

# the battler

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

DEFEND OUR UNIONS EAST AND WEST



**SOLIDARNOSC** under the hammer p.2/3.

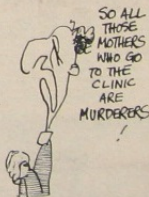
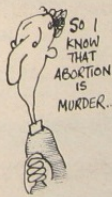
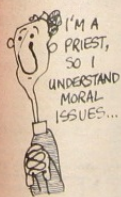
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## Right to Life

# BIGOTS AMBUSH ABORTION CLINICS

DIETY HARRY...EAT YOUR WORDS OUT!



YOU'RE NOT GOING TO STUFF MY CHANCES OF ETERNITY, YOU EVIL CREATURE!



**HOW WOULD you feel if a loony priest tried to stop you going to the doctor?**

This is what is happening to women attending abortion clinics in Sydney. One Brother Patrick has been harassing women outside the Surry Hills Pre-Term clinic over a period of months.

At one stage he, and other supporters were taking the registration numbers of staff members' cars. In addition to this, Right To Life supporters have been showing photos of fociuses to women entering clinics and leafleting the neighbours of doctors known to perform abortions.

The Genesis Movement, a radical splinter of the Right To Life, have been distributing cards outside clinics which read:

"WARNING - THIS IS AN ILLEGAL CLINIC - if you enter this premises you could face ARREST, FINES & POSSIBLE IMPRISONMENT" It goes on: "MANY DEATHS HAVE OCCURRED HERE"

Tactics ranging from false bookings (the Darling Street Women's Health Centre experienced a number of weeks where on days that were fully booked only a quarter of the clients turned up) to outright police harassment of the Resnic Smythe Clinic have been used in the last few months. Woollahra Clinic has been covered in posters proclaiming 'Nazi killers', 'Child killers', Brother

Patrick tried to charge one of the doctors there with making threats on his life. All this with the staunch support of his 15 year old pickets.

At Pre-Term the front plate glass windows were smashed last Saturday morning and pickets remained on the following Monday, 18th.

Defenders of the faith have also been harassing women outside Melbourne's Royal Women's Hospital with placards and leaflets until a couple of weeks ago.

The fact that Fred Nile, leader of the Festival Of Light, has announced his intention of naming in state parliament, all NSW doctors who perform abortions signals the Festival of Light's intention to campaign heavily against abortion in 1982.

With the rumour of a visit to Australia by Jerry Falwell, a leading member of the Moral Majority in America, sponsored by the Right To Life, a group of women in Sydney have moved to set up a campaign to counter them. The group aims to get broad support from trade unions, the left and from women generally.

**The paper that fights for workers' power**

**SPACE WARS**  
... no longer  
science  
fiction  
- p.6/7



# As the price of 'conciliation'

THE 17 MONTH history of Solidarity shows that if it had power to stop the final military takeover — just as the workers in Chile eight and a half years ago had the power to stop Pinochet.

The Polish tragedy, like the Chilean tragedy, occurred because that power was not directed by clear, revolutionary socialist understanding of the forces it had to contend with.

Poland's workers are paying the price in blood today. In September, 1981, I wrote in the Magazine Socialist Review about the danger ahead.

The instigators of the Polish barracks were to be given a free hand. The present struggle between the authorities and the workers cannot last long, at some point the structures would be crushed when the mass movement has revealed its true nature. In all the turmoil and all the frantic efforts of bureaucratic leaders...

leaders and supporters did not see that at first. The sheer success of the workers' movement led them to believe that the regime would consent to peaceful coexistence with them. There were three currents within the Solidarity leadership — the group around Walisa, very much influenced by the heads of the Catholic Church, the group of left wingers associated with the dissolved organization KOR and the local strike leaders who later came to be known as the 'radicals'. But at this stage all were agreed on the strategy of conciliation with the regime.

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improved living standards for the union's members. Just if a revolutionary perspective they would have seen things differently. They would have seen that by cutting the bureaucrats' privileges (the bureaucrats earn 20 times the minimum wage), by cutting back on military spending and by refusing to pay the Western banks, the demands of Polish workers could rapidly be met.

But they were not revolutionary workers. In 1981, Solidarity moved into a period of conciliation with the regime.

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directing this spontaneous ferment, the directing group within the Solidarity presidium tried to curtail it. They went into negotiations with the regime and offered to sacrifice some of the 'free Saturdays', when the workers went into the streets every Saturday, within six months before.

When a general, Jaruzelski, was made prime minister...

It was not a great discovery that the police have not been touched. But at this stage all were agreed on the strategy of conciliation with the regime.

**SOLIDARITY, the finest union the world has ever seen, has suffered a savage and brutal defeat. Chris Harman examines why Jaruzelski has managed to get away with his military coup, when as late as last November Solidarity seemed able to ignore every directive of the government.**

A national protest, the strike action, was called for 27 December in the anniversary of the overthrow. And so they allowed the moderates to continue to dominate the presidium, the small day-to-day union leadership.

This meant that even after the congress, the national leadership continued to favour strikes and to keep a government of national solidarity. It was not a great discovery that the police have not been touched. But at this stage all were agreed on the strategy of conciliation with the regime.

When the regime tested its strength again, by the use of soldiers, the strikers were powerless to stop it. The regime now saw no chance. The union found that although it was allowed

to produce its own paper, this was censored and it was denied the access to the TV which had been promised. Food and other prices were introduced one at a time. Many workers were sent to internment or political camps. The regime was determined to fight back. By September and October there were more strikes than ever before.

But instead of leading those strikes, the Solidarity presidium continued to negotiate and step them. Walisa urged people back to work. He told them 'to approach problems as citizens, not trade unionists'.

Such an approach ensured that the union began to lose strength. It was not a great discovery that the police have not been touched. But at this stage all were agreed on the strategy of conciliation with the regime.

desert. In troops and police will be sent down to you in any case. It is only when the workers are using makeshift weapons...

UNION delegates at last year's convention.

## Solidarity's stand for socialism

THE SICKENING chorus of hypocritical sympathy for Polish workers will not alter work. Below we see what a little known resolution passed at the Solidarnosc congress in Gdansk three months ago. It cuts through all the humbug...

There are no significant forces in Poland that want privatisation of the means of production. Katowice Foundry or the Lenin Foundry do not think that it is their right to own the means of production. But all people know that it is the privileged minority which has mortgaged the welfare of workers and peasants to the massive industrial and financial banks in America and West Germany.

superior. Solidarity is in classic definition a workers' union. It was not a great discovery that the police have not been touched. But at this stage all were agreed on the strategy of conciliation with the regime.

was supposed to be an economy here to set up a Central Workers' Parliament of the factories... It was not a great discovery that the police have not been touched. But at this stage all were agreed on the strategy of conciliation with the regime.

Instead of leading and directing workers' unrest, the Solidarity presidium tried to curtail it. The general strike alone cannot give the necessary confidence to the thousands of Polish workers and police who secretly sympathise with Solidarity. Every effort has to be made to turn it into a more normal working schedule. Only then will rank and file soldiers see they have allies in their secret struggle against their officers.

It is only when the workers are using makeshift weapons... It was not a great discovery that the police have not been touched. But at this stage all were agreed on the strategy of conciliation with the regime.

While the likes of Fraser and Reagan shed crocodile tears for the Polish workers, the Western bankers are openly gloating. The bankers' reaction hardly comes as a surprise. The Polish government owes them over \$27 billion and the banks were terrified that if the workers took them they would refuse to pay the debts run up by the ruling class.

When I'm saving my soul in a bank and one West German banker, "but I think the Polish government was no longer in a position to run the country. Use a chance for Poland to return to a more normal working schedule and this could be a good thing for the banks."

There is even the enticing prospect that the West began again. Who's to even the enticing prospect that the West began again. Who's to even the enticing prospect that the West began again.

Unfortunately in Australia as in the rest of the west the right wing has been allowed to pose as the defenders of workers' democracy in Poland because most of the left failed to mobilise in defence of Solidarity.

Left wing demonstrations in opposition to the military take over have been very small and trade union action in solidarity with the Polish workers extremely limited. The week long ban on Polish shipping imposed by the Waterside Workers Federation has been a notable exception to the dismal performance.

This failure to mobilise in support of Solidarity suggests outright pro-Russian attitudes or cowardice about the real nature of the so called socialist countries. Either way it is a tragedy.

Fraser of the World and Canada have been able to be hunted as a thoughtless moment he burst out what he and all really thought workers brought it all on themselves. Twenty million men "Hopefully we will be able to keep Europe of the USSR and the rest of the world from excessive

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TANKS stand behind the crushed gates at the Lenin shipyard in Gdansk, where Solidarity was born.

# ... LEADERS KEEP GRABING TEARS

By Graham Willett

While the likes of Fraser and Reagan shed crocodile tears for the Polish workers, the Western bankers are openly gloating. The bankers' reaction hardly comes as a surprise. The Polish government owes them over \$27 billion and the banks were terrified that if the workers took them they would refuse to pay the debts run up by the ruling class.

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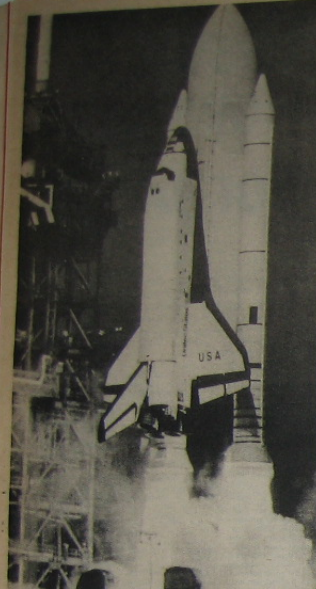
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Champion of the Polish workers

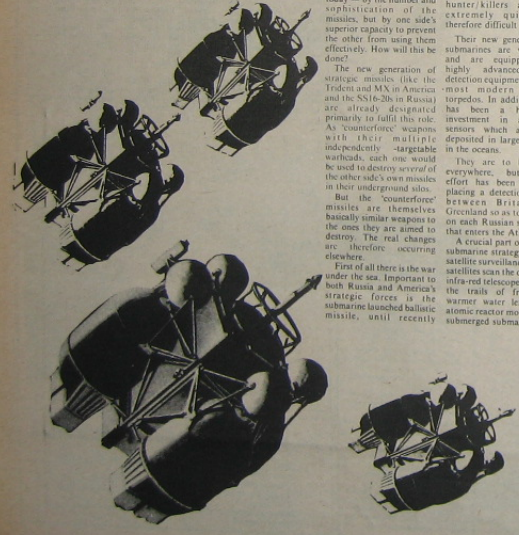
MINERS working before the crackdown. Silesian miners have been among the staunchest defenders of Solidarity.

SOLIDARITY supporters in detention centre near Warsaw.





HE Columbia space shuttle. Its ability to lift military hardware into space gives the USA a huge advantage over Russia



# ... no longer science fiction

FOR MORE THAN 20 years Russian and US military strategy has been dominated by the long range ballistic missile. From the late 1950s it became clear that these weapons could, at intercontinental distances, deliver nuclear warheads with enough accuracy to destroy cities.

They had the advantage over bombers that no known defences could seriously prevent them. Since then the accuracy of the missiles has been greatly increased, underground, submarine and mobile launch platforms have enhanced their invulnerability, and multiple, independently targetable warheads have increased their scope and power.

Yet for all these rapid advances there are a number of indications that missiles themselves are becoming secondary significance.

So, strategic superiority will not be decided — as it is today — by the number and sophistication of the missiles, but by one side's superior capacity to prevent the other from using them effectively. How will this be done?

The new generation of strategic missiles (like the Trident and MX in America and the SS-Nb in Russia) are already designated primarily to fulfil this role. As counterforce weapons with their multiple independently targetable warheads, each one would be used to destroy several of the other side's own missiles in their underground silos.

But the 'counterforce' missiles are themselves basically similar weapons to the ones they are aimed to destroy. The real changes are therefore occurring elsewhere.

First of all there is the war under the sea. Important to both Russia and America's strategic forces is the submarine launched ballistic missile, until recently

improvements in space surveillance have been quite spectacular in recent years and they have not at all been confined to anti-submarine warfare. The use of outer space is now crucial to all forms of modern warfare, and it is this more than anything else which has shifted the focus of the strategy from the battle over the missiles to the battle in space.

Space is needed first of all for detection and surveillance. Optical telescopes can 'see' objects a mere one inch wide on the ground, and they can

threaten a satellite in orbit — ray guns, lasers and other military reality they did press the laser in perhaps the only way that is familiar to the two sides yet if they did not work it consists of would be using a laser of different waves of energy. The energy it contains themselves just to be focused into a changed their mind.

What they would rather rely on is control of space itself. The most sophisticated emission of all the ability to detect from atoms in the other side's orbit, a gas of a hardware. Secondly, and this is ability to prevent the use of the atoms are beam of phased

Since 1967 Russia and the US have developed a series of laser will therefore

Both Russia and America have developed large sums of money to laser research and

development and we know that America certainly (and Russia probably) already has an operational laser has already completed a successful series of tests against aircraft and precision guided missiles within the atmosphere.

The problem with high energy lasers is that they need a great deal of heavy and expensive equipment to get them to work. And if they are to be effective in aiming for the right targets they also need the very best electronic sensing equipment too. To put a properly functional, laser-armed satellite in orbit would therefore be very costly.

Here the US has a huge advantage in the Shuttle which enables them to lift the kind of space hardware into orbit that the Russians cannot for several years to come.

Although the Russians have been working on the technology of laser weapons for a longer time than the Americans — and may even be ahead in the weapons themselves — their inability to mount them in space may be fatal. For, it is quite likely that by the mid 1980s the US will already have such a weapon in orbit.

The particle beam weapon is similar in type to the high-energy laser, but the potentials and problems are much greater. Instead of light it uses a collection of elementary particles — protons, electrons or neutrons.

The enormous energy imparted to these particles accelerates them to a usable fraction of the speed of light when they are directed against a target. They can be used against missiles and satellites. Huge technical problems are involved, however.

One of the problems initially led to extreme scepticism over the immediate possibility of producing such a weapon.

## PETER BINNS: In the superpower weapons could see in the late '80s — as they are stopped

build-up three dimensional solid maps by computing data from such things as shadow lengths.

Electronic 'ferrets' perform the same task for electro-magnetic emissions. Every rock that is fired and every tank that is moved can easily be monitored from space.

Without this constant flow of data it is impossible to fight a modern strategic war effectively. Cruise missiles could not have terrain guidance accurately programmed into their computers, strategic headquarters would be reduced to haphazard guesses in formulating targeting policy, missile submarines would not be able to chart their position accurately enough to launch their missiles correctly, and so on. Even in the field, space communication is crucial for determining the deployment of the other side's forces and reserves.

Without going any further it is obvious that control of space would confer definite superiority to whichever side they would know where the other's missiles were.

If the other power threatened a satellite in orbit — ray guns, lasers and other military reality they did press the laser in perhaps the only way that is familiar to the two sides yet if they did not work it consists of would be using a laser of different waves of energy. The energy it contains themselves just to be focused into a changed their mind.

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However a recent book (D Baker, *The Shape of Wars to Come*) argues that the problems have now been solved, that the Russians have already built such a weapon and that the Americans are not far advanced. There is, for instance, the Chair Heritage programme, which is being built for aircraft carriers.

It involves equipping the ships with such devices, by the middle of the 1980s, designed to destroy Russian anti-ship Cruise missiles with rapid pulses of particle beams. As far as we can tell the US has already begun propagation tests on this weapon.

The basic technology involved also seems largely to have been developed by the Russians, though they will be less able to mount any such weapons in space.

Their own military devoted to ground based systems of electron power designed to screen Russia from ballistic missiles — though here, they are apparently well advanced, having successfully tested charged-beam devices against simulated military targets as early as 1979.

### screening

Particle beam weapons are much more effective than high energy lasers. Anti-laser screening devices might well be developed in the near future, but it is most unlikely that the same would happen for the particle beam.

The energy that it could deliver in a concentrated packet is much higher, it can penetrate through structures as opposed to lasers which can be used more effectively within the Earth's atmosphere.

There are still many unknowns in all this yet it would be foolish to

jump to too many premature conclusions. But a number of interim points can already be made. Firstly the evidence does tend to suggest that we are about to enter a qualitatively new era in the balance of super-power strategic force of space.

Secondly, the control of space will, to an increasing degree, reflect the ability of either side to be able to introduce the new technology of death-rays into their own forces in space.

Thirdly the stakes are so high that whichever side has emerged (or thinks it has) enough superior will be strongly motivated to start a war in space.

Such a war were to have it relatively invulnerable to the other superpower than some of the far-ol — 'limited nuclear war' scenarios that Reagan and company take so seriously at the present time. Such a war could, after all, be fought without having to tell anyone about it until it was all over.

It is clear that we expect for the interim period before the differences in approach between Russia and America are important here.

If it is true that the huge particle-beam facility in Sverdlovsk in Siberia has been (or shortly will be) completed, then it will be seen as a threat to both sides. It is an space operations and it ballistic missiles. It will make the Cruise missile programme so much more important and more vulnerable to us than it is at present.

It will also encourage a programme which looks at the Russian weapon by the

with the greatest possible dangers and uncertainties. Coupled with the ever sharpening competition between Russia and America as a result of the world capitalist crisis, the necessity of building a massive movement of working people to stop our warmongering rulers has therefore never been greater.

BY PETER BINNS

# IT IS SIMILAR MADNESS

## THE NEW WEAPONS SYSTEMS & HOW THEY THREATEN YOUR LIFE

Once they talked about a balance of terror, about how each nuclear power could inflict as many megalobombs on the other that the use of nuclear weapons would be unthinkable. Now it is all different... A pamphlet from International Socialist's British comrades deals with the implications of the new military. Available from IS branches (see p 11), or send \$1.50 to PO Box 46, Falmington, 2031 for postal delivery.







# HAPPY BIRTHDAY...

## New Year cheer for bosses

IT IS A dispute that will gladden the hearts of all the employers on the waterfront.

The brawl between the Waterside Workers Federation and the trademen unions — the AMWSU, ETU and the ASE can only benefit the boss. The press have had a field day with claims endanger the lives of wharfers.

If started when the wharfers negotiated a \$26.40 pay rise for their members. The employers then "offered" the rise to the trademen, who had not been given any opportunity to participate in either the claim or the negotiation.

The trademen demanded a rise of 10.1%, the same percentage that the wharfers won to maintain their relativities.

They went on strike before Xmas and the rank and file rejected an ACTU proposal to return to work for negotiations.

It was only when the bosses threatened to stand wharfers down that the demarcation dispute began.

At the same time as they were treating a national wharf strike in the event of stand-downs, the WWF also blamed the threat of stand-downs on the trademen and resurrected an old threat to enrol them all in the Federation.

The WWF officials even went as far as threatening to do all the waterfront work to catch if they did not return to work. At Liner Services and Train Ocean Terminals in Melbourne some scabbing did go on.

The WWF officials justify their action by arguing that it would be better for workers if there was just one union in the industry.

Industrial unionism in fact it means strengthening the bargaining position of workers. But the WWF have gone out of their way to win employer support for their campaign with statements such as "I am a Victorian WWF Secretary Geoff Swain says that the cost of strikes would be reduced if there was only one union."

By Phil Gillfills and Rod Connolly

Also the WWF refuse to participate in shop committees which are the basis for developing rank and file unity in the industry.

WWF officials claimed that the higher paid trademen were only interested in preserving their relativities by riding on the back of the wharfers. But this justification has now agreed to a scheme to maintain relativities and that trademen members of the WWF are paid the same as trademen in the other unions.

Since the trademen returned to work (they have now been granted an extra \$10), the WWF have enrolled a few trademen in Sydney and Brisbane in Melbourne wharfers have taken over some work previously performed by trademen at Liner Services and Seatiners. In response the ETU and AMWSU have scabbed these terminals.

Geoff Swain has now announced that the WWF wants to enrol trademen from other industries to do the work of the existing trademen who had imposed bans.

Behind the poisoning attempt by the Waterside Workers Federation are the years of decline as the union's members have been decimated by automation on the waterfront primarily through containerisation.

When containerised shipping was first being introduced, the Federal leadership of the Federation

effectively gave in to the bosses who were demanding fewer workers on the waterfront and the introduction of more efficient methods.

In 1967 the union negotiated important improvements such as permanency and the 35 hour week. But they gave away much more: 10,000 jobs have gone, the union is less than half the size it was 15 years ago and automation has meant the introduction of a large number of



TELEPHONISTS stopped work on December 9 to attend this lunchtime picket against Telecom. 300 people from Telecom unions (ATPOA, ASEA, APTU, UPT) and the Unemployed Workers Union demonstrated outside the GPO, Queen St, over air firing levels in all sections of Telecom. The Popular Theatre Troupe gave a dramatic interpretation of unemployment and what came from.

Job meetings in the ATPOA and ATEA were held prior to the picket to build support. Future meetings are being organised in February to plan more action to improve staffing levels at Telecom.

## REPAT. NURSES DEMAND EQUITY

NURSES WORKING at Greenlenses and Kenmore Repatriation hospitals have left their uniforms at home until they receive a satisfactory offer from the Public Service Board.

As well as wearing "level 1" answering phones and other clerical duties have been banned, and only emergency cases will be handled in operating theatres.

Regulations which gave top administrators and doctors reserved and select car parking are being ignored.

Over 100 more militancy staff from the Department Head in Canberra, calling the industrial action "unjustified and inappropriate" puts the case for a wage rise rather well.

In NSW and Victoria, repat nurses, many are the RAN and HEF, recently won pay rises to their counter parts in the state on state awards. The Veterans Affairs Department thinks that the pay of Queensland nurses is 10% above awards.

The nurses don't agree, and are demanding the same pay rate for all those in the same department doing the same work under the same award. A

# the battler

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SOMETHING HAPPENING WHERE YOU WORK? Write for The Battler

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## DEFEND OUR UNIONS EAST AND WEST



Solidarity with **SOLIDARNOŚĆ** p.28

## Blacks expose cover-up of Eddie Murray hanging

# NSW COPS' RACIST MURDER

by Steve Sherlock

THE PARENTS of young aboriginal Eddie Murray are fighting for justice for themselves and for their whole people.

Eddie was found dead in a police cell in West Wyalong in Northern NSW on 12 June last year after being detained for drunkenness.

Police claimed that he hanged himself with a strip torn from a blanket and laid around bars above the cell door. But that is impossible.

A post-mortem showed that Eddie had a blood alcohol reading of 0.3%. A professor of pharmacology told an inquest that this amount would be almost impossible for Murray to have hung himself in the way police claimed.

"There's no way in the world I could believe that he'd do it himself" says Eddie's father, Arthur Murray. Eddie was a fit, happy man who was looking forward to a trip to New Zealand to play football.

One of the police — Fitzgerald — was seen driving the police van which took Eddie away. Fitzgerald claimed at first that he was not on duty that day but was picked up by his wife from the hospital. He was forced to change his story when hospital records showed that his wife had been driving the day before.

Despite the evidence of a police cover-up the Coroner returned an open verdict and refused to refer the case to the Attorney General or to comment on the highly suspicious police conduct.

This included a refusal by the police to provide Murray's soliters with a sample of the blanket that Eddie was supposed to have hung himself with. Eddie's parents and activists from the Aboriginal Legal Service will now put pressure on the ALP Attorney General, Frank Walker, to reopen the case and launch a full enquiry.

silence

So far they have been met with total silence from Walker's department.

Blacks in West Wyalong see the fight against the police cover-up of Eddie Murray's hanging as just a part of the fight against racism in West Wyalong. Many Blacks in the area work as casuals. The conditions in the industry are notorious and the facilities provided for itinerant workers are appalling. The Dept. of Aboriginal Affairs runs a camp-site where people are charged \$30/week for bare ground with inadequate water and overflowing toilets.

The feelings of the blacks in the area are running high. One activist Kevin Flick, described the occupation of Yallockville Reserve by blacks who were told to move by the DAA.

"Blacks were forced to camp here as long as they were needed by white people to work. Then when it didn't suit the whites keeping us close to town they were moved out of sight of the piggy."

We were sick of being moved from place to place and the beating-up of his father by a group of whites in the town, the police cover-up and the exploitation of blacks by workers by the cotton industry are all linked.

Kevin Flick explained, "the cotton industry is taking over and destroying aboriginal land just like the mining industry in Western Australia. As soon as the cotton industry is exploiting the labour of aboriginal people. The local Shire protects the interests of the cotton industry and never supports blacks. Now blacks are demanding to have a say in Western New South Wales. We want our land rights."

## Wran Labor Govt does nothing

The paper that fights for workers' power



## Militants get the sack for Xmas

BEFORE THE Christmas spirit had even been opened, the phone jingled informing me that three fellow militants at GME Fibremens Bend (Vic) had been sacked.

They weren't given a reason. The foreman's

explanation was that the directive had come from above.

The three were sacked at 11.30 am — just fifteen minutes before the Christmas break. I left the office feeling in the pit of my

stomach like the news. What a happy new year would be, tooping the streets of Melbourne.

peeping away the summer days in laudicrously ornate

The savour in such occasions is usually the Union Rights, Rates and Employ-

So onto the same arse riding the Vehicle Builders Union (VEBI) officials will drink their face, and soon the sack will be such a long time ago.

It's the third end of the year. It will be VEBF shop stewards. Then the members and stewards of other unions.

The union officials will drink their face, and soon the sack will be such a long time ago.

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## WANT TO FIGHT BACK?!

IS YOUR BOSS GETTING YOU DOWN?  
Tired of being kicked around?  
Then fill up and send in one of the TWO COUPONS BELOW!!

SEND ME 12 OF THE FAMOUS BULLMARKER!  
OR SEND ME "THE BATTLER"

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

I want a Battler Subscription. I enclose \$7 for 12 issues, please make it to the BATTLE PRISONERS FEE!

Send no money if you are a Battler Prisoner of War.

Send no money if you are a Battler Prisoner of War.





# STOP YELLOWCAKE EXPORTS

# LEACH

By Ian Rintoul

**Open Strata**

The officials of the South Australia Federal Environment Protection Association were shocked when workers demanding more money walked off the job during a strike on the site of a uranium mine. The workers' effective but the minimal regard for the environment was equally the cause of the Environmental Protection Association when their members walked off the job during a strike on the site of a uranium mine. The workers' effective but the minimal regard for the environment was equally the cause of the Environmental Protection Association when their members walked off the job during a strike on the site of a uranium mine.

Whenever there is a uranium mine at a site, the workers' effective but the minimal regard for the environment was equally the cause of the Environmental Protection Association when their members walked off the job during a strike on the site of a uranium mine.

\*\*\*

Opposing NSW State Action Industrialists, who are not getting the "only 40¢" price we give you for the uranium ore. The uranium ore is worth more than you are paying for it. The uranium ore is worth more than you are paying for it.

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Contrary to rumors you may have heard, the Department of Motor Transport (NSW) is not going to increase the number of plates to say "NSW - the Powerless State".

\*\*\*

The Queensland TLC has voted unanimously to support the extension and BNU (Building workers) have sponsored motions calling for action to stop new members from joining the TLC.

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The theme of the ads seems to be that the electricity crisis is the fault of the housewives (but not industry, industry needs power) and the coal miners. Both sides.

forget that the government has dumped so much that the Liberal Party has to give a tip of the hat to the electricity supply company, not the electricity supply company.

By Jon G'nall

OLIMLIN NL is not just another Queensland mining company. Joh and Flo Bjelke-Petersen have large direct and indirect shareholdings in the Olimlin group.

That would make it peculiar enough. But Olimlin plans to establish a uranium mine at Beverley in South Australia.

It plans to use an acid leaching method of mining. Acid leaching involves pumping 12,000 tonnes of sulphuric acid a year down wells to dissolve uranium which is then drawn up for processing.

The acid and radioactive waste to contaminate water for thousands of years. Beverley just happens to be on the Great Australian Bight.

The method has never been used in Australia. It has been banned in a number of states in America, where mines have been plagued with severe water contamination.

It will operate under a new Australian Code of Practice on Radiation Protection which allows much higher exposures to radiation than similar codes in the U.S.

None of this was any concern to Chairman of the Board, Siller (who just happens to be a National Party official), who just fobbed off questions asked by Campaign Against Nuclear Power members at Olimlin's Annual General Meeting in Brisbane.

Siller was confident. Could not doubt that in spite of the risks to workers at the mine, to their families, and people living in the area and the risk of massive contamination, the Beverley mine will be good for a quid or two from the exported uranium.

The should be real food for thought for the ACTU executive when in February, it considers its attitude to the implementation of the conference decision opposing uranium mining and export.

Workers health and safety cannot be left to the likes of Peterman, Siller and Olin. The likes of Peterman, Siller and Olin. The likes of Peterman, Siller and Olin.

The Queensland TLC has voted unanimously to support the extension and BNU (Building workers) have sponsored motions calling for action to stop new members from joining the TLC.

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forget that the government has dumped so much that the Liberal Party has to give a tip of the hat to the electricity supply company, not the electricity supply company.

By Ian Rintoul



FRASER cowers inside his car as he arrives amid angry students at Macquarie uni last year.

URANIUM pile-up on the Darwin wharves and part of the line that holds it.

## Students can fight the knife

EDUCATION cutbacks were one of the major objectives of Fraser's Razor Gang last year.

Fees were to be introduced for second and higher degree students, funding for thirty of Australia's seventy Colleges of Advanced Education was to cease if they had not amalgamated with other tertiary institutions by the end of the year, and a student's loans scheme was to be introduced.

These steps essentially spelt the final demise of the tertiary education allowance scheme (TEAS), which provided education a service exclusively for the rich.

The announcements of the cuts would be a major blow to those of us who believe that tertiary education is a right and not a privilege. It is another attack by a razor gang.

That's if the ALP and the Democrats stand firm on the question.

**underspent**

But Fraser has never been one to worry about the lack of a Parliamentary majority supported by a weak, and unrepresentative, TEAS.

As a result the fee has been added to the TEAS budget.



Students at Macquarie uni last year.

## El Salvador is only one of the weak links in

# CENTRAL AMERICA'S DEVELOPMENT

By Mike Gonzalez

HONDURAS has a new president — Suazo Cordova. In the delicate balance of Central American politics, the event has important implications.

The new president immediately declared his lifelong anti-communism. His undying opposition to "evilest political impostors." And well before the election day his Liberal Party had made a secret agreement with the army to limit its power in any way.

Honduras, with its 7.5 million people and a per capita income of \$500 per year is a key element in Central America's struggle.

Under US guidance, Honduran has moved towards a guided democracy. Yet so is a guided democracy.

Honduras will not be allowed to move away from its military form of government if it has not been continuously reformed.

Honduras is only one link in a rising chain. Through threats, violence, intimidation and the compliance of union officials who have driven the PATCO workers down, And now one is planning a television show for them.

By David Lockwood

## US air traffic controllers' strike

Solidarity? a joke for PATCO

UNIONbashed, its officials paid, 13,000 of its members asked and refused employment.

Is that Russia? Chile? No. America. The regime? The Reagan administration. The union? The air traffic controllers — PATCO.

That's why Reagan's reaction on the air was that he had to do the detested custody of his child for the same reason. The Department of Housing and Urban Development has refused forbearance on PATCO members' mortgages.

Naturally enough this has denied the right to adopt a child because the man is a PATCO strike. Another strike has been denied custody of his child for the same reason.

The air traffic controllers' strike is only one link in a rising chain. Through threats, violence, intimidation and the compliance of union officials who have driven the PATCO workers down, And now one is planning a television show for them.

By David Lockwood

Most people seem to be unaware of the fact that the Air Traffic Controllers' Union (ATCU) is not just a union of air traffic controllers.

It is a union of air traffic controllers, pilots, ground crew, maintenance personnel, and other aviation-related professionals.

The union has a long history of fighting for the rights of its members and has been successful in many areas.

One of the reasons for the union's success is its strong leadership and the support of its members.

Another reason is the union's ability to negotiate effectively with employers and government agencies.

The union has also been successful in fighting against discrimination and unfair labor practices.

In the past few years, the union has made significant gains for its members, including better wages and benefits.

Despite these achievements, the union continues to face challenges and must remain vigilant in protecting the interests of its members.

One of the current challenges is the impact of new technologies on the aviation industry.

The union is working to ensure that its members are equipped with the skills needed to succeed in this changing environment.

Another challenge is the issue of labor relations with employers and government agencies.

The union is committed to continuing its fight for the rights and interests of its members.



ON THE picket line in Osherin, Ohio.

gave me enough to buy a television set for my home. The rest of '72 revenues are in a state of emergency and the national government has to take care of the deficit. This is not demand for the destruction of the welfare state. The welfare state has become more and more difficult to maintain. There has been before the UN General Assembly a motion to call for the abolition of the welfare state. France is calling for a similar motion in the UN. Mexico and Mexico are supporting both of these motions.

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**CAN THE ALP be won to a socialist orientation? Chris Rose examines the NSW Socialisation Units of the 1930's, the most serious attempt to convert the Labor Party to a strategy of 'socialism in our time'.**

**IN 1930 the New South Wales ALP saw the inception of a movement. The Socialisation Units — which, for a period controlled the Metropolitan Conference of the Party and for a day forced the adoption of a three-year Plan for the building of 'socialism in our time'.**

The background to the development of the Socialisation Units was the rise to power of Jack Lang. The state agent from Auburn rose through local government to become MP for Granville. In the ALP governments from 1920 to 1922, Lang served as a treasurer renowned for his conservative policies.

However, in his first term as Premier in 1925-7, his government introduced a number of less controversial social reforms. He widened pensions, workers' compensation, family endowment and restoration of the 44-hour week. It was in this period that Lang accumulated massive personal power within the party. He also gained a reputation for militancy and his rhetoric was increasingly tailored to the image.

Jack Lang was re-elected Premier on 25 October, 1930. From that time until his historic downfall on 12 May, 1932, lies the most turbulent period in New South Wales and perhaps Australian political history. The socialist objective was first proposed at the 1905 ALP conference. It combined Australian nationalism and racism with a gradualist state socialism. Socialism in our time

conviction that only the Labor Party as the "mass party of the working class" could achieve it, and a feeling that an organised inner group could convert the Party.

members of the Party to a salutory and activating realisation of the Party's real objective. The Socialisation Units were to prepare the way for the Party's implementation of this objective, and carry the message of a saner, better, and more efficient social system, through socialisation to those hundreds of thousands of misguided victims of capitalism.

By the 1931 Easter Conference the Socialisation Committee headed a new mass organisation interlinking with the membership of the NSW Labor Party. Controlling the party was Lang's Inner Group.

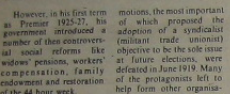
The Inner Group, based on a group of union officials captured control of the ALP during 1925-27. It then tried to entrench itself by rewriting the Party rules.

Lang also bought a controlling interest in the party paper, the Labor Daily.

The most influential member of Lang's entourage was Harold McCauley, a former journalist, who was director of publicity in the Premier's Department.

McCauley devised the Inner Group's strategy and message, and wrote most of Lang's speeches.

At the end of 1927, there were at least 178 branch Socialisation Units concentrated in Sydney and Newcastle, the chief working class centres.



**BILL McNamara—leader of the Socialisation Units.**

So, a committee was set up with the tacit agreement of the leadership. After all, a committee was the usual way of containing discussion considered to be electionarily damaging.

The Secretary, Bill McNamara had other plans for what was to be known as the Socialisation Committee. They immediately embarked on a propaganda campaign, and the establishment of Socialisation Units.

In their first bulletin, McNamara envisioned the Units could 'realise the socialisation of capitalism, a commitment to socialism, a



**BEHIND THE SCENES**  
Jack Garden "There's nothing there, it's only a booby trap you'll have a look anyhow!"



At the end of 1927, there were at least 178 branch Socialisation Units concentrated in Sydney and Newcastle, the chief working class centres.

Lang's strategy to defuse the Units was to try to restrict activities to propaganda and restrain organisational devices. In the meantime, until the first lost temper and then retired out.

Lang, ending the campaign, addressed the ALP Easter Conference, 1931, as a confirmed socialist. He pledged the Lang Plan as a step towards socialisation — but he bound himself to no policies save his own, a Machievellian masterpiece. And for the Socialisation Units, he was the famous, address the ALP Easter Conference, 1931, as a confirmed socialist.

However, there was considerable uncertainty concerning the actual nature of the socialist revolution, the time, the manner of its accomplishment, the capitalist class, all were seen as possibilities.

But once in power, the party would reshape the

statist apparatus as a nonpartisan workers' party of the proletariat that would direct the social revolution through its final transition to socialism.

In July, 1932, McNamara announced the establishment of an Industrial Socialisation Committee to organise union units. Following week the NSW Labor Council urged all unions to form units.

Most union officials were, however, far from cooperative. They feared that the still disorganised, rank-and-file taking over their unions.

So the Industrial Socialisation Unit speakers defended the plan as intended to operate on the collapse of capitalism which they deemed imminent.

The Unit's propaganda campaign continued mainly through its paper, 'Socialisation Call' the 'Socialisation of Industry' section of the Labor Daily.

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However, there was considerable uncertainty concerning the actual nature of the socialist revolution, the time, the manner of its accomplishment, the capitalist class, all were seen as possibilities.

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means to achieve socialism. The Socialisation Committee replied with a Declaration of Policy maintaining that the collapse of capitalism and the evolution of socialism were inevitable, and could be speeded and orderly.

In reply to all this, Lang made a rousing speech about how "the revolution has come — is being fought now, and will continue to be fought — 'til we mean the Lang Plan."

Beside the fear of losing control of the state ALP, there were two other compelling reasons for Lang and the Inner Group to move against the Units. In October the Catholic Archbishop of Sydney, Dr. Michael Shehan, demanded the de-socialisation of the Labor Party.

He threatened to declare that no Catholic could vote for or be a member of the Party.

Lang also saw an opening to fulfill his ambition to become Leader of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party. For this unity at home was a pre-requisite and that meant doing as the Units wished.

Lang's (or rather McCauley's) strategy was to announce a new policy of socialisation of credit to the 1931 Conference, a policy opposed to the Catholic hierarchy's water-gate down of socialisation of industry, would provoke a denunciation of the Units into attacking Lang.

However, it was not only the nature of Lang's opportunism and the strength of the NSW Party machine that defeated them.

While the leaders of the Socialisation Units were sincere socialists they were extremely confused on the means to bring it about. Except for a minority around Tom Payne they did not see the need for a workers' intervention to smash the capitalist state. Key alone to build a party committed to that aim.

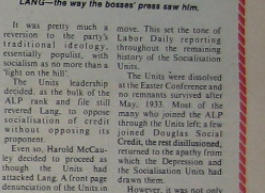
They naively believed that the old state machine would either collapse of its own accord or that it could be used to effect a socialist advance or that it could be used to effect a socialist advance.

Even more disastrously their central orientation was to attempt to convert a confirmed reformist party, the ALP, which was only interested in achieving a few limited reforms within the framework of capitalism, into a genuinely socialist party committed to the destruction of the system that had made it possible in the 1880's that it is today.

Their total activity was dependent upon the Labor Party and when their inevitable rejection mass had been left only with a body without bones and mass of disillusion.



**ambition**  
LANG—the way the bosses' press saw him.



**FOR THE TOILER'S PURSE**  
Premier Lang has lent the Labor Daily £13,764 5/6 p.c. to carry on the fight against Capitalism.

AWN CAPTION: Lang's right honest Jack Lang, the Capitalist-basher on my left John Thomas Lang, the Auburn Plus. The fight, which is a no-decision affair, will go on as long as you're mugs enough to stand it.

AWN CAPTION: Lang's right honest Jack Lang, the Capitalist-basher on my left John Thomas Lang, the Auburn Plus. The fight, which is a no-decision affair, will go on as long as you're mugs enough to stand it.



**THE CROOKED PATH — OR THE STRAIGHT — DELEGATE, WHICH WILL YOU CHOOSE?**

**Socialisation Call, March-April 1932**

# Man of Iron: Socialist horn

RARELY HAS there been a closer connection between the theme of a film and the future of the film itself. Wajda's last film, *Man of Iron* was released after the defeat of the Polish workers in 1976 and was only allowed to be shown in Poland in two cities for two weeks. *Man of Iron*—which continues the story of *Man of Marble*—was able to go general release because of the very workers' victory it depicts.

The earlier film showed the efforts of a film student to discover the truth about the Stalinist Poland of the 1950s. Through old censored films she traces the creation of a Polish version of Stakhanov—the archetypal, norm-breaking model worker.

by **Brian Morgan**

She discovers how he moved from the innocence of a country worker to national glory as a hero of labour, whose exploits and stature are on Polish workers to ever greater sacrifices and ever higher productivity. But he ended up disgraced after struggling against the corruption and deceit of the regime, dying mysteriously in Gdansk. Her film equates a confinement and her part out of when the two find out how he died. So ends *Man of Iron*.

The *Man of Iron* in the film is the former Stakhanov son. The film begins with film leader the

Undoubtedly the most significant film showing in Australia at the moment is *Man of Iron* directed by Poland's best known film maker, Andrzej Wajda, and set against the background of the occupation of the Gdansk shipyards last year.

With the recent defeat of Solidarity by the Polish military *Man of Iron* could have commenced screening at a more appropriate time. It is sure to be controversial on the left. Here are two different assessments of it.

Wajda describes his aim in an interview in the second issue of *Solidarist*, Solidarity's publication. The occupation of the shipyard workers and support the students. The violent movements was snatched. In 1970 the workers rose to demand wage increases and to vote called on student support. The Stakhanov, along with hundreds of other workers, was shot down by the police and army. There are problems with the film. Wajda described his aim in an interview in the second issue of *Solidarist*, Solidarity's publication. The occupation of the

shipyard in Gdansk opened up a chapter of our history, but we were not able to show the essence of that turning point, we were too close to the event and could only judge a part. We don't know what will bring it back to us, how someone's life results in the August events in the Gdansk shipyard. There will be many works on the theme of the occupation of Gdansk. My ambition was to be first... so as to be first to finish the film "Man of Iron".

## THOUSANDS rally in Gdansk, at its announcement of the first strike victory in 1980

"Man of Iron" is a biography of one individual. Wajda avoids and skirts the central problem of the development of working class movements. Great events are seen as the result of an individual's action. The relationship between leaders and rank and file becomes mystified: the mass of workers are blindly following the accidental passions of the leaders. To really understand the class struggle is to see its strength and weakness. Wajda would have had with the significance of revolutionary events could be progressive, reactionary, fascist or socialist. It is the class struggle that is the real force in the restoration of the party. However, the film is a work of art, a work of art you are able to produce for the first time in our country since the first victory of any day struggle against capitalism, though the most varied of every man's success (with rebelling) in it.

## Nothing to lose

IT IS NOT often that a socialist sees a film which really moves you with its depiction of the class struggle. *Man of Iron* is one of the few films which would do so.

It falls in the same class of genuinity popular (as opposed to arty) political films of *S. Zamiatyev, Battle of Algiers*.

Like many of these other films, it is subject to criticism because of its attempts to be popular — it has a certain characterisation, at points there is a slipping into sentimentalism, but issues are overplayed. Like them the political line is in no means perfect. But also like them, the impact on any audience will be to make them think about politics, class politics in a new way, thus providing an opening for those who might go further in the argument than the film's makers. As the core of *Man of Iron* is one of the greatest worker struggles in history — that which is the history of the Polish workers' victory of 1980 — and many of the workers who took part in that struggle were still alive in 1980, and many of the workers who took part in that struggle were still alive in 1980, and many of the workers who took part in that struggle were still alive in 1980.

# The Battler features... The Battler features... The Battler features... The Battler features... The Battler features... The Battler features... The Battler features... The Battler features...

## BERTOLT BRECHT: The plays and polemics of BRECHT

by **Johnnie Clark**

BERTOLT BRECHT is arguably the most important dramatist in the 20th century. With over 40 produced plays, besides countless collaborations and unproduced plays, he accounts probably for half the modern classics produced in the world's theatres — The Threepenny Opera, St. Joan of the Stockyards, Galileo, Mother Courage, The Caucasian Chalk Circle. His choice of subjects was global: from Shakespeare to the market of slaves, from Peking to Pennsylvania. But the chief reason why he is such an important dramatist is that he recognised that art which stands outside life (and for that matter objects) was not art at all, it was the defining capitalist and socialist struggle.

measure: Sinking their fingers in to rusty nails, as in dough, to heady yeast slugs that flutter like rats on a wall. Excite the customers to rage. The audience This become vapours. The salad Sit next to the hungry.

In fact, his was a poetic poet as he was a Medium edition of his poetry 1913 to 1954 represents the most inclusive edition of his work so far (at \$195 though you may have to resort to a library).

As in drama so with poetry, Brecht refused to slip away from the world of society and politics. Again, the man of letters and the man of politics are inseparable. Those who have been set on golden chains to wife Will be questioned about those who Were their coats Not for their elevated thoughts Will their looks be scrutinised, but Any casual phrase that suggests Something about "those who wore coats of fame" or "those who wore coats of fame" or "those who wore coats of fame" or "those who wore coats of fame".

## Theatre of Emotions

Shows ourselves, it seems to me at sorry trials. Ruling on plays solely

Another, of the expectations of the bourgeoisie, of its courage, its success and its failure.

And equally the ambivalence of a communist caught in the struggle against fascism, and the development of perceptive Stalinism in the communist movement.

Bad Times The house is built of the stones that were available. The rebellion was raised using the rebels that were available. The picture using the colours that were available.

This outlook is not the acceptance of Stalinism argued by Lukács and Louis Aragon, the French writer, but certainly an accommodation unthinkable to André Breton. Brecht and most notably, all Victor Serge. There is no doubt that Brecht was suspicious of the bureaucracy — see poem on the East

German workers' spring of 1953 shows. The Solution After the uprising of the 17th June The Secretary of the Writers Union Had handed distributed in the Stalinist. Stating that the people Had forfeited the confidence of the government And could win it back only By redoubled efforts. Would it not be easier To dissolve the people And elect another?

However his criticisms of the Communist Party were always cryptic, never overt. It is perhaps the one area where his criticism of the world in which we live are less than cutting. Yet the great body of his work stands as a base on which future art and revolutions can and will be built.

# That's cricket!

CHANNEL Nine Summertime... And a young man with a charcoal crotching man jumps from a helicopter spraying bullets into the long grass. And Lille runs in to bowl, the young man drocks up: I'm a soldier.

Other and how he lets the ball go and it travels through the air before hitting the pitch, bouncing into the hands of Greg Chappell's hands before he could get out of the way. Truly, a great piece of work. We'll be back in one very brief moment.

The Ian Tootie Group And this man here in the hospital bed with fourteen broken bones, is a mix of men. I'm the one who arranged his insurance for him. And this bloke here with the hand like a sack full of rubble is the famous Packer. And he set up in his business every day in bits of things for me and will not suffer. You search this and you might get out of there.

"Hi, I'm a soldier. And I set two eggs and three pieces of lace over breakfast every morning to the woman who the hedge zone and still have enough time in to register each side of the bottom of a helicopter, and my father says it's a bloody miracle."

"Hi, I'm a soldier. And I set two eggs and three pieces of lace over breakfast every morning to the woman who the hedge zone and still have enough time in to register each side of the bottom of a helicopter, and my father says it's a bloody miracle."



Advertisement for 'One Eyed' featuring a man in a military-style uniform. The text includes 'COLOUR CONTROL', 'RED GREEN BLUE YELLOW', and 'KERRI Packer in reflective mood'. The bottom right corner says 'THE BATTLE 13 FEBRUARY, 1982 PAGE 9'.

FILMING *Man of Iron* at the Gdansk shipyards.

Nothing to lose

That's cricket!

CRICKET foul at the M.C.G.

That's cricket!

That's cricket!

That's cricket!



# A KANGAROO COURT.



BL's STORM Insurance office during the 1980 compo campaign in Melbourne.

"A KANGAROO court" was how Norm Gallagher described the Royal Commission into the Builders' Labourers Federation.

And he was dead right. The Royal Commission set up last year by the Victorian and Federal governments is nothing more than an attempt to blind the union.

As Gallagher pointed out when he defied the commission and refused to answer any questions about the union, "You (Mr. Wynne) and Mr O'Callaghan are getting \$1,500 and \$1,200 a day to carry out the Master Builders' and government's dirty work".

The government and the Master Builders Association are out to get the BLF because of its record of militancy and the significant gains in wages and conditions that it has won for its members. It's no coincidence that at the same time as the Royal Commission is being used to drag up all sorts of dirt on the union, Fraser is moving to deregister the BLF.

It has been routine like that at Loy Yang power station, in Victoria, where the BLF too was won major wage increases but forced the state government to make massive payouts to cover the dispute that has inspired the strike against the union. Fraser and the bosses also fear that the BLF and other construction unions will be able to take advantage of the resources presently coming on line to win even greater gains. That would really take the king off the horses resources boom cake.

By defying the courts and in his own unimpeachable testimony the judges and hangmen on where to go off Gallagher has shown a lot more guts than the average union official when confronted by the state. He and other BLF officials have helped undermine the whole idea of the courts being impartial and above sectional influence.

The BLF stand has put the government and its courts in a quandary. If they let the BLF get away with not testifying then it will be difficult to use a Royal Commission against a union ever again. The alternative, joining Gallagher could provoke a confrontation along the lines of what happened when Clarrie O'Shea was imprisoned in 1969 for defying the special powers of the Arbitration Commission.

### COVER

The Royal Commission has attempted to use allegations of corruption as a stick to ensure that the union bashing. But even if Gallagher and his relatives did get the alleged \$100,000 from developers, it remains compared to the real corruption - illegal gambling, drug use which the government turns a blind eye to.

There are plenty of corrupt right wing union officials who sell their members down the drain every day, that the government is too too willing to cooperate with. It is only because the BLF is a militant union that it has not had its fair share of the trade union movement.

All this is not to say that the BLF is not a militant union. It is only because the BLF is a militant union that it has not had its fair share of the trade union movement.

In a further step in the cover up, Minister, Walter Jones, has refused to release these reports on fire safety in ads for security reasons.

In 1978 the fire brigade removed the old overcrowded, wooden building at Fairlea to be a seven fire hazard United Firefighters Union leader Len Hubbard says the report had little effect.

So late in fact that Premier Lindsay Thompson could only learn over the radio that if fire was deliberately in your camp the building to be a seven fire hazard United Firefighters Union leader Len Hubbard says the report had little effect.

Due to the system under which workers fire many can't afford safe homes. There is one big difference between the ordinary fire insurance and unemployed people have to live in and the government's workers' department. Many have been locked up as well as them.

by Albus Quinn

# Don't let us occupy to save jobs...

By Rick Kuhn

NEW PUBLIC Service Association members occupied the Kogarah Health Commission office for 24 hours, to save their jobs from Neville Wran's razor.

The ALP government is preparing to amalgamate the Southern Metropolitan and Inner Metropolitan Regional Offices, by closing Southern Metropolitan in the process, almost all the 63 jobs at the office were to be axed.

The 300 workers in the two offices decided to ban the financial operations of the Health Commission State-wide meetings of the rest of the PSA based there. But further action became necessary on Friday 26 February when workers at the Kogarah office heard that the renovations would be coming in the next day. They occupied their office to stop them.

Fraser Workers Union members refused to cross the picket lines there or at Rozelle where the office was meant to be moved to. One hundred and fifty workers from Kogarah and Rozelle, Community Health Centres, and the Hawera region, stayed in the office overnight. Health Commission heavyweights, Dr Campbell and Mr Eagleton, arrived at the Kogarah office on Saturday morning, employees in tow. They made an offer: let the renovations pack the office up and they wouldn't move things out until the Industrial Court was made a ruling.

But as one of the occupiers pointed out, why pack up at all if they would wait for the Industrial Court decision. Having given up control of the office, Health Commission workers can't expect much joy from the Court. As an indication of the Commission's "good faith" when they turned up to work on Monday they found the power had been disconnected. At this stage they are working in.



WORKERS from the Inner Metropolitan Regional Office (Rozelle) picketing at their office to stop anything being moved in from Kogarah.

**the battler**  
PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

Official neglect kills prisoners  
**FAIRLEA WOMEN DIE IN FIRETRAP**

FAIRLEA, Melbourne's infamous firetrap and Women's Prison had the stench of death on Saturday night, 6 February.

Three women died under the title of the Remand Centre in the morning with some copies of the Battler in the morning you will find the Battler totally untouched. That's positive that the Battler is unbearable to pests and parasites of all kinds.!!!

Why not subscribe?

Try this simple experiment for yourself at home!

Take a moth, cockroach or boss at random and look it overnight in a cardboard with some copies of the Battler. In the morning you will find the Battler totally untouched. That's positive that the Battler is unbearable to pests and parasites of all kinds.!!!

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**the battler**  
PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

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SINCE THE start of 1982 we have seen a new wave of liberal union bashing.

First there's Viner's proposed new industrial laws. They would give the bosses increased powers to stand down workers, attempt to outlaw the closed union shop and encourage the setting up of scab company unions containing as few as 100 members.

And in the lead up to the Low by-election and the Victorian state elections we have seen an anti-union propaganda blitz from Fraser and Lindsay Thompson.

Most insidious of all was the Royal Commission into the Shipbuilders, Painters and Dockers and the Builders' Labourers' Federation. These Royal Commissions were set up merely and simply to get the two unions because they are a thorn in the side of the bosses.

For years the Navy has been out to wreck the Painters and Dockers because of their militancy. In the case of the BLF the union is a thorn in the side of the bosses' feet.

It is a thorn in the side of the bosses' feet. It is a thorn in the side of the bosses' feet. It is a thorn in the side of the bosses' feet.

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**BAN THE BOMB**  
Sydney: Sun. April 4, 1 p.m. Assembly Circle Park. March to Hyde Park for rally and tea/dinner.

Melbourne: Sun. April 4, 1.30 p.m. Rally at Treasury Gardens. March to Esplanade Gardens.

Canberra: Sun. April 4, 2.00 p.m. March from Defence Dept. Parade Hill to rally at war memorial.

Brisbane: Wed. April 7, 4.30 p.m. Rally, King George Square.

Adelaide: Fri. April 2 March and rally.



MILITANT SYDNEY BL's who opposed Gallagher's take over of their union branch burn his election propaganda.

# RIGHT TO LIFE FIGHTS BOMBING

**FEBRUARY 13TH** was the fourth anniversary of the Hilton Hotel bombing.

Although the explosion killed three Sydney women, no inquiries have been held. No council workers, no inquiries have been held. No council workers, no inquiries have been held. No council workers, no inquiries have been held.

By Denis Alsop

**murder**  
This wasn't actually charged with the bombing. They were charged with attempted murder some months later in late 1976. The personal and political philosophies of these three men, and always been, completely opposed to the one of the murder. None of the three men knew anything about the bombing. The bomb was planted by police.

**Con this  
not**

**SHOCK! HORROR!** All of a sudden the Sydney dailies are running a campaign against understanding and for increased government spending. Who would ever have expected the Daily Mirror to publish a propaganda campaign. Headlines in the papers increased in size, in a way that the closure of the South Australian Health Centre in the end of February. Health Ministers go to the wall — was there one group of government ministers who interests the papers can be held open to defend the cops. Not only are the poor things so overworked as the police, but the Hilton bombing and it may well be base three. The judge told both parties to find the more guilty. The first jury convicted. Fortunately the *Evening* is not going unchallenged. On the recent anniversary of the bombing the

Police argued that the actual explosion was a partial failure. The bomb was placed on the 1978. The bomb was placed on the 1978. The bomb was placed on the 1978. The bomb was placed on the 1978.

**THIS IS** Swan's way of handing industrial disputes too. NSW cops are light and iron systems which would be used to resist a strike. What a boner these are. This of course there is a demand more, so careful for "no control".

**equipment**  
Coupled with the call for more cops with more sophisticated equipment as a result of the increase, expressed by bodies like the Police Association for less restriction on how they are used. Inspector Davis of Victoria's Police Prosecution Division, might (slightly) limit police powers to harass (oops) "suspects", seize, interrogate and arrest. Anyone might think the sound of all this is the sound of a police state. Australia's most wanted cop (Carbera) had decided to

**Press inflation going up**  
THE BATTLER is a socialist newspaper but unfortunately we still have to pay for increasing capitalist prices for the materials we need to put it on.

**Missing one student union**  
ONE of the cunning ways in which the Government cuts back on tertiary education is to amalgamate State Colleges and Tech Institutes, and call them something else.

**Squat on**  
CRB officials have visited the squat on two occasions although they have taken no action and they have not even called a meeting.

**Class size confrontation**  
QUEENSLAND teachers are preparing for a show down with the Petersen Government over class sizes.

**Abortion clinics under attack**  
ANTHROPATION fanatics are stepping up their attacks. Sydney's *Evening* is attacked daily by the loony "Mother of God" brothers Patrick Darcey and Mark Sheehan.

**Control of our bodies**  
SMASH THE RIGHT TO LIFERS Rally Sunday 21st March, 1.30 p.m. Treasury Gardens, Melbourne

# Preparing for Queensland GAME LIFE SQUAD

By Carole Ferrier

The QUEENSLAND government is pressing ahead with the game sales Bill and Summary Offences Bill. Both Bills mean an increase in police powers. The Games Bill is likely to make any protests or demonstrations impossible during the game.

It's laid down "Prohibited areas" — any one of those abortion sites, including Queensland and Griffith hospitals and the Brisbane Highways. It also sets out the various areas of cultural heritage. The Bill also sets out the various areas of cultural heritage. The Bill also sets out the various areas of cultural heritage.



A CIVIL LIBERTIES march from Griffith University in 1978. The adjoining Games site is also bordered by highways and buslanes.

**Land 'grants' whitewash**  
THE QUEENSLAND government's announced proposal to grant blacks a "deed of grant in trust" for present reserve lands takes the demand for land rights exactly nowhere.

**Abortion clinics under attack**  
ANTHROPATION fanatics are stepping up their attacks. Sydney's *Evening* is attacked daily by the loony "Mother of God" brothers Patrick Darcey and Mark Sheehan.



ANTI-ABORTION fanatics outside Pro-Term in Sydney. Tactics may be different around Australia, but the Right to Life activists are consistent.

**Control of our bodies**  
SMASH THE RIGHT TO LIFERS Rally Sunday 21st March, 1.30 p.m. Treasury Gardens, Melbourne





WHEN THE German revolutionary socialist, Clara Zetkin, proposed in 1911 that there be an International Women's Day, she had two things in mind. She was inspired by American women garment workers who, on that day in 1909, had marched through New York demanding the vote, child care and an end to sweat shop working conditions. And she wanted the day to be celebrated throughout the world, to express international solidarity.

IWD is today celebrated internationally. But the other theme so often gets ignored — women workers.

And in Australia we have a history to be proud of that's very little known. Not only have women participated in struggles, at times they have been in the forefront of class struggle and in the leadership of the working class. In this short history, Janey Stone looks at the militant tradition of women in struggle in Australia.



ADELA PANKHURST

NOT LONG after IWD was first celebrated, World War I broke out and conscription became a major issue in Australia.

Prominent around this time was Vida Goldstein. She believed that the only way to teach the world that women were not weak creatures of sentiment and sex was to go out and prove it. She set up an

# Women workers have a forgotten history...

organization in 1915 which became very active in the anti-conscription movement, known as the Women's Peace Army.

The WPA were constantly attacked by soldiers when they held public meetings. They were pelted with eggs and "vile refuse" and sometimes were jailed. When soldiers tried to remove the WPA's flag from outside their office, the women had to turn a fire hose on them.

Conscription was closely linked to other important issues of the day. One woman who organised suffragette style marches, organisation and unemployment was Adela Pankhurst. She was the daughter of the British suffragette, Emmeline Pankhurst, and when she came to Australia she was active in the Victorian Socialist Party.

At one demonstration, she incited the unemployed to break the windows of a large Melbourne store and help themselves. The

demonstration was dispersed by a police charge and Adela was arrested.

The 20's were a period of comparative lawlessness to hot up again. Although unemployment wasn't a battle for women as for men, it was very serious. But the Minister of State said that whilst domestic work was available at any wage, under any conditions, anywhere in Victoria, jobless women would be dependent on public assistance.

## hostility

Not only did women workers face attacks from the government they were also the subject of a great deal of hostility from male workers. Shop assistants in Brisbane actually ran a campaign for government legislation to equal married women from industry. Fortunately it was not successful.

Women's fighting and demonstrating were not all however there, there were many more.

By 1917, workers at the Victoria Textile Mills in Melbourne were on strike. They were joined by thousands of workers at other

factories took the advanced action of lock out and file workers to a strike against the strike, and also planned pickets. Their mood was clearly prepared for a sustained struggle. Although the dispute spread to other union officials managed to



METAL WORKERS — fighting even for their miserable award pay, women were responsible for many of the leading strikes during World War II.

# IN THE FRONT RANKS OF STRUGGLE



MINER'S WIVES: supporting an occupation in the 1950's, and (insert) assaulting scabs during the 1932 strike at Broken Hill.

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Muriel Heagney, a feminist and ALP activist, countered this antagonism as best she could in her books. She also started an Unemployed Girls' Relief Movement because the plight of young, single unemployed women was truly desperate.

Heagney opened centres which provided sewing machines and education courses. The United Associations of Women, run by another feminist, Jessie Street, also tried to help unemployed women by starting a farm.

The trouble with this sort of activity at all is really only welfare work. Heagney and Street offered the unemployed handouts to cover their wounds when what was needed was weapons and organization for a fight back.

And the potential for a fight back was there. First let's look at unemployed struggle. When the 1935 relief strike, women packed the local council chambers.

When the mayor threatened to jail them, they retorted that he could have them locked up, at least they would be fed. And they would take their children along too, and they would feed them also!

When the police assaulted an unemployed meeting in Cribbe (Sydney), the women took a prominent part in the defence, one was knocked over and trampled by policemen, but this did not deter her from still carrying on her protest against police brutality.

After another unemployed demonstration, several women were arrested and imprisoned in Long Bay Gaol. A hunger strike of several days led to their release.

The Port Adelaide women's unemployed committee had 150 attending meetings. What teacher kept kids in at Port Adelaide Central School for using the word scab, several hundred women marched on the school in protest, and had to be stopped by police.

The unemployment struggle had its impact on consciousness that was never forgotten.

At Melbourne workers, and they were a force for the partial victory of only a few weeks in 1930. In 1932, there were two other waves of strikes in Victoria — in NSW in 1931 and in Victoria in 1932.

In the clothing industry too there were many strikes. At Melbourne factory in 1930, women went on strike, women workers were not paid and gained a weekly wage without piece rates.

At 190 women from a number of factories again struck over wage and piece rates. Women workers only went back to work under heavy guard by the union officials.

There were also strikes and disputes among domestic workers, railway waitresses and those workers.

## rebels

Women rubber workers in opposition to their union, brought the arbitration court judge. They were "a handful of rebels who were nothing but rebels."

There were prolonged strikes of the depression and the women's activity in organisation. The Women's Auxiliary, started during the Womburg strike in 1934, and over the next 5 years it grew into a powerful force.

It organised, raised money held press conferences on radio. Even the soup kitchen activities took on a political character in the context of the long strikes of the 30's.

Women workers formed their own unions. "The men were embarrassed," and the women were not so.

The struggle had a lasting effect.

"It wasn't that the women's auxiliary just supported men. It was our own survival we were fighting for. Somewhere when you're in your own little family everything just goes along and you can relax. In when everything is an upheaval it's different, everyone is together."

The militant spirit shown by women during the depression has been largely written out of history, not only by bourgeois historians, but also by the women's movement and the left.

So has their activity during World War 2, when women moved into the leadership of the class struggle. While many of the male workers were bought off by high bonuses, women had to struggle even to get the lower wages awarded to them by the Women's Employment Board.

Wage anomalies stimulated militancy from thousands of women, usually in the face of opposition from their union officials.

For instance at a strike at a Footscray (Melbourne) munitions factory, the Ironworkers official tried to tell the women that striking was only a last resort "as the boys in the trenches..." At this they became even more angry and shouted "We know all about the boys in the trenches... they're our husbands and sons."

There were prolonged strikes of 10 weeks at Dally and Hasford in Sydney and 4 months at Simon's Aerocoatings in Melbourne.

Most women, however, were not in war industries but continued to do their traditional jobs, and there were numerous disputes there too, as a clothing trade union report said this:

"At no stage during the war was there a dispute even of a minor nature involving males. (Due) circumstances in regard to female employment are totally at variance to those surrounding employment of males, and the result has been somewhat disastrous."

When up to 900 textile workers went on strike in Sydney in 1941, in defiance of the union, the Sydney Morning Herald said:

"Probably no strike since the war has so offended the public conscience. In the post war period we have seen an increased participation of women, particularly

married women, in the work-force. This has been paralleled by a growth of service and white collar industries, traditionally thought to be very conservative.

Yet the 1970's saw strikes and prolonged struggles among teachers, public servants, hospital workers, and many other industries where women are prominent. The achievement of equal pay in 1972 was the culmination of years of rank and file pressure. Women also moved into previously male only jobs such as the mail exchange and as train-drivers.

When we look at the history of women in class struggle, we can see that they can break out of the role of kitchen and children to which society wants to confine them. When they do they don't just come up to the level of men, but can surge into the forefront.

So when the women at Kortex fought the police in Melbourne last year, they were continuing a tradition of struggle that Australian women can be proud of — and were keeping in with what should be the spirit of International Women's Day.

Perspectives for Women's Liberation

Edited by Janey Stone

Available from I.S. branches for \$1.20, or send \$1.50 to I.S. Books PO Box 46, Dennington, 3031 for postal delivery.

By Janey Stone



ONLY IN 1974 did the Arbitration Commission grant women the same minimum wage as men.

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Despite all the Victorian ALP's faults, on April 3 we must

# HIT THE LIBS OUT!

**the battler**  
PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

by Michael Power

AFTER APRIL 3 Victoria could well have its first Labor government in 26 years. That's if the opinion polls which give the ALP a lead of up to 12% are to be believed.

The state Liberal party obviously is worried by the polls. They are running around like chooks with their heads chopped off trying to find a gimmick to keep them in office. There's been the usual scare tactics around socialists controlling the ALP (if only it were true) and the ritual union bashing.

Thompson has paraded himself as a man of action (what a joke) and a number of Liberal ministers have opposed Fraser campaigning in Victoria for fear that it will cost them even more votes.

Around the left and the labour movement a number of people have been enthused by the prospect, after all these years of an ALP victory. But while it is true that a defeat for the Liberals in their traditional Victorian bastion will be a major step in the way of Fraser, what will Cain Labor government mean for Victorian workers?

The major reforms promised by the ALP are in the fields of public transport, housing, welfare, education and women's services. And given the appalling state of public transport and the crippling housing shortage, reform is needed urgently.

But Cain has made it clear how little he cares about official party policy. "I reject the assertion that a Labor Party Government is bound to introduce everything that appears in the means of policy decisions in accordance. In other words he will select from policy only what is convenient.

In any case, Labor officials estimate that they will simply only be able to spend a further \$475 million. That is absolute peanuts. It will do nothing to anything to shorten the housing queue, let alone bring adequate improvements in the other fundamental areas.

The reason the ALP will have such limited funds to carry through its policies is Fraser's cabinet. But Cain will not initiate a mass campaign against Fraser to get more money, nor will he introduce new taxes on the rich. He reacted with alarm to the notion that an ALP Government might introduce a wealth tax. "It has never been put to the parliamentary party or shadow cabinet, it will not be proposed."

Despite a lot of whinging, a Cain Government will follow Wran as NSW and Cain will have to handle out. So while the Battler will definitely be calling a vote for the ALP on April 3, we can't pretend to have any great enthusiasm for the prospect of a Cain Labor government. It looks too much like a rerun of the well-working class policies of Neville Wran in NSW. VOTE LABOR WITHOUT ILLUSIONS!

The fact that the Victorian ALP is prepared to admit that it will not be ready to take on Fraser even before it gains office is a worrying sign, but it is not the only one.

Discussion has already been held with unions and shop stewards in the La Trobe Valley power industry to negotiate a no strike agreement. A 2 to 3 year period is being talked about, in return for some form of social contract.

With these and other policies the ALP is clearly aiming to keep the bosses inside (as much of its donations come from business unions). Cain has notably failed to commit himself to abolish the union bashing Royal Commission into the BLP and the Painters and Dockers, or to stop the development of Alcoa's Portland aluminium refinery (funded by increased electricity charges for household consumers).

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A COMMENT on the much-loved Education Minister during a rally of combined teacher unions. Inset: Cain and Thompson all friends.

## Broadmeadows

# The kids aren't the problem!



THE MASS media's recent distortion and sensationalization of the Broadmeadows train issue has done little for local people but invoke their resentment. It was also something of a PR exercise for the Victorian police.

I went out to Broadmeadows this week to ask what unemployed youth emerged that police to explain the train clashes.

Broadmeadows lacks entertainment, recreation and services of all kinds compared to richer areas. But the key issue is youth unemployment and their isolation from the city.

Put these things together with provocation from Vic Rail and the kids lash out anyway they can: vandalism and fighting ticket inspectors is common.

A little later, a picture of life in Broadmeadows.

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ISSUED WEEKLY  
31 MARCH 1982  
OF VICTORIA

**MARCH AGAINST THE BOMB...**

Sydney: Sun. April 4, 1 pm. Assemble Circular Quay  
March to Hyde Park for rally and festival.

Melbourne: Sun. April 4, 1:30 pm. Rally in Treasury Gardens. March to concert and festival in Flagstaff Gardens.

Canberra: Sun. April 4, 2:00 pm. March from Defence Dept., Russell Hill to rally at war memorial.

Brisbane: Wed. April 7, 4:30 pm. Rally, King George Square.

Adelaide: Fri. April 2. March and rally Ph. 223 1960.

Subscription prices: Full rate \$12.00 per annum.  
No. 125 March 27, 1982 20 cents.

# BAN the BOMB

neither Washington nor Moscow but international socialism

by Gary Cunniff

Despite some whingeing, Cain will cop what Fraser hands out.

Try this simple experiment for yourself at home:

Take a moth, cockroach or boss at random and lock it overnight in a cupboard with several copies of the Battler. In the morning you will find the Batters totally unbothered. Proof positive that the Battler is unbearable to pests and parasites of all kinds!!!

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# PARA the side into crisis

by Steve Drakeley

SEVERE emergency measures have been adopted by the Nicaraguan Government. Measures which on the one hand take strong action against the capitalist class, and by the other make an office (punishable by up to three years in gaol) to organise strikes and land seizures.

Most of the left hand the first measures as great advances towards socialism in Nicaragua because they involve nationalisations, and regard the press as regrettable but necessary under the pressure of US imperialism.

In fact it is not simple as that. To understand why these measures have been introduced we need to look at the complex pattern of class struggle that has taken place in Nicaragua since the revolution.



WOMAN washing laundry in town of Masaya, Nicaragua.



MASAYA, Western Nicaragua after three days of bombing.

When the armed masses invaded the state in July 1979 the class was represented by a broad force of government in Nicaragua for a short period they behaved like embryonic independent and independent while beginning to organise major social reforms.

All of Somoza's property was nationalised. The larger enterprises are run directly by the state, as are the banks. A state monopoly was established over imports and exports. Private capitalists and landowners were encouraged to continue production and investment, in the hope that Nicaragua's fragile economy would not be deprived of capital expenditure markets.

Unfortunately this strategy is heavily reliant upon cooperation from the landowners and capitalists, which has not been forthcoming. Despite conciliatory gestures, appeals to nationalism and attempts to incorporate leading bourgeois figures into the Junta and Council of State, the fight of capital, speculation and economic sabotage have increased. This has put the FSLN under a great deal of pressure to curtail class interests in pursuing its class aims clearly. It does not wish to see incorporated into the FSLN's state. It wishes to hold state power in its own right.

Unluckily they succeeded in reasserting their control over the working class. For the rest of 1980 and into 1981 pressure on the FSLN was minimal, especially as the PCN changed its line to one of support for the government. But with Reagan's assumption of office in early 1981 the pressure from the US increased, compelling the Nicaraguan government towards its current crisis.

Encouraged by the actions of these allies abroad the Nicaraguan capitalist class

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Encouraged by the actions of these allies abroad the Nicaraguan capitalist class

by Margot Stuart and Penny Green

# Teachers fight in Canberra

AFTER WAITING five months for a response from the Public Service Board (PSB), ACT teachers are angry at the decision of their wage claim.

The teachers immediately called another meeting - this time with recent attendants. They began the threat to begin to continue to support the teachers' strike until their demands were met. An indefinite strike had been called to fight the use of CEP teachers, which had decided when and on what terms to return to work.

# FILIPINO WORKERS NESTLE IN

JOHNS are the Philippines factories of \$15 million multi-national power over the island and society.

Letters of support can be sent to the striking Nestles workers, c/- Australian National Line P.O. Box 411, Perth. The workers are calling for a boycott of Nestle products.

Just as in the recent Social Service dispute, it was the Government who called the shots. But rolling stoppages allow workers to be isolated and divided while placing the Government in a position of strength.

Abraham awarded an \$8 million increase in September last year. The claim was made in the National Federation Secretary Cathy Robinson then said that the Government would not return to work immediately - so much for losing membership decided!

It is quite clear that the final offer will be 2 or 3% more than the interim - not even half of the 25% increase which was demanded. That is NO VICTORY.

The sackings were re-instated after all teaching returned to work. But IAFE (Technical and Further Education) teachers got the worst of the deal, since they have received nothing.

When the final wage offer was made, teachers must direct the action to spread industrial action that places them in control.

# WORLDWIDE OPERATIONAL SIZE CLASSES

TOWONNS parents picket in support of Brisbane teachers.

# ... and Queensland

MEANWHILE in Brisbane the campaign for smaller school classes has been defensive. On March 11 and 12, over 600 teachers refused to take their normal classes and placed 20,000 children away from school in the most widespread action so far.

At many schools last week the union decided to do this. It believes it should give the government time to "respond to the

# MOOD REGISTRATION BRANCH TASTES TURMOIL

VICTORIAN Motor Registration Branch (MRB) workers are witnessing yet another taste of industrial turmoil. One current dispute involves the use of casual staff.

Our union, the Victorian Public Service Association (VPSA) originally didn't even want to deal with the issue. Casual staff weren't being used at all. But the MRB registered unions to cope with the influx of casual staff.

Even the militants in the union accepted the point, limiting themselves to arguing for total union representation, rather than selective action by small portions of the union. But in the light of the book, the response could be a response in the form of CEP legislation, to give the power to sack and victimise teachers without going through the Public Service Board and creating appeals procedures.

It is not clear from the workbooks of the government at the moment that an asserted strategy now could form a total victory and get one to "respond to the

But even more alarming is the approach of the VPSA. Our union, it was said up to the PSB, officials just prefer to see any suggestion of industrial action.

Really, MRB workers are to become more organised, pressure the industrial officers, and pressure the A.I.P. For the VPSA member, MRB, staff.

By VPSA member, MRB.



COMPUTERIZATION - what does it mean for these MRB workers' jobs?

# THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT has made it crystal clear: it will spare no effort in defeating the right wing dictatorialships of central America.

It is pointing aid into El Salvador to support its crumbling regime against the attacks of the guerrillas. Anyone who disputes it right to do so is told that the blame for the war lies in Nicaragua, Cuba and Russia.

Reagan and Haig are well aware that if El Salvador falls to the rebels, it will be a disaster, not only for US foreign policy, but for its client regimes - Honduras, Guatemala, Panama and the rest.

500 Latin American countries are being operated from Washington, Diego Garcia and the Philippines. All this really misses the point, with the US interfering in the affairs of Chile to the Philippines to take over the country. The US has no other right to interfere in the affairs of any country to spread their revolution.

In fact, the Nicaraguan Revolution has been heralded over backwards to interest that was working to do with the rebels in El Salvador. In February, it put forward a plan to create an area which involved non-aligned countries and the military. A month later, the Nicaraguan government was formed, and the government was formed. In March, the government was formed, and the government was formed.

that his 'confession' was forced out of him by physical and chemical and that they were afraid that such a confession would succeed.

On March 1, a member of the Nicaraguan government held portraits that he had tried to moderate the rebels' plan for an offensive against the government and that they were afraid that such a confession would succeed.

**THE TALKS** at Geneva and the United Nations will do nothing to halt the arms race. While they've been going on, Reagan has been cynically exploiting the military terror in Poland to aid his plans to install Cruise and Pershing missiles in Europe.

Australia is integrally linked to the western alliance via the series of US war bases stationed here. CHRIS ROSE examines these bases, which should be the focus for opposition from the growing anti-nuclear movement.

## NORTH WEST CAPE

IN MAY 1982, the then Prime Minister Menzies announced that Australia had agreed to the establishment of a US naval communications station at North West Cape in Western Australia.

There was no mention of the western part of any sort, let alone of American nuclear missile-carrying Polaris submarines, even though they were to be the principal users of the communications facility.

How important is North West Cape in the US submarine launched ballistic missile system? It is the largest and most powerful of the three principal Very Low Frequency radio transmission stations in the US worldwide submarine communication

## PINE GAP

The installations at Pine Gap are concerned with other satellite programmes. Pine Gap (or the United States-Australia Joint Defence Space Research Facility) officially became operational in 1970. The Pine Gap valley itself is a natural basin formed by rocky escarpments and McDowell Range.

On the northern edge of the complex is a high

frequency antenna which provides a direct communication link with the American base at Clark Field in the Philippines.

Pine Gap also includes a large computer room, air-conditioned laboratories to process electronic equipment and luxury accommodation for US Army personnel. Australians who live on the base.

All connections between the NSA is the principle US intelligence unit operating in Australia, working out of some 10 installations.

Although it is much larger than the CIA, with a budget of more than \$10 billion per year, some 130,000 personnel employed around the world, and more than \$3 billion worth of electronic equipment it remains the worst secret of all the American intelligence organisations.

The NSA is described in the words of a former official as 'the organisational leadership of a global complex of eavesdropping points, analysis and communications centres, security and communications organisations, industrial manufacturing, advanced electronic technology, US and Western military and security services, and major research institutions and

buildings — air-conditioning, electricity, sewerage, water and buildings are linked by underground corridors.

Surrounding the complex there is a seven-square mile buffer zone ostensibly intended to reduce electrical interference. This is bound by two security fences, patrolled by Commonwealth Police and security guards 24 hours a day.

In April 1977, during the trial of Christopher Boyce, a CIA operative turned defector, it was revealed that one of the satellite programs involving Pine Gap was a CIA program known as Rhyolite involving CIA SIGINT satellites.

The Rhyolite project involves geosatellite (stationary with respect to the earth) satellites above Borneo which suck like a vacuum cleaner a wide spectrum of Soviet and Chinese military communications and radar emissions



**THE Big Bird satellite.**

beaming them back to Pine Gap. Then there is the Low Altitude Surveillance Program which covers 'Big Bird' and Code 1010 (KH11) spy satellites. These are the chief means by which the US verifies Soviet compliance with the SALT accords.

The Big Bird and KH-11 satellites employ infrared and multi-spectral as well as regular photography. While regular photography cannot penetrate buildings, or underground facilities, infrared and multi-spectral photographic techniques can often reveal a considerable amount about activities inside such structures.

Such photography can locate large objects like missiles, launch vehicles, etc. at night.

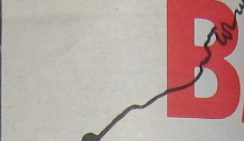
Their night station of this type was located in Australia for greater coverage of the greater Chinese nuclear testing and missile sites.

## THE N.S.A.

government and private research centres'.

It operates more than 2,000 permanent intercept stations around the globe. The presence of NSA at Pine Gap has never been officially acknowledged. But, as one former NSA official put it:

'Pine Gap is described as a "window" on internal NSA communications. Pine Gap and the antennas subordinate to it are quite



important. They are ideally situated from a global 'bounce back' point of view to monitor Russian high frequency telemetry originating in the testing area near the Caspian sea and in the down range at Tyra Tam. Australia is peaceful, quiet and all that, and an ideal place for some kinds of NSA installation.'

However, from the point of view of monitoring transmissions throughout South-East Asia, the most important intercept stations are those near Darwin.

Other major receiving stations include those at Wasona Barracks and Albert Park, Melbourne.

The Indian Ocean is covered by DSD (Defence Signals Directorate) facilities at RAAF Pearce, near Perth and on the east coast by a station at Caberlah, near Townsville.

The NSA has a facility beneath the US embassy in Canberra. Apart from local intercepting functions, the NSA is also a major communications coordinating centre for Pacific Island (NSA) stations.

There is also strong evidence to suggest that Nurrungar is in fact a ground station for the 'Code 647' system.

Used by the Defence Support Program the 647 system is a series of mobile purpose or integrated satellites, placed at intervals of 1000 miles with respect to the earth's officially concerned with missile early warning and nuclear test detection, but it evidently also involves photographic and electronic intelligence.

20 of these satellites were known to be launched in the end of 1979. The principal mission of Program 647 is to

## NURRUNGAR THE '647'

1955 saw the beginning of pilot scientific testing and research with the US. This secret venture was ostensibly for meteorological purposes.

Its true purpose was disclosed in 1973 when David Bernard (the then Defence Minister) described it as 'a test installation — a part of a world-wide system designed to observe the Soviet atomic test program.'

The installation at Alice Springs, code named 'Oak Tree' is an excellent site for the above purpose which are preferably on hard rock,

## OAK TREE

in the interior of continents and remote from industrial activity. The intelligence derived from seismic and atmospheric monitoring stations is used by the Pentagon in two ways. One is to determine the characteristics of Russian and Chinese nuclear programs in order to determine what counter-measures the US should develop in its strategic force.

Second, for its own nuclear weapons development, it is a cheap way of supplementing data derived from its own nuclear tests.

How are we to prevent a future nuclear holocaust? That is the question facing opponents of the bomb in Europe and Australia.

## OMEGA

Omega receivers are to be installed on all US Navy surface ships, most Navy aircraft, on many US Air Force aircraft, and, possibly, in some US Army weapons systems. The US nuclear 'hunter killer' submarine fleet is already fully equipped as most other submarines will be.

The US Navy Air Systems Command has purchased about 200 airborne Omega receivers for use on its warlike aircraft. They carry a combination of nuclear depth bombs and nuclear-armed torpedoes.

## WE NEED A MASS MOVEMENT

IN EUROPE over the last year an enormous movement has emerged against the threat of nuclear war. This movement has been stimulated by Reagan's talk of fighting a limited nuclear war in Europe and by US plans to station the latest round of nuclear weapons — the Cruise and Pershing missiles — in NATO countries.

Australia does not as yet have nuclear weapons of its own nor are nuclear control agreements achieving disarmament. After all, the carrier SALT talks were only deals between enemies to temporarily resolve a problem. In the latest talks the same is true.

Reagan wants to get his NATO allies off the hook while Brezhnev needs a respite in the arms race because massive military expenditure is crippling the Russian economy. America and Russia may well agree to scrap some of their missiles. Europe contains between 6,000 and 10,000 nuclear weapons, many of them obsolete.

That's why we must not only see above contracts like the Geneva and the UN talks, but also playing any faith in others like a future Labor Government to bring about nuclear disarmament.

The ALP has only made token criticisms of US bases in Australia. They talk of greater Australian supervision and control, which is next to meaningless, not kicking out the war bases.

The slogan 'Kick out the US bases' should be central to the nuclear disarmament campaign in Australia. It is the one demand that has real cutting edge here, given we have no nuclear weapons of our own.

And if we are going to stop the Bomb and get rid of the bases, the anti-nuclear movement must turn to where the real power is society, lies in the factories and offices. Industrial action is demanded for unilateral disarmament strengthen the hand of the Russians.

It's not being 'goodwill', a sense of 'peace', or even 'blame control' nuclear disarmament.

## WE NEED A MASS MOVEMENT

That brought about the latest round of negotiations, it was the pressure of the European mass movement they couldn't control. Only that pressure will bring about disarmament.

We will only get rid of nuclear weapons when the rulers in NATO and the Warsaw pact fear the mass movements in their own country more than each other.

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BY PETER BURNS

# ESSENTIAL ADDRESS

## THE NEW WEAPONS SYSTEMS & HOW THEY THREATEN YOUR LIFE

A pamphlet from the International Socialist British共产党 with the help of the Australian Socialist Party. 15c. Includes a \$1.00 P.D. box. 46, Flemington, 2021 for details.

THE MOVEMENT against nuclear destruction in Europe and Australia has grown out of the situation of acute peril in which we live.

The movement has pointed out just how great the threat of nuclear extermination has become, how the unthinkable is not only being thought, but is being actively prepared for.

It has shown that the sheer massive bulk of the weapons production so great that it affects every mood and anxiety of the system we live in.

Many in the movement however regard the threat of nuclear extermination to be as a "blue issue" - a human issue. And for this reason "blue" political questions should not be introduced which will divert the "blue alliance" towards people from various social groups.

None of course in one sense is obviously true. The human and humanitarian may have their deep slaters, but when they come out, not only do they face a world governed by plutocrats, but with the rest of us, there will be no-one left to exploit them, outside what is in one's interest.

But the nuclear system is not a humanitarian system. It is a system which has been invented in order to keep the system going, otherwise not. There would be no profits, whose source of power would be the defence, and the continuation of the system would accept the risk of nuclear holocaust.

# Robert Kee's 'Ireland' commercialism the refined way

ROBERT KEE's documentary Ireland (ABC TV Wednesday nights) hits itself as a masterful and objective account of Irish history.

Most viewers, given their limited knowledge of Irish history will be prepared to accept what Kee has laid far more readily than an outrightly pro-British view. However, Kee's objectivity is little more than smokescreen for a decidedly reactionary world-view.

The nature of Kee's "even handedness" is probably best revealed in his treatment of the Irish famine of the 1840's. He details the horrors and deaths that led to death or emigration for millions.

However he can not explain why in the midst of annual starvation the British government refused aid and kept exporting food from Ireland. All Kee can say is that the government of the time did not desire to interfere with the operation of market forces.

But the famine was not some accident. It was the direct result of British imperial policy. Britain was determined to turn Ireland into a supplier of foodstuffs for the British market. To do so had to turn Ireland away from subsistence agriculture. To cash crops and livestock grazing.

# Crucial class issue



ANTI-NUCLEAR demo in London last year.

It is often argued that the defence budget may be reduced if the country's defence forces are cut. This is a fallacious argument. The defence budget is not a fixed sum. It is a variable one, and it can be increased or decreased at will.

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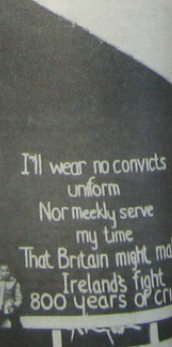
USA stayed off world employment, maintained full employment, and rising wages in the advanced industrial nations.

Now the situation is different. Inflation is raging, and wages are falling. The situation is a dire one, and it is a result of the policies of the ruling class.

It is often argued that the defence budget may be reduced if the country's defence forces are cut. This is a fallacious argument. The defence budget is not a fixed sum. It is a variable one, and it can be increased or decreased at will.

# Ulster Loyalists drilling in 1914, ready to thwart anti-Ireland. Below: A comment from Belfast during the Long Kesh hunger strikes.

Ulster Loyalists drilling in 1914, ready to thwart anti-Ireland. Below: A comment from Belfast during the Long Kesh hunger strikes.



By Mick Armstrong

# Tom O'Lincoln reviews a new contribution to the history of the B.L.F. - Jack Mundy's GREEN BANS AND BEYOND.



NEWCASTLE building workers, protesting against the lack of showers on the Civic Centre site, had a shower on the City Hall stairs. That got results.

AS THE BFL Royal Commission grinds on, producing news sensations that we all knew about years ago and giving Norm Gallagher (see publicly another man has lurked almost ghost-like in the background).

He emerged into print once, in a witness ad that back in 1974 the employers had paid some \$18,000 to Gallagher to smash the NSW branch of his own union.

In reality the figure was many times that much. And it was worth it to the bosses to be rid of the unmanageable boss who leader, Jack Mundy, had been a troublemaker.

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JACK MUNDY addresses an impromptu meeting in a bar on the fringe of the Rocks in Sydney assuring patrons that the builders labourers would not demolish the hotel.

Tom O'Lincoln reviews a new contribution to the history of the B.L.F. - Jack Mundy's GREEN BANS AND BEYOND.

Jack Mundy's book, called Green Bans and Beyond, is a natural ally of the B.L.F. It is a book that tells the story of the B.L.F. and the role of Jack Mundy in its formation.

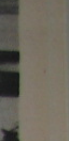
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EXUBERANT workers on the job during the Lanry work-in, 1972.



THE ROCKS Argyle Place.



THE ROCKS Argyle Place.



THE ROCKS Argyle Place.



THE ROCKS Argyle Place.



THE ROCKS Argyle Place.



THE ROCKS Argyle Place.



THE ROCKS Argyle Place.

# Skinned alive by The Professionals

Both of them are corrupt of sorts. They are out in the open, in a world where terrorism, socialist, trade unionists, and the rest of the world are being crushed.

They do this with the help of a highly developed form of money-bagging. They are always looking out for their own interests, and they are always looking out for their own interests.

They are always looking out for their own interests, and they are always looking out for their own interests. They are always looking out for their own interests, and they are always looking out for their own interests.



# HOSPITALIZATION

**WORKERS employed by the NSW Health Commission are to go to give in easily to the Wran governments onslaught on health care and jobs.**

Staff at Stockton and Alandale Hospitals have been out for over a week, nurses at Newcastle Psychiatric Hospital have been occupying wards while strikes and stop works have occurred in all the other major Schedule 5 hospitals.

Apart from pushing the boat into general hospitals, Health Minister Breton has retained his intention to close large Psych centres such as Rozelle and Glasview, with no off the land to develop. Standing in his way are Health Commission workers.

At Rozelle a combined sub-branch meeting of NSW Nurses Association and Health and Research Employees Association members voted for an immediate stoppage if any attempts were made to close the three wards under threat. Ward 4, ward on the McKinnon Alcohol and Drug Referral Unit.

Nursing Union sub-branch officials presented a sub-out deal trading off 10 nursing jobs for a day in the closure of the three wards at a hastily called stop work meeting on 15 March. After doing

## Organizing in the wards

IF THE Wran government has its way there will be nowhere in NSW where alcohol or drug dependent people can go for treatment.

The McKinnon Unit of Rozelle Hospital, along with detoxification centres in other NSW hospitals, face closure in the latest Wran health cuts.

The McKinnon unit provides a unique service in the treatment of alcoholism and drug addiction and is the only centre which operates a complete recovery program with specialist treatment beds through a long term stay for patients.

The Friends of McKinnon and Rozelle Hospital group was formed, comprising staff, ex-workers and supporters of the unit. The group is

## STOP PRESS

Plans by Pines Aired nurses for a demonstration and 24 hour strike have been agreed to postpone until the next meeting of the unit.

**It's not unusual** men are saying, and that's under this was our first claim in NSW and the 200 would have been caught up last year. While the claim was being heard, Prison Officers were being paid weekly while Arbitration considered our 200 wage claim. The result was a lousy 9.5% not even enough to keep up with inflation.

**Nurses demonstrate against Wran's cuts**



## N.S.W. postal workers ... "Don't know their own power"

THIS YEAR has been set down in the diaries of Australia Post bosses as the year to chop the NSW branch of the APTU (Australian Postal and Telecommunications Union) to bits.

The defeat of the centre-left officials Hawker, Buttice by the right wing Postmen's Union team late last year removed one obstacle to the bosses' plans.

Now they are moving in for the kill. Clerken at the GPO are being replaced by contractors and nothing has been done to defend those jobs.

AMANDA KING

## Old, public servants stir

Now more public servants are seeing that the resignation recommendation to open talks with the Public Service Board. It voted almost unanimously to meet again in April, to review their progress.

## HOOURS BLUE

THE WORKERS from holding, hospitals, maintenance and sundry areas met recently to press their claims for a 3½ per cent pay rise.

## Dear Battlers,

## REDS ONE UP ON G!

Dear Battlers, I'd like to commend about 140 Red activists who read your article on the excused from Nixon in their Banker 24 (March 27). The employment, pose that they are not the fault of the Red, I don't think of their frustration.

## Steps to Safety

WORKERS in the U.S. are protesting over BP's treatment in the uranium industry.

## Boycott B.P.



IN BRISBANE students at Queensland Uni march to picket the Physics Department where research is being carried out on the accuracy of the GPS navigation system.

## The War Game

A film documenting the horrific effects of the following locations: Monday 28 March NSW Institute of Technology, Sydney NSW.

## How to contact the International Socialists

- BATTLER EDITORIAL P.O. Box 46, Flemington, Vic 3031 376 307
- I.S. National Office P.O. Box 67, Melbourne 3001 61206
- MELBOURNE P.O. Box 46, Flemington, Vic 3031 376 307
- SYDNEY P.O. Box 46, Flemington, Vic 3031 376 307
- ADELAIDE P.O. Box 46, Flemington, Vic 3031 376 307
- CANBERRA P.O. Box 46, Flemington, Vic 3031 376 307
- BRISBANE P.O. Box 46, Flemington, Vic 3031 376 307
- IPSWICH P.O. Box 46, Flemington, Vic 3031 376 307

## Broadie cops it

Dear Battlers, The Red activists who read your article on the excused from Nixon in their Banker 24 (March 27). The employment, pose that they are not the fault of the Red, I don't think of their frustration.

## Longer lock up

Dear Battlers, Cost cutting by the NSW Government has meant that prisoners are locked up longer and we suffer food.

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## Full Equality and Liberation

FOR WOMEN, blacks, lesbians and all oppressed groups, Ranks, we have a responsibility to support the struggle.

## Revolutionary Party

To smash the capitalist state, we need a revolutionary party organized and led by the working class.

## Rank and File Organisation

Workers need their own organization to fight the bosses, to fight the bosses, to fight the bosses.

## What's On

- Canberra March 29 (Sun) 10.00 am (Sun) 10.00 am
- Sydney 30 (Sun) 10.00 am (Sun) 10.00 am
- Melbourne 31 (Sun) 10.00 am (Sun) 10.00 am

## Fighting Fund

- The fighting fund has raised \$24,977 for the Red Army.
- IPSWICH P.O. Box 46, Flemington, Vic 3031 376 307



## What We Stand For

Workers control the means of production, distribution and exchange.

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## I WANT TO JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Trade Union \_\_\_\_\_

Let's give the shove to Victoria's ...

# STATE OF DESTRUCTION



**DESTRUCTION: OCTOBER, 1981** — Victoria's Liberal Government attacks on trade unions don't stop with the Essential Services Acts or the Police Act. The Royal Commissions into the Painters and Dockers Union and the Builders Labourers Federation are thinly veiled attempts to undermine the union movement.

## the battler

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

### The moderate alternative

WHEN THE Labor Party starts talking about moderation and responsibility and sound economic management, workers should start to worry. The Victorian ALP has been running its current election campaign on exactly this platform.

John Cain and his would-be ministers have gone out of their way to reassure the 'middle-ground' and the left wing of the party has never been so quiet.

In some quarters they have been a reassuring presence. The Age, the multiplicity of the liberal hours, has praised Cain's policy speech, declaring that it 'could have been presented by a Liberal leader without embarrassment'.

What has Cain done to make the house like him to his supporters? For the workers in this state it's bad news.

He made a special point of his policy speech of threatening the unions, warning them that any resistance on their part would be firmly resisted by a Cain Labor government — and that a promise you can be broken after the election is one.

But Cain isn't a total fool and is prepared to throw a few crumbs to the workers. He has promised to abolish the work-breaking Essential Services Act and Vital Projects.

Other promises the ALP has made centre on putting more money into education, housing, health, public transport and so on. You never know, they might keep some of these promises.

But Cain isn't a total fool and is prepared to throw a few crumbs to the workers. He has promised to abolish the work-breaking Essential Services Act and Vital Projects.

**NOTE GENTLE READER, NO CHANGE IN THESE LEAVES AND PRICES**

**IT'S TRUE, HE CAN'T PERFORM MIRACLES, BUT YOU CAN, IN THE FIGHT FOR SOCIALISM.**

**PLEASE NOW SUBSCRIBE**

I want a Battler subscription: 1 enclosure \$7 for 20 issues, or \$20 for a supporting half made payable to the Battler. Zip and post to PO Box 44, Flemington, Vic. 3031.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

By Graham Willitt



**DESTRUCTION: AUGUST 1981** — St. Kilda and Port Melbourne line train service on Sandringham after 7 pm Saturday nights axed. Free Sunday travel on public transport does not affect those living in these areas as there is none. Taxi fares rise by 22%, and a one-station train ride now costs 70c.



**DESTRUCTION: FEBRUARY 1982** — With the opening of the new school year, Victoria has had unemployed teachers. Yet teacher unions estimate that classes are oversized and that there is nowhere near enough classrooms at many schools, especially those in the inner suburbs of Melbourne.



**DESTRUCTION: EVERY DAY** — No jobs — no jobs — no facilities — often no housing — no money — means no future for young people in Liberal Victoria or anywhere under capitalist or wonder party crimes are increasing. The answer is to be more police — yet instead of increasing youth, Thompson hires thugs in blue to lock them in.

NO SMOKING  
NO DOGS

## More jobs — less bullshit

**'MORE JOBS, less bullshit, more dole less bullshit' rang out at the Liberal Party headquarters in Melbourne on March 17.** The chant was from a group of under-eighteen year olds who are fed up with the treatment they get from the Fraser Government.

The Under-18 Income Campaign Group were demonstrating to tens of thousands of protesters who were arrested for occupying the Liberal Party headquarters in Canberra last August. Their only real crime was wanting the right to work, or get an adequate, livable benefit while unemployed.

Clearly the Liberal government, a couple of face corrupt heads, has to be swept out of office. Just as obviously, the ALP is not the only alternative.

But we can't expect anything much from the Liberal government. Cain and his team will turn on the workers as soon as they are in. What is already doing so now. Everything that we get out of an ALP government will be taken away from us.

Vote Labour and prepare to fight for the lack of jobs and their living standards.

When they heard that under-18s had occupied the Liberal Party headquarters in Melbourne on March 17, the police soon arrived and surrounded the building.

After an hour, other demonstrators started to arrive from outside parliament to give their support. Prompted by this, 35 uniformed and plain clothes cops moved in.

As they were trying to get in through the back door, another woman with a broom and dustpan dragged so brutally from the building that she received a further fracture, while her accomplices were ignored.

Many others ended up in hospital, including another woman knocked over by a police officer. Many photographers recorded these scenes, but were chased off the scene. One had a camera smashed.

The first 12 charged were given good bail bonds or fined up to \$25. Of the other 23, 10 appeared on Thursday, 5 got off. The remaining 13 pleaded guilty and were fined. The group still believes that action is the only way to get results, but their struggle will now be until all workers unemployed or not working are on strike.

The group also launched a book on the subject of which details their problems and campaign available from most unemployed workers groups in Melbourne for a minimal charge or free by John...

# the battler

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

Published by Australia Post — publication no. VBM 522 No. 126 April 26, 1982 30 cents.



# U.S. WAR-MONGER GET OUT!



GEORGE BUSH, ex-CIA head.

US VICE-PRESIDENT George Bush is one of the most unsavoury visitors to these shores since Lyndon B. Johnson in 1966.

He has come here to justify Ronald Reagan's murderous policies in El Salvador and the US escalation of the arms race.

Bush has declared that a nuclear war would be desirable for the US provided the population can be protected, the command apparatus subordinated and the Russians disarmed.

He has also declared that a nuclear war would be desirable for the US provided the population can be protected, the command apparatus subordinated and the Russians disarmed.

As Vice-President he is involved with Reagan's propping up the brutal regime in El Salvador.

Following the recent US backed elections there, an anti-communist right wing coalition including the 'assassinator' Major D'Aubuisson is set to take power. The group still believes that action is the only way to get results, but their struggle will now be until all workers unemployed or not working are on strike.

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DEAD FREEDOM fighter in El Salvador's capital, San Salvador, a youthful victim of the bloody U.S. backed regime.

Battler now 30c

AS FROM this issue the price of the Battler is thirty cents.

We have tried to keep the Battler as cheap as possible to make it available to as many workers, unemployed, pensioners and students as possible in fact it is now almost five years since our last price rise. But unfortunately even

socialist papers have to pay ever increasing postage, airfreight and materials. The only way we have kept the price down for so long is by generous donations and fundraising from our supporters.

As a special offer, subscriptions will remain at \$7 for the next month.

So subscribe now and save money. Or take out a supporting subscription for \$20, and receive a free copy of Southern Africa After Soweto by Alex Gallinicos and John Rogers.

If you like the Battler and want to see it's price kept as low as possible why don't you send a donation to PO Box 44, Flemington, Vic 3031

# RIGHTS ... A BATTLE ISSUE

**THE CAMPAIGN for land rights and the struggle against the Games Bill and increased police powers in Queensland got a big boost with a rally of 300 people in King George Square last Friday.**

The rally coincided with a celebration of the cultural activities around the Games—Festival 82—and some of the speakers came to our rally activists.

The rally was organised by the Coalition Against Racism and Repression. Formed out of the Campaign Against Police Powers initiated last year to oppose the various Bills that will further restrict democratic rights in Queensland.

With the passing of the Games Bill and the end of Great in Trust which effectively denies Land Rights to Aborigines, much

By  
**Carole Ferrer**

more and more offence to those directly under attack by Burke-Peterson is being and becoming to be built.

It is clear that Fraser has no intention of intervening against Burke over Land Rights. Aboriginal Affairs Minister Baum has some support of the Dept of

The Federal policy of the Games Bill and the end of Great in Trust which effectively denies Land Rights to Aborigines, much

on the international scene. His support doesn't seem to register, and even Zimbabwe Mugabe, when he visited Queensland recently was unwilling to condemn the treatment of blacks here.

The Parliamentary opposition or a boycott from outside can't be relied on to wage the fight for us. What we need to do is to build a strong campaign against Burke's repressive policies.

Action is also being organised through the Land Rights Support Group at Griffith and Queensland Union. While a motion for a boycott and cancelling of bookings was lost in the Queensland Union Students Union Council, the fight for a boycott is not over yet by any means.

The Coalition holds meetings every Sunday at the Trades Hall for information phone 522 875 or 219 882.

A Black Protest Committee is under way with first committee to set up and the campaign is organising a

## campaign



DUNCAN Hallas.

# Leading socialist on tour

**THE BATTLE** will be sponsoring an Australian speaking tour by leading British socialist DUNCAN HALLAS in late May and June.

Duncan Hallas was a founding member of the British International Socialist in the 1950s and is presently a member of the Central Committee of the Socialist Workers Party British comrades are now called.

Hallas is a veteran labour movement activist, noted public speaker. A former editor of the magazine International Socialist, he has written widely on socialist theory and strategy.

He will speak on a variety of topics which will include the whole world going down the same road. He will also speak at a number of universities and colleges on topics including Trotsky (in what is a noted authority), the British peace movement building a revolutionary alternative.

The next Battle will contain full details of the tour.



A SCENE from the TV series 'Women of the Sun' coming to Channel 9/28 this year, unusual because it depicts aborigines in history as victims who fight back.

## "Where we gonna go?"

**IN THE WEEK** prior to Easter, Reg Dodd, from the Central Queensland Aboriginal Mission Station called to Brisbane to discuss the campaign for Aboriginal Land Rights.

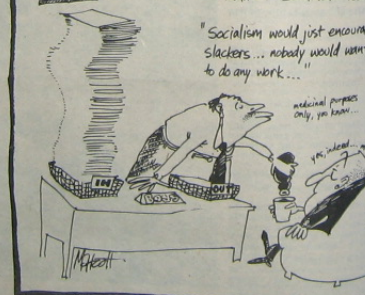
"I'm from Rockhampton. I was first sent to a reserve in 1914. That was the Aboriginal Mission Station called 'The Palm Island' until 1960. Then I was sent to Woorinda as a carpenter. They thought the Japanese were coming so we had to put up little cottages. They brought down hundreds of aborigines from a Lutheran mission up north."

"Then I went to Mackay and got a job with the Mackay and River. There were three times. I'm free from there. I'm interested in the river, they're my people and I see that the future generation has got nothing offered to them."

"Reg was particularly concerned to counter the impression given by Burke-Peterson that the blacks supported his 'Decree of Great in Trust' legislation. Reg pointed out that the blacks had come out in support of the legislation did not represent the black community and that the government was applying a lot of pressure to make things more difficult."

"The people in the reserve are not too aware of themselves. They think they are waiting for land away from the aborigines. They put the biggest

## ANOTHER GOOD ARGUMENT AGAINST SOCIALISM...



# BLOCKBUSTER ANTI-WAR RALLIES

## But what do we do now?



You can overkill us 50 times, but we can only overkill you 49 times.

**EARLY APRIL** saw the largest anti-war demonstrations in Australia for a decade.

In Melbourne around 30,000 marched for nuclear disarmament on Sunday April 4. While in Sydney on the same day a crowd of almost 40,000, larger than any of the Sydney mobilisations against the Vietnam war, braved the rain to march from Circular Quay to Hyde Park.

There were similar demonstrations in most of the major cities. 6,000 in Adelaide, 3,000 in Brisbane, 4,000 in Perth and 1,500 in Hobart. The correlation between increased defence expenditure and falling social welfare standards is really apparent.

"Our slogans must be Jobs not Bombs, Welfare not Warfare. Slogans which make the connection between the peace movement and the violence inherent in capitalism, especially capitalism in recession."

"They have focused the tremendous popular appeal of the peace movement onto an effective social force. One will continue demands not just to give peace a chance, but to give it."

The April demonstrations must not be allowed to become a one-off event. We need regular mobilising now for major demonstrations on Hiroshima Day in August.

A large number of new, young people have been drawn onto the streets in opposition to war. We need to find ways to involve them and maintain their enthusiasm. The quiet, 'respectable' nature of the demonstrations with very little chanting, together with the bishops, generals and all sorts of notables on the platform are distinct drawbacks in this regard.

We need militant demos with a focus for action, such as the US consulate, to really involve people.

Otherwise the movement will amount to merely decline. It is worth noting that the turn out in Brisbane was well down on a similar march last year, despite the big top-ups in Melbourne and Sydney.

Partly this was due to limited coverage in the Brisbane media. But more important was the complete lack of direction from the Rally for Peace committee. All the effort went into one rally, and it was not used to draw people into further actions.

The rally leaflets emphasized the need to end ties with US imperialism, but made no suggestions on ways of achieving this via mass action. The answer is obvious, the disarmament movement must support actions which weaken the US military machine.

Such as opposing Australian troops going to Sinai, supporting the rebels in El Salvador and, most importantly, mounting a campaign to close the US war bases in Australia.

The Brisbane rally for peace committee sponsored a conference two weeks before the rally which offered an excellent chance to discuss the future direction of the movement. There were a number of good speeches about the need for unilateral disarmament and taking out US bases, but not a word about the practical means of mobilising support.

The International Socialist moved a declaration of aims for the movement, hoping to provoke some discussion, but the conference organisers did not put this to the meeting until the final five minutes of the day.

To be effective, the movement must make the struggle against imperialism its central aim—and that fight begins at home, against the US military alliance and in support of anti-imperialist forces, East and West.

The US war bases are the best focus to draw in new activists and to keep the momentum up. The bases make Australia a prime nuclear target. They would be used by Reagan in a nuclear attack that would incinerate millions of Australian workers.

A movement here to kick out Fraser and the bases can break the Australian link in Reagan's nuclear chain. Kick out US bases! Ban the Bomb! East and West!



STONEY rain and Canberra sunshine people came to oppose the war drives of imperialism and promote the cause of peace.



# Open slather

By Jim O'Neill

A RECENT scandal in the House of Ministers reported on the Kuala Lumpur Press has "been" the worst of its kind in the history of the country — a scandal which has not only exposed the gross mismanagement of the Ministry of Education but also the gross mismanagement of the Ministry of Health.

The Malaysian Government's Minister for Education, Mr. Yusoff Ismail, has been accused of mismanaging the Ministry of Education. It is reported that he has allowed the Ministry to spend \$5.50 million on a project which has cost more than \$10 million.

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## THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION'S LEGACY

## "Guarding" us from our rights

AN ATTEMPT in the NSW Supreme Court to force a fifteen year old woman to have a child she doesn't want, has been foiled.

The woman is a ward of the state. Her legal guardian, ALP Minister for Youth and Community Services, Kevin Stewart, decided she couldn't have the abortion she wants. Luckily he was thwarted when the court ruled in her favour.

The Right to Life has the abolition of NSW back the decision, and several members demonstrated outside the court building.

Right to Life Stewart has pledged that the Government would state where he would approve a report for the termination of pregnancy.

It is clearly ironic. Legally it rests on particular precedents in NSW and Victoria, which are subject to reversal by any further legislation. It is clearly ironic.

# STUDENTS OCCUPY OVER CTS

FOUR HUNDRED students at Queensland Unions... We held a 'Study-in' from 11 p.m. when the library was closed.

What aroused the most anger was the reduction in library hours. In 1976 the central library was open 93 hours per week. Now it's open 72 hours.

At the moment there are over 40,000 books in storage and another 30,000 will be withdrawn from the shelves each year.

They called for international solidarity by workers all over the world against international capitalism.

The day chosen was May 1 May Day. Ever since, workers everywhere have celebrated it as a day of internationalism.

At the same time, ruling classes are reacting ever more in unison. In the United States, the ruling class is reacting ever more in unison.

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# War over the Falkland Islands?



ARGENTINE President, General Leopoldo Galtieri - international upheaval a palliative for domestic unrest.

FOR THREE WEEKS now there has been the prospect of a major war over the Falkland Islands. It is sheer, raving lunacy.

The world's third biggest navy has streamed full speed ahead for a group of islands 6,000 miles away, with the aim of blissing another way.

Party leadership has backed this jingoistic lunacy. Michael Foot, the Labour leader, was praised by special Communist debate.

All this supposedly to defend the right of the Falkland Islanders to live under whatever political system they like.

But this does not mean the demand for the return of the Islands was ever a threat to the lives of the British settlers on them.

What is in the British mind is the invasion of the Falkland Islands. The British mind is the invasion of the Falkland Islands.

Belgian workers have been equally militant. In the town of Ghent and other parts of the country, the workers have been on strike for the last six weeks demanding a 10 per cent wage increase.

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The Battler features . . . The Battler features . . . The Battler features . . .

# WOMEN'S LIBERATION

"The February revolution was begun from below . . . the initiative being taken of their own accord by the oppressed and unrepresented part of the proletariat—the women textile workers, among them were the soldiers' wives. The overnight headlines had provided the last stimulus. About 90,000 women, men and women, were on strike that day. The fighting mood expressed itself in demonstrations, meetings, encounters with the police . . . A mass of women, not all of them workers, flocked to the municipal drama demanding bread. It was like demanding milk from a he-goat. Red banners appeared in different parts of the city, and inscriptions on them showed that the workers wanted bread, but neither autocracy nor war. Women's Day passed successfully, with enthusiasm and without victims. But what it concealed in itself, no one had guessed even by nightfall."

TROTSKY in *The History of the Russian Revolution*



1921: Decimated by the world war, then the civil war, what chance was there the people of Russia could build socialism?



SHIPMENTS of consumer goods means hours in queues for this one for Moscovites today, no more a hallmark of socialism than women's liberation.

THE TWO years following the Russian revolution in 1917 saw the fastest changes for women ever in history.

On the second anniversary of the revolution Lenin could claim that: "More had been done to emancipate woman, to make her the equal of the 'strong sex', than has been done during the past 130 years by all the enlightened, 'democratic' republics of the world taken together."

In November 1920 the Soviet Russia also became the first country to legislate abortion, to permit such operations to be performed freely without any charge in Soviet hospitals, where conditions are assured of minimizing the harm of the operation. It is difficult for us to imagine just how revolutionary these changes were, but they represented a real step towards the liberation of women from a lifetime of childbearing in extreme poverty.

The work that has traditionally been done by women—looking after children, cooking for the family, laundry—became the responsibility of the whole of society. The New Economic Policy brought with it widespread unemployment as industrial managements sacked workers.

## care

Nannies and kindergarten were opened to care for children when their parents were involved with other work, communal restaurants were built, removing the necessity for each individual household to cook and eat separately and communal laundries took care of washing and mending.

So in 1918 in Petrograd nearly everyone ate in communal restaurants. And in Moscow more than half the population took advantage of communal eating. Women's lives were transformed.

They had more freedom to take part in the rapidly elected soviets and in political activity in general. A social bacteria campaign was launched to encourage women to be more involved in public life. But the hopes of Soviet Russia, and the needs of women, could not be

diverted to care for children

turned to prostitution, which had massively increased in the first years after the revolution. In 1922 there were 21,000 prostitutes in Petrograd.

The crisis of the revolution was destroying the old family structure.

Abortion was outlawed and motherhood became a "crime" theme of propaganda.

Women were encouraged to fulfill their "natural" function of motherhood by a series of cash payments for having children. Medals—Heroine Mother, for example—were awarded to women who had large families.

In the mid thirties Proutka the official newspaper declared:

## Perspectives for Women's Liberation

Radical Feminism, Reform or Revolution?

By Lynne Spence

Available from I.S. branches for \$12.50 (plus postage) or send \$1.50 to I.S. Books PO Box 67 Hemmington, BH1 for postal delivery.

But the value of the good things which were made.

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## WORDS of restraint: Warsaw asks strikers to make their protest 'the last of its kind' in late 1981 - maybe only too true.

# THE LESSONS OF SOLIDARITY

It IS HARD to think of any set of events more full of lessons for the labour movement than last year's Polish crisis.

movement's "socialist" chapters in its history of labour.

It was a historic breakthrough that had no limits, lines which the union activists, served but never quite managed to come to terms with.

Solidarity continued to think of itself as a union, but was not quite managed to come to terms with its role as a mass movement.

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## Reviewed by Tom O'Lincoln

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# Are we heading for a depression?

DEPRESSION, a word thought to have been banished from the capitalist dictionary, is now again a terrifying prospect.

In America leading economists fear that the current recession, which has pushed up the official unemployment rate to 10 million, could spill over into an all out depression.

The chief economist for 1983, F. F. Hutton, the second largest stockholding firm in the world, estimates that "there is a one in three chance of a depression" in the US. Already 1980 depression style scenes of soup kitchens are reappearing on the streets of Northern American cities. In Detroit, the home of the car industry, one-third of the workforce is unemployed and half the city is boarded up. Houses are unsaleable in the state of Michigan.

Even US Treasury officials are forced to admit that the prospects of recovery later in the year look dimmer and "genuine depression" may mean will continue to rise to at least 9% by the start



STOCKPILES OF unsold cars, Michigan USA.

THE QUESTION OF THE HOUR IS: WILL THIS MAN LAUNCH US ALL INTO WORLD WAR 3? IF HE DOES YOU'LL REALLY NEED A SUBSCRIPTION TO 'THE BATTLER' !!

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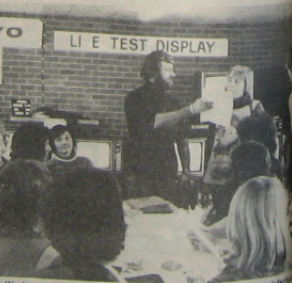
PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS



A DOLE queue from the 1930s and left on today's Job Centres. The number of people over six months has jumped from 10,000 to 147,000 this year. Meanwhile the number coming to the Salvation Army for relief has jumped from 277 per month in 1976 to 730 in 1981. A spokesperson said, "It takes us back to the beginning of the depression ... This is a continuing escalating crisis."

whatever the confusion among the bovers and Fraser on how to deal with their recession, they don't intend to pay the cost. They have every intention of forcing Australian workers to haul them out.

Already the Financial Review was called for a wage freeze to tilt profits. While the "dies" on the Liberal Party backbench are calling for a headline "tight inflation first" policy which can only result in even more



SANYO workers in Albion-Wodonga showed how to fight for jobs when they occupied their factory in 1976.

# the bottler

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

Registered by Australia Post - publication no. 548 527 No. 127 May 8, 1982 30 cents

Also in this issue:

Australian imperialism in Niugini, page 9.

The continuing struggle in Palestine, page 5.

# MARGARET THATCHER'S LUNATIC WAR!

MARGARET THATCHER has launched one of the most lunatic wars of all time to defend the vestiges of the British Empire.

Thatcher claims that the war with Argentina is about protecting the Falkland Islanders. But they will be among the first to get hurt in the fighting.

Thatcher has rejected various 'peace plans' which would have guaranteed the Falklanders' future — because they did not allow the Union Jack to fly over the islands again.

The war is not a 'war against fascist dictatorship'. The British Tory MPs who are most eager for war were just as eager to supply arms to the Galtieri regime until six weeks ago.

Those who have been really fighting fascism in Argentina — the Argentine trade unionists and left — believe the Falklands should belong to Argentina, since they were stolen from Argentina by British gunboats 150 years ago.

The war is really about 'saving face' — saving Thatcher's face.

The Iron Lady is determined to prove that she can push her pound, and does not need how many people — British or Argentine — die in the process.

Thatcher hopes that she will shore up her national support and then attention away from the three million unemployed and youth on the streets of Britain.

Oppose Thatcher's



**Carnage to keep the Union Jack flying**

BRITISH marines aboard the Hermes.

see page 3 for more details

## HAYDEN'S "PRICES AND INCOMES" POLICY

THE ACTU and the Federal ALP leadership are trying to pitch up a deal to control our wages.

Bob Hawke and Ralph Wilson have been secretly negotiating for months with trade union leaders on the details of a "prices and incomes" policy to be implemented by a farcical Labor government.

While the exact details have not as yet been finalised, the basic idea is that the unions will forgo any wage increases outside a revamped indexation system in return for some limited controls over prices, tax cuts and improved social services.

There are a number of problems with any wages price deal or "social wage" concept as some left wing trade union leaders prefer to call it.

Firstly the hard truth is that under capitalism price controls just don't work. The bosses can always find some way to get around foolish fingers like the Prices Justification Tribunal.

And meanwhile our wages are being held

CONT'D ON PAGE 3

A warmonger's dream come true!



# Boycott against the Games!



NEW ZEALAND cops VS protestors, during last year's Springbok visit.

## Pro-abortion demonstrators arrested

"HINDERING an obscene anti-woman law." That should be the charge against three women arrested while demonstrating for abortion rights outside the NSW Supreme Court.

Inside, the Court was deciding to overrule NSW Minister Kevin Stewart's attempt to stop a 15 year old state ward having an abortion she wanted. Doctors and psychiatrists urged the government to allow it. But Steward meant the Right to Life Association refused.

The women were there to make the pro-abortion position clear. But they weren't the only ones there. Brother Pat Darcy of the very strange 'Mother of God Brothers' was parading up and down with placards showing a disembodied 10 week fetus and an eight week one in a pool of blood.

Darcy has made himself prominent as a permanent picketer of the Pretoria abortion clinic in Sydney.

One of his supporters - Pro-Life Gudmund described his role there 'he just walks up to the women who are going into the clinic to have an abortion and says you're a quack and you're going to murder your baby.'

But Darcy wasn't nearly as

## QUEENSLAND PREMIER Bjelke-Petersen's diplomatic mission to New Zealand has been met with demonstrations in at least Palmerston and Wellington. We can only hope there are more.

As the governing body of the Commonwealth Games prepares to meet in London, the possibility of a boycott still hangs over the Games themselves, because of the South African Springbok tour in New Zealand last year.

Bjelke-Petersen is in pretension of sporting his New Zealand to meet Muldoon, as one red-baiting, union-bashing, anti-abortion racist to another. He will support Muldoon's stand on the sporting ties with South Africa and urge him to resist pressure to apologise for the Springbok tour.

An apology is the very least black African nations will be demanding. On top of this, they expect agreement from New Zealand on the inter-

## by Ian Rintoul

Zealand. Already some 200 groups have said they will be supporting the Games against Petersen.

But however well intentioned the protesters will be, the fact remains that the 1971 boycott was a racist administration's last remaining act.

The Coalition of Racist and Supremacist Organisations is determined to disrupt Commonwealth Games. May it be a national function, support of Muldoon, or support of the Commonwealth Games.

## ACOAs TELECOM WAGE CLAIM: Don't split the union

IN BRISBANE, ACOA Telecom employees have voted unanimously to demand immediate recognition of their wage claim and to call on Telecom to begin meaningful negotiations.

In seven months, ACOA (Administrative and Clerical Officers Association) salaries have gone from being seventh out of 26 major employers to, wait for it, third.

Since the ACOA wage list since last November, all state public servants, banking and insurance employees, and white collar workers in local government and statutory authorities as well as employees in other industries like transport, metal trades, and miners

have had wage rises. This puts federal public servants well down the list.

Despite the obvious, the Public Service has deliberately delayed proceedings for a wage increase. This means further delays while Sir John Moore decides whether to hold one.

The story was quite different when technical unions made a claim and within two months Telecom conducted a survey and offered 9.7% increase.

The white collar workers rightly felt they should get the same response, but one of the officials provided the

## ALP ACT'S SOCIAL CONTRACT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

SECONDLY the whole concept based on the re-introduction of such form of wage indication were changed from quarterly to half yearly.

At every step in the sordid saga we lost out more and more, but it was only Cliff Dolan and the right wing majority on the ALP executive that is quibbling about this lead, leading left wing

confrontational politics. They aim to cut the unions into pieces without a fight.

The ALP's 'prices and incomes' policy sounds suspiciously similar to the social contract introduced under the late British Labour government. In Britain too, wages were to be held down in return for spending on social services and controls on the bosses' profits.

The reality was that real wages suffered a larger fall in one year than in any single year during the depression of the 1930s. The bosses got off scot free as profits soared and social services were slashed.

And shop floor union organisation was so weakened by the trade union official policing of the Wilson/Callaghan social contract that the way was paved for Margaret Thatcher to launch an outright assault on the unions and meet like resistance.

The ALP wants a 'wages and incomes' policy as a major plank in their next Federal election campaign. It will be a means to ensure that there is no credibility with the bosses as a party which wants 'right inflation' and keep wages down.

Hawke and Hayden's line to the bosses is that they can be just as efficient in cutting wages and boosting profits as Fraser but they can do it without Fraser's nasty



ABOVE: SINISTER altitudes in the Atlantic, sea a gulf-mistral destroyer and frigates close on the Falklands. Left: marines take a helicopter.

# A JUNGLE OF JABBERS

THERE ARE NOW officially 3,007,726 unemployed in Britain.

And that's ignoring the million extra people the Trade Union Council calculates are unemployed but not better to register. Or who are not allowed to.

And on the streets of London and Liverpool unemployed kids, black and white, are again fighting their common enemy the police.

No wonder Margaret Thatcher is trying to whip up jingoistic and militarist fervor over the Falkland Islands to distract British workers from their real enemy—their own government's repression.

Thatcher justifies her war by claiming she's concerned about the welfare of 1800 Falkland Islanders. Yet every day the rumble of 3000 factories in Britain through pollution that destroy jobs.

So what is the fighting over? Our own job that has gone for 10 years out of 10. The Argentine invasion six weeks ago originated Thatcher's new obsession. Yet her government recently passed a racist 'Nationality Act' depriving millions of British citizens throughout the world, including some 450 Falklanders, of the right to enter Britain.

The British seized the Falklands in 1833 because of their strategic location. They threw off the Argentine inhabitants and the British returned to the Argentine islands under a new name to make a sea lane to Argentina which would be the hub and only part of this history was virtually a semi-colony of Britain.

Until recently the Falklands remained a forgotten outpost of a lost Britain's victory in the Falklands islands in 1982.

Falklands would also strengthen the hold of imperialism in the South American region. The United States has made the position clear by their announcement of military and economic sanctions against Argentina.

His Secretary of State, Haig, has also announced that the US will supply military support to Britain in the fighting. This includes access to US facilities on Ascension Island which would provide major logistic support to the British war fleet to maintain their blockade of the Falklands.

Argentina has a genuine national claim on the Falklands, and since their imperialist war and occupation should be supported by socialists. We must demand the withdrawal of the British war fleet.

## BRISBANE ACOA members in Telecom vote to demand immediate recognition of their wage claim.



APRENTICE POLITICIAN. The children's freedom about your future in the firm. Young apprentices are also easily indoctrinated.

## THE BATTLE "HOW TO..." SERIES:



Advice workers on their industrial struggles... To a role worker create a media personality. Sit on the Front Bench, and win, and a Social Contract? Do children's freedom about your future in the firm. Young apprentices are also easily indoctrinated.

## BUSH GETS A MESSAGE

VICE-President George Bush was given the message he deserved by 150 people outside Hayden's Westwood Hotel last night.

parade of the US government in Europe which is putting pressure on the governments of NATO allies.

## THE FLAMES of revolt in Britain last year. Now there has been further rising.



THE FLAMES of revolt in Britain last year. Now there has been further rising.

# WHY WE NEED THEORY



**Militarist, McCarthyite Mongrel**

## This man is venomous

"**GOD MADE Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve. If homosexuals are allowed civil rights they will become an established, bona fide minority, just like women or blacks.**"

This spake Jerry Falwell, leader of the American Moral Majority (MMM) who will be in Sydney this month to address a series of youth camps and to give a public seminar on "GOD, TRUTH & GOURNERY."

A look at the origins and aims of the Moral Majority shows it to be a religiously-inspired movement in a country where truth or even evil is not absolute. In 1979 US businessmen appear to have been busy with such connections as Nixon fighting and anti-communism, but upon the idea of re-evaluating values to disseminate the word of God through water-machinery, the movement was "born".

**JERRY Falwell** (George James Bailey Smith) is a fundamentalist, conservative, Christian evangelist who has been called "the most powerful religious leader in America since the death of Martin Luther King." He was quoted at a church meeting in London as saying "I don't know who God chose for Adam and Eve, but I think they were homosexuals." Falwell's speech was a direct attack on the liberalisation of homosexuality in the UK. He said that he was a minister of the Gospel and that he was not a politician. He said that he was a minister of the Gospel and that he was not a politician.

As the American Civil Liberties Union put it: "This speech is clear and highbrow. They mean to capture the power of government and use it to establish a hegemony of public orthodoxy." He has been arrested in connection with the Moral Majority's activities in the UK.

The Campaign Against Repression, set up by the Sydney Women's Abortion Action Campaign and the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Action Group, is holding a public meeting on Wednesday 12 May at 7.30 pm. The meeting is being held in the Teachers Federation building at 100 Macquarie Street. The meeting is being held in the Teachers Federation building at 100 Macquarie Street. The meeting is being held in the Teachers Federation building at 100 Macquarie Street.

PRIME MINISTER Begin of Israel is clearly due for another Nobel Prize. Not one for peace like the one he shared with Sadat, but for literature. The show he recently turned on in Sinai was theatre of the highest order.

Begin had to appear to be making concessions at part of the Camp David "peace process". Begin claimed it was. The resistance of the hard liners enabled him to make a show of being a moderate.

It is precisely the hard line religious parties on whom his government depends for survival. There is no real danger that he will permanently alienate them because over the West Bank and Gaza, which is what really counts, Begin has no differences with the extremists.

His government is now proposing a resolution declaring that in future no land on which there is Jewish settlement will be handed over to the Arabs. Since the West Bank has been deliberately dotted with settlements as part of government policy it is abundantly clear that any such a resolution for Palestinians under Israeli occupation is out of the question.

Now his government is attempting to change over from a military to a civilian administration in the area. This might seem at first glance to be a good thing. But the Israeli occupation is not an international law, it is part of their plan to integrate the area into Israel on a permanent basis. It is a step toward outright annexation.

The current civil administration in the West Bank towns is a military administration. A council of elected mayors who support the PLO. The Israelis want to bypass this council and to try to find rab quinquies in their puppet positions of authority. In most cases this doesn't work, but the Israelis are not.

In one village, the people refused to be lined up. When the army arrived they surrounded the village and forced all the men to be in the central square all night. In a number of other villages men have been arrested or economic activity has been stopped.

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Early this year, Israel announced that it was withdrawing its troops from the West Bank. The withdrawal was a major step towards the peace process. It was a major step towards the peace process. It was a major step towards the peace process.

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## why we need theory

**LEADING BRITISH socialist Duncan Hallas will start a two week speaking tour of Australia on May 20. The tour is being sponsored by the Battler.**

Hallas is a member of the Central Committee of Britain's largest revolutionary socialist organisation, the Socialist Workers' Party. The British SWP is part of the International Socialist Workers group member organisations in different countries are linked internationally.

Hallas will talk at major public meetings in most of the capital cities on the relevance of the Marxist approach to Australia. Details are listed below. He will also speak at a number of uni and CAE campuses on the struggle against imperialism.

Additionally, Hallas will speak at dinner evenings on the theme "Socialism from below and at special International Socialist Branch meetings on Building the revolutionary alternative — the history of the British International Socialist and the lessons for Australia. For full details of the tour ring your local ISB branch (see page 11 for phone nos).

The Battler will publish a special series of articles by Duncan Hallas while he is on tour. In "The Meaning of Marxism" the first of these articles explains why trade union militants and socialists need a Marxist world view.

### BRITAIN IN CRISIS Will Australia be next?

Canberra: 8 pm Wednesday 20 May, Australian National University Staff Centre. **Brisbane:** 8 pm Friday 4 June, Building Workers Industrial Union, Basement, 130 Fern St, Brisbane. **Sydney:** 7.30 pm Thursday 10 June, NSW Teachers Federation Auditorium, 200 Sussex St, Sydney. **Melbourne:** 7.45 pm Wednesday 23 June, Victorian Education Centre, 215 Collins St, Collingwood. **Adelaide:** Ph. 49 7939 for details.

### DUNCAN HALLAS leading British revolutionary speaks on

### "The World Significance of the British Crisis?"

Now we see the Melbourne Herald lecturing from page editors attacking the BL for leading a strike on the Herald building etc. If you would love to have Newsprint Gallagher jailed for sedition or whatever else they can get him on and will do anything to whip up public opinion against him.

NSW Labor Council Organiser Chris McArdle always has such a righteous tone when he tells workers to go back to work. He must have expected that the basic reality of the situation.

As a Government Minister, he is a real trouble maker. He is a real trouble maker. He is a real trouble maker.

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**HISTORY**, said the late Henry Ford 'is bunk'.

A lot of people agree with him. After all, what does it matter to anyone today whether Alfred burned the cakes or James Watt got the idea of the steam engine by watching a kettle boil over?

There are many who are not so necessarily selective. The "hard core" of historical facts existing objectively and independently of the interpretation of the historian is a pre-meditated fallacy.

There are countless million facts which have an important dependence on what kind of theory you have and in this turn depends on what you are interested in, on what you are trying to do.

Marx was interested, first and foremost, in social change. His "materialist conception of history" is essentially a guide to the present in the light of the past. He bases ideas, at simple though the application, on development, is often complex.

**class**

"The history of all heretofore existing society", he writes, "is the history of class struggles. Freeman and slave, patrician and plebeian, baron and serf, man and woman, journeyman and employer, owner of the means of production and wage-laborer, stand constantly in opposition to each other, carried on by an unintermittent warfare, now open, now concealed, a warfare which always ends either in a revolutionary transformation of the whole society or in the common destruction of the contending classes."

"Modern capitalist society, springing from the wreck of feudal society, has not abolished class antagonisms. It has only substituted new classes, new conditions of oppression, new forms of warfare, for the old."

Classes rather than "great men" are the important thing in history. The whole of society is in the common class.

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### DUNCAN HALLAS

of individual people and some individuals are much more important than others. But that King John or good George Washington are, from a Marxist point of view, more important for the class interests they represented than for their personal virtues or vices.

That immediately brings up another point. If the struggle between classes is the real motor of history then 'good' and 'bad' are relative terms. What is good for one class is bad for another.

Then this means that the class at the end of the 18th century was a good thing for the people who got most out of it. It was a very bad thing for the aristocracy who lost their privileges, lands, and, in some cases, their heads.

There can, in fact, be no impartial history. Everyone is part of some society and some class in that society. The historian who claims to be impartial is a fraud. Either too low to do proper historical work or too high to do proper historical work.

But why should we believe that our interests, that our ethically better than those of the answer, in Marx's words, in that "The working class movement is the conscious movement of the immense majority"?

There is a still more basic reason. The kind of society that we live in is a particular place at a particular time depends on the way that

### Books by Duncan Hallas

**THE LABOUR PARTY WHY IMPORT CONTROL CAN'T SAVE JOBS**

**Trotsky WHY IMPORT CONTROL CAN'T SAVE JOBS**

**THE SOCIALIST CASE**

**ONLY SOME OF the titles by Duncan Hallas. All available from your local IS Branch (see page 11 for details). Or from IS Books, PO Box 46, Kensington, Vic 3031. Trotsky's Marxism \$8.50. The Labour Party Myth & Reality \$12. Why Import Controls Won't Save Jobs \$9. All prices include postage.**

**AGNES SMEDLEY** grew up in a poor mining family in Missouri at the turn of century. Her socialism and feminism grew out of the experiences of her working class background. She taught herself to write and became an inspiring socialist journalist.

Here is an extract from a collection of her writings, "Portraits of Chinese Women in Revolution."

**JUST AS I** arrived in Canton in the hot summer months of 1930, another General was killed by his body guard for the sake of fifty Chinese dollars over a rival General.

The Kwangtung Provincial Government was semi-independent, but in the hands of generals who took by violence what they considered their share of the loot of the south. They whirled around the city in bullet-proof cars with armed bodyguards standing on the running boards. Such was the spirit of the generals and of the officials whom they brought to power with them.

The strikers had armour plating and machine-guns to protect the merchants from "bandits." The "bandits," I learned, were peasants who took to the highway for a part of each year in order to earn a living.

I once calculated that, if these "bandits" had attacked and captured our steamer, they would have secured enough food to feed a whole village for months.

At meal times the merchants hunched over the tables, eating gargantuan meals and dropping the chicken bones on the floor. They talked of silk, money, markets, and how much their firms were losing. The silk industry was under fighting for its life, but if there were losses, it clearly did not come out of the hides of these men. I tried a little for Jesse James.

My young escort was awed by these men, but when he spoke of the silk peasants or the girl flature workers, hostility and contempt crept into his voice. His particular hatred seemed to be the thousands of women spinners. They refused to marry, and if their families forced them, they merely bedded their husbands with a part of their wages and induced them to take concubines.

The most such a married girl would do was bear one son, then she would return to the factory, refusing to live with her husband any longer. The Government had issued a decree forbidding women to escape from marriage by bribery, but the women ignored it.

"They're too rich—that's the root of the trouble!" my young escort explained. "They earn as much as eleven dollars a month, and become proud and vain."

Next day the young expert and I boarded a river steamer. Some twenty or thirty Guild merchants were the only other passengers.

contemptuous. He added that on the money they also supported parents, brothers and sisters, and grandparents. "They squander their money," he cried. "I have never gone to a picture theatre without seeing groups of them sitting together, holding hands."

Until 1927, when they were forbidden, there had been Communist cells and trade unions in the flatures, he charged, and now these despicable girls evaded the law by forming secret "Sister Societies."

They had even dared to strike for shorter hours and higher wages. Now and then two or three girls would commit suicide together because their families were forcing them to marry.

For weeks my escort and I went by foot or small boat from village to

ancient, walled table. For millions this was home. A few owned several mulberry trees—for wealth was reckoned in trees. But almost all had sold their cocoon crops in advance in order to get money for food. If the crop failed, they were the losers. Wherever we travelled the story was the same; the silk peasants were held to pawn by the merchants and were never free from debt.

Only as we neared big market towns, in which silk flatures beheld forth the stretch of cocoons, did we come upon much better homes and fewer careworn faces. The daughters of such families were spinners. It was then that I began to see what industrialism had as its bad seemed elsewhere, meant to the working girls.

These were the only places in the



village, from market town to market town. The fierce sun beat down upon us until our clothing clung to our bodies like a surgeon's glove and the perspiration wet our hat bands and our noses. At night we took rooms in village inns or pitched our camp beds under mosquito nets in family temples.

All the roads and paths were lined with half-naked peasants bending low under huge baskets of cocoons swung from the ends of bamboo poles. Market towns reeked with the cocoons and in the warehouses. Every village was a mass of trays on which the silkworms fed, tended night and day by gaunt, careworn peasants who went about naked as their waifs.

At first naturally, then with interest, my escort began to translate for me as I questioned the peasants on their life and their homes. They were bare-housed with earthen floors, and the bed was a board covered by an old mat and surrounded by a cotton cloth, often white, which served as a mosquito net.

The hatred of my escort for these girls became more marked when we visited the flatures. Long lines of them clad in glossy black jackets and trousers sat before boiling vats of cocoons, their parabolic fingers twinking among the spinning filaments.

Sometimes a remark passed along their lines set a whole mill laughing. The face of my escort would grow livid.

"They call me a running dog of the capitalists, and you a foreign devil of an imperialist! They are laughing at your

embroidered cap of tea. Then a strange conversation began. Even had I known the most perfect Mandarin, I could not have understood these girls, for their speech was different from that spoken in any other part of the country. I had studied Chinese sporadically in Manchuria, in Peking, in Shanghai—but each time, before I had more than begun, I had to move on to new fields, and all that I had previously learned became almost useless. Shanghai had its own dialect, and what I had learned there aroused laughter in Peking and was utterly useless in the south. Only missionaries and consular officials could afford to spend a year in Peking Language School. Journalists had to be here, there and everywhere.

I then-four talked with the flature girls in signs and gestures. Did I have any children, they asked pointing to the children. Not married either? They seemed interested and surprised.

In explanation I undamped my fountain pen, took a notebook from my pocket, tried to make a show of trying to write. There was great excitement.

A man standing near the door asked me something in Mandarin, and I was able to understand him. I was an American, a reporter, he told the crowded room. Yes I was an intellectual—but was once a worker. When he interpreted this, they seemed to find it very hard to believe.

Girls crowded the benches and others stood backed behind them. Using my few words of Mandarin and many gestures, I learned that some of them earned eight or nine dollars a month, a few eleven.

My language broke down, so I supplemented it with crude pictures in my notebook. How did they do the ten-hour day? I drew a sketch of a flature with a big fat man standing on top laughing, then a second picture of the same with the fat man weeping because a row of girls stood holding hands all around the mill.

They chattered over these drawings then a girl shouted two words and all of them began to demonstrate a strike. They crossed their arms as though refusing to work, while some rested their chins on the table and looked down at me as though relating to me their beads as though relating to me.

They laughed, began to link hands, and drew me into this circle. We sat stolid holding hands in an unbroken line, laughing. Yes, that was how they got the ten-hour day.

As we stood there, one girl suddenly began to sing in a high sweet voice. She suddenly she halted. The whole room chimed an answer. Again and again she sang a question and the response. I stood, excited, made desperate by the fact that I could not understand.

The strange song ceased and they began to demand something of me. They wanted a song!

The Marcelline came to mind and I sang it.



THE LEADER of a workday firing squad signals success.



THE APPARENT immobility of Chinese society—lypified by the street scene in Kiangsi with public letter-writing and barber installed.

BOAT-TRACKING on the Yangtze. The second junk is held inshore by four lines and hauled upstream by a line attached to the trackers.

# Learning from the mistakes of imperialist capitalists

by Thom Quine

**LAST MONTH** a highly placed source in the Reagan administration leaked news of a \$9 billion CIA operation to disrupt the economy and political life of Nicaragua, the only non-aligned state in the Western Hemisphere.

No surprise, really — the US has always considered its Latin America "backyard" as its private property to do with as it chooses, to plant whatever regime it wants to grow rich from, and to weed out and destroy any opposition.

From Nicaragua to El Salvador to Guatemala, in Chile and beyond, decade after decade, the trail of blood has stretched back to Washington. That's imperialism and socialism have always been in the forefront of the struggle against it.

But imperialism is a much used but little understood word. Imperialism doesn't begin and end with US foreign policy. It did the best way to oppose imperialism would be to support Russian foreign policy. Many who consider themselves as socialists have done this — and been led into supporting repression in the USSR, the invasion of Afghanistan, genocide in Africa, the military junta in Poland, and the arms race.

## polity

Imperialism is also not simply the policy of the great superpowers, the USA and the USSR towards little states. There is an old third world in the sense of an alliance of small powers outside of and against imperialism. Every state in the world is either directly run by puppets of one superpower or another, or it is a state in a manner some sort of "independence" by nervously playing the great powers off against one another.

So socialists who first developed the Marxist theory of imperialism, Bukharin and Lenin, saw it as something much different. For them, imperialism was not the foreign policy of this or that state, but the behaviour of a system of states, whose actions and interventions form the

**We must oppose the arms build-up East and West**

the state, the army and navy, to help them carve up the world.

The logic of the system described by Bukharin and Lenin was and still is one of the ruthless economic competition in the world market.

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But imperialism is a much used but little understood word. Imperialism doesn't begin and end with US foreign policy. It did the best way to oppose imperialism would be to support Russian foreign policy. Many who consider themselves as socialists have done this — and been led into supporting repression in the USSR, the invasion of Afghanistan, genocide in Africa, the military junta in Poland, and the arms race.

More and more they were forced to go into other countries for markets and sources of raw materials. The alternative was to support Russian foreign policy. Many who consider themselves as socialists have done this — and been led into supporting repression in the USSR, the invasion of Afghanistan, genocide in Africa, the military junta in Poland, and the arms race.

But these capitalists found that going abroad meant competing with the capitalists of other countries — who that competition grew more intense were called for by force protection tariff barriers and import

permitted word. Imperialism doesn't begin and end with US foreign policy. It did the best way to oppose imperialism would be to support Russian foreign policy. Many who consider themselves as socialists have done this — and been led into supporting repression in the USSR, the invasion of Afghanistan, genocide in Africa, the military junta in Poland, and the arms race.

**AFGHAN REBELS** ready to fight the Russians. Some people mistakenly think a Russian invasion as a "necessity" to counter US aggression.

Only policy the US can follow to "stop the spread of Soviet expansionism" — that is, to support the many people in the USSR and around the world might be distinguished by, but support the Russian and other Russian policies, because they are necessary to counter the very real attempts of the USA to control the whole world.



## Тов. Ленин Очищает

**RUSSIAN REVOLUTIONARY poster: Lenin sweeps away the kings, priests and capitalists.**

**IRELAND: The struggle against British imperialism**



**SOLIDARITY FROM GAINS TO LIBERATION FROM OPPRESSION**

**MUGNIAN guerrillas** with captured Japanese soldier. From archival film used in 'Angels of War.'

**AFGHAN REBELS** ready to fight the Russians. Some people mistakenly think a Russian invasion as a "necessity" to counter US aggression.

# Learning from the mistakes of imperialist capitalists

by Phil Griffiths

**ONE OF THE** myths created during the Second World War was built around the people of Niugini.

"Australia's darkest hour", the Japanese army was stopped on the Kokoda trail with the help of the "fuzzy-wuzzies".

The contribution of the population to the effort of both sides was myth. The Labor government which was

about using "white" troops had no leading role in dragging thousands of Niuginians into a killing month for their

shillings, similar to the wages paid on the plantations before the war and an intricate guide to the "respect" accorded them by the white man.

In fact, most of the old boxes and plantation owners were opposed to the recruitment of blacks into the armed forces. They were most concerned that their labourers were being armed and trained in modern fighting techniques.

As it turned out, they had nothing to fear. Their interests would remain protected.

Perkins and Niuginians were made my promissory. They were told how things were going to be. They were armed, and broken so angry that they would not accept that the leader of the team was also being for "them". His men. This was, after all, a man to save the white race of



black men who attempted to improve their women. One of the British proved incapable of defining their Empire from the Japanese, was the nationalistic, anti-racist government which United States into the region of the dominant power.

And from the time the war was declared, all of Great Britain's diplomatic manoeuvring was aimed at convincing the United States and New Zealand.

Significantly, it was only in 1951 in the context of the cold war that the objective was declared, all of Great Britain's diplomatic manoeuvring was aimed at convincing the United States and New Zealand.

The Labor government would use a substantial impetus to protect the Australian ruling class from "them" in the region.

Naturally, the role of Niugini was as a source of raw materials. Niugini has always been part of the "white man's world".

It was, of course good, but just as the blood present began to rise, it pushed back to mirror the reality of the world.

There's Niugini War heroes, with their medals, their uniforms, their man-portraits of their soldier and sailor, and their "white man's world".

When being reminded of the savage treatment of these people, it is worth recalling Australia's attitude to the Pacific and its weak. It was Japanese imperialism which played against the Americans, the British and the United States.



**MUGNIAN guerrillas** with a wounded Australian soldier, for 9,000 Australians blacks died during the war in Niugini, compared to 3,000 Australians.

**One Lived golden syrup**

**I WAS ON holidays.** Just sitting watching empty bottles drifting out to sea and ignoring deadlines, when on came Betty and the Beast.

I'm a mother of five with few relatives or friends in this country. My husband constantly begs me, "What can I do?" The panel began their rehearsed vitriolic diatribes. They sound as though they're all making one last desperate bid for the editorial board of the Western Weekly.

"Take two Sorpepa and forget him," "Take up Sport!" "Lie back and think of Britain." Derry took forever. I turn the channel and find John Laws.

This show has not changed in fifteen years. Now there are two or three back to back in the mid-afternoon slot with their warnings and reassurance and their lammy soft vision of life.

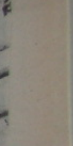
This show would be of more use to Mrs. McM of Double Bay who wants to know the best place to get her hood's milk trimmed than that it would be for many of the genuine desperate cases who probably correspond with it.

But it's not just the pilot afternoons television which resurrect the John Laws of this world from the state of formidability they do us a service by making. The cinema does it as well. And at the moment, the most accurate droned-Snowden-Over the Rainbow vision of old age is *On Golden Pond*.

Now you don't need a ladder to help you get across the street to notice what old age means to thousands of people in this country. It means cruel poverty and despair. It means degradation and deprivation. It can be a miserable way to end a life.

But in Hollywood, they know how to treat such things with sensitivity (and make a few million dollars while they're at it).

Dr. Golden Pond is about you. **By Mike Crowcock**



average portrait — eighty years old, an ex-professor that in a magnificent course must for six months of the year, making to do extra drive on his four speed boats around the lake fishing for trout and make cynical remarks to his daughter and wife.

Starting in this treacherous era, Henry Fonda, daughter Jane playing disillusioned daughter waiting to find a meaningful relationship with the old man before he dies, and factual, wife, Katherine Hepburn.

Henry of course has problems. He can't cope with getting old. But he is dragged through the crisis by Jane's refusal to be and that faithful old man, Katherine. Even Jane manages to feature in the happy ending.

Whole galleries of obscure reviewers have said what a wonderful tribute to Fonda's career this film is. Mr. H.F. of L.A., California has really been given the deserving effusive reasoning by the panel.

But this film bears relation to the real world as it. And for Jane Fonda, this is certainly no rousing political statement. The best gesture she could make would be to demand that the film's name be changed to *In Golden Syrup* and the whole cast be buried before the sun sets at the controls.

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# BJELKE'S RAILROADS 35 HOURS DEAL



THE FACE of Jaruzelski's "soldier-boy socialism". Now Poland's heroic workers are marching in defiance of the military regime.

**Polish workers back on the streets**

comanded with hatred by the police terror.

So in the run-up to May Day, Jaruzelski finally tried to loosen up the restrictions. Immediately the workers took the offer of solidarity announced that a new underground leadership had come together. The people took to the streets. Jaruzelski has ever read the writings of Rosa Luxemburg, Poland's greatest socialist, the way will be haunted by one of her last declarations, composed in defiance of a different form of counter-revolutionary government street terror.

"How stupidly reckless your order is built on sand. The revolution will take you down with it. And your honor will precede with the sound of trumpets if you are I shall be!"

material law resolutions have remained in force for so long Jaruzelski do not dare govern in a normal counter-revolutionary government street terror.

Yet martial law is costly. The economy is in tatters, but the travel and communication restriction laws remain in force. And productivity will not rise until workers are desperate measures, leading to later studies.

The Jaruzelski dictatorship has been completely unable to do what it wished to do in Poland itself.

The government has started fighting the Communist Party's struggle for freedom. The regime has absolutely no popular base. That is why the decisive

the Polish bureaucracy is working discontent. Internal struggle through the know it a prison camp near Warsaw — one of 48 in the Country.

**BJELKE-PETERSEN has threatened to "clean up" railway unions fighting for the 35 hour week.**

He has invoked sections of the Essential Services Act to stand down 261 workers at Inuvoy, Northgate and Toowoomba and threatened the unions with re-registration proceedings.

The union's campaign has cost the state government \$900,000 a day in freight revenue and there are almost 150 diesel locomotives out of service.

For the last couple of weeks, maintenance workers in railway depots and workshops have been using lightning strikes, overtime bans and limitations to try and force the Railway Commissioners to negotiate on shorter hours.

But all Bjelke has offered is a fat 38 hours with no negotiations later for any further reductions — the unions can take 'em or leave 'em!

At a combined rail union meeting of about 5000 workers at Mayo Depot in Brisbane, the ARU (Australian Railway Union) Secretary, Pat Dunne, tried to get the offer accepted. He gave a motion to lift the ban, accept 38 hours and negotiate for more production in hours later.

### bludgeon

After five votes — five successful attempts to bludgeon the workers into accepting his proposal — and a division, Dunne decided the motion carried despite the sniffling and shouting of those rank and filers who couldn't believe such blatant mass-outrage.

When Bjelke went on the attack, the initial response from some officials was strong. The Electrical Trades Union threatened to withhold power to electric lights and signalling systems, and the Australian Transport Officers Federation decided to halt all Queensland and Queensland bound train services.

But the bureaucrats from the 21 unions involved were still undecided. ARU Secretary Pat Dunne claimed that 10% of the workers wanted to go back to work the same day. Station Officers of the Railway Guild Head of the Railway Guild Union told local press that support for the 35 hour week campaign was widespread.

Now the officials are offering to lift bans and limitations for 7 days and the 261 workers are re-examined the feeling amongst the rank and file is that the officials shouldn't back off like this.

If anyone goes back now with only 38 hours how much harder will it be to get the 35 hour week again at the same time? And for the 35 hours that everyone wants? It's not that that we want let government employees have industrial hours —

# the battler

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

## WHAT WE THINK

### Let's not disarm the disarmament movement!

FOLLOWING the success of the demonstrations in April, the disarmament movement is how to maintain momentum.

We should be building now for large scale demonstrations on Hiroshima Day in August. Without a major focus the movement is likely to decline. The large number of new people who were drawn into the streets in April are likely to drift away unless there is some activity to be involved in.

Unfortunately in Melbourne, the leaders of PND (People for Nuclear Disarmament) successfully opposed having a demonstration, Hiroshima Day at the last PND General Meeting on 25 April.

This was despite the fact that the Executive Committee and the Campaign Against Nuclear War in Brisbane are organising a demonstration on Hiroshima Day and that it is likely that there will be a Sydney demonstration on that day.

The PND leadership argued that they would not be able to mobilise people again for another night, even though we have three months before Hiroshima Day and PND has \$18,000 in bank — more than enough to organise publicity for another demonstration.

The PND leadership were excessively concerned that the rally might be smaller than last time. It is not apparent to enter their heads that unless you have reasonably regular demonstrations the mass will forget all altogether.

The alternative direction put forward by the PND leadership was for an educational program organised by local groups to consolidate people's commitment to disarmament.

Education around the issues is all very well but is no substitute for activity. The main programme at least can only involve a small percentage of the people who took to the streets in April, and then on the most passive basis.

A political strategy for fighting the arms race is needed. An educational campaign hardly represents a political strategy for fighting the arms race.

Australia. For the disarmament movement to be politically effective, the central thrust of its activity must be opposition to the US war bases stationed here. It is these bases that integrate Australia into Reagan's nuclear chain and make Australia a prime nuclear target. It is opposition to US bases that give the movement a real cutting edge.

Unfortunately on this question also in Melbourne PND leadership do not follow. They were far from eager to make opposition to US bases the central theme. And although events were carried by the PND meeting following on all bases, they were basically motions of sentiment.

While Maggie's thinking up new ways to keep your mind off what's really happening. The Battler will keep your mind on it. **Subscribe Now!**

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# the battler

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

No 128 May 22, 1982 30 cents Registered by Australia Post — publication no. V88 303

All we got was Moore talk about nothing...

# TO TALK WITH ARBITRATION

"NOT ONE CENT. That's how much we got out of Arbitration and that's how much Justice Moore and his whole rotten system are worth."

... Just one of the outraged reactions to Arbitration's rejection of the \$25 community standards increase and the \$14 catch up claim.

Another typical response came from Alan Wvill, plumbers' delegate at Brisbane's Princess Alexandra Hospital.

"In a word, shitnone. We should all delegate meetings in all states so that the rank and file can let the ACTU know what needs to be done.

"From what I can see, the trade union movement has been selling its members short, on hours as well as wages. We need an ACTU policy. It should be \$20 across the board for everyone, otherwise the lower-

paid get further and further behind."

Dave Main, chairperson, NSW ACOA Social Security section committee, added:

"It's disgusting, of course, but not surprising. At least it might nail the myth of 'Arbitration fairness', which our union officials are all too keen to put around."

Steve Coates, an APTU shop steward at Melbourne's International Mail Centre told the Battler:

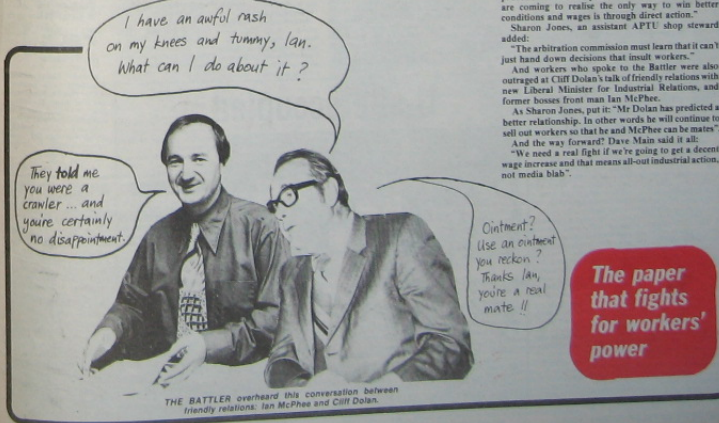
"I am totally dissatisfied with this negotiation procedure. More shop stewards and APTU members are coming to realise the only way to win better conditions and wages is through direct action."

Sharon Jones, an assistant APTU shop steward added:

"The arbitration commission must learn that it can't just hand down decisions that insult workers."

And workers who spoke to the Battler were also outraged at Cliff Dolan's talk of friendly relations with our new Liberal Minister for Industrial Relations, and former boss from man Ian McPhee.

As Sharon Jones, put it: "McDolan has predicted a better relationship. In other words he will continue to sell out workers so that he and McPhee can be mates". And the way forward? Dave Main was all set. "We need a real fight if we're going to get a decent wage increase and that means all-out industrial action, not media blab".



THE BATTLER overheard this conversation between friendly relations: Ian McPhee and Cliff Dolan.

**Free Gallagher!**

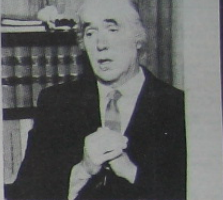
NORM GALLAGHER has been jailed for two months for contempt of court.

Gallagher and BLF organizer Brian Boyd were held to be in contempt because of industrial action on four Melbourne building sites of H M Keast and Sons.

Keast, a former Master Builders president played a key role in moving to deregulate the BLF. When the BLF responded by blocking Keast's site, former Industrial Relations Minister Ian Viner, took the union to court.

The Battler has had many criticisms of Norm Gallagher and the BLF leadership in the past but on this issue we back him 100%. The bans on Keast were exactly what he deserved and just what any decent union would do to defend itself from attack by the Fraser government and the bosses.

Continued p 2



SIR JOHN Moore giving us less than nothing.

The paper that fights for workers' power

# Under Victoria's new Cain government, it's been

## WORKERS

"WE HAVE to remember this Government was elected by the people of Victoria, not the trade unions".

So said Jim Paterson, state secretary of the AFULE, the train drivers' union.

Yes, the people of Victoria did elect Cain. But the make-believe that the biggest share of votes for any single party in a state election since World War I.

There is no wonder at this. Since the election of Sir John McEwen's last election in 1972, Lindsay Thompson's government had followed from crisis to crisis. Even the house was looking for a change, even Victoria was getting so tired of profits from the resources boom.

It's hard to mistake the ALP Government for a mere veneer of the military left. After less than two months in office, they've already gathered themselves around a host of promises and working class policies.

The options Roper would rather reject in order to get Fraser, by providing doctors with more than a half that of the rest of the country, is the one of them that would accommodate with the rest of

by **Tony Sullivan**

and would put great pressure on the Labor Government. But it is the last thing the ALP is likely to do. It wants to copy Menzies to enrich himself by keeping Victorian bosses inside.

It is no surprise that there will not be any concessions on the 30-hour week, unless accompanied by specialities. According to Brian Lawrence, "arty reduction in working hours will be negotiated with regard to the existence of 'negotiable costs'".

Teachers have been amongst the few to gain from the new Government with the abolition of limited leave. There has only offered a 75 per cent of the Government "docked" teachers' Tribunal which wages.

But as we go to press, Education Minister Roper has only offered a 75 per cent wage, against the 150 teachers' unions are demanding.

A unity warning that the feedback against Cain's must start on the streets and the shopfloor.

It is a matter of fact that we are against military dictators. And state could have stepped from being a hand-picked partner of the military dictators.

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# Capitalist wars and socialism 'mix'

"WE CANT let tin-pot fascist dictators get away with aggression".

This appears to be a good left wing argument for supporting Thatcher, critically of course, in the Falkland crisis. Most Evans of the Transport and General Workers Union was quite eloquent about it at the Scottish Trade Union Council.

He avoided the awkward question of whether British workers have anything at all to gain by supporting a war to keep the union Jack flying over a few square miles of land hundreds of miles away which were grabbed by the British navy in the days when Britain ruled the waves.

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BRITAIN has been swept with a wave of nationalism and jingoism as a result of the Falkland crisis. Labour leaders have enthusiastically joined in with Thatcher's warmongering frenzy in defence of the vestiges of Empire. It has been left to revolutionary socialists outside the Labour Party to argue for sanity in the face of this orgy of warmongering.

In this article reprinted from the leading British socialist weekly, *Socialist Worker*, DUNCAN HALLAS, who is about to commence a speaking tour of Australia sponsored by the International Socialists, argues that a war with Argentina is clearly not in the interests of British workers.

Thatcher is the enemy!

action, or even more and every other country.

It was politics imported by violent means. You can't combine support for one set of capitalist against another with the fight for socialism.

There has been appeal all through history. But the present situation is very different.

One thing has remained the same. Things in the working class interest. British, Argentine or any other, can possibly be served by supporting imperialist wars.

Therefore, we in the British socialist movement can't get on support to any imperialist war. Thatcher and all his works including her war mongering.

The main enemy is at home.

But shutting money about by the Apsin is only half of it. Fraser's the root cause of the funding problem was the demand that they get more money from the government.

## BRITAIN IN CRISIS

Will Australia be next?

Canberra: 6 pm Wednesday 25 May. Australian National University Staff Centre Action.

Sydney: 7:30 pm Thursday 10 June. NSW Teachers Federation Auditorium, 300 Sussex St. VIC: Melbourne 7:45 pm Wednesday 24 June. Collingwood Education Centre, Vere St, Collingwood.

Adelaide: 8 pm Monday 28 June. Exeter Hotel, 246 Rundle St.

## DUNCAN HALLAS

The World Significance of the British Crisis?

## LOCKED OUT OF No. 10 Downing Street and into a jingoist declamatory and dividing the working class.

HOW DO YOU protect Malcolm Fraser from angry students? You bring him into the campus during semester break and keep your lips closed about it.

Well, that's what the Liberal University Students Union at Queensland UQ did it last week. We got wind of the fact that we were going to open our Conference so going to open campus.

Why is TEAS allowing 10% back? Why is it not allowing 20% back? Why is it not allowing 30% back? Why is it not allowing 40% back? Why is it not allowing 50% back? Why is it not allowing 60% back? Why is it not allowing 70% back? Why is it not allowing 80% back? Why is it not allowing 90% back? Why is it not allowing 100% back?

## PS. KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE PRICE OF PLASTER!

## A BLUDGERS' SOLUTION

SIR MACFLANE Burnett, a right-wing scientist, has announced that he believes compulsory national service for 18 to 21-year-olds would cure youth unemployment.

The "solution" is contained in a document called "Challenge to Australia".

Members of the unofficial "anti-unemployment" group in the Manly mentioned were the ones that helped "challenge" the "solution".

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## CONTD FROM PAGE 1

If Norm Gallagher and Brian Boyd were not good on that. The Australian people don't want to see their boys off to the wars.

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## Activists prepare games protests

BLACK AFRICAN nations have officially called off their threats to boycott the Commonwealth Games.

At a recent Commonwealth meeting in London, black nationalists accepted an apology from New Zealand and got agreement to change the rules to any nation like New Zealand that breaks agreements about sporting ties with South Africa can be expelled.

Malcolm Fraser was honoured as hero of the day for his positive role for Black African nations.

But this is the same Mal Fraser who refuses to intervene in the Queensland Land Rights issue to grant basic rights to black in Australia.

These plans were thwarted by the "Black BA Uranium" picketers outside the MIM building Brisbane.

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## U-site occupied

forcefully closed to the government by the picketers.

The picketers were the "Black BA Uranium" picketers outside the MIM building Brisbane.

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## Sink the Invincible Save our Unis

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# THE MORE THE MER

**CAPITALISM** is the most revolutionary social system that has ever existed. Change, continuous and ever more rapid change, is built into its structure. The capitalist class cannot exist, wrote Karl Marx, "without constantly revolutionising the instruments of production, and with them the whole relations of society."

Two hundred years ago, the English peasants and the majority of working people were the peasants — lived and worked in ways not too different from those of their Saxon ancestors. Of course there had been many things that would have made it difficult in undertaking the way of life of the mass of the people.

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concentration of the colonial "under-developed" markets overseas, successful in denying them to anyone else.

We witness in the East in 1976 an already established Dutch and Chinese trade. We already know that by 1976 more than half of all slaves exported from Africa made profits for British owners. And we know the benefits of British goods.

Industrial economy grew out of our commerce, and especially our commerce, and especially our commerce, and especially our commerce.

The political basis for the growth of capitalism was not a force and for all affairs, then the process got under way it was to transform the world and go on transforming it.

The English revolution of the 17th century could not be a political system and raising class that could not be a political system and raising class that could not be a political system.

For all capitalism created a world market. Long-distance trade can be traced back to the stone age but its effects on most societies were marginal.

With capitalism production in Britain could not have taken place without that commerce which had created great empires but limited social change.

The "big houses", the magnificent houses, the magnificent houses, the magnificent houses, the magnificent houses.

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## THE MEANING OF MARXISM

Duncan Hallas

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Denounced by "friends" in Church and state, but

SOLIDARITY supporters in Warsaw build barricades against riot police; above: Below: the union's mass Mayday rally.



Dirty deals afoot in southern Africa

FOR THE second time in seven years, Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia has met with the leader of white South Africa.

For those of you who thought the black regiments of southern Africa wanted to destroy the apartheid regime, read on.

The meeting was ostensibly to cover "the situation in southern Africa" and Apartheid in South Africa. No-one really knows what the results of the war in Namibia were, but it seems likely that they devised some solution to two questions that concern them both: Namibia and Zambia's economic crisis.

Namibia is a South African colony which the regime refused to give up. The attack of SWAPO guerrillas on South African forces is making it increasingly necessary for the regime to come to a settlement.

For some time, the western nations have been working on it. But South Africa was only able to accept a settlement on its own terms — a puppet government

which it still controls, for example. It can't have out of settlement without a few black allies on side.

That's where Zambia comes in. Zambia's economic crisis is making it increasingly necessary for the regime to come to a settlement.

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which it still controls, for example. It can't have out of settlement without a few black allies on side.



# The Minority movement snatched victories from the jaws of the Depression

**1931 WAS A bleak year for Australian workers.** 28 percent of trade union members lost their jobs in 1928 and 1929, wages being cut by the arbitration court.

The Labor Party was implementing the employer's policies, the union officials had had to fight. There was only one, small ray of hope: the Communists.

The Communist Party, which had been a tiny group in the twenties, was growing by leaps and bounds. They ignored the unemployment, they fought against evictions, they defended fire speeches and they won some famous strikes like the one at Wonthaggi, Victoria.

No wonder that at one point, people were queuing up in the streets to join the party.

All these things are well known in leftist today, it's all in the history books. But one great achievement of the Communist Party of South Australia and all, and no one has written about it.

The Communists of the early thirties built the greatest rank and file movement in the history of Australian trade unionism. It was called the Minority Movement.

The party had treated rank and file work in the unions as a high priority since the early twenties. As early as 1924 it called a series of conferences for union militants with the aim of launching a "Left Wing Movement".

But the party was too small to pull it off. Despite a "grand meeting" which saw the "Communist ball" crowded with militant the movement failed. Nothing daunted, the party tried again in the late twenties, and by 1929 had held another conference, this time to build a "Militant Minority Movement". The new group did not have much strength outside the coal fields at that time, but it was the beginning of bigger things.

## organization

With the onset of the depression, the Communists grew big enough to get a rank and file organization off the ground. Using the shorter name of "Minority Movement", they began building groups in one industry after another.

By the beginning of 1931, the Red International of Labor Unions congratulated them on the "recruitment of nearly 3000 individual members," the "building of 60 job groups and the organizing of eight shop committees." How was this fantastic feat accomplished?

The Communists organized the work on the basis of a simple and straightforward program: consistent military rank and file democracy, and above all building a movement independent of the union bureaucracy. And on this basis they were able to win victories where the rest of the union movement was still reeling from defeat to defeat.

Amongst relief workers, who seemed to have no bargaining power, they won an impressive string of gains. On the Melbourne Shrine project, an eight week stoppage won pay rises of around 50 percent. The experience was repeated, both there and on other projects around the country.

Among the miners, they not only got Communists into union office, but they led the most impressive single strike of the thirties, at the Victorian coal mining centre of Wonthaggi. This strike is well known, but what is not well known is the rank and file victory: the Minority Movement.

The MM had 140 members in Wonthaggi at the start of the strike, which they had recruited in the course of minor disputes the previous year. During the big strike itself they recruited 130 more!



**ARRESTED**, during a demonstration outside Trades Hall organised by a solo strikers committee, July 1933.

It was because of the MM that the Wonthaggi strikers had a model strike organisation. One of them wrote about it like this.

*"The men in a live industry: Carers coming and going, meeting after meeting to bring hold barbers, barbers, rubbers, woodcutters, committee members, men and women, hundreds of them—our business than when the mines were working."*

*"On the broad committee leading the strike there are 100 activists, and in the various propaganda, relief and other activities over 200 men and women are working hard."*

*"Wonthaggi is a town at war—on active service against the boss."*

Some time later, a determined organising drive began among North Queensland sugar workers. A rank and file conference held at Innisfail in 1934 laid the basis for the famous strikes against Weir's Disease (the plague). These were conducted in the face of opposition from employers, the government and the officials of the Australian Workers Union.

The Minority Movement's journal summed up one of the struggles this way.

*"Weir's Disease broke out in Ingham. Fifteen men died and over 150 more were taken to hospital. But the men attempted to get their union active but received no assistance, and so were forced to strike under their own leadership. They forced the court to take notice they were on strike and threw them burnt cane and increased prices."*

Where the MM did not have a base within an industry, it didn't hesitate to intervene in strikes from outside. For example, there was a big strike in Victoria spinning mills in 1932 in protest over a 15 percent pay cut. The strike forced a reduction of the cut to 7½ percent, and the workers carried out a most from their struggle.

The MM was very critical of its own role in supporting this strike. After all, it had only issued

## 32,000 leaflets!

One key weapon in the Minority Movement arsenal was its publications. Its weekly newspaper, *The Red Leader* covered the movement as a whole. But even more important were local job bulletins. These had to be regular and look reasonably good, and above all they had to appeal to the immediate concerns of the workers.

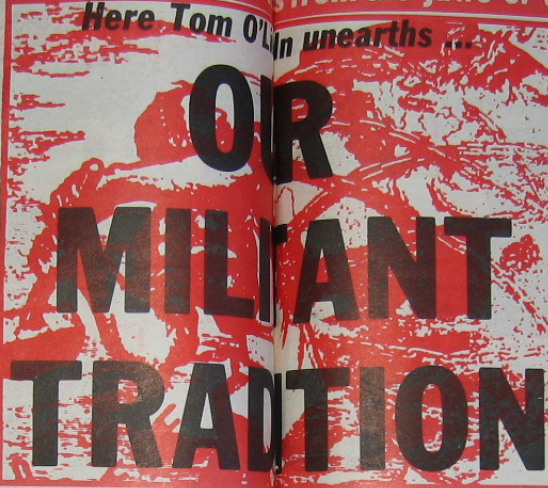
At one mine in Karru Kurri, the MM group had regular discussions about their job paper. One of them described the discussions.

*"The barstons are causing a bit of discontent. Here is a campaign for our proposed paper, and someone volunteers to investigate."*

*"In other sections of the pit, where we have no members, the workers have grievances, and some of our members volunteer to get full information from acquaintances."*

But getting the information was just a start. The workers had to be involved in every aspect of the job paper.

*"All this information is brought to the meeting and discussed, and comrades are selected to write and edit the articles and produce material on general campaigns. Other comrades are elected to draw up headings or print the paper, thus developing a real collective interest in the paper."*



It was through workers and their real concerns that the force in the coalfields, to bring the miners bought *The Red Leader*.

Women in the Minority Movement though was not large, but this was built upon the Communists. Several women carried the movement called for subcommittee in industry, and the MM emergency auxiliary in the coalfields.

By the end of the 1930s, enough to hold a national conference, as well as Ballarat Trades Hall, a new began to rise in industry.

The problem of the movement had been built during "The Period" of the Communist youth which Stalin had instructed the Comintern to behave in a Communist Party from a set on the fringes of the union movement to a powerful force.

This approach meant that the Minority Movement was able to organize as many workers as it should have done. It could recruit three thousand members on the basis of its militancy and determination, but sectarian attitudes toward ALP supporters kept it from growing past that point.

By 1934 the Communist Party was moving away from the worst features of the "Third Period". Unfortunately, the policies which replaced it were not entirely an improvement. Stalin now called for a "united front against fascism", which turned out in practice to mean that the class struggle was subordinated to alliances with liberal sections of the capitalist class.

In the trade union work this meant that the party moved from one extreme to another in the past it had been sectarian toward the ALP, but now it became downright soft on the ALP trade union bureaucrats.

At the same time, Communist themselves were moving into official positions, and were not keen on the original idea of independent rank and file organization.

So by 1935 the Minority Movement was broken up into a series of local union machines, and increasing emphasis was placed on capturing official positions. *The Red Leader* was replaced by a new magazine called, appropriately enough, *Trade Union Leader*.

But the Minority Movement left behind it some impressive permanent achievements. In many places it had rebuilt trade unionism altogether. In others it had immediately strengthened it. It helped to transfer of the Communist Party from a sect on the fringes of the union movement to a powerful force.



SUSTENANCE workers, Yarra Boulevard, Melbourne, 1934.



KEEPING the human struggle going... arbitration courts enforced a 10% wage cut in 1930, and held wages at that level for years. For these reasons, the MM experience is full of lessons for us today. And it is ironic and rather sad that the Communist Party has shown no interest in making it widely known.

In the past few years the party has shown an increasing interest in its history, and everything from Communist art to unemployed struggles has been studied. But about the MM there has been a dead silence.

It is the price the Communist Party has paid for becoming integrated into the trade union bureaucracy. Do the Laurie Carmichael and Hugh Hamilton of today want their members to know about a great movement that demanded all strikes be rank and file controlled?

Do they want workers to hear about a movement that attacked union officials who "take dictatorial powers to themselves and issue commanding orders" and who "assume unlimited power without consulting the rank and file"? Or of course not.



But we do. The MM was a historic high point of the class struggle in this country. To be sure, it was after sectarian and misguided. But at the same time it did a lot of things right. And above all it had a magnificent fighting spirit which we could do with more of today.

The miners of Mt Oxide and Dobby, who won a seven month strike with Minority Movement assistance, said it all when they wrote to the MM to thank them:

*"If the great spirit of sacrifice and comradeship which you have shown us could only permeate the ranks of the working class to the extent that it should when the days of the exploiter would be ended."*



A special issue of the journal *International Socialism*, devoted to Solidarnosc and the crisis of Polish state capitalism. Available from all IS branches (see p.11). Or write to IS Books, P.O. Box 46, Flemington, Vic. 3031 \$5 (including postage).

"... on active service against the boss."

CANE CUTTING in the 30's. "At the meeting... the chairman... to put the... and Barstara... question of you boneheads. Men in the... to the right, and then he'd turn to the... and add: 'and AWU officials...'"

# One Eyed Sunday Morning

THE NEWS was that two British jets had gone down over the Argentine triangle. Breakfast was Dessal and toast. It was Sunday morning.

The television was the 26th edition of 'Sunday' a sober substitute for the far earthy home Christians who used to get prostate party games measuring to peel open their eyes and stare to

impression that the law student, the medical student and the executive from Rank Industries regard the No case with a lot more feeling than do the accurate. The law student and teacher did the Yes, and just to voice the Maggs judgement so do

had it also been in objection. (That's media talk for making sure the news item is derelict with the police of the nation's eye.)

So instead of one of Maggs's hysterical arguments about the defence of Dower between the Falklands, we have a debate not between those who support Argentina and those who support Britain, but between those who know for a certainty that the war is unwinnable and those who don't.

The tone? That's Brian Tasker's. He's a former

the public who phoned in their views.

Barrister, another David Make a double. But the programme wasn't evenly divided to talk of bleeding the nose of the law student, it was given an insight into the brain of a member of some senior members of



SIR MACFARLANE BURNETT. At the feet of the masters on Sunday.

the Australian ruling class. Sir Macfarlane Burnett, Sir Mark Ashby, and Sir Barton Pope have just completed essays on the subject of the employment, rivers, running down a comprehensive on nuclear power. Not the least of the highlights is that in the maturity of the politician's view, he turned the plot into force

helped invent the atom bomb, says we should abolish all weapons and all wars. Sir Barton Pope, who invents all weapons and all wars. Sir Barton Pope, who invents all weapons and all wars. Sir Barton Pope, who invents all weapons and all wars.

It's a pity he never had that attitude about wages when he was working in a bank and was threatened with the sack. For about the only thing he is demanding and getting is the company bus.

And Sir Macfarlane Burnett came up with something which is more

the United States. The ALP said it would support sending it to the Sinai. It would be a good idea to have the UN be the policy. The UN had been

renewing the show. The UN had been renewing the show. The UN had been renewing the show.

What a wonderful idea! He would like to be a member of the UN. Without any doubt, he would like to be a member of the UN.

But he doesn't get it. He doesn't get it. He doesn't get it. He doesn't get it.

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the country. This was physically supported by British troops and mercenaries. Britain and mercenaries.

It was no joke. British Prime Minister Clement Attlee flew to Washington to bring the President against MacArthur's folly.

By using a United Nations' army, American reduced its own costs in the war. However when it came

regarding the peace. America was even more dominant than it had been in the Falklands.

United Nations troops were never used in the Falklands. The invasion, said was a fatal blow to the United Nations.

In reality, she was less interested in the UN than in the chance of breaking British influence in the Middle East.

The American President, however, had just managed to get an increase in the UN's role.

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# The horror they left behind

FOR THOSE who think Vietnam was just a campaign issue for the sixties generation, this collection of *New Statesman* articles by John Pilger, Anthony Barnett and others is a sharp reminder of the millions of people in Indochina who still have to live (or die) with the legacy of Western imperialism.

As reporters who have had the courage to travel in Indochina and the honesty to report what they saw, Pilger and Barnett have few parallels in contemporary journalism. Pilger describes the continuing effects of North Vietnamese life of the years of US bombings.

In some forests there are no more birds and animals and there are only dry trees that will not respond to the hoofing of a horn because they are dead. The only sound is the sound of bomb falls.

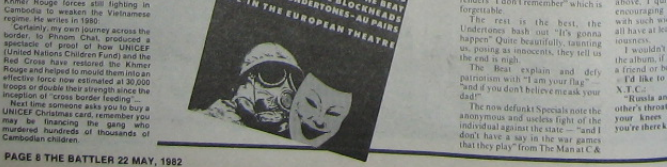
This is not the stary-eyed leaviness of 1970s Statists (Pilger, for example, comments acidly on the elimination of former NLF combatants from public life in South Vietnam. It is after an inability to perceive any alternative.

To argue that in the war-torn, blood-soaked territory of Indochina the only way forward is a new revolution may well seem intolerable. Yet in their gripping reports, Pilger and Barnett confirm that this is indeed the bitter truth.

# UNCHANGING REACTION

POPULAR music popular public equal political music (pop and pop cancel) and generally this leaves you broke.

Not so, in an old world (well, January actually) where an album of political music has done more sales. Each group has donated most mid-modern noise for nothing.



# Why rulers are the real parasites

THE REASON why there is no unchanging human nature, we learned last issue, is that human beings are labouring animals who, in altering their methods of production, transform both themselves and the natural world of which they are a part.

The idea that men and women are first and foremost producers radically challenges some of the most basic ideas accepted in our society.

The most popular definition of human nature is probably still that given by the Greek philosopher Aristotle over two thousand years ago: man is a rational animal.

This definition separates off the power to think and reason from all other human activities, and especially the daily drudgery of manual work to which most of us are still manacled.

Aristotle was the product of a slave society. The ruling class depended manual labour as an activity fit only for their slaves, whom they called 'talking tools'.

Aristotle's image of the good man is that of a slaveowner, who, free from the need to work for his living, is able to pursue the higher things of the mind.

The same separation of mental and manual labour is made by the great philosophers of bourgeois society, from Descartes to Hegel. All treat the life of the mind as the only important thing about human beings, and all assume that someone else will work to provide the higher things of life.

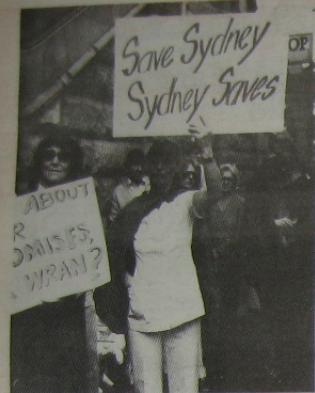
These men and women are first and foremost producers. The ruling class depends manual labour as an activity fit only for their slaves, whom they called 'talking tools'.

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# the battler

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

## Go back? We'd go to jail first!

**THE LATEST attempt by the Labor administration of the Brisbane City Council to split the workers at the water filtration plants has failed.**

After five weeks out, the AWP (Australian Workers' Union) members have decided to maintain round-the-clock pickets and meet again in two weeks.

Since 1974, labourers in the filtration plants have been trying to talk to the council about the work they are required to do.

Work the council demands of them like cleaning the filter beds is clearly defined as that of other attendant assistants. The difference is pay between labourer and a filter attendant assistant is \$11.50.

The labourers are demanding reclassification. The plant operators, who originally were out in support of the labourers' claim, are now also demanding that their wage claim be dealt with promptly.

You would have thought the situation was straight forward. Even if the council wouldn't agree — you'd think a simple suspension would be all that would be needed for an industrial commission to settle it. Not so.

Last year, in October, an agreement was made, and in January this year the dispute was resolved if it was well received 3 months later when the workers decided to settle things by striking till their demand was met.

Even at that stage, it was felt that it would be only a short time before parties were done. Jim told us, "We done the right thing. We held off action before the recent elections, even when the water was really dirty."

But the council's demands were not met. The council's demands were not met. The council's demands were not met.

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# COPY THE BATTLE

OVER 10,000 people massed outside Sydney Hospital on Wednesday 12 May to save the 114 year old hospital from the Wran government's cost-cutting axe.

Instead of being a general hospital providing a large range of services to the community and inner city workers, it is to be cut back to a casualty receiving station and V.D. clinic.

State government plans for the hospital would further reduce the number of beds in the inner city area. With an average of more than 20,000 patients a year, there is obviously a need for Sydney Hospital. It's even more urgent now that the Wran government is trying to close down part or all of most other inner-city hospitals in Sydney as well.

The four city hospitals serve health care needs which are not being met. Health Minister Laura Brearton says that the "over-supply" of health care in the city will be shifted to the poorly-served western suburbs. But the truth is that the whole of Sydney hasn't got enough hospital and medical care.

Right now two new hospitals in the west at Mt Druitt and Liverpool are being kept shut by the Wran Government "to save money."

So even though the rally was called to protest the attacks on Sydney Hospital, the issue is much wider than that.

Throughout the crowd were concentrations of doctors and nurses from all the inner-city hospitals currently under threat of closure or cuts. There were city office workers, and waiters and building workers who had walked off the job to attend the rally.

Sydney Hospital was adorned with communist banners and actor Michael Tate had been flown up from Melbourne to be the MC. Tate introduced a

platform weighed down with hospital and bureaucrats.

The size and enthusiasm of the crowd at the rally gave a good indication of the feeling that existed on this issue. That feeling has already been translated into action against closure attempts at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and at psychiatric hospitals.

So far it has been weakened by being associated with groups of health workers from all the hospitals who are starting to picket.

The support of the other groups of workers who are opposing the hospital closure is crucial too. In the western government hospital closures have been going on for far longer than in NSW, combined with hospital workers and local unions has been strong.

By occupying the hospital, refusing to use the equipment and beds be moved out, workers in London's Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital were able to get community support on their picket line and a range of union back has not yet been connected with closing the hospital.

In spite of all the government's efforts, the workers kept the hospital open for a year after the government had said it was "no longer necessary" and closed.

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PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

No. 129 June 12, 1982 50 cents Registered by Australia Post - publication no. VB8552

Socialism from below — p.6/7

Social Wage or Social Con-trick? See p.2

WHAT A CRAZY, murderous system we live and die in.

In the South Atlantic after a month of bloody fighting the British invasion force is set to regain a small group of islands 6,000 miles from home populated by half a million sheep, millions of penguins and just 1,800 people.

In Southern Lebanon, Israeli tanks, planes and troops have launched a brutal assault on the Palestinian resistance movement. The Zionist butcher Begin has vowed that he will allow no Palestinians within 40km of the Israeli border.

In El Salvador US backed troops have launched their biggest ever offensive in the two year war against left wing insurgents.

In Afghanistan the Russians have just concluded a major assault on the Afghan freedom fighters.

And in the Persian Gulf the death toll in the long drawn out war between Iran and Iraq reaches into the tens of thousands.

All of these wars are the product of a decaying, crisis torn world capitalist system. It has been Britain's economic decline that has made Thatcher so keen to show that her military power remains intact. And by whipping up jingoistic fervor she has managed to divert



# WAR

the only answer of a dying system



The paper that fights for workers' power

HOSPITAL WORKERS flanked by representatives of other unions met outside Sydney Hospital to protest its closure.

POSTAL clerks in NSW took action last week over short staffing and loss of work.

A meeting was called by the branch committee to consider three recommendations and a program for over 200 IPT (Union of Postal Clerks and Telegraphists) members, a motion for a state wide stoppage on 17 May; unless Australia Post agreed to the demands, was carried overwhelmingly.

The next day AP management offered branch officials only an extra 160 positions (we'd demanded 45) and nothing on the work load.

These crumbs were enough for the officials to call off the stoppage in a deplorable way. They asked management to send a fax to their members and to read the Postmaster to members.

The State Branch Committee decided on a further stoppage to let members vote on management's proposal. Unfortunately they will be locked out and the stoppage will be a campaign continued.

By Ross Mackenzie, NSW Committee, IPT.

While Maggie's thinking up new ways to keep your mind off what's really happening. The Battler will keep your mind on it. Subscribe Now!

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Age and sex in P.O. Box, 86, Kensington, N.S.W. 1585

Imperial grandeur doesn't come as cheap as it used to, but The Battler subscription does — at least for the next week. Until May 31, we'll be charging just \$7 a year + \$20 for a supporting subscription. So be like Maggie Thatcher... and send your vote in! In fact... (Prisoners and British Navy deserters — free!)

# Next on the rack...

**IF YOU WANT information on who owns the wealth in Australia, and how our living standards have deteriorated, read this pamphlet.**

**If you want advice on how to do it, don't!**  
Information there is plenty. On how wages have actually fallen. On how 7% of adults get 70% of all income from interest, rents and dividends. On how taxation is shifting the burden of the crisis onto workers.

Much of this updates the any news until the advent of Labor government. And that's really what the pamphlet is all about. The rest of the thing is in the last few pages. On how, in fact, government spending on "health, housing, education social welfare, etc."

The pamphlet is the beginning of a campaign for the abolition of interest rates and increased taxation spending on the social welfare. There are going to be national protests and rallies. The other nations forms of action: the "national picket" and the "national wage" go up to, and beyond the August Budget, and back to September. Such reforms that never again will be an Australian government to do what Fraser has done.

Ready stuff indeed. On the rack is not without its grandiose side. It is, we are told, the first step to solving some of the major problems of our time. And if the campaign has a unique opportunity to end unemployment and government waste, unless the creative energies of its people.

Reading the rest half of the pamphlet, you think that all our problems began with Fraser. Almost everything a Blair—and certainly the wealthy elites'—fault. Occasionally the world economic crisis is mentioned—but only a week or so.

The consequence of this argument is that all we have to do is change the face at the top change policies, and all will be well. Our situation, you see, is "accidental".

The authors really do seem to think that before Fraser everything was OK. That while they admit that the Whitlam government "was forced in to last months in office to meet its debt profile," they don't look into how that could have been done (for example by tax reform and mass mobilisation).

investigate why a tight-back didn't occur.

Which may be true. Yet on the rack advice its readers get is to get back, but to retreat.

Winning back the real level of wages, for example, is out of the question. The author would need to claim far more from the employers. This may be possible for the majority.

Against that sort of background, it comes as no surprise that the AMWSU seems intent on giving up wage case altogether. The ACTU and State Labor Councils are organising the National Tax, Social Wage and Interest Rate campaign. We can no longer concentrate on the industrial wage fight.

The real point about the Social Wage is that it is a... (text cut off)

# CONTRACT?



**capitulist**

This would all be fine, if only we weren't living under a capitalist system. Because under capitalism, price controls just don't work. Bosses always manage to find some way round them.

Price fixing is incredibly complicated. Last time around, when Whitlam's boss controls were introduced, the PFI almost everywhere. We have no guarantee that it would suffice to maintain real wage levels. And if it does, it will be in the face of a massive tax and labor movement that will drive them away just as its predecessor did.

The Deal really means that in return for the restoration of a few reforms like the Medicare, and the wages that have been taken away from us, workers are being called upon to forgo further wage rises. We are being asked to pay for what is our right. It is a deal, and a deal is always a deal.

All this would remain at the level of interesting ideas if it hadn't been before.

The 1974 election manifest of the British Labour Party proclaimed that its aim was "to bring about a fundamental and inevitable shift in the balance of power and wealth in favour of working people and their families."

Now! Through the Social Contract, the Labour Party and the Trades Union Congress, it was described as "an early, early recognition of the aims of social justice: to reduce wage restraint, the Labour government should take all possible action to legislate, and introduce, laws on employment protection and industrial democracy."

Such families, doesn't it ring down to the tax concessions offered by Chancellor Healey in return for more restraint on the part of workers?

# BEGIN'S BUNCHERS IN PALE



## THE LONG EXPECTED Israeli invasion of South Lebanon is underway.

The Israelis have used the assassination attempt on their ambassador in London and Palestinian rocket attacks on northern Israel as an excuse for their brutal assault. But everyone knows this is a pathetic subterfuge. Begin has been planning his attack at least since early 1980.

Having secured his southern flank with Egypt, via the Camp David agreement, Begin is again attempting to wipe out the PLO base there. Begin's stated intention is to secure a 40-mile strip of South Lebanon as a buffer between himself and the Palestinians. But as Israeli forces have landed north of Sidon and advanced to the outskirts of the Lebanese capital, Beirut, his four years after its

last invasion of southern Lebanon in March 1978, the Israelis are again attempting to wipe out the PLO base there. Begin's stated intention is to secure a 40-mile strip of South Lebanon as a buffer between himself and the Palestinians. But as Israeli forces have landed north of Sidon and advanced to the outskirts of the Lebanese capital, Beirut, his four years after its

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**HABIB, Regan's broker in the Middle East, is once again trying to convince Begin (right) to make his imperialistic foray a little more subtle.**

the latest US supply of armaments and planes. However it will be a bloody cost to the Israelis for the guerrilla fighters will fight to the death particularly the foreign fighters attempt to take their strength in West Beirut. And even a major Palestinian victory will not be getting for over 30 years now for the right to return to their homeland and they are not about to surrender.

If the Israeli decision on a permanent occupation of South Lebanon, Hadad's forces could well be used to run the area and to provide a fig leaf of Lebanese control.

It is little doubt that the Israeli resistance of the Lebanese freedom fighters and their left Lebanese allies that the Israeli occupation of the Lebanese territory of military might can win the present fighting.

13,000 guerrillas with limited heavy artillery are overwhelmingly outnumbered by an Israeli army of 172,000 equipped with

the fighting on the Falklands will be in sight for the world economic crisis.

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## LEYLAND workers with their opinion about British Labour's social contract 1977.

**David Lockwood takes up a few points about a new metalworkers' union (AMWSU) pamphlet... 'Australia on the Rack'.**

## Prison activist harassed

...the seriousness of his crimes and the damage to the community which results from his continued presence in Australia seem to be predominant.

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**Brett Collins**

## Social wage rally

A number of workers will be taking the day off to join the rally and march in the city centre on May 26.

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## BRITISH Sea Harrier blasts aloft from HMS Invincible. Was this skirmish a harbinger of more escapades in microchip warfare?

BRITISH TROOPS are poised to recapture Port Stanley. But as the Falklands war draws to an end the question is whose victory is it?

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## WHOSE VICTORY?

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WHOSE VICTORY?



Leading British socialist **DUNCAN HALLAS** talks to the Battler about our goal...

# SOCIALISM FOR BELOW

**DUNCAN HALLAS** is a former Manchester engineering worker, who joined the socialist movement in 1942 at the age of 17. After surviving the hard times of the cold war, he has now emerged as a leader of the largest revolutionary socialist organisation in Britain.

It has been a hard slog, for as he explains, the revolutionary tradition of Marx and Lenin was all but lost for a long time.

"Socialism for Marx was the emancipation of the working class, but for a long time it has just meant nationalisation and bureaucracy. Not just the stations, the Labour Party too, and in the popular mind.

"We fight for the conception of socialism as workers' power, and it makes us almost unique on the left.

"We asked him how the concept of socialism became deformed. The reforms need not surprise us, he says. "It is the obvious thing for them. But the decisive thing is what happened to the revolutionary currents after the rise of Stalin.

"First, what happened in Russia? Well, to have the emancipation of the working class you have to have a working class of some size and substance, and a developed industry.

"These conditions were lacking in Russia to

begin with, then in the course of the civil war the small working class shrank from 3 million down to about a million. And those who existed were paid in rations.

"Therefore without a revolution in Europe, the soviet republic was doomed, as Lenin said quite explicitly. What Lenin did not foresee was the form it took. He expected private capitalism to be restored. He did not foresee state capitalism.

"But the European revolutionary upheavals in 1919-21 were defeated, largely from lack of coherent revolutionary leadership. Then, with Stalin's rise to power, the Communist parties became an obstacle to revolution.

"Take Spain in the thirties. There was a rising, the workers actually in power, the state machine gone. Then the Communist Party with its social democratic will set out to reconstruct the capitalist state machine, and they succeeded.

"They subordinated everything to considerations of Soviet foreign policy. What interested Stalin was an alliance with Britain and France, and these governments didn't want a revolution in Spain.

"And because Stalin's prospective allies were colonial powers, the Spanish republican government was not allowed to do the obvious thing and appeal to the Moroccan people and offer them independence. If they had done that it would have undercut France's base, because that's where it was. But Britain and France wouldn't let them do it.

"And the CP leaders said: It's a slander to say we're fighting for communism, we're fighting for democracy and private property. All addressed to the British and French ruling classes in reality."

"How did the Communist Parties in the west come to reach a pass, after beginning as revolutionary parties?"

"From 1924 there was a systematic attempt to replace leaders capable of independent thinking. By the early thirties they had all been replaced. And this was tied up with the mythology of the Soviet Union.

"You know: In the west mass unemployment, output falling, catastrophe everywhere, stockbrokers throwing themselves out of Wall St. skyscrapers. Whereas in the land of socialism and peace, everybody's working, output is rising, pictures with the fields of corn and the happy smiling peasants and the new tractors.

"This influenced not only the rank and file but the cadres. They came to believe Uncle Joe knew best. And at the same time there was the increasing cynicism.

"Everything of importance was decided from the centre and you'd learn to read the signs and guess what the right line should be. You got the manipulative mentality."

"That's during the big growth during the popular front after 1935, they drew in whole new layers of people, who didn't have the revolutionary tradition and accepted the current line as good coin."

"These were the prewar factors. The postwar events added new ones."

"That came the postwar boom. The crisis seemed to have gone out of capitalism. So why bother—let's put up our feet and watch the telly."

"First the bureaucratic version of socialism, then a decline of any kind of socialist sentiment in the working class during the postwar boom. A grim picture, and one that has lasted in Australia a bit longer than in Britain.

"In Britain at least one revolutionary group, the Socialist Workers Party (as the British International Socialists are now called, which Duncan Hallas has been able to rebuild membership. So we asked him how do revolutionaries try to get out of the problems we face now."

"We've got to fight our way out—there's no other way. That means reaching organisations, embodying the real revolutionary traditions, rooted in the working class.

"Noaviours from anti-bureaucratic are going to help us. Circumstances are now beginning to help us, though, because the world capitalist system has returned to a state of crisis and instability."

"The job of socialists is to relate to working class struggles, that's what it's all about. There is also a struggle of ideas but it's workers struggling against the bosses that's central, that's where the power lies."



*Of ones to approach the working class with agents.*  
*"State capital in the workers like mismanagement and a pistol in the other hand as man."*  
*"On the other hand pretending that we're just down the road, come in here, involve yourself in struggle and you attempt to influence your way with the aim of recruiting union fractions."*  
*"It's a misuse of working class military aid."*  
*"The socialist revolution is fundamental. We need a party in the struggle, and also this program being pretentious or dishonest."*  
*"It is not dishonest, but written so as to be understood by people."*  
*"It is not clear what you want to do, you seem to say it in simple language."*  
*"It's not simple and pompous either, a girl with his or her right in gold."*  
*"The fight against it is crucial too, but Duncan Hallas is not aware of seeing it in class terms."*  
*"We have a difficulty against the program and to do this we seek to struggle out to create in the working class of sectionalism, nationalism, unionism, craftism and so on."*  
*"We don't disagree it is just, but because there is the cohesion and consciousness of class. That is our central problem."*  
*"We have a direct oppression of women, but we're in favour of separatist organisations, that we're in favour of women's organisations."*  
*"We see a clear strategy for women's power."*  
*"The idea that socialism can go back from that is simply reactionary and absurd."*  
*"World socialism is a full order and seems a long way away. What grounds does Duncan Hallas think there are for optimism?"*  
*"There are three things in my favour, which did not exist 20 years ago. The first is the crisis, the fact that capitalism is now in a period of difficulty after difficulty, and even their experts can't see a way out."*  
*"The second is the recreation of the revolutionary tradition since the late sixties. Although the revolutionary forces are tiny, at least they exist."*  
*"Twenty years ago in Australia, I guess, if you said: 'You're an incompetent with no sense of reality, they'd think you were some kind of old man, but it's not quite so now, it is.'*  
*"And thirdly, we have not only grown, we have also learned in this period. Those are three things that didn't exist twenty years ago."*



"WHAT interested Stalin was an alliance with Britain and France" ... pictured at Yalta with friends carving up a war-torn Europe.



THE MYTHOLOGY of the Soviet Union in the '30's — the happy, smiling peasants and the new tractors.

You can still hear Hallas at:

- MELBOURNE**  
 Dinner and speech  
 8 pm, WACA, Entrance 16, \$10 (\$10 necessary). Child fare  
 1/2 price for those under 16 in advance  
**Campus late**  
 Melbourne and Revolution in the Third World  
 —Wednesday 16 June, Carlton Institute of Technology  
 10/11/12/14  
 —Thursday 17 June, Melbourne Uni, Theatre 8, Old Arts  
 Building  
 —Tuesday 23 June, Monash Uni, Ruslandia Theatre 80  
 —Wednesday 23 June, Launceston Uni, Agnes Weston Hall  
 All talks will be at 1 pm. For further info contact 25 3207  
 or 25 3214  
**Britain after the Falklands**  
 —Tuesday 22 June, Sponsored by the Victorian Labour  
 College, 30 pm, Room 81, Trades Hall  
**Peace Conference**  
 —Wednesday 16 June, 3.30 pm, 5th floor, 300 Bourke  
 Street  
**ADELAIDE**  
 —Monday 21 June, 1.15 pm, Flinders University  
 —Tuesday 28 June, 1.15 pm, South Dining Room, Adelaide  
 University

**BRITAIN IN CRISIS**  
 Will Australia be next?

Melbourne: 145 pm Wednesday 23 June  
 Collingwood Education Centre, Vera St,  
 Collingwood  
 Adelaide: 8 pm Monday 28 June, Exeter Hotel,  
 246 Rundle St

**DUNCAN HALLAS**  
 "The World Significance of the British Crisis"

DUNCAN HALLAS' Australian speaking tour has so far been a great success.

He has visited Canberra, Brisbane and Sydney. Next week his hectic schedule takes him to Melbourne and then on to Adelaide.

Hallas has hit the media through his outspoken opposition to Britain's war in the Falklands. He has appeared on TV and radio; that the war is not in the interests of British workers, but has been launched by Margaret Thatcher to serve her own face and draw attention away from British capitalism's pressing internal problems.

As well as addressing public meetings in each city or town the world significance of the British crisis, Duncan has spoken at universities on a variety of topics including imperialism and Revolution in the Third World, Racism in Britain and Russia Today.

Another important aspect of the tour has been the internal educational which Duncan, drawing on his vast experience in the revolutionary movement has run for International Socialist members and supporters. The weekend school organized by the Canberra branch at Monash Uni in NSW South Coast has been one of the most successful events of the tour.

## Books by Duncan Hallas

**THE LABOUR PARTY MYTH & REALITY**  
 Days of Hope  
 THE GENERAL STRIKE OF 1926  
 by Duncan Hallas and Fred Moten  
 WHY IMPORT CONTROLS WON'T SAVE JOBS  
 THE SOCIALIST CASE

ONLY SOME of the titles by Duncan Hallas. All available from your local 15 Branch (see page 11 for details). Or from 15 Books, P.O. Box 46, Flemington, Vic. 3031. Trotsky's Marxism \$6.50. The Labour Party Myth and Reality \$11.20. Why Import Controls Won't Save Jobs \$1.10. Days of Hope \$2.00. All prices include postage.



DUNCAN HALLAS



1939 — and the defeated lies Franco's Spain. It must not happen again.





# ... for you

FOLLOWING a victory against the company's attempts at victimisation, 800 construction and maintenance workers at ICI in Sydney have made some gains on their log of claims.

A stop-work meeting at ICI's petrochemical plant at Botany voted to accept a 12-month agreement which gave them a \$1.90 flat rate increase, \$4.50 travelling allowance, \$14.00 less on the metal trade award and annual leave on termination.

Despite these gains, major claims were not agreed to by the bosses, especially the question of working in inclement weather. ICI say they are open to negotiations on this. They "re-communicated" from the angry mood at the end of last week's stop-work, there will be further action rather than talk on the skin.

By Diane Fieldes  
procedures which fell into the hands of the workers prove it. As the Site Committee's leather put suit was worn even further. The three workers involved were told by the DLI (Department of Labour and Industry) that their suits may be subject to review "with threatening their livelihood."

This action was designed to divert the workers from the main issue of the log of claims — as well as to attempt to stand over any delegates who fight the company.

A two week strike by workers on the site was enough to convince the company of the error of their ways. Suddenly the delegates began to "safely" safe — safe enough for ICI to re-engage them without loss of pay entitlements.

action  
Action on the job was being run by the construction workers' site committee. The company consistently refused to negotiate the delegates committee, so their recommendation a mass meeting had rejected ICI's original offer of \$10.

This was on 13 May, and following it was an ICI meeting of all delegates from the site, both construction and maintenance workers. The next day a joint Site Committee was set up to pursue the three delegates who were sacked.

This is by no means an isolated incident at ICI. A company document outlining backlogging

## ICI WORKERS meet on 2nd June and INSERT: Tony Parera on the platform.

# STUDENT UNION STARVES STAFF

EVER BEEN called into the managers office, one by one, to be told you shouldn't support strikes — particularly the one you voted for the day before? If you're employed by the Students' Union at Queensland University this is what you face.

Cleaning and catering staff submitted a log of claims for shorter hours, better wages, and more staff almost 20 months ago. But while there was no response from Union Management, working conditions were getting intolerable because of increasing staff shortages.

pressure  
It got so bad that the workers, who are members of the Miscellaneous Workers Union, held a stop work meeting. They decided to hold a two hour strike the next day at lunch time — the busiest of the day.

The strike didn't go ahead. But with pressure from the Old public servants get More of improving

THE QUEENSLAND white collar public service union leaders are providing a perfect example of how NOT to build up membership confidence in the union.

First there was the wage claim. We got a derisory 9.50 of a 20% claim — and plenty of members were fit to spout.

The news on wages got worse when we got nothing from the National wage council. We had to have to wait for the results of the national wage council. We had to wait for the results of the national wage council.

We've been promised an increase in the next meeting, but we're not going to have that either. We're not going to have that either. We're not going to have that either.

The simple fact is that the Government won't get serious about improving our wages and conditions until the unions get serious about industrial action — and that means mass meetings where the shock and fear the shock.

By Tim Anderson  
SOMETHING HAPPENING WHERE YOU WORK? Write for The Battler

PO Box 46  
Flemington, Vic  
Tel 03 — 376 3307

# Write to The Battler: P.O. Box 46 Flemington, Vic 3031

# a very practical reactionary

by Alex Callinicos

THE VISIT by Pope John Paul II (real name Wojtyla) to Britain, was not all sweetness and light. He faced demonstrations by Ian Paisley and other Protestants of the far Right.

But it deserves no credit for having such revolting enemies. His services in individual languages — not Latin at national church decisions and dropping the policy of right-wing Catholics.

But in the years that followed it became clear that his attempt to appeal to social changes, the Vatican Council had opened up a Pandora's box in the Church.

The doctrine that is evil — even when it is used by husband and wife for the purpose of procreating — was challenged. Catholics began to look for the right to use contraceptives and even abortion. Some priests wanted to get married and there were even — horror of horrors — women who wanted to become priests.

Meanwhile, in the Third World, some Catholic clergymen went up to the fact that their congregations were made up of super-exploited workers and starving peasants. In Latin America there was a revolutionary ideology of liberation which preached the justice and equality of the poor.

So Pope John said about making the Church more up to date, to establish links with those who wanted social reform in the west and those influenced by neo-conservatism in the Third World. Changes included conducting

In France, Spain, Italy, Greece, Albania's Catholic groups of Christians often ended up well to the left of the socialist and Communist Parties.

The pressure from below even led an pope — not John Paul II — to the abolition of the Church's right of veto on bishops because of his opposition to the regime.

And the Jesuit Order, traditionally the Church's iron guard, became more and more involved in promoting radical social policies and demands for further reforms in the Church itself.

In some countries the Catholic Church was split right open divided between supporters of reactionary regimes and supporters of revolution.

One thing only seems to conceal how basically reactionary Pope John Paul II is. That is his obsessive and populist style of putting his message across. Previous reactionary Popes like Pius XII had tended to be remote and aristocratic. Vatican bureaucrats, John Paul, by contrast, has travelled the world increasingly, addressing huge crowds, in an attempt to get his message across to ordinary Catholics.

activities  
The effect has been to make the Pope's activities a series of media events and the press into the international sales of the Roman Church.

He is the man who permitted television and the press into the interior of the Roman Church. He is the man who made him seem a very modern Pope. But beneath the modernism is a drive to bring back the age for hundreds of millions of followers.

Full Equality and Liberation  
We should remember that John Paul II's papacy has been devoted to reasserting the traditional message that since our true reward will be heaven, any attempt to change this world must be viewed with suspicion.

# CATHOLIC CAPITALISM

A RICH MAN can no more get into heaven than a poor man can pass through the eye of a needle.

This passage from the New Testament has inspired many ordinary Catholics to work for social change.

But it is not surprising that the Catholic Church has come to reject such a philosophy under Pope John Paul II. For the Vatican itself behaves like a very big capitalist.

It is the biggest financial institution in the world. It has a vast portfolio of stocks, bonds, and real estate. It has a vast portfolio of stocks, bonds, and real estate.

Supporters of the church will justify such activities by saying they are necessary to finance the preaching of Christ's message. They forget the implications of the money.

By Tony Coleman



JOHN PAUL on tour. Beneath his modernity, a desire to bring back the past for the millions who follow him.

How to contact the International Socialists  
BATTLE EDITORIAL  
PO Box 46, Flemington, Vic 3031 376 3307  
IS. NATIONAL OFFICE  
PO Box 46, Flemington, Vic 3031 61236  
MELBOURNE  
PO Box 46, Flemington, Vic 3031 61236  
SYDNEY  
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ADELAIDE  
PO Box 46, Flemington, Vic 3031 61236  
CANNING  
PO Box 46, Flemington, Vic 3031 61236  
BRISBANE  
PO Box 46, Flemington, Vic 3031 61236  
PERTH  
PO Box 46, Flemington, Vic 3031 61236  
MELBOURNE  
PO Box 46, Flemington, Vic 3031 61236



STUDENTS OCCUPY the University of Queensland Senate last month. Another is in the offing if library demands are not met.

# Open the libraries!

STUDENTS at Queensland Uni are ignored. The Administration has ignored our demands to restore library hours.

in response to our occupation of the University Senate all the Vice-Chancellor would concede a further stop this year.

As head librarian, I'm responsible for implementing the decision of the Senate. That's why we've been open for 10 days. But the major cuts are being made by the Finance Committee. They've opened the libraries for 10 days. But the major cuts are being made by the Finance Committee.

Page 10 THE BATTLER 12 JUNE, 1982

# I WANT TO JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Trade Union: \_\_\_\_\_

Send me your 10, 1982 paper. I'll send you my 10, 1982 paper.

THE BATTLER 12 JUNE, 1982 PAGE 11

# careers? Job loves 'em

by Phil Griffiths

**ARE YOU YOUNG?** Keen to get ahead?

There's a place for you in the Sunshine State — but only if you're keen to scab.

"I've been talking to Job; he says if you can organise to run the power stations, you'll get the ladder — right up the ladder."

Last year a strike by not so easy, well paid electricians employed by SEQEB led to the blacking out of several suburbs in Brisbane.

But there was one young man who didn't support the union's strategy. He went around the night lining up copies of the broadsheet, *Battler*, in the suburbs, and handing them out to the workers.

The *Battler* has now obtained a copy of an extraordinary telephone conversation between Premier Joh and the scab opposition electricians Steve Freeman.

It appears that Premier Joh told the conversation that the tape eventually found its way into the hands of the Electrical Trades Union Senator Jim O'Keefe but sections of the transcript read into the media, making the revelation of an act of contempt legal.

The interesting thing seems to be that when the snobs were planning public action over the 24-hour work

Job, naturally, was delighted. "Oh Steve, I'd like to meet you, that was splendid, Steve. Sometimes you have to come in and say hello, and have perhaps a cup of tea with me."

This is not some elaborate hoax, the late Premier of Queensland told.

After exchanging pleasantries agreeing about how gently the unions are, the talk goes on:

"The scab had been hard at work when studying the opposition of the power station (late Romo) and how to control it. Now the power station has their own set way, but basically, the synchronising procedure is the same."

Job said suddenly gets interested. "Is a really? Could you, Steve, could you organise a few fellows to do the same thing?"

"The best option is to go to the power station."

"How I see trying up the power station?"

"My problem, Steve, I'd like you to go to the scab leader speak if you can do that."

"Interestedly, scabbing in Queensland."



QUEENSLAND ETU workers show their attitude to scabs, in a previous campaign.

## Looking backwards to the future

THE QUEENSLAND government has a very selective view of the law. It appears that the action of reconning houses blacked out during the last year's SEQEB strike was illegal.

But we've mind said Gable, the Home and Energy Minister. "That's all in the past." "Well that's true," he says, "but you know I wouldn't like to attempt to run the power station on my own, that would be ridiculous."

Our scab suddenly gets interested. "Is a really? Could you, Steve, could you organise a few fellows to do the same thing?"

"The best option is to go to the power station."

"How I see trying up the power station?"

"My problem, Steve, I'd like you to go to the scab leader speak if you can do that."

"Interestedly, scabbing in Queensland."

# the battler

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

## A spit in the face for blacks

**SIX MONTHS jail for spitting!** It could only happen in Queensland and could only happen to a black.

Percy Neal, a black activist and former chairman of the Yarrabah Reserve Council, was convicted of spitting in the face of a state government official.

Yarrabah is known as one of the more militant reserves and there are stores that police refuse to go onto the reserve except in large numbers.

No wonder the cops and courts were anxious to get Percy Neal.

Naturally the treatment handed out to whites is different. When a white man was convicted for spitting on a policeman, he coped a \$100 fine.

This kind of racism permeates the whole of Queensland society. This is the reason that blacks are fighting and the reason they intend using the Commonwealth Games to press their demands for Land Rights.

Percy Neal was opposed to the government's "Deed of Grant in Trust" legislation. His sentence, originally two months jail, was increased to six months on appeal. This was at the same time as Bjelke-Petersen was claiming widespread support from the reserves for his legislation.

Percy has now surrendered himself to police in Canberra. He has appealed to the High Court and is free on bail.

Percy's jailing is also typical of the racism of the Queensland government.

By Judy Melville

the Queensland statistics show that the aboriginal population, 140,000, is only 1.5% of the total population, 10 million. This figure rises to 20% in the Torres Strait.

Aborigines are demanding freedom to land on their own terms. Under the Queensland Act, aborigines are given every chance to make decisions on their own terms.

Under the Queensland Act, aborigines are given every chance to make decisions on their own terms.

# DEFEND EVERY JOB

ST. VICTORIA LIBRARY - 7 JUL 1982 - VICTORIA

No. 130 July 3, 1982 30 cents Registered by Australia Post — publication no. 158 1972

IT'S OFFICIAL... the Australian economy is now in recession.

The six months from October last year to March this year saw the size of the economy shrink. Unemployment is on the rise. Savings are spreading.

In the metal trades the bosses sacked 2.8% of their work force between February and May. By the end of the year the unemployment rate is expected to be 8%.

And what is the Fraser government's solution to the international recession? It is to increase company profits and cut wages. According to Treasurer Howard "greater moderation in domestic wage increases would enable Australia to participate in any recovery."

What a lot of rubbish. Wage cuts will only make the recession worse. Look at Britain and the US. Significant wage cuts and handbacks there have not stopped unemployment skyrocketing.

But Fraser also wants to make workers pay for the recession by major cuts in government spending on health, education and social welfare. That's what the recent Premier's Conference was all about.

The Federal government by cutting funding to the states wants to make the Premiers carry the can for the cuts. But instead of leading a campaign to fight the



Liberals, the Cain and Wran Labor governments are going ahead and implementing Fraser's cuts.

And by their militant and determined action they won support from other workers who will be severely affected by the cuts. City office workers, wharfies and building workers walked off the job to attend the demo in May over the closure of Sydney Hospital.

And as the cuts and sackings step up we need to extend the fightback to include occupations of threatened hospitals and of factories carrying out mass sackings.

Defend every job! Fight every cut!

MARCHING against the closing of Crown St. Hospital, Sydney — one of many to come under Wran's razor.

## THINGS WE'D ALL LIKE TO SEE

1. A referendum on the Commonwealth Game Act. It has been introduced in the House of Representatives and is now before the Senate. It is a law that would allow the Commonwealth Games to be held in Australia.

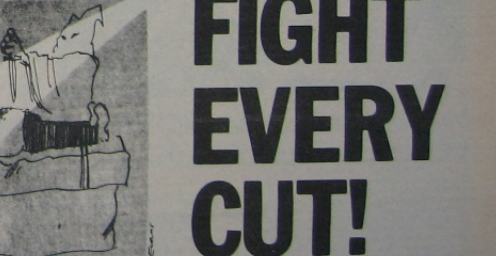
2. A referendum on the Commonwealth Games. It is a law that would allow the Commonwealth Games to be held in Australia.

3. A referendum on the Commonwealth Games. It is a law that would allow the Commonwealth Games to be held in Australia.

4. A referendum on the Commonwealth Games. It is a law that would allow the Commonwealth Games to be held in Australia.

5. A referendum on the Commonwealth Games. It is a law that would allow the Commonwealth Games to be held in Australia.

6. A referendum on the Commonwealth Games. It is a law that would allow the Commonwealth Games to be held in Australia.



THE MAN WHO SAYS SACRIFICES MUST BE MADE... SETTING US A GOOD EXAMPLE...

Palestinians march in Sydney — p.5

Why we support the PLO — p.6/7

**WHILE MAGGIE'S THINKING UP NEW WAYS TO KEEP YOUR MIND OFF WHAT'S REALLY HAPPENING, THE BATTLER WILL KEEP YOUR MIND ON IT. SUBSCRIBE NOW!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City and post to PO Box 66, Paddington, N.S.W. 1581

Make sure you get your copy of the Battler every issue for just \$10 a year (or \$25 for a supporting subscription).

## RALLY FOR LAND RIGHTS

THE STRUGGLE against racism in Queensland is picking up. On Wednesday 4 August, there will be a rally for Land Rights at 4.00 pm in King George Square.

The rally has been called by the Intercam Land Rights Support Group Black Protest Committee.

If you want to get involved in activity to build the rally, contact your local student union or Land Rights Support Group or contact the Coalition Against Racism and Repression (PO Box 2683, St Lucia).

The Griffith Uni Student Union is sponsoring a 26.27. The conference is designed to both discuss all the issues surrounding the Land action Speakers from Aboriginal Reserves will be invited as well as representatives from all Aboriginal organisations.

Contact 275 7277 for details.



LET'S wipe the smile off his face on August 4.

# A RACIST OUTRAGE

THE SOULD story of how a North Queensland Aboriginal activist got a six month sentence (for spitting) became clearer in Brisbane last week.

Percy Neal was originally given two months' jail in October for spitting on a racist white storekeeper and government official, Daniel Collins, at Yarrabubbin during an argument.

The magistrate in Cairns was clearly surprised by sentencing Percy because he was a white man who was stirring up trouble between white and black and that he had "about four or five reserves and four or five people did not want change".

enough, but until recently Black-Peterson suspended the programme. But change in Queensland is not encouraged.

Percy appealed to the Supreme Court. But had the "bad luck" to strike Black's appointee Justice Andrews who obviously for services rendered, increased the sentence to the maximum six months.

By  
Carole Ferrer

But people like Percy do want change. Two in five blacks have (racism, including one in three under 16 years). (Racism is, of course, if treated soon

in the same sentence he was granted the right to appeal (which allowed an increase of the penalty) and sentenced.

The unanimous verdict of the High Court at the second appeal was to go back to the 2-month sentence. This is outrageous. Percy Neal should be freed at once.

The racist Queensland state has to be challenged. Parliament, the Labor Party and the High Court judges have shown themselves incapable of it.

70% of Queensland Aborigines (some 30,000) live on reserves, many of which are in such a state that any attempt to improve their situation will be met

with heavy repression. The first step is to improve conditions for blacks on the reserves: land rights and self-management.

ADMISSION to campaign for the release of Percy Neal was made at the recent Black Land Rights Conference. Over 200 people went to support protests at the Commonwealth Games.

A national day of protest has been called for September 29, and a rally and march in Brisbane for August 4 will be the beginnings of mobilisation for protests at the Games.

They supported a protest call by Griffith Uni students (see page 72).



ABOVE: EMAD AND ALLAN DUNN BELOW: An Anti-Special Branch demo organised by the Campaign for the Acquittal of Dunn, Dunn and Alistair highlighted the issue.



## Anti-Roxyby moves undermined

THE PASSING of the Roxyby Downs Indenture Bill shows, yet again, the futility of relying on Parliament and the ALP to stop uranium mining.

The Indenture Bill sets out the terms on which the government and the mining parties (BP and Western Mining) have agreed to allow uranium mining on the proposed Copper-Uranium mine at Roxyby Downs. Western Mining had stated that if the bill was passed uranium mining would go ahead.

Many anti-uranium activists have been riding on the Upper House in Adelaide, where the Australian Democrats hold the balance of power, to defeat the bill. Lane Mine, the Joint Democrats, did in fact stick to its beliefs and vote against it.

CROSS

It was left to a Labor MLC, Norm Foster, to cross the floor and vote with the Liberals and get the bill through on the second attempt. ALP members made many excuses for Foster's treachery—for example that he was unsure at not getting chosen for a safe

## 4 years from the frame-up

16 JUNE marked the fourth anniversary of the arrest of Tim Anderson, Paul Alistair and Ross Dunn.

Three men, were sentenced to 18 years jail for supposedly trying to blow up Robert Cameron, leader of the Nazi organisation, the National Front.

In the course of their two separate trials, it became obvious that in fact the three men were being framed as the "hit men".

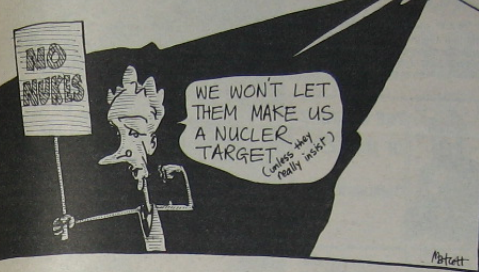
No charges in connection with the Hilton bombing were laid against them, but both trials were conducted in an atmosphere of press and police lies, supposedly linking the Ananda Marga to the bombing at the 1978 CHOGM conference.

Headlines such as the Daily Telegraph's "Hitler bomb: secret blamed" and extraordinary police measures such as sharpshooters on the roof of the Batter's spoke, East and All Dunn, on the anniversary of the arrests, the parents of Ross Dunn.

The framing of their sons' arrest and the first time the Duns saw Ross after his arrest he had two black eyes and a swollen face. The police had roughed him up.

But they were able to suppress evidence of the assault: the three men had had "blackouts" when they were being photographed when their injuries were being treated. The cops had "lost" their original photos.

This new lot of photographs were presented at the second trial (the one that actually convicted) as if they had been taken at the time of arrest. All and Enn Duns denied it.



## But Reagan says... NUKES ARE A REAL AND PROBABLE

Strike against Fraser's budget

ACTU research officer, Peter Marsh was taking the meeting of assembled industry shop stewards (called at only one day's notice) to endorse "the ACTU Campaign". But all we'd heard was his rambling speech telling us how bad things are (especially for the workers).

So international Socialist member, Michael Thompson (shop steward at Maffra St. mail terminal) asked what exactly the campaign consisted of. He pointed out that his workmates already knew things were bad.

It turns out that the "campaign" consists of giving information out to union members. The next stage is to recruit 500,000 workers' representatives to MPs, and to present a petition in 122 parts of ACTU demands.

If the government had no commitment to a restructuring by the end of July, Marsh said, the ACTU would launch a "national productivity drive" series of mass demonstrations, and would urge action to achieve it, and to improve social welfare.

The ACTU would be able to find out Fraser's intentions regarding wages, but not social welfare spending. If they don't say what they're doing in the budget, how will we know whether to call the rallies or not? he blasted.

Marsh argued the meeting that future rallies would not be called on an industrial basis as these meetings were, but would include all unions.

"The amendment which was most controversial was one moved by Gary Walters, and seconded by Michael Thompson. It said that the mass rallies should be based on ACTU coordination arrangements.

Even though Jim Teague, Hail Council in the chair, confirmed the motion was passed by 107 votes to 71.

This motion is the first step to make the campaign more something that will only take place if the government make some concession. We have the motion, so we vote out it, and more importantly Fraser, that we mean to give it.

For some unknown reason, he thought that

WHEN VICTORIAN Premier John Cain appeared at an anti-nuclear demonstration outside Parliament House in mid-June, it took quite a while for the cheers to die away.

Yet the future among State and Federal politicians over nuclear warships has exposed the fatal weakness in the Labor Party's attitude to the whole business.

On the one hand, Labor leaders talk about nuclear-free Australia, and point to the danger of nuclear war. But on the other, they cling firmly to the American Alliance.

As Bill Hayden found out to his cost, you can't have it both ways. It may be possible to avoid nuclear power on Australian soil without upsetting Washington. Perhaps uranium exports could be stopped without frustrating ANZUS.

But at any rate the ALP was split down the middle. The media hammered this for all it was worth, even asking the *Fassman Labor Party* for its views, just as if it could publish yet another version of Labor policy.

The supposedly anti-nuclear Australian Democrats rallied to support Fraser. Don Chappard on about the paramount importance of ANZUS and how the Democrats cannot withdraw any Federal legislation to override Cain. Just what you could expect from a former Liberal Minister who sent conscripts to their death in Vietnam.

Finally Fraser played his trump card: he got the Americans to intervene. Washington announced that the use of allied ports and airfields was "critical" to American efforts to maintain the balance of terror.

And the US Deputy Secretary of State, Mr. Stoenkel, refused to say that the State Department could work together with a Labor government which banned nuclear ships. At this, Hayden wailed.

"And no wonder. He was caught in a hopeless contradiction. Labor's government, and it got in the ALP, must placate sections of the establishment. But the Australian ruling circles are hand in glove with US imperialism.

There is a lesson here for people who see the struggle against nuclear war as "above politics" or concerned to other issues. The truth is quite different. To fight nuclear weapons means fighting the vested interests who want them around, and that is nothing but political.

### RALLY AGAINST ISRAELI AGGRESSION

Friday 9 July, 5pm, Bourke St. Mall (Melbourne).  
Sponsored by the Committee Against Israeli Aggression

### No more Hiroshimas!

Assemble City Square (Melbourne),  
4pm. March deposits to the Shrine at 5pm.

Sponsored by the Inter-campus People for Nuclear Disarmament and various community groups and individuals. For more details phone 541 3141 or 804 648.

— march to remember On Friday 6 August

JOHN CAIN

## DOES IT STAY?

The controversy over whether or not the courts are applying physical and historical evidence for the Vietnam against Lee Harvey Oswald. The US government has been quick to react on the issue, probably hoping to showcase its own use of "Agent Orange" in Vietnam by doing so.

Now I don't know whether chemical weapons are being used in Laos but I do know that they're being used here in what's being called the "Agent Orange" in Vietnam by doing so.

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# DO PRODUCE THEM?

GEORGE BERNARD SHAW once said, 'I don't need a theory of value to tell me that the poor are exploited.' He thought that Marxist economic theory was an unnecessary piece of straggling theorizing. It is a common point of view and is often connected with the idea that Marxist economics is very complicated, boring and hard to understand.

Actually the key ideas are easy enough to grasp once you understand what they are intended to be used for. Every theory has a purpose.

Now I don't know whether chemical weapons are being used in Laos but I do know that they're being used here in what's being called the "Agent Orange" in Vietnam by doing so.

Clearly it has something to do with the fact that it costs more to make a motor car than to make a TV set. Why does it cost more? Marx's answer is that the value of a commodity is determined by the quantity of socially necessary labour time required for its production. To put it crudely, the car costs more because more work has to be put in to make it.

This also did not originate with Marx. As a modern economist put it: 'The labour theory of value is one of the most powerful theories in classical economics and it is still current — with refinements — to be found among orthodox economists if Marx and some of his followers had not put it to rest as a relic of a bygone age.' Marx himself introduced a number of refinements, for example, 'socially necessary'

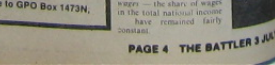
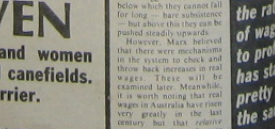
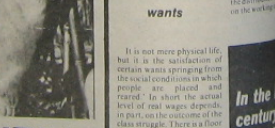
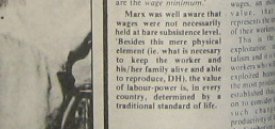
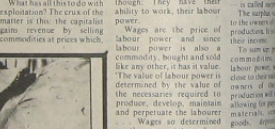
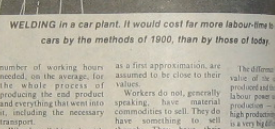
labour time means working hours put in using the current techniques of production. It would tend to be more labour-time to make cars by the methods of 1900, than by those of today.

As a first approximation, are assumed to be close to their values. Workers do not, generally speaking, have material commodities to sell. They do have something to sell though: They have their ability to work, their labour power.

Wages are the price of labour power and since labour power is also a commodity, bought and sold like any other, it has a value. The value of labour power is determined by the value of the necessities required to produce, maintain and perpetuate the labourer.

Wages so determined are the wage minimum. Marx was well aware that wages were not necessarily held at this subsistence level. Besides this mere physical element, (what is known as the standard of life of certain wages spring from the fact that they are placed and traded in the market) the level of real wages depends, in part, on the outcome of the class struggle. There is a floor below which they cannot fall but above this they can be pushed as high as the market will.

However, Marx believed that there were mechanisms which would check and bring back increases in real wages. There will be examined later. Meanwhile, it is worth noting that real wages in Australia have risen very rapidly since the 1950s but that reform wages — the share of wages in the total national income — have remained fairly constant.



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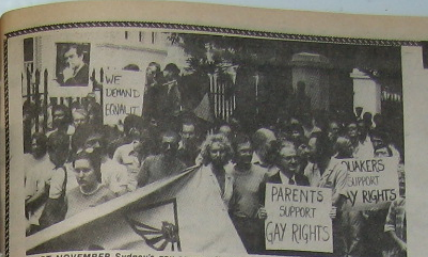
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STONEWALL DAY marks the beginning of the modern Gay Liberation movement. On June 28 1969 the New York cops raided the Stonewall Inn, a tacky gay bar in Greenwich Village. The customers of the bar, men, women and children, were being harassed so many times before — responded by continuing the cops inside the bar and trying to set it alight.

By Graham Willitt

That means that it was possible, among other things, for supporting all forms of opposition within Argentina.

On July 21, all sorts of parties had been put forward for a new President — the head of the air force Brigadier Oscar Costa Mendez the former minister of Education, the Chief of General Christian Naudon.

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# Zionism the fundamental flaw

Middle East. For it to be a 'land without people' meant one thing — had to be made empty. To create an exclusively Jewish state that was a Jewish as America was American, or as England was English' (as Zionist leader Weizmann described it), meant destroying or expelling the Palestinian population.

But at first the settlers were very much a minority. If they were to win control they needed allies — the imperialist powers dominant in the region.

Initially the Zionists sought an alliance with Britain, which occupied Palestine after the First World War. The way was to create 'a little loyal Jewish Ulster' in a sea of potentially hostile Arabism.

With the decline of British imperialism and the establishment of the state of Israel after WW II the Zionists turned to the US.

One of the arguments you often hear is that the Jewish people who suffered the holocaust under the Nazis, have a right to be left in peace. Now we shouldn't downplay the suffering of the Jews in the second world war. But the important question is what did the Zionists do about it at the time?

The best known example is the Katiner case. Katiner was the vice president of the Zionist organisation in Budapest. When the Nazis wanted to send Hungary's Jews to Auschwitz, Katiner did a deal. In return for helping the Nazis he would be allowed to select a fixed number to go to Palestine. Katiner saved exactly 684 people with approximately 67000 victims. And how did the choice who was to be sent to Auschwitz and who would be saved for Palestine? Those 'who had worked all their lives for the community' — in other words the functionaries, — and 'the most prominent Jews'.

Zionists actively opposed the campaigns of some Jewish groups to go North American and Western European countries to accept Jewish refugees. They wanted Jews to be directed in one direction only — Palestine.

So we see that what basic Zionist idea — that there's no point in fighting anti-semitism in your own country — has led to in practice.

What do we see in the state of Israel today, the place that Zionists claim to be the salvation of all Jews?

Early Zionism was largely a secular movement, based on a conception of a non-religious Jewish culture. But today religion is enshrined in Israeli law. There is no civil marriage or divorce in Israel. Israel is a military state. More than a third of Israel's GNP goes on arms expenditure, so it's not surprising the economy is a disaster area.

Israel is a conscious arm of imperialism, particularly US imperialism. They did the dirty work for Britain and France over Suez in 1956. Today they send arms to South Africa and Chile — and to the right in El Salvador.

To return their economy is propped up by America. Almost half of the US's foreign aid goes to Israel.

Just but not least, Israel is fundamentally racist. According to the law of return, Jews living anywhere in the world can go to Israel and become full citizens. But hundreds of thousands of Palestinian Arabs who were born there have only limited rights if they live within the 1948 borders, or no rights at all if they live in the occupied territory — Israel's forced expulsion of the rightful inhabitants of Palestine, its continuing military expansionism, and its role in the Arab world — imperialism have earned in the hatred of millions of people around the world.

This is backed up by the political actions of a state. But the Israeli state and its Zionist supporters in other countries, have worked their propaganda machines overtime to link anti-Zionism with anti-semitism in peoples minds.

So if it is Zionism then and the state of Israel who will themselves be responsible if there is an increase in anti-semitism.



REZSO KASZNER



## ABANDONED AND BETRAYED, the Palestinian resistance movement after three weeks of heroic resistance looks like being forced to evacuate West Beirut.

Driven back into Beirut by the firepower of the massively superior Israeli invasion force, the 2000 remaining Palestinian fighters have little alternative but to surrender their final stronghold.

That if the Israelis let them evacuate the city, the Zionists may just launch a final holocaust to 'solve' the Palestinian problem.

Since the murderous Israeli invasion of southern Lebanon began in early June the Palestinians and their Lebanese leftist allies have mounted determined resistance. However they have received absolutely no support from the surrounding Arab states.

## platiitudes

By Mick Armstrong

The Saudis, the Jordanians, the Egyptians, the Iraqis have all mouthed platitudes condemning the Israelis and calling on the US to restrain them. But they have done nothing. The Syrians who did at least put up some resistance to the Zionists were most concerned to preserve their own strategic position within Lebanon and to avoid the PLO. They rapidly withdrew most of their forces from Beirut leaving only a few hundred there to face the final Israeli onslaught.

The abandonment of the PLO by the Arab ruling classes should come as no surprise. It was the Jordanians who, with the backing of the Saudis and the other reactionary Arab regimes started out the massacre of the Palestinians in Black September, 1970, forcing many of them to flee to Lebanon.

And in 1976 when the Syrians first entered Lebanon it was to prevent a Palestinian and Lebanese leftist victory which was imminent in the civil war war with the fascist Phalange.

Many of the Arab leaders are secretly anxious to see the PLO offer a major defeat. They fear the radicalism of the Palestinian masses will infect their own populations. It is only the widespread support for the Palestinian cause amongst the Arab masses that forces the reactionary regimes to pay lip service to backing the PLO.

When the Israelis invaded Lebanon they had a number of aims: 1. To create a new 'reality' in the region which would prevent international attention away from their annex-

ation of the Syrian Golan Heights. 2. To confirm the fact that Israel has a hand in determining the internal affairs of Lebanon, especially with a Lebanese presidential election imminent. 3. To pressure Syria into decreasing its forces in Lebanon, if not altogether removing them. 4. To destroy the infrastructure of the Palestinian resistance's forces and to deal its leadership in Lebanon a decisive blow. 5. To internationalise the Lebanese crisis and to increase the area in which the UN forces (or some other UN dominated substitute) are deployed, so that they act as a genuine deterrent force. 6. To strengthen the influence of the fascist Lebanese Front and give it a major role to play in the execution of US imperialist plans for Lebanon.

By means of enormous sums of money which has left thousands of Lebanese and Palestinian civilians dead, tens of thousands wounded and almost a million homeless, the Israelis have now achieved most of these aims. While the situation has not fully clarified it

looks like that after almost seven years of bloody fighting Lebanon will be 'reunited' under regime sympathetic to Israel. The United States was not initially keen on the Zionist invasion of Israel. It was 'too provocative'. However, one understands it became clear to Reagan and co. that the US had much to gain from it. Thus the US Security Council resolution calling for an Israeli withdrawal from occupied Palestine itself, who are not defeated or covered. And although the Palestinian resistance movement now no longer has a direct border from which to launch military operations against Israel, there is still the Zionist invasion of Israel. The re-unification of Lebanon under a right wing pro-western government is what the Americans have been striving for since the end of the Lebanese civil war. They have made it extremely difficult for the Israelis to impose a 'civilian' administration on the occupied territories and thus bypass the democratically elected Arab mayors, most of whom back the PLO.

It is to those workers inside Palestine, who have the industrial means to break the power of Zionism, that the vanguard of the Palestinian revolution must now look as they are forced to regroup once again in exile.



ISRAELI TANKS roll into Damour. Begin's holocaust featured some of the biggest tank battles in history.



AND THE General strike of 1980, Palestinians celebrate their struggle for their homeland in the streets of Beirut.

## PLO history of resistance

topple not just the Arab regimes who oppress the Palestinians. Such an objective is a socialist objective. The history of the PLO is a history which may try to deny a determination to restore to the Arab masses what has been stolen from them.

The Palestinian resistance movement is the strongest imperial power — a colonising settler movement — in their own land. They have even won elections, but they are still fighting. Palestinians have to be oppressed, they have to be oppressed through the imperialist system of us who has been applied by the imperialist states by the violence of the struggle widespread support for the PLO. We must challenge the

without people', 'the making the desert bloom' — and expose the half-truths and lies that hide what really happened to Palestine.

.....

There are said to be at least 16,000 injured in Lebanon. Provision of emergency medical services is an urgent task. Particularly medical equipment, volunteer hospital workers and money are needed by the Palestine Red Crescent (Red Cross). Palestine Human Rights Campaign, P.O. Box 278, Carlton South, M53.



PALESTINIANS resting the Israeli beach landing at Khaldia.



YOUNG PALESTINIANS are often rounded up as constant reminders of the oppression of the Zionist state.



ONE OF the constant raids on the homes of Palestinians on the West Bank, Occupied Palestine.



FAKHANI, one of the heaviest populated areas of Beirut, is almost leveled by Israeli air bombardment in July last year.

# Political innocent who reshaped our worldview

**KEN MONTAGUE** looks at Albert Einstein, and his theory of relativity, that shook science to its foundations.

1905 AND 1917 are years that stand out for socialists: the years of revolution in Russia.

Significantly, two very similar dates—1905 and 1916—marked the publication of Albert Einstein's theories of 'Relativity'—theories which changed our view of the natural world just as radically as the Soviets or Workers' Councils changed the landscape of politics.

Many tributes have been paid to Einstein by the world's leading scientists, tribute to a 'unique genius' who 'single-handedly' grasped the logic of the atom and the workings of distant galaxies.

No secular will begrudge him that praise. Yet in many ways to regard Einstein like that is to see some sort of famous folk to be better a heroism, full with admiration, and full of reverence for the achievement of this man who, from his little, quiet life, had brought to the world a new science of the universe.

For such to miss what Einstein accomplished, for two centuries before 1905 the theories of physics had all based upon the laws formulated by Sir Isaac Newton.

Newton lived, and was a pillar of the English mind, especially the foundation of the scientific revolution. He was first establishing itself in Europe, in England at a date of the scientific revolution.

Indeed, Newton played a part in the revolution of the world of the 18th century. As the founder of the Newtonian theory of gravitation, he was the first to see the universe as a system of natural phenomena, not a series of supernatural forces.

Newton's theory added the last and most important force field that we need, electricity in the shape of his laws.

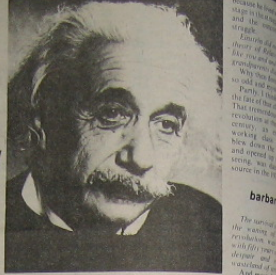
It is interesting to note that a picture of the universe first formed with a long time, a contemporary of Newton's was John Locke's, the father of 'liberal' democracy.

For Einstein's liberal conditions are what they are, not because of some abstract idea, but because of the world that he lived in. It is the COLLECTIVE effect of forces within them.

**energy**

Indeed, it is this continuous interchange of energy, which links the stars and makes the world go round. All that sounds very abstract, yet somehow it makes our experience. A new rule book won't improve it. Matter is a handy, active tank and fire can do what you want it to.

MIS, terrorism or the coming of the Messiah will not 'rid us' of capitalism.



Classen, not individuals, dominate the world, and to change the world, change themselves. A good shop steward has an opinion over knowledge of his own factory, but it is not the factory—'right down to the nuts and bolts of the production line'.

None of that argues of course that Einstein was a revolutionary socialist, although the Nazis tried to label him as a traitor.

# The fall of Angela

by Chris Rose

THE ABC has embarked on a promising new series of Australian plays—a change from the endless reels of BBC celluloid Channel 2 churns out—called 'Spring and Fall'.

Just before Rev. Fred Nile encountered a few innocuous Christians on Encounters (the ABC's answer to dialectics) the first play in the series—'Every Man for Himself'—came to air, a dignified woman's eye view of Australia.

This was a stark reminder to the ever recurring problems facing migrant families, the generation gap made wider by conflicting expectations from the children's peer group, from society and from their parents.

But the title comes from Mrs. G., the supervisor where Angela works as a machinist. It is a closing scene, where Angela is copied into accepting an extra \$15 a week for the pace and keep her mouth shut.

This is a fairly dramatic end to Angela's turbulent career as a shop steward. Elected unopposed due to her sacking for organising the work pace rates, she was unable to get support for a strike around the issue. This is a sweatshop, and the tactics pure stand-over.

With Angela, we follow the plight of Lina, who is laid off for having leprosy. Her husband's salesman job pays \$108 maximum for a spouse to collect Sickness Benefit. As the boss said, 'Now you can stay home and be the hammers!' Racist suits come and go.

Angela yearns for an Italy of youthful joy and tranquillity. She is torn between the demands of her husband and those of the workplace. So after a while, she caves in and virtually gives up support from the shop floor, and virtually gives up.

In a parody shot, a worker who Angela had assisted once opines, 'You used to talk for us—now you've got your own family!' Racist suits come and go.

The scenes for this sacking industrial action are not to be missed.



MACHINISTS' wage struggle in Melbourne, May 1974. Without such solidarity militants like Angela are often coopted.

# Brideshead regurgitated

AND THEN... at a cost of millions, with a cast of thousands, to the delight of dozens of critics drenched with port and Milton Babbalanza, nothing happens.

There is a sense of the past being a lost cause. The novel is a masterpiece of its kind, but it is not a masterpiece of its kind. The novel is a masterpiece of its kind, but it is not a masterpiece of its kind.

more than another mortgage law passed in the British, and in film industry.

It is a pity that the novel is not a masterpiece of its kind. The novel is a masterpiece of its kind, but it is not a masterpiece of its kind.

And no doubt, hundreds of thousands will be watching over the next few weeks by the Oxford trustee, the British humankind and by the credit where it due, the But for the fact that this is a novel by an author who is not a writer of the calibre of P. G. Wodehouse, it is a pity that the novel is not a masterpiece of its kind.

And it must be some expression of the nation who are disappointed or who are disappointed or who are disappointed or who are disappointed.

And it must be some expression of the nation who are disappointed or who are disappointed or who are disappointed or who are disappointed.

**One Eyed**  
COLOUR CONTROL  
GIPS MOUNT  
By Mike Greenwood



John Pausani, Chairman of ACOA's Tax Section Committee, Canberra, reviews a book on the history of the Government clerks' union.

The modern mood of public servants. Left: Sydney ACOA picket against redundancies. Above: from the Social Reaffirmation campaign in Melbourne, 1982.

Unfortunate, the answer is a rousing 'no'. As an example, the index to Who's Colour Form contains no reference to strike whatever!

At last, the Government and conservative reaction, against the past few years should include the absorption of US control of a strike.

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At last, the Government and conservative reaction, against the past few years should include the absorption of US control of a strike.

# Listening XTC

ENGLISH SETTLEMENT, the latest record from XTC, was released in the trade press but little mainstream media attention.

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**SOLIDARITY FOR THE COAL MINERS' UNION**  
FROM THE GOVERNMENT TO MILITARY REPRESSION  
INTERNATIONAL  
SOLIDARITY FOR THE COAL MINERS' UNION  
A special issue of the journal INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISM, devoted to Solidarity and the crisis of Polish state capitalism. Available from all US branches (see p. 13). Write to IS Books, P.O. Box 46, Plattsburgh, N.Y. 05661 (including postage).

# WORKERS' HONORS!

## WORKERS at Vickers Cockatoo Dock (VCD) in Sydney have had enough. A nine week strike last year won them the 38 hour week, and now management has withdrawn it.

The excuse that they stopped work in support of a strike by painters and dockers.

The VCD management claims that the agreement which was signed made the 38 hour week 'revocable in the event of unauthorised stoppages'. The NSW Labour Council and its organiser who negotiated during the strike last year, Chris McAuley, haven't come out of the affair with much credit. McAuley, at the last meeting of the strike...

by Syl Boland FIA member, Vickers Cockatoo Dock

The jailing of Painter and Dockers (P & D) Union members by the Royal Commission in Melbourne added fuel to the fire. After a stoppage in Melbourne, Dockers and painters and dockers followed Garden Island P & Ds and those in Victoria and Queensland and walked off the job. A Sydney-wide meeting decided that they would strike until the P & Ds were released. The dockyard work force has now signalled its intention to make...

# Write to The Battler: P.O. Box 46 Flemington, Vic 3031

## Ed Kinchley and Tim Shorrocks look at

# The war in Korea's "peace market"

THREE HUNDRED young women crowded into the chapel of the Urban Industrial Mission in Yeongpung, in the industrial area of Seoul, South Korea.

It was March 9, 1981, Korean Labor Day.

Women and men worked in the workshop of each divided into two levels with ceilings no less than 100 feet. Health problems were rampant. By 1972, the women had formed owners to abolish the 17-hour week and working hours were reduced from 12.44 to 10.5 hours in 1980. The women after an 8.5 day wage hike, after a 10 day strike, the roof of the buildings which house the factories.

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the limited power of unions - the Peace Market unions at the factory offices. The Korean government with the approval of Japan and the limited power of unions - the Peace Market unions at the factory offices. The Korean government with the approval of Japan and the limited power of unions - the Peace Market unions at the factory offices.

## Nursemaid the matrons

OVER the last few years there has been numerous stories about the Queensland Nurses Federation (QNF) in the Battler. Like nurses organisations elsewhere in Australia, it was a very conservative disorganised union run by matrons (read bosses).

Fortunately a Reform Group won control of the union early this year. A fairly loose formation, it was the result of several years of internal and external struggle.

Many regular Battler readers have either been involved in or witnessed Reform Group victories in other sections. Probably without exception their performance in office has not lived up to the expectations of their supporters. The RANF group is the same story. Recently they put in an application for a pay raise 25% for matrons, 10% for nurses assistants and enrolled nurses. They would look that if the reform group was serious, the application would have been 10% for matrons and 25% for the rest.

What is has been a most welcome and long overdue change to have their power thrown out of office, the Reform Group has done another job this year, something they have done before. They were successful in getting the Reform Group to drop the 20% for matrons, 10% for nurses assistants and enrolled nurses. They were successful in getting the Reform Group to drop the 20% for matrons, 10% for nurses assistants and enrolled nurses.

## DISHONORABLE MEMBERSHIP

THEY couldn't organise a piss up in a brewery! An hundred odd expatriate, but certainly applicable to the battler side representative of the Victorian Public Service Association (VPSA).

So YOU'RE a Commonwealth Public Servant? So you think you'll get a pay rise soon? Don't bank on it. If the ACOA meeting of the Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association (ACA) is anything to go by, rather than negotiate with the ACA, the Public Servants has called for a further hearing on 12 July.

IS A HEALTHY NZ

VPSA Right nuded!

### VPSA Right nuded!

## WHEN delegates to the Victorian Public Service Association (VPSA) Annual Conference went to their piss-up at Melbourne's ultra posh Wentworth Hotel, the last thing they expected was a rally by anti-nuclear activists.

But members of the pro-VPSA "to adopt a Government Workers Against the Bomb (GWAB) were there to proliferate of a nuclear industry in lobby delegates to vote Victoria".



PROTESTING students face a tear gas attack by police.

Equally as important, they will see that pay will be increased by 10% for workers in factories with over 19 workers. The pay rise is being applied to workers in the public sector. But this victory was during the 20% pay rise for workers in the public sector.

## FIGHTING FUND

Fighting Fund issue raised \$713.36. Our members have contributed: S. 100.00, M. 100.00, P. 100.00, R. 100.00, S. 100.00, M. 100.00, P. 100.00, R. 100.00, S. 100.00, M. 100.00, P. 100.00, R. 100.00.

## How to contact the International Socialists

- MELBOURNE**: 1000
- SYDNEY**: 1000
- ADELAIDE**: 1000
- CANBERRA**: 1000
- BRISBANE**: 1000
- PERTH**: 1000

Revolution, not Reformism. We believe in reforming the system, not patting it up or gradually trying to change it.



DEMONSTRATORS flee from armed parafores in Wangju.

But it is these industries that are the main source of the growth of the economy. The Korean government with the approval of Japan and the limited power of unions - the Peace Market unions at the factory offices.

## What's on

- Sydney** Saturday 3 July, Sunday 4 July
- Melbourne** Sunday 11 July, Monday 12 July
- Adelaide** Sunday 11 July, Monday 12 July
- Canberra** Sunday 11 July, Monday 12 July
- Brisbane** Sunday 11 July, Monday 12 July
- Pertth** Sunday 11 July, Monday 12 July

## What We Stand For

Workers' Power. We believe in reforming the system, not patting it up or gradually trying to change it.

## Revolution, not Reformism

We believe in reforming the system, not patting it up or gradually trying to change it.

## Full Equality and Liberation

For women's rights, for workers' rights, for the rights of all people.

## Revolutionary Party

To smash the capitalist state, we need a revolutionary party.

## Rank and File Organisation

Workers need their own organisations to fight the bosses.

# 'No more excuses, we want action!'

**HOSPITAL maintenance workers in Brisbane walked off the job in disgust when they heard that negotiations had once again broken down on the 38 hour week.**

In fact, the State government has completely reneged on an agreement to introduce shorter hours by May. Now, they won't even commit themselves to 5th July.

For the hospital they were also highly workers, this was the crux of the way the last straw. Besides Trades and Labour walking out for the day, the Campaign Committee drew up plans to introduce a series of "No more excuses here and limitations" day action. Now, we want

put the shorter working week for good. There is no resolution from the last mass meeting is carried out. This is how a delegate from Prince Alexander Hospital summed up the feelings of the workers.

The official response was once again partial. Their answer was a 5 day minimum on action which negotiations continued.

The TUC did the same thing in the height of the maintenance men's work at least one day on the workfront. The proposal as a trade-off has

the latest government track record but so far no officials have told meetings that the fight is up to the individual shops.

Peeters is now proposing that there will have to be even more trade-offs in railway and state government blue collar mass meetings. There is a widespread assumption at

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## the battler

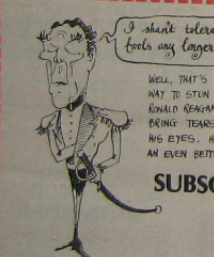
"PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS"

# WALK OUT

**STRIKING MAINTENANCE workers at the Australian National University are continuing pickets at all its entrances.**

The pickets were started on June 10 and have been maintained around the clock since June 15. Originally the pickets exempted deliveries to the halls of residence and student facilities, and food for animals on campus. But because of the attitude of the Uni administration, a later meeting decided unanimously to ban all goods and services.

And what do the workers want that the Uni sees as abhorably detrimental to itself? They want the same conditions as their colleagues outside the campus.



WELL, THAT'S ONE WAY TO STUN GADGIL REAGAN AND BRING TEARS TO HIS EYES. HERE IS AN EVEN BETTER WAY

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## the battler

"PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS"



RALLY FOR black land rights outside Griffith Uni. Vincent Brody is speaking

# Stop 'pass' law!

**BY THE TIME you read this article, the Griffith University Council have decided whether or not to support student demands for a new campus during the Commonwealth Games.**

The student union (GIUSU) meetings have overwhelmingly voted that students and non-students should be allowed onto the campus during the Games, so that political meetings and activities can be held there.

All students will need permanent accreditation if they are to use the campus in the normal way.

The administration say they are worried about the protection of the facilities as a whole for the facilities which called for the setting up of a "protect zone" at the Griffith campus.

The plan to allow the campus for one week (the Games only) last for ten days, during which time various restrictions will be

placed on students' and staffs use of facilities. For five of those weeks, students will have to gain accreditation—a pass—for any part of the campus. Even if you have a pass, you won't necessarily be let in on the day you specifically need it on a casual basis.

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## Support the militants

**THERE is shortly to be a very important election for the Sydney Metropolitan Mail Officers' Committee and its executive.**

Traditionally, this reps' committee has been the backbone of the NSW Branch of the APTU (Postal Workers Union).

Before the decentralisation of Sydney's mail system began, the committee covered about 3,000 officers at the Reider Exchange.

Decentralisation is now in full swing, and that staff are being progressively scattered around the metropolitan area. This makes the committee functioning that much more difficult.

The committee is being reorganised to cope with new circumstances, and also to deal with what have

led by the reps committee. The left wing United Postal Action team is standing six candidates for the executive of the committee, who are opposed to leading such a fight.

We cannot expect the right wing officials in state and federal offices to lead a fight against Australia Post's plans.

If there is a fight, and we desperately need it, we will have to be organised and

three years, which is mostly done by the left wing. The left wing United Postal Action team is standing six candidates for the executive of the committee, who are opposed to leading such a fight.

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# the battler

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# KICK OUT U.S. WARSHIPS!



**The paper that fights for workers' power**

**MARCH AGAINST USS GOLDBOROUGH**  
Melbourne—Assembly 12 noon  
Port Melbourne Town Hall  
March to Station Pier.

We also need to back up the industrial action being threatened by the waterfront unions against the presence of the Goldborough. It is that sort of working class activity which alone has the power to end the threat of nuclear war.

**IN A TYPICALLY provocative gesture designed to prove his loyalty to the American alliance, Malcolm Fraser has arranged for a probably nuclear armed US destroyer to visit Australian ports.**

The ship, USS Goldsborough, will go to Melbourne, Sydney, Hobart and Brisbane in late July and early August.

The Goldsborough is a range of weapons systems including Harpoon and Tartar missiles.

And it is likely that it is also armed with the ASROC anti-submarine system which launches an acoustic homing torpedo or a nuclear depth charge.

It is visits by ships like the Goldsborough and the presence of US bases scattered all over the country which integrates Australia into Reagan's nuclear chain and makes us a prime nuclear target.

On top of that there is the obvious danger involved in having nuclear ships in densely populated ports. Even a secret Australian Navy report leaked in the *National Times* admits it is too risky to have nuclear ships visit Melbourne and Sydney.

Demonstrations are being planned in all the cities the Goldborough is visiting. We need to build them to show our opposition not just to nuclear warships but to US bases in Australia and the whole ANZUS alliance.

We also need to back up the industrial action being threatened by the waterfront unions against the presence of the Goldborough. It is that sort of working class activity which alone has the power to end the threat of nuclear war.

**MELBOURNE**  
Friday August 6  
Rally 4 pm at City Square 5.00—march to pier.

**SYDNEY**  
Friday August 6  
Mitsubishi—Hawaii Agan candidate procession Belmonte park to Town Hall 8 pm.

**CANBERRA**  
Friday August 6  
Rally outside Parliament House 5 pm proceeding to the US embassy by candidate.

**BRISBANE**  
Friday August 6  
King George Square, 4.30 pm.

**ADELAIDE**  
Friday August 6  
Elder Park, 7pm—Candlelight procession.

**Saturday, August 7**  
Hiroshima Day Rally, Victoria Square, 10.30 am.





# ACCUMULATION: THE MEANING OF MARXISM

## Green slasher

by Ian Oswald

ALL those who were firing the Second World War that Britain and other industrial powers...  
...the Israeli government...  
...the Israeli government...  
...the Israeli government...

At times the capitalist system has looked very much like Marx's picture. At other times, and notably in the 25 years after WW II, it has looked very different.

Marx's analysis of capitalism was written in an era when the system was in its infancy...  
...the Israeli government...  
...the Israeli government...

MEIXICANS illegally cross into the USA. The search for jobs has pulled millions of third world people to the capitalist heartlands.

PERTH racists had a field day last week. They shouted at and abused a middle-aged man, and told him he was a foreigner with no right to speak. All this despite the fact that he has lived in Australia for 26 years.

NEW GUY'S, the Fraser government's loyal record of racism from failure to grant rights to all kinds of restrictions on immigration...  
...the Israeli government...  
...the Israeli government...

GEORGE FOLDS, Director of the Confederation of Australian Industry (CAI)...  
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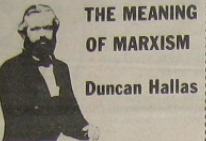
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**THE MEANING OF MARXISM**  
Duncan Hallas

The total income goes, in the first instance, to the capitalists. They have to produce the raw materials to replace the wear and tear on buildings and machinery (fixed capital). Then they have to pay wages.

Such a system never did or could exist. Yet it illustrates in no overall plan of production and sale without of other things can be an inevitable hand which directs production and consumption in such a way as to preserve an exact balance.

With the simple reproduction scheme this is not too difficult. But this scheme ignores the central driving force of the capitalist system: the accumulation of capital. Accumulate, accumulate, wrote Marx, "tho' it moves and it profits".

The capitalist, individual or corporate, has no choice in the matter. Competition compels each firm to attempt to exceed by one penny the market price of the surplus value it produces.

Not that the capitalist...  
...the Israeli government...  
...the Israeli government...

...the Israeli government...  
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**INCREASES**

The effect of this is summarized by the economist, P.M. Sweezy: "Non-commodity increases, and so does the price of value. We know that the price of value increases, and so does the price of value."

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## To the liberation of Palestine...



PLO FIGHTERS in Beirut hold firm as they undergo constant bombardment from the pillery of Israel and her fascist allies.



Can't silence PART OF A WIDER STRUGGLE

IN POLAND, the struggle continues—but at the moment, it's no thanks to the Solidarity leaders.

THREE MAORI activists, Rebecca, Hone and Hilda have just been on a short trip to Brisbane.

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...the Israeli government...

# ARAB WORKERS ARE THE KEY

By Tom O'Lincoln

WHEN the Israeli forces were first approaching Beirut, and all seemed lost for the Palestinian cause, Yasser Arafat quoted the Koran:

... and often did a tiny band of warriors defeat a mighty army.

At the time many took this to be empty rhetoric. But with every day that the small PLO force in Beirut faces down the Israeli war machine, the words appear more prophetic.

Following in the wake of world public opinion, governments are being forced to turn against Israel.

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# not wave

"We have the lowest ratio of dead to wounded we've ever had... We don't want to leave Hanoi has yet realized how serious it is... I want to leave the foothills of America there... We can turn the Mekong into a Tennessee Valley, we teach them to read and write."

— President Lyndon B. Johnson

Later that year, Ho Chi Minh told his people the US would eventually destroy most of North Vietnam's major cities and held up the possibility of war for another five, ten, or twenty years... while Lyndon Johnson urged American troops "to bring back that coon skin on the wall."

Instead, Indochinese footprints are being left in the heartlands of imperialism which sought to re-colonize them. The Vietnamese won. We supported them in their struggle and rejoiced in their victory, for it was a blow to the imperialist system. But unlike many on the Left, the International Socialistists didn't pretend that the regime that followed could solve the problems of Vietnam. The new regime called itself "socialist" but it was just as repressive as similar governments in Russia and China. Imperialism has since used its strength to squeeze the young Vietnam. The Americans, and their left friends in Canberra, would not honour their promise of reparations and even tried to keep the Russians from sending food. The Vietnamese government responded by attacking its neighbours in Kampuchea, and by driving masses of people out of the country.

As socialists we support the right of refugees to leave, and to settle wherever they choose. In some quarters, however, their reception has not been so warm. MacKellar, then Immigration Minister said that we would have to increase European immigration to make up for the Vietnamese. The Vietnam war "hawks" were large supporters of the White Australia policy. They saw "Stopping Communism" as a way of holding back the "yellow hordes". Now Victorian leader of the BSL, Rodden, is trying to create his own White Australia policy from his personal empire, garbling racist nonsense about races sticking together and trying to put over that he represents all ex-servicemen.

And even on the left, voices have been raised against refugees. It was said they must all be supporters of the old Saigon regime. This talk comes from people influenced by the myths that North Vietnam is a glorious socialist state which no self-respecting worker would ever want to talk about the great majority of refugees are not rabbits.

But it feeds easily into traditional Victorian prejudices in the labour movement—fears that the refugees will take jobs and erode work place militancy. They're by and large strong unionists, and they're angry because they thought the union officials were paid off. They're critical but very supportive of the Union movement in general and of a particular union if it's good. They've had few problems with the mainstream unions. They've had more problems with wanting to wear raincoats rather than the traditional overalls. After a bit of culture shock they've found the workers of the Waterside workers and the BLF to be produced anti-racist propaganda in 1979. The Indo-Chinese have only gone one step against unions when they have associated themselves with the Victorian government. But they're bringing experience not to work at non-union factories. It's not true that refugees from Vietnam are laden down with loot. The average amount was \$24. Most have been farmers or labourers. They've got to work out a new set of social relations in a new environment.



A ROUGH landing... somewhere in Malaysia.



## refugee

The Indo-Chinese are now a community of about 600,000 in Australia. Of these, 100,000 are Vietnamese who came by boat. All others were in camps. All have official UN refugee status, unless they wouldn't have been allowed in. Almost all refugees are extremely astounded when they first arrive, identifying that much of the word with the Vietnamese government. But jobs in factories, where they quickly find that their work as workers are in conflict with those of the boat people. But there's another category. The Vietnamese Association is one of the right wing Vietnam groups supported by the Catholic Church. They are not interested in getting people to publicise their organizations in Australia, mostly 'apolitical' fight. It is drawn from the upper circles of the old Vietnamese government. The NCC (National Civic Council) is an example of their confrontational and militant tactics is the demonstration in Prahan, Melbourne outside a Moratorium Campaign exhibition in 1980. The new arrivals were late after being told it was full of rabid communists. The NCC (National Civic Council) is an example of their confrontational and militant tactics is the demonstration in Prahan, Melbourne outside a Moratorium Campaign exhibition in 1980. The new arrivals were late after being told it was full of rabid communists. The NCC (National Civic Council) is an example of their confrontational and militant tactics is the demonstration in Prahan, Melbourne outside a Moratorium Campaign exhibition in 1980. The new arrivals were late after being told it was full of rabid communists.

Yon Dai Ton's Greater Overseas Alliance for the Restoration of Vietnam represents the extreme end of their confrontational and militant tactics is the demonstration in Prahan, Melbourne outside a Moratorium Campaign exhibition in 1980. The new arrivals were late after being told it was full of rabid communists. The NCC (National Civic Council) is an example of their confrontational and militant tactics is the demonstration in Prahan, Melbourne outside a Moratorium Campaign exhibition in 1980. The new arrivals were late after being told it was full of rabid communists.

But there'd be no more than 40 active members in Australia. Their leaders were here before they arrived, speak good English, some even work for government departments.

The right wing organisations come from the right wing section of the community and have a vested interest in turning workers against workers. The bulk of Indo-Chinese refugees are Chinese and are for political reasons, hungry for being out of work or re-education camps. Anyway, they're good jobs are taken by North Vietnamese. It has been put around the left that the Indo-Chinese are mostly with the Vietnam Association and ethnic Vietnamese only. Father Bart San is the leader of the right wing group in Victoria.

VIETNAMESE workers were prominent during the occupation of the AMI factory, Melbourne, last year.

## Sick of the boss

HE BATTLER spoke to Le Ba Han who was sacked from M1's (Australian Motor Industries), Melbourne carplant, about the factory situation for Indo-Chinese workers. "You've got to stand up and really go out." Amid other sacking, the whole workforce stopped and occupied the plant, but after several weeks on strike the workers went back with three jobs. The union (VBU) is still hamstrung. There's no union business to work time. At the time of the sackings the union could not even get into the factory. Often it's easier for migrants to fall into common traps like speeding up again later. If workers stand up to a blatant speed up, they often find it speeding up again later. Also sacked workers are often not replaced and others have to do two jobs. Compensating in these days of massive unemployment often meets with the biggest reply: "If you're not happy—go home."

One day, my finger was hurt when trying to hit, was ordered to go back to work—with an air gun. I did a lot of good. The foreman told me I had to go. I felt it was my right to go home. They just didn't want to look out for me. The supervisor told Cam to me with him to the manager's office where he was sacked. The workers were interested at that place that was sort of happy to leave, he added. The union talked to the Manager who asked that Cam had been absent 21 days in a year. This was not true but the story often sacked workers without any reason. The union proposed going out for a few hours but, "If you decide to struggle, you must not go out only for 2 or 3 hours."



WORKERS from Ford (Broadmeadows) delighted to get a strike bulletin in their own language.



## violence

Cam's sacking from AMI had the added touch of violence—possibly tinged with racism. As Cam was going to get his belongings, a supervisor shoved him in the direction of the exit. Cam hit back because this tacky wouldn't let him get his things. The bosses then had the authority to sue him for assault but the charge was dropped for lack of evidence. Indo-Chinese, Cam said, were picked on by foremen. New workers are often given the hardest jobs and piece extra jobs on as well. The wearing, the abuse suffered by most blue collar workers in factories is possibly more intense in the case of migrants but it has particular offensive to Indo-Chinese for whom politics is one of the cultural Ten Commandments.

## What's the trickle?

A series of agreements have been signed between the governments of Vietnam and several countries including Australia for 'orderly departures'. In the case of Australia, the aspiring migrant must comply with new guidelines under which immigrants are not accepted unless they have a skill in demand or a family here. There have been drastic cuts in the period migrants can stay in government hostels. Now, instead of a year's possible stay for families it's 6 weeks for English speakers and 20 weeks for non-English speakers. The Community Reassessment Scheme is a newly introduced system of sponsorship. The sponsor is the key to the community which does everything. This puts refugees from that camp who may gain entry by this means squarely into a category labelled 'charity'.

Apert from anything else, the voluntary sector hasn't the expertise to deal with refugees from a war zone particularly given the funding ring is being swiftly pulled from under them as the same time. In the cities it can work because the ethnic community will support newcomers but in the country it is disastrous. One young Vietnamese was leading a lonely existence in Townsville without knowing of the communities in the cities. He went to Sydney and settled in well. Australia may be God's gift to Malcolm Fraser but it's hardly habitable, let alone hospitable to many refugees. The new immigration guidelines in effect mean that the intake is being steered to the poor, unfortunates charity cases and the skilled support. The "Open Entry" system got into effect on April 19—and means in effect, the government takes no responsibility for people of refugee status and holds out carrots to the cream of the world's working class.



They're welcome here, an international Socialist pamphlet by David Lockwood contains the myths (about the boat people) we have to smash. Available from: I.S. Books (75 cents) including postage P.O. Box 46, Flemington, Vic. 3031.



THEIR WELCOME HERE!



FAIRFIELD (Sydney) swimming pool... growing pains in a community ripe for racist violence.



Hey. We can make a fat profit  
by changing them  
to park their cars...

to park their butts...

their bums...

the sky's the  
limit!!!

# We won't cap this parking lot!

## AUSTIN Hospital (Vic) management don't take much notice of its workers, except as a money-making proposition.

Because it decided to become a major teaching hospital, it had to build a new car park. Now it's demanding that hospital workers pay \$260 a year (plus \$25 deposit) to pay for it!

Originally, management said they needed the money to pay back the loan obtained for the construction of the car park. Subsequently we learned that no loan was involved—the car park was funded by the Health Commission.

At the current charges, the hospital stands to make at least \$300,000 a year from the car park.

In a meeting of the plumbers, painters, metalworkers (AMMSU), building workers (BWL), electricians (ETU) and hospital workers (HEF) agreed to seek an increase of 60% to offset the cost. Or rather most of them did.

HEF field rep Buchanan wouldn't take a position, arguing that he needed the membership to vote on the proposition. He agreed to organise a meeting of HEF members to decide the issue—but the meeting never happened.

### Ignorance

HEF Secretary, Peter Holland, and Les Butler came out to speak to the members. They largely spoke about how wonderful their effort had been in obtaining the low wage increase. They pleaded ignorance about the car park issue.

At a further meeting on June 25, Holland spent most of his time arguing the hospital's case and side-stepping calls for a stop-work meeting, which could be attended by all those concerned about the issue.

It seemed, in line with the previous actions of the HEF leadership, that they were not all interested



**NOT MUCH LONGER.** Commonwealth repatriation workers have been paid away both their state counterparts for too long already.

In Queensland, ordies are \$200 behind. In Tasmania, it's \$28. With general nurses having won 30% for 25 weeks this year with a similar claim, hospital workers at the Greenlapses stop work meeting voted to advise that their union executive to call a 24 hour stoppage in support of a \$25 increase.

They also heard a report on the ACTU's 50 hour week campaign for federal government workers and the possibility of a 38 hour week proposal in the near future.

The repatriation workers also voted to support the reinstatement of a kitchen order.

# Lockout cries out for 35 hour Battlers!

The management at VCO intend to force the unity and cooperation which has been the backbone of the 35 hour week with respect to the trade-offs. The 35 hour week was introduced to get the 35 hour week with respect to the trade-offs. The 35 hour week was introduced to get the 35 hour week with respect to the trade-offs.

A mass meeting held on Friday the 20th was held to discuss the proposed 35 hour week. The meeting was held to discuss the proposed 35 hour week.

A mass meeting held on Friday the 20th was held to discuss the proposed 35 hour week. The meeting was held to discuss the proposed 35 hour week.

## Let them eat cheese-cake!

by Sui Boland, F.I.A.

propose for 35 hour week. The meeting was held to discuss the proposed 35 hour week.

A mass meeting held on Friday the 20th was held to discuss the proposed 35 hour week. The meeting was held to discuss the proposed 35 hour week.

A mass meeting held on Friday the 20th was held to discuss the proposed 35 hour week. The meeting was held to discuss the proposed 35 hour week.

by Michael Thomson, APTU shop steward.

## Shorter week up for grabs

**FOLLOWING THE** action taken by construction workers at Tarong power house, the shorter work week for Queensland government workers is up for grabs.

One of the features of the new arrangement is that it will be a 38 hr and 40 hr week with a 30 min rest period. This is a significant improvement that will be a 38 hr and 40 hr week with a 30 min rest period.

**Bans squeeze XXXX**

**stop strike!** led by Brisbane branch members of the ACTU.

**FOLLOWING THE** action taken by construction workers at Tarong power house, the shorter work week for Queensland government workers is up for grabs.

One of the features of the new arrangement is that it will be a 38 hr and 40 hr week with a 30 min rest period. This is a significant improvement that will be a 38 hr and 40 hr week with a 30 min rest period.

**SOMEWHAT HAPPENING WHERE YOU WORK? Write for The Battler!**

The Battler is a free monthly magazine for workers. It contains news, reports, and information about workers' rights and struggles. It is a valuable resource for anyone interested in labor issues.

# Write to The Battler: P.O. Box 46 Flemington, Vic 3031

# Dear Battlers! Action on the social wage!

facilities in the bank at some unspecified date in the future.

In other words, instead of arguing for a high social wage, the union is supporting cuts made by a Labor government and dividing the workers on industry over-charge.

This outrageous, double standard, anti-working class behaviour is going on right now right in the middle of their social wage publicity campaign.

**Dear Battlers,**

In reading your article on the meeting of delegates called by the ACTU concerning the social wage, I was surprised you appear to have been misled.

There is more than just a link between the ACTU and the tax cuts, interest rate controls, etc. and the social contract. The workers agree to restrict wages and instead of fighting the union officials ask the Labor government to do the same.

The Sydney demonstrators put a working proposal to the public to be put to a referendum. The ACTU and the Labor government agreed to restrict wages and instead of fighting the union officials ask the Labor government to do the same.

**Wage controls?**

**Dear Battlers,**

In reading your article on the meeting of delegates called by the ACTU concerning the social wage, I was surprised you appear to have been misled.

There is more than just a link between the ACTU and the tax cuts, interest rate controls, etc. and the social contract. The workers agree to restrict wages and instead of fighting the union officials ask the Labor government to do the same.

**Kevin Dickson, Melbourne.**

## Kosovian protest

**Dear Battlers,**

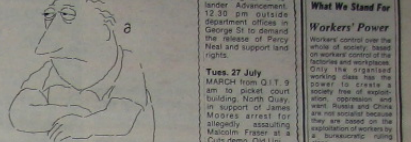
On Saturday June 26 a demonstration took place in Melbourne.

**Phil Griffiths, Toowoomba.**

## How to contact the International Socialists

- BATTLE EDITORIAL**  
Box 48, Flemington, Vic 3031 378 3307
- I.S. NATIONAL OFFICE**  
Box 46, Flemington, 3031 617056
- MELBOURNE**  
Box 188, Melbourne, 3001 612056
- SYDNEY**  
Box 88, Alexandria, NSW 2015 913888
- ADELAIDE**  
Box 88, Adelaide, SA 5011 493700
- CANBERRA**  
Box 1185, Canberra City, ACT 6101 493793
- BRISBANE**  
Box 1185, Brisbane, Queensland, 4102 229 8832  
P.O. Box 369, Gold Coast, Q. 4200
- IPSWICH**  
Box 1185, Ipswich, Queensland, 4710 281113
- PERTH**  
P.O. Box 199, Geraldton, WA 6150

**TAX, MEDIBANK, HEALTH, KIDS, EDUCATION, SERVICES, LEVYS STANDARDS**



**WHAT'S ON**

**BRISBANE**  
Mon 28 July  
PICKET of Department of Aboriginal & Isolated Communities, 12.30 pm outside Queensland Office, in George St to demand the release of Percy Neal and support funds.

**Mon 28 July**  
RALLY in Great court at 10.15 am to 1.30 pm to support the 35 hour week and 35 hour week. The rally will be held in the Great Court at 10.15 am to 1.30 pm.

**MELBOURNE**  
Sun 25 July  
RALLY in King George Square to support the 35 hour week and 35 hour week. The rally will be held in King George Square at 10.15 am to 1.30 pm.

**SYDNEY**  
Sun 5 August  
Tent Exposed 2000 for 1983. The tent will be held in the Sydney Exhibition Centre at 10.15 am to 1.30 pm.

**Adem Kelmendi From the Albanian Kosovan Community, Melbourne.**

## Milk owners go to water

**DAIRY INDUSTRY** workers in Sydney scared their houses with an indefinite stoppage—well straight away on \$25.

The workers are demanding a 15% increase in wages. The dairy industry is refusing to pay the increase, and the workers are threatening to go on strike.

## SUGAR HEAVEN

Jean Devanny's 1936 novel of men and women fighting for survival on the Queensland canefields. With an introduction by Carole Ferrer.

£6.95 from Redback Press. For orders or further information, write to GPO Box 1473H, Melbourne 3001.

## FREE CLASSES at the VICTORIAN LABOR COLLEGE

Economics for Everyone  
Tutor: Susan McGeigan  
Women, work and struggle  
Tutor: James Stone  
What is Socialism?  
Tutor: Chris Caffery  
Philosophy and how to use it  
Tutor: Adrian Harvey  
Commuting Anger. Write to the Victorian Labor College, Box 39, Trades Hall, Carlton South.



**What We Stand For**

Workers control the means of production, distribution and exchange. The workers control the means of production, distribution and exchange.

**Revolution, not Reform!**

Workers control the means of production, distribution and exchange. The workers control the means of production, distribution and exchange.

**Internationalism**

Workers control the means of production, distribution and exchange. The workers control the means of production, distribution and exchange.

**Full Equality and Liberation**

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**Revolutionary Party**

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**Rank and File Organisation**

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**I WANT TO JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Trade Union \_\_\_\_\_

Clip and post to: I.S. National Secretary  
7.0 Box 46, Flemington Vic 3031.



## Black Land Rights, not . . .

# BJELKE'S RACIST GAMES

**THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES begin in Brisbane at the start of October.**

**They provide an opportunity to expose the brutal racist and anti-working class nature of the Bjelke-Petersen regime.**

But the Queensland government has geared up with queue new laws to try to make protests or demonstrations almost impossible during the Games.

The Games Bill lays down a whole series of "prohibited areas" (in which possession of a variety of "prohibited objects" such as placards, banners, leaflets and papers will render you subject to immediate arrest). About a quarter of Brisbane will be liable to detention without trial, and 10,000 city homes can be searched without a warrant.

However, it is most likely that if these powers are used it will be to victimize known left wing and black activists. All applicants for Games tickets have been screened by computer.

And anyone who "obstructs", hinders, or otherwise interferes with the orderly conduct of any event, entertainment or gathering "within or near" a notified area or person can be sentenced to two years jail.

But activists in Brisbane are fighting back. A major land rights demonstration organised by the Black Protest Committee with the support of Labor Senator Game Geogies is planned for September 26.

It provides a much needed opportunity to challenge Petersen's racist administration. The August 4 land rights rally was a great start, but what's needed now is bigger demonstrations leading up to and during the Games.

An AIP rally supporting land rights on 17 September will be another thrust in Petersen's side. It's the sort of action that he could do without at the moment.

Groups like the newly formed Land Rights Support Group are gathering strength for both rallies and will now be having open night meetings to more people can become involved.

It is important to broaden the campaign to isolate workers as well as students and other groups. This will mean organising job site meetings, stamp forums and pickets. Demonstrations in other states in support of action in Queensland are also important.

The bigger the demonstrations, the bigger the body which we can deliver to Petersen and his plans to perpetuate the oppression of blacks in Queensland.



THOUSANDS of P.L.D. supporters marched through Sydney on August 7. In this issue, The Battler recounts the bloody milestones on

## The road from Zionism to Genocide—p.6/7

**THE RALLY on August 4 will be the first major Brisbane demonstration for land rights since September last year, when more than 1000 people marched from King George Square to Musgrave Park.**

Closely to the rally date, the Petersen Government is expected to bring down regulations covering "notified areas" and the services legislation. This will deal with the administration of the "deeds of grant in trust" and the future of the Dept of Aboriginal and Islander Advancement, plus the notorious Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act.

Even before we've taken to the streets, the potential of the campaign can be seen from the feathers flying in the upper echelons of state politics. Some of the chickens are coming home to roost.

There have been reports of near unanimous votes by the heads of reserve councils to condemn the deed of trust legislation. There people are the "Sensible" blacks Rightists who point to supporters of its government policies.

And as if the warty embarrassment enough, almost at the same time, a tax finding mission by the Deputy Leader of the National Party and the Minister for Aboriginal

by Ian Rintoul

Some remarks as Petersen because he is not supporting enough of Blacks. We could see a repetition of previous stormy scenes. Petersen walking out after clashing with Spinks over land rights legislation, "Get rid of that man he is a dictator".

Meanwhile the AIP state officer refused to circulate a letter from the Combined Campas Land Rights Support Group, because it was critical of Ed Geogies, the Black Protest Committee. If you would like leaflets, posters, speakers or model resolutions contact 129 8832.

motion registering their concern.

We know what to expect from the Queensland Parliament. Police Minister Hinze has already said it will be up to police discretion to decide what will be "prohibited things" near the games venue (no posters, no placards, but send letters to the Battler). As for the services legislation, we can only expect further protection of the interests of mining companies and big business.

August 4 gives us a chance to strike back. The rally has been called by the Combined Campas Land Rights Support Group and the Black Protest Committee. If you would like leaflets, posters, speakers or model resolutions contact 129 8832.



## the battle

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

### What we think

AS THE Battler goes to press there are 69 days to go till the Commonwealth Games—important days, if we are to organise an opportunity to rock the Petersen government.

The August 4 rally is a big step forward for the campaign. But overall, organising against the Games is in a mess.

So far it has been left to small groups like the Coalitions Against Racism and Repression, and campus and rights support committees, to keep the issue of land rights and the Commonwealth Games alive.

There has been little direction from the Black Protest Committee. There is no longer any clear idea of who reacts in on the Black Protest Committee or what it represents. The Committee has been changed with frequency and in membership.

Organisation is done day to day, almost on an ad hoc basis. The committee's efforts to encourage a boycott by African nations derailed from the important task of organising here. It was right to urge a boycott, but the delegation to Africa left the campaign without two key activists. Now one of them, Les Makrove, has returned to find himself without a job.

## Uni Admin. backs down

THE GRIFFITH University Council and the well-known liberal Vice-Chancellor have made it official. They will not support Land Rights for aborigines for fear of jeopardising their relations with the Queensland government.

When the Griffith campus is transformed into a village for athletes during the Commonwealth Games, the Council hopes that control of University facilities will stay in their hands. For what it is worth, the Queensland government has promised this.

Because of all these reasons the Council that controls the Griffith campus has decided to support land rights, and approve access to students and non-

Some were more open in their hostility to land rights campaign a legitimate use of University facilities, Gordon Clark, a Council member and former Queensland treasurer, was quoted earlier that to support our proposals would risk losing their nominal control during the Games.

by Judy McVey

The right to control campus has in practice meant complying with and forbidding State government interests. They have supported the Commonwealth Games Act.

Let them try to organize in their own way.

**ANGER**

**THE NEUTRON BOMB: WITH THE BATTLE.**

THE NEUTRON BOMB IS DESIGNED TO KILL AND MUTILATE PEOPLE WHILE LEAVING POWERS HARMLESS. IT'S THE BATTLE TO DESTROY IT. GET RID OF POWERS. REPORT WHILE LOVING PEOPLE. HATE.

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Better red than dead.

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Make sure you get your copy of the Battler every issue. Just \$10 a year (or \$25 for a supporting subscription).

# In Western Australia, it's

**Date-Line: SALEM**  
It started with back-packing reporters like the heroes in the comics they read. Shock, horror!

The Young Socialists sign up kids at Balgaj for a conference in the East Coast. Oops, sorry. (Concept them for the revolutionary army.) Kids don't need much persuading to get away from Balgaj for a bit. Anyway—always thought conscription was something to do with the Liberals.

Next on the block were headteachers' Resistance. A socially young group has nominated the top of group schools for High School kids. The pot went over the social depravity with past rates.

Another about sanitation though they are responsible after all. As builders a lot more in the boom has well and truly slumped, and attacks on workers on the money in the main course.

Well, it's a sorry story for heavy gang to get a bit of money for the day.

# Season On the Left

## Grist for the Libs mill

On 23 July Perth cops raided the Market St. Book reads, which is run by the Socialist Labour League. The cops claimed to be looking for a copy of "Workers News"—a try smart. Perth cops.

As for Zimist, Dawn Ur claimed to have received a threatening letter (which was made up of nothing from Workers News. But she said that who's the lefty cop who's responsible for the police. As long as you're a socialist, you're a socialist.

With the recession driving extra day-workers home, and especially left, and battle rages the idea is to attack the whole working class movement and weaken it.

WHEN THEY'RE not busy raiding bookshops, the WA Liberal government is getting on with the run-of-the-mill business of attacking workers' struggles. In this case the mill is flour.

A cowboy baker's up in Robourne in the North-West has been underpinning its workers, in breach of the award. Unfortunately no government agents could be spared to deal with the company. As well as harassing socialists they were busy organising a secret ballot. The Department (P.W.D.) had track of back-breaking flour to Robourne.

Of course it's a tradition in W.A. to run convoys of each truck up North—remember Noonkanbah?

When the Government is obviously throwing away the baby with the Queen'sbury rules fight with the Union leadership, it's time for the leadership to realise that the answer lies in escalating the battle, by action against the P.W.D.

New I.S. books available



The Job Works—a collection of essays covering almost 40 years of leading lefting caribbean.

Neither has to be a socialist. The book is available from the I.S. office.

Striking against apartheid

Neither Washington nor Moscow... revolutionary socialism by... theist of the... Socialism 511.

Striking against apartheid

Striking against apartheid

MISSILE WEAPON SYSTEMS

MISSILE WEAPON SYSTEMS

MISSILE WEAPON SYSTEMS

# “HUNGRY FOR CHANGE”



THE GOLDSBOROUGH visit was a major test for the disarmament movement in Melbourne. HIROSHIMA DAI marchers arrive at Station Pier after the rally in the City Square. Earlier in the week demonstrators swept this pier in defiance of police.

Some people responded promptly, pitching tents at the pier. The first city became the base for a series of actions building toward the Hiroshima Day demonstration.

By Tom O'Lincoln

After burning a mock bulletproof shield in the Goldsbrough, the demonstrators were... the demonstrators were... the demonstrators were...

But as Hiroshima Day drew closer, it became clear that activists around the movement were... the demonstrators were... the demonstrators were...

in the ranks for stronger action. Wharries issued the text only regularly and collected money at work, and the P.W.D. had track of back-breaking flour to Robourne.

When the event had to be rescheduled, it was set at a time almost exactly opposite ours. They knew we would be forced to merge our demonstration into the PND rally. It was agreed that we would gather our forces in the City Square from 4.05 pm, then travel by train to the pier.

Striking against apartheid

MISSILE WEAPON SYSTEMS

MISSILE WEAPON SYSTEMS

MISSILE WEAPON SYSTEMS

The PND leaders were clearly confident that Hiroshima Day would turn into an showdown while the main body of the PND platform on Station Pier.

Things turned out rather differently. Thousands of people gathered in the square, gathered in the square, gathered in the square.

By contrast, there was a sizeable group of militant activists who represent the real striking power of PND. If this group can win the movement forward with this action.

There was also a spirit of creative democracy that contrasted sharply with the conservatism of the PND executive.



# NSW HEALTH CARE WRANSACKED

IF THERE was a test for a government's credentials as wretched and reactionary, the NSW government has passed with flying colours with its latest attacks on health care.

Pay packages for nurses in private hospitals will be cut \$20 a week, while the state government hospitals will be cut \$10 a week. It is a long-standing goal of the NSW government to have a large geographical area. This region includes the new \$3 freeway (speeders) and the central doctor's office.

When quality ratios are high the hospital facilities are better. It's a direct result of government health cuts, the hospital can now only operate on a 3-to-5 ratio and therefore there has been a decline in its population.

MEANWHILE, after a two-hour protest message against the health cuts, nurses at Sydney's Royal Prince Alfred Hospital have voted to have further strike action unless something is done about the cuts.

By Bev Turner  
NSW Nurses' Association



BRISBANE MEMBERS OF THE ACOA vote on the national wages campaign. INSET: Lesley Penrose

# WAGES 12%

The first signs of life have appeared in the federal public service wages campaign.

Joint ACOA/APSA (clerical assistants) mass meetings have just been held across Australia—the only time so far in the campaign that we've been consulted.

The Canberra meeting was the first of a series of meetings to be held across Australia. The Canberra meeting was the first of a series of meetings to be held across Australia.

Overall the attendees were good, no thanks to the union leadership, the widespread media, and the fact that the full 12% claim is an encouraging sign that public servants are beginning again.

# What's Moore.

HOW MANY marches get a police escort and a rear-guard of Special Branch?

25 students marching from Queensland Institute of Technology to the Brisbane Courthouse... Moore was arrested at a Queensland University, was coming to the charge of assaulting the Prime Minister.

Downing the disabled

In THESE days of cut to everything but the cost of living, what is happening to those at the bottom of the capitalist pecking order—working class kids who are disabled?

Striking against apartheid

MISSILE WEAPON SYSTEMS





# THE ARAB WORKERS CAN STOP ZIONISM

**EMBATTLED** and besieged West Beirut is now on the verge of an epidemic.

Having failed to drive out the PLO and Lebanese leftist defenders of the city, the Zionist invaders now seem intent on decimating the civilian population thru the spread of disease.

By cutting off the water supply to West Beirut for over two weeks they have caused the water to be contaminated with infectious agents causing typhoid and diarrhea.

Scarves, conjunctivitis, gastroenteritis and diarrhoea are already prevalent among the 600,000 residents and according to Red Cross director John Desautels they are set to swamp Beirut's hospitals and overcrowded damaged.

And amid the rubble and the piles of rotting garbage in the streets rats are proliferating.

By blocking medical supplies and shutting down Beirut hospitals, the Israelis are deliberately escalating the problem.

But despite the disease, the belting, the air raids and the phosphorus bombs the Palestinians forces maintain a heroic resistance. As one Palestinian fighter in an interview with the Kuwaiti *Embaras* put it the distance between the enemy and Beirut is not measurable in metres and chunks of territory, but rather in numbers of fighters capable and willing to die in defence of his city and its accident inhabitants.

And the Israelis are far from having everything their own way in the fighting around the shattered city. Last week they announced their most sustained assault

yet with a four pronged push into West Beirut. They were met with fierce resistance and despite inflicting massive new damage and casualties on the civilian areas of the city they were pushed back on three of the four fronts.

They were forced to officially admit that they had lost 118 killed and wounded in 3 days fighting, not to speak of the least double this number. These are the worst Israeli casualties in all their Middle East wars.

### Intransigent

Meanwhile the diplomatic feinting and frong contending about the occupation of the Palestinian forces from Beirut. The Israelis are still maintaining a totally intransigent line that the PLO must withdraw totally from Lebanon.

And despite all the bluster from Reagan and Habib that the US is trying to mediate the Zionist position, the Americans have done nothing to put the heat on Reagan nor to disrupt the Israeli war effort.

The reality is of course that the US is just as keen as Regim to see the Palestinians

**LOOKING BACK** on my own experience in Palestine and the Jewish separateness and the belief in a Jewish homeland, has grown from small beginnings in a Jewish homeland, has grown from small beginnings in a Jewish homeland, has grown from small beginnings in a Jewish homeland.

My parents were pioneering Zionists, leaving Russia for Palestine in 1902 to join a total Zionist population of a few thousand. I grew up a Zionist, but Zionism didn't have the ugly face we see today.

However, there was always a fundamental crack between the Zionists and the Arabs. The same crack which split Zionists from ordinary people in their countries of origin.

If you look to 19th century Russia it's clear. In 1881 Tsar Alexander the Second was assassinated. The next year Russia's extreme right organised a pogrom against the Jews. Kill a Jew and Save Russia! they said.

Socialists fought by calling for unity in fighting Tsarism and the right. But there was a second reaction - Zionism. The Zionists argued: Jews can't rely on anyone but ourselves, and the first of them left Russia for Palestine.

Each further Jewish pogrom produced the same two reactions. Some joined the general revolutionary movement, others sought separation. Even those who didn't think themselves Zionists like the Bund, a Jewish socialist group, organised separately.

Pickhaver, the father of Russian Marxism, once quipped: The Bund are Zionists afraid of six kassnes.

When the Zionists came to Palestine they continued to emphasize their separateness. Zionists look over Arab land often existing the occupiers. And the Zionists systematically discriminated against among the thousands of Arab unemployed.

**LET ME** describe the situation. Although Arabs were at least 80 percent of the population, not one came to my school. My parents were extreme Zionists, and my father told me, 'The only way to get an Arab in is the sight of a gun... I never shared a house with an Arab.'

The Zionists organized their own trade union, the Histadrut, which raised two political funds. One was used to defend the defence of Hebrew Products. These funds were used to organize pickets to prevent Arabs working in Jewish enterprises and to stop Arab produce coming into Jewish markets. They did nothing to damage Zionist businesses.

The Zionists sometimes played it rough. The British, who controlled the Mandate, were worse in one of their total army put down the 1936 Palestinian General Strike. In 1944 we lived by Tel Aviv markets, morning my wife saw a young man go round talking to all the women

**'I found some bodies cold. Here the "cleaning up" had been done with machine guns, then hand grenades. It had been finished off with knives, anyone could see that... Everywhere it was a some horrible sight. I only found two more people alive.'**

**JACQUES DE RAYNER, International Red Cross visitor to Dair Yassin after the massacre in 1948**



# The road from terrorism

**GET OUT OF HERE!**

**NAZISM**, and its rise was important. German big business didn't support Hitler from fear of the Jews, but from fear of the German working class. Both the Jews and German workers were Hitler's victims.

**Christians should die. They are a sickness. A Jewish soldier in Lebanon reported in the Times.**



Year	Jews	Arabs
1922	668,000	979,000
1946	1,236,000	1,000,000
1948	600,000	1,000,000
1950	600,000	1,000,000
1955	600,000	1,000,000
1960	600,000	1,000,000
1965	600,000	1,000,000
1970	600,000	1,000,000
1975	600,000	1,000,000
1980	600,000	1,000,000
1985	600,000	1,000,000
1990	600,000	1,000,000
1995	600,000	1,000,000
2000	600,000	1,000,000
2005	600,000	1,000,000
2010	600,000	1,000,000
2015	600,000	1,000,000
2020	600,000	1,000,000

**IN APRIL 1948**, Zionist terrorist groups attacked and razed to the ground the Arab village of Dair Yassin. 254 people were massacred. Begin's opinion: 'The massacre was not only justified, but there would not have been a state of Israel without the victory of Dair Yassin.'

laughed, some thrown alive down the village wall. It was a place I knew well, just a few miles from my home.

The Arabs aren't the only ones to pay since then. Israel's constant search for allies has made her increasingly a supplier of military equipment to the world's reactionary regimes.

Mostly Dair Yassin. Defense Minister, spent two months in South Vietnam in 1966 advising the American puppet government. Israel supplied arms to Chile. Ian Smith's Rhodesia, an all the United Nations of 240 villages in the village of Dair Yassin. Men, women and children were

**SOME PEOPLE** argue oppression always leads to progress. That's nonsense. The Jews were horribly oppressed but it didn't guarantee they became progressive or revolutionary. Indeed, oppression associated with lack of power leads to reaction.

When the core of Zionism meant separation from all progressive forces, from the revolutionary forces in Russia to the anti-imperialist forces in the Middle East, the rest of the tale followed naturally.

New Israel in collaborating with the Palestinians in the Lebanon, an open fascist organization. It's not surprising I remember the 1980s when Begin's (now Israel's Prime Minister) organization, the Irgun, used the Hitler salute and wore the brown shirts.

In 1935 I would never have believed Zionists would murder against Arabs. That's all but in today's harsh world any crack expands and the crack of Jewish separateness leads to the horrors we can see in Lebanon.

These movements are the logic of Zionism. One you accept a strong Zionist state is essential, it's bad luck if the Arabs suffer, it's unfortunate if you support the South and South Africa, or collaborate with Lebanese fascists. Every fragment of Jewish, on Palestinian refuge camps, indeed, fear of their own cause from the Zionists in the future.



# DEBATE

## DDPS

### TAX

By Leslie Penrose  
ACOA, Brisbane

#### TAX RETURN time can be a pain in the arm as well as a pain in the neck—for clerical staff in government Taxation Offices.

Speed-ups in the data processing areas of the Tax department have led to outbreaks of OHS.

The Data Processing staff (DDPs) have had enough. They're refusing to keep up with the speeds demanded by the government and they've gone on strike to back up their claim.

Management initially set a figure of 14500 kts strokes per hour, later reducing this to 12000. In response, the DDPs instituted team work and limited work to 9000 strokes, overtime and the use of keying machines to monitor work output of individual DDPs.

Resolve among the DDPs was strengthened when elected foremen were barred by management from attending negotiations. Then management offered a three month trial period at 11,000 strokes. The union refused. Innovative tactics and solidarity of DDPs has been a feature of this dispute.

Each Data Processor Officer was given a separate number to key into the computer each morning to keep tally on individual workers. But DDPs got around that one. They all decided to key in the same number each morning.

On 29 July, Data Process Operators (DPOs) in the Australian Tax Office were stood down. Management selectively used the No Work As Directed—No Pay provisions to stand down with management who refused any sort of directive.

By unit standing down supervisors, management hoped to divide the DDPs. Then they tried to use casual labour in Parramatta and Brisbane. This move led to 33 computer operators in the PCT

#### DATA PROCESSING Operators meeting outside their Brisbane offices

# Colos under siege

The SHELTERS at Colos stores are getting ampler around Melbourne—and the pickets at their warehouses are getting stronger.

Workers from Colos distribution centres—from the Storeman and Packers Shop Assistants and Federated Clerks Unions—have been on strike for almost two weeks, defending their working conditions.

It started in negotiations for a shorter working week. Naturally, the bosses were more than co-operative. Shorter hours? Absolutely. A nine day fortnight? No worries.

We went all out for rest periods. The union got it, but many workers were standing on their hands.

And if productively goes down... We want all our rest periods. The union got it, but many workers were standing on their hands.

At and all the workers had to do in return was give up their rest periods.

Unfortunately for Colos profits, they wouldn't bargain us in support of maintaining the four day work periods in the 36 hour agreement.

So Colos sacked one hundred of the workers—and the strike began.

At a mass meeting on July 30, officials reported that Colos claimed they couldn't start the decisional day.

LAST MONTHS 24 hour strike by Maffra Street Meat Centre APTU members has won major concessions from the butchers and we are receiving the full tea money of \$6.45 per day. A distiller's report on the food services.

After our strike over July, Australia Post gave us no many issues. But on the 17th a dispute with the Australia Post has been underway for some time. The problem has been with vending machines and their using it as an excuse to pay only \$3.00 tea money management weren't even prepared to talk.

THE NEW ARRIVAL Commission Clerk only wanted that the world was going to be again recommended that an independent arbiter assess the suitability, presentation and nutritional value of the meals. In the meantime Australia Post should pay the full meal allowance.

If that shows we're going to be organised as a fight was a typical comment of our shop work meeting on 22 July.

course, if the distiller's report goes against us and Australia Post tries to take the full tea money off of them will be surprised if we don't be the place down again.

#### GPO out over conditions

MAIL officers at the Sydney city delivery office (GPO) have made it crystal clear that they are not interested in any more boxes. No way will they accept any more boxes. A large number of staff have been out on strike since last week. This was a wake up in our delivery office.

#### grievances

While most of our other delivery offices had been satisfied with the P.E. courses at the meeting, management had agreed with us concerning our grievance, and had agreed to our terms.

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## Write to the Battler: P.O. Box 46 Flemington, Vic 3031

# Dear Battlers,

## Einstein with schmalz

Dear Battlers, (I'm not just arguing that Einstein was a revolutionary physicist)

In reply to Ken Mangan's article on the 1950s (Batter No. 130), I would like to think that the 'totalitarian' approach that became known as 'the Schmalz' was exactly what we needed.

Between those two days last another one. 1941, The International Bureau sold their working class to protect national interests. They called it the war to end all wars.

Management's use of power came later in force than they think. They thought it was a mere tactical move, but it was a strategic move. They thought it was a mere tactical move, but it was a strategic move.

Some more schmalz about the world's diamond industry. It is a very profitable industry. It is a very profitable industry. It is a very profitable industry.

Management's use of power came later in force than they think. They thought it was a mere tactical move, but it was a strategic move.

## ROSA LUXEMBURG

How many people... I have the power to change it. I have the power to change it. I have the power to change it.

Available from your local I.S. National Office. I.S. National Office, P.O. Box 46, Flemington, 3031.

## DIAMONDS ARE FOR OPPEINHEIMER

By David Lockwood

## SOUTH AFRICA is poised to take control of Australia's new diamond industry in the Kimberleys area of Western Australia. And it's being helped by the Fraser government.

The vast majority of the world's diamond trade is controlled by the Central Selling Organisation (CSO)—a cartel which is based in London, but controlled by the South African De Beers company. De Beers itself is controlled by the enormously wealthy Oppenheimer family.

When South Africa's De Beers controls work closely with the Fraser government. Previously, the richest diamond mines in South Africa are actually leased from the government. Diamonds bring in huge amounts of foreign exchange which the South African economy desperately needs.

But the diamond industry has its problems. For one thing, some of the smaller diamond producing countries have broken out of the CSO's control. From 80% of the total world diamond production, the CSO's share has fallen to about 50%.

## ALSTAIR WALLACE

Alastair Wallace, Sydney

Available from your local I.S. National Office. I.S. National Office, P.O. Box 46, Flemington, 3031.

#### Workers' Power

Workers' control over the means of production is the basis of socialism. It is the only way to create a society where the workers control the means of production. It is the only way to create a society where the workers control the means of production.

## Reform not Reformation

Reform is not enough. We need a reformation of the system. We need a reformation of the system. We need a reformation of the system.

## Internationalism

Workers' control over the means of production is the basis of internationalism. It is the only way to create a society where the workers control the means of production. It is the only way to create a society where the workers control the means of production.

## Rank and File Organisation

Workers need their own rank and file organisation. They need their own rank and file organisation. They need their own rank and file organisation.

## Revolutionary Party

To smash the capitalist state, we need a revolutionary party. We need a revolutionary party. We need a revolutionary party.

## Rank and File Organisation

Workers need their own rank and file organisation. They need their own rank and file organisation. They need their own rank and file organisation.

## How to contact the International Socialists

BATTLE EDITORIAL  
PO Box 46, Flemington, Vic. 3031 378-3307

I.S. NATIONAL OFFICE  
PO Box 46, Flemington, 3031 61066

MELBOURNE  
PO Box 46, Melbourne, 3031 87266

SYDNEY  
PO Box 46, Alexandria, NSW 2015 31360  
PO Box 46, Remond, 2042

ADELAIDE  
PO Box 46, Adelaide, SA 5011 49339

CANBERRA  
PO Box 46, Canberra City, ACT, 2001 49773

BRISBANE  
PO Box 46, Brisbane, QLD 4000 228652

ISPWICH  
PO Box 46, Ipswich, QLD 4700 381813

PERTH  
PO Box 46, Perth, WA, 6110

## James Hardie cut & run

BY THE TIME The Battler goes to press, James Hardie & Co. (Vic) will have 120 fewer workers.

James Hardie's largest brick works in the Netherlands, a few days after announcing a review of production in the Netherlands, the workers have been laid off in a matter of weeks.

## Clover sackings

CLOVER MILKS in North Perth have threatened sack 380 striking milk-makers. The workers are striking for a pay raise and shorter hours.

## I WANT TO JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone no: \_\_\_\_\_  
Trade Union: \_\_\_\_\_

The copy goes to I.S. National Secretary, P.O. Box 46, Flemington, Vic. 3031

# ALL OUT THE BEAT JOHN!

By John Quinn  
Junior Vice-President,  
HEF Wolston  
Park Hospital

**"WE'VE GOT TO stand up to John!"**  
That was the mood when delegates of Queensland government employees voted for another statewide 48 hour strike.

Sixty thousand government workers have seen their claim for a 38 hour week whittled down, compromised, delayed and now thrown out. They will go in mass processions around the state, this Monday to one of the delegates' recommendations. If it is agreed, they will strike till midnight Tuesday 17 August.

**The 35 hour campaign**

Not all delegates were satisfied with the official recommendations for the 48 hour strike. A strong minority backed an amendment to go for 35 days. The delegates realised that Belke-Petersen's keep government workers on 48 hours a week. We will have to force any improvements out of him. From PWU's (Building Workers' State Secretary) Hughie Hamilton has advised to me that another action is needed that even a five day

**DAANGER**  
BOMB  
FIGHT THE NEUTRON BOMB WITH THE BATTLER.

**DAANGER**  
BOMB  
THE NEUTRON BOMB IS DESIGNED TO GET RID OF PEOPLE WHILE LEAVING PRIVATE PROPERTY INTACT. THE BATTLER IS DESIGNED TO GET RID OF PRIVATE PROPERTY WHILE LEAVING PEOPLE INTACT.

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Is the boss of your choice:  
 Better dead than red.  
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How do you feel about your money and your boss?  
If you fill in this form, if you pass out, we will take your money and send you the Battler. If you fail the test, we take your money.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City and post to PWU Box 10, Wageningen, N.S.W.

Make sure you get your copy of the Battler every issue. Just \$10 a year (or \$25 for a supporting subscription).

# the battler

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

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**WORKERS at Wolston Park Hospital, Brisbane, vote to join the 48 hour strike.**

They would be ditching week if Belke's latest over- had not forced them to act.

By contrast, nurses and maintenance workers at Wolston Park Hospital voted to join in the strike, even though they were exempt from taking action.

Throughout this campaign, it has been the rank and file who have initiated the sort of industrial action.

Runs placed by railway workers earlier in the year led the government on the defensive. But the officials were quickly on hand. They imposed seven-day moratorium on all action so that talks would recommence.

Whosing and dealing by the officials and stop-work protest strikes, will never win this campaign for us.



**"338 is not enough to live on, and now they want to take it all away. This and other chants floated across the Sunshine shopping centre (Melbourne) on Monday. Unemployed and supporters were gathered outside the local dole office to protest at the miserly dole payments for people under 18."**

**"We want to get the message out to people"** one of them told The Battler. They are demanding the under-18 dole be raised to the adult rate, which should be 120% of the poverty line.

The under-18 dole has not been raised for seven years.

Meanwhile, Sunshine Social Security clerks inside unanimously passed a motion which called for an immediate increase in the rate of Unemployment Benefit for recipients under 18.

At lunchtime some of the workers came out and distributed copies of their motion (which was a response) and joined the protest.

The organisers are planning action in Canberra around Budget time.

## "MORE SUPPORT NOW THAN EVER"

**WE TALKED to two maintenance workers from the Princess Alexandra (PA) Hospital about the 35 hour week struggle.**

"The issue is important because so many other people already have the shorter hours."

"The majority of people down here are after the 35 hour week. They're not very happy that we've settled on the 38 hour week claim."

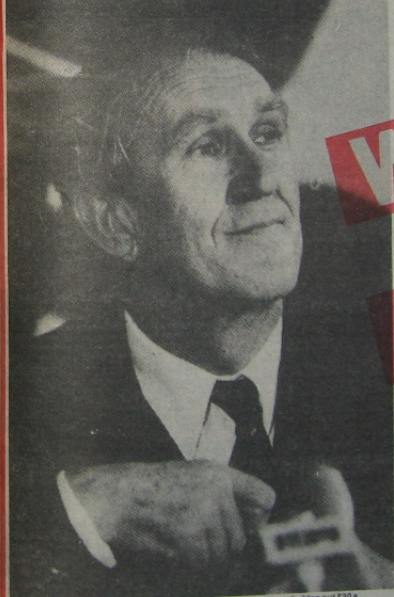
"There are a lot of people here in the work shops who feel we should go back to the 35 hour week claim."

"There was complete support here for the strike."

"If we want to get anywhere, we should start a negotiating committee. There should be stronger threats."

## The Costigan report exposes . . .

# THE BUDGERS



**WHILE FRASER covers for his rich mates, the rest of us are forking out \$30 a week for their privilege.**

**A \$15 BILLION rip off.**  
That's what an assortment of crooked company directors, millionaire Liberal Party leaders, TV personalities and prominent knights have got away with over the last seven years.

Workers have been forced to pay an extra \$30 a week each in tax to subsidise these rich bastards.

This is just the tip of the iceberg of corruption revealed so far by the Costigan Report. More and more dirt about how the Australian business establishment really works is sure to come out in the next few months.

And what has the Fraser government, which launched a wave of hysterical attacks on "dole budgers" supposedly ripping off a miserable pittance, done about these millionaire tax budgers? Absolutely nothing.

For seven years the Liberals have covered up for their crooked friends. And even now that the truth has started to come out they have taken no action against the really big shots involved.

The only prosecutions have been launched against a few Western Australian public servants who look like being turned into convenient scapegoats.

The Costigan Report has given us some rare insights. Obviously it is not, as the press likes to pretend, just a few rogues who are involved in tax evasion and avoidance. The best known names of Australian business have used their political muscle and influence to avoid paying out billions of dollars each year in tax.

None of this should surprise us. Corruption is endemic under capitalism. The whole system is based on a wealthy few screwing as much as possible out of the mass of workers, who are left to rot on the scrap heap of unemployment, when a profit can't be made out of them.

What real difference is there between the BHP executive who gets massive government subsidies paid for out of our taxes, and the crooked millionaire who defrauds the tax department?

Both of them are living off our backs. Both of them are protected by their friends in the Liberal Party. Let's send the lot of them to the bottom of the harbour.

**WHO LIVE OFF OUR BACKS**

**Now let's get rid of the lot of them!**

# ... behind the Queensland strike

# ... rise and fall of the GENERAL STRIKE

**THE QUEENSLAND General Strike started as a massive spontaneous rank and file strike wave in protest against the suspension of 3,500 railway workers.**

It ended with a needless and pathetic backdown by the union officials who had refused to take any of the steps necessary to make the strike a success.

The strike was broken on Monday night, August 16th immediately news of the suspension was known.

The high point of action was on the Friday when massive strikes forced Brisbane-Peterson into a humiliating backdown. He lifted the suspension, lifted the state of emergency, revoked all provisions of the Essential Services Act and stopped proceedings to deregister the unions.

The suspension of the General Strike meant that just three days later, Peterson could claim that the Essential Services Act had worked because the unions had backed down.

### withdrew

The dispute blew up when the government withdrew a firm offer to mediate after one hour. It was more calculated to divide the strikers and isolate the militants.

Monday 16 August was to have been the second of these two day strikes. But the officials compromised and weakened the dispute.

Following their backdown to the Essential Services Act, railway station officers in Monday made their first attempt for a 24 hour

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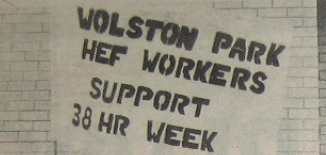
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NURSES from Wolston Park hospital had a lively contingent in a march through Ipswich streets, to local member and Liberal Leader Lew Edwards' office. They chanted 'One two three four, we don't want your fascist law—38 hours now! Job must go!'

was to be a two day wonder. Their calculation was that they would be able to get the strike and hold it together for two days and that would be long enough to force Petersen to budge. But if they admitted it was a two day strike, he'd simply cut it out.

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power workers back to work for the weekend and get voluntary contracts to reconstruct suburbs blacked out through breakdowns. With power restored a lot of the tension around by the strike was dissipated.

And the TLC decided they would not support the power workers on the job during the General Strike to "keep the public on side".

This decision proved disastrous. More than anything else, the power restrictions showed the strength of the unions. With the power back on, it became a matter of choice whether or not to work. The week before, everyone had been in the same boat.

At the Monday meeting, there was strong support for the strike. However, the meetings were not large considering the situation. There were perhaps ten thousand in Brisbane and four thousand in Ipswich.

However, in all centres except Mt. Isa, the vote was overwhelming.

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# ... behind the Queensland strike



**PSWICH STRIKE**

**DID THE STRIKE COLLAPSE?**

Monday 23 August—the headline in the Telegraph said it all, "All Out—It's a General Strike". Yet 24 hours later the TLC convened a press conference and the strike was off.

Queens throughout Queensland workers were left in a state of shock and confusion. What have we achieved? We've been on strike for eleven days and we're going back without a 38 hour week.

Operation at the power stations who had so dramatically demonstrated their solidarity a week earlier were still in the headlines. Brisbane Council builders were prepared to join in.

There was no doubt that the meetings were not large considering the situation. There were perhaps ten thousand in Brisbane and four thousand in Ipswich.

These pineapples were part of the many loads of fruit and vegetables brought to the food co-op set up in Ipswich by shop workers and delegates. As past strikers in the area as Nambour were workers, farmers in the hills and in the bush and in the small workers from the railways and other work places faced the usual workers, harvested crops donated by farmers for the strike fund.

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# BATTLER SPECIAL



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# NOTHING BUT FOR SALE

IT'S A PLAN TO screw our wages. That is the harsh truth about the newly announced ACTUALP Prices and Incomes policy.

Despite all the vague waffle about maintaining real incomes it is clear that after a year of negotiations the ACTU and the ALP leadership have cooked up a scheme to protect the bosses' profits and cut our wages. A scheme to win the backing of big business in the next Federal elections.

The basic details of the Prices and Incomes policy are fairly simple. In return for unions "restraint" in pursuing wage claims a future Labor Government would

By Mick Armstrong

introduce a controlled wage lodgement system. Measures would also be taken to "control" prices and non-wage incomes such as dividends.

The ALP would "commit" itself to advocating full cost of living increases at future national wage hearings, and support workers getting a share of national productivity gains.

But Labor support for "full" cost of living increases would

Indexation is only skin deep. Bob Hawke, one of the architects of the new scheme, admitted on national television that there "could be circumstances in which a Labor Government would support less than full Indexation."

And at the recent ALP Federal Conference a commitment to full Indexation was initially voted down after Bill Hayden and shadow Treasurer Ralph Willis argued against it. It was only later inserted in the industrial relations platform.

In any case just because a Labor government "advocated" full Indexation doesn't mean we would actually get it. The Arbitration Commission could easily defy the government, particularly if the bosses fought hard against "full" Indexation.

And it wouldn't be beyond Hawke and Hayden to privately let it be known to the Commission that they would be more than happy if they cut wages, while in public cynically "doing the right thing" by supporting "full" Indexation.

The whole concept of "full" Indexation is itself a fraud which only benefits the bosses. For even if we are awarded the full CPI increases we only get the money months after the prices have gone up. And the CPI index understates the real level of inflation.

As for the other part of the deal—price controls, they just won't work. In a capitalist economy the bosses can always find some way to get around the controls and jack up prices. Last time round the Price Justification Tribunal was a sick joke, awarding four price increases per RHP within the space of 18 months.

The joint ALP/ACTU statement outlining the Prices and Incomes policy makes it clear that there is not even going to be a serious attempt to control prices. It guarantees that the price controls "will be designed to enable enterprises to earn reasonable profits".

sting

And there is a real sting in the tail. Pressure is to be put on employers not to grant increases outside of Indexation by threatening not to allow price rises to cover these increases.

In other words, the price control legislation won't be about controlling prices at all, but about forcing the bosses to take a harder line on wage rises.

There is nothing new in the Prices and Incomes Policy. It is basically a reiteration of the old system of Wage Indexation introduced by Hayden under the Whitlam government. The new touches and trade-offs are taken direct from the disastrous social contract of the last British Labour government.

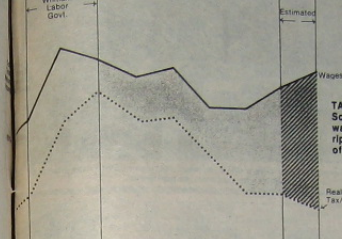
The Prices and Incomes Policy is the ALP package for managing capitalism more efficiently than the Liberals. Because capitalism is in crisis, any scheme for "managing" the system must be at the expense of the workers and have to be imposed on them.

The ALP hopes that its package, which will be policed by the trade union officials, will appeal to the bosses as a more sophisticated method of keeping wages down than the more conventional monetarist policies of Fraser and co. But whichever option our rulers choose, there is nothing in it for us.



HAWKE, Hayden and Dolan come to light to sugar a pill that Australian workers will find hard to swallow.

# Do wage rises reap recession?



Source: Budget Paper's Price Figures provided by Federal Parliamentary Research Service

# Inflation last time round

WAGE INCREASES initiated by the Whitlam government to head off the Metal Trades War Campaign, if successful, could have triggered a recession like that of 1974.

Wage demands of 10% or more meant an effective wage cut of around 14-5 a week during quarterly Indexation. This doubled when half-yearly Indexation was introduced.

Emboldened by its initial success, the Commission introduced "plateau Indexation" for the March quarter of 1976. Then the ruling class turned the screws. With the recession at its deepest, "martial Indexation" was imposed.

A string of struggles (the most important being an 11-week strike by Victorian power workers), to make up the lost wages were defeated or sold out by union officials who were vigorously enforcing the Indexation guidelines.

Overall by 1979 Indexation had cost workers between \$23 and \$30 in real wages.

But as the economy gradually picked up and rank and file militancy (and hostility to official sell-outs) grew, the guidelines started to bend. The first breaks were a 10% rise in \$17 "Work Value" cases which eventually flowed through to a 10% rise in the entire workforce.

Workers were beginning to make up for their wage losses outside of Arbitration. The final blow against Indexation came with \$23-30 victories by Telecom workers in June 81 and Transport workers in July. In a major victory for all workers, the whole Indexation facade rapidly collapsed. The bosses could

"THE REASON the economy is in a mess is that the workers have cut their own throats by pricing themselves out of jobs."

That's the message preached day in and out by the bosses' press and the Fraser government. And a lot of people accepted it.

But are wage rises really the cause of economic mess we are in? Or are "greedy" workers a convenient scapegoat for the rulers of a capitalist system?

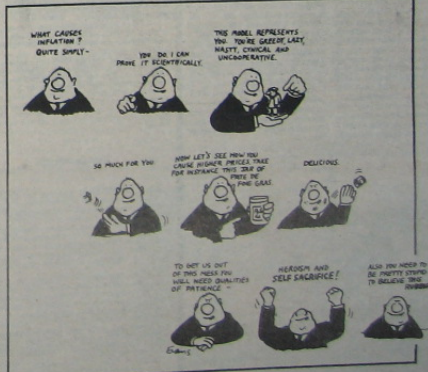
The most obvious objection to the view that wages are too high will admit that the prime cause of the recession is international. However they argue that it being aggravated by wage rises which have prised us out of key markets.

The more sophisticated supporters of the view that wages are too high will admit that the prime cause of the recession is international. However they argue that it being aggravated by wage rises which have prised us out of key markets.

Why is it that countries like Switzerland, Norway and Sweden with considerably higher wages have lower unemployment? Why is it that the British economy is in a slump despite Thatcher forcing wages down to almost half the Australian level?

In reality, low wages do not mean that a particular country is more competitive on the world market. Otherwise, the Japanese, Korea and Chad would be economic super-powers.

The reverse is normally the case. Economic prosperity leads to rising real wages. The leading economies have the highest wage levels.



# NUMBER ONE THE A.I.Z.U.S. LINK

**THE ANTI-NUCLEAR movement in this country has taken off over the last year, attracting widespread support. Despite this, it is far from being a loss. It stands in danger of losing its momentum and its numbers.**

## The problem is that it has no focus.

The International Socialists, like most of the revolutionary left, have argued that we should turn our energies against the American Alliance.

The elimination of US bases and port facilities would be a major blow to US imperialism and a leap forward in the struggle for a world without nuclear weapons.

Others involved in the ANZUS Treaty and the Alliance with the American Alliance, like most of the revolutionary left, have argued that we should turn our energies against the American Alliance.

Under the ANZUS Treaty Australia is not obliged to accept nuclear weapons... American nuclear weapons have nothing to do with us... Australia.

means

Our collaboration in this system covers a wide range of issues: economic down to cultural. The nuclear aspect of the Alliance is only one part of it...

The massive response to the anti-nuclear movement over the last six months shows that opposition to the threat of nuclear war has reached new heights... target it will be impossible to keep the campaign going.

What we in Australia can actually do is kick out US bases, and this means getting rid of the pages seen harmless enough... Omega are nuclear targets that will inevitably attract attacks from any hostile nuclear power.

There is nothing about us and obediately follow every word and turn of American foreign policy... existence they make nuclear war possible... the scrap of paper known as the ANZUS Treaty and sabbling over the words.

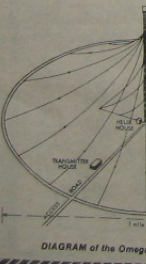


DIAGRAM OF the Omegastation at Darriem.

PINE GAP... dominated by six silvery-white radomes, designed to protect the antenna against the elements and prying eyes.



By Ian Birchall

In the 1930s British and Australian bosses began to differ over what direction the Australian economy should take.

In 1880 there was a strike at Denain, and in 1884, at the nearby town of Anzin miners struck for 46 days.

What is an Australian can actually do is kick out US bases, and this means getting rid of the pages seen harmless enough.

There is nothing about us and obediately follow every word and turn of American foreign policy... existence they make nuclear war possible... the scrap of paper known as the ANZUS Treaty and sabbling over the words.

## At his funeral delegations chanted 'Germinal, Germinal'.

police. But the play was banned from schools... How did Emile Zola come to write Germinal?

Before Zola, many novelists had painted the misery of the working class... But Zola is the first great novel to identify with the workers' fightback.

There is nothing about us and obediately follow every word and turn of American foreign policy... existence they make nuclear war possible... the scrap of paper known as the ANZUS Treaty and sabbling over the words.

## Fundamental

Mahou, another miner who has just discovered a gold chip... force all his bluster to come out with us?

Even later, demoralised in the face of defeat, they turn to understanding the complex and ever-changing relationships between the mine and the farm and field.

At his funeral delegations chanted 'Germinal, Germinal'. Zola's work has been regarded as important in the history of the French working class.

At his funeral delegations chanted 'Germinal, Germinal'. Zola's work has been regarded as important in the history of the French working class.

# P.P.'s gotten gains

BHP is traditionally one of Australian capitalists' most pampered pets, growing fat on protection and other handouts.

By Tony Sullivan

Since the steel industry in Australia is already depressed, its workers face a tough struggle to hold on to their jobs.

The company has warned daily of up to 10,000 job losses over the next five years. It made no guarantees against cutbacks nor of all demands were met.

There is no doubt that the main cause of employment in the steel industry is the steel recession.

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world where hundreds of millions of peasants till the soil with wooden ploughshare. There is not enough buyers on the international market to use up anything like existing steelmaking capacity.

Workers paid nothing by taking sides in this wrangle... BHP's profit margins are not BHP's problem—nor are those of other companies—in the defence of jobs.

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PORT KEMBLA steelworks, Wollongong, with the USA in between 45-60%.

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target about 100 new jobs might be created.

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## Industrial murder

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PENIONERS at the Tom Foster Centre.

# THE PENSIONERS' FIGHT FOR BENGOLD

LIVE IS VERY difficult for most of us over the Fraser government. But there are certain groups who suffer more than most: the low income earners, the unemployed, pensioners. These are also the prime victims of the NSW Government's cuts.

Last Saturday I attended the Tom Foster Centre (Sydney), where every Saturday pensioners get together for a fun day. All the activities at the centre are organized, planned, and funded by the pensioners themselves.

For many of these people, the Tom Foster Centre is the only outlet for entertainment and life. It is one of the few places where aged people are able to develop a sense of identity and of their own worth.

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PENIONERS at the Tom Foster Centre.



# THE GREAT STRIKE

By Diane Fieldes

HOW WOULD YOU feel if you had a full-time job that had no holiday pay, no sick pay, no job security, and from which you could be sacked at an hour's notice, no matter how many years you'd been working?

To find out how a group of workers in this situation do feel, we spoke to striking Adult Migrant Education teachers in Sydney.

About 80% of teachers employed by the Adult Migrant Education Service (AMES) are casuals. 201 of these work a full-time load, but don't get any of the benefits that normally go to full-time workers.

By only employing 77 permanent teachers the Fraser government "saves" \$11 023 million per year, in the form of sick leave and holiday pay that casual teachers just don't get.

The recent three-day strike in the highest point so far in a struggle for permanency that has been going on for years.

It was only the threat of industrial action which got any signs of life out of the Federal government in the first place. But just a threat wasn't enough.

Immigration Minister Hodges was only prepared to offer 10 extra permanent positions - but no money to fund them! This would have meant more permanent staff all at the cost of sacking the casuals to pay for them.

For AMES teachers there is only one response - everyone out on strike, a march through city streets, and the setting up of a 24-hour tent vigil outside the Commonwealth Government Centre.

Despite the government's attempt to divide the casuals from teachers with permanency, there were plenty of

permanent teachers at the vigil throughout. And support came from other unionists as well. International Societies in the Federal public service unions organised leafleting of the public servants working in the same way to support for the teachers.



AS PART of Public Education Lobby Day, delegates and parents marched down George Street to protest state and federal government education cuts.

## Spending spree on private schools

STATE EDUCATION IS under attack. There is no doubt that both State and Federal governments are jointly out to decimate the public sector.

The Teachers Federation, the Federation of School and Community Organisations, and the Parents and Citizens Federation responded on 24 August by organising a public Education Lobby Day.

Delegates from country and suburban schools, and parents, rallied at Sydney Town Hall, unanimously passing a motion condemning the Fraser government, and marched down George Street.

At City Square the vigil combined with the vigil by W.A. Liberals...

Over 80% of private schools in category 3 (W.A.). Because private schools know how to exploit a system designed for their benefit.

## Write to the Battler: P.O. Box 46 Flemington, Vic 3031

### Dear Battlers,

I read on the radio last night, one of your articles on M.P.'s, pillaging a lot of American...

I have some technical knowledge about Omega which is not generally known. Omega is the last letter of the Greek alphabet - the end.

### BLF

Elections are on again on the BLF. NSW After being kept out of the election for 7 years Jack Mandey is running on the Laborers for Democracy ticket.

### ALP stunt

With the deepening recession and rising unemployment it was planned to see a mass rally against unemployment by NSW Young Labor.

### FIGHTING FUND

The fighting fund this issue raised \$246.18. Our thanks go to: Duncan Hallam, Adelaide \$27.50; Rita, Adelaide \$20.00; Mrs. Royal, Adelaide \$20.00; Donohy, Adelaide \$21.95.

WHAT'S ON Melbourne Fri. 3 Sept. Students For Nuclear Disarmament. Sat. 4 Sept. Public meeting, 6 pm. Melbourne Union Building. Sun. 5 Sept. CRICAC. Sat. 11 Sept. Nuclear weapons 2 pm. St. Kilda Public Hall. Sun. 12 Sept. Public meeting, 7 pm. St. Kilda Public Hall. Sun. 19 Sept. Rock Against Racism. Sun. 26 Sept. Rock Against Racism. Brisbane Tue. 7 Sept. CRICAC. Sat. 11 Sept. Nuclear weapons 2 pm. St. Kilda Public Hall. Sun. 12 Sept. Public meeting, 7 pm. St. Kilda Public Hall. Sun. 19 Sept. Rock Against Racism. Sun. 26 Sept. Rock Against Racism. Perth Mon. 13 Sept. Public meeting, 7 pm. Perth City Hall.

### NSW budget blues

EVERYTHING seemed set for the usual boring opening of NSW State Parliament. The amplified voice of the Governor, Sir James Rowland, droned on about how "his government" could promise us even more cuts.

Of course, there was some much-anticipated news about the usual boring opening of NSW State Parliament. The amplified voice of the Governor, Sir James Rowland, droned on about how "his government" could promise us even more cuts.



NURSES protest the closure of Crown St Hospital in Sydney.

### Course cut

"WE DON'T think we should suffer because of their bungling." This was the angry response facing the dismantling of the support of other courses.

### Revolutionary Party

To smash the capitalist system, we need a revolutionary party. The Revolutionary Party is a mass party of workers and students.

### Rank and File Organisation

Workers need their own organisation. The Rank and File Organisation is a mass party of workers and students.

# EATERS GI WALKERS THE CHOP!

By Nick Horn  
and Ann Picot

CANBERRA Abattoirs has ground to a halt to keep the new boss (F.J. Walker) honest.

On Friday 8 August, labourers in the boning room went out to protest management's breach of an hours agreement. The following Monday, the whole workforce was sacked.

The workers immediately set up a 24-hour picket which has stop deliveries of goods in and out—which has kept the city's streets in a state of chaos. FJ Walker is obviously a really great boss. Why all this happened to a hardworking, loyal and dedicated workforce is closed down by 48-hour strikes over different issues at the time.

The Canberra dispute was clearly provoked by Walker's in an attempt to get rid of the bulk of their workforce while extensions and upgrading of machinery took place.

That was management could avoid costly redundancy payments. Of course, when the networks are required, they could refuse to re-employ any militant workers who might threaten their profits in future.

Unfortunately for FJ Walker, things haven't turned out so well. The Canberra meatworkers have seen to it that their boss' cynical plan has back-fired. The picket has been as solid as the huge tractor tyre which blocks the road into the abattoirs.



ISRAELI Cabinet Minister Mortheal Zippori got a hot reception when he visited Melbourne last month to defend the Zionist holocaust in Lebanon. Members of Jews Against Zionism and Antisemitism who organized the demonstration were barred from entering the meeting since, according to the organisers, "you are not a Jew if you oppose the state of Israel".

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YOU HOW TO  
**AVOID TAX**

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**TAX**

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# the battler

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

## Where now for Games protests?

TIME IS running out to organise effective protests against Commonwealth Games.

There is growing criticism of the Black Protest Committee for diverting energy and support into a cultural festival, rather than into political protest and into organising basic food and accommodation for blacks coming to the Games to protest. Some blacks increasingly recognise the need to organise separately from the Protest Committee. The sooner some statement of alternative political action is organised and publicised the greater the opportunity to mount effective protests, and that includes the rally and march on September 26. The white Land Rights Support Group has taken a role in organising effective protest, allowing itself to be subsumed by the Black Protest Committee. Fortunately it seems clear that an alternative will emerge from the Black Conference on 24-25 September, to plan demonstrations and protests in the streets. Boxes are being organised from Townville, Cairns and Yarrak for people to support political protests. As well, demonstrations

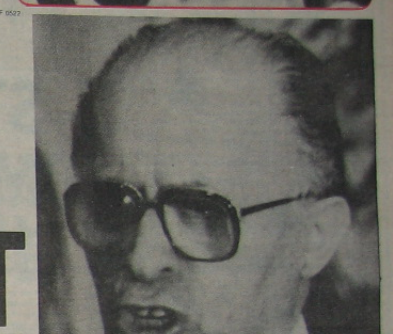
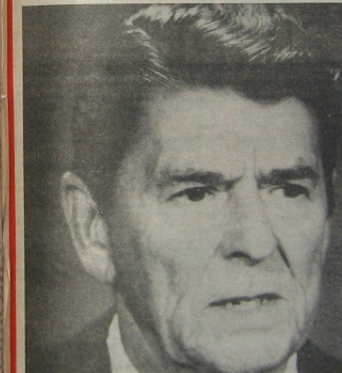
# the battler

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

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# BLOOD OF BEIRUT



# ON THEIR HANDS

## Shorter hours? ... not just yet say bosses

SHORTER hours won't be called on the unions to hold off on any further demands until the economy picks up.

This effects all shops who were in a 34 hr week. The reduction below 38 hrs before last year's National Industrial Award was finalised. As a meeting where it was discussed, defeat after defeat was what it was. One said, "I didn't matter if you're working 46 hrs, or 36 hrs, if the economy is in a mess, there'll be layoffs". The delegates rejected the employers' demands, unacceptably. However, meatworkers shouldn't think that it ends there. Individual boxes may try to roll back to shops where we are in the best place to defend our conditions.

## Lifers run the gauntlet

PRO-ABORTION activists have disrupted another gathering of the Right to Life bigots who organise against the right of women to control their own bodies.

Almost every public event they have held in Melbourne for the past three years has been reduced to chaos by pro-abortion demonstrators. Friday 27 August was the latest example of this tradition. It was the Right to Life annual national conference. 120 demonstrators heckled, jeered and abused as participants tried to control their own bodies.

There are an awful lot of us in this plan and it depends on training the party leaders, whose world view is to support their plans as a plan as day. They first got into the right to life party.

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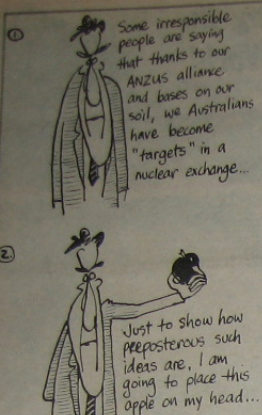
## RONALD REAGAN described the scenes of the massacre of Palestinian civilians in Beirut's refugee camps as "among the most horrendous in the long nightmare of Lebanon's agony".

At the same time Menachem Begin denied any Israeli responsibility for the slaughter carried out by the Lebanese fascist forces. But it was the Israeli and US government's which armed and equipped the militias of the Phalange and Sabra and Shatila camps. It was Reagan and Begin who applauded when Bashir Gemayel, Phalange leader, was installed as Lebanese President. It is they who now must take responsibility for these murders. The Americans have propped up and armed the

Zionist state of Israel for the last thirty years because it defends their vital imperialist interests, primarily oil. It was these brutal, murderous forces that the Israelis sent into the Palestinian refugee camps, supposedly to find any remaining guerrilla fighters. The Israelis went into Lebanon, with the tacit approval of the Americans, to destroy the Palestinian resistance movement. The only way they could achieve that was by waging a holocaust on the Lebanese and Palestinian people. They have succeeded and the Beirut massacre is the fruit of their triumph.

However it has been the Phalangist militias in central Lebanon which the Israelis and the US have supported as the main bulwark against the Lebanese left and the Palestinians. The Phalange is a self declared fascist organisation. Its founder Pierre Gemayel, was inspired by the Nazis when he visited Germany for the 1936 Berlin Olympics. The Phalange has carried out numerous outrages

**The paper that fights  
for workers' power**



Just to show how preposterous such ideas are, I am going to place this apple on my head...



**ACOA officials never catch on!**

"A KICK in the teeth" was how one member in Veteran's Affairs Melbourne described the Arbitration Commission's decision on the federal public servants' 12% wage claim.

Not only is the offer missed out on but grossly inadequate—5.6%—but the dead wood of the Arbitration Commission has written in six months the claim down. In other words we are asked to wait another six months before lodging our next claim.

It's worth noting that this claim spent eight months forcing in the Arbitration Commission. At a hastily called meeting, a large and interested members in Melbourne last Monday, ACOA Victorian State Secretary David Benn hinted at one of the lessons to be learnt from the case: Comparing the pay campaigns of 1980, '81 and '82, he noted that the first two cases the claim had been accompanied by industrial action. In 1982 it was not.

As has been shown time and time again, it's only when we take industrial action that we win anything approaching a decent increase.

The ACOA officials will probably put in a much up claim and then again, it's only when we take industrial action that we win anything approaching a decent increase.

The ACOA officials will probably put in a much up claim and then again, it's only when we take industrial action that we win anything approaching a decent increase.

**Labor dumps P&D's**

ONE of the most worried members of the Congran Report was the fact that the disaffection of the Shop Painters and Dockers Union from the ALP. It is an often repeated story that in 1982 it was the votes against the union of some 20 members have been developed to various unions. The ALP National executive, at the Fairfield D&D, and in the future, the Shop Painters and Dockers branch members have been developing to various unions. The ALP National executive, at the Fairfield D&D, and in the future, the Shop Painters and Dockers branch members have been developing to various unions.



**Wran the strikebreaker**

THIS is not a government that can be described as anti-union. This is the only 470 of retired operators who have been forced back to work at Calix. Wran's major role was in August, 1982, when he managed to screw another major union, Management and an employer, into negotiations.

But then the bosses changed their mind and the negotiations Calix decided to break off. Wran's role was to get the operators back to work. Wran's role was to get the operators back to work.

**By Sandra Bloodworth**

But the P&D Executive, while paying lip service to a campaign against US military bases, refused to endorse the 21 November demonstration at its meeting on 22 October. At its meeting on 22 October, the P&D Executive, while paying lip service to a campaign against US military bases, refused to endorse the 21 November demonstration at its meeting on 22 October.

**Integral**

This is essential information to this area to accurately reflect the mood of the people, especially for the first time. The Regan government's "winable" strategy for the ALP is a major factor in this. The Regan government's "winable" strategy for the ALP is a major factor in this.

**IS WHAT WE THINK**

Wran the strikebreaker

**right-wing**

He has argued what Fraser and the right press has been yelling for ages—that away from some means others lose their jobs. And worst of all, Wran has used Queensland and union legislation against the strike. This is not a government that can be described as anti-union.

**IS WHAT WE THINK**

Wran the strikebreaker



**Aborigines won't sue us.**

THE GAMES ARE being run as a military operation. Two thousand cops will be on duty backed by private security guards and units of the army. The Queensland police force has spent millions of dollars on new sophisticated electronic equipment to alert them to "problems."

**TO WIN THE LAND RIGHTS CAMPAIGN Blacks need workplace support**

A VICTORY FOR the land rights campaign will depend on the extent to which an ongoing mass movement can be built out of protests during the Commonwealth Games.

The Black Procession has held two militant demonstrations and kept a firm embassy operating in King George Square for about 3 months, despite the best efforts of the City Council. But since then we have seen only one rally—the one organized by a mass campaign group.

**Impact**

The greatest impact on any international audience will be to show that a militant campaign is being organized.

The Commonwealth Games

**they're not our Games!**

YOU WOULDN'T know Brisbane these days. All the streets are lined with big flower pots. There's a new \$5 million mall being planned in King George Square.

But, if the wording is vague, the Queen's Millenary Site Operation has become crystal clear. The Queensland Police Commissioner has issued a statement to the press. The statement says that the Queensland Police will be on duty during the Commonwealth Games. The Queensland Police will be on duty during the Commonwealth Games.

QUEENSLAND cops prepare for South African Spring Tour for 1987. The Games will be another military-style operation. Along the Games Act, any cop of the rank of Inspector or above will be empowered to declare a State of Emergency. Meanwhile the courts are kept tight of all outstanding cases for the Games period.

# THE WEALTHY MAN'S BURDEN

IN 1870 most of Africa was still ruled by Africans. By 1914 the continent had been almost completely carved up by the European powers. Only the US puppet state of Liberia and the precariously independent Kingdom of Ethiopia survived.

In Asia the remaining independent states were either conquered by the great Burma or effectively partitioned into spheres of influence. In the case of China, South and North America were also the whole world. There were the peak years of imperialism in 1913 as the hundreds of the total enterprises under the control of a few men's hands. The small enterprises, representing 91 per cent of the total, owned only 7 per cent of the assets and electric power.

Two years later, in 1915, Lenin's theory of imperialism was advanced and at the time it was written it undoubtedly had a large measure of truth. The pioneer investigator of British imperialism, J.A. Hobson, showed that British foreign and colonial investments increased from £183 to £183 in the rate of 4 per cent per annum. In 1899 they totalled 200 and £100 million, and by 1909 they had risen to £140 million and in 1915 to about £200 million that is to say a quarter of the total world super and middle classes, some total income is about £100 million.

The same tendency was, in various degrees, present in the imperialist countries. The relative stability of the First and Second World Wars and Edwardian capitalism rested upon this sort of capital. It had been found of alleviating the inherent contradictions of capitalism for a time and at a temperate price.

Under modern capitalism, when monopolies prevail, the export of capital is becoming an increasingly important factor. In order to safeguard the investment of their ruling classes and their monopolies, the imperialist powers were forced to move over the backward countries. Other countries were also in the same direction were to be made available for market practice and competition. But monopoly and the export of capital were the key factors.

The evidence for Lenin's case was impressive and at the time it was written it undoubtedly had a large measure of truth. The pioneer investigator of British imperialism, J.A. Hobson, showed that British foreign and colonial investments increased from £183 to £183 in the rate of 4 per cent per annum. In 1899 they totalled 200 and £100 million, and by 1909 they had risen to £140 million and in 1915 to about £200 million that is to say a quarter of the total world super and middle classes, some total income is about £100 million.

THE LATEST ploy of the iniquitous Queensland government to help finance the Queenslanders will only make the tax collection worse by great bombs more effective. The rental will now be assessed on all incomes coming into a home. This includes, of all things, pension and debt payments. For many people this will mean paying more than double their usual rent and a large majority will be higher than marketable rents of private homes.

When the Housing Commission instigated this scheme, they were quite prepared to accept that at least 120 families would have to leave their homes. The rental that this scheme will have on the people of Brisbane, Inala and other areas is appalling. In families where both partners work to feed, clothe, and educate their own children, the new rent will be anywhere from \$10-\$12 per week.

Given in the area are forced to work merely to survive—and to 'keep up with the Joneses'. And they will now have two choices.

Some people who have opened their homes to their aged parents will come under attack. Pension will be considered an income and, as such, rents will be adjusted accordingly. Some homes will be locked as \$50 increases.

Even people who have opened their homes to their aged parents will come under attack. Pension will be considered an income and, as such, rents will be adjusted accordingly. Some homes will be locked as \$50 increases.

## Open slather

THE Queensland right wing is showing itself as a 'free market' in letters from the ACTU. The right wing is showing itself as a 'free market' in letters from the ACTU. The right wing is showing itself as a 'free market' in letters from the ACTU.

DEARING the socialists, the ACTU is showing itself as a 'free market' in letters from the ACTU. The right wing is showing itself as a 'free market' in letters from the ACTU.

THE NSW Government has passed for revenue in a year. The NSW Government has passed for revenue in a year. The NSW Government has passed for revenue in a year.

FRANKS government will have to suggest the amount. They were quite prepared to accept that at least 120 families would have to leave their homes.

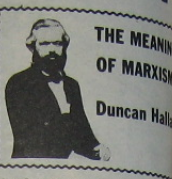
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THE NSW Government has passed for revenue in a year. The NSW Government has passed for revenue in a year. The NSW Government has passed for revenue in a year.

## VERSTRECKT GEGELEDERN

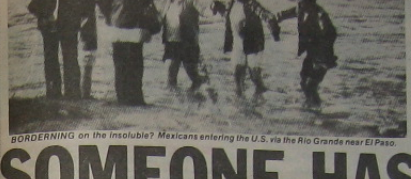


A DUTCH poster calls for volunteers to suppress revolution in Indonesia.



## THE MEANING OF MARXISM

THE MEANING OF MARXISM. Duncan Hall. The meaning of Marxism is the study of the economic and social conditions of the working class. It is the study of the economic and social conditions of the working class.



BORDERING On the insoluble? Mexicans entering the U.S. via the Rio Grande near El Paso.

## THE IAS

By Graham Willett

TWO YEARS ago, Mexico had more money than it knew what to do with. Today it is teetering on the brink of bankruptcy. And it is threatening to take several major Western banks with it.

What went wrong? The reader to explain these reserves, they had to be able to pay to get them out of the ground. But now the banks are in a state of panic. They have to pay to get them out of the ground. But now the banks are in a state of panic.

## STURGES DEFY THACHER

LAST WEEK Britain's union movement defied Thatcher's challenge. The TUC (British Association of Employers) Act. But because the unions are so popular, the TUC has been happy to bring out the campaign at a low level so as to embarrass the Tories. For the same reason, they know it would be dangerous for them to fall out the Tories.

## REVOLUTIONARY RAGE

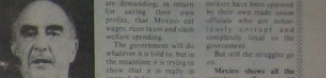
4/\$45.50 concession

## CORRECT LINE AND THE DIALECTICS PLUS THE INTERNS

REVOLUTIONARY RAGE. CORRECT LINE AND THE DIALECTICS PLUS THE INTERNS. The correct line and the dialectics plus the interns. The correct line and the dialectics plus the interns.

THE Mexican government has announced that it will be going to Mexico City. The Mexican government has announced that it will be going to Mexico City.

THE government? The government? The government? The government? The government? The government? The government? The government?



MEXICAN President Lopez Portillo.

THE government? The government? The government? The government? The government? The government? The government? The government?

## Filipino unions cop Marcos' flak

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13 was a black day for Filipino trade unionists. On that day, twenty three union leaders were arrested by the Marcos regime. By the beginning of the month, the number of unionists charged had risen to 162. Another 333 warrants out for their arrest.

## COME ON MAGGIE COUGH POT

COME ON MAGGIE COUGH POT. The correct line and the dialectics plus the interns. The correct line and the dialectics plus the interns.

THE correct line and the dialectics plus the interns. The correct line and the dialectics plus the interns. The correct line and the dialectics plus the interns.

# SEEKING THE GLOBAL



ON THE electronics production line in South Korea

**LOOK AT that pocket calculator, the digital watch, the new television set.**

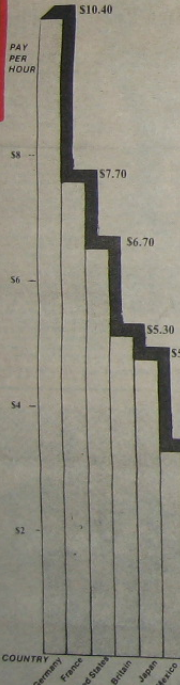
They are space age symbols of modern technology in everyday life. But they are made in nineteenth century conditions.

Who makes them?

Probably a woman. It is difficult to tell where she comes from. She's probably about five foot three, in an overall, long black hair, probably between 16 and 22.

The machine she operates is standard worldwide, the factory air conditioned, the output absolutely identical—whether she is working in a plant on Mexico's border with the States, in Manaus in the heart of the Amazon jungle in Barbados, outside Seoul in Korea, in a gleaming industrial estate in the south of the island of Taiwan, near Kowloon in Hong Kong, at Batam on the Philippine coast, in Singapore's Jurong or Malaysia's Penang.

A textile worker in Germany takes home on average \$354 for a 34 hour week. In Egypt a textile worker can expect to earn \$17.



THE CHART shows the hourly wages of textile workers in twelve different countries.

**I MUST say, those girls in Mexico who've never known what a factory is, never been inside a plant, are doing a marvellous job. They haven't learned any that habits yet. You know, a little education is sometimes dangerous.**

**TRACOR (Team electronics) MANAGER on workers in Central Mexico**

system. It is not just electronics. All the sweated trades are there—making shoes, garments, sports clothes, underclothes.

Not is it just the 'multinationals'. Big companies subcontract to small local firms, or brokers who farm out work to women—and their children—working at home in one room. Out of the hovels of Novo Hamburgo in Brazil come millions of pairs of shoes.

Most 'West German' textiles are produced by women in Hungary, Yugoslavia and Poland. In Madras the same young women make leather jackets, shipped twice weekly by air to Frankfurt.

In Taiwan they guarantee the New York boutiques' supplies within 24 hours. These young women are a new international working class.

The pay is appalling. The America's electronic assembly worker gets four or five times her Mexican sister's wages. No wonder US electronic investment in Mexico makes 120 per cent in two years.

The workers are women because employers need pay them only 60 to 70 per cent of the low male wage. And they

are young, so they can be paid junior wages and not be disrupted if they leave. They are supposedly obedient and prepared to work long hours for little pay. They are not. They are more. They are social workers. They are sickened by all the social evils of the day. Sometimes they are young, but they are not young.

**WORKERS must uphold dignity and not cease to struggle for their rights.**

**PRIME MINISTER**

When they are not working, they are almost certainly being paid dormitories with no running water, no electricity, no gas and Hong Kong's 'sweatshops' and sometimes a bed for eight. The central nervous system of the plant is the female. It doesn't matter. But only it is too late to standards are imposed on women work in the women. Know substance: that means the sack, so soldier gold that she has. If they conceive, they are sent to hospital. After six weeks, the women are sent to hospital. It is illegal for women to work in a factory. It is illegal for women to work in a factory.

After six weeks, the women are sent to hospital. It is illegal for women to work in a factory. It is illegal for women to work in a factory.

I don't mind if other girls wanting give me money. I don't mind if other girls wanting give me money. I don't mind if other girls wanting give me money.

I'm a simple worker—but one thing I know—besting make one wise. And little by little, through our experience and books, we have learned. And for us nothing is impossible.

**MARIA (Mexican border)**

sacked. The world of electronic manufacture is again moving into slump. The 1981 results showed sharp cuts in electronic profits. Once again, the workers will be devastated.

**And what defence is there? The unions are nonexistent, dominated by the old industries, corrupt or controlled by the government.**

Government whether 'communist', socialist or capitalist and abet it. They compete with each other to bribe foreign capital to come.

Malaysia cut the ban on night work for women to encourage the foreign companies. The Philippines cut maternity benefits to force women to work. Taiwan, Korea, Philippines and others have a ban on strikes, and very tight controls on union organisation. And the reaction of the army and police of the women fight viciously.

It is the nineteenth century all over again. And it is only just beginning. The two giants, India and China, are desperate to get into the act. If they succeed, competition between governments will become utterly ferocious. That will mean an equally ferocious drive to force workers to compete with each other to see who can work hardest for longest for nothing.

Western-based multinational companies are turning to women workers in Third World countries to do some of their nastiest jobs for them.



SUM DWELLERS in San Lorenzo, Mexico. Women electronics workers are sacked when they get married or reach retirement age at 25.



A WOMAN worker on the assembly line at the Hyundai automobile plant at Ulsan, South Korea.

## Getting rich on 'slave' labour

COMPANIES have always moved their plants to find cheaper labour. To escape militants, unions and taxes.

New York was once a major textile centre. But in 1910 the mills moved from Manhattan to Brooklyn; three years crossed the Delaware to Pennsylvania, then over the Mason-Dixon line to Mississippi and Georgia.

Now they're moving into Japan's electronics came in the mid seventies when 15,000 of the industry were

particular national working class can manage, putting up the shutters. Those Bradford workers knew that when they succeeded in mixing with Leeds both would be defeated.

So long as capital wrecks have in the third world it has the power to destroy workers and unions in the advanced countries. We need a gigantic effort to develop rank and file trade unionism in the nineteenth century, to spread the power of the organisation of all workers. The world is always able to divide and rule.

Now it is different. The US unions had about Mexico 'stealing' American jobs. British trade workers demonstrated against imperialist companies exploiting workers in Hong Kong or Korea.

And in Australia, labour is the very nation official from Laurie Short to John Halpin are trying well with the power of each other to save the best organised 'Australian' companies, sections of the world. Public pressure on labour movement. There c o m p a n i e s o n i t is no hiding place where

government achieves nothing. They are the problem, not the remedy.

The world has become a system, ruled by international capital. The defence of one group of workers requires the sacrifice of the organisation of all workers. The world is always able to divide and rule.

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We need a gigantic effort to develop rank and file trade unionism







Brisbane '82  
The Racist Games



THE BLACK people's burden, Joh Bjelke Peterson.

THERE are hundreds of skilled workers in Queensland who are being denied award rates for the work they do.

Haven't heard about it? That's not surprising because these workers are blacks living on Queensland's notorious reserves.

There are other people in Queensland who can be thrown out of their homes on the whim of an individual who can be asked the company of their friends and relatives and who are denied the right to buy their own homes.

They are not in jail, but they are prisoners of the Queensland Aboriginal Reserves system.

And because of discrimination in employment and education, most blacks have no chance of getting

By Phil Griffiths

a job and 90% of unemployed aborigines are unskilled. Despite shocking health statistics, important projects like the Trachoma eye programme come and go at the whim of Bjelke-Peterson.

Seventy per cent of Queensland blacks live under the authoritarian conditions on the reserves because they have nowhere else to go. The demand for Land Rights is above all

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# the battler

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

## LAND RIGHTS not Bjelke's Games

a demand for ownership and control of these reserves.

But for big business in Queensland, the reserves have a different meaning. Some contain fabulous mineral wealth, others like Palm Island and Bamaga are idyllic sites that could be exploited for tourism.

For the bosses of the mining and tourism industries, the Land Rights struggle is dangerous. It threatens to restrict the avenue to development and profits.

The Peterson government is doing everything in its power to renege and contain the Land Rights struggle in the interests of its wealthy friends.

The Deed of Grant in Trust legislation was an attempt to split the black communities with a system that would not really restrict the prospects for developers.

Bjelke failed. His legislation has been condemned by even the most conservative elements from the black communities.

### repression

So now he is turning to repression. The Land Rights struggle must be suppressed and the Commonwealth Games must go ahead without embarrassment for the Government.

To this end, he has mobilised a tremendous army of police and security guards, equipped with the latest in technology and well armed. They're threatened to sack any black who leaves the reserves to take part in Brisbane demonstrations.

Peterson is determined to continue the misery and degradation of blacks in Queensland.

We must stop him. The struggle for Land Rights during the Games will not just be a struggle for the rights of blacks, but also a struggle against the racism that lies at the

heart of Queensland politics.

Many blacks feel that they have nothing to lose by protesting for land rights at the Games. Peterson's introduction of a street march ban won't stop the determination of some of the reserve people.

As Bertie Button (a member of the Cherbourg reserve council) responded to Peterson's challenge: "If we decide to march, no ban will stop us!"



THIS CHILD probably will grow up blind from trachoma. A couple of years ago, the trachoma eradication program was halted because job seekers the media were stirring up the blacks!

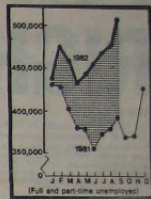
For more  
Games  
coverage  
see p.3

# the battler

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

Suggested by Australia Post—publication no. VBF 0022  
No. 135 October 16, 1982 30 cents

Now on the dole  
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## 500,000 REASONS FOR FIGHTING

500,000 PEOPLE unemployed!

500,000 people and their families forced to scrape together a living on the dole. That's what the Fraser government has done to the working people of this country.

And this isn't just the cosmetic figure. It doesn't include the hundreds of thousands who have in despair given up looking for work. And what is the Liberal Party's answer to unemployment? Wage cuts. This can only lead to more job losses as workers still in work will have less to spend.

And with retrenchments sweeping the country and the flood of school leavers about to start looking for jobs we can expect the official employment figures to reach three quarters of a million by early next year.

No wonder young people are angry. And what have the trade union leaders been doing about the wave of sackings? Calling for talks with the government and the employer. A fat lot of good that will do.

### active

We need an active fight for jobs. If the leadership of the trade union movement has lost the will to fight then they should get out of the way and allow the rank and file to get on with it. Only they have the power to stop unemployment reaching nightmare proportions.

That's why our fightback against job losses and the Fraser government has to be supported.

And who initiates like the Coalition Against Poverty and Unemployment's demonstration in Melbourne on 12 November should have the widespread backing of trade unionists and unemployed.

Even more importantly why trade unionists should rely around groups of workers like those at International Harvester who are fighting for jobs in the here and now.

As Books Shahan who has been unemployed for two years since the left school told the Battler, "The only way is for unemployed to join with unemployed workers. We need to step up the struggle against retrenchments and start the fight for more jobs."

ON THE PICKET at the Dandenong (Vic.) truck assembly plant of International Harvester which has gone into receivership. See story p. 12.

The paper that fights for workers' power







# POLITICS is the NAME of the GAME

**ACCORDING TO Malcolm Fraser, Jimmy Carter and Bjelke-Petersen politics and sport did not mix—that was until the 1980 Moscow Olympics and the Russian invasion of Afghanistan.**

But well before it suited the particular political purposes of our rulers, it was black athletes, anti-Springbok demonstrators and Aboriginal activists who were pointing out the real links between politics and sport.

and advertising rights just cover a few aspects.

International sport in particular could be said to be the 'communitarian of politics in other meats'.

The Commonwealth Games missed out on some of the thornier issues of international relations like the exclusion by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) of all the defeated nations after World War I or the banning of Bolshevik Russia after the revolution in 1917. For years, until it suited US diplomacy, the

IOC did not recognize the existence of the People's Republic of China.

It took 20 years to recognize East Germany and ten to expel South Africa. But only the threat of a break away by African nations with the backing of Russia and black American athletes sealed the apartheid regime's fate.

The Commonwealth Games is a legacy of the British Empire on which 'the sun never set'. Though also reflects the decline of Empire and the changing

nature of the relationships between Britain and her colonies.

After some false starts, like the Festival of Empire for George V's coronation (only Australia, Canada, South Africa and the UK competed) the Games began as the British Empire Games in 1930, became the British Empire and Commonwealth Games in 1948, the British Commonwealth Games in 1966, and the Commonwealth Games in 1978.

The name changing was a direct result of the anti-colonial struggles, particularly after World War II. Between 1945 and 1972, sixty-nine nations that had been colonies achieved independence. It was no longer a last but not least two years standing.

It was no longer a last but not least two years standing. It was no longer a last but not least two years standing.

It was no longer a last but not least two years standing.

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It was no longer a last but not least two years standing.

It was no longer a last but not least two years standing.



**BLACK Olympic athletes give the black power salute after their victory at the 1968 Olympic Games.**

sports events, there were elaborate drug testing facilities at the Brisbane Commonwealth Games. The authorities were over-pressed in fact.

The pressure to win at all costs to uphold national and personal prestige and to secure sponsorship, has forced many athletes into the hands of the drug companies who are constantly developing new drugs to 'improve' physical performance.

Women competing in the Games had to have certificates proving they were women. There were sex tests... for women only... because of the underlying sexual suspicion that women who performed well might be men in disguise.

There is one last aspect to the sporting spectacles—the burgeoning state security and surveillance. It is perhaps a final word on the place sport has come to play in modern society that the stadiums built as 'monuments to peace, harmony and sporting ideals' have provided ideal sites for the incursion of dissidents or 'bad apples'.

The Lake Placid Winter Olympic complex was built for use as a prison after the Games. Built as they are to hold large numbers of people and organized to be seen, sports stadiums can be politically useful.

**JUST DOING THEIR JOB**

**LAST WEEK in Brisbane, Queensland police were 'playing their own game'.**  
On Saturday night a youth was run down by a police car, then kicked and beaten with batons. He had originally been arrested for obscene language. "We were having a young fellow on his way to jail."  
New was run over on 150 hlt, on the hope that he would slip and forget the cordal. But on Monday, he turned up at the magistrat court, supported by a police presence, against police brutality, and pleaded "not guilty."  
The future court hearing provides an opportunity to estimate a campaign to contain the Queensland police.  
Queensland have been made by two older people who are so the actual by police and some plainclothes with the Police Commission Tribunal. According to police, they were just doing their job.



**POLICE take prisoners during the Melbourne demonstration against the 1974 Springbok Rugby Tour of Australia.**



**SANTIAGO STADIUM where Allende supporters were imprisoned and executed following Chile's devastating military coup.**

**Politics don't mix? IAN RINTOUL the ruling class have been playing from the start of competition.**

Controversy raged in 1934 over the rejection of a team from Ireland. The rebuff came because republicans had won a majority in the 1932 Irish elections on a programme which included abolishing the oath to the King.

The Cardiff games in 1958 saw the first mass demonstration against South Africa sports policy outside South Africa. It was the last Commonwealth Games that South Africa was to attend. Not that it was without a fight.

It was only the stand by the emerging black nations at the time of the 1974 Commonwealth Games that forced South Africa out.

ing commissions inhabit a make-believe world where sport is above politics. The trouble is that virtually every decision they make is political.

Australia was granted the third Empire Games in 1966, the first while settlement in the 150th anniversary of the founding of the first white settlement in 1930, when the second Empire Games had been tentatively awarded to South Africa, they were switched to London in 1914 'Avenue of the colour question'.

The Glasgow agreement was an attempt to write that question once for all. Last year's New Zealand was to be seen as an important measure of statehood and national prestige.

It is a measure of just how important it has become that efforts continue to be made by South Africa and its imperialist friends to organize international tours. The Glasgow agreement was an attempt to write that question once for all.

support for sporting contacts with the Apartheid regime. More than half the Commonwealth nations threatened a boycott.

International sport is seen as an important measure of statehood and national prestige. It is a measure of just how important it has become that efforts continue to be made by South Africa and its imperialist friends to organize international tours.

Delegates at Glasgow unanimously agreed to 'discourage contact or competition by their national organizations, teams or sportsmen from South Africa or from any other country where sports are organized on the basis of race, colour or ethnic origin'.

The Glasgow agreement has just been strengthened. Theoretically at least, countries who continue sporting links with South Africa will be expelled from future Games.



**The One Eyed**  
 COLOUR CONTROL  
 BY MIKE GREWCOCK

**FINDING THE FUZZ**  
 THE NIGHT I came home and discovered that someone had broken in and stolen my TV. I fell to the floor and bit a leg off the couch.

Having recovered long enough to partake in the obligatory interview with Sergeants Kuhn and Malke Root from the local Rugby League training camp, I set off in search of something to watch. Anything would do—a term of Malke's Police, Conventry's twenty funniest jokes, a Monday Conference panel discussion on hair transplant techniques featuring Brian Henderson, Eddie Charlton and Harry Britt.

But an announcement of the latest spate of arsonists could have prepared me for what was to come. Sandwiched between an in-depth review of Australia's chances in the Commonwealth in Brisbane and an on-the-spot report from...

The show is liberal, multicultural and scholastic. Each episode breaks into a funky foreword over the fact of the day. Mousheh has a truckful of bits that threatens to make his face look like an amaranthium nut shell.

While walking to a local chemist shop he manages to compose a letter to his music teacher's trials and tribunes was his one. But when Mousheh lay down in the main shop to jamming on her cello with the classical pianist prize maker.

From Zambait was in pursuit of a dancer who had only taken up dancing in her forties because his grandmother had been a war galle silk clothes

**THE BOLSHEVIKS** utilized May Day to carry their revolutionary message to the world. Here the workers of the world are reminded of Karl Marx's call that they "having nothing to lose but their chains."



**"SOCIALISM SOUNDS GOOD** in theory, but you'll never convince most workers of it. The majority of working folk by the mass media

So goes a common criticism levelled against socialists. On the face of it it is a powerful point.

After all, if the majority of workers were former slaves with traditional conservative ideas, then socialism would be impossible.

One of the important insights developed by Karl Marx, however, was the recognition that the ideas of working people can change very quickly and dramatically.

Marx argued that the ideas in people's heads are produced by their day to day experience.

The time of workers' feet themselves to be inferior to their rulers. The festive, helpless and unable to control the things that affect their lives.

The ruling class spreads ideas through the schools, newspapers, television and so on—which appear to make sense of these feelings of inferiority.

They tell workers that they are incapable of running society; that they are fortunate to have an educated elite who understand all the complicated problems of modern society. They tell people that whatever the shortcomings of society, they are lucky to have what they've got and that any attempt to radically improve society will inevitably result in chaos and disorder.

Then, just to give some workers something to feel good about, they claim that some sections of the ruling class are superior to others—men, women, whites to blacks, and so on, in ways they hope to get workers to identify with. The ruling class unite against the class who they fear.

The ruling class use ideas to try to preserve and protect what they have. Since it controls the media and the dominant influence is so great, it is little difficult convincing us that that is view of the world that exists.

This is what Marx had in mind when he wrote that "the ideas of the ruling class are in every epoch its consciousness." The ruling class project a view of the world—a consensus of ideas—which suggests that as in all possible worlds, a world in conformity with their status.

This kind of view of the world is what Marx called an ideology, and this society continues in part because of

**The Art Army**

WHAT WITH the opening of the National Art Gallery I thought it appropriate to discuss a few of the ideas in John Berger's *Art and Revolution*.

The subject of Berger's book is the work of the Russian sculptor Ernst Neizvestny. He is discussing the work of Russian art in the October Revolution and its demise through Stalinism.

The story begins in the revolutionary century where Peter the Great brought into the Russian Empire the Middle Ages into the Europe. Berger touches on the work of Neizvestny including the effects on Russia art in the October Revolution and its demise through Stalinism.

**VLADIMIR TATLIN**, one of the Constructivists created this monument to the new Third International just founded by Lenin. A central cylinder would house meeting halls, the cone offices, the cube an information centre which would broadcast by radio, telephone, telegraph and loudspeakers. Almost none of the designs of this revolutionary artists could be carried out because of lack of funds.

established an Academy which consisted all artists activity. It did this by establishing a set of artistic norms imported from Italy from Western Europe, which enabled the continuation of a "high art" which was not reflecting state ideology.

So through the nineteenth century, the Academy continued to foster an art which reflected the lives of most Russians of the hand proletarians and not the workers as Russia understood.

Many artists rebelled against this restrictive authority but with a limited alternative to their work like illustration or advertising. That is to avoid the evils of the monthly, and then the bourgeoisie and the state.

Artists aimed on the verge of the revolution, to the intent to create a new and new social order free from the Academy, and then the profound and artistic expression of the most advanced new art forms emerged art that tried to reflect the new changes that would be produced.

*For work in a factory* blazes your face with smoke.  
*There's a little line to flip down, cycles at other men's houses, what is the good of that?*  
*If we're the end of our hearts!*  
*Enough of power tractors! The streets are polluted. The squares are broken. The bread is prepared, a book of time, a picture about the days of revolution. Fainting dreamers come out into the streets, by Vladimir Mayakovsky from "An Order to the Art Army," Dec. 1918.*

For a few years after 1917, artists served the revolution and their own intuition in the context of mass revolution. But the spirit of the revolution was destroyed by the denial of the possibility of spreading the revolution through the Communist Party into the masses. Stalin's Stalinitism in the Communist Party into the masses. Stalin's Stalinitism in the Communist Party into the masses.

**Like father like son... like son like father**

**THE FOLLOWING passage sums up the concerns of this book: "In the 1925 NSW election the John Cain campaign extended extensively until he fell through a railway bridge and injured himself."**

**It says something about Cain's physical if not his political agility.**

**Victorian Premier John Cain's father, also John Cain, was leader of the Victorian Labor Party from 1887 until 1957 and Premier twice. His first impressions of the Victorian Parliament, in 1917, sum up parliamentary politics in general, the Assembly "seemed more like a political dead house", said particularly to the interests of the working class.**

Back on the depression, Cain was Minister for Railways when the High Labor Government cut down on its services. On the railways that meant retrenchments and wage cuts.

Like father like son. John Cain junior had increased charges for hospital treatment, subsidies, electricity, gas, car registration.

The ALP accepts the current system of production, unapologetic for profit. So in economic crises, Labor Governments of bank and try to restore "business confidence" by boosting profits and, ultimately, cutting wages.

John Cain's dad was better at this kind of "responsible" politics than conservative political opponents. He brought down two balanced budgets during the 1920s and 1930s.

**Now that Keynesian politics of spending the economy out of recession are no longer fashionable, even in the ALP, we can expect Cain to try for more balanced budgets too.**

"Noble" John Cain is now, particularly inspiring. While sons of the old man that "there is little that is novel in the content of his Parliamentarian" speeches. But the perfect Labor politician can't be very inspiring either.

A Labor politician's job is to win elections by making the party acceptable. Sir or he has to adapt the party's image and policies to the lowest common denominator to popular "commonsense". Trying to win votes to ideas that can help change their own lives and society is not the way to win votes.

Cain senior's image was appropriate for the 1920s, 1940s and perhaps 1950s. He was one of Australia's first plain man "Labour leaders". Cain junior is a classic of Neville Wren, MP/Representative of the 1970s and 1980s.

**Kate White: John Cain and Victorian Labor 1917-1957.** Hale and Remington \$13.95.

PREMIER CAIN

# Workers' ideas change?

By David McNally

Workers accept the capitalist ideology. But the ideology of the ruling class has one serious weakness... it doesn't always make very good sense of the world. It seems to make sense when capitalism is prosperous and stable. In times of crisis of massive unemployment, inflation, and social disorder then things start to look different.

A good example is provided by the workers' revolt in France in 1968. Early in that year two sociologists produced a survey which they claimed proved that French workers had no serious desire for radical ideas.

Two months later, a rebellion of students and workers erupted a ten million strong general strike which featured factory occupations and demonstrations. During this period, revolutionary ideas found a new hearing among tens of thousands of workers.

The experience of acting together to change things can give workers a new confidence. It can shake their sense of

solidarity and break the hold of conservative ideas over their minds. Their minds become open to new and revolutionary ideas. They can be persuaded, often quite easily, that only workers can run society, that workers have the capability of collectively creating a new and democratic society which overcomes poverty in all its forms—a socialist society.

Such ideas do not, of course, jump spontaneously and automatically into workers' minds during periods of intense class struggle. Such ideas have to be advanced, argued for, and explained in the course of struggle.

That is why a revolutionary socialist party is so important. Its job is to lead workers in struggle and to equip them with the revolutionary ideas that they will need to change the world.

Without a revolutionary party that advances an alternative view of the world, workers will miss the chance to transform society. That's why, in the final analysis, a socialist revolutionary party is key in the battle to change ideas.

To be able to lead Labor to victory, another characteristic is necessary. The ALP is made up of factions, competing over power in the party and, more rarely, over principles. Labor leaders have usually tried to stand "above" factions. If successful, they could get the support of all or most factions and prevent an image of unity inside and outside the party.

The older "Cain's axe" or *evolutionary party support* was his opposition to industrialism. This led to stand above factions, but when it came to the crunch, as in the splits of the 1930s and 1950s, he sided with the majority.

From 1917 to 1942 the Labor Party, under Cain, supported a minority Country Party Government. The same thing happened briefly during the 1950s.

In 1952 he did a deal with Nereida Liberals to knock off a conservative Government by backing up in the upper house. His own 1945 Government had fallen because the Legislative Council, elected on a proportional franchise, backed up a Royal Assent from a man who frequently spoke out against the powers of the industrial upper house.

When it comes to this kind of "flexibility" the Cain became leader through a deal between his own right-wing Independent Labor Party and the Socialists.

While Cain's account of the ALP and John Cain is readable but shallow. The story centres around the whistling and dialing and bureaucratic partisans. There is little attempt to relate their real world of work, unemployment and social conflict.

The book illustrates the limitations of the Labor Party (and most of its historians). Cain was content to work within those limitations and hence gave up any hope of really changing society in workers' interests. He summed it up himself.

"Before I entered Parliament I thought I would solve a lot of problems, but I found that when I became a Member of Parliament... the problems were more difficult of solution than I thought."

By Rick Kahn



DEMANDING a 40 hour week, French workers support strike action in 1936.



# the battler

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

# the battler

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

**"SO YOU'RE prepared to slick out this fight!"**

**"Bloody oath mate!"**

At the International Harvester plant in Dandenong, Melbourne, resentment towards the company is growing.

They have been on strike since late last month, with the round the clock picketing. Each night some workers sleep inside the plant. The strike was then joined by workers at the other Harvester plants in Port Melbourne and Geelong.

## Time's up for the hours campaign?

**WHEN THE bosses are faced with any sort of economic downturn, you can bet your life they'll try to make us pay the burden.**

And that's what they're doing now. Right across Australia they are trying to roll back the gains made for shorter hours.

In the building industry and printing trades, the employers are refusing to honor agreements for reductions to 36 and 35 hours respectively.

In the metal trades, shops with their own agreements to reduce below 38 hours are faced with the prospect of employers reneging.

At the dawn of so shops in Brisbane that have agreements for further reductions there has been an official approach by the employer to get out of their obligations.

But a mass meeting of workers from these shops has overwhelmily rejected the Metal Trades Industry Association's (MTIA) plea for a return to normal hours.

Unfortunately, the union officials used the mass meeting to wash their hands of any responsibility for leading a united fight for shorter hours.

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Now all the workforces the sack. Even if all the workers and sales outlets are kept going for the moment, the company is bound to announce more layoffs.

At a minimum, the workers are fighting for guaranteed pro-rata

retrenchment pay plus other entitlements like long service leave. Some have been working at Harvester for 30 years. That adds up to a lot of retrenchment pay under threat—as if losing your job wasn't enough!

Earlier this week workers at Geelong and Port Melbourne, along with clerks at Dandenong accepted a recommendation from the ACTU to go back. But by a margin of more than 2 to 1, the blue collar workers at Dandenong rejected an immediate return to work.

Shop stewards at Dandenong maintained that action should continue until the Victorian Supreme Court had decided on the union's claim for retrenchment pay.

At least some workers at Dandenong were cynical about getting any help from the ALP state government.

"They all worry about themselves. Labor and Liberal—they all the same. Can get \$95,000 a year. Who suffers? You."

With the national log of claims coming up, things look bleak. The officials have already indicated that they are not anxious about the 35 hour week demand in the log. And there is no indication they are prepared to organise a fight to defend even what we already have.

What metal-workers have to do to take action in spite of the officials and go out and win, support themselves.

by Mark Gillespie, ETI

national Harvester Australia is (or was) the market leader in trucks, and one of the leaders in tractors. But IHA is one of the 24 firms competing in trucks, and there are 43 in tractors. Are any of them individually viable in a contracting market?

In any case, the company's viability as a profit-making concern is not our problem. Jobs are.

In fact, the union officials and the ALP almost admit that the intense competition makes IHA unviable when they demand that the Federal Government sign in to protect IHA from cheap overseas imports.

Banning imports on a large scale would rebound back on workers in other countries by threatening their jobs. Those countries might retaliate by boosting protection against Australian products—increasing job losses all round.

But even if they didn't, increased protection is stopped by the ALP. Australia would not keep

typical

A more typical response from the picket line was, "Straight down the line mate typical bloody Yankee!" Some thought the Australians from would be viable if it wasn't tied to the sack US parent government.

This argument is being pushed by the Vehicle Builders Union (VBU) officials and the ALP. It's true that Inter-

In your Battler this issue



October, 1917—see p.6/7

BHP... cast iron albatross? —p.8/9

Solidaristic can still win—p.5

The paper that fights for workers power

Represented by Australia Post—publication no. 93F 5027 No. 136 November 6, 1982 30 cents

# FIGHT FOR YOUR



# JOBS NOW!

**SUDDENLY everyone's saying it.**

Politicians, professors, newspaper editors and the bosses are all singing the same tune.

They tell us we can all help stop the recession—by cutting our wages.

If only we'd accept a pay "pause" this year, when prices are rising by almost 12%, then, they assure us, the economic climate will improve.

But cutting wages means we can buy less goods. And if we can buy less goods, less goods will be produced, and more people will be thrown out of work.

The current wave of sackings will not be stopped by wage cuts or by working shorter hours for less money or by accepting voluntary retrenchments. They can only be stopped by fighting back against the bosses' attacks.

That means following the example of the Kenira miners and occupying work places where sackings are threatened. It means building demonstrations like the Unemployment's November 12 march in Melbourne.

The fight for jobs starts now!

**Defend our jobs—p.3**

A SMASHING success! The press were horrified about the sanctity of parliament being defiled, but they were not so concerned about the parliamentary humbugs from both sides that they were not meekly accepting being thrown on the unemployment scrap heap. Now the struggle must be extended to defend every job under threat.

ANOTHER BATTLE QUIZ

DOLE APPLICANTS WAIT HERE

**Why haven't you got a job?!**

1. It's all my fault.
2. It's all your fault.
3. It's all our fault.
4. It's the system's fault.
5. It's the fucking system's fault!!!

If you ticked boxes 1, 2 or 3 you really need to subscribe to the Battler. If you ticked box 4 you will subscribe to the Battler. And if you ticked box 5, you already subscribe to the Battler... so what are you doing sitting there playing with quizzes, you've got work to do!

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**Fight the rent outrage**

**HUNDREDS of families will be forced to leave their homes if the Bjelke-Petersen government gets its way.**

The Queensland Housing Commission is planning to change its current rental index which will be calculated on all money coming into a home. This includes your kid's dolls!

Housing Minister Wharton has argued that the doubling of some families' rents is justified. He says the government's policy is not to continue to assist families where they are "no longer in need".

But the ruling class understands only too well that it's easier to win a victory over people who are divided than over the housing issue worker pointed out that the families who'll be forced out of their homes this year will be those in the Commission waiting lists next year!

Even those people who are not initially affected by the rent rise are angry and militant. The ALP has called a number of rallies in commission areas and got good attendance.

But they haven't provided the leadership that the tenants are looking for. Their solution is to petition the Government for a later rental index and of course, vote Labor next election.

But every one knows that you can't vote Bjelke out of office.

And while politicians have their places, they are no

**Substitute for a fight!**

substitute for a fight! The groups in many areas like the ALP and Woodbridge and against the present rent rise would be organized and get the Housing Commission to back down.

A working class campaign is possible. It's a matter of leadership.

Don't be a passive member of the battler's fight.

by Mark Gillespie

Another frame in the...

# HILTON FABRICATORS

**WE WANTED the Hilton to clear our names—but a witch hunt was conducted against us! That was the reaction of Ross Dunn to the decision of Coroner Walsh to declare the existence of a case against Dunn, Paul Alister, and Tim Anderson for the Hilton bombing.**

**We're sick of having our names dragged through the mud with no chance to answer it,** said Ross. But the Hilton inquest last month was just another incident in the four and a half year story of frame-up and cover-up.

The three men are currently serving 12 year sentences after being found guilty by Special Branch on a charge of having tried to kill Nazi Robert Cameron to win \$25,000. They now go to trial on the charge of bombing the Hilton.

The case for indicting Anderson, Dunn and Alister rests entirely on the allegations of a Special Branch informer—Richard Sney's. Sney's lies have been known for 4½ years, but suddenly they have become grounds for a trial.

"His allegations are full of holes," said Coroner Walsh, "and the inquest immediately after hearing Sney and wouldn't allow lawyers representing the three men to present evidence which would have demonstrated that evidence included at least thirty derogatory statements that Alister was an Adelaide at the time of the bombing."

In the evidence of the garage track driver who was away by police. He says that 7 hours before Ross Dunn, Daniel Dunne and the bomb the "who was" full see could have put a match in it."

## By Steve Sherlock

It's Sney's history of mental instability and drug addiction of the many changes which Sney has made to his allegations, over the years, and the fact that he has admitted lying to police, the most step is to press for a trial of the "various conspiracy case."

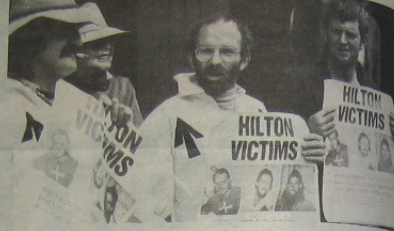
The white shirting business shows the threat presented by political police in this country. The campaign is not just to free Anderson, Dunn and Alister but a fight against the ever increasing attacks on civil liberties and political rights.

In the words of Ross Dunn, "We have borne the brunt of so many of the forces of repression in this country—the police, press, courts—the police, press, courts and prisons. Our experience would be an eye-opener for anyone who still has faith in the system."

## Labor moves Wright in Qld.

Wright came to fame in 1979 for fiddling his parliamentary car travel perks, and consolidated his reputation by being the only ALP parliamentarian to vote for Burke-Peterson's medical anti-abortion legislation.

Gaedy's leadership was part of a compromise to get the AWC (Australia's Workers Union) back into



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## MASS SACKINGS are becoming a way of life in Australia.

From Melbourne to Whyalu, from Preston to TAA, the bosses are throwing us onto the scrap heap by the thousands.

Unemployment even according to the government's conservative figures reached 500,000 by the end of September, and it will go to 750,000 by next year. Every calling of the workforce is being hit: women and men, school leavers and people with twenty or thirty years' service.

We are already looking at us as early decades, and who is to say that much more is not around the corner? But why rise, across the politicians. Yet last year had a Federal government with a policy of massive attacks on our wages and also on our services in seven years. In 1980, the welfare gap since unemployment has increased greatly steadily.

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## SEEKING A BETTER JOB!

During the depression of the thirties, every citizen in the globe tried to get out of the unemployment trap. In the NSW South Coast and at Melbourne has shown the way. The boss may not want us, but they want their means and equipment, and if we settle out of us we are in a better position.

Unemployment is a quick response. The only way to get out of the unemployment trap is to get out of the unemployment trap. The only way to get out of the unemployment trap is to get out of the unemployment trap.

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## UNEMPLOYMENT...

What if I take a wage cut?

A noble gesture. But in the long run he'll lose his job anyway. It's sad, but it's part of the system.

How about raising tariffs?

A patriotic gesture. But in the long run it will start a trade war and he'll lose his job anyway. It's sad but it's part of the system.

Let's change the system then?

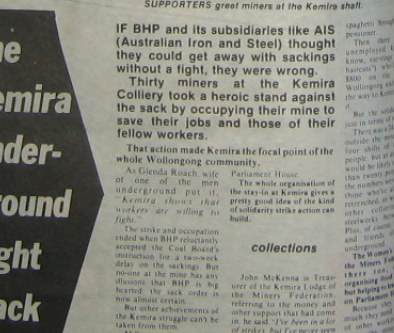
Yes, sir, but it's part of the system.

SOLIDARITY at the combined stopwork meeting at the Wollongong Showground.



ONE OF the placards at the march through Wollongong captures the attitude of the bosses.

SUPPORTERS' great miners at the Kemira shaft.



John McKenna, I Treasurer of the Kemira Lodge of the Miners Federation referring to the money and other support that had come in from the Miners' Federation.

Underground Bulletin—'with the building "Drip on the drip".'



Underground Bulletin—'with the building "Drip on the drip".'

THE 'KEMIRA Embassy'—never away during the occupation.



THE 'KEMIRA Embassy'—never away during the occupation.





**THE RUSSIAN WORKING class took charge. No more Czars. No more aristocrats. No more corrupt politicians, profiteers, or military bullies.**

The working people ran the fields, the factories, the army, and the government itself.

It was the Russian Revolution, October, 1917. Only two years ago it may seem far off, strange, alien to the world we live in today.

**conditions**

But take a closer look at the conditions that led ordinary working people in Russia to revolution.

A country of 150 million people was being developed by World War I, the most brutal war civilization had ever seen.

Russian workers and peasants, often without proper shoes or uniforms, went to the front to be killed by German soldiers—all to decide which group of bosses would control the wealth of China, India and Africa.

But not everyone in Russia suffered from the war.

In 1914, the first year of the war, profits reached fabulous levels.

The Moscow textile factory of the Rubanovskys showed a net profit of 75 per cent; the Tser company, 111 per cent; the copper works of Kolchugin netted over 12 million (rubles) or 140 million dollars.

The description comes from Leon Trotsky, one of the greatest leaders of the Russian Revolution.

Trotsky wrote, "Lately in waiting Vykhov (the top servant of the royal family) says that in no other season were such goods to be seen as the winter of 1915-16, and never were so many diamonds purchased."

Unemployment was massive. Starvation widespread. The economy near collapse.

Over a million soldiers returned from the front to find no work and no way to make a living.

The agricultural and industrial resources of the nation were denuded by the war machine. For the population, goods were scarce, high-priced, or just unavailable.

By the end of 1916 prices were soaring. By the beginning of 1917, the bread supply of St. Petersburg, the capital of Russia, was nearly exhausted.

The government was run by crooks, surrounded by scandals, bribes and cover-ups.

The royal family (called the Czar and Czarina) were controlled by a drunk and

lunatic mystic called Rasputin. He used the treasury to pay off his friends and finance his orgies.

You might say it was like having the work days of the government controlled by Charles Manson.

But didn't the bourgeoisie of Russia who were getting rich off the war? They were liberal reformers who didn't think the country should be run crooked as the rest.

There was a sort of Liberal Party in Russia, called the Kadet (Constitutional Democratic Party).

It talked about reform, about getting rid of the crooks at the top, about restoring peoples' faith in the government.

Meanwhile it was funded and controlled by big business. It supported the war which was ruining the country.

And as the country fell to pieces, the liberals stopped talking reform and started demanding law and order.

The Kadet leader, Milyukov said in 1915: "We are waking on a volcano. The tension has reached its extreme limit. A carelessly dropped match will be enough to start a terrible conflagration. Whatever the government—good or bad—a strong government is needed now more than ever before."

These conditions are certainly very different from those we are living in right now.

But while they're different, they are certainly not so strange or foreign, or hard to imagine.

There is nothing strange about big business and the rich profiting from the suffering of the majority.

The Russian Revolution broke out in order to survive.

It began in February, 1917, when housewives and working women demonstrated in the streets, demanding bread.

Then the old monarchy fell. The liberal reformers came into power.

And—nothing changed.

Just to survive, the Russian workers had to start organizing to take over the factories, and the army and the government.

In October, 1917, 65 years ago they succeeded.

The workers' movement of workers' councils led and armed by the revolutionary socialist Bolshevik Party, overthrew the capitalists' government and put the Russian working class in power.

The story of the Russian Revolution is the story of millions of working men and women struggling to organize to change. And finally to control their own lives.

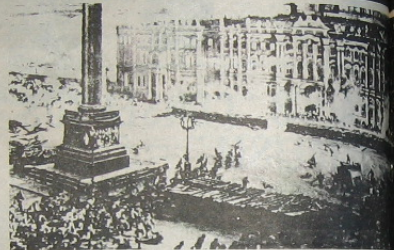


**THE RELATIONSHIP of Rasputin with the Czar and the Czarina was subjected to savage caricature. Here they are shown as puppets of the monk.**

**REVOLUTION brought down the huge statue of Czar Alexander III which had been erected in the Cathedral court of the Moscow Kremlin. Workmen ascended the metal figure, broke it to bits and toppled it to the ground.**

# OCTOBER, 1917

**To most Australians, Russian communism means dictatorship. It is suppression of human rights. There is no denying that this has been the case for over fifty years. But it wasn't always like that. In its first years, the Russian Revolution was democratic workers' government. Workers**



**WORKERS STORM the Winter Palace. The photograph was actually taken in 1918.**

**controlled the economy. Great strides were made toward the liberation of women, national minorities and all working people. This working class democracy was undermined by years of civil war. Invasion by the armies of twenty-one nations. And the resulting economic collapse. In spite of its eventual defeat, the working class revolution accomplished in Russia in 1917 was one of the greatest steps ever taken toward workers' power and socialism.**



**HE WHO does not work, neither shall he eat: the ex-bourgeois at compulsory labour, 1918.**

**THE REVOLUTIONARY workers' Russia didn't start big. It didn't start with thousands—or even tens of thousands.**

It grew over the years out of the struggle for people for economic and political justice.

The organization that actually led the Revolution, the Bolshevik Party, was smaller than you'd think.

And when the revolution first broke out in February, the Bolsheviks had only 30,000 members.

By October, when the Russian Revolution victorious, they were 250,000 strong.

Of course, the Bolsheviks could not take over the revolution, nor the revolution have succeeded, without political leadership and will of the working class.

It took more than 20 years for the Russian workers' movement to get itself organized and prepared for the revolution. It started with the IWWs, when very small groups of socialists began organizing factory circles and groups.

**political**

Dozens, even hundreds, of small groups were broken up, defeated, and had to start over.

It took nearly ten years of struggle before workers were able to organize themselves into a political party with a regular newspaper.

It was in the years when the Russian working class grew most rapidly, as new factories were being built, that the Russian workers' movement was able to gain higher wages, reduce the 16 and 18-hour work days, and so on.

Most strikes were defeated. Workers were attacked by the police, shot at, arrested, and union organizing was outlawed.

But these fights produced greater awareness. Workers committed to the long-term struggle

for freedom.

In every strike, in every battle against the bosses and government's police, the socialists were the people who urged their fellow workers:

"Hold your own strength!"

"Build your own organization! Your own unions! Your own strike committees! Mobilize the rank and file!"

And it was the revolutionary socialists who found a mass movement of women workers, who demanded the rights of oppressed national minorities, who demanded real democracy.

The revolutionary wing of the Russian workers' movement formed the Bolshevik Party.

In 1917, it was the Bolsheviks who called for the factory councils to link up to spread, to seize the factories, to take power into their own hands.

The vast majority of the working class was won to the Bolsheviks demanding for a revolutionary government of workers' councils when every other social solution was tried and had failed.

Australia in 1982 is far different from Russia in 1917.

Russia was the world's poorest capitalist nation, Australia is one of the richest.

Australia today there is only the traces beginning of a socialist movement in the working class—weak and far from the Russian Socialist workers' movement of the 1910s.

The Australian working class is also larger, more powerful and better organized in industry than the Russian workers of that time.

It is most important, large sections of Australian workers are beginning to feel the effect of a new world capitalist crisis.

As we witness one industry, one factory after another, Australian workers are looking for ways to struggle to form unions, to gain higher wages, to reduce the 16 and 18-hour work days, and so on.

But these fights produced greater awareness. Workers committed to the long-term struggle



**A RED ARMY parade in Red Square, 1918.**

**IN OCTOBER, 1917, for the first time in Russia's history, the nobles, the landlords, the rich and the die had lost their power to rule society.**

Now the "ordinary" people—the millwrights, the seamstresses, the housewives—were governing the vast country.

They governed themselves democratically. Millions of active and organized Russian workers had become the new state power.

**exchange**

To do so, it was not enough for a few individuals to exchange places with the old government officials. It was necessary for the masses to be handed down orders from above.

They needed an entirely new system of power.

When they started out, most Russian workers did not believe they could win.

Most did not believe they could run the factories without the foremen.

Most soldiers did not believe the army would function without officers to hand down orders.

In fact, the first stages of the revolution, in February 1917 saw the replacement of the Czarist government with a liberal government. These liberals continued to put things in the old way, maintaining capitalist industry, private ownership of the big estates, and continuing the war.

The Czar was gone and the aristocrats on the run, but the Romanovs remained the same for the masses of people.

But as the workers began fighting for improved conditions, as the peasants began demanding land and the people began demanding bread, they found themselves forced to organize, to take power.

A worker who had been paid to taking orders and being kicked around was faced with the question

of how to organize production on his own.

Mass meetings were held frequently in the plants. And the same process began happening in the neighbourhoods over housing, among the peasants on the land, lost's estates, and in the military.

In the cities, towns and villages, representatives were elected from the factories, farms, and neighbourhoods to establish worker, peasant food and make the political decisions necessary for life to go on.

The bodies were called "workers' councils" or "soviets."

As the liberal government that replaced the Czar proved more and more unable to meet the needs of the people, the workers, peasants and soldiers turned to the workers' councils for help.

Soldiers refused to obey orders from the "legal" government and asked the workers' councils for direction.

Peasants performed the workers' councils to "seize" their own control over the land.

And everyone looked to the councils to end the disastrous war.

**councils**

Now the soldiers, workers and peasants trusted no one's orders but the workers' councils. The formal government was unable to get any of its decisions enforced.

Even before the October Revolution declared them the legal government of Russia, the workers' councils had become the national state power.

The Russian workers and peasants established their own democratic government because they had no choice. They could either take power or be crushed.

They were not born revolutionaries or forced as revolutionaries. A system in crisis drove them on strike, to form revolutionary organizations, and finally to set up their own government.

**PRICE £1.50 includes postage from 102 Books 'P' Box 46, Flemington, NSW or \$1.20 from your local L.S. centre (p. 11)**

In 1917, for the first time in world history, a workers' government took power in Russia. Out of the bloodbath of the First World War an alternative and better society was born. But within 20 years it was dead, murdered by a new class, a new exploit-Station. Why did it happen?

Alan Gibbons

**RUSSIA**

How the revolution was lost

**SOMETHING HAPPENING WHERE YOU WORK? Write for the Battler**

# WORKERS' POLITICAL ACTION



## Writing out the revolutionary

**AS DEADLINES loomed, Renko came to the rescue in time for me to catch remnants of 'Get Smart,' 'Star Wars' and 'The Red Orchestra'.**

Renko sarcasm still keeps 'Get Smart' amongst the best shows on television and sheer escapism! Most manages to rescue 'Star Wars' from being your average, reactionary fairy tale. But the Red Orchestra series of 0/25—based on the Russian... in Nazi Germany—is a disappointing waste.

It is waste because the man who was responsible for the Red Orchestra's creation—Leopold Trepper—was a revolutionary who survived to kill the world of the savagery of Stalinism but who has been portrayed as a little more than a character from a John Le Carré novel.

Trepper was a Polish Jew whose political history goes back to the Hashomer Hatzair—a Jewish youth organisation he joined as a teenager. Panfueled as a socialist and a Jew, he fled in 1923 to Palestine. But the political reality of Zionism soon found Trepper as a member of the Palestinian Communist Party.

Even though the rich Jewish employers who lived very comfortably employed Arab agricultural workers almost exclusively... One evening after supper I mentioned this to my friends. If the landowners call themselves Zionists, why do they use only Arab labour?

It is simple, The Histradut—the General Federation of Jewish Workers—emits only Jews, and requires employers to pay a minimum wage. So the employers prefer to hire Arabs, who aren't protected by any union.

This discovery profoundly disturbed my serene dejection. I had begun to realize that the Zionist bourgeoisie, imbued with privileges, was trying to perpetuate the very social relations we wanted to abolish. It was rediscovering the class struggle, under the cloak of Jewish national unity.

Trepper was forced to leave Palestine for Paris in 1929 and proceeded to Moscow in 1932. This young man who arrived in Red Square in 1932, increased, impoverished and hungry strike workers in the name of revolution. He could barely stomach what he found.

The glow of October was being extinguished in the shadows of underground chemistry. The revolution had degenerated into a system of terror and horror. The ideals of socialism were ridiculed in the name of a fossilized dogma which the landowners still had the authority to call Marxism.

The terror did not only extend to Party activists

and political opponents who got in Stalin's way... More than anyone else, the NKVD (Secret Police) was responsible... It is a spy network, accepted. The Red Orchestra, as it became known, is the only part of the Trepper story which has had much attention paid to it.

In 1947, Trepper was sentenced to fifteen years imprisonment... Under the leadership of Stalin, our country has become a world empire. It is too bad that Stalin isn't a real czar. He has all the qualifications.

Trepper recalls bitterly... 'Zsuzgin, the tactical anti-Semite, the promoter of pogroms, was released well before the Communist militants. He was assigned a dacha in the village where, even today, he continues to work, the tireless enologist of the Stalin regime.'

Trepper found himself under virtual house arrest and his sons led into exile. An international campaign was launched surrounding him. He died last year.

No television series will ever give adequate testimony to the life of Leopold Trepper. Could you imagine closing credits which read: 'This century has brought forth two masters, fascism and Stalinism, and our ideal has been engulfed in this apocalyptic. The absolute idea that guided our lives has acquired a face, a face meaning to us no longer recognisable. I do not regret regret the commitment of my youth, I do not regret the pain I have taken... I know that youth will succeed where we have failed, that socialism will triumph, and that it will not have the colour of the Russian tanks that crushed Prague.'

It is encouraging, however, that, through the tax system, a new government investment in other industries, looking less and less socialist, is also helping to close down some of its inefficient, non-competitive plants, and its operational performance is improving.

In the middle of last year BHP announced the closure of the open hearth furnace at Kwinana in Western Australia. There in March this year, The Big Australian asked if a ban on steel imports would restrict steel imports to between 10% and 15% of the Australian market.

Whether the recession is the basic problem, it imports. In its submission for more aid, BHP subsidiary Lyngby's made it clear that quotas on imports would only be necessary in the short term. It would again be competitive (that is, profitable) without restrictions.

In the last budget, the government offered BHP tax concessions. But a week after the budget, Fraser decided not to grant all of BHP's requests for increased production.

Imports will not be restricted further than in 1981-82. This means that imports' percentage share of the local steel market will be less than 10%.

STEEEL WORKERS

VICTIMS of nazi genocide in a concentration camp.

# BHP... A CASE FOR IDOL ALBATROSS?

## UNEMPLOYMENT IS about to ravage the Australian steel industry, following the world trend. RICK KUHN takes a look at the problems, and some possible solutions, for BHP's steel workers.

**AFTER WORLD WAR II** there was a rapid rise in steel production, particularly in Japan. During the 1950's and early 1970's production also increased, quickly in poorer countries like South Korea and Indonesia. Now with the world recession, the potential steel output from mills cannot be absorbed by the world market.

At first the international recession did not affect Australia too badly. The resources boom insulated the domestic steel industry. The resources boom has now collapsed, and with it the large market for steel in new building projects. And so, since the time the world recession has deepened, BHP has long held a monopoly on the Australian steel market. It is the only producer, and is protected from overseas rivals by tariffs and quotas on imported steel.

The company has been in no hurry to scrap old less efficient equipment when it was guaranteed a profit anyway. Until the early 1980's, BHP could export its steel on the fiercely competitive world market due to a mild cyclical upturn in international demand.

Now, with all the big capitalist economies in recession, BHP's finding of a market in a facing more competition on the Australian market. The company has had to postpone (which in many cases probably means abandon) cost cutting projects, and cut back on iron ore exports. In 1981-2 it was at its first loss on steel-making in 50 years.

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STEEL WORKERS and miners unite to march on parliament house. Last late month.

# There's no point in looking to a Labor government to solve the steel crisis

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IMPORTED Japanese scrap piling up on a US wharf. But banning imports won't save jobs in the steel industry.

## During Lockout at Broken Hill

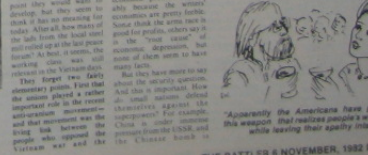
**BHP** has always treated its workers the same as bosses have treated their wages slaves the world over. The masks were against good old class differentiation.

## Failing to tackle the Arms Race

By Tom O'Lincoln

**EVERYBODY TALKS** about nuclear disarmament, and quite a lot of people are doing something about it. But in Australia, at least, done new theoretical work on the subject.

## WAR! WHAT FOR?



FRONT COVER of Direct Action, paper of the Industrial Workers of the World, 1914. War What For? For the workers and their descendants: Party, starvation, poverty and unjust money. For the capitalist class: Profit, power, and the blood of millions, rich and poor. War is Hell. Send the capitalists to hell and wars are impossible.



THE OMEGA navigation base in East Gippsland, Victoria, was officially opened on October 22—and to greet it, there were demonstrations in Melbourne and Sydney and at the base itself.

The 400 strong Melbourne demonstration PND organised by the Baus sub-committee of PND (People for Nuclear Disarmament) marched to the offices of Rankin. We burnt the US and the Russian flags to show our opposition to both warmongering superpowers.

The base will provide navigational signals for US nuclear armed submarines, war ships and planes.

We will direct US nuclear armed bomber killer submarines which would play a central role in knocking out Russian nuclear submarines in a US-UK strike which will be integral to Reagan's scenario for a 'winnable' nuclear war. Omega would be a Russian target to any future nuclear war.

originally proposed by the Baus sub-committee of PND, has unfortunately the PND Executive refused to endorse it. So the members of the Baus sub-committee formed the Campaign to Stop Omega to go ahead and organise the action.

The next step in the campaign to stop Omega will be the demonstration at the base on Sunday November 21.

There will be a car cavalcade from Melbourne to the site near Woodlark East Gippsland. Then the demonstrators plan to climb the low surrounding fence and march onto the site. We will march to the high security area, and possibly stage a sit-down outside the administration building.

The demonstrators are militant. The Baus sub-committee felt it was important to have militant and determined actions against Omega to show the Fraser and Reagan governments that we weren't merely going to acquiesce to their war plans. Direct action

# the battler

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

## STOP OMEGA



**U.S. BASES ARE NUCLEAR TARGETS**  
**DEMONSTRATE NOVEMBER 21**

**Car and bus cavalcade assembles Dallas Brookton (Victoria Pde, East Melbourne), departs 3.30 pm promptly. Or join us at Dandenong Market 10.15 am. Arriving at Darman (East Gippsland) 3.15 pm. Child care or lifts phone 80 4648.**

**SYDNEY: RALLY AND MARCH SATURDAY 20 NOVEMBER**  
**Assemble 10.30 am Belmore Park. March to Hyde Park south for concert and speakers.**

**IN SYDNEY, about 70 people demonstrated outside the U.S. Consulate. The picketers chanted 'Nuclear Disarmament East and West—Out Now' and distributed leaflets to the lunchtime crowd. The group was organised by a new organisation in Sydney—the Action Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (ACND).**

But the fact is that ANZUS is a war alliance. The US bases stationed here, the presence of facilities for nuclear ships and landing rights for B-52 bombers and so on are the key Australian contribution to the alliance. To oppose US bases but not ANZUS itself puts PND in an impossible, contradictory situation. The only wing opponents of disarmament will exploit this movement unless we confront the issue of ANZUS. head on. PND needs to point out to people who are worried about the threat of nuclear war that ANZUS is central to Australian involvement in the war.

Another picket line was held at the Belmore Park. The picketers chanted 'Nuclear Disarmament East and West—Out Now' and distributed leaflets to the lunchtime crowd. The group was organised by a new organisation in Sydney—the Action Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (ACND).

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Number 137 November 20, 1982 30 cents

# MAKE THE RICH PAY!



# NO WAGE FREEZE - p.2

**"WE'RE NOT GOING TO lie down and accept being thrown on the scrap heap."**

**That was the angry message of the unemployed protesters who stormed the luxurious Melbourne Club.**

**The 4,000 strong 'Stop the City Rally' in Melbourne was the biggest demonstration so far against the rising tide of mass unemployment. And it was a great start to what must be an ongoing militant campaign to make the rich pay for the crisis of their system.**

By sitting down for twenty minutes to block city streets, burning the Stock Exchange flag, throwing rocks and missiles through the windows of the Melbourne Club and finally smashing in the doors of that exclusive preserve of the idle rich, the unemployed and their supporters showed that they were not going to heed the pleas of sanctimonious newspaper editorialists to be "respectable" and "non-violent".

It's true that protests by themselves won't turn the tide against mass sackings. Only widespread industrial action and the occupation of workplaces threatening retrenchments can do that.

Still, these protests can raise morale and confidence for the bigger struggles to come. The next step is to link up some of the enthusiasm, vigour and determination shown by the unemployed with the potential power of workers still in jobs.

**EMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYED, UNITE AND FIGHT!**



COMMISSION tenants picket parliament house, Brisbane.

## Housing fight spreads

**BJELKE HAS outdone himself this time. He's charging people for the privilege of living together.**

As reported in *Battler* #134, rent in Queensland Housing Commission houses will now be assessed on all incomes coming into a home, whether wages or welfare benefits.

In Inala, around 22,000 people will be affected. And there are tens of thousands more in other Brisbane suburbs like Woodridge, Goodna and Riverview.

The Housing Commission Front Committee has stepped up its activity. A picket of Parliament House has been held and more protest meetings are taking place in Inala. There is a longer term plan for a bigger rally in Roma St. Forum for people from all commission areas to get together.

The Dennis and Fred, two people on the protest committee, their rent will increase by about \$50 dollars, because Dennis' parents who are on the aged pension live with them.

They know it's not just themselves who are being affected. If you are on a wage, or a pension with children working or receiving benefits (and there are plenty who do) you'll be affected too. Welfare payment gets whittled

### alliance

Another important issue raised at the General Meeting was whether the disarmament movement should oppose ANZUS alliance. Members of the PND Executive argued that we should not, or come out in opposition to ANZUS, as there was broad public support for the US alliance and we did not want to be seen as anti-American.

But the fact is that ANZUS is a war alliance. The US bases stationed here, the presence of facilities for nuclear ships and landing rights for B-52 bombers and so on are the key Australian contribution to the alliance.

To oppose US bases but not ANZUS itself puts PND in an impossible, contradictory situation. The only wing opponents of disarmament will exploit this movement unless we confront the issue of ANZUS. head on. PND needs to point out to people who are worried about the threat of nuclear war that ANZUS is central to Australian involvement in the war.

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**ANOTHER BATTLE QUIZ:**

**WHY haven't you got a job?!**

1. It's all my fault.
2. It's all your fault.
3. It's all our fault.
4. It's the system's fault.
5. It's the fucking system's fault!

If you ticked boxes 1, 2 or 3 you really need to subscribe to *The Battler*. If you ticked box 4 you will subscribe to *The Battler*. If you ticked box 5, you already subscribe to *The Battler*. If you are doing sitting there playing with quizzers, you are a good person.

**Make sure you get your copy of the Battler every issue.** Just \$10 a year (or \$25 for a supporting subscription).

Name and post to: P.O. Box 86, Flemington Vic. 3022

Address: \_\_\_\_\_



# are "in our own interest"

### Open Slather

WE MUST be the good country. The Minister for the Capital Territory referred to the Murrumbidgee region as a "socially deprived area" in a speech designed with some of the statements which he said were contrary to the national interest.

The age is that wonderful paper which glorified against the unemployed protesters who invaded Parliament House and the Murrumbidgee Club and used the "depression" as an excuse for their behaviour.

Words like "the economy," "the dollar" and "the public interest" are used in the same way: the intention is to throw words in people's eyes to prevent them thinking about the real issues. It is often very effective. Words can be weapons and if people can be made to think in terms of these big abstractions it is very much easier to mislead them.

Max called this type of thinking "fetishism". A fetish, according to the Oxford dictionary, is "an inanimate object worshipped by savages as having magical powers or being animated by a spirit". The natives of West Africa used to make wooden idols of fantastic animals which they believed had real minds and powers of their own. Humans often act in the same way and if people can be made to think of the strength of the dollar is neither more or less rational than to pay homage to a money-headed deity.

Fetishism means assuming that things have intelligence and that society can be seen mainly as a relationship between people and things rather than between people and people. In the mist-developed regions of the religious world, the production of idols can appear as independent beings endowed with life, and entering into relations with one another and with the human race.

There are limits to the way that we persuade most of their audience that the rules of some faraway African are sacred, but even if it's not true, it's very hard for them to persuade people to disagree with their own experiences. Successful propaganda - public relations - the term favoured nowadays - is based on some facts well known to the audience. These are then fitted into the story that the company or the government wishes to have believed. Very large sums of money are spent on "attitude research" for this reason.

Attitudes are not fixed and unalterable. People are heavily influenced by the opinions of the group they work in. The role of the militants is very important in developing resistance to media manipulation.

**THE COUNTRY** can't afford it. It can be anything from free milk for school children to decent pay for postal workers. Now the country is, strictly speaking, a geographical expression. Of course people who talk like this do not really mean it. They will continue to admit that what they mean is that the people living here can't afford it.

Put in that way the statement is much less effective because it is obvious that we are talking about how to share our available income among those who are poor. The trick is to give the impression that there is something called "the country" which is somehow different from the people who live in it, and paper or actual bank ledgers. The paper and the entries are only tokens of that power which we have got so far as we well on the way to asking you on earth the working people of this or any other country should tolerate a state of affairs in which a handful of speculators can exercise power over you.



**WORDS LIKE "THE ECONOMY," "THE DOLLAR" AND "THE PUBLIC INTEREST" ARE USED IN THE SAME WAY: THE INTENTION IS TO THROW WORDS IN PEOPLE'S EYES TO PREVENT THEM THINKING ABOUT THE REAL ISSUES.**

**THE CLOUDBAND** ballroom in Brisbane fell to the developers' bulldozers in the early hours of November 7. It seems that the Dem family same way that used to be the case with the Ballroom dominated the Brisbane skyline and had a lot of sentimental importance for locals as a popular dance hall. In recent years, there has been no chance to stop the demolition, the owners will get off with a maximum fine of \$200 for not having a permit.

**THE SHAMELESS** have earned shame has been public attention... It is quite easy for them to persuade most of their audience that the rules of some faraway African are sacred, but even if it's not true, it's very hard for them to persuade people to disagree with their own experiences.

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**THE MEANING OF MARXISM**  
Duncan Hallas

**CHILDREN'S CAMPAIGN ORGANISATION**  
CHILDREN are the most vulnerable in our society. They are the most impressionable and the most easily manipulated. They are the most likely to be used as pawns in the game of power.

**THE REMAINS OF WHAT WAS ONCE A MIXED LOYALIST-BRITANNIC NEIGHBOURHOOD.** The inhabitants fled from the fighting.

**MORE OF THE SAME IN NORTHERN IRELAND**  
LAST MONTH'S election results for the Northern Ireland Assembly were one big kick in the teeth for British Tory Party.

**PROTESTANT** Christians are the most vocal of the religious world. They are the most likely to be used as pawns in the game of power. They are the most likely to be used as pawns in the game of power.

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# ...erms of ANZUS

AUSTRALIA is primarily linked into the nuclear arms race by the US military bases stationed here. On the New Guinea, New Caledonia, Norfolk, North West Cape and the West Coast undoubtedly to be targets in a future nuclear war. But more than that, these bases assure that Australia will be actively involved in fighting such a war.

Opposition to the war bases and to the visits by US nuclear armed warships inevitably raises one of the thorniest issues in Australian politics—the American alliance itself.

Most people see the alliance as integral to the defence of Australia. The ease of breaking with ANZUS raises all sorts of fears about a Russian invasion or the threat from the yellow horde.

The reality is, however, that ANZUS has got nothing at all to do with defending the interests of the average worker. It is an agreement between the bosses of Australia, New Zealand and the US to defend their interests in South East Asia and the Pacific.

This becomes clear when we look at the origins of the alliance during World War II. The war with Japan was first and foremost, a war for control of the Pacific and its wealth. It was Japanese imperialism plied against the Americans defending the British and other colonial remnants.

It was the attitude of both major political parties in Australia that our defence could only be secured in the framework of a powerful ally.



IN 1963, this cartoon summed up the Australian desire to establish British Imperialism in New Guinea.

plan an important part in actively encouraging imperial penetration into the region. It does this enthusiastically, egging on US military intervention (as did Vietnam) and, more importantly, by acting as a spearhead for economic penetration.

Australian capital has flowed steadily into Papua New Guinea, the Pacific and South East Asia, taking its partners, chiefly the US, Japan and Britain with it in joint projects.

encourage

One of the main roles of Australia's foreign policy has been to encourage the US in its ambitions in the region. Its military presence in the Indian and Pacific Oceans has been urged at every opportunity, ever greater machinery are provided wherever possible. In the last year alone we have seen the opening of the Omega base and the extension of landing rights for B52s in Darwin.

The struggle against ANZUS and the bases and facilities that go with it, is a struggle against both US imperialism and the Australian ruling class which has embraced it so enthusiastically.

But it would be stupid to pretend that the Alliance has been forced on a hostile or reluctantly reluctant population.



THE ENTRANCE TO North West Cape US Naval Communications base.

The first task of socialists is to look reality in the face and the reality is that most Australians—and this includes most workers—support ANZUS.

The reasons for this are fairly clear. The idea of a threat from the north has been deeply implanted in Australian consciousness. In fact, it goes to the very heart of Australian nationalism.

From the outset Australian nationalism has been pro-imperialist. It has to do with our colonial origins as a white settler state in Asia.

Having secured the continent by almost exterminating the aborigines, Australian governments rapidly turned to sub-imperialist adventures. As early as 1929 they demanded the annexation of New Zealand and then seized New Guinea.

Not only did this expansionism increase the prosperity of the colonies, it was coupled with inevitable notions of racial superiority. Nationalism and racism pervaded all classes, and even the radical tradition in Australia was far from immune from these prevailing attitudes.

They served to tie the working class to or other wing of the ruling class—originally the liberal manufacturers, more recently the local bosses against the multinationals.

Australian bosses have mixed attitudes to foreign



THE ENTRANCE TO North West Cape US Naval Communications base.

investor, needing their money but resenting their influence. A widespread and easily mobilised hostility to foreigners can be a useful weapon for them.

As a result they will spend a great deal of effort in spreading the myth that outsiders are our common enemy. The racism that was erected at the Boat People's reminder of the continuing strength of this myth.

This nationalism and racism has since the 1960's been closely tied in with fighting the spread of godless communism. The fact that the war in Korea and Vietnam the reds were also yellow made the link between racism and anti-communism easier.

The old idea that the 'yellow peril' is the main enemy of all Australians was fused with the images of Siberian concentration camps and the Gulag archipelago.

Our only defence against both the Asian hordes and the Russians, we are told, is our alliance with our Great and Powerful friend. And in order to keep the Americans outside we must allow their war bases to be scattered over the countryside.

But the only interests protected by ANZUS are those of Australian and US bosses to tip off the people of the Pacific and keep out their Russian rivals. All it offers you or I is the prospect of incineration in a nuclear war.

IT IS TIME TO MIGHT.

The mission of Atomic Scientists, it is not necessary to the danger of nuclear war.

The only way to keep in reserve—only to be used as a last resort. So long as we are not ready to go to the limit, they won't resort automatically.

But when the going gets tough, when the international economy is in a state of collapse, then the situation changes, then each capitalist state looks for a chance to increase its wealth, power and influence at the expense of its neighbour. And this kind of cut-throat world competition inevitably brings about war.

THE ENTRANCE TO North West Cape US Naval Communications base.

scramble

It is no accident that the First World War came during a frantic scramble among the major European nations for colonies and territories. Nor is it accidental that the Second World War broke out after a decade of world depression.

Each time, the world's major powers attempted to solve their problems at one another's expense. And each time that meant military confrontation.

Since World War 2 and the explosion of atomic weapons at Hiroshima and Nagasaki a new danger has confronted humanity—nuclear annihilation.

The world's people have tried since that time in the vain hope of preventing a nuclear holocaust. Today that shadow hangs cast longer over our world.

The post-World War 2

period has seen a vast number of wars—roughly 150 since 1945. But during the late 1950s, the mid-1960s and early 1970s, the world's leading superpowers—the United States and Russia—attempted to come to agreements which would prevent a nuclear conflict.

As weak as they were, text has treaties, detente agreements and arms limitation talks characterized this era. To be sure, stockpiling of nuclear weapons went on at a break-neck speed. But the threat of war seemed much more remote.

All of this changed at the end of the 1970s. The new world economic crisis hit East and West alike. Rates of growth slumped. Social discontent skyrocketed.

Each superpower has more concentrated rebellion and revolution in some of the most downtrodden sectors of their empire. The United States was confronted with revolt in Iran, Nicaragua and El Salvador. The Russians encountered massive opposition in Afghanistan and Poland.

As both superpowers began to feel increasingly shaky about their sphere of influence, they increased their stockpiles of arms. Not only did they become more and more willing to intervene militarily in some regions of the world, they also kept looking over their shoulders at each other, waiting for their main competitor to pounce on some area of instability—like El Salvador or Poland—in order to deflect a major portion of its shadow.

Thus, as both the United States and Russia became frightened about the

THE ENTRANCE TO North West Cape US Naval Communications base.

wakening of their empire, so they started to think more and more seriously about the prospect of nuclear war. Impossibly at first, they began to plan for a nuclear showdown.

The clearest indication of the shift in nuclear strategy came in August 1980. That was when US president Jimmy Carter issued Presidential Directive 59. This Directive broke with the nuclear strategy that had prevailed for years.

During the 1950s and 1960s, American and Russian military perspectives were built around a concept known as MAD—Mutually Assured Destruction. The idea was that neither Russia nor America would risk an attack since the other side would retain sufficient power to destroy the attacker many times over.

Presidential Directive 59 rejects this approach. It assumes that America could win a nuclear conflict if it could destroy Russia's military facilities and missile bases.

This is the whole purpose of the new computer-guided missiles like the Cruise, the Trident and the MX—to develop a "first strike capability" with which the United States can seriously contemplate launching and winning a nuclear war. The Russians have likewise adopted the same strategy. Their Backfire bomber and SS-20 missile are analogous to the Cruise and the MX.

Thus, with the new world economic crisis has come a new and terrifying prospect of world war. But a third world war would be unlike any other—it would be a global holocaust, the very destruction of human civilisation.

And to avoid that chilling prospect there is only one solution, not only mass opposition to war, but mass opposition to the system that breeds war. That means building a mass movement against capitalism—a mass socialist movement.

Over a century ago Friedrich Engels wrote that capitalist society faces a dilemma: either an advance

to hold an MX missile.

AT A Nevada test site, a Soviet ICBM is being fired by a mammoth vehicle carrying the canister to hold an MX missile.

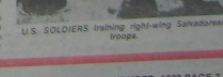
AN ICBM in a Red Square parade—the Americans claim the Russian battle plan is for the saturation use of nuclear weapons from day one.

THE ENTRANCE TO North West Cape US Naval Communications base.

### U.S. vs. U.S.S.R.

A numerical comparison of 1976 and 1981

	U.S.	U.S.S.R.
Strategic nuclear warheads	6,842 2,943	7,192 6,302
Strategic nuclear launchers	1,710 2,375	1,628 2,384
Submarines	115 329	121 370
Large warships	210 257	223 268
Tanks	9,181 42,000	11,580 48,000
Artillery	4,955 13,900	5,140 19,300
Combat aircraft	3,665 4,740	3,968 4,885
Missiles	213 488	2,09 4,54



U.S. SOLDIERS training high-wing Salvadoran troops.

THE BATTLE 20 NOVEMBER, 1982 PAGE 7

One lived

by Mike Grewock

Saturday night one liner

ACROSS A STROBE—In room, Tony Spotted... Saturday Night Fever has come to mope...

Stephans to Tony... You're a cliché... You're not on your way to no place... Bobby to Tony...

He was the only other side of the movie trying to... He was on the staff of the... He was in the... He was in the... He was in the...

But not too good for those who are only offered... Bill... It's a pity if marginally ahead of Vice Minister...

I get away with it because much of what I say... I get away with it because much of what I say...

Stephans and Tony under the spell of Saturday Night Fever

WHAT CAN THE Labor party actually achieve while in office?

It is possible for a radical ALP government to fundamentally alter the balance of power and wealth in society to the advantage of working people?

The Labor left have consistently argued that such a transformation is possible. Their parliament can be used to introduce progressive reforms which will lay the basis for the abolition of capitalism itself.

It is interesting then to look at the ALP, particularly the left of the party for Dave, and John who was busy mauling the be staff and slipping across the floor like a cool cat on a hot electrical floor that he doesn't need to worry about anything like comprehensive health care.

Stephans to Tony... You're a cliché... You're not on your way to no place... Bobby to Tony...

He was the only other side of the movie trying to... He was on the staff of the... He was in the... He was in the... He was in the...

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Stephans and Tony under the spell of Saturday Night Fever



EIGHTEEN MONTHS before coming to office, Jim Cairns addresses a Vietnam Moratorium in Melbourne.

TRAINING OF A FOOLISH PASSIONATE MAN

By Mick Armstrong... A Foolish Passionate Man... The viability and profitability of the system...

handing out massive subsidies to the boxes... Tax concessions to the... The rapidly established... The rapidly established...

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A Foolish Passionate Man

The viability and profitability of the system...

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Reactionary writer with a message for us...

IAN BIRCHALL has been re-reading French Balzac, a reactionary conservative... Balzac, a reactionary conservative...

he claimed, 'in the light of two eternal truths, religion and morality... Balzac believed in the Revolution of 1789 which had chopped the King's head off and opened the door for modern capitalism in France...

IAN BIRCHALL has been re-reading French Balzac, a reactionary conservative... Balzac, a reactionary conservative...

describes a Parisian lodge-house, in which the landlady calculates... Towards the end of the second year...

GIORGIO... Even if the dignity of the name was called by depends on how much money we have...

HONORE DE BALZAC

through the window... payment in advance and Monsieur Goriot agreed to this...

The killing of Lou Grant

IN A REMINDER that the blacklisting days in Hollywood of the McCarthy era are not over... Lou Grant was recently cancelled...

This was unusual even in Hollywood terms, since the program held down 17th place in the US ratings... The cancellation was no shock...

This comes as no surprise, since not only has the series attempted to take up controversial political issues... ED ASNER has also taken progressive stands on issues such as El Salvador and disarmament...

HO MARXISM WORKS BY CHRISTOPHER... A Basic introduction to Marxism... The rapidly established...



ED ASNER in the title role of the TV series Lou Grant.

Asner's actions have outraged the... Right-wing, in particular actors... Right-wing, in particular actors...

Another cause has been the increasing... Another cause has been the increasing...

'Although the peasant must be suppressed he has a human right to our respect'

'Although the peasant must be suppressed he has a human right to our respect'

'Although the peasant must be suppressed he has a human right to our respect'

'Although the peasant must be suppressed he has a human right to our respect'

'Tell me what you possess and I will tell you what you think'



After the Davidson enquiry we must.



Government-owned industries are not islands of socialism, heretically swimming in a capitalist sea. But when they are attacked by a combination of Government, big business and their own managers, there are usually good reasons for defending them.

The Davidson Report on Telecom calls for changes to allow "market forces" (read big business) to operate and allow more "freedom of choice".

The real nature of the current Australian telecommunications system is... Linda Woodland, a clerk and APTU rep told the Battler, "The ACOA largely consisted of the officials getting up and parading in front of an audience. They wouldn't allow alternative proposals to be put from the floor."

Davidson and Co advise that Telecom should hand over fifty percent of its capital works programme to private contractors. In 1981, there were 28,000 Telecom workers engaged in network construction. Presumably half these jobs would go.

Even those workers who remain will not go unscathed. There are recommendations to reduce supernannuation benefits and reduce parts of the Telecom Act which give some freedom of choice of work.

Once upon a time, Telecom was really interested in telephones and telegrams as a means of transport. Now its main interest is the telephone proposition. From the earliest days it was a high risk, high investment industry. That's why the Government got it.

But that was before the age of video signals and fibre optic cables. Large profits could now be made convincing computer and telecommunications positively drooling at the prospect of getting its hands on the telecommunications bit.

At the same time, Telecom management faces a series of problems. One of the by-products of micro-chip technology is the reduction of skills and numbers of workers in telecommunications. If Telecom management is to take advantage of this trend, it must attack the jobs and conditions of the unions within it.

As the Telecom bosses, and the Fraser government, have discovered to their cost, Telecom workers have an awesome potential power, because of Telecom's monopoly position, workers can simply close down telecommunications.

Privatisation would severely weaken that power. In a strike situation, subscribers could simply switch from one company to another.

The Telecom bosses face a dilemma. To protect their own positions they need to maintain the monopoly. But they also need to weaken the unions through privatisation. Apart from anything else, this makes them an irreconcilably irreconcilable ally in the struggle to defend Telecom.

The Federal government would also dearly like to tame the Telecom bosses. Fraser's wage-cutting programme for Government workers received one of its few legislative defeats at the hands of the Telecom workers in June last year.

So far, union action has revolved around condemning the Davidson report. At a mass meeting of Telecom unionists—including ATEA (technicians) and the ACOA (cables)—in Sydney, FCU support of the ACOA was a vague threat to not cooperate with and actively oppose any attempt to break up and hand over to private entrepreneurs the telecommunications system.

After our election announcement we were told by union president Bill Taylor that there were no longer organisers. We were then placed in separate

**A WEEK before the Davidson report made headlines, another report, the Bradley and Linann Report, was published. It has serious implications for the jobs and conditions of postal workers (mainly covered by the APTU).**

At present, Australia Post has a monopoly on the carriage of letters. This monopoly is now threatened. APTU (Postal Workers Union) officers and community mail services increased contracting out of stamp sales and greater use of part-time labour.

Hard work conditions are already threatened by growing number of bulk mail services and "part-time labour" usually pensioners on slave wages. If the new recommendations are implemented, it would mean workers in the industry would have different bosses with inter-organisational competition between them and lowering of wages.

Victorian deputies, later joined by NSW drivers, waged protests for 19 days in the face of opposition, not only from Australia Post and the government, but also our officials and the majority of their fellow members.

Sexual harassment in the workforce is a major problem, but has hardly been touched. For some time it has been an issue in feminist circles. They have held conferences about it, produced stickers and badges and so on. But action on the job speaks louder than a thousand confessions.

It's important to take the issue of sexual harassment into the workplace through leaflets, public meetings etc. But it's essential for socialists to actively support whatever struggles are going on, for it is when they are fighting for their rights that workers are most open to what you have to say.

Unfortunately, in recent years the women's movement has seldom tried to link up with working class struggles.

On Thursday 11 November, APTU shop stewards called a meeting over stop-work meeting, over company over-stocking.

**Wrath of the N.C.C.**

The National Civic Council (NCC) is alive and well and running the Federated Clerks Union (FCU) in Queensland. As in three mid-west-Queensland organisations decided to organise a ticket for all positions in the union.

Her policies include a more representative union, lower dues and a free legal service. At very first, but what's missing is any talk of organising the rank and file.

Stop Press The NCC officials have contacted the FCU leader who was underpaid something like \$3000. Diane Linann, the organiser who handled the case (a member of the Battler Deal team) fell a bit of sympathy, but did precious little to rectify the situation.

**Write to The Battler: P.O. Box 46 Flemington, Vic 3031**



JOHN MENADUE, Head of the Immigration Department... facing fear for Fraser's failure?

**RACISM... a bosses divide and rule**

WITH THE DOLE queue cracking half a million and sackings already 1,000 a day, Fraser has fallen back on an old scagalog—'illegal' migrants.

Bosses separate to maintain profits are clearly to blame for the rising unemployment.

Any attempt to deport 40,000 people would just be a costly diversion. If world opinion forces the government to find a scapegoat, look no more than the 300,000 non-citizens in an anonymous group that cannot offend.

The ones created by a debate over 'illegal' migrants spill over into prostitution and in which the crazy racism of the far right can be let loose.

When so called community leaders comment the right wing groups have taken responsibility.

When so called community leaders comment the right wing groups have taken responsibility.

WOMAN was sacked at Smorgon's meatworks, Melbourne, for resisting sexual harassment on the job. Women, won her job back within the week.

On Thursday 4 November a foreman approached the woman and told her to work overtime that night. She refused, she was about to take her usual leave and had already made arrangements for going away.

Sexual harassment in the workforce is a major problem, but has hardly been touched. For some time it has been an issue in feminist circles.

It's important to take the issue of sexual harassment into the workplace through leaflets, public meetings etc. But it's essential for socialists to actively support whatever struggles are going on.

Unfortunately, in recent years the women's movement has seldom tried to link up with working class struggles.

WHAT'S ON Melbourne, Wed 24 Nov... Sydney, Mon. 22 Nov... Perth, Sat. 4 Dec... Brisbane, Fri. 10 Nov... Ipswich, Sat. 11 Nov...

Workers' Power... Workers' Power is a socialist newspaper of the labour movement...

Revolution, not Reform... Revolution is a radical social movement...

Internationalism... The concept of internationalism is a socialist theory...

Full Liberty and Equality... Full liberty and equality for all is a socialist slogan...

Revolutionary Party... To smash the capitalist system we need a revolutionary party...

Rank and File Organisation... Workers must take their own initiative...

MEATWORKERS AXE SEXIST BOSS... WOMAN was sacked at Smorgon's meatworks, Melbourne, for resisting sexual harassment on the job...

SUMMER WITH THE SOCIALISTS... How to organize a summer camp...

How to contact the International Socialists BATTLER EDITORIAL... I.S. NATIONAL OFFICE... MELBOURNE... SYDNEY... ADELAIDE... CANBERRA... BRISBANE... IPSWICH... PERTH...

I WANT TO JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS! Name, Address, Phone no, Trade Union, Postcode, Day and night 03-33, Melbourne, 3031, P.O. Box 46, Flemington, Vic 3031

# STOP SILE!

# The Battler

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

REVEREND FRED Nile, NSW State Parliamentary member, leading the Festival of Light (the Festival of Darkness) has reared his reactionary tail again.

He is presenting a draft motion which reads "That this House affirm the paramount right of life is vested in each human being from the moment of fertilization without regard to age, sex, health or condition of dependence, that every human life is entitled to protection of both the State and individual." If passed, this would lead to changes in the Crimes Act outlawing all abortions, including those performed by doctors who believe that a continuation of a pregnancy would pose a mental danger to the mother.

The laws against abortion exist on the statute books in NSW as they do in other states to a liberalised interpretation of the law by Judge Levine in 1971, abortions have been performed by doctors who believe that a continuation of a pregnancy would pose a mental danger to the mother.



PRO-ABORTION demonstrators in Sydney sing their defiance of Nile and his ilk.

## NSW nurses down but not out

IT'S ON AGAIN! NSW nurses go for action following last week's decision by the Full Bench of the Industrial Commission cut wages.

In May, nurses were awarded a 7% increase, but the Health Commission stepped in, claiming it was too high. Nurses objected, and were awarded a 7% increase to demonstrate or take industrial action or else their case would not be heard.

Eventually, on 29 October, the Full Bench upheld the appeal by the Health Commission—the 7% was then lowered to 5% for nurses and 6% for Directors of Nursing. Community nurses were excluded altogether!

The Full Bench no doubt thought they would try this sort of wage cut on nurses, before trying it on traditionally militant sections like the metalworkers.

But the initial reaction showed they were wrong to think nurses would opt. Within a day and a half of the decision, forty hospitals had held meetings and passed motions calling for strike action.

The conservative Council of the NSW Nurses' Association, decided to ignore these calls for action. Even a proposal from Jenny Vennor, the newly-elected General Secretary, for a mass meeting was quashed. All that the Council would agree to was a body of workers, three-and-a-half page circulars to lead the action by organising nurses out. This was sent to NSW Nurses' Association members. Like a

Neville Wray Labor government has changed the laws to legalize abortion, repeated calls by NSW Labor Women's

But ought can be expected from a government which also cuts funds to schools and hospitals which closed Crown Street Women's

With an estimated 30,000 abortions done each year, the demand is high and will increase. Especially with the rapid acceleration of living, the continued erosion of living standards, the general lack of material and growing numbers of unemployed women.

The demonstration outside Parliament on November 11 showed that a small but determined group is willing to display their opposition to

With the renewed fear of the health authorities, we must fight in our own streets for safe, free abortion on demand.

For if the bill gets passed next year it will be a defeat for women but for the whole of the class.

by Pamula

by Mike Grewcock (Veterans Affairs, Sydney) and Lesley Penrose (Aviation, Brisbane)

new heights of irrelevance. In NSW, for example, a bitter fight has broken out over the length of time one of the candidates has been in the

There have also been a series of allegations and counter-allegations over the management of branch finances and the level of democracy at meetings.

It is obviously important that the branch finances be kept in order and that meetings are run fairly. The candidates should be going to the membership on a plan to take action over the increasing series of attacks on public services.

### same

In this respect most of the candidates are the same. ALP supporters like Carter and ex NSW and Beca's "Coalition" list in Victoria, and their rightwing opponents, appear to agree that bans are the most important industrial tactic at this stage.

It is NSW "democracy" in the ACOA candidates' Chris Heyland and Di Jones are not for united industrial action, but are also very vague on the question of bans and when this is going to be achieved. Where does this leave next year's wage claim? Our last wage claim for

## Elect for a real wage campaign

MOST ACOA (government clerks union) members could be forgiven for thinking that the current union elections are a complete waste of time.

If the same amount of energy was being put into organising on the office floor over the coming wage claim as is being put into chasing votes, we'd be a much more formidable force for Fraser to deal with.

But it is important because we think that the members vote. This is not

state secretary David Burn in Victoria, and his NSW counterpart Barry Carter—are going to lead a militant fight against Fraser. It is because the overt rightwingers opposing them, like Peter Connolly and Amanda Frazier, need to be defeated.

The food of election material has daily reached



1. It's all my fault.
2. It's all your fault.
3. It's all our fault.
4. It's the system's fault.
5. It's the fucking system's fault!!!

If you ticked boxes 1, 2 or 3 you really need to subscribe to The Battler. If you ticked box 4 you will subscribe to The Battler. And if you ticked box 5, you already subscribe to The Battler... so what are you doing sitting there playing with quizzes, you've got work to do!

Make sure you get your copy of The Battler every issue. July \$10 a year (or \$25 for a supporting subscription).

## The Wage Freeze is a vicious fraud. It will do nothing to solve unemployment or create new jobs. Despite the freeze unemployment will continue to sky rocket. By February next year there will be at least 700,000 registered unemployed.

The freeze is simply an attempt to force workers to bear the brunt of the recession. The money the bosses save by freezing wages will not be used to provide jobs. It will all go into bonding their profits.

So while workers in their hundreds of thousands are being forced onto the dole, the millionaires and the few who control this society will be doing very nicely thank-you. There will be no controls on fat executive salaries. No controls on rip off prices, no controls on profits.

And disgusting the Labor Premiers have gone along with the Liberal's scheme to slog working people. All they wanted to haggle about was whether the rip off should last six or twelve months.

We can't let them get away with it. We have to fight back on our jobs to defend our wages and to prevent sackings.

members. Like a

Even more

NSW Nurses' Association



No. 138 December 11, 1982 30 cents

Registered by Australia Post—publication no. VBF 002

## The jobs fightback ... see p.3

# WAGE FREEZE MEANS WE PAY The paper that fights for workers' power

ACTU decided on trade bans, but

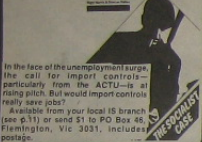
# ACTU won't save jobs

THESE is a rising cry for 'Australian' industry to be protected—and it's not just coming from its owners.

Towards the end of November, the ACTU decided to ban imports of any products that they consider cause unemployment. Neville Wran called for a "wall" to be built around Australia, to keep out cheap imports. Bill Hayden, opening the Flinders election campaign, urged higher protection "to save jobs".

Naturally, the chorus has been joined by some of the bosses themselves. The Metal Trades Industries Association (MTIA) says that "something must be done to stop the flood of imports".

## WHY IMPORT CONTROLS WON'T SAVE JOBS



In the face of the unemployment surge, the call for import controls—particularly from the ACTU—is a fishing pitch. But would import controls really save jobs?

Available from your local 16 branch (see p 11) or send \$1 to PO Box 40, Flemington, VIC 3031, includes postage.

## Racist offensive

ABORIGINES looked like making gains in the land rights struggle in the Northern Territory, particularly with the Warramunga and Katherine claims.

So the NT government has mounted a legal challenge to Federal land rights legislation and is sponsoring a massive publicity offensive.

NT government propaganda (on which \$250,000 was spent this year) opposes granting 50% of the NT to Aborigines, and deliberately attempts to stir up white reaction and racial tension. The fact is that, of the 28% of the NT currently owned by Aborigines, 50% is desert.

The recent spate of mining exploration licenses (150 in the last 12 months in the north of the Territory) led without its influence on government and business concerns about who owns land.

The NT government is also making manoeuvres to amend the 1976 Aboriginal Land Rights Act. They want to force Aborigines to forego their right to make certain pastoral leases freehold.

In return, blacks are offered 'excisions' of very small plots of land via Pastoral Area Community Trusts—for which they will have to pay.

Aborigines in the NT own only 5.8% of the productive pastoral land but have begun to construct an alternative economic base to the "dingy dwelling" existence that many unemployed blacks in towns like Alice Springs have been forced into.

While wealth was built on black labour in 1948, the Arbitration Commission rejected a claim by the NT Workers Union for Aborigines to set award wages. In 1959, wages were raised to \$4 for men and \$3 for women. In 1962, they were raised by a magnificent 85 cents for men and 32 cents for women. It was not wages were to be paid.

This was followed by massive rule cuts. Some blacks have become part of the urban drift, but many still remain on the pastoral properties supported by the few who still have full-time jobs.

The NT government is cynically trying to divide whites and blacks. The massive advertising campaign against land rights has been followed by white marches, as in Katherine and an upsurge of racism.

The government also wants to divide blacks at National Park to the Pitjantjatjara in return for the surrender of other land claims.

by Carol Ferris

by David Lockwood

cheap imports now have less money to spend on other things. Sales of other products go down, causing layoffs and redundancies in other industries. Workers are set against workers.

And if one nation can import, it can only expect retaliation from its competitors. Thus its exports are out. The resulting trade war reduces employment in the export sector.

Secondly, imports are simply one of the main causes of sackings. Closures and unemployment result from the overall economic crisis, the decline in markets and the rationalisation of production by technological change. No economy in the world is protected from that process.

The whole debate on protectionism revolves around the idea that there is something called "Australian industry". We are all part of it and we all have an interest in protecting it from the foreigner. Japanese industry, South Korean industry and the rest.

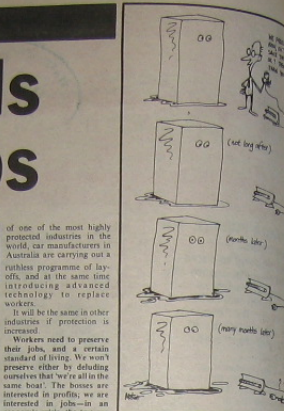
It is not the case. Workers and employers, whether they like it or not, approach the whole problem from two entirely different standpoints.

For bosses everywhere, who see the return of the national interest less as a goal, one motto and one concern. Profit. It matters not to them what or how they make their profit.

Not does it matter whether they employ larger or smaller numbers of workers in doing so. They are driven by the need to keep up with their competitors, and they will give where the system drives them.

They want their profit to be protected. But once profit means increased prices, the cheap imports are no longer available, the protected home-produced goods are more expensive and workers who used to buy that

Take the car industry for example. Taking advantage of the fact that the car industry for



of one of the most highly protected industries in the world, car manufacturers in Australia are carrying out a ruthless programme of layoffs, and at the same time introducing advanced technology to replace workers.

It will be the same in other industries if protection is increased. Workers need to preserve their jobs, and a certain standard of living. We won't preserve either by deluding ourselves that we're all in the "free" boat. The horses are interested in profit, we are interested in jobs—in an economic crisis, the two are diametrically opposed. The only way to defend jobs is by fighting the bosses.

Depuy PM Anthony's pompous call for a world "freeze and windback" of protection.

The most important thing to come out of the four day conference was the total disagreement of its various factions. The line, along with Australia, was there to have a go at the Common Market controls for protecting their industries against low cost imports. The Common Market block industry says to its guts

agitation

Amidst all the agitation in Australia, the 90 members of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) must have been giving themselves self to its guts

# LET'S GO FORWARD FROM HERE!

'WE WON'T SIT down for the sack.' That was the message that forty unemployed workers sent to Fraser, Wran, BHP and every other boss in the country who is sacking workers.

The forty Right to Work marchers set out on their march from Wollongong to Sydney on Tuesday, 30 November. They were greeted in Sydney the following Friday by 8,000 supporters, many of whom had stopped work for the day to attend.

The demonstration in Sydney was the first around the issue of unemployment that was supported by thousands of significant groups of workers. For the first time in its depression, thousands of workers have given a clear answer to the threat of the sack—we won't take Cockatoo Island and Garden Island lock-downs even for the day as well as a number of metal shops. Because workers from around the city marched to the rally assembly point, chanting "Building workers say: make the sack pay!"

There were no factory delegations organised, despite continual promises and excuses. Political slogans and banners were banned. Marchers suggesting militant action were threatened with expulsion from the march.

Despite all this, the marchers were merely pleased with their work on the road. However, they have no illusions that the battle is over. They talked of setting up bookstalls in Wollongong shopping centres, of holding meetings and of inflicting CEB offices.

As well as an unemployed member of the rank and file ironworkers' group explained, their only hope of real success lies in organising workers still on the job.

Yusuf placed no faith in the union officials organising a fight back. That was to be done by the rank and file group, united with the local Unemployed People's Movement and its fellow activists hold any illusions that the fight back will be an easy one.

However, with unemployment in steadily increasing numbers both in the steelworks and in the mines, such a fight is vital to save what jobs are left.

enthusiasm

The response to the call for support for the Right to Work marchers and the enthusiasm of the demonstrators shows that there is an enormous potential for a fight back against sackings.

Unfortunately the hierarchical organisations that undermined a lot of that potential.

AS WAS predicted, the ALP State Premiers have totally capitulated before Fraser's "make the sack pay" demands for a wage freeze.

Despite gaining no consensus at all on the job creation front or on price controls, the Labor leaders have been prepared to endorse a six month wage freeze. Neville Wran even hinted that he is to waive months when the initial six months are up.



THE RIGHT TO WORK march is joined by about 8,000 city workers.



## The Premiers' freeze—a rotten bloc

For all their quibbling and bargaining and shilly-shallying, the ALP state premiers have capitulated the Libs and have agreed to a wage freeze.

However it is not the level of wages in Australia that has been the problem. The Libs are not so much worried about the recession. The recession is a world wide phenomenon which has hit countries with both high and low wage rates. In fact, Britain, with the lowest wage rates of all the major industrial countries, is the only one that has not seen the problem of the recession or crisis in the steel industry.

The economic downturn is a product of a long term decline in the rate of profit made by capitalists.

It is not the level of wages in Australia that has been the problem. The Libs are not so much worried about the recession. The recession is a world wide phenomenon which has hit countries with both high and low wage rates. In fact, Britain, with the lowest wage rates of all the major industrial countries, is the only one that has not seen the problem of the recession or crisis in the steel industry.

Competition between the bosses, even at the expense of the working class, is a natural law. The Libs are likely to force Labor even further to the right towards the open labour market.

by Mick Armstrong  
THE BATTLE 11 DECEMBER, 1982 PAGE 3

THE STINKING RICH won't lost for ideas when it comes to Xmas presents this year: their top shops have been lobbying catalogues. If you have your next XMAS date checked you might care to pick up the 18-carat gold figurine (above) offered by Asprey. Or you can't wait that long you could go for a flat backgammon set (above) from the same company. In either case, the gold and silver figurine (left) and flat backgammon set (above) from the same company. They are available with their own mailing agency, for just \$21,000. Hurry while stocks last.



# The curious origins



**'AWAY** in a manger, no crib for his bed, The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.

Thus a famous Christmas carol, and it is important to remember that there lies an ancient religious core behind the orgy of commercial exploitation, the rituals of gluttony and drunkenness, the statistical rise in marriage break-downs, and everything else we are about to endure.

Whether the Nativity of Jesus Christ is the cause of modern celebration or merely a convenient excuse, it is one of the few occasions on which specialists have their attention drawn to the problems posed by religious belief.

For a long time any examination of the history of Christianity was an enterprise fraught with

extreme dangers. Torture and murder awaited believers who differed from the established churches on which specialists have their attention drawn to the problems posed by religious belief.

The rise of modern capitalism, however, needed a vast expansion of scientific enquiry. It became increasingly difficult to stop the

procedures developed to aid scientific activities such as navigation, from spilling over into the investigation of Christianity itself.

There were still attempts to resist this process. Shelley was expelled from Oxford University in 1812 for writing *The necessity of atheism*.

And when Bronn tried to write a critical

and the devotion of mankind, passed without notice in an age of science."

We know from Christian sources that there were a mass of documents circulating in the first two centuries after the life of Jesus. It is not until 180 that Ignatius, bishop of Lyons, starts to argue that there are four gospels, and only four, which deserve to be taken seriously.

These now form the ones in our bibles and are called the canonical gospels. We can say with a fair degree of certainty that the canonical gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, were composed in the period between roughly 70 and 150 AD. They are not, therefore, contemporary records of the events they claim to recount word for word, but are the product of the early Church.

We find some obvious errors if we look at the content of these works. Luke, for instance, claims that the home of Jesus was Nazareth but that he was born in Bethlehem.

He tells a nice little story to fit his two towns together, that Jesus' family lived in Nazareth, but had to move to Bethlehem, the home of their ancestors, for the purposes of a Roman census. But there is no record of the existence of the town of Nazareth before the third century.

And, still more damning, the vast and cosmopolitan Roman Empire did not require its subjects to return to the home of their ancestors for the purposes of census.

It is open to a Christian to reply that this is true but that it tells us only that the gospels are unreliable as evidence, are each corrupted and contain minor errors. What matter is their substantial teachings, which could still be true despite the fallibility of human transmitters.

Unfortunately, this line of argument is a disastrous one for Christianity. For even the most elementary study of the gospels reveals that there are two quite different bodies of doctrine present within them.

Take the simple, but vital, question of the antecedents of Jesus. Matthew and Luke alone give an account of Jesus' family tree although they differ as to who exactly begot whom.

But they both also retell the story of the birth of Jesus which renders all of those antique Jewish erictions quite meaningless, since Joseph had nothing whatsoever to do with the conception of Jesus. Despite this, Luke repeatedly refers to Joseph as the father of Jesus and to Joseph and Mary as his "parents".

The lineage of the house of David is important, indeed vital, to the Jewish tradition of prophecy, in which the Messiah had to fulfill a number of conditions.

The Virgin birth, on the other hand, relates to a philosophical tradition of Greek origin, which looked to a divine being for salvation. The Jewish Messiah was a man, the Word made flesh, who was to have a human government of the world.

It is the religion of those who had been crushed by the chains of a slave empire and who had no will left to fight back with the sword against their conquerors. It was a tradition which compromised with this world and its powers, and which made no distinction between slave and master, rich and poor, on the road to salvation.

We cannot say with certainty which represented the actual teaching of Jesus, but all of the weight of probability points to the Jewish Jesus of the divine Jesus is a later development, the change now being made by the opportunity to carry through with the revolutionary.

In its historical context the matter is relatively simply resolved. The teaching of the Jewish Jesus was part of the great wave of anti-Roman agitation which

originated in Palestine but spread, through the Jewish Communities of the Mediterranean, to the poor of the Roman Empire, to the great rising of 66.

After the crushing of that revolt, and just at the time the gospels were starting to take shape, that teaching was modified to take account of new conditions, this time of despair rather than of hope.

A vital part of this process was to break away from the Jewish tradition. Consider that the Law meant not as a set of formal rules, but as

inflexible to the growth of religion. The Roman law had turned the Mediterranean into a vast prison camp ruled by a single despotic power.

For those prevented by terror from any part in the things of this world — especially the slaves but also free women — the idea of another world was a powerful one. As the church grew, it attracted wealth and, with it, a hierarchy. Once it achieved organisation, the church grafted a stable hierarchy on to it.

At the vast Empire decayed from within, ruined

by its own success, the church became more and more the sole reliable organisation. But the church moved further and further towards paganism.

The doctrine of the Trinity, over which blood and ink were shed, concealed the point of polytheism to the ancient mystics. The cult of the Virgin concealed the point of the mother goddess.

The transformation of local gods into saints concealed the adaptation. Some gods were admitted to the church in the form of images and holy relics.

Thus a church which had been born in revolt and which had survived intermittent persecution came to resemble the Roman Empire. In 313, the emperor Constantine, battling against rival candidates, adopted Christianity.

Although it was to be more than sixty years before

the developing Christian church distorted the records, and imparted a new and different tradition in which the law was nothing.

The composite which emerged had very little that was original.

From existing Jewish prayer books compiled with the Law's prayer today as the Lord's Prayer. From existing Jewish teaching it compiled what we know today as The Sermon on the Mount.

From pagan tradition it took the communal meal and the bread and wine we know today as Holy Communion. From the Samaritans it took the notion of the Holy Spirit as a divine power.

From the Syrian Adam, the Phrygian Atlas, the Greek Dionysus, the Egyptian Osiris and the Persian Mithras, it took the common idea of the virgin birth. From these religions, too, it took the idea of the death of the god and his resurrection, of immortality and of the god's birth at the winter solstice.

One borrowing was crucial. The popular name of Judaism had given it an organisational form quite different from the formal cults of official religion. Christianity took over this and changed itself, from a sect of a permanent church.

As first, the church was very democratic one, without hierarchy and without even hierarchical conditions in the Roman Empire were

the Christians got their way, and were officially allowed to persecute non-believers. The church was now effectively part of the state and its future was assured.

But an might ask who had conquered whom? In 366 there was a conflict over the succession to the seat of Peter between Damasus and Ursinus. Damasus became Pope by the simple expedient of ordering the 137 dead bodies of the other candidates to be buried in a cathedral after his victory.

And over what were they fighting? The cross which Damasus was a wretched man was a wooden staff which the chair upon which he sat was the holy chair of Miriam.

There is nothing in the record of Christianity to differentiate it from any other religion. Even in its early history, it meant very different things to many different people. Since then, the same form has stretched even further to fit new times and new minds.

At times the face of the other world has been the crucial factor in the record. At other times the original revolutionary impulse has been reborn in millennial movements struggling for freedom.

In all its forms it answers to the needs of men and women burdened and heavily laden. It gives them an ideal of happiness which is not present on this earth.

To end with a famous question:

"Religious suffering is at the same time an expression of real suffering and protest against real suffering. Religion is the sigh of the heart of a heartless world and the soul of soulless circumstances. It is the opium of the people."

**'Even** the most elementary study of the gospels reveals that there are two quite different bodies of doctrine present within them.'







# The Battler

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

## RAILLY FOR JOBS!

"THE TIME to fight for jobs is now!"

"We can't leave it any longer to the Labor Party and union officials." Unemployed Brisbane wood-machinist Tony Coleman sees the present crisis in those terms.

Tony is the Acting Secretary of the Unemployed Workers Union in Brisbane. The U.W.U. has called a major Rally for the Right to Work on Friday, December 17.

"Now that things aren't going so good, the bosses are busy off-loading the crisis onto the workers. They've been making huge profits right through the resources boom. But now the boom is over, they've just interested in maintaining those profits at our expense."

"To them, the workers are expendable. Well, that's not how we feel. The procession shows that it's the 'captains' of industry we can do without."

The rally will also be an answer to Fraser and his lies about workers' wages being the cause of the crisis. British workers have suffered massive pay cuts, yet unemployment has grown even worse there.

The cause of the crisis is the capitalist system itself. And Fraser's demand for a wages freeze is simply aimed at maintaining the profits of the ruling class at our expense.

The U.W.U. believes that rallies and marches are important to put the blame for unemployment where it belongs. The march on the Melbourne Club did more to build opposition to the sackings than all the efforts of the Labor Party.

Tony is particularly critical of the union officials and Labor politicians. "What have they done? Nothing at all. Actually, it's worse than nothing."

"The union officials have been trying to sell protectionism to solve the crisis. It didn't protect us from the last Depression."

"And, what's really damning, they're doing nothing to organise workers to fight for jobs. All the Labor Party can suggest is wage restraint and phoney relief schemes."

"But it's the ACTU policy that's the worst. They're suggesting that workers get taxed to pay for relief work. Why should workers pay any more? That is what the government did in the depression and the workers fought against it."

On its own, a successful rally cannot win back the jobs that are being lost. But the bigger the rally, and the more militant its mood, the stronger we will all feel.

And the easier it will be to build the fight where it really counts: in the workplaces where the bosses are attacking jobs and where workers have the power to stop them.



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WORKERS picket Lysaght's (a BHP subsidiary) in Sydney as part of the campaign to save jobs in the steel industry.

### Worker links build Melbourne's...

## RIGHT TO WORK MARCH

ONE CONNECTING thread that has run through the history of struggle against unemployment has been the march for jobs... for the right of workers to paid employment.

In Britain and Australia during the 1930's, hunger marches were a main focus of action. They brought together victims of the failure of capitalism, to organise and to make sure the perpetrators of this violence against the workers knew they were a force to be reckoned with.



TONY COLEMAN

### ALP Council threatens U.W.U.

IT'S ALL starting to become a bit like the Unemployed Workers Movement struggles in the 30's when they found they not only had to fight the ruling class but also members of the Labor Party," sadly missed one Unemployed Workers Union (U.W.U.) member. We were picking a Northcote City Council (Melbourne) meeting to try to reverse their decision to join the U.W.U. We got notice to quit our premises in September. It came as a shock to U.W.U.

More recently Right to Work marches, first in Britain and now in Australia have forged links between the employed and unemployed that fortify both sections of the workforce for the struggle against the common enemy—the bosses, the government and the system itself. During the British marches participants visited work places, joined strike pickets and factory occupations, rallied outside dole offices etc. The marches ended in militant demonstrations. This is what is planned for the three day Melbourne march on 9-11 March next year. It will begin in the northern industrial suburbs and march through the western region which has been savaged by sackings. The climax will be a rally in the City on Friday 11 March which, it is hoped, large numbers of employed workers will support.

Already five unions—Electrical

Trades, Meatworkers, Furniture, Ship Painters and Dockworkers and Tramways—have endorsed a campaign.

Work place endorsement of sponsoring a march are two or three rank and file unions can be involved.

There's going to be some activity such as letter writing, pickets, rallies and speaking at shopping centres, film showings, street theatre. So if you're unemployed in the fight for jobs, if you want to get involved in the work struggle, then you should join the Right to Work campaign.

Meetings are held at the Unemployed Workers Union office, 194 High St Northcote every week. Thursday, next one 14 Dec. Be there to fight for the right to work!

by Ian...

members who had known the council to be supportive. No councilor came to explain. All we got was a formal letter. The first clues came from the local newspaper where Papadopoulos, claimed the union was "a shell of the organisation it had been". The U.W.U. had just undergone major changes from a resource base to a more activist organisation. It seems that now the unemployed run their union (instead of paid representatives) certain members of the Labor Party are starting to waver. During the time of

restructuring the union, C. John Lewis (A.L.P.) threatened members by saying that if the paid executive were removed (even by a vote of the membership), "I will see you lose the premises". The U.W.U. has been victimised because its new style of operation was threatening to the Labor hierarchy and, without a paid staff to control the members, it was no longer seen as responsible. But the union has never been stronger. December 11 was the date given as the last council meeting for the election. Thirty five U.W.U. members demonstrated outside under the watchful eye of fifty

police. At the U.W.U. General Meeting, the paid executive was elected with council premises and has been promised a new premises. The U.W.U. is calling on all unemployed workers to support the U.W.U. in Northcote. We can't go... by John O'Malley