Stop the enemies of Labor!

NSW elections
Swing against Labor

Economic policy
The real alternative

Labor history
The Socialisation Units in NSW
Beat inflation. Subscribe now

Labor Militant is against the Prices and Incomes Accord. It is also against inflation in policy and practice. Our principle deflationary measure is to offer subscriptions for 10 issues at just $6. That means we pay the postage. Don't forget that since the amalgamation of Labor Militant and Socialist Fight you get two journals for the price of one. Quite a package deal.

I enclose $6.00 for ten issues □
I would like to distribute Labor Militant. Please send me ....... copies and find $ ...... enclosed □
I enclose $ ...... donation towards the cost of producing and distributing Labor Militant □
I would like to be contacted by a Labor Militant supporter □
I would like further information □

Return to Labor Militant, P.O.Box 372, Broadway 2007 (Cheques etc payable to Labor Militant)

Victoria
PO Box 319
South Carlton
Vic 3233

Western Australia
GPO Box U1955
Perth
WA 6001

Newcastle
PO Box 346
Newcastle
NSW 2300

Wellington
PO Box 165
Port Kembla
NSW 2500

Queensland
PO Box 86
West End
Qld 4101

South Australia
PO Box 152
Adelaide
SA 5001

Sydney
PO Box 372
Broadway
NSW 2007

Contents

Volume 4, Number 2 April 1984

4. Letters

5-7. Campaign against NCC-dominated unions
Extracts from leaflets. Report of women's meeting

8. NSW elections
Warning signals for Labor

9-10. Debates: Economic policy
The real alternative

11. Women's conference in Queensland
Opposition to U.S. bases and ANZUS. Debate on Prices and Incomes Accord

12-13. 1984 National Conference
The uranium debate

14-15. Activist's guide to the ALP
NSW Branch

17-18. Interview with Joan Coxsedge
Implications of the ASIS raid on the Sheraton Hotel

19-21. Labor History
The Socialisation Units in NSW, 1930-1932

22. Young Fabians' seminar
Forum for Hawke's supporters

23. Meeting condemns aid to Marcos
Report from Melbourne

24. Debates: Opposing U.S. war plans
Prospects for Melbourne

25. East Timor
Interview with activist from East Timor Association

26-27. Reviews: Under Fire and Waterfront

28. Brian Burke's economic 'philosophy'
Redistributing wealth to the wealthy

Signed articles do not necessarily represent editorial opinion

Printed and published by P. Brewer PO Box 372, Broadway NSW 2007
Greenham Common

Dear Editor,

I have recently returned from England, where I visited the Greenham Common camp. Because of recent movements by the government, I write to find out what the plans are for the demolition of the women's homes from the Common. It is important that Australians are aware of the women's protest and offer our support.

It is remarkable that the protest at the once beautiful Greenham Common has continued for over two years, long after the last woman was evicted. Living outside the perimeter of the camp is a continuous reminder to the countless others who have been affected. The protest is kept going by a remarkable group of women, who continue to demonstrate despite the constant harassment and attacks.

The women are being watched by soldiers, who are said to be on constant alert. Most of the women have been peacefully arrested, but they are arrested by the military forces. The military is said to be using violence and intimidation to keep the protest going.

The protest has grown in popularity and support, with many people from all over the world coming to visit and offer their support. The women are determined to continue their fight until the Common is returned to the people.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

letters to L.M.

NSW elections

Dear comrades,

I hope this reaches you in time to appear in your paper. We must all do our best to ensure that the Socialist Left is re-elected to the NSW Parliament.

As the election approaches, we need to ensure that our candidates are well-prepared and ready to represent the people of NSW. The Socialist Left has a strong record of fighting for the working class and the poor, and we need to ensure that these values are reflected in our candidates.

We need to focus on the issues that matter most to the people of NSW, such as education, health, and the environment. We need to ensure that our candidates are well-versed in these issues, and that they are ready to fight for the people.

I urge you to support the Socialist Left in the NSW election, and to ensure that the people of NSW have a voice in the government.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Social Rights Conference

As part of the debate around what should be done to improve the lives of ordinary people, the Socialist Left is holding a conference on April 10th and 11th to discuss the issue of social rights.

The conference will be held at the University of NSW, and will feature speakers from a wide range of backgrounds. The aim of the conference is to discuss the issues around social rights, and to explore solutions for improving the lives of ordinary people.

The conference will be open to all, and will provide a platform for discussion and debate on this important issue. We hope that you will be able to attend and contribute to the discussions.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Implications for Party nationally

The campaign against the NCC unions

The campaign in the Victorian branch of the ALP has been going on for some time, and it is clear that this is not the only campaign against the NCC unions.

The NCC unions have been involved in a series of disputes with workers in the construction industry, and there have been calls for them to be disestablished.

The Socialist Left in Victoria has been at the forefront of this campaign, and we have been actively involved in supporting workers in their struggle.

We believe that the NCC unions are a force for the exploitation of workers, and we are committed to fighting for the rights of workers everywhere.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Garry Walters
Member of Brunswick 50th ALP Branch and Australian Railways Union

Victoria

Lettets to L.M. should be sent to Lutey Millington PO Box 372 Broadway, NSW 2009. We reserve the right to edit letters reasonably short so we may print as many as possible.

Letters to L.M.

The campaign against the NCC unions

The campaign in the Victorian branch of the ALP has been going on for some time, and it is clear that this is not the only campaign against the NCC unions.

The NCC unions have been involved in a series of disputes with workers in the construction industry, and there have been calls for them to be disestablished.

The Socialist Left in Victoria has been at the forefront of this campaign, and we have been actively involved in supporting workers in their struggle.

We believe that the NCC unions are a force for the exploitation of workers, and we are committed to fighting for the rights of workers everywhere.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Garry Walters
Member of Brunswick 50th ALP Branch and Australian Railways Union

Victoria

Letters to L.M. should be sent to Lutey Millington PO Box 372 Broadway, NSW 2009. We reserve the right to edit letters reasonably short so we may print as many as possible.

Social Rights Conference

As part of the debate around what should be done to improve the lives of ordinary people, the Socialist Left is holding a conference on April 10th and 11th to discuss the issue of social rights.

The conference will be held at the University of NSW, and will feature speakers from a wide range of backgrounds. The aim of the conference is to discuss the issues around social rights, and to explore solutions for improving the lives of ordinary people.

The conference will be open to all, and will provide a platform for discussion and debate on this important issue. We hope that you will be able to attend and contribute to the discussions.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Social Rights Conference

As part of the debate around what should be done to improve the lives of ordinary people, the Socialist Left is holding a conference on April 10th and 11th to discuss the issue of social rights.

The conference will be held at the University of NSW, and will feature speakers from a wide range of backgrounds. The aim of the conference is to discuss the issues around social rights, and to explore solutions for improving the lives of ordinary people.

The conference will be open to all, and will provide a platform for discussion and debate on this important issue. We hope that you will be able to attend and contribute to the discussions.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Social Rights Conference

As part of the debate around what should be done to improve the lives of ordinary people, the Socialist Left is holding a conference on April 10th and 11th to discuss the issue of social rights.

The conference will be held at the University of NSW, and will feature speakers from a wide range of backgrounds. The aim of the conference is to discuss the issues around social rights, and to explore solutions for improving the lives of ordinary people.

The conference will be open to all, and will provide a platform for discussion and debate on this important issue. We hope that you will be able to attend and contribute to the discussions.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Social Rights Conference

As part of the debate around what should be done to improve the lives of ordinary people, the Socialist Left is holding a conference on April 10th and 11th to discuss the issue of social rights.

The conference will be held at the University of NSW, and will feature speakers from a wide range of backgrounds. The aim of the conference is to discuss the issues around social rights, and to explore solutions for improving the lives of ordinary people.

The conference will be open to all, and will provide a platform for discussion and debate on this important issue. We hope that you will be able to attend and contribute to the discussions.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Social Rights Conference

As part of the debate around what should be done to improve the lives of ordinary people, the Socialist Left is holding a conference on April 10th and 11th to discuss the issue of social rights.

The conference will be held at the University of NSW, and will feature speakers from a wide range of backgrounds. The aim of the conference is to discuss the issues around social rights, and to explore solutions for improving the lives of ordinary people.

The conference will be open to all, and will provide a platform for discussion and debate on this important issue. We hope that you will be able to attend and contribute to the discussions.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Social Rights Conference

As part of the debate around what should be done to improve the lives of ordinary people, the Socialist Left is holding a conference on April 10th and 11th to discuss the issue of social rights.

The conference will be held at the University of NSW, and will feature speakers from a wide range of backgrounds. The aim of the conference is to discuss the issues around social rights, and to explore solutions for improving the lives of ordinary people.

The conference will be open to all, and will provide a platform for discussion and debate on this important issue. We hope that you will be able to attend and contribute to the discussions.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Social Rights Conference

As part of the debate around what should be done to improve the lives of ordinary people, the Socialist Left is holding a conference on April 10th and 11th to discuss the issue of social rights.

The conference will be held at the University of NSW, and will feature speakers from a wide range of backgrounds. The aim of the conference is to discuss the issues around social rights, and to explore solutions for improving the lives of ordinary people.

The conference will be open to all, and will provide a platform for discussion and debate on this important issue. We hope that you will be able to attend and contribute to the discussions.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Social Rights Conference

As part of the debate around what should be done to improve the lives of ordinary people, the Socialist Left is holding a conference on April 10th and 11th to discuss the issue of social rights.

The conference will be held at the University of NSW, and will feature speakers from a wide range of backgrounds. The aim of the conference is to discuss the issues around social rights, and to explore solutions for improving the lives of ordinary people.

The conference will be open to all, and will provide a platform for discussion and debate on this important issue. We hope that you will be able to attend and contribute to the discussions.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Social Rights Conference

As part of the debate around what should be done to improve the lives of ordinary people, the Socialist Left is holding a conference on April 10th and 11th to discuss the issue of social rights.

The conference will be held at the University of NSW, and will feature speakers from a wide range of backgrounds. The aim of the conference is to discuss the issues around social rights, and to explore solutions for improving the lives of ordinary people.

The conference will be open to all, and will provide a platform for discussion and debate on this important issue. We hope that you will be able to attend and contribute to the discussions.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
ALP women’s meeting opposes affiliations

What is the National Civic Council?

[Image and text related to ALP women’s meeting and the National Civic Council]
NSW elections
Warning signals for Labor

Labor was returned to power in NSW at the elections of March 28 against an average swing of 5.8 per cent. This will cost Labor a record 33-seat majority in the lower house.

The Labor vote was 53.2 per cent against 44.5 per cent for the conservative coalition. The two old adversaries, Labor and the conservative coalition, are unlikely to be rivaled for world leadership but the issue of whose side is more likely to lead the world in the years ahead will be a major factor in the election of March 28.

The swing in the electorate is a disaster for Labor. The swing against Labor is larger than expected and the swing in the electorate is a disaster for Labor.

However, corruption scandals have not been the sole cause of the warning enthusiasm for Labor in working class areas. The economic situation has also been a major factor.

A more important factor has been the continuing high level of unemployment. After eight years of the Whitlam Government, the unemployment rate has returned to levels more than twice as high as in the years before the Whitlam Government.

The trend has been observed in all industries. The unemployment rate in the manufacturing industry is over 10 per cent. The unemployment rate in the construction industry is over 10 per cent. The unemployment rate in the transport industry is over 10 per cent.

So Labor must be careful not to be too complacent. The economic situation is still a major factor in the election of March 28. But the economy is not the only factor. The government must also take into account the warning enthusiasm for Labor in working class areas.

Economic strategy debate

In preparation for the National Conference of the Party later this year, the editorial board of this newspaper has prepared a series of articles on the economic strategy of the Labor Government. The articles are being prepared in the interests of the Labor Party and the working class movement. They are intended to be a basis for discussion at the National Conference and to help to establish a clear and coherent economic strategy for the Labor Government.

The articles are based on the following principles:

1. The government must take steps to reduce the level of unemployment.
2. The government must take steps to increase the level of public expenditure on social programs.
3. The government must take steps to increase the level of expenditure on public programs.
4. The government must take steps to increase the level of expenditure on public programs.
5. The government must take steps to increase the level of expenditure on public programs.

The articles are intended to be a basis for discussion at the National Conference and to help to establish a clear and coherent economic strategy for the Labor Government.
From the Manifesto of Social Rights

- The right to work
  Everyone wants to work and must be guaranteed a job. No one should be unemployed for more than three months. Training programs should be expanded to include in-work training.

- The right to a living wage
  The right to a wage that is not only enough to cover basic needs, but also includes education, health, and other social benefits.

- The right to decent housing
  Housing should be affordable and accessible to all, with adequate space, security, and a healthy environment.

- The right to education
  Education should be available to all, regardless of gender, race, or social status.

- The right to health care
  All citizens should have access to affordable and quality health care services.

- The right to social security
  A comprehensive social security system should be established to provide coverage for old age, unemployment, disability, and sickness.

- The right to a decent environment
  The right to live in a clean and healthy environment, free from pollution and harmful substances.

- The right to cultural and social rights
  The right to enjoy cultural and social activities, including free access to cultural events and cultural production.

- The right to organize
  Workers should have the right to organize and form labor unions to protect their rights and interests.

A ‘critical appraisal’ of Accord

Approximately 160 women from all over Queensland attended the Whitlam Women’s Conference, held over the weekend of March 17 and 18. A large number of female delegates took part in the conference, which was organized to discuss the rights and interests of women in Australia.

- The right of women to equal pay
  Women should be paid the same as men for the same work.

- The right to participate in politics
  Women should have the right to participate in political and civil life, including the right to vote and hold public office.

- The right to reproductive rights
  Women should have the right to control their reproduction and have access to safe and legal abortion.

- The right to social and economic security
  Women should have the right to social and economic security, including access to affordable housing, healthcare, and education.

- The right to a voice in public life
  Women should have the right to participate in public life, including the right to run for and hold public office.

Helene Russell
Member for North-East Queensland (ALP)

March on April 15

This year’s large anti-nuclear demonstrations will be held in most centres on April 15. The solgans focus on such things as opposition to U.S. bases and uranium mining. Many solidarity organisations will be organizing contingents to focus on particular struggles. Undoubtedly the themes of Central America and the Middle East will be prominent.

Adelaide
2pm, Victoria Square
Brisbane
11am, Roma St Forum. March to Albert Park Sound Shell
Canberra
2pm, Russell Hill Australian-American War Memorial
Melbourne
Marches to converge at the corner of Bourke and Swanston Sts. Marches begin at 1pm
Perth
1pm Kings Park main entrance. March to Supreme Court Gardens
Sydney
1pm Hyde Park South. March to Domain

Lanner Millia, April 1984
Implications for bases, ANZUS and disarmament

The uranium debate

This article is the second in a series leading up to the July ALP National Conference. The ALP has signalled that a major policy area to be debated at Conference is disarming.

Since 1979 Bob Hawke has been building a determined campaign to overthrow ANZUS and disarmament policies in both the Labour and Liberal parties. He began with a frontal assault on the ACTU policy at its 1979 Congress. Then, unprepared for the thrust he thus made, the ACTU reversed its previous position and announced an international statement on nuclear non-proliferation. Hawke was already thinking of the nuclear energy issue. He had been urging the Federal government to reverse its policy on uranium mining and to negotiate some arrangement with the USSR to stop uranium mining. He had been particularly critical of the government's decision to allow uranium mining to continue in Australia. He had also been critical of the government's decision to allow uranium mining to continue in Australia. He had been particularly critical of the government's decision to allow uranium mining to continue in Australia. He had also been critical of the government's decision to allow uranium mining to continue in Australia.

Hawke's campaign on uranium mining was to be a major factor in the election of 1980. Hawke was successful in his campaign on uranium mining. The Liberal government was forced to reverse its decision and to support Hawke's position.

The uranium debate has been a major issue in this election campaign. The ALP has been successful in its campaign on uranium mining. The Liberal government was forced to reverse its decision and to support Hawke's position.

Hawke's campaign on uranium mining was to be a major factor in the election of 1980. Hawke was successful in his campaign on uranium mining. The Liberal government was forced to reverse its decision and to support Hawke's position.

Hawke's campaign on uranium mining was to be a major factor in the election of 1980. Hawke was successful in his campaign on uranium mining. The Liberal government was forced to reverse its decision and to support Hawke's position.

Hawke's campaign on uranium mining was to be a major factor in the election of 1980. Hawke was successful in his campaign on uranium mining. The Liberal government was forced to reverse its decision and to support Hawke's position.

Hawke's campaign on uranium mining was to be a major factor in the election of 1980. Hawke was successful in his campaign on uranium mining. The Liberal government was forced to reverse its decision and to support Hawke's position.

Hawke's campaign on uranium mining was to be a major factor in the election of 1980. Hawke was successful in his campaign on uranium mining. The Liberal government was forced to reverse its decision and to support Hawke's position.

Hawke's campaign on uranium mining was to be a major factor in the election of 1980. Hawke was successful in his campaign on uranium mining. The Liberal government was forced to reverse its decision and to support Hawke's position.

Hawke's campaign on uranium mining was to be a major factor in the election of 1980. Hawke was successful in his campaign on uranium mining. The Liberal government was forced to reverse its decision and to support Hawke's position.
On these two pages we present a guide for finding your way around the labyrinth which is the ALP in NSW. We hope this will help to clarify some of the things you can't do in the ALP.

One look at the diagram is enough to convince anyone that the ALP in NSW is a jungle. It is bureaucratic and it is difficult for rank-and-file members to get things done. Furthermore, even if you can influence policy adopted at the Conference or Council you usually do so by participating in the making of laws that are ultimately to be made by the government. There is absolutely no guarantee that Labor Government will implement your policies. Labor Militant is in favor of a thorough shakeup of the structure of the Party and unions so that rank and file members can have a voice. But that is not going to happen without a long struggle, so in the meantime it is important for all activists in the Party to know how to manipulate the structure as best they can. Obviously it is fundamentally important to mobilize support for progressive policies. But unless you know how to advance these policies beyond your local Branch they will remain like a car without an engine.

In future issues we hope to carry similar information on other State Branches. This will be obviously useful to members of those Branches. It will also be interesting to compare the structures. Some things are done better in some Branches than in others and it is important that this kind of knowledge can help to the campaign for more democratic structures.

The information we present is accurate to our knowledge. However, readers can shed further light on this subject if they would be pleased to hear from them.

Janet Burstall
 femininereally East (NSW) ALP Branch. Municipal Employees Union

After the arrows

---

Know your way around

NSW Branch
Activist's guide to the ALP

Office seems to distribute 'The Radical' randomly to members and it is possible to be a member of the NSW ALP without being a member of a Branch, since membership records were centralized at Head Office last year.

Your opportunities for activism in the ALP will be shaped partly by which of these areas you are active in. They will also of course be affected by the regime in your Branch, usually led by the NSW ALP's August 1984 or YLA. The right to organize is quite restricted in some areas. In both affiliated unions and YLA's, only full members of the ALP may become delegates to higher ALP bodies.

Policy motions may be referred from any of the rank and file bodies, to State Conference or Labor Women's Conference. Matters that must be dealt with at State Conferences are referred to State Councils that meet twice a year (the first and third quarters of the year). The closing date for submission for any item on the agenda of the Conference must not be less than 14 days prior to the date of the Conference, so make sure you are aware of what's going on and if you are a Branch member, alert your Branch to make a submission so that the branches can consider what to do, and then refer it to you.

Motions from affiliated unions and union bodies are usually referred to the relevant policy committees which present reports to Conferences and Councils. It is a good idea to find out who are the members of the relevant policy committees, so you can lobby them.

The same principles apply with regard to the National Conference which is held once every two years. Again policy motions can be referred to relevant policy committees. Motions that are adopted at Branches are often referred to Federal or State Electorate Councils. If they get passed these bodies have acquired more weight. It is a good idea to send copies of motions to the relevant State and Federal Labor Ministers and to the Premier and Prime Minister if they concern major issues. At least this makes them see what kind of reply to the Branch.

Some specific points concerning different areas of opportunity for action:

1. Branches. As a Branch member you can be elected to the Executive, or of any of the delegations by showing you are involved in the activities of the Branch. Branches have a role in selecting the candidates for election to Branch.

2. Rank and file preselections. MPs and local government candidates have to face preselection prior to each general election, although Head Office has a list of candidates for some MPs to avoid this. Preselection in the NSW ALP for lower house and local government positions is by ballot of Branch members in the branch.

3. Young Labor Associations. Where YLA exists, members of the ALP can initiate one by applying to the YLC Executive. YLA's are usually based on Federal Electorates. Only YLA members who are full members of the ALP may become Young Labor delegates. But people under 25 may join the YLA even if they are not full members of the ALP. Because of the lack of young people most of the ALP branches are in training to become a delegate to Young Labor Councils. Just as young labor members will be housed at the Conference.

4. Labor Women. As with Young Labor, it is unusual to find a group of women in any Branch eligible or willing to become delegates to Labor Women's Conferences. It is extremely valuable to attend these conferences. For a number of reasons women activists in the ALP have a better opportunity to influence key policy matters. Once you become a delegate to the Conference you can attend Labor Women's Committee meetings.

5. Electorate Councils. These bodies are made up of delegates from all the Branches in the area, and usually have a role in the area, and usually have a role in the area, and usually have a role in the area.
Activists' Guide
Continued from page 15
meet monthly or bi-monthly. Often the more active members of branches are Electoral Council delegates, so by being a delegate you can make contact with other activists in your local area. Electoral Councils will sometimes re-allocate activities to their constituent branches. You can place items on the agenda of your branch or NEC by having them referred from your own branch.

Affiliated unions. The channel from affiliated unions to ALP branches is usually extremely difficult to find. In most cases union executives or State Councils simply appoint people to ALP branches. In some cases the affiliated union has no representation at all, and members do not get a look in. Most unions then impose discipline on their delegates so the delegates normally have to vote with the officials no matter what they think. In most cases union of the Right and Left simply kill their delegations with hostile criteria.

It is also extremely rare for union officials to organise discussion in the ranks about ALP policy, before or after Conferences. As a result there is little knowledge or interest in what the union delegations do on behalf of the members. Most officials tell their members that policies is not the concern of the union and then vote on a State Conference on behalf of the union membership. This abysmal lack of accountability needs to be challenged. If an ALP member is entitled to attend State Conference as an observer, if you are capable of finding out what your union delegates have voted, it may be useful to share this information with your fellow union members.

You can become a delegate by getting elected from your union to State Conference, VLC or Labor Women's Conference and see how you do. Good luck!

Socialisation Units
Continued from page 21

Uranium debate
Continued from page 13

Australia's involvement in the brutal war against the Vietnam people has probably caused a powerful case against ANZUS.

For very many people the Vietnam war is causing increasing doubts in the effectiveness of the ANZUS alliance. In Vietnam, the US has used genocide to defend the right of the Vietnamese people to self-determination and economic exploitation, and Australia has been a part of it. The Australian Government also operates in tandem with the US administration in providing extensive military aid to pro-imperialist regimes in countries like Indonesia and the Philippines.

Australia has no developed its own nuclear weapons but it participates in the nuclear arms race by hosting the bases and by allowing regular visits by nuclear-armed and nuclear-powered US warships and bombers.

In the Asian and Pacific regions Australia is an imperial power with an interest in the region. Australian capitalists have investments and favourable terms of trade protected by the military alliance with the US, and New Zealand is designed to help protect those interests.

The "defence" policies of the Hawke government are, in reality, aggression, pro-war policies. But Hawke and the supporters are committed to such a military strategy because they are committed to defending the interests of Australian capitalists at home and abroad.

The alternative is to link an anti-war strategy with anti-capitalist domestic policies. That is the challenge that faces the Left at the forthcoming Conference.

The role of ASIS exposed
The following is the second part of an interview with Joan Cossedge, Victorian MLA and prominent member of the Socialist Left. The first part of the interview, which concentrated on the role of ASIS and the implications of the Combined-Labor affair, was published in Volume 4, the March, 1984 issue (Volume 4, Number 1). The interview was conducted by Reihana Motteeen, a member of the Preston (Vic) ALP Branch.

Question: Can you go on a field of activity of Australian Security Intelligence Service, especially its role in assisting progressive government in the Third World?

Answer: ASIS is Australia's overseas intelligence service. It was set up in 1917 and is an organisation that is open to meetings and conferences in the guise of businessmen. It operates by sending agents into countries and maintaining embassies as bases.

We also know ASIS has been involved in chasing the Victorian Police Special Operations squad, the paramilitary wing of the State police, launching into all sorts of James Bond type activities, skin diving and all that jazz and dungaree stuff.

They are currently centralising, which is the trend now, security agencies are being concentrated in Canberra. ASIS headquarters were in Melbourne, but are going to be Canbera, along with ASIS. At the moment they are still at the big Defence Department site in St. Kilda. Melbourne and Victoria in 1973 was involved in working to expose the role of ASIS in Cambodia, when it helped to underwrite the Sihanouk Government, acting directly under CIA orders. ASIS was also involved in operations in Chile in 1973 against the Allende Government, working with the CIA.

ASIS was doing something that was directly contrary to government policy, acting on behalf of a foreign power. Yet the government, Labor Government, did nothing to stop them.

Whitlam get very outraged in November 1975, when he found out that ASIS operatives were in East Timor and that they were trying to deceive the UN, to poison the head of ASIS, Bill Robertson, but he should have closed down the whole outfit, because that is how it normally operates.

Even conservative people like ex-Prime Minister Billy McMahon are on record as saying they can't see much good that ASIS does.

There is one person who serves to illustrate what ASIS is all about and that is John Riley. He was president of the Australian Union of Students in the 60's, and, after working as an ASIS agent for many years, went to work for ANDRO Peace as a personal secretary. Then he went to work for ALCOA in Portland. The Portland people used to say it was amazing how much ALCOA knew about the group approach. This was no surprise with Riley working there with all his connections with the security police.

John Riley has now gone to work for the Victorian Liberal Party, where he will no doubt be able to use all the dodgy deals they have over Labor people, to help the Liberals in their campaign.

Question: At the time of the ASIS raid on the Sherraton Hotel last year, it was said that this was a training exercise. What is your view on that?

Answer: Although it is not completely clear what was involved, I don't accept the story that it was a simple case of a broke training exercise. We have been told only a fraction of what actually happened.

It certainly highlighted again the juvenile idea of what its role is, you knock down doors and all that dramatic stuff, with submachine guns and a real jack boot atmosphere.

To be continued in the next issue

continued on page 18

National Times photo of ASIS training camp in Victoria. Sheridan raid showed these secret police are uncontrolled
The NSW Socialisation Units, 1930-32

Powerful movement for socialism

This is the first of two parts on the powerful movement for socialism in NSW around the Party's socialisation objective in the early 1930s. The first part deals with the origins of the movement and the battles it had with the leadership of the Labor Party in NSW, Jack Lang, who saw the way the Units were organised.

The second part considers that eventually overwhelmed within the movement and will assess its strengths and weaknesses.

On April 4, 1931, Bill McNamara the son of the Australian Socialist League and manager, until 1939, of the renowned McNamara’s Bookshop moved a motion which contained the following clauses at the State Conference (then called Easter Conference) of the NSW ALP:

A. The adoption of a plan for implementing the socialisation objective, as set out in the Three-Year Plan of social transformation, be presented to Government, through the right body, for approval.

B. Government and the controls of specified property.

C. The administration of specified industries and the writing off of outstanding debts, the running of these industries by the government.

D. Nationalisation of the banking system, nationalisation of the banking system and the creation of a workers' Credit Bank.

E. The setting up of a Superintendent for the running of the new system.

F. The encouraging of the activities of workers and farmers' organisations.

After heated debate the motion was adopted by a vote of 39-30.

Martin Tuck
Member of Legislative (NSW) ALP Branch

The previous day the State Labor Premier, Jack Lang, had given a keynote speech in which he had designed to head off growing demands for action on the party's year-old socialisation objective. He had also sought to support the so-called Lang Plan which called for a way to support the socialisation of the money supply, specifically for greater Government control over the credit system. Lang also urged the need to popularise the concept of socialism.

Lang had been encouraged to find that his decay plan had not received further debate on the subject. McNamara had wanted the Lang Plan to be put to the people. As the next day they moved to secure a repayment of the National Plan motion by a margin of 60 to 30.

The Units had supported the following motion:

That the Socialisation Committee be invited to draw up a scheme for the socialisation of the Australian currency, in accordance with the scheme of the Socialist movement, and that the Units take the earliest opportunity to bring such a scheme before the public.

This, of course, was a deliberately vague proposition that meant nothing in practice. But it did not in the right over Labor Militant, April 1931

Continued on page 29
Socialisation Units

Continued from page 19

strengths and weaknesses, and the reasons for its demise.

To understand this movement it is first of all necessary to

trace its origins.

Many of the figures already had long involvement in

building socialist currents. Quite a few had been activists in

the one Big Union movement. Some had even been involved

in the formation of the communist party of Australia, and

for many years there had been rather disorganised

socialism. One Time Groups within the ALP which had

been influenced by American socialist writers like Dr Leon,

Shirley and Ruddock.

Among the early leaders of the socialisation movement

were Donald Grant, one of the 12 International Workers of

the World leaders tried during World War I, and Jack

McNamara, secretary of the ALCU, former leader of the

OBU.

Strangely enough, the movement that was to grow so

large and powerful in 1931 and 1932 had a very inauspicious

beginning in early 1931.

Acting as an individual, J.W. Thompson, former OBU

activist, secretary of the Milk Employees' Union and president

of the Endeavour ALCU Branch, moved a motion at the February

Conference recommending that the Annual

General (Electors) Conference set up a committee to devise

ways and means to propagate the first and principal plat-

form of the party — the Socialisation of Industry.

The motion was seconded by W. Jones and supported

by Donald Grant. It carried uncontested.

Presumably the Langites could see no harm in such a

committee, but the former OBU members considered it

to have great potential. They therefore put their weight behind

the motion to the Easter Conference, moved by Kilburn, and

seconded by Grant. A committee consisting of Kilburn, McNamara,

Grant, Barker, Cocks, Sutcliffe and Mrs. L. Lethbe —

all members of Socialism in Our Time — was ap-

pointed as the Socialisation of Industry Committee.

The committee was soon absorbed into Socialisation Committee,

Kilburn was appointed president and McNamara secretary.

McNamara announced the formation of the committee in

a letter to the Labor Daily and called on Party members to

assist in the campaign in the following ways:

(1) By addressing public meetings either open air or in

door;

(2) By distributing literature on socialisation which

the Committee hopes to publish;

(3) By organizing Units or groups for the above pur-

pose;

(4) By donations to the printing or propaganda fund

which the Committee hopes to establish;

(5) By any other means.

It was in response to the third point that some Party

Branches began to establish the first socialisation propaganda

units, later called simply Socialisation Units,
in which the movement was to be based.

The Socialisation Committee also began to publish a weekly

Supplement in the Labor Daily under the

heading Socialisation of Industry and this clearly struck a

chord with the Langites. One member of the

ALP who had been influenced by the

movement was to join the Labor Party after helping to

found the ALP and had lost interest.

In fact, it wasn't until about mid-1932 that Lang had

barked away from organizing a fight against the

scions of the Langites. Even then, the Socialisation Committee was

left to decide whether they should continue the campaign for

socialism.

But it was a bad time for such a move. The mood in

the Party was one of sympathy for Lang because

of his sacking and the constant attacks on him in the

press. The demand for socialism at Labor's failure to

fight the sacking. So a campaign that might have

succeeded a year earlier, ended in failure.

There is another major reason why Lang was unwilling
to try to smash the Socialisation Units earlier than he did. This

was the fact that he was also involved in a major fight with

the right wing of the Federal UAP and after 1931, with a right wing splinter group from the NSW Branch.

In 1931, Lang had presented his economic plan — which

at the time, included a proposal to defer payment of debts to

British shareholders until interest rates were reduced —

to a Premiers' Conference.

It was rejected by the Federal Scullin Labor Government.

The Federal executive of the Party then directed the NSW

Branch to defend the plan put forward by the Scullin Government. However, the Langites on the NSW Branch ex-

clerated this and fought a by-election in 1931 on the

basis of the Lang Plan. Their candidate, Eddie Ward, was not

but the Labor party was not successful in the Federal election.

This was because The Federal executive expelled the

NSW Branch and the Langites expelled members of the

Federal Government from the NSW Branch. The Federal exec-

utive tried to form a new branch in NSW around the

Scullin and the Federal Government, and former Premier of

Queensland, E.G. Theodore. In return Lang began

organizing a caucus of his own supporters in the Federal

Parliament.

The splinter group around Theodore did not seriously

weaken Lang's position in NSW but, in view of the fact that

he was trying to outmanoeuvre his right in the Federal

sphere, it would have been a bad time to launch a new

party.

While not prepared to gamble on an all-out attack on the

leaders of the Socialisation Units until 1933, Lang was deter-

mined to contain the growth of their influence from the

beginning of 1931.

In February 1931, Lang presented McNamara

and Kilburn with an ultimatum. If they did not accept

the nomination of three Inner Group members of the Social-

isation Committee at that year's Easter Conference, the Inner

Group would ensure that McNamara was prevented from

being elected as a delegate to that Conference.

The Inner Group was left with three representatives

from the Inner Group, and four previous members of the

committee.

This would have been a bad thing except that Gardner and

his cronies had also been secretly working for Donnald Grant and

some of the Langites had been blackmailed into doing

something that they could not do to prevent the elected

Grant's defection proved to be something of a turning point for the movement. For, while the Inner Group

representatives on the committee could do nothing to pro-
Young Fabians’ seminar

Forum for Hawke’s supporters

Fabians are supposed to be in favour of “democratic socialism”. But a recent seminar organised by the Victoria Young Fabians on the theme of the ALP’s “corporatist” simply gave its members and supporters of Bob Hawke’s Labor Unity faction the opportunity to express their views on the fate of the ALP’s union-dominated faction which was responsible for Hawke’s downfall. The seminar was well attended by the unionists, who were clearly surprised at the large turnout of non-unionists.

Paul White
Secretary, Kensington Vic. ALP Branch
Subbranch secretary, COCA

This confirmed the fact that the Fabians in Victoria have become a front group for Hawke’s faction. The seminar was opened by well-known right-winger, Bob Hogg, who is also a member of the Socialist Left, as well as State Secretary of the Victorian branch of the ALP. That is, he was Hawke’s personal choice for the position of a right-wing figurehead, a choice which was clearly made with some political purpose in mind. The opening talk by Bob Hogg was well received by the audience, which was composed mostly of unionists and a few non-unionists.

Bob Hogg used his opening statement to attack the Labor Unity faction and to call for a return to the principles of the ALP. He argued that the Labor Unity faction had betrayed the ALP and its principles and had allowed the faction to slip into the hands of the right-wing elements of the union movement.

The discussion that followed was lively and animated, with unionists and non-unionists exchanging views on the fate of the ALP and the future of the Labor movement. The unionists were clearly determined to fight for the Labor Unity faction and to prevent its dissolution, while the non-unionists were equally determined to see the faction broken up and the ALP returned to its traditional roots.

The seminar concluded with a vote in favor of the Labor Unity faction, which was carried by a large margin. The meeting ended on a positive note, with the promise of further discussion and action to ensure the survival of the Labor Unity faction.
Opposing U.S. war plans

bear editor (1).
I wrote the enclosed for our local disarmament newsletter. It is informative, not too overtly anti-U.S. but newsworthy enough to merit publication. It has been well-received and readers even find it useful in determining strategies for working within the anti-war, peace, disarmament movement.

Mark Elenio
Fremantle Branch WA.

This article, written by a Western Australian, will bring a great deal of relief to many people. It's a welcome addition to the literature on the subject.

The author, Mark Elenio, is a well-known anti-war activist and author in Australia. His work has been widely read and has contributed significantly to the anti-war movement.

Broad support for Party policy

A recent report in the Australian press has highlighted the growing support for the Australian Labor Party (ALP) among the country's young voters. The ALP has long been known for its progressive stance on social issues, and this support is seen as a positive development for the party.

The report notes that young voters are more likely to support policies that address climate change and social justice issues. This is in line with the ALP's platform, which includes commitments to renewable energy and a more equitable distribution of resources.

The ALP's strong showing among young voters is a positive sign for the party's future. It indicates a willingness among a new generation of voters to support policies that will benefit the country as a whole.

FREITILN focuses on patrol. Aids to withstand Indonesian blisters and launch counter-strikes

Answer: The Head of the Indonesian armed forces, General Beni Mardadi, has announced that the blisters, as reported by General Suryadin in March 2020, are due to the Indonesian military's actions.

General Mardadi stated that the blisters were a result of the Indonesian military's actions and that they were being addressed through medical interventions and training.

The Indonesian military has been under intense pressure to improve its human rights record in recent years, following reports of abuse and mistreatment of civilians.

Hence, the Indonesian military needs to take urgent steps to address the issue of blisters and ensure the rights of its personnel are protected.

FREITILN is a prominent party in Indonesia and its actions and decisions can significantly impact the political landscape of the country.
Under Fire

Takings in Central America

Directed by Roger Spottiswoode
Starring Nick Nolte, Joanna Cassidy and Gene Hackman

"Under Fire" is about a group of American journalists who are caught up in the conflict in Nicaragua. The film depicts the lives of these journalists, including how they cope with the danger and the moral dilemmas they face.

The story is told through flashbacks to the events leading up to the film's opening scene. In one scene, a group of American journalists is ambushed by a group of Sandinista fighters. The journalists are taken prisoner and held for several days before being released.

The film's director, Roger Spottiswoode, says he wanted to show the journalists as ordinary people who are caught up in a conflict they don't understand.

"Under Fire" is a powerful and thought-provoking film that is sure to be a hit with audiences. It is a must-see for anyone interested in journalism or war.

On the Waterfront

Waterfront had all the ingredients of a successful television series: violence, romance, political intrigue and beauty. Like many other TV dramas it was set in the 1980s, but what was unusual about it was that it dealt with an important issue: the waterfront labour movement in Australia.

Tony Brown
Member, Roselle East (NSW) ALP Branch

The six-month series told the story of the waterfront strike of 1979. Many of the characters were based on real people and the events were similar to those that took place during what has become known as the "employers' offensive".

The series ended on a high note when the employers' offensive was defeated and the waterfront workers were able to return to work. The series was critically acclaimed and is considered one of the best television series ever made.

The Waterfront was not only a success in Australia, but it was also popular in the United States and other parts of the world. The series received numerous awards, including an Emmy for Best Drama Series.

Janet Burstall
Member, Roselle East (NSW) ALP Branch

We are shown the brutality and cynicism of Somosa itself. The film comes across vividly on the side of the Sandinistas, who show the American journalists how they are being used by the Sandinista leaders.

Although the American journalists, led by Russell Price and Russell Price, are not shown sympathising with the Sandinistas, their story is told through the eyes of the American journalists. The film is a powerful statement on the role of journalists in times of war.

The film was directed by the talented director, Roger Spottiswoode, who has directed many successful films in the past.

CISC campaign

"It is the hour of unity for all of us. There are no thoughts of our enemies or those who have been supporting our American efforts. There is only one goal: victory."

The CISC campaign is a nationwide movement to support the Sandinista revolution in Nicaragua. The campaign is being led by a group of American journalists who have been involved in the Sandinista movement for many years.

The CISC is working to increase awareness of the Sandinista cause and to mobilise support for the Sandinista revolution.

The CISC has been involved in a number of successful campaigns, including the successful campaign to support the Sandinista revolution in Nicaragua.

Back copies

Back copies of most issues of both Labor Millitant and Socialist Rail can be made available on request for a fee of $25 each, charging only 20 cents a copy.

Write to Labor Millitant PO Box 372 Broadway NSW 2007

Labor Millitant, April 1984
Burke ‘outliberalises’ the Liberals

Frank Vunakes
Member of the Westtac (WALP) Branch

The Sunday Times, 5 February

The February 5 edition of Rupert Murdoch’s Perth paper, the Sunday Times, said this about the economic policies of the WA Labor Government of Brian Burke:

“What a Labor Government outsourcing the Liberals!”

“Mr Burke’s proposal to privatise State-owned assets was met with much criticism. The state government decided to sell off the state’s share in the Water Corporation and privatise the state-owned electricity and gas companies. Mr Burke also said he would sell off the state’s share in the Water Corporation and privatise the state-owned electricity and gas companies.

Mr Burke and the ruling elements of the WA Labor movement were warned about the dangers of privatisation.

The Government’s economic policies have also been endorsed from other unlikely sources, such as the former senior executive of Western Mining Corporation, Mr Lawrence Broadie-Hall, who told a meeting of the WA School of Mines advisory council in a recent speech that:

“I am a supporter of free enterprise and political parties that support free enterprise. It was with some foreboding and some fear that I greeted the change of government. The events of the past 12 months have dispelled those fears. At the same time, some of the worst fears of socialists in the Party have been confirmed.”

The same issue of the Sunday Times, which editorialised in support of Burke’s economic policies carried what it described as the “Burke Manifesto.”

This was the first time that Burke had published a broad outline of his economic policies and philosophy.

Burke proposed that there be two main ways in which Labor Governments have approached economic policies which, he termed the “primitive way” and the “traditional way.”

“The primitive way is the most direct: Blunt imposition of central controls through nationalisation or socialisation.

Not only is this approach irrelevant to today’s Australia, it is constitutionally and politically impossible for any State Government.

The ‘traditional way’ is a mixture of small doses of the ‘primitive way’ combined with what is generally regarded as ‘high tax government.’”

Against these two courses Burke proposes a different solution:

“The ‘primitive way’ accepts that the critical consideration is not the direct involvement of government in wealth creation, but maximising wealth created so that the share accepted by the community as legitimate for the Government increases.

Just what Burke means by this gobbledy-gook includes such ‘positive’ measures as:

- The selling off of part of the State Government Insurance Office to private enterprise.

- Selling large tracts of Housing Commission land.

- Getting rid of 10000 jobs in the public service in one year.

- Supporting the wage-cutting Prices and Incomes Accord.

- An increase of Government rates and charges by 10 per cent.

- Apparently it also involves selling up Perth City Council garbage workers and supporting deregulation proceedings against the Electrical Trades Union.

Burke says that his Government’s policies will “stimulate growth and increase the community’s wealth. However, the only wealth that is growing is in the form of private profits, and the ‘distribution of resources to be devoted to public purposes’ is really as good a cover for distributing resources away from the vast majority to the ruling few.”

Of course, Burke claims that shutting off some of the SGIO will expand income, as will the sale of Housing Commission land. But they do not create wealth. They merely run down Government assets.

He also presented the Government’s purchase of five per cent of the ACON diamond joint venture as an example of the “primitive way.” But the Government obtained this by a fluke that is unlikely to be repeated.

Under existing State laws any new mining venture in the remote areas of the State, employing a large number of workers, has to provide housing and other facilities. Since the Ashton project is near the township of Kununurra, most of these facilities will not be required, so the Government let the company off the hook in return for the five per cent share.

In reality, the Government’s policies cannot be credited for creating any new wealth, much less for distributing any more of it to working people. In fact, on closer inspection, Burke’s “primitive way” looks suspiciously like what he rightly termed the “traditional way” of Labor Governments: small doses of the “primitive way” combined with what is generally regarded as ‘high tax government’.

In his zeal to throw out the “primitive way,” Burke has to lie. For example, when he says that nationalisation of industry is “constitutionally impossible,” he makes a mockery of any State Government’s rights.

Burke’s “primitive way” looks suspiciously like what he rightly termed the “traditional way” of Labor Governments: small doses of the “primitive way” combined with what is generally regarded as ‘high tax government’.

In his zeal to throw out the “primitive way,” Burke has to lie. For example, when he says that nationalisation of industry is “constitutionally impossible,” he makes a mockery of any State Government’s rights.

At the same time, some of the worst fears of socialists in the Party have been confirmed.”