

Hear... Ernest Mandel

Lecture tour by renowned Marxist economist

Ernest Mandel, the internationally-known Marxist economist and member of the Fourth International will tour Australia from September 11 through to September 20. He will address public meetings in Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide and Melbourne on the topic Can Capitalism Survive? The Contradictions of Post-war Capitalism and the Prospects for the Capitalist System Today. As well he will address university meetings on the topics What is the Soviet Union and Where is it Going? and The New Rise of Workers Struggles in Europe.

Mandel's tour is co-sponsored by the Communist League and the Socialist Workers League and the Socialist Youth Alliance, Australian sympathising organisations of the Fourth International.



The tour will break the ban placed on Mandel by the Gorton Government in May 1970. That ban was imposed after Mandel applied for a visa to allow him to attend the Socialist Scholars Conference scheduled for that month. While no official statement was made giving the reasons for the ban, Philip Lynch, then Minister for Immigration in reply to a question in parliament, implied that Mandel would threaten the "national security" and that he should therefore be excluded. It was stated that the Government had acted on advice received from a SIO.

Mandel is recognised by friend and foe alike as the foremost Marxist economist of our time. His most important work, the two volume Marxist Economic Theory (1962) has received widespread acclaim. This work represents the only attempt in the post-war period to bring up to date using the latest empirical data the theory Marx elaborated a century ago.

Mandel is the editor of the weekly newspaper of the Belgian section of the Fourth International, La Cauche, and a longstanding leader of the Fourth International. During World War II as a young underground revolutionary activist in Belgium, he was arrested three times by the Nazis for his activities. He was condemned to hard labor and deported to Germany in 1945.

During the May 1968 revolt in France, Mandel spoke on the barricades in Paris to 5000 assembled militants. His address was the high point of the gathering and was reported widely in the press. He was also one of the most outspoken critics of the Russian invasion of Czechoslovakia and became well known for his articles analysing this event.

Among Mandel's other works are: The Formation of the Economic Thought of Karl Marx; Europe Versus America; An Introduction to Marxist Economic Theory; The Leninist Theory of Organisation; and The Decline of the Dollar.

Mandel's tour will take place in a context of deepening economic crisis in the world and in Australia. In this sense the tour is timely. Mandel has demonstrated his ability to analyse and predict the important developments in the world economy in a way which has been unequalled. His lectures are a must for anyone attempting to come to grips with the realities of the capitalist system today.

(Details of the public lectures to be given in Australia by Ernest Mandel appear overleaf)

Tour sponsored by:
Communist League, PO Box 16, Westgate, 2048.
Socialist Workers League & Socialist Youth Alliance,
PO Box 160, Glebe, 2037.