

ing cadres of such workers, especially for rural areas.

The prime movers of this fascinating project were Golda Meir, the then Israeli Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mina Ben Zvi, at that time an active member of ICSDW's executive and now the Director of the Centre, and Inga Thorsson also a former member of ICSDW's executive and member of the Swedish Government.

Mary Saran has been associated with the Centre ever since its foundation in 1961 and is thus in a fortunate position to assess both its work and its development.

The organisation of the book affords a multi-faceted view of this remarkable institution, its staff and participants. It opens with a brief discussion

of its background and philosophical content and then, the bulk of the book, deals with the subject matter presented to participants in the course of the various activities. This ranges from such basic issues as the family to more complex ones, such as home industries and co-operative marketing, to name but two. Here, too, Mary Saran provides the frame of reference for the Centre's work in her comprehensive definition of the term community development. A series of appendices gives supplementary information as to the personalities involved in the Centre's work, the provenance of the participants (chiefly the African countries) and a list of all the activities undertaken and in which languages. These are further illustrated with speci-

men curricula and extracts from students' letters and essays.

Mary Saran covers a lot of ground in this book and is yet very concise. The material in the appendices, for instance, is allowed to speak for itself; its presentation in this form, rather than in the body of the text, means that much verbiage has been avoided. She has scrupulously refrained from imposing a personal imprint of her work, even minimising her personal connection with the Centre in order not to sacrifice objectivity. Nevertheless, her imprint is perceptible by implication. The very simplicity of her account underlines her evident belief in a common cause.

SOCIALIST DIARY

Bureau Meeting in Australia starts New Phase in Relations between European Member Parties and Parties in the Asia-Pacific Region/Inflation Working Group Established/Solidarity with Chile and Spain.

NEW INITIATIVES IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION

The Bureau of the Socialist International at its first meeting ever held in the Asia-Pacific Region took important decisions concerning the future activities of the Socialist International in the Asia-Pacific Region as well as the struggle of the labour movement against inflation. At its meeting in Adelaide, South Australia, 12-13 May, the Bureau also gave new incentives to the Socialist International's activities in Latin America and Spain.

During the Bureau meeting, which was attended by representatives from 12 countries, talks were held with the leaders of the Australian Labor Party and the Australian Trade Union Movement including the Prime Minister, Gough Whitlam, the Deputy Prime Minister, Jim Cairns, the Premier of South Australia, Don Dunstan, the President of the Australian Labor Party, Robert J. Hawke, who is also President of the Australian Confed-

eration of Trade Unions, David Combe, National Secretary of the Australian Labor Party, as well as with the State Secretaries of the South Australian, Queensland, Victorian and New South Wales branches of the Australian Labor Party.

The participants at the meeting, led by the Vice-Chairman of the Socialist International, Sicco Mansholt, paid visits to Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra where Prime Minister Gough Whitlam gave a reception in their honour at his residence, The Lodge. Participants were also received by the Lord Mayor of Adelaide.

Inflation Working Group

The Bureau decided, after hearing reports from Sicco Mansholt and Wilhelm Droscher, Chairman of the Confederation of Socialist Parties in the European Communities, to establish a Working Group on Inflation

composed of politicians, trade union leaders and experts which will produce recommendations to the member parties of the Socialist International, and the governments controlled by them, as to how to beat inflation.

Asia-Pacific Representative

The Bureau decided to appoint a permanent representative for the Asia-Pacific Region to be based in Canberra who will also represent the Socialist International on the Executive of the Asia-Pacific Socialist Organisation which consists of the Australian and New Zealand Labour Parties, the Indian Socialist Party, the Israel Labour Party, the United Socialist Party of South Korea, the Japan Socialist Party, the Japan Democratic Socialist Party, the Democratic Action Party of Malaysia and the People's Action Party of Singapore.

Report on Chile

The Bureau had before it a report (see p. 34) by Sicco Mansholt on his visit to Chile last March in which he concludes that there is an increasing concern among the military about the junta's policies—the economic policy as well as the policy of oppression. The report points out that the economic situation in Chile is catastrophic with the rate of inflation running at more

than 700 per cent. The report says that during the last nine months the purchasing power of the lowest income group (almost 35 per cent of the working population) had decreased by approximately 60 per cent. Poverty and hunger are widespread as a result.

On the proposal of Sicco Mansholt the Bureau decided to provide regular and guaranteed support to the Radical Party of Chile, a member party of the Socialist International, as well as to urge governments not to give any economic or financial support to the Chilean government. The question of international boycotts was also discussed.

The meeting gave a standing ovation to Anselmo Sule, President of the Radical Party of Chile, who was released from Chilean concentration camps only a few weeks ago. His appearance in Australia was widely reported in the press, on radio and television which led the Chilean junta to announce that they would deprive Sule of his Chilean citizenship.

Report on Spain

The Bureau also heard a detailed report on the situation inside Spain from a representative of the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE).

The following statement was adopted in support of the Radical Party of Chile and the PSOE:

'The Bureau of the Socialist International, at its meeting in Adelaide, South Australia, certifies its support to the Radical Party of Chile and the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party in their struggle for the liberation of their respective peoples.

'The Socialist International states its strongest condemnation of the régimes of Chile and Spain and for the repression that is carried out against the members of these parties by the military Junta of Chile and the Franco régime in Spain'.

Chile Committee

The Socialist International's Standing Committee on Chile met prior to the Bureau meeting and was chaired by Alex Kitson, member of the National Executive Committee of the British Labour Party.

Silver Plate of Honour

The Bureau at its meeting in Adelaide decided to award the Socialist International's Silver Plate of Honour to David Lewis, Leader of the New Democratic Party of Canada.

SOARES TRIUMPH

The Chairman and General Secretary of the Socialist International congratulated Mario Soares, General Secretary of the Portuguese Socialist Party, on his Party's great victory in the elections on 25 April for a Constituent Assembly. With the turnout for the elections at 91 per cent the Socialist Party emerged as the strongest political force with 37.82 per cent of the votes and trailed by the Popular Democrats with 26.41 per cent and the Communists with 12.54 per cent of the votes.

EAST EUROPEAN STUDY GROUP

The East European Study Group of the Socialist International meeting in London on 27 April discussed various aspects of the activities of opposition groups in the Soviet Union and in particular the position and influence of personalities like Andre Sakharov and Zhores Medvedev.

The subject had been introduced by Bruno Kalnins, Chairman of the Latvian Social Democratic Party in exile, and Co-Chairman of the Study Group.

The meeting also heard reports on recent developments in Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary. Participants included Bernt Carlsson, International Secretary of the Swedish Social Democratic Party, Giampiero Rolandi, London representative of the Italian Social Democratic Party, Andor Bölcsöldi, General Secretary of the Hungarian Social Democratic Party in exile, Stanislaw Wasik, International Secretary of the Polish Socialist Party in exile, Vilem Bernard, International Secretary of the Czechoslovak Social Democratic Party in exile, Marcel Livian of the French Socialist Party and Hans Janitschek, General Secretary of the Socialist International.

EAMON PARK

The Socialist International learned with deep regret of the death on

29 April of Eamon Park, Labour Counsellor at the Canadian High Commission in London. Eamon Park, born on 26 November, 1916, in County Cork, Eire, moved to Canada early in life and became active in 1940 in the trade union movement. He rose from an organiser and negotiator in the trade union movement to become Assistant National Director of the United Steel Workers of America. He was also a member of the Executive of the Canadian Labour Congress and on retirement from this came to London in August 1972 as Labour Counsellor at the Canadian High Commission. Eamon Park had been a President of the New Democratic Party of Canada and a member of the Ontario Legislature from 1948 to 1951. He is survived by his wife, former London representative of the NDP and member of the Bureau of the Socialist International, and his son and daughter.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The Czechoslovak Social Democratic Party in exile issued the following statement on 8 June on the 30th anniversary of the liberation of Czechoslovakia:

'On the 9th May 1945 the first Soviet units reached Prague—Czechoslovakia was free again. After the war, major social and economic changes took place in Czechoslovakia: the Communist Party secured the leading position, exploiting fully the growing Soviet influence. Major industries, banks, insurance companies, transport and the power industry were nationalised. Social security, which already before the war was among the most advanced in Europe, was further improved as were the conditions of working women and young people. The social structure of the country rapidly changed through these reforms and the country became the most socially homogeneous among those in Eastern Europe.

'This social experiment was interrupted in February 1948 when the Communist Party seized all power in the State by an armed coup. The Sovietisation of the Czechoslovak economy and political life was accompanied by a deterioration in the status of the workers and by the transformation of the trade unions into the bureaucratic instrument of the State.