More robbery as

Bosses reap millions but clamp on wages

Calls for further reductions in real wages, manoeuvres by large Australian corporations to become even larger by means of “take-overs” (with millions of dollar profits as a “spin-off” benefit for some involved in the manoeuvres), and a huge boost in profit and profit-making opportunities for Australia’s largest public company, the BHP, are main features of recent events in the national economy.

The call for further reductions in real wages was made by the Federal and Victorian State Governments and by the private employers during the national wage case now before the Australian Arbitration Commission. The take-overs involve Ansett Transport Industries, Herald and Weekly Times Holdings and Broken Hill South. These big companies are involved in transport, the media and several areas of mining.

**NATIONAL WAGE CASE IMPLICATIONS**

In the national wage case, the first for six months, the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU) supported by another national union centre, the Council of Australian Government Employers Organizations (CAGEO) is seeking an across-the-board increase of 3.1 per cent in all wage and salary rates for workers.

The claim is based on a compounding of the increases in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the two quarters ending last June and September which together showed a 5 per cent increase in prices.

The Union’s claim seeks to maintain the current purchasing power of award wages by having them indexed fully in accordance with the increases in prices as measured by the official CPI. They are also claiming a further increase to restore purchasing power lost as a result of a series of partial indexation judgements.

The last 1979 issue of the Socialist will appear on December 19. The first 1980 issue will be published on January 18.

**The picture shows the public attending one of the Sydney Junior Festival functions held on November 24 at the Addison Road Community Centre.**

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**Free universal cover only answer to health fund chaos**

The Fraser Government is considering ways to force everyone to take some kind of health insurance. This measure is an attempt to save the health funds from collapse so that people, who cannot afford the increasingly high cost of health insurance, are opting out of the system and going without any protection against illness or accident.

To force this policy on the people the government is considering holding present government benefits from those who do not join an insurance fund.

The situation in the area of health has reached rock bottom in the four years of Liberal-National Country Party Government. As successive government budgets have cut to the bone expenditure in health, while health fund rates and doctors’ fees have shot out of reach of most working people.

Doctors’ fees, for example, were increased in November when the AMA (Australian Medical Association) put up scheduled fees by 15 per cent. The government last week, by Opposition Leader Mr. Hayden, of the new ALP family health care plan, said, at a moment when confusion is reaching a peak because of the chaos created by the Fraser Government in the area of health. Unfortunately Mr. Hayden’s proposal does not fill the needs of the Australian population.

The new ALP health plan shows the great pains that the party leadership is taking to appear “economically responsible” to the ruling class. The scheme, which aims to cover children under 16 years of age, and dependent students and dependant mothers, would have a cost of $100 million. The plan would be implemented in the June 1981 Budget and examined after a year of operation to see whether it should be extended, although it appears unlikely, in the light of Mr. Hayden’s general plan, that he would go any further in power.

As it stands the new ALP family health care plan would cover just over six million people. For more than eight million people health would continue to be the problem it is under the Fraser Government’s health chaos.

In its efforts to satisfy both camps, the bosses and their working class supporters, the ALP leadership leaves everyone dissatisfied; for the ruling class, the health funds, and the capitalist media, even this modest step is too much and they are already working against it; for the average wage or salary earner it is too little, as the plan does not help the needs of the adult, active working population.

Only the complete renunciation of the neoliberal policy and the creation of a similar free universal health scheme, can solve the health needs of Australians and end the hardship faced by thousands of families for whom illness or accident is synonymous with financial tragedy.
**USSR: stable growth of living standards**

In their previous issue we published an article analyzing the growth prospects for living standards in the countries of the USSR. We have now received a new article by G. Firewitz which looks at the living standards of average Russian families.

The article notes that the Russian people are facing a difficult time. They are facing a period of economic hardship due to the collapse of the Soviet Union. The transition to a market economy has led to inflation and unemployment, causing many families to struggle to make ends meet.

The article also highlights the efforts being made by the Russian government to improve living standards. The government has been implementing policies to stimulate the economy and create jobs. The article suggests that these efforts are beginning to show results, with some improvements in living standards being reported.

The article concludes by saying that while living standards are improving, there is still a long way to go. The transition to a market economy is a complex process, and it will take time for the Russian people to fully benefit from it.

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**South Africa**

**Mass rally rejects second amendment plan**

On Monday, November 24, between 30,000 and 40,000 South African government workers (trade unionists and other public employees) attended a mass rally in protest of the government's proposed amendment to the Constitution.

The amendment seeks to change the distribution of seats in the National Assembly to reflect the racial composition of the population. The workers see this as a move to marginalize the black majority.

The rally was organized by the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) and supported by various other labor unions. It was a huge turnout, with estimates of attendance ranging from 30,000 to 40,000.

The speeches at the rally were passionate and emotive, with speakers calling for a united front against the amendment. The crowd chanted slogans such as "No to the amendment!" and "Solidarity with the workers!"

The rally ended with a march through the streets of the city, with the workers carrying banners and flags. The march was peaceful, with no incidents reported.

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**ICY Festival big success**

The 39th Festival for the International Year of the Child, organized by the Greek Committee of Save the Children and the Greek Community of Sydney, was an outstanding success.

The festival, held at the Greek Cultural Centre in Sydney, featured a variety of performances, including music, dance, and theatre. The performances were by Greek children from all over the country, including children with special needs.

The festival was opened by H.E. Mr. Panagiotis Stavropoulos, the Greek Ambassador to Australia, who congratulated the organizers for their efforts in promoting the cause of the International Year of the Child.

The Greek community of Sydney also played a significant role in the festival, with many members participating in the various activities.

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**“Greek conspiracy” backfires**

The illegal Social Security Purge in Greece, which targeted the Greek Communist Party, has now backfired. The purge has caused much internal conflict within the Greek Communist Party.

The purge was launched in 1973, targeting the Greek Communist Party's leadership and members. The government attempted to demonstrate its control over the party and its members. However, the purge has caused much internal conflict within the party.

The purge has led to a split within the party, with some members remaining loyal to the party's leadership and others breaking away. The purge has also led to a loss of support for the party, with many Greeks feeling that the purge was an attack on their rights and freedoms.

The purge has also led to a loss of support for the government, with the Greek people feeling that the government was not acting in their best interests. The purge has also led to a loss of support for the International Year of the Child.
Miners remember Rothbury tragedy

On December 16, the Australian labour movement commemorated the 150th anniversary of the killing of several miners in Rothbury, when the Police violently attacked a demonstration of thousands of miners and trade unionists who had gathered in protest against the threat of dismissal from work by the Government. The tragically events led to the formation of the Rothbury Miner's Union and the birth of Australian trade unionism.

The mining industry has faced high rates of violence and racism, which have hindered growth and development. In response, the TUC National Executive and the Miner's Federation have led a national campaign to demand better working conditions and wages for miners.

Peace actions in Sydney

On October 27, the Australian Peace Committee (APC) held a call for world peace, calling on governments and people to work together towards a more just and equitable world.

A number of significant steps have been taken towards peace. The United Nations has played a key role in mediating conflicts and promoting dialogue. The APC has been active in promoting peace education and raising awareness of the importance of nonviolence and disarmament.

The significance of the Eureka Stockade

The events of the Eureka Stockade of December 3, 1854, hold deep and enduring significance for the Australian labour movement. This was a key moment in the struggle for workers' rights and the fight against oppressive conditions.

Among a number of significant events, the Eureka Stockade stands out as a pivotal moment in the development of workers' rights. The event marked a turning point in the struggle for recognition of workers' rights and the establishment of a fair and just society. The Eureka Stockade is celebrated as a symbol of workers' resistance and continues to inspire people around the world.

Australia's history of capital-labour conflict confirms Marxist theory on role of state

The state's role in the economy and society is central to understanding the dynamics of capital-labour conflict. The Marxist theory of the state highlights the role of the state as a tool of the ruling class to maintain their power and control over the working class.

The state's role in the economy and society is central to understanding the dynamics of capital-labour conflict. The Marxist theory of the state highlights the role of the state as a tool of the ruling class to maintain their power and control over the working class. Today, the state continues to play a significant role in shaping the economy and society, with its actions often reflecting the interests of the ruling class.
Getting nuclear energy in perspective

by Professor Eric Clutton

The discovery of how to release nuclear energy is often, and quite correctly, compared with the discovery of fire. But both are of comparable importance. Both can be terribly destructive if misused, both can be used for good, and both can improve the quality of life. But the question is: how should we use nuclear energy? And in this article we will explore some of the possibilities and problems.

Nuclear power can be used to generate electricity, heat, and even to produce weapons. The potential benefits of nuclear power are enormous: it is clean, efficient, and inexhaustible. In the long term, it could be the key to solving the world's energy problems.

However, there are also many risks associated with nuclear energy. The most significant are the danger of accidents, the long-term effects of radiation, and the potential for weapons proliferation.

In conclusion, nuclear energy has the potential to be a valuable source of energy, but it must be used with caution and responsibility.
Thirty vigorous years in the fight for peace

by Jim Mitchell
Our Moscow correspondent

The Australian Peace Council can be considered as an affiliation with the World Peace Council and the Secretariat of Union of Australia can be conducted by John Bevan, one of its senior officials who was welcomed to Finland earlier this year by the Council's Executive Secretary.

The World Peace Council headquarters in Helsinki is a well-known center of activities of the world peace movement. It is located in a picturesque part of the city, near the harbor, and is open to the public.

The headquarters of the World Peace Council is a two-story building with a large office and meeting room on the ground floor. The office is furnished with desks and chairs, and the meeting room is equipped with tables and chairs for conferences. The walls of the building are decorated with framed photographs of world leaders and figures associated with the peace movement.

There is a small library on the ground floor, with a collection of books and periodicals on peace and international affairs. The library is open to the public, and visitors are welcome to browse through the collection.

The council's executive secretary, John Bevan, is a well-known figure in the peace movement. He has been a long-time member of the council and has played an active role in organizing events and meetings.

The council's main activities include organizing meetings and conferences, publishing a newsletter and other materials, and providing support and assistance to other peace organizations around the world.

The council's office is equipped with a computer and other modern equipment, and it is open to the public during office hours.

Shah must answer for crimes

The human rights regime under Shah's rule in Iran has been recognized by various international organizations and human rights groups as a serious problem.

The Shah's regime has been criticized for its suppression of political dissent, human rights abuses, and authoritarian rule. The Shah's government has been accused of violating the rights of Iran's citizens, particularly those of the minority groups who have been targeted for discrimination.

The Shah's government has been accused of using violence and intimidation to suppress political opposition and dissent.

There have been widespread reports of torture and other forms of abuse committed by the security forces of the Shah's regime.

Life in Kampuchea is returning to normal

The life of my people in the red cross society of Kampuchea has been difficult due to the war and the political situation.

The Red Cross Society of Kampuchea has been working to provide assistance to the people of Kampuchea, particularly those affected by the war and the political situation.

The society has been providing medical care, food, and other supplies to those in need.

The organization has also been involved in efforts to promote peace and dialogue between the warring factions.

China stirs up trouble in India

According to the Indian government, the Chinese army has been entering border areas near the longest demarcation line (LSD) in the eastern sector of the border.

India has protested the Chinese incursion, and the two countries have been engaged in negotiations to resolve the issue.

The China-India border issue has been a source of tension between the two countries for several years.

China claims the area as part of its territory, while India maintains that it belongs to its own.

The situation has escalated in recent months, with both countries accusing each other of military incursions.

Close ties between maoists and racists are exposed

A number of maoist and racist groups have been operating in South Africa, particularly in the Western Cape province.

The maoist groups have been involved in activities that support the struggle for national liberation and freedom.

The racist groups have been involved in activities that promote racial segregation and discrimination.

The close ties between maoist and racist groups have been a source of concern for the authorities.

The government has been taking steps to address the issue, including issuing warnings and taking legal action against those involved in such activities.

The situation has been tense, with both sides accusing each other of provoking violence.

The government has been working to resolve the issue through dialogue and negotiation.
Liberation struggle on our door-step

Dawood Gandhi is a representative of the Congress (I) and is the current general secretary of the Communist Party of Malawi. He is a prominent figure in the struggle for liberation in Malawi and has played a significant role in the fight against colonialism.

World conference

There cannot be peace in Middle East without participation of Palestinian people

by Harry Blain, SPA Central Committee member

Angola, and widely appreciated on the international scene due to its consistent support for the liberation struggle of the Palestinian people.

We are deeply concerned about the current situation in the Middle East. The Israeli occupation of Palestinian land, the demolition of houses, and the violation of human rights are unacceptable. We firmly believe that the only solution to this conflict is a two-state solution, with an independent and sovereign Palestinian state living side by side with Israel in peace and security.

The Socialist

Critical of right-wing labor

In the February issue of the Socialist, we highlighted the role of the right-wing labor movement in supporting neoliberal policies. We argued that this movement is not representative of the working class and is often controlled by corporatist interests.

Letters to the Editor

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The Socialist Festival Farewell concert

Don't miss this last concert of the Soviet musical group which participated in the Socialist Festival. The Bayan Players and singers Tamara Vynogradova and Alexei Karmenov play popular songs of the 1980s.

Obituary

Ted Gearman

One of the key figures in the movement against apartheid in South Africa, Ted Gearman passed away recently. We pay tribute to his memory and legacy.

Obituary

Len Hade

Len Hade, a prominent trade union leader in Australia, passed away recently. We remember his contributions to the working class movement.

Obituary

YSL's "End of the Year" Party

YSL's "End of the Year" Party was held in the Socialist Cafe on Saturday, December 1st. We had a great time celebrating the end of the year with music, food, and good company.

Diary dates

YSL's "End of the Year" Party

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Old "Breakfast" Barbecue

The Queensland Peace Committee's "End of the Year" Breakfast was held on Saturday, December 1st. It was a wonderful opportunity to enjoy food and music.
Qld power workers keep pressure on

Over 4,500 Queensland power workers went on a 24-hour strike at the beginning of the month in support of their work. The strike lasted for just 24 hours, but it had a significant impact on the state's power grid. The power workers made clear their demands, calling for better wages and conditions, and the government responded by negotiating with the power workers and announcing a 10% pay increase for all power workers.

NSW Public Transport workers make gains

After a struggle lasting over two months, the Public Transport Community Union (PTCU) members have made significant gains in their fight for better wages and working conditions. The union has won a pay increase of 10% and improved conditions for all workers. The union has also secured better career progression and improved grievance procedures, which will help to improve the working conditions for all workers.

ALP rally against uranium in Sydney

Around 2,000 people attended an anti-uranium rally held at the Sydney Town Hall Square on Monday, December 2. The rally was organized by the South West Sydney Environment Action Group (SWEAG), a local group that has been campaigning against the mining of uranium in the area for several years. The rally was a huge success, with thousands of people turning out to show their support for the cause.

Tradesmen club launched in Western Sydney area

A meeting of 213 people packed the Leichhardt Community Hall on Sunday, November 24, for the launch of the Mt. Druitt Building Tradesmen's Club. The club was established to provide a social and networking platform for tradesmen in the area, allowing them to connect with other professionals and share knowledge.

NSW Labor Council Call to help Kurnell

The NSW Labor Council has decided to support the Kurnell Workers Action Group in their fight against the uranium mine. The group has been protesting for years against the mine, which is located near the community of Kurnell. The Labor Council has pledged to support the group's efforts to stop the mine from being built.

Followed from page 1

wage increases are to be considered.

National Economic growth provides

to pay and job growth. The labor increases for the primary factor in a growing national economy.

But reports of national wage

calls on corporations whether the unions have not been substantially competed with other industries in the national economy.

SPEECHES

In the past few months, Premier Bob Carr has been speaking on the need for a national wage policy. He has emphasized the importance of a national wage policy to ensure that workers receive fair and competitive wages.

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