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repl

Personal



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Don Margrave

It is clear that Callaghan is preparing to do battle with the NEC to prevent the left-wing proposals from Labour's Programme (massive nationalisation etc) from appearing in Labour's Election Manifesto.

He will probably succeed; but it is important that we do not let matters rest there. For, while the appearance of a pledge in a manifesto implies (or should imply) that the Party concerned intends to implement it if elected, the non-appearance of a pledge to do X does not necessarily imply that the Party concerned, if elected, will not do X: only a pledge not to do it (eg not to nationalise the banks & insurance companies) would carry that implication.

Thus I think it is important that, in our election campaign & propaganda, we get it very clearly across that the real Labour Manifesto is not Callaghan's 'official' anodyne waffle, but Labour's Programme; and insist that everything that is threatened in Labour's Programme is likely to come to pass if Labour is re-elected - unless, of course, it has been explicitly repudiated in the official Election Manifesto.

In practice, I very much doubt if a great many things will fall into this last-named category. Thus the approach recommended above should provide us with a great deal of very useful ammunition.

In the meantime, we should lose no opportunity to get the contents of Labour's Programme more widely known.

Yours ever Nigel