

C.W.P. Electoral Program (1962)

The Party considers every person who works for a living be he a manual worker, a non-industrial, a professional, a manager or even a Director is considered to be a "worker" and there is a place for him in the party. The Party was forced to contest the elections since there was no agreement between the parties to boycott the constitution until Britain had given an assurance that there would be no further discharges and that there would be financial aid forthcoming.

The Party will work hand in hand with the Church Authorities.

SCOPE

The immediate aims of the party are to build up a strong economy. It will concentrate on industrialisation to create work for all. The necessity is felt to establish industries before we could waste any time in discussing Independence whether within or outside the Commonwealth since at this stage it is considered sheer madness and catastrophic to deal with such a matter.

The party cannot waive aside the natural desire for independence, but at present mature nations are not looking towards independence but rather towards interdependence and unity amongst nations. The party wishes to put Malta on a sound economic standing in order that at the appropriate time it would be accepted into the future "union of European nations".

CO-OPERATION

The party believes in unity. It feels that if the nation is to progress and achieve its rights the people of Malta must unite and co-operate together. The people of Malta must still retain their Christian beliefs and submit to the teachings of the Church. The Party will work hand in hand with the Church, hand in hand the poor with the rich, hand in hand the employers and their workers.

CONSTITUTIONAL POSITION

The party is not disposed to waste precious time in discussing the future constitutional position of Malta before we obtain a stable economy. The party considers that Malta requires an immediate constitution which would give the opportunity to the government to industrialise the country. The party immediately after the elections will fight for the removal of those restrictions and reservations contained in the constitution which were caused by Mintoff's misgovernment. However, the party will make it quite clear to I.M. Government that even with any ameliorations the constitution would still be considered as an "intermediate" stage, since we believe that we have the full right to draft our own constitution.

ECONOMIC & FINANCIAL QUESTIONS

The party will strive to make the British Government honour the July 1955 agreement, and the recommendations contained in para. 47 of the Blood Report, regarding financial aid from Britain.

Stock Exchange will be established.

The Aids to Industry Law will be amended in order that help would also be given to established industries.

The Government Saving Bank will be placed under a Public Corporation and commercialised.

INCOME TAX will be abolished as the party had already amply explained.

The FIVE YEARS PLAN will be reviewed.

The building of HOTELS & RESTAURANTS will be speeded up. A school for cooks, waiters, chambermaids, bus drivers and conductors will be opened. The BUS SERVICE will be helped and if necessary subsidised so that this public service is ameliorated.

The development of BEACHES and other places of entertainment for tourists will be speeded up.

An INSURANCE SCHEME for Farmers and Fishermen will be instituted. Both these categories of workers will be assured a fair price for their products. Farm Houses will be modernised and all possible public services extended to them.

FARMERS and FISHERMEN will be taught new techniques to boost production.

FISHERMEN will be protected against competition from foreigners.

Now that the HARBOUR had been developed at tremendous expense, the party will re-organise its work in order that the handling of merchandise is done at reduced costs. This will be achieved without causing unemployment amongst port-workers.

All types of CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES will be encouraged and helped. The OIL EXPLORATION question will be re-opened.

SOCIAL LEGISLATION ETC.

The National Insurance Act will be amended in order that: --

a) Pensions will become payable at the age of 60. b) insured persons under 19 years of age would receive sickness benefits. c) All workers whether self-employed, employers of other people, shopkeepers farmers and fishermen will be able to insure themselves in the Scheme. d) All amounts paid cash benefits will be increased.

PAID LEAVE will be granted to all classes of government employees.

A SCHEME will be introduced whereby it will be possible for employees working in private industries to receive eight days leave with pay every year.

THE OLD AGE PENSION will be increased by 10/s to 30/s per week.

The number of PENSIONABLE EMPLOYEES of all grades in Government establishments will be increased.

Government Employees will become entitled to PENSION after having served for fifteen years or over.

The WIDOWS & ORPHANS PENSION SCHEME for Civil Servants will be reviewed.

As soon as the Police Corps reverts to Ministerial Control the hours of service will be reviewed.

All kinds of government workers, including those employed with the Electricity Department, the Medical

Health, the M.M.U. etc. will have their working week reduced to 44 hours.

The grading in the Government Civil Service will be reviewed and the salary scales of the bottom grades such as the Shorthand-Typists, Clerk-Typists and Clerical Officers will be increased.

Improvement will be sought in Industrial Staff Relations. The Whitley System will be introduced in all government offices. Private Firms will be encouraged to introduce this system.

The Party recognises the right of workers to safeguard their own interests; it hopes that employers will not abuse powers when negotiating with the workers, but above everything else Malta requires INDUSTRIAL PEACE and for this purpose the party will seek and establish agreements with the employers and the unions.

Those Civil Servants who have had service with the Armed Services during the last war will have such service considered for superannuation.

All possible political liberties will be granted to Civil Servants. All departmental grades and general services of H.C.O. and below will be allowed leave to enable them, to contest Parliamentary Elections. Any period spent by such civil servants as members of parliament will count for superannuation purposes.

The RENT RESTRICTION LAWS will be amended in order that:

a) tenants will not pay rent beyond their means, and if necessary subsidy will be granted b) the landowner will receive a fair return for their property c) the building of houses on modern lines will be encouraged.

A review of the laws and regulations empowering certain civil servants to administer the oath, will be undertaken.

A PLAN to help large families through FAMILY ALLOWANCES will be introduced.

The space in hospitals will be increased. The Maternity wards will be improved, a MOTHER & CHILD HOMES for mothers giving birth to babies will be established. A MATERNITY HOSPITAL will be established in Gozo.

All Hospitalization at Government hospitals will be free.

A SCHEME for helping OLD PEOPLE and SICK PEOPLE in their own homes by specially trained women will be introduced.

Government Flats and Houses which have recently been rented by tender will be offered to tenants on a HIRE PURCHASE SCHEME

The claim by BAKERS will be settled once for ever.

The injustice at present existing in the case of owners of cars impressed to government will be rectified.

A Law will be enacted to make it impossible for political parties to organise children-brigades etc. for political purposes.

The laws against offences to religious feelings, church authorities clergy etc. will be reviewed and punishments will be drastically increased.

The Child-Adoption Laws will be reviewed.

EDUCATION

A reform in primary education will be introduced.

Secondary and Technical Education will be put on sound footing. Schools will be built. Children will be encouraged to prefer technical education rather than classical.

The Technical Schools at Coradino and Hamrun will be completed and fully equipped. The Polytechnic will be speeded up.

The party agrees that the University should continue to be autonomous but the relevant law will be amended. The University will continue to receive serious government help.

Alarmed at the shortage of apprentices receiving training at present, the party will enter into agreement with Messrs. Bailey and other firms who are prepared to train the maximum number of apprentices possible in the various trades.

The party will consult and work in co-operation with the Church Authorities as regards religious education in government schools.

Religious, and cultural societies will be helped morally and materially. Youth Centres under the management of approved leaders will receive government help.

HANDICAPPED and MENTALLY RETARDED Children will receive maximum care. Special teachers to look after them will be trained abroad.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS will receive the maximum help possible. Free books and free milk will be given to students attending these schools.

OTHER LEGISLATIONS

Emigration will be helped and encouraged.

The party will use its influence with the British Government so that its employees who wish to emigrate would be afforded emigration leave on the lines granted to local civil servants.

Reforms will be made in the Law Courts so that: --

a) Cases will be decided with greater speed. b) Witnesses will be compensated for loss of wages and salaries. c) Magistrates and Judges related to counsel to the second degree will not be allowed to preside on the case. d) Jurors will be compensated for loss of salary. e) Court Registrars will be recruited from amongst the legal profession f) the Laws on DAMAGES will be reviewed.

ADMINISTRATIVE RE-ORGANIZATION

Government departments will be reorganised to obtain maximum efficiency.

The Water & Electricity, the Telephone and the Milk Marketing Depts. will be put under Public Corporations.

Smaller Departments will be fused in order to obtain efficiency and economy.

A Ministry for Gozo will be established. The responsible minister will visit Gozo once a week.

A Central Government Storing and Supplying Department will be established.

Major Government Departments will be run by Departmental Boards appointed by government from amongst the department's employees and other persons.

PUBLIC WORKS ETC.

A NATIONAL SPORTS CENTRE on the plans already circulated by the party will be built.

A SCHEME for the BUILDING OF HOUSES by heads of families who can at least present a minimum of £200 will be introduced. Such houses will eventually become the property of the tenants.

BUILDING SOCIETIES will be encouraged.

All war-damaged buildings including the Law Courts, the Opera House and privately owned sites will be rebuilt as soon as possible.

A CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES BLOCK will be built in a central position in Valletta.

The party will negotiate for the return of certain buildings and historical places still held by the British Government, such as THE CASTILLE FALCON HOUSE, ST. ELMO and ST. ANGELO.

The repairs of roads, opening of new ones, pulling down of dangerous corners will be continued.

Building of primary schools will be increased.

Public roads and lanes in Gozo will be repaired

A Breakwater will be built at Xlendi Gozo. A Verandah and a Fish Market will be built at Mgarr, Gozo. A Central Market will be established at Rabat Gozo and the playing field will be repaired and improved.

Suitable help will be given to the Playing Fields Association so that all villages in Malta and Gozo will have their own playing fields. Public Gardens will be opened in towns and villages.

Street lighting will be modernised as much as possible.

The Fishing centre at Marsaxlokk will be completed. Slopes and winches in other fishing localities will be repaired. Stores for fishermen will be built in certain places.

The Refuse Disposal Centre will be re-organised. The Refuse Pit at Luqa will be eliminated.

Drainage will be extended to all localities in Malta and Gozo.

Public Dispensaries will be opened where they are nonexistent.

The Citadel in Gozo will be repaired and drastically cleaned of all rubble.

The Party recognising that 1965 will be the fourth centenary of MALTA'S NATIONAL DAY, will immediately appoint a National Committee to organise this centenary on an international scale.

THE PARTY PROMISES. "WORK FOR ALL FIRST AND FOREMOST".