

The Historical and International Foundations of the Socialist Equality Party (Australia)—Part 3

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The World Socialist Web Site has published The Historical and International Foundations of the Socialist Equality Party (Australia). The document was adopted unanimously at the party's founding congress in Sydney on January 21–25. (See: "Socialist Equality Party (Australia) holds founding Congress"). (Click here for Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11)

The Communist Party of Australia

53. In response to the founding of the Third (Communist) International in 1919, workers around the world, including in Australia, began to build communist parties. Three tendencies came together to found the Communist Party of Australia (CPA) on October 30, 1920: the Australian Socialist Party, members of the IWW, and a group of militant trade union officials who had come into leadership positions in NSW during the recent industrial upsurge.

54. The founding of the party represented an important step forward in the struggle for socialist internationalism. But it was only a beginning. The pressures of the national milieu continued to exert themselves, reflected in the syndicalist and organisational conceptions that predominated. In conditions of the upsurge of the working class of 1916–1920, the building of the party was conceived in terms of capturing the leadership of the existing trade unions and the Labor Party, rather than developing socialist consciousness in the working class through a fight against the prevailing forms of national opportunism and politically exposing the ALP and Laborism. *The Manifesto to the Workers of Australia*, issued by the CPA on December 24, 1920 conceived the socialist revolution almost entirely in organisational terms. The capitalist class held power through forms of organisation that suppressed the masses, consequently the working class had to develop more powerful organisations to carry out the socialist revolution. The manifesto declared that the CPA was forming groups of workers in every factory, mill and workshop so that it would be in a position to direct and control every industrial dispute and disturbance of the workers “keeping in mind the same end—social revolution—and trying to utilise every spontaneous action of the workers for that one end.” The CPA was also seeking to replace existing craft unions with “more up-to-date efficient industrial unions” that would be “more advantageous for social revolutionary mass activity.”[21]

55. Notwithstanding the weaknesses of the early CPA, the Labor Party, reflecting the deepest interests of the bourgeoisie, was acutely conscious of the potential threat that it posed. As anti-capitalist and revolutionary sentiments increased among broad sections of the working class, the Labor leaders feared the break-up of their party unless they adopted a “socialist objective”. In June 1921 a national conference of trade union

delegates, convened through the initiative of the federal executive of the Labor Party, resolved that “the socialisation of industry, production, distribution and exchange be the objective of the Labor Party.” A federal ALP conference in October adopted the new objective, but then proceeded to bury it. So far as the Labor leadership was concerned, the purpose of the policy was not to overthrow capitalism but to prevent such an occurrence at all costs. In the words of Victorian delegate and future Labor prime minister James Scullin: “All over the world the capitalist system is breaking down. If something is not done, chaos will eventuate, bringing about that revolution by force which we are trying to avoid”. The conference resolved that the socialist objective should not be the platform on which the party actually fought, but would remain simply an “objective”. The racist 1905 objective would remain the fighting platform.[22]

56. For the first two years of its existence, the CPA was split between two rival factions, both seeking recognition from the Communist International. Following a resolution from the Comintern in 1921, which concluded that there were no differences in “program, principle or tactics” between the two groups and that they should unite, a united Communist Party was established. The CPA received recognition from the Communist International as its Australian section in August 1922.

57. In November 1922, the Fourth Congress of the Communist International addressed two questions of fundamental importance for the orientation of the CPA and its struggle in the Australian working class: the need to unify the workers of the Pacific region and to develop tactics that would expose the Labor Party and break class-conscious workers from it.

58. Addressing the tasks of the proletariat in the Pacific, a congress resolution pointed to growing inter-imperialist rivalries and the danger of a new world war, “this time in the Pacific, unless international revolution forestalls it.” This war, it warned, would be even more destructive than the war of 1914–1918. “In view of the coming danger,” the resolution continued, “the Communist Parties of the imperialist countries—America, Japan, Britain, Australia and Canada—must not merely issue propaganda against the war, but must do everything possible to eliminate the factors that disorganise the workers’ movement in their countries and make it easier for the capitalists to exploit national and racial antagonisms. These factors are the immigration question and the question of cheap coloured labour. Most of the coloured workers brought from China and India to work on the sugar plantations in the southern part of the Pacific are still recruited under the system of indentured labour. This fact has led to workers in the imperialist countries demanding the introduction of laws against immigration and coloured labour, both in America and Australia. These restrictive laws deepen the antagonism between coloured and white

workers, which divides and weakens the unity of the workers' movement. The Communist Parties of America, Canada and Australia must conduct a vigorous campaign against restrictive immigration laws and must explain to the proletarian masses in these countries that such laws, by inflaming racial hatred, will rebound on them in the long run. The capitalists are against restrictive laws in the interests of the free importation of cheap coloured labour and with it the lowering of the wages of white workers. The capitalists' intention to take the offensive can be properly dealt with in only one way—the immigrant workers must join the ranks of the existing trade unions of white workers. Simultaneously, the demand must be raised that the coloured workers' pay should be brought up to the same level as the white workers' pay. Such a move on the part of the Communist Parties will expose the intentions of the capitalists and at the same time graphically demonstrate to the coloured workers that the international proletariat has no racial prejudice." It was necessary, the resolution continued, for the representatives of the revolutionary proletariat to meet and work out the best organisational methods for "securing the real unification of the proletariat of all races in the Pacific." [23]

59. Earlier, in June 1921, as the immediate post-war revolutionary upsurge receded, the Third Congress of the Communist International had advanced the tactic of the "united front". In order to broaden their support and win workers to a revolutionary perspective, the Communist Parties would propose a joint struggle with the social democratic parties in defence of the working class. Lenin and Trotsky explained that the united front tactic was aimed at exposing the role of the social democratic leaders and advancing the struggle of the working class against them. The tactic was further developed at the Fourth Congress, to take account of the peculiar situation in Britain and Australia, where the Labour parties allowed other organisations to affiliate to them. A letter from the Executive Committee of the Communist International (ECCI) set out how, in those cases, the united front tactic could be employed: "The Australian Labour Party is even more outspokenly a trade union party than its British counterpart, with an equally petty-bourgeois, reformist set of leaders. Nevertheless, the masses in their bulk continue to cling to the Labour Party. Does this mean to say that if the working masses are to be won for Communism, we should work within this mass party? The Communist International answers the question in the affirmative. The joining of the Labour Party opens wide perspectives for the development of the Communist Party, and provides a possibility for Communist sympathisers in the Labour Party to find practical application for their revolutionary desires. It further gives the Communist Party the possibility to unmask the opportunist leaders of the Labour Party before the masses of their followers in the best and most direct way, demonstrating to the rank and file of the Labour Party, that such leaders will never fight for the serious demands of the proletariat. On the other hand the masses will at the same time have the opportunity to convince themselves that the Communist Party is not only the forward-driving element of the class struggle, but that it is also the only Party that takes a hand in all the fights of the masses, shares unreservedly all their sufferings and misery. Only in this manner will it be possible to win the confidence of the workers, to isolate the opportunist leaders and to separate them from the masses." At the same time the letter emphasised: "The United Front is not a peace treaty. It is merely a manoeuvre in the proletarian struggle. It is not an end in itself, but a tool for the acceleration of the revolutionising process of the masses." [24]

60. The Fourth Congress was the last at which there could be open discussion of the tasks confronting the Communist International and its sections. In October 1923 the defeat of the German revolution brought to a close the post-war revolutionary upsurge in Europe, and led to the immediate strengthening of conservative and nationalist tendencies, under

the leadership of Joseph Stalin, in the Soviet Union and in the CPSU. This was expressed in an attack launched by Stalin and his supporters on Trotsky and the Theory of Permanent Revolution, an attack that reflected the political outlook of a rising bureaucracy, politically hostile to the internationalism embodied in the October Revolution. Trotsky and his followers formed the Left Opposition to fight for inner-party democracy against the growing bureaucratisation of the CPSU and the state, and to change the policies being implemented under Stalin's direction in the Soviet Union and the Comintern. Discussion within the Comintern became constricted; every issue was increasingly viewed from the standpoint of the struggle against "Trotskyism".

61. For at least a year after the defeat of the German revolution, the Comintern maintained a false perspective on the situation there and internationally, insisting that revolutionary struggles lay ahead. In reality, the failure of the German revolution ushered in a period of relative capitalist stabilisation. But to acknowledge this would have meant thoroughly examining the role of the leadership of both the Comintern and the German Communist Party in 1923, especially during the crucial days of October. Instead, in 1924 the Stalinists launched a furious attack against Trotsky over his publication of *Lessons of October*, which critically reviewed the experiences of both the Russian Revolution and the German debacle.

62. The political degeneration within the Soviet Union was, in the final analysis, a product of the pressures exerted by world imperialism on the young workers' state—above all, its isolation following the defeat in Germany and the failure of other revolutionary struggles in Europe. The impact of the growing Stalinist bureaucratic caste was disastrous for the Comintern and for the young communist parties around the world, including the CPA. They were now working without a correct understanding of the world situation. The struggle to train and educate a Marxist cadre was being stifled before it had barely got underway.

63. In Australia, the ALP responded to the shift in the international situation—the subsiding of the post-war upsurge—with a sharp turn to the right. Implementing the united front initiative, the CPA, under the leadership of Jock Garden, had secured affiliation to the NSW Labor Party at its 1923 state conference. Later that year, the CPA lost the support of a key union, and the right-wing Labor parliamentary leadership seized the opportunity to attack, ousting Communist Party members from the state executive. The ALP state conference of 1924 backed the parliamentary leadership and Communist Party members were purged from ALP branches. The CPA made no gains from the experience. This was because its leadership conceived affiliation, not as part of a campaign to educate the working class about the class nature of the Labor leadership, but as an organisational manoeuvre. The post-war political restabilisation led to a decline in membership, and communications with the Communist International became infrequent. No Australian delegate attended the Fifth Congress of the Communist International in 1924 and in 1925 the party's stocks continued to decline. After it recorded a low vote in the 1925 NSW state election, the editor of the CPA's theoretical journal proposed that the party be liquidated. In December 1926, its most prominent leader, Jock Garden, was expelled after refusing to deny a newspaper report that he was no longer a member. Garden went on to join the Labor Party, where he became the right-hand man of its right-wing leader, Jack Lang. At the end of 1926, six years after it has been founded, there were virtually no founding members still in the CPA.

64. In April 1926, the parlous state of the CPA was the subject of a discussion in the Communist International. A statement on the Australian situation pointed to some of the difficulties the party confronted. The Australian working class, the statement noted, was "almost completely cut

off from the proletariat of other continents” and this isolation helped maintain the grip of the “petty-bourgeois-minded, craft-narrowed elements” who controlled the Labor Party. “The slogan of ‘White Australia’,” it continued, “serves as the rallying cry of all the reactionary elements in the labour movement who are steeped in nationalist ideology, and who seek to isolate themselves in aristocratic arrogance from the coloured workers and in general from foreign proletarians.” The Labor and National parties continually invoked White Australia in election campaigns, competing with each other to establish which party was its best defender. While the CPA formally opposed the racist policy, it was reluctant to make a clear differentiation. It denounced “the importation to Australia of large numbers of coloured workers” while adding the qualification that the threat to wages and employment from cheap labour was “colour blind”. [25]

65. The Sixth Congress of the Comintern took the campaign against “Trotskyism” to a new level, explicitly repudiating the internationalist perspective on which the Third International had been founded nine years before. The Stalinist doctrine of “socialism in one country”, first advanced in 1924, was now adopted as official policy. In February 1928, the ECCI announced the opening of a “Third Period.” The first was the crisis of capitalism between 1917 and 1923, the second was the temporary restabilisation that followed. Now a Third Period had begun, characterised by an ever-deepening crisis of capitalism and a continuous radicalisation of the masses. All the complex problems of tactics and strategy associated with winning the working class from the social democratic and labour parties were simply replaced with the shouting of radical-sounding slogans. The policy was to lead directly to the greatest defeat ever inflicted on the working class—the coming to power of the Nazis in Germany. In Australia, it led to the complete abandonment by the CPA of the struggle to break the working class from the Labor Party, under conditions of the deep-going economic and political crisis unleashed by the Great Depression.

The Great Depression and the CPA’s “Third Period” line

66. The Wall Street crash of October 1929 marked the beginning of the greatest economic crisis in the history of capitalism. Within the space of three years world trade slumped by two-thirds, industrial production by half. Millions were thrown out of work as mass unemployment afflicted every major capitalist country, with the unemployment rate rising to one-third in the US and Germany, the two major industrial economies. The Great Depression was, and remains, the most powerful refutation of all the nostrums of the defenders of the private profit system, who maintain that it is the highest, and, indeed, the only possible form of economic and social organisation. Capitalism was only able to survive this catastrophe, and the horrors to which it gave rise—fascism, social misery and ultimately war—because of the betrayals of the social democratic and Stalinist leaderships of the working class.

67. The onset of the Depression had a rapid political impact in Germany, in the September 1930 election. From just 12 members in the Reichstag, the Nazi party now had more than 100. Opposing the Comintern’s “Third Period” line, which designated the social democrats as “social fascists”, Trotsky called for the development of a united front to meet the Nazi threat. Warning that the Nazis’ aim was to destroy the entire workers’ movement, Trotsky wrote, in his first statement after the election: “Assuming a defensive position means a policy of closing ranks with the

majority of the German working class and forming a united front with the Social Democratic and nonparty workers against the fascist threat. Denying this threat, belittling it, failing to take it seriously is the greatest crime that can be committed today against the proletarian revolution in Germany. What will the Communist Party ‘defend’? The Weimar Constitution? No, we will leave that task to Brandler. The Communist Party must call for the defence of those material and moral positions which the working class has managed to win in the German state. This most directly concerns the fate of the workers’ political organisations, trade unions, newspapers, printing plants, clubs, libraries, etc. Communist workers must say to their Social Democratic counterparts: ‘The policies of our parties are irreconcilably opposed; but if the fascists come tonight to wreck your organisation’s hall, we will come running, arms in hand, to help you. Will you promise us that if our organisation is threatened you will rush to our aid?’ This is the quintessence of our policy in the present period. All agitation must be pitched in this key.” [26]

68. The Stalinists’ Third Period line, which sounded very left wing and radical, was actually a form of extreme passivity, summed up in the slogan of the German Communist Party “After Hitler, our turn.” It abandoned the struggle to expose the treacherous social democratic leaders and replaced the struggle to win the millions of workers still in their ranks with a bureaucratic ultimatum. It split the most powerful workers’ movement in the world, opening the way for the coming to power of the Nazis in January 1933.

69. In Australia, the Third Period line resulted in the CPA’s abstention from any struggle to expose the Labor Party, right at the point where broad layers of workers were beginning to engage in increasingly militant struggles. In 1929, after falling to almost nothing two years before, strike activity reached two-thirds of the level it had attained in 1919, the year of the great post-war upsurge. This movement of the working class was expressed politically in the landslide election of the Scullin Labor government in the October 1929 federal election. The conservative prime minister, Stanley Bruce, lost his seat. The coming to power of the Labor government—the first to hold office since the beginning of World War I—in a situation of deepening global crisis, created new conditions for exposing the Laborites and winning the most militant and class-conscious workers to the CPA. Denouncing the Labor Party, its members and supporters, as “social fascists” signified a total abandonment of such a struggle.

70. The Third Period line was brought into the CPA through an ECCI intervention. An open letter was sent to the central committee of the party, criticising its decision to support the ALP in the election. This decision, the letter claimed, constituted a failure to understand that Australian capitalism was passing through a “third phase”, marked by intensifying class antagonisms. The CPA could only fulfil its role as a revolutionary party if it ruthlessly unmasked “the treacherous social-fascist role of the Labor Party and the trade union bureaucracy. ... Even at its conference of December 1928 the Party could not give a proper political estimate of the Labor Party, define its fundamentally social-fascist character, its aggressive counter-revolutionary role in the present situation. The Party by its tactics during the elections still appears to cling to the idea that the Labor Party of Australia continues to represent the working class when as a matter of fact its past history, when in and out of Government, proves it to be an instrument of the Australian bourgeoisie. ... In regard to the Labor Party of Australia it must be said definitely that it has already gone over to the side of the bourgeoisie and to support it in any way means to support the enemies of the working class. Consequently, the decision of the majority of your CEC to support the Labor Party in the last elections is a glaring example of grave Right deviation deserving the severest condemnation.” [27]

71. The issue confronting the CPA was not a failure to recognise the bourgeois character of the ALP's program or the role of Labor governments in defending the capitalist order, but how to break the working class from it. The federal ALP had not held office for more than 15 years. It commanded the allegiance of the majority of the working class, including some of the most militant layers, who looked to it to carry out socialist policies against the deepening offensive of the bourgeoisie. In NSW these illusions had been buttressed by the Lang state Labor government's introduction of new social services in the mid-1920s.

72. If there were illusions in the CPA about the Labor Party, including the conception that somehow it might be able to be transformed, through new leadership, into a revolutionary party, it was not least because they had been encouraged by the policies of the Comintern following the Fifth Congress in 1924. The incorrect analysis made by that congress—that even following the defeat of the 1923 German revolution, a new revolutionary upsurge lay immediately ahead—led to a further series of false assessments. Finding its analysis of the world situation contradicted actual conditions, the ECCI, Trotsky explained, had to cling to fictitious factors, discovering revolutionary forces and signs where there were none. The Comintern representative for the Communist Party of the USA, John Pepper, who was also responsible for the CPA, promoted the conception that the American Farmer-Labor Party was becoming “ever more radical” and drawing closer to the Communists. In Britain, Trotsky noted, the weakness of the British Communist Party gave rise to the idea of replacing it with a “more imposing factor”, leading to a false estimate of the tendencies of British trade unionism and the idea of the revolution “finding an entrance not through the narrow gateway of the British Communist Party, but through the broad portals of the trade unions.” Though not as pronounced, the ECCI had evinced the same general tendency with regard to Australia. In a resolution issued in October 1927, it insisted that the CPA was “duty bound” to carry out a campaign with the trade unions against the leaders of the Labor Party, and that the “so-called Australian Labor Party cannot become a genuine Labor party unless big sections of workers and first and foremost members of trade unions do their utmost to purge the Labor Party of ministers, ex-ministers and all other officials who while sailing under the colours of the Labor Party have learned to defend more or less skilfully the interests of the Australian bourgeoisie.”[28]

73. Having promoted the conception that somehow the Labor Party could be transformed, if only a new leadership were installed, the Comintern did a radical about-face, demanding strident denunciations of the ALP's “social fascism.” As Trotsky had explained in relation to the struggle against fascism in Germany: “We must understand how to tear away the workers from their leaders in reality. ... This stage cannot be skipped. We must help the Social Democratic workers in action—in this new and revolutionary situation—to test the value of their organisations at this time when it is a matter of life and death for the working class.” Any such approach was now condemned as support for the “social fascists” and the bourgeoisie.[29]

74. Following publication of the ECCI's Open Letter in the *Workers' Weekly* of December 6, 1929, the CPA Congress, held at the end of the month, denounced the outgoing leadership for “treachery and bankruptcy” and installed a new leadership that declared its “unswerving loyalty” to the “new line.” However, the Comintern was still not satisfied and in March 1930 sent Harry M. Wicks (known as Herbert Moore) from the United States to reorganise the Australian party. Over the next year Wicks, who, it was later discovered, was a long time spy and agent for the FBI, took control of the party, rewriting its program and constitution and

re-organising the leadership through a series of purges and denunciations. The changes in Australia were part of an international process. Having suppressed the Left Opposition and expelled Leon Trotsky from the Soviet Union, the Stalinist leadership of the Comintern could not tolerate an independent leadership in any section. As Trotsky put it: “It removes, sweeps away, deforms and tramples underfoot all that is independent, ideologically firm, and inflexible. It needs conformists. And it finds them without much difficulty, groups them together, and arms them.” The grouping brought into the leadership of the CPA in 1929 was to remain intact for the next several decades, following every bureaucratic manoeuvre ordered by the Stalinist regime with declarations of total loyalty to each “new line.”[30]

75. The Stalinisation of the CPA and the adoption of the “social fascist” line took place as Australian capitalism plunged into its deepest ever economic crisis. It isolated the party from the mass movements in the working class and cut it off from the shifts to the left in the ranks of the Labor Party, in particular the movement around the “Socialisation Units” in the NSW ALP and the eruption that followed the sacking of the state premier Jack Lang.

76. The global depression rapidly took hold of the Australian economy. Export revenues fell by a quarter, foreign loans dried up and unemployment, which had reached 12 percent at the end of 1929, rapidly climbed to 30 percent in 1931–32. Just as in World War I, the federal Labor government responded by implementing the dictates of the banks and finance capital. Together with the state governments, it accepted the demands of the Bank of England for the slashing of wages and government spending. The mounting class and political tensions of the period were recorded five years later by a leading parliamentary press gallery journalist: “It has to be remembered that the background to the story of the Scullin government was the worst period of Australia's worst depression. It was a period when the placid day-to-day life of Canberra was made perilous and pregnant by rumours of riots in the great cities. Human impatience was aroused to fever pitch by unemployment, poverty, and suffering. Almost hourly, for months, Canberra dreaded tidings of a major uprising. The Rothbury miners were in revolt, wavering dangerously on the verge of an armed industrial war, until they were stemmed by the ruthless rule of baton law. Ravenous unemployed threatened to march on to Canberra, to wreak a blind vengeance on the legislators whom they blamed for it all. Armed forces paraded in the open and organised in secret. The air hung heavy with menace. Today, so resilient is the human mind, that these things seem as unreal as melodrama. It is well that people should remember that in fact they were cold reality.”[31]

77. The radicalisation of the working class was reflected in the Labor Party. In April 1930, the Lang leadership of the NSW Labor Party, at that time out of office and anxious to maintain its grip on the working class, set up Socialisation Units to “devise ways and means to propagate the first and principal platform of the party—the socialisation of industry”. The Lang leadership regarded the Socialisation Units as harmless propaganda adjuncts to local branches. But in major working class areas they became larger than the party branch to which they were attached, as support grew for the demand of “socialism in our time.” At the height of the movement, Socialisation Units were attached to 178 of the 250 branches around Sydney, and the organisation's newspaper *Socialisation Call* had a circulation of around 40,000.

78. In the NSW state elections of October 1930, Lang was swept into office after he denounced the federal government's spending cuts and the banks' demands. His perspective was to contain the growing

radicalisation of the working class. Attacking calls emanating from the socialisation movement for the taking of political power and the expropriation of industry and the banks, he declared that “the revolution has come—is being fought now, and will continue a little way into the future. It has come without our streets being barricaded, but in the way the Labor Movement has always said it would come, by Act of Parliament.”[32]

79. The greatest assistance to Lang was rendered by the CPA, which denounced members of the Socialisation Units and their leaders as “left social fascists”, as well as members of the Labor Army formed to protect ALP meetings from attacks by the fascist New Guard. Right at the point where the working class was coming into intense conflict with its Labor and trade union leadership, the CPA abandoned any struggle to expose it. “It is correctly realised by our Party,” the *Workers Weekly* had declared in November 1930, “that the slogan ‘Make the officials fight’ in industrial struggles is now obsolete ...” Thousands of workers had become active in the socialisation units but they remained trapped behind the conception that socialism could be realised through the Labor Party. Denounced by the Stalinists and in the absence of an alternative perspective, they had no answer when the Lang machine dismantled the units in 1933.

80. Late in 1931, Lang demanded the federal Scullin Labor government withhold payments of debts to British banks until interest rates were reduced. In May 1932 Lang’s NSW state government was sacked by the Governor of NSW, Sir Philip Game, on the grounds that its withholding of money from the federal government was illegal. Accepting his dismissal, Lang enunciated the loyalty to the capitalist state that has been the essential and enduring characteristic of every Labor politician: “Paramount in my mind before reaching my decision was the fact that I had always stood for law and order, and had always been opposed to violence of any kind. If we defied the Governor, we would be defying the authority of the King, whose representative he was. This might be accepted as an open invitation to the British navy and end in the arrival of British warships off Sydney heads to shell the city. So rather than risk civil war and have bloodshed in the streets of Sydney, I have decided to accept the dismissal.”[33] Lang’s chief concern was not British warships, but the fear of the very revolutionary upsurge by the working class that he had worked so hard to prevent. When more than half a million people rallied in Sydney in response to his sacking, Lang told them to go and vote in the election.

81. The demonstration against Lang’s dismissal was the largest in Australian history. The CPA completely abstained. It declared that whether debt was repudiated or not was of “no concern to the working class” and denounced those workers who opposed Lang’s sacking as “social fascists.” In conditions of a radicalisation of large sections of the working class and the eruption of a deep political crisis, the CPA ensured that the Labor Party leadership remained in control.

To be continued

Footnotes:

21. Communist Party of Australia, ‘Manifesto to the Workers of Australia’, December 24, 1920, viewed February 15, 2010.[back]

22. Ian Turner, *Industrial Labour and Politics*, Australian National University, Canberra, 1965, p. 224.[back]

23. ‘Theses on the Eastern Question’, Fourth Congress of the Communist International, December 5, 1922, *Theses, Resolutions and*

Manifestos of the First Four Congresses of the Third International, Ink Links, London, 1980, pp. 417–418.[back]

24. ‘Letter from the ECCI to the CPA’, *Our Unswerving Loyalty, A documentary survey of relations between the Communist Party of Australia and Moscow, 1920–1940*, David Lowell & Kevin Windle (eds), ANU E Press, Canberra, 2008, pp. 153–158.[back]

25. ‘The Australian Question’, Resolution of the ECCI, *Our Unswerving Loyalty*, op. cit., pp. 217–220.[back]

26. Leon Trotsky, ‘The Turn in the Communist International’, *The Struggle Against Fascism in Germany*, Penguin, Hammondsworth, 1971, p. 29.[back]

27. ‘Open Letter to the CEC of the Communist Party of Australia, October 13, 1929’, *Our Unswerving Loyalty*, op. cit., p. 285.[back]

28. ‘Resolution on the tasks of the Communist Party of Australia’, *Our Unswerving Loyalty*, op. cit., p. 23.[back]

29. Leon Trotsky, ‘For a Workers’ United Front Against Fascism’, *The Struggle Against Fascism in Germany*, op. cit., p. 105.[back]

30. Leon Trotsky, ‘Who is Leading the Comintern Today?’ *The Challenge of the Left Opposition, 1928–29*, Pathfinder, New York, 1981, p. 202.[back]

31. Warren Denning, *Caucus Crisis: The rise and fall of the Scullin government*, Hale and Ironmonger, Sydney, 1982, p. 24.[back]

32. ‘Mr. Lang: Revolution has come’, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 5 October, 1931.[back]

33. Gerald Stone, *1932*, Pan Macmillan, Melbourne, 2005, p. 293.[back]



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