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BIG CROWD CHEERS SHARKEY AT OPENING OF TRIAL

AT OPENING OF TRIAL

SYDNEY.—The biggest crowd seen in Sydney since the huge war-time loan rallies packed Martin Place when the Commonwealth opened its Crimes Act proceedings against Communist Party general secretary Lance Sharkey on Monday.

Deafening cheers greeted Mr. Sharkey when he arrived with his defence counsel, Communist M.L.A. Mr. Fred Paterson, outside the special Federal Court.

Shouts of "Down with the Crimes Act" and peace slogans were heard amidst the cheers which welcomed Mr. Sharkey.

Members of the notorious special mobile force, dressed in hand new sports coats, mingled with the crowd.

Even when the hearing commenced the crowd did not disperse. Police reinforcements were called out and a black Maria was in constant attendance.

Among plain clothes police present were Prime Minister Chifley's two Federal men who visited the Tribune office in connection with the charges against Mr. Sharkey and Detective-Sergeant Byrnes, who once joined the Communist Party, as an undercover police agent under the name of Rasmussen.

At one stage boxes of clips, pins, metal keys and papers were thrown from a high window onto the crowd below and could have caused serious eye and facial injuries. Police took no action but continued to locate potential bystanders from pavements.

CORRIDORS BLOCKED
 To get to the Court, Mr. Sharkey had to force his way for 50 yards through a crowd jammed tight in the corridor waiting for admission.

Outside the Court the magistrate, court officials and legal men were startled to hear cheers and shouts of "Good on you, Lance," from the corridors outside.

The hearing seating accommodation in the Court was quickly filled. Police took up posts at the doors to prevent the big crowd from spilling in to occupy standing space.

On arrival of police reinforcements, people waiting in the corridor outside the Court were told they could exercise their right to attend "supposedly" public Court hearings were roughly disallowed.

Moving 100 yds the "corridor" in these police pushed the crowd out. Angry protests were noted.

Exactly the same thing happened at the City Court in Melbourne last week when waterfront workers stopped work in protest against the arrest and trial of ship painter and Dockers' secretary (Mr. G. Doyle) for having distributed union leaflets in the street.

SHARKEY CHAIRED
 Remarkable evidence of enthusiastic support for Mr. Sharkey among the crowd was shown by the lunch adjournment when lunch renewed cheering. Mr. Sharkey was hoisted shoulder high and carried across Martin Place, shouting and demonstrating. The crowd surged around the Court, shouting and waving their hats and banners to hold them back.

INDUSTRY STOPS
 As the demonstration proceeded a large number of shops, factories and offices in the Sydney waterfront closed their doors in all parts of the city.



Jagged piece of metal examined here by Mr. John Rodgers was hurled at him by a Shepparton hoodlum. See story page 3.

A.C.T.U. Right Wing Endorse Strikebreaking

BY a narrow majority, the Right Wing A.C.T.U. interstate executive recommends unions permit Arbitration Court interference in internal affairs of trade unions, and in effect, strikebreaking.

The recommendation, inspired by A.L.P. industrial groups and Catholic Action, came from the A.L.P. Labor Advisory Committee.

Delegates from Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania bitterly opposed the recommendation.

Both councils have Right Wing majorities which no longer even pretend to have any working class principles, or to talk as representatives of the working class.

Forecasts of what the recommendation means was given recently at Shepparton, where members of the Stewards and Packers' Unions (led by Mr. P. J. Clarey's unions) struck to win the latest adjustments of the basic wage.

The strikers won the adjustment to which they were entitled but their jobs were taken by other workers whose employment was endorsed by the union leadership.

Asked by the workers who had won the increased rates, what the union leadership was going to do about those who worked during the strike, and had taken their jobs, union officials were dumbfounded.

"There are no 'scabs' working in there," I am the scab.

The meaning is hidden in the recommendation wording, which is meaningless, but was discussed in connection with specific cases where unions had taken action against members who defied union decisions.

At the time of going to press, the executive was considering other Right Wing recommendations designed to win official trade union endorsement of a speed-up payments, although these were rejected by the last A.C.T.U. congress.

The union working an conditions breaking designs of the Right Wing can be seen in the recommendations which are being made with an eye to the next A.C.T.U. congress, and the coming election.

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Doyle Prosecution Ties Up Wharves

Work on the Melbourne waterfront stopped when the secretary of the Ship Painters' and Dockers' Union (Mr. G. Doyle), was charged last Thursday with having distributed leaflets advertising a trade union meeting.

There were grave discrepancies in the evidence given by the prosecution, said Mr. Hill, S.M., in summing up.

The magistrate dismissed one charge against Mr. Doyle, and fined him £1 on the other.

Mr. Hill said he found Mr. Doyle guilty, on his own free admission, of having handed out pamphlets.

He believed the evidence for the defence was much more correct than the evidence for the prosecution.

Mr. Lazarus, for the defence, embarrassed police witnesses in cross-examination regarding why they arrested Mr. Doyle after he had given his name and address, pointing out that most of the people present knew him.

Asked by Mr. Lazarus what verification of names and address he required, Constable Phaffey said "Oh, a motor-car licence."

When it was pointed out that many people did not own motor cars, the constable mentioned telephone numbers, rent books, names in street directories.

Asked what he would do if the verification of the people in the street was taken, the constable replied that he would verify the names and addresses of the visitors.

He suggested that Japan might be next on the list of American allies.

"PACT MEANS WAR": WALLACE

HENRY Wallace, former U.S. Vice-President who is leader of the American Progressive Party, has several times recently warned that the Atlantic Pact is a pact to make war.

An A.P. cable from New York on March 20 reporting such a warning by Wallace was suppressed by Herald, Sun and Age, and was mutilated by the Argus.

Another A.P. cable quoting a broadcast by Wallace was suppressed by Sun and Herald on Monday, and mutilated and "buried" by the Argus.

The cable said: "NEW YORK, March 28.—In a national-wide broadcast Henry Wallace charged that the Atlantic Pact was an act of aggression against Russia, and 'commits us without right of deciding for ourselves to another European war.'"

The former Vice-President, and unsuccessful Presidential candidate

date said that if the people in America would try to put themselves in the Russians' place they would understand the meaning of the Atlantic Pact.

"Supposing the Soviet had military bases on the Mexican border? the Canadian border? Cuba? Could a treaty which put guns in our faces be called a Pact of Peace?"

"Has it ever happened in the history of the world that the 'massing' of armed men has brought peace? Has it not always brought war? To call the Atlantic Pact a peaceful thing is hypocrisy and nothing less."

He accused the United States of rearming Germany. He said: "Maoist Spain is in our camp because she hates Russia just as she hates Protestantism."

He suggested that Japan might be next on the list of American allies.

TO BREAK W.F.T.U. WON ISOLATE AU

As The Guardian press the Right Wing activity on the A.C.T.U. executive is flat out trying to Australian trade union manoeuvring a break in the World Federation of Trade Unions.

To keep the facts from union movement, the Big proposes that no delegates to the WFTU conference next June, but that a defaffiliation be made by the at its next congress.

Mr. Monk, who has been around Europe as an Australian delegate to the WFTU the suggestion: "Australian unionists would like a cut by the other WFTU delegates. Mr. Monk's statements in various papers."

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