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SEPTEMBER 14:

STRIKE FORD!

Henry Ford makes \$334,000 a year.

The average auto worker makes \$14,000 a year, when not laid off.

Ford Motor Co. made record profits last year.

The UAW retiree lives on a fixed pension.

Ford says he can't afford to give workers income security.

We say show him he can't afford not to.

SEE P.6-7

AUTO WORKERS' RALLIES DEMAND DECENT CONTRACT

DETROIT—With a week to go before the United Auto Workers contract expires, some local union officials, and the membership of the UAW served notice on Ford, GM and Chrysler Thursday.

Frank Runnels, Cadillac Local 22 President, told a press conference that "the rank and file members of this union are determined to deal with the problems of...inflation, unemployment, run-away plants and job erosion...."

"We will not recommend to our memberships to ratify any contracts that do not deal with the question

of more money for retirees, and shorten the work time in a manner that will lay the foundation for shortening the work week."

Runnels also added that skilled trades need new contract language on money and on the problem of sub-contracting.

There were around 12 local union officials from Ford, GM and Chrysler at the press conference, representing many thousands of members of the UAW.

To bring home the point that the rank and file are determined to get

a decent contract this year, demonstrations are occurring in many locations across the country. Thursday in Linden, New Jersey, there was a very successful demonstration of Local 595 members.

Friday, members of Buick Local 599 carried the message to their plant: if there are no results in the areas of pensions or short work week, we'll turn down the contract.

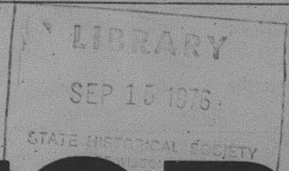
This demonstration was supported by the majority of Presidents of the UAW's GM locals in Flint.

As Bob Weissman, president of the Twinsburg, Ohio Chrysler

local, told the press conference, "The UAW for the first time in history is heading toward a national contract rejection. Our membership is ready to fight; we will make substantial gains this year."

Al Gardner, the chairman of ISTC (Independent Skilled Trades Council) and a committee man in the Tool and Die unit of Local 600, also spoke.

Gardner stressed: "We (skilled trades) support the demands of production 100% and we expect the same from them." □



AUTO WORKERS
 Demonstrate Sept. 14
 at the
 Ford Glass House,
 Noon to 6:00 PM

Dearborn, Michigan
 Called by the Independent Skilled Trades Council, supported by the 30 and Out Committee and the Coalition for a Good Contract.

- Short work week
- Cost of living on pensions
- Wage parity with building trades for skilled workers
- Union control of sub-contracting

SUPPORT THE FORD WORKERS

STRESS: The Squad That Murdered 17...

by Dan Posen

Between 1971 and 1974, a special police decoy unit known as STRESS roamed the streets of Detroit.

STRESS stood for "Stop the Robberies, Enjoy Safe Streets." The idea that STRESS had anything to do with "safe streets" is ironic.

The duties of STRESS officers were to stand on street corners, looking like drunks or easy marks, and wait for someone to approach. They set up crimes; then they were supposed to catch the criminals.

Seventeen people were killed in STRESS operations and in related manhunts, shoot outs, and bar room brawls.

COURT CASES

A total of 22 lawsuits—13 against STRESS itself, nine against related police actions—were filed. Those still pending involve potential damages of \$44 million.

Seven of the original 13 suits

against STRESS were settled out of court, for a total of \$1 million. As one police official comments: "The city's lucky to get off that cheap."

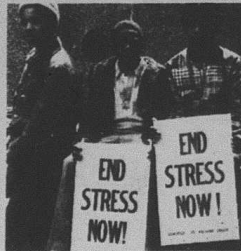
The brutality reached its height during a massive city-wide manhunt in December 1972—January 1973, when police indiscriminately smashed into homes and terrorized black motorists as they looked for three young blacks who had shot back at STRESS officers.

BOOED OFF STAGE

When the Detroit Police Chief tried to defend these actions at a large public meeting, 1800 black Detroit residents booed him off the stage. Dozen of STRESS victims were somehow "persuaded" not to bring suit. That saved even more money and worse publicity. Now, two years after black mayor Coleman Young campaigned on an anti-STRESS platform, the specter of STRESS is returning.



[Left] Crowd at funeral of Mark Bethune, hunted by STRESS. [Right] Black community was united in opposing STRESS.



Here's a few typical cases from the STRESS blotter:

• **Ricardo Buck, 15 and Craig Mitchell, 16.** Killed by a STRESS decoy in 1971. The STRESS agent said they were fleeing after trying to rob him. Unfortunately, they had been shot from the front. Settled out of court, \$270,000.

• **Neil D. Bray, 20.** Supposedly tried to rob two STRESS decoys. Allegedly he was armed with a broom handle. After being shot once, he was repeatedly shot by other officers while lying on the ground. Settled out

of court, \$100,000.

• **Clarence Manning, Jr. 25.** He was murdered by a shot fired from five inches away, by the most notorious of all the STRESS killers, a mad dog named Raymond L. Petersen.

Petersen claimed Manning was armed and threatening him. After killing Manning, Petersen planted his own knife on the body to "prove" the victim was armed. Case settled out of court, \$180,000.

The total of the out-of-court settlements was \$1.1 million.

WANTED!

King of the Killer Cops

Raymond Petersen was once considered the ace of the STRESS force. But he was finally bounced from the police force when his lust for murder went beyond the call of duty—even for a STRESS pig.

In addition to murdering Clarence Manning, Petersen personally killed a dozen other people during his career.

But the murder that finally ended his career occurred while Petersen was off-duty. His car was brushed by another on the freeway. The driver of the other car was black.

Petersen followed the car up an exit ramp, pulled it over, and shot the driver dead.

Then he pulled a standard routine: planting a weapon on the victim. He took his own knife out of his jacket pocket and pressed the fingers of the dead victim against it. His report on the incident read, "Victim shot after attacking officer with intent to kill."

partment blew his cover because they needed a sacrificial lamb for the growing public outcry against police brutality. Petersen's jacket was seized and lab reports showed that the knife came from his pocket.

Petersen was fired. He was charged with murder—and acquitted. The court ruled that the jacket was "inadmissible evidence" because it had been illegally seized.

Petersen, still off the force, took his ruined career to court. He claimed he acted as an "obsessive-compulsive," (mentally unable to control his actions) during the murder.

The court agreed. The city was forced to pay Petersen \$30,000 in back pay. Petersen also won the right to apply for two-thirds of his police pension.

That's what you get for murder—when you're a cop.

Detroit, 1972. Raymond Petersen (rear) in court with his attorney, Norman Lipplit.

Kate Stacy

Will They Bring It Back?

Detroit police are now armed with "emergency" powers" to sweep the streets and arrest anyone under 18 who is out after 10 p.m.

Some political figures in Detroit, including the head of the Urban League Chapter, are going even further. They are calling for the return of STRESS or a similar decoy unit in this "emergency."

Coleman Young is up to his neck in the law and order crackdown on young black Detroiters. But he stops short of re-establishing STRESS. Why?

SLICK

The murders committed by STRESS a few years ago enraged the whole black community. Young is a slick politician. He knows that if STRESS were brought back, the

support that exists among black Detroiters for the current police crackdown would disappear.

So Coleman Young is telling the downtown businessmen that a new STRESS unit would be too explosive, too inconvenient, bad for public relations...

Young says that STRESS was "too expensive." Not in terms of human life—just cold, hard cash. If a million dollars hadn't been lost in court settlements, he says, the city could now hire another 43 patrolmen!

SAME OLD JOB

Young is smart enough to know that it doesn't matter whether or not he gives a fancy name to the police force—it still does the same old job.

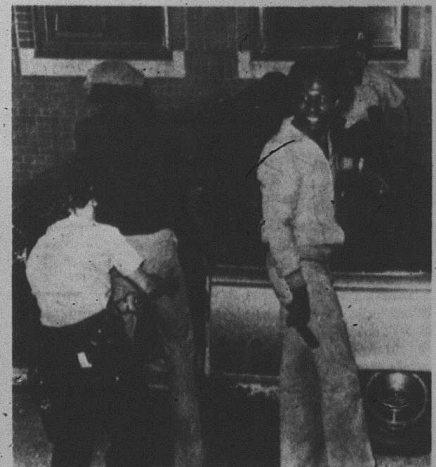
Today that job is a reign of terror

on young blacks. Some of them are picked up from the lawns and front porches of their own homes! This terror is designed to accomplish

one thing—make downtown safe for business.

Coleman Young was elected mayor on an anti-STRESS crusade.

Now he leads the voices screaming for the "regular" police force to smash Detroit's unemployed young people into the ground.



[Left] Police question a leader of the Errol Flynn's. [Above] Police frisk black youths near Detroit's Cobo Hall.

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RANKS DEMAND COLA

HIGHLAND PARK, Mich. — "Things Go Better With COLA." That was the chant of Chrysler workers from several Detroit area locals who gathered outside Chrysler's headquarters here September 9, demanding to know why their cost-of-living checks will be a week late.

According to the contract, the Chrysler workers should get the checks September 24. But the workers have been told they will not receive this payment until October 1.

The workers asked to see a representative of Labor Relations. But Chrysler refused to send anyone out.

COPS

However, they did send seven police cars and one Mod Squad car from the Highland Park Police Department.

One Chrysler worker noted that the speed with which the cops arrived was quite a contrast to what happens when a worker's car is stolen from the company parking lot.

The demonstration was orderly and the police were about to leave when one of them singled out and arrested one of the workers.

Two stewards from Local 51 had managed to get in to speak to the Personnel Department about the COLA checks. Chrysler admitted that they probably could pay by the 24th, but couldn't guarantee having all the checks by then.

However, the company demands every day that the employee live by the contract, allowing no excuses. The company should not be allowed to violate the contract. The UAW should make sure they do not, especially with contract-expiration approaching.

Chrysler must know during contract negotiations that it is dealing with a union that strictly protects the interests of its members.

Because the union leadership didn't press for the checks, the rank and file had to go to Chrysler themselves. Now the union should go after the checks, and also defend the member who was victimized by Chrysler's police. □

Has The Real Jimmy Carter Finally Stood Up?

by Gay Semel

Early in July, while accepting the Democratic Party nomination for President of the United States, Jimmy Carter said:

"Too many have had to suffer at the hands of a political and economic elite who have shaped decisions and never had to account for mistakes nor to suffer from injustice.

"When unemployment prevails, they never stand in line looking for a job. When deprivation results from a confused and bewildering welfare system, they never go without food or clothing or a place to sleep.

"Any system of economics is bankrupt if it sees either value or virtue in unemployment. We simply cannot check inflation by keeping people out of work."

ANOTHER TUNE

By the first week in September, Jimmy Carter had already changed his tune—again.

In a press conference September 3, Carter sounded more like Gerald Ford than the man who accepted the Democratic Party nomination. Carter deliberately stressed the need to curb inflation and government spending.

The man who only months before had called "bankrupt" any economic system that would curb inflation at the expense of jobs, stated:

"There will be no new programs implemented under my administration, unless we can be sure that the cost of those programs is compatible with my having a balanced budget before the end of that term."

So much for the federal job programs Carter had promised.



while a majority of the voters currently prefer Carter, they feel that Ford's philosophy is closer to their own."

But these explanations merely skim the surface. Carter's political shift is not in response to the majority will of the electorate.

If the polls were to show a majority for taxing only the rich and the corporations you can bet good money that idea would not appear as a plank in Carter's platform.

No, we are not witnessing "the democratic process in action" or a servant of the people responding to their call. What we are watching is the way of capitalist politics—"Promise them anything but give them what the bosses want."

QUEST

Jimmy Carter began his quest for the Presidency from the racist, right wing of the Democratic Party. In order to win the nomination, he needed to change his image.

He broke with his old friends and known racists like George Wallace and Lester Maddox. He dropped his more right wing positions such as opposition to full employment and support for the notoriously anti-labor "right to work" laws.

In return he got the support of Woodcock and the UAW.

Carter's campaign rhetoric became increasingly populist. He continually spoke of the rights of black people to a decent life, while being careful to avoid promising anything specific.

In return he got the endorsement of the Reverend Martin Luther King Sr. and prominent Democratic Party black leaders.

Carter smiled a lot, shook a lot of hands, spoke of love and compassion and being in everyone's corner. He said very little of substance, and won the Democratic Party nomination on the first ballot.

SHIFTS AGAIN

Carter now has to prove to those who really run the country—the capitalist class—that he can win popular support while carrying out their program. So—Carter shifts again.

Carter understands that by capturing the Democratic Party nomination he will get the support of everything to the left of Ford. With no other alternative where else can working people go?

Carter's new shift is to make clear to those on top that he is not indebted to organized labor or the demands of minorities.

But Carter's shift to the right represents more than the normal opportunist maneuvering of capitalist politicians.

This year's election is a clear reflection of the rightward motion of the capitalist class and their two political parties.

The economy has only just come out of the worst depression in 40 years.

The bosses have pulled their system back together by going after the living standards of working people.

The recovery, though, is not healthy. Unemployment continues to hover close to 8%, inflation is beginning to rise again and the boom is expected to peak shortly after the election.

The next President of the United States, no matter what platform he runs on, will have to assure the continued profits of big business.

Carter's shift to the right is his signal to the bosses that they have a friend in the Democratic Party, too.

For Carter, however, it is not so much a shift as the unveiling of his true colors. Jimmy Carter has come home. □

Skilled Trades In UAW Pact

by Dave McCullough, UAW Local 869

Skilled tradesmen are playing a crucial role in the 1976 contract talks between the UAW and the Big 3. How they handle it can tip the contract towards victory or defeat for all auto workers.

It was at Ford in 1973 that the UAW International leadership got a boot in the ass for its inadequate contract.

Ford skilled trades delivered the kick—voting to reject the contract that Chrysler workers were already regretting having approved.

UAW President Woodcock then jammed the contract down their throats, like it or not. He even ruled that no part of the UAW, skilled or production, had the right to definitively turn down a contract. He reserved that right to the UAW Executive Board.

THREE YEARS SIMMERING

Ford tradesmen are still angry about this in 1976. Knowing that he could not pull the same stunt twice, Woodcock reversed himself and announced that rejection of a settlement by either production or skilled would send him back to the

bargaining table.

Furthermore, with Ford the "target" (pattern-setting) company this year, the UAW tops have promised to give Ford skilled tradesmen first crack at a settlement proposal. Their theory may be that the tradesmen will back down if it comes to a strike.

Events of the past week have shown that any such maneuver will backfire. Skilled tradesmen in the Independent Skilled Trades Council (ISTC) have taken the initiative in calling a mass demonstration at Ford World Headquarters in Dearborn.

The Ford skilled trades UAW executive board at Local 600, Ford's giant main facility, is backing the demonstration.

The main issues for skilled tradesmen are a short work week, cost-of-living adjustments for retirees, control of sub-contracting, and wage parity with the building trades.

THE MISSING LINK

The demand for parity with building trades would mean a \$2.50 an hour raise. With this demand, skilled tradesmen have in fact wedged an opening in contract

negotiations where rank and file sentiment can flow in.

The big question is, will this wedge hold until other forces—production worker forces—can be mobilized to pressure the UAW bargainers?

Without the organized support of production workers, the skilled trades will be smashed in a contract showdown.

There is a grand opportunity for auto workers today. But the missing link, so far, is organized unity of rank and file skilled trades and production workers. And that unity won't just grow up by itself.

REACH OUT

For various reasons, skilled trades are much better organized at the rank and file level than production workers. In 1976 skilled workers have a major responsibility for cementing a united rank and file.

Production workers are notoriously suspicious of skilled trades, thinking that they are just out to divorce themselves from the production people if they could.

The demand for wage parity with the building trades is in fact a wage

premium for skilled trades over any production raises.

The figure of \$2.50 an hour is much higher than the UAW leadership has even dreamed of discussing.

We can expect that the UAW, abetted by the press, will use the demand for "something extra" (over what production gets) to split the rank and file and isolate, then beat down skilled tradesmen's expectations.

The answer for rank and file skilled organizations is to demand \$2.50 across the board: \$2.50 new money for everybody.

If skilled trades leaders raise this demand, everyone would win and the rank and file of the union couldn't be divided.

Now that there is a small chink of light in the dismal 1976 negotiations, it is absolutely wrong-headed for production workers, for workers at GM and Chrysler, to sit back waiting and watching what happens at Ford.

The only way that light is going to spread is for all of us to get into the arena now and bust the thing wide open.

This is our chance. Don't blow it. □

SOUTH AFRICA:

THE BATTLE IN SPAIN TODAY

[This report is taken from a longer article by MANUEL LOPEZ in Barcelona, Spain. He is a member of the Organization of the Communist Left of Spain (OICE), one of the important groups of the Spanish revolutionary left].

The workers' movement in Spain has made great strides since the death of fascist ruler Franco last year.

A constant feature of Francoism was its systematic repression of all moves by workers to gain their demands. Against this

background, it was inevitable that the slightest crack in the repressive organs of the state would be taken advantage of by the workers.

The months to come are seen as decisive by both workers and capitalists. This could be a "hot autumn" that would change things a great deal.

New wage agreements are re-negotiated in the autumn. When Franco died last November millions of workers moved into struggle, on the question of wages, above all. Sometimes they were organized, but more often totally or half spontaneous.

A look at the post-Franco workers' movement shows why this autumn may be explosive.



Spain since Franco: a mass assembly of striking subway workers in Madrid. . .

workers who were least active during the long night of Francoism.

In Vitoria, capital of Alava, one of the Basque provinces, the movement grew in January. The workers of the metal firms, Forjas Alavasas and Mevosa, began a strike for wage increases.

In a few days more firms joined in until 12 were out, involving almost 70,000 workers. Daily assemblies in each factory discussed what decisions to take, transmitted these to representative commissions elected by the assemblies, and these met in a coordinating committee of all the delegates elected from all the factories.

On March 3, the call for a general strike was followed throughout the whole city. Groups of workers demonstrated in the streets and were attacked by the police.

A general Assembly in the afternoon, which took place in a church, was assaulted by the police armed with machine guns. Four

people were killed and over 100 wounded.

The streets were taken over by angry groups of workers, who put up barricades and forced the police to withdraw with sticks and stones. For a day and a half, the streets were controlled by the workers.

Then thousands of civil guards and police arrived. There were massive arrests, especially of members of the representative commissions.

But the commission members who were arrested were replaced by others. The workers' organization was made permanent, or nearly so. Within two days, all the Basque country was on strike in solidarity with Vitoria.

Other mass strike and solidarity movements were organized in Basuari and Sabadel, an industrial town near Barcelona. In Sabadel, pickets from the most important factories spread a strike to all factories and districts. The most important demand was for the removal of a notorious fascist mayor.

UNITY

The key question now facing workers is that of unity.

The capitalists want to impose rival union organization on workers' movement that has been united in its struggle under Francoism, in order to divide it.

The Organization of the Communist Left (OICE) is proposing the formation of a Single Workers Center, and the consolidation within it of the experience of the last months of struggle through the formation of factory councils.

After leading the struggle against Francoism, the working class will not resign itself to the crumbs of "reform." □



a demonstration in Barcelona against repression. . .

The first wave of strikes ran from December to March. The January strike wave in Madrid began with the metal workers and spread to construction, subway, the telephones, banks, post office and railways.

At its high point, there was a near general strike of the whole capital. Half a million workers took part.

They demanded equal wage increases for different categories of workers, the reduction of the working week usually to 40 hours, a "labor amnesty" for all those victimized from the factories under Franco, and many other things.

At the same time, the construction industry was also on strike in Valencia, then Terragona, Barcelona, and other cities.

Those who began the struggle were in most cases the section of



while Spanish soldiers must still kiss a fascist flag before duly selected representatives of church and state.

THE REVOLT GROWS

by Dan Posen

One by one, the white racist myths of South Africa are coming down.

The longest-standing myth was the racist state's claim that the vast majority of blacks quietly accept the system of "apartheid." Only a few months ago, government ministers claimed that "no black insurrection is possible" and "race relations in South Africa are as peaceful as can be."

That fantasy exploded in June. Students in Soweto fought the police, and died by the hundreds, protesting against the forced use of the hated Afrikaans language in the classrooms.

Then the government tried to claim these disturbances were just the work of students manipulated by "agitators," in one single township, without broad support.

That myth also fell, when the student revolt grew into a strike movement that blocked transport and shut down up to 80% of industry in Johannesburg.

Similar strikes and fighting spread to townships around Pretoria, Port Elizabeth and practically every other region of the country.

"TRIBAL" WARS ARE?

To break the strike in Soweto, the apartheid government and its police force turned to their third, most vicious racist myth.

Part of the ideology of apartheid is the theory that blacks in South Africa could never create a single unified, liberated nation.

According to the apartheid theory, blacks are divided into dozens of separate tiny "nations" who should be kept apart from each other and forced to develop the miserable "homeland states" they have been assigned to by the government.

To back up this idea, the police organized a group of strike-breakers from the migrant rural workers in Soweto. Police promised protection to strike-breakers, who armed themselves with clubs and began murdering strike-pickets and their families.

Then the police put out the story that this fighting was a "Zulu backlash" against the Soweto strikers and that the black uprising was degenerating into internal "tribal warfare."

This was a deliberate lie. Zulus are the largest ethnic group in Soweto. The fighting had nothing to do with tribalism.

The migrant workers were particularly vulnerable to being recruited as a scab force. While in the cities, they have no rights. They are forced to live in horribly overcrowded, all-male hotels and

face deportation to the "tribal homelands" the moment they lose their jobs.

THREATS

That is exactly what the bosses in Johannesburg—the pious hypocrites who claim they want to reform the system—threatened to do to them if the strike continued.

The lie of "tribal warfare" in Soweto was exposed when the real role of the police was revealed.

The whole world now knows that the police consulted with the leaders of the strikebreakers, told them where to go and whom to kill.

Even the traditional Zulu leaders, the most conservative and closely tied to the government, denounced the police for trying to divide the movement.

Last week, the struggle took another tremendous step toward unity. In Cape Town, the center of the so-called "colored" (mixed race) population, new demonstrations erupted right in the heart of the "all-white" downtown shopping district.

The mixed-race population has been granted a few minimal rights and privileges which are denied to the rest of the country's 20 million blacks. This is another way for the government to manufacture divisions and phony racist "classifications" of people.

But the slogans, the demands and fighting spirit of the Cape Town demonstrations were exactly the same as the rest of the country. They were not for new privileges or a few more crumbs of reform—they want the end of apartheid, the destruction of the white regime and freedom, now.

GROWING STRUGGLE

Within a few short months, the new upheaval in South Africa has spread from a local language protest to a nationwide black upheaval.

Its original targets were the local schools and immediate symbols of white rule. Now, the white industrialists and the capitalist structure of South Africa are clearly seen as the source of oppression.

Each new struggle brings in new waves of black workers, and shows the need for unity.

Few movements in history have spread, or developed such a high level of consciousness, as rapidly as this one.

The next step must be the development of revolutionary organization among the black workers of the townships, who will carry the struggle forward and enable it to spread to the countryside and the miners. □



Black Africans in Meadowland, on the outskirts of Johannesburg, rushing to rescue children trapped after police fired tear gas into their home. The police explained that "several youths" had taken refuge in the house. There was no one in the house over the age of four.

Every Day, The Screams of Prisoners

BILL ANDERSON, a student and ex-soldier in the South African army, left South Africa because of what he saw and experienced. He gave this account to Paul Foot, editor of the newspaper of the British International Socialists, Socialist Worker. It is a description of the methods used by South African military forces in Namibia, (South West Africa), the colony occupied by South Africa since 1918.

"Everyone we captured was tortured and beaten in some way. Of course, this was led by the officers and non-commissioned officers.

"The water torture in particular, in which black prisoners were forced under water until they suffocated, was specially for the amusement of the officers.

"But what really sickened me was the way the ordinary soldiers joined in. They were called on to join in the beatings and the shootings, and almost all of them

joined in enthusiastically. "It went on every day, usually at night, so you would hear the screams going on and on, until well after midnight. "One driver in our battalion was told to shoot down some prisoners. He cut off the ear of one of them and sent it home in a bottle. He also cut off the dead man's scrotum for his gear lever—but it rotted. . . "One thing I'm certain of—the whites in South Africa won't give up their privileges voluntarily. They'll use all the violence and torture they can to hang on."

Recently, United Nations representatives have revealed that South African troops have carved out a Vietnam-type "free-fire zone" in northern Namibia, on the border with Angola. Fifty thousand black people have been forcibly removed from their homes.

All this came right at the time when Henry Kissinger was meeting with South African Prime Minister John Vorster. One of the top items on their agenda was how to create a "patch up" solution for Namibia.

Their "solution" would be a government of puppet politicians, headed by a white Prime Minister. The 90,000 whites would still own all the wealth produced by one million black Namibians. □

Portugal

A VOICE OF THE REVOLUTION

This is a profile of a Portuguese revolutionary woman.

Like many other revolutionaries, she stays up until three a.m. in meetings, then gets up and works regular hours. She works all day at her job. The rest of her time she spends organizing tenants' committees.

We meet at her workplace. She writes Tenants' Commissions for me in Portuguese: "Comissoes do Moradores." We start talking while sitting in the workers' cafeteria with some of her friends.

Later we find a quiet place outside. Lunch breaks generally last two hours in Portugal, so we have a bit of time.

□ □ □ □ □

In the shade she tells me that in the past under fascism the rich families had more houses than they could possibly use, while the poor didn't have enough.

Sometimes rich proprietors would refuse to rent houses, preferring to keep them vacant. There were many cases in Portugal of houses closed for as long as 15 or 20 years.

After the revolution began on April 25, 1974, people began to move into vacant housing. Mostly old houses were taken over, but some people occupied apartments under construction for high government functionaries and members of the secret police.

In November 1974 of that year, a housing law was passed because of public pressure. It gave landlords four months to declare habitable housing eligible for renting.

Very few landlords obeyed the law. So at the end of the four months, many people all over the country spontaneously occupied houses.

"It was not so organized, as you can understand," she smiles. Palaces and farms were occupied for day-care centers and schools.

Some people occupied shelters meant for hogs—it was an improvement over what they'd had.

The people's demands for, and occupation of, housing changed the law, and that brought on more occupations.

Eventually COPCON (the military forces in the Lisbon district) sided with the occupiers and with them drafted a proposed law known as the COPCON Law.

The basis of the COPCON Law

was: "If someone in Portugal needs a house, there can be no empty houses." Most importantly, it would legalize occupations for the protection of the tenants.

When she says that, her eyes shine.

The dream of decent housing for everyone still has the power to energize her, tired as she obviously is.

"ILLEGAL MOVEMENT"

But the law did not pass. It was effectively opposed by the general ministers of the strongest parties, including the Socialist Party (SP), the Popular Democratic Party (PPD), and the Communist Party (CP).

The Communist Party? "Of course, the CP refuses everything that it doesn't control," said a nearby friend, scornfully.

The CP had said the occupations created problems, they were uncontrolled.

She said the new law that did pass stipulated that occupations had to be legalized. But 85% of the occupied housing could not be legalized because of exceptions in the law.

The exceptions were made for the benefit of the landlords. "If the proprietor needs the house for his cousin, or his little son. . ." she said sarcastically.

She said the housing occupation movement was an initiative of the people, not the parties. The PRP (Revolutionary Party of the Proletariat) has always supported occupations. Way back in the first wave of occupations, she said, "I don't

know if the party was involved as a party, but PRP militants were there."

Last year the CP began to get involved in the occupations. They fought it until the movement was too big to stop. "It is going on the train trying to stop the train."

ATTACKS

The right-wing coup of November 25, 1975 brought forth a new process. The right were not able to consolidate their power, but one of many gains of the revolution they have tried to turn back has been housing occupations.

They have attacked the weakest areas first, of course. In some cases, where there is strong militant organization, new occupations are going on.

For the most part, people are defending existing occupations through the Tenants' Commissions which exist all over Portugal.

Sometimes they use legal tricks as a last resort. A doctor writes a note saying someone will die if moved.

Sometimes the police come with gas and arms, "looking like spiders." If the occupiers are isolated, the police are brutal, throwing children down staircases, beating older people about the arms and legs with their clubs.

Some people are too embarrassed as human beings and refuse their orders.

We discuss a recent news story about police throwing 300 children out of a daycare center held in an occupied building.

In two cities, Porto and Setubal, the Tenants' Commissions are centralized. In Lisbon, sectarian squabbling has weakened their organization, but she tells me that now there is a mobilization in Lisbon to centralize the tenants' commissions.

In one shantytown, called Bairro do Lata, "District of Tin," people live in corrugated tin huts. The young comarada wants to make sure I understand what that means, people propping up sheets of tin to make homes. I'd seen them.

□ □ □

She leaves work early to continue the interview. Several of us go to a park and sit on the grass.

Her friend says, "You don't eat enough. When will you come and have dinner with us?"

She says she has too many meetings. "That's the same thing you always say." She smiles shyly and shrugs.

Her feelings about the revolution seem to smoulder much deeper than momentary flames of anger.

because perhaps anger is too mild a word for what she feels.

The heat that has driven away a lot of revolutionary faddists has made her strong.

She certainly takes no credit for her own abilities. The revolution is made up of people like her.

Later her friend tells me, "Her dedication energizes her." And in turn, the Portuguese revolution energizes the revolutionary movement around the world. □

by Yvonne



Children, women and men in Portugal: for the first time, a chance to escape from the corrugated tin shacks.

THE BLOODSUCKER



Henry Ford II only got "C's" in college, but that didn't stop him from inheriting his position as ruler of a world-wide empire.

FORD'S 30 YEARS OF UNION-BUSTING

Ford Motor Company made its fortune through the brutal exploitation of workers in this country.

Henry Ford was known as the "Speed Up King." He introduced the moving chain assembly line in 1914. Jobs were broken down into simple, boring steps. Rest breaks were restricted. Rigorous supervision was instituted.

The quit rate rose to 40-60% a month. So Henry Ford introduced the \$5 day, an extravagant sum at the time. Later he wrote, "The payment of five dollars a day for an eight hour day was one of the finest cost-cutting moves we ever made."

Fortune, the magazine of big business, wrote, "The rank and file of the workmen at the Rouge are so much less important than the machines they tend that the contrast is extremely depressing."

PRIVATE ARMY

Ford set up one of the largest private armies in the country, with 3000 ex-pugs, cops, gangsters, and ex-cons in its ranks. Henry Bennett, a former Navy boxer, was hired to head the army, called the Ford Service Department. Ford plants came to resemble prisons.

The Servicemen were known for outright sadism and physical assaults. When a worker was called to the employment office, he was routinely shoved and pushed down the aisle by a pair of Servicemen.

The most famous piece of huggery committed by the Servicemen occurred on May 26, 1937 at "The Battle of the Overpass." The Servicemen went all-out in their attempt to break the union.

They beat up 60 United Auto Worker leafleters, two-thirds of them women, at the entrance of the Rouge plant. They broke the skull of one unionist, and another was in

the hospital for two weeks.

Afterwards, Ford had no trouble getting the Dearborn City Council to pass an ordinance against distributing leaflets. During the following months, over 1000 unionists were arrested.

The same things happened in other places. In Dallas, a report by the National Labor Relations Board revealed that toughs armed with blackjacks, rubber hoses, and pistols intimidated union men and beat up a liberal lawyer and a union organizer.

SUPERVISED MORALS

Ford set up a "Sociology Department" to supervise the morals of his workers. When a worker was found to be "living unworthily"—drinking or smoking off the job, for example, his wages were cut or he was discharged.

Workers smiling, humming or whistling were considered lazy. In 1940 John Gallo was fired for smiling. He was finally reinstated by a state labor official, but the company fought the case all the way.

Henry Ford bought a newspaper, the Dearborn Independent, so he could broadcast his ideas. He fancied himself a philosopher, saying profound things like: "History is bunk."

In the newspaper, he attacked capitalists and bankers. He called for church attendance, getting up early in the morning, and staying on the farm.

Ford was an anti-Semite. He attacked "Jewish Wall Street" in his editorials, and hired a private detective agency to uncover incriminating material about Jews.

In 1938, Ford accepted the "Award of the Grand Cross of the German Eagle" from the Nazi German government.

By Ken Brown

FORD MOTOR COMPANY is the "target" in this year's contract negotiations with the United Auto Workers. On August 2, Ford startled the union with a staggering list of take-away demands.

Ford will probably enjoy the highest profits in its history this year. What makes such a rich corporation

Today, the Ford Motor Company employs 204,000 workers in the United States, and 416,000 worldwide. Figuring three dependents for each worker, 1,664,000 people depend on Ford for their livelihood.

The Ford Motor Company was started in 1903 with \$28,000. Henry Ford put up \$7,140 of that sum.

The market for cars expanded so rapidly that by 1919 Ford paid \$105,000,000 to get control of the company.

By 1937, he was worth \$624,970,000.

Today, the company is controlled by grandson Henry Ford II. Henry went to Yale for four years, but he failed to graduate after cheating on his final term paper.

It didn't matter anyway. He had a job waiting for him, head of the family empire, now worth \$7.2 billion.

WORLD WIDE

The Ford family built a world wide empire with operations in 58 countries. It is the fifth biggest

Ford hired blacks for exactly 10% of the jobs in his plants. He used blacks to create a dividing line among the workforce on the question of race.

Ford did all in his power to encourage conservatism among black workers. He helped organize and finance the Republican party in the black communities of Detroit.

He gave numerous donations to black churches in Detroit. In return, several black churches refused to allow pro-union speakers.

Once A. Phillip Randolph of the Sleeping Car Porters spoke for the union in a church. Several black workers were fired from Ford after

that. They were told that Randolph's speech was the reason.

Along with this paternalism went the practice of blacks being employed in the hardest, dirtiest, lowest paying jobs in the plants.

It took a massive effort by the United Auto Workers to break down the effects of Ford's paternalism, and win access to the union.

To this day, things haven't changed that much at Ford's. The boss makes all the money. The workers are pushed around and controlled by management. The union is weak and the need for the union is strong. Black and white workers must see themselves united as brothers and sisters in a common struggle.



Walter Reuther (right) after the "Battle of the Overpass," 1937. This was Henry Ford's idea of labor relations.

CKERS

so cheap?

The answer is that the Ford family made it to the top by sucking the blood from its workforce around the world.

If you were uncertain about who deserves more in this year's contract, this article will leave you with a healthy hatred for one of the most exploitative families in the world.

manufacturing company in the capitalist world. It ranks behind only Exxon, General Motors, Shell, and Texaco.

Ford is the second largest car producer in the United States. It makes its own steel, glass, engines, transmissions, and body stampings. At its Rouge complex in Dearborn, Michigan, they start with ore and drive the cars off the assembly line.

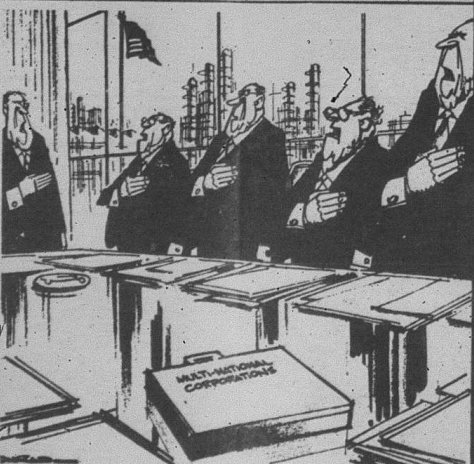
The company also produces satellites, ground stations and control systems for missiles.

The company remains quite profitable. In 1972 and 1973, it made a rate of profit over 14% after taxes as a percent of investment.

But in 1974 the company suffered from the energy crisis, and in 1975 from the depression.

Things are looking up for Ford now. In the first half of 1976, profits after taxes hit \$770 million. Compare this to \$907 million for the entire year of 1973—its previous record.

1976 will be Ford's best year yet—if there is no strike.



"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the country that gives me the best deal."

A WORLD-WIDE PROFIT EMPIRE

One family controls the lives of 1,664,000 people.

Ford Canada with 34,100 workers is the largest manufacturing company in that country.

Ford-Werke in Germany has 48,200 workers, and is the third largest car company in that country.

There are 70,900 Ford workers in Britain and 13,968 in Australia.

In Brazil, Ford makes use of the dictatorial regime which freely employs torture to insure a loyal labor force. Ford has 20,000 workers in that country, and is the second largest car producer there.

SOUTH AFRICA

In South Africa, Ford cheerfully cooperates with the dictatorial and

racist regime. Black workers are in the lowest job classifications, at minimal survival wages.

Fred Ferreira, Industrial Relations manager for Ford South Africa explained why there was no union for blacks in South Africa. "Over the years the master-servant relationship has been a good one."

Ford management has a motto: "We use labor as we see fit in pursuance of, first of all, profit." Ford uses its empire to control its workers.

For example, the Ford family spent hundreds of millions to buy the Dagenham plant outside of London. Yet when British workers caused too many "labor problems" in 1969, Henry Ford II said he would shut the plant down and shift operations to Belgium.

by Glenn Wolfe

THE CONTRACT between the United Auto Workers (UAW) and the Big Three auto companies expires Tuesday at midnight. There is every chance that at 12:01 am Wednesday Ford Motor Company will be shut down tight by an official strike. Ford is the "target" in this year's negotiations.

It is even more likely that the strike will be extremely short. It will probably last no longer than the week or so it will take Ford to sell the present stockpile of 170,000 new cars.

The contract settlement which will then be recommended to UAW members by the bureaucrats of the International Union will be a massive sell out. But these same bureaucrats will reason that they have a good chance of getting a "yes" vote on it.

Rank and file Ford workers will have just lost a couple of weeks wages. They were kept in the dark during negotiations and played no part in shaping the bargaining. With nothing they can do to avoid being screwed, the majority will vote to give up on the strike, the bureaucrats figure.

While there is no guarantee that this will be the pattern of events in the auto industry over the next few weeks, the record of the companies and the union so far in these negotiations indicate it is probable.

Company

THE COMPANIES have had two aims this year: to hold down wages and benefits, and increase the amount of work each UAW member does. They have already had a large degree of success on the second count this year.

Production is almost back up to 1973 levels—with 20% fewer workers than in 1973. The companies are out to build on that success in

UAW Contract '76 -

A Company-Sponsored Ritual, Or Gains for Ranks?

this contract. On wages and benefits they are hoping to succeed with the "we can't afford it" con trick. They pleaded their low profit level during the recession of 1974-75.

Then when the economy began to recover and all three auto giants announced record profits, they necessarily switched their line. Now they say that the threat of inflation means that the "national economy" couldn't stand wage increases.

In short, the declared aim of the companies from day one has been to screw the workers worse than they have been screwed in years.

Why are the companies being so cheap when they're making record profits?

They know that the business recovery isn't going to last. The only way to defend the mighty god of profit is to rip off the workers even worse than they did before.

The attitude of the companies is totally straightforward. What's good for them is bad for the workers.

Union

THE UNION bureaucrats sympathetic with the companies' "paper thin" profits and urged "moderation" during the recession.

Then, six months ago they convened a special bargaining convention. It was carefully stage-

managed to insure it ended with no real demands being placed on the companies.

UAW officials devoted the next five months to public assurances that there would be no strike. They made it clear that the companies were free to walk all over them. Privately, they were arranging for UAW President Woodcock to get a seat in Carter's cabinet.

Union officials had looked at both sides in the negotiations and decided that the bosses were stronger than the workers. They threw their lot in on the bosses' side.

But when Ford announced its first offer, the bureaucrats learned what ordinary workers have always known: you can never trust the bosses.

The offer was a giant take-away that showed that if you invite the bosses to walk all over you, they will do not only that but kick you in the teeth as well.

So the bureaucrats felt betrayed by their masters at exactly the same time that the UAW membership was beginning to show that they wouldn't ratify a contract that was an open ripoff.

BALANCING

Finally, the bureaucrats had to go back to balancing between the real industrial powers of the auto industry: the workers and the bosses.

The union officials have finally had to make some concessions to the power of the rank and file: They have had to drop their "no strike" talk. They will have to deliver a slightly better package.

But the union officials haven't changed sides. They have just been reminded that although the rank and file are still disorganized, their anger represents a power to change things that cannot be ignored.

If the bureaucrats are to hold on to their privileged positions, they cannot afford to totally ignore the wishes of the rank and file.

The power and privilege the bosses allow union bureaucrats is based on the understanding that a sellout will be delivered. If Woodcock and his friends can't deliver that, they will be breaking their unwritten contract with the bosses.

But if they try to impose the total "take-away" program of the bosses, they will be pushed aside and the rank and file will impose an even better deal.

Ranks

That is the politics of these negotiations: The ritual of a brief and ineffective strike will probably be acted out for Ford's.

The only hope of progress for ordinary auto workers is to build on the rank and file organizing that is now in progress, and create a force strong enough to squeeze real concessions out of the bosses.

Out of each attack by the companies, the rank and file will grow in strength. With each new crisis in the auto industry there will be more organization.

In the not too distant future the rank and file will be strong enough to sweep aside the parasites of the International Union. In the meantime, they had better understand that there is a limit to what the membership will let them get away with.

76 auto contract '76 auto contract '76 auto contract '76 auto contract '76

Contract Quiz

QUESTION: Can the UAW win a good contract without a strike?

"No. The company has what they want already. We'll have to strike to get it away from them. We must strike to show them what we need."

Charles Bonamy
Local 47, Detroit Forge



Charles Bonamy

"No. Because we have a weak union leadership, and a management reluctant to give us a good contract."

Marvin King
Local 47, Detroit Forge

"No. They are offering too little to even talk about. We'll end up with a strike if we want a good contract."

Tim Murphy
Local 47, Detroit Forge

"No, for the simple reason that the company won't give us anything without one. We'll have to stay out until the company is losing some money before they'll be ready to deal."

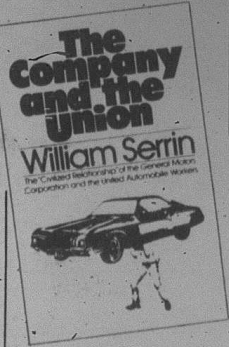
Melvin "Pee Wee" Bean
Local 47, Detroit Forge



Neil Chacker

"No way! The union leadership has punked out so often, the company thinks they can get away with anything. It will take a militant strike to make them respect the union again."

Neil Chacker
Local 47, Detroit Forge



The story of how the United Auto Workers and General Motors collaborated against auto workers in the 1970 contract negotiations. With a new epilogue describing what happened in 1973.

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WORK - IT COULD BE HUMAN...

by Moe Orlanski

For five or six days a week, autoworkers work on an assembly line building cars and most often hate their job. But on the precious day off, many pass their time "working" on their or a friend's car and enjoy it. If this sounds crazy to you, you've never worked in an auto plant.

In the factory, a worker labors to make a living. Most auto workers would say that their job is boring, unpleasant and exhausting. They work for one reason, the pay check. Work, what you do for most of your waking life, is only a means to an end: you work to make a living.

Working on a car on your day off is entirely different. Instead of being tied to one spot, doing the same job over and over, straining to keep up with the line, this same worker can now work at a pace natural to the task.

He can rest when he needs to, not when someone else says he can. Work like this can also be a social thing; friends drop by, offer to help, give advice, or just share a six-pack.

FREEDOM TO THINK

Above all, the worker has the freedom to think as well as to do. In the plant, all the thinking has been intentionally

removed from the job. But on your own, to fix anything you must diagnose the problem and decide on the best way to correct it.

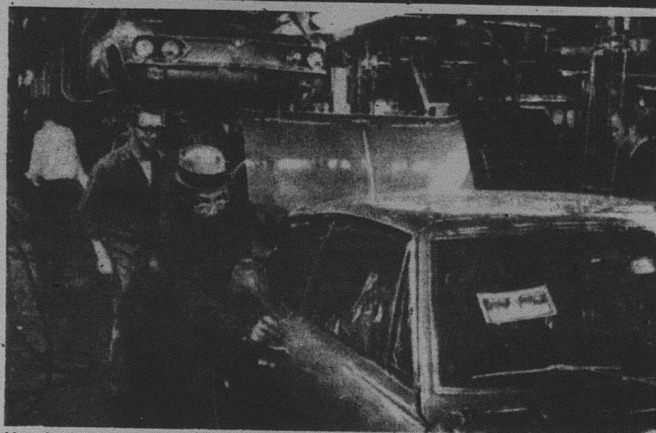
This weekend form of work is not just a means of repairing a car, it is enjoyable, an end in itself.

Under socialism, workers will have the power to organize their own labor. For this reason, work will have two goals: to create an abundance for all, and to be a source of personal satisfaction to the workers. Society will be organized so that work in the factory becomes like tinkering on your car.

After the working class takes control over society, auto workers will have the power to immediately deal with many of the "old" problems of capitalism. Take job security for example. The work week would be reduced to both create jobs for the unemployed and to make for more leisure.

Labor saving technological improvements would no longer be a source of joblessness. If less man-hours were needed, everyone would share in the reduced work time.

A socialist society would plan auto production to meet the needs of the community. Since production would no longer be for the enrichment of a few, the wastefulness of capitalist competition



Hot, boring, monotonous, miserable work. It doesn't have to be this way.

would be done away with. The billions spent on advertising, sales promotion, needless model changes, would now be spent on building a cheaper, safer, longer lasting automobile for all who need them.

Production would also be planned to meet the needs of the community of producers—the autoworkers.

Because workers would be planning and organizing their own labor, the separation between thinking and doing would be eliminated. Autoworkers would not be assemblers, sweepers, or stock chasers. Every worker would be able to contribute their knowledge and experience.

CREATIVITY

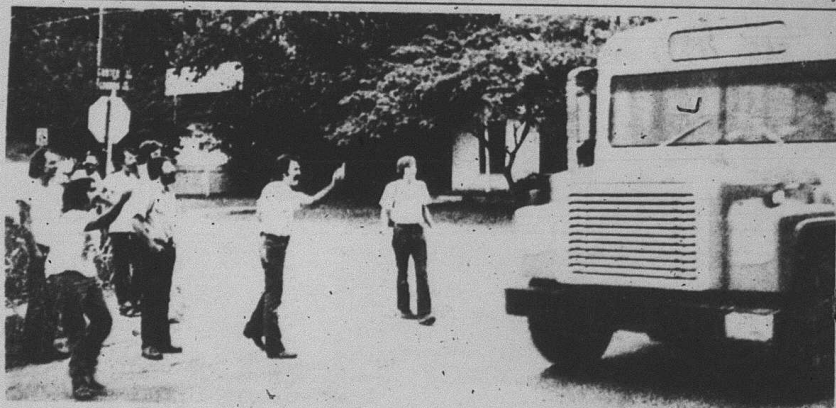
Over time, as quality education was extended to all working people, the functions of the scientist, designer and engineer would all become part of the autoworkers job.

The assembly line, which divides auto work into thousands of little jobs, and removes all creativity from the labor process, will be scrapped. Any tasks that remained boring, would be shared—no one would have to do them full time. The workers together would democratically decide how to design and then produce the best car possible.

This is not only possible, it exists. Just watch a group of friends decide together how best to repair an engine as they spend a Saturday afternoon together.

In our present capitalist society, the useful work we do and enjoy is called a hobby. The daily grind we endure at work is called making a living. We only feel like we are living when we are not at work. Everything is upside-down.

And there isn't a worker in this world who hasn't looked up from his job, sighed, and thought, "There has got to be a better way." There is. It's name is Socialism, and it's worth fighting for. □



What do you say to a scab?

Striking shuttle bus drivers at the University of Texas in Austin display their anger at scab drivers.

The University has a contract with Transportation Enterprises, Inc. (TEI) to provide students with transportation to and from campus.

TEI was paying its drivers "student wages" of \$2.25 an hour.

Ninety-seven affiliated drivers with the Amalgamated Transit Union, demanded \$4.50. They walked out the day the fall semester began.

On the first day 16 of the 55 buses scabbed. The next day the drivers got an idea of how their union would support them through the strike. The union signed up three-quarters of the drivers who were hired to scab! □

100 Demand Medical Care For Women Prisoners

SEATTLE—One hundred demonstrators marched outside King County Women's Jail here on September 4. Women inmates shouted encouragement and waved clothing from their cells two floors above. The inmates joined in the chants, "Medical Care Now! Free All Prisoners!"

The demonstration demanded better medical care for women prisoners. It was called for by women inmates, and organized by the lesbian-feminist community.

A petition signed by 33 women inmates, stated, "We are not receiving even the minimum medical care to which we are entitled under the sheriff's own rules and regulations."

It said that "therapy" for women with severe mental problems is isolation in a 7-by-7 foot cell. Prisoners isolated like this suffer from severe depression and frequently attempt suicide.

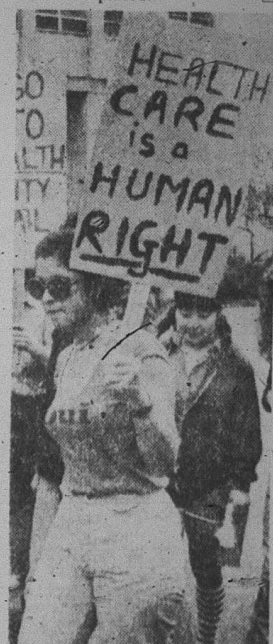
NO SYMPATHY

Dr. Marks, the jail physician, was unsympathetic. "I'm dealing with a bunch of crazy, sick, irritating people," he complained.

The petition cites five cases in which women inmates with acute health problems received no medical care, or had medication withheld. It emphasizes that these cases are only the most serious examples of a "serious lack of proper medical care."

The women prisoners demanded that they be given all prescribed medicine. That they be allowed

outside medical consultation. That nurses' rounds be increased. That a qualified psychiatrist be hired. That the jail physician and head nurse be replaced. □



Picketing outside King County Jail.

STRIKING NURSES GET SUPPORT

SEATTLE—A demonstration in support of striking nurses took place here on September 2. The demonstration stretched for four blocks, snaking its way around four hospitals on Seattle's "Pill Hill."

Rank and file workers joined the demonstration. They included freight and tanker truck

drivers from Teamsters Local 174, and Longshorem from Locals 9, 19, and 52.

The Longshorem promised they would be walking the picket lines with the nurses until the strike is settled.

After seven weeks of striking, the Hospital Council still refuses to meet the demands of the 1800 nurses. The

Council is solidly opposed to an agency shop and having registered nurses participate in staffing decisions. These are most important issues to the nurses.

So far, the nurses have not asked other hospital workers to respect their picket lines. If all the other hospital workers came out with them, they could easily win. □

McCullough Wins Round One Against Chrysler

Dear Workers' Power:

Workers' Power covered my firing by Chrysler last May. I'm happy to announce that Chrysler has as much as confessed that the whole thing was a frame-up. At "McCullough vs. Chrysler," a referee hearing of the state Unemployment Compensation outfit, I charged that Chrysler had no just cause for the firing.

Chrysler chose not to show up and defend their position. Probably to prevent my five witnesses from getting onto the official record—they had some dynamite things to say!

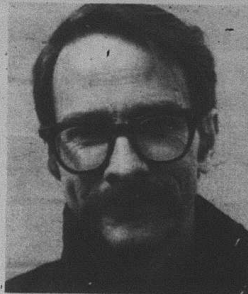
One witness commented that what Chrysler and the union (UAW) really hate is the way I take everything to the membership, putting a spotlight on their shabby deals and shoddy treatment of the workers. It's clear to me now why they hate publicity—

informed brothers are much more solid brothers.

Now the spotlight turns to the UAW International. How come they, with all their resources, can't beat Chrysler on this bum rap when a few rank and filers can do it by themselves? Because they don't want anybody investigating race discrimination and talking about sell-out contracts.

And glory, glory... they sure don't want rank and filers outvoting their puppets at union meetings and organizing to turn the union back over to the members. They hate my guts and I would hate theirs... if they had any.

Still and all, if they won't defend a member against blatant political firings, I'd like every autoworker to know that. My thanks to WP for spreading the word.



Dave McCullough
Detroit, MI

(Dave is Chairman of the Local 869 UAW Fair Employment Practices and Anti-Discrimination Committee and a member of the International Socialists.)

Letters

to

Workers' Power

"YOU ARE THE FUTURE!"

Dear Workers' Power,

I visited revolutionary Portugal this July. I was walking on a street in Portugal with some friends who have a small son. A toothless man stopped on his way past us. He beamed at the baby boy and fervently addressed him, then went on his way. The child smiled back at him, but he was too young to understand his words.

Later, his parents told me that the man had said, "You are the man of the future! I have never learned to read. I've had a very hard life! You will have a happy life. Everything is possible for you!"

This is what a socialist future means to the Portuguese people.

Yvonne
St. Louis

35 Months In Solitary

Dear Workers' Power,

On September 16, 1973 I was arrested and charged with a most hideous crime—the death of a prison guard at the Graterford Correctional Institution. I was placed in the solitary confinement punishment cellblock, known by the official euphemism of "Behavioral Adjustment Unit" (BAU). In BAU, one's movement is very limited—if any movement is allowed at all.

In November of 1973, I was beaten up by the guards at Graterford and transferred to

Dallas Prison in Pennsylvania, 120 miles away. My family and loved ones could not see the damages or seek the proper assistance.

For the past 35 months I have been entombed alive in strict solitary confinement, completely isolated. I have been restricted to a reduced and inadequate food ration. On the infrequent occasions when my family can make this intolerably long trip, we are restricted to a bare one hour visit, separated by a wide table.

I am forced to receive this visit in prison garbs—a striped jump suit, with hand-cuffs.

I am the only man in the state who was exonerated by a jury on March 26, 1976 and acquitted of the false, malicious and trumped up charges that the prison authorities attempted to frame me on. But I am still being held in solitary confinement.

The officials bear a well settled hatred and malice towards me. They kept the newspaper clippings of my trial on the guard's bulletin board for months after this trial. They ransack my cell almost daily, scattering my books, papers and letters all over the floor.

Under the pretext of searching my person, they push and shove me. I'm menaced by guards armed with clubs who continuously pass my cell and call me derogatory racial epithets.

Warden Jeffes has personally sent a memo stating he wouldn't care if I stayed in the hole forever. I have been threatened that if I continue to complain, they would give me a little "coal miners' justice."

I give my consent and freely and voluntarily and knowingly give my permission to Workers' Power to publish and distribute the above article.

In Solidarity,
Sakin A. Latif
State Correctional Institution
Dallas, Pennsylvania



It's Time To Unite

Dear Workers' Power:

Perhaps you know Assata Shakur by her slave name, Joann Chesmire. There isn't much that I can tell you about her because I haven't heard anything about her since '74.

She was/is a member of the Black Liberation Army (BLA). In '73 she and, I believe, two of her comrades were in a shoot-out with Teddy Bear (State Figs) on the New York - New Jersey turnpike.

I believe one of her comrades was killed in this shoot-out. While waiting to represent herself on the New Jersey arena (court) she was sent to an all-male slave pen, up in New York where she stayed until she went to the New York arena for bank robbery.

After winning her freedom from the N.Y. auctioneers she was sent to a slave colony in N.J. where she is awaiting trial. For more information on this sister you will have to write to: Midnight Special 122 W, 26 Street, 12th floor, New York, N.Y. 10001.

Next I would like to say that I enjoyed the article about Women's Equality Day (in WP issue #172). I'm not a male chauvinist but I am a firm believer in unity between the two races (female

and male) and I know that the only way for a systematic change is through the unification of the masses.

I know that women have been struggling for a long time but if it was not for the funky inspiration of the Black woman, the Black man would be worse off than he is.

From All the Brothers in the Hole at West Pen,

Nikrumah Ali Mufitt
Siddiq Yazid Alim
Sajolo El Lutunji
Tabu Rafi
Shot Gun
Muhammad
Lumumba
Abdullah

Prisoner Defends Women's Liberation

Revolutionary Greetings!

I want to write to you about the "Right-to-Life" movement. I believe these anti-abortionists are hypocrites because they consider any type of abortion murder—yet they approve of state-sanctioned and legalized murder, otherwise known as "capital punishment." Right-to-Lifers are an obstacle in the course of a woman's growth and expansion.

They are also a capitalist puppet movement. They try to indoctrinate progressive women to "stay in their place"—which means at home, until the capitalists need them for their "reserve army of labor."

The repression inflicted on politically aware comrades here is unbelievable! I am held in the Behavioral Adjustment Unit—Death Row under the guise that my being returned to the population will disrupt the orderly process of this prison.

My "rehabilitation assignment" consisted of mopping floors and emptying out cigarette butt cans—just like I'm gonna be mopping some rich capitalists' floors once I am out. The atmosphere here is ripe for a work stoppage, shut-down strike.

Carlos S. Soio
State Correctional Institution
Dallas, Pennsylvania

Workers' Power Wants To Hear From You

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

But please be brief.

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

WORKERS' POWER BUILDS CINCINNATI I.S.

by Ellen Donnelly

Six months ago the Cincinnati IS branch did not exist. When the first few members came to town, we realized that the biggest problem we faced was our newness to the city and our lack of roots. None of us had jobs and this further isolated us from the working class in Cincinnati. We were in

effect isolated from the struggles going on around us. Right off the bat we decided to use Workers' Power to break out of this isolation. We knew that we could use the paper to make the IS known and to introduce people to the Cincinnati branch. Our plan was simple. We were going to sell the paper at as many

factories and picket lines as possible. This is what we have done and we have been successful. Just as we arrived in town the Teamsters were negotiating their national freight contract. We went right out and sold the paper at freight barns. There were only a few of us but our sales went real

well. We did the same thing at UPS. Our sales were so good that management made attempts to prevent us from selling the paper. They weren't successful and we are still selling there.

PICKET LINES

We have spent a lot of our time on picket lines, talking to the workers and showing them copies of Workers' Power. When there was an informational picket line at the local main post office we went right down to find out what was going on. Naturally we took along copies of Workers' Power. After we did a story for the paper on the local situation, one of the workers began taking 20 copies of the paper to sell to his fellow workers.

The same was true with the strike at the Westinghouse plant. There was a national strike against Westinghouse at the time but none of the local union officials knew any of the facts. The ranks were in the dark. Workers' Power was well received because it had news of the strike and the issues involved that the workers could not get even from their own union.

The paper has helped us build a good reputation. It has been the best single tool that we have had for getting the IS known. Workers' Power has helped us to become involved. There are now scores and scores of workers who know about the IS and Workers' Power only because we went out and looked for them.

We are still campaigning with the paper. We know that we are small, but we also know that we have a way to grow. For us, using the paper as an organizer means selling it at every possible opportunity and talking to those workers who buy it. We are using the paper to bring workers around us and to show them how the IS and Workers' Power can stand behind them and help fight the bosses.

UNION MAIDS. A film about working women organizing.
Saturday, September 18th., 8 p.m.
First Unitarian Church, 536 Linton, Cincinnati, Ohio. \$1.50.
Sponsored by the Women's caucus of the Cincinnati International Socialists



IT'S YOUR PAPER - GET IT AROUND!

A number of branches have changed WP coordinators recently. If your branch is one, then let the circulation department know who the new coordinator is and how they can be reached. Write or phone us at 313-869-5964.

The branches are reminded that if they need extra copies of Workers' Power for a special distribution they are available for only 5c a copy. Your orders should be placed before 5:00 pm on Thursday.

We still have copies of the special subscription leaflet. They are \$2.50 for 500. Already we have received subscriptions from Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Stamford, Connecticut, even though we have no branches in either of those

cities. Apparently those leaflets are getting around.

We heard from New York this week that a local distributor is going to start distributing Workers' Power to bookstores and newsstands in the New York area. The initial order is for 100 papers an issue with an expectation of getting them into 20 locations. Credit goes to the New York branch for getting this off the ground. We'd suggest that other branches try the same.

If your branch is out campaigning with the paper, write and let us know about it. The paper staff is eager for the feedback and we know that our readers like to read how Workers' Power is used to organize and lead struggles.

International Socialism
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The Soviet Union

State Capitalist

or Socialist?

Send \$1.00 postage to
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JOIN US!

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

Name

Address

Union

**Where
We Stand**

WE OPPOSE

CAPITALIST EXPLOITATION

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

CAPITALIST CONTROL

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

OPPRESSION

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

CAPITALIST GOVERNMENT

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

BUREAUCRATIC COMMUNISM

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

WE SUPPORT

THE RANK AND FILE MOVEMENT

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

LIBERATION FROM OPPRESSION

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

SOCIALISM

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

WORKERS' REVOLUTION

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

INTERNATIONALISM

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

REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

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

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

This 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.

A Workers' Power Forum

SHOWDOWN IN THE AUTO INDUSTRY

Sponsored by the International Socialists

Sunday, Sept. 19, 7 p.m.

Howard Johnson's Downtown Motor Lodge
Ambassador Room
Washington Blvd. at Michigan
Detroit
Easy access from all freeways

Socialists and autoworkers will present an explanation of how the auto contract talks fit into the bosses' ongoing economic war against their employees... and how we, autoworkers and other working people, can fight back to hold our own.

Cash bar
Social hour 9-10 with music, dancing.

VIEW FROM THE AUDIENCE

BOOKS MUSIC TELEVISION ADS MOVIES TRENDS BOOKS MUSIC TELEVISION ADS MOVIES TRENDS BOOKS MUS

FREE GARY TYLER

"Free Gary Tyler" is a play that dramatizes the events of Gary's frame-up. It is reprinted here in full, so that it can be used by Workers' Power readers to build the movement to free Gary.

During the movement of the 1960's, guerilla theater, or street theater, was used a lot to bring people political messages in an entertaining fashion. Groups would go to city parks, demonstrations, or street corners and perform their plays.

Let's resurrect this tradition. Use this play to spread the message of Gary's case. It can be performed anywhere—at a Gary Tyler demonstration, dance, picnic

or rally. Or on street corners, in parks, at high schools right after school lets out.

Street theater uses few props—but lots of imagination. Instead of elaborate sets; use a few chairs and signs that indicate the scenes or who the characters are. Encourage fellow actors to ham it up. Regard this script as a starting point, and add to it as much as you wish.

You may want to end the performances with a short rap on Gary Tyler. And pass the hat!

Send us pictures of your production. All money raised for Gary Tyler should be sent to Mrs. Juanita Tyler, 716 Mockingbird Lane, Destrehan, Louisiana 70047.



Act I: School Bus

[The play opens with four people riding on a "school bus." A crowd stands behind them. The crowd shouts obscenities and racial slurs. The crowd throws "rocks" at the riders.]

[Riders duck to the floor. A shot rings out. One of the racists falls over, dead.]

[Two cops rush out. They begin shoving riders and cursing at them. They hold a gun to the head of one of the riders.]

GARY: Hey! You can't do that. We didn't do nothing. You want to bust some heads, go bust them kids who are throwing rocks at us.
COP: You're a smart nigger, ain't ya? Book Him! Resisting arrest.

Boy, you're gonna be sorry you was ever born by the time we get done with your nappy head.

[Cops grab Gary and haul him off stage.]



Anti-war demonstration during the 60's uses guerilla theater techniques. Demonstrator burns "U.S. Imperialism" and its puppet, Thieu.

Act III: Court

[Judge is wearing a white sheet and a baseball cap, backwards. He plays with a cap pistol.]

[GARY TYLER is seated opposite him with DEFENSE ATTORNEY. GARY is bound with ropes. Also in the scene, PROSECUTING ATTORNEY, and JURY.]

JUDGE: Let's get it on here. I'm a busy judge with a lot of things to do. Me and the prosecutor is supposed to play golf this afternoon, so let's get on with Southern Justice.

GARY: Your honor, I was on that bus. I was 15 years old. I heard the shot, and fell to the floor like everyone else. We figured someone was shooting at us.

The only thing I did that day was to speak up when the police started beating us. I am not guilty of anything except sticking up for my rights.

I was arrested for resisting arrest—and now I'm being tried for murder.

DEFENSE: Let's lay out the evidence. Gary's fingerprints were not on the gun. Natalie Blanks has testified that her statement was false; there are no witnesses. Gary is not guilty of any crime. Set him free!

PROSECUTOR: Fred—I mean Your Honor—you know this boy done it! There is a white boy dead. All he was doing was having some fun, just like you and me when we was kids. Some damn nigger shot him.

And this nigger dared to talk back to our fine police officers. If he didn't do nothing, then how come he protests so much? Guilty, as charged!

Thanks, Fred.

JUDGE: [whispers with jury] Me and my good friends on this here jury find that you are guilty of being a damn uppity nigger. [JURY stamps feet in approval.]

Somebody has to pay for the death of this white boy—and it's gonna be you! Guilty! Death by electrocution!

Act II: Jailhouse



New musical, "Selma," borrows techniques of guerilla theater using sparse props and masks in this scene about the Montgomery bus boycott and Rosa Parks.



Act II, Scene 1

[Cops sitting at table with Natalie Blanks.]

COP: Girl, I got a paper for you to sign. You're going to be our witness against Gary Tyler. We're charging him with murder.

NATALIE: I didn't see nothing on that bus.

COP: [Getting angry, slaps her around.] You better sign this paper if you want to see your baby again. You'll go to jail too, if you don't cooperate.

NATALIE: I had nothing to do with this.

COP: [Throws her against the wall.] That doesn't matter to me. Sign this paper—or you'll be sorry you didn't.

NATALIE: All right! I want to get out of here. I'll sign anything, I'll say anybody did it. Just let me out of here. I want to see my

baby [crying. . .].
[Signs paper and exits.]

Act II, Scene 2

2nd COP: Hey Luke! Guess what we found? The murder weapon. Here's the gun Gary Tyler used to kill that white boy.

COP: That should wrap this case up. Where'd it come from?

2nd COP: I can't imagine how we missed it the first two times we searched that bus [laughs]. It was stuck down in a big slit in the seat of the bus. The boys upstairs are laughing cause they think it was stolen from our firing range. 'Course we didn't know it was gone till just now.

COP: I'll bet you next year's wages that jury is gonna find that nigger Tyler guilty!

[Two walk off stage, arm in arm.]

Act IV: The Movement

[Three WORKERS sit around a table. GARY is still on stage, bound with ropes.]

BLACK WORKER: Act Four is about all of you [gestures to audience] and how we can set Gary Tyler free. If you don't participate in Act Four, this racist drama called capitalism will continue, and it will claim more victims.

RED TIDE: Gary Tyler is a victim of that same game that the boss has been playing for years. They've always used racism to divide us. It is the main game that prevents

us from acting together to demand justice for all working people.

BLACK WORKER: That's right, man. Times are changing. We have to raise enough hell to free Gary Tyler.

WHITE WORKER: We got to get together and fight the real enemy. The only way to win is for black and white to unite.

[All three lead audience in chants to free Gary Tyler. Then they walk to Gary Tyler, untie ropes that bind him, and set him free.]

Workers' Power

Steel Workers' Union

FIGHT BREWING

Sadlowski Fails to Organize Forces

LAS VEGAS—The United Steel Workers (USW) convention wound up last week with few surprises.

Some excitement was generated on Wednesday evening when District 31 Director Ed Sadlowski, probable opposition candidate for the International Presidency, called a caucus of his supporters.

The first few days had seen a strong attack by the Abel-McBride forces on Sadlowski. (Lloyd McBride, District 34 Director, is Abel's choice to replace himself when he retires as USW President later this year.) It was first thought that Sadlowski's meeting might signal a counter-offensive.

Over 200 people jammed into the caucus room. It was clear they were looking for him to lead a fight with the policies of the International.

Once Sadlowski opened the floor up for discussion, the meeting took on a militant tone. Sadlowski resisted this turn of events. At one point he said, "Let's not turn this into a pep rally."

But the delegates clearly wanted action and left the room ready to pose a challenge to Abel.

created position of International Vice President in charge of human affairs. Previously, the Executive Board had been all white.

Of the seven or eight candidates to the position, all of whom were black, Lynch was the only one who had never been involved in an independent black caucus throughout his career.

His appointment was not seen as the signal for a major fight against discrimination in the steel industry by the USW. The steel industry is notoriously racist, relegating black workers to the worst jobs. But Lynch's appointment is merely window-dressing, to end the embarrassment of an all white Board.

The next day, the expanded McBride slate came out. It included Lynch and also William Moran, District Director of Eastern Pennsylvania.

DUES

The next day saw the best fight of the convention. Sadlowski made a motion that the dues system section of the International Constitution be returned to committee for restructuring.

Two changes kept being proposed during the debate: that members working less than a full month pay less than full dues, and that dues be figured on a base hourly rate without including money like overtime, COLA, and incentive pay.

The final vote was about 5-2 against Sadlowski's motion, with a good number of delegates abstaining.

Later on Thursday, Abel appointed Leon Lynch, a black staff rep from Memphis, to the newly-

SILENCE ON ENA

Many people expected a floor fight between the old Abel "official family" and the militants and reformists who gathered behind the person of Sadlowski. But it never really took place.

Steelworkers back home, who expected issues such as the ENA (no-strike pledge) and the right to ratify contracts to be taken up, will have to demand action on these issues themselves.

Later this year, the industry-wide basic steel conference will meet, and the relative strength of the Sadlowski forces will be much greater.

Sadlowski has promised a fight at the conference. It will be an excellent opportunity for the militants in steel to put on record the

discontent of the ranks with the ENA, and also take on the issues facing steelworkers.

But to do so, it will require organization—much more organization and aggressiveness than Sadlowski showed in Las Vegas. □

WHO STOLE TEAMSTERS' WEEKENDS?

A large group of Teamsters are being asked to give up their weekends. No more weekend trips with the family. No more TV football games. These Teamsters will be forced to work "Wednesday to Sunday," with Monday and Tuesday off.

These Teamsters are the dockhands who move the freight at the big sorting centers, the breakbulk terminals that all major truck lines use.

The companies want this new scheme so they can have seven-day operation without paying overtime pay for weekend work. It's more profits for them, more rip-offs for us.

And the Teamsters Union, the mighty Teamsters Union, is allowing this to happen. Teamsters officials signed a new article in the National Master Freight Agreement Supplement, called article 61, Section 7 in the Central States, and article 60 in the Western States.

This clause allows the companies to apply for the "flexible work week" scheme, to a Joint Area Committee in Chicago or San Francisco.

Actually, this was already happening, before the new contract. But instead of getting rid of this abuse, they wrote it into the new contract!

The millionaire-controlled daily newspapers have detailed a lot of corruption in the Teamsters. On this they are right on. But where they are right off is that they are claiming the union is "too strong."

The union is getting so weak under Fitzsimmons and Co., that it can't even protect members' weekends from being stolen.

It is this weakness along with the corruption that is causing the dissent among the Teamster membership. The flexible work week is one example.

In Cincinnati, the McLoans workers have taken a stand against it. In Akron the PIE mechanics went out on a wildcat a few months ago against it. In Cleveland, dockhands at Yellow and Spector want no part of it.

These three Ohio cities are some of the main areas the companies are trying to beat.

The rank and file are fighting back. To win, they'll need to fight this scheme at their own local level. They'll also have to link up with other cities so the companies can't play "runaway shop" with their breakbulk terminals. □



Seven hundred people attended the rally held in Los Angeles.

L.A. Rally Says: "Free Gary Tyler!"

LOS ANGELES—The Rally to Free Gary Tyler held on Labor Day in Centinela Park in Inglewood was a resounding success.

Sponsored by the Los Angeles Gary Tyler Defense Committee, the rally attracted 700 people from the black community spending their holiday in the park. Hundreds of names were collected on petitions and \$70 was raised in donations to help free Gary.

The keynote speakers were Jim and Michele Sims, Gary's brother and sister-in-law.

Jim explained that the warrant out for his arrest in Louisiana was to prevent him from helping to get his brother out of jail.

YOUR CHILD?

Michele said, "how would you like this to happen to your child? Because that's all Gary was when he was arrested, a child."

"We must free Gary as quickly as possible because we're afraid that one of these days the prison authorities are going to inform us that Gary fell down the stairs and cracked his skull open."

A speaker from the Afro-Amer-

ican Anti-Bicentennial Committee gave a short historical review of two hundred years of repression for blacks in the U.S.

"We have nothing to celebrate," he commented. "The Bicentennial is a sham."

A speaker from the Coalition Against Police Abuse spoke of police brutality happening everywhere and that C.A.P.A. was organizing to fight against it in the L.A. area.

DEFEAT RACISM

A Red Tide spokesperson pointed out the necessity of building an integrated mass movement to defeat the racists.

The three-hour program included lively music and a poem dedicated to Joanne Little.

The rally ended on a strong note as the crowd, many of whom had never heard of Gary before, chanted, "Free Gary Tyler, Free Gary Tyler" with upraised fists.

It is this kind of response and support around the country that will set Gary free. □

Brad Black

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