

WORKERS' Power

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IN THIS ISSUE	
Teamsters & Courts . . .	3
Portugal Eyewitness . . .	4
Forced Sterilization . . .	5
Gary Tyler	6-7
Mary Hartman	11

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POLICE FAN HIGH SCHOOL RACE WAR



Tony Satan and Frank Runninghorse

by Valerie Dixon

DETROIT—This past week, a three day race riot broke out at Cody High School here. Groups of black and white students using broken bottles and sticks for weapons, clashed on the school grounds. Police overran the school; many students were injured; large numbers were arrested.

The incident at Cody takes place at a time when overt racist attacks are on the rise nationally. Confrontations between blacks and whites are, in fact, being encouraged by the media and government.

By a President who doesn't "believe" in busing. By candidates for political office who are worried about "ethnic purity" (Jimmy Carter) or the "encroaching jungle", as Reagan said last week. Statements like these are cues for the racists to go out and fight.

The government of this country wants people fighting among themselves rather than fighting the system.

At Cody High School last week there was no attempt by the police to create peace. Instead police encouraged the violence by arresting the only integrated group, the Red Tide, who walked both sides of the line saying, "let's stop fighting each other."

But in spite of the efforts of the police to encourage racial tension, the efforts of the Red Tide prove that blacks and whites can get together.

Four young members of the Red Tide, the youth group of the I.S. who were at Cody, Frank, Billy, Glen and Tony, talked with Workers' Power about what happened.

B: The fighting started at the senior picnic. A group of whites were hogging the picnic tables. A group of blacks came up and asked them if they could use them and the whites said, "No." Fighting broke out in the park then.

F: Later on in the day, when most of the students had gone home, a white motorcycle gang came into the park and beat up a black family. That upset a lot of people at school. And for the last three days they've had fighting down there at Cody.

T: It's been a full scale riot. Whites against blacks. The Red Tide went in to try to calm down the riot.

"FIGHT THE POWER"

F: We had a leaflet that said, "Cody students fight the power, not each other." We passed out about 100 of them.

It said that the way to solve this is not by starting a race war between black and white, but by organizing together.

B: But it was the pigs, who instead of calming everything down, got everybody more on edge. Out of the clear blue sky, they came swarming down.

There must have been 300 of them. They were lined up on the road for a quarter of a mile.

F: The pigs definitely worsened things. Anytime they saw an integrated group, they'd break it up.

They tried purposefully to make a black camp and a white camp

separated by police, in order to create tension.

T: They arrested us for a violation of a school ordinance—passing out leaflets within 250 feet of the school. And not leaving when we were told to.

But the police themselves were the cause of that. We were within 250 feet because the police, after they told us to leave, called us back.

The security guard at school persuaded the police to arrest us. As soon as he saw us, he said we were the ones who caused the riot, that we were from the Red Tide and were a bunch of communists.

F: The real reason they arrested us was because we were trying to unite the black and white students and keep them from fighting.

G: Everytime there is a racial riot, they try to push the whites and blacks apart—as far apart as they can get them, so they can't talk to each other.

RED TIDE

B: The Red Tide is trying to organize a thing where there won't be any more police hassling students at the schools or undercover people spying on the students.

T: What's happened at Cody has given us even more incentive to do more work at schools with problems like Cody's.

F: Because everytime we fight among ourselves we just play into the hands of the police.

Gov't Says: Some Lives Aren't Worth Saving

If you work around the coke ovens in a steel mill, you have one of the most unhealthy jobs in American industry.

If you have worked in the most dangerous area—on top of the coke ovens—for as few as five years, your chances of dying from lung cancer are ten times higher than they are for other steel workers.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) wants to limit worker exposure to the deadly coke oven emissions to 0.3 milligrams per cubic meter of air, averaged over an eight hour day.

The United Steel Workers, which represents most U.S. coke oven workers, has repeatedly said that OSHA's proposal is too weak.

But government economists in the Council on Wage and Price Stability (COWPS) say OSHA's proposals are too strong—because they will cost too much. COWPS is the government's anti-inflation a-

gency. OSHA, in its "inflation impact statement," says the proposed regulations would add \$2.50 a ton to the price of steel—an increase of one or two percent.

The COWPS economists, however, start at another point. Assistant Director Dr. James C. Miller recently testified that "if the costs of a proposed regulation exceed the benefits, it is inflationary." He calculated that the cost of these regulations per life saved is a minimum of \$4.5 million, and recommended that OSHA proposals be abandoned.

DON'T CARE

These government economists, like Dr. Miller, work in air-conditioned, carpeted offices. They do not know what a coke oven is like, and they don't much care that steel workers are paying with their lives for working around them.

The pages of statistics Dr. Miller filed with his testimony are all designed to prove that it would be more economical to do nothing at all.

Workers' Power questioned Morris Feibusch, a COWPS official, about this. "When you start talking about the terms of human life in economic analysis, it's difficult to do without seeming awfully heartless," he said.

Perhaps it is. But we have a modest experiment of our own to propose. Let's take Feibusch, Miller and the other economists out of their plush, air-filtered offices in Washington. Let's put them in a room with the exact level of coke oven emissions which are breathed in by workers who spend eight hours a day on top of coke ovens.

Working under these conditions, we'd like to see them re-do their calculations. We'd be surprised if they don't come up with a different answer.

labor notes

by Jim Woodward

WE HAD THE BABIES NOW GIVE US OUR CREDITS LOCAL '68!



For the record, here's the strong position taken on racial discrimination in the steel industry by Ben Fisher, assistant to United Steel Workers President I.W. Abel: "It is just not accurate to believe that blacks were confined somehow to the lowest paying jobs; rather, there was some tendency for blacks to be congregated in certain units which had a variety of characteristics, including, in some instances, a somewhat lower average pay than some units where there might be a heavy concentration of white employees."

The New York state legislature is considering a bill which would revise electricity rates in the state. It would reduce rates for basic necessities, cutting the cost of electricity for low income people. If the bill passes, says Bethlehem Steel, the company will respond with layoffs at its huge Lackawanna mill near Buffalo. Bethlehem claims the bill would increase its electricity costs by 15%. Last year, a bad year for the company, Bethlehem made nearly a quarter of a billion dollars profit. Yet this company is threatening to throw workers out on the streets rather than pay its fair share for the electricity it uses.

The Arkansas AFL-CIO is conducting a petition campaign to put repeal of that state's so-called "right to work" law on the ballot this November. ("Right-to-work" laws don't guarantee anyone the right to work. They simply outlaw the union shop, guaranteeing only lower wages.) To get on the ballot, the AFL-CIO needs to get 55,000 signatures by July 2.

The Scotia Employees Association (SEA), a company union representing coal miners at the Scotia Coal Co., set up picket lines May 18 to protest the firing of two miners at the company's Black Mountain mines. Scotia also owns the mine in Letcher County, Kentucky, where 26 miners were killed in March. That mine is still sealed.

According to reports in other newspapers, General Motors chairman Thomas Murphy was "visibly irritated" when a black worker called GM "racist" at the company's annual stockholders' meeting. His irritation aside, Murphy later admitted that GM is the defendant in 75 federal court civil rights cases. There are also 902 state or local job discrimination complaints pending against GM, as well as 3545 federal discrimination complaints.

Jerry the Wurflless. The head of the State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), Jerry Wurf, said earlier this month that firemen and other workers who protect the public should not have the right to strike.

Maybe Wurf should consider the fine example of James Rademacher, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC). Rademacher has just turned in his resignation, effective next January. Rademacher implies that one reason is the growing dissension in the NALC and the unrest caused by management's new productivity drive.

This is how much the boss rips you off for each hour. An ad for the State of New Jersey in a British magazine gives this interesting information: "The manufacturing labor force [in New Jersey] is the most productive of major industrial states, giving \$3.76 in value for every dollar they earn (compared to a national average of \$3.36)." Thank you, New Jersey, for this demonstration of what capitalist exploitation is all about.

Shed a tear for Raquel Welch. She had to carry ten suitcases to her hotel room recently when she arrived in Cannes, France, to find the uppity waiters, porters and maids were on strike. This is believed to be the first useful work she has done in her life.

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

Scab Umpire Learns Lesson - The Hard Way

Alfred Cohen learned about class solidarity the hard way. When he dropped by the Pittsburgh Civic Arena, where he was worked for the past 12 years, he found that someone had written "SCAB" and "GET OUT, WE DON'T WANT YOU" on his locker.

Cohen had taken off Friday, May 21, from his security guard job at the arena to scab umpire for the

Pirates at Three Rivers Stadium. The four-man National League umpire crew had joined the majority of the Stadium workers in refusing to cross a picket-line of striking ball-park vendors.

Only the Pirates (who are unionized) and a skeleton crew of scabs crossed the lines for the Friday night game. Alfred Cohen was among them, repaying "an old

Stop Racism In The Plants

HOW YOU CAN FIGHT FOR YOUR RIGHTS

DETROIT—Dave McCullough is chairman of the Fair Employment Practices Committee at Chrysler Warren Stamping Plant, Local 869 UAW. He recently talked with a Workers' Power reporter about the UAW and discrimination.

"Every local has a Fair Employment Practices and Anti-Discrimination Committee," McCullough said. "They were created after the Detroit uprising in '67, to fight discrimination on all fronts—shop and community. But since then they have become typical do-nothing committees in most locals."

"In my local, we finally got an activist committee together. In March, we broke some new ground—conducting an investigation of a discrimination grievance on the shop floor, with time off from work paid by the union."

"This is what the contract calls for, but it hadn't been done before in our local and management resisted like hell. Now we are looking into Warren's biased hiring to put together a package for the Michigan Civil Rights Commission."

CONTRACT

"Discrimination in various forms is the biggest obstacle to a strong union at our plant. It should be an issue in the contract."

"Part of the answer is in Doug Fraser's [UAW Vice President] hands. He put out a call to all local FEPC's to submit better anti-discrimination language for the '76 contract. He said in reading over the resolutions from the Bargaining Convention, he noted there was nothing on discrimination."

"But I think that's downright fishy. Fraser must not know there wouldn't be any demands against racism and sexism. In my opinion, his "discovery" is just a political move to keep up his image with black workers, making up for his support of Mr. Peanut Purity [Jimmy Carter]."

"Fraser is looking to step into Woodcock's shoes in '77. I'd be glad to have him prove me wrong by putting some teeth in the "Equal Application" of our contract."

"The Local 869 FEPC has submitted several contract demands, including these:

PUBLICITY

- Removal of supervisors twice found guilty of discrimination;
- FEPC reps in the employment office to monitor during hiring,



"The UAW Local 869 Fair Employment Practices Committee demands... better publicity in the inner city on hiring openings."

- with access to the application files;
- Better publicity in the inner city on hiring openings;
- Posting of all job openings inside (upgrades, etc.) in conspicuous places for at least a week;
- On getting into skilled trades, we said strike out the high school education requirement and make denials of apprenticeships subject to the grievance procedure (that way FEPC's could get an handle on the screening out of many blacks and women);

"...it hadn't been done before in our local and management resisted like hell... Discrimination in various forms is the biggest obstacle to a strong union at our plant. It should be a contract issue."

• Making FEPC investigations of discrimination grievances automatic instead of subject to the discretion of union officers.

"We also suggested adding political affiliation and handicap to race, age, sex, etc., to bring the contract in line with the UAW Constitution on politics and the new laws on handicaps."

"Nowadays, militants and people in opposition caucuses have to go to the National Labor Relations Board for protection."

ACTIVISTS

We asked McCullough for any final tips for rank and file activist autoworkers.

"Sure," he said, "Make sure your local gets a strong FEPC. This committee's greatest official power is processing complaints of discrimination by union officials against the rank and file members, including political discrimination."

"But this power is so little known and used that Solidarity House had to print the complaint forms run out of print last time I asked."

"Still, suppose a steward says, 'Why should I help you? After the way you dumped on me in the last election?' You can haul him before an FEPC hearing and burn him good."

IBT OFFICIALS SCAB ON RUBBER STRIKE

The union officials of Teamster Local 404 in western Massachusetts have violated the principles of unionism by directing their drivers to cross United Rubber Workers (URW) picket lines:

Currently, 1500 rubber workers of Local 11 are on strike at the Uniroyal plant and warehouse in Chicopee and Holyoke. When Teamster drivers reach the picket lines and call the union for instructions, they are told that rubber workers once crossed Teamster lines.

One driver from Sanborn/O'Donnell was suspended for three days for refusing to cross the lines. He received no support from the union.

But the majority of drivers are angry about this situation. Many are not crossing.

LOCAL 671

Teamster Local 671 in Hartford, Connecticut, has not crossed rubber workers' picket lines.

Jones Transfer of South Windsor, could not get one of its 20 drivers to pick up a load of tires at

the Uniroyal warehouse. The company finally hired a non-union driver for one day's pay to carry out this one dispatch.

The real explanation for Local 404's policy is that the officials are tight with Fitzsimmons.

In spite of the Teamsters who are crossing the rubber workers' line with police protection, the morale of URW pickets remains high. Every day of the strike brings more pressure on the Big 4 rubber companies to settle.

Workers' Power 162

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Teamster Leaders Split Over President For Detroit Local 299

DETROIT—As we go to press, the question of who will be the next president of Teamster Local 299 is totally up in the air.

Last week the local Executive Board was split 3-3 over the question. Three for Richard Fitzsimmons, local vice president and son of International President Fitzsimmons, and three for Otto Wendall, local Secretary-Treasurer and a Hoffa man.

The tie-breaking vote was to be cast by former President Dave Johnson. He had announced his intention to resign after the two day wildcat led by the Teamsters for a Decent Contract (TDC) in Detroit. Johnson refused to cast the deciding vote, however.

There was talk of the International coming in to put the local into trusteeship on Monday, May 24. Nothing came of this.

On Tuesday, May 25, the 299 executive board announced that by a 4-3 vote Robert Lins, trustee, had been selected to serve out the 18 months left in Johnson's term of office.

But on Wednesday, Dick Fitzsimmons charged that the meeting that chose Lins had not followed local union by-laws and was therefore not valid.

He charged that Johnson had voted by a proxy vote, and that three of the executive board members (himself, Earl Grayhek and George Roxburgh, trustees) had not been present. He said that since there was no quorum at the meeting, no president had been chosen.

TELEGRAM

At the same time, the local received a telegram from Ray Schloessing, International Secretary-Treasurer. The telegram instructed the local executive board to meet with the International Executive Board on June 17 in Las Vegas during the Teamster national convention.

It's not clear whether this telegram and planned meeting were in response to the 3-3 split on the executive board, or the supposed selection of Lins as the next President.

However, it now appears that the next president of Local 299 will be decided in Las Vegas, far from the rank and file of the union.

The current executive board was the result of a backroom "coalition slate" between Hoffa and Fitzsimmons in the fall of 1974 to end the warfare then going on between factions.

The fight on 299's executive board is between Fitzsimmons loyalists and those who had supported Jimmy Hoffa.

This split has allowed the rank and file of 299 room to move. The split allowed the growth of Teamsters for a Decent Contract in 299 into a huge and powerful force.

Neither side in this dispute has done a thing to solve the problems of speed-up and unemployment facing Detroit teamsters.

The current by-laws of 299 call for replacing Johnson by an Executive Board vote. Since neither side has done anything for the rank, TDC here collected 3000 petitions calling for a rank and file vote to fill the vacancy. These were completely ignored by both factions of the executive board.

Once it became clear that there would be no rank and file vote, TDC demonstrated in favor of Wendall, in an attempt to prevent consolidation of the Fitzsimmons forces' power.

Whatever the outcome of this current round of maneuvers, one thing is sure: all local leadership factions and all factions in the International want to put the rank and file of 299 back in its place.

None of these "leaders" want to be bothered by the rank and file. None are willing to tell the truth to the ranks, nor to fight for a policy of rank and file power in the union.

During the United Parcel Service wildcat strike in the midwest three weeks ago and the Detroit freight strike a month earlier, one issue that rank and file activists had to contend with was the role of the courts. During both strikes, federal courts issued injunctions against the strikers.

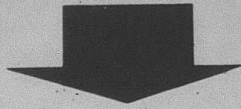
Workers' Power has always said that the courts are not neutral. That they, like the police, the army, and all other governmental institutions are controlled by the employers.

This becomes especially apparent in a crisis situation, where the employers' interests are under attack. Some of the courtroom details which prove this point are illustrated in the following article, reprinted from CONVOY, newspaper of Teamsters for a Decent Contract (TDC).

The writer of the article is the Secretary of TDC. He was one of seven Teamsters who brought suit against their union leadership, demanding the right to separate votes on local supplements to their national contract.

As it is now, all 400,000 Teamsters covered by the national Master Freight Agreement vote on all of the separate local and craft supplements. Thus a dock worker in Los Angeles will vote on his own supplement as well as the supplement covering midwest steel haulers or over-the-road drivers.

Where Paff speaks of "overloads," he is referring to the employers' practice of loading trailers beyond the legal weight limit, thus endangering the drivers' lives.



by Ken Paff

From the start, TDC has stood for our right to vote separately on our supplemental agreements with the members directly affected having the right to accept or reject them. On April 20 the court suit on this issue came before Judge William Bryant in Washington, D.C.

I was one of the six plaintiffs so I took off work and flew to Washington for the hearing. The rank and file's "Day in Court" lasted four hours.

The next day the Judge gave his ruling—the Teamster big shots, the employers (TEI), and the U.S. Labor Department won the case. The membership lost.

We lost the battle, but it was an important step in winning the war.

Here is what I saw in court and how I think it will help us win the war.

Before going into court we had a briefing with our lawyers, Harry Huge, Arthur Fox of PROD, and Ed Springs.

We went to court. There sat the three Teamster lawyers, headed by David Previant, the Teamster's BIG ONE. And with them, at the same table, sat the three employers' (TEI) lawyers.

ADEQUATELY REPRESENTED

The first order of business was the TEI asking to be part of the case. Here we were, asking for our rights as union members, and the employers were getting into our union affairs.

The Judge asked the TEI lawyer, James Mathews, "Aren't you adequately represented by the Teamsters?" I wanted to jump up and say, "They sure are!" All six of us just smiled at each other. The Judge let the TEI jump in, over our objections.

Then there was a recess. I approached Walter Shea, Assistant to Frank Fitzsimmons. I asked him what he thought of our rights. He would not talk. My dues help pay this man over \$50,000 a year plus a \$13,000 Lincoln, but he can't talk to me.

Then I tried William McIntyre, Chief Negotiator for the TEI. I asked him, "How do you like sitting with the Teamsters? I thought you were on opposite sides?"

He said, "I'm on the side of the law. I believe in the law." I said, "Especially on overloads, right?" He turned away. End of recess.

Our first witness was Billie Miller, Business Agent from Pitts-



burgh Local 249. He testified about his experience on the negotiating committee for the Joint Council 40 Supplemental Agreement.

They were negotiating for job security and for the right to strike locally over dead-end grievances. But these issues were lost because they could not bargain for or reject the contract locally.

Fitzsimmons and the National Negotiating Committee "resolved" them.

COMPLAINTS

The Teamster lawyers countered by saying that they had always (since 1964) conducted one vote and no one had complained!

We've complained plenty. We just hadn't been organized before. They also claimed that we represented "nothing but six individuals." What a lie! Many major locals passed our resolution supporting our right to vote. Many more would have, except it was ruled "out of order."

We collected over 25,000 names on petitions. And this parasite who thrives on our dues said we represented NOTHING!

The Teamster lawyers admitted that the steelhaulers had the right to vote separately on their supplements in 1970 and 1973. They said this was due to "exceptional circumstances."

Damn right! The steelhaulers came close to staging a rebellion to win their right to vote on a separate contract and they kicked up enough fuss that they won it. That was the "exceptional circumstances."

This year the union figured that the steelhaulers had quieted down, the "exceptional circumstances"

"With Justice For All"

Court Slaps Down Teamster Members' Rights

saying if we got our democratic rights, we could use them to get better contracts!

The Judge understood the issues. At one point he said to the Teamster lawyer, "If one supplement was considered bad and voted down overwhelmingly by the men covered, they could still get it shoved down their throats. Isn't that a fact?"

He knew the issue. But he still ruled against us.

REAL ISSUE

The real issue was rank and file power. That's what they—Fitzsimmons and TEI—were against. They kept coming back to it, that the rank and file are wild hyenas who need to be controlled.

The U.S. Secretary of Labor, William Usery, also put in a statement against us. He said the same thing.

We didn't expect to win this case. We are not foolish. But we did accomplish something important. We are making it clear that we are here to stay.

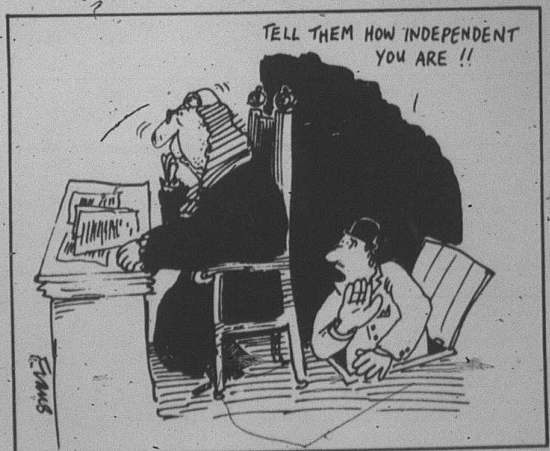
The publicity from this case only helps to build our movement. We are standing up for our rights and won't be stopped until we have them.

The most important point is this: you can't win rank and file power by relying on the courts, federal judges, politicians, or union officials.

We will win our right to vote by continuing to organize the rank and file until we have our own power. That's how our union was built in the first place. That's how it will be re-built now. Not by judges, but by rank and file power.

The only way to win is to be so well organized they have to deal with us. That's how the coal miners did it, and that's how we'll do it. Let's get on with it.

It finally came out—he was



Making Workers' Control Work

by Diane Edwards, city bus driver in Seattle

The Eurofil industrial textile factory, northeast of Lisbon, Portugal, employs 1500 workers. Sixty percent are women.

Since February 4, 1975, workers have run the plant. They threw out the bosses, the Quimas family, because management threatened 300 layoffs and even a factory closure.

The old capitalist management was totally inefficient, incompetent and corrupt. Like thousands of Portuguese companies, it survived only because it got away with paying starvation wages under fascism.

Things at Eurofil were so bad that in 1973, 787 workers were hired and 626 left! Raw materials coming into the plant declined from 6000 tons in 1973 to 4300 tons in 1974.

BOYCOTTS AND DEBTS

When workers took over the factory, they faced economic boycotts from western Europe. Import-export companies have tried to strangle the plant by delaying shipments. Workers are also held responsible for the huge debts of the former owner.

An Eyewitness Account

Yet the workers at Eurofil are determined to make workers' control succeed. The workers' committee believes education and democracy are key to keeping the work force strong and united.

The committee has waged an extensive literacy program, and now even runs a primary school in the factory where workers teach each other. The schools are run on paid, non-working time.

WOMEN'S WORK

One example of the need for education is the special problems of the women workers. Although 60% of the workforce are women, mostly in skilled jobs such as heavy sewing machine operation, their wages are only 2/3 of the men's wages.

A member of the workers' committee told me: "These different conceptions of women's and men's work, and different wages, are results of the former conditions here (before the boss was thrown out). We have to politicize the work force here to even understand the problems."

The wage differentials still exist. The committee hopes to eliminate them when it becomes possible to raise wages. Right now minimum wages are \$140 per month for women, \$210 for men. Since taking over the factory the workers have greatly improved conditions, but have had no money to pay themselves higher wages.

IT'S NOT EASY!

Workers' control is extremely difficult. In some Portuguese factories earlier this year, the economic pressure got so great that workers asked the old bosses to return.

Until workers are able to make a successful socialist revolution and seize the state machine, the factories are still dominated by the capitalist market, economic crisis and bosses' sabotage.

Yet at the same time, workers' control of the factories is the main power they have to control their daily lives. Workers' control is key to continuing the struggle for revolution.

I was impressed with the democracy within Eurofil. Once a month, mass plenary meetings are held where the elected workers' com-

mittee and administrative committee present reports and information.

The militants in the factory give their ideas about problems to be solved. The plenary meeting then makes final decisions. Elected representatives, who run the factory on a day-to-day basis, are continually held responsible by the workers as a whole.

PORTUGAL: ELECTIONS AND POPULAR POWER

by Dan Posen

The battle for popular power has resumed in Portugal. That is what the first few weeks of the Portuguese Presidential campaign have shown.

The revolutionary left is running former General Otelo de Carvalho for President. Until last November 25 Carvalho headed the left-wing military unit, COPCON.

COPCON was the symbol of soldier's support for a movement of mass popular organizations fighting to take power.

That movement is once again mobilizing. A broad base of workers' commissions, tenants' committees, schools, and co-ops support the campaign. In parts of some cities the workers' and tenants' commissions are 100% in Carvalho's favor.

The workers at Eurofil have shown that workers' democracy in the plant, and open information, can develop a strong, united workforce that understands all the problems of running a factory.

What a contrast to our situation in the U.S., where we not only get no information from the boss, but even our own union representatives keep us in the dark!

All the organizations of the far left support the campaign. The role of the Revolutionary Party of the Proletariat (PRP) is especially important. The PRP began pushing for a united revolutionary left campaign months ago.

The PRP emphasizes that the basic purpose for running Carvalho is not electoral. The campaign is re-opening the issue of power.

It presents the only meaningful alternative to the right-wing parties. It is key to preparing the working class for deep crisis and revolutionary struggles that are approaching.

In some areas, the support for Carvalho is particularly significant. At the giant Lisnave and Setnave shipyards, mass workers' assemblies voted overwhelmingly in favor of Carvalho.

At Lisnave the vote was 4000 in favor, only 30 or 40 against. The vote for Carvalho obviously includes huge numbers of workers who are members of the Communist Party. They are supporting Carvalho even though the CP leadership viciously denounces him.

CP DISCIPLINE CRUMBLES

The CP is formally running its own Presidential candidate, Octavio Pato. But even the CP leadership does not take this seriously. They just want to take CP workers' votes away from Carvalho.

The CP leaders are running Pato for show, because they are caught between the revolutionaries and the right wing.

Ramalho Eanes, a right-wing military officer, will win the election. He is supported by the Socialist Party.

But the Socialist Party's support for Eanes has thrown the SP into crisis. The working class hates Eanes. The SP's support for him was adopted against bitter internal opposition. Sections of the SP youth are openly supporting Carvalho.

SP leader Mario Soares painted Eanes in rosy terms, praising him as a "moderate" who will "respect the Constitution and the transition to socialism."

But on Wednesday, the "moderate" Eanes gained support from another quarter. A known fascist, Kaulza de Arriaga, cancelled his own campaign in favor of Eanes. Arriaga was a high official of the old, hated Salazar-Caetano regime. He was part of the extreme right-wing of the fascist Portuguese army in Africa.

The fact that the SP has climbed into the same bed with this known fascist butcher has made the internal tensions in the SP even more bitter.

As a result there will be tremendous openings this summer for the working class movement and the revolutionary party, the PRP.



Last summer and fall, revolutionary demonstrations like the one pictured above were common in Portugal. Workers, soldiers and sailors marched with arms linked—for workers' councils, for popular power, for workers' control, for a working class socialist revolution.

In the current election campaign, the movement for popular power is once again being mobilized. The revolutionary left, through the Presidential campaign of Otelo de Carvalho, is again explaining to broad masses of workers why a revolutionary answer is needed.

The results of this campaign will help create very favorable conditions for a new upsurge of workers' struggles this summer.

"Stand still or I shoot."

This is a phrase from a conversation book of the Soto language, just published in South Africa to help white employers give instructions to black servants.

Other phrases include: "Don't think you are my equal", "Don't touch my things", "Bring coffee to my bed", "Hurry up and don't dawdle in the street."

Strikers Battle Police

The "moderate" government of Greece showed its real face this week.

Thousands of workers tried to march on Parliament. They were striking against passage of a vicious, government-backed anti-labor bill.

The bill outlaws strikes by workers who are not members of "recognized trade unions." It also bans all strikes called "for political reasons."

The strikers were blocked by tanks and then attacked with tear gas and charging police. An old woman, probably a bystander, was run over and killed by a patrol car chasing demonstrators.

Dozens of casualties went to hospitals. Many were arrested for "interrogation."

A 48-hour strike was called to protest the bill. It was joined by 150,000 workers. As we go to press, it remains unclear whether the strike will be extended.

Leaders of many official unions may have sabotaged the strike effort.

But one thing is certain. The "honeymoon" between Greek labor and Prime Minister Karamanlis, who took over when a fascist military junta collapsed in 1974, is over.

This was the most violent labor struggle in Greece in many years. But it is only the beginning.

THE GE CONTRACT

FIGHT

Why There Are 13 Unions In Electric Bargaining

by Frank Will

Negotiations continued this week on new contracts in the electrical industry. Nationwide General Electric contracts expire on June 27, while the Westinghouse contracts run out July 11.

The Coordinated Bargaining Committee, made up of representatives of the 13 unions holding contracts with GE and Westinghouse, is particularly concentrating on money demands.

Due to the cap on the cost of living adjustment in the contract signed three years ago, GE and Westinghouse workers have suffered severe real wage cuts.

CHEAP LABOR

In fact, the U.S. is now becoming the land of cheap labor for the electrical industry. Electrical workers in several European countries, including Belgium, West Germany, and Sweden, now make substantially higher wages than U.S. electrical workers.

Compared to other workers in the U.S., electrical workers' living standards continuously fell for nearly 30 years.

There were two main reasons for this. The first was the bargaining policies of GE management, known as "Boulwarism."

GE made one contract offer, told the unions to take it or leave it, and refused to carry on any serious contract bargaining at all.

The second reason, which made it possible for GE's methods to work, was the virtual destruction of effective union organization in the electrical industry in the late 1940's and '50's.

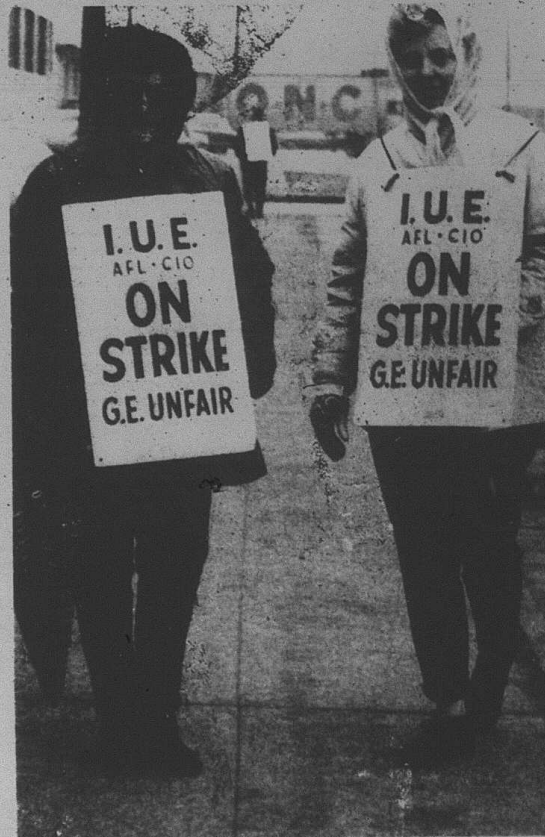
In 1945 almost all electrical workers belonged to the powerful United Electrical Workers (UE). With 600,000 members, the UE was the third largest union in the CIO. Only the auto workers (UAW) and steel workers (USW) were larger.

In the late 1940's, a vicious fight swept through the CIO between rival factions of union officials. The issues had little or nothing to do with defending the wages, working conditions and rights of union members.

COLD WAR

The basic issue was the Cold War, the struggle between the United States and Russian ruling classes over who would control the world.

The top CIO leadership was pro-Washington and was determined to line up the unions in support of capitalism and U.S. imperialism.



Union ranks are rebuilding traditions of struggle.

The leadership of UE, however, was closely allied to the Communist Party. The CP used the UE as a cover to gain support for Moscow's policies.

The top CIO leadership launched a drive to purge the UE and the whole CIO of Communist Party supporters. The resulting struggle wrecked any chance for a serious

struggle against the employers. Aided by the companies, the red-baiting of the CIO leadership was too powerful for the UE to withstand. Rank and file electrical workers paid a heavy price.

The CIO forced out the UE and created a paper union, the International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE) to raid its locals. The UAW, IBEW, IAM (Machinists), among others, joined in the attack.

The companies collaborated with the government and the anti-UE unions in decertifying UE locals. In an open conspiracy, bargaining agent elections were swung against the UE by red-baiting and goon squad tactics.

THIRTEEN UNIONS

By 1960, electrical workers had been split up into 13 different, viciously competing unions. The only winner was GE.

Divided, the workers fell. Run away shops and layoffs destroyed much of what power they still had.

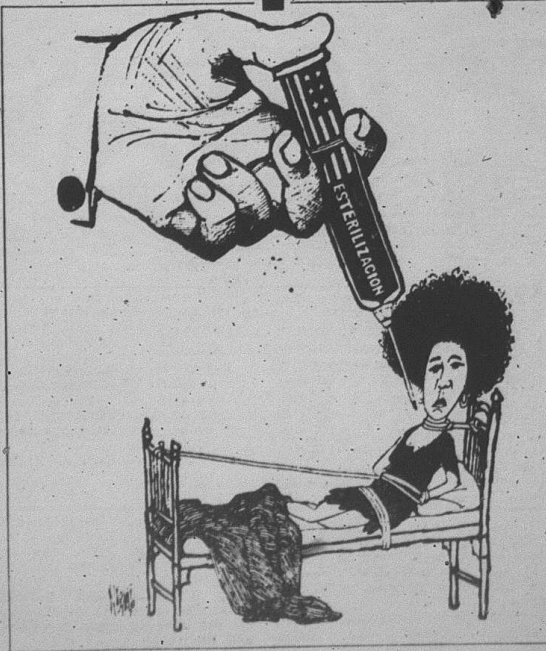
Only in the '60's, with the growth of a new rank and file militance, was a shaky unity forced among the different unions representing electrical workers.

In 1965 a new IUE leadership was elected to patch up the divisions. The first significant test for the new coalition was the 100-day strike against GE in 1969-70.

The contract was mediocre. But the union's strength finally forced GE to retreat from its policy of refusing to seriously negotiate a contract—the tactic used so successfully by electrical bosses in the previous 25 years.

The current negotiations at GE and Westinghouse are the second big test. The employers' offensive is forcing the electrical unions to hang together, at least in official bargaining. But it will take a lot more than business unionism as usual to win serious improvements for the rank and file.

Stop Forced Sterilization!



PHILADELPHIA — A benefit concert in support of Norma Jean Serena was held here May 15. Serena, from Western Pennsylvania, was sterilized in 1970 without her knowledge.

In 1970 the Armstrong County Welfare Department decided that Mrs. Serena was an "unfit mother." Why? Because she was poor, a Native American, and living with a black man.

Along with medical personnel, the Welfare Department authorized a "therapeutic" sterilization.

They listed Serena's "socio-economic status" as the medical reason. The sterilization was not necessary for her health.

CHILDREN TAKEN

In addition, her three children were taken away from her. She was told that her children were seriously ill, and that they would be returned with them "recovered."

The children were not ill. They were placed in foster homes and kept from her, illegally, for more than three years.

Norma Jean Serena is now suing ten professionals, the county Welfare Department, and Citizen's General Hospital of New Kensington, Pa., charging them with seven counts of conspiracy and other

violations of her constitutional rights.

Meanwhile, the State of Pennsylvania and the Armstrong County Solicitor's Office are mobilizing their big legal guns to oppose Mrs. Serena.

If she wins this case, it will be the first time a court has decided that sterilization without consent is a violation of a person's constitutional rights.

Over 200 people attended the concert, and \$300 was raised. Lively folk music was provided by LUCHA, a women's singing group. The event was sponsored by several community and women's organizations.

THOUSANDS

But Mrs. Serena is not the only victim of forced sterilization. According to the concerned health care workers, every year thousands of women in city hospitals all over the country are sterilized without their knowledge or full understanding.

In Puerto Rico alone, 35% of all women of childbearing age have been sterilized in the name of "family planning."

This kind of attack is mostly directed against poor and minority women. It is one of the many ways in which those who run this system deny women control over their own

bodies and practice genocide on the poorest women in the working class.

[Send contributions to: The Norma Jean Serena Legal Fund, c/o Richard Levine, 517 Frick Building, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15219.]

Susan Flynn

Give This Judge A White Sheet

If there was anyone who still believed in the myth of the impartial judge, dispensing justice without prejudice and with great wisdom, they won't after they hear about Judge Potter of McKean County, Pa.

This judge has stopped all adoptions by white families of black, Vietnamese, and Korean orphans.

It's just not "proper," according to Judge Potter. "It's great when they're little pickaninnies," the judge said. "They're cute and everybody's a do-gooder. But what about when they're older, when they're 14 or 15?"

Judge Potter is the only judge in McKean County, and so all couples in that area wishing to adopt are forced to conform with his racist opinions.

Nationwide Campaign Builds Growing GARY TYLER MUST

A movement is growing across the country to free Gary Tyler. Tyler is a 17-year-old black youth from Louisiana, sentenced to be electrocuted, framed for a crime he did not commit.

His case is gaining growing support from coast to coast from people who are fed up with the racism which was so blatantly used against this young man.

The evidence against him was false, the witnesses recanted—but still he was convicted because he was black and he had spoken out.

More and more people are joining the movement to set Gary Tyler free. Successful demonstrations supporting Gary Tyler have already been held in Detroit and Chicago. And more demonstrations and rallies are planned throughout the country in coming weeks.

Most recently demonstrations have been held in Louisville and Boston. Although both of these cities have been the scenes of racist violence against busing, the demonstrations were successful.

This movement can help turn the tide against the racist offensive.

LOUISVILLE— Saturday, May 22, nearly 125 brothers and sisters turned out to demand that Gary Tyler be freed. Numerous organizations and individuals, including the International Socialists and the Red Tide, helped build the demonstration into a success.

As the rally got underway, chairperson Fred Hobby told the story of the racist frame-up and the movement building to save Gary's life.

One brother who spoke later told how he had been the victim of a racist frameup himself.

A member of the Kentucky Alliance Against Racism and Repression spoke on the need for all organizations to work together to help free Gary and oppose the racist attacks in Louisville.

Todd Jefferson, speaking for the I.S., pointed out: "The question is not whether Gary is innocent, but whether the system is guilty of racism. It's not just Gary Tyler. It's not just Fred Hampton, Malcolm X, George Jackson, Joan Little or Angela Davis.



Louisville

"It's the capitalist system. And there will be one Gary Tyler after another until it's smashed."

"SET HIM FREE"

The march was long and spirited, winding through a section of the downtown black community. Brothers and sisters chanted: "Gary is you. Gary is me. And we'll all burn together if we don't set him free."

At the Federal Building, a speaker from the Detroit Committee to Free Gary Tyler and the Red Tide told how the demonstrations had been built in Chicago and Detroit, and explained that a

nationwide mass movement on this issue is needed.

The next speaker, black high school student Patricia Williams, related how Gary could have been any of us. She told how 50 black students, many of them her friends, were suspended at Fairdale High School in Louisville because they opposed discriminatory treatment.

Those 50 students were suspended because of racism. Gary Tyler is on Death Row because of racism. I'm tired of it.

"I've got one more thing to say—we've got to stick together. Join the Committee to Free Gary

Tyler."

BOSTON— At JFK Plaza in front of the Federal Building, 75 spirited demonstrators rallied last Saturday demanding Gary Tyler's freedom.

Representatives from a number of community and political groups turned out to start the fight in Boston to save America's youngest inmate on Death Row.

At the rally held after the picketing people, heard Larry Smith, a telephone worker and a member of the International Socialists and the I.S. Black Caucus.

Smith spoke on the need to build a movement that can truly set Gary Tyler free—one that reaches into the workplaces and communities all across this country.

Other speakers included Jane Katz, a woman active in the defense of several black families who came under attack in the predominantly white Maverick Square housing project in East Boston.

People then heard Gary Burgess, an ex-prisoner and member of the Northeast Prisoners' Association.

Joan Brooks, an ex-teacher at Charlestown High School, also spoke. Brooks was fired for speaking out against the ROAR-organized violence against black students and Charlestown.

SELF DEFENSE

Two years ago, Gary Tyler had the guts to stand up to the police. For this the state of Louisiana sentenced him to death.

Today, in Boston, the black community is beginning to organize self-defense patrols in Roxbury. The racists, through the likes of

ROAR, the South Boston marshalls and their counterparts in Charlestown, want to see them crushed.

The movement to free Gary Tyler is only part of the movement to turn back the racist offensive in this country. The only solution to the racist attacks in Boston and around the country, is the organized self-defense of the black community.

Gary's case is beginning to get known in Boston. The Boston Committee to Free Gary Tyler will follow up with another rally to be held soon. Watch Workers' Power for details.



Boston

Gary Demon

- May 29
- Cleveland—12:00 Noon, Public
- June 5
- New York City—12:00 Noon, At New York City and Dekalb. Fe
- Pittsburgh—12:00 Noon, Rally a Crawford. March to Federal Bu
- Springfield, MA—1:00 P.M., R
- June 6
- Cincinnati—2:00 P.M., Rally Washington Park.
- June 13
- Detroit—4:00 P.M., Central M Woodward Ave. Featured Spea mother), Walter Collins, Nation

Defense Effort GO FREE!

Gary Is You, Gary Is Me

"Gary Tyler Must Go Free"

A song with music and lyrics by Paul Roose, copyright 1976

Black kids on a school bus, Louisiana road
White kids all around it, just screamin' like daddy told
Rocks were flying through the air, then a shot rang out
A white child was dead, but who shot that gun they never did
find out.

But the man said, "Gary Tyler, you must be the man,
"Gary Tyler, we're gonna throw you in the slam."

They dragged those school kids off the bus, threw 'em up
against the wall
Gary Tyler said "No, no, no, you can't treat us like this at
all,"

Then the sheriff said, "Hey boy come here, we don't like
your kind you see."
And they took him down to the station booked on murder in
the first degree.

And the cop said, "Gary Tyler, you're lucky we got you first,
Cause Gary Tyler, hangin' is a whole lot worse."

No fingerprints were on the gun they say was in his hand,
The witness's name was Natalie, had to force her to take the
stand,
Cause they'd stripped her down and they'd shook her out,
put a pencil in her hand,
Said, "Sign this paper or you'll never see again your baby or
your lover man."

He walked into the courtroom just lookin' for an honest trial
The judge he's a friend of the KKK, and he sits up there and
smiles,
Gary turned to the jury, twelve white faces in a row,
And each one thinkin' "This nigger boy done it, you know
he's got to go."

And the judge said, "Gary Tyler, I got nothing against your
race,"
"But Gary Tyler, you got to keep in your place."

The jury came back with the guilty sign, American justice
fair,
The judge said "Boy, you can count your days, cause I'm
giving you the chair,
But the people rose up across the land, from sea to shining
sea,
Said, "Shove the judge and the KKK, the people gonna set
you free."

And the people say, "Gary Tyler, we're gonna set you free,
"Cause Gary Tyler, he's just like you and me."

Chorus: Gary Tyler is you, Gary Tyler is me,
And we'll all burn together if we don't set him free.
(repeat chorus several times)

by Byron Gray and Karen Kaye

ACROSS THE COUNTRY, people are organizing rallies, marches and petition drives to free Gary Tyler. Members of the Committee to Free Gary Tyler are working to spread the word about this case, and to mobilize thousands who will work with them until Gary Tyler is released from prison, a free man, with no charges against him.

Tyler's case is on appeal and will be heard in Louisiana State Supreme Court late this summer. The case against him is such a transparent frame-up that it is hard to believe any fair court could convict again. Does this mean that the Gary Tyler activists are wasting their time? Should we wait for the court's decision?

A look at another well-known frame-up case, that of Ruben "Hurricane" Carter, provides many reasons why the answer is "no," why an active movement of committed people is the only way to assure Gary Tyler's freedom.

Ruben "Hurricane" Carter and John Artis were recently released from Clinton State Prison in Clinton, New Jersey. They await a new trial after serving nine and a half years for a crime they could not possibly have committed.

Like the Tyler case, the Carter-Artis case was a racist frame-up.

THE CASES

In 1966, the Paterson, New Jersey black ghetto was in revolt. The police were keeping the lid on by brutally terrorizing the black community. Carter was then the leading contender for the World Middleweight boxing crown.

Carter had been openly speaking out against the police brutality and the rotten living conditions Paterson blacks had to endure. His people were listening.

Gary Tyler in 1974 also lived in a town filled with racial tension. He was attending a recently desegregated school in Destrehan, La. The Klan is strong in Destrehan, and whites were mobilizing against desegregation.

On October 7 a white mob confronted Gary Tyler's school bus and began to throw rocks. A shot was fired and a white youth in the mob died.

Carter and Artis were picked out by the cops as suspects for a murder. They were questioned for 17 hours. They passed a lie detector test. The one surviving

victim said they were not the men who shot him and his companions. Police found no gun or fingerprints they could attribute to Carter or Artis. They were released.

In Tyler's case, police arrived to search the bus and the students. Tyler protested that they were pointing loaded guns at students' heads. He was arrested for obstructing justice. No gun was found on the bus. They had no evidence that the shot had come from the bus.

"NEW EVIDENCE"

Carter and Artis were free for four months until police said they had found "new evidence." Then they were picked up and charged with first degree murder.

In Tyler's case, it took the police only several hours to find the new evidence. A gun was produced—with no fingerprints of Gary's on it. They had also found a witness, Natalie Blanks, another student on Tyler's bus.

Carter and Artis were found guilty by an all white jury and sentenced to life in prison. An all white jury found Tyler guilty too—and sentenced him to death.

But the truth came out about the Carter case. Two years ago, the two main witnesses recanted their testimony. The witnesses, were ex-cons who had been caught burglarizing a nearby factory the night of the shooting.

In exchange for reduced sentences, they agreed to testify against Carter and Artis. They admitted they had seen no one resembling Carter or Artis near the scene of the shooting.

The truth is out about Gary Tyler too. Natalie Blanks and another witness told how police threatened to put them in jail and take them away from their families if they didn't testify against Tyler. They have stated in court that they were forced to lie, that they never saw Tyler with a gun.

For nine and a half years Ruben Carter and John Artis fought to prove their innocence. The courts did nothing.

But in 1975 support for the two began to build.

Pressure from people who organized to win a new trial forced Newark Mayor Kenneth Gibson to declare September 6, 1975 as "Justice for Ruben Carter Day."

Over 3000 people rallied in Newark that day demanding the freedom of Carter and Artis. The movement drew support from

Muhammed Ali and Bob Dylan, who wrote a moving song about "Hurricane."

But it took mass support, mass pressure for their freedom, to build this powerful movement.

On March 17, 1976 Carter and Artis were granted a new trial, and soon after were released on bond.

RACIST SYSTEM

Carter and Artis are now free from their prison cells. They are not free from the corrupt and racist system that put them there. And neither are the rest of us.

This system continues to lock people away—for being black, for being poor—for being outspoken in defending their rights.

The courts are part of that system—the part where individuals who make trouble are put through a charade of "justice" before the key is thrown away.

The Carter-Artis case shows that when masses of people give the system trouble, the courts can be forced to find the key and open the door.

We need to build a massive movement if Gary Tyler is to go free. But beyond that, we must build a movement that will tell this system: "You cannot make black people, working people, your scapegoats any more."

When we free Gary Tyler, we will take a big step towards freeing ourselves, and our children.

Tyler Demonstrations

Square

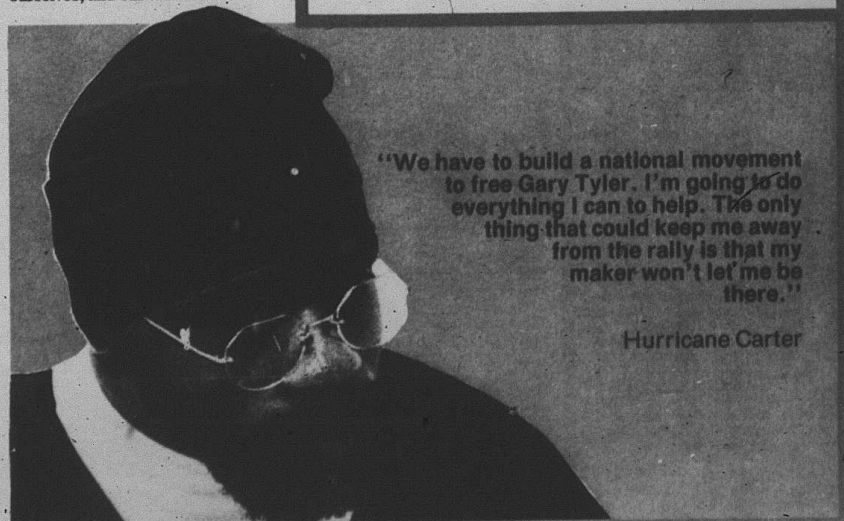
bee Square, Downtown Brooklyn, featured Speaker: Hurricane Carter

at Freedom Corners at Center and Building at 7th and Grant

ally at Winchester Square

at Fountain Square. March to

Methodist Church, E. Adams and speakers: Mrs. Juanita Tyler (Gary's mother), Committee to Free Gary Tyler



"We have to build a national movement to free Gary Tyler. I'm going to do everything I can to help. The only thing that could keep me away from the rally is that my maker won't let me be there."

Hurricane Carter

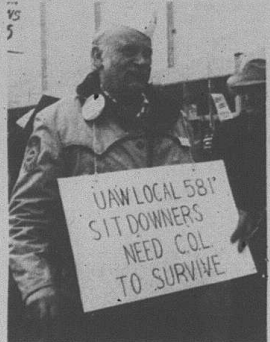
UAW PAPER SAYS "NO" TO PENSION COLA

by John W. Anderson
Retired President, UAW Local 15

The May issue of "Solidarity," the United Auto Workers' paper, carried a column by Jack Zeller on the issue of cost-of-living on retired workers' pensions.

This is one of the key issues in the 1976 auto contract negotiations. Because pensions do not have regular cost-of-living adjustments built in, many retired auto workers have been thrown into near-poverty by the inflation of the last five years.

Zeller's article makes excuses for UAW President Leonard Woodcock's position that the pension agreement cannot be reopened this year because a six-year pension agreement was signed with the Big Three in 1973. It fails to mention that the UAW has demanded—and



won—contract reopenings in the past. Walter Reuther did it in 1953.

The article also uses as an excuse a 1970 Supreme Court decision. That ruling made it illegal for unions to force a company to bargain on benefits for already-retired workers. But there are plenty of ways to get around this—such as holding out on another point until the company voluntarily agrees to bargain on retiree matters.

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Zeller is a member of the Advisory Council of the Retiree section of the UAW, which purports to speak for 300,000 UAW retirees. The members of this body are in reality spokesmen for the man who selected them—Leonard Woodcock.

The Advisory Council is part of the bureaucracy. Its members are more concerned with their paid trips-around the country than they are in the welfare of the retirees.

Instead of demanding cost-of-living, they indicate some other benefit will be won for retirees without reopening the pension plan. Louis Steigerwald, Chairman of the Local 15 retirees' committee, indicated they may attempt to get a dental plan, to be paid by the employers.

We know that nothing worthwhile is ever won without a struggle. It appears the UAW leadership is preparing to put on their knee pads and go begging for crumbs from the Big Three.

Woodcock will want to get some small token improvements for retirees in order to buy votes for local union politicians. Should a few crumbs fall to the retirees—how few small they may be—members of the Advisory Council will hail them as a great victory.

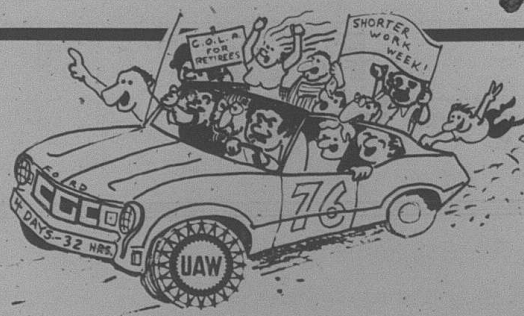
But without cost-of-living, the retirees will remain second class citizens in the UAW, with a declining standard of living.

AUTO MOTION

The Road Forward for Auto Workers

THE FIGHT

FOR COST OF LIVING



by Jack Weinberg,
UAW Local 212

In selling the 1967 contract to Ford workers, UAW President Walter Reuther misrepresented the terms of the agreement. He stated, "The UAW preserved the basic integrity of the cost of living clause and Ford workers and their families will continue to enjoy the full protection of their purchasing power without limitation."

In reaction to these lies and misrepresentations, and to the loss of COLA, a caucus opposing the Reuther machine was organized. The United National Caucus (UNC) was formed by members of the skilled trades Dollar An Hour Committee.

The UNC represented the first opposition to Reuther in ten years. It was the first opposition to represent new forces since the time the Reuther machine consolidated its power.

Its strongest concentrations was among skilled workers in the large Ford River Rouge Tool and Die Unit of Local 600 and the even bigger, General Motors Warren Tech Center, Local 160.

But once the UNC took for itself the task of challenging the Reuther machine, it was forced to begin an orientation toward all sections of the union: production and trades, black and white.

UNION DEMOCRACY

The first effort of the UNC was to challenge Reuther on union democracy at the 1968 UAW Constitutional convention. It campaigned for a UAW Constitutional amendment to elect top union officers by a membership referendum instead of by a delegate vote at the convention.

The UNC also ran Art Fox who had led the fight for uncapped COLA in 1967, for UAW President against Reuther. Although the UNC received few votes, and many convention delegates who had promised support chickened out, war on the Reuther machine had been declared.

Throughout 1968, 69, and 70, the United National Caucus campaigned for the return to an uncapped COLA.

Under the 1967 contract, automatic COLA raises reached the rate of 16c per hour, all additional COLA wage increases were cut off for the rest of the life of the contract. By 1970, the cap had cut 26c per hour off the wages of every UAW member.

It became clear to UAW members who were listening that the United National Caucus had been right about COLA, and that Reuther had been wrong. Members began demanding that the union win back the old COLA agreement in 1970 bargaining.

The relentless campaign by the UNC on this issue, bore fruit. The leadership of the union agreed they had been wrong. A tough fight was shaping up over COLA.

The first time a cost of living allowance (COLA) was ever negotiated in a major labor contract was the 1948 GM/UAW agreement. GM granted COLA in 1948 as sugar coating to a bitter pill.

At that time, the main goal for GM was to break the militancy and power that workers had built up in the shops. They were willing to grant important economic concessions to their workers as part of the cost of smashing the union's shop floor organization and re-establishing firm management control in the plants.

Many business spokesmen publicly criticized GM for entering into a COLA agreement with the UAW. They resented it when GM gave their workers some degree of protection against inflation, because they knew that other sections of labor would follow the UAW lead and demand COLA too.

These businessmen tried to argue that COLA was inflationary, and that COLA wage increases would push up prices. The real dispute, however, was not about what causes inflation. Rather, it was a dispute over who should pay the cost of inflation. Even C.E. Wilson, head of GM at that time, publicly stated that it wasn't higher wages that push up prices, but higher prices that pull up wages.

Then, six weeks before bargaining was to begin, Reuther died in a plane crash. Leonard Woodcock became UAW President and took charge of negotiations.

Reuther's death meant that management lost a UAW President they could rely upon for stable labor relations.

STRONG MAN

The New York Times quoted

Chrysler Vice-Chairman Virgil Boyd: "It's taken a strong man to keep the situation under control. I hope that whoever his successor is can exercise great internal discipline."

Another auto executive told the New York Times that management was worried that a new UAW leader might have a hard time taking control of the union.

They understood that a leader who won, his contract demands

But by the 1960's, the auto giants decided that they, too, were ready to try to get rid of COLA. They were facing a new problem. For the first time since the end of World War II, the American-built car was facing serious competition from foreign cars. The auto companies decided that they time had come to hold the line on auto workers' wages and fringes.

Inside the plants, union organization on the shop floor was nearly dead. Management concluded that the UAW had grown so weak as an effective fighting force that they came to continue granting new economic concessions was over—the time to start taking things back had begun.

The 1967 attack on the COLA was the opening shot of this new campaign. To sell the agreement to the membership, the negotiating team got a wage increase—but agreed to a cap on the cost of living agreement. This cap ended up costing autoworkers much more than the wage increase they won.

Last week's column discussed the Dollar An Hour movement, organized by UAW skilled trades as a pressure group for 1967 contract bargaining. Members of this group continued to fight for COLA through the 1970 negotiations.

would be a strong leader. It was in the interest of the companies to have a strong, stable UAW leadership.

Speaking of contract bargaining, the Times quoted this executive as saying: "We may just have to pull their chestnuts out of the fire."

General Motors was the 1970 strike target. While GM felt the need to deliver Woodcock a 1970 bargaining victory, they did not want to make it too easy.

They dragged the strike out for ten weeks. The UAW strike fund ran dry. There was no money left for the UAW to continue paying health insurance premiums for the membership.

GM then called Woodcock, and asked him to come up the back stairs and meet with them privately.

They agreed to settle. They even agreed to loan the UAW the money to pay the health insurance premiums and to give Woodcock time to sell the new package.

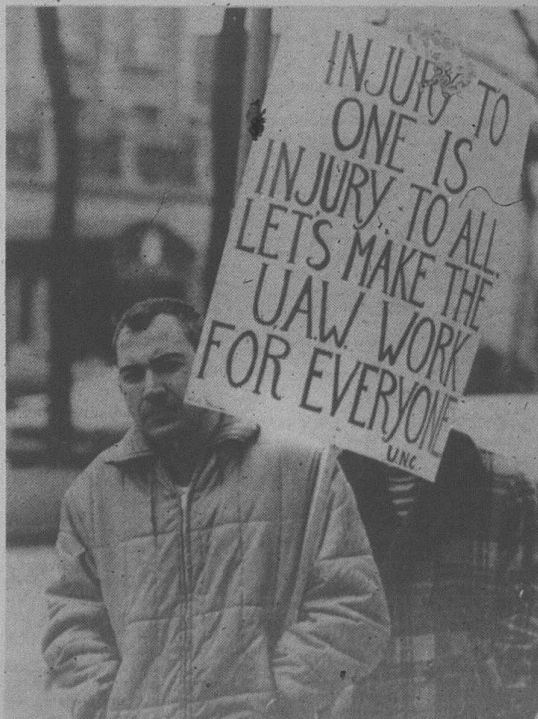
UNCAPPED COLA

The uncapped COLA was re-established in the 1970 contract. The 1970 agreement also established the first phase of the "30 and Out" pension program.

These were the two issues that members were strongly demanding going into bargaining. These were the two things GM believed they had to give the UAW to make sure Woodcock would be able to establish himself as a strong President who could control the union.

But except for the three year campaign by the United National Caucus, the pressure for return to the uncapped COLA might well not have been strong enough to win a victory.

Woodcock was at the point of surrender, when the companies "pulled his chestnuts out of the fire." They taught him a lesson. They taught him who was boss. Since that day, the President of the UAW has been afraid of his own shadow.



The UNC campaigned for the return of an uncapped COLA.

RIGHT ON FROM DUBOIS, PA!

Dear Workers' Power,

UPS in DuBois, Pa.

I have read several of your latest issues and think it's great the way you're right up front with the truth about "labor-management relations." Too bad AP and UPI and all the rest don't have

such a taste for investigative reporting.

Keep up the good work, and I'm anxiously awaiting your next issue.

A UPS worker
Dubois, Pa.

Enclosed is my money order for \$3.00 for the special subscription you are offering UPS workers. I'm a member of Teamsters Local 110 (Johnstown, Pa.) and work for

Who's on First? What's on Second?

Dear Workers' Power,

I was watching the results of the Michigan Presidential Primary on television, and I flashed on the way the media has turned presidential elections into a super-spectator sport to compete with baseball and football.

The primaries are the playoffs between the Republican league and the Democratic league to see who is going to represent them in the finals.

One commentator explained how Carter was "doing the Kennedy thing" pretty effectively because he was pulling a good vote in Catholic areas. But Udall was coming up from behind and closing the gap fast using the "anti-establishment appeal" that worked for Carter in Pennsylvania.

The judges scored a miss for Udall when he demanded Mayor Coleman Young retract his charges that Udall was a racist because his parents had belonged to the Mormon Church.

Young then counter-punched when he called Udall a cry-baby, sending Udall reeling back into the ropes with the crowd roaring in laughter.

But Carter ran into unexpected trouble, the commentators suggest. His appeal to black votes is costing him votes among racist whites. "To win," they say,

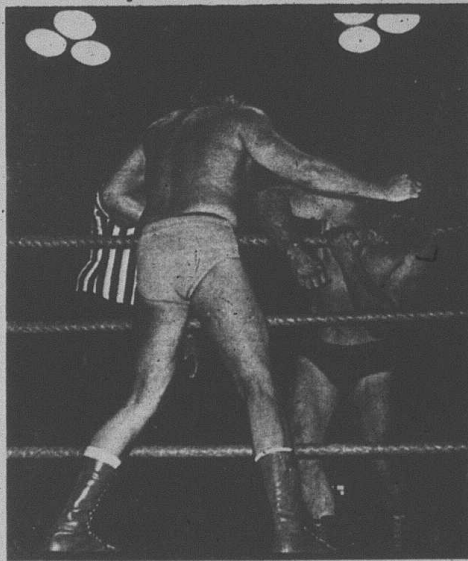
"he's now going to have to cover his white flank."

The thing lacking in the primary is political content. It's just a contest between advertising agencies. Instead of selling products, they're buying votes.

And the winner? The best ad agency in the country wins the grand prize: Presidency of the United States.

J.J.
Hamtramck, MI

... and the winner gets to be President!!



Workers' Power Wants To Hear From You

What you like about the paper—and what you don't. What you think of the political ideas we present, and your comments on problems facing working people.

But please be brief.

Write to: Workers' Power, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, Michigan 48203.

Defend Yvonne Wanrow!

Dear Workers' Power,

I have been very happy to see your coverage of Yvonne Wanrow and thought you and others would like to know that support for her continues to grow.

It was on Mothers' Day 1973 that Yvonne was convicted of murder for killing a man who was attacking her and her children.

The Seattle Committee to Defend Yvonne Wanrow and Leftist Lezzies, a Lesbian-Feminist Organization decided it would be appropriate to hold a Mothers' Day Picnic to benefit and publicize Yvonne's case. Over \$300 was raised.

Speakers from Leftist Lezzies, and Lesbian Mothers' National Defense Fund; as well as Yvonne spoke to an enthusiastic crowd

about the need to fight back against racist and sexist oppression.

We had good weather, good food, Chilean folk music, a puppet show for children, a cake walk to bluegrass music, and a strong belief that Yvonne Wanrow must go free.

Yvonne is now waiting for a decision from the Washington State Supreme Court on her right to a new trial.

We know that we cannot rely on the decision of nine white, male judges. We must build a movement which can free Yvonne and all of us by putting an end to this whole system of sexism and racism.

S.C.
Seattle

Letters

to

Workers' Power

"Business As Usual"—Meeting Ends In Chaos

Dear Workers' Power,

The May union meeting for Teamsters Local 174 in Seattle was business as usual. For the last few monthly meetings the union officials have managed to get the meetings adjourned before a call for new business has ever been made. The May meeting was no exception.

It began with the usual long and boring minutes from every meeting for the last month. Then came a vote on a by-laws change which would have excluded business agents from also serving on the executive board of the union. Immediately after it was voted down a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Although no one had heard the motion, and new business had not even been called for, in the confusion over the motion the meeting was adjourned.

UPS workers had come with a solidarity motion in support of the central states strike but were

never given the opportunity to raise it. More importantly, we never got a chance to ask about contract negotiations (it has been extended to June 30).

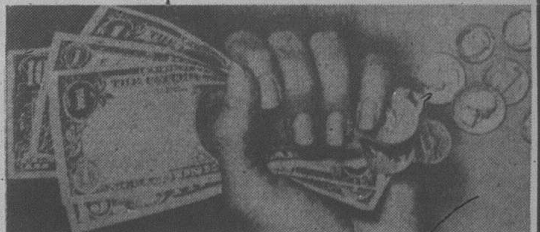
The union officials have said there will be a master contract for the west coast with local supplements, but no one knows what the union will be taking to the negotiating table.

The May union meeting was the last meeting until next September. If the union officials have their way, it could be the last time UPSers get together until the contract ratification meeting where they'll try to stuff a sell-out contract down our throats.

We must demand that the union hold special meetings to keep us informed on negotiations. Constant pressure must be put on them to let them know that the rank and file will not allow another sell out.

G.E.
Seattle

One-Armed Bandits On The Loose



Dear Workers' Power,

In most places I've worked, there's been a snack bar lined up with vending machines, ready to rip you off for soda, candy and other junk. Usually you're a captive market, so you pay their price.

To make it easier to get their hands into your pockets they often furnish a "dollar changer." Everybody's seen them: the machine eats a dollar bill and spits out a dollar's worth of coins.

At least that's how it used to be. Seems as though they've

figured out that the dollar in, dollar out business isn't profitable enough.

Now they're adjusting some dollar changers to hold onto a nickel for a service charge. A dollar in, ninety-five cents back. So it didn't stop with pay toilets, folks. They've got their grubby little fingers into anything that will rake us off.

The next time somebody asks how capitalism works, just tell him we're all getting short-changed.

B.D.
St. Louis

PORTUGAL BENEFIT RAISES \$275 IN OAKLAND

OAKLAND, Calif.—A very successful benefit in solidarity with the Portuguese revolution was held here last week. Seventy people attended and \$275 was raised to send to the Revolutionary Party of the Proletariat (PRP) in Portugal. A slide show on the revolution in Portugal was shown. Manuel Mestre, an auto worker who moved here from Portugal five years ago, thank-

Funds For The Revolution

ed American socialists for their support of the revolution in Portugal. "Our revolution will become your revolution too." Then he and several others from the Portuguese community played Portuguese revolutionary songs.

Robert Kramer, a filmmaker who was in Portugal last year, showed scenes from his soon-to-be-released movie, *Class Struggle in Portugal*. These included an interview with Isobel do Carmo, national secretary of the PRP, and the

high point of the evening, scenes showing the occupation of the Constituent Assembly by thousands of construction workers last November.

Kramer then spoke about the situation in Portugal today. He talked about the increased repression since the right wing coup the 25th of November, but also of the new wave of strikes and demonstrations which is going on.

I.S. Women's Organizer Speaks In Seattle

Over 40 people, including telephone workers, UPS workers and other Teamsters attended a Seattle I.S. public meeting about "1976: A Giant Step for Labor's Rank and File."

Barbara Winslow, I.S. Women's organizer, spoke primarily about the importance of the recent freight and UPS strikes in building a strong rank and file movement within the Teamsters Union.



Barbara Winslow, International Socialists (I.S.) Women's Organizer.

Those strikes, she said, once again showed the membership that the union, the press, and the courts consistently line up with the company against the workers in labor struggles. Building a strong rank and file opposition movement in the union is the first step in fighting back.

Winslow also emphasized the role of women, especially in the UPS strike. In Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, Seattle and the Bay Area, it was women who organized UPSurge. "These

women have been instrumental in bringing women's liberation into the rank and file movement."

She concluded by stressing that rank and file organization in the unions was not enough.

A revolutionary organization, which brought militants together to fight in their common struggle against all bosses has to be built as well.



PRP office in Lisbon, Portugal.

City Bus Driver Speaks On Portugal

PORTLAND — Diane Edwards, a city bus driver from Seattle, and Barbara Winslow, I.S. Women's organizer, spoke at a successful forum of the Portland I.S. branch.

Edwards, just returned from a trip to Portugal, spoke on the role of women in the Portuguese revolution. In particular, she cited the struggles of domestic workers.

Portuguese domestic workers have won unionization, improved conditions and social security benefits—all by organizing along side their sisters and brothers in the rest of the working class.

[An eyewitness account by Diane Edwards of workers' control at a Portuguese textile plant appears on page 4.]

INTERNATIONAL

Barbara Winslow connected the struggles of Portuguese workers with the coming wave of revolutionary struggle in

Africa and Europe.

She also spoke about how the renewed workers' movement in these countries was creating a working women's movement. Winslow cited Italy where a mass movement for abortion reform is being built.

Winslow ended her talk by saying: "The struggle for women's liberation is international. Our emancipation is linked with our sisters in Portugal, Africa and throughout the world."

Diane Edwards concluded the meeting by conveying to American women what the Portuguese women had said could be done to help the revolution.

"Tell the truth about Portugal. Keep the CIA out. Keep NATO out. But most important, build a revolutionary movement in America. That is the best way to help our revolution. Our success is yours as well."

Detroit

The Liberation of Southern Africa

Featured Speaker: Tapson A. Mawere, Representative of Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU)

June 12, 8:00 P.M.
Howard Johnson's Downtown
Washington Blvd. & Michigan

Sponsored by International Socialist Black Caucus



Where We Stand

WE OPPOSE

• CAPITALIST EXPLOITATION

We live under the capitalist system. The wealth produced by working people is stolen from us by private employers. They prosper from our labor.

• CAPITALIST CONTROL

Capitalists use their profits only to make more profits. When they need fewer workers, they create unemployment. When they need more money, they speed up work, downgrade safety conditions and raise prices. The capitalist system spends little on health care, a clean environment, or social services, because these things make no profit.

• OPPRESSION

Capitalism needs inequality—because it needs profits, it can't provide enough for all. So it gives some groups of people worse jobs and lower pay, and labels them inferior. In particular, capitalism locks black people into the bottom of society, and spreads racist ideas to keep them there and justify it. Capitalism keeps women responsible for taking care of the workforce when it is not at work, including children, who are too young to work. Women who work for wages have two jobs.

• CAPITALIST GOVERNMENT

The government serves the capitalist class. Its only purpose is to protect the private profit system. It protects its interests abroad through economic control of other countries, spying and wars.

• BUREAUCRATIC COMMUNISM

Russia, China and the countries with economies like theirs are also oppressive class societies, run by a privileged ruling class of bureaucrats. They are not socialist and must be overthrown by the working classes of those countries.

WE SUPPORT

• THE RANK AND FILE MOVEMENT

The unions protect workers from their employers. But today's unions are run by privileged officials who sell out because they support the capitalist system. They want labor peace not labor power. We support the struggle for rank and file control of the unions.

• LIBERATION FROM OPPRESSION

We support the struggles of every oppressed group to end its oppression: the struggle for equality and justice by blacks, women, gays, Latinos, native Americans, and all oppressed people. Support from the entire working class movement will make both these struggles, and that movement stronger.

• SOCIALISM

Society should be run by the working class. The wealth produced by those who work should go to fill people's needs, not to private gain.

• WORKERS' REVOLUTION

But the capitalist class will not give up their rule and profits voluntarily. Socialism can be created only when the working class seizes control of the factories and makes their own government. The working class will rule democratically because it can own society's wealth only together.

• INTERNATIONALISM

The struggle for socialism is world-wide. Nations fighting to throw out foreign rulers must have the support of the international working class as in Angola today. So must every struggle of working people to end their oppression, as in Portugal today, and in Russia and Eastern Europe.

• REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

The most class conscious members of the working class have the responsibility to lead the struggle toward socialist revolution. To do this they must build an organization to put their consciousness into action and make their leadership effective.

• INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

The I.S. is an organization of revolutionary socialist workers. We are open to all who accept our basic principles and are willing to work as a member to achieve them. Join with us to build the I.S. into a revolutionary party, to build the movement to end exploitation and oppression and to create a socialist world.

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JOIN US!

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

Name

Address

Union

Mary Hartman: Charlie Brown in Pigtales



30 Years Of Soap

What is a "soap opera"? These originated over 30 years ago as daily, 15 minute, radio serials.

The sponsors were mainly soap and detergent companies, hence the name, and the audience was mostly housewives.

The soaps were known for wooden acting, stilted dialogue, and improbable plots, but were very cleverly designed to exploit the hopes and fears of their listeners. The producers decided that housewives, being entirely dependent on their husbands for financial support, are basically insecure people.

They took advantage of this insecurity by duplicating on the programs the same situations that they thought the housewives at home were worrying about: marital conflicts, infidelity, divorce, disease, unemployment, children, etc. The central character facing these problems was a housewife herself, somebody the audience could identify with.

DISASTERS

Next the producers burdened their heroines with the biggest string of disasters since Job got caught in the squeeze play. Any thing could happen, and usually did: obscure lingering illness, amnesia, mistaken identities, fantastic coincidences, murder, incest, mental disorders, you name it. This was intended to make the housewife at home feel that her own problems were perhaps not so bad after all.

But despite everything, the soap opera heroine always triumphed in the end. Innumerable attempts, to seduce or corrupt her always failed. Her husband always came crawling back to her in the end. Her children always admitted that they should have followed her advice in the first place.

This too was something that the housewife could identify with. Even though she went unrecognized and unrewarded, she knew that she was the rock on which the whole family stood. Of course this sense of satisfaction didn't encourage her to go out and organize an improvement in the status of housewives, but it sold a lot of soap.

ONE OF THE MOST CONTROVERSIAL shows on TV today is Norman Lear's "Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman." Despite resistance from the networks, "Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman" has attracted huge audiences wherever it has been able to get air time.

At the same time, many viewers seem to be a little defensive or embarrassed about enjoying the program. They keep watching it, but they feel guilty. This may be because they think of Mary Hartman as a kind of soap opera, the TV equivalent of a Big Mac, which would make it not really suitable for mature adults.

by R.F. Kampfer

How can we categorize Mary Hartman? The form is that of the standard soap opera, but the content is completely different.

The soap opera extols and defends all the traditional values of the bourgeoisie family. "Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman," takes the family and society in general apart to show us how its values are unfair and/or obsolete.

Mary Hartman is not a liberated woman because she's never had a chance to be. Isolated in a small, working class town, Fernwood, Ohio, she believes everything she has ever been taught by her parents, the schools, Readers' Digest and TV commercials.



Actress Louise Lasser in a TV Commercial (left) and as Mary Hartman.

She does everything that she can to be a good wife, a good mother and a good housekeeper, but none of it works. Her husband refuses to make love with her, her daughter cannot cope with puberty, and she has a waxy yellow buildup on her kitchen floor. Every time she gets the chance to grasp a little happiness, like

having an affair with Sgt. Foley, she is stopped short by her upbringing.

Instead of questioning the system that got her into such a mess, she blames herself, and keeps on trying. Her only consolation is a trip to the House of Pancakes, which could eventually

add to her worries by making her fat.

CHARLIE BROWN

In many ways Mary Hartman's personality resembles that of Charlie Brown. This image is heightened by her pigtales and little-girl dresses. Her life is just one crisis, defeat and humiliation after another, but she never gives up.

Every time she gets knocked on her ass she struggles back up to try again. Throughout everything she remains brave, considerate, honest, affectionate, and incredibly sincere.

Louise Lasser is perfectly cast as Mary Hartman. She can deliver the best one-liners with a straight face since Woody Allen; and her grin is a joy to behold. Half the fun of watching the show lies in wondering what outrageous thing she will say or do next.

Let's hope that public demand forces the networks to give Mary Hartman a slot on prime time. It's a show that could make you think, and a hell of a lot of fun to watch too.

TV'S PHONY FIGHT GAME

NBC-TV walked away with all the honors Monday night for the worst television sports production of the year.

The coverage of the Muhammad Ali-Richard Dunn heavyweight championship fight was untainted by the slightest hint of professionalism or competence by the broadcast "team."

The only person on the broadcast with any apparent serious knowledge of boxing at all was Dick Young. He was typecast in the role of the cynic, assigned to talk about what an inferior, miserable excuse for a fighter Richard Dunn is.

Young signed off the broadcast with the obviously rehearsed line, "Muhammad Ali rose tonight to his level of competence, and Richard Dunn, obeying the 'Peter Principle,' rose to his level of incompetence."

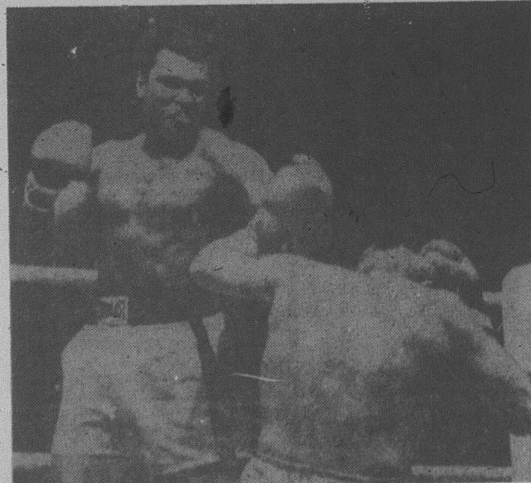
He was half right. Ali was at his level of competence. But the true level of incompetence in this performance was achieved by NBC-TV.

Whatever artistry, or marginal esthetic enjoyment that can be derived from a prize fight—and there is some, especially in watching a superb athlete like Ali—was buried.

CALCULATED RIPOFF

What you have to understand, is that this ripoff of the sports-watching public is calculated and deliberate.

For openers, NBC never intended to aim this broadcast at the relatively narrow sector of viewers known as "fight fans." Well, perhaps the preliminary fight be-



All flooring Dunn. The fight itself was worth watching.

tween Duane Bobick and Bunny Johnson was intended to satisfy the hard core.

If so, it was a pretty low-energy warmup. Bobick, who seems to be strictly a headhunter—if he threw a dozen body punches in eight rounds, I missed half of them—beat the more clever, faster Johnson into submission mainly by outweighing him by 30 pounds.

But the real point of the evening, of course, was to put Ali on prime time home-TV in the United States. With the right hype, you can get

people to watch Ali play marbles. That's why the fight was actually staged at the incredible hour of 3 a.m. in Germany!

The broadcast team was not there to cover a fight. They were there to hype what was expected to be a dull, boring, slow-paced mismatch.

There was even considerable fear that there might be a repeat of the unbelievable disaster of Ali and Jimmy Young, looking at each other for an hour or so in between commercials.

That's why they passed all kinds

of tired "bum of the month" jokes instead of talking about fight strategy, tactics or training. That's why they featured Candy Bergen's rather inept photography and all of that I-don't-know-anything-about-boxing-and-I-could-care-less-but-Ali-is-so-preTTY routine.

CANDY BERGEN

Putting someone like Candy Bergen in that role is also deliberate, as well as an insult to women. There are plenty of women in sports journalism who know about boxing, at least as much as Joe Garagiola does—but they are excluded because they supposedly make male viewers "insecure."

What ultimately salvaged the whole turkey affair was Muhammad Ali and Richard Dunn themselves. Contrary to expectations, they put on a fine show.

Ali was in shape, serious, professional, and murderously effective. Dunn was not only courageous, but aggressive and skillful. Unfortunately, he just kept walking into Ali's right hand until he was practically out on his feet.

Ali is, in reality, a one-man heavyweight division all by himself. On a given night, someone can make him look bad—but to beat him, when he is in shape, is still practically out of the question.

If heavyweight boxing is worth watching at all, it's still because of the fantastic skill, speed and artistry Muhammad Ali brings to it. As to whether it's worth watching at all—we'll have to discuss that another time.

Dan Posen

What's Going On In East Coast UPS Talks?

by Jim Woodward

"You have strict orders not to meet with your membership until the union meetings scheduled for June 5-6." That's what Teamster officials in East Coast locals containing United Parcel Service (UPS) workers have been told, according to a reliable union source.

Another source says that the contract negotiators in Arlington, Va. have been talking a lot about UPSurge, the UPS workers' rank and file movement.

Those two reports tell a lot about what's going on in the contract battle between UPS and the Teamsters Union in 15 Eastern states. They suggest first of all that the union has as big a sellout on tap for East Coast UPS workers as they delivered after a two-week UPS strike in the Central States earlier this month.

But the second report indicates that what the rank and file does can have a big effect on whether the East Coast sellout takes place as scheduled.

CENTRAL STATES

After a two-week strike, Teamsters Union negotiators delivered a proposed contract to 14,000 UPS workers in the Central States. It contained virtually no contract improvements other than the wage settlement, which is patterned on the freight contract and which comes virtually automatically. Angered by a two-week strike that won nothing, rank and filers stayed out another day in a coordinated wildcat strike.

UPS workers in the Eastern states have similar grievances: use of part-time workers, the appearance standards, the grievance procedure, forced overtime, and so on.

One difference, however, is that there has never before been a common contract for all East Coast UPS workers. Until this year, there have been numerous separate agreements for various localities. They all had different expiration dates, ranging from April 10 for New England to July 31 for Maryland through the Carolinas.

This year there was supposed to be a common expiration date. When that is to be has been the source of constant uncertainty, and it illustrates how the union leadership has tried to keep the membership confused about what is going on.

DIFFERENT STORY

Every union official has a different story to tell. In Harrisburg, Pa., officials will tell you there is a five-day contract extension after May 31. A Rochester, N.Y. steward claims the deadline has been extended to July 31. But a Pittsburgh Business Agent says the extension is on a day-to-day basis. In fact, many union officials don't even seem to know what's happening.

Many areas aren't even being told there's an extension to the contract. In Pittsburgh, for instance, notices have been posted which simply say: "Continue working until notified. Progress is being made."

Two representatives from each local were summoned to Arlington May 27 to meet with the negotiating team. But no one was saying what the purpose of the meeting was.

The union has also called local meetings for the weekend of June 5-6. Officials will only say the reason for these meetings is to give a "progress report."

UNION WON'T FIGHT

There is a clear reason why the union officials have muddled the water with all this confusion. They are stalling. They do not intend to fight at all for a contract better than the Central States got. They are simply waiting for the results of the ratification vote in the Midwest. If that contract is accepted, they intend to model the Eastern agreement after it.

There should be no doubt at all in any UPS worker's mind about this. If your local president or business agent is telling you that they'll fight for something better than Central States got, he's not telling the truth.



African Liberation Day, 1976

AFRICAN LIBERATION DAY, 1976, marks a turning point in the struggle for African freedom. Last year at this time, the CIA and South Africa were preparing full-scale intervention in Angola. This year, Angolans celebrated the victory of their national liberation struggle in May Day rallies (pictured above).

In the last two weeks, freedom fighters in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) have shaken the confidence of the white racist regime. All traffic to South Africa now moves under military escort. An increasing number of Rhodesian soldiers are killed in battle. The U.S. government is urging Americans to prepare to leave Zimbabwe.

The sooner the white Rhodesian regime is totally smashed, the better. The struggle will go on till complete victory—for nothing less than total victory is acceptable to the masses of Africans. The future is in their hands. □

You don't have to take our word for it. Ed McMann, the federal mediator in charge of the negotiations, said essentially the same thing when this reporter spoke with him May 26.

"In the Midwest they have a tentative agreement," said McMann, "but the union hasn't sent the ballots out yet for the vote to the membership. But I'm sure if it's ratified it'll close negotiations here."

Does that mean the union will just accept the same thing? we asked.

"Sure," McMann replied. "And I can't see them striking here while they're waiting for a vote out there, so I imagine what they'll do is extend. I imagine they'll probably just extend it until they find out what the decision is out in the Midwest. Under some guise or other, they'll extend. It won't be 'OK, let's see what they're going to do,' but it will be something like that."

NOT AUTOMATIC

That's the situation Eastern UPS workers are faced with, but the outcome is far from automatic.

Even the minimal gains of the Central States sellout are not assured. The company certainly knows that the union officials are not able or willing to fight. And if UPS thinks it can get away with it, they may even make further

attacks.

For instance, in the East there are not as many part-time workers as there are in the Central States. The company may choose this as the time to turn more full-time jobs into part-time jobs.

That's why the role of UPSurge activists and other rank and filers is so critical. The UPSurge-East steering committee is already meeting to plan their strategy.

The Central States sellout will be imposed in the East only if the company and union officials think the ranks cannot successfully op-

pose...

Between now and the union meetings on June 5-6, the central theme will have to be: Get ready to strike. Nothing will be won if the company knows the ranks aren't ready and willing to strike. If the union leadership isn't willing to lead, then it's up to UPSurge and the rank and file to carry the ball.

And in the Central States, UPSers have a double reason to vote down their proposed contract: for themselves, and to sabotage the planned sellout of their brothers and sisters in the East. □

N.J. UPS Firing Backfires

SECAUCUS, N.J.—UPS tried to fire an UPSurge activist again this week. This time local union officials stood up for a militant ex-steward rather than siding with the company.

As a result, Howard Cohen of the Secaucus hub got away with only a two-week suspension.

Cohen has been a frequent target of UPS harassment. This time, the company assigned him a supervisor to "teach" him how to unload trucks—he has only 6½ years experience.

They had manager Jerry Maletta looking on. Maletta insisted him until Cohen lost his temper and yelled back.

As Cohen puts it, "Both supervisor Cslandri and Maletta are lying and saying that I made obscene gestures."

"The company will do just about anything to get an individual who is using UPSurge to inform people about what's happening throughout the UPS system."

UPS BACKS OFF

The company tried to fire Cohen. However Local 177's BA, Joe Purcell, who was elected on a rank and file slate last year, defended him in grievance. So he kept his job.

As UPSurge grows stronger and becomes more solidly organized, increasingly it will beat UPS in such attempted firings everywhere.

Pretty soon, we hope to see rank and file power hamstringing UPS to the point that harassment and suspensions are stopped once and for all. □

WORKERS' POWER

A revolutionary socialist weekly, published by the International Socialists.

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