Formation and Authority: The Wagga Wagga Eight-Hour Association and the Wagga Wagga and District Trades and Labor Council 1911–1990

Warwick Eather
Charles Sturt University

This paper concentrates on the factors that led to the formation of the Wagga Wagga Eight-Hour Association and the Wagga Wagga and District Trades and Labor Council, and the level of authority achieved by each organisation. Theories on the formation of peak bodies advanced by Ellem and Shields and on the level of authority of peak bodies advanced by Martin and Markey are used. The Wagga Wagga experience shows that there were numerous factors leading to the formation or reformation of the peak body, and that the peak body had little or no authority.