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> John Macey, 382 Main Street, Vancouver 4, B.C.

ALIST CAUCUS, Vancouver.

# A Suggested Socialist Manifesto for the New Democratic Party

THE birth of the New Democratic Party is potent evidence that the myth of "capitalist affluence" is on the wane. A million votes in the recent federal election for the NDP provides additional support for this contention.

We socialist members of the NDP recognize that this organization is not yet a socialist party. We recognize that at this time the effort of the party is more directed to radical reform and social welfare. However, the organization is based essentially on the working class and the trade unions, and of necessity the NDP tends in a socialist direction inasmuch as its program contains demands for basic reform, which by nature are anti-capitalist.

The federated character of the NDP, an inheritance from the CCF, provides a political vehicle whereby various schools of radical and socialist thought may work together in the interest of the common man. This federated feature of the party must not only be maintained — but expanded.

### MANY THINGS ARE OF DEEP CONCERN TO CANADIANS TODAY

The short-lived illusion of prosperity of the "fabulous fifties" is no longer with us. Half a million workers are seeking employment; many more are wondering how secure they are in the jobs they do hold. Small businessmen seek answers to the question as to what has caused the decline in trade. Farmers are at the mercy of a market they do not control.

Automation, instead of appearing as a friend, stands before us as a spectre and harbinger of further unemployment.

Over all hangs an ominous cloud of military preparation, which pollutes the atmosphere with atomic tests, and the spirit of mankind with fear of universal destruction.

The conventional remedies of successive Liberal and Conservative governments have demonstrated to us that they are as futile today as they have been in the past.

The solution to unemployment is not to be found in tax concessions to big business, nor in a reduction of welfare benefits for working people.

The curtailment of an arms race is not to be found in extending the "military strike capability" and making Canadian soil available to a foreign power for military bases.

The problems posed by automation are not to be answered by increasing international tension with accelerated drives for rapidly receding world markets.

These apparently unrelated matters, however, all have their roots in the same cause — the inflexible determination of those who exercise control over the economy and government to perpetuate a capitalist system that by no manner of adjustment or manipulation can contrive to serve man's purpose.

This system necessitates a number of essential features:

- (1) The existence on the one hand of a segment, or class of society, which owns the means of production; and on the other hand, a class of wage earners who depend on them for employment in order to acquire the necessities of life.
- (2) Production is carried on solely in pursuit of profit. The satisfaction of human need and the guarantee of employment as a human necessity, does not exist under capitalism.
- (3) A struggle for markets popularly misrepresented as competition is in fact conflict, the ultimate of which on the international level, is war.

Ultimately there is but one solution to all these problems and all they imply: that is the establishment of a true political and economic democracy whereby the basic means of production and distribution and all our vast natural resources — in effect the commanding heights of the economy — shall be owned and controlled by the people through their various levels of administration. Only then will democratic social planning be possible. The wealth of the nation, socially produced, will be socially distributed.

Recognizing that the existence of immediate problems demands immediate answers and action and cannot wait for ultimate solutions, we therefore propose the existing NDP program be extended to include:

### PEACE PROGRAM

- Canadian withdrawal from all military alliances, particularly NATO and NORAD; and no participation in the Organization of American States (OAS).
- (2) Unilateral disarmament for Canada.
- (3) Cessation of Canadian participation in ABC (Atomic Bacteriological, and Chemical experiments being carried on for the purpose of war).

### INTERNATIONAL RELAT

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### CANADIAN INDEPEND

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- (1) Socialization of all for ment of secondary in
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### UNEMPLOYMENT

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- Planned development ownership.
- (2) Revision of the Une benefits covering the revision of insurance
- (3) Establishment of a six duction in take-home holiday with pay afte

### YOUTH AND EDUCATI

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- (3) The legal age shall b

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### INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Normal diplomatic and trade relations with all countries, and active support for the struggles for, or maintenance of national independence of all nations, as represented in the Americas by Cuba.

### CANADIAN INDEPENDENCE

In order to preserve the national independence of Canada we call for:

- (1) Socialization of all foreign owned industries, and the planned development of secondary industries.
- (2) Nationalization of all financial institutions, including insurance.

### UNEMPLOYMENT

Although unemployment is inherent in the capitalist system the following proposals are considered minimum steps required in order to deal with current needs:

- Planned development of secondary industries mainly under public ownership.
- (2) Revision of the Unemployment Insurance Act to provide adequate benefits covering the entire period of unemployment. General upward revision of insurance benefits to equal wages normally earned.
- (3) Establishment of a six-hour day and a 30-hour week without any reduction in take-home pay. Legislation of a mandatory three-week holiday with pay after one year of employment.

### YOUTH AND EDUCATION

- Guarantee of jobs to young Canadians leaving school; and failing this, extension of the Unemployment Insurance Act to provide coverage for this group.
- (2) Universal free education, including technical-vocational, college, and university. There must be provision of adequate maintenance allowances for those attending institutions of higher learning.
- (3) The legal age shall be lowered to 18 years.

# CIVIL RIGHTS / CIVIL LIBERTIES

Socialists are unalterably opposed to the inequality of individual or group rights in the structure of present society.

We therefore propose that the NDP will continue to take the lead in fighting against any manifestation, or application, or discriminatory practice against individuals or organizations.

Further, we socialists propose that when elected NDP governments, both Provincial and Federal, will enact legislation which will preclude

arbitrary political, racial, social, or economic discrimination, either direct or indirect, against any individual or group of persons. This enactment will afford protection for the individual or group against social practice which contravenes this concept of freedom, or from perversion or misapplication of existing law.

Any law or segment of law which supplies cover for discriminatory practice will be repealed.

### PLAN FOR A NEW SOCIAL ORDER

Emergency measures, however, are of only temporary value, for the problems which confront us today are symptomatic of the mortal sickness of the whole capitalist system.

A deliberately sponsored war psychosis will continue to be part of a conspiracy to coerce workers into support of "defence" programs so long as there is profit in war production.

Unemployment, insecurity, and continuing attacks on all welfare programs will be with us as long as we condone an economic system in which all the national resources, and the principal means of production and distribution are owned, controlled, and operated for the private profit of a small minority.

We socialist members of the New Democratic Party say that no NDP government should rest content until we have eradicated capitalism and put into full operation the program of socialized planning leading to the establishment of a socialist commonwealth.

We appeal for support to all who believe the time has come for farreaching changes to our economic and political institutions, and who are willing to work together to play a creative role in mankind's struggle for progress and a future, worthy of the name, for our children.

### With Socialist Greetings,

Cedric Cox, M.L.A., 7081 Stride Avenue, Burnaby 3, B.C.

Hugh Clifford, 931 – 22nd Street, West Vancouver, B.C. John Macey, 382 Main Street, Vancouver 4, B.C.

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July 1963

(for) NDP B.C. SOCIALIST CAUCUS, Vancouver.

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