

## OBITUARY

Prof. Dr Georg Eckert has been a member of the Board of the International Institute of Social History since 1967, and his unexpected death on January 7 means a great loss to the Institute.

As the International Institute of Social History possesses much valuable material of German origin, it would seem obvious that some prominent German scholar should become a member of the Board. Because Professor Eckert had many contacts in various countries, knew many scientific institutions extremely well and, above all, had, through his research as a scholar, already been in contact with the Institute since 1953, it seemed especially fitting that he should hold this position.

Professor Eckert had a thorough knowledge of the history of the German labour movement in the second half of the nineteenth century. The publication of Wilhelm Liebknecht's correspondence, as found in various collections, such as the W. Liebknecht archives, the Marx-Engels and Kautsky archives, all of which are deposited at the Institute, was to be his *magnum opus*. In the course of his research he came across important materials scattered through Germany. Unfortunately Eckert's death has left the work incomplete: two volumes have been published (Wilhelm Liebknecht, *Briefwechsel mit Karl Marx und Friedrich Engels*, The Hague 1963; Wilhelm Liebknecht, *Briefwechsel mit deutschen Sozialdemokraten*, Vol. I, 1862-1878, Assen 1973).

The International Institute of Social History will do its utmost to see that a second volume of the correspondence with German Social Democrats, based on the notes Professor Eckert had already prepared, will in any case be published. The Institute looks upon this undertaking as a task of honour towards a devoted board-member and a publicist of high scholarly standards.

The International Institute of Social History  
Director: Prof. Dr Fr. de Jong Edz.