

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE1619

Johnson, Phyllis

Nationality Australian

Occupation Political candidate

Summary

Phyllis Johnson was prepared to go to gaol for her political beliefs. She stood for the Communist Party of Australia at the 1947 elections for the New South Wales Legislative Assembly seat of Paddington.

Details

During the second world war, sale or possession of communist literature was an offence carrying the penalty of three to six months gaol. Those apprehended were usually invited to enter into a bond to observe the regulations for the duration of the war. Phyllis Johnson refused to do this when she was prosecuted for an anti-war address at the Sydney Domain and spent a month in Long Bay prison as a result.

Published resources

Book

The Reds: the Communist Party of Australia from origins to illegality, Macintyre, Stuart, 1999

Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Site Exhibition

Putting Skirts on the Sacred Benches: Women Candidates for the New South Wales Parliament, Australian Women's Archives Project, 2006,
<http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/pssb/home.html>

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