

WORKERS' POWER

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS MAY 2, 1977 #205 25c

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ATLANTA STRIKE ENDS

"We'll Rebuild The Union"

ATLANTA—AFSCME Local 1644 met Thursday and agreed to go back to work, ending a month-long strike against the city. Sentiment was clear: "We are going to rebuild the union. It will be a hard road but it is the only one we can take."

Having beaten the union, Mayor Maynard Jackson is now trying to look generous.

He stated that people could now return to work with full restoration of seniority, pensions and no recriminations. The union noted this, and also noted that he had said such things before and was not to be trusted.

The Local intends to try to force the Mayor to honor his word. They're planning extensive appeals on every case of denial of benefits or reassignment to other jobs. They hope to make recriminations too much trouble and expense for the city.

The union intends to make "Strikebreaker" Maynard Jackson's middle name. They intend to dog his path wherever he goes, reminding people of his traitorous actions. □

Sit-In at Mayor's Office

by Jack Bloom

"Po-lice bru-tality, po-lice bru-tality, po-lice bru-tality."

ATLANTA—City strikers here took up that chant to express their outrage as they were attacked and viciously beaten by police on Tuesday, April 26.

Angered by the city's treatment of them, they decided to hold a peaceful sit-in at the mayor's office "until the mayor decides to meet with us and to seriously negotiate."

Police response was fast and brutal.

Peaceful sit-inners were grabbed. When they passively refused to cooperate, police jumped, kicking and punching.

One man got dragged by his feet down the stairs of City Hall, his head bumping on every stair. Another received a punch in the face that broke his glasses and sent him reeling.

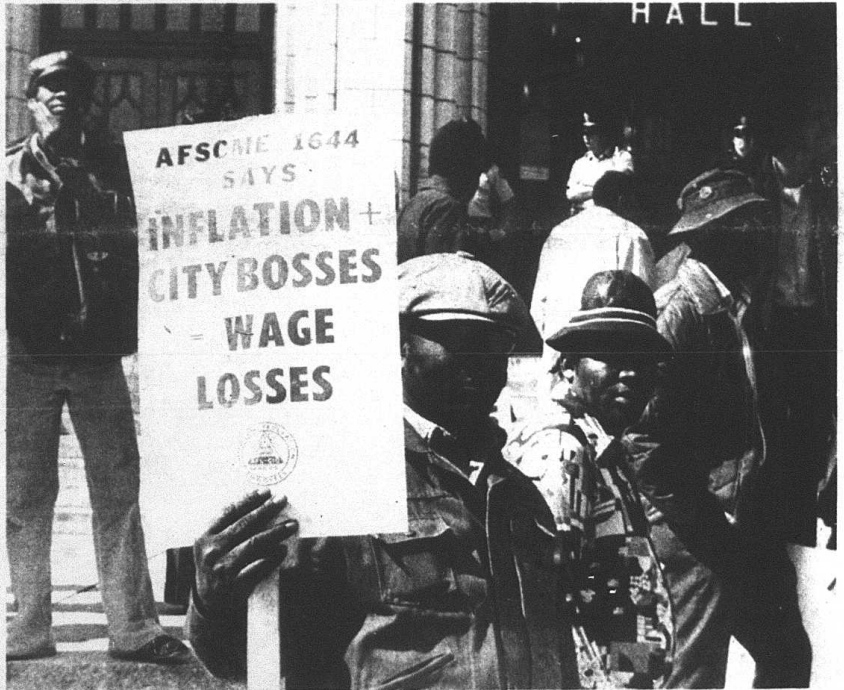
DRAGGED BY FEET

Several others were wrestled to the ground, kicked, and beaten with nightsticks. One black cop drew his gun in this police riot.

Strikers returned some of what they got. Seven police were sent to the hospital with a variety of fractures, bruises and broken bones.

Atlanta, the city that claims to be "too busy to hate," made a pretty good show at it. □

More on the Atlanta strike... See page 3



Atlanta strikers chase Mayor Maynard Jackson.

TELL JIMMY CARTER: HANDS OFF AFRICA!

THOUSANDS OF AFRICAN freedom fighters are waging a war to liberate their country. Zimbabwe is known as Rhodesia by the white minority that rules it today.

A new and dangerous attack on the freedom fighters is being made by two forces which claim to support black majority rule: the Carter administration and the British government.

Britain and the U.S. have announced plans to set up a new "peace conference" to decide the future of Zimbabwe.

Its purpose is to divide the liberation movement and destroy the militant forces of ZANU (the

Zimbabwe African National Union).

The Rhodesian Army no longer has the strength to defeat the Zimbabwe guerilla fighters by military means alone. It is stalling for time by rounding up black villagers and bombing refugee camps in neighboring African countries.

SETTLEMENT?

The western powers hope to arrange a settlement between the white Rhodesian government and African moderates.

Behind their talk of "responsible majority rule," they want to

prevent the Zimbabwean people from taking control of their own country.

Britain and the US hope to succeed by backing up the settlement with direct American economic support, political muscle and possibly, military intervention.

The so-called "peace plan" is a plan to continue white minority rule. Jimmy Carter's racist maneuver must not be allowed to succeed.

Victory to the freedom fighters! US hands off Zimbabwe! □

(For more on the American-British plan for Zimbabwe, see page 4.)

CARTER'S FUELISH LIE

AY, APRIL 19, 1977 — 20 CENTS

CARTER ASKS STRICT FUEL SAVING; URGES 'MORAL EQUIVALENT OF WAR' TO BAR A 'NATIONAL CATASTROPHE'

When Jimmy Carter told the American public that the world would run out of oil, he lied—right through his plentiful teeth.

On Monday, April 18, Carter told the people that if world oil consumption rose at 5% a year, "we could use up all the proven reserves of oil in the entire world by the end of the next decade."

Less than a week later, the United Nations released the results of a 1976 UN conference. It said that there was enough oil and natural gas to last for at least 100 years.

A FAKE

Carter's information was based on a well-publicized CIA report. But it turns out that the CIA report was a fake.

The Wall Street Journal reported that the CIA report was a "cooked-up job." It had been thrown together under the direction of Carter's energy chief, James Schlesinger.

Carter frightened the public with predictions that fuel would run out in ten years...

HIGHER PRICES SEEN

Nation Is Warned It Will Run Short in 1980's Unless Waste Is Reduced

By CHARLES NIGER
Special to the New York Times
WASHINGTON, April 18 (Pres-...)

Schlesinger was previously head of the CIA. Old information and CIA studies were used to paste together the phony report.

Current CIA chief Stansfield Turner also conceded that the CIA report ignored vast U.S. off-shore reserves and new finds in Canada and Siberia.

Much of the CIA estimates were based on current drilling and exploration capacity and not on actual or potential oil and gas reserves.

The UN report was conducted by 70 geologists, engineers and

energy experts.

Based only on known reserves from conventional sources the report concluded that oil and gas would last to the year 2020 or 2030.

It pointed out that new and less conventional sources of oil and gas could easily be found to provide petroleum-based fuels for even longer.

BUSINESS SOURCE AGREES

A 1976 survey conducted by Standard and Poor, a well-known business information firm, conclu-

ded that oil reserves would last well into the next century.

On the basis of known, "proven" reserves, oil would last for decades.

At current production rates Saudi Arabia was estimated to have 70 years of oil, Kuwait 75 years, Abu Dhabi 50 years.

Other major oil producing nations were said to have 20 to 30 more years of unrestricted production.

Both the UN and Standard and Poor surveys argued that new, unproven sources of oil were certain

to be found if exploration and productive capacity were expanded.

There is only one catch. The oil producing nations and giant oil companies aren't going to expand capacity or exploration unless they can increase profits and prices.

Both the Standard and Poor and the UN surveys predict that capacity will expand because prices will rise. The fuel companies will get what they want—more profits.

This is what Jimmy Carter's program is all about. With lies he is convincing us to pay higher prices, to bring higher profits to them. □

UN Oil Experts See Big Supply

Findings Differ from Carter's

UNITED NATIONS — (AP) — Experts at a UN conference disagree with President Carter's warning that "we are now running out of gas and

Carter's predictions have been proven false—there's plenty of oil. But he got what he wanted: higher prices for fuel companies.

Carter's Friends In Gas Industry

by Kim Moody

When Jimmy Carter won the election last November he told us, "I owe nothing to special interest groups." And he has continued to use this theme to sell his legislative programs, in particular his energy package.

The energy program was presented as one that spared no interest group from sacrifice. But when the energy and auto industries responded in a positive manner, Carter faced possible embarrassment. So, he let it be known that he wanted some vocal opposition from a few special interests.

The New York Times reported that the political grapevine was saying, "...the White House would welcome a broadside attack by big energy companies because it would tend to build support for the program in Congress and divert public attention from the fact that the essence of the Carter plan was higher energy prices."

And, as the Times points out, this seemed to have had some effect. Three leading energy executives went on NBC TV and offered criticism of the plan, in measured doses, from the point of view of their industry.

Carter spent \$21 million to become President. And you don't raise that kind of money without dealing with some high-powered "special interests."

A few of Carter's campaign financial backers are of particular interest given his decision to raise interstate natural gas prices.

One of Carter's biggest money men was Jesse Hay. Hay owns the nation's largest mortgage bank, based in Dallas. He had been a

long-time fund-raiser for the Democratic Party and for Texas Governor Dolph Briscoe.

Business Week magazine reported on Carter's attempt to get Hay to serve as nation finance chairman of the Democratic Party. "The talk in Dallas is that Briscoe brokered the Carter arrangement: When Carter asked him for Hay's services, Briscoe tied the request to the President's stand on decontrolling natural gas prices."

Other Carter fund raisers had even more direct ties with the natural gas industry.

Herman Wilton Cain, for example, was a Carter campaign money man. He is also a Vice President of the Panhandle Eastern Pipeline Co., which pipes natural gas from Texas to the mid-west.

In 1976 Panhandle did a business of \$695.5 million. It also has several subsidiaries in the natural gas and oil field.

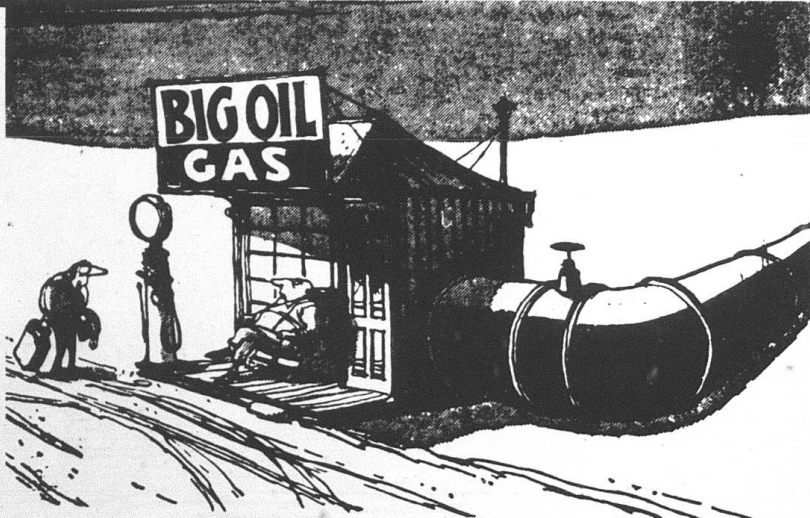
Cain suggested a meeting between Carter and a number of oil and gas big shots. It was held just before the President's energy policy was announced.

Then, of course, there is T. Jackson Stephens, who owns the nation's 11th largest brokerage firm.

He graduated from the Naval Academy in the same class as Jimmy Carter. More importantly, he too was a major Carter fund raiser.

And, as luck would have it, Stephens owns some one trillion feet of natural gas reserves. He will benefit enormously from Carter's price increase.

Carter not only owed something to certain "special interests," he paid up. □



"Well, maybe I got some, and maybe I ain't. What's it worth?"

Rebate Dead, Business Tax Credit Lives

REMEMBER, a couple of weeks ago, Jimmy Carter cancelled his promised \$50 tax rebate for everyone?

He also withdrew support from a proposed increase in business tax credits that would have granted business about \$10 billion.

Carter said these measures were unnecessary because the economy had recovered without them.

Funny thing. The tax rebate, which was running into trouble in Congress, is gone and

forgotten. But the business tax credit is alive and well.

The Wall Street Journal predicts that Congress will pass the business tax credits as part of the economic stimulus program.

As the Journal puts it, "there's a good chance that Mr. Carter won't mind if Congress wants to take the heat for saving the business credits while killing the rebate."

A very business-like politician, this Jimmy Carter. □

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AFSCME SURRENDERS, ATLANTA STRIKE ENDS

by Jack Bloom

ATLANTA—Wed., April 27—The Atlanta city strike collapsed late this afternoon.

It was finally done in when the AFSCME International withdrew its support.

The union urged local members to reapply for their old jobs from which they were fired.

In southern, anti-labor Georgia, this defeat will make it more difficult to organize other workers. It will encourage union-busting.

Less than a year ago, the county workers of neighboring DeKalb County suffered a similar defeat. Their defeat made this one easier.

The defeat is close to a complete rout.

Rebuilding the union will be a long, hard job.

Hard work will have to be done to overcome the sense of defeat, the feeling that "you can't fight city hall." It is a difficult job, but it is a job that must be done.

Already some of the workers are saying that real changes will have to be made for the next time around.

Some 300 Atlanta city strikers showed fantastic strength against this city's efforts to break their strike and bust their union. They refused to buckle under to great pressure coming from the city administration.

One striker, James "Slim" McKinney, expressed it for many in Tuesday's union meeting.

"When we started this thing, we said we'd all go back or none of us would go back. And I'm sticking with that. I'm not going back. I'm not going back," he said.

Most of the strikers agreed with McKinney. They joined him in a stand-up vote to reject the leadership recommendation. That recommendation was to end the strike, accept that they were defeated, go back and try and get their jobs back, and try to rebuild the union to fight again.

The vote was about 10-1 against the leadership proposal.

DESTROY UNION

The city has been out to destroy the union.

The mayor fired the strikers. He refused to negotiate with the union, claiming negotiations were illegal. He hired over 200 scabs.

He sent letters to strikers urging them to come back to work. He set deadlines for them to come back in order to terrorize them, and then later on set new deadlines.

He had an official line: everyone can return to work with no loss of benefits. But when they came back, it was a different matter.

They had to put in a new application. Because of the scabs who were hired, some of them could only be put to work on federal funds, which are only temporary.

Those who went back on those terms came in at a lower pay rate (some as much as 30% lower). Some employees who have accumulated as many as 140 sick days would lose all but 30 of them.

HARASSMENT

Those who have gone back have been harassed. Some were not taken back. Others were dropped to lower positions. Some have been pressured to sign union withdrawal cards.

No one who was arrested during the strike is eligible to come back until they have been proven innocent.

There is no question that the strike had weakened. Once 1400 strong, only some 300 showed up to get their \$25 strike fund checks this week.

Mass picket lines have not been seen since an injunction prohibited them early in the strike.

A rally on Saturday, April 22, got a showing of only some 200-300 people. About half of these were community supporters.

After the rally it was announced that Mayor Jackson was appearing in one of the city parks for a ceremony that afternoon. People were urged to go "greet" him.

When Jackson showed up, he was greeted with a chorus of the strike slogan, "Maynard's Word is Garbage."

Hizzoner the Mayor spoke (but couldn't be heard) about one minute. He then quickly left, surrounded by strikers and reporters.

On his way back to his chauffeured limousine, he stated that everyone could come back to work with no recriminations and no loss in benefits.

Sunday night the union leadership seized on this public statement and urged all members to report to work at their work sites the next morning. They made this proposal first at a small union meeting, and then at a televised press conference.

Monday morning, hundreds of workers flocked to their work sites only to be turned away. The city locked them out.

They were told instead to go to the personnel office to reapply for their former positions. The mayor's word was proven to be a lie.

SIT-IN

So on Tuesday came the sit-in. And the police brutality. And an announcement that more letters were being sent out to strikers urging them to reapply for the

available jobs. . . on the mayor's terms. And AFSCME Area Director Leamon Hood's recommendation that the strike end.

But the strikers refused to go back to work. They were urged on by a striker's wife who got up and told them to "fight for your jobs. They are yours. And stay out there until hell freezes over."

A striker argued that to go back would be to say that those who hadn't struck or who had already gone back were right and that to go back like this would mean that there would be no respect for the union.

Wednesday the picket lines were back up until word came of the International's order to end the strike.

An important battle has been lost here in Atlanta. But the war is far from over.



Members of the community have picketed Grady Hospital daily to protest higher rates.

New Health Rules: Your Money Or Your Life!

ATLANTA—Last week Grady Hospital announced a decision that shocked the Black and poor citizens of Atlanta. Patients will have to pay cash in advance for any treatment. All fees and prescription charges were raised, some going up to four times the old rate.

Grady Hospital was the only hospital in the city where poor people could receive medical care even if they could not pay. If this policy is implemented, the poor will have nowhere to turn for medical care.

If Carter's proposals on hospital costs are implemented, Grady will be just one of many hospital cutbacks.

FREE CARS

Angry residents have formed The Coalition to Save Grady for the People in order to fight the new policy. The Coalition discovered that there is enough money in the hospital budget to buy luxury cars for the top administrators—with free gasoline!

A member of the Coalition told Workers' Power, "We feel that if any services are to be cut back it should be these luxuries for the wealthy administrators, not medical services for the poor."

The Coalition has organized large picket lines at Grady every day. The picketers are often joined by patients and hospital employees.

The Coalition held a sit-down in the office of hospital chief Pinkston.

OVERSIGHT

Pinkston assured the demonstrators that no one was being turned away without treatment. However, he forgot to mention that the only reason patients are not being turned away is because of a legal suit.

If the judge decides in the hospital's favor, it will be routine procedure to deny patients service unless they've got cold cash. The Coalition is determined not to let this happen.

QUESTIONS —AND ANSWERS ON ZIMBABWE—

A NEW PEACE conference to settle the political future of Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) is being planned by the United States and Britain, according to government announcements.

The announcement followed a major tour of Africa by British Foreign Secretary David Owen, who was acting in close cooperation with the Carter Administration.

According to details released so far, the United States will co-sponsor the conference with Britain.

The Geneva conference last December,

which collapsed without any agreement between the racist Rhodesian government and Zimbabwe nationalist delegations, was sponsored only by Britain.

But the truth about this proposed peace conference, and the so-called settlement it is supposed to produce, is very different from what the American government wants us to believe.

Let's look at some questions and answers about the American government's effort to end the armed struggle for the liberation of Zimbabwe.

Does the United States government actually want to promote a peaceful settlement?

Yes—and no. The Carter Administration wants the black freedom fighters to peacefully end their struggle and give up their weapons.

But the U.S. wants this war "peacefully" settled only on terms dictated by the American government. American terms are that the 96% Black majority in Zimbabwe must guarantee they will not touch the property rights and the wealth accumulated by the 4% white minority.

If the United States government really wanted to end the war peacefully, it could do so. It could simply stop the U.S. oil corporation, Mobil, from illegally supplying oil to the Rhodesian government through South Africa. The Rhodesian Army would be unable to continue its war against majority rule. It would have to surrender to the people of Zimbabwe. The war would be over.

But western aid to the white racist regime means that genuine majority rule can only be won through an armed struggle by the Black majority, for their own freedom.

If the U.S. could really end the war that easily, then why is it calling a peace conference?

The American strategy for imposing a settlement is simple. It is to split the Zimbabwe nationalist movement, crush the militant left-wing guerrilla forces, and negotiate with the most conservative Black leaders.

The Ian Smith government of Rhodesia has already held secret talks with aides of one Black politician, Bishop Abel Muzorewa. The western press likes to describe Muzorewa as the most popular Zimbabwean leader. But he has no army or effective organization. By himself, he is powerless to negotiate a sell-out deal.

The key to the American strategy is to split the Black liberation armies by negotiating with another moderate leader, Joshua Nkomo. Today the liberation armies are united in a Patriotic Front. Nkomo is the leader of one wing of the Patriotic Front, ZAPU (Zimbabwe African People's Union).

The majority of Patriotic Front freedom fighters are loyal to ZANU (Zimbabwe African National Union). ZANU opposes all sell-out compromises with the white rulers. The real purpose of the proposed conference is to offer Nkomo a share of power, in exchange for breaking the unity of the Patriotic Front.

The American government would call this a "peaceful compromise settlement with responsible Black leaders." In reality, it would be the beginning of a bloody civil war in Zimbabwe.

If Muzorewa and Nkomo agree to American terms for negotiations, then Britain and America will sponsor fake elections to form a Black puppet government in cooperation with the white racists. Once this government is formed, the U.S. and Britain will give it military aid including arms, ammunition and possibly troops to wipe out the freedom fighters of ZANU.

Will Nkomo accept this? It's not clear. So far, he says he will not have anything to do with an American-sponsored conference. However, the Carter Administration seems to believe this is only bargaining rhetoric on Nkomo's part.

If the U.S. says it wants to see elections in Zimbabwe, does this mean it wants to deal with Black leaders who are committed to democracy?

Hardly. Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the Black leader who is considered most "responsible" by the western powers, has agreed in principle to the idea of a referendum in which most Blacks without "property qualifications" would not be allowed to vote!

The only democratic solution to this war is the victory of the freedom fighters and the smashing of the white-run army, police and state machine. This will allow the six million people of Zimbabwe to start shaping their own future as they—not Jimmy Carter—see fit.

But there is no sign at all that the freedom fighters of ZANU will accept this new plan to sabotage their struggle, any more than they accepted the terms that Britain and Ian Smith tried to lay down last December in the conference at Geneva. The freedom fighters of Zimbabwe—the Black workers and peasants who have gone to the camps and put on the guerrilla uniforms—they are the obstacle to Washington's plan for maintaining white minority power behind a "moderate" Black facade.

How does the United States government expect to force representatives of the Zimbabwe freedom fighters to attend this conference?

In the coming months, there will be tremendous political and financial pressure from Washington on Black African countries. The aim is to gain their endorsement for the U.S. so-called peace-seeking effort, and their aid in forcing Zimbabwe's liberation fighters to end the war.

The public line is that the United States is stepping in to promote a peaceful changeover from a minority white regime to a Black government for Zimbabwe, with guarantees of democracy and human rights for all.

This is what newspapers, television and even many Black leaders like Andrew Young will be telling us to believe. It is also what quite a few pro-western African governments will tell their own people.

But behind the scenes, it's not peaceful persuasion but U.S. economic muscle at work. Hundreds of millions of dollars in U.S. grants to African countries, especially the "front-line" states bordering on Zimbabwe—such as Zambia, Tanzania and Mozambique—may depend on the governments of these countries forcing the Patriotic Front to attend the talks. The well-informed weekly AFRICA NEWS reports that "Western sources are saying the African leaders have indicated they will not try to block the Anglo-American undertaking."

Mozambique is the most important target of this maneuver. That is where the most important military bases of the ZANU army are located. Intense efforts will be made by the Carter Administration to get Mozambique to slow down the flow of supplies to ZANU. If the Mozambique government doesn't force ZANU to the conference table, its weak currency and industries could be threatened with destruction from western economic blackmail.

The whole effort is an attempt by the U.S. government to save all it can of the privileges and power which the white rulers of Zimbabwe have already lost on the battlefield. □



Zimbabwe people want freedom, not phony compromises.

Del Monte Profits From Apartheid

by Valerie Dixon

Many of the sardines on your supermarket shelves are labeled "Packed in South Africa." They are caught off the coast of Namibia, a poor country which is illegally dominated by its powerful neighbor.

Corporations involved in the fishing industry in Namibia make huge profits because of South Africa's apartheid policies. Blacks are robbed of all political and economic rights so that these profits can be made.

The Southern Africa Liberation Committee (SALC) is publicizing the conditions Black people live under in South Africa and Namibia. The SALC wants to build a movement that will force U.S. corporations out of southern Africa.

In Detroit and in Atlanta, the SALC has picketed supermarkets that sell Del Monte sardines, which are caught near Namibia and packed in South Africa. They ask shoppers not to shop at the stores unless the stores agree not to carry Del Monte sardines.

The supermarkets are afraid of bad publicity and loss of business. The support from shoppers has been so good that in every case the supermarkets have taken the Del Monte sardines off the shelves.

Here's why Del Monte is in southern Africa—and why the SALC wants them out.

In 1971, the fishing industry in Namibia made \$11.5 million in profits. In 1974, it made \$33 million. Of the 1971 profits, \$4.9 million was paid in taxes to the South African government. When profits tripled in 1974, so did taxes.

When the industry is profitable, obviously the government benefits. The government helps to ensure high profits through its policy of apartheid.

Under apartheid Blacks are paid starvation wages and forced to work under inhuman conditions. Under contract with Del Monte, Black workers are paid \$30 per month. The Poverty Datum Line in South Africa is \$110 per month (the minimum amount needed to support a family of five).

Workers are also forced to live apart from their families, in the company barracks, during the 18-24 months of the contract period.

These "contracts" are not union contracts. Under South African law, Black unions cannot register with the government, legally picket or strike. Blacks are not allowed to hold jobs that supervise whites.

But it is not just a question of wages or working conditions. Blacks are not considered to be citizens in 85% of the country.

Blacks who work in the cities, and may even have lived there all their lives, are not considered residents in those cities. They

must carry passes verifying their job status and their identity.

Passes not stamped by current employers result in prison sentences or deportation to the countryside. Because having a pass means having an income, white employers have the power of life and death over Blacks.

DEL MONTE

This labor system is why South Africa is one of the richest countries in the world (for whites). It is also why multinational corporations like Del Monte fall all over themselves to invest in South Africa.

When you pay workers 7c an hour, you make a lot more than when you pay them \$7.00 an hour.

Del Monte is not the only U.S. corporation in South Africa. General Motors, Chrysler, General Electric, Firestone and many other corporations take their factories there to rip off the Black African workers.

Many Americans are beginning to understand what the conditions for Black workers in South Africa are really like. Forcing Del Monte sardines out of the stores is just one way Americans can show their solidarity with South African workers.

Write to the Southern Africa Liberation Committee, 149 Ford St., Highland Park, Michigan 48203, for ideas on how to fight apartheid. □

UAW ACTIVISTS SET FOR CONVENTION

DEARBORN, Mich.—Activists from 15 UAW locals met here Sunday to discuss plans for the UAW Convention May 15-20 and for building a rank and file movement in the UAW.

The meeting was called by the United National Caucus (UNC), a long-time opposition group in the UAW. Pete Kelly of Local 160, Co-chairman of the UNC, opened the meeting by saying, "The time

has come for us to stop thinking of ourselves as just oppositionists, as the social conscience of the UAW. "Over the next six years, most of the old leadership of the UAW will be gone. Now we can begin to actually go for power in the union."

Other speakers pointed out that scattered victories for rank and file activists in recent elections indicated a mood for change.

ONE DAY OF BUSINESS

The UAW International has only one day of business planned out of the six-day convention. The first three days will be taken up by

speeches from such dignitaries as Jimmy Carter and Jacques Cousteau. (Cousteau is one of the world's leading authorities on jellyfish.)

The fourth day will see the coronation of Doug Fraser as the union's new President. The fifth day will be open for whatever business the International Executive Board sees fit to introduce, and the sixth day will be cancelled, so delegates can catch their trips to Hawaii and Las Vegas.

The group decided to hold an open meeting at the Convention itself. It will try to draw delegates who are disgusted with the weak

state of the union and the do-nothing atmosphere of the Convention.

The group will try to address several issues on the Convention floor: a short work week, nationalization of energy resources, and organizing the unorganized.

It will also try to publicize the importance of a referendum vote and a two-year term for all officials, of not reaffiliating with the AFL-CIO, and of defending members who are fired for militant union activity.

The UNC will call a conference for rank and file activists in the fall. □

Government Spy Frames Union Organizer

ALEX MARKLEY, a United Electrical Workers (UE) organizer, has been convicted by a jury in Western Massachusetts of possessing and transferring explosives. Markley was sentenced to 18 months, and co-defendant Antonio Suarez to one year in prison.

The case is a particularly significant one because it involves government infiltration and disruption of the labor movement.

The charges go back to the fall of 1975, when Local 259 of the United Electrical Workers was on strike against the Worthington Compressor Co. in Holyoke, Mass. Markley was a UE field organizer, who had never lost a union election in six years of organizing.

As such, Markley was a target for agents of the Treasury Department's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF). The ATF, with 4,000 employees, is supposed to enforce explosives, hijacking, gun and gambling laws.

Just as the Watergate crowd decided to ignore the law, the ATF added infiltrating the labor movement to its activities.

Undercover agent Thomas O'Reilly infiltrated the Worthington Compressor strike and repeatedly suggested to Markley that they blow up the scab trucks crossing the picket line.

SOME BOMB!

After several urgings, Markley gave the ATF agent some toilet paper tubes filled with black powder. Later tests showed that the powder was not even capable of destroying the toilet paper tubes.

But that didn't matter to ATF. Eight months after this event, Markley was arrested. He was taken to the ATF office and questioned about the UE and other unions in the area. He was told that he could get 60 years.

Then came the kicker. "They told me not to call my union," Markley says, "just get a lawyer—and said that if I weren't under indictment they would pay me for the information I'd give them." Markley refused to cooperate, and the prosecution went forward.

Markley and Suarez were indicted and convicted even though there was only one incident of violence during the entire Worthington Compressor strike. That was when a scab attacked a picketer.

Markley feels that the chances for a successful appeal are good. The case has gained the backing of virtually all organized labor from the Connecticut Valley. Scores of other labor organizations throughout the Northeast have also indicated their support. □

—LNS



March Kicks Off NOW Convention

A Thousand Women March For Equality

DETROIT—More than a thousand women marched in support of the Equal Rights Amendment here on April 22. The march was called by the National Organization for Women (NOW), and kicked off the group's tenth annual convention.

Although the slogan of the NOW Convention was "On to the second decade," recent defeats of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) have caused the group to make passage of the ERA its first priority. If three more states do not ratify the ERA by March, 1979, the amendment will be defeated.

At a rally following the march, Karen DeCrow, former president of NOW, noted that the additional three states must be drawn from a group of 15 southern states. "It's called the new south," she said, "but they vote like the old south."

All fifteen of the remaining states are controlled by the Democratic Party. During his campaign, Jimmy Carter pledged that he would "see to it that the [Equal Rights] Amendment becomes law." But since his election, the ERA has been rejected, rescinded, or tabled in six states and passed in only one.

Jimmy Carter has done practically nothing to get the ERA passed—his strategy consists entirely of last-minute phone calls to state legislators.

During his famous radio call-in show, Carter told an anti-ERA caller, "Although I've been in office, and have talked to some [legislators] personally... I haven't tried to interfere or put pressure on them."

"Ain't it the truth, Jimmy couldn't even get his cousin, Hugh Carter, to vote for the ERA in the Georgia State Legislature... and cousin Hugh is on the White House payroll."

NOW was sucked in to Carter's campaign promises. NOW is primarily an organization of white, middle class women who look to Congress and the Democratic Party to win liberation for women.

Because it's now obvious that Jimmy Carter will not "see to it" that the ERA is passed, NOW has announced a new strategy to get the Amendment passed. They intend to use economic boycotts and lobbying. They will urge supporters of the ERA not to hold conventions in non-ratified states. "Maybe women should stop buying Florida oranges, Georgia peaches, and Louisiana shrimp," suggested Betty Friedman.

More mass marches and rallies are not the focus of NOW's strategy—even though it is painfully obvious that this is the winning strategy if women are to gain this basic democratic right. □

Mrs. Tyler Pleads For Her Son

Today Gary Tyler is being held prisoner at Angola prison, one of the worst penitentiaries anywhere in the United States. He is now sentenced to life in prison without benefit of probation, parole or suspension of sentence for 20 years.

At the time he was tried, Gary, as a 16-year-old juvenile, could not legally have been sentenced to death or to juvenile institutions.

There was no law which allows a juvenile to be sentenced to life in prison at Angola. This new punishment was created after Gary's trial, and as such is illegal and unconstitutional.

Gary Tyler is Black and working class. He was convicted by an all-white jury, in a parish (Louisiana county) which is 30% Black. He was denied a new trial, even after the only witness against him said her whole testimony was forced from her under threats that she would go to prison.

For the past week, Gary's in solitary confinement. He has been repeatedly harassed by prison officials.

A petition to hear the case has been filed with the United States Supreme Court. Because many important errors were not objected to by the lawyer at the trial (since removed from the case), the only issue before the Court is the question described above.

So what can you, your neighbors, family, fellow workers and friends do about this?

SUPPORT APPEAL

We are asking that supporters of Gary write to the US Supreme Court and ask them to hear Gary's case and grant a new trial—or release him immediately.

Letters or telegrams should be sent to: Clerk of Court, United States Supreme Court, Washington, D.C. The name of the case is "Gary Tyler versus the State of Louisiana."

If you can, please send a copy of your letter or telegram to the Gary Tyler Defense Fund office. It is very important that the Court be confronted with the importance of this case. Public pressure must be mounted to require the Court to hear Gary's petition.

We don't expect that the struggle to free Gary is going to end with the U.S. Supreme Court. We expect the struggle to continue for as long as prisons in the South are full of young Black men and women like Gary and Joan Little.

In the 1930's millions of workers, farmers and students in the South, the United States and the whole world, rallied to the cause to stop the frame-up of the Scottsboro Boys in Alabama.

Today we fight to free Gary Tyler; tomorrow it will be another Black man, woman or child who is unjustly accused, imprisoned or lynched in the South.

We must stand up and stop these attacks once and for all, and join hands in this common struggle for freedom and genuine democracy. □

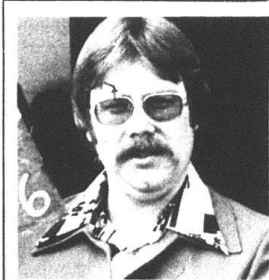
Mrs. Juanita Tyler
For Gary Tyler Defense Fund

[Send all contributions to: Gary Tyler Defense Fund, PO Box 52223, New Orleans, LA 70152.]

Chicago UAW Members Band Together Against Suburban Police Racism



WORKERS' POWER interviewed some of the Local 6 members who demonstrated in Maywood, Ill., to protest racism against Bennie Lenard.



Dan Johnson, alternate shop committeeman

"I've had some dealings at the Melrose Park Police and they're every bit as bad, or worse, than people say they are.

"They're discriminatory, they've tried to bust up our strikes in the past. In fact, in our last strike we had some trouble with the Melrose Park police harassing our pickets. "Melrose Park is an all-white suburb—the whole western suburb which includes Melrose Park, Bellwood which is partly Black now, Berkely, Hillside, Amherst, those towns are all alike.

"As soon as a Black person arrives they are suspected of a crime. These cops will go so far as to plant guns, and that type of thing, to get a conviction.

"I mean, here's a passive guy, involved in a minor traffic accident, and he ends up with all these ridiculous charges against him.

"I think it's pretty sad that in this country, the best country so they say, that we have to put up with this kind of crap continuously. People being hassled because of their background, or cultural differences, or how much they have in their pockets.

"Our shop committee, the steward council, and the executive board are behind Bennie 100%. Even the International Union has sent out letters and that type of thing, which is something—at least they responded.

"But the company, and remember Bennie is an employee of I.H., has not done a damn thing."

by Harry Putnam, Shop steward, UAW Local 6

MELROSE PARK, IL — "It stands to reason that if a man would have an accident, then he'd get out and call the police to write up an accident report.

"Does it make good sense to you for him to have an open bottle of liquor and a pistol on his front seat? And he knows the police are coming?"

"I can't see how these charges are anything but false."

That was International Harvester worker Ovie Akins' opinion of the racist frame-up of a fellow Harvester worker, Akins, along with many of his co-workers, was demonstrating in suburban Chicago.

They were protesting the incredibly vicious treatment of Bennie Lenard at the hands of the Melrose Park police department.

On January 31 Lenard was leaving the parking lot of the International Harvester plant when he was involved in a minor traffic accident.

The police were called by Lenard to make a routine accident report. Instead they handcuffed the man and beat him unconscious in their squad car.

When Melrose Park police officers Argento and Sansone got Lenard to jail they beat him again. Then they stripped his clothes off, threw him in a cell with an open window in sub-freezing weather, and dumped water on him.

Finally the police took Lenard to the hospital, but made arrangements to have him quickly released and brought back to jail.

When the Lenard family finally got bail, he was admitted to the hospital for 39 days. That's how extensive the beatings were. Lenard has permanent damage to his vision.

The police turned around and started charging Lenard with anything and everything they could think of—they were trying to cover up their brutality by making Lenard into a criminal.

But hundreds of Harvester workers have magnificently rallied

to his defense.

When the news first got around the plant, Lenard's co-workers began to organize. As a result the UAW "Local 6 Bennie Lenard Defense Committee" has been working with the local's Fair Employment Practices (FEP) Committee. Together they have raised several thousand dollars for Bennie Lenard's defense.

MANY COLLECTIONS

There have been many, many collections in the plant and at union meetings for Lenard. People contribute because they know the same thing could have easily happened to them—many workers have stories of the Melrose Park police's racist treatment towards Black people.

Through the FEP committee's connections with UAW Region 4, contributions have come in from many other locals as well. The case is becoming well known throughout the area.

Some union officials have been

inclined to limit their activities to appeals for investigations by the state's attorney, and mobilizing the support of UAW higher-ups. This too has had a positive effect, giving the case a broader reach.

The result of the Committee's activities has been outstandingly successful.

• There's been considerable favorable coverage from the news media.

• Lenard's lawyers have launched a multimillion dollar civil rights suit against the city of Melrose Park, the police, and the hospital.

• A broad section of the UAW is actively supporting the case.

• Several thousand dollars have been raised.

All of this has happened because a large number of workers, mainly at International Harvester, have stood beside their brother, to fight for justice. Black workers have responded with the most enthusiasm, but a number of white workers have given money and time to this defense.

The demonstration on the first day of court was an inspiring example. As worker Akins said:

"It's a real nice turnout.

"It's a peaceable demonstration, people are demonstrating in peace and the police are ready for war.

"We've had a wonderful turnout from Local 6. This will do a lot to show that we do care and that we will continue to do this, so that it will never happen again."

The Local 6 members are showing how to build Black and white unity in a society where racist attacks are an everyday occurrence. The Committee is showing that there is no "community of interest" between the police (who enforce this racist society) and working people.

Black and white workers are building a strong and impressive level of unity—they need it to protect themselves. This is the kind of unity a socialist revolution can be built on, to throw out this rotten system and introduce a society where justice—not racism—is an everyday occurrence. □



Joe Valenti, (left) Chairman of the Shop Committee

"The unfortunate incident that happened to Bennie Lenard shouldn't have happened to anyone. But we're here trying to help Bennie Lenard get his justice and rights. We hope the court does him right today."

Bernard Johnson, chairman of Local 6 Fair Employment Practices Committee, (right)

The Defense Committee has been selling the "Defend Bennie Lenard" buttons. We've had a

"We've contacted other local unions which have made contributions toward the defense fund. Local 551, Ford; Local 1061, another tractor local; and various others. We will publicize contributions in the near future because we appreciate it very much.

"The International Union's bearing on it has played a very important role. There was a meeting set up between myself, the president of Local 6, and the state's attorney.

"We met with the attorney at his office and gave him the full details of the story. He promised us a step-by-step investigation. Without the International Union sanction, I doubt if we would have been able to meet with him in person.

"We are expecting a big write-up in the next issue of 'Solidarity,' the UAW magazine which comes out of Detroit.

"The company has taken a hands-off position. The day after it happened we wanted to set up a meeting with the company. The company said they have no jurisdiction outside the plant gates.

"So, we asked a question. How would the company use its influence if this had happened to one of their managerial staff?"

"I think the company was very negligent. Bennie Lenard has been an employee for 13 years. That should count for something."

plant gate collection where we netted about \$1000. At the initial setting up of the fund we collected over \$400 at a local membership meeting.

"There have been in-plant collections, and some of the stewards have taken up departmental collections. We have various other things planned for raising money, like maybe a dinner/dance.

"I don't know how much is in the fund at this time. But if it exceeds what we need then we plan to put it into a special fund and set it aside in case we have to use it for the defense of someone else."



Claude (Smitty) Smith

"All the suburban towns harass Black drivers. You've got to be careful in the suburbs—when they say the speed limit is 25, you can't go 26.

"The Defense Committee has participated tremendously. Naturally, the man is a poor man, so the Committee has been trying to get up the money for his defense.

"You can hear about Bennie's case all over the plant. With the type of union we've got, we would demand this for anybody.

"To be mis-used like this fella was well, everybody has got to come to his aid. If they don't they would be neglecting their duty as a citizen."

"We believe if this can happen to one union member, it can happen to us all—without union defense we would be exposed to police brutality, period."

—Bernard Johnson
UAW Local 6



Some of the Harvester workers protest

Southern Africa News



THE SOUTH AFRICAN government has published a new budget. Its impact will be to push millions of Black people a few steps closer to starvation.

Subsidies on the price of basic foods such as milk, bread and corn meal are being cut 20%. The increase costs will fall heavily on Blacks, who have to spend their whole income on basic necessities right now.

Where is the money going? South Africa's military spending is increasing to \$1.9 billion, a 21% increase. This doesn't include \$16 million for constructing new military bases.

That's not all. South Africa's foreign affairs budget (propaganda and secret operations) is up 27%. And the government is also stepping up its "Information Department" which runs public relations campaigns, especially in the United States.

In the next year you are likely to see more advertising and business promotions by South Africa in American newspapers, magazines and television. They will claim South Africa is successfully dealing with racial issues.

When you see this, remember that those ads are being paid for by Black children going without food, because the price of bread is too high for their parents to buy any more.

□ □ □

AMERICAN SPORTS FANS may find themselves hurt by the recent South Africa-USA Davis Cup tennis match held in exclusive Newport Beach, California.

AFRICA NEWS says: "The United States will almost certainly join New Zealand on Africa's sports boycott list, following the recent U.S.—South Africa match."

"The Supreme Council for Sport in Africa abides by Organization of African Unity calls for boycotts of all events involving countries with sports links to South Africa."

This could mean that millions of U.S. sports fans will never get to watch the performances of outstanding Black African track stars, boxers and other athletes.

All this, just so a few rich people could watch two all-white teams—American and South African—play tennis.

South Africa: Act I Of The Revolution

by Glenn Wolfe



An International Socialist Publication 10c

Order from:
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14131 Woodward Ave.
Highland Park, MI 48203
20c, including postage

Lucille Allen

"I really feel that something has to be done about this or the police will feel like they are supposed to harass every Black man that comes through Melrose Park, whenever they feel like it! Eventually that will give the Blacks a mind to get revenge—and this is gonna cause a lot of innocent people to get hurt."

Walter Moore

"Bennie was my alternate steward for several years—I've never seen him get upset or do anything to bring this kind of thing on. I can't see any reason for Bennie to be beaten like he was."



Bennie and Mrs. Lenard.



Val Klink, Lenard's lawyer

"We had a list of discovery motions. We were trying to find out what happened in the case. We had 22 different requests. We probably got six of them granted."

"We also had a motion to stay the suspension of Bennie's license. They suspended his license without giving notice or a hearing. That's been continued till April 20."

"After that's ruled on, the judge is going to set a date for trial."

"The repressive atmosphere in that courtroom today was really incredible. We were searched. They went through our legal books, our notes, and everything."

"My law partner wasn't even allowed to take notes in that courtroom during the first part of the trial."

"During a recess in the case, all the bailiffs were totally freaked out. They said, 'This huge mob is out there' and 'What are these people trying to do?'"

"The atmosphere around this courtroom is about as repressive as I've seen it. They have never searched people in this court before."

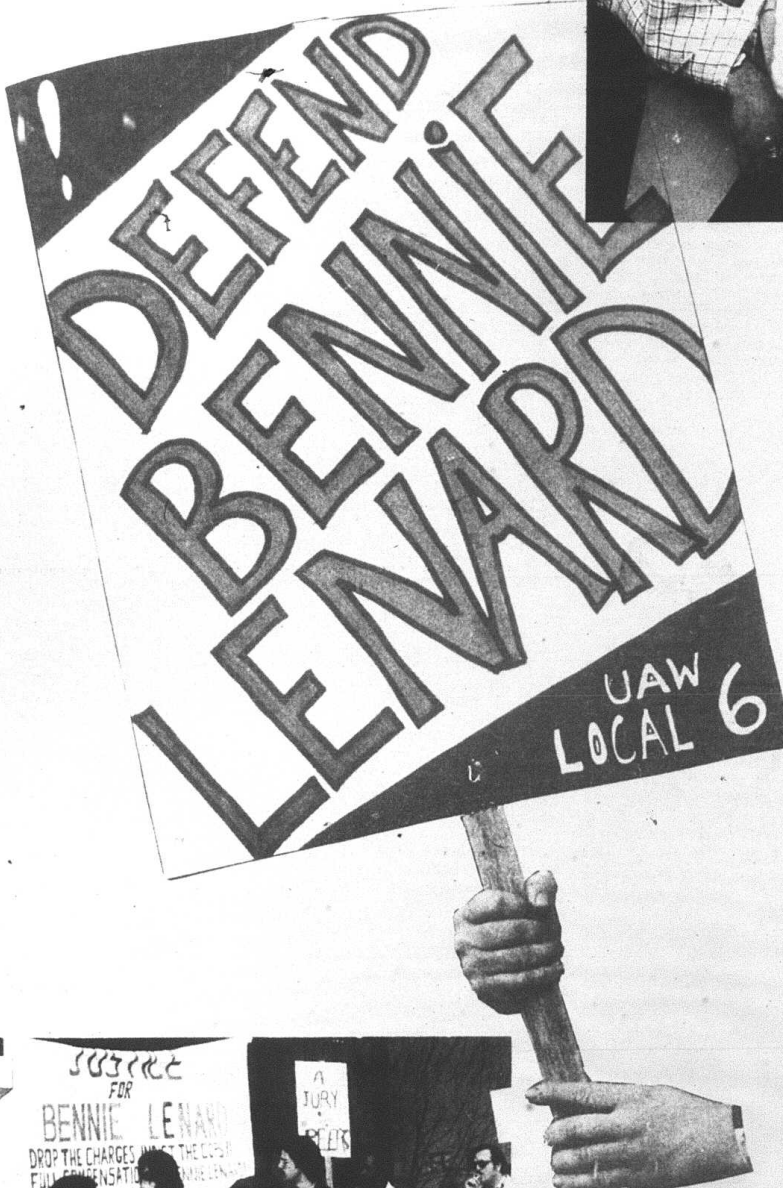
"They've got people up on the rooftop over there, taking photographs. They've had the red squad and surveillance people around here, and they've tried to turn the courtroom into an arena of repression—we have to turn this courtroom into an arena of freedom!"

"We have to keep coming out here because I'll tell you, they know there is something going on here now. The state's attorney and the judge know that this is not just another trial that they can treat in their traditional way."

Charlie Foster

"I wanted to see first hand just what is going to happen with this thing. Bennie really was a victim. You know, this doesn't just happen to Bennie—a lot of employees have been victimized by the police out here."

"I was a victim myself, you understand, of police harassment. I was driving along about 30 mph and got a ticket. Four cars had passed me, but I was the only Black in the cars so I got the ticket."



test racism in suburban Chicago.

Labor Notes

by Jim Woodward



When the basic steel contract was settled several weeks ago, the union declined to estimate how much it would cost the companies. A **United Steel Workers'** public relations spokesman told **Workers' Power** it was too difficult to make an estimate because of the large number of variables involved. Apparently what's impossible for the union is easy for the companies. **David Roderick, President of U.S. Steel Corp.**, told a press conference April 20 that the settlement would increase employment costs for his company by 25% over three years, assuming a 6% rate of inflation. To that the **Wall Street Journal** commented, "This would make it a relatively inexpensive settlement compared with those in other major industries."

The official newspaper of the **AFL-CIO** has reported the steel settlement in glowing terms. But the **AFL-CIO News** did not even mention that the contract was initially voted down by the local union presidents. That fact was an important part of the steel contract coverage in every other newspaper we have seen.

They always tell us in school that if you work hard you'll get ahead of the next guy. Not true, according to a recent study of the **Ford Motor Co.** In 1949, the average Ford worker earned \$3,546. A Ford worker who put in 52 weeks a year since 1949 and never got laid off would have earned a total of \$207,000 by now. Compare that with a stockholder who got the same \$3,546 in dividends from Ford in 1949. Since then, that stockholder would have made \$1,431,000 in dividends and capital gains—without working a single day!

The **April Bell System management newsletter for Northern California** tells how the phone company plans to jack up profits: "Over a 10-year span, the company will have fewer craft jobs.... This year, more and more customers will be able to select their own phones, with personal assistance from a business office service representative. Then, without requiring any special tools or know-how, they can carry the phones home and simply plug them in." The newsletter does not comment on what will happen to the craftsmen and women who lose their jobs or who are forced to transfer to less desirable jobs.

Another way for **AT&T** to make big profits is to pay lower taxes. The normal business tax rate is 48%. Last year the phone company paid only 9.4%, a saving of \$2.4 billion. It's legal. **AT&T** used various tax loopholes such as investment tax credits and fast depreciation of equipment.

UAW President Leonard Woodcock continued his long-standing love affair with **Jimmy Carter** even after Jimmy announced an energy plan that may well cost thousands of **UAW** members their jobs. Carter's proposal to put a heavy tax on "gas guzzlers" may give auto makers the excuse they are always looking for to cut the work force. Not only would Woodcock not criticize Carter's program, he actually took it a step further. He proposed that "gas guzzlers" be outlawed altogether. It's really not necessary to continue to prove your loyalty, Leonard. You've already got the ambassadorship to China sewed up.

The **Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS)** makes a regular practice of harassing foreign-born or foreign-looking workers in searching for workers without legal documents. To aid in this process, an **INS** memorandum advises its agents that "in addition to their dress, [illegal aliens] will also be carrying their lunch in brown paper bags."

Harry Bridges, president of the west coast longshoremen's union (**IWU**), is one of the few American labor leaders who is still closely aligned with the Communist Party. In the late 30's the government tried to deport him to his native Australia because of alleged Communist Party connections. But times have changed and the government and employers learned they could get along with him. At a testimonial dinner in Los Angeles April 6, John McAvoy, an officer of the **Pacific Maritime Association** (the employers organization) said of Bridges: "He is and has been the single most powerful and most stabilizing influence on the West Coast maritime industry and you cannot do enough to honor this man who has never, never broken his word."

Quote of the week, from the desk of **Frank E. Fitzsimmons**: "No force will divide me from the Teamsters Union or from my dedication to the membership. I was elected to serve, and I will serve. And, God willing, I will be elected to serve again (International Teamster, April 1977)." Touching, isn't it. Somebody turn up the violins.

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

CARTER PLANS NEW ATTACKS ON IMMIGRANT WORKERS

by Dan La Botz

JIMMY CARTER and his cabinet will propose changes in immigration laws this week that contain both some of the most liberal and most reactionary labor legislation in decades.

Carter, Secretary of Labor Ray Marshall, and Leonel Castillo (Carter's proposal for Commissioner of Immigration), have been leaking the new immigration plan a piece at a time all week.

One the one hand, they have proposed amnesty for hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions of Mexicans now living in the United States without legal permission (the so-called "illegals" or undocumented workers).

On the other hand, Marshall has proposed that all American workers carry identification cards to distinguish Mexican-American citizens from undocumented Mexicans.

Such national passports are found only in the most repressive police states such as Hitler's Germany or racist South Africa.

The immigration program will probably move along like the economic and energy programs. That is, amnesty will go the way of the rebate, and the **I.D.** will come along like the gas tax—in steps.

WHOSE PROBLEM?

Carter's "immigration problem" is the movement of millions of poverty-stricken Mexicans into the U.S. in search of jobs. They are often imported by anti-union employers. The **AFL-CIO** claims these workers are one reason for the difficulty of organizing the South.

For Mexicans the "immigration problem" is different. It is the high-handed, brutal, racist, and arbitrary treatment of the "migra," the **U.S. Immigration Service**.

The undocumented workers are hunted down and hounded out of the country, despite the fact that many have family ties, homes, and jobs here.

For Chicanos (Mexican-Americans) there is yet another "immigration problem." It is that Mexicans often compete directly for their jobs. "Illegals" attract the "migra" and other police into their "barrios" (neighborhoods). So some Chicanos support stricter immigration measures.

Carter's liberal proposals result from organized pressure from the Mexican-American community. They proposals include:

- Appointment for the first time of a Mexican-American as Commissioner of Immigration. Carter has chosen Leonel Castillo, Houston's City Controller.
- Promise of humane treatment for "illegals."
- Full rights of citizens.
- No mass round-ups or deportations.

"OPERATION WETBACK"

At the same time, Ray Marshall, Carter's Secretary of Labor has called for strict enforcement and more money for a bigger border patrol.



"La Migra" picks up undocumented workers in Florida.

In the past strict enforcement has meant precisely mass round-ups and deportations. In 1954, for example, the Immigration Service conducted "Operation Wetback" and deported over a million Mexicans. Between 1947 and 1955, 4,300,000 "illegals" were deported.

Both Castillo and Marshall say they are after the "big fish." But that's not likely to happen. The big fish are the employers who pay smugglers and labor contractors to lure or bring in cheap labor.

The employers will be protected by their political connections, and the pressure will be put on the

undocumented workers, as it always has in the past.

U.S. employers have imported Mexican labor when it suited them—and driven Mexicans out when it didn't.

U.S. business brought in Mexicans to build army barracks and work in the fields during World War I.

They brought in Mexicans in 1919 to break the great steel strike. Between 1948 and 1964 they imported 4,500,000 Mexican braceros or field hands with temporary work cards.

CONTROVERSY

One of the most controversial parts of the Carter immigration program is the position on employers who bring in or employ undocumented workers. Carter's position has been ambiguous—he is both for and against legal action against such employers.

Ray Marshall, Carter's link with the **AFL-CIO**, supports the **AFL-CIO** position: fines against the employers.

Leonel Castillo, Carter's link to the Mexican-Americans, supports the Mexican-American position: against fines on employers because it will cause discrimination against all Spanish speaking people.

ORGANIZE!

None of the Carter proposals will solve the "immigration problem."

But if **U.S.** unions organized the undocumented in the south, southwest, and throughout the country, then Mexican workers would be no threat to wages and working conditions.

And if American and Mexican unions cooperated in organizing efforts in both countries the wages and working conditions of Mexicans could be brought closer to those of American workers. This is the solution. □

Mexico's Poverty—Made in USA

The real cause of the "immigration problem" is the poverty of Mexico—poverty caused by the United States.

U.S. attacks on Mexico in 1836 and 1848 took half of Mexico's territory: California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Colorado, and Texas.

U.S. business drained Mexican resources for over a hundred years. The oil of Vera Cruz, the metals of San Luis Potosi, the sugar of Morelos, even the sun of Acapulco have been taken for Americans. The profits of **U.S.** business, not the needs of the Mexican people, decided the development of Mexico's resources.

The **U.S.** government backed up business—invasion Mexico twice to protect its interest, in 1914 and 1916, and threatening to invade again in the 1930's when Mexico nationalized the petroleum industry.

It is ironic after a hundred and twenty-five years of rip-off and rampage that the immigration policies attack the victim—the Mexican. □

Workers' Power Wants To Hear From You! Write: 14131 Woodward, Highland Park, MI 48203



Spare the rod & spoil the system

Dear Workers' Power:

I was so angry when I read about the Supreme Court deciding it was all right for teachers to "paddle" schoolchildren. Assault is supposed to be against the law—but the Supreme Court says it's not a denial of a kid's constitutional rights for a teacher to hit him.

When I was in junior high school in West Virginia, the male gym teachers would line up all the boys in their class, make them bend over and hit them on the behind with a board. These sadists did this once a day. These reason? "General principles."

Teachers would drill holes in their paddles to make them sting more. After you got hit, you got to

carve your initials on the board. Sometimes, if two kids were caught talking in class or some other horrible crime, the teacher would make them "trade licks"—hit each other with the board—instead of doing it himself.

Trading licks was a bluffing game. Should you hit your friend real light in hopes he would hit you light too, or would you turn out to be a sucker when he let you have it?

Lots of parents are for teachers hitting their kids when they act up. In lots of families I knew, the rule was—if you get one in school, you'll get another one when you get home. The parents assumed the teacher was right and the child deserved it. Many teachers think they have to have

this right for self-protection.

But all hitting children does is teach them that when they get big enough they can hit people too—their own children, or anyone not powerful enough to fight back.

I remember when I got whipped in the first grade for not drinking my milk at recess. I remember the look on the boys' faces when they would come in from the hall. They were humiliated.

I would like to see those nine Supreme Court justices have to bend over, pull up their black robes, and get forty licks with a law book.

L.M.
Detroit

Beautiful Land, Poor People Where the Coal Barons Rule

Dear Workers' Power:

I just spent a week's vacation in the Cumberlands of Southeast Kentucky. It's an area known for its beautiful land, enormously wealthy coal reserves, and the poverty of its people.

The poverty comes from the wealth of the area. It's all owned, and the land and the people exploited by giant "coal" companies, among the largest of which are Ford Motors and U.S. Steel.

The whole area experienced devastating floods last month. Thousands of working people lost their homes and the savings of a life time of hard toil. Wiped out by a "natural disaster." As national TV reported, the severity of the floods was caused by the effects of strip mining which has ruined the land.

In Corbin, the main town in the area, the local editor reported the same thing—the "natural disaster" was man made, or more accurately, coal company made.

The local Coal Operators Association couldn't vent their spleen against national TV for

telling a part of the truth. But they own these towns and they can wreck vengeance locally on our "free press."

The day after the Corbin newspaper printed the account of the effect of strip mining on the floods, the Coal Operators ceased work on a park they were building for Corbin. They let it be known they would make no further contributions to the town until the editor resigned.

The Town Council, the local "democratic government," immediately voted 4-1 to ask the editor to resign. He caved in and resigned.

The next day the Operators Association went back to building the town park. Another triumph for the "free press and American democracy."

Company towns where the coal barons rule still exist in small town America. But then again, for coal giants like Fords and US Steel, Detroit and Pittsburgh are also company towns.

J.G.
Detroit

FBI: Illegal Actions Continue; Public Must Be Alerted

Dear Editor,

Your coverage of many issues in the labor and political field continues to be good.

One of the things that you have not concentrated on in recent months is the continuing series of disclosures that are being stimulated by the law suits started by the Black Panther Party and others.

It is curious that with so many disclosures about the FBI and other illegal actions against so many groups that more parties have not sued for their damages.

It is only by alerting the public to these past practices that they will understand what the FBI continues to do and will do in the future under Carter and others.

One party has a policy of not allowing their cadre and others to sue the U.S. government for known deprivations. That is the Communist Party (CP).

Your readers might like to know that the CP, as attested to on a recent KPFK radio program here in LA, has forbidden cadre and others to plan law suits against the FBI. Nor is the party about to.

Is someone hiding something? Are they afraid of what might be discovered if they obtained a

mass of documents under the Freedom of Information Act? Are slogans changing? Is it now "Workers of the world unite, you have nothing to lose but the names of informers in your leadership...?"

Lou Victor
Los Angeles, CA

FIGHT THE RACISTS!

Dear Workers' Power:

I have read with great interest articles in your paper describing the activities of openly fascist and racist organizations in the U.S.

The involvement of these organizations in the anti-busing movement and their ability to get some support (in places like Marquette Park in Chicago) in a few places is frightening.

It is good to see that some union locals, particularly in the Chicago area, have made some efforts of self-defense against attacks on their members.

Larry
New Jersey

Peltier Trial Proves: Press Is Free To Agree

Dear Workers' Power:

For over a month, I have been in Fargo, North Dakota, reporting on the murder trial of Leonard Peltier, a member of the American Indian Movement (AIM). Many of my reports have appeared in Workers' Power.

These reports have shown the government's frame-up of the Indian militant.

But as a reporter I also saw and experienced how the government used its control of the court to win their case in that court. I would like to share this information with your readers.

The only press at the trial is the

local press—except for me. They take the government's word without question.

For example, the judge issued a gag order, saying the defense team and potential witnesses could not issue statements. So the local press imposed censorship on themselves. They refused to report on press conferences at which AIM members spoke.

When the government told them that Angie Long Visitor was the key witness, and an eyewitness to the murders, most of the press checked no further. They simply included that information in their stories.

To say the least, they were a bit surprised when Angie testified she never saw Peltier on June 26.

However, John Trudell (a national AIM leader) and I tried to tell them they'd been taken, before Angie testified. They refused to talk about it.

On two occasions I was threatened with not being allowed to cover the trial.

On Friday, April 1, as I left the court room, a marshal asked me if I was with the press and said he wanted to talk with me. I refused, because the day before, John Trudell had been sentenced to 60 days in a county jail for arguing

with a U.S. marshal.

As I went on down the hall, the marshal yelled, "You won't be sitting with the press tomorrow." Marshalls will not allow anyone sitting outside the press section to take notes. But on Monday I was back in the press section.

On Tuesday, April 5, I discovered a number of Indian people downstairs waiting to get into court. They had been told there were no seats.

There is a marshal who determines when people can go upstairs. I informed him that there were plenty of seats available for all the people

waiting. He got very angry, and said that if there were seats, the marshalls upstairs would notify him.

Shortly later, all the waiting people came up and found seats.

At the next break, the downstairs marshal told me that if I ever caused disruption about seats or anything else again, he would personally "boot" me out.

A woman who overheard the marshalls' conversation said they were talking about how they would use any excuse to bar me from the courtroom.

Candy Hamilton
Fargo, North Dakota

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. Capitalism keeps women responsible for taking care of the work force 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 other 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 class 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**
Black people are an oppressed national minority in the United States. They have the right to self-determination—to decide their own future. The struggle of every oppressed group for equality is a just struggle—Blacks, women, gays, Latinos, American Indians. We are for the independent organization of oppressed peoples to fight for their freedom. Support from the entire working class movement will make the struggles of both—the oppressed and the working class 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. We support every fight of the working class against exploitation, and every struggle by nations fighting for independence from foreign rulers. We support every struggle for freedom—from the people of southern Africa against racism and western colonialism, to the struggle against bureaucratic rule and Russian imperialism in Eastern Europe. We demand complete independence for Puerto Rico from U.S. colonial rule.

***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 IS 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 IS into a revolutionary party to build the movement to end exploitation and oppression and to create a socialist world.

Workers' Power
313-869-5964

WORKERS AROUND THE WORLD

MAY DAY IS OUR DAY!

Our Women Led Big Battles

Lawrence, Massachusetts, January 12, 1912. In the biggest textile center in the world, thousands of impoverished workers rebelled. As a newspaper described the beginning of this massive strike:

"Out of the Everet Mill they rushed, these hundreds of peaceful workers, now aroused, passionate and tense. On the streets, outside the mill gates, they were met by excited crowds that were congregated there."

"All of them coalesced into one big mass, and as such, moved over the Union Street Bridge on to Wood, Washington and Ayer Mills, where the same scenes were enacted once more."

"Men, women, and children—Italians, Poles, and Syrians—all races, all creeds...ran through the thousands of feet of floor space shouting 'Strike! Strike! Strike!'"

Women played a central role in this ten week strike. And out of this struggle came an anthem of the working class women's movement, "Bread and Roses."

"As we come marching, marching in the beauty of the day, A million darkened kitchens, a thousand mill lofts gray, Are touched with all the radiance that a sudden sun discloses, For the people hear us singing: Bread and roses! Bread and roses!"

We Ran The City!

Seattle, Washington, February 6, 1919. In sympathy with 35,000 locked-out shipyard workers, the labor movement of Seattle declared a general strike.

The anti-labor mayor of Seattle described its beginning: "Streetcar gongs ceased their clamor; newsboys cast their unsold papers into the street; from the doors of mill and factory, store and workshop, streamed 65,000 workmen."

"School children with fear in their hearts hurried homeward. The life stream of a great city stopped."

The strikers ran the city. There was no violence as the strike committee organized transportation, food distribution, the publication of their own daily paper and unarmed patrols to prevent crime. The crime rate fell to an all time low during the few days that the working class ran Seattle.

And it was not school children who felt "fear in their hearts" that February. It was the capitalist class. And with good reason. A Seattle labor journalist of that time reported:

"Already, workers in Seattle talked about 'workers' power' as a practical policy for the not distant future. Boiler-makers, machinists and other metal trades unions alluded to shipyards enterprises which they might soon take over, and run better than their present owners ran them."

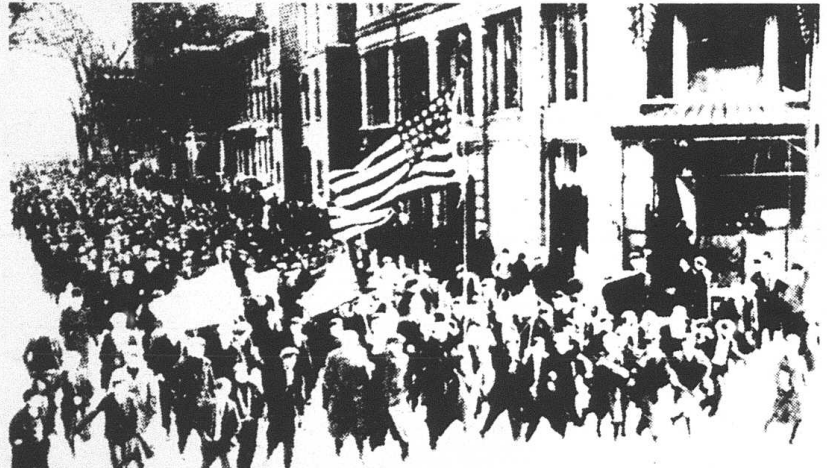
by Kim Moody

All over the world May Day has been the symbol of the revolutionary traditions of the working class. It was not a holiday granted by employers or politicians, but a day of action seized by the working class.

May Day itself is part of the history-making tradition of the working class. But this tradition has been largely suppressed. Even May Day has been turned into "Law Day," a meaningless tribute to the armed power of the modern state.

And along with May Day countless other events and struggles, organizations and movements, ideas and publications, songs and poems, are ripped out of the pages of our history.

To celebrate May Day, we are recalling a few traditions of the American working class.



In 1912, thousands of textile workers marched through the streets of Lawrence, Massachusetts.

Black Socialists Organized

Nineteen-nineteen was a year of social explosion. Mass strikes swept the nation. Black militancy burst onto the American landscape.

In the summer of 1919 white racist mobs attacked the Black community in dozens of cities. But in many of these cities, Black people fought back. In Washington, D.C. and elsewhere Blacks took up guns to defend their community.

A new mood swept through the Black ghettos of the northern industrial centers. This was the year of the "New Negro," the militant Black who fought back. It was also the time of the mass Black nationalist movement led by Marcus Garvey.

In this stream was a current of militant Black socialists. While their influence was smaller than that of Garvey, they represented a serious trend. They saw socialist revolution and Black liberation closely linked.

The best known was A. Philip Randolph. Randolph was a Black working class intellectual who had been involved in several attempts to organize Black workers. He and Chandler Owen published The Messenger, a monthly revolutionary socialist magazine.

In its early years, The Messenger supported the Russian Revolution, industrial unionism, armed

self-defense by Black people, and socialism.

Randolph and Owen built a chapter of the Socialist Party in Harlem. In 1920, Randolph got 25% of the Harlem vote in the municipal elections.

BROTHERHOOD

Another group of Black socialists was organized around the Crusader, a magazine published by Cyril Briggs. Briggs had been active in the Harlem Chapter of the Socialist Party. He left to found a more militant organization, the African Blood Brotherhood.

The African Blood Brotherhood

and The Crusader were dedicated to socialism. They advocated "fellowship within the darker masses and with the class conscious revolutionary white workers..."

In 1921, Briggs and the African Blood Brotherhood, joined the young Communist Party—at that time a genuine revolutionary workers party.

These, and scores of other militant Black socialists, are a part of the revolutionary tradition of the working class, like the thousands of other working class fighters, May Day, and the historic events that have been suppressed, stolen and hidden by the powers that be.

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.

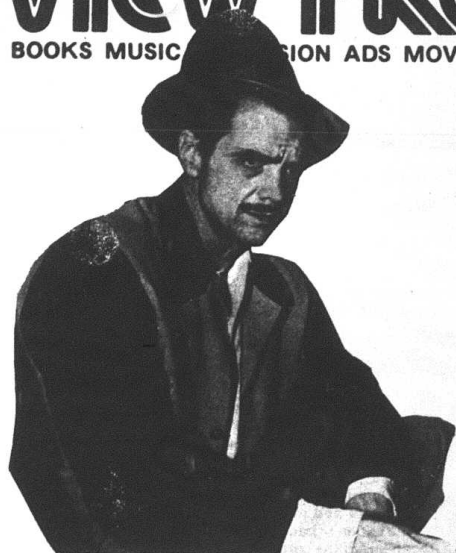
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VIEW FROM THE AUDIENCE

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



Howard Hughes

You can be free as a bird - if you're rich as a pig

The Amazing Mr. Hughes. Starring Tommy Lee Jones. Directed by William A. Graham. CBS-TV.

by Yvonne

Have wealth, glamour, pretty movie stars, the power to buy any little old airplane your heart desires. Give orders. Give lots of orders. Make movies. Make everybody jump. Wouldn't YOU like to be Howard Hughes?

CBS put on a four hour film last week that was a capitalist fantasy in every sense. What they weren't sure about they made up, as they admitted, but they never said just what was fiction.

Mr. Hughes was portrayed as an endearing, eccentric, creative genius responsible almost single-handedly for developing American aviation and the Hollywood film industry, for saving us from defeat in World War II, and for pointing out the Communist menace before anyone else.

The fact that his daddy already happened to be rich and he also insured his success by bribes in high places was glossed over in the usual glib amoral capitalist media way.

He bought people off with such flair! It was so daring to buy every airplane he fancied!

But he cracked up in the end, driven to strange behavior because the government and the movie stars didn't appreciate his creative genius. Ah, pity the poor rich man.

POWER

Yes, folks, the myth makers had a free hand to get us all to fantasize being rich instead of doing something about injustice, insecurity, and inhumanity.

If you and I are busted for loitering, you can bet one of our vice presidents won't arrive and

order the cop to unlock the cell.

It's a new twist on the old Horatio Alger story: Rich boy makes good. The chief appeal of the story was Hughes' total freedom and power over his life.

It's the capitalist fantasy that says you have to have power over others to have real freedom. The Socialist view says for creativity and freedom to flower, power over others has to stop and we all have to control our own lives. □

What's in the New Steel Contract

"Contract '77: From Bargainers to Beggars." A Workers' Power pamphlet. 24 pp., 25c.

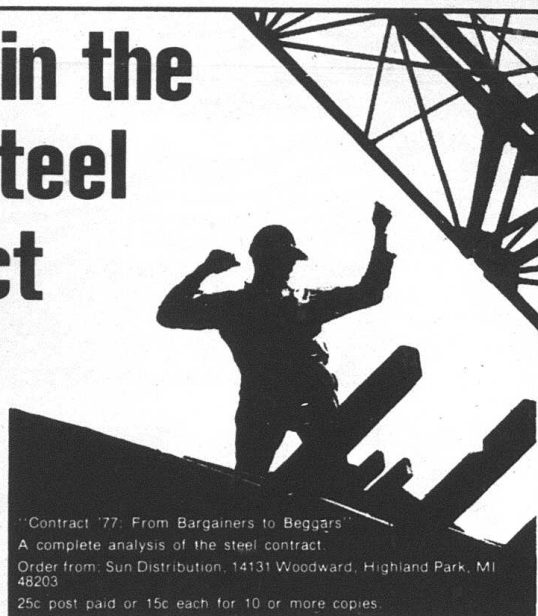
THE WORD'S OUT. The 1977 contract is one of the worst steelworkers have ever experienced. This pamphlet tells you:

- Exactly what changes are in the contract—both the bad and the good.
- Why the contract is so poor—why the union has gone "from bargainers to beggars."
- What the alternative is—how to go from beggars to fighters.

The first half of the pamphlet explains the facts of the contract. Not just the money, but also the changes in other areas as well. Such as insurance. You'll find that one of the insurance gains in the new contract is a vision care program which is almost useless unless you can make your first pair of glasses last 20 years.

A major section covered is the changes in SUB. You'll find out how the new contract may actually provide less SUB protection for younger workers—despite the increases in benefits from \$100 to \$125.

The pamphlet next explains how



"Contract '77: From Bargainers to Beggars"

A complete analysis of the steel contract

Order from: Sun Distribution, 14131 Woodward, Highland Park, MI 48203

25c post paid or 15c each for 10 or more copies.

the no-strike Experimental Negotiating Agreement brought about this disaster:

"McBride had staked his position in the union on the ENA; the companies could not help but be aware of this. They understood that Abel and McBride were so committed to the ENA that they were tied hand and foot at the bargaining table; they could not afford to let the contract go to arbitration and prove the ENA a failure. Therefore they had to accept whatever crumbs the companies offered. And crumbs is what we got...."

Most steelworkers agree with this and would have told you so

even before the contract was negotiated. But there are related problems: How do we avoid disasters like the 116-day strike of 1959? What about stockpiling? What about imports? "Contract '77" deals with all these questions.

A major business newspaper called the 1977 contract "relatively inexpensive" compared to those in other major industries. That means cheap.

If you don't want the next contract to be cheap, you should write for this pamphlet today. We suggest you get one for yourself and ten more to take in to work. □

David Katz

ZAIRE: WHERE'S THE WAR?

The so-called invasion of the African country of Zaire looks more like a giant media and publicity war.

After two months in Shaba (formerly Katanga) province, the rich mining region, western news correspondents somehow haven't been able to locate a single battle.

This doesn't go too well with the claims of Mobutu Sese Seko, the President for life of Zaire, who claimed his outnumbered troops were holding the line against overwhelming odds in the face of a Cuban-led invasion army from Angola.

If battles were press releases, Mobutu by now would be established as one of the great military leaders of the twentieth century.

However, despite the comedy of the Zaire regime's communique war, the conflict in Shaba province is still an explosive crisis for Africa.

Zaire is the west's major base for a possible invasion of Angola. Every plane, every dollar in aid to Mobutu today, props up his regime and adds to the threat of war against Angola in the future.

WAR WARY

The last thing Mobutu's well-paid officer corps wants is any real fighting. But the King of Morocco has rushed 1500 troops to Zaire, with another 1500 standing by. The governments of Egypt and Uganda

have also pledged to send troops if needed.

So the anti-Mobutu insurgents, who aren't Cubans at all, have just melted into the Shaba countryside.

Meanwhile France, Belgium, West Germany and the United States have supplied Mobutu with everything from aircraft and advisers, to heavy weapons, ammunition, parachutes and Coca-Cola.

This isn't surprising. Mobutu is a pro-American dictator who keeps his country safe for Belgian mining capital, French businessmen and American banks. His regime is also in danger of collapsing under the weight of its own corruption, bureaucracy and foreign debts.

The escalating western intervention in Zaire is being justified as a legitimate struggle to maintain the stable borders of an African nation. That's why there were so many rumors of an invasion, launched by Angola with Cuban officers.

But the forces rushing aid to Mobutu today, in the name of stability, are the very same powers who sponsored the bloody invasion of Angola by the armies of South Africa and Zaire in 1975-76!

Now, the Moroccan army in Zaire is reportedly pushing west toward the Angola-Zaire border. Will we soon hear Mobutu claiming the right to "hot pursuit" of the

so-called "Cuban mercenary forces" over the border into Angola?

Mobutu has not given up his ambition of turning northeast

Angola into his own colony. It is possible that the western powers have given him the troops and the equipment to give it another try. □

WORKERS' POWER

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Sterling Heights Strikers Tell UAW Leaders:

"Go Back And Do It Again Till You Get It Right"

by Bill Parker
UAW Local 51

STERLING HEIGHTS, Mich.—Thursday, April 28—Workers at Chrysler Corp.'s Sterling Stamping plant refused to vote today on the tentative local agreement brought back by their negotiators. On strike for a week, they demanded time to study details of the agreement, forcing postponement of the vote till Friday.

Many workers at the meeting said the contract contained nothing new. The main issues included the

plant doctor, orders from more than one foreman, summer-time vacations, and health and safety items.

Most of Chrysler's assembly operations have come to a halt. Chrysler has been anxious to get their '77 models done in time to begin on the '78s.

NO HOODS OR DOORS

But with no hoods, fenders or doors coming out of Sterling Heights, four car assembly plants were shut down and at least three

other plants were on part-time schedules.

The Sterling Heights strike is especially significant because it marks one of the few times the UAW International has allowed a local union to set a second strike deadline after rejecting an original tentative agreement.

When the Local 1264 membership voted the first settlement down, word spread quickly that there wouldn't be another. Management's position in such situations has been to refuse further

negotiations.

The UAW International usually agrees. In 1973 some plants, such as Chrysler's Mound Road Engine, went three years without a local agreement because they insisted on rejecting the first offer.

At Sterling Heights, however, membership pressure forced another strike deadline—April 22. This time the strike jumped off in earnest.

Already this strike has given a push to locals in similar situations, such as Local 869 at Chrysler's

Warren Stamping plant which twice voted down their tentative agreement. The Local 869 Executive Board had already voted to ask the UAW International for another strike deadline.

At Sterling Heights, the International retreated on its attitude of "it's the best we could do." They were not expecting a second rejection. If the members of Local 1264 force their bargainers to bring back a decent offer, it will only make auto workers in other locals hungry. □

Workers' Power

PROTEST STEEL CONTRACT

"This isn't the first time the rank and file got sold out—they were sold the minute that the ENA was signed," the steelworker's wife told a hundred rank and file steelworkers from the Midwest. The demonstration against the recently signed basic steel contract was at the headquarters of the

representatives of rank and file groups from many parts of the country:

- Steelworkers Stand Up (SSU), US Steel Clairton Works, Local 1557
- 1397 Rank and File, US Steel Homestead Works, Local 1397
- Steelworker Rights, Republic Steel Cleveland Works, Locals 1157 and 1098
- Rank and File Team (RAFT), Youngstown Sheet and Tube, Local 1462
- Rank and file from as far away as Baltimore and Chicago

The USWA members marched out from Mellon Square through downtown and to the International Headquarters chanting: "ENA—No Way," and carrying signs with

slogans such as: "Lloyd McBride You Can't Hide, We Know You're On the Other Side," and "The Companies Do What They Like Because the Rank and File Can't Even Strike."

POOREST CONTRACT

The protest was aimed at the basic steel contract negotiated by I.W. Abel under the no-strike Experimental Negotiating Agreement (ENA). The ENA is directly responsible for it being one of the



poorest contract settlements in basic industry.

Rank and file disgust with the contract is intensifying the discontent with the Abel/McBride leadership.

Steelworkers Fight Back, which was Ed Sadlowski's USWA presidential campaign organization, is the one national opposition group which could pull together all of the individuals and groups of steel-

workers into a force which could change the union.

The demonstration was a success in focussing public attention on Abel's failure to represent the steelworkers. The protest against the sellout contract will continue and the work around local issues will set the basis for a better rank and file movement for the next convention and beyond. □

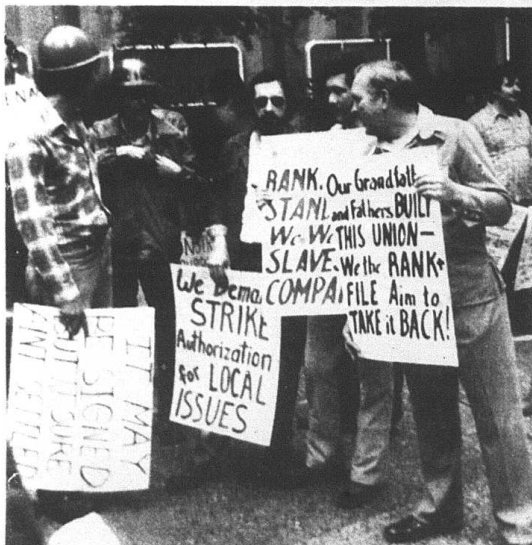
Susie McCarthy

JUST PUBLISHED

Workers' Power pamphlet on the basic steel contract—See page 11.

United Steel Workers in Pittsburgh. It was the second time the International offices had been picketed in eight days.

The rally, called by the "Steelworker" newspaper, brought re-



Italy: Women Rally To Defend Rape Victims

In Italy, a woman who has been raped is supposed to keep it a secret. Rape is rarely reported, rarely prosecuted—and when it is, the trial is private.

Women are often expected to marry their rapists. And if the matter can be resolved that neatly, the court will absolve the guilty man in return.

But when Claudia Caputi was brutally gang-raped by 17 young men last August, she said "No!" to that sexist tradition.

Caputi pressed charges and demanded a public trial. Seven men have been charged, including Caputi's companion who joined in.

Five days after the trial opened, Caputi was found lying semi-conscious by the road. She had been raped again and slashed with a razor blade. She is still in the hospital.

Caputi told police that three of the men who had originally raped her were involved in the second incident.

The Italian women's movement has rallied to Caputi's defense. They maintain a constant vigil in her hospital room. Outside the courtroom, as many as 2000 feminists have gathered. They raise their hands in a triangular

sign (denoting the womb), that has become a symbol of sisterhood.

STRENGTH

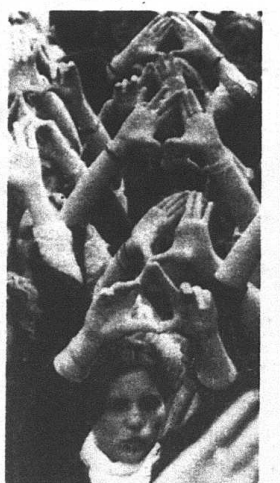
"Le fememiste," Caputi said, "they're the ones who have given me the strength to fight."

The Italian women's movement is a strong force in Italian politics. Only a few years ago, the women's movement consisted of scattered and isolated groups. But last year 50,000 women marched in Rome to demand free abortion. That march brought down the Italian government and forced new elections.

Italian women won the right to divorce in 1970, a significant achievement in a country dominated by the Catholic Church.

Now Italian women are taking to the streets in defense of Claudia Caputi. Women rallying outside the court shout "Basta! Enough of the violence against women's bodies!" and "Claudia is not afraid!"

All seven of the men were found guilty. Three received prison sentences of three to four years. The other four received suspended sentences. □



Italian women in the streets, supporting Claudia Caputi.

E. Clarke