Level 3 History, 2015

91436  Analyse evidence relating to an historical event of significance to New Zealanders

2.00 p.m. Friday 20 November 2015
Credits: Four

RESOURCE BOOKLET

Refer to this booklet to answer the questions for History 91436.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–10 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

YOU MAY KEEP THIS BOOKLET AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.

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COLIN SCRMGEOUR:
A FORGOTTEN ‘SIGNIFICANT’ PERSON
IN NEW ZEALAND HISTORY?

INTRODUCTION

Colin Graham Scrimgeour was born at Wairoa on 30 January 1903.

...
Then he worked on his autobiography, of which only *The Scrim–Lee Papers*, written with John A. Lee (a close friend and political activist), was published. Scrimgeour died on 16 January 1987.


**SOURCE A**

[Scrimgeour was] a Methodist minister, whose Friendly Road sessions on private radio 1ZR in the 1930s made him one of the most popular men in the country.

…

My father, a conservative farmer from Waitoa in the Piako, … had no truck with him, scorning his socialist principles, and wouldn’t have been caught dead listening to his programme.

SOURCE B

Then, on Sunday 24 November 1935, ‘Uncle Scrim’, who broadcast a programme called the ‘Friendly Road’, was drowned out by high-frequency jamming equipment

... In the superheated last days of the campaign the issue whirléd about but influenced few voters, most of whose minds were already made up.


SOURCE C

As the 1935 election drew near, the Government feared that people might be told how to vote from those stations.

... It paved the way for the complete Government control of broadcasting, with full Ministerial responsibility, Mr Scrimgeour himself taking over the directorship of the commercial stations.


SOURCE D

During the campaign Michael Savage, the new Prime Minister, had promised that the ‘B stations will live’.

... He transformed the range and sound of broadcasting with a lively mixture of American and Australian ideas and his own rich innovation.

Sometimes history, even the relatively recent such as the Great Depression, reads like a foreign country or some kind of parallel universe.

Scrim was an undoubtedly significant figure in New Zealand’s 20th century political history.

SOURCE G

A pamphlet written by Scrimgeour’s political enemies and distributed in the 1943 election when he stood against the Prime Minister, Peter Fraser.

* Flagrant clear, obvious

In 1944 a prime minister sought to have my father killed because he was the most loved man in New Zealand.

...

A voice so ardently silenced by governments of both parties is worth listening to, especially when the voice was said to speak for the ordinary people of New Zealand.

Lee: But with Savage dead and me gone there weren’t any more favours from or for the Labour Party. Fraser and Nash knew that they only had to wait for their chance.

every time that grading got to Air Department I was ordered for a specialist examination, usually with one of Fraser’s friends, and I got Grade 1. So, I’m all right. Off with the 10th Reinforcements.

1 AC2 Aircraftman, second class
2 Grade I Classed as medically fit for active service
3 Grade II Classed as medically unfit for active service
