

oster of the World Federation of Trade Unions

Focus Newsletter, 217-1808 Smith Street, Regina, Sask., S4P 2N3

TIM BUCK

January 6, 1891 March 11, 1973



NEVER TO BE FORGOTTEN

1986 marks the 65th birthday of the Communist Party of Canada.

During the course of almost half a century some of the most glorious and rewarding class struggles in Canadian history were led by the Communist Party when **Tim Buck** was its general secretary, including the inspiring internationalist contribution made by 1,300 Canadians who fought in Spain with the International Brigades in the first armed struggle against fascism (1936-39).

It is said, correctly, that the present marches hand-in-hand with the past. The Communists of yesteryear knew they represented the future, just as Communists today.

Today a particularly heavy burden falls on the Communist Party to lead the struggle for Canadian independence and against a thermonuclear war.

The enormous tasks that small group of Communists long ago willingly-yes, and happily--shouldered with

confidence and optimism, with courage and dedication, is an inspiration and guide for all Communist activists today.

Who can forget Tim Buck who, for so many years gave voice to and fought for the deepest desires of the working people? Who can forget Beckie Buhay, Annie Buller, Leslie Morris, John Boychuk, Jake Penner, Tom McEwen, and so very many others?

They remained firm and held to their convictions, refusing to bow to the threats and attacks of the class enemy. They could not be bribed.

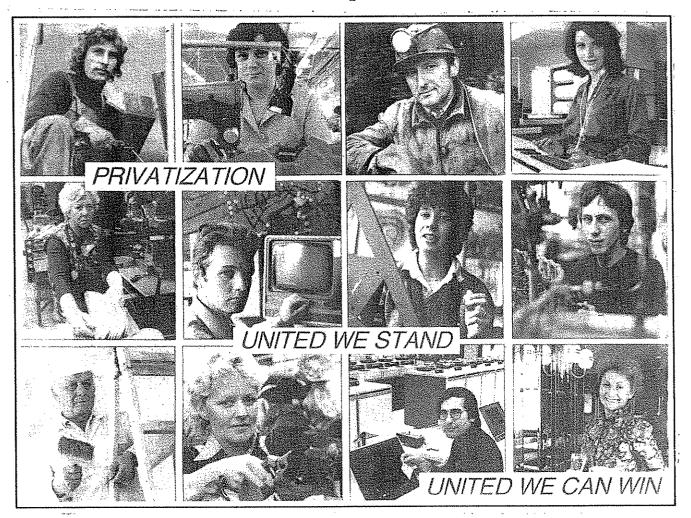
Their life-long unselfish and unshakeab le confidence in the cause of the working-class, their dedication to the cause of socialism, are a reliable example to the new young Communists who work so hard for the Communist Party to succeed in all its work.

The ruling class never pays tribute to working-class leaders and heroes. Their names do not appear in history texts. School children are not told about them.

That is why it is a moral imperative for the leaders of the Communist Party to establish the place of the Communist movement, and its members and leaders, in the important struggles which have helped to shape Canadian history.

That is why we in the Committee of Canadian Communists say: they are never to be forgotten.

It is just one of the many tasks our Committee has set itself. Won't you help us?



"THE TIME HAS COME, THE WALRUS SAID, TO TALK OF MANY THINGS:"

Big decisions which affect how you and your children will live are being taken by the government in Ottawa.

These decisions are being taken without consultation with the people who only read about it in the press after the fact.

With government backing, the bosses are waging a no-holds-barred attack against people's living standards. Declining wages, high prices, unemployment, poor housing (homelessness is a growing trend) and deteriorating services, uncertainty about the future, are the problems people face, made worse every day by the boss attacks against the working people and farmers.

Under their policy of economic terrorism they demand wage cuts and introduce a twotier wage system (lower, non-union rates for new employees) as a means of undermining the while wage structure.

Aided by the govern ment, big business, using the introduction of new technology, has created more unemployment and partially employed, while profits soar. They undermine, weaken and render ineffective all social programmes, and seek to create a society without trade unions.

Violence stalks the streets. Small children who should grow and learn in the confidence that love and protection is theirs, are taught karate to defend themselves against violent attacks!

It is argued by those who make money out of it that pornography is a human right!

Every kind of degenerate and anti-human act and outright perversion is turned into dollars.

CAPITALISM IS IN AN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL MUDDLE

THERE IS AN ALTERNATIVE

People don't have to be victims of the system. The people's movements, if united can win new, progressive policies.

The present state of affairs demands the reorganization of the national economy for the purpose of providing abundance and security for all people. Canada has the resources and know-how.

The elaboration of a programme for the all-round development of the economic potential that is Canada's is a need for which the powerful trade union movement has the first responsibility.

The trade unions are the front line defenders of the people's interests. The trade union struggle at Gainers in Edmonton reminds us of the Thirties when Iron Heel Bennett used the police to club the workers to protect private property and profits.

Work at Gainers involves heavy, unpleasant work, in a stinking and hot atmosphere. The workers had already taken a roll-back. Make me a profit and I'll share, said Peter Pocklington.

But he didn't accumulate his wealth doing favours for working people. He wants a packing monopoly in western Canada, this man who pays Gretsky one million dollars a year as a form of public entertainment and advertising.

He is pitting worker against worker, using a trained union-buster from Fords. Leo Bolanes, Gainer's superintendent, fighting all out to reduce wages, himself receives a guaranteed income of no less than \$300,000 a year, is guaranteed an automatic yearly increase of \$10,000, and is paid 10% of all pre-tax operating profits of over \$5-million. He and his

family receive free all medical, dental, optical and prescription drug requirements He has a huge pension scheme.

One wonders what else Pocklington has promised him if he beats down workers' wages with the help of the state apparatus in Alberta?

The construction bosses are trying to reintroduce the 44-hour work week in Alberta, which would set the workers back more than 20 years. The sheet metal workers were locked out, then invited back for a man-to-man talk with management which resulted in a \$4.08 an hour wage cut, to bring the total loss in wages over a period of four years to \$7.00 an hour-with an ultimatum to take-it-or-leave-it.

What Canada's national policies will be is being fought out now.

The introduction of the highest achievements of science and technology into mass production make it possible for the government successfully to tackle all the problems of social and economic life.

Of course, such new policies would be carried out only by a government which had the improved well being of people as its goal, under public ownership of the monopolies, and which based all of its decisions on a foreign policy of peace and the development of friendly relations with all countries.

Although Canada has been blessed with a bountiful supply of natural resources and a vast energy potential, those resources are not inexhaustible. Whatever U.S. monopoly and the transnational corporations do not already control are now up for sale in the current "free trade" negotiations.

A PROGRAMME OF DEVELOPMENT FOR PEOPLE IS THE PROGRAMME WHICH OUGHT TO BE THE CENTRE OF COUNTRY-WIDE DISCUSSIONS RATHER THAN THE "FREE TRADE" NEGOTIATIONS, THE DETAILS OF WHICH ARE KEPT SECRET.

Such a people's alternative programme will only be won when the working people of Canada are represented in the seats of power. But, despite that, the trade union movement is strong enough to force discussions of such programmes to the force political candidates to deal with it

(helping to transform elections from mean ingless and empty shows) and to make it an integral part of NDP policy.

The failure of NDP MPs in Ottawa to deal with such problems makes it a question of whether the NDP really wants to become the governing party.

The struggle for far-reaching progres - sive changes has become an imperative made urgent by the need to abolish the limitations imposed on people by monopoly capital

and by the need for a policy of develop -- ment and international cooperation.

During the course of the struggle to overcome monopoly's fierce (and even violent) resistance, people will come to understand that monopoly capital cannot be beaten in the parliamentary arena alone. It will take a mighty united struggle to put curbs on monopoly power and win progressive change.

THE 27th CONCRESS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE SOVIET UNION--ITS MEANING FOR CANADA

The greatest expansion of industry ever known in the world is slated to take place in the Soviet Union during the next twenty years. This is where Canada's real opportunities lie.

The Soviets have adopted a programme of accelerated development, and the advantages of socialism over capitalism enable the Soviet people to accomplish what they have set out to do.

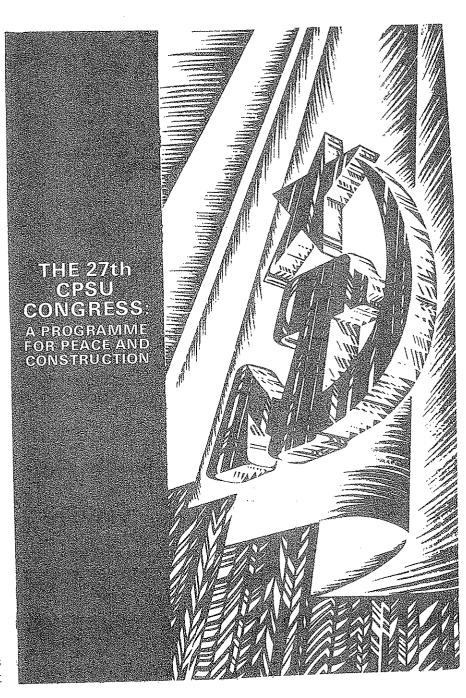
All people living in socialist countries have the right to work. They do not experience the violent dislocations so much a feature of Canadian economic life.

Under socialism people are more in control of their lives: Under socialism anything and everything that advances production improves the lives of people because they own the means of production.

Under socialism, the standards of life do not depend on some whim, but on people's productivity. All state planning is done for the purpose of better living conditions.

There are other advantages as well, but the Soviet people are aware that the development and improvement of their livesis linked to the need to ensure progress in the country's economy.

Canada's way out of crisis is through cooperation with the socialist



countries.

Instead of unemployment and stagnation, it offers the possibility of jobs for young Canadians; and life instead of death from Star Wars.

There is widely spread an old anti-Soviet lie that, while the USSR has made great progress in one or two fields, in the main they lag far behind the west in technological know-how.

This bit of anti-Soviet fiction is intended to create the idea that if we do business with the Soviets it will only help them.

Western "experts" assert that economic growth rates are a thing of the past in the Soviet economy. But the rapid growth rates under socialism give the lie to the claim that private ownership is superior to public ownership.

The media hides the record of the inspiring social and economic achievements of the Soviet people.

For example, between 1971-78, industrial production in the USSR went up by 98% compared to 37% in the west, and labour productivity went up by 61% compared to 22% in the west.

Socialism has a long and well-established history of successes which cannot be concealed by Washington's crafty propaganda machine.

Trade with the Soviet Union is providing millions of jobs around the world and helps the economies of the western capitalist countries who do business with the U.S.S.R.

The socialist countries have offered the hand of friendship and cooperation to the western capitalist countries. Instead of grasping it, the western politicians try to use the technological and scientific revolution to harm socialism as well as to gain advantages over each other.

A NEW PEACE-BUILDING FOREIGN POLICY

What are needed are new government initiatives to create an international climate of peace and friendship in order to resolve problems for people. In this day-and-age

Canadians aren't going to be able to solve their problems unless they take the needs of all other countries into account.

The 27th Congress of the CPSU was a major event with deepgoing consequences for Canada. The USSR plays a special role in world relations. Soviet foreign policy rests on peace, peaceful construction, and international cooperation in order to solve all the pressing problems of the modern world in favour of humankind.

The aim of socialism is to produce benefits for peace, and they are constantly searching for more effective ways of doing it.

The proceedings of the 27th Congress of the CPSU are being carefully studied by all of the major imperialist powers despite efforts to downplay its significance by the media. The decisions of the 27th Congress have given the U.S. State Department a serious case of indigestion!

What the capitalist bosses would discuss in secret in their board rooms is a matter of open discussion in the USSR. The delegates to the 27th Congress frankly talked about problems and how they could be overcome.

BLOCKADES AND BLACKMAIL DON'T WORK



Modern computers. The Scientific and Technological Progress-85 exposition in Moscow displayed some 3,000 exhibits, including the latest in machine tools, industrial machinery, flexible production systems and technological modules.

From the pamphlet, USSR Intensified Economy and Progress in Science and Technology. Novosti Press Agen cy, Mosc ow 1985 It is nonsense to think that a technological blockade of socialism will work. The socialist countries are quite able to resolve problems of any degree of complexity in the area of scince and technology.

The Soviet Union has established an enviable record for its post-war restoration, its sputniks, its atomic power stations and nuclear ice breakers.

The socialist countries have developed the production of up-to-date computers, and a unified system of computers, and complete sets of equipment for atomic power stations and for use in space. The socialist countries now account for about 40% of the new inventions in the world.

The reliability of Soviet products has been established in practice by the performance of its high-voltage transmission lines, seamless pipes, aluminum casting in an electro-magnetic field, magnesium production methods, the evaporative cooling of metal, the prolongation of furnace life in steel production, gas turbines and power generators—AND MUCH MORE. (You should read the magazine Science in the USSR. Write to New Times Book Store this address for a subscription).

It is the socialist countries that see international co-operation as the means of solving all the problems mankind faces.

In contrast, the approach of the western capitalist countries is to try to maintain a profitable monopoly for themselves, to try to harness science and technology so as to enhance only THEIR profits, none of which has anything in common with finding solutions to the problems faced by mankind.

AGRICULTURE IN CRISIS--A WAY OUT

Lack of policies to help farmers is a feature of all capitalist governments. There is no difference between the Liberals or Tories on fundamental questions. Both use their power in parliament to aid the monopolies. The farmers and workers are left out in the cold.

In one way or another, all governments have pursued policies which aim to strengthen the top capitalist farmers in the name of "efficiency"—a way of getting rid of the smaller farmers and strengthening monopoly domination of the agricultural economy.

Under capitalism "efficiency" doesn't mean the satisfaction of human needs.

In 1969, the Liberal government of the day produced "Canadian Agriculture in the Seventies" a programme which planned how to deepen and extend monopoly control over the farm economy.

In unfeeling bookkeeping terms, it proposed to drive another million people off the land destroying, in the process, much of the job-creating potential of Canadian agriculture.

In April, 1985, Agriculture Canada speculated (Farm Financial Assessment Report) that five to eight thousand family farms will become insolvent during the next two years. Going hand-in-glove with this assessment is a Canadian Rural Transition Programme (\$50-million) which is supposed to assist displaced farmers to find employment.

Stuart Thiessen, executive secretary of the National Farmers Union, described it as being "nothing more than a consolation prize for going broke". Some farm organizations, such as the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, adopt positions based on the idea that such processes are inevitable and

THE PEOPLE ARE IN TROUBLE LET'S FIGHT BACK!



unstoppable. (Try to ease the pain, but the quicker the better).

The Saskatchewan Wheat Pool predicts that 5,500 farmers in Saskatchewan will be wiped out if something is not done. Only 26% of all farmers are clear of debt, and 75% are considered to be still solvent.

The Pool is asking the government to buy the land of those hopelessly in debt, or to assume the debt and then lease the land back to the farmer; and also to allow corporations to own land. The latter proposal should accelerate the demise of more farmers.

Raising the price of domestically consumed wheat to \$10 a bushel sounds good, but it is not a farm policy.

It only applies to about 10% of total wheat production that is consumed domestically. The \$10 a bushel price will only be paid on grades 1 and 2 C.W. Red Spring Wheat and top grade Durums.

The price of a loaf of bread will rise by 14¢ (some say by 16¢) of which the farmers will receive only 4.5¢.

The bakers claim that the higher Canadian price for baked products will inevitably open the door to more imports of cheaper bakery goods, mainly from the USA. Foreign biscuit makers have already taken 10% of the Canadian market, and bread and bun imports from the U.S.A. are increasing.

THE COST-PRICE SQUEEZE

The basic way to tackle farm problems is to bring monopoly under control.

The farmer who, each year, receives a smaller proportion of the consumer dollar spent on food, who must meet a number of fixed charges (machinery and its upkeep, farm chemicals, transportation, etc.) is robbed by monopoly capital through the machinery of prices and credit charges.

Operating expenses now amount to about four-sevenths (57%) of a farmer's cash income. For exampale, the average cash receipts per farm in 1985 were \$71,947 of which operating expenses took \$40,806.



In 1985, 50% of the Saskatchewan commercial farms (55,000) didn't cover living expenses; 33% are in financial trouble; and 9% face doom.

Across Canada, the average debt for 9% of the farmers was \$201,747. To augment their income, 33% work off the farm. Ten percent owe more than \$250,000 each.

Far-reaching processes continue to take place which inevitably will lead to the fur ther concentration of land, production and capital.

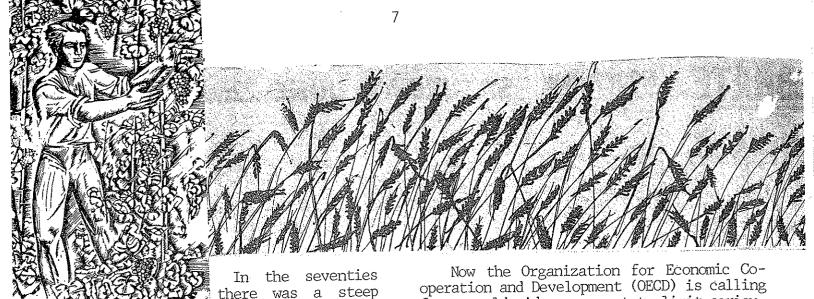
In 1985, some 508 farmers declared bankruptcy. But that only represents 10% of the farmers who were forced out of farming that year.

Monopoly and sentiment don't go together. When the price of farm products go up, the monopolies always raise their prices to the farmers. When agricultural prices fall, monopoly prices are reluctant to follow.

When the price of oil was going up, the oil magnates wanted no price controls as they gleefully predicted \$80 a barrel oil. Now the price is dropping there is a clamor for a floor price!

Modern agricultural technology requires enormous capital investments and that, as a rule, means borrowing at high rates of interest, a step by which the farmer delivers himself up to the financial institutions.

Total farm de bt amounts to \$21-billion and the farmers' capacity to pay even the interest on it is lesened by falling prices, including the value of land.



especially in cereals. The impulse behind it was the crisis in the monetary and financial sys tem, and speculation in food stocks. Financial houses were inclined to invest in food futures and land as currencies fell. This speculation temporarilly increased the demand for commodities.

The sharp increase in the price of fuel during the seventies also increased the price of agricultural products. Now grain prices have taken a nose dive.

SURPLUSES AND SUBSIDIES

The European Common Market (EC) which has accumulated an \$8-billion surplus of agricultural products is spending \$28-billion on subsidies in 1986. The US government is spending \$52-billion for the same purpose over a three-year period.

Under BICEP (it sounds like the title of a Hollywood Rambo movie, but it stands for Bonus Incentive Export Plan) the US will pay \$2-billion a year for export deals which would guarantee \$4.38 (U.S.) a bushel for wheat to US farmers, but would sell it on the world market at a price below that figure.

The media is predicting that the US government will apply the plan to wheat exported to the USSR and socialist countries.

When the price of a bushel of wheat falls below \$2.40, US farmers can "lend" their grain to the government and receive money for it instead of selling it on the open market at that low price.

Now the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) is calling for a world-wide agreement to limit agricultural production! To achieve it, they call for lower guaranteed prices, quotas, and switches in production.

Although marketing boards have brought some benefits to those farmers who remain in production, the marketing boards dolimit production to keep the price up. It involves a quota system and any farmer wishing to enter a particular field of production has to pay a big price to buy a quota. It has ended the traditional cash-earning possibilities of the small farmers.

The transformation of the base of agricultural production by technology has meant an extraordinary speeding up of the centralisation of production, the increased penetration of monopoly capital into farming, mass bankruptcies (not confined to the small and medium-sized farms) and a mass migration of the rural population to urban areas.

Monopoly capital dominates agricultural marketing, fertilisers, fodder, seed, the sale of the final product and transportation of all products.

FREE ENTERPRISE AND ALL THAT!

Federal agricultural policy is moving towards privatization of agricultural which services and traditionally been performed by public ins-Foreign (mostly US) based titutions. petrochemical and grain-marketing monopolies are anxious to strengthen their grip over the lucrative market for agricultural chemicals and especially to see the introduction of patent rights for crop varieties (also called Plan: Breeders' Rights)

These monopolies are already establishing private research farms in west ern Canada, while the Mulroney government slashes public spending on agricultural research. In one case in Alberta, a federal research station is being leased to Exxon on very favourable terms.

Agricultural research by government institutions and universities has been successful in raising agricultural production in Canada to a world class level. The talk of private plant breeders being able to out-perform the public sponsored programmes is totally false.

The abandonment of public research in favour of privatisation would simply open a new avenue for lucrative profits by multi-national monopolies, would increase costs to farmers, and has the potential to force producers to purchase costly agrochemicals to grow "designer" crop varieties tailored to a company's product line.

It would allow the Tories to cut government spending and simultaneously open the doors to profiteering by the monopolies, all of which conforms to Tory thinking.

SMALL FARMERS REQUIRE SPECIAL MEASURES

Things haven't changed much for the small farmer. They don't have enough land, enough capital nor enough output. They are either impoverished or forced off. The average net income of all farmers runs about \$17,000, half of which comes from off-farm jobs, pensions and investments.

Average net income per farm only amounts to roughly \$9,000 a year, which puts small farmers pretty low on the incomes scale, because this average conceals a wide gap in the incomes of the big and small farmers.

IT TAKES UNITY TO WIN

A fight for new progressive policies for agriculture is a fight against the reactionary policies of the monopolies. The question standing at the centre of the struggle is: WILL GOVERNMENTS CONTINUE TO DESTROY CANADA'S AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY, OR WILL NEW POLICIES FOR THE ALL-ROUND DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOR MORE MARKETS AT HOME AND ABROAD BE ADOPTED?

To win new goals for agriculture needs not only unity among the farmers themselves, but also unity between the workers and farmers in struggle for a programme which will benefit both.

While there are similar social and economic problems facing all farmers, which provide the basis for their involvement in an anti-monopoly struggle, there are also different political viewpoints and economic status which tends to undermine antimonopoly unity.

Some farmers produce to earn a profit and others can barely survive on what they produce.

The big farmers view things from a different vantage point than the middle and small farmers and, as a result, support different demands. This differentiation can be observed in the debates at farm meetings and in the programmes adopted by the different farm organizations.

As a rule agricultural workers earn less than the workers engaged in other branches of the economy, and they do not receive all the benefits that workers in large enterprises have secured through their unions.

DIVIDE AND RULE

Governments act to frustrate labour-farmer unity. They cultivate antagonisms and fan contradictions. They spread the myth that the greedy workers and high wages are the cause of high input costs; and that the greedy farmers soak the city workers.

In the real world of capitalism, both workers and farmers are the victims of monopoly exploitation, and each prospers if the other does. Neither can do without the other. The economic activity of both creates jobs and enhances markets. Farmers and the agrifood industry provide 15% of Canada's employment.

City workers eat farm products and farmers are in the position to buy the technology made in the cities if they are able to sell their products at prices which more than cover their costs. Decent wages and full employment increase food consumption at home.

The business concerns and financial houses which pay city workers low wages, pay farmers low prices. The financial institutions which charge high interest rates on mortgages on homes in the city, charge farmers high interest rates on loans for farm operations.

Both workers and farmers need low-cost decent homes. Both would benefit from the development of manufacturing and food-processing in rural areas. The elimination of poverty and backwardness is of common interest. The raising of the purchasing power of the poverty-stricken and low income working people would improve life for the worker while expanding the home market for the farmer.

Worker-farmer unity, the development of militant mass actions for new policies, can defeat the Mulroney administration and open up a new era of prosperity and social advance for all the working people.

Worker-farmer unity won't come about by declaring it to be a good thing. It will only come about through the joint development of militant mass actions and by engaging in independent political activity. It has to be seen as necessary for success and worked for. It has to be expressed in the programmes adopted by the NDP and the Communist Party, and by the labour and farm organizations.

NEW POLICIES FOR PEOPLE

Canadian farmers need a farm development policy based on a planned increase of agricultural production and expanded world markets, something which involves the development of new relationships with the socialist countries and with the developing countries.

The farmers need a programme of rural reconstruction which will provide homes and improved and expanded recreational, educational and medical facilities, transportation and secondary industry.

Farmers need an emergency programme to tide them over so they can remain on the land during this crisis.

Farmers can only prosper when the great railways, financial institutions, oil monopolies and chemical companies are nationalized and operated for the benefit of people.

The small farmers cannot have a future without adopting forms of cooperation to enable them to overcome the problem of size of operation. Such programmes at the rural municipal level won't materialise unless they are made an integral part of the overall anti-monopoly struggle.

Urgently needed above and beyond the immediate steps required to help the farmers weather the present crisis, are,

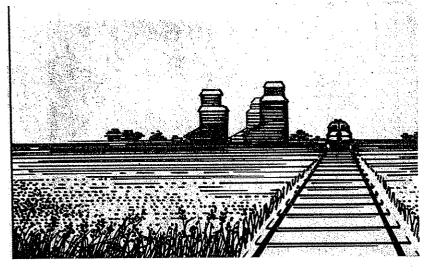
- + A guaranteed annual income set above the poverty level.
- + Controls over monopoly prices.
- + A special land programme concerned with upgrading farm land, ending speculation in farm land, and laying the basis for the cooperative use of land by small farmers.
- + Strict controls over genetic engineering and the further development of publicly funded research to benefit the farmers. An immediate halt to the Tory policy of privatizing agricultural research and development.

MARKETS?

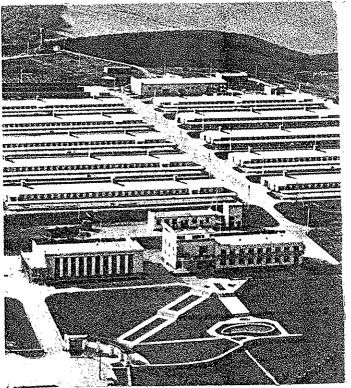
Markets is a major question for farmers. Almost 90% of all wheat raised in Canada has to be exported.

The development of international trade in agricultural commodities has been uneven featured by booms, slumps and stagnations. (more on trade later).

The farmers are deliberately misinformed about the true state of Soviet farming and the long-term market potential for Canadian wheat.



Agro-industrial enterprises are well-equipped modern establishments. This new dairy plant is in Moldavia.



The two pictures on this page are taken from the pamphlet, Farming, Novosti Press Agency Publishing House, Moscow

If the Canadian government concerned itself with developing two-way trade, Canadian farmers could benefit from expanding trade relations with the USSR. It is just as inevitable that, without such a policy, the farmers will be the losers in the long run.

The North American farm machinery manufacturers including their Canadian agencies oppose importing Soviet farm machinery and cars. The comparable horse power in Soviet farm machinery sells for less, is as efficient, and repairs and service are provided at an acceptable level.

Lack of food is one of the major global problems of our time. There is an urgent need for both calories and protein in most of what are termed the developing countries. Famine in Africa emphasizes this point with poignant clarity.

Millions of people in developing countries die of starvation, or suffer from some malnutrition-caused sickness. That is why OECD's plans to cut world production are so bizarre.

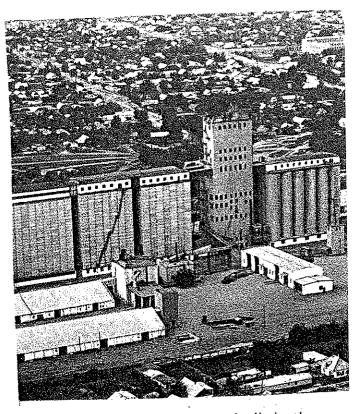
Canada, with its highly productive agriculture can play a positive role in helping

the people of the developing countries.

It would create employment. It would improve the farm economy. It would be a step towards improving international relations—and it would do more than all the spending on so-called defense h as ever done to bring real security and a more prosperous future.

The developing countries need up-to-date technology. The governments of those countries are acting to modernise their economies and improve the lives of their people. Canada can be part of that progressive world change and benefit from it.

It requires a total break with the idea of using food aid as a means of realising foreign policy. The western capitalist governments withhold food from countries which do not go along with the official foreign policy positions of United States and sell to those countries who do.



New elevator built in the
Ural region in
Kazakhstan—the
government policy is to
increase investment in the
expansion of storage
facilities for farm produce.

FREE TRADE--WHO WILL DECIDE THE FUTURE OF CANADA? WHAT WILL IT BE?

"Canadians have not so far got around to asking: If a deal turns out to be worthwhile for Canada how can it be made worthwhile for United States?

"What Canadians will have to do if they want a successful negotiation...is to...look at what's in it for the Americans." (Report on Business Magazine, March, 1986)

The negotiations on free trade have brought into focus a wide range of questions for which the Tory government only pretends to have the answers.

Canadians are justified in being concerned as to the consequences of the "free trade" negotiations now going on. Will it provide jobs for the 450,000 unemployed youth in Canada?

The proximity of Canada to the USA has facilitated the establishment of mutually complementary economic structures. A dense network of international exchange links the two economies as part of a bigger region which also reaches out to embrace Western Europe and the whole of North America.

The United States is the most powerful industrial country in the capitalist world and is carrying out foreign economic expansion. Integration has strengthened the American economy, giving it a strong raw materials base, broader regional markets, and providing profitable opportunities for capital investments.

Canada is an average imperialist power and its main feature is dependency on the USA as a weaker partner. Canada will receive a relatively smaller portion of the advantages and brings less to the negotiations table.

The deliberate spreading of the idea that Canada's destiny rests entirely and only with that of the United States, that Canadians lack the resources and ability to do things for themselves, is a fiction designed to help persuade Canadians to accept the idea of an unequal partnership in which Canadians will be the big losers in terms of jobs and standards of living.

Of course its utter nonsense and

Canada's history proves it.

Integration is a feature of modern-day capitalism which assumes various forms. Regional imperialist integration, necessary for bourgeois society to adapt itself to rapidly changing world conditions, is a process filled with contradictions.

The process advances monopolistic concentration of capital and production.

The mutual interpentration of the economies leads to intertwining and merging processes which will fuse Canada and the USA into a new entity with negative consequences for Canada's development of its own potential productive capacity.

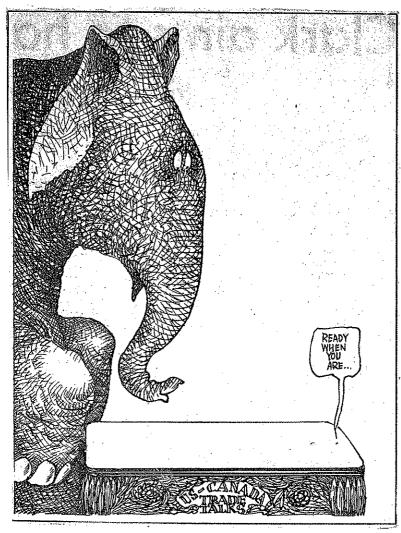
There are a number of factors which have strengthened Ottawa's decision to ne-gotiate so-called "free trade" by the Mulroney government. Foremost among these are the changes in the sate of the world economy and trade which reflect the fact that new phenomena have entered into the productive forces--new advanced technologies and increased resource and technological interdependence between all countries.

United States has lost some ground in world trade. Its share of world exports has declined from 15% in 1970 to 12.8% in 1984.

The intensification of the conflict between US imperialism and the countries of Latin America is compelling the United States to turn towards Canada and Mexico. It sounds like "Irish Eyes" but its a case of "Yankee Doodle Dandy".

The protectionist wave sweeping the USA is scaring the pants off countries like Canada which count heavily on the US market. It illustrates how much at the mercy of US monopoly the politicians have really put Canadian.

On its part, US big business is taking part in "free trade" negotiations for the purpose of reducing Canadian tariffs against US exports; for improved conditions for American investment in Canada; for protection of the big U.S. drug companies;



for more open trade in the service industr - ies which brings women's jkobs directly undattack. The USA wants the auto pact to be renegotiated.

The USA wants to turn Canada into a banana republic. It wants Canadians to be grateful for U.S. investment as though all Canadians got the benefits.

U.S. big business is not at all satis - fied with the fact that Canada has enjoyed an over-all trade surplus and would like to reverse the figures.

The "free trade" negotiations express a sharper struggle to claim Canadian resources and markets, with a section of the Canadian bourgeoisie working on the assumption that closer ties with the USA will be to its benefit.

THE ESSENCE OF EQUALITY

The yardstick by which to judge "free trade" and on which all economic links with the USA should be based are respect for state sovereignty, independence and national interests, non-interference, full equality and mutual assistance.

Certainly these are not the instructions Canada's chief negotiator, Simon Reisman, is working under.

An equal partnership between Canada and the USA would provide the basis for stable economic growth with improved living conditions for all Canadians. U.S. big business should enjoy no special privileges in Canada which elevate their interests above the interests of Canadians.

Capitalist integration with United States will curtail Canadian sovereignty and will not provide a solution to the social and economic problems faced by the Canadian people.

On its part the Mulroney government is seeking to facilitate the processes of the internationalization of exchange, production, research and capital in cooperation with the Reagan right-wing administration.

The Mulroney government aims to strengthen the cohesion and convergencies between Canada and the USA in a process which doesn't involve the enire economy, but specific areas of it. It expresses the desire of Canadian capitalists for a bigger share of the US market as the scientific and technological revolution evolves.

USA dominated auto, oil and mining, where the integrative processes are the most advanced in Canada, exist within a general economy from which they are not independent, and which are not independent of them.

The integrated sector, mainly U.S. capital, is constantly attempting to expand in Canada at the expense of the other sectors of the economy.

In a speech to the University of Chicago and the Times Speakers' forum on December 4, 1985, in Chicago, Prime Minister Mulroney said,

"Canada is open and ready for busin - ess. Our country has always been a good place for investment. We are making it an even better place to do busi - ness.

"Canada, like the US, wants the new round (of "free trade" talks) to in-clude trade in agriculture, in services and in intellectual proper-ty."



He went on to say that Canada's imperative is "stability in our bilateral trade relationships with the USA. We want more access to this market while recognizing that the removal of barriers opens trade in both directions."

The egoism of the Canadian ruling class makes it think it will come out on top. Small and middle-sized businessmen actually believe that they will walk freely into the American market and become big, and make big profits. A manufacturer of small equipment thinks that his firm can gain a huge increase in sales under a "free trade" agreement. He isn't the least concerned about anything else.

Alberta's natural gas producers are discovering that the export tap is closed when it so suits United States business interests.

It is unlikely that Canadian businesses will ever be guaranteed secure and untrammelled access to U.S. markets. That's a bit of "if wishes were horses beggars would ride."

Despite the fact that Canada's manufacturing industries have doubled their exports in the past ten years, imports are taking a greater share of the domestic market as well.

Canadian exports (as a percentage of Canadian production) were 18% in 1965, 24% in 1975 and 37% in 1985. But imports into Canada (as a percentage of the Canadian market) were 20% in 1965, 29% in 1975 and 36% in 1985.

The huge amounts of capital required for the introduction of science and technology, which expands production and research, requires bigger markets, involves recruiting foreign partners and a further international intertwining of capitals.

In any case, they require stable foreign markets to absorb a bigger proportion of production and as part of the international specialisation of labour.

The socialist countries do this in a planned way, in a way which guarantees equal benefits to all participating countries.

The West does it empirically, on the basis of inequality and disadvantage, haphazardly, but always working out to the advantage of the strongest.

Both the Reagan and the Mulroney governments (with different goals) are acting on the fact that the economic relations established between Canada and the USA have lost their dynamism and do not provide for their present needs.

CANADA'S WATER--NOT FOR SALE

Canada's negotiator, Simon Reisman, says the export of Canadian water will be a major factor in future US-Canadian relationships.

Reisman is an adviser to the Grand Canal Company, a group investigating the feasability of turning James Bay into a fresh water lake and shipping the water overland to the UMSA through a \$100-billion network of canals.

There is a shortage of water on the Canadian prairies, on the US high plains and the central valley of California. Neither Canada nor the USA has developed a comprehensive scheme to solve its water problems.

How can negotiations take place in the absence of a clearly-defined water policy? No terms of reference exist for Canada's

negotiations.

As General A.G.L. McNaughton said to the Canadian Club of Montreal (4 October, 1965) "...water is the furmdamental resource in any civilization. Throughout history the survival and prosperity of every human society has depended upon an abundant supply of useable water at a reasonable cost...There is never too much water..."

Lack of water threatens the growth of the prairie economy.

McNaughton was opposed to the disposal of Canada's water for the use of USA monopoly, and he warned the Canadian people about the consequences.

Both Canada and the USA face growing pollution problems. In the USA it would cost as much to keep clean water flowing as to launch Star Wars.

Massive chemical leaks, expanding cities, major farm regions, industry, decaying water distribution systems—all compound the problem and ought to be part of a comprehensive water policy as one of the great nation-building schemes long overdue.

In 1964, Canada lost the right to control the Columbia River. The right to generate power on the Columbia was sold for 30 years. For that sell out the late W.A.C. Bennet (then Socred premier of BC) got his picture on the front cover of Time Magazine as a favourite American pin-up.

He forced the province of BC to subsidise cheap power for the profits of the US monopolies.

Manufacturers in the USA, using power generated from the Clumbia River, produce goods cheaper than they can be produced in Canada. So Canadian water provides jobs in United States at the cost of jobs in Canadian manufacturing.

Bewar of Greeks bearing gifts! Now the California power-thirsty American businessmen are willing to cover the construction costs for a new dam on the Peace River near Fort St John. The USA sees the whole west coast as a single power unit for its OWN USE.

The question before the progressive forces is:

HOW DO THE COMMUNIST PARTY, THE NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY, THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT AND THE FARM ORGANIZATIONS, VIEW IT AND ENTER INTO THE POLITICAL ARENA IN A STRUGGLE TO HELP THE CANADIAN PEOPLE END UP AS WINNERS?



Firstly, it is necessary to see where the whole process is leading. Canada is facing the loss of its independence and is in process of becoming more subservient to US diktat, tied to a U.S. criminally insane "holy war" to destroy Communism. It is all being done with the utmost cynicism by the Tory politicians.

DEVELOP CANADA FOR HER PEOPLE

If there is to be a North American Commonwealth it has to be based on the voluntary cooperation of the peoples of the countries involved in a relationship which guarantees all participating countries equal benefits. That requires, for its fulfilment, a socialist system.

In order to lay the basis for Canadian control and to see that benefits accrue to people, nationalisation is essential because the struggle for Canadian independence is, first and foremost, a struggle against Canadian monopoly-capital interests as well as against U.S. imperialism.

Needed are policies which put the Canadian people in control. First, the big energy com panies should be nationalized as the basis for further advancement of the economy.

The Canadian ruling class rejects the

all-round, balanced growth of the economy. That only makes sense to the working-class and sections of the middle class and intelligentsia. But, to the extent that Canadian working people still identify their interests with those of the capitalist class, it tends to modify the impulse towards working for a programme for growth under public owner ship.

WO WORLDS, TWO DESTINIES



Drawing by I. Smirnov ("STP")

WHICH OPTION?

The people have been given two alternatives:

1) The United States profers a nuclear war.

and

1) The USSR profers peaceful coexistence.

The future of Canadians, the revival of Canada's economy, rests on peaceful co-existence. That is what the working class has to fight for.

It doesn't involve ending, or even

shifting trade with the United States. It does involve a perspective of a development which is presently dividing the Canadian capitalist class, one section of which sees its interests best served through closer ties with the USA and the militarisation of the economy, versus the other section which wants to reach out to the world, to gain greater control of the home market and find new foreign markets.

Mel Hurtig and his Committee of Canadians give voice to the indignation everone should feel. Canadians, like the peoples of Latin America, resent the economic plundering of their economies by US big business.

WORLD TRADE MEANS JOBS

In order to buy one must be able to compete. The problem of markets is an ageold problem of capitalism. The world has an untapped market potential, particularly represented by the buoyant economies of the socialist countries and, in addition, the world of the developing countries.

The North-South Institute warns that there is too much emphasis on Canada-USSR relations at the expense of world trade.

"There's a limit to how much independence you can have in your foreign policy when your bread and butter are coming from only one source," said Bernard Wood, director of the North-South Institute.

If a "free trade" agreement is reached it will make Canada's links with the US economy the preeminent ones. Canada's independent development and wider relations with the rest of the world will be placed under the economic and political restrictions imposed by US monopoly.

Canada's foreign policy should be shaped by Canadians. Closer coordination with the United States should involve not just greater access for BC lumber products to that country, but on balanced and mutually beneficial relations between the two countries, a relationship which provides Canada with equal benefits and which maintains Canada's political and economic sovereignty.



TIM BUCK 1891-1973

In 1970, in a book commemorating the birth centennary of V.I. Lenin, entitled Lenin and Canada, Tim Buck wrote:

"The country (Canada) was being committed to a policy aimed at economic and political incorporation in the USA in all except the names, as part of a grisly preparation for a criminal atomic war by which the blind enemies of human progress in the Pentagon and Wall Street, in Washington and Ottawa, hoped to reverse the course of history by destroying their socialist competitors..."

"The economic base of the Canadian bourgeosie is not simply dominated by U.S.-owned monopolies, it is being taken over physically by U.S. state-monopoly capital..."

As early as 1947, Tim Buck had exposed the "Abbott Plan" which he said "marks the beginning of a drastic, long-term change in the basis of Canada's national economy and the direction of its development. Among the immediate effects of the plan for Canadians will be: a sharp increase in the cost of living, a drastic reduction of real wages, a halt to the expansion of opportunities for employment, and the

prospect of attacks upon the dollar level of wages--unless inflation achieves the same purpose for the capitalist class."

As if anticipating the current talks on free trade with United States, back in 1947, Tim Buck wrote, "Unless effective action is developed to prevent it, the Abbott Plan will lead to a decline of manufacturing, a narrowing of Canada's foreign trade and a strengthening trend towards economic colonization of this country by United States monopoly capital."

Tim Buck continued to write and speak in that vein and, in the early fifties, called for the building of "a great national movement to restore Canada's sovereign national independence."

In 1953 he posed before Canadians the key questions which THEY STILL CONFRONT,

"In what direction is Canada to go? What sort of target should be set ourselves? The target desired by monopoly-capital, or the target needed to protect the interest of the people? Labour and it democratic allies must act to ensure that changes in our national policies strengthen

democracy, give our people more security, and place anada in the camp of world progress and lasting peace."

These positions are the firm foundation for the general democratic movement of today, as well as for the policies of the Communist Party.

A UNITED CANADA

Canadian-US negotiations have thrust the question of national unity and a national identity to the forefront of Canadian politics.

National unity for what and for whom? Is it to be national unity to sell Canada to the United States? unity behind a Reagan thermonuclear war? or national unity in the interests of all Canadians?

The substance of the question is that economic security is the basis of democrac y and requires government intervention to secure it.

The current economic crisis and "free trade" discussions have sharpened the crisis of intergovernmental relationships and national unity. Some provinces face severe economic problems. Alberta and BC

place great emphasis on provincial rights because they want free trade with United States.

Lumber, book publishing, the pharmaceutical patent question-all these have become contentious issues before "free trade" talks are barely begun.

The situation has become more complicated and the more responsible sections of the media have been quick to point out the basic contradiction of whether Canada can operate as a centralized federal government and yet have each of the provinces share equal power with it.

Foreign policy and trade are the central government's responsibility and everyone's concern. Canada isn't a loose federation of nine different countries. While democracy is always a concern, the democratic rights of separate provinces donot usurp the rights of the whole.

Canada is a difficult country to govern. A province or a group of provinces may sell goods abroad and make deals with the governments of other countries, providing it doesn't conflict with federal laws.

Government structure has always been and remains a problem. It has long been a struggle between the concept of a centralized government versus the provincial governments.

Illustrating the contradictions is that opposition to "free trade" involves some of the provincial governments. But at the same time a Getty wants a free trade deal to help American monopoly make superprofits out of Alberta's oil.

The fact that some provincial government who have big doubts about "free trade" will be won over by the Mulroney government can't be ruled out.

As this Newsletter was being prepared the provincial governments appeared to be having some modifying effect on Mulroney's "free trade" policy, but obviously some provincial governments are willing to wheel and deal. Under existing circumstances, the provincial governments have it within their power to scuttle "free trade."

The conflict between the provinces and Ottawa appear like a tug-of-war, reflecting the problem of protectionism created by American big business, and a desperate struggle to take over each others markets, and a struggle between Canadian capital and American capital for Canadian resources, as well as other capitals with each other.

The provinces of Quebec and Nova Scotia are trying to undercut each other's sales of electrical energy to the United States. Recently Ontario hydro lost two contracts with American firms for the export of \$260-million of Canadian-generated electricity.

The drop in the price of crude makes it possible now to generate electricity in the USA cheaper than the import price.

The right to amend the constitution has made sweeping reforms possible, but that process depends on the mass movements of the people, first of all the trade union movement.

The democratic forces, disunited, and sometimes without political will, do not muster their power to take advantage of federal-provincial contradictions in order to achieve THEIR goals.

The ruling class has always interpreted history to suit its own needs and uses the contradictions between governments to frustrate progress and to secure gains for itself.

While the constitution is universal in its application, its shortcomings enable the monopolies and their governments to preserve inequalities and to take antidemocratic measures.

TRUTH AND CONSEQUENCES_

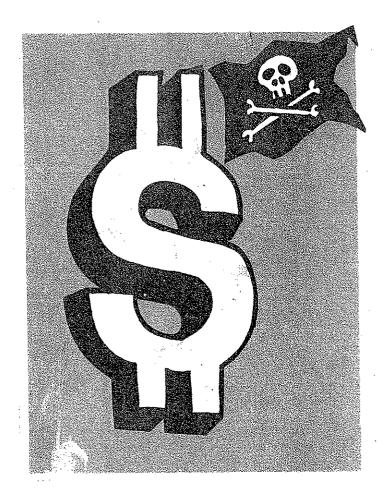
Premier Peterson of Ontario complains that it is hard, even impossible to get facts. His principal secretary, Herschell Ezrin said that the Premier had been "unable to get tangible answers to basic questions. We've looked at the studies from the MacDonald Commission favouring free trade and we can't figure out what they're basing their positions on."

An Ontario government study claims that as many as 281,000 jobs would be lost

through "free trade", that the withdrawal of U.S.-owned branch plants should be expected, and that 31% of Canadian jobs in the Ontario area would be adversely affected by import competition (shoes, leather goods, textiles, household furniture, appliances, jewellery, sporting goods, book publishing, printers) and a further 31% (271,000) in areas sensitive to imports.

There are 40 beer factories in operation across Canada which involve 180,000 jobs and a \$719-million pay roll. "Free trade" opens the door to Budweiser, Coors, and Miller to move in on those jobs.

CULTURAL IMPERIALISM



The stakes in the "cultural" battle are big and significant.

U.S. imperiali sm isn't going to spell out its real aims. But, using "free trade" as the lever, the United States wants freedom to culturally infiltrate Canada in order to step up the selling of U.S. ideas, tastes, views and beliefs for the purpose of further subordinating Canadians to U.S.

monopoly interests.

The war for men's minds is a decisive factor in the struggle between socialism and capitalism, and the United States is out to win the Canadian people to its side.

Socialism plays a decisive role in world progress and development, and imperialism can't stop humanity's forward march. The media tries to conceal the gains of socialism, its economic perspectives and its stable and dynamic life

Ronald Reagan would not dare to tell the people the truth about the goals of United States imperialism. It couldn't succeed if people were told that Reagan's "holy" crusade against Communism and the "evil empire" stuff and nonsense, was the struggle of Washington to reestablish the hegemony of the USA over the entire world, to crush all movements for progress, to forever destroy socialism, and to make the next century the century of American capitalism.

Washington wants people to become acclimatized to talk a bout the inevitability of a war against communism.

United States wants to militarize Canadian social thinking, lifestyles and politics. It seeks to spread the false idea that the causes of war arise from something in human nature.

It wants to popularize the bizarre idea that a nuclear war is winnable.

The capitalist media distorts all values held dear by human beings. It elevates slander, prevents opinions from being expressed, hides important news in the recesses of the newspapers, and attempts to give the appearance of validity to falsehoods—and then has the nerve to boast about capitalism's "free press"!!

The Reagan administration describes genuine struggles for democratic progress and freedom as terrorism, and terrorism is described as democratic struggle.

The media is selling Star Wars with religious fervour, keeping hidden the inevitable disastrous outcome. The propaganda for war has never been so extreme as it is today--and that fact is testimony to the

growth of the influence of the peace move - ment.

As Lenin said, while this propaganda keeps up the noise, "a shower of gold is pouring straight into the pockets of bourgeois politicians who have got together in an exclusive international gang engaged in instigating an armaments race among the peoples."

It has escaped the attention of no one that Canadian media people, when speaking about U.S. issues and U.S. politics, U.S. space achievements, U.S. arms, always use the pronoun 'we', as though Canadians are citizens of the United States.

An important section of the Canadian media people personally act as though they are honourary citizens of United States, eagerly embellishing everything coming from there. Some enjoy prestige and are well paid for their anti-Communist professionalism.

In these days anti-Sovietism sometimes has bad results for those who enthusiastically spread it around. CBC commentators, who never admit their mistakes, had to pretend that their distorted presentations about the Chernobyl reactor tragedy was the fault of the Russians for not giving out enough information.

People are now supposed to conclude that the CBC commentators were, perhaps, a bit hasty in trying to give the public the most up-to-date news. What is "overlooked" is that truthfulness is every bit as important as speedy news coverage.

The information that radioactivity in Canada caused by the Chernobyl accident was equivalent to only smoking one-tenth of a cigarette in a year was hidden in the back pages of the Globe & Mail (June, 1986) several months after the accident occured.

It didn't take people long to understand that the Chernobyl traged y was a terrible demonstration of wheat will happen to all human beings if the real bombs go off.

THE END JUSTIFIES THE MEANS

The state uses every means to influence

people's thinking. Diff erences are fanned and international tensions are heated up.

In the case of Poland, the western media called for strikes, subversion of the Polish state and urged Polish dissidents to break the laws of their country.

One prominent BC NDP trade union leader stood on the docks in Vancouver shouting to the Polish sailors to turn their backs on socialism. "Come on down and we'll look after you," he urged at a time when the rate of unemployment among BC woodworkers was running high and going higher.

At the same time, the extensive and unprincipled use of lies and slanders against the Soviet Union is a sign of the media's weakness and its inability to win the people to support capitalism's plans for war.

Imperialism dominates two-thirds of the world in the realm of newspapers, magazines, radio, TV and films. A handful of transnational corporations control 75% of the means of information in the western capitalist world.

The US film industry controls Canadian distribution outlets, almost entirely, which funnel millions of dollars a year to the United States and which, objectively, undermine and destroy the creation of an independent Canadian film industry.

The USA carries on a world-wide film offensive as part of its cultural colonization of the peoples of the world. Films which glorify war against so-called "Soviet enemies" of the USA are films such as Rambo, Red Dawn, Commando, Missing in Action, and so on.

TV productions increasingly include an anti-Soviet motive. There are even Rambo dolls!

ANYTHING GOES

Capitalism produces a mass, primitive culture which is designed to take people into a dream world. It is a depraved culture without ethics or responsibility, whose heroes are the bearers of right-wing concepts—a culture of violence against

No one is spared, not even the people. children.

A mass of cheap and petty literary works are produced which contain violence, sadism, sex perversions and banditry.

It is a pot pourri of violence and slime, a dream world of short-cuts, fights, sex, anti-Soviet motifs, a world of evil, bloodshed, and foolishly sentimental and unreal happiness. That's why Reagan goes over so well. He is expert in saying the things people want to hear.



Pele deLappe

It seeks to create the illusion that everything in the western world is decent, and opponents of the bourgeois system are to be hated.

The Fundamentalist line is that "good" Christians prove they are good Christians if they hate and kill the enemies of capitalism.

Daily, people suffer humiliation, pain, anguish, instability, and American culture with its many versions of sadistic revenge offers them a way out.

APPEAL TO THE BEST IN PEOPLE

someone and People need an ideal, something with whom to identify, noble goals to seek in life.

A cult of the superman is needed in the bloom that envelopes modern-day capitalist society. John F. Kennedy's h ero was James Rea gan's hero is Rambo (that is, after Reagan).

If president Reagan is a man endowed with such great qualities why doesn't he exercise them for peace?

Canadian big business wants the media and the education system to operate in the sole interests of monopoly capital and to maintain a system of values based on capitalist ethics.

that Communists believe | the network of the mass media with its highly developed technology, should be used to improve the conditions of the people, to raise the moral standards of all aspects of life, to defend the right of people to a job and a decent standard of living, to develop better relations and understanding between peoples, with particular emphasis on the peoples of the socialist cuntries, and to develop higher forms of cooperation between Canada and all other countries on the basis of respect and mutual benefit-above all, to promote PEACE.

Western capitalist culture is hostile to man and is welded to politics which are hostile to man.

> The International Congress of Journalists stresses the responsibility of every working journalist to assist by every means in his power the development of international friendship and understanding and instructs the Executive Committee to examine the various codes of professional ethics adopted by national bodies particularly in respect of any journalists deliberately and knowingly spreadingwhether by press or radio or news agenciesfalse information designed to poison the good relations between countries and peoples

From the Resolution adopted at the Second IOJ Congress, Prague, June 3-7, 1947

END THE "FREE TRADE" SELL OUT

The best course for Canadians to take is to oppose "free trade" negotiations and demand that talks be broken off.

No steps should be taken which would direct Canada further away from world trade to trade limited to the United States.

Any agreement reached with United States should not obstruct or interfere with the normalization of Canada's relations with the socialist countries, nor with the development of cooperation in trade and all areas of the economy with the socialist countries on the basis of equality.

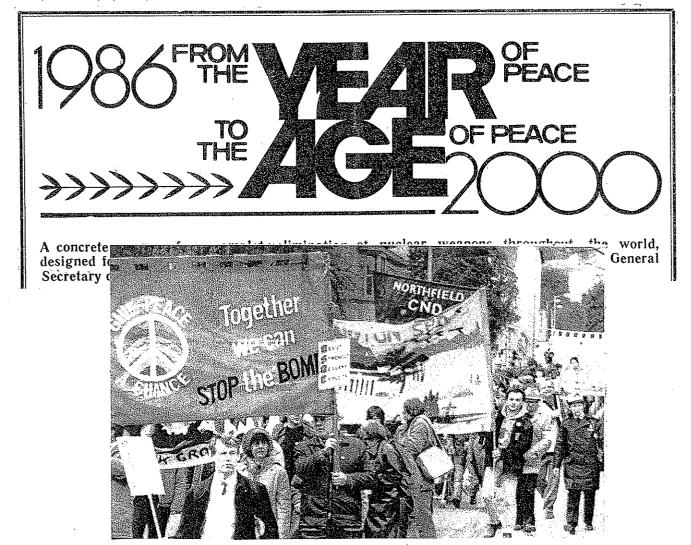
There should be no sale of Canada's water resources, nor of any other resources.

All sectors of the economy should be protected, including important sectors of the economy among which are agriculture, culture, manufacturing, etc.

Canada's prestige and place in the world can be constantly growing only if Canada takes independent positions in foreign policy which replace accomodation of the United States and is Star Wars.

Any agreements reached must help to resolve the development of water, power and engineering.

Any agreements reached with United States must facilitate Canada's participating in solving global questions, in the finding of new sources of fuel, energy, pollution control, the elimination of social and economic backwardness in the regions where they exist, and guarantee that Canada's na tural wealth will first of all benefit all Canadians.



A TERRIBLE THREAT LOOMS OVER MANKIND

THE PEACE MOVEMENT IS TAKING A LEAD IN FINDING A WAY OUT

There has been an upsurge in the peoples' anti-war movement as a result of the unbridled arms race led by the Reagan administration, which has made the world less safe. Young people have become aware that they have no future unless the arms race is stopped.

The attitude of people to the threat of a nuclear war often seems strange and contradictory.

Just imagine that we woke up one morning to the news that world scientists had discovered a mortal threat to humanity approaching from space. But, the scientists assure us, although it is a truly awesome threat, there is a way to save the world and its peoples. We have only 30 years. Overcoming the threat will require the cooperation of all counties and peoples, and the pooling of all resources and abilities.

The peoples of the world would respond to such an appeal, especially the young. Total

mobilisation of all resources would take place. School children would be told about it. The media would carry reports and details of decisions taken by responsible bodies. Debates would take place in the United Nations as to how best cope with the threat. International conferences would be held-all for the purpose of saving humanity.

THERE IS SUCH A THREAT: in the form of Reagan's Star Wars. Around that mortal threat people are not united. All of the world's governments do not appeal for total mobilisation to cope with the threat. Some people are even passive or view other problems as being more pressing.

Why?

Because there are businessmen in the west who make a lot of money out of war.

According to the Armed Services Committee 164 out of 196 main firms supplying armaments to the USA and NATO



return 50 to 200% profit; three return 500% profit; and one returns a profit of over 2,000%. Arms-making is the best paying business in the capitalist world.

They dominate politics and economics. Their position is in the media at all times. They justify war, using noble words such as "world peace" and "human rights" and "job creation".

They control just how much and what information will be given to people.

They attack the peace movement as being "dupes of the communists" or "good, but misguided people" who are "aiding the enemy". They fan divisions and diversions in the peace movement itself.

They conceal from the public the peace proposals made by the government of the USSR and the truth about the balance of power and the importance of maintaining arms parity in order to secure peace.



Professor Klaus Engelhardt

means big profits for arms corporation

From 1985 to 1990 the Reagan administration intends to spend more than 32,000 million dollars on research for SDI. Estimates say, however, that this will be increased to some 50,000 million dollars as a result of additional costs and price increases. This money from the federal budget will be used to finance large-scale research by private firms although the US budget deficit has already reached the staggering sum of more than 210,000 million dollars. SDI is becoming ever more important in terms of its share in the overall military research budget. It will move from a mere 3 per cent in 1984 to 16 per cent in 1989. The biggest jump so far will be from 1986 to 1987. For this period Pentagon chief Weinberger has announced an increase in SDI spending from 2,760 million to 4,800 million dollars.

The leading arms corporations are bent on turning space research into the biggestever source of profits. SDI in their view is a unique source of expansion and profit for many years to come.

For nearly 40 years now US arms corporations have been cashing in on the nuclear arms build-up. They are all in favour of putting the arms race on a new, qualitatively higher level.

The 27th Congress of the Commun ist Party of the Soviet Union cal led for a mighty alliance of the world's peoples and governments to act against the threat of a thermonulcear war, to prevent the milit arisation of outer space, to freeze nuclear arsenals and to stop the deployment of nuclear weapons and to reduce

their numbers.

vestige not а There was irresponsibility in the decisions made at the The Congress 27th Congress of the CPSU. brought forward profound new approaches to foreign policy which correspond to this new stage in world development, by advancing a whole complex of foreign policy initiatives which have the White House reeling.

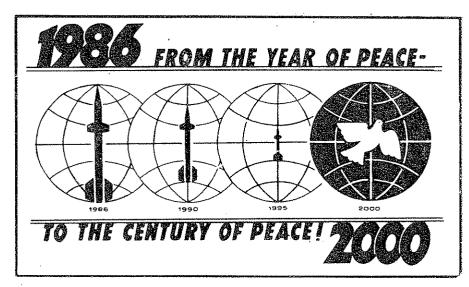
The delegates at the 27th Congress characterised the age we live in as extremely complicated and responsible stage of history, one requiring new thought, a turning point in which the Soviet people would shoulder THEIR resp onsibility to ward off a nuclear war, while building a qualitatively new stage of socialist society.

As a result, there is a lack of knowledge, a lack of confidence, illusions that our af fairs are in "good hands", a failure to understand the connection between unemployment, high prices, low wages, lack development, the agricultural crisis -- and excessive spending

on arms.

Some think the threat is exaggerated and that "nice" people like Mulroney and Reagan wold never do such things.

A united, purposeful peace movement can make it possible for humankind to march triumphantly into the next century, confident of making it a century of peace and the greatest human advance in history.



The Soviet proposals are realistic. During the Second World War there was an alliance against fascism in which the Soviet Union played a major part. Al lied unity made anti-fascist victory possible; one of the great feats of the peoples of the world in this century. The same can be done for peace.

The US state department has rejected the proposals of the 27th Congress and continues the arms build up.





Washington's efforts to create an irrational hatred of the Soviets, to heighten tensions and to create an atmosphere of mistrust and hatred is leading to uncertainty in the future—and gives rise to unpredictability in the political arena.

The present situation calls for sobriety, for rational compromise, and for actions based on the understanding that the nuclear age has made war obsolete.

Communists and capitalists live in a single world and share responsibility for it. With contradictions growing sharper, it becomes essential for the politicians in Ottawa to search for interests and actions which can lessen conflicts and find solutions to pressing problems.

The world situation isn't a Hollywood movie set which can be altered when the notion strikes one. The USSR cannot be wished away and communism is here to stay. There are no real life Rambos who, single-handedly, dispose of entire countries.

Politicians, delegates to NATO and the UN, public spokesmen, have to begin to reflect the real world. The real world is that the USSR isn't going to permit the USA to gain military superiority; and the USSR will continue to take all of the meaningful peace initiatives which expose and counter Washington's nightmarish plans to dominate the world.

THE ALL-POWERFUL MOVEMENT FOR PEACE



Awareness of this awesome threat has brought into existence a mighty peace movement. It is active, massive and allembracing. Its members and supporters represent labour, women, youth, intellectuals, farmers, doctors, engineers, scientists, the churches, and diverse political parties.

It is a movement which lacks organizational experience.

The greatest weakness of the mass peace movement is that it is still splintered, whereas the right-wing forces are united.

Nonetheless, governments are compelled to reckon with it.

There is a growing awareness in the peace movement of the dangerous role U.S. imperialism plays, a new consciousness which represents the beginning of important social and political struggles now in the making.

The proposals advanced by the Soviet government are bein viewed more objectively, despite the rabid anti-Sovietism of the media.

Right-wing politicians attempt to justify their support of the arms race by the existence of communism in the world. But, regardless of where anyone stands on the question of communism, the historic conflict between capitalism and communism cannot be settled by war.

Imperialism desperately seeks a way out of its crisis, suppressing the progressive and democratic forces, aggravating international tensions, and pushing the arms race to the point of no return.

In contrast, the Soviet Union is setting an example to the world in common sense, restraint and reasonableness.

There is a growth of understanding that even a conventional war must be ruled out because of the existence of hundreds of atomic power plants and large chemical combines which will be under fire in a war.

People are coming to understand that their security doesn't involve a world without communism but a world of security for everyone including economic security.

The peace movement isn't a political party although some political parties are for peace. At the same time, the right-wing, war-making forces have to be defeated politically. Peace has to be imposed on some governments.

The Liberal Party has come out against free trade and Star Wars. The NDP has also. Several decades ago, the NDP supported the pro-American war line adopted by the Liberal government of that day. Not so today. They are learning.

Unfortunately, politicians (including the NDP) do not relate the big problems people face with the fact that war spending eats up the money needed to solve them. The Mulroney government will have spent FORTY BILLION DOLLARS on arms in its four years in office! But this very big waste of money is not discussed in parliamentary debates when the big problems are discussed by the politicians.

The peace movement has the strength and the forces to more vigorously make the peace issue a big election issue.

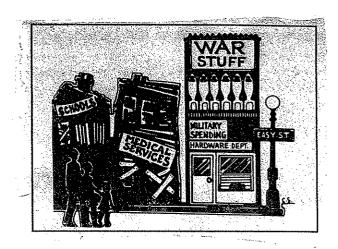
Reason and reality are the basis for peace unity, and the basis for the success of the struggle for peace.

Every peace activist confronts the need to expose in a substantive and well-argued way the various inventions of bourgeois ideology and the propaganda used to camouflage the military policies of imperialism and its preparations for war.

The goal is to isolate the war makers, to muster public opinion for a struggle against war, to influence governments.

Ernest Hemingway, in his "Notes on the Next War" published four years before the outbreak of the Second World War, said, "The only way to combat the murder that is war is to show the dirty combinations that make it and the criminals and swine that hope for it."

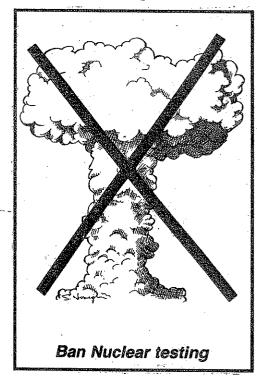
It is a task of helping people to understand the scope of the problem which has



become a turning point in history: either outer space will be used for the benefit of man or it will become the main source of endangering the continued existence of human - kind.

STAR WARS VERSUS STAR PEACE

All activity leading to the development of space weapons has to be discontinued if mankind is to live at peace with security.



The anti-war movement has to face the fact that the US government has a schedule for Star Wars and, therefore, the peace movement has a lot to do in a short space of time.

The USA makes no bones about the fact that it is out to create a large-scale, variegated force which is designed to shield only the United States against "enemy" strategic missiles.

The fact that United States sets itself that goal reveals its inention to develop a first strike against the Soviet Union.

Star Wars planning is far advanced. The USA has formed a special space command and a Consolidated Space Operations Centre to control combat operations in out space. A military space shuttle launch complex is being built and even the disaster with the Challenger shuttle will not halt their efforts.

Star Wars has become the focal point of the peace struggle because it represents the main obstacle to concluding an agreement on arms control; and it gives rise to dangerous illusions of peace and safety through an arms race.

Star wars threatens to render .all positive achievements reached in the past, all agreements for arms limitations, meaningless.

Star wars and the arms budget limit the possibilities of developing the Canadian economy. It makes international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space imposs - ible.

The Liberal Opposition in the House of Commons (June) presented memoradums from two National Research Council officers charging the Mulroney government with having already diverted \$60-million from the Industrial Research Assistance Programme to space activities.

In July, 1985, a committee of federal liberals recommended no participation in Star Wars.

Some Canadian businessmen assert that Canada's participation in Star Wars is the way to overcome unemployment! David Suzuki said that job creating through Star Wars is "poppycock..a lot of boloney."

Star peace, as proposed by the USSR, would help people to find ways to improve life on earth, to overcome disease and hunger, to make new discoveries in biology and medicine, and to generally improve life.

It is time to serve notice that Canadians will not turn over their destiny to the

Scientists say no to SDI research

Reuter

WASHINGTON

Approximately 6,500 scientists at 110 universities, including 15 Nobel laureates, have pledged to boycott research on Star Wars; organizers of the protest said yesterday.

They called it an "unprecedented response by scientists to a major weapons program." A leading congressional opponent said it represented a "major blow" against the development of the space-based, missile-defence system.

The signers included Nobel prize winners Linus Pauling, James Cronin and Philip Anderson. The universities included Harvard, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of California at Berkeley and Princeton.

The 110 universities receive about 75 per cent of all physical science and engineering grants awarded to academic institutions by the Defence Department and the National Science Foundation, the two largest sources of such funds.

George Brown, a leading

George Brown, a leading congressional opponent of the strategic defence initiative, appeared at a news conference with several of the scientists.

He said their pledge represented "one of the most compelling statements yet made" against SDI, the formal name for Star Wars.

Congress gave President Ronald Reagari \$2.75-billion of the \$3.7-billion he sought for SDI in 1986. A major battle is expected when legislators begin acting on the 1987 defence bill.

politicians and representatives of big business who pervert science to fill the heavens with the weapons of death.

Filled with hope for the future, Canadians want to live, love, work and play under sunny blue skies from which man-made death is forever absent.

A U.S.-MADE COMPUTER IS TO DECIDE WHEN EVERY HUMAN BEING DIES

This so-called space shield is all the more dangerous because the new class of weapons would make it necessary to take critical decisions on short notice. But it would become impossible for those responsible to assess the existing situation before deciding what to do.

Star wars will depend on computer technology to control its operations. To fulfil its mission it would have to operate flawlessly, coordinating the activity of a vast range of different weapons and defences, be able to act on information covering thousands of missile launches, tens of thousands of war heads and innumerable decoys.

It would have to perform all of its functions, without a single error, in no more than 30 minutes.

This complicated and complex situation, compressed into half-an-hour, would make human correction of failures and errors virtually impossible.



'An agreement on satellite arms is in the best interests of our national security.'

University of Victoria computer scientist, David Parnas, resigned from the Strategic Defence Initiatives (the "nice" name Reagan gives to Star Wars) organization, and said that the Star Wars "defense" system is a fraud and that its goals are unachievable.

ONCE STAR WARS BEGAN THERE WOULD BE NO POSS IBILITY OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR IT TO CHANGE THEIR MINDS

The horror of Star Wars is that there are no partial solutions to the problem, no areas of compromise, no possibility of trade offs. Once begun it is a process which will become irreversible. The Reagan government is aware of these facts and even banks on it.

The 27th Congress of the CPSU proposed to do what sensible people ask: why not dispense with nuclear weapons altogether and then a Star Wars isn't necessary.

PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

"The human rights campaign not only breeds anti-communist prejudices but distracts people in capitalist countries from the true issues of the everyday struggle for democracy." (from Information Abused, Progress Publishers, Moscow, in English)

The outcry about human rights is used by the western capitalist governments not to secure economic and social equality for people, not to overcome racism and colonialism, not even to overcome famine, but to frustrate the winning of justice and disarmament. It is a campaign designed to destabilise and upset governments and regions.

Reagan (and the big American banks) ignore the hunger stalking the world, ignore the consequences of decisions which maim and kill millions of people, and prop up rightwing reactionary regimes everywhere, in the name of democracy and human rights.

Each time the Soviet government comes forward with a peace proposal, the media trots out a counter-position using alleged violations of human rights to justify it.

Sakha rov, Bonner, Shcharansky--each one is traded off against the lives of four or five billion people in a sort of macabre games lottery.

The fight has to be joined with the phony human rights advocates who hypocritically clamour about the supposed lack of human rights in the Soviet Union but do nothing to provide human rights or to avenge great wrongs in Canada.

LET THEM EAT CAKE!

Some Canadian politicians are so remote from the real problems of the people they think food banks are some new innovation in the banking system and that soup kitchens are a new food franchise of some sort.

The around seven million Jews who live in Canada and the United States, themselves refuse to emigrate to Israel, but, instead, support the Zionist position that all Soviet Jews must leave the USSR in a New Exodus. There are many violations of human rights in Canada about which the human rights champions are silent, foremost among which are the terrible economic and social conditions of the Native Peoples, victims of a brutal system of racism.

The right-wing crowd shout for a return of the death penalty for killing policemen, but do not demand the death penalty for the bosses responsible for killing six family breadwinners in Quebec because they violated the safety code when building a new bridge.

In 1913, women's wages were 53% of men's. In 1982, women's wages were from 55% of men's (for the majority) to 64% (for a minority).

Only 9% of the two million children under the age of 12 can be accommodated in licensed day-care services.

In 1984, 4.3 million people lived in poverty, up from 3.5 million in 1930; and 1.2 million children under the age of 16 lived in poverty in 1984. Almost 15%, or 33 million people in the United States live in poverty.

The media deplores the plight of "bag women" and "old boys" whose lives have been ruined by capitalism.

In BC, run-down hotels, which depended mainly on the monthly cheques of old-age

pensioners and welfare recipients, tossed them out of their hotels (it is not against Canadian laws) so as to get a shot at the higher paying guests Expo would bring for a few months.

No matter how deplorable the social and economic problems may be, they are worse for the Native Peoples of Canada. The economic and social problems they face as a result of racism are nothing else but barbaric.

The International Labour Organization

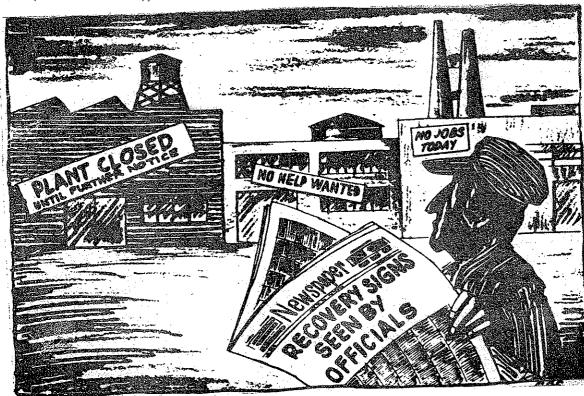
(ILO) censured the BC government for flouting international labour standards. Alberta, Ontario and Newfoundland were censured in the fall of 1985.

Medicare is under attack. June Blau, president of the Saskatchewan Union of Nurses says a chronic and unsafe shortage of nurses exists in Saskatchewan. She claims that 23 nursing units in five hospitals are short-staffed by as much as 24% and on some occasions by as much as 56%.

During the Quebec election campaign in November, 1985, Liberal Leader Robert Bourassa said that health care in Quebec is "indecent and uncivilized." In Cite de la Sante hospital, Pierre Parazdis, a Liberal social affairs critic, saw 57 patients lying in a corridor waiting for a room, some for as long as three days.

The Ontario doctors did not strike to overcome the problems of medicare for the patients. They struck for their "right" to charge the patient more. Gainers brings in scabs. The Ontario government dodged that option.

Once a country's foreign policy is based on the idea of demanding social and economic changes in the country's system, as the west does with the USSR, as a precondition for peace, trade and better relations, then it must expect that such a position will be rejected outright.



In fact, conditions prevail in Canada and the USA, for the tables to be turned on Ottawa and Washington by any diplomat wishing to do so.

The Soviet government would be justified in stating that, until the rights listed above, are rectified, the Soviet Union will not be able to reach agreements with Canada. Fortunately for the world the Soviet government isn't irresponsible!

ACTIONS FOR PEACE

The peace movement cannot say that it won't allow a nuclear war to take place, to declare it and leave it at that. Actions are needed.

It is important to enter the struggle to shape public opinion, to win people to an understanding that the nuclear age demands united opposition to policies of aggression and war, regardless of political viewpoint and religious belief.

There is a growing cause for concern because the Tories in Ottawa are encouraging the emergence of an arms manufacturing industry in Canada, a fact which goes hand-in-glove with militarising the economy and people's thinking.

Canada is automatically involved in any U.S. plans for war because of Canada's commitment to NATO and NORAD, the truth of which is proven every time the cruise is tested in Canada.

There are significant changes in the function of NORAD from its earlier purpose of intercepting Soviet bombers. Under NORAD (North American Aerospace Defence Command) a deal has been negotiated with the USA, the terms of which are kept secret from the people.

The Pentagon wants Canada to be a lesser and compliant partner in its long-range planning to establish a ballistic missile defense system.

In the past, within limits, Canada has helped to moderate US policies. A strong, united, purposeful peace movement can serve to strengthen that moderating influence at a time when the U.S. government's decision to abandon Salt II is putting new strains on NATO unity.

TASKS FOR PEACE

Among the important questions before the peace movement is the need to elevate the understanding of its members. The peace movement requires reliable sources of information. There is a need to organize debates, the sale of books, the circulation of newsletters and conferencess.

Included in this task is the need to make certain that the Soviet peace position s are well known in the general peace movement

- + To strengthen the Peace Alliance means, first of all, that the work of the Canadian Peace Congress must be strengthened, and the peace positions of the NDP and Communist Party must be fought for more vigorously and consistently in the political arena and trade union movement.
- + The NDP is still too inclined to settle for peace positions which are politically comfortable, rather than directing the large number of elected NDPers to lead a peace offensive based on the real politics of the world. The NDP tends to jump on made-inthe-USA bandwaggons, all of which worsen international relations. (Olympics, South Korean airliner, Afghanistan, Poland, etc).
- + The improved coordination of peace actions and campaigns across Canada need to be worked for. There is room for regional initiatives, but "regionalism" often takes some contingents out of the main fight. Efforts should continue to be made to have the big protest days coincide across Canada, with as common a peace position as possible.
- + Organize trade union for peace committees. The deeper and more direct involvement of the trade union movement in the peace struggle is an urgent question. It involves relating the peace struggle to the solution of the burning social and economic problems confronting all working people.
- + Organize ad hoc committees around specific peace issues.
- + Actively develop more exchanges with the Soviet Union between peace, cultural, scientific and other groups. Strengthen support for Northern Neigh bours and positive assistance to the work of the Canada-USSR Association.
- + Help to involve students in the peace struggle.

WHAT DOES QUALITY OF LIFE MEAN TO US?

OF LIFE United States to combine forces to convert North America from a bastion of war to a bastion of peace.

U.S. monopoly control over Canada can be ended by building a broad alliance of the democratic and patriotic forces around labour.

Through concrete, purposeful actions, the powerful labour movement can use its enormous strength to win gains for all people.

A strong projection of a line of action based on a correct assessment of the reality of today's world will help to shape events and lay the basis for broad, anti-monopoly unity.

It is a time to put struggle at the top of the agenda -for active struggles against war and for the rights and freedom
of people.

Massive permanent unemployment is a feature of capitalism today. At the end of 1985, there were 35-million

unemployed in the capitalist countries.

There has been a rapid growth in the numbers of part-time employees compared to full time, a system used by the bosses to reduce their expenditures and their responsibilities. The fact that, in some places of work the majority are now part time employees, along with the lengthening of store hours, calls for new laws to protect jobs and conditions of work.

Labour cannot base its strategy on the idea that labourmanagement cooperation benefits the workers, or on concluding deals with the bosses which help the bosses to undermine thme power and prestige of the unions, which allows them to cut wages with out assuming any responsibility for employment and security for people and for the future development of Canada.

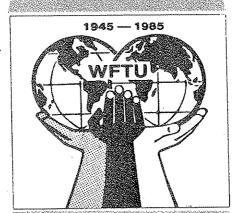
The workers and leaders of the trade union movement are learning through bitter experience. The developments with the United Automobile Workers, Gainers, the growth of the peace movement—all indicate new stirrings among young workers, an increasingly important factor in the class struggle and political life.

The scientific and technological revolution also demands a break with the idea that the only thing a union has to do is to defend the interests of its own members.

Any failure to develop a political struggle to bring science and 'technology under control, to use it to benefit people, endangers the trade union movement itself.

It is a time for working-people to understand that full employment is possible, but only if the limits imposed by capitalism are overcome.

It is to be ho ped that the election of Shirley Carr to head up the CLC will not only restore some dignity to that body but also



In the USA Great Britain, West Germany and France, the rulers of "big business", in league with the state apparatus that heeds their every beck and call, are doing their utmost to bleed trade unions white and to discredit them Bourgeois governments consider it their task on the social front not to combat the catastrophic growth of unemployment and the impoverishment of the broad masses, but to deprive working people of the right to strike international capital and re-actionary political forces are out not only to burden the working people with one crisis after another, as well as with the dire con-sequences of the unbridled arms race but also to preclude any resistance to such an anti-popular policy. Against such a background, the significance of the unity of action of national detachments of the international working class movement against the monopoly attacks on the rights of workers grows immeasurably. Top: poster issued to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the struggle led by the World Federation of Trade Unions for the rights of working people

the proportions of temporary to full-time employees, laws guaranteeing workers two consecutive days off each week, and so on.

New stra tegy and tactics are called for, including coordinating bargaining between the workers of different countries to cope with the transnationals.

A POLICY OF SOCIAL REVENCE

There is a growing perception among working people for the necessity of democratic change.

Since its election, the Tory governdment's record follows the well-known Conservative pattern which is to protect the wealthy from any encroachments, to introduce the "economy of supply" conception, that is, an end to govern ment controls over prices, an end to state protection of the environment, keep the minimum wage low, slash social spending, encourage private charity, give more to big business on the theory that incentives to big business will benefit everyone. It can be summed up as a policy of social revenge,

Under the Mulroney government

- + Life has become more insecure.
- + Jobs and homes have been lost.
- + Poverty has increased.
- + All public services have been cut.
- + There is a greater humiliation of women.
- + Racial discrimination is rampant.
- + Corporate hand-outs have increased.

- + Incomes have declined.
- + Medicare has deteriorated.
- + Soup lines have expanded.
- + Violence and drug use are on the increase.
- + Violence against children goes on.
- + Farmers are in crisis.

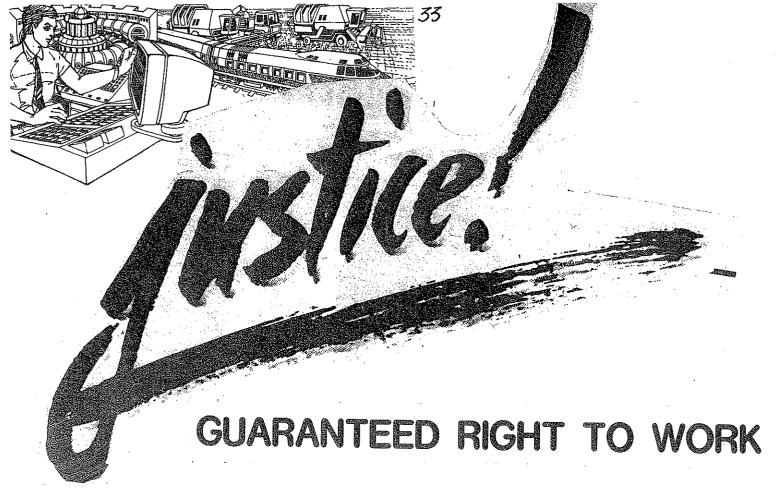
The way out of crisis and unemployment is to develop consumption, overcome poverty and low pay, overcome underdevelopment and expand trade.

If the trade union movement seriously undertakes a job-creating programme it has to stop joining in the calls for economic blockades of socialism and, instead, work for better international relations.

Two-tier systems hit hardest at young workers. They add a new layer of inequality for Afro-American and other new workers who are victims of national and racial discrimination, and women workers just entering the job market.

Two wage scales give the bosses incentive to fire older workers and replace them with lower paid, younger workers.

Overall, two-tier cuts widen the wage gap and increase divisions on the shop floor.



What is needed is a campaign by the unions for the complete restructuring of the economy and Canada's international relations to ensure full employment and to bring the scientific and technological revolution under democratic people's control, which calls for the wealth produced by the workers and farmers to result in higher living standards for the masses, for increased pensions and wages, and a guaranteed annual income.

What is needed are constantly improving public services, more public investments, public control over banking and financial institutions, a ceiling on profits and worker's control over plant closings and an end to the Tory policy of privatisation.

Such a programme requires the constitutional guarantee of trade union rights—an industrial strategy of development which will provide more skilled jobs—tax reform to benefit the lower income groups—a sh orter work week with the same take—home pay—proper treatment of occupational diseases—and an educational system capable of meeting all current needs.

The links between general education, training, retraining, and advanced training have to be expanded and improved.

New strategies need to be worked out to put an end to dual pay, to narrow the gap between skilled and unskilled, to enforce equal pay laws, to overcome double-breasting and the two-tier wage system.

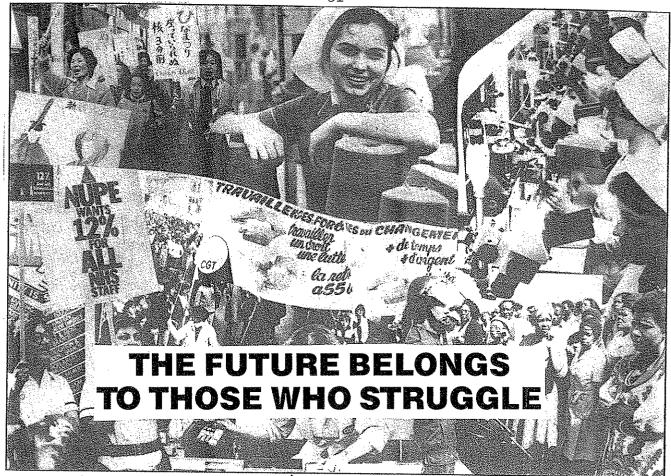
Huge sums of capital are required to integrate electronics and comprehensive automation in the production processes and the economy in order to develop Canada's power base, engineering and machine-building industry.

Standing in the way of accomplishing these things is the arms race which wastes billions on the construction of unproductive and menacing weapons.

This is a time to pool resources and know-how to clean up all pollution on this continent.

This is a time to establish trade and economic relations between Canada and the United States which bring equal benefits to both the Canadian and American people by bringing the monopolies under control.

Such a new worker's agenda must i nclude a plan to expand trade with all socialist countries with whom a wide range of cooperation is possible.



will result in more militant and forward-looking policies.

Labour needs radically new policies to cope with the decline in certain trades skills, the introductin of new ones, runaway plants, take-overs, the development of skills and the growth of the numbers of technicians, along with the new boss tactics (using science and technology) designed to destroy the trade union movement.

Unity of French Canadian and English Canadian workers in political actions challenging monopoly capital for leadership is a prerequisite for victory.

The unions have to defend the reforms they have already won.

It is a time for a country-wide campaign to defend people's living standards against the boss-led offensive.

A situation which favoured the success of the workers' struggles changed in the midseventies. The road men who thought that it was going to be forever and that they would live an enjoyable life on the golf course, rubbing shoulders with the big shots, suddenly were faced with big new problems for which they had no answers. Now, when their own jobs are on the line, they are being galvanized into action.

The problem is that the trade union leadership lagged behind the new developments in working out policies. It failed to understand what was happening and, as a result, did not give leadership to the workers at a time when the introduction of new technology was going on at a rapid rate.

It is a time for a struggle for new social and economic policies which require new laws to deal with the new phenomena in the work place.

There is a need for a series of new proposals because some existing trades and occupations have become obsolete and others are in the process of becoming obsolete. New trades and occupations are replacing old ones.

Among the new laws required to protect workers' interests are laws which prohibit setting up dummy firms, laws which establish The media reports that it is estimated that the United States is losing \$10-billion a year in potential trade with the USSR because of U.S.-government restrictions.

Young workers make up a big proportion of the unemployed and are activists in labour's fight-back.

Youth are activists in the peace struggles.

There is a growing interest in many problems. Many young people are prepared to judge capitalism and socialism on the basis of who is responsible for war, and the kind of life they live under capitalism and how good life could be under socialism.

There are negative factors among youth as well. Youth are usually more sensitive and vulnerable, less calm about events who don't always wait u ntil the diplomats and the politicians get things fixed up, a factor which can lead to friction between young and old.

The powers-that-be have chosen youth as a special target which can lead to negative actions and consumerism.

But there are advanced thinkers among youth who understand the processes of life, who don't want to be turned into intellectual corpses. That is the appeal and strength of socialism-because life for young people under socialism is th rilling, challenging and attractive. Youth in socialist countries are doing important and big things with their lives.

THE CENTRAL TASK IS TO EXTEND DEMOCRACY

We Communists have the task of putting forward demands which, if won, weaken the foundations of capitalism. By participating in these new struggles, the Communist Party can be revitalised as part of the working-class and its struggles. It is the duty of the Communists to tell the workers that reforms aren't enough; that the dehumanizing effects of capitalist exploitation can only be ended by ending capitalist exploitation.

In an editorial THE ROOTS OF THE CRISIS-AND THE WAY OUT, (WTUM Monthly Review, No 7, 1986) thme World Federation of Trade

Unions says,

"These monopoly groups find one excuse or another to practice their anti-social policies of "economic terrorism" against the workers of both developed capitalist countries and developing countries.

"That is why it becomes the task of the trade unions to explain the real anti-people and anti-social nature of the economic policies pursued by the imperialist ruling circles.

"The big Business monopolies and trans national corporations have revealed themselves in their true colours. The tiny minority of people who have managed to dominate and control the economic life of countries have no 'national interests'. They do not care about the fate of the workers and people of any country or about Their 'patriotism' is national interests. only to themselves and their greed for profits. If millions become unemployed as a result of their policies or if whole countries and industries are ruined, they do These economic crimes, however, not care. must be deemed crimes against humanity.

"What is needed is a real international cooperation based on full equality, and mutual benefit, respecting the rights of all states to economic security and to implement, in good faith, the UN Declaration for a New International Economic Order.

"The central struggle, therefore, is based on the need for economic justice and social justice, upholding the rights of peoples and nations for economic and social development and bring under effective control the oppressive international exploiters." (condensed)



--W.C. Beeching

W.C. Beeching served with the International Brigades in the first war ever against fascism (Spain 1936-39). Interned 1940. Edited Canadian Tribune 1½ years. Sask provincial leader C.P. for 19 years. Prepared a number of brief; for the Central Committee CP. Now chairman of the Committee of Canadian Communists. - E.T.G.