

# WORKERS' Power

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**IN THIS ISSUE**

Attica Victory ..... 3  
 Fleetwood Wildcat .... 3  
 Rhodesia ..... 4  
 Detroit Gangs ..... 5  
 Fascism ..... 6-7

## Auto Workers Getting Ready

Detroit, September 2, 1976.

"A Cheap Contract is No Contract." That was the chant of hundreds of skilled tradesmen from UAW Local 157 as they demonstrated for a decent contract here today. This is the heart of "UAW Country," so there is another unspoken slogan, as old as the union itself: "No Contract, No Work."

With less than two weeks to go to the expiration of the auto contract, that is the message of the skilled trades to both the companies and the bureaucrats of the International Union. Last night, the Al Mata Hall was filled to capacity for a rank and file contract meeting called by the Independent Skilled Trades Council and an alliance of three skilled trades groups from the giant River Rouge plant of the Ford Motor Company.

After a quiet start, auto workers from the skilled trades and the production lines are now on the move. They have been goaded by a first offer from Ford which tries to take back conditions that were won only after years of struggle. They have been left leaderless by covering union officials who are still bleating that there can be a settlement without a strike. But now the rank and file are finally entering negotiations.

Groups like the Coalition for a Good Contract who have been out there fighting alone for the last six months are now being joined by industry-wide organizations like the "30-and-Out" committee. The "30-and-Out" pledged themselves to fight for rejection of a poor contract just a couple of weeks ago, and have now taken the next step of taking to the streets to enforce their demands.

So the skilled trades are not alone. Various other groups are organizing and supporting demonstrations over the next two weeks in Dearborn, New Jersey, Detroit, and Flint. And there are more actions in the pipeline. This is not going to be the "quiet contract" that union chief Leonard Woodcock was relishing only a few short weeks ago. For the first time it looks as if there will be a fight.

[More coverage—pages 3, 8 & 9]

## Steelworkers' Union

# COMING APART AT THE TOP

LAS VEGAS—United Steel Workers (USW) Vice President John Johns has announced he will not run in elections for the union's top office this winter.

His announcement, as the USW Convention began here last week, ended the possibility that there will be two candidates from the union's "official family" competing to replace retiring President I.W. Abel.

John's announcement leaves District 34 Director Lloyd McBride as the USW leadership's candidate to replace Abel.

One of McBride's first statements indicated that, if elected, he will continue the worst of Abel's policies. He said he would extend the steel industry's no-strike deal to the next contract if no problems developed with it this time around.

### PRESSURE

Heavy pressure had apparently been brought on Johns to drop out of the race. At a meeting of all but a few of the union's 24 district directors August 26, both Johns and McBride agreed that they would withdraw in favor of the other if the district directors asked them to. Johns is widely regarded as an incompetent for his role in the convention two years ago, and apparently it was not hard for McBride to win a majority vote.

To help patch things up, Abel has asked the convention to expand the number of International officers from three to five, to allow some of Johns' running mates to be on the Abel-backed slate. Johns himself plans to retire.

Johns' withdrawal leaves the "official

family" unified against expected challenger Ed Sadlowski.

Sadlowski is director of the Chicago-Gary District 31, the union's largest district. He is expected to announce his candidacy shortly, and will run as an anti-Abel candidate.

Despite the sudden unity of the Abel forces, the top officials are still clearly scared of Sadlowski. They have made continual attacks on all oppositionists in the union.

The first attack was just that—a physical assault on Cliff Mezo, a member of Local 1010 who was wearing a Sadlowski jacket.

### SMART?

Outside the convention center a group called SMART (Steel Worker Members Against Radical Takeover) have handed out daily leaflets attacking Sadlowski. They've red-baited him, and have also charged him with financial mismanagement in District 31, failure to institute democratic changes in his district; and refusal to take a clear stand on such issues as the no-strike deal and the anti-discrimination Consent Decree.

Abel himself has joined the attacks, claiming the dissidents are controlled by outsiders ("Shifty busybodies") who tell "Hitler-type lies." One of the "lies" Abel was apparently objecting to was the charge that he was "soft on strikes" because he has given up the right to strike in basic steel.

The McBride campaign has been much in evidence at the convention, while the Sadlowski forces have not been well organized.

But opposition is there, even though issues such as the no-strike deal and the right to ratify contracts have been spoken to only by isolated individuals.

At least 15-20% of the delegates opposed the resolution on collective bargaining, an indication of the opposition to the ENA and support for the right to ratify.

### RANK AND FILE

Most importantly, there are several hundred young delegates, primarily from District 31, who have been elected to their first convention on a militant platform. These delegates are part of the rank and file movement growing in the USW, particularly in basic steel.

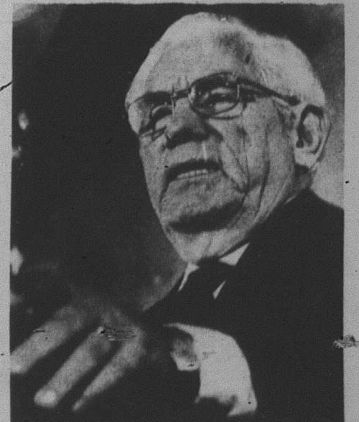
But these people have remained disorganized and ineffective. The main reason has been the apparent timidity of the Sadlowski forces.

An older Sadlowski delegate, commenting on the lack of an organized fight, said, "We'll beat them in the trenches." This attitude, that the convention is unimportant and that the battle in the mills is the key, is typical of most Sadlowski delegates.

But there is also a sense among the younger delegates that a stronger fight would have been welcome.

Many, in fact, were so angry at Sadlowski's failure to organize for the convention that they forced him to call a meeting of pro-Sadlowski delegates. The meeting succeeded in freeing Sadlowski delegates to vent their anger on the convention floor, but no floor fight was organized.

The USW presidential campaign has begun with the Abel-McBride forces calling the first shot and Sadlowski ducking. Militants behind Sadlowski must organize to make sure it is the last time.



I.W. Abel. His forces are running scared.

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SEP 13 1976  
SOCIETY

from Italy...to Maryland...to Michigan...we're being...

# POISONED

by Byron Gray

On July 10 of this year in the small town of Seveso, Italy, a safety valve blew on an overheated reactor in the Icmesa chemical factory, allowing huge amounts of the deadly chemical dioxin to flow into the atmosphere.

The factory is owned by the giant multi-national corporation Hoffman La-Roche.

Hoffman La-Roche is better known in this country for its production of the depressants Valium and Librium, the two most profitable drugs in history. It takes in up to 8000 percent profit on these drugs alone.

However, that's another story. In Seveso, Hoffman La-Roche produces trichlorophenol, one of the most dangerous chemicals known to man.

Dioxin is a byproduct of trichlorophenol and equally as deadly.

It was used by the U.S. to kill thousands of Vietnamese people and anything else in its path. Two

ounces of the stuff in a reservoir can kill 11 million people.

On that day in Seveso, four and a half pounds of dioxin was released into the atmosphere. All vegetation in the area wilted and died.

After a few days animals began dying of internal bleeding. The people of Seveso began to complain of burning eyes and skin as well as severe intestinal disorders. Children were sent to the hospital with swollen faces and fevers.

reaction? They first covered up what actually happened and played down any danger, of course. They then demanded that workers at the plant continue working.

The Icmesa workers had never been informed as to what exactly they were producing. They continued working for another six days before they struck, demanding to know what was going on.

During that time the people of Seveso continued to eat the contaminated vegetables and meat they produced. They also continued to sell them in the nearby city of Milan. All the while the trees and animals around them were dying.

Only after the workers struck the plant did Hoffman La-Roche finally admit publicly that dioxin had been released.

It was nearly two weeks after the leak that plans were begun to evacuate Seveso's people. Now,



Seveso today—barbed wire, soldiers, and devastation.

nearly two months after the disaster over 15,000 people have been evacuated from the area around Seveso.

This entire area is sealed off and everything left there is to be totally destroyed. All houses will be burned and all animals and vegetation will be destroyed with napalm (yes, napalm) flame throwers. It's all to be buried under one foot of topsoil and covered with a lid of solid concrete.

## EFFECTS

Meanwhile, the thousands of people who have been raised and have lived their lives in Seveso are forced to leave their homes and livelihood behind.

Women who are pregnant are forced to have abortions or risk the very high possibility of giving birth to severely deformed babies. These women must face the same fear in considering future pregnancies or births.

And all these people face the continuing effects of dioxin poisoning, a deadly chemical that has no known antidote.

Thousands and thousands of human lives wasted for nothing. Nothing but the "healthy" pursuit of profit.

An industrial accident, you might say. An unfortunate mishap in a poor country. An isolated horror story. But something like this could never happen here. Right? Nope.



These people will never see their homes again.

## labor notes

by Jim Woodward

The widows of five coke oven workers, along with six workers who have cancer and their wives, are suing three coke oven manufacturers. They charge that coke oven designs are "unreasonably dangerous." Studies have shown that persons who work at the top of coke ovens die from lung cancer at a rate ten times faster than other steel workers.



Attacks by white racists in the Chicago area include assaults on blacks going to work at the Republic Steel mill. Stones have been thrown at black workers driving through white neighborhoods while going to and from work. At least one black worker was beaten. Recently, United Steel Workers Local 1033 passed a resolution attacking Chicago Mayor Daley and the police department for their "silence and inaction" in the face of these attacks. The local demanded that the city "track down and prosecute" those involved.

There has been no progress in negotiations between United Parcel Service and the Teamsters Union for a new contract in the Eastern states. Federal mediators have been called in, but the negotiations have been recessed until after Labor Day.

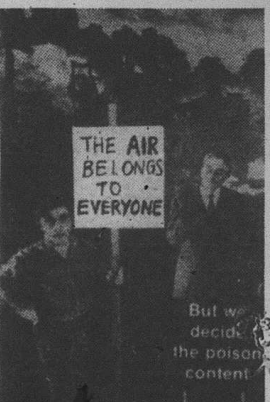
A federal judge in San Francisco has ruled that individual postal employees cannot be held responsible for late delivery of mail. The case was initiated by a businessman, who sued a number of postal workers. He claimed junk mail he sent out advertising a sale was delivered after the sale.

Erik Larsen, a member of Local 801 of the International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE), is in critical condition in a Dayton, Ohio hospital after being beaten at a union meeting. Another IUE member who tried to aid Larsen at the meeting was shot in the stomach and is in fair condition. The two were part of a group that was pressing for a strike if no new contract is reached with GM's Delco Air Conditioning Division by the deadline of September 14.

The officers of the American Postal Workers Union (APWU) have gotten an additional four months added to their terms of office. At the union's recent Las Vegas convention, the terms were extended until October 1978, so the elections wouldn't conflict with contract negotiations scheduled for July. The silver lining in this cloud is that it will now be easier to vote these characters out of office if they deliver as bad a sellout as they did in 1975.

These words of wisdom from the big business bible, *Fortune* magazine, have implications for all of us: "For many years American workers were the highest paid—but no longer. In hourly compensation, wages and fringes together, a number of industrial countries have passed, caught up to, or significantly gained on the U.S."

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



But we decide the poison content

# FOR THE "HEALTHY" PURSUIT OF PROFIT!

Over two years ago, huge amounts of a toxic chemical PBB (polybrominated biphenyl), used as a fire retardant, was accidentally mixed with a major proportion of Michigan's cattle feed.

PBB in an animal's system causes weight loss, swelling of joints and glands and eventual death. Doctors and scientists say that there is a very good chance that PBB causes cancer in humans.

It wasn't long before Michigan's farmers found that their livestock were becoming ill. Significant

amounts of PBB were found in the milk and meat of thousands of contaminated cattle. For months this milk and meat was sold for human consumption.

Many of the dying cattle were eventually destroyed. However, cattle with "minimum" amounts of PBB continued to be marketed. The government would not allow the farmers to destroy these animals even though many stated they would not feed the meat to their own families.

Families who have eaten PBB-tested food are suffering from inexplicable illnesses. Last week the toxic chemical was found in the breast milk of 22 of 26 mothers in Michigan. It is clear that PBB will pass easily from one human to another.

## CANCER

Also discovered in the breast milk of the same mothers were quantities of PCB (polychlorinated biphenyls), a very close relative of PBB. Both are toxic chemicals.

PCB has a much clearer history than PBB. In recent years it has been found to cause cancer and birth defects in humans. It has contaminated fish in major rivers and waterways all over the country.

Last month PCB was found in large quantities in sea food taken from the Chesapeake Bay. It is now a permanent part of the food chain and there is no known way to get rid of it.

However there is no need to fear. Our own U.S. House of Representatives just last week voted to approve a bill to ban the manufacturing of PCB within the next three years. That's right, three years.

Three years will give those companies who produce the poison for huge profits time to think of a way to get the ban lifted. That is, of course, if the Senate approves the ban in the first place, and if Ford doesn't veto the bill.

So, thousands of us are allowed to be poisoned while these companies continue their pursuit of "healthy" profits. □

## Workers' Power 174

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# FLEETWOOD - Story of A Walkout

DETROIT—Workers at General Motor's Fleetwood Fisher Body plant walked off the job on Thursday afternoon, August 26. They were protesting discipline against Local 15 President Rufus Coleman and Shop Committee Chairman Jim Gabbard.

Ever since changeover, management had been pushing like mad, overloading jobs, breaking up old work groups, and disciplining workers.

Fleetwood has a reputation of being a rough place to work. It has a weak union, and management is always on the offensive. GM thought they could get away with anything at Fleetwood. But they were wrong.

## RANKS ORGANIZE

Immediately after the walk out, the ranks began to organize themselves. That night 200 met at the Local 15 hall.

They decided to continue the strike. They drew up a leaflet stating three demands:

- The union officials be reinstated.
- The work load be reduced.
- No discipline for participation in the walkout.

None of the union officials attended this meeting.

## STRIKE SOLID

At 5 o'clock Friday morning, second shift workers distributed their leaflet to the day shift. The day shift stood solid with the strike.

Local 15's officers showed less resolve. Some were willing to support the action; others just stayed away from the plant.

Local President Coleman, however, was right in there helping management to break the strike. He stood at the gate, telling people he had not been disciplined and they should return to work.

## WHICH SIDE?

Friday afternoon, the UAW International stepped into the struggle—on the side of General Motors. UAW Vice President Irving Bluestone issued a statement that the "rumor" of Coleman's and Gabbard's discipline was a lie.

The UAW International called every Local 15 officer and committeeman to a meeting at the Region 1-E headquarters. They were told that it was their responsibility to get the workers back into the plant.

Twenty rank and file workers who demanded to attend the meeting were refused entry. After the membership had gone out on a limb to support their union officers, the union leadership cut off the limb.

## UNION SHOWS COLORS

Friday afternoon, the union officials were out in force. They used sound equipment to tell people that no local officer had been disciplined, that the strike was being led by "communists," and that they should return to work and leave everything in the union's capable hands.

They tried hard to break the strike—but not hard enough. The second shift held solid.

Two hundred workers showed up at their union hall on Sunday. It was locked. No local officers were

in sight.

The most disciplined, serious and democratic meeting in years was held in a vacant lot. After a thorough discussion, the workers unanimously decided that they were willing to return to work—but "with conditions we can live with." They demanded that no one be disciplined for participating in the strike and that management end its campaign of speedup and harassment.

Early Monday morning, the Local 15 officers were armed with more than lies. Forty officials gathered, some with chains and lead pipes. They informed the strikers that if they attempted to continue the strike somebody was going to get hurt.

The workers did not have the numbers to slug it out. They decided to go back to work and spread the truth about the strike. They were resolved to rid Local 15

of the pro-company cowards who now control it.

The strike has shown what needs to be done. An organization of Fleetwood workers must be built to fight GM and return the union to the rank and file. Fleetwood workers know who stabbed them in the back.

During the strike rank and file leaders came forward who proved in action their determination to fight for better conditions for all.

The workers know who these people are and will be looking to them for more leadership in the future.

These new leaders now have the responsibility of organizing for the struggles ahead. The workers who participated in the strike will have to be defended from GM's discipline. But now everybody knows that: Fleetwood workers can fight—and they will win. □

Anne Jones

## Victory At Attica!

by Byron Gray

Two thousand prisoners at Attica State Prison won a five-day strike. The strike shut down the New York prison two weeks ago.

The prisoners, voting cell block by cell block, decided Saturday, August 28, to end the strike.

For five days, 95% of the prison population remained in their cells refusing to work, eat or exercise.

The strike was organized so efficiently that it left prison officials helpless. They could find no "excuse" to take any physical action as happened in 1971 when 41 people were murdered.

The prisoners won:  
• Relaxed visiting rules. They can now touch, hug and even

kiss loved ones who are visiting.

- The "right" to wear civilian clothes during visits.
- They will get more showers and more public telephones.
- A sharp cut in strip searches and dehumanizing rectal searches.

## ANGRY

However, most prisoners are angry with the inadequate agreement on minority representation among prison guards and staff. The prison population at Attica, as in other prisons, is predominantly black and Latin. The guards and staff are overwhelmingly white, of course. Prisoners are subject to harassment and brutality by racist guards and staff.

The prisoners also demanded



Cell Block D, Attica, after the 1971 slaughter.

an assurance from the State of New York that a bill restricting inmates' imprisonment to five years, except in highly unusual circumstances, be acted upon. They received no such assurance.

There were also no guarantees given on solving the

problems of incredible overcrowding at Attica.

The discipline and organization displayed by the Attica prisoners is unprecedented. They have shown the way for prisoners to fight back against the brutal system that confines them. □

## At Local 15, Years of Misleadership

A letter from the retired former President of the Fleetwood Local.

Dear Workers' Power:

The walk-out of Fleetwood workers was a demonstration of the ineptness of the leadership of the Local, especially the conduct of President Rufus Coleman and Chairman of the Shop Committee Jim Gabbard.

This is not a new situation. It has existed for more than 25 years. It has been brought about by two International Representatives—Walter Henderson who serviced the Local from 1947 until 1965, and Curtis McGuire, who has serviced the Local since that time.

Fleetwood workers have referred to them as drunks and thugs. When drunk, they have tried to start brawls with Fleetwood workers.

Henderson was the most dissolute man I can recall meeting. He was the right-hand man of Walter Reuther—his man of "dirty tricks." He often took the side of management against the workers.

He was involved in a conspiracy against me in 1962, along with Walter Reuther, Leonard Woodcock and Emil Mazey from the International and Nick Cervelli, Francis Vogen and Edsel Walker from the Local.

They were able to prevent me from getting a hearing before the Public Review Board for my charge of corruption in the Local.

This encouraged the Local officers to become more corrupt. It enabled Ed Zlotewski to get a swimming pool built in his back yard by the contractor who built the local hall, without any cost to himself.

There were a number of attempts by the Shop Committee to have Henderson removed as an International Rep, but his influence with Reuther was too powerful.

Henderson trained someone to follow in his footsteps. Curtis McGuire wasn't a protégé of Walter Reuther, but he is a good machine man. He is the kind of man who will do anything to serve the bureaucracy of which he is a part.

The workers and even the local officers are intimidated by an International strong arm man like Curtis McGuire. They must rely on him to negotiate and process their grievances.

If they offend him, he may send the message to supervision that he will no longer protect these workers from harassment or other discriminatory treatment.

Jim Gabbard regularly refers to Curtis McGuire as "my boss." Jim Gabbard and Rufus Coleman, not wanting to assume the responsibilities of their offices, are only too willing to have McGuire make decisions for them.

All too often he decides in favor of management against the worker. He never worked on a production line.

Having had little experience in taking responsibility, Rufus Coleman and Jim Gabbard conducted themselves in a most irresponsible manner when they were paralyzed "on paper."

They panicked, leaving the Shop Committee of the rank and file to take the consequences of their irresponsible conduct. Jim Gabbard and Rufus Coleman were elected to give leadership and take responsibility for running Local 15—not Curtis McGuire.

They should not be permitted to hide behind him, during this crisis in the Local. If they do, the rank and file should request their resignations and elect new leadership.

John Anderson

## Snow Lion Workers Still Fighting

At the Snow Lion garment factory in Berkeley, California, workers are still fighting for a decent wage, job security, and fair treatment.

In October 1975, a union election was held, but lost because of a fierce company campaign, which included threats to move to Taiwan and increased wages to some workers in the plant.

In the months since the election, Snow Lion workers have built their workers' committee, first formed last fall, but later reorganized around the firing of a militant Vietnamese seamstress. This committee, representing all nationalities and races in the factory, will clearly be the leading force in the next campaign.

The workers' committee has led walkouts and slowdowns to protest unfair firings and wage cuts. In one walkout, they succeeded in getting a supervisor fired and reinstating a worker he had fired.

Snow Lion workers, mostly women and recent immigrants from the Philippines, Taiwan, the Fiji Islands, and South Korea, have learned the importance and necessity of self-organization.

The last union drive was unsuccessful partly because of the lack of an organized opposition to the company campaign. Snow Lion workers let the company intimidate them once. But they won't let it happen again. □

Charis Hirasuka

# THE VICTIMS OF RHODESIA

On August 10, Rhodesian troops invaded Mozambique to attack what they claimed was a guerilla base.

These pictures show what really happened.

The target of the raid was not a guerilla base at all. It was a refugee village—people who had fled over the border to escape the white regime.

A United Nations Refugee Organization official visited the area. He confirmed that hundreds of civilians had been murdered and buried in mass graves.

Many were shot as they desperately attempted to flee. The total massacre may have claimed 1000 victims.

This is the real face of the white racist regime which Henry Kissinger thinks should be "peacefully transformed"—as long as the interests of the minority it protects are "safeguarded."



[Above] A mass grave at Nhazonia refugee camp in Mozambique holds the bodies of men, women and children slaughtered by Ian Smith's army. [Left] The lucky few who didn't get murdered are taken by helicopter from the scene of the massacre.

## What We Think

# A Dying Regime

TS

Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith, and the white settler state he speaks for, have given their answer to any thought of peaceful solutions for Zimbabwe (Rhodesia).

The raid and mass murder of refugees at the Nhazonia camp, inside Mozambique, is a statement by this dying racist regime that before it finally goes down it will attempt to create as much destruction and chaos as it can throughout southern Africa. Any border village in Mozambique, any factory, field or town within reach of Rhodesian air power or commandos, is a target.

However, the Rhodesian murders may not have much longer to commit these atrocities. An offensive by the Zimbabwean liberation forces, expected to begin in the fall rainy season, may destroy them before the end of next year.

While all this goes on, U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger has his own message to black Africa and the masses of Zimbabwe: Don't Fight Back. Trust the United States government, the great friend of freedom in Africa, to win majority rule for you.

Kissinger is trying to promote a program for "peaceful transition" of political power in Zimbab-

we, from the white racist regime to the most conservative middle-class black politicians. But time is rapidly running out for this kind of phony "compromise" solution.

This is one reason Kissinger is flying to Switzerland again to meet Prime Minister John Vorster of South Africa. Vorster's government has murdered over 1200 black students and workers fighting for freedom in the last two months. However, Kissinger hopes that the apartheid regime, to save its own skin at home, will force its junior partners in Rhodesia to consider Kissinger's proposal for "peaceful transition."

In other words, Kissinger's idea of "majority rule" for Zimbabwe is a government of black politicians who owe their power and position to the forces of South African capitalism and American imperialism.

Henry Kissinger is certainly right about one thing. The overthrow of white Rhodesia, by a successful armed liberation movement, will bring much closer the black working class revolution in the heart of South Africa. That's why Henry Kissinger is so terrified about the war in Zimbabwe. And that's also why we are totally in favor of it.



# SAN QUENTIN - THE REAL STORY

George Jackson was murdered by prison guards on August 21, 1971 in an alleged escape attempt. Jackson was set up by the California prison authorities because he had gained international fame as a revolutionary writer, and was actively involved in organizing prisoners to stand up for their rights.

Through the publication of his book "Soledad Brother," Jackson opposed the human suffering, economic enslavement, and brutal murders of inmates. People were listening to what he had to say. He became a major threat to prison officials all across the country.

On August 21 prison guards fabricated an escape attempt. That day, Jackson was shot in the ankle. Later while he was down on the ground, he was shot in the back and killed.

One week later thousands of mourners turned out for Jackson's Memorial Service. To this day, his name has not died—in their hearts or ours.

George Jackson Lives!



George Jackson

by Byron Gray

The trial of the San Quentin Six ended on August 12 with three convictions and three acquittals. Charges against the Six stemmed from an alleged "conspiracy to escape" on August 21, 1971. In reality, the escape was a set-up by prison authorities to assassinate prison activist George Jackson.

The trial lasted nearly five years. All of the defendants, except Willie Tate, who was out on \$150,000 bond, were kept in maximum security at San Quentin. They were continually harassed and beaten. During

the trial sessions they were chained and shackled, in violation of a U.S. Supreme Court ruling.

Willie Tate, Fleeta Drumgo and Luis Talamantez were acquitted of all charges. Of these only Tate will go free. Drumgo and Talamantez face indeterminate sentences resulting from other charges.

Of those convicted, Johnny Larry Spain was found guilty of murdering two prison guards and conspiracy to escape by force and violence. Hugo Pinell and David Johnson were both found guilty of assaulting a guard.

The six defendants were chosen by prison authorities to pay the price for what happened on August 21, 1971 because they had been closely associated with Jackson and were well known and respected by fellow inmates as militant prison activists.

## TALL TALE

The authorities say that a radical lawyer, Steven Bingham, smuggled a gun to George Jackson. They have been unable to find Bingham since the alleged incident.

Jackson was supposed to have hidden the gun under an afro wig. On the way back to his cell Jackson had to pass through a metal detector device and was subject to two thorough skin searches by guards, which included a finger search of the scalp.

During the trial, Louis Tackwood, former special agent for the Los Angeles Police Dept. took the stand and made a startling statement. He said that the department's criminal conspiracy section had planned to "assassinate" Jackson. This was the only conspiracy there was.

## COVER UP

The indictments against the San Quentin Six and the five years it took to bring them to "justice" was a cover-up for this conspiracy. And the results are a continuation of the coverup. The San Quentin case is a display of the brutality of the system we live in.

George Jackson was sent to prison on a \$70 theft charge. He was black and stood up for his rights as a human being. As a result he spent 11 years under the most inhumane conditions imaginable and was murdered for letting people know about them.



San Quentin Six: (Top, left to right) Fleeta Drumgo, Hugo Pinell, Luis Talamantez; (bottom, left to right) Johnny Larry Spain, David Johnson, and Willie Tate.

## Detroit Gangs - Is Curfew A Solution?

By Lisa Manchester

**DETROIT**-Two weeks ago, under threats by black mayor Coleman Young, the City Council established a pack of juvenile control laws. Their intent publicly, is to cut into youth gang violence.

But is that what the City really has in mind? And can these laws really do that? No and no.

The new laws are thorough. It is now illegal for any minor (17 or under) to be away from home after 10:00 p.m. unless with a parent to leave their child "unsupervised" at any time of the day.

These are just some of the laws, and the police have the authority to enforce them however they see fit. The result is that if you are black and under 18, you know you are living in a police state.

### WHY THE CRACKDOWN?

The main reason for the crackdown is the attempt to re-vitalize the downtown business district. The district is, and was, dying. Hundreds of millions have been poured into a project mainly financed by Henry Ford II-Renaissance Center.

With its construction nearly completed, Young realized the City

would have taken drastic steps to attract suburban business and shoppers back to the city they had already fled.

The streets have to be cleaned up of all the black youths to make "Business as Usual" comfortable for them. Young's program is to use the fear of the police to force young people out of downtown and back into the ghetto. "Profits before People" is the racist slogan that sums up Young's solution to the problem.

### WHY THE GANGS?

Young blames "young punks" and "outsiders" for the crime rate, but he is the one who refuses to face the real deal.

How can that punk blame the black youths of Detroit for the crimes that go on? How can he ignore the pressure of the society that they live under? Young realizes that Detroit is in a severe financial crisis. But it isn't just the business district that is feeling it. The city has undergone massive budget cuts in social services and education. The schools can't provide an education for young blacks.

They can't get jobs. There's no recreation. And nothing at all to do.

But Young doesn't have a program for that. He only has a

plan to drive blacks off the streets. It is young blacks who are the victims of this decaying city. To enforce the new laws, the City and the press are picturing all young black people, not just gangs, as criminals.

For example, one black youth was sitting on his front porch around 11:30 p.m. He was arrested for violating the curfew law. His parents were inside the house, asleep. Instead of the police waking them up to find out if they knew he was on the porch, they arrested him and sent him to the youth home until one of them came and got him.

It doesn't matter what color Young is, if that is the way he is going to treat the black community. He's just another puppet for the businessmen.

All young black Detroiters are learning this through the wave of police repression coming down on them. And the gangs-the enemy that Young rants and raves about-are organizing to bust the curfew laws. How many non-gang members will be recruited to them?

So, Mayor Young, the curfew is no solution to the gangs. But it will make things worse for everyone who has to live in their territory. □

## NAACP Fined For Mississippi Boycott

A court in Poplarvilles, Mississippi has ordered the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) to pay \$1,250,000 to 12 white racist businessmen in Claiborne County.

The decision is a move to destroy the NAACP financially. The judgment grew out of a boycott of white merchants in Claiborne County, Mississippi ten years ago.

### CIVIL RIGHTS TACTIC

One of the common tactics of the civil rights movement was to organize boycotts of white merchants who engaged in discrimination and supported local racist politicians. The NAACP-organized

boycott in Claiborne County lasted from 1966 till 1970. The white merchants sued the civil rights organization and 132 other defendants for creating an "illegal black monopoly" through the boycott. No other defendants were held responsible for the outrageous fine.

Not a single cent in damages was ever imposed on the white organizations who created a massive "white monopoly" of economic power in Mississippi. They were never charged for their century-old conspiracy to force blacks to spend their money at the white merchants' stores.

They never went to jail for lynching black people who protested. It seems the courts want blacks to suffer from discrimination and pay for it too. □

## Free Gary Rally Planned

The Gary Tyler Defense Committee in Los Angeles is holding a rally to free Gary on Labor Day, September 6, at Centinela Park in Inglewood. Featured speakers are Jim and Michele Sims, Gary's brother and sister-in-law.

The Gary Tyler Defense Committee is actively building this rally. A committee member spoke at a recent anti-police-abuse rally, and \$250 has been raised. Committee members spoke in defense of Gary Tyler on a radio program interview, "Open Journal."

### JOIN US

The Rally to Free Gary Tyler will have a wide range of entertainment and speakers, in-

cluding music from the Latin Quarter, and speakers from the Afro-American Anti-Bicentennial Committee, The Coalition Against Police Abuse, and The Red Tide.

Everyone is urged to attend this rally and help free Gary as people have been doing in other cities.

On August 29, 100 people attended a fund-raising picnic and raffle in Cleveland sponsored by the Cleveland Committee to Free Gary. The same weekend the St. Louis Committee to Free Gary held a successful picnic in Gary's defense at which many petitions were signed and buttons were sold. □

# "NO MORE CHI

## THREE YEARS OF FASCIST TERROR: IT HAPPENED IN CHILE...

Three years ago this week—September 11, 1973—was one of the most horrible days that workers in Latin America, or anywhere in the world, have seen.

On that day, fascist generals took over the government in Chile.

There was nothing secret about it. "Rarely has a military coup been so openly prepared and carried through," wrote Helios Prieto in his book about Chile's tragedy.

The week before, American warships moved freely in and out of Chilean ports, making sure everything was ready. Their excuse for

being there was "Operation Unitas," a joint exercise held each year by the U.S. and Chilean navies.

The weak, mildly left-wing "Popular Unity" government did nothing to stop them. It was unwilling to mobilize its working class supporters, for fear they'd lead an anti-fascist movement into a movement for workers' control, and socialist revolution. There was no other force in Chile that could defeat the generals.

On the evening of September 10 and the morning of the 11th, the



September 11, 1973—the day the bloody reign of terror began in Chile. Most of the government's officials had already fled, leaving only lightly armed workers behind to resist and be slaughtered.

army and navy officers blocked the port of Valparaiso, seized Concepcion, and began rounding up the government.

### MASSACRE

Then the massacre began: "The shanty town of La Legua, near the textile factory of Sumar, was one of the most important centers of resistance (by workers with light arms, against the military coup). For four days the soldiers were unable to enter it because every attempt to do so was met with fierce resistance.

"A carabinieri bus and two tanks were destroyed by the fighters, while women and children poured boiling water on the armed police.

"On the fourth day the workers there decided to retreat, but committed the error of leaving some women and children behind. The soldiers entered the shanty town, formed dozens of women and children into rows, and shot them."

That is just one story, among hundreds, from eyewitness accounts.

"Officials of the Defense Ministry mention figures of 12,000 dead during the first week. In the hurriedly prepared concentration camps some 20,000 prisoners were jammed together..."

This was only the beginning. A series of devaluations and wage freezes drove Chile's working class to the brink of starvation. A generation of children in Chile today are so weakened by malnutrition that they faint from hunger in school.

In Chile today, trade unions are illegal. Thousands of unionists and leftists have been jailed, tortured or killed.

That is the victory that Chile's dictators and their international friends are toasting with champagne this week.

## What Is Fascism?

by Marilyn Danton

Imagine for a moment the following:

At a coordinated time, all local and international trade union offices in the United States are broken into. The staff is imprisoned and papers are destroyed. In the plants, all stewards and union officials are arrested and either killed or imprisoned.

All political parties, including the Democratic and Republican parties are outlawed. A state of martial law is called, with curfews for everyone. The black community is occupied by the Ku Klux Klan.

No criticism of the government, no matter how mild, is permitted anywhere. An atmosphere of total terror is created.

This is what a fascist coup in this country might look like.

Fascism is a particular form of capitalism that arises when capitalism is in deep crisis. Fascism has one goal: to defeat and destroy all forms of working class and popular organization—trade unions, political parties, revolutionary organizations.

In place of capitalist democracy, such as exists in the U.S. today, it will put into power a totally authoritarian dictatorial government. Every organization that is independent of fascist control is outlawed and destroyed—its leadership executed and imprisoned.

Today the conditions for fascism exist in a few of the weaker capitalist countries. Conditions are ripe for fascism in extreme crisis, where the bosses' profits are so thin that they cannot tolerate any workers' organization that is capable of winning demands.

### GERMANY

Let's look at the rise of fascism in Germany to illustrate the conditions that fascism requires.

In the 1930's, the capitalist system had been in crisis for 15 years. In Germany, inflation was as high as 1000%. One story goes that it took a wheelbarrow of marks (German dollars) to buy a loaf of bread.

The German economy collapsed. Everywhere there was chaos. Money was practically worthless.

It was an unstable situation. There were only two alternatives: socialism or fascism. Capitalism either had to be destroyed by a revolutionary movement—or defended, at very high costs. The costs included wiping out the real enemy of capitalism—the workers' movement.

The National Socialist movement—or Nazis—led by Adolph Hitler grew. The Nazi Party set up its own army, the Storm Troopers. The Nazi Party said that Jewish people, in league with the huge capitalists and the Communist Party, was

## CHILE'S "OPEN DOOR" FOR PROFITS

It's been three profitable years for private investment in Chile since the generals took power.

Over 200 companies that were nationalized under the previous government have been sold to private interests.

Business Week enthusiastically reports: "Chile is the model, is its purest form, of the new strategy of economic development based on market competition, free enterprise, and an 'opening to the exterior' (unrestricted foreign investment)" in South America.

Chile has been returned to its traditional relationship with the powerful industrial capitalist countries: an exporter of raw materials (copper and cellulose) and food.

Of course, for Chile to export food it must be made too expensive

for its own workers to buy. That is exactly how the generals have turned a \$250 million payments deficit in 1975 into a \$500 million surplus this year.

Huge devaluations of Chilean currency against the dollar, and an inflation rate that is still 375%, have created a fabulous export market. Meanwhile, the living standards of Chilean workers have collapsed to where they were before 1964.

Chile may be the "purest form" of the new "model" for capitalist profits and mass poverty in Latin America. But it's not the only example. Virtually the same policies are now moving full-speed ahead in Argentina. □



# LES!"

## In Portugal, The Threat Is Growing



A demonstration of 20,000 [Also shown below], organized by the revolutionary left, protests Spinola's return.

"Portugal will not be the Chile of Europe!"

That was the slogan of massive demonstrations of workers and soldiers in Portugal last summer and fall. Even then, Portugal's revolutionary workers knew that the issue ultimately facing them would be socialist revolution, or Chile-style fascism.

The idea behind that slogan has never been more important than today.

A couple of weeks ago, a ring of right-wing bombers was discovered operating throughout the country. Among those arrested was the head of the two armed police forces in Oporto, Portugal's second largest city.

Two big businessmen, Joaquim Ferrera Torres and Alibilio de Oliveira, were also part of the terrorist plot. So was Manuel Teixeira, a leader of the underground right-wing movement organized by ex-President Antonio de Spinoia.

### TERROR

Right-wing bomb plots are part of a general plan to create

economic, political and social chaos. In Chile, this same kind of program was used by the CIA and big businessmen to build middle-class support for a military coup.

Portugal's present government is headed by Prime Minister Mario Soares, the leader of the Socialist Party. He came to power with the political support of the right-wing.

Now that he is in office, Soares is trying to carry out the same balancing act as the late Salvador Allende. The now-dead Allende was the Socialist Party leader who was President of Chile from 1970 till 1973. Soares, like Allende, is trying to convince big business that he can satisfy the demands of workers, and keep a capitalist economy running at the same time.

As Helios Prieto writes, "The Chile to whose Presidency Allende succeeded was still dominated and run by a handful of immensely rich families... Popular Unity's economic program centered on a promise to nationalize key sectors of the economy... to get Chile's industry working at full capacity..."

"It was not a program for

reshaping the economy to satisfy social need, nor for placing economic power in the hands of the producers themselves."

### SOUNDS SIMILAR

The Popular Unity program sounds very similar to the one pledged by Mario Soares in Portugal. In Portugal, however, large-scale government take-over's of monopolies and banks were forced through last year by a powerful mass-working class movement.

The Portuguese Socialist Party itself did absolutely nothing to carry out these radical measures. It has simply promised to preserve what previous governments were forced to do by workers.

Now that the SP is in office, it is trying to make the working class accept lower real wages, and give up their control of factories and occupations of rich people's unused houses.

In Chile, the Allende government used armed force to break strikes and land occupations which it claimed "went too far." It helped to divide the working class and open the door to the fascists. Soares in Portugal is doing the same.

Like Chile in 1972 and '73, the Portuguese economy is plummeting. Unemployment is at least 15%, while inflation is out of control at 50%. The country's exchange reserves are disappearing, and the currency has begun to collapse in value.

Most important, the country's own businessmen are deliberately wrecking the economy, hoping to create so much panic that the middle classes and the northern peasants will look to the far right for a solution to the chaos.

### RESISTANCE

However, there are also huge differences between Portugal and Chile. The power, confidence and organization of the Portuguese workers are much, much more advanced than they were in Chile.

In Chile, a powerful working class movement was demanding socialism. However, the large majority of Chilean workers believed that the programs of Allende's Popular Unity government, and the Socialist and Communist Parties, were enough to carry this out.

In Portugal, between March and November, 1975, the working class moved to the brink of socialist revolution. Portuguese workers have refused to allow their struggles to be limited by the orders of SP and CP leaders.

Because of the workers' offensive, the power of the state machine in Portugal was crippled far greater than in Chile. Even eight months after the Portuguese

government's November 25 coup, it is still unable to put together a reliable new secret police force. Chile, on the other hand, the state machine and the military were left totally intact.

In addition, the influence of the workers' revolutionary movement in Portugal last year completely split the armed forces. Although the right wing is now back in control of the military command, there is powerful underground support for the working class among rank and file soldiers.

### REVOLUTIONARY LEFT

One of the most important differences between Chile and Portugal is the revolutionary left.

In Chile, the main organizations of the revolutionary left had no clear position toward the Socialist Party government. They did not give priority to building up strength in the factories, or organ-

izing workers to seize power and destroy the capitalist state.

In Portugal, the Revolutionary Party of the Proletariat (PRP), while still a small party of thousands, has taken every opportunity to organize workers for mass struggles, independent from the control of the Communist and Socialist Parties.

It has built a larger and much stronger organization than last year, by fighting for a united working class resistance to the attacks of the Socialist Party government and the right.

By doing this, the PRP has greatly increased its strength in the factories since November.

There is no doubt that the right-wing military officers and their capitalist bosses plan to turn Portugal into another, even more horrible, Chile.

This time around, however, they will find a more prepared and better organized revolutionary working class blocking the way. □



Helios Prieto

**CHILE: THE GORILLAS ARE AMONGST US**  
Translated and introduced by Helios Prieto

The accounts quoted in the accompanying article are taken from "Chile: The Gorillas Are Among Us," by the revolutionary socialist Helios Prieto. This small book is "must reading for anyone who wants to know what happened in Chile, and why, and how it can be prevented from happening again."

You can order this book for \$1.25 (post paid) from Sun Distribution, 14131 Woodward, Highland Park, MI 48203.

## REN-FE?

destroying German society. It urged members of the Aryan (white) race to join to fight this conspiracy.

Hitler's Storm Troopers busted up workers' organizations. They broke up meetings, destroyed literature, killed the leaders of workers' organizations—all to save the Aryan race from extinction at the hands of the Jewish conspiracy.

Hitler came to power in 1933. Political parties were outlawed. Trade unions were destroyed. Revolutionaries were killed.

And the capitalists sat by and let it happen. They understood that the fascist movement could do what they had been unable to do. It could destroy their real enemy—which was not the Jewish people, but all workers' organizations.

### U.S. CAPITALISM STRONG

The United States is not fascist, or even close to becoming fascist. With all the problems of American capitalism, it is not now in the kind of crisis that forces the alternatives of socialism or fascism. Many of the largest corporations made record profits just this summer, like General Motors and Ford Motor Co.

American capitalism remains the strongest of all the capitalist systems. This country is a capitalist democracy. There are trade unions. No one is talking about outlawing

the Teamsters' Union, for example. There are two capitalist parties—true, there's not much difference in them, but they do exist, not to mention the lesser parties and the revolutionary organizations that can still be public. There is harassment—but harassment and fascism are two different things.

But, just because the conditions for fascism don't exist here doesn't mean that we shouldn't take these tiny fascist type organizations seriously. Organizations like the Ku Klux Klan and the American Nazi Party should not be allowed to grow. Today, their role is to organize the racist movement.

### SMASH RACISM

For, while it was Jews who were the scape goat for Germany's problems, here it will be blacks. Any fascist movement in this country will use racial hatred as its main organizing tool. It will take the real fears of poor whites and white workers and inflame them to an entire world view of white superiority.

No, this country is not fascist, or even in danger of becoming fascist now. But it can happen here. We must make sure it doesn't—by building a real united movement that will wash the KKK, Nazi party, and the rest of this scum into the gutters where they belong. □

# Could Ford's Offer Be So Bad...

by Elissa Clarke

DETROIT — UAW negotiators angrily rejected a contract proposal from Ford Motor Co. on August 31. The rejection shook up otherwise uneventful bargaining. UAW (United Auto Workers) officials called the Ford proposal "outrageous" and "an insult to Ford workers."

"This is the most regressive offer in all my years of collective bargaining," said UAW President Leonard Woodcock.

Ford Motor Co. was selected as the union's strike target in this year's negotiations. The union's strategy focuses bargaining with the target company, and strikes this company if no agreement is reached by September 14. The other two companies are allowed to operate as usual.

For months, the UAW leadership has been sending out signals to the auto companies. "No strike" was their declared strategy.

UAW leaders claimed they had no "irreconcilable demands" and that the union would be "flexible" in negotiations. Consequently, the union proposed only the vaguest demands, saying that it wanted "job and income security."

The main issues were:  
 • An updated cost-of-living formula that would fold the COLA (currently \$1.14/hour) into the

base rate to determine wage-related benefits.

- Reduced working time through additional days off, or a time-banking plan which would tie additional time off to good attendance.
- An improved SUB (Supplemental Unemployment Benefits) formula.
- A cash payment to retirees instead of a COLA on pensions that is being demanded by the rank and file.

## EMPLOYERS' OFFENSIVE

This is a rotten proposal by the union, and Ford understood what it meant—the union genuinely did not want to fight.

Ford took this opportunity to really stick it to its employees. Ford figured it was the perfect chance to hack away at the gains auto workers have already won.

Last quarter, Ford made record profits. But they know that the boom in the economy won't last, and they want to rake it in while they can.

Auto workers need the same philosophy. This is the time for workers to go after substantial improvements—while the companies cannot pretend that they can't afford it.

The days are gone when auto workers can sit back and figure that the new contract will have to make improvements on the old one. That



Ford workers picketing against a plant closing earlier this year.

is not a guarantee. The employers are on the offensive, and the unions need to fight back.

However, thanks to the strategy of the UAW officials, it will take a fight just to win minimal gains. The no-strike strategy has to be dropped now.

Ford's drastic proposal may push

the UAW leadership into a strike. "My optimism about there not being a strike has diminished because of this hard stand," Woodcock said.

## MESSAGE

Auto workers have to give their

union leadership a message. A sellout won't do this time around. Workers need to have control over the negotiations. No news black-out. Workers need to be able to read the contract before voting on it.

And if it stinks—and it will—auto workers must reject it. □

# ...That Even Woodcock Turns It Down???

On August 31, Ford Motor Co. put its demands on the table. The package is a comprehensive list of take-aways, designed to move auto workers back in time.



Ken Bannon (above), UAW Vice-President and top Ford negotiator said the Ford offer is "...the worst piece of paper ever presented to us." UAW president Woodcock called it the "most regressive offer" he's "ever seen."

## THE OFFER

- Ford's proposal includes:
- A pay raise of 38-77 cents per hour over three years.

• **No improvement on SUB pay.** During the energy-crisis layoffs, the SUB funds at GM and Chrysler went bankrupt. Only Ford's remained solvent.

This does not put the UAW in a particularly strong position in negotiating an improved SUB fund with Ford.

One might wonder why UAW leaders selected Ford as strike target if this is a priority issue for the UAW.

• **Ford refuses to consolidate the cost-of-living pay into workers' base rate.** This means that all wage-related benefits are computed on a lower scale.

Ford has always been tough on the COLA. Nine years ago when Ford was also the strike target, the UAW bargained away the COLA. Three years later they had to strike GM for 67 days just to get it back.

• **Ford also wishes to divert money off the COLA to pay for other worker benefits.** The UAW set the pattern for this in the last contract when they agreed to pay for the dental plan with 10c an hour off the COLA. Now auto workers could end up paying through the teeth for this blunder.

• **Ford proposed that auto workers pay part of their health care insurance.**

• **Ford proposed that new hires receive \$1/hour less than other workers, and that their wages would not catch up until they have a year's seniority.**

The pattern for this was also set

in the last contract, when the auto companies were allowed to hire in new people at a lower rate. Now Ford is also proposing that other benefits be denied new hires.

• **Ford suggests that vacation time be tied to good attendance.** A worker sick too often would be denied part or all of his vacation.

## GM OFFER

Proposals from GM are equal to and worse than Ford's. In "Fender-Bender," the paper of GM Local 645, Van Nuys, Calif., proposals from General Motors were published. They include:

- Company and union share the cost of committeeman representation.
- Credit toward vacation pay be accumulated only for full weeks of work, or by increasing the number of weeks needed to qualify.

- **No increase in SUB payments, but revise the program so that part of the fund would be reserved for older seniority workers.**
- **GM proposed to set time limits on handling production standard grievances, after which such grievances would automatically die.**

- **In attacking new hires, GM proposed that they be paid at the average rate being paid in the area for entry level jobs. It was also proposed that Sickness and Accident benefits do not start until the employee has worked eight days.** □

# Ford's Not The Target — We Are!

"Let's cut the bullshit. Ford's not the target—WE ARE!" Pete Kelly told the audience of UAW members. Kelly, a member of the Independent Skilled Trades Council, spoke at a rally sponsored by the Coalition for a Good Contract, August 29.

The meeting was held to inform the UAW membership of the state of the national and local negotiations, and suggest a strategy for the rank and file. The contract expires September 14.

Hank Oginski, Local 112 President from Ohio, put it like this: "Lots of people think that the union isn't telling the membership what it's after because it's a strategy. The truth is that the International doesn't know what it's after."

"We're facing a great settlement opportunity and we're letting it go down the drain. We have to blame ourselves if we let this happen."

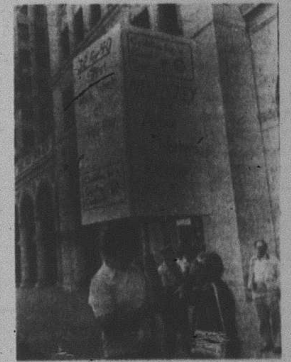
Jordan Sims, President of Local 961 in Detroit, criticized the UAW International for not being receptive to the rank and file. "The people up there are concerned with only two things—how they got there and how they can stay there."

Richard Webster, treasurer of Detroit Local 51, told about the 1973 contract settlement at Chrysler. The membership in his plant voted down the '73 contract three times rather than accept the lousy

offer by the company and the union.

"It's up to us to rally around a contract rejection—again," he said. Kelly summed up the situation like this: "In 1976, unions are bargaining for what they've already got. We got the COLA back in 1970 because of the people who had the guts to say 'NO.' It's important that we get out what's in that contract, and what WE want in that contract." □

Pat Gallagher





# Line Speed: It's A Question Of Control

by Moe Orlanski

From the origins of assembly line production to last week's wildcat at Fleetwood Fisher Body, speed up remains auto workers' number one complaint.

It was the single sharpest issue in the 1930's mass struggles for industrial unionism. As "Red" Mundale, a leader of the 1937 Flint sit-down put it, "I ain't got no kick on wages, but I just don't like to be drove."

A New York Times reporter who was covering the sit down strike wrote, "Speed, speed, speed—that is Flint, morning, noon, and night."

After the victory at Flint establishing the union, workers took the pace of production into their own hands and dealt with it directly. Between March and June, 1937, there were 170 sit-down strikes at General Motors alone. One worker recalled, "Everytime a dispute came up, the fellows would have a tendency to sit down and just stop working."

And workers began to win control over the pace of work. On April 2, 1937, the Times reported: "Production in the Chevrolet Motor plant has been slowed down to nearly 50% of former output during the last several weeks by concerted action of the union workers, with key men on the mother line stopping work at intervals to slow down production."

Speed up spurred the creation of the UAW, yet even today the union has not solved the problem. For all the year of struggle, speed up is still the companies' most profitable way to build more cars with less workers. Since all the auto companies are competing for a hunk of the same auto market, each cuts labor costs by fighting its workers.

## MORE WITH LESS

The result is soaring auto profits and shrinking numbers of auto workers. For example, in 1947, 648,800 workers built 4,778,500 cars and trucks. By 1960, 612,000 workers built 7,869,300. This amazing feat of labor saving was accomplished without any new change in the technology of auto production. Speed pays.

The UAW's approach is to try to establish contract guidelines the company must observe when setting production

Please Mr. Foreman, slow down your assembly line,  
Please Mr. Foreman, slow down your assembly line;  
No I don't mind workin', but I do mind dyin'.

Joe Carter



Sit-down strike at Dodge. This is how auto workers once built a fighting union.

standards. In the current contracts, standards are to be "based on the reasonable working capacity of normal experienced employees working at a normal pace to produce quality work in the manner that the company prescribes."

But the companies' "reasonable" standard is that if you can do it for a minute, then you can do it for eight hours. So every grievance written and every strike over production standards has been an attempt to define these mysterious terms: "normal" and "reasonable."

If the job is "overloaded" the union can protest it through the grievance procedure. Ultimately, the union can strike.

So, what is "reasonable" is decided by a clash between the union's militancy and the company's stubbornness. But when the strike is over, the time-study engineers are back on the floor with their stop watches, looking for those unnecessary movements and wasted seconds.

The inability of the union to put an end to speed up is basic to its overall relation to the company. The UAW is led by officials who believe that the corporations have the right to manage both the plants and the

workers as they see fit. The companies will always be free to increase the work pace. As long as the union only responds defensively, the problem will continue.

While the union officialdom has had its method of dealing with the companies' control over the pace of production, auto workers have other "unofficial" ways—wildcat strikes, sabotage, sitdowns. Workers organize these when they have grown impatient with the union leaders, the grievance procedure and the contract.

## PROFITS BEFORE PEOPLE

But the need for profit always comes before the human needs of the workers. Any victory workers establish within the factory will be fought by the employers. It's the only way individual companies can cut costs, undersell competitors and still make a profit.

While the union leadership has accepted the corporation's right to control, auto workers are always challenging that right. A slowdown is a direct attempt by the workers to enforce their own standard of a humane workplace. These guerrilla tactics

are a specific challenge to management's contractual right to run the plant.

Workers always seek ways to take control over the established work standards for good reason. No one can best determine what is "reasonable" and "normal" but the person who is performing the work.

Workers' right to control production standards, line pace and other working conditions is the only way to finally put an end to the mind-deadening and body-destroying pace of the assembly line.

This is a right that capitalism, in any class society, can never grant. Within the system, workers can struggle for it, can win a measure of it, as the Flint workers did for a while. But workers' control cannot exist side by side with a system based on corporate profit.

Workers' control can only be maintained in a society where production is planned for human use and need, including the needs of the producers. A society where workers wield power—this is socialism.

(Next week's column will take up how workers will organize production under socialism.)

# CONTRACT RALLY - UAW LOCAL 235 LOCKS THE GATES

DETROIT—Members of UAW Local 235 (Chevrolet Gear and Axle) held a rally on August 26 to build support for demands in the Local Agreement. The rally was scheduled to be held in the local union's parking lot.

But when the rally's organizers arrived, they found the parking lot gates locked.

The rally was called by the Coalition for a Good Local Agreement as part of their efforts to build membership support of the Shop Committee in local negotiations. The Shop Committee was invited to report on the progress of negotiations.

The local agreement expires with the national UAW contract this fall.

It covers issues such as ventilation, plant security, number of janitors, seniority rights, clean-up time and heat relief.

The Coalition was formed at Chevy's by several committee-members after they were asked by the Shop Committee to submit demands for the Local Agreement.

The founders of the Coalition felt that even the best of demands wouldn't result in a good local contract—unless the rank and file were actively pressing for the changes they need.

## NO MORE SECRETS

This was soon proven true. It was the Coalition that forced the union

to hold a meeting in July to make public the exact language of all the demands they were submitting to management.

Union officials resisted, saying they would lose their "flexibility" in bargaining. Clearly, all they'd lose is the "flexibility" to drop an important demand behind the back of the membership.

The Coalition put out leaflets explaining the issues and urging membership involvement. This paid off when time came for the strike authorization vote.

Half the membership turned out, which must be a record—usually it's around 10%. The results—2450, yes, and 65, no—indicated widespread dissatisfaction with the current agreement.

The week of the rally, labor relations people told each commit-

teeperson that the rally, to be held in front of the personnel office, was a possible violation of paragraph 117, which prohibits work stoppages. This was a thinly veiled threat that anyone attending would be fired.

The rally could not be a violation since it was to be held between shifts, and would obstruct no entrance. But the Shop Committee didn't challenge management. Instead, they joined in spreading the rumor.

Because of the confusion, the Coalition changed the rally to the union hall parking lot.

The day of the rally, the gate to

the union's lot was locked. The public explanation was that they couldn't find the key!

But the Chairman of the Elections Committee, Billy Lewis, told one union member that it was locked under orders from the International.

The rally was held on the sidewalk, but management and the union succeeded in reducing its numbers.

This transparent company-union collusion brings home the Coalition's original message: without rank and file participation and vigilance, you can't be sure what you'll find in the next local agreement. □

Karen Kaye

## INDY I.S. BUILDS PAPER SALES

The Indianapolis branch of the I.S. is having fantastic success selling Workers' Power in a local black community. After introducing the paper with a leaflet in a three block area, sales have increased dramatically. Workers' Power offers black readers a welcome relief from the racist, right wing Indianapolis Star.

One area resident greeted a Workers' Power seller saying, "I got the leaflet about this paper and I am really anxious to read a full issue."

Another resident told a seller that she really liked the paper and wanted to make sure she got it every week. Workers' Power's great coverage of South Africa and Marquette Park made the paper almost sell itself.

All sellers agreed that while at first most buyers seemed

uninterested, after discussing and hearing about articles in the paper, people saw something in it for themselves. The branch plans to set up a route

in the area for regular buyers, and expand their selling area.

John Lambert

### YOU CAN DO IT, TOO!

This story from the Indianapolis I.S. branch shows what can be done with Workers' Power. The paper can be used to make contacts for the organization. Systematic sales are getting the name of Workers' Power and the International Socialists known in the black community.

Several other branches have also been doing community sales. Portland, Oregon and Springfield, Massachusetts are two of them. These branches should write up reports and send them in. If

your branch is doing something similar, write and let us know.

Every branch should be campaigning with the paper. Community sales are just one idea. Subscription drives, newspaper machines, shopping center sales, and increased industrial sales are some of the things that your branch can be involved in. If you have been doing something to boost sales send the idea in to us and let us know how it worked. □

Tom Dougherty  
Workers' Power  
Circulation Manager

## Stop The Nazis, Stop The Klan!

DETROIT — Seventy-five people attended a forum titled "Fight the Growing Racist Movement" sponsored by the International Socialists on August 28.

Sandy Williams, a member of the Chicago I.S., explained that her commitment to fighting racism began when she was a child growing up in the south.

"When I was seven years old," she said, "my father took me to see an eight year old black kid lynched for eye-ball raping—looking at a white woman. He was hanging from a railroad tie. Two Klansmen on horses guarded the body to keep his parents from taking it down."

"My reaction then was to put my hands over my eyes and hope it would go away. But I've learned that pretending racism doesn't exist will not make it go away."

Sandy related her experiences in building the open housing march held in Chicago on August 21. She said that the I.S. and the Red Tide went into the community and talked with 10,000 people the week before the march.

One hundred people marched with the Red Tide contingent. Ministers from the Martin Luther King Jr. Movement called them "Sandy's Red Army."

### FIGHTING FORMULA

Sandy said that she was a member of the I.S. because it is an organization willing to fight racism. "The I.S. has the fighting formula," she said.

Other speakers included Lisa Abron, speaking on the Gary Tyler movement; Dave McCullough, UAW Local 869, speaking about building a movement to fight racism; and Larry Smith, I.S. National Black Organizer, speaking on the struggle to smash apartheid in South Africa.

Afterwards discussion centered on the curfew against young people in Detroit.

Speaking from the audience, Michael Long, a member of the Red Tide, said that the curfew reminded him of something that Malcolm X said: that an oppressive society tries to make its victims look like its criminals.

Two people in the audience decided to join the I.S., and three put their names forward to join the Red Tide. □

## RED TIDE ON TRIAL FOR FIGHTING RACISM

DETROIT—Three of the 13 Red Tide defendants were to go on trial here September 1. They had been arrested several months ago while distributing their newspaper, The Red Tide, at MacKenzie High School.

The newspaper reported on a walk-out at MacKenzie over the appalling conditions in the school.

Thirty members and supporters of the Red Tide demonstrated in support of "The Red Tide Three," in

Cadillac Square, downtown. They were also protesting police terror against young people in Detroit.

"We're The Red Tide and we won't stop! We're gonna beat those racist cops!"

This was one of the spirited chants at the rally and demonstration.

Frank Runninghorse, a leader of the Red Tide, said during the rally, "Mayor Young says that he's trying to clean up the city of the gangs who have been terrorizing the city. This, he says, is the reason why they

have rehired 400 laid off cops. But Mayor Young is looking at things ass-backwards."

The Red Tide has been busted time and time again while trying to improve school conditions, unite black and white students. Judge Andrew Wood postponed the September 1st court case until November 6.

The Red Tide must be defended and the curfew and police offensive against young people must be stopped. □

Lisa Manchester

## Red Tide - 20 New Members

The Red Tide, the revolutionary youth organization of the International Socialists has been growing at a tremendous rate.

In the last week, new branches were formed in Cincinnati and Louisville. The Chicago branch has tripled its membership since it began last month. In Cleveland, 3 people joined and 5 in Detroit, which adds up to a total of 20 new members.

### SOUTH AFRICA SCHOOL

DETROIT—On the weekend of September 11, the I.S. International Subcommittee will be holding a school on revolution in southern Africa. The film, Last Grave at Dimbaza, will be shown. Classes will be on the politics of revolution in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Angola, as well as on the theory of permanent revolution; nationalism; national liberation and socialist revolution; as well as American imperialism in Africa. For more details, consult your branch organizer or the International Subcommittee.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

### FILM:

Last Grave at Dimbaza

Saturday, September 11, 8 pm. Trinity Methodist Church, 13100 Woodward Ave. \$1.50.



## 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, 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. □

## I.S. Branches

- National Office: 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, MI 48203  
 Austin: PO Box 8492, Austin, TX 78712  
 Bay Area: PO Box 132, Oakland, CA 94604  
 Bloomington: PO Box 29, Bloomington, IN 47401  
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 St. Louis: PO Box 24135, St. Louis, MO 63130  
 South Bend: PO Box 1223, South Bend, IN 46617.

## 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 .....





## A Vision Of Liberation

**Communism and the Family**, by Alexandra Kollontai. International Socialists, 20 pages, 50c postpaid. Available from Sun Distribution. Bookstore discounts available

by Christina Blue

Since the late 1960's, newspaper and magazine articles, classes, and lectures have raised the crisis in the modern family.

It is widely agreed that the family is no longer the strong social unit it once was. Programs like Aid to Dependent Children and Welfare, designed to strengthen one-parent families, actually drove many men from their homes so that their families might get enough to eat.

The divorce rate is soaring. Children leave home, defying their parents. Battered by the pressures of capitalism, the family can no longer perform many of the functions it once did.

### HOMEWRECKERS?

For decades, communists and revolutionary socialists have been accused of being homewreckers and baby snatchers. But, instead it seems that 20th Century capitalism has already torn the traditional family to bits.

Why have the pressures of class society changed and what would the family be like in communist society?

In 1918, Alexandra Kollontai

wrote "Communism and the Family" to answer these questions. The year before, Kollontai had been a leader of the Russian Revolution. The new worker-controlled society made complete liberation for women a possibility for the first time in history.

In her short pamphlet, Kollontai traces the history of the modern family, explaining how industrial technology eliminated much of the work formerly done in the home. She explains the changes that factory life forced in the family. Finally, with the increased demands of industry, men became wage-workers in ever-growing numbers.

Under capitalism, many women now worked two jobs: one paid and the free a "labor of love." But in communist society, these same changes opened the way for many important advances for women.

Kollontai refers repeatedly to "the State." Readers should keep in mind that she is referring to a workers state, the political organization of the entire working class. While the state in the Soviet Union today is a bureaucracy in which workers have no power, Kollontai was writing about Soviet society still in its revolutionary days. In the first year after the Russian Revolution, women made the most important changes in family life.

For ages the wives of the wealthy were free from the chore of housework. But working women could be freed of these tasks, as well, in communist society.

Central kitchens and public restaurants would eliminate the time consuming work of cooking and dish-washing. Central laundries would free women of another tiring task. The choice of free child care and schools for all ages allowed women to decide how much of their time they wished to spend with their children.

And for the first time marriage would no longer be a chain. With the assurance of a livelihood of her own, no woman would be bound to a man for fear that she or her children might starve. Now women and men would bond together out of love and companionship, not out of fear or desperation.

### AN END TO PROSTITUTION

The social equality of women, together with the end of private property, would herald still another advance for women. Prostitution could finally be abolished.

As Kollontai says, "let the woman of the working classes cease to worry over the fact that the family as at present constituted is doomed to disappear."

"They will do much better to hail with joy the dawn of a new society which will liberate the woman from domestic servitude, which will lighten the burden of motherhood for women, curses weighing upon women, known as prostitution."

Kollontai addresses the question of the family in communist society, and answers it ably and eloquently. "Communism and the Family" inspires women to take on the struggle of transforming our crumbling society.

"In the name of equality, of liberty, and of love, we call upon the working woman and the working man, . . . courageously and with faith, to take up the work of the reconstruction of human society, with the object of rendering it more perfect, more just, and more capable of assuring to the individual the happiness which he deserves."

Alexandra Kollontai  
Revolutionary Russia  
1918

## "What Do You Women Want Anyhow?"

by Candy Martin

ONCE THE GUYS I work with have gotten past the idea that women's place is in the home; and that women can't handle heavy industrial work, they come up with this argument: "Okay, so I don't mind working next to a woman. But there's one thing I still can't accept. You're taking a job away from some guy with a family to feed."

Women don't go out and work 40 hours a week for "pin money." Many working women are the main supporters of their families. Others supplement their husband's inadequate pay.

Women who work face another job when they get home at night:

"I'm a female steelworker. The job I work is the third job I've had in heavy industry. Since there are so few women in the mill, men generally treat us, especially at first, as some sort of strange species. Along with some smart remarks, they ask a lot of good and very natural questions about women's liberation. This series will take some of them up."

housekeeping and mothering. A huge part of their paychecks is eaten up by childcare. Holding a job is not easy for a woman; no one does it simply to "get out of the house."

**Working women's families rely on them in order to survive just as much as a man's family depends on his paycheck.**

And if men think we shouldn't be out there working, what should we do? Should we take only traditional "women's jobs"—that are usually unorganized, harder, and pay about half as much for the same work? Should we go on welfare?

### JOBS FOR ALL

No. None of these choices makes sense. There is only one answer that does: provide decent

jobs for everyone. Our most basic right is the right to a decent job at union scale, for everyone—men and women, young and old, black and white.

But that is something that capitalism cannot do. Because it requires a certain amount of unemployment just in order to exist.

The ruling class of this country uses people out on the streets as a reserve labor force. They bring the unemployed into the labor market when they want more workers for expansion during booms, and then they lay them off again during recessions.

And having people who are desperate for jobs doesn't hurt whenever employers want to break a strike by using scabs.

The bosses use the reserve labor force to intimidate workers



—keep them from getting too "uppity" and organizing for better conditions. They threaten that, "If you don't like the way things are run around here, there's plenty of people out there who will jump at a chance at your job."

And since they consider us machines who are only there to grind out profits for them, the bosses have no qualms about throwing us out of a job. They know they can exchange us, just like a piece of merchandise for some other worker who needs that job.

The biggest part of that unemployed reserve force is always the people this society keeps at the bottom—blacks. The unemployment rate for black people is generally twice that for whites.

But another big part of the

unemployed force is women. And the capitalists have yet another reason to keep women out of the labor force—they serve as housewives and mothers who nourish and care for the male workers that the bosses need.

### LINE THEIR POCKETS

For all of these reasons, capitalists do not want to provide jobs for all. It's not the fault of women who need jobs—it's the fault of this rotten system.

Women are not the ones who are taking a job away from some other guy—it is the bosses who are taking those jobs away, in order to maintain a system that lines their pockets a thousand times over while millions go hungry.

One of the main things we need—men as well as women—is jobs for all. We can fight for this by demanding a shorter work week to spread the jobs around.

When a workers' revolution is made and we build a socialist society, there will be jobs for everyone. Production will be planned and organized on the basis of what people need.

Because we will provide jobs for everyone, all of us will have a shorter work week, and a shorter day. At the same time, we'll be able to have a truly decent life because we will spread the enormous wealth in this society around equally.

# Migrant Workers Close Cannery

**WARREN, Indiana**—Migrant fieldworkers closed a cannery here in protest of broken promises from management and substandard living and working conditions. By Thursday, September 2, they had spread the strike to a second cannery.

The strike of tomato pickers for Morgan Packing Co. began August 24.

One hundred field workers had been promised steady work from May through October, but only 20 have been getting work—irregularly. Most of the families came from Texas and Florida for the harvest season.

They live in a company-owned camp in Warren.

## DEMANDS

The strikers want a ten-hour day, families on the same shift, nobody evicted from camp, a contract for the next year, and correction of health violations. Workers complained of ammonia fumes from the plant coming into the camp and not enough drinking water.

When the strike began, workers contacted the Farm Labor Organizing Committee in Toledo, Ohio for organizational help. Baldemar Velazquez arrived August 25 for a meeting with the strikers.

The next day, the strikers put up a barricade and shut down the plant. They were hit with a temporary restraining order, and the plant re-opened for Saturday and Sunday.

Monday, the company president, Morgan, refused the strikers' offer to negotiate. The barricades went up again. The plant has been shut since.

Seventy federal marshalls were posted on Morgan's side of the barricade.

Late in the week, Morgan led 60 townspeople who work inside the plant to the barricade, but they were turned back by 200 strikers. The plant workers are not unionized.

## INJUNCTION

Wednesday night the workers and Morgan met with a federal judge. They were close to a settlement when Morgan walked out, demanding an injunction.

The injunction is still tied up in court. But the strikers agree with Velazquez, who said, "The case will be won not in the courts, but here in the plant and on the barricades."

Wednesday, workers tried to spread the strike to another Morgan plant in Converse, Indiana. Thirteen were arrested for blocking the entrance way.

The arrest took place in front of 100 Converse pickers. When seven people went back to Converse Thursday and formed a human chain to block the entrance, the second shift stayed out. Fifteen Converse pickers joined the line. There were no arrests.

At this time, pickers from the Warren camp are meeting with the Converse pickers to spread the strike and make Morgan feel it in his pocket. □

# Workers' Power

## Louisville RIGHT WING SPLITS

by David Shepherd and Kate Stacy

**LOUISVILLE**—Last year upwards of 10,000 racists regularly hit the streets to stop busing here. Police lines were continually broken through, court orders defied.

This year the anti-busers' first mass rally of the school year, on August 28, attracted only 1500 racists, reactionaries and super-patriots.

On the surface, that looks good, that perhaps the hard core of support for the racist movement has dwindled to a relatively small few.

But in reality there is a deep split in the leadership of the racist movement. Their base wants a "winning strategy," and two groups are competing to lead them.

One side is moving towards "respectable racism;" the other is moving towards terrorism and genocide.

The rally organizers did everything they could think of to get people to demonstrate. Led by ROAR (Restore Our Alienated Rights) and the National Association to Preserve and Restore our Freedom (NAPF), they expanded their demands to a Reagan-type program.

This, they said, was more than a march against busing. It was a march of patriotism "for God, country and family." But the rally at the Federal Building was no more than a 45 minute harangue against forced busing, sex education, communism and atheism.

And only 1500 came. At least the same number of people rioted in the streets of the white South End three days later. They took over the streets, starting bonfires. And they were politely dispersed by the police with tear gas in the wee hours of the morning. No arrests.

Leaders of the NAACP, the Urban League, and other liberal groupings are now meeting weekly with the "respectable racists," the ones who only march—so far.

These weak-kneed anti-busers are saying they cannot control the Klan and the open threat of a split to terrorism unless they can win some concessions.

## AFRAID

And the equally weak-kneed leaders of the black community are still afraid to openly confront the racists and organize against them. Instead, they meet regularly, literally behind closed doors, trying to work out a strategy that they say will "protect the children from violence."

In fact, they are all letting themselves be led by the Klan.

The far-right wing is still weak. It's like a mad dog on a leash. It can still be destroyed. And that is what must happen to protect anybody's children.

But it won't be the NAACP or the Urban League that does it. Nor will it be Mayor Harvey Sloan, his police department, or the numerous civic groups that have endorsed the new alliance.

The KKK, the terror, the racial warfare will not be stopped until the black community takes to the streets and proves its resolve to sweep them off the pavement. □

## KLAN ORGANIZING

These rioters are the forces being organized by, and recruited to, the Ku Klux Klan. The Klan has always made its politics perfectly clear: complete segregation now; complete genocide of black people when possible.

The Klan now marches openly in Louisville. A year ago it could not. It is becoming more of a para-military organization.

All this happened because all year long the racists were never massively opposed.

The City Administration and the leadership of the black community tried to ignore them as best they could. They hoped the open racism would die down.



Louisville buses destroyed by racists.

# Rubber Workers Get Retread Contract

Members of the United Rubber Workers union (URW) are voting to accept contracts ending their four-month strike against the major tire companies. Locals at Goodyear and Firestone have ratified the proposed contracts and gone back to work. Goodrich and Uniroyal negotiators are still bargaining over the details of their agreements.

The long rubber strike was a magnificent example of solidarity. Unity was maintained for 19 long weeks even though total strike benefits paid to each URW member during that entire period were only \$95. The determination and solidarity at the rank and file level was more than sufficient to flatten management this time around. The resolve of the URW leadership was not.

The general pattern being followed raises rubber workers' wages by \$1.35 over three years: 80c the first year, followed by 30c and 25c in the second and third years. The union's original demand was for a first year increase of \$1.65 to restore wage parity with the auto workers.

## NOT GOOD ENOUGH

The union also won an unlimited cost-of-living clause. This means there is no upper ceiling on how much cost-of-living will be paid. However, the COL formula will not make up the full amount of wages

lost for each increase in inflation.

A satisfactory COL formula would pay approximately 1c for each 0.2 increase in the Consumer Price Index. The rubber formula will pay only 1c for each 0.4 increase in the first and second year, and 1c for each 0.3 in the third.

The settlement represented, as one local official in Des Moines, Iowa put it, "the best we could get under the circumstances." The circumstances, however included a union leadership that was not willing to fight.

## NO ACTION

URW President Peter Bommarito essentially sat still for four months, taking no action to cut off the supply of stockpiled tires coming from the warehouses, or the supply of scabs and supervisors entering the struck plants.

Despite the general acceptance of the contract, there was considerable opposition at Firestone and Goodyear. Eight Firestone locals voted for the contract, while three (Des Moines, Iowa, and Decatur and Bloomington, Illinois) voted against.

In Des Moines, Bob Bianchi, division chairman for the tire room, said they were upset that there was no change in the grievance procedure. As a result, two workers at the union meeting voted to end the

strike, while the other 2000 voted against.

At Firestone Local 7 in Akron, most voted for the contract—after the company dropped its demand for work rule changes.

At Goodyear, 12 locals voted for the contract while three opposed it. Gerald Emmons, president of Local 185 in Jackson, Michigan, said his

membership voted to reject by a 2-1 margin because not enough progress was made on pensions.

Local 307 in Topeka, Kansas voted the contract down by approximately 1200-800 because the wage catch-up wasn't high enough. The Marysville, Ohio Goodyear plant also voted to reject the contract. □

David Katz

# WORKERS' POWER

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