

# the COMMUNIST

JULY, 1974

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MONTHLY No 27 - 20c

Hear  
**BETTY AMBATELOS**  
**EMMANUEL**  
**PITHAROULIS**

"STRUGGLE FOR  
GREEK LIBERATION"  
PADDINGTON TOWN HALL

SUNDAY, JUNE 30  
AT 3.30 PM

Supporting Speakers

## INFLATION!

### What is the answer?

Rampant inflation now affecting all capitalist countries remains the main issue for the Australian Government, for the working class and for the trade union movement.

**It wrecks living standards, makes a mockery of wage gains, puts housing out of reach for low and middle income earners, threatens unemployment, disrupts trade, aggravates the international monetary crisis and brings down governments.**

It is common ground that inflation is the main issue demanding the government's attention but it is not common ground that the cause of inflation springs from the deep going crisis of capitalism. Prime Minister Whitlam was at one stage attempting to push the question aside on the grounds that it was a world-wide feature whose main cause in Australia arose from external factors beyond the control of the government.

Inflation is not world-wide. It is non-existent in the Soviet Union and other socialist lands. Unless the Australian Labor Government realises that inflation stems from basic causes within the capitalist economic system and takes steps for far-reaching controls of the economy, including extensive interference with the private profit making rights of the "free enterprise" system it will not succeed in its efforts to curb inflation.

The traditional methods such as control and restriction of capital imports, manipulation of the exchange rate, raising of tariffs and import quotas, reducing money supply by credit squeezes have not worked to solve inflation in any of the capitalist countries where they

have been tried and they will not work for Australia either.

Inflationary rates in the capitalist countries vary up to as much as 23 per cent. In some of the less developed countries the rate is very much higher than this. So serious is this question that in recent weeks it has caused the downfall of governments in Iceland, Canada and Italy. It is occurring in a period of developing economic crisis.

**CURRENCY COLLAPSE.** In January the "Financial Review" reported the tendency to move "towards global currency collapse of the notorious Weimar type". This is a reference to the type of inflationary collapse which occurred in Germany in the early part of the 1920's. The article goes on: "Though it has happened in individual countries never before has the world as a whole been ravaged by inflation on such a scale."

In April the "Sydney Morning Herald" reported France's then Foreign Minister as saying that the world was in a state of economic slow-down and that "not much would be needed to slip from a slow-down to recession and from there to a world crisis, to repercussions which would be catastrophic for all".

Other government measures already decided upon are the ending of the petrol price subsidy which has held down the price of petrol in country areas and a cut-back in expenditure by the PMG's Department and the lifting of postal and telegraph charges.

In each case the result is to the further increase prices with the side effect of slow-down and big businessmen merely passing on the increased charges to the consuming public.

In each case, it is easy to see that any resultant decline in the rate of inflation is paid for by the consumer.

While these limited fiscal and monetary measures should be supported where they limit the inflationary spiral and protect the working people from its

The UN Secretary-General addressing a special session of the General Assembly warned "of impending disaster unless the world immediately began tackling six major economic threats".

#### INTEREST RATES

The measures at present applied by the Australian Government or under consideration have been applied elsewhere without success.

There has been the imposition of a credit squeeze to bottle up excess money in circulation. One result of this has been to force up interest rates to previously unheard of levels. The Melbourne "Herald" reports that most building societies are expected to raise their interest loans on houses from 10½ per cent to 11½ or even 12 per cent.

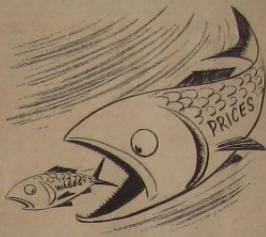
The paper reports a borrower who obtained \$22,000 nine months ago and started off repaying \$176 per month. The repayments have already gone up to \$213 and will now go up again. Out of the repayment, \$201 was in interest. The increase of interest rates reflects the financier's attempt to keep up with the rate of inflation but it becomes an unbearable burden for the home builder or those using hire purchase.

effects they will not bring it under control.

#### HEFTY PROFITS

Despite the pessimism of big business following the election of the Labor Government, the sharp drop in share values and the high wage increases recently won by trade unionists the "Financial Review" of June 18 is able to report that: "Late last week some less than pessimistic noises were already being made ... full years profits are expected to be of hefty proportions."

The government's whole economic policies should be orientated to taking the money from where the money is. It is not in the bank accounts of the average working man and his family.



## SPA vote up



P. Clancy



J. Mitchell

Final votes for both Socialist Party candidates showed an increase over their vote in the 1972 elections when the same two electoralates were contested with the same candidates.

This was achieved despite the fact that all other smaller parties showed a marked decline in the recent ballot.

In Sydney, Pat Clancy polled 1116 votes (2.2%) (1062 in 1972).

In Port Adelaide, Jim Mitchell polled 1423 votes (2.5%) which is 427 votes more than the 996 votes won in 1972.

## Welcome fighters for Greek liberty

• SEE PAGE 3

To help in the struggle for the restoration of democracy in Greece, Betty Ambatelos and Eminent Pitharoulis will be visiting Australia during July.

They are expected to arrive in Australia on June 28 and will visit Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Adelaide, Wollongong and Newcastle.

They will speak at many meetings and meet trade unionists, politicians, students, women and youth organisations. They will attend social functions and gatherings arranged by the Australian Greek Communities.

#### TIRELESS

Betty Ambatelos is the wife

of Tony Ambatelos who was recently captured and imprisoned by the military fascist junta in Greece and has been tireless in the fight for the liberation of Greece.

Emmanuel Pitharoulis is a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Greece, President of the anti-fascist Greek Maritime Union and Secretary-General of the United Trade Union anti-Dictatorship Movement of Greece.

They will be the guests, jointly, of the Socialist Party of Australia and the Seamen's Union of Australia.

As a result of the Commonwealth Government cutting back grants to the State Governments at the recent Premiers' Conference the States are now actively discussing the imposition of a consumer tax to make up the balance.

Mr Wran (ALP) and leader of the Opposition in the NSW State Parliament says that "a consumption tax would not be progressive and equitable ... it would hit the lower and middle income earners harder than it would those in the high income bracket".

A better proposal would be a wealth tax suggested by Dr Ironmonger in the article already referred to. He said: "The government can clamp-down on speculators by imposing a wealth tax on assets of more than \$100,000."

# Letters Congratulations

I must congratulate you on our new look paper. I extend on behalf of the Richmond Branch but without for every possible occasion.

Enclosed you find a poem by Le Due. This "Call of Heroes", which is self explanatory, was asked to pass the poem on by a fellow Socialist.

In conclusion, may we revere again the Vietnam people suffering long for the Socialist Party of Australia and may our goal come closer.

**J. Williams,  
Richmond  
Richmond.**

Could you please publish the following names and addresses in the hope that some of your readers may be able to contact them?

**Michael Rosenberg, 402 Haffe, Marfield Str 26 DDR (Halle)**  
43 years old, married, 2 children (German or English)

**Klaus Peter, (Schimmel), 121 Necker-Landoweg 19 DDR (Berlin)** (19 years) - sport, music (in German) (English)

**Peter Harwich, 90 Karl Marx-Str., Fritz-Markov Str, 20 DDR (DDR)** (20 years) - collecting post-cards and car patches (in German)

A good many of the letters being received by the "Socialist". For this issue we have virtually a full page of correspondence. Some readers are requested to keep letters generally to no more than 300 words.



manes in new economic conditions is more difficult than the voluntary action of the free nation in Ireland - they propose capitalist "unity" - the creation of a nation into the state of another. At socialists we are absolutely opposed to this kind of thing.

There is some merit in the working class supporting a struggle for bourgeois reforms and for basic civil rights for an oppressed minority. There is no merit whatsoever in the working class supporting anti-imperialism in Ireland, which is an attempt to co-opt, by any means available, a community of one million people under the domination of the Southern Irish bourgeoisie. This is a policy of national oppression and must be opposed by the working class.

**PAT O'BRIEN, NSW, FRANK KEARNEY, NSW, DON MUIGH, Canberra.**

**Editor's Note:**  
The SPA supports the declaration of the Irish Republic of Britain and Ireland which said that "the root cause of the crisis in the partitioned island of Ireland is imperialism over 50 years ago and the continued control of Northern Ireland by Britain... It is the aspiration of the Irish people to reunite their country". The declaration demanded that the "British government must be forced to declare that it will allow no obstacles to be placed in the way of a united independent Ireland."

**TOM PAYNE, Christchurch.**

**IRELAND**  
The Irish Australian Workers' Association has repeatedly stressed that a democratic settlement of the conflict in Ireland must be based on two fundamental principles. First, that there are two nationalities in Ireland and that must be accorded the right to self-determination and secondly, that there is a young country and that should be minorities North and South of the island of Ireland.

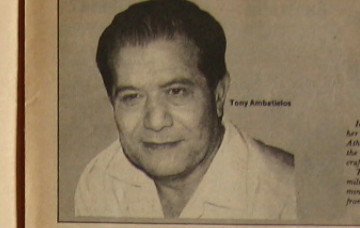
In putting forward the policy of recognition of the rights of the Ulster Protestants and the democratic validity of the Northern Ireland State as another alternative of urging workers to support Stormont, Westminster or Imperialism, we were merely recognizing the right of Northern Ireland to self-determination. It is not our intention to use as a wedge to separate or federate or integrate with another state.

"This is rather a belated commitment, long overdue. I pay tribute of respect to its old and distinguished Irish colleague, Owen Murphy whose recent letter pricked my conscience and encouraged me to enter the me of the enclosed contribution."

I recall back in the days of J. B. Miles, who, in discussing the need for finance commitment, he told me, conscience money, could be used to effect the financing of our commitment to the Party."

Owen Murphy has had to go of himself.

"To organize the working people and lead them in struggle to overthrow imperialism, the proletarian must show that Lenin added 'supreme heroism' but Lenin added that task of leading the masses in new economic conditions is more difficult than the voluntary action of the free nation in Ireland - they propose capitalist "unity" - the creation of a nation into the state of another. At socialists we are absolutely opposed to this kind of thing.



Tony Ambeliotis

# Wife's dramatic effort



Betty Ambeliotis

In a dramatic attempt to intercept and locate her husband, Betty Ambeliotis recently flew into Athens but was refused permission to land. In vain she argued, she was finally back on another flight and returned to London.

She had begun a long struggle with the military police of Greece and their determination to keep their fascist inhumanity hidden from the world.

# Save Tony Ambeliotis!

It is reported that Tony Ambeliotis, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Greece, has been tortured and has not been seen by anyone for months, taken to fear for his life.

A statement issued by Amnesty International expresses "alarm at the new wave of deliberate and systematic torture in Greece. The statement names 12 persons including Antonios Ambeliotis and the actor Dimitris Tokas, "who have been tortured by various means... two of the twelve are women". The Amnesty International report says that Mr Ambeliotis is now in hospital recuperating from injuries including broken ribs that were inflicted on him at a military prison.

He was freed to leave Greece and travelled all over the world to help build solidarity with the people of his country.

Recently he returned to Greece where he participated in the leadership of the underground struggle against the military dictatorship of Greece. His arrest was announced last February 19 in Athens along with the names of other Communist Party such as Niko Kaloudis, a seaman who had participated in the struggle against Nazi occupation and is also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party. Another CP leader arrested in Mino Vannou.

**FOLKBY HITLER**  
Tony Ambeliotis has spent 40 years of his life in the struggle against fascism, from the time of the Mexican revolution through the Nazi occupation to

All three had recently been moved from the concentration camp on Varos Island to be "interrogated" at the Royal military camp near Athens.

An agreement covering wages and conditions for the crew climaxed three weeks of protracted and torrid negotiations during which Don Henderson, Secretary, Friemen and Dockhands Union and Friemen members refused jobs, hessmen and bakers until the owners were prepared to negotiate.

This action and the withdrawal of MWF labour was necessary to end violence being used against the crew. The dismissal of the Chief Officer was a condition of final settlement. The agreement was signed by Tas Bill, International Transport Federation representative for Australia.

The 11 men involved were paid a total of almost \$16,000 and air tickets at the company's expense in any country of the world which indicates how the men have been exploited.

**AUSSE SUPPORT**  
The crew were given financial assistance from maritime unions and especially the crew of the "Australian Trader" who gave the whole of their rolling fund as a spontaneous gesture of support.

The men cast aside nationalities in their common cause and refused to break the unity built up over months of cooperation, despite attempts by the employers to weaken them.

Solidarity, internationalism and courage of his order is a guarantee that eventually all seafarers will win just treatment, and even more important, a free and democratic government for all peoples in all countries.

The government works side by side with them by sponsoring the immigration scheme, and the false but useful publicity.

The capitalists try to pit the migrants against the Australian in an effort to split the working class movement.

The collective strength of the migrants and Australians will smash all attempts of the exploiters of the working class - the capitalists.

**WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!**  
For the right to work in your own country and the right of equality with workers in other countries.

**YOUTH CONGRESS**  
I would like to congratulate Karen Ferguson on her very fine participation in the Young Socialist League Congress.

It is quite clear that youth, past, present and in the future will play a prominent role in the revolutionary struggle. It is irrefutable that revolution is the class struggle. The important thing is not the age of the participants but their class position and the ability to unite the working class around the most revolutionary force of the present age.

There is need to guard against the failures of our history and strengthen knowledge of the law of the class struggle. This will light the path to the socialist future of our people.

**ALF BURTON, South Coast.**

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**  
L. Canall, L. Kinnell.

**SOCIALIST WORKSHOP**  
61 Liverpool Street, Sydney 2000. Telephone 265016  
New pamphlets from America:  
**A Star is Born - Hugh Muzas, \$1.50.**  
**Communism and Human Values - Maurice Cornforth, \$1.00.**  
**Terrorism - J. R. Braxton, \$1.00.**  
**Israel Today or Peace - Hyman Lumer, 50c.**  
**The House of Imperialism is Crumbling - Gus Hall, 50c.**  
**Watergate - Crime in the Saloon - Ed Markey, \$1.95.**  
**Racism and Human Survival - Lessons of Nazi Germany for today's world - Claude M. Lightfoot, \$1.50.**  
**The Education of John Reed - John Stuart, \$1.45.**  
**Black and Whites and the Middle East Conflict - One World, \$1.00.**  
**Black and Whites - One Class, One Fight - Henry Winston, 50c.**  
**Work on the Job - Judy Edelman, 70c.**  
**Watergate - A Crime in the Saloon - Ed Markey, \$1.95.**  
**Strategy for a Black Agenda - Wm. Linton, \$2.50.**  
**Watergate - A Crime in the Saloon - Ed Markey, \$1.95.**  
**Fidel in Chile (Speeches) - Gus Hall, \$2.50.**  
**Imperialism Today - Gus Hall, \$3.50.**  
**The Salween - A Crime in the Saloon - Ed Markey, \$1.95.**

**ARRESTS**  
New waves of arrests and interrogations were constantly taking place, she reported. "Even while I was there, 30 more students were arrested." Miss Carter managed to smuggle out a list of names of 145 students who are detained. At least 40 of them were believed to be in the notorious island of Yonag, a rat-infested and barren island concentration camp which has closed down in 1968 but had been subjected to repeated visits by the new junta.

She gave the names of four men who were said to be torturing students at the military detention centre at Mesoyeni Street in Athens.

where they were raped and subjected to "what could be called an orgy by both men and women".

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## BEHOLDING

As a YSL social a young woman commented me on my article "Aids, Comrade of Chile", but the points out that it was not a "smoot" but I appreciated her interest and her criticism made me rethink my article.

... facts, facts, facts is what you must write about. However, some facts are tautologous, and others profoundly meaningful, knowing the difference is what we're writing about.

For the time we were on in writing we did not see in our article the aid by the presence of our comrades from Chile, that launch, whether hired, borrowed or hijacked, was the most unusual boat I have ever been in. Ownership of the boat had nothing to do with my meaning. The whole day wore us out, comrades, the boat, the harbour, the shores of our city into a rich emotional experience of "belonging" not only to one another, our country, our class - but to the workpeople of the world.

The difference between "ownership" and "belonging" is what the revolution in Chile was about, that "belonging" was what our day on the harbour was about. It was a poem of day. Many thanks to the workers who made it. Fraternally,  
**John Hendry.**

## PEN FRIENDS

I recently addressed in the magazine "World Youth" for a period and received so many replies I was unable to write them all.

**THE SOCIALIST**  
EDITORIAL ADDRESS  
11 Sussex Street, Sydney  
Phone 250 1333  
SOCIALIST PARTY  
OF AUSTRALIA  
Who to contact:  
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Mr J. Henderson, B. 9  
Newcastle Street, Fairfield, Brisbane 4103 - Phone 4296.  
Mrs B. Curran, 50  
Murray Street, Melbourne  
N.W. 229 - Phone 632134.  
Mrs R. H. Hill, 103  
303 Richmond, Victoria 3121.  
South Australia M. A. Miller, 70  
101 West, Adelaide, 7073 - Phone 371779.  
Tasmania M. C. Lane, 10  
2 Somerset, Tasmania, 922.

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# BRANCHES Detailed Plan Boosts Finance

Party Branches in Queensland all have accepted finance quotas and experience already shows a lift in income. As it was thought that the targets were a little ambitious but some branches have exceeded their quotas for the first two months.

A continuation of these achievements will enable Queensland to meet its \$1500 commitment to the Central Committee and to accumulate a fund towards the employment of a full-time Party organizer for the State. A special fund is being set up for this purpose.

Branch quotas	Per month
Rockhampton	\$35
Surfer's Paradise	\$35
Marrimoo	\$55
Eastern Suburbs	\$45
Mooreooka-Salisbury	\$45
Northern Suburbs	\$50
Country	\$35
Ipswich	\$35

Total \$375 per month

One donation of \$40 per month from a seaman SPA member has been pledged and other sizeable donations will be made in the future. Others are pledging smaller amounts on a regular basis.

As new members join the Party they are becoming regular donors.

Queensland also records a steady increase in press sales and a similar increase in the same detailed way as for finance.

A steady flow of new members is joining the Party in Queensland - eight in the past month.

The education programme is being developed with three cassette tapes now completed with enquiries for them as far afield as Darwin and Tasmania. However, a greater use of them is needed.

The last two central lectures dealt with the election results and inflation. These regular monthly lectures are popular and a valuable means of education around topical questions as well as being a source of finance.

## CHILEAN'S TRIBUTE TO SPA

"I wish your organisation well. I am sure it is an important factor in the Australian labour movement." Aida Insuza speaking at a May Day social of the Socialist Party of Australia which overflowed the Sydney Trades Hall after the 1974 May Day march and rally.

## Press Fund Grows

The Press Fund continues to grow steadily with conscientious and regular supporters putting in month after month and the need for more contributors.

We welcome and value conscientious donors as the maintain of our fund and want to see them keep it up and be joined by many others. The cost of printing the last issue jumped by about \$40 and its not likely to be the last increase. What about some other Party Branches taking up the Fund as the Burnie Branch in Tasmania is doing? A regular whip-around as well as drawing attention to the importance of our paper will raise a few extra dollars.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS FOR JUNE**

Sydney: F. Barfoot, S. Owen, Murphy, \$20; R.S.P. \$20; Seamen Supporter, \$10; Weston, \$10.

Queensland: G. F. S1; Tasmania: Burnie Branch, \$16.20 (three payments).

Melbourne: B. Bonask, \$1; E. P. \$1.

Total for the month, \$89.20. Progressive total, \$484.

In an important statement the General Secretary of the Communist Party of India, Rajawara Rao, says that "the government of India is giving concessions to the reactionary vested interests and is not reversing the policy of take-over of wholesale trade from foreign imperialist monopolies freely, all in the name of increasing production and bringing down prices."

"The monopolists have been allowed to expand their concerns, set up new concerns and enter into collaboration agreements with foreign imperialist monopolies freely, all in the name of increasing production and bringing down prices."

"Giant multi-national corporations which are holding the world to ransom are being inducted, on a massive scale into our country," the statement says.

**TOUCH ON WORKERS**

"It is strongly rumoured that preparations are being made to conclude far-reaching agreements which include setting up a joint Indo-US economic commission at the time of Henry Kissinger's visit to India next July."

The statement by Rajawara Rao contrasts this with the tough line taken "against the working class only to please the monopolists and the imperialists."

"The shameful way in which negotiations with the representatives of railwaymen were broken and attempts made to suppress their just strike with an iron hand is the crassest example of this."

"The monopolists and right reaction appear to have succeeded in their first and of their two-pronged offensive, on the one hand of encouraging anti-India and anti-Soviet on the other of pressing the government to move to the right. After this success they have become bold enough to demand the complete reversal of the national policies and the sackings of progressive ministers from the government and rural

## INDIAN PARTY LEADER WARNS GOVERNMENT

congressmen from key positions in the Congress Party.

"Unless this is halted," says the statement, "there is every danger for the progressive policies of our country, namely, anti-imperialism, friendship with the socialist and democratic countries, self-reliance, socialism and well-being of the masses."

"This does not mean that the government has gone over completely to the right and the battle is lost. There is yet time if the left and democratic forces mobilise the masses and bring pressure on the government. Moreover, the national and international situation does not favour such a shift to the right."

"The US imperialists are not in a position to bale out the Indian Government, even temporarily. The imperialist camp as a whole and US imperialists in particular are today themselves emmeshed in a serious economic crisis and irreconcilable contradictions."

**NO CRISIS**

Rajawara Rao says that "on the other hand, the socialist camp headed by the mighty Soviet Union is forging ahead from strength to strength day by day. No economic crisis affects the socialist countries."

He says that the "Indira Gandhi government is trying to balance between the Soviet Union and USA. Such a strategy will not work. If the government makes dangerous concessions to the reactionary vested interests and the US imperialists it will not be able to utilise the help from the Soviet Union and other socialist countries for developing a self-reliant economy. If this has to be done, concessions to the imperialists have to stop, monopolies have to be curbed and rural vested interests have to be weakened."

## Australian Solidarity with Indians

At the height of the great strike of Indian railway workers in which tens of thousands of workers were galloped together with the Union leadership, two railway Unions in Australia sent messages of solidarity.

The General Secretary of the AFUPE, Mr G. Moorhead, cabled, "Australian locomotive engineers express solidarity with Indian brothers adding our call for immediate release of all imprisoned railway workers and satisfactory settlement of wage demands."

The General Secretary of the Australian Railwaymen's Union, Mr Moorhead, also cabled fraternal greetings and international solidarity. "Have protested High Commissioner and Indian Prime Minister demanding release of all prisoners and negotiate union demands," said the message.

"It is for the left and democratic parties to rise to the occasion and mobilise the people and conduct united struggles against the rightward drift."

"The glorious attack of two million railway workers is a glowing example of mass struggles."

The statement concludes with a call for progressive congressmen to help stop the drift to the right and to "fraternise with left and democratic parties not to sneer at the weaknesses of progressive congressmen, but to help them and help them to help forward to join hands with left forces outside."

# SPA Speaks to International press youth

By ALAN MILLER

In response to an invitation to "The Socialist" it was privileged recently to attend a Moscow seminar of Communist and national democratic youth press from 17 capitalist and newly-developing countries.

The seminar was held in the Federal Republic of Germany, West Berlin, Austria, Italy, Algeria, Egypt, Cyprus, Israel, and the Palestinian Liberation Movement, Syria, Iraq, India and Bangla Desh.

The 17th Congress of the Communist movement's Moscow held recently was a major political event. Among matters dealt with were the Soviet Union's struggle for peace and the relaxation of international tension, for national liberation, international security and co-operation between the people."

The international press workers observed Soviet life in Moscow, Kiev and Tbilisi, and the work of the Young Communist League of the Soviet Union and its publications.

The project was organised by the Committee of Youth Organisations of the USSR.

**YOUNG PEOPLE**

The international visitors observed the big role played by young people, united with the older generation of Soviet citizens on Leninist principles.

For example, almost one seventh of the Soviet Union Supreme State of Georgia are under 30 years of age. In the Soviet Union as a whole there are 226 newspapers and journals for young people.

The Young Communist Solidarity is given right of access to the Soviet Union to assist the world revolutionary struggle against imperialism.

**SOLIDARITY**

Much attention is given right of access to the Soviet Union to assist the world revolutionary struggle against imperialism.

**INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY - 1974**

Over 200 children and parents celebrated International Children's Day in Sydney on June 2nd at an enthusiastic gathering.

They were warmly welcomed by 14-year-old Diana Hight who stated that Australia was truly an international community as evidenced by the many nationalities present. Australian, Greek, Italian, Polish, Czech, Hungarian, British and Arab. It was very pleasing to know that many children in other parts of the world were participating in similar gatherings for the fulfilment of a better world in which children may grow and develop, she said.

Highlights of the afternoon included performances by young ballet students of Yalpine and Russian dancing, a Greek Folk Dancing group, a young Polish pantina, a Chinese

## POETS WRITERS AMONG WORKERS



Workers poets and writers read their works at a session of a Soviet Workers' party in Moscow. (Photo: Tass)

## IRAQ TAKES OVER OIL MONOPOLIES

In an interview with "The Socialist", Stan Sharkey spoke of his impressions of the 40th National Congress of the Iraqi general Federation of Trade Unions which he recently attended in Baghdad as a delegate from the Building Workers' Industrial Union.

The importance of the Congress is indicated by the fact that 115 foreign delegations attended, representing all of the socialist countries and all of the nations which have recently won independence or are struggling for independence. There were delegations from developed capitalist countries such as France, Italy, Finland and others.

Mr Sharkey said, "The revolution began in 1968 as a movement for bourgeois democracy and the ending of feudalism and reaction. However, the oil monopolies and their imperialist masters set out restricting and stifling the new revolutionary government. This brought the government and the people into sharp conflict with the imperialist government replied by nationalising the oil resources and thereby took a decisive step in placing the destiny of the country into their own hands."

**WORLD UNITY**

An eight point international policy platform spoke of the "unity of the interests of the working class and of the peoples of the world in the struggle for liberation, progress and socialism. The moving forces of the world revolution are the socialist countries, particularly the Soviet Union which has provided the government to achieve an economic and social transformation of the way to build the material basis for socialism."

**NATIONALISATION**

Consolidation of oil nationalisation has considerably improved the economy. The government to achieve an economic and social transformation of the way to build the material basis for socialism."

Eighty per cent of industry under public ownership and increased from nationalised oil production has increased by 100 per cent, has made considerable financial reserves available to the government.

Plans are underway for building huge oil refineries which will enable Iraq to gain by the sale of refined oil rather than crude and establish petroleum support for the chemical by-product industries.

Many other industries are being developed and the State establishment has created a State guarantee for industrial loans and contracts.

**NATIONAL FRONT**

Mr Sharkey said that his general impressions were ones of steady progress, for an extension of democracy and greater involvement of the masses particularly the working class in the struggle for social transformation and social improvements.

The Baath Socialist Party is the dominant Party in the national front and the government but includes Communist

## FLOOD MENACE - A SCIENTIFIC SOLUTION?

Soviet scientists have produced a guard dam plan to protect Leningrad against flood. This may interest rain-stricken, flood-prone Australian cities.

## Warmed by a flood rise of 375 centimetres in 1824 and 375 centimetres in 1924 a 21 kilometre dam against future hazard is planned for the Gulf of Finland.

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Soviet scientific workers build a model of the Neva River inlet and the Gulf of Finland to test anti-flood measures. (Photos: Novosti Press Agency)

### CPA no longer a Communist Party Degeneration deepens at 24th CPA Congress

The CPA Congress held in Sydney June 14-17 indicates an intensification of the divide and sectarian line pursued by the present CPA leadership within the Australian labour movement and the anti-Soviet, anti-international communist movement line it pursues internationally.

The election to the National Committee and to its Executive also provides clear confirmation of the above estimation.

J. Munday as the new President replaces John Sedy, who is no longer even a member of the National Committee.

Munday's invariable and consistent attacks on the international communist movement and the Soviet Union in particular.

For this he is able to command communist radio and TV time never before extended to any spokesman of the Communist Party.

In a radio interview immediately after the Congress he claimed the CPA was "the most independent in the world."

Independent of what? The Vietnamese Party delegation to the CPA Congress on the other hand clearly held a different viewpoint.

They spoke to Congress of Vietnam being "closely united with the peoples of Laos and Cambodia and enjoying the strong sympathy and support of the socialist countries, the international communist and workers movement and the world's people."

... (Emphasis added)

A significant election was the promotion of R. Durbridge (NSA) to the National Executive.

He was one of the architects of the notorious South Australian resolution which declared that the socialist countries are "not socialist" at all.

Durbridge defeated D. Davies (Vic) in a run-off ballot for last position on the Executive. The result means that Victoria for the first time in memory holds only one Executive position. It further shows the defeat of the Sedy-Taft attempts to secure certain modifications in the CPA Leader's extreme positions.

Dominant groups at Congress came from Sydney in alliance with some other interstate groups, particularly the extreme anti-Soviet element from South Australia.

S. L. Aarons in a short report to the opening session spoke of the possible development of a situation in which "the working class and its allies directly confront and challenge the totality of capitalist power."

He then sharply posed this against what he chose to call "a gradualist perspective which moves by stages through autonomy and democratic tasks to which an over-riding popular majority is created around radical reforms ... then moving forward to socialist transformation."

He says the CPA political resolution is based on the FIRST perspective.

The first concept is nothing more than a one-sided "great day" concept — and a denial of the dialectics of struggle which

recognises interconnection of all forms of struggle. It is an attempt to broad the second approach as "non-revolutionary".

While details have not been announced it is understood that messages of greetings were received from about ten other international communist parties, a small number considering the CPA leaders' efforts to solicit such messages.

Only international delegation to attend was from the Vietnamese Workers' Party.

REMARKABLE The Congress was preceded by remarkably sharp and divisive pre-Congress discussion.

This began in release of a document by the National President, John Sedy, which warned of a new split and declared that under the present leadership the CPA was in serious decline.

His criticisms were sharply replied to and rejected by the General Secretary, I. Aarons.

The central leadership was also criticised in a document by B. Taft (a fellow Victorian of Sedy).

This was then vigorously rejected in an article by E. Aarons. Aarons' article, published in the pre-Congress discussion included a proposal to call the CPA a "Marxist-Leninist Maoist" organisation with

photos of Mao Tse Tung to be displayed at Branch meetings!

The French, Italian and Japanese parties were lumped together in one contribution as allegedly following a similar course to the "rightist Victorian State Committee of the CPA."

The French Party was singled out as being allegedly the "most Stalinised" in Europe. All their contributions went unmentioned by any published comment from the leadership.

NOT COMMUNIST

The pre-Congress discussion and the outcome of the 24th Congress generally serve to underline the continuing degeneration of the CPA, its decline in membership and influence and its departure from Marxism-Leninism in both national and international policies. In short, it serves to show the CPA is no longer a Communist Party.

FOOTNOTE: Final congress documents and resolutions are not available as we go to press. Further analysis will be published next issue.

While the CPA leaders claim they conduct an "open party" a reporter from the Socialist Party of Australia was refused admittance to the opening session of Congress although daily press journalists were admitted.



## Major gains in motor industry

Recent struggles of the trade unions covering the vehicle industry and the resultant awards of Company awards represent a major break with the past.

The old Vehicle Industry award will have very little bearing on the rate of pay and working conditions.

This situation arose when, during the course of negotiations, GMH broke ranks with other employers and indicated that it was prepared to reach a separate agreement with the unions which would apply to GMH alone.

PENALTIES GO Other companies quickly followed suit and a hectic period of negotiation resulted in agreements being drawn up with each company.

The biggest change is in the area of wage structure and now provides for a total wage concept, that is a wage that incorporates both previous award and over-award payments, plus more substantial increases.

There is a "broad-banding" of all classifications in the

award into seven different pay levels, four in the trade area and three in the non-tradesman area.

Adult wages are to be paid at 18 years of age and there is a considerable improvement in apprentice rates. Junior rates under 18 years are also considerably increased.

There is a complete elimination of all penalties previously applying to over-award payments. The only fine that can now be suffered is as a result of industrial action or for personal reasons. Wage increases averaged 5.3 for tradesmen and 8.19 for non-tradesmen, per week.

EDUCATION PAY There were also substantial gains in conditions. Four weeks annual leave with a 17 1/2 per cent loading will now apply. Overall are to be supplied to all employees.

The agreements recognise the Shop Committee in the case of Chrysler and the Secretary Shop Stewards in the case of GMH. Another new provision is

## WHY FOREIGN CAPITAL CAN "BANK OF THE WALES"

by Jim Cooper

A quick glance at the facade of the Bank of New South Wales — Established 1817 — would create the impression that this was an important centre of national capital.

Mitsui Coal Pty Ltd the main shareholders of which are US and Japanese. Another one of these gentlemen also directs Boral Ltd at least 50% French capital. The Wailes has a third share in Partnership-Pacifi Ltd. The other two shareholders are the Bank of America and the Bank of Tokyo. The Bank of America is the world's largest. This consortium has a representative on the Board of the Wailes.

The super-director of them all comes from the tobacco world. Besides the Wailes, he directs — Allied Manufacturing and Trading Industries, 32% UK, Courage Breweries 45% UK, Fibre Containers Ltd a subsidiary of Leigh Marden Ltd, 40% UK, Associated Products and Distribution Pty Ltd, 49% UK, Australian United Corporation Ltd.

The Australian United Corporation is a Merchant Bank which has established links with Overseas Banks which have shareholdings in AUC. Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, Morgan Grenfell & Co Ltd, S. G. Warburg & Co Ltd, M. M. Warburg, Brinkmann Wirtz & Co, Commerzbank A. G., Effectenbank Warburg A. G., and the Industrial Bank of Japan Substantial Australian company shareholders are: The Bank of NSW, National Mutual Life Association of Australasia Ltd, The Colonial Mutual Life Association.

These links indicate why the Wailes is being used as the spearhead for foreign capital control in Australia.

One of the directors also directs Rabmann of Fall Mall, 50% UK capital, another director, Hill Samuel Aust Ltd, 85% UK capital, another director is on the Board of Thessa Holdings Ltd. This company promoted and has a large holding in Thiess Peabody.

They are ten in number, as listed in Johnson's Year Book, and most are sitting on the Boards of other companies. This fact gives a lead but not an exhaustive lead to their other associations.

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### CARVASS FOR 'THE SOCIALIST'

Will you buy our new SOCIALIST, stranger? Would you help to carvass the streets? Our country would soon be in danger. Should the Tories recapture their seats — Oh, feel like a dog in a manger. Good mate, now our fove we'll defeat.

There are folks who shall welcome our journal, For its watchwords of courage and zeal. The defence of world peace is its kernel and the key to our own country's weal — We shall fly the red flag of the people, our peers and our friendship to seal.

JOCK GRAHAM