

australian marxist review

**Theoretical journal of the
Socialist Party of Australia**

- *USSR — 60 years*
- *ASIO shakeup*
- *Crises — key issue*
- *Human rights in Africa*
- *China, enemy of African liberation*
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Australian MARXIST Review

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The USSR and 60 years of socialism

by **W.J. BROWN**

The American writer John Reed coined one of the most apt phrases in history when he described the Great October Revolution as "ten days that shook the world."

Its reverberations were felt in every corner -- even in Australia, far away down on the underside of the world.

For the first time a Socialist society had been established. The Russian workers "had blown the whistle and put the boss to work" as Stan Moran, colourful labor movement orator of earlier years was fond of defining it.

For the first time the workers had become established as the ruling class in a new Socialist state. The organised working class in Australia were quick to realise the profound significance of what had happened.

The Labor Council of New South Wales, central body of Australia's main industrial state declared: "We rejoice in the revolution in Russia and congratulate the people of that country for abolishing despotic powers and class privileges and urge the workers of other lands where similar conditions exist to follow their example with the same magnificent courage and determination."

In 1922, two Australians Jock Garden and Tom Payne visited the Soviet Union as part of a Labor Council delegation and were privileged to have discussions with V.I. Lenin.

From the early twenties courageous and far-seeing forces among progressive clerical and intellectual forces joined with unionists in establishing Friendship with the Soviet Union Societies in most Australian states.

When intervention armies tried to put into effect Winston Churchill's call to ensure the infant Socialist state was "strangled in its cradle," a strong "hands off Russia" movement arose. It persisted right up to the outbreak of World War II.

In the fateful years when Hitler was being sooled on against the Soviet Union by Britain's Tory leaders, dutifully supported by Australia's notorious anti-Sovieteer R.G. Menzies, intellectuals and progressive clerics again joined

forces with Australian workers in the powerful "Movement Against War and Fascism."

In the years when the Soviet Union was our valiant ally in the fight against fascism a tremendous stockpile of good will was built up among the Australian people and the Australian armed forces. This goodwill became even greater as the Red Army, in Churchill's words, "tore the guts out of the Nazi Army" and laid the foundations for Allied victory at the cost of 20 million lives and enormous destruction of cities, towns and villages.

In basic political terms the 1917 Revolution had a profound effect on the Australian labor movement and its Socialist conscious sector in particular.

Before the 1917 revolution the socialist movement was a mixture of utopian socialists, anarcho-syndicalists and a small number of Marxists while the labor movement generally was dominated by reformist ideology and policies.

The Communist Party of Australia was founded in 1920 and forces like L.L. Sharkey and J.B. Miles who kept the CPA on a sound Marxist-Leninist course in its early decades will always be remembered for their unswerving leadership on international solidarity questions as well as on internal issues in the Australian peoples interests.

Today, the Socialist Party of Australia carries forward the best traditions of the Sharkey-Miles era.

Unfortunately, a feature of recent years has been the sorry spectacle of some forces who still claim to be Communists coming out with statements in their press which repeat or mimic anti-Soviet and anti-Socialist country material carried by the monopoly-owned media. This is done from the opportunist or nationalist standpoint that such material may offer some cheap course to broader political acceptance.

It is a tribute to the great socialist strength and internationally respected integrity of the Soviet Union that this course has only led to growing isolation for its adherents and their illusions of easy popularity at Soviet expense.

As Soviet President L. Brezhnev recently put it: "We have created a new society, a society the like of which mankind has never known before. It is a society with a crisis-free, steadily growing economy, mature socialist relations and genuine freedom." As Mr Brezhnev added, the very existence of the consolidated socialist society of the Soviet Union has created "radical changes in the international position of the Soviet Union and the enormous growth in its influence in world politics."

Today, the fact is that broader forces than ever in the Australian Labor Party have a positive standpoint for developing wider understanding, friendship and maximum exchanges between Australia and the Soviet Union.

The Australia-USSR Society (a broad, non party organisation) has just recorded a remarkable success in a greeting of goodwill it circulated for signatories among Australia parliamentary, trade union and other community figures.

By September some 3,000 citizens had signed a special "illuminated address" to be sent to the Soviet Government and people as a "gesture of goodwill to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the USSR."

Leading Federal and State Parliamentarians (both Labor and Liberal) signed with Mr. Whitlam, leader of the Labor Opposition conveying a personal message. Mr. Whitlam's message stressed the increasing importance of Australia having close links with the Soviet Union and that "Friendship and understanding between our peoples will make an important contribution to world peace and co-operation."

This mass signing by Parliamentarians, local Council leaders and others at State, Federal and local government level was augmented by an impressive response from the trade union movement. Members of the national executive of the Amalgamated Metal workers and Shipwrights' Union; all delegates at a recent NSW State Conference of the Building Workers' Industrial Union signed, some 640 waterside workers and 300 Sydney busworkers were among the signatories.

Compare this with the relatively narrow areas of friendly attitude to the Soviet Union in the 20's and 30's or in the more recent Cold War years.

Clearly, evidence in Australia supports mounting evidence on a world scale that the Soviet Union in its sixth decade enjoys greater recognition and higher prestige than ever as a powerful socialist country which has achieved remarkable successes in social progress and whose government and people sincerely want peace, peaceful co-existence and co-operation for human advance with other nations.

Yes, the detractors, the anti-Soviet slander forces of both the right and the ultra or pseudo-left still make hostile noises. But the historical advance of the Soviet Union and the whole socialist world system brushes them aside and moves on to new socialist achievements.

To give one example — the Communist Party of Australia's leaders still argue in the columns of their paper "*Tribune*" that the Soviet Union (and other Socialist countries) are only "Socialist-based countries" and not real Socialist countries at all. Even more absurdly, "*Tribune*" has recently descended to a further level. Its pages now carry a new

“definition” asserting that the Soviet Union and the Socialist countries are only “post capitalist societies!!!”

This, in the face of the great socialist progress of the Soviet Union now in its sixth decade and the shorter but still remarkable record of other socialist countries. Such anti-Soviet, anti-socialist country nonsense in the CPA press are the writings of bitter people who have plainly lost their political bearings.

This year the Soviet Union ends its sixth decade recording its main achievement as the creation of a developed socialist society. Within this developed socialist society the powerful material and technical basis moves steadily forwarding, laying the foundations for future communist society.

Already the Soviet people enjoy a society of no unemployment, no inflation, rising wages, stable prices, economic security at every stage of life, an ever ascending, richer cultural life style for all and democratic control over their destinies.

As L. Brezhnev said in introducing the new Soviet Constitution, while the West offers “human rights” including unemployment, expensive medical aid, racism and a life shadowed by organised crime, the Soviet Constitution guarantees social, economic and political rights “more widely, clearly and fully than ever before in any other country.”

Since this is how far the Soviet Union has come despite all the difficulties of its first six decades what a stirring thought it is to consider how far the Soviet people and the whole cause of socialism can advance in the decades ahead.

But the vital need is continuing peace. Just as at the beginning of the first decade of the USSR when the first decree Lenin signed was the decree calling for peaceful co-existence, so will the Soviet Union continue patiently advancing its deeply sincere commitment to securing a world free from the burden of the arms race, free of nuclear calamity.

Basing itself on this policy the Soviet Union has steadily grown in stature over the years as a major world influence in negotiating, safeguarding and consolidating peace among nations. More and more the reality of active Soviet endeavour for peace is dispersing the “Soviet threat” concoction raised by those with a vested interest in the arms race and preparation for war.

Acceptance of Soviet offers of co-operation is steadily becoming the order of the day. The Whitlam Government, to its lasting credit, opened the way for the widest cultural, scientific, sporting and trade exchanges between Australia and the Soviet Union on an official basis.

The Soviet Union offers such mutually advantageous exchanges in every field to all capitalist countries side by side with selfless, fraternal assistance to the developing countries of the world and all countries waging just struggles to establish their right to national independence.

Sixty years of socialist experience and maturity, the Soviet Union — now a basic part of a world system of socialist countries — has clearly emerged as a powerful influence in ensuring that the world is pointed towards a truly great tomorrow.

The decisive question for all people of all lands is to join with the Soviet people in common effort to ensure that peaceful coexistence and peaceful co-operation and competition is made the constant path along which all humanity advances in the decades which lie ahead.



Those unforgettable October days shook the entire world. A new epoch, the epoch of the world's revolutionary rebirth, the epoch of transition to socialism and communism, was ushered in. It opened the road which hundreds of millions of people are following today and which the whole of mankind is destined to take.

We were the first. And things were not easy for us. We had to stand firm in face of a hostile encirclement. We had to break the shackles of centuries-old backwardness. We had to overcome the enormous force of historical inertia and learn to live in accordance with new principles — the principles of collectivism.

And today, as we sum up the main results of six decades of struggle and labour, we can say with pride: We have held our ground; we have stood firm and won.

L. Brezhnev on 60th Anniversary of USSR

The ASIO shake-up

by P. SYMON

The Federal government has accepted recommendations made by Justice Hope following an enquiry by him into ASIO, to give ASIO, sweeping new powers.

In the climate of exposure after exposure of the nefarious activities of the CIA and the FBI, it might have been thought by some that an enquiry into ASIO might have also developed into a scandal, but this was never the intention nor the outcome.

It is an intriguing thought that some of the exposures of the CIA, might at least in part, be a very sophisticated manoeuvre to divert attention from the actual process at work and to make it seem that something was being done.

In the event it is fallacious to believe that the revelations of the CIA's interference in the affairs of a whole string of countries, its bribery, spoiling activities, surveillance and assassination has been brought under control or come to an end. Quite the reverse. Recent consolidation of the various American intelligence organisations has actually strengthened and centralised this arm of the state.

The same process is under way in Australia. Why?

The whole capitalist world is facing its deepest and most profound political, economic, moral and ideological crisis.

It is in these circumstances that the capitalist state is moving everywhere to strengthen the so-called "intelligence" organisations which, however, basically play a political role.

As the crisis grows and the normal governmental manoeuvres and measures prove less and less effective, and as the struggle of the people against capitalism increases, the capitalist class will resort to clandestine organisations, of which ASIO is one.

These organisations have already become very powerful and often act, seemingly, independently of government. This is also an illusion. It sometimes suits the ruling class to be operating in two different ways at the same time and be in a position to disown the "dirty tricks" when they are uncovered — or end in fiasco.

But the stake is the preservation of the system and the capitalist ruling class will go to extreme lengths to maintain its existence.

It would therefore be naive to think that the recommendations of Justice

Hope, which have been so expeditiously accepted by the Fraser government, arose without serious consideration by the main politicians, ideologists and organisers of the ruling class, estimating their position and what needed to be done at the present time.

If this role and this process is not understood there may arise some serious underestimation of what is afoot. The proposals of Justice Hope have long term significance and have little to do with who might be the Director of ASIO at present.

ASIO is going to get a lot more money. It will have even more extensive and less supervised powers. It will be able to proceed with its "work" and thumb its nose at the responsible government Minister if it chooses to do so. Relations and liaison with spy organisations of the US and Britain will be strengthened and are claimed by Justice Hope to be in the "national interest."

There is no doubt that the CIA was involved in the Fraser-Kerr coup but this apparently did not attract the attention of the Judge.

Basically the recommendations are designed to give the organisation a shake up, to make it more efficient, to recruit more capable people to it, to give it more unsupervised powers and to tie it more closely with the British and American counterpart organisations.

The ASIO is sold to the public as an organisation concerned with Australian security, to catch the spies of foreign powers, but it is more concerned to spy on the labour movement and to serve the national and international political interests of the capitalist ruling class.

When the CIA intervened together with ITT and Kennecott Copper in Chile it served the interests of American big business. When repeated attempts are made to assassinate Fidel Castro it is in the service of the American monopolists who would like to return Cuba to colonial status.

With these main aims it is inevitable that its activities will be bent towards spying on and disrupting the labour movement. In furthering its political aims it also establishes close liaison with extreme right-wing organisations in the labour movement.

ASIO continues attempts to send its recruits into the ranks of the trade unions and working class political organisations. Clearly these organisations have nothing to do with foreign espionage, but they may have quite a bit to do with opposition to the policies of the capitalist class and right-wing governments.

A number of attempts have been made to send agents into the ranks of the Socialist Party. Approaches have also been made to recruit existing mem-

bers of the Party to do the work of ASIO.

ASIO knows very well that the SPA is engaged in legitimate political activity, has nothing to do with espionage nor with terrorism which is said to be an interest of ASIO at present.

Justice Hope's report should be taken as a serious warning by the whole labour movement. It heralds not less, but more ASIO interference in the labour movement with greater efficiency, using more sophisticated means and more evil consequences unless proper measures are taken to protect working class organisations.

Organisations and their individual members work with child-like naivety either unconcerned or without thought to the fact that "it can happen here." Years of relatively calm political activity had helped to produce a dismaying liberalism which must be corrected.

Working class organisations concerned for the preservation of democratic rights will demand the disbandment of ASIO or at least its political activities should be brought to an end. But, the demand will not be agreed to by the ruling class.

The alternative is for working class organisations to do what is necessary to protect themselves.



Labour is the source of all wealth, the political economists assert. And it really is the source — next to nature, which supplies it with the material that it converts into wealth. But it is even infinitely more than this. It is the prime basic condition for all human existence, and this to such an extent that, in a sense, we have to say that labour created man himself.

from "The role played by Labor in the transition from ape to man" — Frederick Engels

Key issue — need to end recurring economic crises

by JACK McPHILLIPS

Economic crisis and economic management were two facets of the main issue in the recent elections for the Australian national Parliament. But neither that main issue i.e. the state of the national economy, or the two facets mentioned, were the result of choice by either the Liberal-National Country Party coalition or the Australian Labor Party.

In fact both groupings, given a choice, would have preferred to contest the elections in circumstances in which very much less controversial and troublesome issues had occupied the centre of the stage.

Furthermore the state of crisis and the controversy concerning management of the economy did not arise because of the elections or in the course of those elections. On the contrary both matters had marked the economic situation for the previous three years.

With the elections over those main issues, and the controversy surrounding them remain and will continue in existence until the course of the crisis phase of the economic cycle has been completed and the stage of recovery is entered and firmed. Since neither Party, and for that matter the Chipp group also, see the need to change the economic system itself, the process of continuing crisis with periodical "upswings" followed by further declines or "pauses" i.e. the state of "uneven bottoming out" will continue until, in the passage of time and the operation of certain objective laws which determine the development of capitalist economies, the recovery phase really commences.

Just how long the state of economic crisis will continue remains a matter of conjecture with "guesstimates" by a variety of experts, within and outside Australia, indicating the second half of 1978 or early 1979 as the point at which recovery may commence.

In addition to the uncertainty of those "guesstimates," other factors existing today and marking this period of crisis from other similar periods will distort the economic processes and affect the operation of the objective laws leading to economic recovery. Those factors include: the energy crisis, the international monetary crisis, the effects of the scientific and technical revolution and with this the imperative need for extensive division of labour on an international scale, the economic needs of the many previously colonial countries now emerged as independent sovereign nations and their demand for a new world economic system, the extension of the areas of monopoly operation and the development of monopoly

sectors into their multi-national forms, the essential increased activities of Government in the economy and the increased Government expenditures resulting from those and related activities.

During the period of continuing economic crisis workers will continue to suffer as also will other sections of the people e.g. small businesses and some sections of the farming community. Prices will continue to decline, the purchasing power of wages will be reduced, standards of social services will drop and unemployment will increase.

Furthermore, there is no guarantee that even with the recovery phase of the economic cycle those features will disappear. In fact, much is already being said and written by supporters of capitalism, economists and politicians, in Australia and elsewhere to indicate that many of the consequences of capitalist economic crisis will become permanent features of life in capitalist nations.

That being the state of affairs and, since none of the main contending political parties accept economic instability and periodic economic crisis as the inevitable inescapable consequences of the operation of capitalist economic laws and their solution as necessitating basic changes in the economic system, the controversy between them concerns only how to manage the economy, and not the need to change it.

That failure to recognise that the causes of capitalist economic crisis are to be found in the economic system itself and not in some form of management, or mis-management, or alternately a refusal to accept that fact render both the Liberal-NCP Coalition and the Labour Party incapable of ending the phenomena of economic instability and recurring economic crisis.

That renders them incapable of developing policies and forms of action to effectively cope with the problems of economic crisis even within the confines of capitalism.

Such a state of mind concerning the economy accounts to a considerable extent for the "politiking" about the problems facing the economy and the variety of interpretations given to, and the conclusions drawn from, available economic data in the period leading up to and during the elections.

An appropriate commentary in cartoon form was made on that situation by the "*Sydney Morning Herald*." That cartoon showed Labor spokesman on economic matters W. Hayden and Treasurer Lynch each before a black-board with Lynch making the calculation "two plus two" equalling five and Hayden making the same calculation equal three.

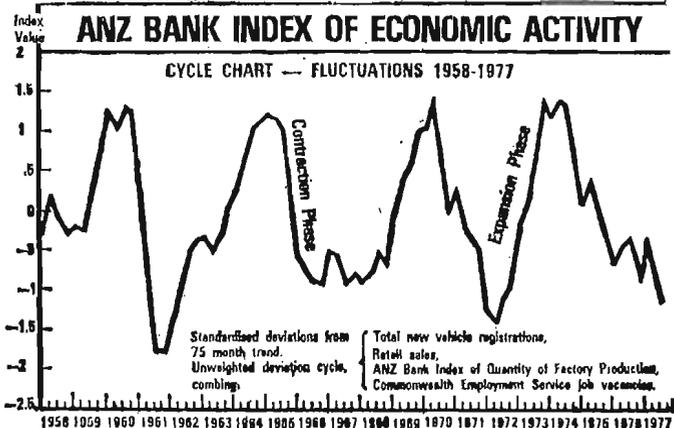
Faced with a welter of contradictory explanations and policy claims based on the published data one radio commentator on economic matters said that such a state of affairs made it difficult for people to separate fact

from fancy and myth from truth. The fact that such an approach to serious questions concerning the economy and the main issue in a national election can be regarded as "par for the course" emphasises the shallowness of economic thinking in this country.

That shallowness is also emphasised by the inaccuracy which marks economic forecasting in this and other capitalist countries. However it is a pertinent commentary on the state of affairs under capitalism that an issue of such concern for the well being of the people i.e. the direction of economic development is a subject for inaccurate forecasting and guessing by the experts and "smart aleck" point taking by leading political representatives. On behalf of the Liberal-N.C.P. Coalition Treasurer Lynch showed himself a "dabster" at the latter process before and during the election campaign. On little more than the admittedly unexpectedly low 2% increase in the Consumer Price Index for the September quarter the man supposedly guiding the nations economy announced a "major achievement" for the Government's economic policies in reducing inflation, inspiring confidence amongst business and laying the basis for a greater increase in economic growth next year than had been forecast by his own Department experts.

That boast, and that was all it was, defied recent estimates by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and by the Australian Reserve Bank. It was contrary to the views expressed in the main document attached to the Budget Lynch himself introduced last August and was contradicted by a index published co-incidentally by the ANZ Banking Group. The ANZ index is new and no claim is made for its complete adequacy but it is well enough based to make it more than adequate to reveal the continued downward trend of the economy.

The index, which is reproduced below was published in the "*Australian Financial Review*" (No. 3) with a commentary which included the following: "Further revisions, and new data, indicate that, subsequent to the ANZ



Bank Quarterly Survey in which the details of the new index are contained went to press, there has been a continuing decline in economic activity. The September value of the index is down to the level which marked the trough of the previous cycle, February 1972."

Thus sources which are far from being opposed to the system of capitalism show Lynch to be little more, in the sphere of economics, than a "windbag."

The charted index of the ANZ Bank has some other very interesting features. It shows the current economic decline to be the fourth such period during the past 20 years. It also shows the "trough" of the 1960-61 decline to be deeper than the low point so far reached in the current decline. However, that fact in no way denies the very much more far-reaching nature of the current decline and furthermore, as the *Financial Review* comments, the decline is continuing.

The index also shows that the previous period of boom, or as it is called on the chart, "the Expansion Phase," reached its apex near the end of 1973, when, after a slight dip and a rise the decline commenced, and with only slight variations has continued since.

Thus a sharp but short lived "Expansion Phase" or boom which developed in the early period of the Labor Government reached its peak and turned into a decline while that Government was still in office.

That period was marked by a variety of Government measures of both an expansionary and restrictive character and the latter part of the period saw the Labor Party, at its Federal Conference at Terrigal in 1975, turn its back on some of its earlier concepts of economic management and adopt policies based on the concept of emphasising the "private sector" of the economy.

The Budget introduced by W. Hayden as Treasurer in 1975 was based on the concepts adopted by the Terrigal conference earlier in the year. It was that Budget which earned for Hayden the reputation of being a "responsible" person in the sphere of economic thinking. And it was that reputation which caused the "hoo-ah" when Whitlam announced that C. Hurford and not W. Hayden would be Treasurer in a Labor Government.

Basically there is very little difference between the economic thinking of those two men and that of Lynch. All are wedded to maintaining capitalism and the differences between them concern only how best to manage the economic system of a capitalist country.

Hayden is reported as having refused to attend a conference of Labor economists in Brisbane earlier this year and is also reported as having described at least some of the participants as "fringe Marxists" for whom there

was no room in the Labor Party. Well there is nothing of the Marxist, "fringe" or otherwise, about Hayden.

In that position he can do very little better than Lynch in relation to solving the basic problem of continuing economic instability and recurring economic crises which afflict Australia.

Unless the Labor Government is prepared to interfere with the operations of the system of private profit making and with the "God given" profit making rights of big business it will not even effectively cope with the problems within the confines of the capitalist system in the interests of the nation as a whole and in particular the interests of the workers.

Every dodge known to economists and a variety of contradictory policies based on differing economic theories have been used at differing times by each of the capitalist countries in their efforts to manage their economies without recurring economic crises but to no avail. The Australian Labor Party has no magical means or secret knowledge which will enable it to succeed where others, at least equally qualified, have failed.

Nothing short of the development of policies with a socialist orientation and aimed at monopoly will serve to enable even radical reform of the economy and the direction of its development.

A minimum need is for Government control over the direction of economic development extending to control over capital investment, availability of raw materials and labor with the objective of comprehensive, co-ordinated, balanced development of the economy with increasing emphasis being placed on the development and domination by the public sector.

Anything short of that is to accept the consequences of a system of capitalist economic relations operating uncontrolled and resulting in continued economic instability and recurring economic crises.

There is need for great efforts to prove to the people of Australia the urgency of really alternative policies in the area of the nations economy and in the related area of foreign policy.

“No need to search for dissidents here.”

Human rights in S. Africa

by **BRIAN BUNTING**

The question of human rights is much in the news these days as orchestrated attempts are made by cold-war circles in the west to undermine detente and foster suspicion and ill-will between the nations of the world.

Recently the Tory M.P. for Stretford, Mr Winston Churchill, grandson of the World War 2 British leader, made it clear why he was concerned about human rights in the socialist countries. The West maintains a sustained campaign on this issue, he said, because it would ultimately result in the downfall of the governments of the socialist countries and presumably also the destruction of the socialist system — something he is as keen on as his illustrious forebear who inaugurated the cold war after World War 2 with his notorious Fulton fulmination in the United States.

It is strange (or perhaps not so strange) that Mr Winston Churchill has yet to be heard raising his voice to demand the overthrow of the racist governments of Southern Africa, where human rights are conspicuous by their absence. On the contrary, Tory gentlemen like Mr Churchill and his ilk have continually come out in defence of the racist regimes of Southern Africa which they regard as bastions against “the encroachment of communism” and so-called “Russian imperialism” in Africa and the Indian Ocean. No doubt Mr Churchill would declare that he abhors apartheid. But his name has yet to appear on any petition circulated by the Anti-Apartheid Movement in his country, and he has never spoken on any platform demanding the extension of human rights to the oppressed millions of South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia.

Those who demand the extension of human rights in the socialist countries are sometimes hard put to it to find a dissident to champion. They battled hard to keep Solzhenitsyn was followed by Bukovsky; Bukovsky by Borisov. The names are juggled about ingeniously to create the illusion that they are typical of masses of Soviet citizens who allegedly have no human rights. But the trick is no longer a novelty, and the world is beginning to see through it. The massive achievement of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries in extending the basic human rights to every sector of their population — the right to work, to eat, to be clothed, to be housed, as well as the right to participate in all the decisionmaking processes by which the direction of society is determined — this achievement, unequalled anywhere in the capitalist world, can no longer be hidden, except from those who have no wish to see the truth.

In South Africa, however, you do not have to search to find dissidents, people without human rights. They are to be found on all sides, men, women and children whose skins are black, who have no right to vote or to sit in Parliament, who are denied not only human rights, but the very right to citizenship in the land of their birth. At a stroke of the pen last October, 4 million Africans of Trankeian origin automatically lost their claim to South African citizenship when their Bantustan was proclaimed "independent." The Vorster regime plans the same operation with all 10 Bantustans, so that eventually South African citizenship will be restricted to whites, and all the blacks who happen to be living and working in "white" South Africa will be regarded as "guest workers," foreigners from other countries who will have no claim on the South African government for any rights or amenities.

Black South Africans do not have any of the human rights listed in the UN Declaration of Human Rights. They cannot live where they wish, cannot travel freely, cannot get education and training to equip them for the best jobs, cannot marry whom they please. If they protest, they are shot down like animals, the leaders arrested and jailed, or driven into exile, their organisations outlawed. If the right to draw breath is a basic human right, this was brutally ended for thousands of blacks during the last year, when police fired hundreds of thousands of rounds of bullets into the ranks of demonstrating schoolchildren and striking workers. But about this brutal massacre — and similar massacres perpetrated by the white racists in Zimbabwe and Namibia in recent years — Mr Churchill and his colleagues have said nothing.

Serving life sentences on the notorious Robben Island, seven miles from Cape Town in Table Bay, are many of the finest and bravest spirits in Africa, people's leaders who have been brutally victimised because they fought to achieve the basic human rights denied their people by the apartheid regime. Nelson Mandela, Govan Mbeki, Walter Sisulu, and other African National Congress leaders, Indian leader Ahmed Kathrada and many others are serving life sentences for alleged "sabotage" against the racist regime. With them on the island are also leaders of others like the outstanding activist Herman Toiva Ja-Toivo jailed for 20 years. Nor let it be forgotten that whites who have thrown in their lot with the oppressed black peoples are also suffering in Vorster's jails. The great Communist leader Bram Fischer died a prisoner; still in jail serving out a life sentence is Mandela's co-accused in the Rivonia trial Dennis Goldberg. Other whites sentenced in recent political trial have joined them.

In some ways, these prisoners are lucky to be alive — they have survived the torture chambers of their interrogators in the period after arrest; they have survived the brutal treatment meted out to them by

the prison warders. In the eyes of the South African authorities, political prisoners have no rights. "The word 'sorry' does not exist in our vocabulary," said Police Minister Kruger recently. At least 40 detainees held in solitary confinement by the police under the notorious Terrorism Act and other no-trial laws have died at the hands of their captors.

Even in jail political prisoners are denied their basic rights. They are automatically placed in the lowest category, and are refused facilities granted to common criminals. Political prisoners get no remission for good behaviour, but must serve out their full sentences. Those serving life sentences have been told by Vorster himself that they will end their days in prison and will never be released so long as his government is in power. The political prisoners are given the hardest and dirtiest tasks and subjected to every humiliation by their warders. The distinguished lawyer Bram Fischer was made to clean out lavatories with a toothbrush. Mandela and his comrades toil daily in the lime quarries, under blazing sun in summer and lashing gales in winter. Many instances of police torture of Robben Island prisoners have been recorded. Some prisoners were buried up to their necks so that warders might urinate on the mouths. Some political prisoners were savaged by police dogs which had been set upon them. Medical attention is of the sparsest and many prisoners have died as a result of neglect.

Almost as heartbreaking as the suffering of the political prisoners is the suffering of their wives and families, equally the victims of the brutality of apartheid. Outside the jail walls, they are also serving life sentences -- the beautiful and courageous Winnie Mandela, who has seen her husband only a few times in all the years since 1962 when he was first arrested is but one example. She has been the victim of false arrest and imprisonment for many months under the Terrorism Act. In a press interview in 1975 Mrs Mandela said her thoughts were always with her husband, her children and her country. She had no regrets for what had happened. "I have never been a spectator in the struggle and have no reason to be one now. My husband is in jail and so are my leaders."

The other wives, too, have also stood firm. They draw their strength from their people, who have supported them in all their trials and tribulations, and who in the recent period have raised the level of struggle to new heights. There is no defeatism in Southern Africa. Despite the killings and the torture, they know the future belongs to them. They have seen the collapse of the Portuguese empire, they have seen the white racist armies defeated in Angola. They see the Smith regime crumbling, and Namibia on the brink of independence. They know they have powerful allies in the socialist countries and, indeed, in the working class and progressive movement throughout the world. They have understood the lessons of Vietnam, Chile, Cuba.

The day when all South Africans, irrespective of their colour, can enjoy their basic human rights, is coming, inevitably and irresistibly. Nothing that Winston Churchill and his class can do can prevent it.



Some of the finest sons and daughters of our people are suffering the most barbarous treatment and indignities in Vorster's fascist jails. Already martyred in prison is the outstanding Communist leader Bram Fischer, Lenin Prize Laureate for 1967 — one of an increasing number of whites who are casting in their lot with the oppressed masses and serving in the ranks of the liberation army. Among South Africans and Namibians serving life sentences in jail are people's leasers Nelson Mandela, Govan Mbeki, Walter Sisulu, Ahmed Kathrada, Denis Goldberg; many thousands of others are jailed for lesser periods. Over 50 of those detained under the country's security laws have been done to death by their torturers in the recent period.

We ask not only for solidarity with our fighting people. We call upon all our comrades for united action to ensure fresh advances in the common struggle against imperialism, fascism and racism, for socialism, freedom, peace and national liberation. Only thus can we put an end rapidly to the sufferings of our people, and win in the near future fresh triumphs along the glorious road to the victory of the proletariat and the liberation of mankind.

That path was opened up decisively on November 7, 1917. To us South Africans, as to all people who treasure peace and freedom, that day signifies, in the words of our late national chairman J.B. Marks, the day when "modern world history began." As we look back with pride, and treasure the memory of the great Lenin and his comrades who made possible the great victory of 60 years ago, let us also look forward to the future with confidence and determination that we shall be worthy followers and coninuers of the glorious cause for which they fought.

*by John Lenkoe ("October lives on in S. Africa
— article in No 71 African Communist)*

China, enemy of African liberation

From Charles Oladipo Akinde, Anti-Poverty Movement of Nigeria

The current rapprochement of China and the reactionary elements in Africa has come to every right-thinking African, whether socialist, liberal, nationalist or even conservative as a great shock and a clear betrayal of the Chinese claim of friendship with the oppressed people all over the world.

The Chinese collusion with the United States and South Africa on African affairs does not only expose the divergence between Chinese words and deeds. It also shows beyond doubt the nationalist bias of China's foreign policy.

For some time now China has been showing its anti-African face. It has often supported the rival groups in any national liberation struggle waged by the African people irrespective of their ideological stance. In Angola, during the national liberation war, China, under the pretext that the Soviet Union and Cuba supported the MPLA, threw its weight behind the rival group UNITA which was using South African regular troops and mercenaries to raid the southern part of that country.

On many occasions China voted against the admission of Angola into the UN along with the United States in the Security Council. Its policy in the current Zaire crisis is another eye-opener.

Zaire has in the past voted against the admission of the People's Republic of China into the UN in collusion with the US, which supported the Formosa (Taiwan) regime. Mr Justin Bomboko, Mobutu's Foreign Minister, at a press conference in February 1967 said that "in 1966 Congo (Zaire) had again voted against the entry of People's China to the UN because it condemned the country's subversive activities in Africa."

China's opinion of Mobutu's regime at that time was expressed in the newspaper *Jenmin Jih Pao* of April 15, 1967, in an article entitled: "Don't let US Lackey Mobutu Bluff and Deceive" which exposed the sinister diplomacy of Mobutu who was then trying to win back favour in Africa by posing as the inheritor of the mantle of Patrice Lumumba. There were numerous other attacks on Mobutu in *New China News Agency*.

What has been responsible for China's change of policy towards the

Zaire regime? There has been no change in Mobutu's internal or external policy as far as I know.

China opposed the PAIGC in Guinea-Bissau, it opposed ZAPU in Zimbabwe, it opposes the Communist Party of South Africa and SWAPO in Namibia. Why? China has only one explanation: because the Soviet Union is there. It is now fashionable for China to oppose everything which the Soviet Union supports even when such a policy is detrimental to the interests of the people concerned.

China pursues its international policy only in accordance with its own national interest. Events throughout the world testify to this. China's role in Indonesia played the Communists into the hands of the country's hangman and resulted in the killing of all the communists after the overthrow of Sukarno. China's role in supporting the Chilean military dictatorship resulted in the killing of the communists there. China's role in Indochina, especially in Vietnam was being bombed by US planes, China was entertaining the author of the atrocity Richard Nixon. China was also opposed to the struggle of the people of Bangladesh. During the Nigerian civil war, China supported Biafra.

Why is China always tailing behind the US?

Now that the centre of the world revolutionary struggle has shifted to Africa, it would be well for the peoples of Africa to be aware of all the issues at stake. It was reported recently that China and South Africa might form an alliance against what they called "Red imperialism." Apartheid South Africa's Information and Interior Minister Connie Mulder said in their Parliament that "in the present political context, South Africa could opt for a non-aligned policy and seek from Peking material and political support." Dr Mulder was said to have quoted a Chinese proverb which says "the enemies of my enemies are my friends." (*Daily Times* 19.4.1977, page 9.)

It is a known fact that China has at no time heeded the sanctions imposed by the UN on the apartheid regime in South Africa. China buys raw materials from South Africa and it sells for them in return. China supports the EEC and the military policies of the NATO alliance when they are clearly anti-progressive and counter-revolutionary. Why? Because it is these countries which are opposed to the Soviet Union in one way or another

African Marxists must know their friends from their enemies. All we need at the present stage of our revolution is world-wide solidarity of all anti-imperialist peoples. In Europe, Latin America, Asia, Australia, wherever peoples oppose imperialism and colonialism they are our allies. Although we do not believe in power blocs, we approve of all countries which genuinely assist us in the battle (Slightly abridged).

Two “Communist” Parties in Greece?

by RAY CLARKE

As Lenin pointed out political parties should be judged and estimated by their policy and programmes and not by the high sounding names they at times give themselves. In Greece at the present time there are two political parties calling themselves “COMMUNIST.”

There is the Communist Party of Greece and the Communist Party of Greece (Interior). The last named was formed by a group who broke away from the original Communist Party after 1968 and to differentiate their position they added the word “Interior,” in brackets, after the name Communist Party and in all their references to the original party added the word “Exterior” in brackets. The political implication was that the Party of the “Interior” was operating within Greece under the terror of the Junta dictatorship and the other party was operating from abroad.

It's true that many members of the Communist Party of Greece were “abroad” in the sense that they were no longer leading the struggle in Athens or other centres. Thousands of them were in concentration camps suffering damnable tortures at the hands of the Greek fascist junta police. I met many of them on our recent visit but to get them to talk about their experiences is virtually impossible. They are all back in the struggle against the Karamanlis right wing and prefer to talk about that.

The second implication of this mis-naming of the Communist Party, which was gleefully taken up by left and right extremists in every country of the world, was that the “Interior” owed its allegiance to the Greek working class whereas the “exterior” party owed its first allegiance to some vague international communist movement “dominated” by Moscow. It's true, of course, that the Communist Party of Greece is in fact a part of the world communist movement and participates in discussions and other activities organised by the European parties. It was also invited to the 25th Congress of the CPSU.

With the fall of the junta in 1974, the opening of the concentration camps, the legalisation of the communist movement and the “New Democracy” of the Karamanlis Government, limited though it is, the Greek people have been able to see more clearly the real political line and practice of the two parties and are making their decisions accordingly.

The terms “Interior” and “Exterior” were used widely by the media

to create confusion and discredit the communist movement when they were first invested. Today, in Greece, it is only the extreme right and the extreme leftists who refer to the Communist Party of Greece as "Exterior." It, of course, is still used by the media generally. The names are similar...the policies widely divergent.

The "Interior" forces argue that replacement of the fascist junta by the Karamanlis Government was a decision of the Greek ruling class. If the people struggle too hard and demand too much and pose a threat to the ruling class interests the junta will be re-imposed. Therefore it is necessary not to be too demanding of the Karamanlis Government not to develop the struggle too fiercely or to press the government too hard because to do so endangers the limited democracy under Karamanlis and would provide the ruling class with an excuse to re-impose the junta.

Such thinking inevitably leads on to the position of support for Karamanlis government and this is, in fact, the position arrived at by the "Interior" party today.

As the 4th Plenum of the C.P.G. noted in a statement issued in February this year there had recently been launched by the imperialists a new slanderous anti-communist and anti-socialist campaign against the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries on alleged violations of human rights. The statement went on...."The leaders of the revisionists (C.P.G. "interior") are participating in this campaign...in certain instances, indeed, **they take the lead in this campaign.** (my emphasis)

How are the masses estimating the position?

In the localities: In the Municipal elections held December '75 the CPG was successful in having 14 Communist Mayors elected in the first round of voting. Voting is conducted in two rounds. If there is no party or group of candidates with 51% of the vote after the first round the smaller groups are eliminated and another vote is taken a week later. With the support of the CPG, the CPG (Interior) had 7 Mayors elected in the second round.

We met one of the Communist Mayors. Comrade Dimitris Follpoulos is the Mayor of Peristeri a predominately working class area about 6 kilometres from the centre of Athens. He was first elected Mayor in 1964 when the Communist Party collected 40% of the vote. When the junta seized power he and the other communist councillors were arrested and thrown into concentration camps. He stood again for Mayor in 1975. The method of election has been altered and the CP ticket needed 51% of the vote to win. They polled 60% of the total vote and won 16 of the 31 positions on the council. The CPG (Interior) won 2 positions.

Of the 20,000 people resident in Peristeri in December 1975 70,000 had no running water in their houses. The communist councillors, together

with the District Committee of the C.P.G. mounted such a mass campaign of pressure that the Karamanlis Government which holds the purse strings, was forced to make available sufficient finance to solve this problem of 30 years standing and connect water for the 70,000. For this effort the Mayor was warned by the Minister for Local Government that if he persisted with such activity in the future he would remove him from office. He has the power to do so for any reason he thinks fit (under the constitution.) The powers of the councils are extremely limited and they are in fact dependent on the central government for finance for almost everything. So despite the threat from the Minister and the advice of the "Interior" forces to go slow the Red Mayor had led other campaigns to get money for road surfacing, drainage, parks, playgrounds and modestly estimated that at the next municipal elections the CPG could perhaps get 8% of the vote.

On the Trade Union front: The most important trade union election in 1976 was for an administrative committee of 25 to lead the Building Workers' Federation. This union is the biggest in the GCLG (General Confederation of Labor of Greece). It has approximately 250,000 members, equal to almost one quarter of all organised industrial workers in Greece. For the last thirty years the union has been dominated at the top leadership by a group of bosses men...junta orientated...who have pulled every legal and illegal trick possible to imagine to maintain themselves in office. The election that came up in 1976 was the big chance to change things. So the leaders of ESAK (United Trade Union anti-dictatorship Movement), which is supported by the CPG, proposed to PASOK (Papandreous Pan-Hellenic Socialist Movement) and A.E.M. (democratic Co-operative Movement) supported by the CPG (Interior) that a joint left ticket should be organised behind which all three groupings could mobilise support. ESAK further proposed that PASOK and E.A.M. should nominate 14 candidates out of the 25, giving them a majority, and ESAK would nominate the other 11. PASOK and AEM finally rejected this offer and so there were three tickets offered the workers in this election; the United Front ticket supported by ESAK, the ticket of the junta bosses men, already in control, and a third ticket organised by Karamanlis supporters, Papandreou (socialists) Mavrov (centre Liberals) and the CPG (Interior). After a most exhaustive ballot conducted by Government returning officers the results were.....ESAK 215.....Junta Bosses...192...Karamanlis, Papandreou, Mavrov, CPG (Interior) etc 92. Under the constitution, altered over the years to keep the right wing in power, the ticket with the highest vote takes all the positions. So the ESAK united front ticket won all the 25 positions on the Administrative committee.

On the Student front: The elections for the Executive Board of the University Students' Union took place all over Greece in February 4th 1977. The progressive forces registered an overwhelming victory with about 70% of the vote to about 12% for the right wing. The student organisation PANSPUDOATIKI, supported by the KNE (Communist Youth

of Greece) emerged with the highest vote.

Comrade Floriakis, General Secretary of the CPA, answering a newspaper reporter said on October 15, 1956: "There is a group, a party if you will, which broke away from the CPG. This group directs its main activity against the policy of our Party. It has a right to do so. They have a right to believe what they like. But we reject certain methods they use, especially the spurious use of the Party's title and the suffix "exterior" words not in our title which it appends to the name of our Party. We have officially stated that we cannot unite with them; this would be realistic because their policy is clearly non-marxist and there is no basis for re-unification. But we consider co-operation and common action possible..."

The CPG (Interior) is clearly a petty bourgeois party with a reformist policy whose ability to mislead and confuse the workers is steadily diminishing as the Communist Party builds and strengthens its influence in every sphere of Greek life.

Policy and practice is clearly demonstrating there is only one Marxist-Leninist Party of Greece — the CPG.

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The gravest feature of the present crisis is that the majority of official representatives of European socialism have succumbed to bourgeois nationalism, to chauvinism. It is with good reason that the bourgeois press of all countries writes of them now with derision, now with condescending praise. To anyone who wants to remain a socialist there can be no more important duty than to reveal the causes of this crisis in socialism and analyse the tasks of the International.

"The position and tasks of the Socialist International"
by V.I. Lenin, Nov 1, 1914

Marxism and the bourgeois economists

by **G. BURNS**

It is not difficult to find inconsistencies in the outpourings of the official economists. They occur uninterruptedly. This is not because of their constant disagreement, but because of their position as apologists for the capitalist system.

Some years ago it was being seriously suggested among British economists that the leading men in their profession be distinguished with the title "Doctor of the Economy." The title was merited, for had they not reached a stage where they were able to prescribe for his sick patient — and with the same results. It should be noted that this suggestion was made in 1965 when capitalism was intoxicated by its post war boom, the longest and greatest in its history.

In the 20 years since the end of the war, industry has grown three and a half times, unleashing unprecedented credit, and in so doing was sowing the seeds for the present economic crisis. This of course was unseen by the "doctors of the economy." When the crisis did arrive they were confounded. How were they to explain an economic crisis that generated new phenomena like rising inflation, increasing profits and a working class displaying a greater militancy, let alone the crisis itself?

Bourgeois economists are full of such ironies. Recently there was an outcry against Professor Milton Friedman being awarded the Noble Prize in Economics. The criticism came from the economists themselves. The Swedish economist, Professor Sumnar Myrdal, considered that the principle of a Noble Prize in Economics was ludicrous. He argued that economic science is an inexact science, a "soft" science loaded with political and social values, in contrast to the "hard" sciences such as physics and chemistry "where no one need care about the politics of the recipients." What the Professor was trying to say is that bourgeois economics is loaded with class bias.

In the physical sciences, as exemplified by Myrdal, great names come readily to mind. We mention Faraday, Mendeleef, Joule, Thomson, Planck, Einstein, only a few of the great scientists to be remembered for the benefits they have brought to mankind. But in the so-called science of economics the field is barren, and if names are remembered it is for their mistakes and not achievements.

The explanation for this is simple enough. Marx referred to it more than one hundred years ago in a preface to *CAPITAL*. In the early 19th century "the science of bourgeois political economy had reached the limits it could not go past." This was about 1825, and the degeneration of bourgeois economic thinking has continued since.

In the earlier years of capitalism, when it was an ascending social system, the economic theorists were not afraid of investigating economic realities. Petty, Smith and Ricardo built the foundations of Marx called Classical Political Economy. They studied production, circulation distribution objectively, endeavouring to find the laws of economic movement, creating the economic categories of money, interest, capital, profit, rent, value, wages, and strove to understand these categories, failing however to see the historical character of the categories they spent so much labour to create. Nor did these categories arise simply. They came in fragments over the period from Petty to Ricardo (the bourgeois economists have never appreciated this), awaiting a Marx to draw them together and give to them the full significance of their historic movement.

These men discovered much about the underlying realities of capitalism, especially important being their discovery of the labour theory of value, which Marx referred to as epoch making; that is, that the amount of necessary social labour embodied in the production of a commodity determines its value, and that it is this principle underlying the exchange and circulation of commodities.

The beginning of the 19th century is marked by a rapid development of capitalism in Britain. The use of steam power became extensive. The first big labour movements and conflicts against capitalism have their beginnings here. A series of economic crises of overproduction took place, changing class relations. The ruling capitalist class ceased as an enemy to be exploited. It no longer wanted the old political economy. It wanted an economics more suited to its interests as the new exploiting class, subjective in content and removed from the objective processes of production. Adam Smith was renounced. Ricardo, who almost discovered the source of capitalist profit, was maligned and denounced. With this period begins that characterised by Marx as "vulgar economism," and apologetics for capitalism.

And so we have an upside down mode of thinking which has been perfected up to today, in which black becomes white, and bad becomes good: in which an economic crisis of overproduction (overproduction not in terms of what society can consume, but with what it can afford to buy) becomes a "crisis of confidence," a psychological crisis: in which prices are determined by supply and demand: in which profits arise because capitalists sell goods at a price higher than their actual value: in which inflation becomes a simple question related to high wages when it is a

complex one related to the role of monopolies: in which unemployment becomes a "myth," etc, etc.

Thus bourgeois economics is not scientifically grounded. It takes a subjective position in political economy, basing itself upon the circulation of commodities, and not upon production and the relations arising out of production. The role of the bourgeois economists is reduced to finding solutions for the insoluble, to advise on questions such as whether to devalue or revalue, inflate or deflate, invest or not invest, mainly relying on chance, and like Kant, he lives in an "unknowable world."

Bourgeois economists attitudes to economic questions vary, depending on the particular section of the capitalist class that they represent. The capitalist class is not homogeneous. In Australia there are approximately ninety large foreign firms with another 120 large Australian firms, existing over and above 30,000 small and medium firms, having different approaches to costs, prices, tariffs, markets, techniques. This is reflected in economics.

In the so-called Western countries there are different schools of economics, reactionary, conservative, reformist, radical, and hundreds of books and tens of thousands of articles are published annually to prove it. Some economists want a reversal of the irreversible, a return to the days of "free competition." Some avoid theoretical economics and seek pragmatic solutions to concrete questions. Occasionally big names come to the fore like Keynes, Galbraith, Samuelson, Friedman, but their teachings are contradicted by the evolving realities.

In Australia economic thinking follows the traditional patterns set by the "West." ALP speakers refer to Mill, Keynes, Galbraith, but never Marx. On the other hand the Fraser Government is attracted to the teachings of Milton Friedman who leads the Economic Department in the University of Chicago, and comes out strongly against the public sector of the economy, supports the big monopolies, a policy of low wages and high profits, and the cutting to the bone of welfare spending. This is not economics. It is anti-working class ideology. Friedman was called in to advise the fascist regime in Chile immediately after the overthrow of the Allende Government.

Like Friedman, Mr Fraser believes that inflation is purely a domestic problem caused by rising wages and public spending and that these could be reduced to the point of depression.

Paul Samuelson, who labours on official texts for new crops of USA economists, has more realistic ideas about inflation. He says "we don't know how to control inflation without creating unemployment." Thus we have the dilemma be-deviling economists and the governments they advise. In each capitalist country the main pre-occupation of the economists is to defend their particular theory of inflation and argue whether the

time is right to deflate or inflate, and always against a background of rising prices and mass unemployment. In the USA Carter wants to get the 10 million unemployed "back to work." This means increasing money spending which in turn increases the role of inflation. In Australia Fraser is not concerned with unemployment. He wants to "beat inflation." He deflate and chokes off economic recovery; unemployment grows as also does inflation.

Nor has a Labor Government any alternative to solve the contradictions of capitalism. It would dampen down the conflict with what could be called a Keynesian plan of state stimulation of economic growth by increasing public spending and "striking a balance between the public and private sectors of the economy."

We cannot resist the temptation to mention the repeated boast, with a pretence of toleration, of Malcolm Fraser over the T.V. network, that he has read Marx. Maybe, to satisfy a curiosity. But Mr Fraser is not qualified to understand Marx, and that is a different matter. Both Engels and Lenin have stressed that the labour theory of value, and surplus, is central to Marx's economic teaching. Here is a quotation from Engels:

"In showing how surplus value arises, and how alone surplus value can arise under the domination of the laws regulating the exchange of commodities, Marx exposed the mechanics of the existing capitalist mode of production, and of the mode of appropriation based upon it; he revealed the core around which the whole existing social order has crystallised."

There is no way of understanding the capitalist mode of production without understanding value and surplus value. It is this that distinguishes Marxist economics from bourgeois economics. Without an understanding of this the capitalist economy is a confused mess in which people become lost in the outward and deceptive appearance of things, puzzled, frustrated, defeated.

Mr Fraser, with his educated ignorance, could hardly be expected to understand the above quotation, simple to a foundry worker, but impossible for a millionaire. What would be easier for him to understand, but not without fear, is that when Marx was creating his vast truths about the capitalist mode of production, this system held sway over the whole world. That is not so today. What is supreme is the teachings of Marxism which heads a new socialist world system. A few figures will suffice.

In the first five years since 1970 the USSR's industrial output averaged 7.4% a year, as against the USA and Common Market countries 1.2%.

In the five years from 1970 the rate of industrial development in the socialist countries was four times higher than the industrial capitalist states. In 1975 the industrial output of the socialist countries was more than

double that of the Common Market. The industrial output in the CMEA countries is today only 10% less than in the USA and the EEC states taken together, yet 25 years ago the industrial output of the capitalist countries was treble that of the CMEA states. This is Marxist Economics in practice.

The transition from capitalism to socialism does not result from a sudden jump, an "all or nothing" policy. It is the result of a united working class struggle around all the problems of economics, politics and democracy, inspired by a Marxist-Leninist Party.

If bourgeois economists dared to be scientific they would have to engage in the task of exposing the social evils resulting from the capitalist mode of production. Class bias renders this impossible. The task of defending and deepening the science of political economy and bringing it to the consciousness of the working class belongs to the Marxist-Leninist Parties, throughout the world and in each country.

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The Marxist Doctrine

Marxism is the system of Marx's views and teachings. Marx was the genius who continued and consummated the three main ideological currents of the nineteenth century, as represented by the three most advanced countries of mankind: classical German philosophy, classical English political economy, and French socialism combined with French revolutionary doctrines in general. Acknowledged even by his opponents, the remarkable consistency and integrity of Marx's views, whose totality constitutes modern materialism and modern scientific socialism, as the theory and programme of the working-class movement in all the civilised countries of the world, make it incumbent on us to present a brief outline of his world-conception in general, prior to giving an exposition of the principal content of Marxism, namely, Marx's economic doctrine.

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