as negligible. However, in making this comparison it must be borne in mind that at the time of the 1940 by-election the Communist Party were out of step with public opinion and Government policy with regard to the war effort. It will be remembered that many Communist Party members were prosecuted for making subversive statements at that time. When this factor is taken into account it may be assumed that the Party so far as its influence in Parliamentary elections is concerned has actually been retrogressive rather than progressive.

The other obvious conclusion arising out of the 1946 elections is that over 95% of the Labour movement fully endorses the present policy of the Labour Government.

Communist influence, however, still remains strong in the industrial Labour movement, particularly in Auckland where Communists control the Auckland Trades Council and from which they wield an influence out of all proportion to their real backing.

While Labour Party members remain apathetic to the control of their unions and allow Communists to remain in the executive positions, agitation which will cause the Government embarrassment can be expected to increase.

Communist inspired pressure will be brought to bear on the Government through agitation on the job, in the trade unions, at public meetings of the Communist Party and through the People's Voice newspaper.

Forwarded for your information.

The Sub-Inspector,
Detective branch,
AUCKLAND.

L. Jones
Det. sergt. 3272
1.12.46.

X 46/32
21/2/70
15
NEW ZEALAND POLICE.DETECTIVE OFFICE:
WELLINGTON.12/3/46 2REPORT OF Detective Sergeant Samuel C. Browne No. 2865

RELATIVE TO _____

Report of [REDACTED] dated the 10th. March 1946 dealing with an
aggregate meeting of the C.P. held on night of 28/2/46.

"Vide attached"

I respectfully forward herewith a report of [REDACTED] dated the 10th. March 1946 dealing with a meeting of the Wellington Communist Party at 125 Cuba Street on the night of 28/2/46.

The full names of those known C.P. members who were present at this meeting are:- AUSTIN, Donald ; BAGLEY, Allan Willia ; BAILEY, Rona ; BOOLIERIS, Panos Ephstathios ; BROOKS, Charles Morris ; COHEN, David ; GALBRAITH, Alexander ; GODDARD, George ; HALL, Robert ; HAMMOND, John ; HUDSON, Gordon ; HOERR, Vivienne Jean Margaret ; JAMIESON, Walter Allan ; MARTIN, Henry Edward ; MCCARTHY, Raymond Justin ; McGOWAN, Elizabeth ; NUNES, Raphael ; SCOTT, Richard George ; SKILTON, Aubrey Bruce ; STEAD, Arthur George Robert ; WINCHESTER, James Webber ; and WOOD, William Gray. FALCONER, Alan Halcro was also present.

The report is self-explanatory and does not appear to contain anything calling for special reference. It will be noted that Reginald John Bailey has been expelled from the C.P. With his expulsion the Wellington District Committee will now consist of:- AUSTIN, Donald ; BIRCHFIELD, Constance Alice ; Galbraith, Alexander ; HUDSON, Gordon ; JAMIESON, Walter Allan ; MANNING, Fred ; MARTIN, Henry Edward ; McARA, Peter Wilfred George ; NUNES, Raphael ; SKILTON, Aubrey Bruce ; and WOOD, William Gray. Candidate members of the District Committee are:- BLACK, Ronald Charles ; GODDARD, George ; SCOTT, Richard George.

It will be noted that the National Conference decided that Communist candidates would contest some of the Parliamentary seats at the forthcoming elections.

The Inspector of Detectives,
Wellington.

S. C. Brown
Det. Serg't. 2865.

21/3/72
Wellington. 14
10th March, 1946

RE AGGREGATE MEETING

An Aggregate meeting was held at Unity Centre, Wellington on Thursday, 28th February when a report on the National Conference was given and members were officially informed of the expulsion of R. Bailey. Bill Wood, Ray Nunn, A. Galbraith, Ted Martin, Charley Brooks, Don Austin were at the speakers table. Ray McCarthy, Bob Stead, Mr. E. McGowan, Dave Cohen, Jim Winchester, Alan Bagley, Mr. Bagley, Bruce Skilton, Rona Meek, George Goddard, Dick Scott, P. Booleris, Bob Hall, Wally Jamieson, Vivienne Hoar, Jack Hammond, Gordon Hudson and others were present.

Ted Martin was the first speaker. He referred to the complete success of the National Conference and the comradely spirit shown by all, at all times. The majority of his speech referred to the final "laying of the ghost of 'Browderism'." There has been much discussion in the Party, for a considerable time, over the extent to which "Browderism" reared its head in the Party. Some members claimed that the National Committee and the Wellington District Committee fell for "Browderism" and that the pamphlet, "Shape Your Future", reeked of "Browderism". Now the various arguments have been heard in National Conference and it has been officially decided that the N.Z. C.P. did not accept "Browderism" despite the fact that the N.Z. C.P. was not possessed of the full facts at the time. It was obvious at the aggregate meeting that some comrades are not yet satisfied on the subject but they must bow to the majority decision.

The second speaker was Ray Nunn who dealt with the Political Situation and the Election Campaign.

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He said that capitalism had been weakened by War. The hand of the Working class had been strengthened. The colonial Revolution was on the upsurge, particularly during the previous week. The Party must help to realise the weakening of Imperialism. He quoted Professor Varga who says in a recent publication that great crises are approaching. The United States and Britain, together with their satellites are making feverish attempts to isolate the Soviet Union and crush the colonial Revolution and eventually their efforts will have the effect they desire - war. Kunes referred to the reactionary Foreign Policy of the New Zealand Government.

Ray Kunes spoke of the objections raised by some members to the Party's standing candidates at the forthcoming elections. He analysed the various objections, answered them individually and announced that the Party will stand candidates in carefully selected electorates. The Party will advise the Labour Party of its decisions, and then if there is any condemnation of the Party for vote splitting the blame will be attachable only to the Labour Party.

Don Austin spoke briefly on the happy, friendly atmosphere of the conference, of the businesslike manner in which all problems were discussed and of the obviously high standing of the Wellington Delegates.

Alex. Galbraith gave the meeting a brief picture of the various Delegates and their Party background and briefly outlined the history of the Party in New Zealand.

Alan Faulkner spoke on behalf of the ex-servicemen in the Party. He was in the islands with the R.N.Z.A.F. and since being demobilised has taken a leading part in the affairs of the 2nd N.Z.E.F. Association. He went to the conference where a special session was held to consider ~~the~~ Servicemens organisations. The Party does not favour the R.S.A. but wishes members

to be active in all Ex-Servicemens organisations. 17

The meeting became more interesting to the great majority of those present, when Bill Wood rose to explain the expulsion of R. Bailey. Bailey, a member of the District Committee, was engaged on full time work in the District Office. Bill Wood, also in the office full-time, had recently had reason to conclude that Bailey had lied to escape censure for a slight oversight, and had thrown the blame on to S. Scott. Then Gordon Hudson found in the office, a copy of a letter Bailey had written to a Mrs. Saxton in Australia. Mrs. Saxton is the former Mrs. Bob Stead. Bailey made certain references to the Party and to leading members and boasted of his own ability. He has now been expelled for the second time, having earlier been expelled with Mrs. Stead. It is said that he was fractionising, and that the District Committee is checking up on other members who were in the habit of meeting in Unity Centre on Saturday mornings.

The meeting closed at 10 p.m. with the singing of the Internationale, and cheers for Stalin, the Soviet Union, the World Revolution, the N.Z. C.P. etc.

21.4.44.

11

For general file on Communists.
Memorandum from 100.

21/2/80

Subject: GEORGE JACKSON and W. J. WHITING.

Jack Whiting to Stand for Christchurch City Council

CHRISTCHURCH, April 14.
—The selection of W. J. (Jack) Whiting as Communist candidate for the City Council in the coming municipal elections has been announced by the Christchurch District Committee of the Communist Party.

Mr. Whiting has lived in the city all his life, with the exception of a short period in the depression when, like hundreds of other young men, he was forced to "carry the swag" in a vain search for work. He has



MR. J. WHITING

been both farm hand and industrial worker, and is at present engaged in essential industry.

An Executive member of the General Labourers' Union and a delegate to the Trades Council, Mr. Whiting is well known in trade union circles. He has been a member of the Communist Party for the past four years and is at present Vice-Chairman of the District Committee.

Communist Party members are confident that their candidate will give a much-needed lead to the people during the election campaign and believe that the excellent result of 3,000 votes cast for the Communist candidate in 1941 (Jack Locke, now in the Air Force) will be eclipsed by Mr. Whiting's vote, which they are hopeful will place him as first Communist Councillor for Christchurch.

—E.L.

Attached are clippings from the "People's Voice" of 19.4.44 containing biographical notes and photographs of two prominent Communists.

Communist Candidates For Auckland

Following the decision to stand two Communist Party candidates for the Auckland City Council, Mr. George Jackson has been selected to contest a seat. The other candidate has not yet been selected and will be announced next week.

Mr. Jackson is well suited to be an aspirant for municipal honours. He has had previous local body experience, having been a member of the Otahuhu Borough Council, and

Union, and for some years was prominent in the Railway Tradesmen's Association.

In addition to being a keen trade unionist, Mr. Jackson is interested in citrus fruit culture, and is an executive member of the Auckland Citrus Association.

Mr. Jackson is well known throughout the country as the capable secretary of the Spanish Medical Aid Society, which did such magnificent work prior to the war in advancing the cause of the Spanish Republic.



MR. G. JACKSON

is a keen student of municipal affairs. He is an executive member of the Auckland Trades Council and of the Auckland Engineers'

Mrs. Elsie Violet Locke.

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Police-station: Christchurch,Date: September 24th, 194 1.REPORT of Detective William A. Parish,, No. 3086.

relative to circular dealing with the Communist Party attitude
to General Election received from confidential source.

I respectfully report that on the 23rd inst. I received from a confidential source a cyclostyled circular dealing with the attitude of the Communist Party towards the General Elections.

As it was necessary for my informant to retain possession of the circular I have taken a copy of same and it is attached hereto.

The Sub-Inspector,
 Detective Office,
Christchurch.

William A. Parish,

Detective No. 3086.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

25 SEP 1941

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

The Suph.

*There is nothing of a
 subversive nature in the
 copy of the "Circular"*

1318/41

W. A. Parish
 Sub-Inspector,
 Detective Branch,

24. 9. 41

The Commissioner

Forwarded for your information.

Carroll
1255/41
Supt. for Suph.
24. 9. 41

C O P Y

9

GENERAL ELECTION.

One or two observations on the question of tactics to be pursued in connection with the general elections.

There can be no doubt that there is a widespread fear amongst the working people generally that the Nationalists may be returned to Office. A fear of splitting the vote and letting the Nationalists in is widely expressed even by the workers who are sympathetic to the Party.

The memory of the hunger years of 1932-35 and the severe depression of that period remains very vividly with the workers of N. Z.

In 1935 it was our mistake that we underestimated the hatred of the people for the Government of starvation and the necessity of uniting with all progressive forces making for its overthrow. Instead of aiming our main blow at the chief enemy, the National Government, we adopted an attitude that was neither Coalition nor Labour. In actual fact we treated Labour and Coalition as being practically on a par which at that time was foolish. It is true that at that time the Labour politicians were essentially the same shallow opportunists as they are now but at the time they played a relatively progressing role in the defeat of national reaction.

In 1938 warned by the experience of 1935 we pursued a line that was on the whole correct, supporting the Labour Government, (which had introduced much progressing legislation) through criticising its weaknesses. (If we made any mistake in the 1938 elections it was probably in the direction of being a little too mild in our criticism).

What must be our tactical position with regard to the general elections which are expected this year.

The last two resolutions of the National Committee laid down the general lines of our approach to the elections, namely to work for the return of candidates who will support a democratic, progressive political line. Such a united front would cut across existing political divisions, progressive labourites, independents, D.L.P. ers would be judged by their willingness to fight for a minimum progressive programme while the C.P. would also stand candidates in selected electorates.

This basic tactical line still stands despite changes that have occurred in the International situation since this line was first laid down.

True, our attitude to the Labour Government had been modified to the extent that the character of the War has been modified. We no longer condemn the Labour Government for conducting the War for the War has assumed a different significance with the commencement of the Soviet-German conflict. Every blow at German and Italian Fascism and their allies is a blow at the deadly enemies of the U.S.S.R. and of world socialism.

Today our criticisms are of a different character; our demands are different.

" Everything for the defeat of fascism, most ferocious and immediate enemy of Soviet Socialism and the World's people" We demand all measures necessary to accomplish this defeat. We criticise every policy that hinders the full mobilisation of the forces making for victory. It is mainly from this standpoint that we criticise the Labour Government. A full measure of democracy, good living standards and working conditions, the bearing of the main financial burdens by the rich, action against the fifth column.

THESE THINGS ARE NECESSARY FOR THE EFFECTIVE MOBILISATION OF THE PEOPLE IN THE WAR AGAINST FASCISM AND FOR A REAL PEOPLE'S PEACE TO FOLLOW IT.

It is in this spirit that we approach the general election. The N.Z. Labour Party is still the main political party of the New Zealand working class which gives its support—albeit with growing reservations. The main body of Trades Unions are still affiliated with the N.Z. Labour Party.

The workers feel that the Labour Government has done much for them. They are grateful for the 40 hour week, the Social Security legislation etc. and contrast it with the record of the Forbes-Coates Government. Nor do we deny these achievements of the Labour Government. On the contrary we applaud them for these earlier achievements and only complain that this progressive march was stopped as a result of pressure from the workers enemies and was succeeded by a period in which the Labour Government commenced to retreat all along the line.

The workers themselves realise that the Labour Government has retreated from its earlier progressiveness though they fail to fully recognise the extent to which the Government by its actions has actually prepared the ground for national reaction to follow. But while feeling that the Labour Government has retreated before reaction they also feel that under a Nationalist Government retreat would become a rout; a Nationalist victory for all brakes to be taken off, and social conditions to plunge downhill rapidly.

This belief has considerable justification, though it is not the whole truth. Parliamentary majorities alone do not decide political policies. Such majorities are simply one reflection of the balance of class forces at a particular time. The Labour Government was swept into Office on a great wave of popular unrest that would have found expression in industrial struggle and mass unrest that would have forced even a National Government to grant concessions. But it cannot be doubted that the return of a Labour Government backed by the workers and pledged to progressive measures achieve more progress that could have been won through a conservative Government by popular struggle.

What is not realised by the mass of the N.Z. workers at the present time, is just how thin is the barrier actually separating the Labour government from the Nationalist opposition, just how far Fraser Nash, Semple and Co. have placed themselves in pawn to British Imperialism. The Labour government at the moment, does not stand for— or declare for— the total abolition of the 40 hour week but, in the main, it is only their relative dependence on the workers support which prevents them from giving away to Nationalist capitalist clamour. Without the support of the workers and other exploited classes, there is no place in N.Z. political life for the N.Z. Labour Party that cannot be better filled by the National Party— and this fact is realised by both parties.

The mass of working people however, simply see the issue as one between the National Party, which threatens the 40 hour week, Social Security etc. and the Labour Government which introduced and they believe, guards these things. Hence, for our Party to come out in unqualified opposition to the Labour Government in the general elections, would be to appear as splitters who might bring about the victory of the main aggressive Nationalist enemy. We know that this is not the true position,— that more important than formal unity or even the possibility of split votes, is the necessity of pointing out where the class collaboration policy is leading to and what alternative policy is necessary to retain and strengthen progressive social policy.

What must be our attitude then to the Labour Party and it's candidates at the General Elections?. First of all we must approach them and endeavour to persuade them to adopt an elementary policy which will safeguard the interests of the N.Z. people and bring a maximum of assistance to the Soviet Union in it's struggle against

the Nazi aggressor.

Such a policy must not simply be one that will allow formal unity based on an easy acceptance of general principles. For instance, it is insufficient to propose support of the 40 hour week and retention of Social Security legislation, and "Aid to Russia". Any Labour candidate would promise that readily. But the 40 hour week and the Social Security legislation cannot be maintained against capitalist pressure if Emergency Regulations strangle the Trade Unions, ban the right to strike, and give ~~xx~~ a reactionary lawyer like Mason, the power to deregister a union or victimise a Trade Union Official who is fighting the employers over that very principle of the 40 hour week. Nor can we talk of friendship and aid to Russia, when the Police interfere with meetings of friendship with the Soviet Union and the censor bans Communist advertisements on the same subject.

A united front programme therefore, must, at the least, demand the elementary demands of the working class- the best obtainable living-conditions, Trade Union and civic liberties, e.g. repeal of obnoxious Emergency Regulations, and restoration of the "People's Voice, and fullest possible measures to ensure the defeat of German Fascism.

Given the acceptance of such an elementary programme of action, we can and should come to an amicable united front understanding with the N.Z. Labour Party as a whole, or any individual candidates.

The same applies to the Democratic Labour Party, to Independents and other candidates.

Should a N.Z. Labour Party candidate accept such an elementary programme, then, other things being equal, we would support him in preference to other candidates. BUT, we must recognise that N.Z. Labour Party candidates are less likely on the whole, to accept such proposals (especially if they are sitting M.P.'s) than Independents and D.L.P.'ers, because of the strong Party machine in the N.Z.L.P.

Every attempt should be made, as previously pointed out, to have progressive men and women elected in the pre-selection ballots. Such progressives may take their own course and support a democratic programme, irrespective of any opposition from the National Office.

Lastly, it must be pointed out that while united front approaches must be made both locally (and on a national scale) to the N.Z. Labour Party, we do not regard it as likely that an official or even a wide response to our responses will be made. We can only make the approaches and hope that in the interests of the whole working class they will be accepted. If they are rejected, - and knowing the Nashes and Frasers, we are not optimistic- then it is plain what our course must be. We shall use the election, (as we would in any event) to mobilise the maximum support for the Soviet Union, of democracy, and defence of working, and living standards.

Even in the event of progressive candidates standing in certain electorates, we reserve the right ~~x~~ to stand our own candidate if circumstances warrant. While we will not with our limited strength cannot- stand more than a very small number of candidates, we would almost certainly stand candidates in several electorates. But we ~~a~~ must remember, that the aim must be to mobilise the maximum support obtainable for a progressive programme and the candidate who could most accomplish this, whether a Communist, a member of the D.L.P., a New Zealand Labour Party or an Independent, would receive our support.

In conclusion, let us illustrate our attitude, by reference to Auckland electorates. In Auckland West, Comrade C.G. Watson, will almost certainly contest the seat, though in the extremely unlikely position of the sitting Labour member, Peter Carr, accepting a Democratic programme, Comrade ~~WW~~Watson's retirement

could by no means be ruled out. A similar position obtains in Auckland central, another working class electorate, where Comrade Wally Ashton will probably stand. We do not intend to stand a candidate in Grey Lynn. On the whole, the maximum of progressive sentiment is likely to be mobilised by J.A. Lee, the present M.P. who, ~~xxx~~ while far from satisfactory, is more likely to adopt a minimum democratic programme than the N.Z. Labour Party candidate, J. Sayegh, who is tied to the L.P. machine. At the same time the C.P. will make plain its own independent position, in this electorate. In Auckland suburbs support will be given to the Labour candidate, Williams, who is fairly certain to be selected in the ballot in opposition to H.G.R. Mason, reactionary Attorney General. Williams is a progressive, and even if the L.P. National Executive should ignore the selection ballot and approve Mason, he will be supported by our Party. In Auckland East, despite the reactionary character of the sitting member, F. Schramm, we shall not put up a candidate, because there is insufficient Party Organisation in the area. There are other electorates such as Manakau, where the candidates are unlikely to subscribe to a democratic minimum programme but where, owing to the weakness of Party forces, we will also be unable to stand party candidates. In such electorates, where there is simply or basically, a contest between Labour and National Parties, what is to be our attitude? The only possible course seems to be to SIMPLY PUT FORWARD OUR POINT OF VIEW, bringing the utmost progressive pressure on the candidates. Point out to electors that if they vote for National candidates they vote for avowed opponents of the workers; if they vote for Labour, they vote for a Party, (and a man) which, though nominally working class, has done much to destroy democratic institutions and is surrendering to the reactionaries all the time, on such matters as the 40 hour week and working conditions. If they vote Labour, as most workers will- they must at least do so with a full understanding of the mortal weakness and opportunism of the official Labour Movement. There must be no advocacy of informal voting or boycotting the ballot, but on the other hand we cannot take the responsibility of creating the illusion that the return of the present Labour Government, will, on its own, either result in the saving of the present liberties and standard or even of preventing a catastrophic downhill plunge.

Sections are asked to discuss the contents of this letter and report on the discussions, especially if there are any points that are unclear or about which disagreement is felt.

COMMUNIST PARTY ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

- (1) International- Fullest material, political and moral aid to the Soviet Union in it's struggle against German Fascism and it's allies.
- (2) Promotion of unity in war and in peace between the peoples of Pacific countries.
- (3) Self determination for Samoa and Pacific dependencies.
- (4) Internal political situation-- Freedom of speech and assembly. Repeal of obnoxious Emergency Regulations such as the empowering of the Attorney General to deregister trade unions and expel workers from Industries.
- (5) Increased wages and pensions to meet price increases. Effective action against profiteering. Full maintenance of social services and retention of 40 hour week. Higher taxation on all large incomes. National control in all public interests and services such as coal, shipping and sugar. Nationalisation of Bank of New Zealand.
- (6) Farming community. Moratorium on all farm mortgages. Derating of farm lands,. Financial assistance to poor farmers.
- (7) Maori people. Support for land claims. Financial assistance without bureaucratic intervention for Maori farmers, whether individual or tribal. Full support for cultural and natinnal aspirations.
- (8) Armed forces-- Increased pay for members of Armed Forces. Increased allowances for dependents. Better pensions. An end to rehabilitation muddle scandal. Democratisation of armed forces and elimination of anti-democratic elements in high places.
- (9) Defence of N.Z. Larger and more up to date air force, to be kept in N.Z. Attempt to acquire submarine fleet which would be suitable for defence purposes. A democratic citizen's defence organisation. Deep air raid shelters in cities and exposed coastal towns.

21/2/10

File Date 1938

Taken from P/F. A. J. BIRCHFIELD
ex SIB records.

gotten that the support of the women was a major factor in securing Seddon's programme of social reform. Labour's election programme must contain special measures in the interests of the women and youth; they must be drawn into all the work of the election campaign: every trade union, Labour Party branch and organisation entering the campaign on the side of the Labour Government should make a special appeal and devote a maximum amount of attention to their needs and demands.

Finally, the Labour movement must hold out the hand of friendship to all those who have been deceived into support of the National Party contrary to their own real interests. Those tens of thousands who voted for the Nationalists in 1935 and the great majority of those who still support them are not enemies of Labour and progress. They are people who have been misled and who want, together with the supporters of the Labour Party, peace, progress and freedom. Many of them are disturbed at the evolution of the National Party towards more and more openly Fascist methods. They are disturbed at the type of propaganda that is carried on by "National News" after the manner of Goebbels. They do not believe Hamilton, when he tells them that he will introduce the compensated price.

They must be won. For the issue in the 1938 elections is not simply a campaign between two rival parties: it is a battle for the whole future security and freedom of the New Zealand people. It is not necessary to believe in all the actions or the whole programme of the Labour Government in order to realise the true role of the National Party. If it can be explained to these people just what the National Party stands for, it will be possible to win thousands to our side, even before they are convinced of the correctness of the whole Labour programme.

THIS IS WHAT THE COMMUNISTS BELIEVE TO BE THE PATH TO VICTORY FOR THE LABOUR MOVEMENT IN THE COMING ELECTIONS. IT IS FOR THIS POLICY AND THIS TYPE OF CAMPAIGN THAT WE WILL USE ALL OUR INFLUENCE IN THE TRADE UNIONS AND WHEREVER WE ARE ABLE.

What The Communists Must Do

The Communist Party will not be standing any Parliamentary candidates in the 1938 General Elections. It believes that under certain circumstances the standing of candidates would tend to strengthen the Labour movement as a whole. In the 1935 elections, however, particularly in view of the rejection of our unity proposals by the Labour Party, the slightest danger of a split vote or any disunity of the working class (or progressive) forces must be avoided.

The Communist Party here reaffirms its repudiation, made at previous conferences, of the sectarian line pursued in the 1935 elections. This line, which was one of "neither National nor Labour," found its chief expression in the advocacy of the invalid vote in electorates where the united front gesture was refused. This policy, which was mainly due to the sectarian influence of F. E. Freeman, has been reversed and those mainly responsible for it and who persistently adhered to this line have been removed from Party leadership or from the Party itself. At the same time it must be pointed out that this change of policy does not mean that the Communist Party will take no independent part in the election campaign.

Communists will, in the first place, exert every effort to develop unity in action with members of the Labour Party for the defeat of all National candidates. They will always and everywhere be at the disposal of the Labour Party committees for the distribution of election material, for canvassing, for the collection of funds, for all other election activity. By their daily actions they will prove their devotion to the Labour movement and their right to be regarded as an integral part of that movement.

PARTY'S ELECTION CAMPAIGN

Further, the Party will conduct its own independent election campaign to set before the people the issues in the elections as it sees them. The main blow will be struck in this campaign against the National Party and its backers, against the Freedom League of Professor Algie, against Fascism and the agents of Hitler and the Mikado in the country. The Party will bring forward in the elections the question of peace before the people, and in particular the need for the fullest aid to the peoples of Spain and China in their heroic front line fight against Fascism. It is of the greatest importance to bring

about close ties between the people of our country and the Soviet Union, the land of Socialist democracy and the advance guard of all progressive humanity.

Our campaign will be conducted by means of public meetings, posters, pamphlets and all other possible means. A special Party election pamphlet, "Money Power Versus the People," written by Comrade Scott, editor of the "Workers' Weekly," will be issued. We ask all supporters of the Labour Government and the Labour Party to assist us in these activities, to attend our meetings, to distribute our leaflets and posters, to obtain a really mass sale for our pamphlets, to distribute the "Workers' Weekly," which will contain special election material, to contribute to our funds so that we may carry on still more work.

Not only the Central Committee, but every branch of the Party must plan its own independent election campaign. There could be no greater mistake than to believe that because the Party is not running candidates and is calling on the workers to vote for the Labour candidates everywhere, that the Party's role in the election campaign is limited to merely endorsing the Labour candidates. There is a greater responsibility on all members of the Party than ever before to develop Party activity and to bring the Party openly to the fore as the best champion of the people against reaction.

Build The Communist Party

For the National Party the election campaign serves two purposes, not only to win the elections if possible, but simultaneously to create an atmosphere in which it can bring about the downfall of the Government by other means if it is defeated. The struggle will not end with the elections. Therefore it is necessary to strengthen all the organisations of the Labour movement during the election campaign, to strengthen the unity and the fighting spirit of the trade unions, to recruit to the Labour Party and build its branches, to develop the sales of the "Standard."

But, above all, it is necessary to build the Communist Party, to recruit to it and to develop the sales of the paper, "The Workers' Weekly." A strong Communist Party is the guarantee of victory. Any underestimation of the role of the Communist Party in the present period, whether by its own members or by the militants who sympathise with it, means underestimation of the menace of Nationalist reaction, failure to grasp the essential role of the Communist Party as the driving force of the whole people's struggle against reaction.

THERE IS A PLACE IN THE COMMUNIST PARTY FOR EVERY HONEST FIGHTER FOR PEACE, FOR DEMOCRACY AND FOR SOCIALISM. BY STRENGTHENING THE COMMUNIST PARTY IT WILL BE POSSIBLE NOT ONLY TO BEAT NATIONALIST REACTION MORE SWIFTLY AND DECISIVELY BUT TO CLEAR THE WAY FOR A FUTURE ADVANCE TO A FREE AND PROSPEROUS SOCIALIST NEW ZEALAND

(Manifesto of Central Committee of C.P.N.Z., August 6th, 1938.)

Join The Communist Party

I wish to apply for membership of the Communist Party of New Zealand in order to fight for the welfare and freedom of the New Zealand people and build unity of the working class and progressive people against reaction.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Fill in this form and address it to Secretary Communist Party of New Zealand, c/o 36 St. Kevin's Arcade, Newton, Auckland, C2.

THE WAY TO WIN

Unity of the People will
Defeat Nationalist Reaction!

Policy of the Communist
Party of New Zealand in
the 1938 General Election

Never before has the people of New Zealand been called upon to make such a vital decision as will be made in the General Elections at the end of this year. Not even in 1893, the year when the landed oligarchy gathered all its forces to smash the Liberal-Labour administration and which resulted in a sweeping victory for Seddon and the forces of progress, were such heavy issues involved. For the election will determine whether in the immediate future the New Zealand people will carry on its struggle for a decent standard of living, for demo-

cracy and peace, with the assistance of a sympathetic Labour Government or in the teeth of a Government composed of the deadliest enemies of peace and progress.

The offensive which the National Party and its backers, the big bankers and capitalists, the shipping and freezing monopolies, the largest squatters and employers, have developed in the last three years is directed fully against the democratic institutions and traditional living standards which have won New Zealand a proud place in the world of today. They are lying when they tell the people that it is a question of Socialism.

We Communists, who yield to nobody in our devotion to Socialism as the highest and greatest ideal known to men and as the necessary form for the future reorganisation of society, fully realise that the majority of the people of this country do not yet want Socialism. But they want maintenance of our traditional democratic institutions and New Zealand living standards, they want peace and social progress, and we are prepared to fight loyally with them for these objectives, realising that they are in the deadliest danger from Nationalist reaction.

WORLD REACTION AGAINST N.Z.

Openly Fascist organisation and activity are appearing in New Zealand, as evidenced in the distribution of Fascist leaflets attacking the Hon. Walter Nash and in the formation of a Wellington Nazi League. Agents of Hitler and the Mikado are entering the country, carrying on secret as well as openly propagandist activity. Changes in the German, Italian and Japanese Consulates indicate the concentration of world reaction against the democratic islands of New Zealand.

Every honest New Zealander is disturbed by these developments. That they are possible must be laid at the door of the National Party, who have so poisoned the political atmosphere with their propaganda and activities of incitement and provocation, that all kinds of foul growths, foreign to the spirit and traditions of New Zealand are now appearing. The incitement of the country population against the towns, which the leader of the compensated prices campaign recognises as logically leading to civil war: the unprincipled ramp against New Zealand finances in London, directed towards undermining the credit of the country: these are indications of the weapons that will be used.

There are growing signs that world capitalism is on the eve of a new economic crisis which has begun in the United States and is already spreading to Great Britain and other countries. Such a crisis must inevitably involve New Zealand, which is not isolated from the rest of the world. The Nationalists are determined on the destruction of the Labour Government at all costs precisely because they want to make the working class and the people carry the whole burden of the crisis.

But the working class has learned deep lessons from the experiences of 1930-34. It understands that it is not necessary for the people to suffer as they did under the rule of the Nationalists: that it is possible to make the rich pay so as to maintain social services and a decent standard of living and to finance public works to absorb unemployed workers. We want the return of the Labour Government, not because we believe that it is possible to isolate New Zealand from a crisis which is world-wide, but because a Labour Government, with the strong mass backing of Labour and the people, would take the necessary measures to prevent the poor from suffering and make the rich carry the burden.

CENTRAL QUESTION IS PEACE

Central to the elections of 1938 is the question of peace. War already rages in Spain and in China, involving one-quarter of all mankind, and the fiends who rule in Berlin, Tokyo and Rome are working to involve the whole world in war. They receive powerful encouragement from the Chamberlain Government in Great Britain, which, instead of adopting a firm stand against the warmongers, in company with the Soviet Union, bulwark of world peace, France and the United States of America, has concluded an agreement with Fascist Italy based on the betrayal of the Spanish democratic Republic, and is drawing ever closer to Berlin and Tokyo.

This is the policy to which the National Party wishes to tie New Zealand, regardless of the fact that the defence of New Zealand depends to a great extent on the maximum assistance by New Zealand democracy to the peoples of Spain and China. When they oppose the policy pursued by Mr. Jordan at Geneva, an independent foreign

policy of peace, they reveal how hypocritical is their concern for "defence," which they are trying to turn into an election issue. Improved and increased assistance for Spain and China, combined with an independent New Zealand policy in foreign affairs, is the best guarantee for the defence of New Zealand.

PEACE, PROSPERITY, FREEDOM. THESE ARE THE CENTRAL ISSUES OF THE 1938 ELECTIONS. IF THEY ARE TO BE SAFEGUARDED THE OFFENSIVE OF THE NATIONAL PARTY MUST BE SMASHED.

What The Labour Movement Must Do.

All members of the Labour Party and the trade unions, all active supporters of the Labour Government are concerned at the present time with the question: What must we do to win the election? For, with elimination of split voting in the camp of reaction, the Labour Party must not only hold the ground won in the 1935 elections, but increase its vote in order to hold a Parliamentary majority.

The results of the municipal elections in May showed that three years of intensive propaganda and organisation, backed with unlimited financial resources, on the part of reaction, have not been without effect, particularly in the country districts. We Communists also want to answer this question: What must be done to win?

Above everything else the answer lies in UNITY, more unity and ever more unity. The formation and growth of the united trade union organisation, the Federation of Labour, and the tremendous growth of the Labour Party and the increased number of trade union affiliations to it, place the Labour movement in a far more favourable position for victory than ever before.



TOM STANLEY

Chairman of the Central Communist Committee

But much still remains to be done. Trotskyist splitters still retain prominent positions in the trade union movement which they can use to assist reaction. Where it is not possible to drive them out immediately, they must be watched vigilantly and the slightest attempt at disruption crushed.

No unity can be fully effective which excludes members of the Communist Party who have proved themselves the most devoted and self-sacrificing fighters against reaction. Full and recognised participation of the Communists in the election campaign would provide the Labour movement with a new driving force of the utmost value.

Yet there are some leaders of the Labour Party and the Govern-

ment who, instead of welcoming every development towards unity, repulse it and give currency to the worst slanders against the Communist Party. By doing so they hope to prevent the National Party from stampeding politically-backward voters with its propaganda "Labour-Communist alliance." But, in fact, such a tactic only helps the National Party, because it is impossible to deprive the Communists of their positions in the Labour movement, where they are playing an ever more useful role, particularly in the trade unions, and every slander which is repeated against the Communist Party, must recoil against the Labour movement as a whole. Similarly it is impossible to defend N.Z. democracy by attacking the Soviet Union, the land of the highest type of democracy, Socialist democracy, as expressed in the great Stalin Constitution.

TO BELIEVE THAT ONE CAN DEFEAT THE NATIONALISTS BY ATTACKING THE COMMUNISTS AND THE SOVIET UNION EVEN MORE FIERCELY THAN THEY DO, IS A TACTIC WHICH CAN ONLY LEAD THE LABOUR MOVEMENT TO DISASTER.

Secondly, Labour must not only be united; it must take the offensive. Too long has the initiative been in the hands of the National Party. It is not sufficient simply to defend the Government against the slanders and "whispering campaign" of its enemies. The Labour movement must go further and still more vigorously expose the leaders of the National Party, their real objectives, their plot in London against the finances of the country, their programme of war between town and country, their determination to smash democracy in New Zealand and link our country up with the forces of war abroad. They must be publicly charged with their criminal activities, and called on to answer for them before the people.

MOBILISE ALL FORCES

Thirdly, success in the election campaign depends on the fullest activation and mobilisation of all the forces of the Labour movement. The Labour movement, while exerting every effort to raise funds for the election campaign, cannot hope to equal the gigantic resources which will be at the disposal of the National Party. But the National Party cannot provide the tens of thousands of willing activists who can be mobilised by the Labour Party. This is the strength of the Labour movement and it must be used to the full.

Centralisation and unified leadership are of the greatest importance. But the campaign must not be limited to a few leaders, or a few election pamphlets. What is wanted is a great mass crusade drawing in every available force and activating every member of the Labour movement, and, in particular, the trade unionists. Election committees in the unions, working under the direction of the leading Labour bodies, could issue appropriate propaganda, provide speakers, organise canvassing, etc. The more the initiative of the masses is developed in the campaign the more certain it is of success.

Fourthly, success, depends on the maximum concentration of all available forces on the countryside. The National Party is concentrating the greatest part of its efforts in the country districts, realising that it has little possibility of winning any of the main city seats from Labour. Yet the interests of the great mass of the farmers march together with those of the people of the towns and cities against the bankers and profiteers in shipping, freezing and farm requisites, against the money power which backs the National Party.

Every available speaker should be organised for the farming districts, every possible resource drawn on to provide explanatory printed material, the fullest use made of the radio, to bring this message home to the country population. The trade unions should speed up the proposal approved by the Federation of Labour and many of its councils for joint conferences between the trade unions and branches of the Farmers' Union. Above all, the Labour movement must show itself ready and willing, not simply to approach the farmers with propaganda of what has been done, but to listen to them and take up the struggle for the remedy of their outstanding grievances and hardships.

RALLY WOMEN AND YOUTH

Fifthly, Labour must rally the women and youth to consolidate the measures which it has already carried through in their interests, and extend them, thus laying the basis for a happy and stable family life, secure from fear of the future. The Nationalists are making every endeavour to sow their poison among the women and young people who are the future of New Zealand. It must never be for-

35/644-10
A 21/2/87
25.10.1935

COMMUNIST PARTY.

ELECTION PROGRAMME AND LIST OF CANDIDATES.

Len Howson, Auckland. First came under notice in 1928, when it was ascertained that he was importing seditious literature. His house was searched and a quantity of seditious literature seized. No prosecution followed because not more than one copy of any publication was found and there was no evidence that he kept the literature "for sale or distribution".

During the period of unrest in 1932, he took a prominent part in agitating and fomenting trouble but took good care to keep in the back-ground when the trouble started.

For several years past he has run a Marxian Study Class at his home and in theory he is fanatical revolutionist. Howson and his wife became active members of the Mt Eden group of the Communist Party about a year ago. He later was elected to the Local Party Committee of the Party. He stood as a Communist Candidate at the last Municipal Election, but was not elected. He recently became active in the Anti-War Movement, and at a meeting of that organisation at Kingsland on 18th August last he said:- "Immediately the war breaks out they (the Capitalists) will put arms into the hands of the workers and expect them to fight. If the workers are in any doubt as to whom they are to turn their rifles and bayonets upon there will be plenty who will tell them which way to turn them".

Thomas Stanley, Auckland. This individual was convicted of theft at the Magistrates Court, Auckland, on 24/6/30, and fined £20. Soon after that he began attending Communist Party meetings, and for over three years he has been a member of the Party and has been an active agitator among the unemployed. He is very aggressive in his utterances and has more than once been on the borderline of seditious statements.

Constance Rawcliffe (Wellington) Has been a member of the Communist Party in Wellington for about two years. She has been in charge of the International Book Shop, and has also been active in the "Working Women's Movement." She frequently speaks at Party meetings and her utterances are sometimes bordering on sedition.

3

Samuel Iken (Dunedin) First came under notice as a Communist in 1931 when he became a member of the Militant Workers League. He was prominent in the agitation which led to a demonstration at Dunedin in 1932, but in the usual Communist way, kept out of action when the trouble started. He has not been very prominent during the past two years except for attending meetings of the unemployed, etc.

Arthur Basil Powell became active about the same time as Samuel Iken. (Dunedin) He was very prominent in the agitation of the Militant Workers League, and advocated the overthrow of the present system by revolution. He also has been very quiet during the past two years.

W. Woods (Napier), has been a member of the Communist Party since 1931 and has been the chief distributor of Communist literature in the Napier district during that time. He has not displayed any very revolutionary tendencies, but has done his best to further the interests of the Party with moderate success.

~~SECRET~~ 31/11/60 [Police-100A. 4

NEW ZEALAND POLICE. 21/2/10

~~Secret~~

Police-station: Christchurch

Date: November 10th 1931, 193

REPORT of Detective N.W. Laugesen, No. 2603

relative to attached Communist correspondence dealing
with tactics to be employed at forthcoming Elections.

150,000/2/31-1560

I respectfully attach hereto a letter and
a circular dealing with tactics to be employed by
Communists at the forthcoming Elections.

About a dozen circulars similar to the one
attached arrived by Post this morning and I seized them
when searching the Communist Hall 228 Oxford Terrace
today.

The Inspector of Police
Christchurch

N.W. Laugesen
Detective

The Superintendent,
The attached papers
are merely instructions to the Party
in the selection and supporting
a candidate for the Parliamentary
Elections.

A. G. G. G.
Inspector

Forwarded to the Commissioner

17.11.31.

Superintendent.

17.11.1931

COMMUNIST PARTY



NEW ZEALAND.

SECTION OF THE

COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL.

Communications to be addressed to the Secretary,
166d Vivian St., Wellington.

Nov 5th '31.

19...

CENTRAL EXECUTIVE.

Secretary,
I.P.C.

Dear Comrade,

You have already been informed as to what the C.E. proposes to do in connection with the Parliamentary elections. We must have your complete co-operation and enthusiasm if our program is to be carried out. We are at the end of our tether financially. This letter is being sent to all sections and a similar one to supporters in order that we may get sufficient to carry out our plans.

DEPOSITS- It will be necessary for you to do your utmost to secure the amount for deposit- £10 in your own district. If the amount cannot be found before the date for nominations then the candidate will not have his name on the ballot paper. If this takes place then the tactic to pursue is the same as is used by brother parties all over the world. The Party Organisation and speakers are to advise the workers to vote informally, by writing the name of the candidate across the paper - Communist. No difficulty should be experienced where the party has been active. Sympathisers will be found who will most likely be prepared to put up the money. Failing this then an attempt should be made to raise it at public meetings.

PROPAGANDA MATTER- The best results can be obtained by centralising this as far as possible. You should send in your local matter for the proposed leaflet as soon as possible. An estimate of the cost has been worked out and we suggest that you should raise, apart from returns from sales of papers, pamphlets & etc. ... £5.... for the whole four weeks of the campaign, and that you should forward us £1-5-0.... per week commencing on Friday 13th and strive to reach this amount each week.

All collections at meetings we suggest should be held by you as local funds for hiring of halls, local propaganda and advertising.

All Donations, other than those specifically for ~~extra~~ deposits, should be sent in for the central fund.

CANDIDATES should give their full time to the campaign for the three weeks, and we therefore propose from a separate fund to attempt to assist them to do so. We suggest that those without dependants should, if the money is available, get £1 per week and those with dependants £1-10-0 but if there is sufficient cash £2.

The donations to the party will be used chiefly for this purpose. Cash received through Social Functions and raffles should be used for ~~extra~~ propaganda and is therefore sent in to the C.E.

This means that you remit here weekly all cash received as donations or raised by social functions, raffles, auctions etc. All cash collected at meetings you keep for local purposes. We will send you leaflets and the amount which is available up to for the candidate's upkeep. (no candidate so far).

1. The total you will have to reach is £1000 the deposit etc.
2. Your quota of the National Expenses £5000 for propaganda.
3. The amount necessary for the upkeep of the candidate.

This means £5 before election day and £1-5-0 per week.

This has all been worked out in accordance with your chances of raising cash, your financial position and opportunities etc. It is quite practical and I think you will agree that you can reach it.

You will be able to add to your local revenue by sale of sympathisers badges, pamphlets and papers.

As far as we can see the candidate in each case will have to be Campaign Director for his district, hence the need for full time attention to the matter. Later as reports come in we may be able to improve the amount of free literature and send you a speaker in exchange for one of yours for a day or two.

ORGANISED ACTIVITY - is most important during the campaign. All local members should be mobilised and list kept of speakers those who can distribute literature. Those who are best as canvassers and collect donations. List must also be made of all sympathisers and also of factories, jobs and enterprises generally which must be worked systematically.

At all public meetings, indoor or outdoor certain comrades should be allotted to the collection, to literature sales, to paper sales etc.

Systematic canvassing of the workers both house-to-house and on jobs must be made and the districts divided up between certain comrades or sympathisers on the campaign committee.

Calico signs bearing slogans, chalked slogans, and Red flags should be used freely.

RECRUITING - More important than securing votes are new recruits for the party and at all meetings and on all possible occasions appeals must be made for new recruits.

Following the first mass meeting a Campaign Committee should be established of local workers.

In districts where there are no candidates we must advise the workers to vote informal for Communism. There is no such thing as the LESSER EVIL.

All requests for information should be sent to the General Secretary.

We propose to issue speakers notes and ask each district to send in any suitable data of use in the election campaign so that it may be retyped for other districts.

Yours for Communism,

..... J.W. *Secretary*

Org Dept
Ref

STATEMENT FOR PARTY MEMBERS ON THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS.
Why the Communist Party Contests elections.

1. As a means of mobilising the working class, for the general purpose of generating sufficient power to launch a counter-offensive against capitalism.
2. To prove to the working class that they can/attain their emancipation through acts of parliament, or through the parliamentary form of government, which is merely a part of the special class institution- the State, that enables the Capitalist class under the cloak of democracy, to impose its will by force and violence upon the working class.
3. To win the masses away from the treacherous Labour Party, and to enlist them in the ranks of the Communist Party.
4. If elected, to speak over the heads of the lackeys of Capitalism in Parliament, to the masses outside, in order to discredit the organs of capitalism- to be agitators not legislators.
5. The election program of the C.P. is not a series of concessions granted in return for votes, but a program of fighting demands around which the workers will be organised for struggle. The importance of the program lies in the fact that every step taken, in fighting for immediate demands, is an experience which is a practical advance towards preparing them for the real political goal of the class struggle- the overthrow of the system.

Where to contest elections.

Owing to shortage of money and suitable candidates only a limited number of seats can be contested.

1. Where the party is active in the mass struggles of the workers.
2. Where the workers are beginning to be disillusioned about the Labour Party.
3. In elections composed mainly of industrial workers.
4. It might also be done in certain districts, if candidates are available against extreme reactionaries, to expose them.

How to contest elections.

The Local Party Committee, should select the candidates, and send their names to the Central Executive for endorsement. If possible a National and Local Campaign director should be appointed, to direct the campaigns in districts and nationally. Around the candidate and director, should be built a campaign Committee of sympathisers. If possible meetings should be organised for mid-day at the factory gates, or on jobs of any description. THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT METHOD OF CONDUCTING THE CAMPAIGN.

Housewives, sympathisers, and unemployed should be enlisted to help with the campaign, such as in chalking, sticking up posters etc., distributing leaflets.

CANDIDATES selected should have a good general knowledge of the policy of the Communist Party. In fact the best all round men should be selected. When the candidates have been selected and endorsed, attempts must be made to have the candidates endorsed at union meetings, by the Unemployed Workers Movement, Labour Defence Leagues, Militant Workers League, etc.

The campaign should commence at a Hall centrally situated in the electorate. At this meeting the candidate should speak and the policy and demands of the CP. should be outlined.

CASH is the biggest obstacle. Dances, Concerts, collections etc. should be run to raise same. Personal calls should be made on all sympathisers for donations.

During the election campaign attempts must be made to wage struggles against capitalism, in the form of mass demonstrations to the authorities, putting forth some simple immediate demands to rally the unemployed and employed. In the factories jobs, etc. attempts must be made to demand better conditions etc. Scrutineers should be present at polling booths on election day.

A further circular will be issued later dealing with- Immediate demands, Organised activity, question of deposits, Quotas of cash required from each district and other matters.

..... For Secretariat.

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

Ex S.49,582

59

From (source): Det. R. Jones
Auckland.

Reference:

Date: 10.11.49

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 13-7-1959

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING held at corner of Hackett Street
and St. Mary's Rd., Ponsonby on 1.11.49.
"Vide attached"

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

The full names of those mentioned in the attached reports of
Constables Urry and Steers are as follows:

Henry Mornington SMITH, Myrtle Rose RAIT,
Alexander George RAIT, Ben BRAY and Robert Keir SILLIS.

The two Communists defeated in the "Wharf elections" vide
paragraph 6, Const. Steers report, are Alexander DRENNAN and John James
MITCHELL.

Subversive History sheets have been issued for all the above-
mentioned persons.

R. JONES.

Police Stn. Ponsonby

4.11.49

Report of Constable C.V. Steers No. 3966

Relative to: General Election Campaign -- Communist Candidate - Harry
Mornington SMITH (Ponsonby Electorate) speaking at the
corner of Caroline St. and St. Mary's Rd on 1.11.49 at 7.30pm.

I respectfully report that at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 1.11.49, I
attended an open air meeting of the Communist Party Candidate, Harry
SMITH at the corner of Caroline St. and St. Mary's Road.

The address was given through a microphone attached to a loud
speaker system erected on a motor car. The motor car was a Triumph
make, registered Plate No. 44.240, the property of Michael RAIT, 8
Larchwood Ave., Grey Lynn. RAIT was present and assisted in operating
the loud speaker system.

The chairman ~~was~~ Ben BRAY, opened the meeting at 7.50 pm when
he introduced the candidate, Harry SMITH. The Communist Party Policy
spoken on by Mr. SMITH consisted of -

1. Anti Conscription
2. Free and Independent Trade Unions.
3. Pensions Increases.
4. Housing.
5. Provisions for Free Education.

The chairman Ben BRAY commented by saying that Peter Fraser
and Bob Semple say that when the Torries give them praise then they
will think that there is something wrong with the Torries.

The Candidate Harry SMITH, referred to "Granny Star" giving
the Communist Party no publicity or advertising. He went on to say
that on 31.10.49 the Star published headlines of two Communist
Officials defeated in the wharf elections, namely Mr. Drennan and Mr.
Mitchell and that "Granny Star" was not running true to form.

There was an average of 25 persons present at the meeting and
there were no interjections. Those present conducted themselves in
an orderly manner.

A collection box was taken round by one of the Party
supporters and very few donations were made.

At 9 pm I was relieved by Constable Urry and the meeting
then was still continuing.

C. V. STEERS

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

G.D.D.-11

EXTRACT/COPY

Ex S.49/594

58

From (source): Pol. Stn. Birkenhead Reference:

Date: 10.11.1949

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

/Extracted/Copied by

On 9-7-1959

Subject: Communist Party Meeting held at Highbury Corner, Birkenhead
at 7.40 pm. on 4.11.49

"Vide attached"

The Superintendent of Police, AUCKLAND.

The full names of the persons mentioned in the attached report are :-
Cyril John GOULD; Henry Mornington SMITH; Alexander George RAIT;
and Raymond John DOWLE. They are all well known Communists and
Subversive History sheets have been issued in each instance.

R. JONES.

5.11.1949

Report of: Constable A. McLellan.

Relative to : Communist Party Meeting held at Highbury Corner, Birkenhead,
on Friday 4th November 1949 at 7.40 p.m.

I respectfully report that I attended a Communist Party
Meeting held at Highbury Corner, Birkenhead, commencing at 7.40 p.m on
Friday 4th November, 1949.

The Chairman of the Meeting was one Cyril Gould, Sub-editor
of the People's Voice. He introduced to the meeting the Communist
candidate for the Ponsonby Electorate, Henry Mornington Smith. The
chairman in his address to the meeting said that the Secretary of their
Party had written to the Prime Minister Mr. Fraser, about two months ago
asking him to provide facilities to broadcast their meetings but the
Prime Minister had not yet replied to their request. He said that radio
facilities were available to the National Party and the Labour Party to
broadcast their meetings but they were denied this privilege. The
chairman also said that the Evening Star Newspaper refused to publish their
meetings and that the Herald no doubt would give very little space in the
column of their paper of the Communist meetings. There was a crowd of
about 50 people present.

The candidate on taking his stand criticised the Labour
Government for failing to implement their party policy and that they had
become puppets of the Wall Street financiers. He also criticised the
Labour Government for bringing in compulsory military training and the
£17,000,000 per year granted by the Government to train the youths. The
candidate then referred to the strikes that had taken place amongst the
worker in trades and industries and the allegations made that the
Militant Unions were inspired by agents of Soviet Russia in the Communist
Party. He touched upon the recent strike of the coal miners of the
Renown Coal Mine in Huntley, in which the coal miners had to truck their
own coal and only allowed truckers rate of wages. The candidate claimed
that they were only concerned with the interest of the workers of New
Zealand, and advocating for a higher standard of living.

The meeting was very orderly the speaker receiving an
attentive hearing but there did not appear to be any communist sympathisers
in the crowd. Just before the meeting closed one of the members of the
Communist Party whom I later ascertained was Alexander RAIT, branch
secretary of the Party, distributed pamphlets amongst the crowd that had
gathered at the meeting. Two pamphlets attached herewith. At the
conclusion of the meeting I endeavoured to get the names of the four
members of the communist party with whom the candidate Mr. Smith had with
him but they would not do so. The candidate Mr. Smith, then supplied
the name of the Chairman, Mr. Gould, Sub-editor of the People's Voice,
whom I later ascertained is Cyril Gould.

There was an old green sedan motor car at the meeting. I
took the number of this car No.44.647, and inquiries show that it is
registered in the name of Raymond John Dowle, 21 Stanley Avenue, Takapuna.

A. McLELLAN

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

G.D.D.-11

EXTRACT/COPY

Ex S.49/595

57

From (source): R.Jones.
Pol.Stn. Ak. (Mr. Eden) Reference:

Date: 10.11.49

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 10-7-1959

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING held at corner of Carlton Gore and
Seafield View Roads at 7.30 pm on 4.11.49

" Vide attached"

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

The chairman of this meeting was Herbert Leonard SPILLER known as "Tom" SPILLER. The speaker was Lillian Rita SMITH. They were supported by William Francis WALKERDENE and Edgar Wallis TAYLOR. Subversive History sheets have been issued in each instance. I was present at this meeting at different periods and I was accompanied by Const. Wise. This was the best attended of the Communist Party meetings held on 4.11.49. However, it was apparent that those present were local residents who came along to be amused by the good-natured interjections of the Trinity College students.

R. JONES.

Pol.Stn.Mt.Eden Ref. 2773/49 5.11.1949
Report of Const.A. Moffitt No.3872
Relative to: Rita SMITH Communist Candidate for the Parnell Electorate
Meeting at corner Carlton Gore Rd. and Seafield View
Rd. at 7/30 pm on the 4/11/49.

I respectfully report that at 7.15 pm on Friday, 4th. November, I attended a meeting held by the Communist Candidate for the Parnell Electorate, Mrs. Rita SMITH.

The meeting commenced at 7.30 pm.

Mr. Tom Spiller, watersider was the Chairman.

At the start of the meeting there were about 35 in attendance but this number rose to about 75 throughout the meeting. There were about 25 Trinity College Students present who did quite a bit of ^{good} humoured heckling. The meeting was conducted in an orderly manner.

The general trend of the meeting was that Capitalism was on a par with Fascism and the usual Communistic talk.

The candidate discussed pensions, rise in wages, housing, The Communist party stands for peace, Meetings not published in the press and broadcasts. Programme for the youths such as apprenticeships.

There were no pamphlets distributed at the Meeting and there was no collection taken.

There were no seditious utterances made at the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 9.15 pm.

Some of those present at the conclusion of the meeting sang God Save the King.

A. MOFFITT.~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

G.D.D.—11

EXTRACT/COPY

Ex S.49.597

56

From (source): Sp. Br. Auckland

Reference:

Date: 9.11.1949

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 13.7.1959

REPORT of : Temporary Constable L.W. Wise No. T.1997
 RELATIVE to: Communist Party Election meeting held in Grey Lynn Library Hall at 8 p.m on Tuesday 8th November 1949.

I respectfully report that I attended a Communist Party Election meeting held in the Grey Lynn Library Hall at 8 pm. on Tuesday 8th November 1949.

The speaker's table was draped with a large placard on which was the following inscription in bold black print, "PEOPLE'S VOICE, COMMUNISM'S GIANT STRIDES, WILCOX SLAMS HOLLAND AND FRASER POLICIES".

The chairman was Mervyn Haley WILLIAMS.

The Communist candidates, Lillian Rita SMITH and Victor George WILCOX were on the stage.

In opening the meeting WILLIAMS gave a brief summary of the lives of the Communist Party candidates standing in the Auckland district, and of their struggle on behalf of the working class people.

As WILLIAMS called on Lillian Rita SMITH as the first speaker, Herman NUNES presented her with a bouquet of roses which he said was sent with the best wishes of a woman admirer.

Lillian Rita SMITH confined her speech to the Communist Party demand for equal pay for equal work, and the introduction of free Kindergarten for children.

SMITH concluded her speech by saying that the Communist Party is going into the highways and byways of New Zealand in an effort to lead the people to a better way of life.

Victor George WILCOX was the next speaker. He said, "You all know there is a radio and press "blackout" on the Communist Party. If we had equal facilities with the other political parties, our story would sweep New Zealand, and our victory would never be in doubt".

"Only yesterday we got a telegram saying that time on the radio would be given to the major political parties, and that no time would be given to the New Zealand Communist Party".

WILCOX then went on to outline the Communist Party policy. His speech was very similar to those previously reported.

In closing his speech WILCOX made reference to the registration of "scab" unions, and he read the poems, "The Scab" by Jack London, and, "I'm too old to Rat", by Henry Lawson. Copies of both poems have been printed by the Party, and a copy has been forwarded from this office.

Several questions relative to the speeches were asked by members of the audience, but the replies by WILCOX and SMITH were of no consequence.

The collection was taken up by John Findlay EWEN and Joyce Maimie STANLEY. The amount collected was announced as £1.13.10.

A vote of thanks was moved by a young woman who took part in the sketch presented at the Myers Park meeting on Sunday 16.10.49, and seconded by Joyce Maimie STANLEY. Enquiries have so far failed to establish the identity of the first mentioned young woman. There was an attendance of 41 persons, mostly males, of which 14 were known to me as Party members. The meeting closed at 10 p.m.

After the meeting I boarded a tram car and sat behind Henry Mornington SMITH and John James MITCHELL, Richard Charles WOLF, known as "Dick" WOLF was sitting in front of them, and a man and woman who I had seen at the meeting were sitting across the aisle, directly opposite SMITH. SMITH leaned over and asked the man if he had met 'Johnnie' MITCHELL. The man said that he had not done so, whereupon SMITH introduced MITCHELL to the man whom he called 'Max WOLF'. I heard SMITH say to MITCHELL, "Max is Dicks brother". Max WOLF is apparently identical with Max Heinrich WOLF, who has previously come under notice in this office.

L. W. WISE.

~~SECRET~~

90

~~SECRET~~

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

SUBJECT : Communist Party Election Pamphlet entitled "Calling New Zealand" forwarded.

The Superintendent,

Forwarded please.

R. Jones
Det. Sergeant 9-11-49

Forwarded to the Commissioner.

S. Hall

Superintendent of Police.

10.11.49

*Records
JH*

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

[Police—100A.]

Port Security Office

Police-station : Auckland

Date : 8th November, 194 9

REPORT of Constable A.M.Sim, No. W13

relative to Pamphlet issued by N.Z. Communist Party, Auckland - attached
hereto.

I respectfully report that the attached pamphlet, issued by the N.Z. Communist Party, Auckland, was placed in the letter box at my place of residence, No. 1 Crummer Road, Grey Lynn, yesterday the 7th November 1949.

For your information, please.

The O/C Security,
Special Branch,
Auckland.

A. M. Sim
.....
Const. W13.

TO THE HOUSEHOLDER

Postage Paid

88



CALLING

NEW ZEALAND

WESTLAND

RIGGARTON

CH-CH CENTRAL

NAPIER

WAITAKERE

PARNELL

ONEHUNGA

ARCH HILL



MR. R. MITCHELL MR. R. TAYLOR MR. A. OSTLER MR. C. BROWN MR. C. JACKSON MRS. R. SMITH MR. R. STANLEY MR. V. WILCOX

Fearless Fighters for Peace and Socialism

1. Programme For Peace

- Repeal compulsory military service and manpower laws.
- Ban atomic warfare and
- Reduce armaments as proposed by the Soviet Union.
- Oppose aggressive Atlantic Pact.
- Self-determination for colonies in Africa, Asia and elsewhere.
- Immediate establishment of friendly relations with the New Chinese People's Republic.
- End American-dictated policy which aims to:
 - (a) Make N.Z. a pawn of dollar Imperialism.
 - (b) Tie N.Z. to U.S. plans for World War III.
 - (c) Use N.Z. youth as cannon fodder.
 - (d) Impoverish N.Z. and Britain and lower living standards.
 - (e) Make world safe for U.S. millionaires.
- Expand trade between the British Empire countries and the Soviet Union and the New Democracies of Central and Eastern Europe and also with the new China.
- For a free and independent New Zealand.



"AMERICAN WAY OF DEATH"

Congressman Cannon says: "In the next war let us equip soldiers from other nations and let them send their boys into the holocaust instead of sending our own boys."

2. Raise Incomes

(a) INCREASE WAGES AND PENSIONS

- £2 a week wage rise.
- £8/5/- a week minimum adult wage.
- Equal pay for men and women.
- £1 a week increase in all pensions.

(b) HOURS OF WORK

- Introduction of thirty-five-hour week.

Seven-hour day, five-day week, with the object of maintaining full employment. The thirty-five hour week is being demanded by the American Federation of Labour, and by some Australian Trade Unions, with the object of combat

ing unemployment, which in the U.S.A. now affects fifteen million workers.

(c) PRICES

- More effective price control.

(d) REDUCE TAXATION

- Abolish the wage tax.
- No income tax on wages under £429 a year (£8/5/- a week).
- No tax on overtime or extra payments.
- Increase taxation on rich.

(e) IMPROVE HEALTH

- Completely free medical, dental, optical and pharmaceutical and other services.
- Non-contributory Social

Orders From Wall St.



Security Scheme.

- Ample funds for T.B., Polio, Cancer and other medical research.



HOUSEWIVES HEADACHE

BUCK. CENTRAL

PONSONBY

BROOKLYN

ISLAND BAY

MIRAMAR

PETONE

DUNEDIN N.



MR. J. MITCHELL MR. H. SMITH MRS C. BIRCHFIELD MR. R. SMITH MR. K. STANTON MR. A. QUINN MR. J. MARSTON

3. Nationalisation



- Nationalisation of:
 - All coal mines.
 - Freezing works, except genuine co-operatives.
 - Fertiliser works.
 - Stock and station agents.
 - All trading banks.
 - Coastal shipping.
 - Establish a State Shipping Service (for export of primary products and imports).

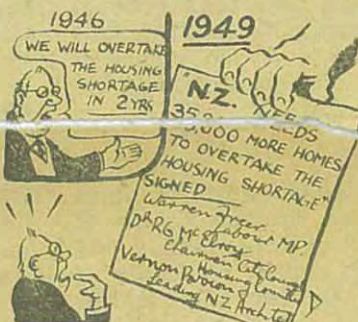


4. OUR MAORI PEOPLE

- No discrimination economic, social or political.
- Any attempt at such discrimination to be a penal offence.
- Land claims to be immediately settled in full.
- Full development of Maori national life in co-operation with Tribal Committees.
- Adequate Social Centres to be established.
- Special programmes of Maori housing in consultation with Tribal Committees.

5. Housing

- National Housing Plan mobilising full resources of the building industry.
- Transit Housing Scheme to provide immediate relief.
- Extension of State timber milling.
- Establishment of State brick and cement works.



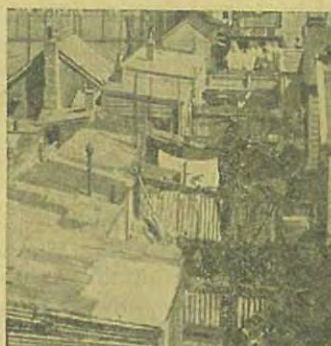
6. Women

- Day nurseries run by the Education Dept. in all main centres.
- Extension of kindergarten system which must be taken over by the Education Dept.
- Equal pay for men and women.

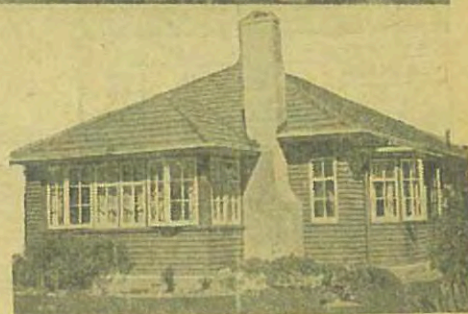
7. Civil Liberties

- Repeal all restrictions on freedom of speech and assembly.
- Equal access to radio by all political parties.
- Repeal all restrictions on freedom of trade unions.
- No Government interference in trade unions.
- Recognition of the right to strike.
- Remove ALL restrictions on political rights of public servants.

Emergency Action Necessary



**From
Hovel
To
Transit
To
Happy
Home**



THE WAY OUT

It will take 7 to 8 years at the present rate to overtake the shortage of 35,000 houses.

Attractive transit houses can be built for less than £400. Sir James Fletcher has claimed he could build thousands of such homes in six months.

A comprehensive national scheme of transit housing would enable thousands of city dwellers to escape within the next few months from the revolting living conditions now forced upon them.

COMMUNISTS FOR LEADERSHIP

8. Education

- To be retained on a secular basis.
- Free school services and books from kindergarten to university.
- Wide extension of University Bursary system.



9. DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS

- Overhaul voting methods in local body and Parliamentary elections.
- Proportional representation system to be introduced.
- 18-year-olds to have a vote.

PRESENT VOTING SYSTEM		
CANDIDATES	VOTES CAST	SEATS
LABOUR	320,000	42
TORY	280,000	38
PROGRESSIVES	200,000	NIL
PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION		
CANDIDATES	VOTES CAST	SEATS
LABOUR	320,000	32
TORY	280,000	28
PROGRESSIVES	200,000	20

10. Youth

- Adequate social, cultural and sporting facilities for youth.
- Apprentices' wages to be based on adult wages, with full adult wage at 21 years.
- 18-year-olds to have the vote.



WHY YOU SHOULD VOTE COMMUNIST

New Zealand today stands on the brink of economic and political crisis.

The U.S.A., Britain, Western Europe and the whole capitalist world is plunging deeper into slump conditions, accompanied by shortages, high prices, "austerity," and growing unemployment.

Neither the New Zealand Labour Party nor the National Party have any solution for this crisis of which devaluation of the New Zealand £ is one of the first results in this country. Both Labour and National Parties stand for the maintenance of capitalism and high profits. Both seek to solve the developing capitalist crisis at the expense of the working people. Both Parties support the pegging of wages and restriction of trade union freedom.

Both support the aggressive policies of United States imperialism which seeks to make the world safe for millionaires. Both Parties want to restrict political liberties and shackle the trade unions so that the burden of the gathering economic crisis can be placed on the backs of the workers.

OUR POLICY

Only the Communist Party can give leadership to the working people of New Zealand. It declares frankly that the present evils cannot be finally or fully solved while capitalism exists. Only under Socialism can there be any guarantee of permanent peace, prosperity and real social security.

But the Communist Party and its Parliamentary candidates will fight vigorously here and now to maintain and improve living standards, to preserve and extend civil liberties, to de-

fend and build a free trade union movement and, above all, to fight against the menace of a third world war.

The Communists point to the necessity of supporting the Soviet Union's plan for banning atomic warfare and destroying all existing stocks of atomic bombs and reducing Great Power armaments by one-third. They point to the necessity of improving political and economic relations between British Empire countries and the U.S.S.R., the New Democracies of Eastern Europe and the new People's Republic of China.

Only in the Soviet Union and the New Democracies are living standards and production steadily rising and unemployment entirely liquidated. Improvement of relations with these Socialist countries would strengthen the cause of peace and enable Britain and the Dominions to break from the grip of the dollar and thus preserve their national independence.

OLD PARTIES HAVE FAILED

Communist candidates in Parliament would fight every day and every inch of the way in the interests of the workers, the genuine farmers and the professional and middle classes.

The New Zealand money classes and their political spokesmen slander the Communists because they fear their vigorous and determined championing of the people's rights.

The old parties have failed. The Communist Party is the Party of to-day and the Party of the future. It is the Party of the useful people against the exploiters. It is the Party which stands for peace and for the independence of New Zealand from dollar domination.

Keep up-to-date **PEOPLE'S VOICE**
READ THE

**For Peace, Freedom
and Socialism**
**VOTE
COMMUNIST**

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

55

From (source): Pol. Stn. Parnell

Reference: S. 49/598

Date: 8 Nov. 1949

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 11/2/60

SUBJECT: Communist Meeting held at the corner of Lee Street
and Brighton Rd., Parnell on the evening of 7th November
1949. -----

The speaker was the Communist candidate for Parnell
Lillian Rita SMITH.

Enquiries from Const. Pringle show that the chairman
Leonard SPILLER, known as "Tom" SPILLER.

Subversive History Sheets have been issued in each
instance.

R. JONES.

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

54

From (source): Pol. Stn. Parnell Reference: 49/598 Date: 8/11/49
 For File No. 21/2/8
 Original on 21/3/7
 Received on Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 11/2/60

REPORT OF Constable J. Pringle No.3784
 RELATIVE TO Communist Meeting held at the corner of Lee Street and Brighton Rd., Parnell on the evening of 7th November 1949.

I respectfully report that at 8 p.m on Monday 7th November 1949, accompanied by Constable Young of this station, I attended an open air meeting at the Corner of Lee Street and Brighton Rd., Parnell held by the local branch of the Communist Party.

There was present an audience of about thirty people who were addressed by the speaker Mrs. Rita SMITH who is the official Communist Candidate for the Parnell electorate.

After being introduced by the Chairman of the meeting Mrs. SMITH apologised for the lack of a loud speaker system and explained that owing to a shortage of party funds there were insufficient speakers to go round the various candidates.

In commencing the speaker criticised the actions of the Prime Minister and the Minister of Broadcasting in refusing permission to the Communist Party to use the Radio Broadcasting system. She also spoke bitterly regarding the local Newspapers who had refused to publish the views of Communist speakers.

The speaker then outlined the policy of the communist Party, the main points of which are, an increase of £2 per week for all wage earners, and £1 per week for all pensioners.

She spoke at length on the present day prices compared with those in 1938 and quoted figures to show that although prices had risen far more than wages, profits for the Capitalists had increased above all proportion.

She then criticised the education system of this country and ~~xxx~~ maintained that there is no such thing as free education and quoted an example of the necessary costs of outfitting school children with clothing and books.

Mrs. SMITH then dealt with the question of State Housing and quoted examples of Pensioners who had been refused housing on the grounds that their income did not measure up to standard required and were forced to live in hovels. She also quoted a case where a returned serviceman had to enter hospital as had also his wife and family and while there an eviction order had been made against them on behalf of the State Advances Co-operation.

To finish up with the speaker dealt with the decadence of American culture which she said through the medium of movies and radio programmes was stifling New Zealand's nature culture. She referred to the American Nation as War-mongers and claimed that our present Government were selling this country for the "Yankee Dollar".

The meeting finished at 9 pm and although there were several interjections there were no incidents and no subversive or seditious utterances.

J. PRINGLE

~~SECRET~~

~~**SECRET**~~
EXTRACT/COPY

G.D.D.—11

53

From (source): Pol. Stn. Onehunga Reference: _____ Date: 8.11-1949
 For File No. 21/2/8
 Original on 21/3/7
 Received on _____ Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 21-9-1959

SUBJECT: Election meeting held by Roy Stanley, Communist candidate on 7/11/49.

The O/C. Onehunga: The name of the chairman of this meeting is not stated nor the names of any persons, if any, distributing pamphlets or other literature.

C. Harley, 9/11/49

As far as I can ascertain the chairman at this meeting was Jack Mackey, who has been chairman at most of this candidates meetings. There were no pamphlets distributed at this meeting.

R. Morgan, 12-11-49

The Superintendent of Police, Auckland.

If the chairman of this meeting was John MACKEY he will be identical with John MACKIE, subject of a subversive history sheet. The speaker is identical with Roy STANLEY, subject of a subversive history sheet.

R. Jones, 15-11-49

Report of Constable L. R. Morgan No. 3046. 8-11-49
 Relative to Election meeting held by Roy Stanley, Communist, on 7-11-49.

I respectfully report that on 7-11-49 I attended an electoral meeting addressed by the Communist candidate for the Onehunga electorate, Roy Stanley.

The meeting was an open air one and was held at the corner of Mt. Smart Road and Queen Street. It commenced at 7.30 p.m. and finished at 9.30 p.m.

The candidate confined his address to a criticism of the Labour and National parties and outlined the policy of the Community party on lines similar to his previous addresses. There was an audience of 12 persons. There were no untoward incidents and nothing occurred that required police intervention.

L. R. MORGAN.

~~**SECRET**~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

52

From (source): Auck. Special Br. Reference: Ex 49/589 Date: 8th November 1949
 For File No. 21/2/8
 Original on 21/3/7
 Received on _____ Extracted/Copied by _____ On 8th July 1959

Relative to: COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING held at the corner of
 Rawhiti Road and Oranga Avenue, Onehunga, at 7.30 pm
 on 4.11.49

I respectfully report that accompanied by Constable
 Wise I attended this meeting for a short period before it closed.

The chairman of the meeting was Donald McEWEN, and the
 speaker, Roy STANLEY, both well known Communists for whom
 Subversive History sheets have been issued.

Associated with them was Robert John CAMERON, a member
 of the Communist Party, vide Subversive History Sheet.
 CAMERON has not come under notice in connection with any open
 activity of the Communist Party for some time past.

The chairman in closing the meeting stated that the man
 who had taken up the collection had disappeared and he was un-
 able to announce the amount of the collection. His identity
 has not been established by Constable Morgan, and the collec-
 tion had been taken up prior to my arrival.

A loud speaker system was mounted on a Vauxhall car,
 licensed number 239-518, which, until 12.5.49 was registered
 in the name of the N.Z. Carpenters' Union and is now registered
 in the name of the Auckland Carpenters' Union, 312 Karangahape
 Road, Auckland.

R. Jones
 Detective Sergeant

Police Station: Onehunga
 Date: 4th November 1949

Relative to: Election Meeting conducted by Roy STANLEY,
 Communist candidate at corner of Rawhiti Rd. and
 Oranga Ave., Onehunga on 4.11.49.

I respectfully report that on 4.11.49 I attended an election
 meeting conducted by Roy STANLEY, Communist candidate for the
 Onehunga electorate, which was held at the corner of Rawhiti
 Rd and Oranga Ave. at 7.30 pm.

There was an audience of about 30 persons and the candidate
 outlined the policy of the Communist Party and criticised the
 National and Labour Parties, but there was nothing in his
 address to which exception could be taken and there were no
 incidents which required Police attention.

The meeting commenced at 7.30 pm and terminated at 8.45 pm.

S.R. Morgan
 Constable

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~~SECRET~~

G.D.D.-11

EXTRACT/COPY

Ex S.49/577

51

From (source): Sp.Br. Auckland Reference: Date: 7.11.1949
 For File No. 21/2/8
 Original on 21/3/7
 Received on Extracted/Copied by On 8-7-1959

REPORT of : Detective Sergeant, R. Jones, No.3272.

RELATIVE to: COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING held at corner of Ponsonby Road and Pompallier Terrace at 7.30 pm. on 28.10.49.

"Vide attached".

I respectfully report that I also attended this meeting, which is reported on by Sergeant Matthew of the Ponsonby Police.

The chairman of the meeting was Ben BRAY, the speaker, Henry Mornington SMITH, and the collection was taken up by Elizabeth ARYA. Subversive History sheets have been issued for these persons.

The motor car, licensed number 44-240 is registered in the name of Myrtle RAIT, wife of Alexander George RAIT, not Michael RAIT, as shown in the attached report. Alexander George RAIT is a well known Communist and a Subversive History sheet has been forwarded.

During the course of his remarks BRAY stated that there would be very few hall meetings in connection with the Communist Party's election campaign as the halls had not been made available to the Party. BRAY referred to this as the "Silk Curtain". The reference alludes to the fact that most of the halls suitable for such meetings are Sunday School and Parish halls. Church officers, in the Ponsonby district in particular, have refused their halls to the Communist Party.

At the conclusion of the meeting, BRAY asked for volunteers from sympathisers to assist the Party in the campaign particularly with regard to the distribution of literature. This need was very great owing to the fact that the Party had been refused advertising space and time on the air. No volunteers appeared to be offering.

For your information.

R. JONES

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

G.D.D.-11

50

~~EXTRACT/COPY~~ Ex S.49.596

From (source): Police Stn.Mt.Eden Reference: 2786/49 Date: 7.11.1949

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on Extracted/Copied by On 10-7-1959

REPORT of: G.D. Sutherland Constable No.4141
 RELATIVE to: N.Z. Communist meeting at corner of Grafton and Park
 Roads at 7.30 p.m on Monday, 7th November 1949.
 Mr. John MITCHELL, Auckland Central Candidate, speaker.

I respectfully report that at 7.30 p.m on Monday, 7th.
 November 1949, I attended the N. Z. Communist Party meeting at the
 corner of Grafton Road and Park Road. The speaker was Mr. John
 MITCHELL, candidate for Auckland Central.

MITCHELL had four companions, two men and two women.
 No other persons appeared and after waiting until 8 p.m the meeting
 was abandoned.

No speeches were made whatever.

G. D. SUTHERLAND.

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

The speaker at this meeting is identical with John James
 MITCHELL, vide Subversive History sheet.

The description of the chairman supplied to me by
 Constable Sutherland leaves little doubt that he is identical with
 Alexander George RAIT, vide Subversive History sheet. The other man
 referred to by the constable was 18 to 19 years, very dark with
 a broad nose and this very likely was Francis FINAN, vide Subversive
 History sheets.

The two women cannot be identified with any degree
 of certainty. No.1: 35 years, 5ft.5ins.high pitched voice,very
 slight build, a "bottle" blonde,and well made up. No.2: 50 years of
 age, 5ft. 7 ins in height,well built,no hat,wearing a brown overcoat.
 This woman could be Florence Beryl NUGENT,vide Subversive History sheet,
 although I have never seen her dressed in anything but black clothes.

R. JONES.
 Det. Sergt. 9.11.49

~~SECRET~~

49/457

21/2/8

~~SECRET~~

Police Station. Newmarket.

Date. 7.th. November 1949.

49

REPORT OF Senior Sergeant N. S. Milligan.

Relative to; Election Meeting held by Mrs Rita Smith, Communist Party
Candidate for Parnell, at Newmarket Municipal Hall on
Thursday 3rd. November 1949.

I respectfully report that on Thursday 3rd. November 1949, I was on duty at the Newmarket Municipal Hall when the above named held a Meeting.

The first Speaker was Mr. John ^{James} Mitchell, Communist Party Candidate for Auckland Central. He spoke for a few minutes introducing Mrs Rita Smith as a Candidate for the Communist Party in the Parnell Electorate, and he then left the Meeting.

There was some 35 persons present in the hall.

Mrs. Rita Smith spoke of the newspapers failing to publish Communist Candidates Meetings, also of the fact that the Party had not received equal rights with the use of wireless. That the Communist Party would increase the basic wage and give free education books if they got into power. She made no disloyal statements, and most of her talk dealt with the Labour Party failing to build more homes and attend to the needs of elderly people.

There was no disorder at the Meeting. A Collection was taken up, some 35/- being collected. The Meeting closed at 10.p.m.

N. S. Milligan
Senior Sergeant.

The Superintendent. City.
Auckland.

The O/C.
Security Office;

S. Stanley
Superintendent (City)
8/11/49.

copy 81FS
21/2/8

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

The persons referred to in the above report are John James MITCHELL, and Lillian Rita SMITH, vide Subversive History sheets.

R. Jones
Det. sergt. 10.11.49

EXTRACTS/COPIES
TAKEN [redacted] for [redacted]
18/9 + Smith

S. Wall Records
Jn

11.11.49

~~SECRET~~

G.D.D.—11

EXTRACT/COPY

49/583

47

From (source): Sp. Br. Auck.

Reference:

Date: 7.11.1949

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

/4/4/4/ Copied by

On 17-7-1959

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING held in Napier Street Schoolgrounds at 8 p.m on 1.11.49

"Vide attached"

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

The full names of those mentioned in the attached report are: John James MITCHELL; August Frederick SMITH; (known as "Ted" SMITH; and James Sidney WILLIS. Subversive History sheets have been issued for the above-mentioned. A copy of the attached pamphlet has already been forwarded from this office.

R.JONES.

Pol.Stn.Freemans Bay

2.11.49

Report of: Const. R.R. Forsyth No.3139

Relative to: Communist Party Political meeting held in the Napier St., Schoolgrounds on the 1st Oct. 1949

I respectfully report that at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday the 1.11.49 in company with Const.Morris I attended a Communist Party political meeting held in the Napier St. school grounds.. The speaker was Johnnie MITCHELL, parliamentary candidate for Auckland Central, and the chairman I was informed was Mr. Ted. SMITH...

A loudspeaker system was brought to the school in a motor-car License No.34-350, which is registered in the name of James Sydney WILLIS, of 23 Hargreaves St. The system was connected to the school power supply, but owing to a technical fault could not be made to function until 8 p.m., when the meeting was declared open..

At the commencement of the meeting 72 adults were present in the audience.. The meeting concluded at 9.30 p.m., when only 34 persons remained... It had been quietly conducted, with no heckling, and on the other hand no great display of enthusiasm on the part of those attending.. A collection taken at the close for party purposes yielded the sum of 15/-.

I heard no seditious utterances throughout, the address consisting of (1) Criticism of the policy of both the National and Labour Parties; (2) criticism of the Compulsory Military Training Scheme and Referendum recently taken; and (3) a statement of Party Policy which closely followed that set out in the attached handbook which I obtained...

The chairman announced at the close of the ~~evening~~ meeting that another would be held at the corner of Hobson & Victoria Sts., this evening, the 2.11.49.

R. D. FORSYTH

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

G.D.D.—11

~~EXTRACT/COPY~~

Ex S.49/593

48

From (source): Police Stn. Avondale Reference:

Date: 5.11.1949

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 10-7-1959

REPORT of : Constable L.F. Ward No.3277

RELATIVE to: Communist Meeting held at Avondale Tram
Terminus on night of Friday 4th. November 1949

I respectfully report that an open air meeting was held by the Communist Party at Avondale Tram Terminus on Friday 4th November 1949, the meeting being one of several to be addressed by George JACKSON, Communist Party candidate for Waitakere at the general election.

The meeting opened at 7.10 p.m and was addressed by Don MARTIN who dealt with the Communist Party being refused advertisements in the Auckland Star. He stated the names of a number of the shareholders in the Auckland Star and also dealt with the right of the Communist Party to speak over the air.

MARTIN concluded his speech at 7.30 p.m and was followed by George JACKSON who spoke on similar lines to Martin; he stated that he had another meeting to address that night, and as the Labour Candidate desired to speak at the Avondale Terminus that night, he did not desire to speak at any length. Questions were called for; there were no questions and the meeting closed at 7.45 p.m.

There were a large number of shoppers listening to the speakers, the meeting was conducted over a loud speaker in an orderly manner and there were no subversive statements.

L. F. WARD

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

Don MARTIN, referred to above is identical with Douglas Murdoch MARTIN. The speaker was George Edward JACKSON. Subversive History sheets have been issued in each instance.

R. JONES.
Det. Sergt. 11.11.49

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~~~EXTRACT~~/COPY

46

From (source): Whenuapai Police Station Reference: Ex 49/590

Date: 5th Nov. 1949

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 8th July 1959

Relative to: Mr. George JACKSON, Communist Candidate for the Waitakere Electorate. Public Meeting held at Hobsonville Hall on 4.11.49.

I respectfully report that on the night of Friday, 4th November, 1949, I attended an election meeting held by the Communist Party at the Hobsonville Hall. The speaker was Mr. George JACKSON and his chairman was Mr. Thomas CRYER of Avondale. The meeting commenced at 8.10 pm. and finished at 9.15 pm.

There was an attendance of 14 people who, with the exception of two, were strangers to the district. Their conduct was good and there were no disturbances of any kind. A collection was taken up and the amount of 10/3d was collected. Please find attached a pamphlet, copies of which were distributed to members of the audience.

Mr. JACKSON did not appear to speak on any definite policy of the Communist Party and his talk confined to running down the attitudes of other countries towards the Communists. He referred firstly to the lack of publicity obtainable by the Communist Party both through the press and per medium of the radio and referred to a definite refusal by the "Auckland Star" to allow them to advertise in their paper.

The speaker stated that the Communists say, "Class struggle is not desirable. Their policy is based on class distinction." He said that the forces of production would be used in the interests of the people and that they would make production a Socialist purpose to be used in the interests of the people and not for profit. He referred to Capitalism developing all over the world and to the Capitalists as "war mongers".

He next referred to land erosion all over the world and the lack of the present governments to combat this trouble. He mentioned the Russian method of combating same by growing timber belts and shelter and their ability to carry through a plan to retain and improve fertile land. He mentioned the lack of system used by Capitalist powers.

JACKSON then referred to the Labour Party attempting to check the Capitalists by making regulations to check their activity and that these controls when enforced interfered with development. He next referred to the case of Cyril HOLMES and the methods ~~xxx~~ used to bring about his dismissal, the freedom of the individual and the victimisation of trade unions. He referred to the amount of taxation imposed on the British people and to the cost of maintenance of troops in Malay and Hong Kong in order to protect investments in these parts.

He also referred to the present method of representation of the people in Parliament and stated that people should be represented by the number of votes cast and not by the party policy which is in use at the present time.

W.S. Askew
Constable.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

G.D.D.-11

EXTRACT/COPY

X 49/588

45

Police Station

From (source): PONSONBY

Reference:

Date: 4th Nov. 1949

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 23.7.1959

REPORT OF : Constable C.V. Steers No. 3966

RELATIVE TO : General Election Campaign - Communist Candidate, Harry Mornington SMITH (Ponsonby Electorate) speaking at the corner of Hackett Street and St. Mary's Road on 3-11-49.

I respectfully report that at 7.30pm on Thursday the 3-11-49, I attended an open air meeting of the Communist Party Candidate, Harry SMITH, on the corner of Hackett Street and St. Mary's Road.

A whippet motor car, license plate No. 44-647 was parked in Hackett Street about 40 feet from St. Mary's Road. The owner is Raymond John DOWLE, 21 Stanley Avenue, Takapuna.

A loud speaker system was erected on DOWLE's motor car and the address was given through a microphone attached speaker system.

The meeting was opened at 7.45pm by the chairman, Edgar TAYLOR. The first speaker was one Mr MULLER and he was followed by the Communist Candidate, Harry SMITH.

The policy of the Communist Party spoken on by Mr SMITH was as follows:

1. They stood for the working people;
2. Free and Independent Trade Unions;
3. Anti Conscription of Territorials;
4. Pensions Increases;
5. Housing;
6. Provisions for Free Education.

The Candidate spoke along the same lines as at his previous meeting on the 1-11-49. He spoke of the Communist Party standing for the working people and that the primary point of their Policy would be Anti-Conscription of the Territorials. Mr Holland, Leader of the National Party was "Public enemy number one" as far as the working people were concerned.

A small attendance of about twenty people were present. There were a few interjections and all those present conducted themselves in an orderly manner.

A collection was taken in support of the Communist Party and when the box was taken round by one of their followers it met with a poor reception.

The meeting was still proceeding when I was relieved at 9pm by Constable Urry.

C.V. STEERS
Const.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

G.D.D.—11

EXTRACT/COPY X 49/588

44

From (source): Police Station
PONSONBY W.1

Reference:

Date: 4.11.1949

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 7.7.1959

REPORT OF : R.W.Urry Constable No. 3383

RELATIVE TO : General Election Campaign - Communist Candidate -
Henry Mornington SMITH (Ponsonby Electorate) speaking
on the corner of Hacket Street and St. Mary's Road on 3.11.49

I respectfully report that at about 9 p.m. on Thursday 3/11/49, I relieved Constable Steers of this Station at the above named Open Air Meeting of the Communist Party Candidate, Henry Mornington SMITH, on the corner of Hacket Street and St. Marys Road.

The meeting was still in progress, being addressed by Henry Mornington SMITH. There were about 20 persons present, a few interjections but those present conducted themselves in an orderly manner. Mr SMITH spoke on the lines of a similar meeting held on the corner of St. Marys Road and Caroline Street. He also spoke of the great discovery by a Russian Scientist for the prevention of bleeding while doctors are performing an operation. He was questioned on the conditions in Russia and of the letter in the New Zealand Herald of 1/11/49 of Mr and Mrs BOSWELL's term in Russia. He replied to read the letter of the British Embassy's finding of conditions there.

The meeting terminated at 9.10p.m. after the speaker stated that he would be speaking somewhere in the Electorate every night. The big night for the Communist Party, headed by Vic WILCOX, would be in the Town Hall on the night of 21/11/49.

The speaker spoke into a microphone attached to a speaker system erected on a Whippet motor car registered plate No. 44-647, registered in the name of Raymond John DOWLE, of 21 Stanley Avenue, Takapuna. The speaker was not loud and in my opinion did not cause any undue noise to the surrounding neighbourhood.

R.W.URRY
Const. 3383.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~
EXTRACT/COPY

43

From (source): R. Jones Reference: _____ Date: 4-11-1949
 For File No. RXXXX 21/2/8
 Original on 21/3/7
 Received on _____ Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 1-7-1959

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY ELECTION MEETING HELD IN HOWE STREET,
AUCKLAND ON 4.11.49.

"vide attached"

The Superintendent of Police,
 AUCKLAND.

The persons mentioned in
 the attached report are :-

Peter Wilfred George McARA;
 James Sidney WILLIS; and
 John James MITCHELL.

The car, licensed number
 23.388, referred to in the attached
 report is registered in the name
 of John French TAYLOR, of 12 Upham
 Road, Mount Wellington.

When Const. Wise and I visited
 this meeting Oliver Bennett Young
 GREGORY was selling the People's
 Voice newspaper and August Frederick
 (known as "Ted") SMITH and Elizabeth
 ARYA were distributing pamphlets
 The pamphlets were similar to those
 already forwarded from this office.

Subversive History sheets
 have been issued for all the above-
 mentioned persons.

R. JONES.
 Det. Sgt. 11.11.49

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

From (source): Sp. Br. Wellington Reference: 3. 11. 49 ⁴²
 For File No. 21/2/8 Date: 4-11-49
 Original on 21/3/7
 Received on [REDACTED] /Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 21-9-1959

SUBJECT: Communist Party Meeting held at corner of France and Karaka Streets at 7.35 p.m. on 2.11.49.

Rge Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

The Chairman and Speaker at this meeting were Victor George WILCOX and Mervyn Haley WILLIAMS both well known Communists for whom Subversive History sheets have been forwarded.

R. JONES.

Pol. Stn. Newton.

3-11-49

Report of E. Wigmore Sergeant No. 2937
 Relative to COMMUNIST PARTY POLITICAL MEETING held at corner of France and Karaka Streets on 2nd. November 1949.
 CHAIRMAN - Mervyn Haley WILLIAMS.
 SPEAKER - Victor George WILCOX.

I respectfully report that on Wednesday night, 2nd. November 1949, I was on duty with Constable Rothwell at the Communist Party Political Meeting which was held at the corner of France and Karaka Streets. The meeting commenced at 7.35 p.m. and concluded at 8.20 p.m.

The Chairman was Mervyn Haley WILLIAMS and the Speaker was Victor WILCOX, Communist candidate for the Arch Hill Electorate.

When the meeting commenced there were 3 persons in attendance, and the maximum number present was 28.

The Chairman's opening remarks and the speaker's address was amplified by means of a loud speaker system attached to motor car No. 29.025. This did not cause any undue noise and was very low in tone. The candidate's main remarks were as follows

1. A criticism of the Auckland Star for refusing to accept advertisements or publish any reference to meetings of the Communist Party. The New Zealand Herald accepted small advertisements but did not send a reporter to the meetings and did not publish any matter connected with the Communist meetings.

2. Advocating an all round increase in wages of £2 per week and an increase of £1 per week in age benefits.

3. Criticism of the amendment to the I.C. & A. Act, whereby the strength of the unions could be broken and other unions set up as was done by the Hon. Angus McLAGAN in the recent Auckland Carpenters dispute. The said McLagan having at one time been a member of the Communist Party and editor of its paper, until the party found him out.

4. Criticism of the actions of the Government in refusing to allow broadcasting facilities to the Communist Party which was now a major political party with 16 candidates at the forthcoming election.

Only one question was asked of the candidates as to his opinion of Hon. Nash's suggestion of a dollar loan from the United States of America. Wilcox stated that he was not in agreement with this as it tied this country to the wheels of American Capitalism.

No incidents occurred and the meeting was orderly and well conducted. No subversive statements were made.

E. WIGMORE.

~~SECRET~~

21/2/8

A1

Communist Party States Policy For General Election

Support of the Soviet proposals to ban atomic warfare and reduce armaments is one of the main points in the New Zealand Communist Party election manifesto issued yesterday. The party pledges full support by New Zealand to the principles of United Nations "as outlined at Teheran and San Francisco" and opposition to the Atlantic Pact and "all similar aggressive military alliances."

"The Communist Party holds firmly to the principle of redistributing the national income," states the manifesto. "The Labour Party claims in its election manifesto to do the same. The vital difference is that the Communist Party demands that the redistribution be carried out in favour of wage and salary earners whose share of the net national income dropped dramatically from 60.3 per cent. in 1939 to 51.2 per cent. in 1948—a drop of nearly 2/- in every £."

Other points in the manifesto state the party aims at all-round improvement in living standards of workers and social security beneficiaries; immediate repeal of all legislation giving the Government power to operate compulsory military service or any form of compulsory direction of labour; all incomes up to £420 a year to be exempt from taxation; a housing plan to be operated on a national scale, mobilising the full resources of the building industry.

The Communists further would nationalise trading banks, coal mines, freezing works—except where owned by farmers on a genuine co-operative basis—coastal shipping, fertiliser works, the Colonial sugar refinery, stock and station agents, finance corporations, property insurance companies and gasworks, and establish a State shipping service for export of primary produce and for imports.

The Maori people would be free from all economic, social and political discrimination. Samoa would be granted self-government, and the Cook Islands autonomy with right to representation in the New Zealand Parliament, if desired.

Attitude to Strikes.

All legislation restricting the freedom of trade unions and the right to strike would be repealed, the party states.

Non-contributory social security would be introduced and present benefits would be raised to keep pace with the cost of living. The medical benefits scheme would be extended and improved.

Education would be retained on a secular basis, with all school services free from kindergarten to university. There would be a wide extension of the university bursary system.

An overhaul of voting methods in local body and Parliamentary elections would be undertaken, and preferential voting and proportional representation in parliamentary elections introduced.

Closer unity between the labour movement and "smaller middle farmers" would be established, and guaranteed prices for primary products would be maintained and extended.

The establishment of day nurseries in all main centres is promised, as is the provision of adequate social, cultural and sporting facilities for youth. Eighteen-year-olds would have a vote in local and parliamentary elections.

Application for Registration as an Alien.

~~SECRET~~

G.D.D.—11

EXTRACT/COPY

Ex S.49/582

40

From (source): Police Stn. Ponsonby Reference:

Date: 2.11.49

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 13-7-1959

REPORT of : Constable R. W. Urry No. 3383

RELATIVE to: GENERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN - COMMUNIST CANDIDATE
HENRY MORNINGTON SMITH (PONSONBY ELECTORATE)
Speaking at corner of St. Marys Rd., and Caroline
Street on Tuesday 1.11.49

I respectfully report that at about 8.55 p.m on Tuesday 1.11.49, I relieved Constable Steers at the above meeting which continued on until 9.20 p.m on 1.11.49 when it terminated. The meeting was an open air^{one} and the speaker was the Communist Candidate Henry Mornington SMITH (Ponsonby Electorate) at the corner of St. Marys Rd. and Caroline Street.

.....

The Chairman of the meeting was Ben BRAY, while Robert SILLIS was also present.

.....

Henry Mornington SMITH was speaking on the subject of the growing of wheat in Russia, the increased production of which had been the result of the Russian scientists who had made known the same to the whole world. Some of the wheat had been sent to England and other countries to help feed the workers of those countries who were starving after the termination of the Second World War.

SMITH stated that to vote for either Labour or National would result that in time New Zealanders would be dominated by the doctrines of the United States of America who were dictating to the British Empire. The Communist Party of New Zealand was for the working people.

The Meeting terminated at 9.20 p.m.

It was announced that the next meeting at which Henry Mornington SMITH would speak would be in the Renall Street Hall on the 8.11.49. It was also announced that anyone in the audience who wished to support ~~xx~~ the Communist Party could call at 78 College Hill, Ponsonby where they would receive the necessary data.

R. W. URRY.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

Ex S.49/569

39

From (source): R. Jones

Reference:

Date: 2.11.49

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 8-7-1959

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING held at corner of George Street and
Carlton Gore Road at 7.30 pm on 26.10.49.
"Vide attached"

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

Edward SMITH, referred to in the
attached report, appears to be
identical with August Frederick
SMITH, known as "Ted" SMITH, for whom
a Subversive History sheet has been
forwarded.

Rita SMITH, is Lillian Rita
SMITH, well known Communist for whom
a Subversive History sheet has been
forwarded.

R. JONES.

Report of: Sergt. J.G. Howes No. 3169 28.10.1949

Relative to: Rita SMITH, Communist Candidate for Parnell Electorate
conducts open air election meeting at corner of George
Street and Carlton Gore Road Newmarket at 7.30 pm on 26/10/49.

I respectfully report that I attended the above meeting
accompanied by Constable D. ROWE of this station at 7.30 pm on the 26/10/49.

Edward SMITH a member of the Communist Party spoke for
25 minutes as an introduction to the Candidate Rita SMITH. Edward
SMITH made no subversive remarks or statements and spoke generally on
the Communist Party's policy and comments upon a sub-leader in the Auckland
Star recently regarding the Communist Party and forthcoming election and
also criticised remarks by the Paper that no account of any political
meeting during the election campaign would be published by that newspaper.
There was no heckling and no disorder during Mr. SMITH's talk.

Rita SMITH, the Candidate then spoke for 50 minutes and gave
an outline of the Communist's party's policy. She also spoke at length
regarding the Labour Government saying that many Government members had
turned Capitalistic and did not truly represent what they stood for and
criticised the holding of a Referendum for Military training. General
criticism was levelled at the Labour Department and also the National
Party and she expressed the opinion that if either party came into power
after the forthcoming election the country would experience another trying
time similar to that of the early thirties.

There was an attendance of 30 persons and the speaker appeared
to receive a good hearing. There was no heckling, no disorder and no
subversive remarks or statements were made by Rita SMITH. A collection
was taken up and it was announced that the sum of 14/- had been collected
The meeting concluded at 9.10 p.m.

The result of the meeting was not reported in the local
press.

J. G. HOWES.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY Ex S.49/580

38

From (source): Newton Police Stn.
R. JONES

Reference:

Date: 2.11.49

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 8-7-1959

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING held at corner of Dean and King Street
at 7.30 pm. on 1.11.49.

"Vide attached"

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

John DIXON referred to as the chairman in the attached report is identical with John DICKSON, vide Subversive History sheet. The Speaker is identical with Victor George WILCOX, vide Subversive History sheet.

The motor car, licensed number 29-025 is registered in the name of Adelaide WILCOX mother of Victor George WILCOX.

R. JONES. 4.11.49

L. J. Thyng

Ref. No. 2654/49

2.11.49

Relative to: Communist Party Political Meeting at intersection of
Dean St., and King Str., Newton, 1st November 1949.

I respectfully report that I attended the Communist Party Political Meeting with Constable R. McMurray, held at the intersection of Dean and King Sts., Newton, on 1st November 1949, which commenced at 7.30 p.m. and concluded at 8.45 pm.

The chairman was John Dixon and the speaker V. Wilcox.

There was a fluctuating attendance of 40 to 50 persons the meeting was orderly and the speech was delivered through a loud speaking system attached to a motor car license No. 29-025.

Dixon in opening the meeting stated that the Policy of the Communist Party was peace with the U.S.S.R. Marxism and Lenninism lead to peace. Taft-Hartley Act in America and recent amendment to I.C. and A. Act in New Zealand was detrimental to workers. The Policy of New Zealand Government was war.

WILCOX stated:-

Auckland Star and Christchurch Sun Newspapers refused to publish Communist Party advertisements or meetings and had refused to complete publishing contract owing to intervention of Vatican.

Prime Minister of New Zealand refused broadcasting facilities.

The Housing conditions in New Zealand had not been solved.

Communist Party was against Marshall Aid, supported £2 week increase in wages and improved standard of living.

Amendment to I.C. and A. Act in New Zealand affects whole Trade Union Movement and could split it. It was introduced by Angus McLagen formerly editor of Communist Party paper until he was found out.

M. L. J. THYNG
Sergeant No. 2955...

~~SECRET~~

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EXTRACT/COPY

Ex S.49/567

36

From (source): Ponsonby Police Stn.
(R. JONES.)

Reference:

Date: 2.11.49

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 8-7-1959

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING held at corner of Franklin and Ponsonby Roads, Auckland at 7.30 pm on 26.10.49.

"Vide attached"

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

The full names of those mentioned in the attached report are Victor George WILCOX, Henry Mornington SMITH, Richard Charles WOLF, Ben BRAY and James Sidney WILLIS.

All these are well-known and Subversive History Sheets have been issued in each case.

Adelaide WILCOX is the mother of Victor George WILCOX and is not known as a Party member.

Copy of report retained and filed for local records.

R. JONES.

Report of: Sergt. C.W. Matthew Ref. 1194/49 Ex S.49.567
No. 2619 27.10.1949

Relative to: GENERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN - COMMUNIST CANDIDATES - VIC WILCOX. (Arch-hill Electorate) and Harry SMITH. (Ponsonby) speaking on corner of Franklin Rd. and Ponsonby Rd. at 7.30 pm. Wednesday 26th October 1949.

I respectfully report that at 7.30 pm. on Wednesday the 26th October 1949, in company with Constable R. Urry, I attended an open air meeting of the Communist Candidates at the corner of Franklin Road and Ponsonby Roads.

The speakers were Vic WILCOX, candidate for the Arch-hill Electorate and Harry SMITH, candidate for the Electorate of Ponsonby.

The Chairman of the Meeting was Richard WOOLF, and Ben BRAY was also present, he being the organiser for Harry SMITH. I understand that James Sydney WILLIS is the organiser for Vic WILCOX.

A loud speaker system was erected on an Austin 10 motor car bearing Registration plates 29-025. The situation of the car was on the left hand side of Franklin Road, approximately 40 feet from Ponsonby Road. The speaker was not loud and in my opinion did not cause a nuisance. There were approximately 60 to 70 persons present, a 1/3 consisting of children school age and youths of 16 to 20 years. The persons present conducted themselves in an orderly manner and there was no undue interjections.

Inquiries reveal that the Registered owner of Motor-car 29-025, is Mrs. Adelaide WILCOX of 28 Warwick Avenue, Westmere.

Harry SMITH was the first Speaker and he stated that

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EXTRACT/COPY Ex S.49/579

37

Avondale Police Stn.
From (source): (R.JONES)

Reference:

Date: 1.11.49

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 8-7-1959

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING held in Victoria Hall, Rosebank Road, Avondale at 8 pm. on 31.10.49.

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

George JACKSON, referred to herein is identical with George Edward JACKSON, subject of a Subversive History sheet.

Further enquiries made by Const. Ward show that the chairman of this meeting has a "Star" newspaper run in the Avondale district and his description is identical with that of Frank William HEMPLEMAN, a member of the Communist Party for whom a Subversive History sheet has been forwarded.

R. JONES.

5. 11. 49

L.F. Ward

1.11.1949

Relative to:

Communist Political Meeting held at Victoria Hall
Rosebank Road, Avondale on the 31st October 1949.

I respectfully report that on the night of Monday 31st October 1949 I attended a political meeting addressed by George JACKSON, Communist candidate for Waitakere at the Victoria Hall, ~~Rosebank~~ Rosebank Road, Avondale.

The meeting commenced at 8pm and concluded at 9.45 pm. Jackson dealt with the policies of the National Party and Labour Party and explained the policy of the Communist Party. At the end of his address he answered two questions (1) dealing with the policy of the Communist Party as regards housing the people, and (2) the right of recalling a member of Parliament should the electors consider the member was not carrying out his duties in a satisfactory manner.

The speaker was given an attentive hearing and there were 62 persons present at the meeting. A vote of thanks and confidence in the speaker was carried with one dissentious voice but it was apparent that only half the audience expressed an opinion on the motion.

Pamphlets as per attached copy were left at the entrance to the hall for anyone to take one. It was announced that the sum of £2/7/6½ had been collected in a collection taken up at the meeting.

The meeting was conducted in an orderly manner; there were no subversive statements made.

L. F. WARD

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~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY Ex S.49/576

34

From (source): Pol.Stn.Newmarket Reference: 2365/49 Date: 31-10-1949
 For File No. 21/2/8
 Original on 21/3/7
 Received on /Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 9-7-1959

REPORT of : Sergeant J. G. Howe No. 3169
 RELATIVE to: Rita SMITH, Communist Candidate for Parnell,
 conducts an open air meeting at Newmarket
 Reserve on 28/10/49.

I respectfully report that I attended the above meeting at 7.30 p.m on Friday the 28/10/49 accompanied by Constable ROWE of this station.

The meeting was advertised to commence at 7.30 p.m but did not commence until 8 p.m owing to difficulty in securing a light.

The Speaker, Rita SMITH spoke on various subjects which included pensions, trade unions and the press. She spoke at length on an article in the Auckland "Star" recently which stated that no account of any Communist Political Meeting would be published.

The meeting was a brief one only. It concluded at 8.47 pm. There ~~was~~ were eleven persons present. There was no disorder, no questions were asked at question time, no seditious utterances were made and nothing occurred which warranted intervention by the Police.

J. G. HOWE
 Sergeant No. 3169

The Superintendent of Police,
 AUCKLAND.

The speaker is identical with Lillian Rita SMITH, well known Communist.

Enquiries from Sergeant.Howe show that the chairman of this meeting was Herbert Leonard SPILLER, known as "Tom" SPILLER.

Subversive History sheets have been issued in each case.

R. JONES.
 Det.Sgt.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

G.D.D.—11

EXTRACT/COPY Ex S.49.57/

29

From (source): Sp. Br. Auckland Reference: _____ Date: 31-10-1949
 For File No. 21/2/8
 Original on 21/3/7
 Received on _____ Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 7-7-1959

REPORT of : Temporary Constable L.W. Wise No. T.1997
 relative to : Communist Party meeting held in Beresford Street
 Newton, at 7.45 p.m on Friday 28.10.49.

I respectfully report that I attended a Communist Party meeting held in Beresford Street, Newton, near the corner of Pitt Street, at 7.45pm on 28.10.49/

A loud speaker was fitted to the hood of an Austin '10' motor car License plate No. 29 - 025, which I have since ascertained is registered in the name of Adelaide WILCOX, 28 Warwick Avenue, Westmere.

The speakers stood on the luggage boot cover at the back of the car, and spoke into a microphone similar to a telephonist's mouth piece, attached to an adjustable strap which the speakers placed about their necks.

The chairman was Herman NUNES.

Victor George WILCOX was the first speaker. He said, "The 'Auckland Star' has the contemptible cheek to say that they will not accept any advertisement from the Communist Party, and that they will not report any of our meetings. It will be interesting to see if the 'Star' is right. The Communist Party is seeking an injunction against the 'Star'. We will show them some real democracy."

WILCOX quoted the profits made by Stock and Station Agents, and criticised the Labour and National Party policies.

John James MITCHELL was the next speaker. He also referred to the large profits made by business concerns under the Labour Government, and gave a brief outline of the Communist Party policy.

There were about 120 persons present, including many known Communist Party members and sympathisers.

The pamphlet, "New Zealand Communists Present their Case", was distributed by Oliver Bennet Young GREGORY, and the "People's Voice" newspaper was distributed by James Gordon OLLERENSHAW who also took up the collection. The amount collected was announced as £1.9.3.

The meeting closed at 9pm.

L. W. WISE
 T/Constable 1997.

The Officer in Charge
 Security Branch.
Auckland.

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EXTRACT/COPY Ex S.49/573

33

From (source): Pol.Stn.New Lynn Reference: Date: 30-10-1949

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on / Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 9-7-1959

REPORT of : P. O'SULLIVAN Constable No.1897

RELATIVE to : Political meeting held by the Communist Party
at the Titirangi Hall, Rangawai Road, Titirangi,
on the 28/10/49.

I respectfully report that on the night of the
28-10-49, I attended a political meeting held by the Communist Party
at the Titirangi Hall, Rangawai Road, Titirangi.

The Speaker was George JACKSON, political candidate
for the Waitakere Electoral District. The Chairman was a man named
Freeman. 19 persons were present at the meeting.

JACKSON criticised the Auckland Star for not
publishing their meetings, also the Labour Party for their attitude ~~xxx~~
towards the Communist Party.

No Subversive statements had been made and no
leaflets had been distributed.

The meeting was orderly.

P. O'SULLIVAN.

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

The Chairman of this meeting was Henry FREEMAN and the
speaker George Edward JACKSON. Both are subjects of subversive
history sheets. Copy of report retained for local records.

For your information.

R. JONES
Det.Sgt.
3.11.49

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

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/EXTRACT/COPY

32

From (source): Pol.Stn.Ponsonby Reference: Date: 29-10-1949
 For File No. 21/2/8
 Original on 21/3/7/
 Received on /Extracted/Copied by On 8-7-1959

REPORT of : Sergeant C.W.Matthew No.2619
 RELATIVE to: GENERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN: COMMUNIST CANDIDATE - HARRY SMITH.(PONSONBY ELECTORATE) - Speaking at the corner of Ponsonby Road and Pompallier Terrace - 7.30 pm.Friday 28th.Oct.1949.

I respectfully report that at 7.30 pm on Friday the 28th.October, 1949, in company with Constable R. Urry, I attended an Open Air Meeting of the Communist Candidate Harry Smith (Ponsonby Electorate) at the corner of Ponsonby Road and Pompallier Terrace.

A Loud speaker system was erected on a Triumph motor car bearing Registration plates 44-240. The situation of the car was on the left hand side of Pompallier Terrace, approximately 40 feet from Ponsonby Road. The speaker was not loud and in my opinion did not cause a nuisance.

Inquiries reveal that the Registered owner of motor car 44-240 is Michael Rait of 8 Larchwood Avenue, Grey Lynn, Auckland.

Rait was present at the Meeting and he was operating the speaker.

The Meeting was opened by the Chairman Ben BRAY, organiser for Harry SMITH. BRAY outlined the Communist Party Policy which was as follows:-

- (1) That they were workers for the working people.
- (2) That they were in favour of Free Trade Unionism.
- (3) That they were opposed to Conscription.
- (4) That they were the only Socialist Party in the interests of the worker.

He also stated that the Labour Party was now Capitalist and the National Party was Toryism.

Harry SMITH, spoke on the same lines as outlined in my report of the 27th October 1949 and forwarded to the Superintendent of Police, (CITY) on the same date.

At one period during the Meeting there were about 80 people present but on the average about 20 or so were present at the whole of the meeting.

The persons present did not seem to be greatly interested but were there out of curiosity. The persons present conducted themselves in an orderly manner and there was no undue interjections.

A collection was taken up by members of the Party and the collection box was carried by Betty ARYA, a young woman in her early twenties.

The Meeting terminated at 9.25 pm.

It was announced at the Meeting that Harry SMITH would speak from the Oddfellows Hall, Renall Street, Ponsonby on the 8th November, 1949.

At the conclusion of the Meeting I approached Ben BRAY regarding further meetings and he supplied me with a list of Meetings during the Campaign. A copy is attached in duplicate.

It will be seen by the attached list that Harry SMITH will be speaking in other suburbs. I have posted copies to officers in charge of the respective Police Sub-districts.

C.W.MATTHEW

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EXTRACT/COPY

Ex S.49/571

31

Newton Police Stn.

From (source) (T.L.Doole) Auckland

Reference:

Date: 29-10-1949

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 7-7-1959

Report of T. L. Doole. Sergt. No. 2915
 Relative to Communist Meeting, Beresford Street, held on
 Friday 28/10/49

I respectfully report that on Friday, 28/10/49, I attended a Communist Political Meeting at Beresford Street, opposite the entrance to St. John's Ambulance Station.

The meeting commenced at 7.40 pm and was opened by the chairman Mr. Herman NUNES, who explained the aims and objects of the party. He was followed by Victor WILCOX, Candidate for the Arch Hill electorate, and the next speaker was Jack MITCHELL, Candidate for Auckland Central Electorate. The Communist paper "The People's Voice" was being sold by J. RAFFERTY.

These were the only speakers during the evening and the Meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

The audience numbered approximately 250 and there were no incidents which may have lead to disorderly conduct.

Constable Wise of the Security Section was in attendance for the duration of the Meeting and took notes.

The next meetings will be held on Tuesday 1/11/49 at 7.30 pm. One at Potautau Street, Arch Hill and the other at Napier Street school, Freemans Bay.

T. L. DOOLE

Sgt.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

G.D.D.—11

~~EXTRACT/COPY~~

Ex S.49/578

28

Epsom Police Stn.

From (source): ~~R. JONES~~

Reference:

Date: 29.10.49

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

/Extracted/Copied by

On 8-7-1959

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING held at corner of Manukau Road and Green Lane at 7.30pm on 28.10.49.

"Vide attached"

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

The chairman of this meeting, referred to herein as Mr. HIATT is identical with Stanley Hooper HIEATT, vide Subversive History sheet.

Roy STANLEY is the Communist Party candidate for Onehunga and is well known.

R. JONES. 7.11.49

REPORT of: C.H. Maisey Constable 1833 Ref.No.2370/49 29/10/49

RELATIVE to: Roy Stanley, Communist candidate for Onehunga speaking at the corner of Manukau and Green Lane Roads Epsom on 28/10/49 at 7.30 p.m.

I respectfully report that the above mentioned man as advertised spoke in furtherance of his candidature for the Electorate of Onehunga at the corner of Manukau and Green Lane Roads on the night of 28/10/49. With the exception of the Chairman, Mr. Hiatt, the candidate was the only speaker and the talk was the usual programme with criticism of other Electioneering platforms with no mention of anything which could be construed as seditious or subversive.

The meeting lasted for about 1½ hours with about 200 persons being the peak number present.

I attended the meeting in uniform. A large section showed hostility to the speaker but everything from a Police point of view passed off quite satisfactorily. This report is in duplicate, please. I did not observe any free papers or pamphlets being distributed at the meeting.

C. H. MAISEY

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~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY Ex S.49/570

27

From (source): R. Jones Reference: Date: 29.10.49
 For File No. 21/2/8
 Original on 21/3/7
 Received on Extracted/Copied by On 7-7-1959

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING held at corner of Cook
 and Nelson Streets, Auckland at 7.45 pm. on 27.10.49.
 "Vide attached"

The Superintendent of Police,
 AUCKLAND.

Notes, please. Copy of report has been
 detached and filed with local records.

The chairman is identical with Constance Miriam
 BARTON, vide Subversive History Sheets.

The speaker was John James MITCHELL, vide Subversive
 History sheet, Communist candidate for Auckland Central.

R. JONES.
 Det. Sergt.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY Ex S.49/571

30

From (source): Auckland Detective Office
L. W. WISE

Reference:

Date: 28-10-49

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 7-7-1949

Subject: COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING held in Beresford Street, Newton,
Auckland at 7.45 pm on 28.10.49 "Vide attached"

The Officer in Charge,
Security branch.

Report herewith please.

L.W.WISE
T/Constable 1997
31/10/49.

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

Forwarded please.

Adelaide WILCOX, owner of
the car referred to in the attached
report of Const. Wise, is the mother
of Victor George WILCOX. She is
believed not to be a member of the
Communist Party. This car has been
used by WILCOX in former campaigns.

Subversive History sheets
have been issued for Herman NUNES
Victor George WILCOX and John James
MITCHELL, referred to in the same
report.

James Gordon OLLERENSHAW
is identical with the person
referred to in previous correspond-
ence from this office as Gordon
OLLERENSHAW. A Subversive History
Sheet is being forwarded today.

J. RAFFERTY, referred to
in the report submitted by Sergt.
Doole is identical with Joseph
Sylvester RAFFERTY, for whom a
Subversive History Sheet has been
forwarded. He was present at this
meeting but was not selling the
People's Voice newspaper.

R. JONES.
Det. Sgt. 2.11.49

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

Ex S.49/572

28.10.1949 25

From (source): R. Jones

Reference:

Date: ~~21.10.1949~~

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 7-7-1959

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING held at the corner of Donovan Street and Blockhouse Bay Road, Auckland at 7.30 pm on 28.10.49.
"Vide attached"

The Superintendent of Police
AUCKLAND.

The chairman of this meeting is identical with William Donald Lachlan MacCALLUM, vide Subversive History Sheet.

The speaker was George Edward JACKSON, Communist candidate for Waitakere, and subject of a Subversive History Sheet.

R. JONES. 2.11.1949

Report of: Constable L.F. Ward No. 3277 28.10.49

Relative to: George Edward JACKSON, Communist Candidate for Waitakere
Electorate addresses meeting at corner Donovan Street and Blockhouse Bay Road, Blockhouse Bay, on the 28/10/49.

I respectfully report on the night of Friday 28th October 1949, I attended a political meeting at the corner of Donovan Street and Blockhouse Bay Road, Blockhouse Bay.

The meeting opened at 7.30 pm and was firstly addressed by a man introduced as Don McCallum. McCallum stated that the meeting was being held for the purpose of introducing the Communist Candidate for Waitakere, George JACKSON, who was expected to arrive within a few minutes. McCallum stated that he considered that there was little difference between the policy of the Labour Party and the National Party and he considered that the Communist Party Candidates were the only ones who represented the workers.

He dealt with the benefit of preferential voting, and after speaking for ten minutes, McCallum stated that George JACKSON would address the meeting. Jackson dealt with the policy of the Communist Party as regards the Trades Union movement and he protested that the 'Auckland Star' had seen fit to refuse advertisements notifying where meetings of that party would be held; he stated that it may be necessary for leaflets to be printed and distributed giving particulars of where Communist Candidates would speak.

Jackson also spoke of the Government refusing the Communist Party time over the air and stated that the only reply the Party received from the Government was 'the matter is being considered'. He stated that he hoped to address Blockhouse Bay residents on a later occasion; he stated that he had to address a meeting at New Lynn tonight and did not have further time to address them. Jackson only spoke for ten minutes and after Jackson spoke McCallum stated that he was personally prepared to answer any questions. No questions were asked and the meeting closed.

There were three people standing near the speakers and listening to the addresses and people shopping on the other side of the road waited and listened for a few minutes and then walked on. On one occasion there were about 20 people standing in front of the shops listening to the speakers. The meeting was conducted in an orderly manner; there were no interjections and no subversive statements were made. No pamphlets were distributed.

It was announced that Jackson would speak at the corner of Rosebank Road and Great North Road on Friday night the 4th November.

L. F. WARD.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

Ex S.49/567

35

From (source): Ponsonby Police Stn.
(C. W. Matthew)

Reference: 1194/49

Date: 27.10.49

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 8-7-1959

the Communist Party were workers and stood for the working people.

Vic WILCOX spoke on the same lines and their policy was as follows:-

(1) The unfairness of the Auckland Star newspaper, a Capitalist body who would not advertise their meetings after they had paid about £200. They have broken the contract. They also referred to the New Zealand Herald newspaper as the Granny Herald, who did not fully report their meetings, but were advertising for them, but did not know for how long.

(2) The devaluation of the £1 was unfair.

(3) Unfairness of the Labour Government in denying them Broadcast rights.

(4) The attitude of the Labour Government with Strikes.

(5) The costly project of the Labour Government with the Compulsory Military Training, the money to be spent on this, should be used for free Education and more money for the Old age Pensioner.

(6) That they were in favour of better housing as in Auckland there were hundreds of houses occupied but not fit to live in. No project given to better the position.

(7) Did not believe in war and did not believe in rearing children for gun fodder.

Vic WILCOX stated that there was an Atomic Bomb to be watched regarding Marshall Aid from a Capitalist country such as the United States of America, and that the people instead of ~~sing~~ singing the National Anthem would be marching down the road to the tune of "YANKEE DOODLE DANDY".

The meeting terminated at 9 pm.

C. W. MATTHEW.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

G.D.D.-11

EXTRACT/COPY

Ex S.49/570

26

From (source): C. Pentecost, Auck. Reference: Date: 27-10-1949

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 7-7-1959

REPORT of : Sergeant C. Pentecost No. 3491
 RELATIVE to: Communist Party Electioneering Meeting at Corner of
 Nelson and Cook Streets, Auckland on the 27th Oct. 1949

I respectfully report that in company with Constable JACOBSEN, I attended a Communist electioneering meeting held on the corners of Nelson and Cook Streets on Thursday the 27th October, 1949. The meeting commenced at 7.45 pm and concluded at 8.55 pm. The chairwoman was Mrs BARTON of North Shore, and the speaker was Mr John MITCHELL, a waterside worker, and who is the communist candidate for the Auckland Central Electorate.

The meeting was attended by approximately 130 people of both races, Maori and Pakeha, and of both sexes of each race. The meeting was quite an orderly one, but there was the usual interjections which could only be expected at a meeting of this type. The interjections were at no time such that necessitated any Police action and there were no organised attempts to prevent the speaker from continuing his address.

The substance of the address was of the usual type of Communist propaganda. It mainly consisted of attacks and criticism against the Capitalists and capitalism, and of course pledged Communist support to the workers and the working class. The firm FLETCHER HOLDINGS was the only so called capitalist firm mentioned, and it came for criticism regarding the alleged excess profits made by it which the workers did not share in.

Compulsory military was also attacked very strongly, and the candidate outlined the Communist attitude in this respect and their reasons for opposing compulsory military training which it was alleged by the speaker was ordered by the Prime Ministers Dept. to be termed Compulsory Military Training and not conscription as it was alleged that the word conscription would probably have a detrimental effect to the referendum.

Other subjects to be attacked were wages, housing, especially in the Freemans Bay area where the candidate himself lived, and a sore point with the speaker appeared to be the lack of facilities allowed to the Communist Party in the present elections, in comparison to those made available to the Government and the Opposition. The speaker refuted the suggestion that either he or his fellow candidates were agents of any Foreign Power, and said that the main platform of the Communist Party was the promotion of world peace.

The meeting was a peaceful one, and terminated with the usual question time being allowed to the audience, and it concluded at 8.55 pm. There were no seditious utterances of any nature.

G. PENTECOST~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

24

From (source): Pol.Stn.Onehunga Reference: Ex 49/568 Date: 27-10-49

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 7-7-1959

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING held in Orphans Hall, Onehunga on 26.10.49
"Vide attached"

The Superintendent of Police, Auckland.
The chairman and speakers referred to in the attached report are Donald McEWEN, Roy STANLEY and John James MITCHELL. They are well known Communists and Subversive History Sheets have been issued in each instance.
Copy of the report has been detached and filed with local records.

R.JONES.
Det.Sergt. 29.10.49

Report of Sen.Sgt. D.CLARK, No. 1745 27.10.1949
Relative to: Election address by Communist candidate for parliament on 26/10/49.

I respectfully report an election address was given by Mr. Roy STANLEY, Communist party candidate for the Onehunga electorate in the Orphans Hall on the 26/10/49.

There was an audience of about 120 people, and they appeared to be about equally divided.

The chair was occupied by Mr. McEWAN, a former Secretary or Union official of the Carpenter's Union. Mr. John MITCHELL, Communist candidate for City Central, also delivered a short address.

The meeting was well conducted, and with the exception of some cross talk now and then, and a few interjections, there was nothing to take exception to or justify Police intervention.

The address was on the usual Communist lines. He criticised the Auckland Star for its attitude towards the Party. He also made some reference to the Prime Minister's remarks regarding the sincerity of the Communist Party. That appears to have been taken up officially by the Communist Leader, Mr. Wilcox; New Zealand Herald 27/10/49.

The general trend of the address was a criticism of the Labour Party, alleging they had departed from their original policy and were now on the capitalist side, and were no better than the Nationalists. He claimed his party were the true Socialists and he outlined a sort of policy, mostly promises, and what was wanted, which, if it could be put into effect, there would be very little need for anyone to work at all.

D. CLARK~~SECRET~~

"DOMINION"

Dated 27th. October 1949

86.

Communist Candidate
In Mornington Seat

DUNEDIN, October 26 (P.A.).—
Communist Party candidate in the
Mornington electorate will be Mr. J. J.
Hannan, a 35-year-old welder at Hill-
side railway workshops. The seat is
held at present by Mr. W. A. Hudson,
Labour.

Application for Registration as an Alien

~~SECRET~~

G.D.D.—11

EXTRACT/COPY

Ex S.49/566

23

From (source): Parnell Police Stn.
(L. Wilson) Ak.

Reference: 622/224

Date: 26-10-1949

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 6-7-1959

Report of	Sergeant	L. Wilson	No.2661
Relative to	Communist Party, Parnell Electorate, meeting conducted at the corner of Parnell Road and Heather Street at 7.30 p.m on Tuesday 25th October 1949.		

I respectfully report that together with Constable Garrett and de Young I attended at the meeting of the Communist candidate (Mrs. Rita Smith) for the Parnell Electorate held in the open air at the corner of Heather Street and Parnell Road at 7.30 p.m on Tuesday 25th. October 1949.

A loud speaker of the public address system was erected on a small car in Heather Street. About 45 persons were present. They were mostly followers of the Communist Party and were mainly grouped together near the rostrum.

The Chairman of the meeting was announced as Mr. Spiller. In opening the meeting he announced that it was the beginning of their campaign but that they would not open with a flare of trumpets like Peter Fraser in the Civic Theatre. He strongly criticised the leading article appearing in the Auckland Star of the 25th instant regarding advertisements and non-publication of events connected with the Communist Party's Campaign. He read an article from the Auckland Star newspaper of the same date dealing with a report from Melbourne and a statement that "the Soviet was not the root of all evil." He claimed that the Communist Party were the only Party who would honour their pledge regarding wars and until the people would support the Communist Party there would always be that danger.

He introduced the candidate for the Electorate, Mrs. Smith and she then took the rostrum. She gave a rough outline of the parties platform with a promise to give a more detailed account when a meeting would shortly be held in the Returned Soldiers Hall, Parnell Road. She spoke on wars to some length and criticised the Nationalist and Labour parties in their combination to obtain a majority in the recent Conscription Referendum. She spoke on equality for the European and Maori and made reference to the scale of wages in the Cook Islands. She condemned the housing situation. A claim was made that the Party had always sought defence of the country during the Japanese threat and that in the defence against Fascism a number of their supporters including a Mr. Watson, Auckland Secretary for the Party, had given their lives. Reference was made to the imprisonment of Sharkey in Australia.

When the speaker had ceased, the Chairman called on the listeners to ask questions. Two questions were asked and were answered by the Chairman and Candidate respectively.

There were no interjections during the whole of the meeting and no remarks of a seditious nature were uttered by any of the speakers.

I attach herewith the cuttings from the Auckland Star referred to by the speakers.

L. WILSON
Sergeant

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

22

From (source): Newton Police Stn. Reference: Ex 49/565 Date: 26th October 1949For File No. 21/2/8Original on 21/3/7Received on _____ Extracted/Copied by _____ On 6th July 1959

Relative to: Meeting of Communist Party at the corner of Rose Road and Williamson Avenue on 25th October, 1949.

I respectfully report that I attended a Meeting of the Communist Party at the corner of Rose Road and Williamson Avenue on 25th October, 1949.

The speaker was Victor WILCOX, Communist Party's Candidate for Arch Hill Electorate.

There were about 30 people present when the meeting commenced at 7.45pm. A few came later and some left, but at no time were there more than 40 people present.

The Candidate, after being introduced by the Chairman, Herman NUNES, gave an address which was mainly confined to the following:-

- (1) Unfair treatment by the "Auckland Star" newspaper in refusing to report Communist Party meetings or to advertise the place and date of meetings.
- (2) Not being allowed use of the radio to broadcast propaganda. Both Labour and National parties were blamed.
- (3) The attitude of the Government and particularly that of the Hon. A. McLAGAN towards the de-registered Carpenters' Union. The new union was referred to as a "scab" Union.
- (4) The devaluation of the pound.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm. It was orderly and no interjections.

A.C. Davis
Senior Sergeant

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~
NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

21/2/8
17

af 49/561

Detective Office
(Special Branch)
Auckland.

22nd. October 1949.

REPORT of Temporary Constable L.W.Wise, No.T.1997.
relative to Communist Party open air meeting held in Cobden
Street, Newton, at 7/45pm. on 21.10.49.

.....

I respectfully report
that I attended a Communist Party open air meeting held in
Cobden Street, Newton, near the corner of Karangahape Road,
at 7/45pm. on Friday 21st.October 1949.

Twin loudspeakers were mounted on the hood of an
Austin motor car, License number 23-388, which I have since
ascertained is registered in the name of John French TAYLOR,
12 Upham Road, Mt.Wellington, Auckland. The speakers fitted
a microphone similar to a telephonists mouthpiece about their
necks, and the speech was amplified. The speakers stood on
a portable platform placed on the footpath.

Aubrey Bruce SKILTON was chairman.

The speakers were, Henry Mornington SMITH; John
James MITCHELL; Lillian Rita SMITH; George Edward JACKSON;
and the leader of the Party, Victor George WILCOX.

The speeches which were short, gave a brief summary
of the Communist Party's fight in the interests of the working
class people. WILCOX dealt very briefly with the Communist
Party programme for the forthcoming Elections.

Herman NUNES was selling the pamphlet, "New Zealand
Communists present their case", and the "Peoples Voice"
newspaper was being distributed by Gordon Harold ANDERSEN.

A collection was taken up by Herman NUNES, but the
amount collected was not made known.

Throughout the meeting the attendance varied, but
at no time were there more than 50 people present. The majority
of those being supporters of the Party.

The meeting closed at 9/5pm.

The Officer in Charge
Security Branch
Auckland.

L.W.Wise
.....
T/Constable 1997.

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

21

From (source): Auck. Special Br. Reference: Ex 49/554 Date: 22nd Oct. 1949

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on ~~EXTRACT~~ Copied by [REDACTED] On 7th July 1959

Subject: Opening Meeting in the Communist Party Election Campaign held in the Concert Chamber, Auckland Town Hall at 8 pm. on 19.10.49.

The Officer in Charge
Security Branch.

Report of meeting herewith please. Advertisements from Auckland Star and New Zealand Herald, together with the pamphlet, "New Zealand Communists present their Case", are also attached.

L.W. Wise
T/Constable
21.10.49

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

Subversive History Sheets have been issued for all those mentioned by name in the attached report.

The mover of the resolution is about 32 years of age, 5ft.3ins. in height, fresh complexion, broken nose, black hair inclined to be wavy, solid build, jockey-pugilist type. He is not known to me.

The two unidentified Committee members are:-

No.1 Man 35 to 40 years of age, 5ft 10ins in height, slim build, long face, thin nose, light brown wavy hair going grey, ruddy complexion, prominent veins at temples, neatly dressed in navy serge suit. I do not recall having previously seen this man at public meetings of the Communist Party.

No.2. Man 40 to 45 years of age, 5ft 5½ins in height, black straight hair parted on side, round face, pale complexion, light grey check sports coat, air force blue flannel trousers. Has recently attended, but taken no active part, in meetings at Myers Park.

Enquiries are being made with a view to establishing the identity of these three persons for the purpose of issuing Subversive History Sheets.

R. Jones
Det. Sgt. 22.10.49

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

G.D.D.—11

EXTRACT/COPY

20

From (source): Auck. Special Br. Reference: Ex 49/554 Date: 21st Oct. 1949

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 6th July 1959

Relative to: Opening meeting in Communist Party Election Campaign, held in Concert Chamber, Auckland Town Hall at 8 pm. on 19th October 1949.

I respectfully report that in company of Detective Sergeant JONES I attended the opening meeting in the Communist Party Election Campaign

The speaker's table was draped with a red cloth, and the banners, "Unity of the Workers can now prevent a Third World War", and "Build the Communist Party, the Vanguard of Progress", were hanging at the back of the stage.

The following Communist Candidates were on the stage. John James MITCHELL (Auckland Central); George Edward JACKSON (Waitakere) Rita SMITH (Parnell); Henry Mornington SMITH (Ponsonby) Roy STANLEY (Onehunga); and Victor George WILCOX (Arch Hill).

Peter Wilfred George McARA was chairman. McARA said, "In opening this meeting it gives me great pleasure to introduce the outstanding Communist candidates whom we hope will be returned to the Parliament of New Zealand. The main speaker will be Vic WILCOX who will outline the Party's policy."

WILCOX said, "I am indeed proud to be leading such a fine team of candidates in the forthcoming Elections. It is an honour to be associated with such people. They are all fighters, not 'Yes' men. The Communist Party will fight to the last ditch to defend the working people. We asked the Government for a 'Dominion hook-up' on the radio, but I'm sorry to say that Democracy has sunk so low that we haven't even had a reply to our letter. We demand equal rights with the other political parties.

Capitalist countries are leading us to ruin, but we must have facilities to fight with. The Communist Party always has enemies, and that reminds me of a story. An old identity 90 years of age was standing outside the village "Pub" talking to the Parson. The Parson asked if he had any enemies, and the old man replied that he had no enemies as he had outlived them all". It is the same with the Communist Party. We will outlive all our enemies.

Mr. Munro, the Editor of the 'Herald' does not know anything about the Communist Party policy. We know our own policy best, so why are we not allowed to publish it?

It is going to be a sham fight. The Labour Party say 'Hold what you have' and the National Party say 'We will not take anything from you'. Are you going to throw in your lot with them who are going to lead you into War and Depression, or are you going to follow the Communist Party who are fighting for Peace and Prosperity.

Fundamentally, whenever a point arises, it is remarkable the unity there is between Labour and National. Holland said he would bring in conscription with out a referendum. The actions of Angus McLAGAN who registers 'Scab' unions, is endorsed by the Labour Party 'rabbits'. If you back either party you are backing capitalism. Back the Communist Party and win by a straight. We stand on the living side of the world, not the decadent side. As we are going now, the world wide depression can only be staved off by a Third World War. You will hear terrible stories of atrocities in Czechoslovakia and Russia, and they will tell you the same about China, but they are going from victory to victory.

~~SECRET~~

Electorates.	Candidates.	Parties.	1st Progress Results.	2nd Progress Results.	3rd Progress Results.	4th Progress Results.	5th Progress Results.	6th Progress Results.	Final Results.
North Dunedin .. (28 polling-places.)	Brickell ..	N. ..							6522
	Marston ..	C. ..							109
	*Walls ..	L. ..							7090
North Shore .. (17 polling-places.)	Eyre ..	N. ..							7835
	*Finlay ..	L. ..							6491
Oamaru .. (56 polling-places.)	Hayman ..	N. ..							7415
	*Nordmeyer ..	L. ..							6721
Onehunga .. (15 polling-places.)	Coates ..	N. ..							5955
	*Osborne ..	L. ..							8255
	Stanley ..	C. ..							198
Onslow .. (34 polling-places.)	*Combs ..	L. ..							9391
	Meadowcroft ..	N. ..							7464
Otahuhu .. (26 polling-places.)	Dixon ..	L. ..							7218
	Gotz ..	N. ..							8493
Otaki .. (43 polling-places.)	Capstick ..	L. ..							8166
	*Maher ..	N. ..							8540
Pahiatua .. (104 polling-places.)	*Holyoake ..	N. ..							8663
	O'Leary ..	L. ..							4156
Palmerston North .. (18 polling-places.)	Tennent ..	N. ..							7368
	*Wilson ..	L. ..							6850
Parnell .. (20 polling-places.)	*Rae ..	N. ..							6255
	Schramm ..	L. ..							5295
	Smith ..	C. ..							131
Patea .. (54 polling-places.)	Finer ..	L. ..							5961
	*Sheat ..	N. ..							7802
Petone .. (14 polling-places.)	Croft ..	N. ..							5194
	*Moohan ..	L. ..							7721
	Quinn ..	C. ..							207
Piako .. (41 polling-places.)	*Goosman ..	N. ..							9599
	Kenah ..	L. ..							3333
Ponsonby .. (13 polling-places.)	Jamieson ..	I. Lib. ..							169
	Kingston ..	N. ..							5161
	*Macdonald ..	L. ..							7439
	Smith ..	C. ..							140

Electorates.	Candidates.	Parties.	1st Progress Results.	2nd Progress Results.	3rd Progress Results.	4th Progress Results.	5th Progress Results.	6th Progress Results.	Final Results.
Raglan .. (60 polling-places.)	*Baxter .. Johnstone ..	L. .. N. ..							6824 7846
Rangitikei .. (72 polling-places.)	De Malmanche .. *Gordon ..	L. .. N. ..							4791 8101
Remuera .. (16 polling-places.)	*Algie .. Watt ..	N. .. L. ..							8878 3799
Riccarton .. (34 polling-places.)	Lake .. *McLagan .. Taylor ..	N. .. L. .. C. ..							5906 8613 204
Rodney .. (74 polling-places.)	Leaming .. *Webb ..	L. .. N. ..							5080 9626
Roskill .. (19 polling-places.)	Freeman .. *Langstone .. Rae ..	L. .. I.L. .. N. ..							5957 1097 7372
St. Albans .. (20 polling-places.)	Manning .. *Watts ..	L. .. N. ..							6193 7335
St. Kilda .. (23 polling-places.)	*Jones .. Lyon ..	L. .. N. ..							7310 6979
Selwyn .. (60 polling-places.)	*McAlpine .. Sharp ..	N. .. L. ..							8205 6878
Sydenham .. (15 polling-places.)	*Howard .. Moody ..	L. .. N. ..							9246 3603
Tamaki .. (33 polling-places.)	Halstead .. Jordan .. *Skinner ..	N. .. I.S.C. .. L. ..							8364 7123 7269
Tauranga .. (52 polling-places.)	*Doidge .. Pickett ..	N. .. L. ..							9330 4735
Timaru .. (30 polling-places.)	*Carr .. Lockington ..	L. .. N. ..							7364 6532
Waikato .. (52 polling-places.)	Burfitt .. *Sim ..	L. .. N. ..							3499 9422
Waimarino .. (142 polling-places.)	*Kearins .. MacPherson ..	L. .. N. ..							7319 7119

Electorates.	Candidates.	Parties.	1st Progress Results.	2nd Progress Results.	3rd Progress Results.	4th Progress Results.	5th Progress Results.	6th Progress Results.	Final Results.
Waimate (84 polling-places.)	Davison ..	L. ..							5699
	Hayes ..	I.S.C. ..							217.
	*Kidd ..	N. ..							7426
Wairarapa (52 polling-places.)	Cooksley ..	N. ..							7596
	Hansen ..	L. ..							6633.
Waitakere (34 polling-places.)	Jackson ..	C. ..							386
	*Mason ..	L. ..							8341
	Tapper ..	N. ..							7411
Waitomo 104 polling-places.)	*Broadfoot ..	N. ..							9026
	Kitts ..	L. ..							3947.
Wallace (90 polling-places.)	Freeman ..	L. ..							3868
	*Macdonald ..	N. ..							8379
Wanganui (20 polling-places.)	*Cotterill ..	L. ..							7336
	O'Keeffe ..	N. ..							6317.
Wellington Central (13 polling-places.)	Appleton ..	N. ..							4503
	*Chapman ..	L. ..							5078
Westland (84 polling-places.)	*Kent ..	L. ..							8013
	Mitchell ..	C. ..							328
	O'Regan ..	N. ..							5269

350/11/49-11420]

Southern Maori Loukatene L. 970
 Bates IV. 283

Eastern Maori - Omana L. 8487.
 Carroll N. 5276.

Western Maori: I. M. Ratana (L.), 9089; H. Marumaru (N.), 2752; R. Amohanga (I.), 113; H. T. Hovell (I.), 120; G. N. Matthews (L.), 326; K. Nutana (Kaibanganui), 219; R. M. Rangitaura (Dem. Lab.), 115; T. Tana (I.), 122; W. W. Wararua (L.), 154; T. T. Wirihana (I.), 302. Informal: 287. Majority for Ratana, 6317. Increase on election night majority 551.

Northern Maori
T. P. Paikea (L) 5841
J. T. Henare (N) 3812
M. Otene (L) 93
P. Tuwhare (K) 30
Informal 127
Majority for Paikea ... 2029
Mr Paikea's election night majority is increased by 17.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

(Commissioner's Office),
Wellington

115

~~Secret~~
Memo

16

December 1946

Re Hon Mr Fraser

I forward herewith a
report relative to the expenditure
of the Communist Party on its
election campaign

J. Cunningham
Comm Police

96
S.49/358~~SECRET~~

7th December, 1949.

COMMUNIST PARTY VOTE IN THE GENERAL ELECTION HELD
ON THE 30TH NOVEMBER, 1949, TO THE NEW ZEALAND
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

I am forwarding the following information concerning the Communist Party in the General Election held here on the 30th November as it will probably be of general interest to you and your staff.

The Communist Party candidates contested sixteen constituencies at the General Election as compared with three in 1946. The average result for the Communist candidates was no better than that which was experienced in the General Election held in November, 1946. In fact fewer people favoured the Communists in the recent Election than that held in 1946.

The total votes polled by Communist candidates in the sixteen constituencies was 3,267, whereas the provisional count, excluding absentee, postal and seamen's votes, shows that 193,138 votes were cast in those electorates.

In 1946 in three constituencies the Communist candidates polled a total of 1,138 votes from a provisional total of 35,942 votes.

The National Organiser of the New Zealand Communist Party, Mr V.O. Wilcox, was the Communist Party candidate for the Arch Hill constituency and he polled 321 votes. In 1946 he was the candidate for the Party in the same constituency and polled 534 votes.

I have attached a schedule showing the votes of all the candidates in the constituencies in which a member of the Communist Party was a candidate.

JG
Director of Security Intelligence.

Encl

SECRET

Enclosure to memorandum S.49/358 of the 7th December, 1949,
from the Director of Security Intelligence, Wellington, N.Z.

95

NEW ZEALAND GENERAL ELECTION - 30TH NOVEMBER, 1949

COMMUNIST PARTY CANDIDATES

(1) ARCH HILL

* W.E. Parry (L)	...	...	7,854
G.F. Smith (N)	...	...	2,989
<i>P.F.</i> V. Wilcox (C)	...	...	<u>321</u>
Majority for Parry	...	...	<u>4,865</u>

(Labour majority 1946: 6,585)

(2) AUCKLAND CENTRAL

* W.T. Anderson (L)	...	...	5,094
L.G. Bradley (N)	...	...	2,754
<i>P.F.</i> J.J. Mitchell (C)	...	...	<u>193</u>
H.K. Jones (I)	...	...	<u>60</u>
Majority for Anderson	...	...	<u>2,340</u>

(Labour majority 1946: 3,478)

(3) BROOKLYN

* P. Fraser (L)	...	...	6,679
Mrs A. Burns (N)	...	...	3,838
<i>P.F.</i> Mrs C. Birchfield (C)	...	...	<u>229</u>
Majority for Fraser	...	...	<u>2,841</u>

(Labour majority 1946: 3,935)

(4) CHRISTCHURCH CENTRAL

* R.M. Macfarlane (L)	...	...	7,163
K.J. Marlow (N)	...	...	3,655
<i>P.F.</i> H.A. Ostler (C)	...	...	<u>210</u>
Majority for Macfarlane	...	...	<u>3,508</u>

(Labour majority 1946: 4,420)

(5) DUNEDIN NORTH

* R. Wells (L)	...	...	6,577
R.G. Brickell (N)	...	...	5,790
<i>P.F.</i> J.L. Marston (C)	...	...	<u>103</u>
Majority for Wells	...	...	<u>787</u>

(Labour majority 1946: 1,630)

94

(6) ISLAND BAY

* R. McKeen (L)	...	...	6,771
H. E. Childs (N)	...	...	4,186
P R. Smith (C)	...	...	<u>171</u>

Majority for McKeen 2,585

(Labour majority 1946: 3,958)

(7) MIRAMAR

* R. Semple (L)	...	...	6,619
C. H. Taylor (N)	...	...	5,422
P R. Stanton (C)	...	...	<u>215</u>

Majority for Semple 1,197

(Labour majority 1946: 2,482)

(8) MORNINGTON

* W. A. Hudson (L)	...	...	8,671
G. H. C. Stephens (N)	...	...	4,628
P R. J. J. Hannon (C)	...	...	<u>200</u>

Majority for Hudson 2,043

(Labour majority 1946: 4,681)

(9) NAPIER

* A. E. Armstrong (L)	...	...	6,813
W. Tucker (N)	...	...	6,019
P R. C. J. Brown (C)	...	...	118
J. Cummins (I. L.)	...	...	<u>110</u>

Majority for Armstrong ... 794

(Labour majority 1946: 1,845)

(10) ONEHUNGA

* A. G. Osborne (L)	...	...	7,715
A. A. Coates (N)	...	...	5,516
P R. R. Stanley (C)	...	...	<u>187</u>

Majority for Osborne ... 2,199

(Labour majority 1946: 3,424)

(11) PARNELL

* D. M. Rae (N)	...	...	5,595
F. W. Schreim (L)	...	...	4,913
Mrs L. R. Smith (C)	...	...	<u>116</u>

Majority for Rae ... 682

(National majority 1946: 206)

(12) PETONE

* H. Moohan (L)	...	...	7,265
H. P. Croft (N)	...	...	4,793
PF A. Quinn (C)	...	...	<u>190</u>

Majority for Moohan	...	...	<u>2,472</u>
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(Labour majority 1946: 4,019)

(13) PONSONBY

* R. Macdonald (L)	...	...	6,755
D. H. Kingston (N)	...	...	4,671
W. F. Jamieson (I. Lib)	...	...	158
PF H. M. Smith (C)	...	...	<u>130</u>

Majority for Macdonald	...	...	<u>2,084</u>
------------------------	-----	-----	--------------

(Labour majority 1946: 3,431)

(14) RICCARTON

* A. McLagan (L)	...	...	8,046
H. R. Lake (N)	...	...	5,471
PF R. Taylor (C)	...	...	<u>189</u>

Majority for McLagan	...	...	<u>2,575</u>
----------------------	-----	-----	--------------

(Labour majority 1946: 3,875)

(15) WAITAKERE

* H. G. R. Mason (L)	...	...	7,761
R. Tepper (N)	...	...	6,895
PF G. Jackson (C)	...	...	<u>367</u>

Majority for Mason ..	...	...	<u>866</u>
-----------------------	-----	-----	------------

(Labour majority 1946: 2,797)

(16) WESTLAND

* J. B. Kent (L)	...	...	7,520
P. J. O'Regan (N)	...	...	5,015
PF R. H. Mitchell (C)	...	...	<u>328</u>

Majority for Kent	...	...	<u>2,505</u>
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(Labour majority 1946: -----Not known-----
Labour majority 1947 by-election: 2,022)

-
- * Sitting Member.
 - (L) Labour.
 - (N) National.
 - (C) Communist.
 - (I) Independent.
 - (IL) Independent Labour.
 - (ILib) Independent Liberal.

S.49/358.

[Form No. 108.

105



NEW ZEALAND POLICE

Subject: COMMUNIST PARTY ELECTION CAMPAIGN (1949) - Review of

"Vide attached"

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

Please see my report
attached.

B. Jones

Det. sergt. 6.12.49

Forwarded to the Commissioner.

S. Ball

Superintendent of Police.

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

9.12.49

Seen 9.12.49

NEW ZEALAND POLICE~~SECRET~~Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.

5 December 1949.

REPORT of Detective Sergeant R. Jones No. 3272
relative to COMMUNIST PARTY ELECTION CAMPAIGN (1949) - Review
of.

I respectfully submit the following review of
the Communist Party campaign in Auckland in connection with
the 1949 General Elections.

The Communist Party did not stand any candidates
in the 1938 and 1943 General Elections. In 1943 (a war time
election) the whole of the Communist Party organisation was
behind the Labour Government and many of its members functioned
on Labour Party Election Committees. While admitting many
weaknesses in Labour's policy, the Communist Party regarded
the return of a Labour Government as most desirable.

In 1946 the Communist Party sought an electoral
understanding with the Labour Party. In seeking a conference
with the Labour Party to discuss this matter Alexander DRENNAN,
then chairman of the NZ Communist Party, stated that his party
was considering contesting the elections in order to place its
independent views before the people of the Dominion. A
conference of the Communist Party had decided that the Party
was resolved to again work with intense earnestness for the
return of the Labour Government and this decision, it was
stated, would be acted upon whether or not there was a closer
understanding, official or unofficial, between the Communist
Party and the Labour Party. The extent of direct Communist
participation in the elections, it was further stated, would
be extremely limited and it would not in any way jeopardise
the Labour Government's return.

When a remit asking for the joint conference was
put to the Federation of Labour conference in June 1946, it
was lost by 141 votes to 81. The National Executive of the
Labour Party also rejected the proposal for a joint meeting
between the two parties.

The Communist Party stood three candidates in
1946 in the following electorates, - Arch Hill, Island Bay, and
Christchurch Central. Its slogan was "Return 77 Labour and
3 Communist candidates".

In the 1946 election, less than eighteen months
after World War II, the Communist Party were still basking in
the reflected glory of the legend of "our grand and gallant
Soviet Allies". There is no doubt that the Communist Party
then had the confidence and support of a fair number of
working people. Further, its influence in the Trade Union
movement was strong. Most of the militant unions in Auckland
had Communist leadership and the Executive of the Auckland
Trades Council was almost entirely comprised of Communists.

For the 1949 General Elections the Communist Party
faced an entirely different situation. The open antagonism
of Labour leaders to the Communist Party gradually led to the
defeat of Communist leadership in the militant trade unions
and Auckland Trades Council. The role of the Soviet Union
in the international sphere and the possibilities of a third

world war also mitigated against the mana of the Communist Party.

In 1949 no electoral understanding was sought by the Communist Party with the Labour Party. In an official statement on its relations with the Labour Government the Communist Party declared that in all main respects the National and Labour Parties were identical and that the Communist Party constituted the only working class opposition to capitalist policies.

The statement continued "We still pursue a united front policy both from below and on top. A united front with the New Zealand Labour Party is inconceivable. Our paths today diverge and no united front is possible with these top leaders, but we pursue the united front continuously with the rank and file and with honest and progressive men and women in various positions both inside and outside the Labour Party. The treachery of the Labour Government compels us to expose it although we know that many workers have not yet realised the extent of its treachery and hence continue to support it".

The keynote of the Communist Party election campaign was to carry out the strongest possible independent Communist Party campaign, firstly, in the electorates where candidates were standing and secondly, in every electorate where there were Communist Party branches, members or supporters.

The Communist Party stood 16 candidates in all, six of which were in Auckland, and in addition gave some measure of support to the Independent candidates, Mr. Frank LANGSTONE (Roskill) and Mr. John Alexander LEE (Grey Lynn).

In January 1949 the Communist Party opened a fund known as the "SOLIDARITY FUND". On 20.3.49 this fund was re-named the "ELECTION FIGHTING FUND" and the objective was to raise £10,000. The last total published in the People's Voice newspaper dated 30.11.49 shows that a total of £9,126/3/4d had been received, while from a reliable source it was learnt that £12,000 in pledges had been promised and £8,000 in cash had been paid in.

In former campaigns for funds it had been the practice of the Communist Party to publish the names of subscribers and in this way the names of many new Party members were learnt. During the present campaign, almost without exception, individual donations were not recorded, - only the amounts paid in by the respective branches being published.

One of the reasons for this is no doubt because the Communist Party in New Zealand, as well as in other parts of the Empire, fear that they will be declared an illegal party and are therefore preparing to work as an underground movement. Some further corroboration of this was gained when it was reported from a reliable source that the Party during the election campaign intended to use for open activity only those members who were well known to the Police. This practice was carried out and few new members were learnt at this office as a result of the election campaign.

William George WAKELEY, who is Auckland organiser for the Communist Party was to have been the election organiser. However he was laid off as a result of an ulcerated duodenum. He was replaced by Gordon Harold ANDERSEN, known as Bill ANDERSON, a member of the Auckland District Committee.

A large number of leaflets, copies of which have been forwarded from this office, were delivered to householders and at meetings. Sticker and poster campaigns were organised in the electorates and in regard to this Roy STANLEY and John Robert FRENCH (Stanley's organiser) were prosecuted on 24.11.49 under the Post and Telegraph Act for sticking posters on telegraph poles. Both defendants were convicted and discharged. Some leaflets

were distributed through the post.

In 1946 the cost of printing for the Communist election campaign amounted to £260. In 1949 the election literature was printed almost entirely by the Forward Press, which is owned by the Communist Party.

House to house canvassing and job and factory meetings met with little success.

Communist Party meetings were advertised over the Commercial Broadcasting Station 1ZB and in the New Zealand Herald newspaper. The proprietors of the Auckland Star newspaper refused to accept advertisements in connection with the election campaign or to report any meetings.

Following a precedent set up in 1946 Communist candidates were not granted time on the air to expound their policy.

Several resolutions of protest at the ban imposed on the Communist Party by the "Press" and Government radio were passed at many election meetings.

A supporting protest came from a number of "progressives" in Auckland and this was published on 15.11.49 in the form of a letter to the Editor of the Auckland Star newspaper. Those signing the original document were :

John Alexander LEE, publisher, and candidate for Grey Lynn;
Maurice George LEE, Tutor, Workers Education Association;
Archibald Joseph Charles FISHER, artist, Auckland
Willis Thomas Goodwin AIREY, Associate Professor (University);
Norman Vasey DOUGLAS, trade union secretary; Auckland;
Ronald Allison Kels MASON, poet and journalist; Auckland;
Frank LANGSTONE, candidate for Roskill;
Arthur Rex Dugard FAIRBURN, tutor, Devonport;
A. Hall SKELTON, barrister and solicitor; Auckland;
Trevor John Patrick POTTER, trade union secretary, Auckland.

On 23.11.49 it was announced in the People's Voice newspaper that the following persons had added their signatures :

Lincoln EFFORD (W.E.A.)
John ROBERTS (President Trades Council),
Leo BENSEMAN, artist,
P.H.T. ALPERS, barrister,
A.B. GRANT, secretary Trades Council,
H.A. HOLMES, theatre proprietor,
C.W. COLLINS, librarian,
L.H. BOOTH, painter,
Doctor R.S. ALLEN, professor of Geology,
W. ROSENBERG, Lecturer of Economics,
P.J. ALLEY, Lecturer of Engineering,
H.G. KILPATRICK, Secretary Freezing Workers Union.

The Communist Party election programme was published in the People's Voice newspaper dated 19.10.49, together with the photographs of 15 candidates. The photograph for the 16th candidate (Morrington) was published in the People's Voice newspaper dated 9.11.49.

Meetings were held as follows :-			
Electorate.	Hall	Open Air	Total
ARCH HILL			
Victor George WILCOX	6	15	21
AUCKLAND CENTRAL			
John James MITCHELL	7	16	23
ONEHUNGA			
Roy STANLEY	7	17	24
PARNELL			
Lillian Rita SMITH	5	16	21

<u>Electorate.</u>	<u>Hall</u>	<u>Open Air</u>	<u>Total</u>
PONSOBY			
Henry Mornington SMITH	3	15	18
WAITAKERE			
George Edward JACKSON	11	5	16
TOTAL	39	84	123

In addition there was the opening meeting held in the Town Hall Concert Chamber on 19.10.49 and the meeting in the main Town Hall on 21.11.49.

For the most part, the meetings were orderly and Communist speakers did not meet the opposition which was so noticeable in the Conscription referendum campaign.

The following motor vehicles were used in the Communist election campaign :-

29-025	Adelaide WILCOX, mother of Victor George WILCOX,
24-350	James Sydney WILLIS,
44-240	Myrtle Rose RAIT,
239-518	Auckland Carpenters and Joiners Union,
44-647	Raymond John DOWLE,
23-388	John French TAYLOR,
L 48-956	William Herman GLADWIN, watersider,
L 25-479	Herman NUNES,
13-996	Frank WESTON,
L 38-213	Thomas Harold CRYER,
210-898	NZ Carpenters and Joiners Union,
245-343	NZ Carpenters and Joiners Union,
15-713	Joseph Graham ROBERTS.

Of the above-named registered owners of motor vehicles, GLADWIN and ROBERTS have not previously come under notice. Further enquiries will be made with a view to issuing Subversive History sheets.

Although liberally supplied with benzine for the campaign, only WILCOX's car was seen around the booths on election day.

Communists who acted as chairmen were :-

Gordon Harold ANDERSEN,	Elizabeth ARYA,
Constance Miriam BARTON,	Ben BRAY,
Thomas Harold CRYER,	John DICKSON,
John Robert FRENCH,	Cyril John GOULD,
Frank William HEMPLEMAN,	Stanley Hooper HIEATT,
Basil HOLMES,	William Donald Lachlan MACCALLUM,
Peter Wilfred George McARA,	Donald McEWEN,
George Edward McWHIRTER,	Laurence Trevor MOSLEY,
Herman NUNES,	Alexander George RAIT,
Joseph Graham ROBERTS	Aubrey Bruce SKILTON,
Robert SMALL,	Herbert Leonard SPILLER
Edgar Wallis TAYLOR,	Mervyn Haley WILLIAMS,
James Sydney WILLIS,	Richard Charles WOLF.

The above-named chairmen are well known, except Robert SMALL, who has not previously come under notice at this office. Further enquiries are being made regarding SMALL with a view to issuing a Subversive History sheet.

Supporting speakers and other assistants, such as People's Voice sellers and collectors were :

Desmond Kevin BALL,
George Lawson BROAD,
John Findlay EWEN,
Esther FREEMAN,
Oliver Bennett Young GREGORY,
John MACKIE,
Frederick Daniel MULLER,
James Gordon OLLERENSHAW,
George (Dick) RICHARDS,
August Frederick SMITH,
William Francis WALKERDENE,

Brian Kenneth BERG,
Emma Florence COTTINGHAM,
Francis FINAN,
Henry FREEMAN,
Douglas Bruce HART,
Douglas Murdoch MARTIN,
Brian Albert OLLERENSHAW,
Joseph Sylvester RAFFERTY,
Thomas Leslie RICHARDS,
Miriam Bridelia SOLJAK,
Frank WESTON.

All these are well known and Subversive History sheets have been issued in each instance.

Assisting as voluntary helpers at the various booths on election day the following were noted :-

Eric Charles ARNOLD,
Arthur COLLINS,
Mary Black DILLON,
John DICKSON,
Esther FREEMAN,
Minnie Lavinia C.S. JACKSON-THOMAS
Brian Albert OLLERENSHAW,
Peter Paul PURDUE,
Alexander George RAIT,
Thomas Leslie RICHARDS,
Joyce Maimie STANLEY,

Constance Miriam BARTON,
Emma Florence COTTINGHAM,
George William DUNCAN,
John Findlay EWEN,
Frank William HEMPLEMAN,
Florence Beryl NUGENT,
Tudor Guy PETERSON,
Joseph Sylvester RAFFERTY,
George (Dick) RICHARDS,
Francis Edward PINKER,
Helen Jane SCOTT.

All these are well known, excepting Arthur COLLINS. Further enquiries will be made with a view to issuing a Subversive History sheet. Four other persons were also assisting at the booths but they were unknown to me and have not been identified.

The results of the election and figures for comparison purposes are :

ARCH HILL.

Electors on roll	..	12,754
Total voted	..	11,164
Communist votes	..	321
Communist % of total votes cast	..	2.88%
Communist % of electors on roll	..	2.53%

In 1946 the Communist percentage of electors on roll was 2.01%. In 1946 the Communist percentage of the total number of votes cast was 4.23%. There would appear to be a loss of 1.35% in the number of Communist votes. However it must be borne in mind that in Arch Hill there has been a reduction of 1,143 registered voters, and as in other electorates the Labour majority was reduced.

In 1946 the Labour majority was	..	6585
In 1949 the Labour majority was	..	4865
Communist % of Labour majority 1946.		7.8%
Communist % of Labour majority 1949.		6.5%

CONTINUED OVERLEAF.

AUCKLAND CENTRAL.

Electors on roll	..	9,888
Total voted	..	8,101
Communist votes	..	193
Communist % of total votes cast	..	2.2%
Communist % of electors on roll	..	1.9%
1946 Labour majority	..	3,478
1949 Labour majority	..	2,340
1949 Communist % of Labour majority	..	8.2%

ONEHUNGA

Electors on roll	..	15,658
Total voted	..	13,418
Communist votes	..	187
Communist % of total votes cast	..	1.4%
Communist % of electors on roll	..	1.2%
1946 Labour majority	..	3,424
1949 Labour majority	..	2,199
1949 Communist % of Labour majority	..	8.6%

PARNELL

Electors on roll	..	12,497
Total voted	..	10,624
Communist votes	..	116
Communist % of total votes cast	..	1.1%
Communist % of electors on roll	..	.9%
1946 and 1949 no Labour majority, Seat won by National Party.		
1949 National majority increased by	..	476

PONSONBY

Electors on roll	..	13,774
Total voted	..	11,714
Communist votes	..	130
Communist % of total votes cast	..	1.1%
Communist % of electors on roll	..	.96%
1946 Labour majority	..	3,431
1949 Labour majority	..	2,084
1949 Communist % of Labour majority	..	6.2%

WAITAKERE

Electors on roll	..	17,131
Total voted	..	15,023
Communist votes	..	367
Communist % of total votes cast	..	2.4%
Communist % of electors on roll	..	2.1%
1946 Labour majority	..	2,797
1949 Labour majority	..	866
1949 Communist % of Labour majority	..	42.4%

The total number of Communist votes cast in the six Auckland electorates was 1314, or an average of 219 per electorate. The total Communist vote for the 16 electorates was 3267.

WELLINGTON (Average per electorate)	202.5
CHRISTCHURCH do. do.	199.5
DUNEDIN do. do.	151.5.

A strong branch of the Communist Party functions in the Roskill electorate and many Communists live in the working class electorate of Grey Lynn. There is no doubt that had not such men as LANGSTONE and LEE been standing as Independents in

these two electorates the Communist Party would have tried their strength in these two electorates. Communist Party branches function at Mount Albert, North Shore, Otahuhu, Orakei (Tamaki and Remuera electorates) and Eden-Roskill.

If the average of 219 is allowed for all 14 Auckland electorates we have a total of 3,066 or almost one in every hundred of the total population of this city who are possibly sympathetic towards the Communist Party.

The total number of registered voters in Auckland at the present time is 200,077. If the figure of 3,066 can be taken as a reasonable figure, and I think it can, of the measure of support the Communist Party can command, this represents 1.53 of the total voting strength of Auckland.

PARTY MEMBERS and sympathisers	in 1927 numbered	..	98
PARTY MEMBERS and sympathisers	in 1938 numbered	..	285
S.H SHEETS held for Party members	1949 numbered	..	500
Support for Communist Party as disclosed from voting in	.. 1949 numbered	..	3,066

On Election night the leader of the Communist Parliamentary candidates, Victor George WILCOX, when thanking his supporters from radio station LZB, stated, "We are elated with the result." On the figures shown above it may be considered that there is some ground for WILCOX's optimism.

The organisation and Communist propaganda in this campaign met with a fair measure of success. While urban seats were responsible for a swing to National, a slight movement is detected to the extreme Left. This is most noticeable in WAITAKERE where the Labour majority was reduced by 1931 votes in a total of 15,023. It was in this electorate that George Edward JACKSON, a fruit farmer by occupation, scored the highest number of votes received by a Communist candidate. This electorate is best described as part working class and part small farmer.

Following this election finance will not be so readily forthcoming and economies will therefore have to be made in Communist Party administrative costs. It seems likely that some of the paid functionaries, the number of which was increased this year, will be the first to go.

Sunday meetings held by the Communist Party in Myers Park were discontinued during the election campaign and there is every possibility of the Party going into recess until the New Year.

For your information.

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

R. Jones
Detective Sergeant 8272

6.12.49

Friday, December 2nd, 1949

92.

Small Communist Vote

LITTLE SUPPORT SECURED

Although Communist candidates contested 16 seats at the general election, compared with three in 1946, the average result was no better than that three years ago. In the three electorates contested in 1946, fewer people favoured the Communists on Wednesday than at the previous election.

That the Communist position is insignificant in New Zealand politics is shown by the fact that Communist aspirants in the 16 constituencies polled only 3267 votes, whereas the provisional count, excluding absentee, postal and seamen's votes, shows that 193,138 votes were cast in those electorates. In 1946, contesting three seats, the Communist candidates polled 1138 votes from a provisional total of 35,942.

The candidate for Arch Hill, Mr V. G. Wilcox, attracted 321 votes. This compares unfavourably with his poll in 1946, when he contested the same seat and gained 534 votes. The greatest number of votes received by a Communist was 367 for Mr C. Jackson, at Waitakere, but this was far behind the 7761 polled by the successful candidate, the Hon. H. G. R. Mason (L). Of the other Communist candidates in Auckland, Mrs L. R. Smith (Parnell) polled 116 votes, Mr J. J. Mitchell (Auckland Central) 193, Mr H. M. Smith (Ponsonby) 130, and Mr R. Stanley (Onehunga) 187.



CH HILL.

*W. E. Parry (L.)	7854
G. F. Smith (N.)	2989
V. Wilcox (C.)	321
Majority for Parry	4865
(Labour majority 1946: 6585)	

ASHBURTON.

*R. G. Gerard (N.)	7253
W. E. Rose (L.)	4622
Majority for Gerard	2331
(National majority 1946: 1453.)	

AUCKLAND CENTRAL.

*W. T. Anderson (L.)	5094
L. G. Bradley (N.)	2754
J. J. Mitchell (C.)	193
H. K. Jones (L.)	60

Majority for Anderson	2340
(Labour majority 1946: 3478.)	

AVON.

*J. Mathison (L.)	9307
G. N. Kinzett (N.)	4586

Majority for Mathison	4421
(Labour majority 1947 by-election: 4091.)	

AWARUA.

G. R. Herron (N.)	7502
N. G. Pickering (L.)	4429

Majority for Herron	3073
(National majority 1946: 2588.)	

BAY OF PLENTY.

W. Sullivan (N.)	8319
T. G. Santon (L.)	4952

Majority for Sullivan	3367
(National majority 1946: 1634.)	

BROOKLYN.

P. Fraser (L.)	6679
Mrs. A. Burns (N.)	3838
Mrs. C. Birchfield (C.)	229

Majority for Fraser	2841
(Labour majority 1946: 3935.)	

BULLER.

C. F. Skinner (L.)	7417
P. E. McDonald (N.)	5433

Majority for Skinner	1984
(Labour majority 1946: 2912.)	

CENTRAL OTAGO.

W. A. Bodkin (N.)	7747
T. A. Rogers (L.)	4129

Majority for Bodkin	3618
(National majority 1946: 2909.)	

CHRISTCHURCH CENTRAL.

R. M. Macfarlane (L.)	7163
K. J. Marlow (N.)	3655
H. A. Ostler (C.)	210

Majority for Macfarlane	3508
(Labour majority 1946: 4420.)	

CLUTHA.

J. A. McL. Roy (N.)	7301
J. E. Keenan (L.)	4289

Majority for Roy	3012
(National majority 1946: 2140.)	

DUNEDIN CENTRAL.

P. G. Connolly (L.)	6059
D. Murdoch (N.)	5082

Majority for Connolly	977
(Labour majority 1946: 2000.)	

DUNEDIN NORTH.

R. Walls (L.)	6577
R. G. Brickell (N.)	5790
J. L. Marston (C.)	103

Majority for Walls	787
(Labour majority 1946: 1630.)	

EDEN.

W. H. Fortune (N.)	6494
P. T. Curran (L.)	4544

Majority for Fortune	1950
(National majority 1946: 1261.)	

EGMONT.

*E. B. Corbett (N.)	8317
B. Richmond (L.)	3840

Majority for Corbett	4477
(National majority 1946: 3398.)	

FENDALTON.

S. G. Holland (N.)	7756
R. T. Newman (L.)	3957
J. Gilmour (LLib.)	519

Majority for Holland	3799
(National majority 1946: 3004.)	

FRANKLIN.

M. N. Massey (N.)	9007
J. Parsons (L.)	3862

Majority for Massey	5145
(National majority 1946: 4023.)	

GISBORNE.

R. A. Keeling (L.)	7111
H. Duffield (N.)	6480

Majority for Keeling	631
(Labour majority 1946: 2015.)	

GREY LYNN.

Hackett (L.)	6821
L. Faulkner (N.)	3870
A. Lee (D.L.)	2588

Majority for Hackett	2951
(Labour majority 1946: 5910.)	

HAMILTON.

*Mrs. G. H. Ross (N.)	6926
J. Granville (L.)	5503

Majority for Mrs. Ross	1423
(National majority 1946: 327.)	

HASTINGS.

S. I. Jones (N.)	7193
E. L. Cullen (L.)	6428

Majority for Jones	765
(Labour majority 1946: 463.)	

HAURAKI.

*A. S. Sutherland (N.)	8038
P. Peacock (L.)	4348

Majority for Sutherland	3690
(National majority 1946: 2891.)	

HAWKE'S BAY.

*G. G. E. Harker (N.)	7836
H. E. Beattie (L.)	4530

Majority for Harker	3306
(National majority 1946: 2014.)	

HOBSON.

*S. W. Smith (N.)	8708
W. E. Lane (L.)	3941

Majority for Smith	4767
(National majority 1946: 3580.)	

HURUNUI.

*W. H. Gillespie (N.)	7387
A. J. Smith (L.)	5040

Majority for Gillespie	2347
(National majority 1946: 1440.)	

HUTT.

*W. Nash (L.)	7657
H. L. Heatley (N.)	5409
T. F. Simpson (Rev. Soc.)	94

Majority for Nash	2248
(Labour majority 1946: 2587.)	

INVERCARGILL.

*J. R. Hanan (N.)	7114
W. M. C. Denham (L.)	6084

Majority for Hanan	1030
(National majority 1946: 224.)	

ISLAND BAY.

*R. McKeen (L.)	6771
H. E. Childs (N.)	4186
R. Smith (C.)	171

Majority for McKeen	2555
(Labour majority 1946: 3958.)	

KARORI.

*C. M. Bowden (N.)	7509
Mrs. E. Harris (L.)	4370

Majority for Bowden	3139
(National majority 1946: 2042.)	

LYTTELTON.

*T. H. McCombs (L.)	7219
R. R. Beauchamp (N.)	6248

Majority for McCombs	971
(Labour majority 1946: 1543.)	

MANAWATU.

*M. H. Oram (N.)	7624
B. A. Rodgers (L.)	4433

Majority for Oram	3191
(National majority 1946: 2467.)	

MARLBOROUGH.

*T. P. Shand (N.)	7091
J. H. Wilson (L.)	5488

Majority for Shand	1603
(National majority 1946: 179.)	

MARSDEN.

*A. J. Murdoch (N.)	8218
D. L. Ross (L.)	5103

Majority for Murdoch	3115
(National majority 1946: 2149.)	

MIRAMAR.

*R. Semple (L.)	6619
C. H. Taylor (N.)	5422
K. Stanton (C.)	215

Majority for Semple	1197
(Labour majority 1946: 2482.)	

MORNINGTON.

*W. A. Hudson (L.)	8671
G. N. C. Stephens (N.)	4628
J. J. Hannon (C.)	200

Majority for Hudson	2043
(Labour majority 1946: 4681.)	

MOUNT ALBERT.

*W. W. Freer (L.)	6838
R. F. Judson (N.)	5920

Majority for Freer	918
(Labour majority 1947 by-election: 1553.)	

MOUNT VICTORIA.

*J. R. Marshall (N.)	5887
N. R. Seddon (L.)	4353
W. J. Hyde (L.)	84

Majority for Marshall	1534
(National majority 1946: 911.)	

NAPIER.

*A. E. Armstrong (L.)	6813
W. Tucker (N.)	6019
C. J. Brown (C.)	118
J. Cummins (LLib.)	110

Majority for Armstrong	794
(Labour majority 1946: 1845.)	

NELSON.

*E. R. Neale (N.)	7732
R. C. A. Marshall (L.)	6484

Majority for Neale	1248
(National majority 1946: 585.)	

NEW PLYMOUTH.

*E. P. Aderman (N.)	7567
C. R. Parker (L.)	6321

Majority for Aderman	1246
(National majority 1946: 405.)	

NORTH SHORE.

T. L. Eyre (N.)	7024
*A. M. Finlay (L.)	5892

Majority for Eyre	1152
(Labour majority 1946: 249.)	

OAMARU.

T. L. Hayman (N.)	6769
*A. H. Nordmeyer (L.)	6116

Majority for Hayman	653
(Labour majority 1946: 232.)	

ONEHUNGA.

*A. G. Osborne (L.)	7715
A. A. Coates (N.)	5516
R. Stanley (C.)	187

Majority for Osborne	2199
(Labour majority 1946: 3424.)	

ONSLOW.

H. E. Combs (L.)	8652
J. S. Meadowcroft (N.)	6972

Majority for Combs	1680
(Labour majority 1946: 1578.)	

OTAHUHU.

F. L. A. Gotz (N.)	7817
A. B. Dixon (L.)	6735

Majority for Gotz	1142
(Labour majority 1946: 220.)	

OTAKI.

*J. J. Maher (N.)	7720
J. J. D. Capstick (L.)	7474

Majority for Maher	246
(National majority 1946: 44.)	

PAHIATUA.

*K. J. Holyoake (N.)	7996
G. P. O'Leary (L.)	3668

Majority for Holyoake	4308
(National majority 1946: 3697.)	

PALMERSTON NORTH.

W. B. Tennent (N.)	6708
*G. H. O. Wilson (L.)	6359

Majority for Tennent	349
(Labour majority 1946: 928.)	

PARNELL.

*D. M. Rae (N.)	5595
F. W. Schramm (L.)	4913
Mrs. L. R. Smith (C.)	116

Majority for Rae	682
(National majority 1946: 206.)	

PATEA.

*W. A. Sheat (N.)	7312
F. W. Finer (L.)	5558

Majority for Sheat	1754
(National majority 1946: 870.)	

PETONE.

*M. Moohan (L.)	7265
N. P. Croft (N.)	4793
A. Quinn (C.)	190

Majority for Moohan	2472
(Labour majority 1946: 4019.)	

PIAKO.

*W. S. Goosman (N.)	9112
G. P. Kenah (L.)	5119

Majority for Goosman	5993
(National majority 1946: 5101.)	

PONSONBY.

*R. Macdonald (L.)	6753
B. H. Kingston (N.)	4871
W. F. Jamieson (LLib.)	158
H. M. Smith (C.)	130

Majority for Macdonald	2084
(Labour majority 1946: 3431.)	

RAGLAN.

Hallyburton Johnstone (N.)	7375
*A. C. Baxter (L.)	6374

21/2/8
und 1949 82

Nov. 1949

£	s	d	Initials
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Your Total Payments to the Fund to.....19.....

For Fortnight Ending.....19.....

NAME _____

AMOUNT

NAME _____

AMOUNT

of New Pledges This Fortnight.....

ard Press

Signed..... Branch Secretary.

Branch Secretary.

~~COPY ON~~

~~COPY FROM~~

26/15/3

21/2/8

81

Name

Address

Amount
Pledged

How Payments
are to be made

Pledge Collected by
(Name and Address)

April

May

June

July

Aug

Sept.

Oct.

Nov.

Dec.

TOTAL

Fortnightly Payments April 1 to December 31st

TOTALS

COPY ON

COPY FROM 26/15/3

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

From (source) Evening Post

Reference: 49/559

Date: 21st Nov. 1949

For File No. 21/2/10

From copy on P/F of Leonard H. Booth

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 3.6.66

(The original of this report cannot be traced at this date 3.6.66. This a copy taken from one of the P/Fs mentioned on cover sheet of 49/559)

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR PROTEST

Mr. R.A.K. Mason, of Auckland, who released a statement of protest against the denial of access for one political party to the publicly-owned radio last Tuesday, now advises the Press Association that the protest, which originally was signed by a number of prominent citizens, has received additional support.

Further signatories now named are Messrs. J. Roberts and A.B. Grant, president and Secretary of the Canterbury Trades Council, Dr. R.S. Allen, Messrs. W. Rosenberg and P.J. Alley (university lecturers), C.W. Collins (librarian), L. Benseman (artist) L.H. Booth (Painter), Lincoln Efford (W.E.A.) P.H.T. Alpers (barrister), H.G. Kilpatrick (union secretary), and H.A. Holmes (theatre proprietor).

Deleted from MRI

15

~~SECRET~~

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//EXTRACT/COPY

Ex S.49/558

80

From (source): ^{Detective} D. McKenzie, Napier Reference: Date: 21-11-1949

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/9/9

Received on

Excluded/Copied by

On 6-7-1959

REPORT of : Senior Detective D. McKenzie No.2515
 RELATIVE to : A public meeting held in Dalton Street, Napier
 by the Communist Party's Parliamentary Candidate -
 CHARLES JAMES BROWN - on evening of Friday, 18th
 November 1949.

I respectfully report having attended the Meeting referred to above. There was an audience of approximately 450 persons most of whom - by their demeanour - were semi-hostile to the speaker.

As previously reported, the speaker was introduced by FREDERICK ATHOL MACE, Chairman of the Party's Political Campaign.

The speaker traversed the Party's policy previously outlined and reported on dealing with their endeavours for World peace, better pay for the workers, increased pensions for the aged, elimination of taxes for those on the standard of living wage, better and more adequate housing for all and a general uplift in the standard of living of the workers.

There was considerable interjection which was influenced by a young man in a tattered shirt who demonstrated his aversion to what the speaker had to say by shouting and shaking hands with himself in front of the crowd. He was subsequently told to desist.

The speaker then introduced Mr. Ron SEIGEL of the Longburn Freezing Works, Palmerston North; he proceeded to outline the difficulty he had in making a living, when in Napier in the depression days he had to obtain a meal by eating counter lunch at the Hotels.

Seigel continued his address along the lines of Brown dealing with better standards of living for the worker, increased pay and pensions and equality for all.

The speaker then dealt with his own difficulties in the manner of employment he followed and the physical effort he had to put into his daily toil. He finally concluded his address by extolling the merits of the local candidate - Mr Brown - who was a pretty good chap and to remember on Polling day to slip one in the ballot box for good old Charlie BROWN.

The thread-bare question was asked, what would Mr. Brown do if New Zealand went to war with Russia. His reply, as recorded in the attached newspaper clipping, shows that he would defend New Zealand.

The meeting terminated at 9.20 p.m. No exception could be taken to what was said by either speaker.

R. McKENZIE.

Senior Detective

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~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY/

79

"Daily telegraph"

From (source): Napier

Reference:

Date: 19-11-1949

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/9/9

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 6-7-1959

JEERS AND BOOSNAPIER STREET MEETING

Communists with Loudspeakers
Have Hectic Time.

FLOW OF INTERJECTIONS.....
Pennies Thrown In

When the first speaker, Mr. C. J. BROWN, the Communist Candidate for Napier, said he had visited 16 houses when canvassing one part of Napier and sold 13 pamphlets setting out the policy of his party, one person in the crowd clapped, nearly everyone gave a series of Bronx cheers, and several pennies were "thrown into the ring."

"There is no more sincere man than the Communist candidate for Napier", went on Mr. BROWN, but the remainder of his remark was lost in the uproar that broke out. When comparative silence returned, he went on: "Otherwise I would not stand up and take the abuse that people throw at me."

When Mr. Ron SEIGEL, of Palmerston North, a member of the Communist Party for 10 years, was introduced, someone in the crowd called for three boos, which were given.

"Well, ladies and gentlemen, thank you very much," he started, but a chorus of booing temporarily halted his discourse.

A woman in the crowd: Shut up. Give him a hearing.

This was met with a further outbreak of booing and jeering.

Man "From Russia"

Up to this stage in the meeting the crowd had kept back from the speaker's platform, and a young man dressed in rags, with red "weals" across his back and "blood" streaming down his face suddenly appeared in this open space. "I come from Russia," he cried, and received an ovation from the crowd. He harassed the speakers for a few minutes until a policeman spoke to him.

The interloper left, uttering as he went, the aside: "There's no freedom here."

The crowd started to close in on the speaker and three policemen appeared on the scene, standing in a semi-circle around the platform. Other policemen, some in uniform and some in plain clothes, mingled with the crowd, and their presence kept the crowd somewhat in check.

Upholding the working classes, Mr. SEIGEL said that during the war the workers put their backs into it.

Interjector: Did you say the wharfies? Haven't you heard of the 1944 coal strikes? (Cheers from the crowd).

Cup Winner Wanted.

Mr. SEIGEL said his party advocated a general £2 a week wage increase. "You may be happy with your wages, but I am not happy with mine," he said.

Interjector: You don't work hard enough.

When the chairman, Mr. F. A. MACE, said the speakers would answer

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~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY/

78

"Daily telegraph"
 From (source): Napier Reference: Date: 19-11-1949
 For File No. 21/2/8
 Original on 21/9/9
 Received on Extracted/Copied by/. On 6-7-1949

Napier Street Meeting Cont'd.

questions one was: "What's going to win the cup to-morrow?"

"If New Zealand went to war with Russia what side would you be on?" asked someone else.

Mr. Brown: I was asked the same question at the last meeting. The answer is that Russia is not an aggressive nation -

When the chorus of jeers and boos died down, Mr. BROWN said: "It is no good kicking up a row if you want me to answer questions. Give me a chance. Russia is not an aggressive nation -"

There was another hubbub, but Mr. BROWN was finally able to continue his reply to the question.

"- Therefore if this country is attacked by Russia I would defend New Zealand." he said and his remark was received with derisive cheers.

No Outside Finance.

"You have enjoyed yourselves and we have enjoyed it, too" said Mr. MACE, when asking members of the audience to contribute towards the cost of the Communist campaign. "The idea that the National Party is financing us has been exploded and we must have money to carry on," he said, speaking amid a general uproar. Few people dropped a coin in the box that was taken around and one man who said loudly, "here you are," was the cynosure of all eyes for yards around.

.....

~~SECRET~~

21/2/8

77

49/556

Police Station. GREYMOUTH

Date. 19th. November, 1949.

Report of; Detective Sergeant R.J.A.BERRY,

No. 3341

Relative to; Robert Henry MITCHELL, Communist candidate for
WESTLAND ELECTORATE.

I respectfully report further to my report of the 4th. November, 1949 that MITCHELL has addressed a further eight meetings and arranged to address a further two meetings but owing to the non appearance of the public two meetings were abandoned.

I have prepared the attached schedule of meetings showing the locality, name of chairman, number of public present and conduct of the respective meetings.

All meetings have been well conducted and no subversive utterances have been made.

There has not been any organised interjectors and in most cases no interjections have been made during MITCHELL'S address.

The attendance of the public has been poor and from the general tone of the meetings it appears that the majority of the public have attended merely out of curiosity.

The South Island Communist Party Organiser, Hugh John McLEOD has attended all meetings and on four occasions has acted as Chairman. He has confined his remarks to introducing the candidate.

Richard MOTH of DOBSON has also presided as chairman at three meetings. MOTH is an active member of the Communist Party and I have submitted a separate report regarding his activities.

I will continue to submit reports on these meetings, still to be held.

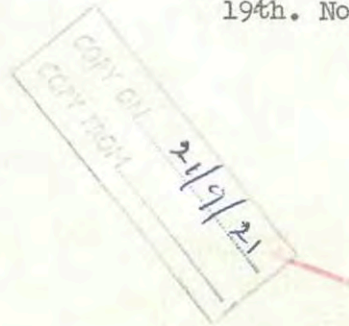
R.J.A. Berry
Detective Sergeant No. 3341
19th. November, 1949.

the INSPECTOR of POLICE,
GREYMOUTH.

Forwarded to the Commissioner,

W. H. M.
Inspector

21/11/49.



copies 1/1/5

EXTRACTS/COPIES
TAKEN

76

LIST OF POLITICAL MEETINGS ADDRESSED BY

Robert Henry MITCHELL

COMMUNIST PARTY CANDIDATE FOR THE WESTLAND ELECTORATE.

<u>Date.</u>	<u>Place.</u>	<u>Speaker,</u>	<u>Chairman.</u>	<u>No. present.</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>
5-11-49	ROTO MANU	R.H. MITCHELL	John GRAHAM, farmer.	25	Meeting well conducted. Chairman not a Communist as far as is known.
5-11-49	MOANA	R.H. MITCHELL	Richard MOTH, miner	15	Meeting well conducted. MOTH is a Communist..Report submitted.
6-11-49	KOKIRI	R.H. MITCHELL	Richard MOTH, miner.	15	Meeting well conducted..
6-11-49	KOTUKU	R.H. MITCHELL	Richard MOTH, miner	19	Meeting well conducted.
7-11-49	GREYMOUTH.	R.H. MITCHELL,	Hugh John McLEOD.	13	Meeting well conducted. McLEOD is South Island Organiser for Communist Party.
8-11-49	PAROA (Greymouth)	R.H. MITCHELL,	Hugh John McLEOD	18	Meeting well conducted.
9-11-49	Te KINGA	R.H. MITCHELL	Hugh John McLEOD	35	Meeting well conducted.
10-11-49	KANEIRE	R.H. MITCHELL	Hugh John McLEOD	21	Meeting well conducted.
11-11-49	ARAHURA	Meeting advertised but as no members of the public attended meeting was abandoned.			
12-11-49	CAMERONS	Meeting advertised but as no members of the public attended meeting was abandoned.			

Detective Office,
GREYMOUTH.

COPY ON
COPY FROM

R. J. A. Barry
Detective Sergeant No. 3342

19th. November, 1949.

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

G.D.D.-11

75

Detective Office
 From (source): PALMERSTON NORTH Reference: Date: 18 Nov. 1949
 For File No. 21/2/8
 Original on 21/9/12
 Received on Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 4.2.1960

REPORT OF : Det. Sergt. J.G.LONG No.2994

RELATIVE TO : Communist Meeting held in Opera House Supper Room,
 Palmerston North on 17th November 1949.

I respectfully report having attended the Communist Meeting held in the Opera House Supper Room, Palmerston North on night of 17th November 1949. Frederick William MANNING acted as Chairman, he being a communist previously reported on.

The meeting commenced at 8.10pm there being ten people present in the hall and during the course of the meeting the audience grew to thirteen. The Chairman introduced the first speaker, Ronald Andrew SEIGEL. SEIGEL commenced by outlining the Communist Party election policy which, he stated, was a general increase of £2 a week wages for the workers. He claimed this amount could be paid out of the profits made from the workers labour. A second plank in their policy was Social Security which would not be subscribed to by the worker but maintained out of the profits of the workers labour. He condemned the Arbitration Court and alleged that this Court had been useful to the present Government in keeping down the workers wages, but he did not offer any suggestion as to what his Party would put in its place. That appeared to be the Party's policy. He then went on to point out that the Nationalist and Labour Parties did not have any policy for the present election campaign but that both were working in the interests of Capital. He said a depression was close, that it had started in Capitalist America where there were 6,000,000 unemployed. That as England was controlled from America through American capital the slump would soon affect England and then it would follow that New Zealand would be affected. He attributed this coming slump to the Capitalist System.

He then made an attack on the Manawatu Daily Times claiming that when reporting a recent meeting held by the Party in The Square, the paper had published a pack of lies in the hopes that a prominent member of the Party would be dismissed from his position in the Government Service. He was also critical of what he called the policing of Communist Party meetings and said the Commissioner had admitted that he was using plain clothes women police as political spies at Communist Meetings. SEIGEL closed his speech at 8.45pm. He has previously been reported on.

The next speaker was Mrs Margaritha MANNING, wife of the Chairman. She spoke until 9.30pm. She spent some time complaining about the trouble the Party was having to obtain permission to hold meetings, especially at the Band Rotunda. She also commented on the "Times" reports of meeting held at Palmerston North. She was critical of the Capitalist policies being put forward by the National and Labour Parties. She claimed that one third of the World's population was Communist and that Communism was the only way to World Peace.

A resolution was passed condemning the action of the Rt.Hon.P.FRASER for not allowing the Communist Party time on the air to put their policy before the people of the Dominion. Mrs MANNING has been previously reported on.

J.G.LONG
 Det.Sergt. 2994.

MANAWATU EVENING STANDARD.

Wednesday, Nov. 16, 1949.

Communist Party

Mrs M.MANNING and Mr R.SIEGEL Will Speak on the General Election
 OPERA HOUSE SUPPER ROOM - THURSDAY, Nov. 17th 8 P.M.

Question

~~SECRET~~

COPY ON.....
COPY FROM 26/15/3

FIGHTING FUND

**GUARANTOR
CARD**

74

Collector

No.

GUARANTOR

Weekly
Pledge

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

1 8 15 22 29 5 12 19 26 3 10 17 24 31 7 14 21 28 5 12 19 26 2 9 16 23 30 6 13 20 27 4 11 18 25 1 8 15 22 29 6 13 Xmas Bonus

**1950
FIGHTING FUND**

**PLEDGE AND
GUARANTOR
CARD**

**FORWARD TO
£10,000**

No.

NO COPY ON
COPY FROM 26/15/7

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

G.D.D.-11

72

Police Station
 From (source): NAPIER Reference: X 49/545 Date: 17 Nov. 1949
 For File No. 21/2/8
 Original on 21/9/9
 Received on 15.2.1960 Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED]

REPORT OF : Detective Sergeant A.REID No.3010

RELATIVE TO : Political meeting held by the Communist Party at Te Awa School, Napier on evening of 15.11.49

I respectfully report that I attended a meeting held by the Communist Party at the Te Awa School on the evening of 15.11.49.

The meeting was opened in one of the class rooms at 8.10pm by the Chairman, Frederick Athol MACE. He stated that the speaker Charles James BROWN was the Communist Party's candidate for the Parliamentary Election for Napier. He spoke very briefly in his introducing BROWN whom he said was no doubt well known to all present, and that he was a returned serviceman and was an employee of the Napier Gas Company.

BROWN commenced his address to the audience which consisted of seven (7) persons. He stated that his Party's policy was in the first instance to fight for peace. In this connection he spoke briefly with reference to the compulsory military training referendum and that the amount that the people would have to pay towards this scheme would be equivalent to 15/- per week on every workers wages, and would build 9,000 homes each valued at £2,000. He repeated his previous remarks of other meetings regarding the anti-conscription views having been kept away from the public.

He said that if elected to Parliament he would fight for better relations and trade with the new Chinese republic, the Soviet Union and other Eastern European countries.

The Communist Party would improve the standard of living and see that the basic wage was £8.5.0 per week, and that workers who were sick or injured at work would receive full wages - which was more needed in such times than when at work.

He dealt with the housing problem and said that he would press for concerted ~~xxxx~~ effort in centres to have adequate homes provided for the workers.

There would be no taxation on anything under the basic wage, and pensions should be increased particularly the age benefit.

He gave figures of the profits of the Hawkes Bay Farmers over a period of years and stated that this should not be allowed. He said that most other such firms received large profits and dividends.

In answer to a question by a woman in the audience who claimed that a man who was an age pensioner and who was sick was unable to earn an extra £1 a week such as other similar pensioners did, he said that this should not be so, that the sick pensioner should have his pension made up to the equivalent.

There were no interjections and no other questions and the meeting was orderly. The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20pm.

A.REID
Detective Sergt. 3010.

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~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

G.D.D.-11

71

From (source): Detective Office
NAPIER Reference: X 49/539 Date: 15.11.49
 For File No. 21/2/8
 Original on 21/9/9
 Received on Extracted/Copied by On 9.2.1960

REPORT OF : Senior Detective D.McKenzie No.2515
 RELATIVE TO : A public meeting held in the Meaneer School by the Communist Party's Parliamentary Candidate - Charles James BROWN - on the evening of Monday the 14th of November 1949.

I respectfully report having attended the Meeting referred to above, which commenced at 8.10p.m. and concluded at 9.50p.m.

As in former meetings, the chairman was Frederick Athol MACE, who outlined the qualities of the Candidate and introduced him to the audience, which comprised six males.

The speaker again covered similar subjects, to those previously outlined at his meetings. In again stating that the so-called Democratic Body, the Napier Returned Servicemen's Association had refused them the use of their Hall for political purposes, one of the audience said "Serves you right, you have always been against King and Country."

Reference was again made to the fallacy of war and the Party's endeavours to bring about Peace, adding that we are still in debt and paying for the Battle of Waterloo.

The speaker traversed the subjects of lack of adequate housing and the proposal to erect a transit system of housing pending the erection of permanent dwellings.

Reference was made to the fact that the speaker's Party would repeal the compulsory military training legislation, ban atomic bombs and energy and any other form of destruction which was for the mass extermination of the peoples of the world.

The Party would fight to free the peoples of the World from the dominance of the Almighty Dollar and establish friendly relations with the new Communist Chinese State.

Reference was made to the Party's effort - if they obtained power - to raise the wages of all workers by two pounds a week, pensions by an additional pound and the elimination of Income Tax on persons receiving the basic wage (£429 salary).

The speaker emphasised the fact that the eighteen-year olds should have had the vote, if they were the ones that should be enrolled for Military Training.

At the conclusion of the address, questions were invited. These dealt with the fallacy of the speaker's remarks in saying that tax could be eliminated, when taxes were necessary for the running of the country.

Mr MACE then appealed for contributions to pay the expense of hiring the Hall, and said "You know gentlemen that our Party Emblem is the hammer and sickle"; when Mr McGRATH one of the audience said "Yes, MACE, and that sickle should be round your neck."

D.McKENZIE
Senior Detective.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

70

From (source): Pol.Stn.Napier

Reference: 49/544

Date: 15/11/49

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/9/9

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 1/2/60

Report of: Detective Sergeant A. Reid No.3010
 Relative to: Political meeting held by "Communist Party" at Liberty Hall Carlyle Street on evening of Sunday the 13.11.49

I respectfully report that with Constable Goodson I attended a meeting held by the above mentioned party at the Liberty Hall Carlyle Street Napier, on the evening of "SUNDAY" the 13th. instant.

The meeting commenced at 8.5 p.m with a short opening address by the Chairman FREDERICK ATHOL MACE. He stated that the meeting would be addressed by Mr. Brown who was the Napier Candidate for the Communist Party at the forthcoming Parliament Election. He gave a short outline of Brown's history and stated that he would deal mainly with a reply to the accusations of Mr. Armstrong M.P.

Mr. Mace went on to say that they had with them Mr. Ronald SMITH the Communist candidate for Island Bay who was an able speaker, University student and who had just recently returned from a visit to Europe and was able to speak on the conditions there.

He also stated that they would show a film which would bear out what Mr. Smith would have to say, and asked the audience to give both speakers a fair hearing and that after they had both spoken the film would be shown, and then any questions would be answered by either Mr. BROWN or MR. SMITH.

Mr. BROWN then commenced his address by an attack on Mr. ARMSTRONG. He said that the accusations of Mr. ARMSTRONG that the Communist Party had been receiving finance from the National Party was just pure nonsense and was certainly not true. Mr. ARMSTRONG's statement had been denied by the National Party and he "BROWN" vigorously denied it.

He went on to say that the National Party represented the employing and exploiting class. The money that the Communist Party were spending on this campaign had been contributed by the workers of New Zealand. The workers had contributed some £10,000 in a period of six months.

He made reference to Mr. ARMSTRONG having moaned about the vote splitting and how the Communist Party had opposed him on account of his small majority. He, BROWN, was not concerned about the vote splitting bogey, but about the tactics of the Labour Government who since 1936 had dropped the cudgels of the working class. Had the Government carried on with its traditions and Policy of the Labour party as they had started, the communist party would not be standing against them today.

The labour party had made a great cry about the vote splitting in this electorate, but nothing had been said about Mr. LANGSTON being opposed by them at Roskill because of his stand against conscription.

He made reference to Mr. ARMSTRONG having not always been against the Communist party and produced and read what purported to be a letter signed by Mr. ARMSTRONG addressed to the Secretary of the Communist Party at Hastings in which he thanked them for their support at the Election -.

The speaker also made reference to the referendum on conscription and said that £40,000 of the peoples money had been used to sell "Yes votes" whilst no facilities had been given to the "No vote" protagonists. He said that there was no difference between the Labour Government and the Nationalists as their principles were basically the same.

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EXTRACT/COPY

69

From (source): Pol.Stn.Napier Reference: 49/544 Date: 15/11/49
 For File No. 21/2/8
 Original on 21/9/9
 Received on Extracted/Copied by On 1/2/60

Mr. Brown then stated that Mr Fraser the Prime Minister has accused him of being an agent of a Foreign Power. He added "I said it at my street meeting, and I repeat it - "Mr. Fraser is a liar". Some member in the audience called out "So is Stalin". He went on to say that the year 1916 Mr Fraser had been accused of being a German agent and in 1919 he had been accused of being a Russian agent. He went on to say that he believed that in 1916 Mr Fraser had jumped on the Union Jack, and said "I have never jumped on the Union Jack". He explained that he had served in the first world war and had given his services in the last war and that he is the only candidate in this election, for NAPIER, who was a returned serviceman. He produced two medals which he threw on the table - saying "for what they are worth, and despite this fact I was refused the use of the R.S.A. hall, whilst all the other candidates - who were not ex servicemen - had been allowed the use of that hall".

Brown was then followed by the other speaker who was introduced by the chairman "Mace" as Mr Ron Smith the Communist Candidate for Island Bay.

In opening his address Mr Smith described himself as a Victoria University Student who had attended a conference of the World Federation of Democratic youth in Hungary. He said that his Party's main platform was "PEACE" and that this could only be achieved by progress and giving the workers of the world the right to control their own affairs. He went on to explain that he had visited several Eastern European countries including Hungary and Czechoslovakia where the people had wonderful conditions today. The working class were happy in their employment, the workers having their own representatives elected from the rank and file, as manager, foreman and other executive positions in the factories and so on; that the people were all properly housed and general conditions were almost 100 per cent better than had previously obtained.

He went on to explain the Education system which was free, and that the children were given every opportunity to learn trades etc. He explained that in Hungary the children had their own holiday resort where thousands of them from all over the country went free every year for their holidays. That they had their own railway system to this resort which was operated by the children with the exception of the drivers of the railway engines. He stated that the film which would be shown would give a clearer set up of what went on there.

The speaker pointed out that these countries were all working for "Peace" whilst America was building up her stores of Atomic war machines for war.

A short film was then shown - taking about 15 minutes which purported to show the conditions in Hungary at the present time/ This showed that children running a Railway system to a holiday resort, workers in factories and children being educated in various trades etc. It also showed a meeting of the World Federation of Democratic youth, and a canal being made in which women and children all assisted. There was nothing in this (movie) film which could be taken exception to.

At the end of the showing of the film the chairman indicated that the speakers would be pleased to answer any questions.

One question which was asked of Mr. Brown was whether, if Mr. Armstrong made a statement that he would follow the original socialistic principles of the Labour Party, the Communist Party would withdraw its candidate from the Napier contest. His reply to this was

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EXTRACT/COPY

68

From (source): Pol.Stn. Napier Reference: 49/544 Date: 15/11/49
For File No. 21/2/8
Original on 21/9/9
Received on Extracted/Copied by On 1/2/60

that it was hard for a party to retract and, even if Mr. Armstrong gave such an assurance, his party would prevent him carrying it out.

In answer to another question about the 18 year olds, he said that they were quite old enough then to be able to cast a vote, and if they were old enough to be called up for military training (conscripted) in peace time, they were old enough to vote.

Questions were asked of Mr. Smith as to whether or not these Eastern European countries were dominated and controlled by the Soviet Union. He said that this was not so, that the people of these countries had elected their own representatives and that there were several parties in their Parliaments. He also said that it was true that there were a very few Soviet officials in Austria still and it was necessary to go through Austria to get to Hungary, but that this was a matter of control in keeping with the occupation by Western Powers in Europe.

The meeting which was conducted in an orderly manner concluded and was closed by the chairman Mr Mace at 10.25 p.m. after a collection had been taken up. There were some 73 persons present. The attached pamphlet is a copy of which was handed round the audience.

A. REID

Detective-Segeant, 3010

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~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

Ex S.49/599

67

Det. R. Jones
From (source): Auckland.

Reference:

Date: 15.11.49

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 13.7.1959

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING held at corner of England and Costley Streets, Ponsonby at 7.30 pm on 7.11.49.

"Vide attached"

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

The persons mentioned in the attached report are :

Henry Mornington SMITH
Ben BRAY
Edgar Wallis TAYLOR and
Myrtle Rose RAIT.

Subversive History sheets have been issued in each instance.

R. JONES.

Police Stn. Ponsonby

10.11.49

Report of Const. C.V. Steers No. 3966

Relative to: General Election Campaign, Communist Candidate, Harry SMITH (Ponsonby Electorate) speaking at the corner England Street and Costley Street at 7/30 pm on 7.11.49.

I respectfully report that at 7.30 p.m on Monday 7th November 1949, I attended a meeting of the Communist Party Election Campaign at the open air meeting on the corner of England Street and Costley Street.

The speaker was the Communist Candidate, Harry SMITH (Ponsonby Electorate) and his organiser, Ben BRAY. The chairman was Edgar Taylor.

A loud speaker system was erected on a Triumph motor car licensed No. 44.240 the property of Michael RAIT, 8 Larchwood Ave., Grey Lynn, and was in Costley Street about 30 feet from England Street.

The meeting commenced at 7.50 p.m and Mr. SMITH spoke on the Communist Policy as follows..

1. The Communist Party stood for the working class people.
2. Peace and anti-conscription of territorials.
3. Free and independent Trade Unions.
4. Increased social security benefits.
5. Increased wages for workers.
6. Improved housing and transit housing.
7. Capitalism meant wars and depressions.

Mr. SMITH spoke precisely along the same lines as his previous meetings in which he freely criticised Torys and Capitalism.

An average of about 20 persons were present mostly of whom appeared to be there out of curiosity and would be those living in the vicinity of the meeting.

A collection was taken by a lady who was one of the members of the Party and few donations were made.

The questions were called for; none were asked and the meeting then terminated at 8.40 p.m. All those present conducted themselves in an orderly manner.

C. V. STEERS

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~~~EXTRACT/COPY~~ Ex S.49/591

66

From (source): Det. R. Jones
Auckland.

Reference:

Date: 15.11.49

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/3/7

Received on

/Extracted/Copied by

On 13-7-1959

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING held in New North Road, Page's
Corner Kingsland, Auckland at 7.30 pm on 4.11.49
"Vide attached"

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

This meeting was previously reported by Constable WILKS,
and my covering minute dated 11.11.49 refers.

The full names of those mentioned in the attached report
are Herman NUNES, Victor George WILCOX, Thomas Leslie RICHARDS,
Samuel Roderick EVANS, and Colin James HONEY. Subversive History
sheets have been issued for NUNES, WILCOX and RICHARDS.

In the attached report EVANS and HONEY are referred to
as known Communists. This is based on the fact that HONEY introduced
EVANS to WILCOX. See also my minute of the 11.11.49 referred to above.
Further enquiries are being made re EVANS and WILCOX.

R. JONES.

Report of Const. R. Wilks No. 2510 5.11.1949
Relative to Political meeting Pages Corner, New Nth. Rd., Kingsland
on evening of 4.11.49; Victor WILCOX, Communist speaker,
Chairman Mr. NUNES.

I respectfully report that on the evening of the 4th
November 1949 the Communist party held a political meeting at Pages
Corner, New North Rd., the chairman was Mr. NUNES and the speaker Victor
WILCOX, candidates for the Arch Hill electorate.

The subject discussed was principally condemnation of both
other parties, Labour and National; he also condemned the Auckland
Star for not accepting their advertisements, stating that the Auckland
Star had conferred with Bishop Liston and as a result the Star had
refused to publish their advertisements in regard to their meetings.

Wilcox also condemned the broadcasting services because
the Communist party were unable to get on the air and that their
policy was so much better that the other two parties they were afraid
to let the public hear their policy; he also stated that he received
his instruction direct from Moscow and that he was not afraid to say so.

The only known Communists present were Samuel Roderick
Evans, 529 New North Rd., Railway employee, ex Constable Colin W.
Honey, 40 Fourth Avenue, Carpenter and Leslie Francis Richards, 7
Central Road, Kingsland, watersider.

The chairman went amongst the spectators, about 24 all
told, selling pamphlets at 1/- each; very few were sold; he also
took up a collection and the amount announced was £1.12.6.

The meeting was very orderly and quiet, nothing transpired
that any exception could be taken; there was no heckling or
interjections.

R. WILKS.

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EXTRACT/COPY

G.D.D.-11

65

Detective Office
 From (source): NAPIER Reference: X 49/538 Date: 14.11.49
 For File No. 21/2/8
 Original on 21/9/9
 Received on _____ Extracted/Copied by _____ On 9.2.1960

REPORT OF : Senior Detective D.McKenzie No.2515

RELATIVE TO : A public meeting held in Dalton Street, Napier, by the
 Communist Party Parliamentary Candidate - Charles James
 BROWN - on the evening of Friday the 11th November 1949.

I respectfully report having attended the meeting referred to above, which commenced at 8pm, and concluded at 9.20pm. The Chairman was Frederick Athol MACE.

Mr BROWN again went over similar ground to that already covered in his Election addresses, when dealing with the referendum taken on compulsory military training, he stated that should the Communist Party assume power they would repeal the decision taken by the people in advocating for compulsory military training. As indicated in the attached Press clipping, he stated that his Party did not have an opportunity of presenting their views to the public.

The speaker then went on to say that his Party were contemplating taking action against the Prime Minister, who had stated that the Communist Party were in receipt of funds from a foreign power.

Emphases was laid on one of the main planks of the Party in their endeavour to obtain peace, adding that the Americans were holding atomic power to dominate Soviet Russia and the rest of the world.

Reference was then made to the fact that the speaker had served in the 1914/18 campaign on active service and that he had served with the armed forces in the last war in New Zealand.

There was considerable interjection, particularly from a body of youths, consequently it was just difficult to hear what the speaker had to say. The speaker then requested the Chairman to say something, but on his appearance on the platform, which was a piece of board on the rear carrier of BROWN's car (Chevrolet License No.79-096) he was met with stormy disapproval and apart from intimating that he was a member of the Returned Servicemen's Association, the rest of what he had to say was drowned in the noise made by interjectors. Subsequently he introduced to the audience Mr Ron SMITH, who had just come from behind the mythical Iron Curtain.

SMITH was greeted in a similar manner to MACE, but later was given a reasonable hearing. SMITH described himself as a Victoria University student, who had represented Youth Movements in Hungary and other Eastern European Countries. It was later ascertained that SMITH was the Parliamentary Candidate (Communist) for Island Bay.

SMITH was a particularly good speaker, whose intelligence was very much in excess of the majority of his audience. The speaker dealt with the conditions prevailing behind the mythical Iron Curtain, where the peasants were now happy in employment, education, housing and general conditions under Communist rule as compared to the life of serfdom previously lived. He instanced that there was also religious freedom, the speaker having actually visited the several churches during their religious services.

SMITH went on to say that the Catholics in Eastern Europe now recognise the Communist Party and collaborate with the State. This statement received an emphatic "No" from a number of the audience. In dealing with Cardinal Mindszenty, the speaker said he violated the laws of the country in committing treason with America; he had pleaded guilty and was dealt with. This also met with a protest from a number of the audience.

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G.D.D.-11

EXTRACT/COPY

64

Detective Office
From (source): NAPIER

Reference: X 49/538

Date: 14.11.49

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/9/9

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 11.2.1960

-2-

A questioner enquired why he or any of the Communist Party offered their services as parliamentarians, when he said "You have only to look at the British Parliament where we have Willie GALLAGHER as the Communist representative, were it not for him the powers would get away with a lot that was detrimental to the worker" "So you see if we only get one representative it will serve to lessen the lot of the working man".

There was an audience of from 50 to 300 people, which fluctuated from the lesser number at the commencement until the latter number at the conclusion of the address.

The speaker intimated that a meeting was to be held in the Liberty Hall on Sunday the 13th inst when a film would also be shown. A copy of the Communist paper "People's Voice" is attached.

D. McKENZIE
Senior Detective.

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G.D.D.-11

EXTRACT/COPY

63

From (source): DAILY TELEGRAPH Reference: X 49/538 Date: 12.11.49
 For File No. 21/2/8
 Original on 21/9/9
 Received on Extracted/Copied by On 11.2.1960

NOISY RECEPTION - COMMUNISTS IN NAPIER.

Speakers Jeered At Meeting In Street.

MOTOR CAR PLATFORM.

Scores of jeering, noisy voices created a hubbub, which compelled the speakers to shout in order to be heard, when the Napier Communist Party held a meeting in Dalton Street from the carrier of a motor-car last evening. The only incident occurred when a bespectacled youth tried to let down the tyre of the candidate's car.

Cries of "Get back to Russia" and "Why don't you pipe down?" were called from all quarters of the crowd of more than 400 which packed around the Party's platform. The Chairman, Mr F.A.MACE, was greeted with further catcalls when he tried unsuccessfully, on several occasions, to quell the rowdy element.

The speakers were the Communist candidate for Napier, Mr C.J.BROWN and Mr Ron SMITH, Communist candidate for Island Bay (Wellington), who was stated to have just returned from Eastern Europe.

"WHAT ABOUT RUSSIA?"

A particularly stormy reception greeted a remark by Mr BROWN, the first speaker, that the Americans were holding the atom bomb over the heads of the U.S.S.R. and the rest of the world. "What about Russia?" cried a chorus of voices. After reviewing international affairs, against a volley of interjections, the candidate said he would ask the Chairman if he were ready for question time.

Voice: "Why ask him?"

Mr BROWN: He's controlling the meeting.

Another voice: Yes, but who controls him?

Interjector: Joe STALIN!

Cheering and shouts of "Good on them!" followed Mr MACE's statement that the RSA had refused his Party the use of the RSA Hall. "I'm a member of the RSA. I dropped bombs over Germany. My friend is a member of the RSA," the Chairman called back.

Voice: You're a servant of Russia.

RELIGION IN EUROPE.

"Come to our meeting on Sunday night where you can't hide behind someone else's back," Mr MACE called to the interjectors. He then introduced "Comrade" SMITH to answer questions. The first question concerned religious freedom in Eastern Europe.

"The Catholics in Eastern Germany now recognise the Communist Party, and work hand in hand with the State," he replied.

Voices: No, no!

Interjector: It's a dirty lie. It's the worst lie you've ever told.

Another voice: What about Cardinal Mindszenty? What about Jan Masaryk?

Mr SMITH: Cardinal Mindszenty broke the laws of the country and he pleaded guilty.

Voice: Under pressure from Russia.

Second Voice: What laws did he break?

Mr SMITH: He committed treason by collaborating with America.

Voices: That's not true.

Mr SMITH: It is true. It isn't a lie.

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G.D.D.-11

EXTRACT/COPY

62

From (source): DAILY TELEGRAPH

Reference: X 49/538

Date: 12.11.49

For File No. 21/2/8

Original on 21/9/9

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 11.2.1960

-2-

NATIONAL SERVICE ISSUE.

Earlier, Mr BROWN had said that the Communist Party, if it gained power, would repeal the conscription law. A questioner asked why they should do this when the people had shown that they wanted conscription.

Mr SMITH: Because the voice of the anti-conscription movement was stifled. The Communist Party was not allowed to present its views to the public.

Voice: You had a fair go.

Second voice: You shouldn't be allowed to do anything.

Mr SMITH: We weren't allowed to use the radio.

The discussion trailed off in a series of boos and jeering.

Speeches were held on one of the main planks of the Party in their opposition to atomic power, adding that the Americans were holding atomic power as a threat to Soviet Russia and the rest of the world.

Reference was then made to the fact that the speaker had served in the 19th/15th campaign on active service and that he had served with the armed forces in the last war in New Zealand.

There was considerable interruption, particularly from a body of women, subsequently it was found difficult to hear what the speaker had to say. The speaker then requested the Chairman to say something, but on his appearance on the platform, which was a place of honor on the rear carrier of Mr Smith's car (Chevrolet License No. 72-425), he was met with noisy disapproval and apart from intimating that he was a member of the Returned Soldiers' Association, the rest of what he had to say was drowned in the noise made by the audience. Subsequently he introduced to the audience Mr Joe Smith, who had just come from behind the mythical Iron Curtain.

SMITH was greeted in a similar manner by MACE, but later was given a reasonable hearing. SMITH described himself as a Victoria University student, who had represented Youth Movements in Hungary and other Eastern European countries. It was later ascertained that SMITH was the Parliamentary Candidate (Communist) for Island Bay.

SMITH was a particularly good speaker, whose intelligence was very much in excess of the majority of his audience. The speaker dealt with the conditions prevailing behind the mythical Iron Curtain, where the people were not happy in employment, education, housing and general conditions under Communist rule as compared to the life of freedom previously lived. He intimated that there was also religious freedom, the speaker having actually visited the several churches during their religious services.

SMITH went on to say that the Catholics in Eastern Europe now recognize the Communist Party and collaborate with the State. This statement provoked an emphatic "No" from a number of the audience. In dealing with Cardinal Mindszenty, the speaker said he violated the laws of the country in committing treason with America; he had pleaded guilty and was dealt with. This also met with a protest from a number of the audience.

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Ex S.49/591

Det. R. Jones
 From (source): Auckland. Reference: Date: 11.11.49
 For File No. 21/2/8
 Original on 21/3/7
 Received on Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 13-7-1959

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING held in New North Road (Page's Corner) Kingsland on 4.11.49.

"Vide attached"

The Superintendent of Police,
 AUCKLAND.

In company with Const. Wise I attended this meeting for a short period.

The chairman was Herman NUNES and the speaker, Victor George WILCOX. They were supported by Mervyn Haley WILLIAMS. All are the subjects of Subversive History Sheets.

On my arrival at the meeting I noticed ex-Temporary Constable Colin James HONEY speaking to WILLIAMS and NUNES. On seeing me HONEY left them and spoke to an elderly man.

Subsequent enquiry from Const. Wilks shows that the elderly man is named EVANS. At the conclusion of the meeting HONEY introduced WILCOX to EVANS who wished the candidate every success. Further enquiries will be made regarding EVANS.

HONEY who attended some of the later meetings of the de-registered Carpenters Union appears to be sympathetic towards the Communist Party, if not actually a member.

In the People's Voice newspaper dated 30.3.49 it was reported that C. J. HONEY donated 10/- to the Communist Party Election Fighting Fund.

For your information.

R. JONES.

Pol.Stn.Kingsland Ref.638/49 5.11.49
 Report of Const. R. Wilks No.2510
 Relative to: Victor WILCOX, Communist meeting New North Rd.Kingsland on night of 4.11.49

I respectfully report that I attended this meeting on the night of the 4th November 1949. There would be an average of 24 persons present all the time with people coming and going.

The meeting was quiet and there was no heckling whatever and nothing transpired where any exception could be taken; the meeting lasted 1½ hours.

A collection was taken up and most of the persons present contributed; the total amount as announced was £1/12/6.

R. WILKS

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G.D.D.-11

EXTRACT/COPY

Ex S.49/585

60

From (source) Det. R. Jones, Auck. Reference: _____ Date: 10.11.49
For File No. 21/2/8
Original on 21/3/7
Received on _____ Extracted/Copied by _____ On 14-7-1959

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING held in Royal Oak Hall on
2.11.49.

"Vide attached"

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

The two speakers mentioned in the attached report are Lillian
Rita SMITH and Roy STANLEY for whom Subversive History sheets
have been issued.

R. JONES.

Police Stn. Onehunga
Report of Senr. Sergt. Clark No. 1748 3.11.49
Relative to: Communist candidates meeting on 2.11.49

I respectfully report attending an election address
by the Communist candidate for Onehunga, Mr. Stanley, in the
Royal Oak Hall on 2.11.49.

Mrs. Rita SMITH a candidate for one of the City
Electorates also gave an address. There were only about twenty
persons attending the meeting.

The addresses were of the usual kind given by these
people. There were no interjections. Everything was orderly
and nothing said or inferred that could be termed subversive
or objectionable, and nothing for any Police intervention.

D. CLARK.

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