

# WORKERS' POWER

ACQUISITION SECTION  
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Free  
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in  
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6-7**

# Miners' Strike Spreads

**80,000  
Out -  
And Still  
Growing!**

CHARLESTON, W. Va.—There is a new attitude of seriousness in the almost daily meetings of striking miners behind Dry Branch Elementary School. The meetings are the backbone of the wildcat that had grown to 80,000 miners by mid-week.

Their fight is against the power of federal courts to stop strikes with injunctions and fines.

This strike was triggered in mid-July when District Judge Dennis Knapp fined United Mine Workers Local 1759 \$50,000, plus \$25,000 for every day they continued a strike against Cedar Coal Co. He ordered the local's 213 members to appear in court on criminal contempt charges.

Last Sunday 500 miners heard of their first clear victory in the strike that had shut West Virginia's mines tight after one week.

The same Judge Knapp postponed the contempt hearing indefinitely and refused to extend the injunction against the Cedar Coal local.

**"UNENFORCEABLE"**

Knapp said that even though Cedar Coal might be entitled to an injunction, "such injunction release would not serve to end the strike but would be unenforceable and might aggravate and prolong the strike by further antagonizing the miners engaged in the strike."

This statement admitted that injunctions are worthless pieces of paper unless workers obey them. They are enforced to protect corporate profits. The miners were exhilarated at this first victory and determined to spread the strike nationally.

The coal operators screamed bloody murder at this "surrender." U.S. Steel complained that the picketing was "directed at the federal judiciary in a blatant attempt to discourage federal courts from discharging their responsibility."

By Tuesday, the companies and courts had closed ranks as Fourth District Court of Appeals Judge Widerier went over Knapp's head to continue the injunction.

One hundred local union officials met last Saturday and Tuesday to hammer out demands. The demands were then ratified by mass



Police attack miners defending right to strike during last August's wildcat in Charleston, W. Virginia.

meetings, and presented to UMW President Arnold Miller on Thursday for negotiations plans between him and the company.

Early demands, including a written agreement by the coal operators not to seek injunctions, and a Congressional investigation of District Judges, were dropped Tuesday when the demands were narrowed to three main points. These are:

- That all current fines and injunctions against coal miners be dropped. In this strike alone, over \$300,000 in fines has been levied against Local 1759, which has \$28.00 in its treasury. They also want \$700,000 from last fall's strike to be reconsidered.

- No reprisal in the form of firings, fines, or jailings against individual miners participating in the strike.

- Equal justice in the court system.

One Cedar Coal miner explained, "When we went to Judge Knapp, he said he didn't have time to hear us. He treated us like ignorant coal miners. I told him, 'If that's justice then I'm disgusted.'"

Most media coverage of the strike mourns the tremendous financial losses by the coal companies, but the real sacrifices are felt in the miners' homes.

"There are times when the coffee pot's empty, the flour barrel's empty and the bills are piling up. Of course sometimes we resent constant strikes, but you go along with it because it's the right thing to do. They should stay out until their demands are met," said

a wife of one of the striking Cedar Coal miners.

Everyone in the coal fields knows the high stakes involved. The power of the legal owners of wealth over the producers of that wealth is being challenged in the mines.

It is not just the millions of dollars in the mines that are at stake. The only thing today that can maintain the exploitation of coal

miners is the power of the state. Company after company has echoed the words of James Scarbro, personnel director at Cedar Coal: "If we couldn't go to the courts, I don't know what we could do."

The power of the rank and file is making cracks in the conspiracy between owners and the courts.

When asked if he thought the strikers had a chance of winning their demands, one miner replied, "If they want coal, they'll have to come to us." □

**From  
Detroit Free Press**

Wednesday, July 28, 1976

**GM Makes  
Its Offer:  
UAW Jeers**

Thursday, July 29, 1976

**GM Posts  
Biggest  
Profits Ever**

... see story, page 2

**"Tell everyone out there I send my love and regards."**

**—Gary Tyler tells supporters by phone, July 25.**

# A BUMPER YEAR FOR GM PROFITS

General Motors Corporation announced this week that it earned record profits of \$909 million in the second quarter of 1976. This is the highest quarterly earning ever recorded by any industrial corporation in world history.

But General Motors top executives announced to the press that they are still not satisfied.

In a prepared statement to the press, GM Chairman Thomas A. Murphy and GM President E.M. Estes declared that these earnings must still be improved further.

They made it clear that GM will still continue its push to try and force autoworkers to settle cheap in

1976 contract bargaining now in progress.

"It is imperative that any settlement avoid contributing to the dangerous potential for further inflation," they said in reference to auto contract bargaining.

Two days prior to the GM announcement, Chrysler reported second quarter earnings of \$155 million, the highest quarterly profit Chrysler has ever earned.

## SPEED-UP PROFITS

During the depression last year, the giant auto corporations eliminated workers and cut costs to the bone.

Now, with a recovery in full bloom, they are contending, and even intensifying the speeding

That's the main reason for record profits.

The automakers, in demanding that workers sacrifice during contract bargaining in order to combat inflation, are putting on an amazing show of arrogance and greed. GM's profits represent a return of over 12% in three months on \$6.5 billion in operating capital.

It is these kinds of bloated profits that generate inflation, not the demands of working people for decent working conditions, job security, and living wages.

It's time for auto workers to win back what was lost during last year's depression, and to demand guarantees against future economic disturbances.

The auto companies are now in good shape. The main slogan for the UAW in contract bargaining should be: "Get it while you can."

If UAW top leaders continue to preach moderation and caution in contract bargaining, they will expose themselves as traitors to their membership. □



## Cannery Strike Settled

OAKLAND, CA—A tentative settlement was announced July 27 to end the strike of 30,000 workers in 78 canneries throughout northern California.

Freddy Sanchez, chief negotiator for the Teamsters' Union which represents the cannery strikers, told the press the settlement is "the most equitable one that could be reached under the circumstances."

Unfortunately, that probably means cannery workers can expect the worst. The "circumstances" in which the settlement was reached included a reported threat by federal mediators to invoke a Taft-Hartley injunction against the 10-day walkout.

The government sent these mediators rushing to California to save the threatened profits of the canneries and growers. In just over a week, cannery workers showed they have the power to cost the employers millions of dollars in spoiled and rotting crops.

### GIVING IN?

Shortly before the settlement was announced, the companies were offering \$1.43 increases over three years—less than half the union's demands.

Although the terms of the contract are not yet public, the union may have given in to the companies' offer.

Throughout the strike, union members were left completely uninformed about the progress of negotiations. Despite considerable enthusiasm from cannery workers for a militant strike, the union made little effort to organize an effective walkout.

The strike was timed to fall between the end of the apricot run and the beginning of the peach harvest. This meant the canneries and growers were hurt much less than they would be by a strike at peak harvest time.

No effort was made to pull out workers at canneries not covered by the Master Canneries Agreement.

There may be a rank and file movement to reject this contract.

Even before the strike, the Cannery Workers Committee organized a discussion of contract demands in several locals. This Committee is predominantly a group of Black and Chicano workers.

### ORGANIZING

In a number of locals, Cannery Workers Committee members and other militants are pressuring union officials for publication and full discussion of settlement terms before they vote.

However, organizing a contract rejection fight after the settlement is announced is a tough, uphill battle. Many seasonal workers are anxious to return to work before the end of harvest season, when they earn the bulk of their year's wages.

Victories for cannery workers—like freight drivers, dockworkers, parcel and all other Teamster members—depends on building a powerful and unified movement that organizes, and fights for the needs of, the entire Teamster membership in every industry.

The way the Teamster leadership ran the cannery strike, like the Master Freight and United Parcel Service strikes, shows they are uninterested in the needs of any of their members.

This is why the newly forming Teamsters for a Democratic Union (TDU) is emphasizing the need for a program of action to bring together the entire rank and file from every section of the union. □

Ann Larson

## labor notes

by Jim Woodward

Postal workers in Detroit are angry that all the day shift letter sorting machine operators and mail distribution clerks have been moved to the air mail field or to afternoon and night shifts. "No mail is processed during the day time hours at the Detroit Post Office, says a leaflet distributed by "Concerned Postal Employees." The situation not only causes hardship for postal employees, but also causes a 24-hour delay in the delivery of 100,000 or more pieces of first class mail.



The rubber strike has chopped a big hole in Goodyear and Goodrich profits for the second quarter of this year. Goodyear's plunder was down 40% from a year ago, while Goodrich profits were off 77%. Goodrich has also admitted to \$127,000 illegal political contributions in this country between 1969 and 1973, as well as almost \$200,000 in foreign payoffs.

Negotiations in the 14-week old strike resumed in Washington July 27, under the supervision of Secretary of Labor W.J. Usery. Usery made an unsuccessful attempt to end the strike at the beginning of July.

Investigators have turned up considerable new circumstantial evidence linking leukemia and similar diseases to synthetic rubber production. Since five deaths from leukemia were discovered earlier this year at a B.F. Goodrich plant in Texas, two dozen additional deaths have been found at other synthetic rubber facilities around the country. Many of the cases have involved maintenance employees. About 10,000 workers in the U.S. are exposed to the chemicals which health officials suspect may cause the diseases.

A federal grand jury has indicted eight more Washington Post pressmen on charges of rioting and destruction of property. The charges stem from a strike, incited by Post management, which began October 1. The total number of pressmen facing charges is now 15. Meanwhile, editorial and clerical employees of the Post, who have been without a contract since April 1, recently voted to remain part of the Newspaper Guild. By a vote of 445-315, they rejected an attempt to quit the guild for a newly-formed company union.

Freedom of speech does not extend to the workplace—that's the substance of a recent arbitrator's ruling. He held that a company was justified in sending home a worker who refused to change his allegedly "obscene" T-shirt.

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 313-869-5964.

## UNITED COALITION WINS BIG VOTE IN UAW LOCAL 51

As Workers' Power goes to press, we received word of a stunning election victory for the United Coalition of UAW Local 51.

In an off-term election to fill three vacancies on the Local's Executive Board, Richard Webster, a founding member of the United Coalition and a Chrysler Steward at Chrysler Motor Road Engine Plant became the new Treasurer of Local 51, a bargaining position.

Carol Wynn, another United Coalition stalwart and a member of the Local 51 women's committee is a new Local Trustee.

The results of the Sergeant at Arms race are not yet out, but Melvin Caldwell, a United Coalition member at Chrysler, Lynch Road Assembly, who was elected Chief Steward, only last month is still hoping to win the spot.

The United Coalition is known as a militant activist caucus, and an integrated group that fights racism and fights management. It is based primarily among younger workers on the second shift at both plants in the Local.

### SHIFT

The election resulted in a total shift of the existing slates in the Local.

An older, more conservative, primarily black Local slate, the Blue Slate, was eliminated in primary elections. Several of its supporters came over to campaign for the United Coalition.

Others who ran in the primary elections jumped over to the Green Slate—a primarily white skilled trades slate that dominated the Local until recently.

Lines were clearly drawn in this election. The International Union made it well known it did not want to see United Coalition members on the Local 51 Executive Board.

They know it will be hard to ram through a lousy Local contract with three Coalition members on the Board. □

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# FREE SPEECH COMES TO CHRYSLER CORP.

Last month, if you approached a Chrysler worker and asked if it was O.K. for him to pass out union literature at the plant, he would have had to say, "I don't know." Because of confusing shop rules, workers were fearful of losing their jobs for such basic activities as leafletting other workers about their union rights.

But all that is now changed.

**NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES**

POSTED BY ORDER OF THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

AS AGENCY OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

WHEREAS, JOHN WARE, a Chrysler worker at the 8 Mile Stamping Plant in Detroit, Michigan, has won a victory that will bring protection to UAW members in all U.S. Chrysler plants.

The national Labor Relations Board, ruling on a case brought to them by Ware, has ordered Chrysler to re-word its shop rules. They must clarify the rights of employees to distribute literature and to solicit in its plants.

This ruling requires Chrysler to post notices in all plants announcing the change in shop rules.

"We Chrysler Corporation, violated the law and we have been ordered to post this notice... Paragraph 17 and 18 of the Guide To Good Conduct is now revoked and rescinded to the extent that said paragraphs tended to inhibit our employees from soliciting on behalf of any labor organization during their non-working time in any of our plants, or from distributing any literature on behalf of any labor organization in non-working areas of our plant, during their non-working time."

**THREATENED**

Ware, a member of UAW Local 212, brought the case to the NLRB after management threatened to fire him for distributing the "Local 212 Watchdog." The Watchdog is a rank and file newsletter distributed to members of Local 212 by the local chapter of the United National Caucus.

The NLRB ruled that Chrysler interfered with the right of employees to organize and distribute union literature by maintaining ambiguous and unclear shop rules.

The original wording of the shop rule stated that employees could receive discipline, up to and including discharge, for "unauthorized distribution of literature, except such distribution during non-working time in non-working areas as is protected by the National Labor Relations Act."

Several times Chrysler workers from different plants went to the NLRB to ask if a particular piece of literature was protected by the act and could be safely distributed. Always, the NLRB staff person replied, "I can't advise you. It's a matter of interpretation."

**COULDN'T TELL**

Prior to the Ware ruling, Chrysler workers could not tell when they would get NLRB protection for distributing literature and when they wouldn't.

As a result, many workers feared exercising their right to distribute literature. The record of the NLRB in getting jobs back for workers fired for protected union activity is not very good.

Under these circumstances, workers preferred not to have to wait until after they got fired to find out what exactly is considered "NLRB protected literature."

The NLRB ruling in the Ware case means that Chrysler must come up with clear shop rules that any normal person can understand. Chrysler, of course, is appealing the decision.

by Valerie Dixon

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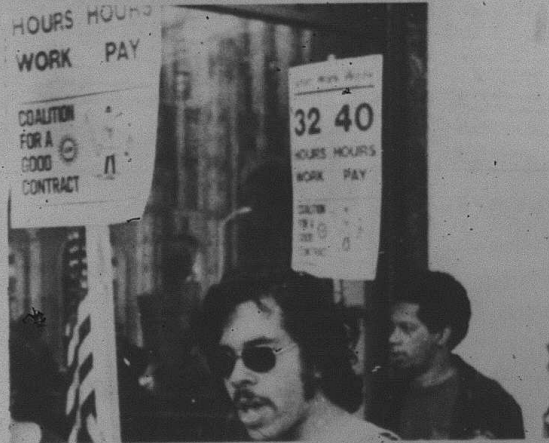
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John Ware (right) at a demonstration for the Coalition for a Good Contract.

This shop rule was introduced when the NLRB knocked down a previous rule prohibiting all distribution of unauthorized literature. But the confusing wording of the new shop rule still left workers in doubt.

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## Pickets Hit Los Angeles County Jail

One hundred people chanted and picketed for over two hours in front of the Los Angeles County Jail on Saturday, July 17.

The group, which was from the Coalition Against Police Abuse (CAPA) and the Ted Collins Committee for Justice, were showing their anger over five deaths in county jails so far this year.

They were protesting, in particular, the suspicious death of Ted Collins. Jail authorities claim Collins chewed through heavy, leather restraints (he was strapped to his bed) and then used them to hang himself.

The community picket line was highly spirited and militant. Aggressive chants, such as "Black cops, white cops—they all kill the people!" were shouted into the faces of two dozen of "L.A.'s finest."

CAPA is planning a major march and rally at Exposition Park in L.A. on July 31.

# Ranks Ask Sadlowski — Where Do You Stand?



Ed Sadlowski, Director of Steelworkers District 31, is testing the waters for his probable USW presidential campaign.

by a member of USW Local 1557

**PITTSBURGH** — Ed Sadlowski is the major undeclared candidate for president of the United Steel Workers union (USW). He is director of USW District 31, and opposed to the corrupt sellout machine of current president I.W. Abel.

Sادلowski claims he will decide whether to run for the presidency on the basis of the pre-campaign response he gets from rank and file steel workers.

One such meeting to gauge this response was held here July 24. On a day's notice, about 40 steel workers from different mills gathered to meet Sadlowski in a local bar.

The results of the meeting indicate that, while steel workers who want change in their union will have to support Sadlowski, he is nevertheless basically a politician. And a politician without a viable strategy at that.

Sادلowski said he was against the recent dues increase and the outrageous officers' salaries. He

said he was for the right to ratify contracts, a right which steel workers do not now have.

But on nearly all questions, from health and safety to the existing strike fund, he hedged.

When asked, "What platform are you running on?" Sadlowski answered, "To win." Then he added, "But seriously, there are a lot of issues that warrant exploration; a position paper will be forthcoming." Sounds a bit like Jimmy Carter, doesn't it?

Another question was, "What is your strategy for smashing the ENA [the steel industry's no-strike agreement] and winning the right to strike?" Sadlowski replied, "Legally speaking, under Section 7A of the NLRB, you're stuck with it until the agreement runs out." That means he's a politician without a serious strategy for turning the union around.

**CRITICAL QUESTIONS**

Those steel workers attending the meeting clearly were supporting Sadlowski. But behind the

applause, most of the questions were critical, pushing him to take a firmer stand.

Rank and file steel workers should indeed support Sadlowski and fight to get him elected. But not because Sadlowski by himself can transform the union. No one individual, however well intentioned, can do that. And Sadlowski's intentions are certainly questionable.

However, Ed Sadlowski represents considerable dissent and militancy among the rank and file. Many of those who will join his campaign do believe that the no-strike deal can be smashed, and that a fighting union can be rebuilt by organizing on the rank and file level.

Sادلowski cannot come into office unless it's on the back of a rank and file movement. That movement is now beginning to form. A victory against the Abel machine will give that movement more clout and confidence, and will open things up in the union for the ranks to organize.

# The Mobil Connection

## U.S. Oil Giant Runs Secret Pipeline To Rhodesia

by Paul Irish

Mobil Oil has been secretly supplying fuel to Ian Smith's racist white regime in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) for over a decade. Without this oil, the wheels of racist repression against the 95% black majority would have ground to a halt years ago.

U.S. law says company executives can get 10 years in jail and \$10,000 fines for violating the economic blockade of the Rhodesian regime. But it is doubtful that Mobil executives lie awake nights, worrying about the U.S. government locking them away, just because the law says it is supposed to.

A group of white South Africans who support black liberation, recently raided Mobil offices and came away with the proof.

Mobil documents showed how the Rhodesian racists stayed in power because U.S. oil companies came to their rescue. The companies did this even despite international and United Nations' sanctions against trade with the racist regime.

How did they do it? Mobil Oil of South Africa (a subsidiary of Mobil Oil of the U.S.) sells its oil, gas and lubricants to an outfit called the "Genta" corporation.

In fact, "Genta" is a secret corporation set up by the white Rhodesian government to make sure the whites get their gas.

But the bill for the shipments is passed along a chain of six bogus corporations. This was done so that nobody would be able to trace the gas shipments. In reality, the oil goes straight into the hands of Mobil Oil of Rhodesia.

Mobil Oil executives in New York sit on the Board on Mobil-South

Africa. They frequently fly to Johannesburg, South Africa to personally check their profits—including the sale of oil to Rhodesia through their paper "corporations."

### THE CHROME CONNECTION

But how does white Rhodesia pay for this oil? They get the money from selling chrome ore to U.S. steel companies.

Five years ago Congress passed the "Byrd Amendment." This amendment permits imports of Rhodesian chrome, as a special favor to Union Carbide. This corporation has huge investments in both South Africa and Rhodesia.

Rhodesian chrome is cheap, despite 9000 miles of ocean travel. This is because of the slave wages, averaging 26c per hour, that are paid to African miners.

When Henry Kissinger visited Africa recently, he made headlines by announcing the Administration would seek repeal of the "Byrd Amendment." Since then, of course, nothing has changed.

Kissinger, as well as Mobil Oil executives, are fully aware of the oil life-line they are providing to a land-locked racist settler state.

They are also fully aware that these oil sales are in flagrant violation of the laws of the U.S. government.

But the U.S. government is going all-out to make sure that Mobil Oil's interests are protected. It is aware of something else, as well: the black masses in Zimbabwe are no longer swallowing these deals.

They are fighting to reclaim what is rightfully theirs—the wealth and the country that has been stolen from them.



## BRITAIN: THOUSANDS MARCH TO STOP RACIST MURDERS

A wave of racist violence has broken out in Britain. Gangs of white thugs have begun roaming the streets of East London, West London, and other districts. The victims have been black and Asian people in London, Birmingham, and other industrial cities.

Early last month there were at least three brutal murders—19-year-old Dinesh Choudhri, 22-year-old Rishi Alhadidi and 18-year-old Gurdip Singh Chagger.

The racist offensive is part of the deepening crisis of unemployment and social spending cuts in Britain. Whites are being organized to blame black and Asian communities for these problems.

Attacks on black and Asian peoples are openly supported by the British Nazi organizations: the National Party and the National Front. Racist members of Parliament, like the well-known racist Enoch Powell, are also encouraging them. An escalating wave of police brutality has put dozens of young blacks and Asians in jails and hospitals.

A tremendous movement of resistance to this racist violence is being organized. Community-based organizations like the Southall Youth Movement (in the Asian community in West London) have organized mass marches of thousands. They are organizing neighborhood patrols to stop raids by gangs of white thugs.

Sections of British workers, including many London dock workers, are joining the anti-racist struggle.

The International Socialists in Britain and their paper, Socialist Worker, are campaigning full-scale to smash the racists.

Socialist Worker points out, "We can stop the racists and the murders—IF in every factory and work place a stand is taken against the racists."

"If every attempt of the racists to organize is met with physical resistance."

"If the racist gangs are driven off the streets by defense groups made up of black workers, and those white socialists and trade unionists prepared to work with them."

# JAMAICA - 'STATE OF EMERGENCY'



An Eyewitness Report from Howard Spencer in Kingston, Jamaica

From every rum-bar, reggae-singer Bob Marley's voice blares out: "Rasta don't work for no CIA!"

Any worker, any unemployed youth, any peasant here will tell you all about the CIA. There is a tremendous consciousness and hatred for imperialism.

Dozens of walls all over Jamaica proclaim: "Seaga—CIA agent!" Seaga is the head of the right-wing party, Jamaica Labor Party (JLP), which is widely suspected of receiving funds and assistance from the CIA to overthrow the present government of Jamaica.

The evidence of CIA involvement in Jamaica is rapidly becoming overwhelming. The chairman of the U.S. House of

Representative's Committee on International Relations, investigating these charges, announced he had information about a Jamaican right-wing coup planned for September 15 this year.

### MONEY

This connects with large amounts of money being collected by the JLP in the U.S. and Canada from runaway Jamaican capitalists. At one JLP meeting at the Canadian Hotel in Toronto, over one million dollars was pledged to bring down the Jamaican government.

This money is to buy guns and explosives, and to recruit and train hundreds of unemployed youths to fight for the JLP.

A leading JLP organizer, who was expelled from the Party, retaliated by giving Jamaican

police hard evidence of the JLP-CIA plot to overthrow the government of Prime Minister Michael Manley, who heads the People's National Party.

Since June 19, Jamaica has been under a State of Emergency. Under the Emergency Regulations invoked by Manley, a number of JLP politicians have been arrested, for handing out guns and money to the right-wing gangs.

### EXPLOSIVE SITUATION

However, the situation is still explosive. The Emergency gives the police and the army more power—supposedly to deal with right-wing terrorists. But the main role of these forces is to oppress workers and the poor. They may soon be using the same regulations to lock up

workers and revolutionaries.

In fact, there is evidence that the U.S. government has begun to realize that Manley himself, with his popular socialist rhetoric, is the only person in Jamaica who can peacefully control working class militancy. The JLP could rule Jamaica only by brutal methods like those used by the junta in Chile.

Since the Jamaican workers won't accept naked exploitation any more, the next best thing for U.S. corporations might be a "Manley solution"—allowing the Jamaican government to own 51% of their stocks.

American and Jamaican capitalists know there's one thing Manley will never do—mobilize the working class to fight against the right-wing murderers and the corporations who dominate Jamaica.

# YOU CAN 'GO TO HELL' - OR YOU CAN FIGHT LIKE HELL!

## Teamsters For A Democratic Union Plan Convention

by Jim Woodward

Teamsters for a Democratic Union (TDU) has announced plans for the second Teamsters' Convention of the summer.

In contrast to Teamster President Frank Fitzsimmons' June extravaganza in Las Vegas—laced with caviar and goons—the TDU convention will be a rank and file meeting. It will be held in Ohio in mid-September.

TDU was formed almost one year ago in Chicago. Then known as Teamsters for a Decent Contract (TDC), its activities focused on the Master Freight Agreement, a national contract that covers the 435,000 truck drivers and dock workers who make up the heart of the Teamsters' Union.

TDC gained enough influence to force a brief national freight strike in April.

Since then, the organization has re-named itself Teamsters for a Democratic Union, and has begun to form an on-going group. It is dedicated to rebuilding the Teamsters Union into a democratic fighting organization.

The September TDU convention will adopt a set of perspectives for the group and elect a permanent steering committee. The convention will also discuss many of the problems that are facing Teamsters on the job and in the union, and how they can organize to fight back.

### DICTATORSHIP

A TDU brochure put out for the September convention says: "Our

union has been steadily turned into a dictatorship by a machine of officials who have grown used to the millionaires' salaries and to the 'respectability' of 'cooperation' with the employers and the politicians.

"No new face in office and no court decision will break this machine. It is out of the struggles of today that a movement to rebuild the Teamsters Union of tomorrow will be built."

The brochure suggests several principles that will be a key to organizing a successful rank and file movement:

- Communication. Producing local newsletters and the TDU's national paper, CONVOY, as a means of informing the membership.

- Bringing the majority of the Teamster membership—which is outside the trucking industry—into the movement.

- Fighting discrimination against minorities and women—on the job and in the union—as a step towards rank and file unity.

- Organizing a strong, democratic TDU.

Another important aspect of the convention will be a special meeting of UPSurge members. UPSurge is the rank and file movement of

United Parcel Service employees. TDU and UPSurge leaders are encouraging all UPS workers to become part of Teamsters for a Democratic Union. They stress that it is not possible to change one section of the Teamsters Union without changing the entire union.

At the official Teamsters convention in June, Frank Fitzsimmons issued a challenge to TDU members and other union dissidents: "To those who say it is time to reform this organization... I say to them, 'Go to Hell!'" TDU says that's the choice facing

the ranks. The front page of their convention brochure says: "Teamsters: 'Go to Hell' or 'Come to the Rank & File Convention!'"

[Teamsters interested in attending the TDU convention should write for more information: TDU, PO Box 99133, Cleveland, Ohio 44199.]



The June Teamsters convention in Las Vegas (above) was party-time for Fitz's faithful, but goons attacked the few who spoke out. A rank and file meeting is quite different. Below, 600 UPSurge members, as they met in Indianapolis in January.



## UPSurge Comes To Philly

by Joe Donovan

PHILADELPHIA—Fifty United Parcel Service (UPS) workers attended this city's first UPSurge meeting on July 24. The East Coast UPS contract expires July 31, and many UPS workers are looking for a fighting strategy.

UPSurge is a rank and file movement among UPS workers in the Teamsters union. UPSurge led a wildcat strike during the central states' contract fight in May.

Anne Mackie, UPS worker from Cleveland and editor of the UPSurge newspaper, began the meeting. She said that the solidly organized UPSurge movement in the central states prevented a far worse sell-out than the one they got.

Discussion at the meeting was lively. Sam Douglas brought loud cheers when he said, "We need togetherness between part-timers and full-timers. Because without unity nothing can be accomplished." Douglas proposed a Philadelphia-area UPSurge newsletter.

Rita Drapkin, a member of the UPSurge East steering committee, spoke about the need for the rank and file to be prepared to vote down any sell-out.

Bob Gillen, a driver at the Jenkintown Center, spoke on the need for a long-term organization for UPSurge and the need for UPSurge to link up with Teamsters for a Democratic Union (TDU). TDU is a rank and file movement among Teamsters that began around the Master Freight Agreement.

"The union tops won't fight hard for us. The power has got to be brought down to the rank and file," Gillen said.

## Long Beach Teamsters, TDU Fight Frameup

# BRING BACK ZACK LOPEZ!

LONG BEACH, Ca.—Seventy-five members of Local 692 and members and supporters of Teamsters for a Democratic Union from a number of locals, demonstrated peacefully outside the 692 union hall Saturday, July 24. They were demanding that Zack Lopez get his job back.

Lopez was fired in a set-up by the leadership of Teamsters Local 692 here. They are up for re-election in six months and they feel obliged to demonstrate that they are the ones best suited to run the local.

As a result, in the week starting Saturday, July 17 they began an offensive against union members.

Two militant shop stewards, Zack Lopez from Yellow, and Guy Lizotte from Cal Cartage, were physically attacked by two goons as

soon as they stepped outside of a stewards' meeting. When Lizotte got to his car, he found his tires had been slashed.

### MORE ATTACKS

Alex Morales, newly-elected alternate shop steward at Consolidated Freightways, was "visited" by his Business Agent, Ron Reed.

Reed chewed out Morales for distributing leaflets protesting the attack on Lopez and Lizotte. Reed then kicked him repeatedly in the groin. Morales defended himself and management intervened just in time to save Reed's skin.

A short time later, Morales was fired for fighting! But it didn't stick. His shift and the next shift sat down to discuss the matter.

They refused to stop discussing it and return to work until Morales had his job back. He was back at work that morning.

Lopez' firing came a few days later. Management at Yellow in Gardena got a call "informing" them that Zack Lopez was at a picket line distributing leaflets on company time. They fired him for delay of freight.

But Lopez never went near the picket line. The man who actually did deliver the leaflets has said that he will speak out and sign a statement to that effect.

### DIRTY FAVORS

It's clear that Yellow was doing some kind of dirty favor for the union leadership of 692 by firing

Lopez. Yellow also thought they were doing themselves a favor by getting rid of the best steward there. However, work slowed down noticeably the next day.

"The rank and file will not tolerate this kind of 'intimidation and violence against members of the union."

If Jake Koenig and company think their gangster tactics are going to scare people out of running against them, they are sorely mistaken.

If you work at Yellow anywhere in the country, talk to your steward and talk to management about Zack Lopez. Tell them the company has no right and no business interfering in union affairs. If they can get Zack, they can get any steward who does his or her job.

# FREE GARY TYLER

## 1500 MARCH IN NEW ORLEANS

by Lisa Manchester

SAVE  
GARY'S LIFE  
JAIL THE  
RACIST  
COPS AND  
JUDGES



Gary Tyler must go free. That's the way it's gotta be! That slogan was chanted by over 1500 people as they took over the streets in downtown New Orleans at the July 24 National Free Gary Tyler demonstration.

Gary Tyler is an 18-year-old black man who's been on death row for two years.

People across the country are becoming aware that it is not just Gary who is being railroaded in this system—it's everyone who is black, brown, red or working class.

There were people from all across the country—from New York, Detroit, Louisville, Cincinnati, Alabama, Mississippi and many other places at the demonstration.

Speakers included Juanita and Terry Tyler (Gary's mother and brother); Walter Collins, who is National Coordinator of the Committee to Free Gary Tyler; Marie Galatas, President of Grass Roots Organization for Women and men; many other speakers from local and national committees and endorsers.

### GARY TYLER'S STORY

Gary Tyler was convicted of killing a 13-year-old white youth, Timothy Weber, during a riot of white youths and parents over school desegregation in Destrehan, Louisiana.

A shot was fired and Timothy Weber was killed. Gary was arrested and charged with first degree murder later that night.

Natalie Blanks, a witness, first

stated that Gary had shot the gun. Later, Natalie signed an affidavit stating she had given false testimony. She had lied because the prosecuting attorney had threatened to give her life in prison, and that she would lose her baby.

Marie Galatas, president of G.R.O.W., said at the rally, "Yes, white racist America—you have incarcerated Gary Tyler. But the black suffering mothers of this nation will free Gary Tyler along with the rest of our people."

"We are sick and tired of this racist system taking our black men off the streets and incarcerating them for crimes they did not commit. We are going to take to the streets and battle the system and see that our children are free."

### KEEP STRUGGLING

Terry Tyler spoke and said, "It's nice to see the support from everybody at the demonstration and how the people are trying to get some justice for my brother."

"And when we do free Gary, we all have to stick together. Everybody at this rally is here for a reason—to show these people that we mean something—that we are going to free Gary Tyler."

Mrs. Tyler said at the rally she is asking everybody to keep on working and struggling to "help free my son."

Walter Collins said the U.S. Supreme Court has struck down the death penalty in Louisiana so Gary cannot be electrocuted. "But we have to keep building the struggle

and demand that Gary Tyler be set free."

Gary Tyler is a symbol for hundreds of thousands of young black men across the United States. The system has no use for them, no jobs and cannot provide an education for them.

That's why working people, black and white, have to get out in the streets demanding that Gary Tyler be set free.



Mrs. Juanita Tyler

Simultaneously with the demonstration in New Orleans, events were held in several other cities. The weekend activities including fund-raising efforts in Pittsburgh and Detroit.

The nationwide movement to free Gary Tyler from Angola State Prison is still growing. It must not stop, and it will not stop, until Gary is home with his family and friends.

## Pittsburgh Supporters Picnic For Gary's Freedom

The Pittsburgh Committee to Free Gary Tyler held a very successful picnic on July 25. About 85 people attended in Frick Park. They saw that only a mass movement will free Brother Gary.

Blacks and whites, women and men, old and young, gave from their hearts and pockets. We showed that we can, and will, work together to free Brother Gary and all like him.

There were games, races, and lots of good food. Everyone had fun.

People from other picnics came over to see what the excitement was all about. After they learned about Gary's case, they joined with us, saying, "Free Gary Tyler!"

There were several speakers. Jack Trautman, from the Pittsburgh Committee to Free Gary Tyler, talked about the case, and news from Walter Collins, the brother from the National Committee.

A speaker from the Committee in Cleveland, Petrie, told us about their work and future plans. Mel Packer, a Teamster, came and told us that Teamsters too support Gary Tyler.

### NOT ALONE

Mel talked about their struggle with the courts and how they are getting shafted just like Gary.

A speaker from Workers' Power told us how the paper supported Gary's case and many like it.

J.J. from the Red Tide, youth section of the International Socialists, said that the group was a multi-racial organization that was active in Gary Tyler's defense. J.J. told us the Red Tide is spreading rapidly across America, and its newspaper, Red Tide, carries continual coverage of Gary's case.

The picnic got coverage from two major TV stations.

There was a lot of spirit and chants at the picnic. The one that both black and white, men and women, sang the most was, "Gary Tyler is You, Gary Tyler is Me, We'll all burn together if we don't set him free."

by Albert

FREE GARY TYLER - JAIL THE RACIST COPS AND JUDGES!



## Murderer Convicted In Dunn Killing

NEW ORLEANS — Richard Dunn, a 19-year-old black, was shot and killed on March 27. He was leaving a Gary Tyler benefit dance at Southern University of New Orleans. Dunn's murder was an attempt to scare away Tyler supporters. It was also one in a series of white terrorist attacks in the Pontchartrain Park-Gentilly section of the city.

There have been at least eight armed assaults by whites against blacks reported since February.

### PUSHED

While Dunn and a companion were walking towards a bus stop, an orange Volkswagen drove toward them. The car slowed down and Anthony Mart carefully aimed a shotgun at the two black

youths.

Dunn pushed his companion to the ground and the shotgun blast hit his chest, killing him. Dunn's mother, Hattie Dunn, said she was dissatisfied with the police investigation of her son's murder. The district attorney never gave her information about the case.

As a result of this murder and the increasing racist violence, blacks formed the Pontchartrain Parks Development Citizens Association Against Crime. They put the police on notice that their neighborhood was going to be protected.

Spokespersons for the group said, "If city officials are unable to ensure its safety, the black community would have to take measures to defend itself." If

black people want justice they have to take matters into their own hands.

But, after this organized community outrage, the police finally arrested Mart. He was found guilty of second-degree murder and sentenced to life imprisonment July 16. Mart's attorney asked the jury to return a lesser verdict of manslaughter, claiming that his client had no motive.

But Walter Collins, National Coordinator of the Free Gary Tyler Defense Committee, was told by several of Mart's black neighbors that Mart had burned crosses and painted racist epithets on their front lawns. Despite the evidence, the district attorney did not try to establish any racist motive for the killing at the trial.

### CORRECTION

Last week Workers' Power misprinted the telephone number for the Boston Committee to Free Gary Tyler. The correct number is: 617-661-0762.

# Gary Tyler is you... Gary Tyler is me... There are many Gary Tylers!

## PRISONERS FIGHT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

by Byron Gray

Larry Myers and George Blue were put in solitary confinement at Atlanta Penitentiary on May 18 for organizing the National Prisoners Association (NPA). They were scheduled to appear in court last Tuesday, July 27.

Myers and Blue were charged with attempting to organize a subversive group and unauthorized use of the mail. The charges are an outright violation of the rights of prisoners. But "prisoners' rights" exist pretty much at the whim of the warden. If a prisoner is "good," he gets more of them.

In addition to the hole, prison officials have illegally interfered with their mail.

### NO THREAT

Officials permit other groups to function in the Federal Prison System, but these groups do not challenge the authority of the officials to run their prisons through terror, intimidation and torture.

The officials are afraid of Myers and Blue. The two have done a lot of legal work for prisoners; they may win a suit against the prison authorities because of the continual violations of their civil rights. They are working as open revolutionaries inside the prison system and are getting results. The NPA is growing.

Political activists in prisons practically have to be revolutionaries to survive. The brutal repression—such as Myers and Blue have experienced—is almost automatic when any individual challenges the prison authorities' ability to control every aspect of inmates' lives.

### GAIN RIGHTS

When a group like the NPA insists that prisoners are actually human beings with civil rights—and then organizes to gain those rights—it attacks the foundations of the normal prison control that borders on slavery.

And the counter-attack is swift and vicious, as Myers and Blue have experienced in the Atlanta Penitentiary hole for the last three months.

Their punishment has three goals: to break the revolutionaries, to isolate these leaders from the rest of the prison population, and to convince other prisoners they face the same fate if they throw in with the NPA.

In a letter to Workers' Power, Blue, president of the NPA, appealed for support.

"We need outside support. Please write a postcard to Judge

Charles A. Moya, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Georgia, Atlanta, Georgia, 30303 and state 'I support the National Prisoners' Association's right to exist.' Your letters and cards will not be too late, for a decision will not be made until late August. This is everybody's fight." □

### Executions

## Stopped - For Two Months

The Supreme Court has held up executions of 166 Death Row inmates in three states for at least two months.

Acting on a NAACP Legal Defense Fund (LDF) request, the Court delayed formalizing its recent okay of legal murder—at least until it re-convenes in October.

Then the Court will decide whether or not to reconsider its new death penalty ruling, also at the request of the NAACP's legal arm. The Court rarely reconsiders cases once it has written an opinion.

### FREE TO EXECUTE

If, as expected, the Court dismisses the LDF petition, the three states will be free to begin the executions.

In fact, LDF lawyer David Kendall told Workers' Power they consider the move a "holding action, but they are hopeful of saving some clients' lives."

The new NAACP legal brief accepts the legitimacy of the death penalty. It asks that narrower guidelines and controls be ordered by the Court.

In all likelihood, these controls would attempt to moderate overt racial discrimination in trials in which the death penalty is the one possible outcome.

At this point, the civil rights organization does not appear to be adding to its legal approach with any more direct political activity.

But the decision does allow two months of breathing space. Two months for the Death Row inmates. And two months for those on the outside to organize for their freedom. □



## STOP THIS MURDER!

by Kate Stacy

Few people today could say with a straight face that we all stand equal before the law. It's too much of a bold-faced lie. It is also, however, what the Supreme Court is pretending.

But consider the case of Delbert Tibbs. Tibbs was convicted by an all-white Florida jury of the murder of a white man and the rape of a white woman. He was sentenced to die.

A white woman had charged rape and murder. Any black could pay the price, despite all the evidence demonstrating Tibbs' innocence.

Tibbs does not fit the description the rape victim originally gave

in any way, shape or form.

Neither the gun or the vehicle this witness claims was involved were ever located.

The witness who said the gun was thrown in a lake—there is no lake.

Tibbs had evidence indicating that he was over 200 miles from the scene of the crime at the time it was committed.

But the black man's evidence couldn't match the white woman's in the eyes of the all-white jury. Tibbs was convicted—by racism—and sentenced to die.

### NOT JUST TIBBS

Compare Tibbs' situation with Gary Tyler's. Both are victims of racist ruling class justice.

Tyler, too, was convicted by an all-white jury in a clear frame-up trial. Tyler spent more than a year on Death Row because of the same racism that convicted Tibbs.

But Tyler will not die. The Supreme Court struck down Louisiana's death penalty, while upholding Florida's.

The difference lies in legal technicalities that will require Louisiana's legislature to adjust its law before the state can once again condemn the poor, the oppressed, the militant to legal murder.

And that legislature, along with many others, will do it. Florida doesn't have to bother.

As much as the Judges would like to pretend there is equality in their laws, racism and the man's power reeks from every pronouncement that they make.

Across this country there are hundreds of Gary Tylers' and Delbert Tibbs'. Over six hundred to

be exact. Not all are black, but none are powerful. The "best" that can happen to them under the Court's present ruling is that their sentences will be switched to life in prison.

The movement organized to free Gary Tyler is demonstrating that we can have a strong political effect outside of the cool, clean "Halls of Justice."

### FREE US ALL

But, today, freeing Gary Tyler is not enough. North, south, east or west, none of us stand equal before their laws.

The gross inequalities are built into a society that systematically rips off most of the people who live in it—some more than others—to benefit the few who control it.

The abhorrent prison conditions are national—not here and there accidents or oversights. The race and class prejudice that puts the people who are behind bars where they are is also nationwide.

And the death penalty is once again the national legal privilege of the government to use as it sees fit.

Now, in the next two months, before the executions start, we have to respond—nationally as well. Almost any one of us, in any state, could be in Delbert Tibbs' position in a future that is very near.

Tibbs—and the other 610 condemned to die—are behind bars. They can do little to organize for their freedom.

We are not behind bars. What we do can make a difference, and we must begin before the blood-bath does. □



Delbert Tibbs

# Is Woodcock 'Flexible' Or Spineless?

DETROIT — UAW negotiations with Big Three auto makers are now entering their third week.

Before negotiations, UAW pinpointed job security as the key issue this year, but failed to put forward any specific contract proposals. They wanted to remain "flexible," UAW President Woodcock said.

With negotiations underway, few concrete demands have emerged on the basic issues of wages, cost of living, SUB benefits and shorter work week.

Here is a summary of UAW bargaining over the past two weeks.

## CHRYSLER AND GM

• Douglas Fraser (UAW Vice-President) has said that the Cost of Living Allowance—which is now .01 for every .3 rise in the Consumer Price Index—be increased since it doesn't cover inflation.

No definite target was set, however.

• He also said the 3% increase per year in wages bargained last contract is now too low given high productivity of the auto industry.

"I'm not going to give a specific figure," he said.

• He also called for an increase in hourly wage premiums for skilled tradesmen. Their last bonus was in 1967 when they got an additional 30c an hour.

Fraser didn't say what that hourly increase should be.

## FORD

• The UAW is asking that a separate pension fund be created to provide relief to retirees whose pensions have dwindled to nothing through inflation.

Ford has refused, saying that the 1973 agreement prohibits discussion of the pension until 1979.

Ford negotiator Ken Bannon, declined to specify how much money the union was asking for. Chrysler

• UAW is asking Chrysler to compensate for 16.5 million dollars of SUB fund money which they allege Chrysler "cheated" hourly workers out of.

The UAW, Fraser says, will not ask for the whole 16.5 million, however. The request will be "very, very modest," he said, but refused to specify a figure.

The continuing lack of specifics from the UAW indicates that the union leadership doesn't want to reveal to members yet how little they are willing to settle for.

The stage is being set for a low settlement however.

When the auto companies revealed their own demands to the UAW, the news media played up quotes from UAW leaders who said they were outraged at how much the companies wanted to take back from the current contract.

Their rhetoric sounded militant as they talked of "job actions." But the message was, "We'll be lucky to keep what we have, never mind getting any improvements."

The same day, Chrysler announced record profits.

# Automotion CONTRACT ISSUES

AS THE DEADLINE for the new, 1976 auto contracts fast approaches, a lot of people are saying that auto workers should not be going after money this year.

They point to the \$1.09 an hour COLA money and 33c an hour Annual Improvement Factor money autoworkers got over the past three years to argue autoworkers already have their money. They also raise the false argument that if autoworkers get pay raises, it will contribute to inflation, which will then eat up the raise—concluding that pay raises don't help. Finally, they argue that autoworkers would be greedy to demand new money, because they are already earning better money than lots of other workers.

But under closer examination, each of these arguments falls apart.

by Jack Weinberg, UAW Local 212

Compared with other production workers in manufacturing industry, the auto worker has always been among the highest paid.

In the pre-union days when Henry Ford first introduced the continuous assembly line, he offered his workers a rate of pay much higher than unskilled workers could earn at almost any other job. He paid these wages not out of generosity, but out of a keen business sense.

The work was so grueling, so intense, so monotonous, that even with high pay, he had a hard time keeping his workers from quitting after the first year or two. For efficiency's sake, auto companies need a steady, stable work force.

Since the conditions of work are so rotten, auto manufacturers are required to pay higher rates than most other non-skilled jobs, just to maintain a stable work force.

Since fall 1973, when the last major auto contracts were negotiated by the United Auto Workers Union, the average auto worker has had an hourly wage increase of \$1.42: \$1.09 in Cost-Of-Living Allowance, and .33 from the Annual Improvement Factor.

At present, the average UAW member at General Motors receives \$6.88 per hour in wages—not counting shift or overtime premiums.

Working at this rate of pay for 40 hours per week, without overtime and without lay-offs, an auto worker would have a gross, before-tax income of \$257.20 per week, and \$14,310.40 per year.

Compared to the money needed to live a decent life, however, \$14,310.40 per year is not that good.

According to the U.S. Federal government, a modest standard of living for a family of four, living in a big city area, requires an income of \$15,603 per year. Without working overtime, the average auto worker falls about \$1,300 short of this figure.

And with the nasty, tiresome work that auto workers have to perform, day after day, most feel the need to go out and splurge every once in a while, just to keep on feeling human. So, in practice, the auto worker's family falls even farther behind.

This is the reason so many auto workers feel the need to work all the overtime they can get. Despite all the propaganda we hear about high auto worker wages, many auto worker's families have a hard time making ends meet.

## COLA

Even though auto workers received \$1.09 per hour extra to make up for inflation, the amount of money lost to inflation was even greater. The COLA raise amounts to a one cent per hour increase for each rise of .3 in the

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# Auto Workers Need Wage Hike

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government published Consumer Price Index (C.P.I.).

Even if the C.P.I. were an accurate indicator, this would recover for the auto worker approximately 80 cents for each dollar lost to inflation.

But the C.P.I. is not accurate. It places too little emphasis on the cost of things like gasoline, rent, and food—items that weigh heavily in auto workers' budgets and that have been particularly hard hit by inflation.

It also fails to compensate for rising taxes. With inflation, workers move up into higher income tax brackets without their spending power going up.

To keep even with inflation over the past three years would have required a COLA increase closer to \$1.60 than to the \$1.09 auto workers got. Auto workers need about 50 cents in catch up money.

And because base rates are now higher than they were in 1973, the old COLA formula of one cent for every .3 rise in the C.P.I. would do an even worse job over the next three years than it has done over the last three.

Fully adequate protection in the 1976 contracts would require a new COLA formula of one cent for every rise of .2 in the C.P.I.

## ANNUAL FACTOR

The concept of an Annual

Improvement Factor (AIF) was first negotiated in UAW contracts in 1948. It is based on the concept that auto workers deserve improvements in living standards when management improves productivity.

For the past six years, the AIF has been 3% per year. The auto companies refuse to release productivity figures, though it is commonly known that productivity increases in auto have been far greater than 3%.

But auto workers have not even received the 3% per year improvement in living standards. Instead, this money has been eaten up by inflation.

Otherwise, a 3% rise per year in real spendable income, compounded over the past six years would mean that auto workers today would be living 20% better than they did six years ago.

And it's just not true. At best, living standards have stayed constant.

Auto workers who buy the argument that it doesn't pay to push for higher wages, because the money will just get eaten by inflation are falling for a sucker game.

Prices will continue going up over the next three years, whether or not auto workers go for more money.

Auto makers base their car prices on market conditions. If they hold down wages, it doesn't mean they will hold down prices: it means they will be able to make higher profits. And 1976 is already turning out to be a record profit year.

## NEW INFLATION

Economists predict that by mid-1977, world market conditions will trigger a new round of runaway inflation—internationally. If the UAW fails to go after improved COLA formulas and new money in 1976 contract bargaining, auto workers will be hit bad.

It will be no consolation, in 1977, after the new inflationary wave hits, if the UAW leaders tell the membership: "We're sorry about this inflation, but we had no way of knowing it was coming back in 1976 when we were negotiating."

Finally, the accusation that it would be "greedy" for auto workers to demand more money in 1976, takes the cake.

First off, most of the people making this charge are the high-priced executives who earn \$50,000 and much more every year for sitting in air conditioned offices.

In truth, auto workers' wages set the pace for wages in many other industries. If big business can hold down the wages of auto workers, they find it easier to hold down wages in other industries.

But whenever auto workers make wage gains, it sets targets that lower-paid workers can strive for, and makes it harder for management to hold down their wages. Wage victories for UAW members in 1976 bargaining would be a victory for the entire working class in its struggle to stay ahead of inflation.



The grueling work in auto plants meant that employers had to pay decent wages to hold the workforce. Now they're trying to let wages slide.

## DETROIT AUTO UPRISING 1973

Jack Weinberg

In the summer of 1973 there were a series of wildcats in Detroit auto plants over working conditions and the failure of the UAW to lead the fight to improve things. It is now 1976 and conditions have only gotten worse. The author of this pamphlet was a participant in the events of that summer.

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FORTY YEARS AGO this month, July 1936, marked the beginning of the greatest struggle of a generation—the Spanish Civil War.

In March 1939, the war ended with the victory of the fascist army of General Francisco Franco. The dark age of Francoism fell on Spain. But in those three years, the Spanish working-class waged one of the most heroic battles the world has ever seen.

It was the Spanish workers who fought to stop Franco. Tens of thousands of them died in that struggle.

But they went further. Throughout the length and breadth of Spain, workers rose up to turn the anti-fascist war into a real social revolution.

On February 16, 1936, a liberal reform government was swept into power in national elections.

The new government, known as the Popular Front, was elected with much support from workers. The Popular Front was a coalition of parties that included the Socialist Party and Communist Party of Spain, along with the middle-class Republican party.

This coalition represented the feeling among many Spanish capitalists and much of the middle class, that capitalism could only survive in Spain if the working class parties were brought in to help run the government.

The Socialist and Communist Parties entered the Popular Front and joined the government. But in

doing so, they gave up on any program for a socialist government and workers' power. The SP and CP accepted a mild liberal, purely capitalist, program in order to ally with the middle class.

However, the Spanish army was controlled by fascist generals, who also had powerful political and financial backing. They insisted the Popular Front government must not be allowed to take office.

By the very next day, February 17, a workers' demonstration in the city of Valencia forced the opening of the prisons and the release of the prisoners. As the Popular Front government took office, Spain entered a revolutionary period.

The workers' movement grew rapidly, becoming more and more

## SPAIN, 1936: FASCIST COUP AND WORKERS' REVOLUTION

confident and powerful. Workers streamed into the unions, the SP and CP, and the anarchists and left-wing parties.

The fascists immediately began organizing to crush the workers' movement—and the new government did nothing to stop them!

On July 17, the fascist generals began a coup. It was meant to be like September 11, 1973 in Chile.

It began with clockwork precision. In Burgos, in Seville, in Cadiz, in Granada, in Algeciras, the generals seized the barracks and murdered their opposition. Then they sent gangs into the streets for "mopping up" operations with grenades and knives.

In the city of Seville alone, 9000 workers were slaughtered.

The fascists counted on the mildly liberal Popular Front government doing nothing to stop them. They were right. The government refused to give arms to workers' organizations, censored the left-wing press and jailed leaders of strikes.

### FIGHT BACK

Then the workers began fighting back. On July 18, a general strike called by socialist and anarchist unions broke out in Madrid. In Barcelona, dock workers and other militants seized guns from the ships, and shotguns and dynamite from shops.

On July 19, the workers of Barcelona fought a mass pitched battle with 12,000 of Franco's troops trying to seize the center of the city. It ended with the soldiers shooting their officers and distributing their weapons to the workers.

Now fighting exploded throughout Spain. In city after city, workers with makeshift weapons stormed the barracks, won over sections of the army and police, and smashed the fascist rebellion.

But the civil war had only just begun: The fascists held a large area in the north. And the main fascist force, commanded by Franco, was based in Morocco—which was then a Spanish colony.

To move his army from Morocco to Spain itself, Franco needed ships. But everywhere in the fleet, revolutionary sailors began organizing committees to take control.

They executed the majority of the officers and forced the others to follow their orders.

The rising of the workers against the coup produced what the generals feared most: a revolutionary situation. This is totally ignored by most history books. But in fighting off the fascist threat, the armed workers had already set up the beginning of a society totally different from that of middle class liberalism.

### TWO WARS

Now there were two wars going on in Spain at once. There was the civil war between the Franco fascists and the Popular Front, or "republican" government.

fascist army at the front, the parties who claimed to lead them betrayed them.

The government insisted that the wealth of capitalists and landowners not be touched—to prevent them from going over to the fascists.

Meanwhile, these same capitalists opened the door to the invading fascists in one city after another.

When workers tried to resist this, the government—spearheaded by the power of the Communist Party and Stalinist agents—responded with repression.

By November 1936, the Russian newspaper, Pravda, boasted that the anarchists—the largest workers' organization in Spain—was being repressed. In May 1937, thousands of militants were arrested by the Popular Front regime.

The best leaders of the Spanish working class were brutally murdered. The government and Spanish Communist Party continued to tell the workers to sacrifice themselves for the war against Franco, but not to touch the wealth of the rich.

### DEFEAT

The leader of the Communist Party admitted, in private, that these actions meant "destroying the fighting front."

The crushing of the working class in 1937 actually guaranteed the ultimate victory of Franco, after two more years of bitter war.

In April 1938, the fascist armies cut Spain in half. In January 1939, Barcelona surrendered to the fascists without a shot. On March 28, 1939 they captured Madrid, and the war was over.

At least 200,000 opponents of fascism were murdered by Franco's forces immediately after his victory. Wages were cut in half. Of course, the victims included the Communist Party—whose strategy had prevented a possible victory over fascism.

## "I Always Felt... Our Spanish Comrades Would Rise Again"

THE CIVIL WAR and the struggle of workers in Spain lit the flames of revolution for a whole generation of young workers throughout Europe.

By the hundreds and thousands, they volunteered to fight in Spain against the advancing fascist army.

Of those who fought, and survived, some remained revolutionaries for life. They passed the experience of that struggle on to today's new generation of revolutionary socialists.

JACK CUMMINS and TOMMY NICHOLSON are two veterans of the Spanish Civil War. Both are members of the International Socialists in Britain. Here is part of their story.



Jack Cummins

"In July 1936, I was 14 years old and unemployed. I had lost my first job after joining in my first strike.

"Already in England we had seen Mosley's Blackshirts (the Nazi movement in Britain) strutting through the streets of the working class districts, trying to take over the minds of working class people with racist filth, blaming Jews as today their successors blame blacks.

"Suddenly, there in Spain, was living proof of all we had been saying about fascism. Now the rank and file could see the evil in action. They could see the resistance of the Spanish working class.

"I once heard it said that we would never see the like of the men and women who fought and died in Spain. We will see them again, and history has seen them many times before... They can never be finally and completely defeated.

"I have always felt that Spain was never really defeated. That some day our Spanish comrades would rise again."

"I worked in the Govan wireworks, in Glasgow, in 1937. From the first rising of the Spanish workers, our hearts and our minds were in Spain. Like many others, I believed that the whole future of humanity was being fought out there.

"But I was not a member of the Communist Party (which controlled the International Brigade which recruited volunteers for Spain)—so I wasn't allowed to go.

"But in 1937 they relented—on the conditions that I should not discuss politics. Needless to say, I accepted the handuffs and went on my way to fight for what I believed in then and still believe in just as fervently now.

"For socialism, for the revolution, for a society where the workers rule their own lives and where production is undertaken to meet the needs of all."



Tommy Nicholson



July 19-20, 1936 in Madrid. Spanish workers seized weapons and took over the streets to smash a fascist uprising.

# I.S. Gay Caucus Re-Organizes

The process of re-organizing the Gay Caucus in the IS was begun recently, when several gay members of the IS met at the IS National Convention at the beginning of July.

Last week, the newly re-organized Caucus issued an initial statement to the organization. In this statement, the Gay Caucus explains why it has re-organized itself and what it plans to do.

The statement explains that the gay issue has not been dealt with in the IS for several years, although a resolution on gay liberation was adopted in 1972.

Now, it is time to again reactivate the Gay Caucus.

"There is a tremendous amount of misunderstanding about gays and gay issues in the organization," the statement notes.

"The IS is no different from any other organization in this respect. Gay people are stereotyped in various ways, ways in which many of us are not even aware.

"Gay men are considered effeminate, gay women, masculine and tough.

"Sexual preference is considered the all-important distinguishing mark of gays; gays are not serious thinkers or political people, etc., etc.

"We in the IS Gay Caucus believe that these stereotypes should be fought and corrected.

"Moreover, in doing so, we feel that the organization will benefit, inasmuch as the recruitment of new gay comrades, as well as the integration of old members into IS work and our priorities, will be facilitated.

"Finally," the statement concludes, "we aim at achieving an open atmosphere for gay members in the IS."

## CAUCUS PLANS ACTIVITIES

The major task the Gay Caucus has set for itself is to develop the initial draft of a new perspective on gays for the IS by the time of the 1977 convention.

"Such a perspective would provide a basis for the integration of gay members into the organization, as well as beginning to develop an approach to gays in the work," the statement says.

The Gay Caucus acknowledges the difficulty of the job it has set out to do.

"Because there is only a very small body of theory and practice that exists on this question, both in the IS and in the socialist movement generally, we would hope that this new perspective document would be a first step towards enabling our organization to provide concrete leadership on

this issue to the revolutionary movement in this country.

"However, we believe in time, as the IS recruits more and more gay comrades who play major roles in our organization and its work, and as both our gay and non-gay comrades begin to provide an

input to the organization on the gay issue, we will build up the practical experience to develop a gay perspective for the IS."

In addition to developing the draft of a new perspective, the Gay Caucus also plans to develop a select bibliography

dealing with the gay issue and its relationship to politics.

They will write articles on the gay issue for Workers' Power and for internal publications of the IS, as well as establishing a communications network among gay members in the IS.

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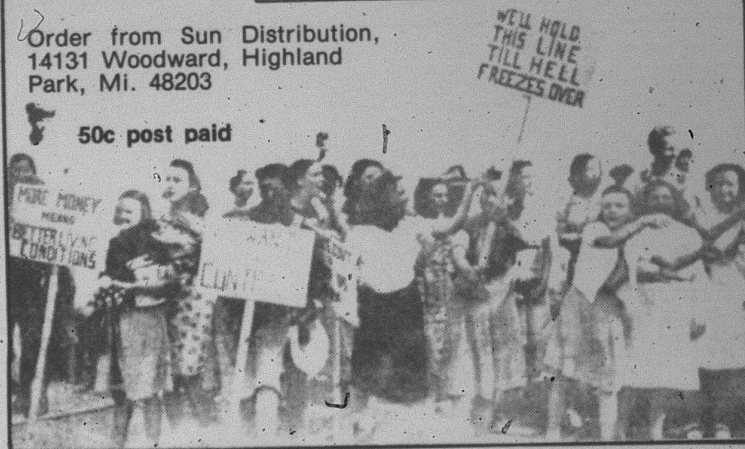
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a bibliography compiled  
by Barbara Winslow

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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 .....

## 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.

### WHERE WE STAND LEAFLETS

One page leaflets that contain the basic IS program are now available. They are attractively printed and have an information blank at the bottom.

They are especially useful when used in conjunction with Workers' Power sales or when you want a quick way to explain IS politics.

Every branch should order at least one bundle. They are priced at \$2.50 per 500 and may be ordered from Sun Distribution.

by Dan Posen

QUESTION: Is the Viking I spacecraft's Mars landing an amazing breakthrough for scientific research, for the understanding of the nature of the solar system and possibly the origins of life?

Or is it another round in an escalating arms, space and military technology race that eats up hundreds of billions of dollars a year, wipes out spending for human needs, and threatens to eventually destroy all life on this planet?

To me, the answer is: it's both. And that says a lot about the meaning of science in a twentieth-century world that is still dominated by class divisions, exploitation, poverty and war.

### THE MOON SHOT

The scientific value of the Viking project is undoubtedly enormous—totally beyond comparison to the ridiculous manned moon landing that took place seven years ago.

Virtually nothing was—or could be—learned from landing men on the moon that couldn't have been learned, at a tiny fraction of the cost, by sending unmanned lunar probes to gather samples and sending them back.

The lunar shot was the culmination of a ten-year propaganda war that was launched by John F. Kennedy in the early 1960's, to counter Russian space successes. It put U.S. power and technology on TV for a billion people to see—and fear.

It was also the first step toward extending the U.S.-Russia race for military bases and colonies into outer space.

After pulling this stunt a couple of times, the U.S. government had nothing more to gain from it and so it was dropped. But the Pentagon has plans on the drawing boards for giant orbiting military bases from which they could destroy the world a few dozen times with H-bomb attacks.

Compared to this, the unmanned Mars probe is of fantastic value.

The results will probably not provide any definite answers to

questions scientists ask about Mars. But they will enable scientists to ask much better questions, to be answered with more extensive samples and future research.

Eventually, we will be able to understand whether—now or in the past—microscopic life forms have developed there.

Already, Viking I's findings have answered several important theo-

retical objections to the possibility of life on Mars. For example, the atmosphere contains nitrogen and a natural nitrogen-fixing process. These are necessary for life to exist.

**This is the first, small but extremely significant, step toward proving that life in the universe is a widespread phenomenon, not unique to Earth. This is exactly what**

any consistent, scientific theory of the origin of life would expect.

Many people will ask, quite reasonably, whether it is really worth knowing whether life—and what kind—could exist elsewhere when social conditions remain so horrible for most people on earth?

The answer to this question is clearly yes. Basic, theoretical research is ultimately essential for application of scientific knowledge to human needs.

For example, it now seems certain that finding an ultimate cure for cancer depends on understanding how virus reproduction works. It is the most primitive form of biological reproduction. Basic research into the origin of life could be critical to learning this.

However, this is only half the story.

Both the magnificent scientific achievement of the Mars probe, and the grotesque military-technological stunt of the moon shot, are part of the same over-all "space" program.

They are funded, planned, and controlled out of the same government agencies. And the over-all goals of this program are to protect

the power and global domination of American imperialism.

### THE POTENTIAL

Like every progressive scientific advance, the achievements of the Mars probe can be used as another link in the chain leading to the destruction of humanity by World War III.

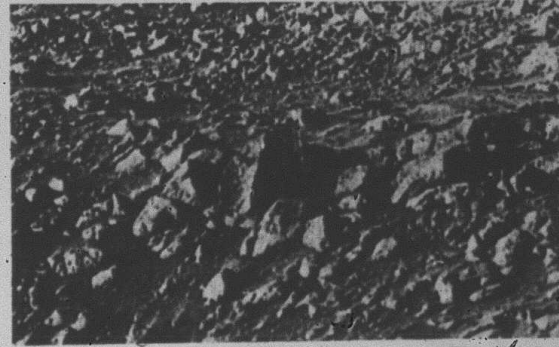
This is exactly what will happen—unless the imperialist systems in the world are overthrown by socialist revolution.

The Mars probe is just one example of the scientific treasures that the working class will inherit when it begins building its own, socialist society.

It is almost unimaginable what could be accomplished in every field of science if, for example, the \$100-plus billion war budget were liberated for useful and human purposes.

Instead, the U.S. government slashes basic cancer research, and tens of millions of people starve to death for lack of seeds and fertilizer.

That is the crisis of modern science—and it is exactly the same as the crisis of modern society. □



The unmanned Mars landing could mean a revolution in the science of biology and the origins of the solar system.

## Racist Sterilizations Win 'Honor Medal'

Dear Workers' Power,

Last month massive black protests erupted in South Africa and showed how explosive the situation there is. Life is like hell for the blacks in South Africa.

I read in Der Spiegel, June, 1976, about an Argentinian medical doctor who worked at a hospital in the vicinity of Johannesburg. He tells about his experience:

"The hospital I worked at is, one of the few hospitals in South Africa where a hospital for blacks and one for whites are next to each other.

"The hospital for whites is a clean and well kept building. The shabby, rundown building next to it is where blacks are treated."

"When I started to work there (as a surgeon) my colleagues told me I should whenever possible sterilize black women during operations. The whites in S.A. view this as 'helping' their country.

"I often witnessed how black women were sterilized without their knowledge, for example during appendicitis operations.

"One of the (of course white) doctors joked, 'Whoever does the most sterilizations will get an honor medal.'"

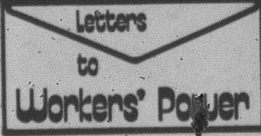
The contempt of the white ruling class for the blacks is also demonstrated in the absolute priority for the medical treatment of whites.

"Once I was treating several blacks who had had an accident and were in severe condition. A white nurse came to call me to a white patient who only had a minor injury.

"When I refused, the nurse insisted that whites be treated with priority, no matter how urgently blacks need help.

"Black patients coming to the hospital generally have to wait hours before they are taken care of.

"The only chance a black has to be treated promptly is when his white master brings him to the hospital—because whites should



not be kept waiting...

"One night policemen brought a black woman to the hospital. They were beating her when she stumbled out of the police car. I took some pictures.

"Shortly after that the director of the hospital demanded that I give him the film. I refused and was fired."

Racism serves the same purpose in South Africa as it does in the U.S. and it has the same ugly face.

Mike Philadelphia

## KEEP FIGHTING FOR GARY'S FREEDOM!

Dear Workers' Power,

We read your recent article on the future of Gary Tyler. One thing we disagreed with was that



Gary Tyler

## Why I Was Fired

Dear Workers' Power:

I was fired from my teaching position at Bryant and Stratton College in Chicago, Illinois because I supported the students and not the administration during a student demonstration.

Since I did not clear the hallway when 80 angry students were surrounding one of the administrators, I was called "disloyal" to the administration.

Also, because I am friends with the students I could no longer be on the staff. As a result of my

termination, the students held another demonstration for more supplies and equipment as well as my reinstatement.

The school is a federally-funded program.

No union, no contract, no benefits whatsoever for teachers. No books, no equipment, not enough teachers, not enough training for students. What kind of working conditions are these?

Maureen Chicago

the article implied that there is a good chance that Gary will go free on a legal technicality.

There have already been many, many legal technicalities in this case which should have had Gary out of jail long ago.

But "should" isn't enough because of the racist system that rules in this country, in the courts, jails, factories, and cities.

In other words, if the powers that be, out of their intense prejudice, want to nail someone, they'll do it, legal or illegal.

The only chance Gary has is in a movement of people demanding his freedom.

We in Cleveland think that now is the time to build that movement. Especially since the Supreme Court decision has created some openings.

Let's not slack off. Free Gary and ourselves!

The Cleveland Committee to Free Gary Tyler

Workers' Power Wants To Hear From You

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

**NO! to RACISM**

## Pgh Racists On The Loose

PITTSBURGH — White mobs have been rioting against the black community of Northview Heights this week. Police have blatantly refused to provide protection.

What began as a fight between black and white youths escalated when one of the white youths was shot. The city immediately went on a massive search for Michael Perkins, claiming he was the killer.

The local newspaper carried the story stating that police were looking for someone who lived in the Northview Heights projects. In fact Perkins has not lived there for over six years.

The night of the fight, white mobs swarmed up to the projects and broke windows, overturned cars and terrorized residents.

### POLICE ATTACK

Police have not been of any help. They refused any extra patrols. When they did come up to the area, they unleashed dogs on the residents of the Heights. Several were bitten.

Angry blacks began to organize in self-defense. A crowd invaded the mayor's office and demanded protection. They got only sweet-talk.

Black groups were set up to ward off any more white attackers. That was when the police acted. They sent out white plainclothesmen.

Plainclothed police were not there to protect blacks. They were not there to turn away white mobs who might invade. They were there only to provoke an incident.

When the police were attacked, they leaped from their cars and jumped on the defenders of the project. Their purpose was clear: to show blacks they will not be allowed to defend themselves.

But their job won't be easy. For racism is under attack too. A militant, growing and persistent attack that will defend the rights of all working people, black and white.

# CHICAGO COPS JOIN RACE RIOT



Man struck by a brick awaits ambulance near Marquette Park.

## Videotapes Show Brick-throwing Officers

by John Stephens

CHICAGO—Eight officers of the Chicago police department are under investigation for being part of a rock and bottle-throwing crowd that attacked open-housing marchers in Marquette Park on July 17.

These eight officers were seen in police videotapes taken of the racist mob.

The marchers, led by the Martin Luther King Jr. movement, were protesting racist assaults on black families moving into the predominantly white Marquette Park area. They were demonstrating for the rights of all people to live, work, and play where they want.

### TRUE BLUE

Spearheading the drive to keep blacks from moving into Marquette Park are the American Nazi party and the Daley machine. The Nazis carry out open acts of violence, and the Daley machine protects them by allowing racist marches into the black community but denying marches into the white community.

They have a plan they stand united in their racist cause. And they have some more true-blue supporters—the police whose role is to enforce the black community to accept racist repression.

However, the Martin Luther

King Jr. movement is gathering support from community, political, and rank and file union groups for a return march into Marquette Park on August 21. (The march has been re-scheduled from the 14th to the 21st.)

They are also leading a legal battle, including a 25 million dollar lawsuit on behalf of the July 17 marchers and a contempt of court suit against the City for failing to protect the marchers' safety and constitutional rights to peaceful assembly.

We were not surprised to learn of cops attacking peaceful demonstrators. This is not new; it's every day business for the police. But an investigation is not a conviction.

It is unlikely that the cops involved will be punished for mob action or racist attacks, but the struggle against racism will continue.

Reverend A.I. Dunlap, one leader of the Martin Luther King Jr. movement stated, "The constitution and equal rights laws have never been taken for granted by black people. Only by marching and struggling have we gotten any rights at all."

We all must join together now to smash the Nazis, KKK, and all racist groups, for if we don't they will surely smash us.

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# UPSurge SET FOR POSSIBLE EASTERN STATES WALKOUT

United Parcel Service (UPS) workers in fifteen eastern states may be hitting the bricks this week. The workers are covered by contracts which now expire July 31.

As we go to press we have just learned that the union negotiating committee is expected to recommend that the membership turn the contract down. Union meetings are scheduled for August 1, when the contract package will be proposed.

The union's recommendation can only mean one thing: the company is offering even less than Central States UPS workers received in their recently-ratified contract. Although the items in dispute are not yet known, it is certain that this is not a battle over wages, but

Information leaked from the union negotiating committee last week confirms suspicions that UPS is trying to make this contract a step backward. The company wants to include language to wipe out wage differentials for night shift workers who currently have it, such as in Northern Jersey and Maine.

Rather than extending best conditions to all, UPS is trying to wipe out the better conditions already existing in individual locals.

UPSurge activists in the east are recommending rejection of any offer which does not include the following demands:

\* A clause protecting all jobs

now performed by full time employees

\* Full benefits for part timers; the same wages that part timers get in the Central States; and the right to bid on full-time vacancies according to seniority.

\* A grievance procedure which insures innocence until proven guilty;

\* A clause prohibiting the use of performance or production standards.

In addition, UPSurge is recommending that UPS workers in the east be given the right to vote on when to return to work, rather than be ordered back as was done by the union in the national freight and Central States UPS strikes.