

the SOCIALIST

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Asia-South Pacific Trade Union Unity Conference

Call for peace in our region

Representatives of Australian trade unions will join with their counterparts from at least four other nations in convening a United Trade Union Conference of Asia and Oceania at a suitable time in 1981.

A decision containing that proposal was one of several important and interesting resolutions made by a South Pacific and Asian Trade Union Unity Conference held in Sydney on November 12 to 14.

The Sydney conference was convened by a committee of union representatives known as the Committee for International Trade Union Unity. Functioning for more than twelve months that Committee had previously held seminar type gatherings in some countries in the South Pacific area.

The recent Conference drew together 92 delegates and 46 observers from 23 Australian trade union organisations and 38 delegates and observers from trade union organisations in New Zealand, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, New Caledonia, Philippines, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Hong Kong, Vietnam, India, Bangladesh and USSR.

ORGANISATIONS

The organisations represented were from different international affiliations (World Federation of Trade Unions, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, World Confederation of Labour) or were independent of such affiliation.

The Conference was officially opened by Mr J. Knox, President of the New Zealand Federation of Labor. The first session of the Conference was provided over by Mr C. Dolan, Senior Vice-President of the ACTU who also addressed the Conference.

The conference discussed four themes dealing with issues confronting unions in the Asian and South Pacific areas. Those themes were: "Strengthening of Trade Union Solidarity Against Repressive Actions by Governments Against Trade Unions," "Solidarity in our Region For The Defence of

Trade Union Rights Against the Transnationals," "Union Involvement for the Maintenance of Peace In The Region," "Strengthening Trade Union Unity in the Region irrespective of Affiliation to National and International Bodies." Discussion by the Conference delegates on each of the four themes followed presentation of specially prepared papers. A paper dealing with the effects of transnational corporations in the area was presented by Professor E. Wheelwright of Sydney University. (See story on Page 8).

Four resolutions covering each of the conference themes were prepared by a representative committee and, together with a conference declaration, became decisions of the Conference.

This conference was the first such gathering to be held in Australia. That fact and the nature of the decisions made give added significance to this conference. In the conference declaration the delegates declared their respective organisations to be a sponsoring body for the proposed United Trade Union Conference of Asia and Oceania.

The conference also established a Preparatory Committee



Cliff Dolan, Senior Vice-President of the ACTU addresses the South Pacific-Asian Trade Union Unity Conference.

consisting of Australia, New Zealand, Philippines, India and Vietnam with power to co-opt to prepare for the Conference in 1981. The Preparatory Committee is to meet in Manila in 1980.

The concept for that conference is revealed in the Declaration decision which states: "This Conference (in 1981) will be open to representatives from all tendencies in the international trade union movement, all trade union organisations will be welcome irrespective

of national or international affiliations, there will be no discrimination because of ideology, race or religion, it will be open to all." A forthright decision concerning "The Maintenance Of Peace and Stability In Our Region" was a main feature of the conference deliberations.

Affirming support for the decisions of the UNO Special Session on Disarmament the Conference resolution said: "We trade unions declare that the very aims of the trade union movement can best

be obtained in conditions of a stable and lasting peace. We declare that wars and the threat of wars hold back the economic and social advance of the working people, deny to our children the opportunity for a fulfilled and happy life and are used by some reactionary governments to limit and restrict the trade union and democratic rights of the working class. We are particularly concerned with the effects of wars and war preparations in our region."

Continued on page 12

Let's make the Socialist a real voice of the people!

The Socialist Festivals being held in the various states in the next two weeks are the first such festivals to support and publicise the Socialist.

This is the paper's 150th issue and every issue has put forward a clear and consistent position in support of the working people. The Socialist publicises the struggles of the people for a better life which can only be fully realised and made secure in a socialist society. Today's Socialist has had

many forerunners. Working class journalists and publicists have never ceased to use their pens to fight for the workers' cause. Veteran journalist, Edgar Ross, recalls the fine history of previous revolutionary and socialist newspapers in his article "From the Socialist to the Socialist" (page 7).

Our paper, therefore, has a great tradition of struggle and achievement to live by and uphold.

The Socialist is made possible only by the sacrifices of those who write and produce it, accept low wages and often work long hours to get the paper out. Our sellers are volunteers.

This has always been the way for working class newspapers which have to compete with the huge financial resources and unlimited publicity of the daily newspapers.

Dear reader! You can help by sending us stories and letters, by gaining new readers and helping financially. Let us together make the Socialist a real voice of the people! ■

the SOCIALIST Missile alert's grim lesson

The US computer mistake which began to put that country on a nuclear war footing contains the grim lesson that until there is universal disarmament, the world risks a nuclear war even by accident.

The computer error caused US officers to think that the US was under attack from missiles launched by a Soviet submarine. Ten jet interceptors from three bases in the US and Canada scrambled to confront the missiles. Meanwhile missile bases throughout the US went on alert.

The Soviet navy, TASS said that the Pentagon was having trouble reassuring people about the episode.

The UK members of TASS who are opposed to atomic weapons also drew sharp attention to the significance of the alert.

All people, irrespective of their political or religious persuasions, who are anxious that this planet has a future existence, will share such concerns about the latest incident.

Certainly, the event underlines the importance of the ratification of SALT II which limits limits on strategic weapons and which opens the way for negotiations for SALT III.

The special significance of SALT III is that for the first time it will deal with an actual reduction of arms.

Nuclear weapons do not make any distinction between capitalist and communist, believer and atheist. There is a real basis for the peace movement to be indeed the broadest movement of all time.

The Socialist believes that imperialism is the basic cause of war and that socialism stands for peace and it will go on expressing its view. However, this paper recognises the need for people who hold this view for peace who will do those who do not, nevertheless, desire peace and are prepared to work for it.

However, the time is well overdue for people opposed to socialism but who declare themselves for peace, to put greater pressure on western leaders to accept the peace offers of the socialist countries. This can be done on the basis of putting the socialist countries "to the test."

(The Socialist has no doubts about the socialist world living up to its offers, but it concedes that others might harbour doubts).

The socialist countries have made many concrete propositions such as the simultaneous dismantling of the Warsaw Pact and NATO organisations, and a joint call by those countries associated with both these organisations to support defence and disarmament.

So far, imperialist leaders have not been prepared to put themselves "to the test" by accepting these offers, but it is in the interests of the future of mankind that they should be compelled by world public opinion to accept the "peace challenge" of the socialist world. ■

—grim economic perspectives ahead

The inflation, which grips the United States has painfully stricken the budgets of ordinary and average Americans. Economic growth rates have gone down. To the regret of the Americans, the dollar continues to fall. The 1980 presidential election is now far off and they promise acite controversies around the complicated political and socio-economic problems facing the country.

According to the economic council of the *Time* magazine, which has been cataloging the American way of life for more than half a century now, the current recession goes increasingly deep and may become protracted. The recession, which has greatly worsened the living conditions of millions of Americans, will continue for at least a year or a year and a half. Inflation will remain at 10 per cent or more of the rate of negotiation for Americans are still to come, experts say.

AMERICAN DREAM UPTURNED

What about the practical aspects of inflation, this scourge of the US economy, which has led the "American dream" legend? According to the *Journal US News & World Report*, in the past 10 years the cost of a day's stay in the hospital has increased by 185 per cent (from 47 to 134 dollars), the consumer price index has jumped up by 99 per cent, petrol has gone up 178 per cent, the price of a house has risen by 150 per cent (from 25,600 to 64,000 dollars), and state university tuition fees have grown from 117 to 2,346 dollars a year.

Some American commentators admit that inflation is rooted primarily in astronomical arms spending which nullified all the promises of the US

administration to curb inflation and to halt the fall of the living standards of millions of American workers.

While the Pentagon feverishly continues to whip up the arms race, absorbing tremendous funds, 9 million Americans live below the official poverty line, 35 million live on grants

run into 150,000 million dollars a year, a real fabulous amount behind the background of the brutal exploitation of workers and their misfortunes, the dividends of the oil monopolies alone, waxing rich on the US energy crisis they unleashed, will reach 20,000 million dollars this year.



and allowances and 18.4 per cent on the very poorest. The profits of huge corporations which, after taxation,

The authorities continue to escalate military expenditures at the expense of slashing down appropriations for social needs.

For the new fiscal year, which began on October 1, the US has hawked secured about 42,000 million dollars for new weapons. Militaristic programmes become increasingly expensive.

The most conservative estimates show that the US tax payers will pay 33,000 million dollars for the development and production of MX intercontinental strategic missiles. The "Euro-rocket" missiles, which the Pentagon and its junior NATO partners intend to deploy in Western Europe, will also require billions of dollars.

The unending arms race, stimulating prices and inflation, gives rise to anger and protests on the part of all honest Americans.

Some people in American see the way-out in "restoring the global might" of the United States. This means the furtherance of militaristic hysteria, "gun-boots" policy, and the growth of international imperialism. This is a road as dangerous and dubious as far as its effectiveness is concerned.

Suborned politicians say that it is only the policy of defence, operating up wide projects for cooperation in the economic cooperation, that can pull the economy out of the quagmire of the crisis. ■

Old workers vote for action against Act

Over 3,000 attended a rally organised by the Queensland Trades and Labour Council on Wednesday to protest against Bjelke Pettersen's repressive Essential Services Act.

The meeting took place in Roma Street, Brisbane, where more than 300,000 people stopped work throughout the State to protest against the Queensland Government and union action.

A resolution was unanimously adopted calling for immediate industrial action if there was any attempt to implement the provisions of the act against any union or unionist.

Speakers included Trades and

Labour Council president, Harry Hausenchild, BWIU state secretary Hugh Hamilton, Bill Stone from the Engine Drivers, and MLA Kevin Burn.

The resolution states that 'any attempt to implement the provisions of this act must be reported to the ACTU and it will be met with immediate retaliatory action on a national basis.'

Immediate industrial action will also take place if any attempt is made to interfere with the present penalty rate structure.

Five hundred power workers, met earlier at Lang Park Oval and decided to continue campaigning for a 35-hour week. After meeting the power workers marched to the Roma Street rally where they were greeted with cheers by the crowd already assembled. ■

Townsville

Unemployed arrested for seeking talks with minister

About 40 members and supporters of the Townsville Unemployed Workers Union (UWU) staged a sit-in at the local office of the Department of Social Security (DSS) on November 17.

The UWU was protesting at the introduction of the new form SU 19B which includes a new work-test provision. The new provision requires that applicants for unemployment benefits should list several employers contacted over a certain period of time.

The UWU demanded to speak to the Minister for Social Security (Senator Ouliffe) on the department's phone. An assurance was also sought that the Townsville office would not terminate anyone for incorrectly filling in the new form.

Although an outside telephone call confirmed that the minister or her spokesman would hear the union's demands the manager of the Townsville DSS, Mr Rod Budge called the police and ordered them to close the office and arrest those refusing to leave. This act

deliberate confrontation prevented the possibility of a more satisfactory solution mere minutes away.

Consequently nine UWU people were arrested and charged with disobeying a police directive. Convictions are expected to result in a total of fines exceeding \$700. Most of those arrested intend to plead not guilty in the Magistrates Court.

The police, while orderly and non-violent, displayed encouraging solidarity, and attracted unanimous support from the general public visiting the DSS.



SA workers to stop against plan to dump govt. employees

The South Australian trade union movement has strongly reacted against the Tonkin Government's "secondment plan," denouncing it as a hand-out to private enterprise detrimental to the workers.

The SA Trades and Labour has called for a 24-hour stoppage on November 26. It will involve around 20,000 government employees.

The secondment plan, developed by Industrial Affairs Minister Mr Dean Brown, means that weekly paid government employees might be sent to work for periods as long as 12 months with private contractors carrying out government projects. They would work under the same hard conditions which apply for the contractor's own employees.

Suborned politicians say that it is only the policy of defence, operating up wide projects for cooperation in the economic cooperation, that can pull the economy out of the quagmire of the crisis. ■

government would subsidise the contractor to maintain the wages of the seconded employees at their former level.

In addition to that, workers compensation will be covered by the government and contractors will not be liable for payroll tax for the seconded employees.

This bare faced handout to private employers at the expense of the workers follows an election pledge by the Liberal Party saying that the Government would get a "fair go" in tendering for government jobs.

The move, as an leaflet put out by the South Australian branch of the SPW, says, is a payout for the help that employers gave the Liberals at the last state elections, now the Tonkin Government is helping them to increase their profits at the expense of the government

genuinely looking for work.

"The unreasoning action by Mr Budge in this instance is symptomatic of the attitude of the DSS and the Fraser Government towards the unemployed generally. In the new provision acts as a device to further harass the unemployed and does nothing to ease the present serious employment situation." Ms Hinton said.

The police, while orderly and non-violent, displayed encouraging solidarity, and attracted unanimous support from the general public visiting the DSS.

The distinction conferred to Mrs Brown for her work for peace throughout the world is also a recognition in the press about the need for peace and disarmament. ■

Function honours Freda Brown



The picture shows Freda and Bill Brown listening to UAW's Audrey McDonald speaking at the function for Freda's Lenin Peace Award.

A special function to honour SPA Central Committee member Freda Brown, 1979 winner of the Lenin Peace Prize was held recently in Sydney. Mrs Brown is President of the Women's International Democratic Federation (WIDF) and former president of the Union of Australian Workers (UAW).

The function organised by the UAW was attended by representatives of trade unions,

women's groups, peace and other progressive organisations, counsils, members of parliament, long time friends and party comrades, many of them coming from interstate.

The prize awarded to Freda Brown for her "promotion of peace among nations" is the first to be given to an Australian woman, the only other Australian recipient of the Lenin Peace Prize being the well known senator and peace leader of the 50s and 60s, Bill Morrow.

This distinction conferred to Mrs Brown for her work for peace throughout the world is also a recognition in the press about the need for peace and disarmament. ■

UAW, in the struggle for peace, says a press release from the representative of trade unions,

Speakers at the function included SPA President and National Secretary of the BWIU, Pat Cianci, USSR's Consul General, Mr Ivan Fedorenko, Erica Raabager, from the Women's International League of Peace and Freedom; Sam Goldblum, Executive Secretary of the Committee for International Co-operation and Disarmament and Vice-president of the Australian Peace Council and Audrey McDonald, National Secretary of the UAW.

Over \$350 were raised at the function. The money will be invested in the publication of peace material and in placing an advertisement in the press about the need for peace and disarmament. ■

Talk Back By Ken Rowsthorne

News item: Pope John Paul has admitted that physicist and mathematician Galileo was unjustly persecuted by the Catholic Church. In 1633 the Inquisition forced Galileo to renounce the theory that the sun and not the earth was the centre of the universe.

Now, 349 years later the Catholic admits the wrong done then...and all this time the earth has been circling the sun just the same.

Did someone mention the word "infallible"?

On the very same day that Fidel Castro spoke to the UN General Assembly three US warships with 1800 marines on board set sail for exercises at Guantanamo bay, held by US troops in Cuba.

During his speech to the General Assembly Fidel applauded Fidel Castro 17 times and gave him a standing ovation.

There was no applause in the Assembly or anywhere else for the US show of gunboat diplomacy.

Selling more of the farm.....

A recent announcement that the British National Coal Board were going to invest in granite quarries in NSW approved the purchase. Over 51,000 million pounds (English) is available. Under section 21F of the foreign investment act, investments could be tax free.

Now which health insurance scheme will I take? There is one to provide as I am healthy, another will give me some help if I am a little sick. There is also one that will take me to hospital but won't pay the bill, while I am in hospital. Any one of these I use if I get a sizeable weekly contribution. If I miss \$17 I get a family cover, but still have to pay for the doctor's fee besides. But if I am permanently incapacitated or all and really need cover you are unassured. Wonderful system, this free enterprise!

Party Building Party Building Big leap in Press Fund again

As this, our 15th issue of the Socialist goes to press the Socialist Festival activities will open in Sydney. There are many functions in all states which will not only be enjoyable, but also raise money for the Press Fund and increased sales of the Socialist.

A big program of concerts for the Soviet entertainment group which is attending the Festival is arranged. See details on p. 11.

The Press Fund total almost reached the \$500 for the issue — and that's more like our needs every week. It takes us over the \$5,000 for the next year. We are sure that the response by party due to the regular publication of the 15-pager.

We are expecting big amounts to flow in for the next issue when the proceeds of the Socialist Festival activities are accounted.

Assistant General Secretary of the Socialist Party, Alan Miller, recently returned from a speaking tour in Queensland.

In Brisbane he addressed an aggressive meeting of party members, a gathering of members and supporters to celebrate the November Socialist Revolution in Russia and a meeting of waterside workers. He also addressed meetings of members and supporters in Ipswich and on the Gold Coast.

Sydney's Marrickville Branch canvassed for the Socialist Festival with the last issue of the paper got a good reception and sold about 50 Socialists. Everyone was greatly

enthusiastic by the experience.

Our Victorian organisation has expanded with the formation of a new Party Branch in West Heidelberg. Its exciting class suburb. We wish the Branch good success.

SA reports joining up three new members this week. We congratulate the new members on their decision to join the Party with a real future!

Socialist Party speakers at the Sydney Domain are drawn:

Edgar Ross \$20, Fred Rowan \$5, Chappy Travis \$10, Ivony Sanders \$5, Peggy O'Reilly \$100, Bruce Toome \$20, Pre-Festival Sales \$15, D.P. Cartwright \$10, W.J. Leach \$10, C.G. \$50, W.J. Leach \$10, J. (Addisale) \$20, T.J. (Addisale) \$20, Limb \$2, Arthurson \$20, Peter \$20, A. (Addisale) \$30, S.C.T. (Sydney) \$10, J. Bud \$20, A. (Addisale) \$10, S. Condon \$10, S. Condon \$10, P. Allen \$10, W. Carey \$10, P. Allen \$10. Total: \$487.83. Proceeds total: \$5345.48.

Steve Pappas, one of the best and most consistent sellers of the Socialist.

Sydney meeting gives

Strong push for land rights in NSW

by Hannah Middleton

Representatives from Aboriginal communities at Wallaga Lake, Roosby Park and Kempsay joined members of the Aboriginal Legal Service, representatives of trade unions, land rights support groups, the UAW and other organisations at a public meeting called by the Trade Union Committee on Aboriginal Rights in the Sydney Trades Hall.

The audience of 40 heard Mr Maurice KENN, MLA, Chairman of the NSW Select Committee on Aborigines and Mr Pat O'Shane, Co-ordinator of the Aboriginal Task Force speak on the work of the Select Committee particularly in relation to land rights for the Aboriginal citizens of this state.

Mr KENN reported that to date the Select Committee has held 49 meetings, received 75 submissions and heard 84 witnesses. The Task Force Liaison Officers have travelled over 40,000 km to visit 55 Aboriginal communities while the Committee itself has visited 34 NSW centres and others in South Australia and the Northern Territory.

NOT TO MING

Despite this, Ms O'Shane pointed out, not even the approximately 46,000 Aboriginal people living in NSW have been able to express their wishes and opinions on land rights to the Select Committee.

Mr KENN indicated that the Committee's timetable is fluid and expressed his personal opinion that a range of options should be presented to Aboriginal communities for consideration and decision before the final recommendations are submitted to the government.

Mr Paul Coe from the Aboriginal Legal Service (Reform) stressed the importance of regional meetings funded by the government where Aborigines could consider these

options in their own way and without pressure or interference. Mr Bill Knorr and Mr George Petersen and others from the audience enthusiastically supported this call.



The Wallaga Lake, part of an Aboriginal land area.

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Have a taste of Aboriginal art Right Now!



Members of the Aboriginal-Dancer Dance Theatre company during one of their performances last year.

Between November 28 and December 2 the Aboriginal-Dancer Dance Theatre will present the new Aboriginal production Right Now! at the Cause Theatre, University of Sydney.

Participating in the Careers in Dance course run by the Aboriginal-Dancer Skills Development Scheme and is funded by the Australia Council through the Aboriginal Arts Board. The students come from all over the country and represent the various black cultural groups which exist in Australia.

The Dance Theatre developed to fill the need to express Aboriginal skills and creativity through dance. Since its creation in 1976 the group has performed both locally and internationally, participating in the Second African and Black World Festival of Arts and Culture in Nigeria, at the First Bi-Racial Dance Festival of Tahiti and in Papua New Guinea at the Independence Day celebrations.

Fraser Govt. seeks to destroy legal aid

At a recent meeting of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs held in Adelaide it was determined that the Fraser Government was attempting to destroy the Legal Aid Services to Aborigines.

Aid Services Movement in South Australia in its work with Aboriginal legal aid. It was also suggested that Aboriginal legal services should be incorporated into a national government legal aid office. Judge Lewis, of the Local and District Criminal Court, told the Committee that the provision of a separate Aboriginal service was appropriate to their state of extreme disadvantage. He pointed out that submission originally prepared for the committee by the previous State Government and said that recent statistics prepared in South Australia had shown the gravity of the plight of Aborigines in their dealings with the criminal law.

The Department of Aboriginal Affairs attempted to convince the Committee that the Legal

Soviet participation at agricultural show a success

The Soviet Union was guest nation at the 1979 Australian National Field Days (ANFD), held in Orange, NSW, last week.

National Field Days are held to display agricultural equipment and techniques.

Chairman of the ANFD, Allen Hawke, said: "As well as giving Australian farmers the opportunity to see the latest agricultural technology, the Soviet Union's participation at our Field Days will also be a two great agricultural nations the opportunity of improving mutual understanding."

The Minister Counsellor of the USSR Embassy, Yuri Pavlov, and other Soviet representatives, attended the Field Days.

Mr Pavlov said that "establishment of bilateral contacts will favour the understanding between the peoples of the two countries." He referred to the fact that Australia and the Soviet Union had been allied against the common enemies - German fascism and

Australia and scientific socialism

W.J. Brown

What Lenin termed the third component of Marxism... the theory and practice of scientific socialism is as clearly relevant to Australia as it is relevant to the rest of the world. Australia and the political economy of Marxism.

The great historical task facing the advocates of scientific socialism in Australia is to build, through a series of steps, including, conviction, organisation and action around the theory and practice of this science. Australia, with its strong petty bourgeois content, is consequent strong social roots for development of both "left" and right opportunism and all kinds of "escape" fads presents a difficult task.

Motivating Force The Australian labor movement, removed from the more developed industrial centres of the world, did not become alive to the ideas of socialism until the 1890's.

In line with British and European history, the first expression of socialism in Australia was utopian socialism.

However, its main advocates, particularly William Lane, regarded socialist service to the Australian labor movement. As Marxist historian E.W. Campbell expressed it: "William Lane 'belongs the credit for launching the first serious attempt in Australia to combine socialism with the mass labor movement.'"

Analysing world history, Marx goes to the conclusion that the class struggle was the motivating force of history. Class struggle in itself was nothing. The labor movement, which Lane made had not been class struggle. Indeed they had recognised its existence.

More, they had recognised its significance. They employed it to forcibly overthrow feudalism. What Marx discovered was that class struggle needed to be waged by the working class for a specific purpose... the purpose of working class achieving class power and establishing a new socialist society.

In his work on "The Three sources of Marxism", Lenin pointed out that Marxism was the best that was created by mankind in the nineteenth century in the shape of German philosophy, English political economy and French socialism.

Why Marxism? Lenin pointed out the profound contribution to the class conflict between capital and labor by the French socialists in the Revolution of 1848 when the "June days of 1848 in Paris finally established that the proletariat alone was socialist by nature, all doctrines of non-class socialism and non-class politics proved sheer nonsense."

Lenin went on to show that towards the end of the first century from 1848 to 1871 (the Paris Commune) "pre-Marxian socialism died away." Marxism had emerged as the only basic scientific socialist approach giving a clear lead to the workers and their allies on the fight for socialism.

SOCIALISM AND TRADE UNIONS

Lenin stressed the basic task of combining socialism with the trade union and labor movement was "extremely difficult." "In each country," he wrote, "this combination takes place historically, in a specific way, in accordance with the conditions prevailing at the time in each country."

The conditions in Australia in the second half of the 19th century would tend to favour the



Capitalism had undergone extensive development by the end of the 19th century. The picture shows one of the big railways projects built in the 1860's.

ideas of reformism, contentment with reforms under capitalism. The idealist, utopian concept of replacing capitalism with a more humane society had limited support. Lenin stressed that "Marxism is more fully and firmly mastered by the working class and its ideology in conditions of the greatest development of big industry."



Jim Cairns at the Murray River at a strand of the Earth Festival.

While capitalism had undergone extensive development in Australia by the end of the 19th century, truly big industry had not yet emerged. In addition, both the gold rush and the occasionally resolute position by some workers to "own their own piece of land and break 'free' of the city capitalism" have had a moderating effect on the working class.

William Lane's unique plea was to end the exploitation, oppression and suffering of capitalism not by organizing for revolutionary change but by changing human beings into better, more kindly individuals.

Enthusiastically by the Germans the Australian workers suffered the economic crisis of the '90s and the lack of leadership in the idealist brand of socialism. Lane and a band of newly disillusioned followers set up Paragay in South Australia in 1897.

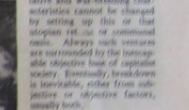
COMMUNE STYLE

While Lane led Australia to live with supporters and followers in a commune style in Paragay, Jim Cairns has sought his commune style right here in Australia. Not far from the Murray River, a William Lane of a Jim Cairns might be seen in the commune style of a Jim Cairns group. So might be seen a group of people in a commune style of a Jim Cairns group. So might be seen a group of people in a commune style of a Jim Cairns group.



Utopian ventures. Attempts at such utopian ventures have failed to establish any durable form of a new communist or socialist society. Utopian 'islands' of supposed egalitarian and communal content, one by one sink into the same fate of commercial disaffection and disillusionment which befell Lane's Paragay episode.

Capitalism, with its exploitative and war-tending characterisation cannot be changed by setting up this or that commune, or communal oasis. Always such ventures are surrounded by the inevitable heat of capitalist society. Eventually, breakdown is inevitable, often from subjective or subjective factors, usually both.



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Today, the Socialist Party of Australia alone in the Australian labor movement is adhering to the basic scientific principles of national and international class struggle proposed by Marx and developed by Lenin. This is an incontrovertible fact. It is a statement of revolutionary principle within which there is full recognition of the need, mass consciousness of, and support for scientific socialism in the Australian labor movement.

History of the Australian Labor Movement 1840-1900. The Communist Party of Australia 1900-1950. The Communist Party of Australia 1950-1970. The Communist Party of Australia 1970-1979. The Communist Party of Australia 1979-1980.

1. History of the Australian Labor Movement 1840-1900. The Communist Party of Australia 1900-1950. The Communist Party of Australia 1950-1970. The Communist Party of Australia 1970-1979. The Communist Party of Australia 1979-1980.

2. History of the Australian Labor Movement 1840-1900. The Communist Party of Australia 1900-1950. The Communist Party of Australia 1950-1970. The Communist Party of Australia 1970-1979. The Communist Party of Australia 1979-1980.



Fraser's worker lighting at the barricade in Paris during the spring of 1937.

International trade union conference examines

Employment and poverty caused by transnationals' creeping

Examining the role of multinational companies in the region at the South Pacific and Asian Trade Union Conference held in Sydney last week, Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Sydney, Mr Tom Wright delivered a paper on the influence of transnational corporations on world development.

Quoting several different studies, Professor Wheelwright said that a new development, over the last decade or so, has been the location of many transnational corporations in many underdeveloped countries producing manufactured goods for the world market in what he called "export zones" or "cheap labour havens" or "world market factories".

The relocation of these transnationals means in fact the emergence of a new industrial division of labour which replaces the old one where underdeveloped countries were incorporated into the world capitalist economy as suppliers of raw materials. Now underdeveloped countries are becoming location sites of manufacturing industries controlled by foreign capital and producing for the world market.

STRUCTURAL
The main implications of this new situation are structural unemployment, the traditional industrialised countries and continued development in the underdeveloped nations.

Professor Wheelwright pointed out that there is contradiction between the clear symptoms of social and economic crisis in individual countries, but that most large companies have boomed during the recession years, with the exception, perhaps of 1974-75.

This situation has been brought about by the eager

The main characteristics of these factories, located in so-called free-production zones, are their direct access to air-sea ports, or sea-ports, good facilities for transport and communications; the means of production are imported by the company; there are no charges for exports, very few restrictions



Vampirism
On transfer of capital and profits, variety of incentives such as tax exemptions, etc; political incentives such as special rights of the labor force, elimination of minimum wage laws, a longer working week, etc.

During the late sixties this spread to South East Asia, South and Central America, and parts of Africa.

The spread took place at great speed — in 1966 there were "world market factories" operating in only four underdeveloped countries, but by 1974 they were operating in 39 such countries.

The main areas affected are South East Asia, the Caribbean (including Mexico), and a few developing countries in the north of Africa.

force which is mainly female and under the age of 20.

The new division of labour has been made possible by advanced technology of transport and communications which renders production less dependent on geographical distances; b) the development of a technology of production which makes it possible to decompose complex production processes into elementary units of work, that is, it fragments the jobs and the skills operators.

A third element contributing to the new situation is the development of a worldwide reserve army of labour — the population explosion in Third World countries has ensured its existence.

Roughly, wages paid in these countries are between 10 to 20 per cent less than paid in traditionally industrialised countries. Because of the extent of unemployment companies can easily get rid of a worn-out labour force when they reach 21 and should get adult pay.

When wages do rise capital moves out: thus it went first to Hong Kong, Taiwan and South Korea. In the 60's, then to cheaper Singapore in 1969, Malaysia in 1972, Thailand in 1973 and Indonesia in 1974. A basic three tier technological hierarchy has developed. Industrialised nations will not have much effect on the development or drive for economic independence of less developed countries. It will keep them dependent on industrialised countries.

A recent *Tax* report told of the conference of unity and solidarity held by trade unions of Asian and Pacific countries in Sydney last week. It reported on speeches made at the conference by the President of the New Zealand Federation of Labour, Jim Knox, General Secretary of the All India Trade Union Congress, Krishna Gopal Shrivastava and the National Secretary of the BWIU, Pat Clancy.

The report noted messages of greeting coming from politicians, union organisers and told of a delegation from the WFU. Ex-Prime Minister Gough Whitlam's return from a tour of South East Asia was also reported in the Soviet mass media, especially his progressive vision on Vietnam following his visit there and his comments on the question of aid to Kampuchea.

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of the Pacific Ocean is used as a testing ground for nuclear war weapons by the French and US Governments and the Americans have announced plans to store their nuclear waste in the region, he said. "The situation in the region needs a strong and by-organised working class demanding that war and the threat of nuclear war be banished from our region."

PROTEST DAY
Mr Clancy proposed that the conference declare its support to the World Peace Council Protest Day which will take place on November 27 against the NATO council meeting, being held the same day to decide on US plans to station medium range nuclear missiles in Europe. "We should add our voice to the many millions throughout the world who will be calling upon the NATO Council to drop this dangerous plan and upon the US Government to abandon

America whips up hysteria

US rows — laws tense

TEHRAN: Although the Iranian Government did not instigate the recent (second tier) election stages which are no longer competitive (second tier) the third one is that of least developed countries which have been selected for the most labour-intensive, low skill investments such as food processing, garments and electronics assembly. This is a very slow "product cycle" which ties the pace of industrial development in the Third World to the pace of industrial obsolescence in the developed countries. It clearly perpetuates their dependence. Professor Wheelwright said.

GOING 'OFF-SHORE'
Eventually, all competing capitals will be drawn into this process. As capital controllers discover they can make more profits by shifting part of their production 'off-shore' others will be forced to do the same on pain of extinction. Currently, there are 600 Australian based companies transferring overseas; by the end of 1979 it is estimated that their total overseas investment has reached a billion dollars.

The likely results of the new international division of labour are that while industrialisation countries will suffer a process of de-industrialisation, as it has already happened in the US, Western Europe, New Zealand and Australia (where at least 200,000 people have lost their jobs, especially in textiles, garments, footwear and electronics due to this process) this kind of development in the advanced industrialised countries maintain the lead, controlling research and development. They pass on to countries such as South Korea, Singapore and Taiwan those industries or pro-

Member of the Islamic Revolutionary Council, Bani Adr, in a press interview stressed that contradictions between Iran and the United States are not restricted to the deposed Shah. The chief problem, he said, is that the United States had pursued a policy of interference in the internal affairs of Iran and had not yet given up the idea of installing a puppet government.

The local television has shown a film of espionage activities of the US Embassy in Teheran. The documentary was made with classified material that Embassy officials failed to destroy before the students took over.

The United States also has the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg which can be airlifted very quickly and a Mediterranean fleet which could be rapidly deployed.

It is noted that the US army command intends to airlift 1,500 officers and men from various parts of the US to Fort Hood, Texas, which is the usual assembly point for units being sent abroad.

An anti-Iranian hysteria campaign is being whipped up with the existing politicians to deport 4,300 Iranians in the US.

CPGB sets out to form broad democratic alliance
LONDON: The 36th Congress of Great Britain (CPGB) set before it the task of creating a broad democratic alliance capable of bringing about a radical change in the course of events, leading Britain out of the political and economic crisis.

In its political resolution the congress pointed out the coming to power of the conservatives marked a new dangerous shift to the right in British politics, a further attack on democratic rights of trade unions and a renunciation of the problem of Northern Ireland.

In the field of foreign policy the Executive Committee report stressed that by intensifying its struggle for armaments, the Tories have demonstrated their intention to give support to opponents of détente and to forces obstructing disarmament. A message from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) to the congress welcomed the fraternal Communist Party of Great Britain ideological and organisational cohesion of the Marxist-Leninist international basis, strengthening ties with the masses and taking part in the struggle for peace and socialism for the benefit of your country."

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Kampuchean representatives denounce

Western campaign seeks to help Pol Pot gangs

Phnom Penh: "Capitalist propaganda deliberately distorts reality, detracting from the efforts of people's revolutionary power to normalise the life of the population and the great and effective assistance given to Kampuchea by Vietnam, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries," said the Executive Secretary of the Central Committee of the United National Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea, Iou Por, in an interview with a *Tax* correspondent.

"First and foremost," he said, "it is necessary to stress, once again, that the difficulties facing Kampuchea today are the consequence of the domination by the pro-Pot clique of subversive activities in border areas."

The possibilities of the Kampuchean and Phnom Penh ports as well as the leadership of the People's Revolutionary Council, but it is possible to overcome in a few months the enormous damage done to the country by the Pol Pot-Leng Sary regime.

A similar statement was made by Kampuchea's ambassador in Hanoi. He said that attempts of capitalist and Peking propaganda to present the situation as catastrophic pursue the aim of justifying interference in Kampuchea's internal affairs under cover of "human aid."

Following talks in New York between Keng Praet, delegation leader of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea now staying in the USSR and I. Turkmen special representative of the UN Security Council, it was agreed that all humanitarian aid will be given through the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea, whose special agencies will distribute the aid.

Nicaragua goes ahead despite right-left sabotage

Members of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua visited the city of Managua yesterday to reaffirm their authority and the organisation in charge of education and social maintenance.

On the basis of the views expressed in the course of these meetings and in accordance with the existing proposals, the government is drafting a programme to assist the citizens

more than a million and a half hectares which will give employment to rural inhabitants.

The ultra-leftists, however, are trying to prevent the implementation of the revolutionary reforms, to compromise the new government and bring Nicaragua back to the camp of reaction. The ultra-leftists, just as the ultra-rightists, said

Minister Jimmie Wheelock, set against popular power and the program of national regeneration. He called them agents of imperialism and Somalia.

New President in Bolivia
A woman, Mrs Lidia Gueller was unanimously elected as the new President of Bolivia by the National Congress of the country. Mrs Gueller replaces Colonel Natesch who had appointed himself centre of children's education.

The program seeks to improve the sale of its products, sanitary conditions and the setting up of a centre of children's education.

The government is also carrying out a program of urgent assistance to the rural population. At the time of the dictatorship peasants and agricultural workers were cruelly exploited.

The best lands belonged to Somalia, members of his family and the tyant's accomplices. The expropriation of the "landfunders" who fled from the country has made it possible to found a land fund of your country."

Communists' call for peace accords in the SE Asia — South Pacific region

Speaking on union involvement for the maintenance of peace in the South Pacific and Asian region at the International Trade Union conference held in November 12-14 in Sydney, Federal Secretary of the BWIU and National Convener of the Committees for International Trade Union Unity, Pat Clancy called to consider a proposal

for an "Asian peace accord" in the area to meet for the purpose of reaching agreement on "Asian peace accords" equivalent to the Helsinki Accords.

Today's world picture is a grim one, said Mr Clancy in his contribution. The arms race continues at an accelerated pace. Current world military expenditure is over \$1,000 million a day, that is, over \$40 million an hour.

The world is spending more money on arms as it does on health, despite the fact that 370 million people are undernourished, 1,000 million lack adequate housing, 1,500 million

lack effective medical care; 200 million children do not attend school and 800 million people are totally illiterate.

The Australian Government spends one million dollars yearly for military purposes. Mr Clancy pointed out

A few weeks ago South Africa exploded a nuclear bomb off its shores. The Government, in the meantime, is pressing its Western European partners to allow the stationing of Pershing 2 and cruise-type nuclear missiles in their territory.

Countries in the South Pacific and Indian Ocean region are used as sites for various forms of war bases, including so-called navigational aids designed for the use of guided missiles and other modern weapons.

The US Government is currently enlarging its base on Diego Garcia, sending additional warships to be stationed there and providing a constant stream of US warships to the Indian Ocean. Mr Clancy also denounced the existence of US war bases in Australia, the thousands of American troops in South Korea and the US-Japan Security Treaty which provides for a series of US war bases to be stationed in the area.



The Carter Administration has whipped up hysteria among the US people. The picture shows one of the many anti-Iran demonstrations in the US cities.

NEW YORK: Questioned at a press conference as to whether the United States is envisaging the use of military force against Iran, a White House spokesman said he did not wish to engage in guesswork.

It is however known that the US army command intends to airlift 1,500 officers and men from various parts of the US to Fort Hood, Texas, which is the usual assembly point for units being sent abroad.

An anti-Iranian hysteria campaign is being whipped up with the existing politicians to deport 4,300 Iranians in the US.

Australia in Soviet news

MOSCOW: The Soviet press has been giving plenty of space to happenings in Australia and the Pacific theatre.

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A South American woman guerrilla

Workers want the Pacific and Indian Oceans free of the arms race

Vietnam denounces

China masses troops for another attack

Reports from Hanoi suggest that Chairman Huo Gao-Feng has obtained promises of Western support and now intends to put his regime's war plans against Vietnam into operation.

Chinese forces facing the border with Vietnam have, claims the Foreign Ministry in Hanoi, been increased from 12 to 15 divisions — around one-twelfth of China's total regular forces excluding local defence regiments.

In addition to these 15 divisions (probably around 157,500 men), the Peking authorities have increased squad and platoon sized forces posted at border enclaves to company and battalion strength.

Backing the forces already at the border are believed to be massive logistic reserves still retained at positions in the Chinese hinterland.

LIMITLESS FORCES

Published Western intelligence reports suggest that the Chinese army is virtually limitless.

The 261 main force and local defence divisions of the Army are known to include 40 infantry, 12 armoured, 121 infantry and 3 airborne divisions.

The fully-armed sections of the Peoples Militia are said to number up to seven million men.

Parts of the main force of the army and armoured divisions are clearly amongst those already committed in the border region.

Hanoi reports suggest that artillery, rockets and tanks have been moved to key border and other positions, including traditional invasion points, facing Hoahn Mo, Hui Nghi Quan and Ba Son.

Directed by specially-created communications and command centres, the deployment of troops and material in forward positions appears to be proceeding apace.

East Timor — a genocide taking place at Australia's door

A report in the November issue of *East Timor News*, the bulletin published by the East Timor News Agency, sheds more light on the plight of hundreds of thousands of Timorese people.

International Red Cross (IRC) and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) figures indicate that the Indonesian Government has set up 150 concentration camps in East Timor, each with about 2,000 people in them — which gives a total of 300,000.

New bulletin estimates that 120,000 out of 75,000 are on the brink of starvation, the same as in the Indonesian concentration camps visited by IRC. 80,000 are doomed to die.

Conservative estimates, supported even by Australian sceptics of the Indonesian take-over, put the figure of another document quoted at this year's ACOFA course.

Until recently, trucks used for transportation to the border numbered an average of 100 a day. This seems now to have been increased to 500. Mule-trains are still used for transport in mountainous areas.

In recent weeks all these activities have been under way. Actual artillery, rocket and infantry assaults into Vietnamese territory have been reported.

One hundred of these, causing death, injury and damage to property, were reported between late September and late October. The campaign continues.

BOATS AND PLANES

The Peking regime is also undertaking hostile naval manoeuvres in the South China Sea.

The precise status of the Chinese Navy is a matter for conjecture — economic problems appear to have disrupted an ambitious naval construction programme started in 1960.

It is not clear that the Peking does have the naval strength to attempt a seaborne invasion of Vietnam.

In the first 21 days of October alone, China is known to have committed 650 incursions into Vietnamese waters, in some cases backing the incursions with combat aircraft.

WAR HYSTERIA

This massive array of military might has been seen in context both with public statements by Chinese leaders that they are committed to a second lesson, and with blatant attempts to whip up hysteria in the West.

Decisive Chinese action against Vietnam was never likely to take place until the conclusion of Hua's west European tour but fears are rising that it may not be long delayed.

Continuing efforts by "westerners", notably British, circles to resupply Pol Pot troops in their dwindling enclave in western Kampuchea serve only to underline these fears.

Agitators have infiltrated mountain areas of Cao Bang, Hoang Lien Son, Ha Tuyen and Lai Chau, apparently in an attempt to whip up anti-Vietnamese disturbances by minority tribesmen.

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(From London's *New Worker*)

Agreement reached at Zimbabwe conference

Agreement was finally reached at the Lancaster House conference on the future of Zimbabwe last week. The agreement, after ten weeks of talks, came from a compromise proposal put forward by President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia.

Under the agreement the Patriotic Front forces would come under the authority of a British Governor, yet to be named, in an equal footing to Salisbury forces.

At the heart of the problems which prolonged the talks was the British Government insistence on provisions blatantly designed to assist the white settlers in Southern Rhodesia and their puppet government led by Bishop Muzorewa.

British Foreign Minister Lord Carrington, who chairs the Lancaster House Conference had insisted that a two month transitional period was enough to arrange elections to take place.

Every single front-line state and, I believe, all members of the Commonwealth except Britain thought unreasonable," said Arthur Chadravanga, member of the Patriotic Front delegation in an interview a few days before the breakthrough.

It was impossible even to fix a full scale election in that time, as it was not a conventional army but a guerrilla

army which could not be reached by conventional means of communications. "Comrade Nkomo can broadcast a cease-fire instruction from Salisbury, but many of our fighters used to official trucks will not obey it is he," explained Mr Chadravanga.

They will not cease fire until they are told to do so face-to-face by people they know and trust and that will take much more than two months.

The only possible logic to the two month time-table which had been proposed by Lord Carrington, was that it would assist the puppet regime to win in an election which would be far from fair.

Mr Chadravanga also pointed out that it was impossible to talk of a free Zimbabwe until the country's government has the power to proceed with large scale land reform, bringing the white-owned areas into communal cultivation Under British Government

control, he denounced so far, white settlers would retain entrenched constitutional land owning rights.

Robert Mugabe and Joshua Nkomo, leaders of the Patriotic Front.

ANC call to save the Pietermaritzburg 12

The African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa is waging a campaign for the release of 12 of its members detained at the Pietermaritzburg Supreme Court on charges of "high treason".

The racist South African regime accuses these 12 ANC fighters of recruiting, training and arming people with the aim of overthrowing their fascist regime.

This is the first case of anyone being charged with High Treason in South Africa since the 1956 — 61 Treason Trial.

As part of the show trial, regime intends to bring into court three truckloads of arms allegedly smuggled into the country by the ANC since its early 60's, to "prove" that the present regime is a dangerous and deadly force.

The Australian Government measures taken to create hysteria in the white sector of the Pietermaritzburg 12 and all political prisoners in South Africa give prominence of status to all ANC fighters; to take present action against apartheid criminals visiting other countries.

Jack knows now that it is

Letters to the Editor

Marxism and Aborigines

I read with keen interest W.J. Brown's article on Karl Marx' Historical Materialism as applied to the life and history of the Australian Aborigine people — a truthful, honest

proof. Bill Brown was able to give readers a simple explanation of Karl Marx's historical materialism in the October 24 edition of *The Socialist*. Many thanks to Bill for explaining, in a language that most workers are able to understand, Karl Marx's theory on historical materialism.

It is a crying shame how the Aboriginal people swept the early capitalist settlers swept the carpet after they invaded the Aboriginal people (some of whom two hundred years ago).

About the only place some Aborigines were able to gain equality under capitalism, was in Australian professional boxing rings, where a few of them were able to distinguish themselves.

Among the most notable of these was Jack Hansen former lightweight boxing Champion of Australia, now a Sydney water/froter front, Jack Hansen joined the Sydney Branch of the Waterside Workers' Federation after the money-hungry, cigar-smoking light promoter

decided to go further up the line. Since he joined our union, Jack Hansen has been on several deputations to Canberra on behalf of his people, for equal rights and land rights.

He was unfortunately, have had little success.

Jack knows now that it is

only through the organized, educated might of the working class that his people will eventually gain equal rights, when all Australians are living and working under peace, security and socialism in Australia, in our lifetime. I sincerely hope.

C. Travis

Farewell to composer of Guantanamera

Joseito Fernandez, who wrote the music of Cuba's world-famous song, "Guantanamera," died in Havana's Callista Garcia Hospital on October 11th. He had been in hospital for some weeks with heart trouble.

Cubans called Joseito the King of Melody. His colleague Barbaro said of him: "Cuba has lost a great son, and we musicians have lost our best friend. Every Cuban's traditional music, and Dignu Perez, said: "We will all miss him, but his immortal 'Guantanamera' will live on for ever in Cuba's heart."

"He always wanted to work for the people," said his daughter, Migdalia. "He considered the real creation of 'Guantanamera' and he was deeply moved by their devotion to him and their love of the song."

So death for Joseito Fernandez will never be felt or silent, for Cuba will never forget the glorious gift he gave her, the bewitching and beautiful "Guantanamera".

MacLeod

The Socialist

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On Vietnamese "refugees"

A book entitled simply "The Boat People," recently published in Australia, states that since 1975 over 290,000 boat people have left Vietnam.

Mr Gregory's Atlas gives the total population of Vietnam as 42,400,000 (North Vietnam, 22,700,000; South Vietnam, 19,700,000). If only say, 300,000 have left in the four years since the final victory, would appear to be a figure of just slightly over one per cent of the total population.

Comment seems superfluous.

W. Douglas

Diary Dates

Chilean musical night

The Luis Emilio Recabarren Society is organising a musical night on Friday, December 1 at 535 George Street, 2nd Floor.

The function, which will begin at 7.00 p.m., will feature singers and musical groups from Chile, Uruguay, Bolivia, Australia, Vietnam and Zimbabwe. Tickets \$2.

Curry night in Brisbane

The Maritime Branch and the North Branch of the SPA are holding a "Curry Evening" at Dennis Bailey's place on Sunday November 24 to raise money for the Socialist. The function will begin at 4.00 p.m. and will feature different curries, and folk singers.

Meeting and concert against racism

A public meeting and concert against racism will be held on Monday November 26, at 7.00 p.m. at the Trades Hall Auditorium (corner of Dixon and Coulburn Streets, Sydney). Speakers will include the Commissioner for Community Relations and the Meeting Against Fascism and Racism (MAFAR).

The Truth about Vietnam-China relations over the last 30 years

A White Paper published by Ministry of Foreign Affairs Socialist Republic of Vietnam in 1978.

This devastating exposure of the manoeuvres and intrigues of the powers has led to Vietnam over three decades, will account readers. Professor James Marchant, Professor of Social and Political Change, Australian National University, notes that "This document, required reading for anyone who seriously aspires to an understanding of the way the Hanoi leadership is responding to the present international situation."

Bulk orders from New Era Books and Records, 118 Sussex Street, Sydney, Phone 29 6461 and from New Era Bookshops.

Price \$1. Postage extra.



The Socialist Festival

Don't miss this outstanding and popular Soviet variety entertainment group attending all Socialist Festival functions.

- ★ The Bayan Players — an accordion trio from the Ural Mountains
- ★ Baritone Leonid Hartonov — former soloist of the Red Army Choir.
- ★ Soprano Tatiana Vinogradova — soloist from the Moscow Symphony Orchestra.

Playing and singing folk, popular and classical numbers.

All Merited Artists of the Soviet Union.

Functions

Sydney

Saturday November 24th at 3 p.m. Community Centre, 142 Addison Road Marrickville.

Tuesday November 27th at 8 p.m. Henry Lawson House, Revesby Workers Club, Brett St., Revesby Admission \$2.

Wednesday November 28th at 7.45 p.m. Sydney Trade Union Club, 111 Foveaux Street, Surry Hills Admission \$5 (Arranged by the Sydney Trade Union Club).

Monday December 10th at 8 p.m. A farewell concert with local artists. Sydney Trade Union Club, 111 Foveaux Street, Surry Hills. Admissions \$4 Adults. Pensioners, students, unemployed \$2. No bookings. Pay at the door.

Wollongong

Sunday November 25th at 5 p.m. Wollongong Worker's Club Market Street, Wollongong Admission \$2

Adelaide

Friday, November 30th at 8 p.m. British Workmen's Club

Saturday December 1st at 2.30 p.m. Irish-Australian Club, Carrington Street, City (As part of the Adelaide Socialist Festival which commences 10 p.m.)

Victoria

Sunday, December 2nd at 8 p.m. Nicholas Hall, 148 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne Admission \$3

Monday December 3rd at 8 p.m. Cyprian Community Social Club 15 Hefferlan Lane, Melbourne Admission \$3

Brisbane

Thursday, December 6th at 7.30 p.m. Waterside Workers Club, 471 Adelaide Street, Brisbane A grand concert sponsored by the Queensland Trades and Labour Council in aid of East Timor and Kampuchea.

Friday, December 7th at 7.30 p.m. Teachers' Union Building, 495 Boundary Street Springfield, A Socialist Festival function.

Friday, December 7th from 12 noon to 2 p.m. Open air concert in King George Square.

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ATEA to seek further increases in 1980

Workers employed by Telecom Australia have been advised to stay their hand on any further industrial action in support of their wage claims.

However, the workers will proceed next year to seek further wage increases, their recent claims remaining unmet, and they will back those claims with any necessary forms of industrial action.

These are the effects of decisions of the Federal Council of the Australian Telecommunication Employees' Association (ATEA), the union covering the bulk of Telecom workers.

The Council's decision followed its consideration of a decision given last week on outstanding wage claims by the Australian Arbitration Commission.

That decision increased wage rates but by amounts falling far short of Telecom workers' demands.

It is also obvious from the Council's decision that both the recent decision and its members had reason to anticipate a more substantial rise.

The Arbitration proceedings which resulted in the recent wage increase followed a campaign of industrial action launched early this year.

This campaign was terminated approximately in July and followed some recommendations made to the ATEA by certain leaders of the ACTU.

At the recent ACTU Congress one spokesman for ATEA was critical of himself and other officers of that union for having accepted the proposition to call off their campaign of industrial action.

That thinking as put before the ACTU is revealed in the decision of the ATEA Federal Council.

The strongly worded resolution was directly official of the Fraser Government, Telecom Australia, and the Arbitration Commission.

In announcing that they would make further claims next year, the union's Federal Council also made clear that the ATEA would not consider itself bound by the Arbitration Commission guidelines, which in the recent case were used to limit the increase, and further it would proffer to the employer the same kind of assistance that he gave the union in the recent wage case. ■

ACTU seeks national wage rise

The Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU), supported by the Council of Australian Government Employees Organisations (CAGEO) is claiming an across-the-board increase of 5.1 per cent on all existing wage and salary rates.

This claim is based on a compounding of the 2.3 per cent and 2.7 per cent increases in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in the quarters ending

Jack's 50 years in the communist movement celebrated



Jack McPhillips.

The National Organiser of the Socialist Party of Australia, Jack McPhillips, has just completed 50 years in the communist movement.

A dinner to honour Jack was held last week by party comrades and friends who have been closely associated with him.

At the dinner, tributes to his unbroken service to the communist movement and the Australian and international working class were paid by General Secretary of the SPA, Peter Symon, and SPA Sydney District Committee Secretary, Harry Black. ■

last June and September. The Fraser Government in opposing this claim has asked the Australian Arbitration Commission to increase the rates by only 3 per cent.

That claim is based on a discounting of the CPI increase to allow for certain price increases deliberately brought by decisions of the Fraser Government.

The Arbitration Commission has consistently rejected the communist proposal for no increase at all but has upon most occasions decided upon a wage rise of less than the CPI increase.

The attitude of the unions to this approach of the Fraser Government was made clear in decisions of the ACTU Congress last September. The current claims of the ACTU are based on those congress decisions which stated:

"Congress condemns the Australian Conciliation and Arbitration Commission which has departed from full percentage wage indexation in the majority of cases; abandoned quarterly indexation decisions in favor of six-monthly hearings and adhered to stringent wage fixation guidelines for 4½ years.

"Congress totally rejects the notion of partial wage indexation based on a so-called discounted Consumer Price Index." ■

Bangladesh — workers fight for democratic rights

While the South Pacific and Asian Trade Union Unity Conference was in progress the Socialist has the opportunity to talk with Saleuddin Ahmed Manik, General Secretary of the Bangladesh Trade Union Centre.

Talking about the general situation in Bangladesh Mr Manik explained that his country suffers a chronic food shortage situation which has been aggravated this year because of a long drought. In addition to that the effects of the capitalist crisis are being felt by the people through increases in prices and a general worsening of their already low standard of living.

Being a country whose economy is mainly agrarian, the majority of the population of Bangladesh lives in the

villages. Most of them do not have any land. They have seasonal work at very low wages. Peasants who own small plots of land suffer problems due to lack of water and low prices paid to them by intermediaries.

This agricultural section of the population suffers the crisis more acutely, said Mr Manik. Workers in the cities are also victims of this situation, and during the last one and half years there have been many struggles in support of basic demands. A protracted struggle is being waged to

gain trade union rights which are very restricted now; strikes have been made illegal by a tough anti-union legislation.

Despite all these problems, Mr Manik pointed out, all sections of the population, including middle class professionals struggle and are able to wrest concessions from the capitalist.

Bangladesh has a multiplicity of national trade union organisations, about 12. The Bangladesh Trade Union Centre (BTUC) is trying to unite all these federations on the basis of a working class minimum points program. At the end of 1978, for instance, the BTUC succeeded in uniting 10 of these national trade union organisations for the demand of a "National Charter of Demands" which included democratic and progressive demands along with immediate economic claims. They declared a national strike on January 8 this year and despite government opposition and all sorts of repressive measures it was a great success.

Mr Manik, who is also a member of the Communist Party of Bangladesh, asked by the Socialist about the role played by his party said that it is trying to organize the people and launch struggles on the basis of the needs of the working people. The party is also trying to achieve unity with other progressive and democratic forces active in Bangladesh. ■

The Socialist Festival

"We declare that the interests of peace in our region can be obtained by the Peoples Republic of China reaching a proper and principled agreement in the current discussion with Vietnam that will observe the proper respect for the territorial integrity and sovereignty and political independence of the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea." ■

The Bob Hawke pattern

At the Victorian ALP Conference, Bob Hawke said that the Socialist Party of Australia (SPA) considered an electoral victory for the Australian Labor Party a dirty word. He also referred to the SPA as "the Soviet SPA".

Hawke made these statements during an attack on Messrs Hartley and Ryan, members of the Labor Party Socialist Left.

Such red-baiting statements do a great dis-service to the labour movement. The SPA has campaigned vigorously and consistently for a united labour movement to defeat the Fraser-Anthony Coalition Government and for the election of an ALP government. In line with this, the SPA has called for second preference votes to go to the ALP candidates where SPA candidates stand and for first preference votes to go to Labor where the Socialist Party stands.

At the same time, the SPA has argued that, because the ALP does not seek solution beyond the capitalist system, the problems associated with capitalism just cannot be solved by the ALP. Therefore, the socialist policies of the SPA are required by the working people if fundamental solutions are to be found. Meanwhile, progressive ALP policies will receive support by the SPA and any policies considered to be against the interests of the labour movement will be criticised by the SPA in a responsible manner.

That is the clear and principled position of the SPA. As for its relations with the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the SPA has deep respect for the enormous contribution the CPSU has made to the struggle for peace and socialism and it also stands with the CPSU on the firm basis of working class internationalism. However, any suggestion that the SPA is a Soviet party is a slander on both the CPSU and the SPA and is merely red-baiting in its crudest and lowest form.

Hawke's reported statement is part of a "Bob Hawke pattern" that has emerged and which has caused concern to many activists in the labour movement, including the ALP. This pattern includes the social contrast concept which is based on class collaboration at a time when vigorous united working class struggle is required, and fanatical Zionism which only encourages aggressive Israeli circles in their stand of deriding the Palestinian people the right to a homeland, as demanded by the United Nations, and maintaining the Middle East as a powder keg in world affairs. ■

35 Hour week big issue in 1980

The metal workers union will launch a campaign in 1980 for a 35 hour week. This decision was made by the National Council of the AMWSU meeting in Sydney last week.

The Council decided that the 35-hour week claim would stand alone and be fought for and negotiated separately from any other demands. The metal workers will be seeking the support of other trade unions in the metal industry to make this campaign a strong and united undertaking.

The Union's 35-hour week decision follows a decision on the wage rates for metal-workers. Trademen were granted a 3% increase, plus a \$4 tool allowance. Non-trademen received a \$7.30 increase. The union has warned that the decision on metal-workers' wages should not be used to justify any reduction or delay in the current national wage case.

While accepting and welcoming the award decision the AMWSU has pointed out that ever since its election in 1975 the Fraser Government has, together with the employers, pulled out all stops to reduce real wages. Despite wage rises

achieved mainly through increases in the national wage, the amounts transferred to profits have shown a dramatic rise. ■

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In connection with this latter point the conference decision said: "It is a matter of common sense to us that the heroic peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, after being subjected to 30 years of imperialist war have again had their territorial integrity and sovereignty breached by war and threats of war from China. "We declare that the interests of peace in our region can be obtained by the Peoples Republic of China reaching a proper and principled agreement in the current discussion with Vietnam that will observe the proper respect for the territorial integrity and sovereignty and political independence of the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea." ■

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