

# Labour to hold line till crash in Australia

by John Koehler

In Australia there is a drink known as "Claytons." It is advertised as a drink you have when you aren't having a drink, and the drinking and driving laws have made it quite popular here. We have just had a "Claytons" election.

In national elections for 148 members of the House of Representatives and one-half of the Senate held March 27, the socialist party of Prime Minister R.J.L. Hawke, himself a member of the Fabian Society, has been returned, albeit with a reduced majority of only eight or nine.

As of the beginning of April, counting still continues in a number of electorates owing to the complicated preferential voting system. It is the fourth successive Labour Party government.

The so-called "opposition" party to Hawke's, the Royal Institute of International Affairs-controlled Liberal Party, should have won easily. However, its controllers contrived to have it shoot itself in the foot on just about every occasion. This, coupled with what appears to be selective use of vote fraud, resulted in the socialist win.

Janine Haines, the leader of the Democrats, a socialist-inspired minor party, failed in her attempt to transfer from the Senate to the lower house, as did Senator Stone, a National Party member and former governor of the Reserve Bank and former employee of the International Monetary Fund.

## Sydney independent

The only bright spot in the whole charade was the election of Mr. Ted Mack from North Sydney. Mack, an independent, won his seat easily owing to his reputation of absolute integrity as former mayor of North Sydney. As mayor he introduced Citizen Initiated Referenda to allow the rate payers to have direct involvement in the running of the council.

One of the first things he did in office was to sell off the limousines, which the previous council had purchased at no small expense, suggesting to the aldermen that they consider catching a bus or even walking to work.

The Labour Party victory is incommensurate with the "achievements" of the Robert Hawke government:

- Since 1983, Australia's total debt has risen from \$24.2 billion to \$117 billion in 1988. That's \$9,445 for every man, woman, and child in Australia. Australia is the world's big-

gest debtor nation, after the United States.

- Usury is widespread—rates on short-term loans are well above 20%.

- The national dōle is over \$1 billion a month!

There are signs that the voting was not totally fair and square. In the election, we saw once again the strange phenomenon of safe government-held seats almost being lost while marginal seats were easily retained—traditionally one of the telltale marks of vote fraud. The 1987 election of the socialists is believed to have been possible only with the aid of about 600,000 false votes. One member in the State of Queensland had even managed to get over 400 dead persons to vote for him—a remarkable expression of support for a government which has destroyed the economy.

For those who look behind the scenes there appeared to be genuine confusion as to who was supposed to win. After mercilessly attacking and refusing to give coverage to genuine alternative candidates who had entered the race, the media did not take sides with regards to the two major parties. The confusion might have been caused by the delay in the expected financial crash—the election of a "conservative" austerity government is premature.

## Hawke's budding police state

The socialists have just about completed their job of turning the nation into a police state in readiness for the International Monetary Fund demands to abandon national sovereignty altogether. The government has even "legalized" private security officers as "protective service officers" with more power than the police. The socialists have ordered huge quantities of tear gas and the latest bullet-proof vests, for these paramilitary goons. On a more sinister note, 3,000 silencers to fit 9-millimeter pistols have also been ordered for this force—a procurement made via the federal police to hide it from any casual inquiry. This dangerous new move might not have been discovered at all except that it was an urgent order, and could not be supplied by the usual suppliers in the given time. Thus, the orders to manufacture the silencers were given out to a number of small gunsmiths.

In connection with this revelation, the question being asked of Mr. Hawke's government by increasing numbers of Australian citizens is, what legitimate law enforcement function, do pistol silencers fulfill? Citizens are asking whether, given the use of "silencers" traditionally as a tool of assassins, this is to be indicative of the prime minister's new "open government."

There is widespread belief in Australia that following the upcoming financial collapse, there will be new elections here. With respect to financial policy, the winning party has no new initiatives with which to proceed. Even the Labour Party seems to be already preparing for the eventuality. There has not been much jockeying for the top government positions, and some senior Hawke party members are even standing down.