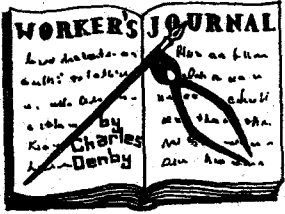


ON THE INSIDE

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Politicians, corruption and drugs

by Charles Denby, Editor

Some Black workers were discussing how the crisis in this country is affecting the poor, whites as well as Blacks. They brought up Nixon Administration attacks on working people. One worker said, "I get frightened every time I think of what is at the end of these four more years with Nixon. He is a tricky politician, and seems to be surrounded by top racketeers.

"No one could make me believe that he did not know about the Watergate bugging of the Democratic Party office. What amazes me is so many political leaders just beginning to think there is a connection between the break-in and the White House. Practically every worker in our plant believed it when the news first broke.

"Some are saying the Administration did not need to bug the Democratic Party headquarters, because every poll showed that Nixon was going to win by a landslide. I think it was done because it would enable Nixon to grab more dictatorial power. The man seems to be drunk for power. To me, he is striving to be the first dictator in this country. The Senate and Congress are his stepchildren.

"FRIGHTENING"

"Nixon's Attorney General Kleindienst told Congress that anyone holding a government job would not have to appear before them to testify if Nixon did not want them to. Executive privilege would shield them. Man, that is frightening. Another thing that frightens me is former Attorney General Mitchell saying he can't wait to appear before the Ervin Committee to testify.

"Up to now everybody has been so reluctant to testify, I can't help but wonder if the White House has made a deal with Ervin or his committee members that makes Mitchell want to testify. I am still puzzled why no Democratic leader tried to force this investigation before the election. They went along with Nixon, and waited until after the election."

GOVT. PUSHERS

I was listening to a former drug addict lecturing on drugs at a meeting some weeks ago. He stated that there is so much money in the drug racket that neither state nor federal officials want to abolish it. The only hope of combating it is for people to organize themselves in their own community and fight to keep it out.

Money from the drug racket even ends up in Washington. The daily papers ran names of some of the leading drug suppliers in Detroit. They interviewed one of them, who stated that he paid over a half million dollars in taxes last year, which the government took with a smile.

(Continued on Page 6)

At Eagle, UAW is a sweetheart union

Long Island City, N. Y.—With contract time coming around this year, it is time now for my sisters and brothers at Eagle Electric to start thinking of ways to abolish sweatshop conditions that have prevailed here since 1920. As everyone knows, UAW local 365 is a real sweetheart union. I'm not against true love, but when it's between the company and the union leadership at the expense of our lives, then I think there's something to holler about.

The first and most obvious thing which must go is the piece-rate. People were not made to race clocks for a living. Most of the shops at Eagle are piece-work shops, and most of the workers here are subjected to that inhuman process. We produce hundreds and thousands of dollars worth of goods a day for Eagle. There is no reason why Eagle can't return the favor and provide every worker with a guaranteed living wage.

If the union has done anything to knock down the race, sex and language barriers between shops, I haven't heard about it. Where are the training programs for unskilled workers to move into better shops? There is no excuse for the ancient, rotting equipment, machinery and work areas. If anyone is getting badly injured, 99% of the blame lies with the company.

Noise control is another necessity. Excessive noise, such as in the Stamping and Screw shops, destroys hearing, causes high blood pressure, and works your nerves raw. Ear-plugs and ear-muffs, when the company bothers to pass them out, tend to become uncomfortable during eight hours of work. They also cause painful rashes in the hot shops during the summer. It may not be cheaper to buy machines equipped with noise-controls, but for Eagle to do otherwise is simply inhumane.

NEWS LETTERS

10¢

"Human Power is its own end"

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MAY, 1973

Massive workers' strikes in Britain challenge both Tory and Labor parties

By Harry McShane

Glasgow, Scotland—The wage freeze imposed late last fall by the Heath Tory government in Britain to control a disastrous inflationary spiral



British museum workers in London join in widespread action as civil servants strike for first time in history.

has produced a continuously growing revolt on the part of the working class which at times reached dimensions nearing a general strike. Since the beginning of the year, selective strike actions by millions of workers have crippled transportation, closed schools and industries, disrupted utility services, and for the first time in history saw civil servants, teachers and non-medical hospital workers never before involved in labor action, out on strike for a living wage.

Despite this massive and often spontaneous outpouring of working class opposition to the repressive Tory government, both Labor Party and union leaders have refused to seriously propose a united course of action which could challenge and defeat Heath's regime. Actually, the Labor Party is trying to keep up with the Tories who have made some concessions to pensioners and low-paid workers in order to divide the working class. The Tories are trying to use the low-paid to throw discredit on those who are going on strike in defiance of the anti-strike laws. The measures taken by the Government are similar to those taken by President Nixon in America.

LABOR AND TORIES BOTH LOSE

In Scotland and elsewhere, the Liberals and the Scottish Nationalists are winning a great deal of prominence because of their criticism of both the Labor and Tory parties. In Chester-Le-Street, an industrial area in Northeast England, although the Labor Party candidate won the seat in a March election, the Labor Party vote fell from 71 percent in the general election to 53 percent. The Tory vote dropped from 28.4 percent to 8.4 percent. The Liberal Party candidate got 36 percent of the vote—the first time in 86 years that a Liberal candidate even ran for the seat. In Lincoln, also in the Northeast, a popular but unofficial Labor candidate defeated the official party representative. At Dundee East, a Scottish Nationalist ran a close second to Labor. Taking these results together, Labor's share of the vote fell from 57.4 percent at the general election to 37.6 percent, while the Tory vote dropped from 36.4 to 16.7 percent.

Closely related to these developments, of course, is the deteriorating economic situation, and the efforts of the Heath government to try to salvage whatever is possible. Central to economic survival is the U.S., with which Britain has a favorable balance of trade, a balance that Heath wants to keep. Heath wants all that can be gained from Europe without sharing any of the hardships that may spring from American stiffening of trade relations in response to Britain's entry into the Common Market.

Britain has been in the Common Market since the beginning of the year, but, in the field of foreign policy she has more in common with President Nixon than with her new partners in Europe. She is the only Common Market country that has not recognized the Government of North Vietnam.

MILITARISM CONTINUES

On another front, where there is concern among the political leaders of Europe over the possibility that America will reduce her military presence in Europe, British politicians, both Labor and Tory, have boasted that they make a larger contribution to NATO than any other country in Europe. And in the meantime, the Russians are making the most of the coming conference on European security, hinting of the possibility of much closer economic ties between the Common Market and the Russian-dominated bloc of East Europe nations—

(Continued on Page 8)

These are just a few ideas, I'm sure that every other worker here has many more. Pass them around! Eagle Electric may be a rich and powerful company, but it would be nothing at all without us to run its machines. It's high time that we force Eagle into the 20th century.

—Building #1 Worker

Grape boycott resumes!

Delano, Calif. — In their continuing effort to break the United Farm Workers Union, California grape growers have signed a "backdoor" sweetheart contract with the Teamsters Union, after the growers three-year contract with the UFW expired. The new contract gives workers a basic wage 10 percent lower than the UFW contract. It will also eliminate the hiring hall and return to the old system of labor being supplied to growers by labor contractors, long known for their abusive and racist treatment of workers.

UFW President Cesar Chavez called on all consumers to begin an immediate boycott of table grapes produced by growers who have not signed UFW contracts. These growers include: Richard Bagdasarian Company, Mecca, California; Tenneco Corporation, Chicago, Illinois; and L. R. Hamilton, Inc., Reedley, California.

Chavez charged that the federal government knows about cash payments from lettuce, grape and other growers to Teamster officials to intimidate UFW members into agreeing to work under a Teamsters' contract. Such payments are illegal under the Taft-Hartley Act, but the government has done nothing about them.

Women protest Nixon cuts in child care funds

Detroit, Mich.—Three hundred demonstrators marched in front of the GM Building here on April 10, as part of a nation-wide protest against President Nixon's cuts in federal spending for social programs, particularly day care centers.

Working mothers and about 100 pre-school children were joined in their picket line by many concerned groups, such as Westside Mothers, National Welfare Rights Organization, UAW Retirees and others. Demonstrators carried signs saying: "Child care not welfare for working mothers," "Children are our greatest resource," and "UAW Grand-dads support child care."

The main purpose of the demonstration was to call attention to the fact that many working women and men would be unable to afford child care without federal funds and would be forced to quit their jobs to care for their small children if the proposed cuts go into effect.

While on one hand President Nixon talks about reducing the number of people on welfare, on the other hand he makes cuts in legislation which will force many low-income people who now have jobs and persons who are barely scraping by on "fixed" incomes to seek welfare in order to care for themselves or their families. With the new guidelines he has written it will be harder than ever for them even to become eligible.

One woman at the demonstration said she was encouraged by the number of different groups represented because people haven't been paying attention unless the issue directly concerns them or someone they're close to. She said, "Americans just don't understand what's going on and how this can happen in America. In other countries they have child care and old people aren't starving."

—S. Casey, Detroit N&L W.L.

Women in factory jobs are creative, seek freedom

In an article by Adrienne Rich in the New York Review of Books, I was happy to see what she had written about motherhood. She, at least, realizes that it is obviously the only way to get more human beings and also opens up many avenues of thought, ascribing to it not mere function, but some form of creativity.

I am, however, sometimes at a loss in following her article because it doesn't seem to be immersed in the periods of history. Rich does mention "technological capitalism" and makes a great point on how it numbs "the powers of the imagination." But I remember something I read by Marx where he said the dawn of capitalism, of necessity, pulled women and children into the textile factories, away from the home, and after, had to send some working women to school (from the textile mills — the irony of it all) to learn how to sew — a "home" art that had been lost sweating it out in the factories.

I am aware that Marx was not saying women should have been at home sewing, a conclusion that some in WL today would no doubt draw. He was describing capitalism's inner motion of throwing people — men, women and children — helter-skelter, all for the sake of production. It is very hard for me to think of men in the families of early capitalism as male chauvinists. Having worked eight hours a day in modern factories, I can't imagine these people felt that way when the whole family was thrown into these early factories.

I was not happy with Rich when she talks of women getting ahead in this society, because she seems to be talking only about executive positions. She doesn't see gaining some freedom through factory jobs and fighting in the factory. It is not only the old concept of the "backwardness" of the worker but also the "backwardness" of the factory job she seems to express. To her the factory job is low on the totem pole, and anyone in a factory, women as well as men, are less than creative.

—Angela Terrano

Detroit welfare workers protest new rules

Detroit, Mich.—More than 250 welfare workers from seven offices in Wayne County, gathered for a Unity Rally April 10th, to protest work speed-up by the Administration. The rally resulted after several meetings between the Administration and workers to resolve the employees' grievances. Several new programs, such as the Health Screening program, are to be implemented in the near future, but no new workers are to be hired to service participating clients.

The head of General Assistance (GA) met with the workers at Kereheval, and when workers questioned why caseloads could not be decreased, they were told the Administration had the right to determine caseload, even if loads increased to 500 cases per worker!

In an age when the entire nation is boycotting meat, and the Administration suggests we eat "Fish for Patriotism," little attention has been paid to the less than poverty conditions of the welfare client. The budgets we are now using have not been updated since 1964. A client currently receives \$8.15 a week for food, plus \$3.55 for incidentals — \$3.55 if the client is a woman.



—Photo by T. Moon

Marchers in Detroit picket against day-care cuts.

'Working women raises storm in insurance



Hartford, Conn.—The response to "Working Women," a leaflet written by women working in Hartford insurance companies, has been tremendous. On mornings when the leaflet was distributed, women walked from desk to desk discussing it and many kept it on top of their desks all week.

Two or three days after its distribution, stories began to come in from women at different insurance companies. One of the two daily newspapers printed a three-column story about the leaflet which included its address and philosophical statement in full. And although a male executive remarked, "Working women? I know a lot of women who get paid but few who work," one woman who took a copy summed up the women's response when she said, "Working women? That's us!"

Here are some excerpts from the leaflet:

"We believe women's liberation is essential to human liberation. The answer to our problems as working women is not more women executives or women on the boards of directors, but joining together to demand our human rights in all areas of our lives. Through the force and reason of women fighting for human rights, all of society will be forced to make changes for the benefit of all women, children and men."

"The secrecy of job and salary levels in insurance companies works for the benefit of the company, not for the employees. Female employees are kept from knowing the salary levels of other jobs to prevent them from organizing and demanding both better jobs and higher pay. If you ask why they don't hire male clerical workers, the answer will be, 'Oh, men wouldn't work for that pay.'"

"Acceptance of low pay by women guarantees that women will remain second-class employees until we demand equal pay and refuse to work for anything less. And the best way to insure equal pay is to publish salary and job levels so that we know where we stand."

If you would like a copy of the leaflet or have a story to contribute, write to: WORKING WOMEN, P.O. Box 201, Hartford, Conn. 06101.

—Hartford Insurance Worker

Members of the National Caucus of Labor Committees spoke at the rally about working conditions, but antagonized many. Rather than creating unity, NCLC began name-calling, a disastrous effect the news and television media were quick to catch.

No one is more aware of the frustrations, inefficiencies, and degradation of being on welfare than the clients and the workers. The desperation felt by the workers who are unable to perform impossible duties and responsibilities due to caseload size, has the undesirable effect of pitting one faction against the other. Both workers and welfare recipients have a common enemy, not each other, but the system which controls them both.

—Caseworker

If you have a story, or want to contact News & Letters Women's Liberation Committees in San Francisco, Connecticut, Detroit, Los Angeles or New York, write to the addresses in the box, page 3.

WAY OF THE WORLD

Nixon's peace: endless war

by Ethel Dunbar

When I saw the TV news where the U.S. is bombing Cambodia just as often as it did North Vietnam for years, who can say the war is over "with honor" as Nixon told the American people just a few months ago. A friend said to me then that Nixon is so unreliable, you can't believe most things he says. So much pressure is on him to end the war in Vietnam and bring the POW's home, that he will make some kind of agreement to get the POW's out and then find some excuse to start bombing again.

The news reported that civilians are suffering the worst from the American bombs, and the dead and wounded are uncountable. The U.S. government answered by saying that you must expect some civilian deaths in a war like this.

After this report, they showed the pair of pandas that China gave Nixon as a good will gesture. The reporter said how Dr. Kissinger loved them and spent time with them. Here were these animals, the pride and joy of the Washington Zoo, so well fed and so well protected from any hurt or danger. And in Cambodia, living human beings are being annihilated every day by American bombs.

Nixon says he is fighting the Communists, but there is not one word of protest from China or Russia. He says he is the Number One power in this world. He also seems to have the American people afraid of his power.

Nixon can bring South Vietnam's dictator president here, and there is no mass revolt, not even one word from liberals or labor leaders against him. Then Thieu goes to Italy, France and Germany, and thousands are in the streets demonstrating and protesting against him. They reported Germany's President Willy Brandt refused to meet with him. That made me feel there are people in some countries who do not care what Nixon thinks. They will still show their resentment against fascism.

Nixon is cutting out many welfare programs that have been helping people here, and sending billions of dollars to keep this dictator in power in South Vietnam. I sometimes wonder what it will take to wake up the people in this country before it is too late, if it's not too late already.

ANNE DRAPER 1917 - 1973

Berkeley, California—Anne Draper, after a nine-month struggle against cancer, died at age 56 on March 25. The youngest child of a poor emigrant family she grew up in the ghettos of New York, was a rebel at age eight (when she refused to pull off her father's boots, even with the bribe of a quarter), and a Socialist since she was fourteen.

During World War II Anne was a steel worker on the West Coast, became a Union organizer for the S.W.O.C., then for the Hat Makers Union, and until her demise for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America. There she skillfully utilized her position to further the struggles for the rights of women and all oppressed minorities, campaigning as a Socialist and as an organizer against all forms of dictatorship and exploitation.

At the Memorial Meeting, sponsored by Union W.A.G.E. (Women's Alliance To Gain Equality), speakers from all over the country testified to the impact she had on their lives. Her activities ranged from organizing the weekly caravans to Delano, bringing the nearly defeated United Farm Workers strike desperately needed food, clothing, money, and support, to appearing with contingents of women before the California State Assembly convincing them to pass the Equal Protection Laws amendment to the Equal Rights Act—which was vetoed by Reagan and is now being fought for through the Industrial Welfare Commission. During an early convention of NOW, she organized a caucus of women into forming the highly effective UNION W.A.G.E.

The Anne Draper Memorial Fund, sponsored by UNION W.A.G.E. at 2137 Oregon Street, Berkeley, California, 94705, is for the publication of a volume of essays and material on Women's Liberation and the working class movement. Friends are asked to send contributions and concrete material such as pictures, anecdotes and activities, "through which Anne can be seen."

Anne's non-elitist philosophy can best be described in her own words, in the last article she wrote, which appears in the March/April issue of UNION W.A.G.E.: "The liberation of women must come from within their own ranks if it is to take root and this goes double for working women. The economic rulers cannot buy off the working class. The struggle will continue and burst out, in one way or another. We have good reason to expect that women workers will be in the forefront of these struggles and nobody will stop them. . . ."

—L. W.

ILWU bureaucrats begin seizure of SF local

San Francisco, Cal.—For several years there have been rumors to the effect that the International (ILWU) intended to take over the longshore local here by placing it in receivership. Recently, in what may prove to be the first-step attempt in this direction, the International office brought back one of its long-time piccards from retirement and put him on the payroll to "investigate" the local.

The investigator appeared at a joint meeting of the Stewards' Councils of the longshoremen and clerks and talked at us for awhile, "explaining" that his appointment was a response to a petition for intervention signed by "several hundred" members. If the statement was true then there is a special irony involved in this "democratic" response. The International ignores or tries to outmaneuver the whole thrust of the more than three thousand longshoremen here — this is especially revealed by the fact that the overwhelming majority are opposed to steady men on the waterfront, the infamous 9.48 clause in the contract, about which the International does nothing, absolutely nothing. As against this indisputable fact an alleged "several hundred" can get a man on payroll for an investigation.

The longshore local is regarded by the bureaucrats as being in chaos because no group controls the membership. What exists is a deep-rooted skepticism about the officialdom — and this remains so despite the undeniable fact that a number of those in local office now are trying to respond to the needs and demands of working longshoremen. What must be most alarming and a sure indicator of "chaos" to the top piccards is the growing trend of the dockers to solve their on-the-job problems by job action.

Local News & Letters Committees can be contacted directly in the following areas:

SAN FRANCISCO: PO Box 77808, Station E, San Francisco, Cal. 94107

CONNECTICUT: PO Box 891, Hartford, Conn. 06101 (597-9888)

LOS ANGELES: PO Box 24371, Los Angeles, Calif. 90024

DETROIT: 1900 E. Jefferson, Detroit 48207 (981-1010)

NEW YORK: PO Box 5463, Grand Central Sta. New York, N.Y. 10017

MONTREAL: Le Comité Humaniste-Marxiste de Montreal, PO Box 134, Montreal 600, Quebec

An interesting feature of this "investigative" move is that while the Bridges' group did it they don't control the International — another bureaucratic clique does. And although this move is unconstitutional (the International Executive Board is empowered to make moves like this, not the International office), the group that has basic control of the structure, the International board, does nothing decisive.

Whether the controlling clique ever asserts its control in a consistent way has little bearing on the interests of working longshoremen. Some years ago at a convention it was to be decided who would get a spot in the International vacated by the death of one top official. Rather than an out-front fight on which group would have its man in the spot both groups agreed to create two jobs where there had been one before and the convention went for it.

These two groups had decided to keep their struggle for power "in the closet" and to achieve that, these people whose outstanding feature in the longshore jobs department is to give them up, put on an extra man at our expense.

—San Francisco Docker

Service station workers

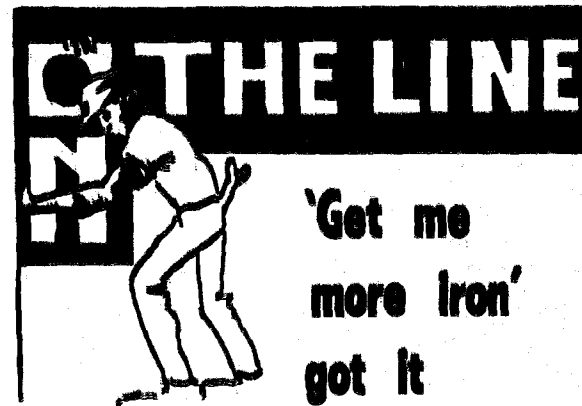
Face long hours, low pay

Los Angeles, Calif.—One of the first things everyone should learn about the service station workers is the long hours we spend working to make enough money to survive on. Fifty, sixty, even seventy hours a week are not uncommon. Some companies pay overtime after 40 hours, but many do not. The reason most workers don't gripe about the long hours and low pay is that they feel if they can just stand the conditions long enough they will find another job.

Those that do pay time and a half for overtime will try and limit the hours to 40 a week. With the starting wage at \$2 per hour, a worker will gross \$80 a week. After taxes, social security, etc. the net take-home pay of the beginning worker in our industry could drop to \$65 or \$70 a week. How in the hell can anyone expect a worker and his family to survive on starvation wages? Is it any wonder that apathy reigns in our industry?

It would seem obvious that as workers we would form our own rank-and-file organizations against these conditions. Well, it has been tried, but the companies make sure that workers don't even hear of the failures. A fellow worker told me about a local company where the rank-and-file organized themselves and won a government-sponsored election. But, the company got so scared it quit the retail gas business.

—Service station worker



By John Allison

This story had its beginning in the Highland Park plant. There was a very lazy young worker in the Platen Department. To everyone's surprise, he was made a supervisor.

From the very beginning, his theme song was: Get me more iron. He became known in the plant as "Get Me More Iron." The workers under him were long-seniority workers who were not willing to risk their jobs to straighten the foreman out.

He was transferred to the Eldon Axle plant. He started out on the midnight shift with young workers, was made Assistant Superintendent on afternoon shift and now is Superintendent on days.

Now it happens that a young worker of three weeks' seniority did what "Get Me More Iron" has been asking for so long. He gave the Superintendent more iron—up side his head. When the story began in Highland Park we had no idea it would end in Eldon Axle. But we knew that one day someone would give him more iron.

The rank and file workers have been waiting to see what bold new concept the UAW is challenging the auto companies to accept at the bargaining table. Management sounds like the foreman who got the pipe up side his head. All they know to say is "More production. More iron."

We realize that the union is so close to management they can't see the pipe just waiting to go up side the Big Three Heads. You can trace — beyond a shadow of a doubt — all workers' problems right back to working conditions.

Sour contract at Sweet-Life

Suffield, Conn.—We just received a big raise over two years at Sweet-Life Foods. Drivers are supposed to get \$1.25 and the warehouse \$1.00. This is supposed to bring us to what other Connecticut Foods workers are getting, which is still way below what Teamster warehousemen and drivers in freight are getting.

When we had our first contract meeting, Business Agent Pete Rossano told us the union wouldn't sanction a strike for more than 5.5%, or about 25 cents an hour over the first year. When workers objected strongly and suggested that we might wildcat, he apparently changed his mind.

There are still a lot of problems with this raise. The women in repack still get 80 cents per hour below the rest of the warehouse, even though they do about the same work. When a woman raised this at the meeting, Rossano told her to go to the government about discrimination. She said that was what the union was paid for, to protect us, and all of the workers supported her.

We'll probably never see the raise, since it must be approved by the Cost of Living Council. That's why a quarter of the membership, mostly from the night shift, voted to strike until we actually see the raise. But the union and the food warehouses have set up our contracts so they all expire at different times.

If the union doesn't unite the foods workers so a strike could put some real pressure on the government, we may have to do it without them. The companies know this. That's why they had three cops and extra supervisors on the night shift right after the contract was approved.

Sweet-Life is making record profits. The labor leaders get fatter and more corrupt every year. It's only the workers who have to try to make ends meet with shrinking real income, and have to work under speed-up and conditions which get worse every year.

—Sweet-Life Worker

FROM THE AUTO STOPS

Fleetwood

Detroit, Mich. — They have been hiring a lot of women here at Fleetwood. I can't say for sure just how many they are hiring, but I would guess that out of every 12 new workers they hired that five are women. The company is putting a lot of women in as trainees for supervision. This is something new. They never wanted to hire women before and you never heard of a woman in supervision.

I am surprised to hear some of these women say that they are not for women's liberation, when they would not be in the plant at all if it wasn't for women's liberation. The company is only hiring so many because there is a women's movement. They are putting some into supervision so they can say they don't discriminate. But mostly they think that women supervisors will help them control the new women workers better.

There is no woman in any important position in our local union. Years ago the FEPC was formed to fight discrimination. Now it is just a title. But I can't even remember what they call the committee that is supposed to handle the special problems of women workers. That is how inactive it is. In 1965 and 1966 when a lot of Black workers were hired they went down to the union hall and participated. I believe this is the reason that Joe Gaston is local president today. The bureaucrats are supposed to represent us, men and women, but they just hide from us in their all-male union hall.

— Black Worker, Fleetwood

GM South Gate

Los Angeles, Cal.—The night shift Body Shop held an important meeting which over 100 workers took part in. The major subject taken up was the medical needs in the plant. (Ed. Note: See N&L, March 1973).

At the meeting it was decided that there should be competent nurses and a doctor for each shift, and a fully-equipped medical rescue vehicle manned with trained personnel at all times while work is being performed in the plant.

It was further decided that the company should hire

and pay the medical personnel, but that the union should have the right to accept or reject them. The 300 workers who will be treated by the medical people should have the right to decide if their attitude toward us reflects their concern for our health, or GM's concern with production.

It was decided that our committeeman would take the results of this meeting to the shop committee so it could be brought before management. If in three weeks no action has been taken we are to hold another meeting to determine future action.

The February issue of the Assembler is a perfect example of how the union does not deal concretely with the issues that concern the workers. The main headline states, "SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS." But this is a meaningless slogan because GM's mad rush for production makes it impossible to work safely. The line is moving too fast for that.

— GM Southgate Workers Committee

GM Ste-Therese

Ste-Therese, Quebec — Since the fall of 1971, there have been 1,700 layoffs at GM Ste-Therese, leaving only 1,100 still on the job. And what's more, the company has flatly stated that these "layoffs" will be permanent.

One of the reasons for this is that part of the production of the Vega (called "Astro" here to make it sound Canadian) has been shifted to the Lordstown, Ohio plant where employees are doing obligatory overtime and where the line speed is faster. If this same production were transferred to Ste-Therese it would put 400 people back in work. Right now the Ste-Therese plant is working at less than half its capacity.

The Minister of Industry doesn't think that the situation is urgent and says that it will be dealt with "at the proper time," but his government keeps pledging to protect people's jobs and its intervention might certainly ease things temporarily. This just shows what an invitation to disaster this policy of crawling around on all fours begging for foreign investment is; for each job "created," several others are lost.

— P. Gouin

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EDITORIAL Nixonomic inflation, food boycotts and militarization

Despite attempts by newspapers and TV to find "the organizers," or the "lady who started it," it was obvious that the massive meat boycott that spread across the U.S. April 1-7 was a spontaneous outburst. Literally tens of millions of shoppers by-passed meat counters and butcher shops to register their protest against skyrocketing food prices. Supermarket chains reported that meat sales were off 50 to 60 percent, as women organized picketlines outside stores.

Boycotters were outraged, not only at high prices, but at Nixon's preposterous last-minute efforts to head them off by "freezing" prices on beef, pork and lamb. The protestors agreed that what Nixon did was to "close the doors after the cows were out of the barn." In the middle of "Boycott Week," Nixon repeated his contemptuous attitude by dining with Pres. Thieu of South Vietnam on prime ribs of beef and other luxuries.

NIXON'S TRAP: WORKERS VS. FARMERS

It was no accident that Nixon's "freeze" came at the end of March, after food prices had risen nearly nine percent in three months, or at an annual rate of 34 percent! Neither is there any accident when administration officials broadly hint that the farmers' "high profits" are to blame for \$2 per lb. steak and \$1.10 per lb. hamburger. Just as Nixon has spent four years trying to set white workers against Black workers, and "hard hats" against students, so he is now out to pit urban workers against small farmers.

American farmers, who have seen their numbers cut in half since 1950, as giant corporations gobbled whole counties and more than a million farm families were forced off the land, know that "high profits" are something they have never seen.

It is true that the prices paid to farmers rose significantly in the months before Nov. 7, as Nixon tried to insure the Republicans a big victory in the farm vote. But it was the agribusiness giants who reaped the lion's share of the benefits. The \$1.2 billion U.S.-Russia grain

deal exposed the truth. Small farmers were not even told of the deal until it was completed, while Nixon's favorite friends, like Ralston-Purina, were already counting their profits.

MILITARIZATION THE REAL CAUSE

The true culprits in U.S. inflation are not the hog raisers in Nebraska or the dairy farmers in New York, but the architects of militarization and devaluation in Washington. The fact is that this year's military budget is the largest ever, and is all the more obvious in this "era of peace", in which B-52's systematically massacre the people of Southeast Asia. The military drain on the economy is the real mammoth which is eating away at the wages of the real workers.

Add to that the 18 percent devaluation of the dollar in less than a year and a half, which has forced up the prices of every product, including food. So anxious was Nixon to stem the falling rate of profits of tremendous proportions, that his "new economic policy" moves guaranteed a soaring mass of profits, while wages remained frozen. He succeeded in depressing real wages, and in accelerating speed-up in the shops. The result has been relentless inflation despite the high productivity of American labor. The economy remains in serious trouble, and Wall Street is already guessing about the timing of the next recession.

One thing is certain, however. There will be no relaxation of any sort in prices. Faced with the obvious fury in the ranks, every major labor bureaucrat has been proclaiming that he will not settle for the 5.5 percent wage increase allowed under the Phase III guidelines. But no matter how many pennies are added to Nixon's guidelines when the contracts are finally written, they will never make up for the dollars that workers have already lost to the inflation which has accompanied the Vietnam war since 1965.

Rising to the occasion, AFL-CIO big-shots George

Meany and I. W. Abel have chosen to "fight" inflation by raising anew the revolting racist threat of the "yellow peril," blaming the drop in wages and the rise in prices on the Japanese. Abel has even purchased TV time to warn of the threat to U.S. workers from Japanese "disciplined" labor, while Meany demands higher and higher tariffs.

Just as workers can expect no help from these betrayers of labor, neither will they get any from the Democratic congress. There is no hope of legislation to stop the decline in real wages from a Congress which has failed in every "confrontation" with Nixon, from aid to the handicapped to the anti-poverty program.

The truth is that the only answer is in direct mass action which unites farmers and workers, and which refuses to accept any of Nixon's phony scapegoats as the enemy.

News & Letters

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Raya Dunayevskaya, Chairwoman
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CHINA-RUSSIA-USA

A local peace committee recently speak about her trip to China. She is one of those weird creatures who have been popping up lately — a long-time Russian Stalinist turned Maoist. About 400 showed up to listen breathlessly to her glowing accounts of how the Chinese really all love Mao Tse-tung, love to dig canals 8,000 miles through the mountains with their bare teeth and red books, and how, although there isn't any freedom to speak of, at least no one is lonely!

The handful of youth in the audience were generally unimpressed. They were the only ones who agreed when I pointed out that if 20,000 Chinese youth escape to Hong Kong rather than be forced into the desert for life, something is grievously wrong with the Chinese system.

Two years ago when I tried to talk "revolution" to that peace committee, they screamed bloody murder. The other night they screamed when I merely called Mao's China a totalitarian dictatorship. I don't think that could be called "transformation into opposite." It's more like "transformation into absurd."

Youth
New Jersey

A friend of mine who just returned from a month's travel in East Europe and Russia said that Poland seems to be the freest of the East European countries, and that it seems due to the workers' revolt of December 1970. The government of Gierk is attempting some open self-criticism, but only "attempting." The people openly discuss the revolt. He said the next time he hears a "dumb Polack" joke he's going to lay the guy who tells it out flat.

He also said that Lenin in Russia is worshipped like Christ is in the West. The real teachings of either one would throw a monkey-wrench into those respective systems if their words were ever put into practice. They are just used for public consumption to give the masses (East and West respectively) some meaning to their lives.

New Reader
Oneida, N.Y.

You have to read Marx and Lenin for yourself. All these Communists and Socialists change them around, they twist them all up. In those countries the guys who work with their heads still get paid a lot more, ride around in

limousines and all that. That's wrong. My work is made harder just because it's so boring.

The problem is, most people in this country still feel our only choice is between the system we've got, or a system like Russia or China. It's not.

Young White Worker
Connecticut

RACISM

Concerning the article "New Bobby Seale: Old Mentality," I agree that what they are trying to accomplish now through electoral politics is the same thing that they failed to accomplish with urban guerilla tactics; I don't agree that their program or their party in its earlier days was merely an attempt to realize the Great Society by increasing the funding of the poverty programs in the black community.

While their old tenpoint program was not a desirable nor even a viable way to revolution, it was an attempt at revolutionizing and raising the political consciousness of more blacks. I don't see how else a true revolutionary like George Jackson, for example, could have sided with them.

Black Woman Student
Los Angeles

You ask for my sub renewal to support your N&L: "the only paper edited by a Black worker" and so forth. Who cares if your editor is Black or a worker if he is no better than any of the complaining stock of militants with whom he seems to enjoy wasting his time. To help you realize that one needs not be Black or a worker or in Detroit to understand what's going on with car production and class struggle in the U. S. I am sending you a pamphlet about the Lordstown Strike of 1972 published by a small group of French radicals. Compare it to the paucity of your "From the auto shops." Whatever the color you use to wrap up your ideology, (Black, yellow or white) to sell it on the market, it won't fool the proletariat much longer, and you'll be crushed just like other militants.

J-H D.
Paris

Editor's Note: The pamphlet was published by "The Friends of Four Million Young Workers"—who evidently don't believe that workers can speak very well for themselves.

Readers'

It seems that to a certain extent this upsurge or re-emergence of racism we are seeing, is a reflection or a result of the economic crisis we are going through. One guy I know was trying to get into the Electricians' Union and was taking lots of tests. Now the fact is they are not hiring electricians and it is hard to get in. When he began the process he started talking about the fact that there are certain quotas of other groups.

The fact that he couldn't get into the union in that way brought out some racism which is latent in lots of people. But it's really a question that when there is a squeeze on the working class divisiveness becomes even worse, and this is the result. It always works that way.

Observer
Los Angeles

I read part of your Black, Brown and Red book. It's true what it says there about Blacks having the hardest jobs in this country, but where I work the company makes everybody work so hard, white or Black, that a man strains his back almost every week. I have to say they treat us equally as far as race here — we all work like dogs for those big guys who own the place.

Black Worker
Connecticut

After being mugged recently in New York, Acting Supreme Court Justice Allen M. Myers had this to say: "A lot of people say we have to get to the root of the problem — poverty . . . But that's a long way off. In the meantime I believe we have to give the people who can be rehabilitated the shorter sentences. Unfortunately, it is the blacks and other poor people from the minority groups who, because of their deprivation, are so warped that they can't be rehabilitated. So they get longer sentences. It seems the judiciary is discriminating against people because of the color of their skin . . . That would be outrageous if it were so."

We are of course sorry that Justice Myers had the misfortune to be mugged by people "too warped to be rehabilitated." But we are even sorer that a man of his obviously limited political

understanding can claim the title of Justice at all. For Justice Myers' convoluted logic amounts to the following:

First — Poverty is the cause of crime. (A brilliant deduction!) Second — The poorer you are, the more warped you are. Third — The more warped you are, the less likely you can be rehabilitated. Fourth — Since we cannot do anything about poverty (heaven forbid!) the only solution is to lock up our poor warped Black brothers and sisters in our already overcrowded jails. We will, however, go easier on our white middle-class brethren, who, naturally, are not so warped. Fifth — All this is of course, unfortunate, but the judiciary, nevertheless, is not racist, for that would be outrageous.

Outrageous indeed!

Student
New York

FRENCH REVIEWS

The three French reviews of Marxism and Freedom printed last issue were very interesting, especially the two that were critical. It was revealing that one used "passion" as an insult. They seemed to use that when they don't know how to oppose us. The other's reference to finding it "curious" to include a chapter about the U. S. shows what he thinks of internationalism.

Supporter
New York

ISRAEL

The saying current in many languages "a guest for a while sees for a mile" is, judging from the letter of "Visitor to Israel" in your February issue, sometimes rather misleading.

Immigrants to Israel — not only from Russia, are directed to the various towns and cities according to two main criterion: housing and employment. These aim at dispersing the population to all parts of the country, to avoid concentration within the narrow, already overpopulated coastal belt between Tel-Aviv and Haifa. Sometimes, however, where housing is available there isn't suitable employment, and vice versa. This ap-

TWO WORLDS

By Raya Dunayevskaya,
Author of *Marxism and Freedom*

Editors Note: We have not written about Watergate up to now, not because the depth of the corruption is not horrifying — but because corruption is so inherent in capitalism that it is almost as characteristic of the system as the extraction of surplus value from the worker. The bright young manipulators that Nixon has drawn around him in the White House—the Deans, the Zieglers, the Haldemans, the Magruders, the Erlichmans, et al.—are a breed we have seen before, as the "Two Worlds" written Feb. 20, 1954, during the McCarthy hearings, which we reprint below, dramatically reveals. The difference is that 1973 is not 1954, and Nixon is no mere Senator McCarthy. He is president of the most powerful, nuclear-armed country on earth. The danger of McCarthyism was one thing. The danger of a President whose attempts to invoke "executive privilege" reveal his absolute-dictator-mentality is quite another. We ask you to read this 1954 article with 1973 eyes.

I remember when I first saw the announcement in the paper that Roy Cohn would be McCarthy's attorney on the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. It sent a shudder through me. Without even reading the story of his life, the picture revealed the type. The worldly young man endowed with brains and wealth, through no effort of his own, believing that he can, with no roots in any civilization, do anything and everything; believing only in his own personality and using it unashamedly to breeze through any opposition.

He was only 25 then, the son of an old-line Democrat, a New York judge. Too young to be in the second World War, he had whizzed through Columbia University and law school during the post-war period in three and a half years, graduating so young that he had to wait a year

Gang lawyer for the establishment

and a half before he could take his bar exam. Every college student knows the type, the opportunist with brains and connections who develops them as fast as possible in order to put them at the disposal of the highest bidder. Cohn didn't have to wait long. The moment he passed his bar exam, a job was waiting for him as Confidential Assistant to the United States Attorney in New York.

OUTSIDE THE LAW

The Government gave Cohn the opportunity he needed. The Communists were being prosecuted for conspiracy. While the legal forms were being maintained in Court, a special department was set up by the Attorney General to deal with all radicals. The boy who had been born with a silver spoon in his mouth was now worth his weight in gold. While other government attorneys hesitated to bring in anti-Communist radicals under the same law which prosecuted Communists, Cohn was uninhibited by any democratic tradition. The end justified the means, legal or not. The older more respectable attorneys protested, but in the end they always capitulated. Cohn knew that he could always sweep them along. All they wanted to do was go more slowly but their ends were no different than his. Cohn gathered around him a gang of younger men, as rootless and ruthless as he, anxious to put their highly-trained brains at the service of the most powerful bidder.

Now that his ability to bully his more liberal colleagues into illegal short-cuts had been proven, Cohn did not stay long with the U.S. Attorney. He was looking for more fertile fields. The new U.S. Attorney was anxious to move more slowly, to stay within the law. McCarthy needed a lawyer on his staff, as unscrupulous and as brazen and as shameless as he.

McCarthy and Cohn joined forces. McCarthy's smears are as unscrupulous as Cohn's, but his manner is shifty, sneering. Cohn brings to the proceedings the vigorous

brassiness which paralyzes the opposition with its offensiveness.

INFORMER'S BEST FRIEND

The whole tradition of the American people fills them with horror and distaste for stool pigeons. But everything the Administration, Democratic and Republican, has done drives them towards identifying the informer with a patriot. When Louis Budenz, Elizabeth Bentley, Whittaker Chambers and the whole army of lesser fry stool pigeons take the stand to finger people, they are aware of the revulsion of the whole community. Cohn is there to give them the immoral courage to continue. Without any ifs, ands or buts he stands for the philosophy of glorifying informers. When he is present, they feel that

(Continued on Page 7)

RAYA DUNAYEVSKAYA is the Chairwoman of NEWS & LETTERS COMMITTEES, an organization of Marxist-Humanists, which practices the unity of worker and intellectual, and of philosophy and revolution, and totally new human relations. NEWS & LETTERS is edited by a Black production worker, CHARLES DENBY. It was born in 1955, the year of the Montgomery Bus Boycott, on the one hand, and the wildcats against Automation, on the other. It is a monthly publication which does not separate reports of the activities of workers, Blacks, women and youth against capitalism, racism, sexism, and imperialist war, from the activity of thinking and working out theory for our age. Participation in the freedom struggles and the creation of a forum for all the new voices from below by the publication of the paper, pamphlets and books are all forms of activities we invite you to join in working out with us.

Views

plies equally to professionals as well as other skills and trades.

The sit-in at the Lod Airport your correspondent witnessed has nothing to do with persecution or discrimination. The comparison between Russia and Israel is rather far-fetched.

However critical one can be of Israel, at least one should remain true to the facts.

As a left-wing Socialist-Zionist, critical of many of the internal and external policies of the Israeli government (and there is plenty to be critical of), I, like many others, don't claim that Israel is a classless society. The struggle that I'm part of aims at achieving this goal, while fighting for the right of the Russian Jews for national self-determination and free emigration to Israel, against any discrimination of the Israeli Arab minority, national self-determination of the Palestinians and just peace with the neighboring Arab states.

Nahum Sneh
Israel

POSTAL WORKERS

April 15 to June 30 will be a time of negotiations for the U. S. Postal Service and the postal workers. I think we should pressure for improvement, not only in working conditions and benefits, but also in postal service. There have been many rumors of special retirement benefits to phase out more senior workers, and management wants to use the demand for area-bargaining to divide us nation-wide, especially city from rural and small town postal workers.

Our national union leader says he is committed to some of the things which we have been talking about in N. Y. that will help all of us. We can't let him beg off when he starts getting pressure from the White House and the U.S.P.S. We proved ourselves in 1970.

Letter Carrier
New York

I am disgusted with the press coverage of the Congressional hearing on the U. S. Postal Service. They covered the patrons who told about deteriorated service. They covered management who weren't reluctant to hang out their "dirty

linen." But they didn't cover the postal workers.

Management must be pleased with the timing of the hearings, since contract negotiations are coming up this spring. They remember the strike in 1970 and the full public support the postal workers got. This year conditions are 100 times worse, but management wants the public to think only about the lousy service.

Letter Carrier
Detroit

WOMEN'S LIBERATION

In your last issue on the abortion law, Molly Jackson pointed to the fact that it could be used against lower-class minority women in such a manner that they might be forced to either have abortions or get off welfare. Such an 'either/or' choice would suffocate the dignity of a woman who really wanted children and wished to control her own body and her own life. When blacks are "shouting genocide," it is not genocide "Nazi-style" that the blacks have in mind here but rather the "hidden" genocide that results from narrowing human choices to nothing.

The slow death of creeping imperialism is a lot deadlier than a swift one.

Black Student
East Lansing

While I agree with Ms. Holmes' article on WL needing new theoretical beginnings, I feel that it is not enough to say that Raya Dunayevskaya is "the only woman theoretician who has established a new foundation." Ms. Holmes says that "What is crucial is that we continue on this ground" without ever telling us what "this ground" is. Perhaps this might make an interesting future article.

Feminist
Detroit

I've seen horrible pieces in WL books praising China, while revealing just what WL means there. Women were "freed" from their homes to live in collectives where instead of having to cook for a few, they cook for hundreds. Or they get to work in a factory under terrible conditions. It is held up as liber-

ation for a woman to leave her young baby with her mother and return to the factory, but what about the grandmother who is forced to care for the child? If child care means nothing but forcing women to work longer in the factory, who wants it?

Mother
New York

VIETNAM VETS

FREE FIRE ZONE, a collection of short stories by Vietnam Veterans has just been published by 1st Casualty Press. "Profits" are divided between our next book's cost and the American Friends Service Committee hospital in South Vietnam, and the Bach Mai Hospital in North Vietnam. Please let your readers know they can help raise funds for medical relief for Indochina by ordering copies, at \$2.95 each, from:

1st Casualty Press Fund
PO Box 518
Coventry, Conn. 06238

NIXONISM

The large oil monopolies have decided to get rid of us independent gas stations. They raised their wholesale price to us 4c a gallon last week, forcing me to raise my gas price by 2c. This week their wholesale price will go up another 5c. I will lose all my customers to those large name brands, and have to shut down. The oil corporations will thank us for getting out of the way, and boost their retail prices up to 60c or 70c. It's all well-planned and the government is in on it, just like the meat.

Owner/Operator
Connecticut

Boston's Mayor White is "regretfully" cutting social services and laying off city workers. Nixon is gleefully doing this on a national level to smash the minorities and the workers. The results are the same whether a liberal or reactionary does it, which only shows the total crisis of our system.

Correspondent
Boston

I saw a small news article recently about the arrest of a group of Blacks and Tuscarora Indians who were marching together in North Carolina to support Wounded Knee. Also, women have been writing to newspapers protesting their racist and sexist treatment of Sasheen Littlefeather. Maybe Marlon Brando

didn't make it to Wounded Knee, but the people know that the Indian struggle is our struggle, too. If we don't unite now with the Indians and force Nixon from Wounded Knee, he'll bomb us all "back to the stone age."

"Keep on pushin'"
Detroit

LEADERS AND RANKS

The March issue of the Teamster Magazine is full of lies about how the Teamsters are organizing the Farmworkers of California. Everyone I talk to feels they are really being paid off by the growers to disrupt the organizing successes of Chavez's UFW.

They also reprinted a curious quote from the 1923 issue of the magazine. Part of it ran: "The great trouble with our conservative members is that they stay at home Sundays and evenings and do not attend the meetings of their locals. They have something else to do. But the firebrands attend every meeting..."

Everyone knows the opposite is true. In my local only 100 or so friends of the bureaucrats attend these regular meetings. At one I attended, this unrepresentative minority took the "radical" action of giving money to the local Republican Party. But the reprinting of this quote must mean the leadership has been confronted by angry rank and filers at these regular meetings in other locals.

Teamster Member
Connecticut

PRISONERS' FREE PRESS

Men and women prisoners involved with the Prisoner's Free Press have suffered great harassment from prison officials in an effort to silence our paper. Two members are being held in Solitary Confinement under indefinite sentences, in the Western Penitentiary at Pittsburgh and our art editor is being held in the dungeon at State Prison at Huntingdon, Pa. We accept these risks because we know no struggle can succeed without someone making a personal sacrifice. We are determined to continue printing this paper no matter what the cost. To those who want to help us we need: money, postage stamps, typewriters, mimeograph equipment. We also need readers, and articles. Send what you can to:

Prisoner's Free Press
c/o James Mayberry
PO Box 4731, Phila., Pa. 19134

Youth DOING AND THINKING

Students, workers shake up France

by Chris Norwell

Since the end of March, high school and university students have taken to the streets in major cities throughout France to protest new draft and education requirements. At the same time, mostly-immigrant workers at Renault, the nation's largest auto plant, have been on strike against unskilled jobs and monotonous working conditions, and there are indications that the two groups have caused a shake-up in French society that hasn't been seen since 1968.

The high school students went on strike to protest the abolition of draft deferments for students entering college. College students, at the same time, walked out to protest a new system of educational requirements that would result in the devaluing of their future diplomas. The demonstrations grew into mass outpourings of discontent as thousands of youth joined together in the streets to demand changes. The police, trying to break up the gatherings, started many street clashes that have so far brought injury to students and police alike.

Meanwhile, the Renault workers, at Billancourt, a suburb of Paris, are continuing their strike over working conditions despite the fact that their union, the Communist-dominated Confederation General du Travail (CGT), obtained a substantial raise for them from the management. The workers rejected that offer, saying they were not interested in money alone. The strike has now spread to other industries around France, including half of the 80,000 Renault workers. Workers in other plants, such as Peugeot in St. Etienne, Dijon, and Lille, have walked off in sympathy strikes.

Fourteen percent of French workers come from countries with high unemployment rates, such as Algeria, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Africa, etc., and are used by the French industries to keep wages low for all workers. The immigrant workers also end up getting all the lousy jobs and not being able to advance into the skilled trades. Recently there has been an increasing amount of unrest from these immigrants, including a couple of walkouts at Renault's plant in Le Mans.

The students and workers seem to be confronting France again with simultaneous, if not combined, actions against the society. The CGT, who in 1968 helped the counter-revolution by keeping the workers and students apart, has now come out with a resolution supporting the workers' wildcat and the students' demonstrations. The CGT is now running to keep up with its revolutionary rank-and-file. It seems like the immigrants don't listen to their union leadership, and are determined to fight for freedom despite them.

Greek youth murdered

As an update to your story on Greece which appeared in the April '73 issue, your readers should know that two students were killed by the Saloniki police during a sit-in. Many have been arrested and beaten, but the movement continues to grow in size and militancy.

At one point, some 100,000 Athenians massed in support of the students blocking all commerce from Constitution to Omonia Square. Our correspondents and returning travelers report that for the first time, the people are speaking of being able to overthrow the gorilla colonels without aid from any outside foreign state.

The slogans of the students have been consistently anti-imperialist and anti-capitalist, more militant in terms of ideology than demonstrations before the junta which were dominated by the revisionism of the Greek Communist Party. Any readers who want to keep up on Greek affairs may write to us for a free copy of our latest issue.

Z. Nikiforos
The Front Line
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Organizing for amnesty now

In the past year, three separate groups of activists, two in exile and one in the U.S., have been organizing a mass movement in support of a just amnesty for all categories of war resisters. Despite having different starting points, AMEX, Up From Exile (Sweden), and SAFE RETURN have arrived at very similar conclusions concerning the centrality of the amnesty issue.

The fact that the majority of war resisters were of working class background impressed both AMEX and Up From Exile with the need to re-define the nature of their resistance to this war from the narrow, self-conscious "middle-class" conceptions of morality.

The experience of "deserters" in exile (or underground) was a continuation of the oppression which they (and their families) experienced within the U.S. Not finding assimilation or even residence easily obtainable, they remain political exiles. For them, amnesty is not an abstract question of a luxury — rather a necessity.

By coupling the right of resistance to the demand for "safe return," we can prevent the amnesty issue from becoming distorted into a question of whether they should be "forgiven" for their "crimes."

FAMILIES OF RESISTERS FOR AMNESTY
c/o Safe Return 186 Fifth Ave. #1003
New York, N.Y. 10010

H. S. frustration

Warren, Mich. — I would like to express in my state of frustration, how extremely dehumanizing and monotonous my typing class is. I just despise the thought of the next school day when third hour typing class comes around because I know that all of my previous assignments will be returned to me with great big E's on them.

One of the reasons why my grades are so poor is because the teacher refuses to let me work at my own rate and, if I were to let myself go through the neurotic monotony of pushing those keys as fast as I can, I would go insane. I just wish that they would realize that I am not a productionist and that I am a human being!

Another thing that irritates me is the advice the counselors give to women students. They are constantly stressing to women "either go to college or become a secretary." Not only do I think that women students should have the right, but I also think they should be encouraged, to involve themselves in their own individual interests and creative abilities, no matter what they may be.

I think that something should be done about the instructors and the counseling staff at the school, because a student's life is much too valuable to be influenced by such ignorant, inhuman people that obnoxiously illustrate their complacent attitudes to their 8 to 9 jobs at the price of the students' future.

—Male Student, Fitzgerald High School

Warsaw Ghetto commemoration

New York, N. Y. — A contingent of Jewish Leftists was both verbally and physically attacked for carrying a red flag with a black Jewish star in a march commemorating the 30th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising on April 19. The flag, belonging to the Jewish Left Community coalition (JLC), brought an outraged response from a small minority of the predominantly older, European-born marchers.

Several of those protesting the flag shouted "Don't you support the Jews trying to get out of Russia?" and refused to hear any statement of position by JLC members. One man kept saying "No flags in this march. No flags — this is not political," while he held an American flag and that same flag stood on the speakers' platform.

The history of the Warsaw Ghetto resistance itself creates the basic irony of the confrontation. On April 19, 1943, when Hitler began his final liquidation of the Ghetto, the resistance which arose was spearheaded by Jewish Marxists and Socialists in the Ghetto community. The commemoration march ignored the history of this freedom fight; the JLC, carrying on the spirit of its brothers and sisters of 30 years ago, was attacked.

— Marcher, N.Y.

Perspectives, 1972-73

by Raya Dunayevskaya

Introduction: Lord Nixon, or Super-Patriotism,
Last Refuge of Scoundrels

I—A "Pentagonal" World, or a State-Capitalist
World in Total Crisis and Disarray?

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REVOLUTION

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WORKER'S JOURNAL

(Continued from Page 1)

The former addict said his sister had also been addicted. Through connections, she got a job at the Post Office as a letter carrier. They stole over \$100,000 in checks, and had other connections to cash them. It took three months to start an investigation, and in that time his sister would be transferred to another route.

They were able to steal checks for nearly a year and a half before his sister was finally caught. They could never have gotten away with it without help from someone high up, who was getting paid off too.

This man said that some in the police department are connected to the drug racket, and some in the courts too. But there was no way anyone would ever get him connected with drugs anymore. "Drug abuse has turned this country into a jungle society," he said.

DRUGS VS. BLACK UNITY

Although drugs have been around a long time, it was after the rebellions by Blacks in the late Sixties that the authorities seemed to open the floodgates to drugs. Blacks were making some social and political progress through their unity. He felt the society had to do something to break up the solidarity among Blacks.

Now in every large or small city, drugs are easy to obtain in the Black community. But drug use is spreading to the all-white suburbs, and some of them are beginning to yell that it is time to stop.

To get rid of drugs, we first must get rid of those that condone it, those who protect the pushers. To do that we will have to tear up this society from beginning to end, and build a new one that will have the interests of all the people at heart.

Detroit area readers:

CHARLES DENBY

will speak on

"The Share-cropping South and
the Industrial North"

Date: Wednesday, May 9

Time: 7 P.M.

Place: Oakland County Community College,
Orchard Ridge Campus—Building "J"
Orchard Lake Road at 1 1/2 Mile

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BLACK-RED VIEW**'The Mack': exploitation flick**

by John Alan

The scene is an Oakland, California, movie theater, just off the main downtown street—a movie house that would have been permanently closed because of the decline in attendance, but was given a new lease on life by the rash of Black exploitation films which Hollywood has been grinding out in the last few years, with the single-minded drive to achieve greater profits from its new-found market. War surplus search-lights sweep the night sky; Cadillacs and Bentlys drive up to the glittering Marquee; out step hustlers, pimps, and "their" women, dressed in the newest "pimp style" clothing which the "heroes" of so many of these films have popularized.

Across the street from the Marquee, looking at all this phoney glitter are the Black youth of Oakland's ghettos. Hollywood is unveiling for them a new "folk hero" — one these youth can look up to by ponying up \$3.00 each at the box office.

THE PIMP AS HERO

This film is called "The Mack". The author of the film story says that the word "Mack" means pimp; that it is a true life story; and when he was growing up in the Black ghetto the pimp was the only successful character Black youth had to identify with.

The Star of the film arrives, he languishes in the back seat of his Cadillac for quite a long time, waving now and then to the admiring Black youth. Flashes of cameras intermittently pierce the interior of the Cad, revealing for all to see the smiling handsome face of the film's hero, the successful pimp. The Star gets out of the Cad, he announces to the press that: "This is really an educational movie".

And then, surprisingly, Bobby Seale, Black Panther, now a registered Democrat and candidate for the Mayor of Oakland. This is a surprise because he had previously denounced this film, "The Mack" as another Hollywood exploitation movie. He does not refer to this in his statement to the assembled press. Instead he says he "is at this opening because the people are here, and since the film was made in Oakland it provided jobs for the local people."

FILM VS. REALITY

"The Mack" is a bummer as a film. It is designed to get the money of Black youth by leading them to believe that they can escape the sordid horrors of the ghetto by sinking deeper into the even more sordid dehumanizing horror of pimpdom; that by selling the bodies of women they will be able to drive big automobiles and dress in expensive flashy clothes. To add to this life of violence and exploitation a false sentimentality about a pimp who is kind to his mother, and loves little children, is to be guilty of the same mendacity that Hollywood has pursued in the past, when it pictured all Blacks tap-dancing, happy-go-lucky fools.

The pimps this writer has talked to are hard-core entrepreneurs who deal in the bodies of women as if they were commodities for sale on the market. One pimp put it very bluntly: "A woman means nothing to me, other than what she can bring in".

Pandering, the legal term for pimping, is actually a form of chattel slavery from which it is very difficult to escape. Women often go from pimp to pimp searching for better treatment, or a larger share of their earnings. Such exchange of masters is not achieved amicably, it often entails violence, up to the point of murder.

ART AND LIFE

Above I describe the prototype "Hero" which Hollywood is projecting in a dozen or more films — films which are almost exclusively shown in Black ghetto areas. The attraction these films have for Black youth may be only the glitter of the big Cads and fine clothes bought off the backs of whores, but some of the so-called "New Left" is claiming the pimp a "revolutionary force," a "hero." This is beyond comprehension!

Friedrich Engels, writing about the art of the novel, (this can be applied also to film) said: "The novelist has acquitted himself honorably when, by means of accurate portrayal of authentic social relationships, he destroys the conventional view of the nature of those relations, shatters the optimism of the bourgeois world and forces the reader to question the permanency of the prevailing order . . ."

Not one pimp film honestly portrays the life of the pimps and whores in the Black ghetto.

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Detroit, MI. 48207**Wounded Knee: Sioux people trying to be heard**

The following is the statement of an Oglala Sioux woman who lives on the Pine Ridge Reservation, and who participated in the Wounded Knee occupation. —Editor.

Pine Ridge, S.D.—The Federal Government has 14 armored personnel carriers (APC's) blockading Wounded Knee. There are close to 500 marshals, racists from Southern states, where the Black Movement has been going on. The APC's come up and shoot right into all those houses—we have little children that play in the streets. An old man with a serious head wound was unarmed, probably sleeping, when he was shot.

Two residents of the village, John Husman and Woody Richards, had set up their own roadblock, beyond the Federal ones, with the 100% backing of Richard Wilson, the tribal president. They claimed they represented the residents of Wounded Knee. They stopped medical supplies and food. A woman there with diabetes needs insulin, but refuses to leave because it's her home and she is behind our occupation. A new baby was born about a week ago. We want people to know that the residents of Wounded Knee do not back John Husman and Woody Richards. All families outside trying to get back in had written a petition stating that.

WE CALLED IN AIM

Dick Wilson says that the American Indian Movement (AIM) is "outside agitators," when it's the Oglala Sioux people who are trying to be heard, who are still in support of Wounded Knee. Our Civil Rights Movement called in AIM. They were trying to get Dick Wilson out. The tribal council's hands were tied because of intimidation to themselves and their families by Wilson and his goons. We met with the tribal elders and district presidents. We all voted for AIM. We needed a bigger place to meet so we went into Wounded Knee and took over that trading post and the church.

I was in Pine Ridge the day of Wilson's election. He furnished free booze, cars, and gas to people that would vote for him. Even then he had a goon squad saying, "You better vote for Wilson or else."

He has never done anything to create employment for the people to help themselves. We wanted to sell our land back to the tribe, even though we can get more money from a white person. People have borrowed money on that land sale. Dick Wilson is holding it up—he is trying to get as much money off our land as he can. I think the BIA has something to do with it, and we want that investigated.

None of this was passed by the tribal council. Richard Wilson is sitting up there like a dictator. To me Richard Wilson and Richard Nixon could be the same person.

People should write to senators, congressmen, and the President asking them to look into BIA policies, the broken treaties, the dual system of justice, not only for

TWO WORLDS

(Continued from Page 5)

It takes guts to be an informer. He bathes their dirty work in the aura of being with the elite. His very presence reassures them that if they lie, he will find the means legal or illegal to protect them. The American public knows the gang lawyer, the legal brain who puts his skills, experience and connections at the disposal of the gangsters and fixes everything for them. It also knows the prosecutor who uses the state's witnesses against criminals. But the type who is both prosecutor and gang lawyer is a product of a world in which all society is in such total crises that the gangsters have taken over the government . . .

LIBERALS ARE HELPLESS

Cohn totally disregards and demolishes all civilized values. Respect for the individual, respect for truth, respect for freedom; he has none of this and he prosecutes any dissenters, not to protect democracy but to destroy one gang in behalf of another. The only question he is concerned with is this: whose side are you on? Anybody who is not in his gang, ready to go the limit with him, is on Moscow's side, to be mowed down.

In the face of this totalitarian philosophy, the liberal is completely helpless. The liberal press shouts against Cohn, but all it could do when Cohn and Senine made their 17 day book-burning junket abroad was ridicule them as spoiled brats and wall at the cost to American prestige abroad. The liberals are genuinely anxious to preserve democratic rights. They despise, loathe and fear Cohn as a menace to everything valuable in the American tradition. But in their minds also the only two worlds are Russian Communism and American Democracy. They cannot put up a resistance to Cohn's totalitarian gangsterism here any more than the liberal intellectual abroad can put up a resistance to the totalitarian gangsterism of Communism. They feel the crisis but they have no total opposition to the system in the concept of a new society built by the workers.

Indians, but for all minority and disadvantaged people. People should demonstrate and get coverage saying "We support Wounded Knee."

The government is trying to smother why we are there. They say the leaders are fighting among themselves. What leaders? We're all there together. We feel they are our spokesmen, yes, but "leaders"—somebody who stands there and says "do this, do that,"—no.

They make fun of people whom they call sympathizers, but to me they are brothers, too. Everyone who knows about Wounded Knee can identify with the occupants. They are trying to end AIM; they say it's "Communist inspired." If that's communist-inspired then we were communist before Columbus discovered America; we must have been the basis for communism. Nixon understands that it's going to set a precedent. For the first time in history we've had Indians instead of government officials reading those treaties — Indians working with Indians.

We are fighting for the treaties that have been broken through the years, and not only trying to get Dick Wilson out but all the Dick Wilsons all across the country. All us people who believe something should be done about the injustices are finally uniting.

Money for food supplies and legal defense may be sent to: American Indian Movement, Wounded Knee Communications Center, 208 11th Street, Rapid City, S.D. 57701.

Frank Clearwater

Frank Clearwater, 47, was murdered by federal officials at Wounded Knee. He died in a Rapid City, South Dakota hospital on April 25 as a result of gunshot wounds which struck him in the head as he lay on a cot in a church on the Pine Ridge Reservation.

Mr. Clearwater had traveled with his wife, Morning Star, from their home in Cherokee, North Carolina to support the occupation of Wounded Knee.

Clearwater's widow told officials in Rapid City that she wants her husband's body buried at Wounded Knee. Of the four Native Americans wounded by the government's continuing terror campaign at Wounded Knee, Frank Clearwater was the first to die. We mourn his passing.

Block the James Bay project!

Montreal, Quebec — April 9-15 is James Bay Week in Montreal, a week of protest and fund-raising activities organized by the "Save James Bay Committee", to fight the James Bay hydro-electric project which threatens to flood one-fourth of the province and to drive thousands of Indians and Eskimos off their land. The events will be climaxed by a gigantic rally and concert with well-known artists of many nationalities.

In contrast to the rising voices of protest are the racist rantings of Claude Jasmin, a supposedly "radical" novelist and art critic. On March 27, in his "Journal de Montreal" column, he made dire warnings to the "Artists of Quebec" not to participate in this movement; that behind it "are some very evil, very anti-Quebecois, very anti-French-speaking interests . . . while Ontario has nuclear equipment to sell." Then he rages on to say that the Indians and Eskimos are "being manipulated" by "the English" against the Quebecois. He then says: "But know at least that anglicized as they are, they won't understand a word of your songs and of your speeches." (1)

Here is someone who has spoken out so often against the conquest and oppression of French Canadians, but who now thinks that as a Quebecois he should have the right to do the same thing to two even-smaller nationalities. Unfortunately, this kind of "nationalism" represents the thinking of a certain number of Quebec's mini-elite, who simply want to get rid of the old oppressors in order to take their places. This crude chauvinism has nothing to do with the genuine national question, inseparable from class and its underlying humanism.

P. Gouin

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OUR LIFE AND TIMES

by Peter Mallory

Nixon bombs Cambodia; do-nothing Congress frets

The heavy indiscriminate bombing of the civilian population of Cambodia is being carried on at a greater rate than at any time during the past ten years under the sole orders of President Nixon, who acts without any direct authority other than his own insane obsession to dominate the world.

Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield stated in Congress, "There are no legal or constitutional grounds for our becoming involved in any way, shape or form in the Cambodian Civil War." Senator Fulbright, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee stated, "There is no way that I know to stop Nixon except to impeach him, and I don't think we want to do that."

The corrupt regime of Lon Nol has lost more than 50 percent of the country and his capital, Phnom-Penh, is completely surrounded by Cambodian rebels. Every day over 3,000 tons of bombs are dropped from high flying B52 U.S. bombers who can neither see what they are bombing or care who or what they hit. Over 50 percent of the population are refugees from their bombed out homes and villages.

Lon Nol holds power only through the grace

of the support of Nixon and his military forces. At the time of Sihanouk's ouster in 1970, the Khmer Rouge forces totalled around 3,000. Since then, the rebel forces are estimated to number nearly 50,000.

Defense Secretary Elliot Richardson stated, "What it all amounts to is winding up of a residual aspect of the war in which we have been engaged."

In an attempt to salvage the Lon Nol regime, Nixon has given the green light to South Vietnam to supply the ground forces that Lon Nol lacks. On April 15, a column of 25 heavy tanks from South Vietnam was seen crossing the border into Cambodia. No reporters are permitted to observe the operation of these ground forces. U.S. bombing of Laos was begun on April 16.

The opposition to these activities seems to be strong in Congress, but neither the Congress nor the Senate have been able to muster enough agreement to pass legislation curbing the power of the President to declare unilateral war.

During the past year both houses passed bills aimed at limiting the power of Nixon to conduct his own wars. The Jav. z Stennis-Eagleton bill passed

the Senate by a vote of 68 to 16 last April and the Zablocki bill passed the House last August by 344 to 13. The overwhelming majorities with which these bills passed are an indication of the potential strength of opposition to the Nixon war policy. Yet, when it comes down to both Houses compromising on a common bill, their inherent weakness and vacillation predominate and no effective bill is written into law.

Both the bills passed and the dozens now pending in both Houses of Congress contain wide loopholes which do more to admonish than positively forbid the President to conduct his own wars. A bill now before the House asks the President to "inform them" whenever he commits troops abroad. Another gives him 30 days to conclude hostilities. In this nuclear age we could all be dead in less time.

Congress is in fact begging the vital issue. They are paying lip service to appease voters at home while in fact, collectively they have no intention of passing any bill which would stop President Nixon from deploying the immense military power of the United States in any part of the world, or in any domestic situation that he sees fit to do so.

Italy

We have received the following letter from a correspondent in Italy:

The quote from Marx in Raya Dunayevskaya's pamphlet on Russia as *State-Capitalist Society*, "The only part of the so-called national wealth that actually enters into the collective possessions of modern people is their national debt," seems extremely appropriate to Italy. To make things worse, the agricultural sector of the economy is in a ruinous state due mostly to the agreements made with the Common Market. Since Italy's currency has been devalued compared to most other currencies, its imports have increased but so has also the cost of its imports of food . . .

The contract for the metalmechanical workers (which includes workers in auto and steel) has finally been signed, and the workers have shown that they aren't willing to be fooled at all. As for the workers in state industry, they voted against the contract before it was signed. The workers in private industry did not have this possibility. Now the union leaders are going around explaining the contract and, above all, the Communist leaders are being hissed and booed down. It seems that in the large automobile factories in Turin, many workers are proposing to continue the struggle until the hun-

dreds of workers fired during the strikes are rehired and those that have been arrested are released. Never have the Italian workers shown such solidarity and such strength in the after-war period.

Everything ought to be much clearer if and when the center-left government that our capitalists are insisting upon comes into being. It will be extremely important to know what will be the final reaction of the workers and managers of the auto industry after this strike. It's Italy's key industry.

South Vietnam

When Nixon's friendly dictator of South Vietnam, President Thieu, visited Rome the Pope himself appealed to him to release over 100,000 political prisoners now held in his inhuman jails. The Catholic Thieu protested he had no such prisoners. Facts prove him a liar.

Two of these former prisoners are now touring the United States and Canada. Jean-Pierre Debris and Andre Menras were released from Chi Hoa prison in South Vietnam on December 29, 1972. They were school teachers arrested for participating in an anti-government demonstration in July 1970. They have lived in the prisons of Thieu and describe the beatings, torture and assassinations that occur there on a daily basis among men, women

and even little children.

Join Amnesty Action, 200 West 72nd St., NYC to help these unfortunate victims of Nixon's war.

Yugoslavia

Tito's purge of Professors of Philosophy at Belgrade University is going very badly. In September 1972 he declared that the Professors who disagreed with his interpretation of Marxist Philosophy should be "pensioned or given some other job."

Eight Professors of Philosophy at the University are under his attack. Among them are such noted Marxist scholars as Dr. Mihailo Markovic, Dr. Svetozar Stojanovic, Dr. Ljubomir Tadic and Mrs. Zagora Pesic-Golubovic. The group are accused of "leftist tendencies."

Under Tito's rules for the University of Belgrade it requires a vote of the entire department of Philosophy to expel a member of the staff. The Party Cadre called a meeting to throw out the accused and not enough of the 70 Professors who were expected to attend showed up to reach a quorum to act on the denouncement of the eight "anarcho-liberal Professors." The philosophy of Marxism, in Yugoslavia, thus becomes the springboard of the struggle between academic freedom and the acts of the bureaucratic state power to suppress freedom of expression under Tito.

Massive workers' strikes in Britain challenge both Tory and Labor parties

(Continued from Page 1)

depending on the outcome of the conference, of course.

But let us not forget that Sir Douglas-Home, the Foreign Secretary, accompanied Chamberlain to Munich when the notorious Munich Agreement was signed. No person with a grain of sense expects the coming European Security Conference to solve the problem of militarism in that part of the world. One reflection of this is seen in the report that the West European countries are going to increase their arms expenditure by five percent in the coming year.

A further mark of the deepening crisis facing Britain appeared in the exposure—in the wake of the recent massive strikes in South Africa—of the scandalously low wages paid the Black population of South Africa by a host of British firms. Illova Sugar Estates, a subsidiary of Tate and Lyle, pays native workers 29 pence a day, which with bonuses and overtime brings these workers a total of 55 pence a day. Also revealed was that British shipping companies pay Black workers about a third of what they pay white workers.

CONCERN OVER SOUTH AFRICA

The TUC (Trade Union Council) has sold all its shares in British companies with subsidiaries in South Africa. A number of companies are now rushing with promises to improve the wage levels of their colored employees. Peter Walker, Secretary of Trade and Industry in Britain, has suddenly decided to remind British business firms in South Africa of their obligation to African workers.

Everyone is pretending ignorance of the facts, but one Parliament member says he wrote to one of the firms about the situation last September. One indication of the low pay is seen in the call of the Trade Union Council of South Africa for a minimum wage of 10 pounds a week, or about \$25.

Official concern over the African problems was demonstrated by the visits by Douglas-Home to Nigeria and of Princess Anne to Ethiopia. Alarm is expressed over the Chinese presence in various parts of Africa. There is a cooling of British support of the Smith apartheid rule in Rhodesia. It is clear even to the Heath

government that Britain cannot win support in Africa if she gives Smith any further encouragement.

A further deterioration of public trust in the Heath government has resulted from disclosures of the high profits made out of drugs prescribed by doctors under the National Health Service and evidence of corruption in high government offices.

Most serious of all, however, is the unrest of the working class and their militant strike actions. A one-day general strike has been called for May 1 in opposition to the Industrial Relations Act, which outlawed strikes. This is a big thing, but notice must be taken of the call made recently by Hugh Scanlon, leader of the auto workers union, for the Act to be amended. This runs counter to the fight against everything in the Act, which is clearly designed to shackle labor and against which British labor is solidly united.

In still another indication of the sentiment turning against Scanlon's betrayal of working class principles, the auto workers have decided to go all out for a demand of 35 pounds (about \$87 a week) for a 35-hour week. Scanlon didn't like this. He wanted more talks with the government. Heath is also asking for more talks. It is clear that the labor leaders like going to Downing Street. They have been there too often already.

There have been some set-backs for labor solidarity. For months, the National Union of Miners demanded wage and fringe benefits which exceeded the government's wage freeze guidelines. Negotiations reached a standstill, and a ballot vote by the miners on a demand for higher wages turned down the call for strike action. The majority of miners in Wales and Scotland voted for the strike, but not in England. The government, smarting after the blow struck by the miners last year, took a threatening attitude while the ballot was being taken. And the hospital workers returned to work after gaining little more than the limit imposed by the Government.

HOUSING ANOTHER CRISIS

Another battle erupted over the Government action raising rents in Britain. None will deny that the Government has won the first round on this issue. Both the

Communist and Labor parties placed reliance on local city councils to defeat the legislation by refusing to implement the law. Several local councils decided not to implement the Act. This kind of action could achieve nothing without action by the masses. Lip-service was given to that. Within a short time the local authorities capitulated. Clydebank Town Council, which has four Communist members, made a spectacular show. A fine of 5,000 pounds was imposed, but there was a special fund of 60,000 pounds that could be tapped. That is what happened, and the struggle was dropped.

Another increase will be due later in the year. It should be possible to bring the masses into action on this. It is the policy of the Government to have the people purchase houses. With this aim in view, the output of new houses was lower last year than in any year since 1961. There is a shortage of houses and prices have risen to an unprecedented height. Owners of land, building societies and sharks of all kinds are enriching themselves as never before.

It is beginning to dawn on some politicians that we are well on the road to state-capitalism. Our lives are being regulated by the state bureaucracy. Unfortunately, this situation is seen by too many as simply an opportunity for electoral success, rather than opportunity to create a fundamental change in our exploitative society.

WORKERS LOOKING FOR TOTAL CHANGE

This objective could be seen in the April elections in London and six other big centers of England and Wales. The Labor Party regained the control it lost over Greater London six years ago, and took power in the six metropolitan councils of greater Manchester, Merseyside, Tyne and Wear, West Midlands, West Yorkshire and South Yorkshire, plus 11 other key councils.

While Labor Party leaders may wring their hands in glee, they are apparently blind to the significance of the fact that only 37 percent of the voters showed up at the polls—or about half the turnout expected at national elections. It is a clear sign that the people of Britain, and especially the working class, are looking for a change in their lives that is far more different than anything that either the Labor or Tory parties have to offer.