

WORKERS' Power

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS APRIL 24, 1978 #251 25c

MAKING MONEY OFF TRAGEDY



Election Time in the United Auto Workers

Local union election campaigns are underway in many United Auto Workers (UAW) locals.

In years past, most of these elections meant little more than a choice among the "in" bureaucrats and the "out" bureaucrats—between tweedledee and tweedledum.

This year, in a significant number of locals, there's a different kind of choice. Slates which represent a more militant philosophy of unionism are emerging.

What does this mean, and why is it happening? Page 6.

Revolutionary Music from Africa

Nigeria is the most industrialized country in Africa, next to South Africa. It is a country of oil and industrial wealth—and of over 100 million people, most of whom live in poverty under military dictatorship.

A revolutionary Nigerian musician, Fela Anikulapo-kuti, has created a music of protest and rebellion for Nigerian workers and soldiers. His music has been banned from public performances by the Nigerian military dictatorship. Page 11.



It's now two years since the Scotia mine in Kentucky blew up. Twenty-six persons died. For their families, the tragedy lives on.

It lives on as well for Blue Diamond Coal—the owner of Scotia. It's taken Blue Diamond most of these years to get the mine back in production. The disaster destroyed valuable machinery along with those 26 lives.

Blue Diamond figures someone ought to pay for their losses, and for the expense of reopening the mine. The company is presenting its bill in the amount of \$9,327,160...to you, the taxpayers.

Story, page 3.

Inflation: Will The Cure Kill The Patient?

by Marilyn Danton

"Inflation," says Jimmy Carter, "has now become imbedded in the very tissue of our economy."

"It persists because all of us—business, labor, farmers, consumers, are caught on a treadmill which none can stop alone."

Treasury Secretary Blumenthal says the falling dollar, the coal miners' contract and rising food prices cause what he calls "inflation-rate psychology... it's anticipation, it's people trying to get in there ahead of the others."

William Simon, Richard Nixon's former Treasury Secretary, blames inflation on the "horrendous budget deficit, irresponsible fiscal and monetary policies."

Simon's solution: "I'd do it by cutting spending across the board," he told U.S. News and World Report.

COMMON THEME

Carter's "treadmill," Blumenthal's "psychology" and Simon's "government spending" statements are part of a common theme.

American business has decided that the rate of inflation is again the United States' most serious economic problem—more serious than unemployment, more important than sluggish economic growth.

The Carter "Put America Back to Work" Administration has become the "Cut Inflation Down to 6%" Administration.

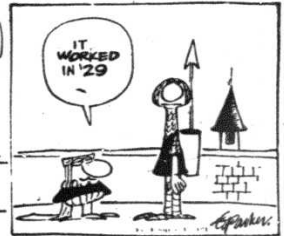
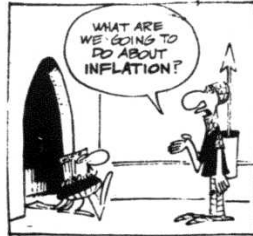
The problem is figuring out a way to do this, without making the medicine more fatal than the disease.

WHICH MEDICINE

It's easy enough to slow down inflation to the now-accepted base rate of 6%, if you don't mind the consequences.

For example, the new Federal Reserve Board Chairman, William Miller, has threatened to raise the interest rate at which banks and businesses can borrow money.

Raising the interest rate slows down borrowing and investment, reduces the demand for new products and thus slows down the rate of price increases.



Unfortunately, it's also liable to lead straight to an economic depression in 1979. Any slowing of investment, especially now, could wipe out the feeble economic recovery of the past couple years.

The right-wing Republican William Simon's program would have a similar effect.

When Simon suggests "cutting spending across the board," he doesn't actually mean it. He is for maintaining and expanding the most inflationary part of government spending, the military budget.

Simon is for slashing spending on social programs, human welfare and job creation. The Nixon Administration used spending cuts, along with wage controls and "tight money" policies by the Federal Reserve, to cut inflation from the double-digit rates of the early 1970's.

The Nixon-Ford Administration also presided over the economic depression of 1974-75.

This is exactly what Jimmy Carter wants to avoid. So, when he delivered his long-awaited anti-inflation speech April 11, he had no innovative proposals or major new ideas to offer.

VOLUNTARY RESTRAINT

Carter's message centered on what he calls, "voluntary wage and price restraint," to keep increases

"significantly below the average rate for the last two years."

To begin with, the \$200,000-a-year President promised to clamp a 5.5% wage increase limit on federal employees, most of whom are not well-paid bureaucrats but office workers who live on working class incomes.

Administration spokesmen are also putting out position papers calling the coal miners' settlement "disastrously inflationary"—statements they never would have dared make while the miners were on strike.

These statements are a signal that the Administration will give its backing to private industries that take a hard line in future contract bargaining, especially in resisting union demands for cost of living demands and other so-called "costly" improvements.

On the surface Carter's address was greeted with mild approval by business. But the fact is, there is a lot of queasiness among businessmen and economists about whether it will work.

Cutting inflation by slashing economic growth would mean a severe recession, very soon. But the current inflation rate, which is actually not remaining stable, but rising, will wipe out profits from new investment and eventually lead to the next recession—maybe a little later.

Inflation arises as a result of the

lack of enough profits from capitalism—and left to no other choice, businessmen raise prices to get the profits they need to justify staying in business.

A FACT OF LIFE

This is what Blumenthal calls "people trying to get in there ahead of others...inflation-rate psychology."

But this is always the dynamic in an inflationary period. If you know prices are going up, you raise your own first to avoid getting burned.

What Blumenthal and Carter cite as causes—food prices and the cost of energy—are more symptoms than basic causes.

Inflation is a fact of life in today's unhealthy economy.

Carter has one option which would have some effect—wage controls. By cutting workers' standard of living—which is what wage controls do—Carter could hope to temporarily restore the profit levels the system so badly needs.

Carter is reluctant to take this step because he knows it would arouse a storm of protest from workers who lived through Nixon's wage controls.

The recent spurt of inflation signifies the beginning of the end of the recovery that began in 1975. Sooner or later—no matter what Carter and his business cohorts try to do—there will be a recession. □



West Virginians demonstrate against double digit inflation in 1974.

GUESS WHO WAS DEMONSTRATING IN WASHINGTON, D.C. THIS WEEK...

Two hundred from New York and hundreds more from Baltimore, Newark, Philadelphia and Richmond went to the nation's capital to

demonstrate for their rights. They were met in Washington by hundreds more.

Who are these people? Why did

they come to Washington? What do they want?

These people, believe it or not, are none other than FBI agents.

They were protesting the indictment of one-time acting Director L. Patrick Gray and two aides.

FBI THREE

The "FBI Three" as they are now being called, were indicted over a week ago on felony charges of conspiring to violate the civil rights of American citizens in the early seventies.

The demonstration took place in front of the U.S. District Court House where the three were arraigned.

The agents were demonstrating to show support of their leaders, and to let Attorney General Griffin Bell know that they are not happy with his "muddling in the Bureau."

When this reporter contacted the local office here in Detroit, Special Agent in charge of the Michigan FBI, O. Franklin Lowie said "no comment."

FBI agents normally spend their time investigating, wiretapping and harassing groups and people who are demonstrating for their rights.

In particular, they like to use demonstrations to photograph what they call "trouble makers and radicals."

Workers' Power does not advocate photographing these hatchet men for future identification purposes, since this might well be a violation of federal law.

—Lynn Jameson □



"Yes, I would say we have a definite morale problem—I just saw my picture in the post office."

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Who Pays For A Mine Disaster?

by Jim Woodward

BLUE DIAMOND Coal Co. must have an imaginative lawyer. The company wants you to pay for property damages sustained when one of its mines blew up last year, killing 11 men.

Only a coal company would have the nerve to try something like this, but Blue Diamond is a very special coal company. Its Justus Mine in Stearns, Kentucky is the scene of a 21-month long strike for union representation. The main unresolved issue: safety.

Safety was a problem at the company's Scotia Mine in Letcher County, Kentucky as well. Like the

Justus Mine, Scotia is non-union. It is also known as a very "gassy" mine, with a lot of explosive methane gas.

On March 9, 1976, the Scotia Mine blew up, killing 15 coal miners. Two days later, while rescue operations were under way, the mine exploded again. This time 11 rescue workers were killed—eight miners and three federal inspectors.

72 VIOLATIONS

During the investigation that followed, inspectors cited Blue Diamond for 72 violations of the federal mine safety law. The

company has not yet paid any fines. If the maximum penalty was assessed on each violation—and upheld during appeal—Blue Diamond would pay the government \$710,000.

That's chicken feed compared to what the company says is owed them.

Early last month, Blue Diamond filed a claim charging that the government was responsible for the second explosion at Scotia, and therefore owes the company \$9,327,160.

The legal basis for this claim is that the government took control of the mine to direct rescue operations after the first explosion, and allowed the second to occur.

It's as if the dangerous conditions resulting from the 72 safety violations and the unstable atmosphere resulting from the first explosion never existed.

You wonder. What kind of people does it take to blow up 26 men—and then claim that the taxpayers are responsible for the financial losses suffered due to damaged equipment, lost production, and restoration costs? □



A Miner's family, after learning of the Scotia disaster.

Three More Miners Dead

Three more coal miners are dead, victims of a roof fall in a Grundy, Virginia mine. The accident brings to eight the number of persons killed in the mines in the first 18 days following the end of the nationwide coal strike.

Dead are one foreman and two miners. They worked at Island

Creek Coal Company's Beatrice mine in southwestern Virginia. Island Creek is the country's fourth largest coal company and is owned by Occidental Petroleum.

It was only nine days earlier that five persons were killed in a Pittston Company mine in nearby Dickenson County, Virginia. □

West Virginians Demand Flood Protection

"Byrd Fiddles While We Flood"

ONE YEAR AGO heavy rains hit southern West Virginia and eastern Kentucky. Floods ravaged the area, making thousands homeless.

From the beginning, one issue was especially controversial—had strip mining caused, or at least intensified, the flood?

Many of the residents who had watched the coal companies take off the tops of their mountains said

yes. But some business interests, in opposing this point of view, did not particularly act like gentlemen.

The strip mining issue is still controversial, and is causing strained relations within a coalition formed to fight for federal flood protection.

Strip-mining tends to intensify flooding in two ways. First, it allows mud and silt to fill up the

streams so that the streams become shallower and able to carry less water.

MUD AND SILT

According to the Appalachian Coalition of Jenkins, Kentucky, "strip-mined land produces sediment at a rate of 30,000 to 48,000 tons per square mile per year; forests produce only 24 tons of sediment per square mile per year."

Stripping's second effect is to dramatically increase the rate of runoff. Normally, with trees and vegetation in place, a hillside will hold quite a bit of water before it starts flowing into the streams. Removing the vegetation, according to the Appalachian Coalition, "can cause a three- to five-fold increase in runoff peaks, thus a dramatic increase in flood crest levels."

When the editor of a small daily newspaper in Corbin, Kentucky had the courage to say these things in an editorial last year, he was hit with the opposition of the entire business community. Banks took ads denouncing him and the coal operators forced his resignation from the city recreation commission.

SWIMMING POOL

The floods have come and gone, but many residents are afraid they will come again. So 800 people from the Williamson, W. Va. area went to Washington April 11 to demand construction of a dam and

other flood protection.

As they marched to the Capitol, one sign read: "Mingo County—The World's Biggest Swimming Pool." Another, referring to the Senator from West Virginia who is an accomplished violinist, said: "Byrd Fiddles While We Flood."

A meeting with an assortment of Senators, Congressmen, Presidential representatives and the Army Corps of Engineers, produced enough hot air to put some of the demonstrators to sleep.

The fireworks came later, over the issue of strip mining. A delegation organized by the Tug Valley Recovery Center (TVRC) felt it could not ignore the question. They carried anti-strip mining signs. And, after three hours of speeches, a TVRC member raised the issue of strip-mining, which had not been mentioned until then.

FURIOUS

Frank De Martino was furious. DeMartino is director of the Tug Valley Chamber of Commerce, which had chartered a train to take most of the group to Washington.

"I was very displeased with the injection of strip or surface mining comments by those people who did not travel with our group," he said. "The cause of this flood was rain and it was just as simple as that."

"I don't want any of my comments in the same news story with comments from the Tug Valley Recovery Center," DeMartino told a reporter.

The Chamber of Commerce

argued against raising the strip mining issue because of the need for unity. But ignoring the role of strip mining in the floods is just burying your head in the sand and hoping the issue will go away.

Business leaders who profit from strip mining and who live high up on the hills perhaps can afford this attitude. Not many other people can. □

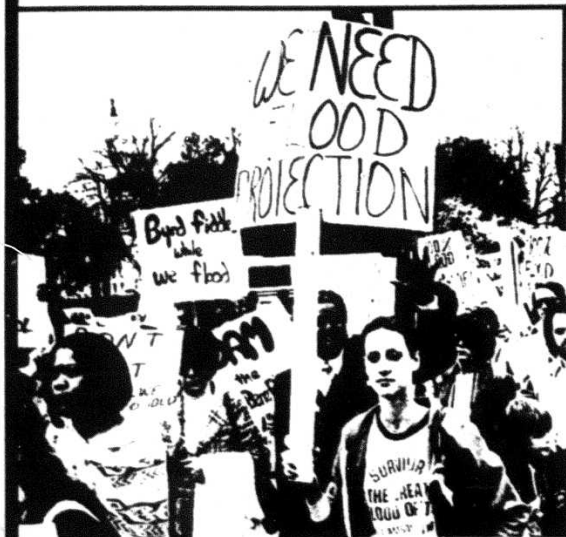
UMW Convention Set

The executive board of the United Mine Workers union has decided to hold a special convention sometime within the next 18 months. Neither a time nor a place was set.

Normally, the next convention would not be held until 1980. But several issues are forcing an earlier meeting.

The leadership needs a special convention because of the bad financial position facing the union. UMW President Arnold Miller plans to ask for a dues increase.

Throughout the coal fields, many union members also want a special convention as a step towards forcing Miller's removal from office. They are incensed at Miller's role in the recent coal strike, and hope that they could adopt constitutional amendments making his recall easier. □



West Virginia residents march in Washington for flood protection.

ITALY: RED BRIGADES' TERROR BREEDS REACTION

by Dan Posen

THE KILLING OF Italian former Prime Minister Aldo Moro, announced Tuesday by the so-called "Red Brigades," may mark the beginning of a major escalation of the Italian crisis.

Every major Italian revolutionary organization has denounced the kidnapping of Aldo Moro as a tragic setback to building a revolutionary workers' movement in Italy.

Moro, who is not a fascist, but a relatively popular politician, will become a martyr. If Moro has indeed been executed, large-scale roundups of revolutionary socialist militants might be ordered, under the pretext of hunting down Red Brigades members and sympathizers.

Right-wing terrorist attacks on left-wing offices and members can also be expected. Such attacks have occurred by the dozens in Italy with little international publicity.

The Red Brigades do not represent the ideas or goals of the working class Italian revolutionary left. They probably have less than a thousand members, while the Italian far left as a whole numbers in the tens of thousands.

Nevertheless, the Red Brigades clearly do have organization, money and enough base of support to enable them to hide out after kidnappings and armed actions without being caught.

Where does this support and organization come from?

VACUUM

Italian revolutionaries may well be correct in believing that the far right, or foreign intelligence agents, are manipulating and even helping stage Red Brigades' terrorist activities for their own purposes.

But even if this is true, it can only be part of the answer.

The deeper explanation for why the Red Brigades have gained a measure of success lies in the problems of Italian society. With a terrifying economic crisis confronting Italy, the rightward-moving policies of the main working class party, the Communist Party, have left a gaping political vacuum.

This vacuum has enabled the Red Brigades, a terrorist organization with no political solution, to

grow and develop a network of sympathizers.

In the city of Naples, there are 150,000 unemployed people out of a total population of one million. Naples is one of the many Italian cities with a majority-Communist Party administration.

There are 800,000 Italian university students, using buildings and resources designed for less than 400,000.

There are nearly 50,000 student studying architecture, but jobs for less than 3000 architects. The city government of Milan doesn't have the money to build 40,000 desperately needed new housing units.

In southern Italy, where poverty and unemployment are at their worst, promises of regional economic development have instead produced giant steel, auto and engineering projects which have no markets and import skilled workers from the north.

Instead of organizing a working class offensive against the government which carries out these policies, the Communist Party has thrown its support behind the ruling Christian Democratic Party.

A major Communist union leader, Lucio Lama, has called for cuts in real wages, limiting unemployment insurance and ending protection against layoffs.

At the same time, the Communist Party has not organized a movement of the hundreds of thousands of unemployed Italian young people. The CP strategy of entering the Italian capitalist government makes this impossible.

Unemployed youth are left to organize themselves. Many even see the Communist Party-led trade unions as their enemies.

The Italian revolutionary left, which does organize among unemployed and young people, as well as inside the unions, can only fill part of the vacuum.

SUPPORT REPRESSION

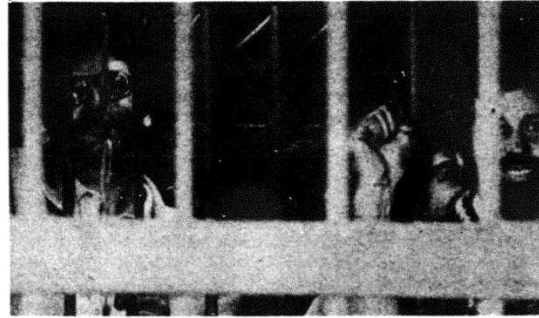
The Red Brigades have attacked political figures, police officials and bosses. But their avowed purpose is to create the climate for government repression that would smash the power of the unions, the Communist Party and the rest of the organized working class movement.

The Brigades appear to believe that the destruction of non-revolutionary unions and political organizations, by the capitalist state,

would somehow pave the way for a mass workers' uprising.

Nothing could be more mistaken. Politically, this means precisely that the Red Brigades are working in the interests of the forces of right-wing repression. It would not be surprising if they are directly or indirectly aided by those forces.

Left-wing radicals working for right-wing repression is tragic. But the greater tragedy is that the real interests of Italian workers, employed and unemployed, have been sacrificed for the sake of a coalition between the Communist Party, top trade union officials, and Italian bosses.



Above, jailed Red Brigades leaders. Right, sign denouncing Brigades as agents of the right.



South Africa Bounced From Davis Cup

ONE MONTH after massive protests hit the South Africa Davis Cup team at Nashville, the movement to stop South African participation in international sports gained more ground this week.

The International Tennis Federation (ITF) expelled South Africa from the Davis Cup and the Federation Cup, the world's most prestigious tennis team tournaments.

The action was announced April 16. But what really forced the decision were actions like the demonstration at Nashville, where 5000 anti-apartheid demonstrators turned the U.S.-South Africa match into a financial fiasco.

For years, South African participation in the Davis Cup has been a symbol of tennis officials' acceptance of racism.

SAVING CREDIBILITY

Throwing South Africa out of Davis and Federation Cup play is the ITF's way of salvaging the credibility of the tournaments.

But there's a big catch. The ban will only be in effect for one year.

Next February, the ITF will review the situation, to see if the South African government has set up "a new non-racial organization for administering the game of tennis."

Pending that action, ITF continues to recognize the white South African Tennis Union.

If the International Tennis Federation were really interested in fighting South African racism, instead of cleaning up its own image, it would not have to call for a "new non-racial tennis body."

The fact is that there already is a non-racial tennis body in South Africa. It is part of the South

African Non-Racial Sports Council (SANRSC).

This non-racial tennis union has at least 13 affiliates in various cities and provinces. It probably has more members than either the white South African Tennis Union or the fake "African" union set up by the South African government under its apartheid sports policies.

Like other non-racial sports bodies in South Africa, its members are subject to harassment from the government, employers, and white sports administrators. It receives no government funding and has difficulty finding places to hold matches.

Under these circumstances, only a minority of white South African tennis players have the courage to join. But as a non-racial tennis union it is clearly open to all.

NO COMPROMISE

The ITF is proposing that the SANRSC's tennis union sacrifice its principles by merging with the segregated tennis bodies.

This is the ITF's idea of a "new non-racial tennis organization." It would also give the ITF an easy

way to re-admit South Africa into world team play.

But the non-racial sports council is not about to accept anything short of the complete abolition of apartheid and racial segregation in tennis and other sports.

It's not enough that Black and white tennis players no longer need a special permit to play together. The non-racial sports council calls this kind of tokenism "Max Factorizing the racial issue."

There is no way the South African government will accept the non-racial movement's demands: integrated facilities, equal opportunities and equal financial support to all athletes regardless of race.

But next year, unless the international anti-apartheid solidarity movement is stronger than ever, look for the International Tennis Federation to find some way to re-admit racism to the Davis Cup.

Dan Posen



Nashville demonstration, 5000 strong, against the Davis Cup.

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Women organize for Labor Law Reform Bill

by Emily Sharpe

DETROIT—"I've worked with a union and I've worked without a union. There's a world of difference."

That's what Pamela Liesinger said when Workers' Power asked her why she was involved in building a rally for labor law reform.

The rally was called by Working Women For Labor Law Reform to bring attention to the Labor Reform Act of 1978, now pending in Congress. The bill would facilitate union organizing drives.

"We were discussing that a lot of the workers being organized right now are women. We think women are better off with unions than without. It started off just being a conversation—and the next thing you knew we were having a rally," Liesinger explained.

The rally is planned for May 7 at Detroit's Kennedy Square at noon. Liesinger, a member of United Auto Workers Local 203, is joined by women from UAW Regions 1, 1A, 1B, and 1E, as well as women from AFSCME, the Coalition of Labor Union Women, the National Organization for Women, and the Wayne State Staff Association and others.

Although most of the women calling the rally are already organized, they feel that it is important to support this legislation.

"You don't have to go down south to find companies that would prefer to break the law rather than have a union. Right here, Detroit Plastics would rather ignore the fact that their people want a union and just not go to the negotiating table."

The Labor Reform Act would help workers like those at Detroit Plastics, J.P. Stevens and thousands of other shops. The bill would:

- set time limits for the holding of union representation elections
- allow the NLRB to enforce its decisions more quickly
- provide access for union organizers to company property, in some cases
- increase back pay and shorten reinstatement time for workers fired as a result of organizing activities prior to the formation of a union
- compensate workers for wages and benefits due to an employers' refusal to bargain on a first contract.

Liesinger pointed out that the Labor Reform Act would help to eliminate some of the employers'

stalling tactics.

"The company makes charges that are not valid. Whether they are valid or not, once they make them you have to go to court and this delays the process. They go around firing people because they feel that it's cheaper to fire organizers than to get a union."

SECTION 13

Unfortunately, Section 13 of the Labor Reform Act is designed to curtail wildcat strikes. If a contract contains a no-strike clause, or a [court] "inferred" no-strike clause, an injunction will be granted. It can be opposed only on the grounds that the strike is authorized by the union and the picket line maintained by the union.

Although Section 13 is a serious interference with the right to strike, the Labor Reform Act would be an overall aid to the union movement.

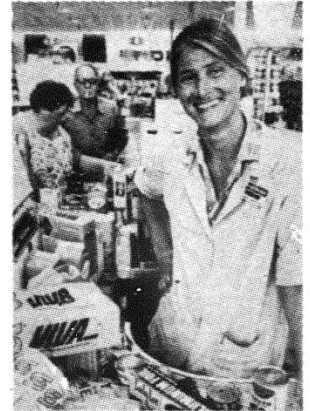
"You talk about betterment of life for women; you talk about equal pay for equal work, things like that. We think women would have a better chance of materializing these things through a union," Liesinger pointed out.

"What is out there right now

Many women work in low paid, non-union jobs.

Attempts at organizing a union often end in failure when employers fire or harass workers sympathetic to the union.

The proposed Labor Law Reform Act would make it easier for workers to organize, in part, by increasing penalties for unfair labor practices.



working in small shops with low wage scales is an awful lot of women.

"A lot of the women who already belong to unions also belong to the women's movement in this

country. Just because I belong to a union, doesn't mean that the men

and women who don't have a union, that I don't have any feeling for them."

The employers are in Washington lobbying against the Labor Reform Act. Workers can make their voices heard too, through rallies like the one planned in Detroit.

Union president punches worker busts strike

by Illene Winkler
CWA Local 1101

NEW YORK—One striker was hospitalized and unity among telephone workers dealt a serious blow during a strike at New York Telephone last week.

On April 13, Communications Workers of America Local 1190 (Western Electric workers, who install equipment in telephone company buildings) walked out, because some of their work was being given to New York Telephone plant workers, members of Local 1101.

Local 1190 has lost every member with under ten years seniority to layoffs, so every job they get is critical. But in spite of appeals from 1190, the 1101 Executive Board ordered its members to cross the line, even though 1101 had earlier participated in the agreement giving 1190 members the work.

Several hundred members of 1101, however, refused to go along, and three large buildings in Manhattan were completely shut down.

In an effort to get people back to work, 1101 President Ed Dempsey tried to enter one building himself. When picketers stopped him, a shoving match began. Dempsey punched one striker in the stomach. The man, who recently had recovered from an operation had to be taken away in an ambulance.

Because the strike could not be won without city-wide support, Local 1190 was forced to call it off without any resolution. Talks are supposedly continuing.

Dempsey's action shocked members of both locals, who remember that 1190 honored 1101 picket lines for seven long months in a 1971 strike. We are determined to make him regret it.

Labor Notes

by Jim Woodward

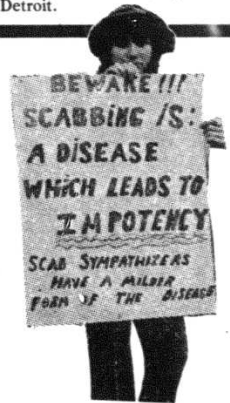
The 80,000 retired miners who were denied their pension checks during the coal strike are now getting them. An \$85 million loan enabled the **UMWA Health and Retirement Funds** to send out pension checks April 14 for the months of February, March, and April. In a press release, the **Bituminous Coal Operators Association** bragged of its role in helping the Funds' trustees to obtain the loan so it could "send the checks out much more quickly than expected or would have been otherwise possible." You're supposed to think the coal operators are kind, decent, honorable men. Yet these are the same employers who last summer, when it suited their purpose to let the **UMWA Health Funds** go broke, refused to agree to a simple reallocation of money from a solvent pension fund—a move that would have cost them nary a dime. Such is their concern for the coal miner.

A Northwestern University survey of the nation's daily newspapers has compiled shocking statistics on the lack of minority employees at these papers. Two-thirds of all daily newspapers (primarily the smaller ones) have no minority employees at all, it said. Only 4% of all reporters and editors on daily newspapers come from minorities, as do only 11% of the thousands of editors in top management throughout the whole country.

Businessmen are cheering. On April 10, the governor of **Puerto Rico** had breakfast with a large group of New York financiers and announced that next January there will be a large cut in personal income taxes for individuals in Puerto Rico's highest tax brackets. One business source guesses the cut will be from 83% to 50% in the top bracket. Seems the folks in the higher tax levels are fleeing because tax rates in the U.S. are lower. The governor's reasoning is that if he cuts taxes, they'll come back and invest their money and everyone will be happy. Puerto Rico is a poverty-stricken country, with an unemployment rate of nearly 33%—yet taxes are cut for those who do have money. In solidarity with Puerto Rico, we think the American labor movement should demand higher taxes on rich folks here, so those in Puerto Rico have nowhere to run to.

Quote of the Week: "They equate themselves with coal miners."—Donald Britton, business manager of the Lyric Opera House of Chicago, whose opera singers are demanding a 40% wage increase.

What's happening where you work? Send items for this column to: Workers' Power, Labor Notes, 14131 Woodward Avenue, Highland Park, Michigan 48203. Or phone 313-869-5964.



1978 UAW ELECTIO

by Mark Levitan

DETROIT—Next month local unions throughout the United Auto Workers will be electing local officers. In some places the membership will have little choice between the "in" group and the "out" groups.

But in a significant number of locals, auto workers will have the opportunity of making a real choice between an administration which still holds to a stand-pat attitude, and challengers who are committed to a more militant philosophy of unionism.

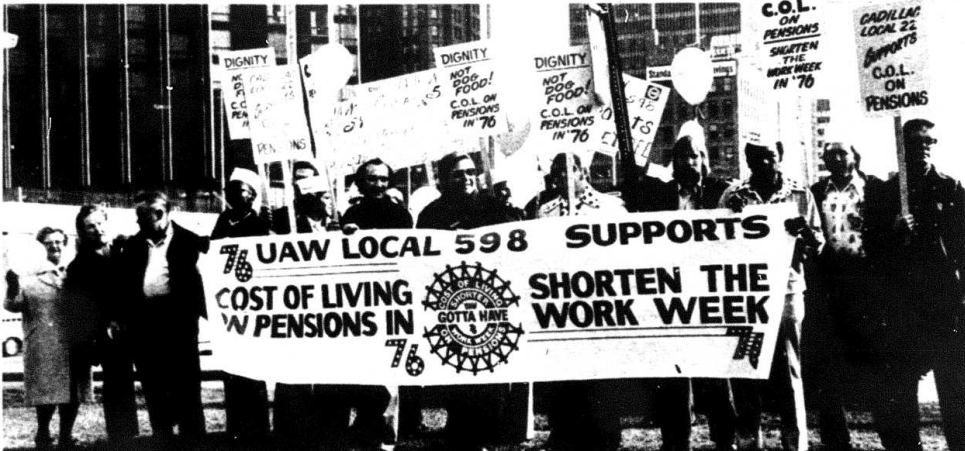
This is a new development in UAW politics.

For nearly a generation it's been like this: the "outs" told us that they were "capable, honest and dedicated." The "ins" replied that they were "capable, honest and experienced."

Underneath the unoriginal rhetoric, UAW local officials vied for votes on the basis of personal popularity, ethnic or racial solidarity, or interest group loyalty.

Workers watched on as the plant "politicians" wheeled, dealt, supported one another, or knifed each other in the back. The only real question was who was going to get the goodies of local office, who got off the line, out of the plant and into a comfortable chair.

Local administrations came and went. Sometimes tweedledum



During the 1976 contract fight, rank and file auto workers defined two clear demands: COLA on pensions and a shorter work week. The lack of response on the part of top union leadership to the needs of the

defeated tweedledee. But the membership and the problems it faced in the plants were irrelevant.

It wasn't always like this in the UAW. In the 30's and 40's local union politics were part of a wide

open democratic political life throughout the union.

No single political grouping had firm control over the International Union. Two rival groups—the Reuther Caucus and the Thomas

members has led to a change in local union politics. The Fraser machine is paying for its indifference with challenges in local union elections from union militants.

Addes Caucus—campaigning for the workers' royalties.

The workers used the rivalries to get the most out of their union. They demanded that their leaders debate the issues facing the union

openly, not behind the scenes. To a large degree they were successful.

The free-for-all at the top kept the local unions alive and well. The Reuther and Addes forces organized the green and blue slates to fight it out in the locals.

If the top union officials didn't agree on important policy it was easy for the rank and file to demand of its local officials, "Where do you stand?"

Most of this kind of open debate was ended in the 50's. Walter Reuther, who was then UAW President used the anti-communist hysteria of the McCarthy period to kill off the union's internal life. He created a one party union. Criticizing the administration was the same as criticizing the union, the Constitution, or God.

Disenters were red-baited into silence. Local union officers who questioned policy were thrown into trusteeship. Many of the forms of democracy persisted but open discussion and criticism of union affairs did not. Political fights became meaningless because everyone was pro-Reuther.

Issue oriented campaigns gave way to personality contests and cliques; the "ins" versus the "outs". It was rare when the

membership had a clear choice on the issues.

Today, things are changing. Holding union office is getting to be like going through a revolving door. If you don't watch it you're out as fast as you get in, and the door is turning faster all the time.

Local union officials are finding themselves in a three-way cross fire. The companies are going after the few rights and decent conditions the workers have in the plant, while management is doing its best to undermine the effectiveness of the union in the plant.

At the same time, the International Union continues to turn its back on these local problems. Even though management's policies are corporate wide, each local union is left to fend as best they can for themselves.

The rank and file know they are getting little representation from their union. But the membership can vote only for its local officers, so they are the people who are getting tossed out of office.

While the International officers are shielded from rank and file anger, the local officials are paying a double price, once for their own unwillingness to deal with the problems of speedup, health and safety and discipline, and again for the International.

DEMANDING RELIEF

The pressure on the local unions is beginning to change the nature of local union politics. The membership is demanding relief from management's policies. They want to know why the current administrations are failing and what a new one would do differently.

A growing number of officers are responding to their predicament by becoming more critical of the International. They are growing impatient with their International leaders and are raising some important issues like the short work week and COLA on pensions. This is creating a freer atmosphere in the locals.

Militants with credible answers are getting a hearing for their Heas. Look at Local 212.

For nearly 20 years the local was ruled by a one party machine—the Green Slate. Last fall the Watchdog Team was able to get two of their candidates for steward and committeeman elected.

Now the Caucus is fielding a slate of committeemen and execu-

Good-bye Nazis, glad to see you go...

by Paula Winston

DETROIT—Amid sunshine and cheers on a Sunday afternoon, the swastikas on Vernor Highway were painted away. The Labor-Community-Interfaith Council Against the Nazis officially took possession of the old Nazi headquarters and began the process of converting it into an anti-Nazi information center.

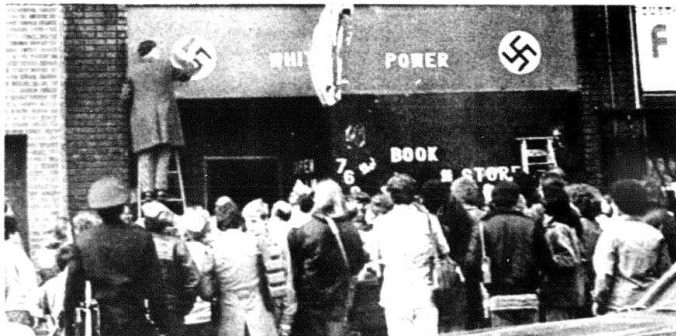
The Detroit group celebrated its recent victory in evicting the Nazis by holding a "Paint Out the Swastikas" party, complete with champagne and punch.

Leading members of the Council took turns crawling up the ladder to wield a paintbrush, to obliterate the symbols of Nazi hate and violence. It was a sort of "exorcism" to get rid of the aura of hate and death recently associated with the old storefront.

"We feel a responsibility to re-claim this property for the neighborhood," explained Council Chairman Paul Boatin. "Our job is not over, just because we have gotten the Nazis evicted from this particular building."

"First we want to turn this into an anti-Nazi information headquarters so that people in this community can once again feel safe and secure as they walk their streets. Second, we have to continue to build support for the Council Against the Nazis."

"We know this fight isn't over yet. These guys will probably try to open up at another location—but

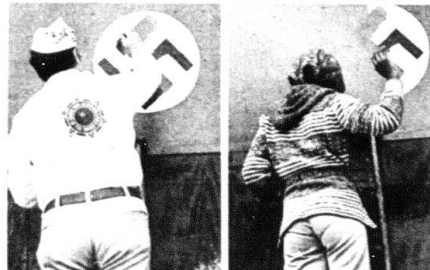


we'll be there to get them out again and again!"

Boatin's prediction has subsequently proved to be true. Within days of the celebration, the Nazis announced at a press conference that they would be re-opening "sometime next month" at a new location.

They said that they were looking for a building to purchase, so they can avoid further hassles with landlords.

The Council Against the Nazis is planning a massive city-wide march and rally on Sunday, April 30, in Detroit. It will serve notice on the Nazis that, for scum like them, there is going to be no place to hide!



Coalition members paint out the swastikas. The anti-Nazi group has taken over the bookstore.

WORKERS APPROVE AEROSPACE PACT

A THREE-MONTH STRIKE at McDonnell Douglas, involving 8000 workers across the country, was over Monday, as workers narrowly approved a contract.

The company had presented a number of "take-away" demands, on medical, holiday, and seniority issues, but got none of them, according to Long Beach, California UAW Local 148 President Ben Hawser.

"The company was hurrin'. They couldn't deliver planes, and would have to pay penalties," says Hawser.

He figures the settlement to amount to a total wage and benefit increase of \$1.45 an hour. Boeing settled earlier for a \$1.26 increase.

There had been speculation that McDonnell Douglas would try to gain a competitive edge by driving a hard bargain, but apparently they were not able to meet production schedules—despite claims to the contrary—and the pressure got to them.

Workers on April 1 turned down a proposal identical to the one they finally adopted.

After the first rejection, union leaders went to bat for the company, claiming that workers had "misunderstood" the proposal. They finally convinced enough people that the contract was a good one that it passed on the second try by a narrow margin.

ONS

Zimbabwe: Vance Mission Falls Flat

...tive board members to finish the job of taking over the major positions in the plant.

The new situation in the UAW is changing the "in" group "out" group game.

In some locals, caucuses which began as traditional "out" groups have become more political and issue-oriented in their opposition. They are beginning to question not just the personalities but the basic policies as well.

More commonly, perhaps, is that traditional "out" groups are being pushed aside by new militant caucuses which are replacing them as the credible contenders for office.

There is little room for an "out" group which stands in the middle between a conservative administration and a militant, reform-minded opposition.

This year's election at Local 51 shows this clearly. The old "out" group, the Blue Slate, is not even fielding a Presidential candidate. The Blue Slate will therefore be unimportant in the real fight between the administration Green Slate and the United Coalition, which stands for militant unionism.

Throughout the union, a process is going on. It may take a while, but as the issues get even harder to hide from, the UAW membership will again be offered a choice for a change. □

Operation Turn-The-Clock-Back.

That's what U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's mission to Rhodesia last week should have been called.

Vance was attempting to breathe new life into a virtually defunct plan called the "British-American peace initiative for Zimbabwe (Rhodesia)."

Under the plan, which was first proposed by the U.S. and British governments last year, Zimbabwe guerrilla forces would agree to stop fighting the white-dominated racist minority Rhodesian government.

In return, the Zimbabwe liberation movements would be granted a status as junior Partners of a British-appointed Resident High Commissioner, who would supervise a "peaceful transition to majority rule."

NOBLE ON PAPER

The plan collapsed when the liberation movements, the Patriotic Front, continued the freedom struggle. The white Rhodesian government has made its own internal deal with a group of Black puppet politicians.

Vance is now desperately trying to revive the British-American plan by way of a proposed "all-party peace conference" between the liberation movements, the Rhodesian government and the western powers.

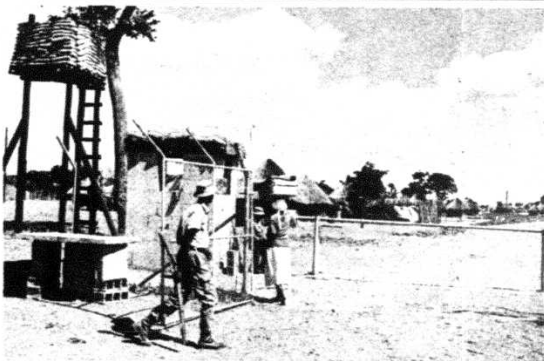
So far, only the government of South Africa has given its endorsement to this idea.

The obvious question is: why is the United States government pushing so hard for proposals which have already been rejected by all sides?

On paper, the Carter Administration's stated aims for Zimbabwe could not be nobler. To stop the bloodshed. To prevent a civil war between so-called "rival nationalist factions." To create a multi-party political democracy. To prevent Zimbabwe from becoming a battleground for outside forces—China, Russia and South Africa.

SMITH'S PUPPETS

On one issue, at least, the Carter Administration is correct about Rhodesia. Ian Smith's new partnership with the so-called Black moderates—Muzorewa, Sithole and Chief Chirau—will not end the liberation war.



A "protected village" under army guard in Zimbabwe.

Smith's Black partners, despite their boastful claims, have no support among the liberation fighters.

While Muzorewa claims to have political support in the townships, most of the actual fighting goes on in the rural districts and Tribal Trust Lands (TTLs).

There, the militant wing of the Patriotic Front, ZANU (Zimbabwe African National Union) has built mass support and created semi-liberated areas.

White Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith has even exposed the powerlessness of his own Black allies. He re-organized the military command structure so that these Black puppets, even though they are formally equal to Smith on the so-called "Executive Council," have no say in the running of the war.

But the motives of Jimmy Carter, Cyrus Vance and Andrew Young are not as noble and pure as they would have us believe.

They oppose Smith's internal settlement only because they realize it will fail—and for that reason only.

HYPOCRISY

If the American government had really been interested in liberating Zimbabwe from minority rule, it would not have passed the Byrd Amendment and imported chrome from Rhodesia for five years, in violation of United Nations sanctions.

If the United States were really interested in keeping outside

powers out of Zimbabwe's liberation war, it could have prosecuted American arms and aircraft manufacturers who sold licenses for their weapons to be supplied to the Rhodesian Army.

The real strategy behind Cyrus Vance's trip, which seems to have failed, was to create a split inside the Patriotic Front between ZANU and the less militant ZAPU (Zimbabwe African People's Union), led by Joshua Nkomo.

Vance hoped that Nkomo, in the name of the Patriotic Front, would accept conditions for negotiations acceptable to the Rhodesian government.

So much for American concerns over "potential bloody splits among the nationalists."

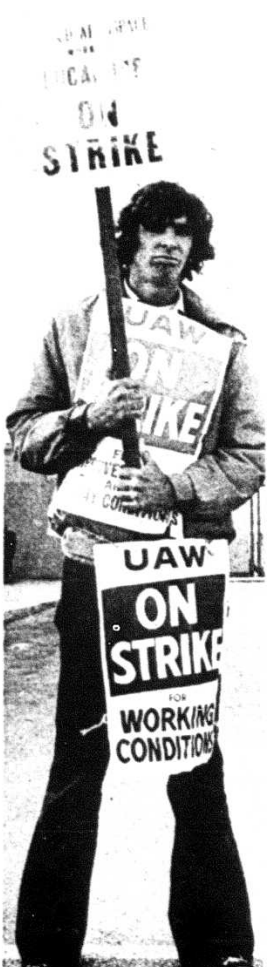
Vance's strategy blew up when ZANU leader Robert Mugabe stated that the only conditions ZANU will accept include: control of the armed forces by the liberation fighters; and a Patriotic Front majority in any interim political structure set up to replace Ian Smith's puppet council.

The American response to this is to denounce Mugabe for allegedly advocating a "single-party state."

This hypocrisy is really the crowning touch.

As if American policy in Vietnam or Angola was designed to create multi-party democracy or political freedom.

(Editor's note: A representative of ZANU is touring North America to raise medical supplies for the freedom fighters. For information see the letter from zanu, on page 8.) □



McDonnell Douglas striker.

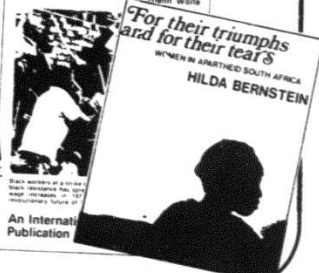


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South Africa: Act I Of The Revolution



Speaking Out

What We Think

F.B.I. DEFENDS ILLEGAL BUGGING, BREAK-INS

If You Dissent, You're A Spy

If you were convicted of breaking and entering repeatedly you would serve a minimum of five years in prison, without chance of parole, in most states.

Will former acting Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, L. Patrick Gray, and aides W. Mark Felt and Edward S. Miller, the number two man in the FBI be convicted, much less sentenced for committing this crime? Don't put any money on it.

There's no difference in the crime, except that one is committed by an ordinary person, and the other by the Justice Department of the U.S. government.

Wiretapping, character assassination, breaking and entering (what they call "surreptitious entries" or "warrantless investigations") are not new accusations against the F.B.I. What is new is that these charges now reach to the very top of the ladder.

ILLEGAL SEARCHES ARE CONTINUING

Now the head of the New York City Department, where the acts took place, J. Wallace LaPrade has stated: "At the present time there are warrantless investigations that the Attorney General with the President's executive authority, is having the F.B.I. conduct."

In other words, this is F.B.I. policy, not some aberration of the Nixon-Ford regime.

The Bureau defends the practice of warrantless investigations—meaning search and seizure of private citizen's property without a court issued warrant—on the grounds that it is necessary to do this to protect the national interest.

Without a warrant, the F.B.I. can only legally investigate persons suspected of being foreign agents—spies. In order to carry out such an investigation, the Bureau must first get approval from the Attorney General and the President.

But what's a spy? Gray and his aides are accused of breaking in and searching the homes of relatives and friends of the Weathermen, a radical anti-war and terrorist organization that opposes the U.S. government, but was not associated with any foreign country.

But, LaPrade told the press, "The American people should know that the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Weathermen organization were in collusion with each other during the early 1970's."

In other words, according to the F.B.I. the Weathermen are spies. If the Bureau needs to justify breaking into someone's home, seizing property, all they have to do is say they support some foreign government or movement.

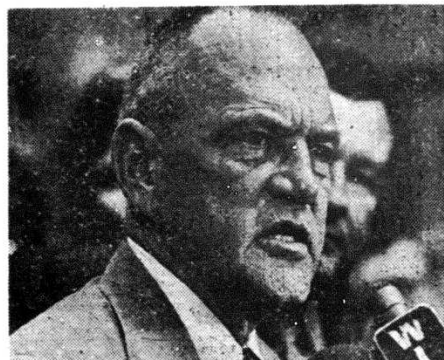
What LaPrade is really saying is that for F.B.I. purposes the distinction is meaningless. And with this policy, so is the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution which was originally added to protect all citizens from such arbitrary search and seizure policies as this by the government.

PROTECTING A PRIVILEGED MINORITY

The real criminals are the F.B.I. and the government that will go to any lengths to wipe out political opposition. Socialists have no illusions that the recent indictments will really change the way government police agencies operate.

"Protecting the national interest," in this society, really means protecting the wealth and power of the capitalist class. When the privileged minority that rules this society appeals to the national interest, it's their own position they are actually protecting. That's why anyone who opposes them can be labelled a spy, a traitor, or a dangerous subversive.

Any real change, and any real protection and right to privacy, will only come when working people run the society democratically.



Patrick Gray, Edward S. Miller, and W. Mark Felt.



Fighting Words

"We work to live — not live to work!"

From A Rank and File Bill of Rights
Teamsters for a Democratic Union

Letters

"WE HAVE DECIDED TO RESIST..."

To Our Friends:

We are six women who occupy a house at 642 W. Forest near the Wayne State University campus. This house has provided com-

fortable, safe shelter for all of us within our limited means, as two of our four adults are on Social Security pensions, a third is on disability and the fourth is the mother of two daughters and her

income, as single breadwinner of her family, hovers at or around poverty level.

We need this house, yet the city wants to pull it down to provide surface parking for the house next door, which when it is rehabilitated, will have seven units and already has ample parking space behind the building.

Does it make sense to you—to destroy what little solid housing is left for low-income people when so little housing has been built in recent years?

Does it make sense to destroy a building that is architecturally interesting and has historic value inasmuch as it was built in 1891

and occupied at one time by Horace Dodge?

Where do the victims of city bureaucrats go when their homes fall to the bulldozers? Whose interests are served by these policies? Surely not the interests of the thousands of people who have lost their homes in this part of the city in recent years! And we will be next unless something is done soon, as they have issued us all eviction notices to be out this month.

Well, we are tired of being pushed around and we have decided to resist the Community and Economic Development

Department's attempts to tear down yet another home in our community. We want to stay and we want the help of all who believe that it is right to fight for what should be ours without question.

We believe that only the organized activity of people who are united behind the idea that the destruction of our neighborhoods has gone far enough can stop these reckless and brutal bureaucrats. Join us!

Alice Godfrey, Cindy Urban, Cathleen Collard, Erica Urban, Anne K. Urban, Lauren Edwarski
Detroit

Donate Medicine For Liberation

To the Editor:

Dr. Herbert Ushewokunze, Senior Medical Officer of ZANU and Commander of ZANLA Medical Corps, will arrive in the United States on April 22nd to start a month-long national speaking tour.

ZANU, the main component of the Patriotic Front, the liberation force fighting for the national liberation of Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) has semi-liberated two-thirds of the country and must meet the health needs of the villagers in the countryside.

In addition, 75,000 refugees have fled Ian Smith's security forces and "protected villages" to seek the protection of ZANU. The refugees are living in camps in Mozambique while they prepare for their country to become free.

Zimbabweans living in the semi-liberated zones as well as the refugees in Mozambique have extensive health needs. ZANU is

mobilizing itself to meet these needs.

Young men and women are training in sanitation and medical procedures. The refugees are organizing health systems within the camps. Now mobile clinics are needed to serve the villages in the countryside.

Dr. Ushewokunze will speak of ZANU's medical activities and inform people here on support they can give. Medicines, bandages and ambulances for mobile clinics are priorities.

The tour is tentatively scheduled for April 22nd to May 25th. If your organization, school, church or union desires to set up a speaking engagement, call or write the ZANU office for the doctor's itinerary. Also, please indicate your preferred dates.

Zimbabwe African National Union
211 East 43 St., Suite 902
New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 697-7910

Where We Stand

Workers' Power is the weekly newspaper of the International Socialists. The I.S. and its members work to build a movement for a socialist society: a society controlled democratically by mass organizations of all working people.

Because workers create all the wealth, a new society can be built only when they collectively take control of that wealth and plan how it is produced and distributed.

The present system cannot become socialist through reform.

The existing structures of government—the military, police, courts and legislatures—protect the interests of employers against workers.

The working class needs its own kind of state, based on councils of delegates elected at the rank and file level.

The rank and file of the unions must be organized to defend unions from employer attacks, to organize the unorganized, to make the union effective. Today's union leaders

rarely even begin to do this. The rank and file must organize to return the unions to the members.

The struggle for socialism is worldwide. We oppose everything which turns workers from one country against workers of other countries, including racism and protectionism.

We are against the American government's imperialist foreign policies, including its support of racist minority regimes in southern Africa.

We demand complete independence for Puerto Rico. We support all genuine national liberation movements.

The so-called "socialist" or "communist" states have nothing to do with socialism. They are controlled by a privileged ruling class of bureaucrats and must be overthrown by the workers of those countries.

Black and Latin people are oppressed national minorities in the U.S. They have the right to self-determination—to decide their

own future. We support the struggle for Black Liberation and the self-organization of Black people. We also fight for the unity of Black and white workers in a common struggle against this system.

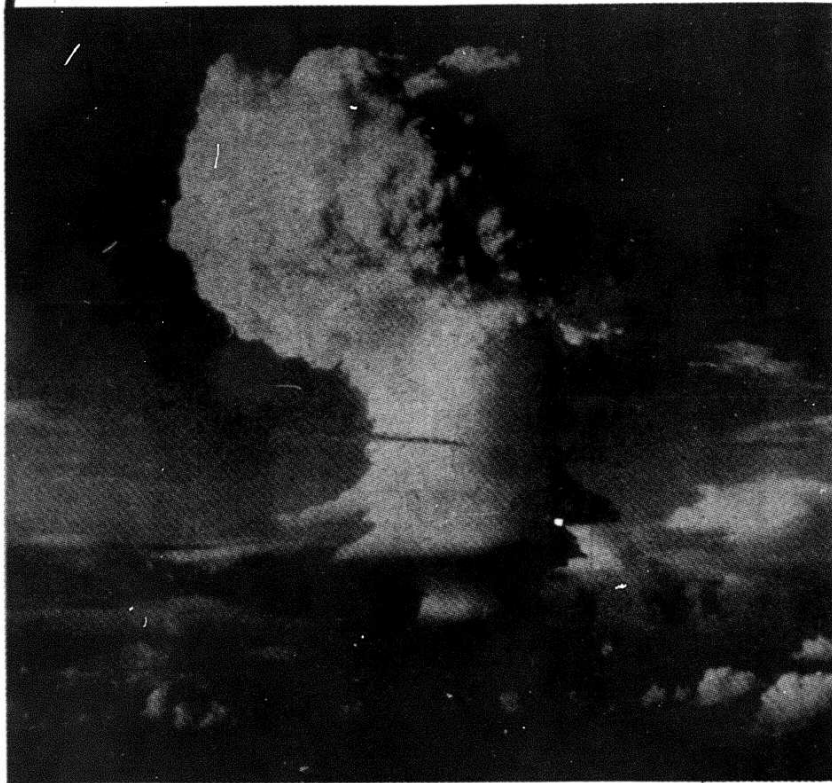
We support women's liberation and full economic, political, and social equality for women. We demand outlawing all forms of discrimination against gay people.

Socialism and liberation can be achieved only by the action of a mass workers' movement. The most militant sections of workers today must be organized to lay the foundations for a revolutionary socialist workers' party.

This is why the International Socialists exists—to create that party. We are open to all those who accept our main principles, and who accept the responsibility of working as a member to achieve them.

Join with us to build a movement to end exploitation and oppression and to create a socialist world.

The Socialist View



GUNS AND BUTTER—the PERMANENT ARMS ECONOMY

third in a series

by Michael Urquhart and Paul Broz
The Great Depression was a low point in the history of capitalism, but it was just an exaggerated crisis in a system none too stable. Since the beginnings of capitalism, boom and bust had been the order of the day.

But after 1945, capitalism became remarkably stable—at least until recently. Real incomes were on the rise. Only a few minor recessions occurred. The system was healthy enough to finance major technological change.

nomical crises are an inevitable part of the private profit system. Why then, for three decades, were there none? What caused the growth and stability that fueled capitalist propaganda that this system is the best of all possible worlds?

Socialists argue that major economic

The answer lies in the creation of

what has been called the "permanent arms economy."

WAR SAVES PROFITS

Capitalists ended the Depression with a war. Forty million dead. Immense destruction. When it was over, there was a lot of rebuilding to do.

This rebuilding kept the economy going until completed, but by 1949 another recession was in the making, and it looked as though a depression was just around the corner.

But the Korean War saved the day for the capitalists. Along with the war came something new: a large, permanent arms budget.

Arms spending was to have major economic effects, but originally the decision to create a permanent arms budget was not economic. It was a political decision, a result of a "hot war," the Korean War, and the ensuing "cold war" between the Western capitalist countries and Eastern "Communist" countries.

Defense budgets grew by leaps and bounds. In the U.S. it reached 50% of all federal expenditures. According to a United Nations study, \$120 billion was being spent around the world in 1962 on arms—about 9% of the total world output of goods and services.

In the U.S., arms spending accounted for 10% of all employment.

The permanent arms economy was different from earlier capitalism in many ways. These are some reasons that massive arms spending could ward off depressions, mass unemployment and crises for so long:

- **WASTE:** Tanks, guns, boats, and missiles are produced just like all other objects. But they don't play the same role in the economic system as say, corn, or clothes, or a car.
- Arms are either blown up or left to become obsolete. They are not sold to you or I. So, unlike other products, there is no danger that they will build up in warehouses for lack of customers.
- **EMPLOYMENT:** Arms spending also helps to stabilize the system by increasing employment.
- **GOVERNMENT CONTROL:** The defense budget is an important

way that the government, through taxation and the awarding of military contracts can affect the distribution of resources within the national economy.

Today, the largest 100 corporations receive over three quarters of all defense contracts in the U.S. The government has shifted money to the largest, most monopolized sections of industry, helping maintain their high profits.

• **SPIN-OFFS:** Another positive side-effect of military spending has been "technological spin-off." In the U.S., in 1962, 50% of all money spent on research and development was military spending. Much of this new technology was used in private industry, especially in the electronics and aircraft industries.

The permanent arms economy and its effects are international. Each nation is forced, to a greater or lesser extent, to take part for the purpose of national defense. Japan, restricted by treaties, is the only major exception.

DEFECTS

Although arms spending has stabilized the system, reducing recessions to minor proportions, and providing a base for continuous, rapid growth, some chinks in the armor have appeared.

One problem is inflation. Wages are paid in defense industries, where nothing is produced for the wages to buy. This causes an increase in demand, although the supply remains the same. When arms are paid for by increasing the national debt, inflation is also fueled.

This problem was kept within manageable limits until the Vietnam War, when inflation reached double digits.

A second problem with the permanent arms economy is that as weapons, and the machinery for making them, become more complicated, fewer people are hired, and the technological spin-offs (especially from missile production) are less useful to private industry.

But the biggest problem is that weapons costs are not spread equally among all countries. Those countries with smaller weapons costs, in particular Germany and Japan, are able to invest instead in private industry.

As a result, their economies have grown at a faster rate and have become more productive than the U.S. Their share of world trade has increased as that of the U.S. has decreased.

Because of all these factors, efforts have been made to reduce military spending. In the U.S., spending has been reduced from a high of 50% of the federal budget to 25% today.

However, this cut in spending—which for 25 years has stabilized the system—has led to increasing economic instability, and inflation along with unemployment.

Capitalists are now faced with crisis, whether military outlays are raised or lowered. Fears of another depression are not far-fetched.

World War II brought the system out of the Great Depression, and the permanent arms economy prolonged that recovery. Now, we see growing instability, and some more of the "same old crap" that characterized capitalism before the war.

Next in the series: What Lies Ahead?

As I See It

Bosses' cure for fatigue

by Dennis Stovall

MOST OF US have figured out that if you start out going full tilt as soon as you get to work, you're going to slow down during the next hour... and the next... and the next—even if you're gung-ho crazy and 18 to boot. The boss man is also painfully aware (don't you feel like crying) that we can't be driven as hard in the eighth or ninth hours as in the first or second.

Now, that's something he doesn't like and would like to change. He definitely doesn't like to rip off less profit during later hours.

In an increasing effort to pay us less for the same work—or force us to do more work for the same benefits, which amounts to the same thing—the employers are finding new names for their old games. The ingenuity of the good old profit system, where each of us is only as useful as the amount of profit we produce for someone else, triumphs again. Where there's a will, there's a way—and all that jazz.

If you can't shoot up your work force with meth for the second half of the day, why not solve the problem by having a fresh recruit work the second half? You call this new arrangement permanent part-time jobs, which naturally pay less per hour and have few or no benefits.



According to a study conducted for the Labor Department, roughly one out of every twelve U.S. workers is a permanent part-timer. In 1950 it was only one out of twenty.

Arguing that expansion of permanent part-time jobs would reduce unemployment by spreading around available work (they don't mention the social consequence of reducing incomes), the study concludes that almost every job could be made available on a part-time basis in the future.

Nifty deal. \$\$\$\$\$\$. It doesn't call for higher mathematics to figure out that you'd be living with less than half your present income.

It's already happening. Workers' Power has written about it before, mostly about United Parcel Service and how it's been systematically shafting Teamsters with this number. UPS has been so successful with their pioneering effort that lots of other companies are hitching up their teams and heading their wagons for this new frontier of profits.

The study does note that an expansion of this practice will require the cooperation of labor unions. That must mean that they don't expect other important unions to sell out like the IBT has at United Parcel Service.

We sure as hell shouldn't just take that for granted, though. As usual, our only guarantee is what each of us does to get our act together to fight off this attack.

While we're at it we ought to tell them that we like the part-time part and would be more than happy to do it for full-time pay.

WHO'S THE CHAMP?

Depends on where you tune in

by Sandy Boyer

WILL THE REAL heavyweight champion of the world please stand up?

Thanks to the two competing world boxing federations and the TV networks, we are now saddled with two heavyweight champions.

Leon Spinks is the champion of the World Boxing Association (WBA) and CBS. Ken Norton is the World Boxing Council (WBC) and ABC champion.

CBS bought the rights to televise Spinks' first three title fights six months before he had even signed to fight Ali.

They have televised every one of his professional fights and will probably get the TV rights to all his future fights. That's because all Spinks' fights are promoted by Bob Arum of Top Rank Inc. And Arum has never been known to sell the rights to any fight to anyone but CBS.

In the other corner we have Ken Norton of ABC and the WBC. You may or may not remember that the WBC declared Norton the champion because Spinks refused to fight him after the victory over Ali.

Norton's fights are promoted by Don King. King's fighters turn up on ABC with the same regularity that Bob Arum's fighters turn up on CBS.

ABC has already got the contract for Norton's first title defense in June against Larry Holmes (also owned by Don King).

SCORECARD

It's gotten so you can't tell the champion without a scorecard. And not just in the heavyweight division either.

Out of the 11 weight divisions from heavyweight down to fly-weight, there's a single champion in only two. All the rest have a WBA champion and a WBC champion.

Now it might seem that there is a very simple way to end this nonsense—let the WBC champion and the WBA champion in each division fight and declare the winner the champion of the world.

But if that happened, who would need the WBA and WBC? And their high-paid bureaucrats?

Besides, either ABC and Don King or CBS and Bob Arum would lose a heavyweight champion (a very valuable commodity).

The promoters and the networks have discovered that you can make twice as much money with two champions as with one.

Just wait till NBC gets into the act. We might wind up with three heavyweight champions of the world.



Right To Abortion Goes On Trial In Southern California

by Elissa Clarke

Dr. William Waddill is on trial for murder in Santa Ana, California. Waddill is accused of strangling a baby born alive after an unsuccessful attempt at abortion.

A storm of controversy surrounds the case, which has received national publicity.

Some abortion advocates are claiming that the trial has nothing to do with abortion. "The abortion was completed and it shouldn't be made an issue in this case," said Mary Clark, coordinator of the California Abortion Rights Action League South. "The issue is whether he murdered the baby."

But the right to abortion is on trial in southern California. If Dr. Waddill is convicted, every doctor in the country will think twice about performing abortions.

LIED

In March, 1977 Mary Weaver came to Waddill and requested an abortion. She wrote: "I don't want and can't take care of the baby. I don't want to carry the baby to full term and have to give it up for adoption. I'm emotionally unprepared to face consequences; and my father is the principal of the high school I attend and the pressure would not be fair to him." Her father joined her in the request.

Weaver told Waddill that she was 20 to 22 weeks pregnant.

What she didn't tell him was that she had gone to the Huntington

Beach Free Clinic first, where she was turned down for an abortion because she was at least 28 weeks pregnant, well into the third trimester.

The 1973 Supreme Court ruling on abortion says that states cannot restrict abortions during the first trimester, but may pass restrictions during the second and third. California has no such restrictions, but most doctors will not perform third trimester abortions because of the danger involved.

NO WITNESSES

Waddill testified that he was surprised to find a 31-week-old live baby. "I made an error," he admitted.

The baby was taken to the hospital nursery. Waddill examined the baby, and is accused of strangling it in the nursery. There were no witnesses.

At the trial, expert medical testi-



Dr. Waddill: murder or abortion?

mony from Dr. Susan Terkel, a pediatric pathologist, claims that the baby had at best a 1%-5% chance of sustaining life, and probably less than 1%. Dr. Terkel said the infant died from a general lack of oxygen, cold, stress, and other problems.

Waddill concurred. "No doctor on the face of this earth could have resuscitated that baby."

The trial has been controversial and emotional. Every day, the court room is packed with people from the right-to-life movement.

At one point, the prosecution called a year-old baby to the stand.

The case against Waddill is extremely weak. The most damaging evidence against him are only comments he made about the baby's health. "This baby can't live," Waddill is quoted as saying. "It will be a big mess."

Mary Weaver and her family have also sued Waddill and the hospital, charging negligence, assault and battery, and wrongful death. Weaver hopes to collect \$17 million.

But last year, when she was pregnant, Weaver was grateful to find a doctor who would support her decision to have an abortion. She even lied, although now she claims that Waddill "misled" her about the duration of the pregnancy!

DEBATE

Dr. William Waddill is on trial only because the right to abortion is again up for debate in this country.

Convicted or acquitted, Dr. Waddill will be more cautious about performing abortions in the future, as will every other doctor in the country. That is the effect this trial is designed to have.

Waddill commented: "These right-to-life people have been critical of me. Well, I believe in my patient's right to her life, her right to decide what she wants before the embryo." □

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If you agree with the views express in this paper and would like more information, or would like to join the International Socialists, send this form to: INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, Michigan 48203.

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Zombie

by Barracuda

Down in the poverty waste land of the shanty towns, tiny speakers boom out the same incredible rhythms.

Tenor and alto sax like John Coltrane turn a loose, delicate sound woven around heavy sound-storms created by drums.

The drums, always in resonance with the heartbeat, carry messages through bloodveins to the essence of the being—and the messages are political.

Belted out in a strong vocal, supplemented by female background vocals, the messages come through pure and clear: foreign monopolies, neocolonialism, injustice, poverty, hunger, political bankruptcy, coup d'etat, soldiers and zombies.

Zombie. Featuring Fela Anikulapo-kuti, saxophones and vocals. Mercury SIM-1-3709.

It is happening, an outpouring of revolutionary music, not in Jamaica, but in oil-rich Nigeria, the most industrialized country in Black Africa. And the man responsible is Fela Anikulapo-kuti.

Fela, Africa's first superstar, began as a saxophonist, playing the well-known West African music, Highlife. He was introduced to the sounds of Coltrane and Miles Davis while studying in London in the 50's.

Born of wealthy parents, Fela could not live with the wretched poverty of the masses.

The Nigerian civil war was a painful misery to him and the search for a solution led him to visit Black Power leaders in the U.S. in 1969.

When he returned home, the connections were all tied together: the contradiction of international capitalism, foreign big business, neo-colonialism, the role of the Nigerian puppet leaders.

ROAD TO REVOLUTION

Fela became a man with a mission, turning out six or seven albums a year. Rejecting his family's wealth and identifying with the mass, Fela built his commune (Kalakuta Republic) and became a social critic.

He sang about the stratification of Nigerian society (Roforofo Fight), the foreign monopolies (Why Black Men dey Suffer), his commune (Kalakuta Republic), the congested traffic conditions (Go Slow), lack of cultural pride (I no be Lady).

From social critic Fela became a political dissident. He sang about the role of the Nigerian military clique (Question Jam Answer).

For this he was beaten and jailed. This just made him more dedicated. His next two albums dealt with his prison experiences (Alagbon Close) and the coercive nature of the tax-supported police and military (Expensive Shit).

On the path to being a revolutionary singer Fela has just re-

leased an album, "Zombie." The words are in West African local English.

Side 1 is directed at the rank and file soldiers who carry out the dirty work.

This side ends with a beautiful saxophone imitation of the military bugle call that brings the rank and file soldiers tumbling out of their beds for the early morning roll call.

Side 2 (Monkey Banana) deals with the rank and file workers, most of whom are employed by the government bureaucracy.

The Nigerian trade unions were used as a battering ram against British colonization. After political

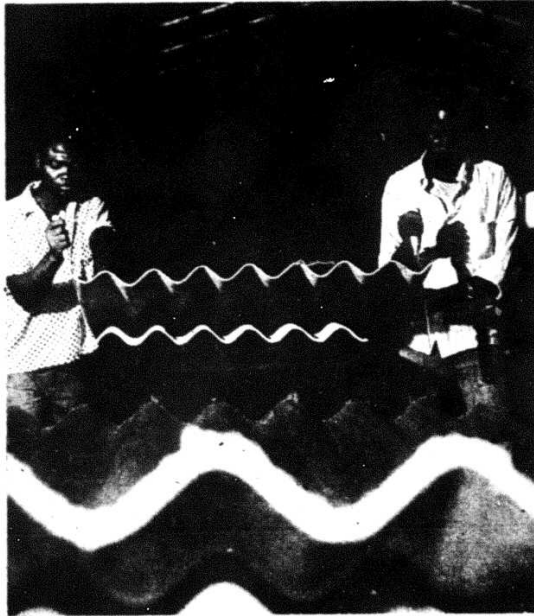
carried on the Mercury label. Everyone should get the "Zombie" album for it might be Fela's last if the Nigerian military gets its way.

However in Nigeria, Fela's message continues to transmit across the shanty towns embraced by that popular Nigerian saying:

"One day be one day, suffer man go vey o, kata-kata go burst." (One of these days, the suffering masses will really get mad and the revolution will start.)

We agree, for the same is true over here in the U.S. One of these days the suffering masses....

Until then, to the Nigerian masses we say, SOLIDARITY. □



Nigerian workers cutting asbestos-cement sheeting, totally unprotected from deadly asbestos dust. Scenes like this made Fela a revolutionary.

independence, unions were swept away.

Today there is a military decree banning strikes and making the planning, execution and participation in a strike punishable by five years in jail. Any act committed in the process of breaking a strike is not a crime, since it is in the interest of "national security."

Both sides of this album hit at the heart of the military junta's power—its control over the soldiers and the working class.

RAIDED AND BANNED

With the release of "Zombie," the military carried out a raid on Fela's commune, Kalakuta Republic was destroyed.

Fela has been banned from producing any more albums, playing in public, and his passport has been confiscated.

The ban on playing his albums on radio and TV is being rigidly enforced. Today, Fela stays in a hotel in Lagos.

Here in the U.S., his albums are

The lyrics of "Zombie o Zombie" (Side 1):

Zombie no go unless you tell am to go
(A zombie will not go unless you tell it to go)
Zombie no go stop unless you tell am to stop
(A zombie will not stop unless you tell it to stop)
Zombie no go talk unless you tell am to talk
(A zombie will not talk unless you tell it to talk)
Zombie no go think unless you tell am to think
(A zombie will not think unless you tell it to think)
Zombie o Zombie
Tell am to go straight
(Tell it to go in a straight line)
No brake, no jam, no sense
(It has no brakes, no jam, or sense)
Tell am to go kill
(Tell it to kill)
No brake no jam no sense
Tell am to go quench
(Tell it to commit suicide)
No brake, no jam, no sense
go and kill
Go and die
Go and quench
Put am for reverse
(Let us put it in reverse)
Zombie way na one way
(A zombie's way is one way)...

In listening to these lyrics, the phrase "Joro-Jara-Joro" which you hear repeated after the officers' commands, means "it is done immediately."

The first piece on side 2, "Monkey Banana," about how workers finally rebel, has the following verse:

Call am for me
(Call him for me)
Fool for forty na fool forever
(A fool at forty is a fool forever)
Na so book people dey talk
(This is what the intelligentsia always say)
I no go tell my brother like that
(I will not tell my brother that)
I go tell am realize you be fool at twenty
(I will tell him, realize you are a fool at twenty)
Book sense different from belle

sense
(Academic knowledge is different from common sense)
Fool na fool no matter for age
(A fool is a fool whatever the age)
Fifteen to thirty, forty to hundred
Now listen to me
Hey come, Yes Sir
Bring me the plate Yes Sir
Bo buy am the chop Yes Sir
(Go buy him his lunch)
Bring me the file
Call the messenger
He dey run run about everywhere
(He is running about to everywhere)
Dey jump jump about the place
(He is jumping about the place)
Na gar! for morning, day and night
(He eats only starch morning, noon and night)
I no say I be monkey for you
(I know you think I'm your monkey)
Okay I gree I don vey make you hear
(Okay I agree but listen, I'm mad)
Before I jump like monkey give me banana
(Before I jump like a monkey you must give me a pay-raise)
Make you hear
(Listen)
Give me banana
Before I jump like monkey
Monkey de chop banana
(Even monkeys eat bananas)

Since this piece came out there have been a series of strikes for higher wages.

The second piece on Side 2, "Everything Scatter," deals with the way the system takes care of dissidents. It includes a description of how Fela himself, his musicians and the people at Kalakuta Republic were continually harassed by the police and the courts.

It ends with the lines:
No wonder money no dey flow
(No wonder money does not get to the masses)
No wonder people no dey chop
(No wonder the masses are hungry)

A SONG FOR THE MINERS

by Toni Hawk
(Tune: On Top of Old Smokey)

Inside of the White House
All covered with ice
Jimmy Carter was freezing
And not feeling nice.

He said to the miners,
"Boys, go back to work,
The White House is freezing,
And I look like a jerk."

The miners said, "Sorry,
This contract, 's no good.
And if you are freezing,
Well, Jimmy—chop wood."

Well, Miller and Carter
And the B.C.O.A.
Could not get the miners
To give up no way.

Yes, none of the big shots
Could win their goal

'Cause nobody nowhere
Was moving that coal.

Inside of the White House
All covered with snow
Jimmy Carter was freezing,
And feeling right low.

So he called in Taft-Hartley
"That'll show 'em," he said
As he piled on more blankets
When he got into bed.

Well, the miners were solid
With no picket lines
And no one went scabbing
To work in the mines.

"Oh, Taft can mine it
And Hartley can haul
And Carter can shove it,"
Was the answer of all.

'Cause injunctions are paper
The miners all know

They can't make you work
When none of you go.

And unions all over
Sent money and food
All brothers and sisters
Sent whatever they could.

Oh, in Seventy-eight
The miners stood firm,
And President Miller
Stood on his last term.

Oh, in Seventy-eight
The miners stood firm,
And President Carter
Stood on his last term.

And people all over
The U.S. of A.
Were proud of the miners
For showing the way.

Oh, we'll never forget how
In Seventy-eight,
The miners gave lessons,
In freezing the state.

Workers' Power

A Struggle For Liberation Is Being Reborn

15,000 MARCH IN D.C. TO BEAT BACK BAKKE

by Larry Smith

They began coming in by the bus load. Three from Detroit, 103 buses from New York...

All morning and during the early afternoon the mostly Black, third world, and young demonstrators gathered at the starting point, until they were over 15,000 strong.

On April 15, over 15,000 people came from around the country to Washington, D.C. to demonstrate against racism and sexism.

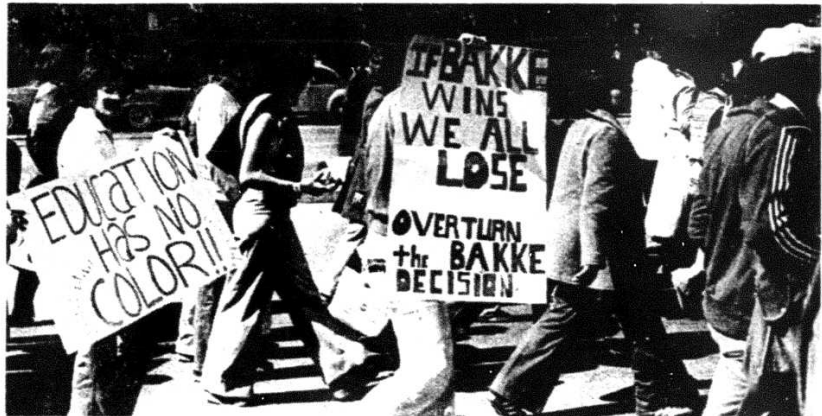
The National March Against Racism, organized by the National Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision, was the most successful event so far in the year-long struggle to overturn the Bakke decision and in defense of affirmative action.

The case is now before the U.S. Supreme Court and a decision is expected in late spring or early summer.

If upheld, the Bakke decision would put an end to programs for educational and job opportunities for minorities.

BEAT BACK BAKKE

To chants of "Beat back Bakke" and "We won't go back, send Bakke back," the demonstrators began marching up Pennsylvania Avenue.



Marching to Beat Back Bakke!

The march passed the White House (Sippy was in hiding), the Justice Department, FBI headquarters, the Supreme Court and other agencies of the government before it reached the Capitol steps.

There, a rally was held where leaders of the movement plus groups in solidarity addressed the crowd.

Jimmy Garrett, the Washington coordinator for the demonstration, expressed best what the mass turnout had done.

He said: "We said no to racism. We said no to sexism. We said no

to Carter. We said no to those eight old white men on the Supreme Court."

The mass turnout in Washington was much more than just a response to the Bakke case or the struggle around affirmative action. It was a true indicator of the revitalization of the Black liberation movement.

The movement which had run aground in the early 70's because of co-optation and government repression is now in the process of being reorganized and strengthened.

There was a virtual news blackout of the demonstration by the so-called legitimate media, who pretended this historic event did not take place.

They either did not cover the story or relegated it to their inside pages. The shooting of scenes of the upcoming movie "Hair" was considered a much more newsworthy item.

The media of the rich did not carry the story to the people, but the thousands who were there will. □

SAN FRANCISCO

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Steel Women Fight Abuse

GARY LOCAL HOLDS HEARINGS

by Valerie Dixon

GARY, Indiana—Sexual harassment by management is a familiar problem for the working woman. In response to mounting complaints, one local, United Steel Workers Local 1066 at U.S. Steel here, has begun taking testimony from women who feel that they have been discriminated against for refusing advances by their foremen.

The Committee Against Sexual Abuse, formed by Local 1066, held open hearings inviting women to testify. At the hearings, one woman with 33 years service described how she had been fired for failing to pick up on her foreman's suggestions to get together outside of work.

Two other young women were fired on their probationary period because they refused their foreman's advances.

They testified that their foreman had made comments about their

appearance and made lewd remarks. Never reprimanded for their work abilities, nevertheless they were fired before they could complete the probationary period.

Another woman testified about her foreman's use of foul language and suggestive remarks. She testified that the foreman had even asked her husband questions about their sex life.

PUBLICITY

The Committee plans to collect further evidence of the sexual harassment of women by management. This information will be brought to the attention of top U.S. Steel management.

The investigations have already received a great deal of publicity in the local press. U.S. Steel has denied all accusations and refused the opportunity to answer charges directly on a local radio station.

Possible legislation to compen-

sate women forced to leave their jobs because of sexual harassment is being investigated.

Sexual harassment is just the tip of the iceberg, however.

Discrimination against women is widespread in the mills. Inadequate toilet and washhouse facilities, discrimination in promotion and job assignment, and unequal treatment in the apprenticeship programs are all problems women face.

Women in the mills in northwest Indiana have formed the USW District 31 Women's Caucus to bring attention to and to fight discrimination on the basis of sex.

The Committee Against Sexual Abuse is one of the first committees formed under local union leadership to deal specially with this problem. Its task now is to continue to collect and compile the evidence which proves the routine and premeditated sex discrimination generally believed to occur. □

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