

THEY APE TRYING TO TEAR UP. YOUR VOTE AGAIN

No matter how many votes go to Labor in this election Fraser may be Prime Minister again. The last Labor Government was first crippled by massive financial sabotage - a strike of capital losing hundreds of thousands their jobs. Only after the capitalists had withheld their supplies of money did the Senate withhold supply and the Governor—General power from the elected Labor Government. THE SAME SABOTAGE WILL BE REPEATED FROM THE SAME SOURCES if Labor looks likely to win the election and if it wins.

The men who carry out this sabotage are not elected. They are responsible to no one except their banks. They cannot be dismissed by vote. They cannot be questioned. They can evade all publicity and control all news. They are the ruling class and they believe they have the divine right to rule.

The dismissal of Whitlam has proved this class dispenses with democracy when it does not need it. The constitution was designed by the ruling class of seventy five years ago to give the ruling class of today the power to make and unmake governments. That constitution is virtually impossible to change by referendum. There is no referendum that can abolish the power of the stock exchanges, the banks, the trusts, the multinationals and the squattocracy to sabotage and plunder.

The spontaneous wave of political strikes that were the workers' commentary on the Senate's withholding of supply, the Fraser coup and the first Whitlam rallies has failed to coalesce into a concentrated, long—term general strike to smash the Senate, the Governor— Generalship, and the constitution and to expropriate capitalism. The main responsibility for this lies with the Labor Party and union leaders who told the workers they were not needed. The politicians could win an election victory without their help.

Already this is proving false. Already the first union has imposed a black ban on the Daily Mirror to ensure the Labor campaign is not undermined by the Murdoch press. More black bans will follow. The insurance firms are threatening workers with the sack if they vote Labor or refuse to support "voluntary" anti—Labor campaigns organised by company lickspittles. The insurance companies will not be the last companies to try on this blackmail, used in the thirties against Lang. There will be more, different provocations. The capitalists are only beginning.

On every job, in every factory, militant workers are arguing the case for Labor, trying to counter the Murdoch and Fairfax press, trying to get suppressed facts across, usually, without help from either the union officials or the Labor Party who are not supplying rank and file workers with sufficient information. The Labor Party branches are out of contact with the workers on the floor. The union officials are too busy to worry about backward workers deserting Labor. This at a time when not only is every Labor vote vital, but a big fight is necessary to stop the Labor vote being torn up again by the ruling class and absolute vigilance is necessary.

At this time every worker must study to understand just how Kerr was able to sack an elected government, why a colonial capitalist economy is ruled by a colonial constitution, how the ruling class manipulate parliamentary democracy for their own purposes, and what the limitations of capitalist democracy are. Only with such knowledge can the workers fight further attacks on Labor.

For this to be achieved, every militant factory and shop must organise workers' committees to mobilise the Labor vote, to educate workers about what this crisis means, to make them understand

that all economic gains for the workers depend on a resolution of the political questions and to prepare the workers for action if there is further capitalist sabotage and provocation. At this time, as never before, knowledge and unity are strength. If the workers have to fight without understanding who they must fight or how they must fight them, defeat is inevitable. The building of factory committees to educate the workers can prevent this defeat.

Whitlam fought the Senate according to the rules. He lost. Whitlam dealt with Kerr by the rule book. Kerr sacked him. Now Whitlam is trying to fight an election according to the rules. Big money is using every dirty trick possible to beat Whitlam. The capitalists make the rules of democracy and break them as they think fit. Whitlam is now being defeated by his illusion that the rules still operate. They don't. Only the workers' united strength, which no constitution can finally check, can fight enemies as unscrupulous as those behind Fraser, Anthony and Lynch. With the power of industrial strength, workers can impose real rules, workers' rules, to force the ruling class to abide by real democracy, a democracy capitalists no longer control, to switch on and off when they like. That is the task. The building of factory committees is only the first step towards its achievement.

BUILD FACTORY COMMITTEES NOW FOR VIGILANCE TO
PROTECT DEMOCRACY.

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