

# A response to Stan Reid's article on inflation

The LABOUR and ECONOMIC RESEARCH COMMITTEE (LERC), respond briefly to Stan Reid's article in Labour Bulletin 14.3. In it he critiques a previous article on inflation by Stephen Gelb, written when he was a member of LERC.

While it would be appropriate to reply to what Stan Reid wrote, we suggest that the previous LERC member who was the author of the original article, respond on the content of Reid's article.

However the following points must be noted:

- Firstly, we must put on record that the work done at LERC has been useful to the labour movement. In a nutshell, we are the last organisation to seek collusion with the bosses as insinuated by Reid. LERC does not hold the absolute truth about the issues that face the country and yet that does not preclude the organisation from taking part in discussions that confront the labour movement. Reid writes as if unions are easily swayed by the information they get from the service organisations and are not accountable to their own constituency.
- Secondly, it is interesting to note who the "we" is that Reid refers to when he writes: "The development of our unions ... We will lose our strength and independence if we follow LERC's suggestion to par-

ticipate with business..." With due respect, LERC has never heard of Reid, can he please introduce himself and his union.

Lastly, perhaps what comes out of Reid's article is the responsibility and accountability that service organisations have towards the labour movement. Indeed this issue is now being seriously addressed by the various service organisations including LERC. ☆