

TO LABOR MEN AND WOMEN OF WEST SYDNEY

Friends,

At the request of many A.L.P. and trade union friends in the West Sydney district, I have consented to nominate for the West Sydney Selection Ballot.

If mine is a late nomination it is because on principle I did not wish to be in the position of opposing a sitting Labor member. You will recall that up to a few weeks ago most of us thought that Mr. O'Connor would be the unopposed candidate for West Sydney.

I have always believed in supporting the sitting member, and had my friend, Bill O'Connor, M.P., thought fit to maintain his association with West Sydney I would not have nominated.

DIFFERENT IDEAS.

But different people have different ideas about Labor traditions, and the facts are that for human enough reasons now well known Bill O'Connor decided against throwing his hat into the West Sydney ring, and the way was left clear for my nomination.

While I realise that members have equal rights under A.L.P. rules to contest any ballot, I am of the opinion that Bill O'Connor should have received the West Sydney selection, but as other people were determined to oppose him, the position was altered; hence my nomination.

GREAT RESPONSIBILITIES.

In submitting myself for your approval, I am fully aware of the great responsibilities involved in representing West Sydney in the Federal Parliament.

To represent West Sydney faithfully is to represent Labor in the truest and broadest sense of the word.

West Sydney is a traditional Labor seat, and it is important for yourselves, the Labor Party and the Trade Union Movement that you select the man with the right Labor and Union background from the candidates offering in this coming selection ballot.

LABOR TRADITIONS.

West Sydney has been regularly represented by men steeped in trade union and Labor traditions. You must not allow this safe and proper practice to lapse on this occasion.

The man who represents you must have had close and personal contact with the people of the district. He must understand the district's industries and have a sound and sympathetic understanding of the waterfront's point of view.

The Labor Party stands or falls by the strength and sincerity of the people it selects to hold such seats as West Sydney. Seats like West Sydney are Labor bastions.

Labor wins and loses Governments, but strongholds like West Sydney, if they are truly and courageously represented, remain the traditional battlegrounds of Labor policies and beliefs.

LABOR MOVEMENT LOOKS TO WEST SYDNEY.

The Labor Movement throughout Australia looks to West Sydney to select a man thoroughly reared and trained in the service of Labor and trade unionism. The man who wins this selection ballot becomes, as far as humanly possible, one of the permanent spokesmen for Australian-wide Labor in the Federal Parliament.

That is why it is doubly important for you to select the strongest, most sincere and the most capable man possible in the coming selection ballot.

While I am confident we will win the next election handsomely. I am not unmindful that we have before suffered long periods of anti-Labor Governments. It is in such times that the member you select will be tested. So you must make certain that your man has the training, sympathy and intelligence to truly represent the great industrial seat of West Sydney in hard as well as good times.

WEST SYDNEY RECORD.

My friends who have nominated me believe that I have the qualification to represent West Sydney.

I live in the district, being President of the West Sydney Federal Electorate Council, and President of the King State Electorate Council.

As evidence of my activities covering a long period of years, the following are just a few of the positions I have occupied in the Labor Movement:—

West Sydney Federal Elections—Campaign Director.

King State Elections—Campaign Director.

Prices Referendum—Campaign Director.

A.L.P. Annual Conference—Delegate.

POSITIONS HELD AT PRESENT.

Pymont Branch of the A.L.P.—Secretary.

Phillip Municipal Assembly—Assistant Secretary.

Alderman of the Municipal Council of Sydney.

My political record, I feel, would compare favourably with that of any other candidate in this ballot.