

Yew Teng must still be the member of parliament for Menglembu, since the Malaysian Parliament had taken no decision concerning his membership of the parliament, and since Fan Yew Teng had appealed against his conviction, and was still waiting for the appeal to be heard by the Federal Court. Speaking at a press conference on 22 February, Fan Yew Teng said that this attempt to deprive him of his parliamentary seat was an assault upon the due process of law and appeal.

A first attempt by Fan Yew Teng to obtain a court injunction to prevent the holding of the by-election was not successful, but a second action, in which he asked the High Court to declare that his conviction did not automatically render his parliamentary seat vacant was upheld by the High Court two days before the election was due to take place; in consequence, the by-election did not take place and Fan Yew Teng has retained his seat in parliament.

Charles Kraal

Charles Kraal is the new London representative of the Democratic Action Party of Malaysia, succeeding C. M. Ting who has returned to Malaysia to continue his studies. Miss Kim Ho has been appointed deputy representative of the DAP in London.

Jenny Little

Jenny Little, 27, was confirmed on 22 January as International Secretary of the British Labour Party. She has been Acting Secretary since March 1974 and before that was a Research Assistant in the Party's International Department. Jenny Little worked for the Research Department of the Foreign Office from 1970 to 1972, specialising in South-East Asia and Eastern Europe. Educated at Sussex University, she speaks French, German and Russian fluently and has an understanding of Spanish and Czech.

Dutch Aid to Portugal

The Dutch Labour Party set a new record in the field of socialist solidarity by collecting 12 million guilders (£180,000) during a massive 24-hour collection in the streets of Dutch cities on 25 January. The campaign was highlighted by the visit to the Netherlands of Mario Soares, General Secretary of the Portuguese Socialist

Party as well as by a football match between the two clubs of Benfica (Portugal) and Feyenoord (Netherlands). Altogether 10,000 party functionaries took part in the campaign whose slogan was 'Keep Portugal Free'. All funds collected are to be used in support of democratic socialism in Portugal. The campaign was actively supported by the Dutch trade union movement as well as by the radio and television networks of the democratic left. The committee organising the campaign was headed by Joop den Uyl, leader of the Dutch Labour Party and Prime Minister.

Georges Spenale

The French Socialist, Georges Spenale, was elected as President of the European Parliament on 11 March. M. Spenale, who is 61, succeeds the Dutch Liberal Dr. Cornelius Berkhouter. M. Spenale, who has been a member of the European Parliament for more than ten years, is elected for a one-year term, which is traditionally extended for another year.

Mansholt's Visit to Chile

Sicco Mansholt, Vice-Chairman of the Socialist International and former President of the Commission of the European Community, returned from a ten-day visit to Chile on 21 March which he undertook at the request of the Bureau of the Socialist International. Before leaving Chile Mansholt sent the following statement to the military junta, which summed up his impressions of present-day Chile:

'I must to my great regret, after a visit of about two weeks, during which I have spoken with a great many people, confirm that the Socialist International has every reason to be concerned. I must tell you clearly that I am deeply shocked with what I have heard and seen.

'Shocked, because in this country, known in the world for her long history of freedom and democracy, there is freedom no more—no freedom of speech, no freedom of the press and other media and there is no justice. There are men and women in concentration camps and jail without any charges having been brought against them.

'Many people who have been tried and judged and who should be free because they have not been proven

guilty are rearrested and thrown back into concentration camps or jail without a reason being given.

'Prisoners have been and are being tortured most cruelly and I have seen the victims. Basic human rights are not respected in your country and for this you must bear full responsibility.

'I hope you will understand that I shall leave this country with a feeling of horror and with a deep feeling of unity with all those who are suffering from your régime.

'I should like to make clear that the Socialist International will do everything it can to help the Chilean people to regain their freedom, justice and democracy. The Socialist International will not hesitate to ask governments, especially those where social democrats are in power, not to give any support neither economic nor of any other kind, to your country'.

Bureau Meeting

A regular Bureau meeting of the Socialist International was held in London on 22 March and presided over by the Chairman of the International, Bruno Pittermann. Representatives from member parties in the following countries attended: Austria, Chile, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy (both the Socialist and Social Democratic Parties), Israel and Malta. The International Council of Social Democratic Women was also represented and a representative of the Irish Labour Party attended as a guest.

Next Bureau Meeting

The Bureau discussed the arrangements for the next meeting of the Bureau which is to be held in Adelaide, South Australia, on 12-13 May. Gough Whitlam, Prime Minister and Leader of the Australian Labor Party, will be attending the Bureau meeting.

Next Congress: Joint Conference with ICSDW

The Bureau agreed that the next Congress of the International, which is to be held in Geneva, should take place on 19-21 January 1976. The Congress will be preceded on 18 January by a joint conference of the Socialist International and the International Council of Social Democratic Women on the subject 'Socialists on Sexes'. The Council Conference of the Socialist