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# WORKERS' POWER

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS OCTOBER 10, 1977 #226 25c

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# FBI Knew B'ham Church Bombers 13 Years Ago

## KLANSMAN ACCUSED

DID IT REALLY TAKE 14 years to find out who murdered the four Black children? Not a bit of it.

Peggy Roberson, a special correspondent for the Afro-American newspaper, writes:

"Within a year of the bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham in which four young girls died, FBI investigators were pretty sure who did it.

"They had suspects as well in most of the other 20 bombings which rocked Birmingham's Black community in the eight years leading up to the murders which horrified Birmingham, the country and the world.

One of those "other bombings" was the 1958 bombing of the Bethel Street Baptist Church. Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth, President of the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights, was pastor.

J.B. Stoner, head of the National States Rights Party, has just been indicted for that bombing—19 years later.

### WHY DELAY?

Why the delay? Federal prosecutors claim they didn't have evidence, or witnesses willing to talk, in order to get convictions.

• But lack of evidence or witnesses never stopped the FBI or Justice Department when they set out to crush the Black Panther Party and other militants.

• Lack of evidence never stopped FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover's years-long campaign



DENISE MCNAIR



CYNTHIA WESLEY



CAROL ROBERTSON



ADDIE COLLINS

to sabotage and do away with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The reality, of course, is that one unpunished racist bombing simply led to the next.

Five years after the bombing of Shuttlesworth's church, no one was arrested. The bombers who struck the Sixteenth Street

Church knew they would get away too.

Four children died because the FBI, which knew who committed those other 20 bombings, brought no one to justice for them.

It was too busy trying to destroy every Black leader who

Denise McNair would have been 25 years old, this year.

Her friends Cynthia Wesley, Carol Robertson and Addie Collins would have been 28.

They were killed when a powerful bomb destroyed the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, while they were in the basement changing out of their choir robes.

That was September 15, 1963.

That same night, the Alabama National Guard occupied the Birmingham Black community to prevent "disorders."

Several more Black children were killed, including an 11 year old boy who was shot in the back while riding his bicycle.

But let no one way the wheels of justice don't turn in America.

The State of Alabama charged a Klansman named Robert Chambliss for the murder bombing of the church in Birmingham.

That was two weeks ago. It only took 14 years to indict him.

stood up against the bombers and what they stood for.

Fourteen years later, Alabama Attorney General Bill Baxley has brought charges against Chambliss and Stoner. But he can't indict the Federal Bureau of Investigation, J. Edgar Hoover and the U.S. government. □

**Iron Age** **Republic** **Bethlehem** **Inland Steel**

USS

The steel companies are throwing thousands of steelworkers on the unemployment lines. They are telling us we should blame foreign imports. But WORKERS' POWER did a little research. We found out that the real story's a bit different.

READ ABOUT **The Big Lie p.6-7**

# STOP THE KLAN'S TERROR!

Would you believe that the Ku Klux Klan "does not promote violence as a means to effect political change"?

Would you believe that Klan cross-burnings are a "symbolic exercise of free speech"?

Would you believe that a Klan rally scheduled for a school playground in Mississippi was—now get this—"a peaceful assembly open to the general public, regardless of race, creed or religion"?

You wouldn't believe it. No one with any knowledge or experience of Ku Klux Klan terrorism would believe it.

But, incredible as it seems, a majority of the National and Mississippi Boards of Directors of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) believes it.

The case arose when the Harrison County Board of Education refused the Klan permission to hold a rally at the Saucier Elementary School baseball field.

The rally was subsequently held on a private farm. It was one element in a series of developments revealing a resurgence of KKK activity in Mississippi.

## IT AMING CROSSES

In March, the night after a Black march against an incident of police brutality in Stone County, a cross was burned in Wiggins.

The Stone County Enterprise ran the headline story "Blacks March During Day and Cross Burns At Night." Black community leaders viewed this as an obvious threat.

In August, just prior to the Klan rally, 31 cross burnings were reported all across the state.

Ku Klux Klan cross-burnings aren't just symbolic acts. They don't represent just an expression of political ideas.

They are inseparable from the Klan's real program: a program of direct intimidation and terror against Black people.

The Klan, like any extreme racist or fascist movement, recruits people by proving its ability to engage in physical intimidation of minorities today.

The fascists tell their supporters that these acts are only a taste of what they'll be able to do if they ever take power.

Yet the ACLU went to bat for the Ku Klux Klan's so-called "right" to hold its Harrison County rally.

## NON-VIOLENCE?

It told the court that the Klan does not promote violence, and

even maintained in its brief that the rally was to be a peaceful assembly open to all!

The ACLU took this action over the strongest objections of half the members of the Mississippi ACLU Board of Directors.

At a special meeting on August 28, the Mississippi Board split 7-7 on whether to continue to defend the Klan.

Clint Deveaux, a Black member of the ACLU National Board of Directors, was flown in from Atlanta to argue that the new KKK had abandoned its old ways.

None of the Blacks on the Mississippi ACLU board agreed with him.

The 7-7 tie was broken when Mississippi ACLU President Dick Johnson, who had indicated earlier he would oppose defending the KKK, switched sides.

What makes the action more scandalous is that in 1971 and 1972 the ACLU refused to come to the defense of members of a Black nationalist party, the Republic of New Africa, on trial in Mississippi.

The ACLU was not asked to endorse RNA's political positions, but only to defend their constitutional rights which had been violated by illegal searches and seizures, and failure to notify defendants of constitutional rights.

But ACLU would not take up this case.

To their credit, a number of Mississippi ACLU board members, led by Henry J. Kirksey, refused to accept the decision to defend the

Klan and resigned from the organization.

"We do not and will not submit to the pressures of the National ACLU representatives that have come here to sell us on acceptance of the Klan as a client," they said in a press statement.

"Efforts to appease us... have only served to make us more resolute in our convictions and strengthen us in our struggle against racism, oppression and the denial of human rights in this country.

"We hereby tender our resignation from this organization... and call upon our constituents and friends to register their support of the position we take here today."

The people who have resigned from the ACLU are the ones who understand civil liberties.

Because this is a case of civil liberties. The rights of Black people to be free of racial intimidation and terror are at stake.

Those rights are not compatible with defending the Klan's "rights" to burn crosses and organize for genocide.

There is only one way that our right to be free of racist terror—the right to our lives—can be guaranteed.

And it won't be by counting on the Harrison County School Board, the State of Mississippi, or the FBI. The only way is to clean the racist scum off our streets.



A Klan cross-burning (above) and a calling card (left). This isn't "free speech"—it's a direct threat to Black people's lives.

## Peach Council Leads The Way

### NEW TREND IN INDUSTRY?

by Woody Grimshaw

The National Peach Council has a better idea. In a letter to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), they suggested that the side effects of a pesticide, DBCP, might be used to the benefit of society. DBCP causes sterility in males.

Laborers in peach orchards regularly come in contact with the chemical. "Couldn't workers who were old enough that they no longer wanted to have children accept such positions voluntarily?" suggests the Peach Council.

Working in peach orchards can also be "a means of getting around religious bans on birth control."

The idea is intriguing. Seeking further information, I phoned Philbus Fillmore, Director of OSHA's Industrial Safety Department.

"You won't believe the number of calls we've received in the last few days," said Fillmore.

"Employers from Maine to California have phoned to suggest ways that the health hazards in their particular industries might be put to good use.

"From the coal industry comes the suggestion that lung cancer victims could be sent into the mines."

Fillmore quotes one coal executive: "Who worries about lung when you've got no lungs?"

A steel industry spokesman expressed his concern for the plight of the elderly. "In a board meeting the other day we were sitting around thinking about how hard it's going to be for older people this winter. Many can't afford to pay for heat. I hear that some even freeze to death," he said.

"We've got a solution. Let them tend our coke ovens. It's warm and comfy. Eight, ten hours a day, and we won't even charge 'em."

A novel idea comes from Trucking Employers Incorporated. "Let's put insomniacs to work driving trucks. They can't sleep—the industry needs people like that. We could extend maximum hours on the road. Twelve, fourteen, sixteen hours a day, with no danger of drowsiness. We'll benefit, the public will benefit, and the insomniac will have something to do at night besides pace the floor."

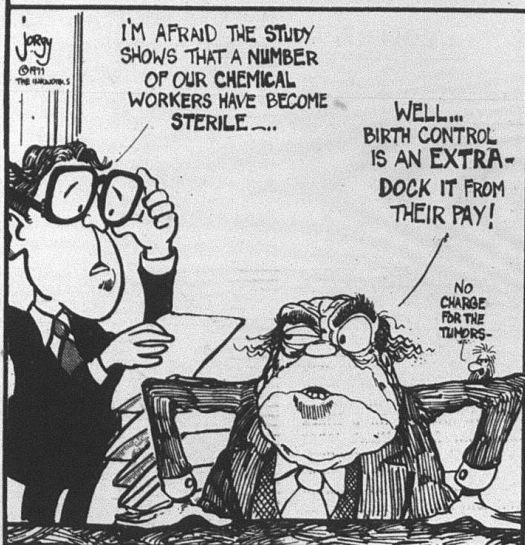
Suggestions continue to pour in.

Alcoholics could be concentrated in industries with high rates of liver disease. The deaf could work in high noise areas.

People who are missing limbs could be employed tending machines without safety guards.

Fillmore confided to me that some of the same sort of thinking has led to changes in the building in which he works.

"Used to be it cost a fortune to keep this place warm in the winter," says Fillmore. "But then one of the younger guys got the idea to run a pipe directly over here from the White House. All that hot air cuts our fuel bill in half."



## Workers' Power 226

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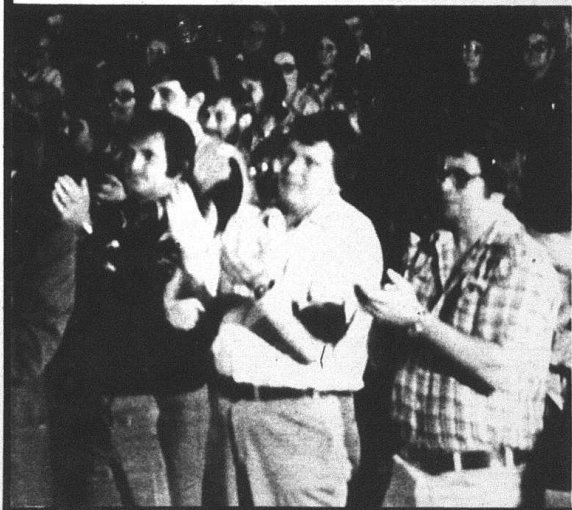
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# Teamster Rebellion Shakes Canada's Largest Local

by Jim Woodward

On October 3, a Canadian court teamed up with Ed Lawson, vice president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, to evict reformer Jack Vlahovic from office as Secretary-Treasurer of Teamsters Local 213.

The case is particularly important for two reasons. First, it involves the largest Teamster local in Canada. Local 213's jurisdiction covers British Columbia and the Yukon, from the U.S. border to the Arctic Circle.



## POWER GRAB

More important, the case involves a blatant power grab by the officials defeated in Local 213's January elections.

After a rank and file reform slate won the top local offices, the defeated officials, led by Lawson, brought charges against Vlahovic. In kangaroo court proceedings, he was expelled from the union for life and barred from holding any Teamster office.

Local 213's membership rallied to Vlahovic's defense. There were some work stoppages, and rank and file members camped out in Vlahovic's office to prevent his removal.

That came to an end Monday, when a Canadian judge granted an injunction ordering Vlahovic out by midnight.

The membership is "not too



Left to right, Ron Columbus, Jim Blomfield, and Jack Vlahovic at the Teamsters for a Democratic Union convention.

happy about it," Vlahovic's assistant, Ron Jones, told Workers' Power.

"Hell, they elected Jack, and it was a fair election, a democratic election, and he's down the drain now... he's had to vacate."

## WHAT'S AT STAKE

At stake in this fight are two things.

For the membership, the issue is whether they are going to have a militant, democratic union, with the right to elect their own officers.

For the former officers of the local, the struggle is to regain their power and privileges.

Vlahovic, Jim Blomfield, and Ron Columbus of Local 213 attended the Teamsters for a Democratic Union (TDU) national convention in Cleveland recently. While there, they told Workers' Power about their situation.

Blomfield described what things were like when he got involved in the struggle:

"I got into this because it was really apparent to me that the members were no longer being represented by the union. It was just sickening.

"The officers didn't care less. It was golf game after golf game, cocktail lounge after cocktail lounge. So some way, it had to be stopped."

"Now what's happened," added Columbus, "is that Ed Lawson lost the election to Jack Vlahovic, so

what he's saying is, 'All right you guys—I don't like to lose and I'm gonna get back at you.'

"He's like a little boy in the school yard who says, 'Ah, you beat me but I'm gonna get you. I'm gonna get you.' And the members seem to get angrier and angrier when they start learning really what's been going on."

## FIGHT NOT OVER

Though Vlahovic is out of office for the moment, the fight is not over by any means.

Vlahovic has demanded a hearing before the union's International Executive Board. If that goes against him, he will be free to take the issue back to court.

And at the same time, the Local 213 reformers are trying to build rank and file power within the union. They are organizing a Teamsters for a Democratic Union chapter in their local.

At the TDU convention, Vlahovic told Workers' Power, "I want to say that I fully support the members of the TDU, their aims and objectives.

"Hopefully, with the people here and the enthusiasm that's here, the TDU will continue to grow on the basis of that common goal—to give the rank and file power within their own organization."

TDU is publicizing the case in the U.S. and Canada and is collecting petitions to the International supporting Vlahovic. □

# Strikebreaker Re-elected Mayor of Atlanta

by Jack Bloom

ATLANTA — Mayor Maynard Jackson has been overwhelmingly elected for a second term.

He won his second election with over two-thirds of the vote, and he helped swing some of the city council elections. His prestige and power have never been greater.

Atlanta's Black community now determines who will sit in the mayor's office, but they do not determine what he will do.

Jackson swept to an easy victory because there was no credible Black candidate to challenge him.

Everyone knew even before the election campaign began that Jackson was going to win, even though he failed to get labor council endorsement and AFSCME, the city workers' union, endorsed an opponent.

## FIRST BLACK MAYOR

Jackson is the Superman of Atlanta. He graduated from Morehouse College at 18. At 35 he was the first black mayor and the youngest person to be elected mayor of this city.

The issue in 1973 was clear: Black vs. white. Jackson fought a bitter campaign against the incumbent Sam Massell.

Massell was a liberal who had unsuccessfully sought to break a strike of the city workers. Jackson

had taken their part, and was backed by AFSCME and by labor generally.

Massell tried to win by stirring white fears of black domination.

When Jackson won in 1973, the Black community felt that it had won. Blacks felt they would finally get a crack at equal treatment.

The white middle class community, which is large in Atlanta, felt dispossessed. And the white Chamber of Commerce, which had run the town as long as anyone could remember, felt up against the wall.

## BATTLES AND CHANGES

The 1973 Jackson victory meant some battles and some changes.

He tried to get rid of the hated white police chief. When he failed, he simply created a new job, Public Safety Commissioner, and rendered the chief powerless.

He fought for a Black share of city contracting.

Almost everything he did was seen in racial terms, including even his attempt to get a new central library.

So the Black community has drawn solidly behind him and has tended to see an attack on Maynard as an attack on them.

When Maynard Jackson broke the city workers' strike some months ago and became the biggest scab in the nation, most of

the Black community didn't know what to make of it.

And many people came to his support because they were used to supporting Maynard when he was under attack.

The business community quickly moved from opposition to support. They saw that Jackson could break a strike, hold down costs, and remain popular.

He was obviously their man. They bought him. The respectable white candidates who they might have otherwise preferred were ignored.

## FOUR MORE YEARS

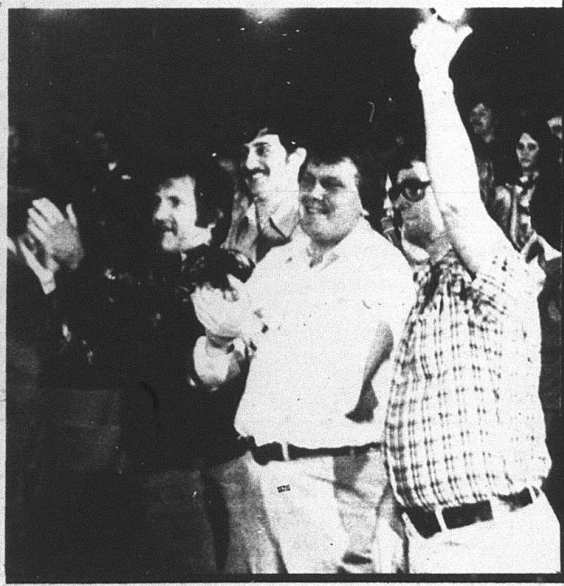
The campaign has been boring and lackluster. Jackson has refused to even appear on platforms with his opponents so he would not give them credibility.

Jackson continues to get support from the Black community because he has always been opposed by racists. This makes him look better than his actions.

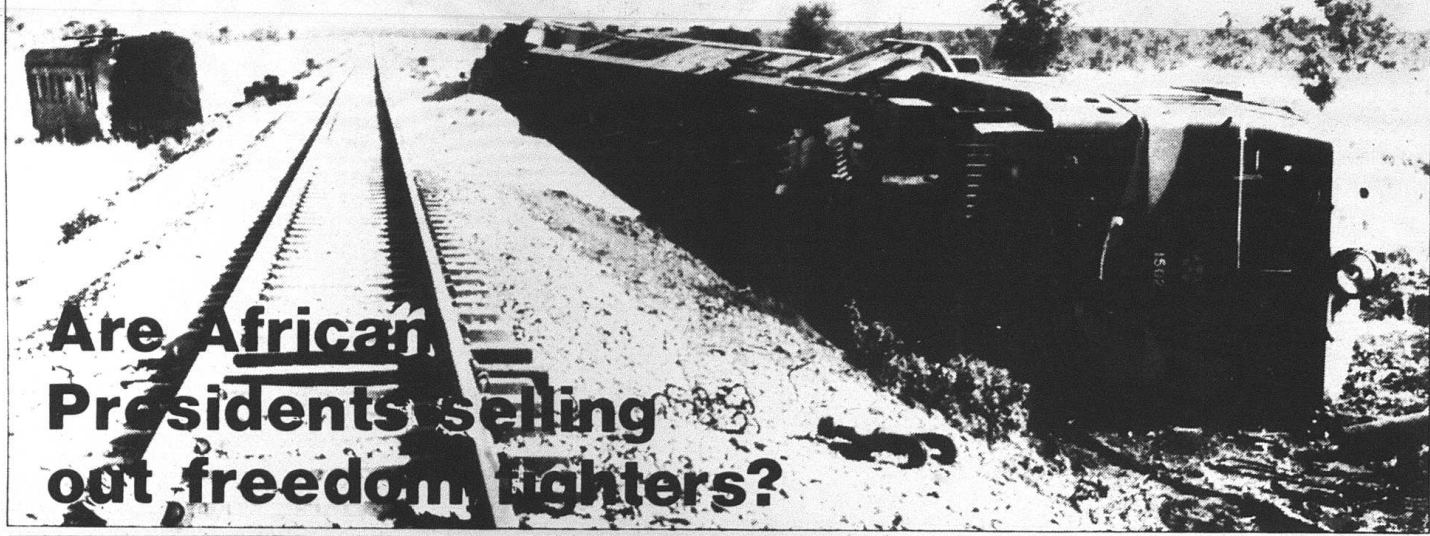
So there are four more years of Jackson. In this time people will have the opportunity to learn lessons and prepare for the future.

To prepare not just for a Black candidate, but for a Black labor candidate. That is what is needed.

And it may be possible by then. In the meantime, city workers in particular will have a tough row to hoe. □



# ZIMBABWE



## Are African Presidents selling out freedom fighters?

Train derailed by freedom fighters.

While western politicians and governments talk about peace in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia), the war goes on.

Twenty unarmed Black children, boys and girls, were killed by Rhodesian security forces as they were travelling toward the Mozambique border to join the liberation forces.

Not a single western paper made a headline out of this atrocity.

Meanwhile, Rhodesian paratroops and warplanes have launched a series of new raids on neighboring independent African nations.

They have struck up to 40 miles inside Mozambique, and carried out bombing raids on Zambia and Botswana. The border post of Feira in Zambia was strafed with napalm.

The government of Botswana has records of no fewer than 25 separate raids by Rhodesian forces.

**Ian Smith, Prime Minister of the white minority government of Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) has met secretly with a prominent Black African leader, President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia.**

Kenneth Kaunda is a prominent spokesman for the leaders of the "front-line states"—the independent African countries which border on white-ruled Rhodesia.

The front-line states provide the Zimbabwe liberation movement with areas for military bases and headquarters.

Even more important, all military supplies, clothing and other supplies must go through these front-line countries in order to reach the guerrillas.

The front-line governments have maintained a consistent public posture of support for the Zimbabwe armed struggle.

In recent weeks, however, there have been increasing indications that the leaders of these countries are ready to accept the American-British so-called peace plan.

Tanzania, Botswana, and Mozambique joined Zambia in proclaiming that the plan represents a "basis for negotiation." What does this mean?

This plan is supposed to be a blueprint for peaceful transition to Black majority government in Zimbabwe.

But the real aim of the plan is to disarm the Black liberation fighters and open the way for a neo-colonial puppet state controlled by western money.

### MONEY AND MUSCLE

The plan calls for a \$1.5 billion "Zimbabwe development fund" to guarantee white minority property interests.

The U.S. government has already stated it will withhold the money if an "unacceptable" Black

government comes to power through an armed liberation struggle.

Besides this blackmail, the U.S. exerts economic and political pressures on the front-line states.

Only the front-line governments could force the Zimbabwe liberation armies to make concessions to the western plan.

### NKOMO AND ZAMBIA

One of the Zimbabwe liberation armies, ZAPU (Zimbabwe African People's Union) has close ties to the Zambian government.

ZAPU's leader, Joshua Nkomo, spoke to an opening session of the United Nations last week. He did not reject the terms of the American-British plan, saying the plan was acceptable if it was "sincere."

Nkomo was in the Zambian capital the same weekend Smith and Kaunda met there. He may well have been indirectly involved in their discussion.

The other liberation army is ZANU (Zimbabwe African National Union). ZANU has bases in Mozambique, Tanzania and also many rural districts inside Zimbabwe itself.

ZANU has many more active soldiers in the field than ZAPU. ZANU is also more consistently committed to a struggle for complete national liberation.

### DIRTY GAME

The American-British peace plan, in fact, is aimed first and foremost at disarming and crushing ZANU.

Until last year, many of ZANU's important military leaders were being held in Zambian prisons, as part of a deal between Kaunda and the western powers to try to weaken ZANU.

Kenneth Kaunda has showed before that he is willing to play the western powers' game, in order to get American and South African credits for his sagging economy.

Now that the freedom fighters are near victory, the same game is being played again for much higher stakes. Much of the future of southern Africa may depend on the outcome.

## FRENCH LEFT COALITION COLLAPSES

# Playing by the Bosses' Rules

There's a small industrial town along a river valley where 1600 steel workers have lost their jobs in the last year.

A few months ago the government announced the steel plant would close completely. The town erupted in protest.

Youngstown, Ohio? Johnstown, Pa.? Could be, but it's not. It happens to be the town of Thionville, in the northeast corner of France.

Thionville, like many American towns, is a victim of the world crisis of the steel industry. But there are some differences.

For one thing the mayor of Thionville, who was just elected, is member of the French Communist Party.

French workers have been looking toward the Communist Party to be part of a left-wing government coalition with the Socialist Party next year.

Many other French industrial cities facing the same crisis as Thionville, places like Nanterre, St. Etienne and Mulhouse, are already run by local Communist or Socialist Party administrations.

### MORE AUSTERITY?

But the coalition of the SP and CP, called the "common program," now seems to be collapsing.

The leaders of these parties seem to be terrified of what might

happen if they tried to run the French capitalist economy—and failed.

A prominent Communist Party union leader, Serge Valli, put it this way:

"Imagine the reaction among the workers. They want higher wages. They don't want any more austerity.

"They'll begin to say the left (he means the Communist and Socialist Parties) are just like the right (the bosses). That's what they'll say."

Why is this Communist Party leader so afraid of winning the election that he thinks it might even be better to lose?

Because, as he said, he knows his party will do essentially the same thing that the conservatives in power are doing now.

He knows that the Communist and Socialist Parties would impose an austerity plan.

This high level Communist knows this because he also knows that his party will play by the rules of capitalism.

The Communist-Socialist coalition is pledged not to establish socialism.

Rather they promise to reform capitalism—a hard job when the economy is stagnant.

Faced with the impossible job of making capitalism meet the needs of the workers, the Communist and Socialist Parties have taken to arguing over the amount of nationalization of sick industries.

In this dispute, the Socialist Party has been even more afraid to offend the employers than the Communists. So the election coalition has fallen apart.

The employers are pleased because their reactionary old parties can continue to run the show. The Communist union leaders are happy because they're off the hook.

But in Thionville, we would guess, the unemployed steel workers are disappointed and bitter. □

# LIMOSINES IN THE

GAUNT MONUMENTS to the capitalist concern for human rights were viewed on Wednesday, October 5, by the man who claims to be the people's champion.

Jimmy Carter toured the South Bronx, and gave its destitute residents a dose of what everyone in the working class has received since he has taken office: nothing!

**Jimmy C., the people's "New Hope" looked upon the devastation, the mile upon mile of gutted and burned out apartment complexes and said, "Some of this can be saved."**

He was speaking about the buildings, not the people. To the jobless and the hungry, he offered a smile and a handshake.

This seeming indifference to the misery of the same people who put Carter in office with their votes, is not just one isolated callous act. It is in line with all of the President's policies on "Human Rights."

It is barely three months since he announced that the United States would begin to produce the neutron bomb, the bomb that kills the people, saves the buildings).

The President was greeted on the tour by Patricia Robert Harris, who heads the Department of Housing and Urban Development. To the well dressed HUD director, Carter said, "Do a study. See what more can be done for the ghetto."

What strength! What wisdom! Once again this smiling peanut vendor demonstrated beyond a doubt

how much the poor and working class can expect from the Democratic Party.

**The feeling in this quarter is: if Jimmy can't see the needs of the people with his own eyes, no "study" is going to make that need more apparent!**

As the glittering motorcade wound its way out of the rubble and decay that is home for the many forgotten Americans, Carter offered his "hope" to the area. On the sidewalks of the South Bronx, the hungry and unemployed rejected the offer. "Give us jobs!" they shouted.

**Neither Carter, nor his administration, will heed that shout. At least, not until it is accompanied by the sound of marching feet.**

## TRENTON SEVEN:

# RAILROADED!

Federal Judge Feikens found the Trenton Seven guilty of criminal contempt of court, October 6, in Detroit. They were convicted of violating an anti-picketing injunction.

The Seven were autoworkers and stewards at Chrysler's Trenton Engine Plant, where thousands of workers walked out in August to protest firings stemming from a previous heat walkout.

All seven have been fired by Chrysler, while the rest of the strikers are back at work.

The judge summarized the prosecution's case, then found the defendants guilty. One of the judge's lawfirm's clients is Chrysler.

A lawyer for the Seven, Buck Davis, said that it was as if the judge were "sitting in a glass

booth" during the defense arguments. None of the arguments was answered in the verdict.

**Roger Elkins, one of the defendants, told reporters that "the judge was in Chrysler's back pocket. People refused to work because they would not be treated as animals. It's as simple as that."**

The Seven were turned over to the Probation Officer for a pre-

sentencing report, which is expected to take at least six weeks.

They face a maximum of six months in jail and fines. The verdict will be appealed.

Several locals have voted support for the Trenton Seven.

**No UAW leader has opposed them, but the UAW International and the majority of the Trenton Local 372 leaders were conspicuously absent when the verdict came down.**

## RANK AND FILE FIGHT BACK IN STEEL- WORKERS LOCAL 1531

PITTSBURGH—Rank and filers at United Steel Workers Local 1531 here are beginning to fight.

At the September 28 local union meeting, 90 members (out of 350 total) turned out to defend a local officer who was fired for allegedly leading a wildcat strike.

John "Lefty" Lefkakis, recording secretary of the local, had been trying to generate a rank and file response to the company's blatant contract violations. The employer involved is McConway and Turley, a producer of railroad couplings.

Like all the other small shops in the Pittsburgh area, McConway and Turley is a real pit. The company ignored the contract, and health and safety is a joke.

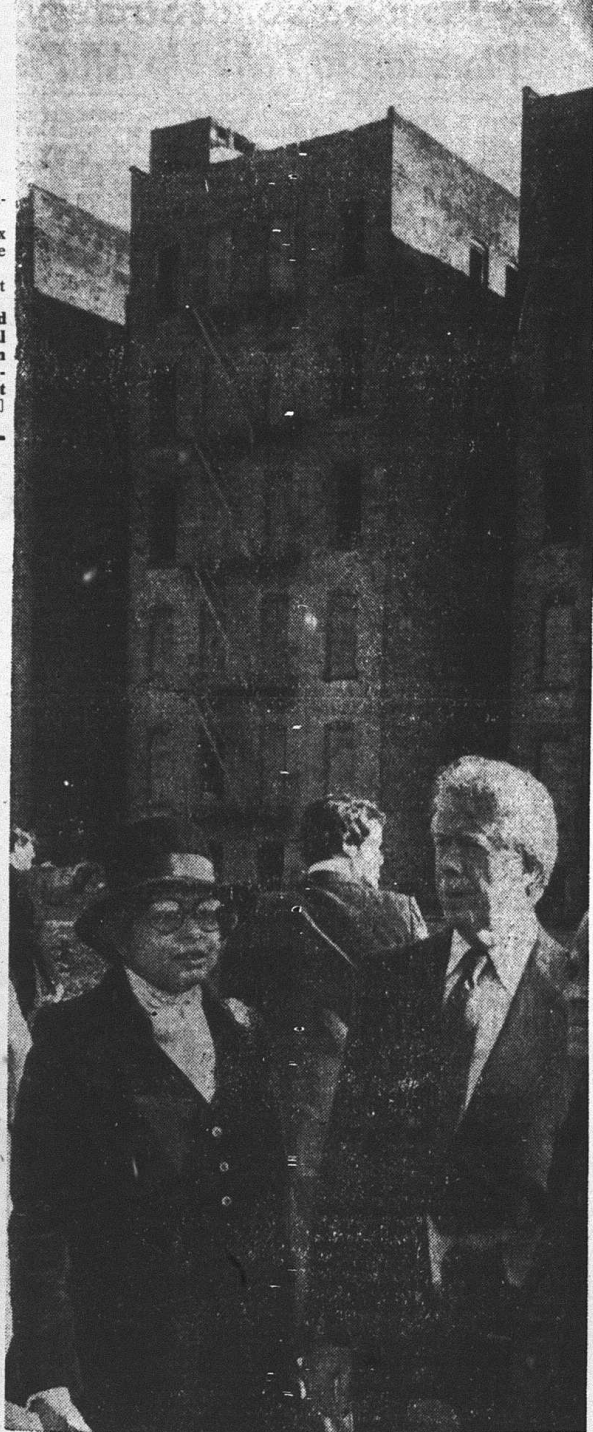
**Lefty was elected recording secretary of the local earlier this year because he was known as a "troublemaker"—exactly what the rank and file wanted.**

He is now out on the street for keeping his campaign promises, and that's why the rank and file has risen to his defense.

At the last union meeting, rank and filers overwhelmingly passed resolutions to the effect that the union back Lefty to the hilt, and that the union take the offensive in dealing with grievances and disciplinary harassment.

They intend to build toward a fight around their contract, which expires in April, 1978.

Bill Phillips



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T.J. Doonan, Circulation Manager

# Steel Importers: The Big Lie

It happens every day in the mills. The foreman tells you that it's perfectly safe to work a dangerous job on a short crew. Better not just take his word for it. Not if you give a damn about your life.

Or maybe the corporation is claiming it just can't afford to provide work gloves for your department during local issues. Except that it provides them in other departments. And it didn't seem to have any trouble affording its latest time study project.

Chances are you think twice before accepting that the cost of a few work gloves will send the company reeling into poverty. Chances are, in fact, you know the company's lying. And you know why. To

support its own position and its own interests. And you know it has no qualms about presenting so-called "figures" and "facts" as God's Truth in order to get what it wants.

So better stop and think now, when they say, "Foreign Competition's Taking Your Job Away." From the industry that brought you one lie after another on local issues, scheduling, and grievances. It may just be The Biggest Lie of All.

The steel corporations, of course, don't expect us to dig any deeper. They figure that if they repeat the Foreign Competition Lie often enough, we'll believe it. If they blitz the television, radio, and newspaper

headlines with their propaganda, we'll start thinking it's true. But is it? Is there a different reason—a reason that the steel companies would like to cover up—that so many steelworkers' jobs in this country are being sacrificed?

In this special feature, Workers' Power presents the facts.

The companies won't like it. Lloyd McBride may not want to hear it. But steelworkers will have a chance to make up their own minds, to draw their own conclusions.

And if enough people have a chance to do that, the company propaganda will be revealed for what it is: The Big Lie.

## Where's Joe?

In 1971 the company told me that to protect my job against foreign competition I needed to increase my productivity. The Union told me to work harder. I didn't.



In 1972 the company told me that in order to protect my job against foreign competition I needed to give up the right to strike. The Union said, "Don't strike." I didn't.



Then the company told me that in order to protect my job against foreign competition I needed to limit imports. The Union said "Right on!" I wrote to my congressman.



I worked harder. I didn't. I supported import controls. The company reduced prices, made record profits, and laid me off. The Union told me where to collect my unemployment check.



This poster developed by Steve Lantier, Terri Ferguson, Kim Moody, and Kate Stacey.

In recent months thousands of steelworkers in Youngstown, Johnstown and Buffalo have lost their jobs. Wouldn't import controls have saved them? No. In each of these cases and others to come, the companies closed down facilities because they were old, inefficient, and less profitable. It was not Japanese or European importers who forced the closing of those plants. It was the decisions of American companies that decided not to spend money to modernize.

The Youngstown Sheet & Tube works, for instance, were never modernized. So they were inefficient next to other American and European works in a dog-eat-dog system. Even where demand was strong for its flat-rolled products, the works could not compete. "Business Week" magazine reports that Youngstown "had trouble competing with its more modern rivals, Inland Steel Corp. and National Steel Corp., on flat-rolled products for which demand has continued high."

That's Inland and National Steel, Not Japanese or German plants. And where demand was good, the company just let the Youngstown works run down till they went the dogs.

In closing the Campbell Works, Youngstown decided not to spend a hundred \$500 million to modernize. Instead it spent this money on its Houston, Texas, and Indiana Harbor Works where it is installing Japanese equipment!

The reason for all of this is simple: increase the corporation's profits.

But wouldn't import controls save future jobs? Again the answer is, no. There is a big shake-up happening in the whole industry here. The shake-up will continue whether there are quotas or not.

All of the American steel companies are dumping old facilities and building some new ones to increase their efficiency and profits.

The purpose of all of this is not to increase jobs. The purpose is to reduce the number of workers it takes to turn out a ton of steel. This has been going on for ten years and has cost over 100,000 jobs. Now the companies are stepping up the process even more.

But won't they increase production? Just the opposite. The steel giants argue that there is too much production capacity in the world! They plan to produce the same amount of steel as they did in the past ten years—80 to 100 million tons a year, depending on the state of the economy.

## Where have the jobs gone?

Thousands of jobs have been lost in the American steel industry. That is a fact. And steel is being imported into the United States, and it from Japan. That too is a fact.

Therefore, the imports are responsible for job losses, right? But that is NOT a fact. It's only a claim that is made by the companies, supported too often by union leaders. It SEEMS to make sense—the imported steel were being made in the United States, wouldn't there be more jobs? If there had been no imports in the past decade, wouldn't we have kept those thousands of jobs?

But repeating something over and over, the way the steel companies have been doing, doesn't make it true. You need facts and figures and logic.

### IMPORTS AND PRODUCTION

In the past decade, the amount of steel produced in the United States has gone up and down, naturally. But basically it has remained about the same levels. Column 2 ("Production") of the chart shows this pretty clearly.

Imports have also fluctuated—mostly going up when American production also went up, and going down when American production also declined. (See Column 3, "Imports," on the chart.)

### IMPORTS AND JOBS

Now look at column 1 "Employment." In the chart, look at the trend, apart from any year-to-year dips or rises. The number of producer workers in the American steel industry has gone way down—and it has gone down almost regardless of how much steel is produced, or how much steel is imported.

No amount of repeating the word "imports" by the industry can change these basic facts: the industry has cut out thousands of jobs, and still produced as much steel.

Look at the last column, on steel prices, and you can get an idea of the steel industry's strategy: Produce the same amount of steel, but sell it for more; and make a bigger profit. They are not willing to make less profit on each ton of steel while producing and selling the greater quantities. No, they want to be like the oil industry: create a shortage and sell at a high, fixed price.

If you have continuous casting, you eliminate whole job categories. You can't stop progress. No one is saying that we should try to stop BOF's from replacing open hearths. But who gets the benefit of that progress? And who pays the price? Greater productivity can mean layoffs, plant closings, a dismal future for thousands of steelworkers and their families, whole communities destroyed. And higher profits. Or it can mean more steel produced, with a

Year	Employment	Production (Tons)	Imports (Tons)	Imports (as % of total)	Prices (cents per lb.)
1968	506,200	91,856,000	17,860,000	19.3%	6.6c
1969	813,200	93,877,000	14,034,000	13.0%	7.1c
1970	500,600	90,798,000	13,384,000	12.8%	7.7c
1971	457,300	87,035,000	18,304,000	17.4%	8.4c
1972	429,400	91,805,000	17,681,000	18.0%	9.0c
1973	485,200	111,430,000	15,190,000	11.6%	11.1c
1974	484,100	108,472,000	15,970,000	13.7%	11.1c
1975	423,000	79,387,000	12,912,000	13.7%	13.7c
1976	428,800	89,447,000	14,288,000	13.7%	14.8c

Sources: U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Department of Labor, and "Iron Age"

1978 vs. 1968: While production remained about the same, and imports actually declined, over 75,000 jobs were lost. Prices more than doubled.

Be careful of how the companies read these charts. For example, from 1974 to 1976, the total amount of imports went down by nearly four million tons. But the percentage of imports went up slightly, from 12.7% to 13.1%—that's because American mills actually cut their production.

## Steel Giants: Behind Closed Doors

The steel companies are telling us that foreign imports are taking away business. That's why we're losing jobs, they say. At least, that's what they say to us. When they're among friends, they have a different story.

In fact, they know that American steel production will probably be HIGHER this year than last.

Iron Age is a special magazine for the steel industry. Few steelworkers ever see it, but it's must reading every week in the corporate offices. "The way it looks..." Iron Age wrote on Sept. 19, "shipments will be up 2 or 3 million tons from 1974."

Then why all the layoffs, the plant closings, the rumors of more? What really troubles steelmakers," says Iron Age, "is their inability to continue iron production where demand is make money on products where demand is relatively strong." (We might add, this means their inability to make enough money from their appetites.)

says the faithful word of the employers, "steel mills are still having profit problems."

"In short, it is not so much that the steel business is bad," says Iron Age—getting to the point. "What discourages the producers is their failure to make money when business is fairly good."

Their solution: limit imports so you can raise prices. Which means less jobs. The companies haven't waited around to cut those jobs.

Steel production is running at about the same level as last year, as is pointed out by Iron Age. Yet they are using only 75% of plant capacity to do it, compared to 85% last year.

In 1970, 85% of capacity meant 500,000 people working. Last year 85% meant 428,000 jobs. You can imagine what 75% this year will mean.

No, it's not red-blooded American steel barons, forever in search of higher profits.

## What will happen if they do get import controls?

Far from saving jobs it will cost jobs. And here's how.

The controls would either limit the amount of imports or force them to sell at the same price levels as American steel. In either case, prices will rise.

## If that's true, why aren't the employers worried?

As we have already pointed out, the steel companies are cutting down the size of the industry through mergers and the dumping of older facilities.

By continuously raising prices they can keep profits up—even if production and sales decline. This is particularly true if the government limits foreign competition.

## Steelworkers!

WORKERS' POWER will print your letters about imports—pro and con—just be brief. Follow the debate in future issues.

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## THE UNION'S STRATEGY

What it is, What it could be and

Why Is Japanese Steel Cheaper?

Two more articles in this Workers' Power Special Feature See page 9.



# A New Party for the Labor Movement?

## "I'M ALL FOR IT"

"About three or four months ago, I would have said we could work within the Democratic Party to force the kind of legislation that we need that's progressive to the workers of this country."

"I will not say that today. 'And I think that if we don't form some kind of coalition, if labor doesn't form some kind of coalition and have our own party, then we're going to continue to go down the drain...'

"The labor movement's got to get together, and if we can start a labor party in this country, I'm all for it."

□ □ □

Harry Patrick, Secretary-Treasurer of the United Mine Workers, spoke to the national convention of the rank and file Teamsters for a Democratic Union two weeks ago.

Patrick was part of the insurgent Miners for Democracy (MFD) slate that won UMW elections in 1973.

Patrick's message to the activists at the TDU convention was that rank and file Teamsters could succeed in reforming their own union, just as rank and file miners succeeded in overthrowing a gangster regime in the UMW.

But Patrick's remarks went beyond the nuts and bolts of labor movement reform today. He talked about the declining membership, the "stagnation" as he calls it, of the organized union movement in this country.

And he talked about how the Carter Administration and the Democratic Party have betrayed the promises they made to working people in the 1976 election.

We think Harry Patrick's statements reflect the sentiments of a growing number of angry American workers who are beginning to feel the same way.

"I have to look back to January and to Jimmy Carter, and all the

dreams that he promised labor. And he has labor to thank.

"I was part, by the way, of a labor coalition that included a lot of the major unions in this country, that helped elect Jimmy Carter."

"I am so disgusted with his Administration... the first thing that was shot down with no help from the White House was the common site picketing bill. And you go on from there, it's just one disaster after another."

"Read the new minimum wage law that was just passed. Jesus, if you read between the lines you're ready to shoot yourself as a working person."

"You know one of the things in there? If a waitress works at a place and makes \$5 an hour, and she gets \$4 an hour in tips, then they pay her only \$1 an hour."

"Black lung, brown lung. We got a black lung bill now, it's watered down, it's not worth the paper it's written on...."

### LABOR PARTY

These are a few of the reasons why Harry Patrick says he would



Harry Patrick speaking to TDU convention.

welcome a new coalition of forces for a new political party, a labor party to fight for the needs of American workers.

Workers' Power agrees with Patrick one hundred per cent on this issue.

Here is an amazing, but true, fact: of all the major countries in the capitalist world, the United States is the only one where there is no political party that in any way, shape or form represents the interests of workers.

We live in one of the very few industrialized capitalist countries in the whole world where the unions support a political party that officially supports the private property system and is directly controlled by the employers. Because that's what the Democratic Party is.

This means, plain and simple, that American workers have less political muscle than workers in countries like France, Italy, Britain or practically anywhere in western Europe.

As a matter of fact, American workers have less actual political influence than workers in Spain, which was run by a fascist dictatorship until just two years ago!

Now that the Democratic Party is in office, it's starting to become clear just how high a price American workers pay for not having any kind of party of their own.

The price is highest for Black and other minority workers. They have seen the Carter Administration do nothing about minority unemployment.

Harry Patrick mentioned some other important examples.

"The one chance we had to reform the NLRB (National Labor Relations Board); we had a real chance to change that around this year, and we didn't do it."

"Labor didn't get together on that... I blame labor a lot for this

## Labor Notes

by Jim Woodward



Need a job? How much is it worth to you? At Ford's Brook Park plant in suburban Cleveland, it had to be worth \$300 to \$500. That was the going rate for jobs until the racket was exposed recently. Ford has fired seven job sellers to date. The job sellers got hundreds of dollars from job seekers who were desperate for 800 new openings at the massive engine plant. More than 13,000 people put in applications. Some applicants even paid for their jobs and then never got them.

Of the seven largest steel companies, only Armco Steel has made consistent progress in controlling its air and water pollution since 1972, says the Council on Economic Priorities. A study conducted by the privately-funded group concludes: "Basically we found a situation in which Armco ranks first and the rest tie for last." But among the six-way tie at the bottom, U.S. Steel is singled out. Since U.S. Steel is the nation's largest steel company, it should be taking the lead in controlling pollution. Instead, the study concludes, "one thing stands out... U.S. Steel reduces pollution only when forced and then only as much as required by the letter of the law."

Tony Boyle's second murder trial has been delayed four months, due to the former United Mine Workers president's poor health. After a couple days of jury selection, Boyle's heart was reportedly skipping a few beats. The trial was then adjourned while he was hospitalized. Boyle is charged with ordering the murder of Jock Yablonski, who opposed him in 1969. Boyle was originally convicted in 1974, but on appeal he won a new trial.

A former lawyer for Communications Workers of America Local 1101 in New York City has been convicted of embezzling \$29,000 from the local during the seven-month CWA strike in 1971-72. Michael J. Capanegro, who is also a former state Assemblyman, was brought in by Ricky Carnivale, then president of Local 1101. Capanegro had no previous labor law experience. He submitted enormous bills to the local for defense of CWA members during the strike. Carnivale cheerfully paid these bills, though the lawyer did very little work. Many rank and filers believe Carnivale must have been in on the rip-off.

Your friendly neighborhood grocery conglomerate, A&P, has been charged with repeated violations of overtime pay laws. In 1975, a court order was entered against the company, resulting in payment of \$200,000 to employees in six states. The next year, A&P paid another \$277,600 after it was found in contempt of court for violating the first order. Now the company has been caught violating the overtime laws again at many stores throughout North and South Carolina. The Labor Department has filed civil and criminal contempt of court charges. All of which seems to indicate that the penalties for violating labor laws are so low it is much cheaper for employers to ignore the law than to obey it.

"The Grass Is Always Greener" Department. Charles H. Haden, a federal judge for the Southern District of West Virginia, addressed the Charleston Rotary Club recently. He complained about the great work load that the three federal judges in his district have because of conflicts between miners and the coal operators. "But in the Northern District [of West Virginia] the miners are much more quiet," Haden said. "When the federal judge tells them to go back to work, they usually do. But that doesn't often happen in the Southern District."

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.

but I sure as hell have to blame the Carter Administration."

### A NEW VISION

But the worst thing about the Democrats' betrayal of labor and the Black community is that there isn't any kind of large-scale political organization in which workers can organize to defend past gains, let alone move forward.

Organizing a labor party wouldn't solve anybody's problems overnight. Political power and control of industry would still be in the hands of the employers.

But at least we don't allow the bosses to join, or run, our unions. No one would think of letting Henry Ford join the UAW.

The point is, we need a political

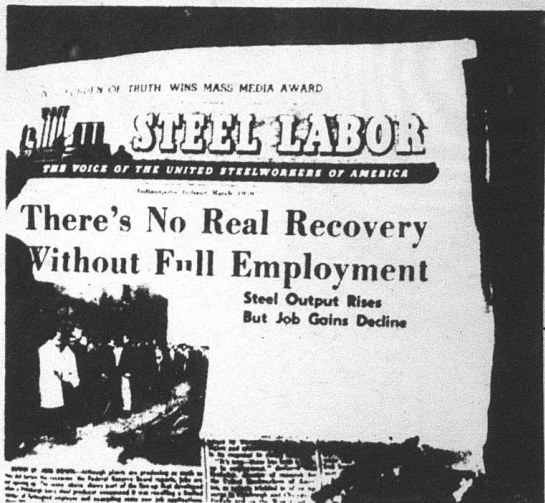
party that's run by labor, too—not by Henry Ford and the rest of the capitalist class.

A labor party would be a tool for the labor movement to start fighting back. It would be more effective than a hundred COPE campaigns for the Democratic Party—because it would represent more of a political threat to the bosses.

Unfortunately, a labor party isn't around the corner—and won't be as long as most major International Unions are controlled by their present leadership.

But the idea of a new political movement of labor in this country is part of a vision that will grow, along with the rank and file movements that are just taking root today.

# STEELWORKERS NEED JOBS - NOT EXCUSES!



As this 18-year-old copy of STEEL LABOR shows, the union leaders know the real problem. But as the tens of thousands of jobs lost since then testify, they have never done anything about it. Now they are trying to pin the rap on imports.

by Steve Lantier

Steelworkers need a concentrated fight by their Union to save jobs. But the United Steelworkers of America is not leading any fight for jobs.

In fact, the Union has cooperated with the companies every time. The Union has bargained away the jobs it should have been fighting to save.

When the companies said a few years ago that American steelworkers' productivity was too low, the union cooperated in setting up productivity committees. In other words, the union cooperated in telling steelworkers to work themselves out of a job.

When the companies said that the threat of a strike every three years caused "hoop-buying" and an increase in imported steel, the union agreed to a no-strike agreement, the ENA.

The ENA (Experimental Negotiating Agreement) was supposed to eliminate periodic layoffs and lower the demand for imports.

Now layoffs and permanent closings have reached crisis levels. The companies and the union leaders say it is because imports are increasing. But they still defend the ENA!

Now, with all its earlier strategies having done nothing to solve the problem of job losses—in fact they were part of the cause—the Union's leadership still seems to have learned nothing.

## IMPORT CONTROLS

Once again they have joined with the companies: they are demanding import controls.

But import controls won't work any better than their other strategies. For four reasons:

1. Import controls will not save jobs. They would cost jobs. (The reason is explained in the questions and answers on pages 6 and 7).

2. Tariffs would mean higher inflation. American steel companies would raise their prices. This would mean higher prices on all

consumer goods made from steel. That would hurt steelworkers, and everyone else.

Then, as one country after another retaliated with their own import controls, tariffs would spread to other products. Prices on everything would increase even more.

3. It is a losing strategy. The bulk of American big business (and therefore the government) is firmly opposed to higher tariffs. They know that other countries would retaliate, which would lead to a shrinking of world trade, and possibly a major depression. They will not risk their profits to help raise profits in the steel industry.

President Carter made this point crystal clear, just last week. "I don't think any basic changes need to be made in our import laws or in the national statutes."

So even if import controls actually saved jobs—which they don't—it would be very difficult to win them. It wouldn't be any harder to win the kind of government action which would actually help, as described below.

4. Finally, the strategy of fighting for import controls is a mistake for the union because it is a smokescreen—a diversion from the real fight.

To put it plainly, the union leaders are using imports as an alibi for their failure to do their job—which is to protect the jobs and working conditions of the membership.

If import controls are the wrong strategy for the union, what should the USW be doing? Part of the answer is found in a rank and file resolution being proposed to the District 31 (Chicago-Gary) Conference of the Union in October.

The resolution calls on the Union to cease its support for import controls, and instead to call on the Federal government to roll back steel prices.

It demands that the government take all necessary steps to make sure the companies don't then cut back on production.

## JAPANESE STEEL

# "Unfair competition"?

by Kim Moody

How is it possible for Japan to ship steel thousands of miles and still sell cheaper on the American market?

The American steel companies are running a big campaign claiming that Japanese steel is using "unfair" methods. "We're not against free trade," say the American steel giants, "as long as it's fair."

## BALONEY

It's not fair, they claim, because the Japanese are supposedly selling steel below its price in Japan, and even below cost. How can they do this without going broke? Because, the US industry says, they are subsidized by the Japanese government.

It's a lot of baloney, say the financial experts from Merrill Lynch, the Wall Street analysts. (They use somewhat more polite language, however.)

The price of Japanese steel in the US is generally above its price in Japan, and well above the cost of production. Japanese steel, in other words, is sold at a profit whenever and wherever possible. Just like American steel companies, the Japanese occasionally lose money on particular sales. But in general they are out to make a profit, and they usually succeed.

The so-called government subsidies turn out to be loans from the Bank of Japan. These loans are made at high interest rates, and must be re-paid, like any bank loan.

## COSTS AND WAGES

The real difference, says Merrill Lynch, is in the cost of production. Because Japanese plants are so modern, and so gigantic, the average worker produced 458.9 tons of steel in 1976, while the American figure was 301.8 tons—a difference of more than 50%.

Ten years ago, the Japanese got 249 tons every year from each worker, while in the US it was 239 tons—a relatively small difference.

In other words, in the past ten years, as Japanese mills modernized, expanded, and new technology was introduced, the gap grew even greater.

What about wage levels? Well, American workers do make a good deal more than the Japanese, but that difference is getting smaller. Ten years ago, an American worker made almost 450% more than a Japanese steelworker. In 1976, the difference was about 250%.

And the difference is actually smaller than that. Japanese companies in the past could not cut costs by laying anyone off in slow

periods. Never. The Japanese labor movement simply would not stand for it. "FAIR" GREED

There is another major reason for the price difference. Japanese companies are willing to accept far lower profits than are the US corporations.

Although they claim they can't make a decent buck, the facts tell a different story: American steel companies make far higher profits than the Japanese.

In 1976 US companies averaged a profit of \$14.50 per ton. The Japanese averaged \$3.35 per ton.

In the boom production year of 1974, the difference was even greater: US, \$21 per ton; Japan, \$4.33 per ton.

## THEIR RULES MEAN MONOPOLY

The truth, then, is a bit different than the steel companies' propaganda.

The truth is that the American steel companies keep prices high in order to keep profits high.

The truth is that the American steel companies would rather keep their profit per ton high—and cut back on production.

The truth is that American steel barons are not interested in competition—"fair," "unfair" or any other kind—but in super profits through monopoly price-fixing.



And it calls for a program to rebuild our long-neglected cities, thus creating far greater demand for steel, more jobs for steelworkers—and for millions of other Americans.

This kind of program—combined with scuttling the ENA and productivity committees, with a whole new attitude by the Union, to fight for its members instead of the corporations' profits—that is the way to save jobs.

Because, in reality, there is a

great need for steel. The "over-capacity" they talk about is like the "wheat surplus"—how can there be too much wheat while people go hungry and the price of bread is so high?

It is the same with steel. There's too much of it only because we don't build the housing, the rapid-transit systems, the consumer goods that people want and need.

The "over-capacity" of steel is only an "under-capacity" to make high profits. For them, for the

people who get the profits, that means that too much steel is produced.

They are the ones who say the system—the profit system, "free enterprise," capitalism, whatever you want to call it—they say it works.

We say it only works for them. There is a need for steel. There are thousands of men and women able and willing to make steel.

If the profit system won't do it, it's time to find a better way. □





# VIEW FROM THE AUDIENCE

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

## NEW TV SEASON, FROM SOAP TO NUTS

# "Primetime Slime"

by Retha

Television began another season last month. The original idea behind TV was to entertain. However, most of this season's new shows—like the past ones—are more disgusting than entertaining.

The Red Tide previewed this fall's new shows and this is what we found.

Two of the most controversial shows to hit the screen this fall are "The Richard Pryor Show" and "Soap."

**THE RICHARD PRYOR SHOW** stars one of the funniest and most imaginative comedians to come along. His skits are likely to be on any subject and they are usually ridiculing some part of society.

In his first few shows he has managed to upset some viewers and NBC. One skit portrayed Pryor in a flesh colored body stocking, which made him look as if he had been castrated. This really upset NBC. The network tried to keep it off the air until Pryor threatened to leave the network.

Another Pryor skit showed a white construction worker singing "I gotta be me" and stripping to reveal a polka-dot bikini. In a third skit Pryor played the 40th President of the United States and held a news conference that ended in a fight.

The second show was not aired because station managers thought it was tasteless.

### SOAP

If you thought Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman was controversial, you ain't seen nothing yet. **SOAP**, ABC's answer to daytime soap operas, was aired Sept. 14th amid a storm of protest from church organizations around the country.

They don't like Soap because it is totally against everything "good" in society—everything from the homosexual son to the arrogant Black butler to the triangle affair between the mother, the daughter and the tennis pro.

## Television

### Morning

- 5:30(1) News
- 6:00(4) About Being Dead
- 6:10(1) English for the Foreign Born
- 6:15(2) News
- 6:30(2) Sunrise Semester
- (4)Net for Women Only: "What Keeps Us Well"
- (7)Casper & Friends
- (7)Listen and Learn
- (11)The Little Rascals
- 7:00(2) CBS Morning News
- (4)Today: Travel expert Stern, Birmingham; Commissioner Donald Kennedy of the Food and Drug Administration; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Quinlan, guests; Discussion of the future job outlook and consumer spending
- (7)Guns, Buns & Poppers
- (7)Good Morning, America: Sophia Loren (Part 1), guest
- (11)The Banana Splits
- (12)Alan, Yoga and You
- 7:30(2) News
- (1)The Flintstones
- (1)PTL Club
- (13)Mighty Mouse
- (13)The Machine/Leher Report (R)
- 8:00(2) Captain Kangaroo
- (7)Woody Woodpecker
- (11)Tom and Jerry
- (12)Gullert Tap We Getts
- 8:30(1) The Archies
- (11)The Wacky Races
- (12)Primary Scenes
- 8:45(13) Vegetable Soup
- 8:50(7) To Tell the Truth
- (1)The Phil Donahue Show: Julie Nuon Eisenbrow, guest
- (1)Hogan's Heroes
- (7)The Stanley Jopet Show: Cheryl, guest
- (1)The Joe Franklin Show
- (11)Please Don't Eat the Daisies
- (13)Seams Street (R)
- 9:00(2) Frayz in the Morning (Season Premiere)
- (2)Betweech
- (11)Let's Make a Deal
- 10:00(1) Marvin's 1st Year (R)



A scene from "Strife"

- 7:30 P.M. The Man
- 8:00 P.M. Masterpiece
- 9:00 P.M. The Betty
- 9:00 P.M. "In the Me"
- 10:00 P.M. Ralfeety

- (7)Happy Days (R)
- (13)Straight Talk: "Prof and the Police" (R)
- (13)The Dick Van Dyke
- (12)Stories to Talk About
- 11:30(1) Truly American
- 11:35(2) Love of Life
- (11)Anybody's Guess
- (1)Midway Love: Jim Fox
- Diane Hines, guests
- (7)Family Feud
- (11)The 700 Club
- 11:45(1) The Metric System
- 11:55(2) News: Douglas Edwards

### Afternoon

- 12:00(1) The Young and the Restless
- (1)Shoot for the Stars
- (7)The Better Sex
- (9)News
- (13)Ripoff (R)
- (7)Happy Days (R)
- (13)Straight Talk: "Prof and the Police" (R)
- (13)The Dick Van Dyke
- (12)Stories to Talk About
- 11:30(1) Truly American
- 11:35(2) Love of Life
- (11)Anybody's Guess
- (1)Midway Love: Jim Fox
- Diane Hines, guests
- (7)Family Feud
- (11)The 700 Club
- 11:45(1) The Metric System
- 11:55(2) News: Douglas Edwards

- (6)Little House on the Prairie: Family drama. Miss Rendices, guest
- (7)The Croc-wit
- (7)The John Jay
- (7)Woody Woodpecker
- (7)The Dick Van Dyke
- (12)Stories to Talk About
- 11:30(1) Truly American
- 11:35(2) Love of Life
- (11)Anybody's Guess
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## THE HIGH COST OF SMASHING WOMEN'S RIGHTS

PRICE IS NO object when it comes to ending the right to abortion.

Recent reports reveal that the Hyde Amendment, which prohibits the use of federal money for abortion, will cost the government millions of dollars, maybe even hundreds of millions.

But this does not matter to supporters of the Amendment, who are out to smash women's right to abortion—cost be damned.

The Hyde Amendment is working its way through Congress, stalled only by a controversy over what the precise wording should be.

A report was released in Michigan this week that predicts that the proposed cutoff of Medicaid payments for abortions will cost as much as \$36 million over three years. That's just for Michigan.

The study, prepared by the Michigan House Fiscal Agency, estimates that if Medicaid payments had not been available, 30 to 70 percent of 12,310 poor women who got abortions in the state during 1976 would have had their babies. Using that percentage, the study calculated that a cutoff of funds would cost between \$11 million and \$36 million in welfare payments over three years.

A Medicaid abortion costs about \$200, while a normal Medicaid delivery is \$1600. The average ADC mother receives \$259/month, and the additional child would cost another \$64/month, paid equally by federal and state money.

The Hyde Amendment, when it is passed, will make the use of federal money for abortions illegal. But clearly it is not the use of the money at all that concerns the Congress. With the release of the current costs, it is painfully obvious that supporters of the Hyde Amendment are out to smash the right to abortion. The cost doesn't matter to them—nor does the fact that abortion is a legal right.

Some women will be forced to stay on welfare when they are unable to obtain an abortion. And it's a safe bet you'll hear these same politicians griping about the high cost of welfare sometime down the road...

E. Clarke

## Picketets Battle Police

Imagine a police department that is responsible for the shooting deaths of 30 Black and minority people in the last nine months.

Now imagine the chief of this same police department hosting a conference of 5000 police chiefs from 22 countries including the repressive regimes in Chile, Argentina, Iran, and South Africa, which has just murdered African leader, Steve Biko, in jail.

It's all true, and over 500 outraged people showed up at the Los Angeles Sports Arena, Monday night, October 3rd, to spoil L.A. Police Chief Ed Davis' outdoor dinner for his friends.

Shouting slogans like, "From Johannesburg to Watts—Same Struggle, Same Fight!" and "Oink-oink, bang-bang—every week the same old thing!", the demonstrators upset and embarrassed the foreign cops.

One distraught guest cop said to newsmen, "It's a shame we have to put up with garbage like this."

They get indigestion, we get murdered.

They felt quite secure, though. Over one hundred of L.A.P.D.'s force, including two police helicopters overhead, were mobilized to intimidate and keep the demonstrators at bay.

### RALLY

The demonstrators were not intimidated. After marching and chanting for two hours there was a rally nearby. Speakers representing oppressed groups here and abroad linked up the struggles against police and political oppression worldwide.

The rally culminated with the hanging in effigy of Chief Davis and "Imperialism."

Despite all the human rights blather from Jimmy Carter, Chief Davis played host to some of the most anti-human rights people in the world—the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

The objective of the conference

was to compare notes on techniques of smashing political dissent and to demonstrate the efficiency of the latest advances in weaponry.

The demonstration was led by the Coalition Against Police Abuse (C.A.P.A.) in coalition with other groups, including Black Political Prisoners Defense Alliance, the Southern Africa Support Committee, Prairie Fire, CASA, the International Socialists, the Revolutionary Student Brigade, and many other groups and individuals. A big drawback in an otherwise successful demonstration was the exclusion of a Gay representative from speaking at the rally.

This was a political and tactical error. Not only could the Gays have mobilized hundreds from their considerable base in L.A., but a unified struggle against the police and bosses cannot be weakened and undermined by the suppression of one group from our own ranks of working and oppressed people.

### "SLIME"

It is no wonder that television

Other shows which have been aired but caused no problems are:

- **CHIPS** (California Highway Patrol), a show about daredevil police who ride (dashingly) along on motorcycles and "keep the law."
- **CARTER COUNTRY**, a show about a Black New York cop who is working in the deep south. The Southerners display and incredible amount of racism.
- **SCHYNSKI**, a program about a tough ex-Marine sergeant whose main goal is to reform a bunch of street-wise kids into disciplined, school-loving people.

Concerning television, there are no words truer than those of Frank Zappa when he sang, "I am the slime on your video, can't stop the slime, people look at me go."

[This article was reprinted from "The Red Tide," the newspaper of the Red Tide, the youth organization of the International Socialists.]

## WORKERS' POWER

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# Workers' Power

## UAW Local 47 Members Uncover Lost Time Bonanza

DETROIT—Most auto workers make in the neighborhood of \$250 a week. But one union official at UAW Local 47 claimed \$1313.19 'lost time' wages for one week.

Lost time is supposed to compensate union officials who have to miss work due to union business. At Local 47 (Detroit Forge), abuses of lost time have brought the local to the brink of bankruptcy.

Workers' Power spoke with Local 47 members Don Quenneville and Bob Machado. Quenneville and Machado are both members of The Coalition, a group of rank and file activists in the local.

The Coalition was shocked when they heard the local was about to go under financially, and they decided to find out why.

"We didn't go looking for a scandal," Don told Workers' Power. "But we were quite aware that the local was having a problem."

"They had exhausted the general fund and asked the International for permission to borrow \$3000 from the new membership fund to pay for convention expenses."

Don requested of Local President Evans Ray permission to see the union's lost time vouchers. He was refused.

"I wrote my Congressman, I went down to the Labor Department. I wanted to see if we were,

legally entitled to see these things.

"My Congressman, his legal staff, the Labor Department—they all confirmed that we had a right to see the lost time vouchers."

Bob added: "We made it clear that we were getting a lawyer and we were going to go to court. The law was on our side and—one way or the other, no matter how long it took—we were going to see the lost time vouchers."

"They got the message, and the Executive Board overruled Evans Ray."

### WHAT THEY FOUND

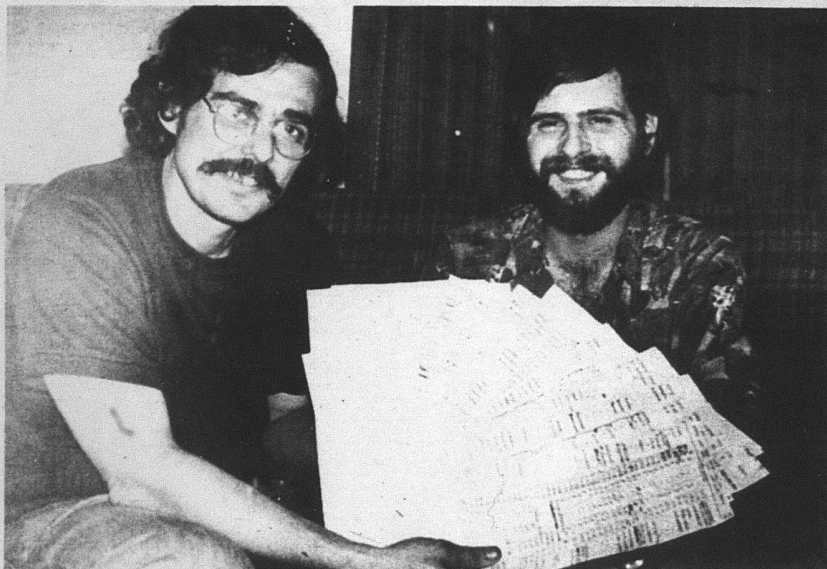
**Workers' Power: "What did you find when you finally saw the vouchers?"**

Bob: "We found that the majority of the union officials, and particularly the stewards and committeemen, were claiming lost time for every possible hour they could finagle."

"They not only went for the eight hours that they would have lost for attending a union function, but they piled on every hour of overtime that they possibly could."

"For instance, one steward who went to the UAW Convention in Los Angeles claimed \$1313.19 lost time for the week."

"If that was at all a typical week for him, he'd be making 65 grand a



Machado and Quenneville with the evidence.

year, which is completely out of the question."

Don: "Another time, the union officials had to go to a meeting at Cobo Hall to hear the International officers explain the terms of the national contract."

"One committeeman claimed 20 hours lost time for this meeting; a steward claimed 15; another steward claimed 20; and one other claimed 15.2 hours."

"But the worst part of it is that not one of these union officials bothered to tell the membership what was in the contract."

"Instead of staying around to attend the ratification meeting, our stewards and committeemen all went hunting. The meeting was cancelled!"

Workers' Power: "Who is paying for lost time?"

Bob: "We are! That's the thing. We know as a matter of fact that these guys get a lot of money from the company."

"They come in early, they hang around—they collect a lot of overtime pay."

"It's bad enough that they've compromised their ability to fight the company, but they're ripping us off, too."

"Our union officials have the attitude: 'We're not going to do a damn thing unless we get paid for it. I have a service which I sell to the membership and unless they're willing to pay they don't get the benefits of my skills.'"

"There is a complete lack of dedication to any kind of union principles, any kind of idealism, any social consciousness—any kind of anything that is over and above plain old ordinary business unionism! It's play for pay."

Don: "To give you an example of the way these guys represent us, we had one of our officials get up at a union meeting and imply that he isn't going anywhere unless he gets paid."

"He said he wasn't going to walk to Chicago, in fact he wasn't going to walk to Birmingham—he was going to travel first class. And that's what he meant, first class, not coach."

### 40 HOURS

Bob: "I'll tell you what I think. I think nobody should ever claim more than 40 hours lost time per week, even if they spent more than that amount of time."

"And I think union officials should spend more than that amount of time, but they should do it on their own time."

"And if they feel they can't make it on 40 hours pay, they should remember that a lot of those of us

that they're representing do make it on 40 hours.

"And if it's so god damned impossible, then they should fight for better wages—and not finding their own special way of ripping off our dues money to get what all of us lack in the union contract."

Workers' Power: "What do the local officials say in their own defense?"

Don: "They blame each other, they blame us for misconstruing the issues. They deny everything, they refuse to comment."

Bob: "We made a decision before we began that we would report out our findings with scrupulous honesty, regardless of who it helped or hurt politically."

"We did a lot of work on this thing. It took us two days at the local union hall to copy down the lost time vouchers for the last 18 months."

"We're still in the process of analyzing the information that we got. We have copies of the financial reports for the last ten years."

"And it isn't over yet. There'll be a lot more stuff coming out in the next couple of months."

### MEMBERSHIP ASTOUNDED

Workers' Power: "When The Coalition published this information in its newsletter, what was the reaction in the plant?"

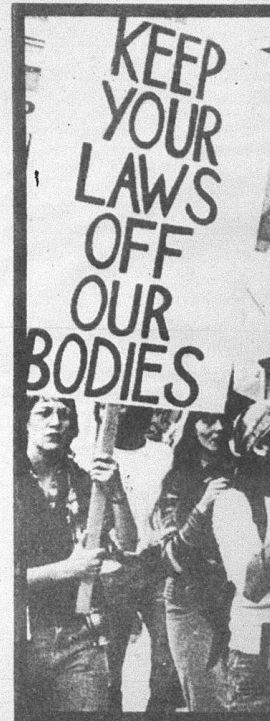
Don: "The membership, yes, they're upset about it. They're astounded that this stuff is going on."

"The real fact of the matter is that the membership's never been informed about what was going on before The Coalition started publishing our newsletter, Forge Workers Speak."

"Before the Coalition began there was an apathetic opinion in the plant that we as individual members couldn't do a thing, that it was useless to fight."

"And now the membership is starting to realize that they do have a say in the local, that they can change things."

Emily Sharpe



## Around the country, women's movement is growing

Five hundred women marched in SAN FRANCISCO on September 24 to protest cutbacks in abortion rights.

Congress is nearing an agreement to prohibit the use of Medicaid funds for abortions. The protesters demanded that Congress "keep abortion funded." They also called for an end to forced sterilization.

Jean Jullian, a lesbian mother fighting for custody of her children, addressed the demonstration.

The action was sponsored by the Coalition to Defend Reproductive Rights.

In DENVER, sixty women got together an emergency picket line when they heard that Rep. Henry Hyde was being toasted at the annual banquet of the Colorado

Right To Life Committee, an anti-abortion group.

Hyde is the sponsor of the amendment that prohibits the use of Medicaid funds for abortion.

The women marched outside the banquet hall chanting, "The Hyde Amendment kills poor women" and "Keep your laws off my body."

In TUCSON, ARIZONA, demonstrators picketed the Pima County Board of Supervisors on September 19 after the Board announced a decision to eliminate abortion funds at Kino Hospital.

Last year, Kino performed 1200 abortions for women who needed government funding.

The protesters chanted, "Equal rights for rich and poor!" The demonstrators announced plans for a county-wide ballot initiative to restore funding to the hospital. □