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Asia-South Pacific Trade Union Unity Conference

Call for peace in the region

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

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

The Sydney conference was convened by a committee of union representatives known as the Committee for International Trade Union Unity. Functioning for more than twelve months that Committee had previously held seminar type gatherings in some countries in the South Pacific area. The recent Conference drew together 92 delegates and 46 observers from 23 Australian trade union organisations and 38 delegates and observers from trade union organisations in New Zealand, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, New Caledonia, Philippines, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Hong Kong, Vietnam, India, Bangladesh and USSR.

ORGANISATIONS

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

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

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

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

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

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

The conference also established a Preparatory Committee



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

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

The concept for that conference is revealed in the Declaration which states:

"This Conference (in 1981) will be open to representatives from all tendencies in the international trade union movement, all trade union organisations will be welcome irrespective

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

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

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

Continued on page 12

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

the SOCIALIST Missile alert's grim lesson

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

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

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

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

The special significance of SALT III is that for the first time it will deal with an actual reduction of arms. Nuclear weapons do not make any distinction between capitalist and communist, believer and atheist. There is a real basis for the peace movement to be indeed the broadest movement of all time.

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

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

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

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

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

Party Building Party Building Big leap in Press Fund again

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Socialist Party speakers at the Sydney Domain are drawn

—grim economic perspectives ahead

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

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

AMERICAN DREAM UPTURNED

What about the practical aspects of inflation, this scourge of the US economy, which has led the "American dream" legend? According to the *Sunday US News & World Report*, in the past 10 years the cost of a day's stay in the hospital has increased by 185 per cent (from 47 to 134 dollars), the consumer price index has jumped up by 99 per cent, petrol has gone up 178 per cent, the price of a house has risen by 150 per cent (from 25,600 to 64,000 dollars), and state university tuition fees have grown from \$1,117 to 2,346 dollars a year.

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

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

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

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



and allowances and 18.4 live on the very poverty line. The profits of huge corporations which, after taxation,

The authorities continue to escalate military expenditures at the expense of slashing down appropriations for social needs. For the new fiscal year, which began on October 1, the US has hawked secured about 42,000 million dollars for new weapons. Militaristic programmes become increasingly expensive.

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

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

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

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

Old workers vote for action against Act

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

The meeting took place in Roma Street, Brisbane, where more than 200,000 people stopped work throughout the State to protest against the Queensland Government and union action.

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

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

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

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

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

Townsville

Unemployed arrested for seeking talks with minister

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

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

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

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

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

Consequently nine UWU people were arrested and charged with disobeying a police directive. Convictions are expected to result in a total of fines exceeding \$700.00.

Most of those arrested intend to plead not guilty in the Magistrates Court. The only elderly and non-violent, displayed encouraging solidarity, and attracted unanimous support from the general public visiting the DSS.



SA workers to stop against plan to dump govt. employees

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

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

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

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

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

This bare faced handout to private employers at the expense of the government employees follows an election pledge by the Liberal Party saying that the government would get a "fair go" in tendering for government jobs. The move, as a leaflet put out by the South Australian branch of the SPA, says, is a payout for the help that employers gave the Liberals at the last state elections, now the Tonkin Government is helping them to increase their profits at the expense of the government

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

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

Townsville UWU members during the sit-in at the Department of Social Security office.

Function honours Freda Brown



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

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

The function organised by the UAW was attended by the representative of trade unions, women's groups, peace and other progressive organisations, counsils, members of parliament, long time friends and party comrades, many of them coming from interstate.

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

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

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

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

Talk Back By Ken Rowsthorne

News item: Pope John Paul has admitted that physicist and mathematician Galileo was unjustly persecuted by the Catholic Church. In 1633 the Inquisition forced Galileo to renounce the theory that the sun and not the earth was the centre of the universe. Now, 349 years later the Catholic admits the wrong done then...and all this time the earth has been circling the sun just the same.

Did someone mention the word "infallible"?

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

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

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

Selling more of the farm.....

A recent announcement that the British National Coal Board were going to invest in granite properties in NSW received little publicity. The foreign investment review board approved the purchase. Over \$1,000 million pounds (English) is available. Under section 21F of the foreign investment act, investments could be tax free.

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

Sydney meeting gives

Strong push for land rights in NSW

by Hannah Middleton

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

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

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

NOT TO MING

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

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

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

options in their own way and without pressure or interference.



The Wallaga Lake, part of an Aboriginal land area.

Mr Bill Knorr and Mr George Petersen and others from the audience enthusiastically supported this call.

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Fraser Govt. seeks to destroy legal aid

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

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

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

Soviet participation at agricultural show a success

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

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

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

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

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

Australia and scientific socialism

W.J. Brown

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

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

Lenin stressed that "Marxism is more fully and firmly mastered by the working class and its ideology in conditions of the greatest development of big industry."

Lenin went on to show that towards the end of the first period of socialism in Australia was utopian socialism. As in Britain and Europe it proved futile and transitory.

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

Analysing world history, Marx came to the conclusion that the class struggle was the motivating force of history. Class struggle in itself was nothing. The labour movement, however, was the force that had recognised its existence.

The conditions in Australia in the second half of the 19th century needed to transform the



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

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

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

William Lane's socialist plea was to end the exploitation, oppression and suffering of the masses and to bring about a revolutionary change but by changing human beings into better, more kindly individuals.

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

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Lenin's reforms have to be carried out in our own Epoch 21. Like so many other Epochs, both good and bad, it was destined to fail.

The power of ideology of the deepest socialist ideal type.

Have a taste of Aboriginal art Right Now!



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

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

Right Now! takes a raw look at the urban Aboriginal situation through the eyes of a young Murrumbidgee Island Aboriginal who comes to a big metropolitan city and discovers conflicting ideas identity with city Aboriginals and Islanders. The Aboriginals in Theatre are made up of young people participating in the Careers in Dance course run by the Aboriginal-Islander Skills Development Scheme and is funded by the Australia Council through the Aboriginal Art Board. The students come from all over the country and represent the various black cultural groups which exist in Australia.

The Socialist Festival is on...

Saturday November 24 from 12 noon to 6.30 p.m. at the Addison Road Community Centre, 142 Addison Road, Marrickville.

- Program**
- Books
 - Tapes
 - Records
 - Handicrafts
 - Posters
 - T-Shirts
 - Clothes
 - Souvenirs
- Speakers include**
- Pat Cleave, President of the Socialist Party
 - Alan Miller, editor of the Socialist
 - Don McDonald, ex-officer of the Socialist A representative of Paragay

- A concert**
- A six member Soviet song and dance variety group
 - "New Generation" - a progressive Gypsy group
 - Sylvia and Tom Salsbury - Australian folk singers
- See more details in the free to call advertising guide for the month. Contact, Sydney or write to: the left at the year office, 305 West Street, Sydney.

Fraser's worker fighting at the barricade in Paris during the spring of 1976.

UTOPIAN VENTURES

Attempts at such serious ventures apart from its hope-less idealism ignore the fact that little pockets of socialism, communism, or communal life, exist all over the world. Always such ventures are surrounded by the inevitable loss of capitalist society. Eventually breakdown is inevitable, either from subjective or objective factors, usually both.

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

1 History of the Australian Labour Movement, Part 1, 1840-1900, by E. W. Campbell, 1964, pp. 1-9.

2 The Australian Labour Movement, Part 2, 1900-1970, by E. W. Campbell, 1970, pp. 1-10.

3 The Australian Labour Movement, Part 3, 1970-1979, by E. W. Campbell, 1979, pp. 1-10.

4 "The power of ideology of the deepest socialist ideal type."

International trade union conference examines

Employment and poverty caused by transnationals' creeping

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

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

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

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

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

This situation has been brought about by the eager

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



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

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

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

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

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

Countries in the South Pacific and Indian Ocean region will take place on November 27 against the NATO council meeting, being held the same day to decide on US plans to station medium range nuclear missiles in Europe.

Mr Clancy also denounced the existence of US war bases in Australia, the thousands of American troops in South Korea and the US-Japan Security Treaty which provides for a series of US war bases to be stationed in the area.

force which is mainly female and under the age of 20. The new division of labour has been made possible by advanced technology of transport and communications which renders production less dependent on geographical distances; b) the development of a technology of production which makes it possible to decompose complex production processes into elementary units of work, that is, it fragments the jobs and de-skills operators.

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

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

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

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

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

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

The document was made with classified material that Embassy officials failed to destroy before the students took over.

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

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

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

America whips up hysteria

US rows — laws tense

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



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

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

It is however known that the position is serious as the US has 300,000 troops in Europe and plans to lift tens of thousands of soldiers to Iran.

It has 18 warships in the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf including an eight-skip task force headed by the aircraft carrier Midway.

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

A recent Tass report told of the conference of unity and solidarity held by trade unions of Asian and Pacific countries in Sydney last week.

It reported on speeches made at the conference by the President of the New Zealand Federation of Labour, Jim Knox, General Secretary of the All India Trade Union Congress, Krishna Gopal Shrivastava and the National Secretary of the BWIU, J. Whillam.

The report noted messages of greeting coming from politicians, union organisers and a delegation from the WFU.

Ex-Prime Minister Gough Whitlam's return from a tour of South East Asia was also reported in the Soviet mass media, especially his progressive vision on Vietnam following his visit there and his comments on the question of aid to Kampuchea.

In another reference to the Australian scene a Tass Newsagency analysis dated trenchantly about the report of the Human Rights Sub-Committee "set up under the parliamentary Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee".

Pointing to the basic human rights — the right to work — the commentator complains that more than 400,000 thousand people of work in Australia, NATO Countries and elsewhere would be a counterpart to the Helsinki Accords.

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Kampuchean representatives denounce

Western campaign seeks to help Pol Pot gangs

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

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

Since the time of liberation significant successes have been achieved under the leadership of the People's Revolutionary Council, but it is impossible to overcome in a few months the enormous damage done to the country by the Pol Pot-Leng Sary regime.

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

The possibilities of the border areas and Phnom Penh ports as well as the Preah Vihear airport in terms of receiving aid largely exceed possibilities of highland areas, he declared.

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

Nicaragua goes ahead despite right-left sabotage

Members of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua visited the city of Managua to reaffirm their confidence in local people's authority and of the organisation in charge of education and social maintenance.

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

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

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

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

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

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

The best lands belonged to Somalia, members of his family and the tyant's of international, inter-national bias, strengthening ties with the masses and taking the struggle for peace and socialism for the benefit of your country."

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

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

for an "Asian and South Pacific Accord" equivalent to the Helsinki Accords.

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

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

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

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

Countries in the South Pacific and Indian Ocean region will take place on November 27 against the NATO council meeting, being held the same day to decide on US plans to station medium range nuclear missiles in Europe.

Mr Clancy proposed that the conference declare its support to the World Peace Council. Protest Day which will take place on November 27 against the NATO council meeting, being held the same day to decide on US plans to station medium range nuclear missiles in Europe.

"We should add our voice to the many millions throughout the world who will be calling upon the NATO Council to end this dangerous plan and upon the US Government to abandon

this dangerous escalation." He 1980 a world trade union conference on the social and economic consequences of disarmament will be held in London.

It will be held in London over the world to come together and discuss the issue of disarmament.

After reviewing the latest Soviet proposals for the prohibition of war and towards disarmament, the plight of the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia and current discussions between China and the USSR and China and Vietnam.

At part of this campaign Mr Clancy suggested to consider the proposal to propose all governments in the region to sign an Asian and South Pacific Accord. This would be a counterpart to the Helsinki Accords.

CPGB sets out to form broad democratic alliance

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

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

In the field of foreign policy the Executive Committee report stressed that by intensifying its support for armaments, the Tories have demonstrated their intention to give support to opponents of détente and to forces obstructing disarmament.

A message from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) to the congress welcomed the 19th Party Congress of Great Britain ideological and organisational cohesion of the Marxist-Leninist international bias, strengthening ties with the masses and taking the struggle for peace and socialism for the benefit of your country."

In doing so they piled one absurdity upon another. The subcommittee report contained a record of questioning of the so-called witnesses chosen among anti-Soviets and renegades.

"It appears a very glibly invented, the commentator complains, "invent a pack of lies about the Soviet Union and there is no need to talk about the state of affairs on human rights within Australia."

Mr Gueller said that after weeks of unrest a most serious of the country, and the National Congress, rejected the coup and demanded a return to constitutionalism.

In her first address to the nation Mrs Gueller said that she would call on politicians and there would be no more repression. The new President would be the struggle for peace and socialism for the benefit of your country."

ATEA to seek further increases in 1980

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ACTU seeks national wage rise

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

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

Jack's 50 years in the communist movement celebrated



Jack McPhillips.

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

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

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

last June and September.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Bangladesh — workers fight for democratic rights

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Socialist Festival

Melbourne — Fair and Concert will be held on Saturday, December 2nd, 10.30 p.m. to 1.00 a.m. at Nicholas Hall. Tickets \$3 from New Era Bookshop, 469 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne. ■

The Bob Hawke pattern

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

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

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

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

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

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

35 Hour week big issue in 1980

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

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

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

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

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

Continued from page 1

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