

Bulletin

Twice-Weekly Organ of the Central Committee of the Workers League

NOW
TWICE A
WEEK!

VOLUME NINE NUMBER FORTY TWO 317

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1973

UNION LABEL 6

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FIFTEEN CENTS

Court Fines Powers See Story Page 3

Special Bulletin Report Exposes



WHO IS GERALD FORD?

BY DAVID NORTH

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This conspiracy has been exposed by the total silence of George Meany and the entire labor bureaucracy on the appointment of Gerald Ford as Nixon's new vice-president.

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ENTHUSIASTIC

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(Continued On Page 12)

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BY A REPORTER

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(Continued On Page 12)

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In The Midweek
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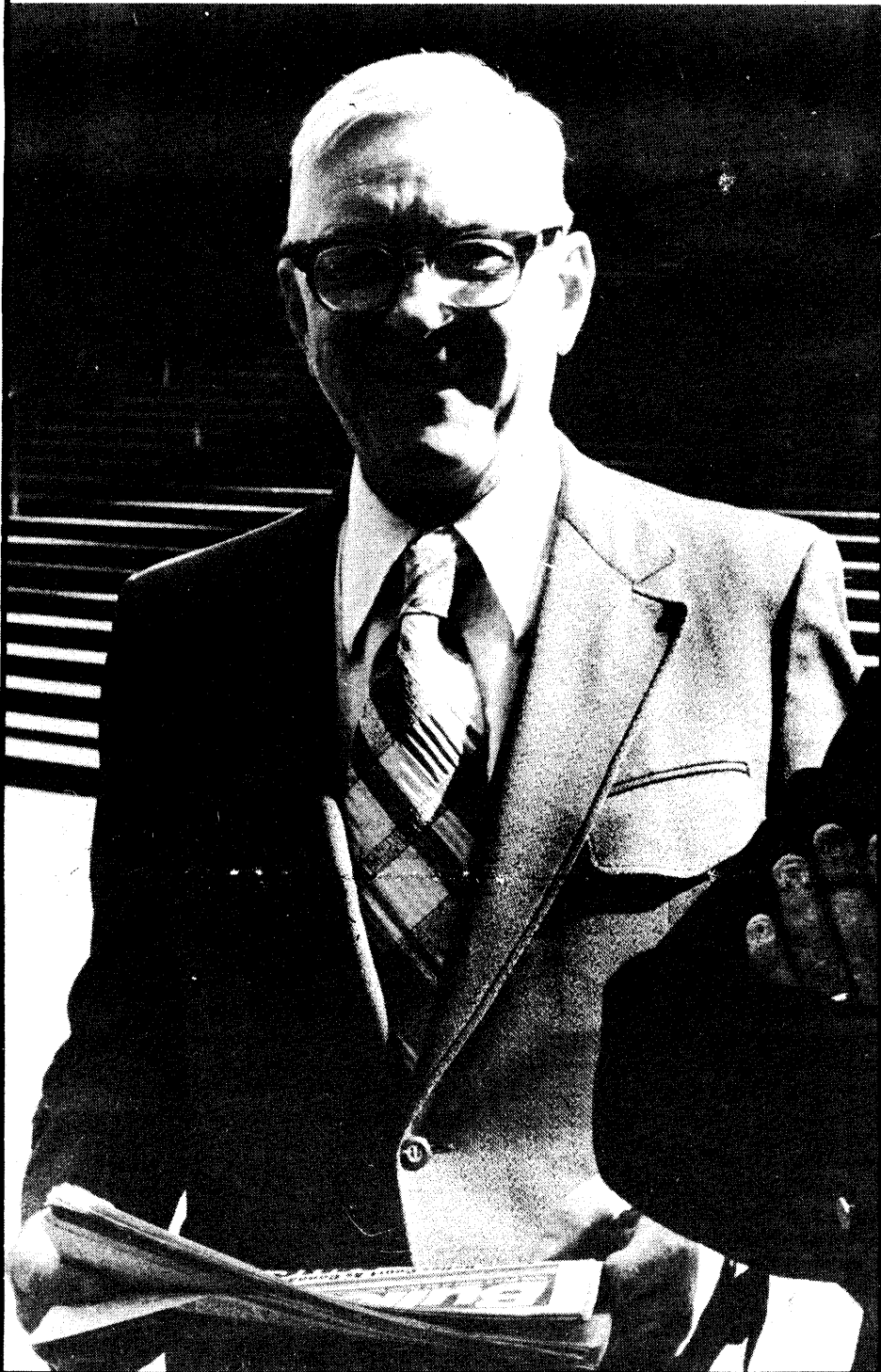
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Gus Hall Justifies Stalinist Betrayal In Chile

The "Memorial Tribute to Salvador Allende and Pablo Neruda" called by the Communist Party on Monday night at Town Hall in New York City was staged and based on the defeats of the working class in Chile.

It was a funeral service for the Chilean working class complete with the singing of dirges, and a sick celebration of the strength of the capitalist class.

In order to cover the responsibility of Stalinism in the defeat of the working class, the speakers for the CP exaggerated out of all proportion the strength of the

What We Think

ruling class and the military and international monopolies like ITT, and ignored totally the strength of the most powerful class—the working class.

The political purpose of this rally was to justify the policies of

Stalinism which led to the defeat, to say the defeat was inevitable, and the working class is powerless before imperialism.

As Gus Hall, head of the American CP, put it, the defeat in Chile was just part of the "train of history." Above all, this meeting was called to try to prevent the youth and workers from drawing the lessons of Chile.

In the same way, the Stalinists in the 1930s sought to cover and justify their betrayals in Germany and Spain and the victory of fascism. Today, the Stalinists cynically compare Chile and Spain in order to defend the Popular Front.

As Trotsky put it in 1933 when the world Stalinist movement refused to face their responsibility for the victory of Hitler:

"The Moscow leadership has not only proclaimed as infallible the policy which guaranteed victory to Hitler, but has also prohibited all discussion of what had occurred..."

"An organization which was not roused by the thunder of fascism and which submits docilely to such

outrageous acts of the bureaucracy demonstrated thereby that it is dead and that nothing can revive it."

Gus Hall stood on the same platform, at the same podium last year embracing Luis Figueroa, Stalinist trade union leader in Chile, and praising Allende and the Popular Unity government.

Now, Hall tries to put the blame not on the Stalinists and Social Democracy, but on the working class, with his talk about "collective conscience."

The Stalinists try to lash out at the working class and Trotskyism to blame it for the defeat which the Stalinists themselves have deliberately brought about, just as they tried to blame Trotsky for the betrayals of Stalin in the 1930s. This is to cover the tremendous crisis the Stalinists are now in as workers and youth, including those in their own ranks, are asking why the military was able to establish its hold in Chile.

Hall in his speech said: "To all those who are celebrating the fascist military victory in Chile we send the following message:

"First, to those on the Left, who in the three years of the Popular Unity Government have not lifted one of their grubby fingers in the defense of the Chilean revolution, and who like the Trotskyite counterrevolutionary hordes two weeks ago, hailed the counterrevolutionary economic sabotage, and now celebrate the setback by mocking and exaggerating whatever shortcomings there may have been—to you, we express our utter contempt.

"These petty bourgeois Monday morning ideological buzzards hover over the bodies of heroic, revolutionary fighters trying to find some political bone to pick on.

"To you we say: The revolutionary movement will continue its struggles, and as it fights on it will take care of whatever weaknesses there are and transform them into strengths."

Hall's lies and distortions, his attempts to link Trotskyism to support for Nixon are put forward to divert his own ranks from a real examination of the events in Chile.

The Trotskyists did not wait until Monday morning to

fight the criminal policies of Stalinism. The Trotskyist movement has been built historically in the most bitter battle against Stalinism. This is what the CP knows and fears.

Suddenly, Hall says that there were shortcomings and weaknesses in the leadership, but he will not say what they are.

The bloody defeat of the working class in Chile was, in fact, the result not of shortcomings or mistakes, but of the conscious, deliberate policies of world Stalinism. Hall's talk about continuing the struggle is designed not only to play down the magnitude of the consequences of the defeat, but to state that the CP will continue to support these policies of "peaceful coexistence" and the "peaceful road to socialism."

Since Allende came to power, the CP has praised his policies and the Popular Unity government. It has quite openly put forward this road for the US, of forming an alliance with the capitalist class and Nixon himself.

The CP supported every step Allende and his government took to conciliate with the most reactionary sections of the capitalist class.

It applauded when the military was brought into the government. Even after the coup, it defended this step and Allende's refusal to arm the working class.

It is these policies which were deliberately implemented in Chile to crush the revolutionary struggles of the Chilean working class and keep them under the rule of the capitalist state.

As one CP speaker put it: "Popular Unity has more unity now." This is "unity" achieved over the dead bodies of thousands of workers and their families.

The Socialist Workers Party joins with the Stalinists in this criminal betrayal. It built the meeting at Town Hall through its protest rallies. It now joins in the unity with the Stalinists behind the Popular Front.

It is only the Workers League and the International Committee of the Fourth International that have fought for the lessons of Chile to defend the working class and construct a revolutionary leadership to defeat Stalinism.

Kissinger Welcomes Chile Fascists To U.S.

BY A REPORTER

As the fascist military in Chile multiplies its executions of workers and youth, Chile's Foreign Affairs Minister Ismael Huerta was welcomed to Washington by Henry Kissinger.

Huerta will meet with officials of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank who are only too willing to provide credit to this bloody dictatorship.

He declared in his speech to the United Nations that full compensation would be paid to American copper and other companies partially nationalized by former President Allende.

He arrogantly stated that since Chilean workers were not "political," "it would be necessary to find a way to represent them, perhaps by corporations." The military has banned all working class parties, especially the Communist and Socialist Parties.

On October 12, the junta issued a decree making any form of strike a crime and setting up tribunals to include military men to judge workers. Sentences will be passed "without recourse of any kind."

The junta has set out to liquidate thousands of prisoners being held in Santiago by gunning them down and then claiming that they were trying to escape.

He also confirmed that there are 20 Brazilian officers, specialists in interrogation and guerrilla warfare that are constantly in the stadium where

most of the prisoners are held.

Government warehouses that used to provide cheap subsidized food have been shut and workers are forced to pay exorbitant prices at private grocery stores.

Neighborhood medical clinics have also been shut.

The Chinese Stalinists have just declared that they no longer recognize Armando Uribe, the ambassador under Allende, and have cancelled a memorial meeting for Allende.

Election In Turkey

The General Election held in Turkey narrowly won by Bulent Ecevit's Republican Peoples Party was a charade behind which the Turkish military still holds the real power.

This was the first election since the Generals took over in March 1971 and established martial law. Ecevit's party won 162 seats as opposed to 143 for the Conservative Justice Party which won the last two elections but this is not enough to form a government.

Thai Dictatorship Falls

BY MELODY FARROW

The uprising of hundreds of thousands of Thailand students backed by the workers in Bangkok has forced the military rulers to flee the country.

After two days of bloody fighting in which hundreds of youth were massacred, the military dictatorship, a tradition in Thailand for 32 years, collapsed.

The new Premier, Sanya Thammasak, the former Dean of Thammasat University, has formed a largely civilian cabinet and has announced new elections will be held in six months.

IMPERIALISM

The overthrow of Premier Thanom Kittikachorn, army commander Prapass Charusathira, and Thanom's son, Narong Kittikachorn, internal security chief, is an enormous blow to US imperialism in Indochina.

Thailand has always been considered the most stable ally of imperialism and American air bases in Thailand are critical to Nixon's ability to attack Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam.

The students had been demonstrating for at least five weeks against the arrest of fellow students for demanding a constitutional government.

HELICOPTERS

On October 14, when students moved to occupy government buildings, police and soldiers opened fire from helicopters with machine guns and M-16 rifles.

Every piece of equipment used by the police was supplied by the United States.

American journalists have reported how the troops fired on everyone in sight, killing unarmed girls, high school students, and passersby. A Washington Post correspondent who witnessed the fighting



Thai students confront government tanks.

reported that while the Thai army had the best US military equipment, the students were armed with nothing but wooden clubs.

The students fought on and commandeered trucks and buses which they rammed into tanks and police stations. Taxi and bus drivers who had recently been on strike against the regime helped transport the students.

The new regime was quickly ushered in in order to prevent the development of a general strike of the Thailand workers.

The students are openly distrustful of the new regime. It

has announced that there will be no change in its relations with the United States.

The new deputy premier is a former US ambassador who served in previous governments and the Defense Ministry is to be headed by Marshal Dawee, a military man with good relations with the US.

Thailand shows that Nixon's deal with the Soviet bureaucracy to hold back revolution in Southeast Asia cannot be maintained against the growing movement of workers, youth, and peasants against US inspired dictatorships.

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NY Court Fines ITU Leader

BY DAVID NORTH

NEW YORK.—Fines of \$250 were imposed upon Bertram Powers and two other officers of International Typographical Union No. 6 for having ordered work stoppages last week at the New York Times in defiance of a court injunction.

Powers, president of Local 6, is liable to prosecution because the leadership of the ITU in Colorado Springs has refused to authorize strike action by Local 6 even though its contract with the Times expired last March.

ITU President John J. Pilch, now attending the AFL-CIO Convention in Miami Beach, has refused to answer telegrams from Local 6 requesting strike authorization or explain his reasons for denying authorization.

However, an official of the Times revealed at Monday's court hearing that Pilch had held secret discussions with the management of both the Times and the Daily News shortly before the Local 6 contract expired.

INFORMED

Furthermore, it was revealed that Pilch informed the Times that the International would send representatives to the negotiations with Local 6 in order to monitor the activities of Powers.

Following the sentencing, Powers told the Bulletin that Pilch had informed Local 6 that the representatives were being sent to assist in the negotiations.

"It is unbelievable," Powers stated. "The ranks are angry and confused by the actions of the International. I find it hard to believe that Pilch wants to be an open strikebreaker and endanger the jobs of 900 fellow workers."

While the negotiations drag on,

the Times is introducing new automated equipment in order to begin massive layoffs. The entire eleventh floor is under the tightest security while the equipment—which can produce the newspaper without typographers—is installed.

RELEASE

Because Pilch will not release us from this contract," said Powers, "the Times feels no need to negotiate and is going ahead with eliminating jobs.

"If Pilch would grant our request, I would not have to show up in court."

Powers said that the ITU would go out if the Times did attempt to fire any typographers.

The Local 6 President ruled out a split with the International, and said that he would only support the Progressive faction, of which he and Pilch are members, in the ITU elections next May if it chooses a candidate opposed to Pilch's policies. Pilch has decided not to seek reelection.

INJUNCTION

According to the injunction, the Times is able to press new charges against Powers if there is another work stoppage. Powers could have been sent to jail for 30 days for the first offense.

With unequalled arrogance, the Times told the judge that it was not asking for a jail term because Powers is needed for contract negotiations.



Connecticut steel workers out on strike against compulsory overtime, low wages.

Connecticut Steel Local Strikes For Decent Wage

BY RUTH NELSON
NAUGATUCK, Conn.
—Over 200 members of United Steel Workers Local 1558 struck Monday for a new contract against the Alloy Foundries Division of the Eastern Company Malleable Ironworks.

The company has offered six percent for each of three years including benefits.

Pickets are determined to get all issues straightened out before they return to work. One picket told the Bulletin:

"They are trying to force us out. The company makes \$38

million a year and they do not want to give us anything.

"We cannot get a decent cost of living, no decent pension plan. Phase Four limits our raise, but the price of food is up. Gas is going up two cents. Fuel oil is going up. The hiring rate here is \$2.50 an hour. That is baby-sitting money."

For a year, overtime hours of from 45 hours up to 58 hours a week have been common, even though compulsory overtime is not in the contract.

Marvin Thompson said: "They

are getting away with murder. If you do not do the overtime you get fired."

James Bancy told the Bulletin: "Nixon got rid of Agnew, so we have to get rid of Nixon.

"The Senate and the House will not do anything. They say it is a disgrace about Agnew, but the real disgrace is Nixon and the people right here in this country starving.

"Nixon gets \$250,000 a year and everything he does is tax free. We are paying for that, and we cannot eat a decent meal on Sunday mornings."

Who Bugged Johnson?

BY A REPORTER

In a statement attacking the Nixon administration as "a regime where the 'dirty business' of wiretapping runs rampant," Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas revealed that Lyndon Johnson believed that his own White House telephone had been tapped.

Douglas also stated last Monday that he is "morally certain" that the conference room of the Supreme Court has been bugged.

A government official has denied Douglas's allegations, but did admit that Johnson did have suspicions that he himself was under surveillance.

DENIED

The same official also denied that the Supreme Court conference room had been bugged, but added: "If we did bug it, I wouldn't tell you."

He went on: "If we were ever caught, it would have wiped us all out, Hoover and all."

Douglas has refused to expand on his charges. The 75-year old judge was once the target of impeachment proceedings launched by Nixon's new vice-

presidential nominee, Gerald Ford.

The Douglas revelation throws light on the vast conspiracy by the CIA, FBI, and Nixon to overthrow all forms of constitutional rule in preparation for dictatorship.

WATERGATE

It shows that the Watergate affair was just a small part of conspiratorial operations that include much more than bugging.

Douglas's statement is particularly significant in the light of new evidence suggesting that Senator Robert Kennedy was not killed by Sirhan Sirhan, but rather by right wingers operating in Southern California where Nixon has a great many political contacts and backers.

It has also been revealed that Lyndon Johnson told CBS reporter Walter Cronkite in an interview shortly before his death that he had concluded that John F. Kennedy's assassination was part of a conspiracy that went far beyond Lee Harvey Oswald.

Richard Nixon has always claimed that it was only a coincidence that he was in Dallas on the morning of John Kennedy's death.

China Halts Arms For Sihanouk

BY A CORRESPONDENT

The resignation of In Tam in Cambodia from Lon Nol's High Command Council brings the military clique in Phnom Penh to the brink of collapse.

Tam's resignation is part of an attempt by broad sections of the Cambodian ruling class to dump Lon Nol and make a deal with the forces of Norodom Sihanouk in order to save their own necks.

This crisis has erupted because of the complete isolation of Lon Nol in the capital and his failure to win any popular support. The army has disintegrated, and heavy fighting is still raging over Kompong Cham, the third largest city.

Long Boret, Foreign Affairs Minister, has proposed negotiations, but Sihanouk, whose movement controls four-fifths of the country, has refused.

Since the cessation of American bombing, a real offensive against Phnom Penh has been sabotaged by the Stalinists in Moscow and Peking. This is the major reason for Lon Nol's survival up to this point.

Sihanouk has charged that since January 27, 1973, when the Vietnam peace treaty was signed, most of the arms and ammunition shipments from China and North Vietnam have come to a halt.

Le Monde, the French daily, published his letter on October 11 in which he repeated his statements in Algeria:

"In 1972, during a stay in Peking, Le Duc Tho (chief North Vietnamese negotiator) who came to see his 'friend' Kissinger in Paris, said to his Excellency the Prime Minister of FUNK (Penn Nouth) and myself that 'armed struggle is an excellent thing but it is also necessary at the right time to accept negotiations'.

"This advice from our North Vietnamese brothers led me to the conclusion that our armed struggle had become irritating

to them once they had decided to 'make peace with the Americans'."

The recognition last week by the Soviet Union of Sihanouk's regime after three and one-half years of supporting Lon Nol is a cynical attempt to curry favor with the winning side.

Now the Soviet bureaucrats claim they always supported FUNK and never "sent any document to the Lon Nol government announcing recognition of this government."

This twisted logic is supposed to cover the fact that they never broke relations with Lon Nol and kept their staff and embassy operating in Phnom Penh, which still has not been closed despite the official switch in policy.

As recently as October 9, Soviet representatives attended a reception given by the Prime Minister in honor of the third anniversary of the "Khmer Republic."

These are the principal enemies who stand in the way of the Cambodian workers and peasants just when they are on the eve of victory.

Thousands Lose Homes In Chelsea Fire

BY A REPORTER

CHELSEA, Mass.—One fifth of the city of Chelsea burned to the ground Sunday night in a blaze compared by witnesses to the London blitz of World War Two.

One thousand workers and youth lost their homes and 600 jobs were destroyed in the \$500 million dollar inferno.

This fire was not an "unfortunate accident" as the capitalist press has called it. It was a direct result of the criminal policies of the Democratic and Republican politicians who have cut away every last nickel of public funding for housing, safety, and municipal services.

Last February, the big insurance companies rated Chelsea the worst fire risk on the North American continent.

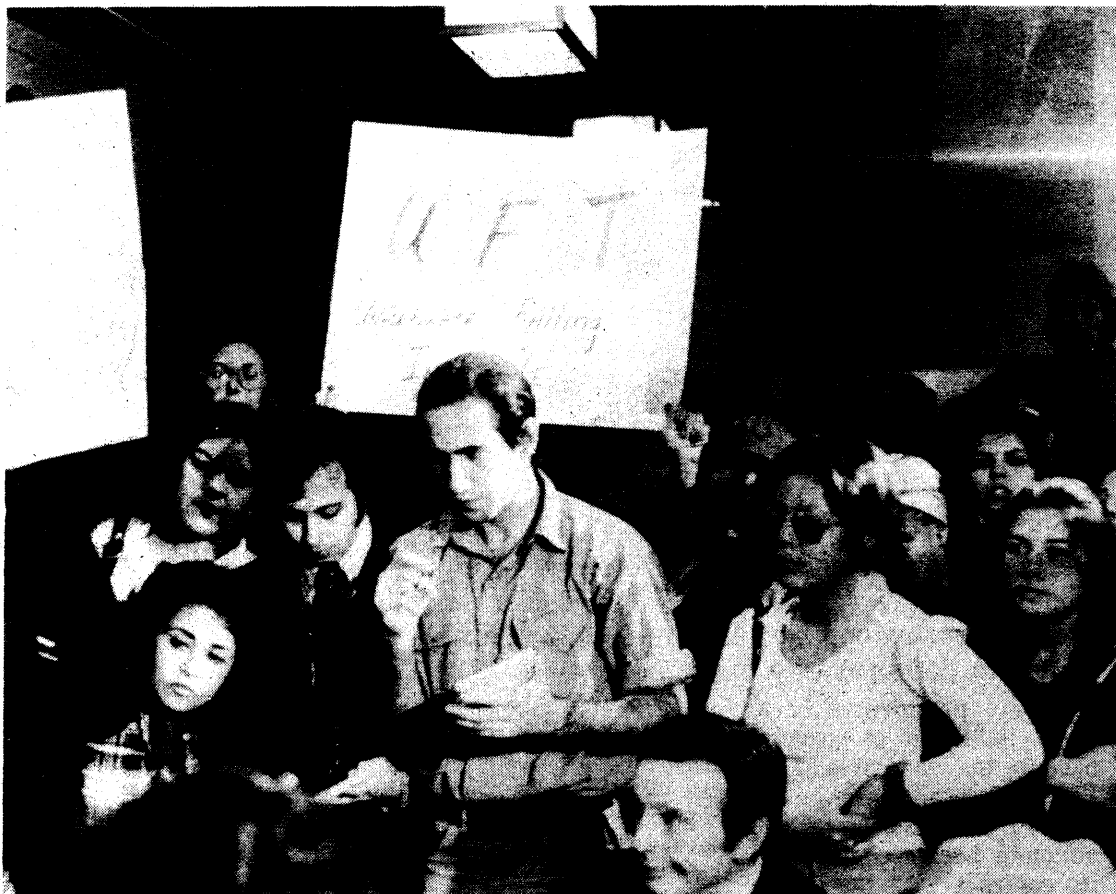
It is a city which, before the fire, contained over 180,000

gallons of flammable liquids stored above ground without any fire or safety precautions. The storage tanks were scattered among warehouses filled with wool and rags.

Chelsea's water supply is considered inadequate to fight even a fire of ordinary size. During Sunday's blaze, water pressure dropped almost to zero.

Workers in Chelsea were forced to live in rundown wooden tenements because of the government's decision not to build any more public housing. The federal government recently refused funds for redevelopment on the grounds that it was not worthwhile.

Firefighters had difficulty reaching the burning area because the main highway link from Boston to Chelsea, the Mystic Bridge, collapsed six weeks ago and was only partially open.



Supporters of Luis Fuentes gather at a press conference in New York City in which the suspended superintendent charged the school board with "illegal actions" against him, and called a boycott of 20 schools in Manhattan's District One. See "Lucha Obrera," page 12.

Baltimore Denies Teachers Pay Hike

BY A BULLETIN REPORTER

BALTIMORE—Teachers here are entering their sixth week of work without a contract, as negotiations between the school board and the Public School Teachers Association (PSTA) are stalled.

The school board has offered teachers no proposal on wages even after a Board of Estimates okay of a 3 percent hike.

The "noneconomic counter-proposals" the school board is offering amount to a vicious attack on almost every right the teachers have won. Grievances procedure, sabbatical leave, and sick leave are all in danger.

Board negotiators have refused to freeze working conditions until a contract settlement is reached, and teachers fear the worst.

One elementary school teacher told the Bulletin: "We hear different things every day. The Board was talking about making us stay after school on our own time for the right-to-read program.

"My principal scolded me for leaving my class alone with the librarian. None of these things have happened for years, but with no contract anything can happen.

"I scabbed on a strike last year in Anne Arundel County, but I'm ready to go out this time."

Another teacher, whose pay has been reduced from \$12,000 to \$10,000 in one year, said:

"It is the principle of the thing. Are we going to be like sheep or are we going to show the board we mean business?"

WILDCATS

Sentiment for a strike is very high among teachers, and wildcats are being discussed in some schools.

Other critical issues like class size and accountability are also at stake.

The PSTA's 8 percent proposal for catching up with the cost of living has fallen behind skyrocketing prices.

PSTA members must now demand that the leadership call immediate strike action against the city government, with

demands of 20 percent increase across the board with full cost of living to meet this enormous inflation, and a maximum class size of 20.

The leadership must also call on the Baltimore AFL-CIO to support any teachers' strike with general strike action.

This kind of a battle, coming up against the state no-strike law for public employees and Nixon's wage controls, shows the need to build a leadership in the PSTA which will take up a political fight against the government. This means calling for a Congress of Labor to build labor's own party.

UAW Strikes Harvester

SPECIAL TO THE BULLETIN CHICAGO, Oct. 18—The International Harvester Company was hit today at noon with a strike by 48,000 members of the United Auto Workers.

Negotiations were at an impasse over the attempt by International Harvester—giant manufacturer of agricultural machinery—to impose compulsory overtime on the workers.

"The company is trying to force us backwards," Local 6 President Norman Roth told the Bulletin early today. "There has not been compulsory overtime in Inter-

national Harvester since 1941."

This strike is a severe blow to UAW President Leonard Woodcock, who has been negotiating full time with International Harvester this week, because it threatens to break up the Chrysler "pattern" of UAW contracts.

Roth stated that wage demands had not even been discussed to this point because of the impasse over compulsory overtime.

"I believe that the UAW should lead the entire labor movement to bust Nixon's 5.5 percent controls," he declared.

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Shippers Slash Gang Size On Philly Docks

BY A REPORTER

PHILADELPHIA—Longshoremen here face unemployment lines as the average work week has now reached one and one-half days.

For the past month, an average of 20 gangs have been going out to work, a cut of almost three-fifths of all the work. As one Local 1291 man told the Bulletin:

"It is going from bad to worse. I cannot even get two days work. How can you support a family that way?"

The ILA leadership, in complicity with the government and the shipping companies, has just accepted the 40 cent wage increase, a cut from the original 55 cents, and has allowed the ranks to bear the brunt of this inflation.

There are reports that shippers are demanding that next year's contract cut the gang size from 19 to 16 men, throwing thousands of men on to the unemployment lines.

As jobs are eliminated, the leadership has proposed to tax the ranks 10 percent to pay for the "huge checkoff system." This money should come out of the container money, which has been promised since 1969, totaling \$55 a man.

INITIATION

This tax goes along with the leadership's raising the initiation to \$500.

The leadership's refusal to fight for jobs, which would mean a fight against the government, forces them to pit older worker against younger workers, claiming that it is the younger

men who are responsible for taking away jobs.

As jobs are eliminated, the Guaranteed Annual Income (GAI) is exposed as a complete hoax. Rick Barbee, an 11 year longshoreman, told the Bulletin:

"One month I received \$2.08. About 100 men have been getting some money every two months.

"I am supposed to be getting 700 hours pay, but I will not get it. How can there be a GAI when you do not even receive a day."

These attacks on dock workers, coupled with the betrayals of the leadership and the resignation of Agnew, now throw dock workers into politics.

"Agnew's resignation came at the right time. It was either him or Nixon. It has not hurt the Republican Party. Somebody had to be the fall guy."

Another longshoreman told the Bulletin: "That man should be in jail. There is a double standard. One law for him and one law for me."

With the Nixon administration desperately trying to consolidate its political power, it becomes an urgent necessity that a new leadership based on Marxism be constructed on the docks.

A meeting will be held at the Fellowship House, 1523 Gerard Avenue, on Monday, October 22 at 7:30 pm in order to construct that leadership which can unite the men today to fight to force Nixon out and construct a labor party.



Pentagon officials refused to comment on this El Al jet loading military equipment at Wright Air Force base.

Mideast War Explodes Detente

BY MELODY FARROW

The stunning offensive and fighting spirit of the Egyptian and Syrian armies in the present war is a powerful blow to the plans of US imperialism to extend their domination over the peoples of the Middle East.

Behind the offensive of Egypt and Syria, now joined by thousands of troops from Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Algeria and Jordan, is the revolutionary movement of the workers and peasants of the Arab countries.

This struggle is their response to the deep crisis of imperialism which is at war against the workers of the advanced countries and seeks to drive the masses of the colonial countries down into misery and starvation.

The strength of this movement is that the capitalist system is in crisis, forcing workers of every country to fight back. Nixon cannot isolate and crush the colonial people because simultaneously he faces uprisings in every corner of the globe.

This crisis is concretely expressed in the Middle East by the effect that the dollar devaluation and inflation have had in wiping out the real incomes of the Arab rulers from the sale of oil to the West.

To combat this, countries like Libya have moved towards partial nationalization of the big oil companies taking over 51 percent of Exxon and threatening to raise oil prices.

They demanded that the US pay in gold or hard currency as the value of the dollar becomes increasingly worthless.

COLLISION

This has brought the Arab governments into open collision with the capitalist countries, especially the US, who aim to secure by force a regular and inexpensive flow of oil.

The leaders of Egypt and Syria were forced to take the initiative in this war, not only to defend their own right to exist, but because of the unremitting pressure of the Arab masses who have refused to accept the robbery of their land by Israel.

The rapacious needs of capitalism today mean that even the resistance of the Arab bourgeoisie must be destroyed and dictatorships totally subservient to the US such as Iran, put in their place.

It is clear that the US and Israel have been preparing an offensive, especially since the signing of the Paris peace treaty in Vietnam.

Only this past summer, Senator Fulbright exposed a three-prong plan by the United States that involved landing American, Israeli, and Iranian troops within the Arab countries and seizing their airfields. US Marines were being given special training in desert tank warfare.

Nixon's whole fraud of "detente," to which the Soviet Union was a willing partner, was used to hold back the Arab countries, while Israel and the US prepared for an attack.

But this entire scheme has been completely disrupted by the attack of Egypt and Syria which took both the Zionists and the Pentagon officials by surprise.

The carefully constructed detente and the Stalinist lie of peaceful coexistence have been broken up by the movement of the Arab masses.

POWERFUL

No matter what the Stalinists say or do, the war has unleashed powerful revolutionary forces that will make any return to the old alignment in the Middle East impossible.

The weakness of Israel in this situation is its total dependence on the United States for military equipment.

Israel cannot fight a long war without massive arms shipments from the US. Since new Phantom jets and Skyhawks cannot be supplied as fast as Israel is losing them, the US must intervene directly.

The Zionists are forced to fight an entire people, just as Nixon did in Vietnam. This is why it is impossible for Israel to take the Syrian capital, Damascus: for as one Syrian official said, it would be "another Stalingrad."

Israel was deliberately carved out of Palestine in 1948 to safeguard the interests of the big powers. It used Jewish peoples' fear of persecution in Europe to lure them to an exclusively Jewish state that would be a "promised land."

To perpetrate this myth, the Zionists pretended that the

millions of Palestinian people, who were ruthlessly thrown off their land, simply never existed.

Their homes were bulldozed, and new Israeli villages built in their place. The former inhabitants were forbidden to return and became refugees.

The war today is being fought out over Egyptian and Syrian land that was occupied during the 1967 war. The racist lie that Egypt wants to "annihilate" the Jews is aimed at obscuring this very simple fact.

SELF-DETERMINATION

In their struggle for self-determination, for the right to live on the land they were born in, the Arab people come up against the necessity to abolish capitalism itself and its most reactionary expression, Zionism.

The war also takes place at a time of very changed conditions within Israel since 1967.

The class struggle has exploded to the surface. A growing wave of strikes has broken out against soaring inflation and unemployment and workers committees independent of the state controlled Histadrut labor federation have appeared.

The fact that over 60,000 Arab workers now work with Jewish workers in Israeli industry creates a real basis for uniting these workers.

The Stalinist bureaucracy in the Soviet Union is doing everything in its power to prevent a revolutionary development in the Middle East.

The Soviet Union was opposed to the Syrian and Egyptian offensive from the beginning. As reported by the British press, it pulled its military personnel out of these countries on October 6.

Last year Egyptian President Anwar el-Sadat expelled all Soviet advisers and technicians from Egypt and told Newsweek that they refused to send him the equipment he requested.

Once war broke out, Soviet press coverage was restricted and muted. Even news of the deaths of Soviet embassy personnel during the bombing of Damascus was suppressed until October 12.

Their restraint was so evident that Kissinger was able to boast: "Soviet behavior is less provocative, less incendiary, and less geared to military threats than in the previous crisis."



Exxon pipeline in Libya.

Kissinger is deeply involved in behind the scenes negotiations with the Stalinists to try and impose a cease-fire and sellout on the Arab people, as they did in Vietnam.

Official Soviet policy is based on honoring the US Security Council Resolution which calls for Israeli withdrawal from the lands taken in 1967, in return for recognition of Israel's "territorial integrity and secure and recognizable boundaries."

Gus Hall, national secretary of the American Communist Party, which follows this Stalinist line, said at a recent meeting: "Of course we accept the right of Israel to exist."

The basic right of oppressed countries to self-determination, one of the most fundamental principles of Lenin, is thrown out by the Stalinists.

True self-determination cannot be achieved under the present leadership of the Arab people. By limiting it to a national problem the Arab bourgeoisie prevents the unity of Arab and Jewish workers and wants to limit the war to the 1967 lands, denying the problem of the Palestinian people.

NATIONALIST

In the same way, leaders like Yasir Arafat of Al-Fatah have never broken from this nationalist outlook.

The Socialist Workers Party finds itself squarely in this camp. Their support to the Arab people solely on the basis of their democratic and national rights is an acceptance of the present leadership.

But as Lenin said, revolutionaries must clearly fight to take the national struggle over to the fight for social and political revolution against the bour-

geoisie, not only in the Middle East, but against the American ruling class that creates their oppression.

The heroic struggle of the Arab people means that it is our responsibility in the United States to give them the only real defense there is: the defeat of Nixon and the building of a Labor Party. This the SWP refuses to raise.

OPPRESSOR

As Marxists, we take sides in this war for the defeat of Israel as an oppressor and see that such a defeat would open the way for revolution in Israel, while their victory would strengthen the most reactionary forces in the government and help Nixon to consolidate his move towards dictatorship against the rights of American workers.

The destruction of Zionism means the fight for a socialist united states of the Middle East in which all races and nationalities have equal rights, free of capitalist exploitation.

First in Chile and now in the Middle East, the Stalinist path of peaceful coexistence with capitalism and Nixon has opened the working class to the dangers of destruction and world war.

If Kissinger, together with Brezhnev are unable to impose a deal on the Arab masses to rob them of their victories, the next step can only be a brutal escalation and direct intervention by the US.

This is a warning of the future that all workers face unless the capitalist system is overthrown.

It is on this basis that revolutionary parties as sections of the International Committee of the Fourth International, must be built in the Middle East.



The following article is Part Two of a series of three articles on American history and the development of the labor movement. It is based on a talk given to trade unionists around the country. Part Three will deal with the political development of the American working class.

The purpose of any society is to enable man to be able to change the material world so that man can live and prosper, so that man can fulfill his basic needs.

Today the system of capitalism no longer allows this to take place. In order for the system to survive in this period, it must seek to drive back the masses of the people—to hold back and actually lower their living standards; to actually produce less internationally and within this country and to lower the level of society as a whole.

The system under which we live is no longer able to develop the productive forces of man to serve man so that he can develop and move ahead; it turns in on itself and there is a situation of wild inflation, of the living conditions of the masses being driven back, of war, of overthrow of governments, such as in Chile, which drives back the development of man.

For these reasons we turn to the questions of historical materialism: how societies have developed and changed; how the American working class has changed, developed and learned; what its past is, so that the American working class can now understand the tasks that it faces.

The center of world capitalism is here in the US; the heart of the crisis is here. It is here that the working class must confront capitalism and it will be here that the most fundamental struggles are waged for the overthrow of capitalism for man to move forward in a new way.

The first basic principle of historical materialism to understand is that the way man organizes his society is determined by his struggle against nature. The thinking, the consciousness of man, his development, comes out of that struggle against nature.

Man learned to think, to develop his understanding as he reached out and fought the world, animals, and created his own tools—first with perhaps a simple stick to knock something off a tree, or to fight an animal, and later into more complicated tools, as he actually changed the natural world around him so that he could live, prosper, and develop.

Man has been organized many different ways over his history—not in just one way—in this process of transforming the natural world, of conflicting with the natural world to fulfill his needs.

Capitalism represents just one way in which man has been organized in order to confront nature and to change it. In a social system like capitalism, there are two separate but related questions. The first called productive relations; the second is called productive forces.

Productive forces are the tools, the knowledge, the machinery which man has for the purpose of changing the natural world. Productive relations are the class relations in society whereby man uses these tools to change the world.

A society survives as long as it is able to bring about a development of the productive forces, leading to the development of technology of factories, of the tools that

man uses to create the wealth of that society. When a particular way of organizing men no longer leads to this development and growth of productive forces, that society dies and a new one arises.

For instance, a slave society existed in Greece and Rome. The masses of men that did the work were owned. They were simply bought or sold or conquered, and whatever they produced went to the slave owner. Slaveowners thereby gained all the surplus and made up a special class that dominated the society. This system allowed for the development of large-scale agriculture. But it was unable to really develop the productive forces beyond that.

There was no motivation for the slave to do anything but the minimum amount of work. Thus in early slave society, they used the most primitive equipment and tools for changing the world. There was the most fantastic art and culture for the rich, but the most primitive tools were used to produce the wealth. Thus the society decayed. It could not develop its productive forces any further, so it was overthrown by the barbarian peoples around it. The barbarians had lower cultures in many ways, but were free and independent, with a more developed agriculture.

They were able to overthrow the early slave society and lay the basis for feudal society, and then capitalist society.

Capitalism only represents one stage in man's development and since it can no longer develop the productive forces, it will also pass away, but not without our conscious struggle for that to take place.

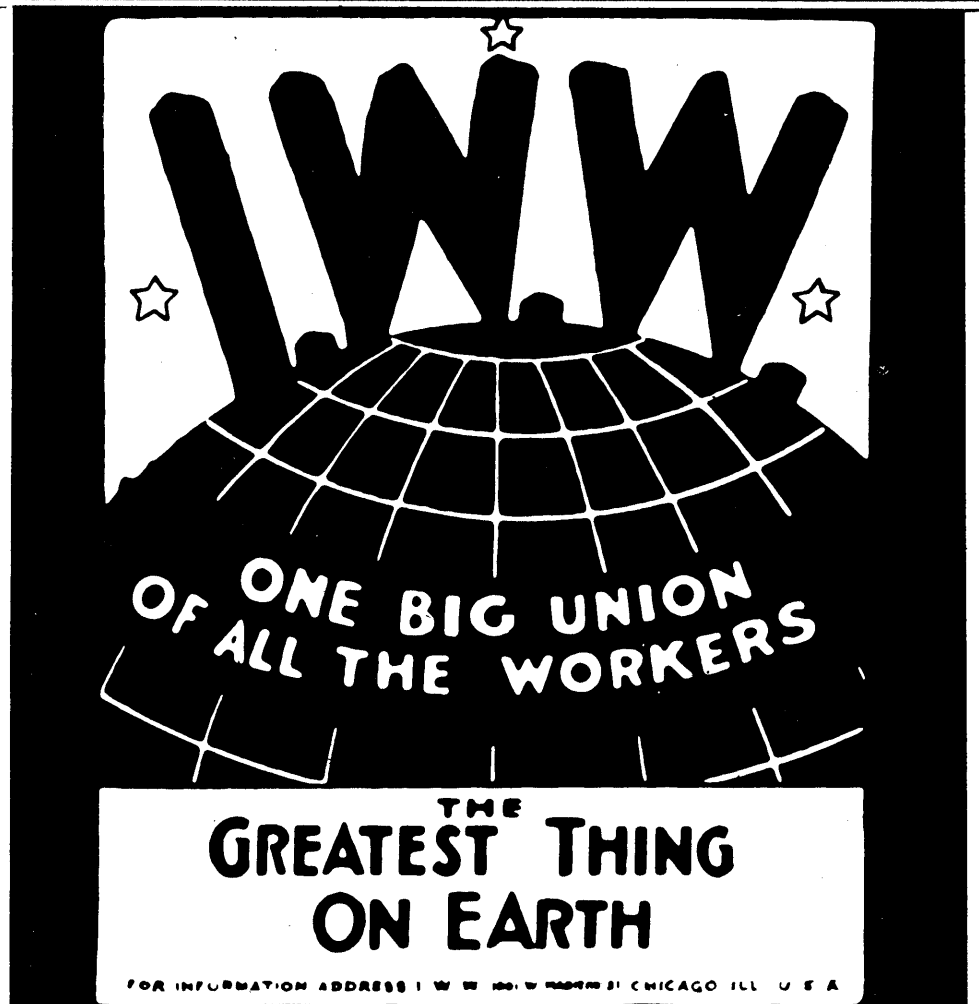
Land Of Practical Application

The US developed in a very special way. The way the US developed affected the thinking and organization of the working class itself. The US is a young country. It did not go through the early kinds of society—it never had feudalism, that is, it never had a system of kings, serfs, and all the rest.

America started as a capitalist country. It was organized by the most advanced capitalist country of its day, England. It was an extremely rich country in its natural resources with thousands of miles of virgin lands barely inhabited.

Those rich resources were combined in America with the most advanced machinery that was brought over from Europe. Therefore, they were able to produce factories, machinery in America faster than in Europe; what took hundreds of years of evolution in England was simply exported into the US already completed.

The US was able to go through an industrial development with great rapidity; the US never had to struggle to free its social system from the old social system of the knights, lords, and kings. This, of course, had a big influence on American thinking.



The Industrial Workers of the World was very much a product of the American worker's close ties to industry and technology. The militants of the IWW were the precursor to the CIO, founded in the massive sit-downs and factory occupations in the 1930s (right).

This is the origin of pragmatism, that is, the hostility in America to theory: the idea that what works is all that counts. The Americans took already existent things—the factories produced through a whole struggle in Europe—and applied them in America and was able to do better than the Europeans.

With capitalism in America developed the idea that theory was not needed, in any event, it was something to be bought, put together and applied in America. And America could do it better than anybody. So the very rapid development of industry in America developed a hostility to thinking: one could throw some ideas together, make them work, and everything would come out fine.

Even when it came to science, this was true. Up to this day, most of the major scientific discoveries in the world are made by Europeans with most of those Europeans living in America. America could simply purchase the scientific brains of Europe by giving them better jobs and bringing them over here.

America is a country not so much of scientific investigation, but of practical application. The theoretical physics were developed in Europe and America would mass produce millions of computers, cars, electronic equipment and make vast fortunes.

The American working class developed in a fresh virgin country, with a booming industry, with the dominant thinking of the country that you did not have to think; you did not need theory; you did not need to consciously wrestle with problems to make changes. It was not understood that thought itself is a product of man's struggle against nature and that thought is central to man's

ability to transform and change the world, to change and run his own society.

But this pragmatic outlook of just patching things together and doing what works contributed to the political backwardness of the American labor movement. The American labor movement is the only major labor movement in a world of 3 billion people which has no political party of its own. It felt it could get by, patch things together, go from contract to contract, negotiations to negotiations, pull a little bit here and there in order to survive.

This side of America has had an influence in the American working class that keeps the American worker dominated in his thinking and in his organization by the capitalist class. He remains really more than any other worker in the world in the grips of capitalist thinking rather than consciously developing his own thinking to fight for his own consciousness with his own political party.

But we must also see the positive side of this as well. In the US there is the most advanced technology, the most advanced science, the largest factories. The American worker has always developed very closely associated with his industry and factory. His life has been shaped by technology and science more than any other worker in the world.

He works in the factory, he goes home in his car—the average worker not only has a car and runs it, but he repairs it, he patches it together, he fiddles around with it, soups it up. If the American worker has a hobby, it is probably a mechanical one. If he has a vision of what he would do if he were not in a factory, it is to become perhaps an engineer or a scientist. He wants to use his mind to make, change, build, and create things,

Historical Materialism & The Development Of The American Working Class

Three Lectures On American History By Tim Wohlforth

being very much affected by the power of the tremendous factories and technology that developed in this country.

Workers Tied To Technology

Therefore, we find in the development of the American working class, a certain identity with industry. For instance, one of the most important organizations that developed in the US, the first real attempt to build American industrial unions, was the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW).

ican problems and thinking them out on their own. The idea they had was the following:

They divided up the whole industry of America and they put it on a chart, like a pie with big round spokes. In each spoke they had each basic industry like mines, long-shore, lumber, transportation, electrical, steel. They divided the entire country up into the totality of its industry.

This was done for two reasons: First because they wanted to build what they called one basic union. They wanted one union that would represent all workers organized on an industrial basis. Second, they

That was until 1929. In 1929 the great crash came; the stock market fell. Millions of workers were put out of work. They were separated from industry because capitalism is a system where the tools that workers use to change the material world are not in their possession. The tools are owned by the capitalists. All the worker is left with is his ability to work. A worker must sell that ability to work to the capitalist because he has the tools—workers no longer have them as early man did.

During the Depression, he found that these tools, that is, the great factories of America, shut their doors to him. His ability

his own, a worker looked at the situation and said:

"I will not be put out of this factory so that they can go out and put someone else in it. I have a right to this job. This industry which has been so much a part of my life, this industrial wealth of this country is mine."

Lessons Of The 1930s

The sit-in movement, the sit-down strikes of workers occupying the factories began not in Europe, was not thought of by Karl Marx in Germany. It began in America. It spread from America to Europe. For instance, in 1968 when ten million French workers occupied the plants in the tremendous struggle that took place which almost toppled the De Gaulle government and almost brought socialism to power, these French workers were carrying out techniques that developed in America.

There are important lessons to learn today. That is, the American worker has changed since the 1930s. He now has what he did not have then. He has unions, even though they are dominated by a bureaucracy. He now has what he did not have in 1929—a much higher standard of living.

The American worker will not simply allow even what happened in 1929 to occur, when millions of workers were put out of the factories and then those who remained would sit-in and possess the factories. At a much earlier stage in the struggle, the American worker will hold on to that factory, will occupy it, will seek to keep it himself. He will fight the capitalist over it.

The development of the American working class will turn into its opposite. The period in which the American working class was kept under the domination of capitalism because the American worker refused to think theoretically, refused to develop his own thinking, his own policy, and his own party, will turn into its opposite.

The American worker, in a struggle to possess the factories which now seek to close their doors against him, will now go through a rapid political development. The American worker and the American capitalist have always had that in common—there has always been rapid development. America did industrially in 30 years, between 1865 and 1895, what England did in 200 years.

The American worker waited until 1935 to organize mass unions, but between 1935 and 1937 the overwhelming mass of American workers entered into unions almost overnight and developed the union movement which is the most powerful in the world—in just two years.

The American working class will in that way develop politically—in leaps. It will develop politically through its own experiences and through its own mistakes. It will develop politically to the extent that there are those workers who consciously go through the experiences with the masses of workers, who point out the mistakes, who struggle against the wrong thinking, who fight the capitalist methods of thought that dominate the worker. That is the role of our movement and our newspaper. That is why we are launching the twice-weekly Bulletin.



It was formed in the period just before World War One and led a number of important struggles and strikes throughout the US, particularly in the West, but also in Lawrence, Massachusetts, and Patterson, New Jersey.

They had a whole pageant in defense of the Patterson Silk workers in Madison Square Garden on the eve of World War One organized by John Reed who later went to Russia and wrote *Ten Days That Shook the World*. The IWW was a tremendously important organization of revolutionary workers and militants in the US.

The IWW did not have a very worked out theoretical understanding, they were very much a product of America, and their thinking was rooted in American developments. They were very much American workers, not European workers who came here with ideas from Europe. They were workers who were grappling with Amer-

felt these industries would be the basis of a government: a socialist government in America where the workers controlled and ran these industries.

These industries and the factories would be the heart of an industrial government. When these workers first thought of running the country, of it being theirs, of the profits that were made from their labor coming to them and not to the corporations, they saw a government based on these factories and industries.

This idea was expressed later when the next big strikes took place for industrial unions. These struggles to organize the CIO in the 1930s established the union movement we know today.

America went through a development in which, of course, the worker was very much exploited and in which a fantastic power developed: these were the Robber Barons, the Rockefellers, the Morgans, and others.

to change the world was broken from him; his ability to feed his family was taken away; his ability to clothe and house himself, to be a person, to develop his life was severed all at once. This happened to masses of workers. In the Depression, one-third of the working population was unemployed. Unemployed does not mean on welfare. Employed workers then lived like people today who are on welfare. People then lived in literal starvation, once a week going on a bread line, or a soup line in order to be able to somehow survive.

Faced with this situation, in a period when there was a brief upturn and a few more workers could get a job, the employed workers organized themselves into industrial unions in steel, auto, electrical, and rubber.

When workers organized themselves into industrial unions they were not modeling themselves after anything in Europe. But on

LABOR TODAY

Centrism In The Steel Union

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio—The opposition within the United Steel Workers of America to I.W. Abel's no-strike pact with the steel companies is a sharp example of the dead end of centrism within the unions today.

One side of the opposition to Abel is the petition and legal challenge seeking to overturn the "Experimental Negotiating Agreement" through the courts.

This opposition is being spearheaded by the Rank and File Team (RAFT), headed by William Litch of Youngstown Local 1462, a group which has been in opposition to Abel for several years, fighting the bureaucracy solely on the question of union democracy.

The other side of the opposition is the spontaneous movement of workers in the plants which, as in auto is being expressed already in the form of wildcats against working conditions in the mills.

Like the dues protest movement which brought Abel to power in the first place, and like the Miners for Democracy movement which toppled Tony Boyle, the growing opposition to Abel begins and ends with trade unionism, with a defense of the right to strike and a fight for union democracy against the iron bureaucratic rule of Abel.

This is really the heart of centrism in the unions, and it was expressed very openly by John Barbero, a RAFT leader who was elected Local 1462 vice-president on an opposition slate:

"I have not paid much attention to these other (political) questions because we have had such a fight on our hands on this level.

"Bill (Litch) and the rest of us have pretty much stuck to the trade union side of things."

Centrists in the trade unions, like the leadership of RAFT, try to keep workers from going beyond the day-to-day struggle in their plants.

They consciously turn workers away from political questions at every point when the workers themselves begin to grapple with politics in order to fight back against the conditions they face and the government which is attacking them every day.

Centrists like Litch see the struggle within the unions simply as one of getting the right people elected to union posts and restoring the unions to the principles of trade unionism on which they were founded.

Today, this becomes completely reactionary. Litch wants to keep politics out of the struggle against Abel at the very point when nothing facing steel workers can be resolved without a fight against the government and against the politics of Abel.

Litch says he is ready to fight Nixon, if necessary, but only as a trade unionist:

"If our leaders had been on the ball, they would have gotten up right there and said no to Nixon's wage freeze. That is when the strike comes in. We should all have struck right there."

Litch is completely opposed to the independent political struggle workers must now wage against the government and both parties of big business which supported Nixon's wage freeze and which now are fully behind an all-out assault on the unions and every basic right workers have won in the past.

Litch stands with Abel on this ground. He opposes Abel's politics only to end up with the political position of other union bureaucrats like Leonard Woodcock, who like Litch, supported McGovern and says he wants to reform the Democratic Party.

"I do not think we should worry about other parties," Litch said in an interview. "I think we can make this system work.

"The system is here—it is just out of line. We have got a man in Nixon who thinks he is God, that he is above the law. We have to have different people in government."

This is the real danger of centrism today, whether in the form of Litch's open hostility to an independent political fight by labor or in the form of those within the trade union movement, like Barbero, who say they support the idea of a labor party, or even socialism, but who have "stuck to the trade union side of things."

Abel's no-strike agreement comes, not just from the distance of the bureaucracy from the day-to-day life in the mills or from its real hostility toward the ranks, but from his acceptance of capitalism and its demand for profits.

The workers themselves will repudiate Abel's no-strike pledge by striking against the conditions they face, as they are already doing.

What is necessary is to build a new leadership within the USWA which begins from a Marxist understanding of the economic crisis and the situation facing steel workers and which fights Abel on the basis of a program centered on the political fight which must be waged against Nixon through the formation of a labor party committed to socialist policies.

bruce mckay



Bill McNickle, president of the Vinton County teachers association, stands beside his jeep, which was firebombed by right-wing vigilantes while it was parked in front of his home.

Ohio Teachers Reject Black List

SPECIAL TO THE BULLETIN

McARTHUR, Ohio—The strike of Vinton County teachers has entered its fifth week in spite of brutal attacks by right-wing vigilante groups organized by the board of education.

Teachers have rejected an offer by the board to reinstate only 80 of the 97 teachers who were recently fired for having participated in the strike.

Leaders of the strike told the Bulletin that the 17 teachers whom the board will not reinstate are on a secret "hit list."

According to Bill McNickle, president of the Vinton Local Teachers Association, there are only six teachers in the seven-school system who hold masters degrees and they are not to be reinstated.

Since the strike's beginning, McNickle and fellow teachers have been subjected to violent strikebreaking tactics from the police and antilabor vigilante groups.

The teachers were attacked by police and goon bus drivers while on the picket line. Leading figures in the fight have been visited at home by antilabor groups armed with rocks and shotguns.

Windows were broken and lamps destroyed by rock-throwing thugs at a teacher's home, used as headquarters.

Buckshot was fired at the windshield of a jeep belonging to McNickle and at the bedroom windows of a house next door to the McNickle home. McNickle's neighbor is also a striking teacher.

McNickle's jeep was later firebombed as it sat in front of his home.

Violence reached the picket line as well. While a teacher read the United States Constitution over a loudspeaker, police seized Homer Hayburn and clubbed the amplifier, then unplugged it in an attempt to silence the reading of rights.

When McNickle replugged the amplifier, a policeman pulled the wire, destroying the PA system.

McNickle dismissed administration claims of violence by teachers, saying: "To my knowledge no teacher has been responsible for any violence."

SUPPORT

Parent support of the strike has been good, with only about 45 percent of the students attending classes, according to McNickle.

The Board is hiring scab substitute teachers from Indiana and Illinois.

"They are just a group of rejects," said McNickle. "Tricky babysitters."

Most of the striking teachers have lived in the area for a number of years, some of them being Vinton natives. Although wages are not an issue this strike, the teachers have been working at a beginning base of \$6650 per year.

"It was \$6400 until this last raise," said McNickle.

Detroit Teachers End Strike

BY KEN WESTON

DETROIT, Oct. 18—Teachers here have been told by their leadership to end the six-week strike and return to work today in what amounts to a complete sellout.

Mary Ellen Riordan, president of the Detroit Federation of Teachers, has accepted arbitration of the union's demand for a 9.7 percent wage increase and

smaller class sizes.

She has also placed the issue of "accountability"—which involves the jobs of thousands of teachers—in the hand of a panel to be appointed by Michigan's antilabor Governor Milliken.

When Riordan presented the plan for arbitration to the teachers over the weekend, it ran into massive opposition.

More than 3300 teachers, approximately 40 percent of the DFT membership, opposed arbitration at a stormy meeting in Detroit's Cobo Hall.

Riordan told the teachers that nothing could be won with a longer strike.

In exchange for arbitration, the board has dropped its claims against the union which amount to over two million dollars.

However, the plain fact is that the teachers are returning to work without knowing what their contract will be.

The leadership of the AFL-CIO in the city strongly supported arbitration, and played a central role in attempting to end the strike.

UAW President Leonard Woodcock gave the teachers virtually no support.

Teachers had made it clear that they would never accept arbitration if the fines were not removed.

"How can we go back to work and pay fines over one million dollars? It is ridiculous. No other union would accept such a deal."

Francis Pointer, a Detroit elementary school teacher, said: "Binding arbitration is bad enough, but we absolutely cannot accept these fines."

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Supporters of United Farm Workers Union marched in Minneapolis Saturday to urge boycott of lettuce and grapes. An icon of the Virgin Mary, above, is flanked by US and Mexican flags.

Strike Erupts At Chrysler Airtemp

BY DOROTHY THOMPSON

DAYTON, Ohio—Thirty-three hundred workers, members of International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE) Local 775 have struck Chrysler Airtemp, a division of the Chrysler Corporation.

The 3300 workers make all air conditioners for Chrysler autos, as well as home and building air conditioners. They also make clutch assemblies.

A worker told the Bulletin: "The company is offering a bum contract—one the membership will not accept."

They have even excluded the dental program and the 30 and out gotten in the national UAW contract.

In contrast to 1970, when the local leadership extended the contract for three months, the strike took place at the contract deadline.

ANIMOSITY

Wesley Wells, president of Local 775, stated to the press: "There is considerable animosity on both sides of the table."

He listed the outstanding issues as demands for shopwide seniority and job postings, a company dental program, improved vacations, a prohibition against any company doctor

performing medical examinations for insurance companies, and eight safety grievances.

Wells stated the union and the company are at least 12 cents apart on wages, but has not told the workers what the wage demands are.

PICKET LINE

Workers on the picket line, however, are saying that they have to get more than the UAW got, that that was not enough and that they are ready for a long strike.

The pressure of the rank and file, reflecting the national upsurge of auto workers angered by Woodcock's abject capitulation to Nixon, has forced the local leadership to call this strike.

The IUE has a long, unbroken history of accepting a carbon copy of the settlements made by the UAW, but the IUE workers in Chrysler and General Motors have made it clear they will not accept Nixon's wage freeze and

the rotten three percent.

Workers at Chrysler and Airtemp want a halt to the speedup and the unsafe conditions.

In 1968, there was a wildcat over safety. Speedup is particularly rampant in the commercial plants.

Workers are determined there will not be a split in the union between the two parts of the company, commercial and automotive, as was engineered at Frigidaire, and are insisting on plantwide seniority.

As it is, the company can manipulate seniority by reduction in force and changing job assignments.

Several carloads of police arrived at the picket line Wednesday morning to harass the workers who were blocking the entrances to nonstriking personnel.

The white collar workers were nevertheless prevented from going in. The company is expected to seek an injunction limiting picketing, which the courts always readily grant.

walkout by some 400 bus drivers, which had paralyzed whole sections of the system last week. The CTA granted some fringe requests relating to holiday pay and other issues, and negotiations were to resume on Tuesday regarding pay increases.

MTA

The Metal Trades Council, which includes 11 different unions, voted to strike for an immediate 5.5 percent increase rather than wait for an arbitration decision setting pay rates for the ATU members.

By forcing them back to work, Daley and the CTA have stalled for time, hoping to drag out negotiations until the arbi-

tration panel reports and they can impose the settlement they had originally wanted.

Indications are strong that the panel will seek to impose a settlement of less than 5.5 percent on the ATU, which is currently working under an extension of a contract drawn up in 1970.

Drivers and mechanics alike are still determined to fight for the wages they need, and the arbitration report will most likely be rejected.

As a driver on the Cermak route said: "We are in bad shape now that they have gone back.

"I knew we were in trouble as soon as Daley opened his mouth. But there is a lot of fight left around here, a lot of fight."

Leaders Sell Out Whirlpool Fight

BY BOB JOHNSON

ST. PAUL, Oct. 16—After a 12-week strike, the leadership of Teamsters Local 827 rammed through an acceptance vote of 587 to 271 Sunday on a new contract with Whirlpool Corporation.

Opposition to the contract was widespread. Only two weeks before, the ranks had decisively rejected essentially the same offer.

"It's a real sellout," one worker told the Bulletin. "They did not allow any discussion. There was only one microphone in the whole place and that was up on the stage with the leadership."

"They took the ballots in a back room to be counted and then came out and announced the vote. Who knows what it really was."

Another worker said: "There has to be a new leadership in this local. I will have to start going to union meetings."

"This just is not right. The fight is not over just because of the vote today."

The new contract includes wage increases of 30 cents in the

first year and 15 cents in the second and third years. The only concession from the company from its first offer was a cost of living which makes quarterly adjustments of 1 cent for each .4 increase above 137.1 in the official Consumers Price Increase.

While the contract is basically in accord with the Phase Four guidelines, the leadership of 827 never confronted the political character of the strike.

From the beginning, they, like Teamster President Fitzsimmons, have accepted Nixon's wage controls and therefore refused to lead any struggle at all against Whirlpool.

CLASSES IN MARXISM

MARXISM IN AMERICA

Speaker: Tim Wohlforth, National Secretary, Workers League

MADISON

MON. OCT. 22

University of Wisconsin
Memorial Union
Old Madison Room
7:30 p.m.

CHICAGO

TUES. OCT. 23

Midland Hotel
Oak Room
172 W. Adams
7:30 p.m.

ST. LOUIS

WED. OCT. 24

Peacock Alley
Community Center
75 N. Ewing
7:30 p.m.

DETROIT

THURS. OCT. 25

King Solomon Church
14th and Marquette
7:00 p.m.

CLASSES ON MARXISM

In New York City

for trade unionists

- Historical Materialism
- Dialectical Materialism —Marxist Theory of Knowledge
- Theory & Practice of Marxism
- Role of the Revolutionary Party

THURSDAYS

Beginning Oct. 24

7:30 p.m.

BRONX: 1025 Gerard Ave.
Apt. 31
BROOKLYN: 631 Ashford St.

CLASES DE MARXISMO

Nueva York

- 1era—Materialismo Histórico
 - 2nda—Estrategia Revolucionaria
- las clases comenzarán 23 de Octubre
7 p.m.
135 Oeste de la calle 14
(7mo piso)

Contribution: \$1 trade unionists
\$.50 students,
unemployed

Daley Forces Transit Men Back, Pay Issue Left In Arbitration

BY A REPORTER

CHICAGO—Members of the Metal Trades Council, maintenance workers for the Chicago Transit Authority, returned to work today, ending a three-week walkout that threatened to explode into a complete shutdown of the transit system.

The agreement, accepted by the membership Saturday, was worked out between Mayor Richard Daley, CTA officials, and the union heads representing the Council and the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU), which organized bus drivers and rapid transit employees.

Daley intervened following a

ART

Crisis In The Arts

by Dianne Isaacs

When the productive forces are no longer able to take man forward, but instead prepare the conditions for nature to once again dominate man, every facet of society is shaken up.

So it is today with art. A work of art in this period becomes a commodity whose ability to convey something profound about the human condition is subordinated to its role as a creator of material wealth.

Today, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer declares that it is no longer profitable to make films in studios with proper equipment; the government moves toward more and more censorship of literature and television; and museums are threatened with closure.

The artist is now faced with all the limits of capitalism in decay: he is barely able to afford supplies, let alone have his work reach the public. The capitalist class uses all forms of creative media to perpetuate its own decaying image.

New Forms

It is only by dealing with the political questions necessary for the working class to overthrow capitalism that the artist is able to find new forms of expression, to break from the old forms which have become reactionary and stale. Only by beginning with the need for the material foundations of society to be changed can an artist today present what is true in human relationships.

Art has no future other than as exchange value under capitalism. The utter decay of the productive forces must mean a dead end for art as a source of inspiration and knowledge.

Trotsky wrote in *Literature and Revolution*:

"It is silly, absurd, stupid to the highest degree, to pretend that art will remain indifferent to the convulsions of our epoch. The events are prepared by people, they are made by people, they fall upon people and change these people.

"Art, directly or indirectly, affects the lives of the people who make or experience the events. This refers to all art, to the grandest, as well as to the most intimate."

Where the ruling class in the period of capitalism's advance was the force which made possible the development of artist creation, today it acts as a barrier to art, using the greatest works of art as a source of profit on the commodity market.

Collateral

The Rockefeller family in particular, supposedly the great patrons of the arts, steals the masterpieces of this century and the past century, the paintings of Cezanne, Matisse, and Picasso, from society and places them in warehouses as collateral for the future.

The Rockefellers are also responsible for launching a vicious campaign against the employees at its own museum, the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, refusing to pay them more than \$88 a week.

The newly organized Professional and Administrative Association of the Museum of Modern Art (PASTA MOMA) is

out on strike for decent wages, and has received massive support from trade unionists, film directors, artists, and the public.

The staff realizes that their strike involves every single question facing artists today. This layer of society is today being brought into a struggle against the government for basic rights.

"It doesn't bother them to be selling all the really great masterpieces in the American museums to private owners in Europe for a profit," Jackson one of the strikers in the picket line told the *Bulletin*.

"We cannot live on this kind of salary and do the job we are trained for."

One of the painters whose works are on display at the museum stopped at the picket line to discuss the future for artists.

"We all have got to get together. This is no abstract question, because today we are all faced with the same type of problem.

"The cost of materials—plexiglas, canvas, paints—has gone up so much that an artist can hardly afford to produce. And then when you finally get something exhibited, you find that the people who set it up and maintain it make only \$88 a week. It is ridiculous."

Like all museums in the city, the Museum of Modern Art projects a deficit for the year that will end June 30, 1974 of \$1.5 million. And while the museum's endowment stands at \$18.5 million, it began charging a record fee of two dollars, the highest museum admission fee in the country.

Striker John Lockwood told the *Bulletin*:

Dignity

"The musicians said they were striking to preserve their dignity as artists—they cannot perform on the kind of schedule the Philharmonic wanted, with low wages to boot—and so are we."

One of the strikers' demands is for representation on the museum's board of trustees.

At a time when the capitalist class is in its gravest crisis and, therefore, uses art only as a means to bolster its own survival, the museums are drained of funds and no new, younger talent is sponsored.

It becomes impossible, as it is in the large industrial unions, for the artist and those involved in art research and education to any longer find a basis for collaboration with the owners.

While it is important that the staff of the Museum of Modern Art sees that their jobs are very directly linked with the quality of the exhibits at the museum, they find themselves in an impossible situation: the Rockefeller family has no intention of allowing its employees to have any say in the content of exhibits or the distribution of funds.

The only alternative to unite professionals in art, music, and film today is the development of a revolutionary leadership which expresses in its press and propaganda the needs of the working class. In this way, art will turn from reflecting the decay of the old order to posing the burning necessity for a new, socialist order.



In the face of holligan attacks from the Jewish Defense League, the Young Socialists at UCLA was the only political tendency to defend the Arab revolution. Above, over 100 students gather at the YS rally.

Portland Industry Begins Mass Layoffs

BY A BULLETIN REPORTER

PORTLAND—The Northwest hydroelectric power crisis that threatens to force half the workers in the region off the job by next spring already has resulted in cutbacks and layoffs in the metals industry.

The Reynolds Metals Company, aluminum reduction plant near Portland, has laid off over 80 workers since shutting down one of four potlines. Another 25 workers were laid off at the Reynolds plant in nearby Longview, Washington.

A Reynolds spokesman told the *Bulletin* that if production were closed down, the "ripple effects" would hit almost 110,000 workers employed by Northwest industries using aluminum.

ANGRY

A ball mill operator at Reynolds said he is angry because there was no planning by business or the government to provide power needs.

"Some of these politicians will not get my vote next time," he said.

Union Carbide Company in Portland has laid off 25 percent of its work force since the summer. These layoffs came when the plant closed down one of its three ferromanganese furnaces because of power cutbacks. The two remaining furnaces now operate at reduced loads.

PINS AND NEEDLES

Ed Estes, president of United Steel Workers Union Local 3103, said the power crisis has the union ranks "sitting on pins and needles."

"They are beginning to come around to the fact that there is a crisis. They realize we are not as secure in these things as we think we are."

But Estes refuses to pose any fight by the union against the layoffs.

Instead, he "goes along with power conserving gimmicks proposed by business and state officials, such as removing the handles from hot water faucets."

Northwest industry is especially vulnerable to a

shortage of hydroelectric power because the cheap electricity provided by federal dams in the region since the 1930s has attracted heavy power consuming industries such as electro-process metals and chemicals.

The power shortage is a product of federal spending cutbacks and decreasing private investment in energy production as a result of the economic crisis.

Work Program Attacks Welfare

BY PAM STEWART

OAKLAND—A report by the Reagan administration's Department of Human Resources Development to set up a new forced work program, California Self-Support Program, has been revealed.

Private employers who bid the lowest amount would receive state welfare monies to pay welfare recipients below union-scale wages.

If the welfare recipient refused the job, he would be put off the welfare roles permanently with no redress.

The latest report claimed that the state could put 250,000 able-bodied adult welfare recipients to work in this way.

The Community Work Experience Program operates in 8 California counties, mostly rural or small town. It is stated to be expanded into 35 counties.

POSTPONED

It was due to be implemented in Richmond (East Bay) in September 1973, a large industrial area with most workers unionized, but has been postponed because of an AFL-CIO lobby.

Under this program, the same welfare check presently received would be given out only if the person accepted a job in a nonprofit or governmental agency.

This includes manual labor in street repair, park maintenance, clerical and office work, and other building trades jobs, when union members are already facing unemployment and pay slashes in this area in particular.

TALMADGE AMENDMENT

In July 1972, the federal government passed the Talmadge Amendment, which essentially prepared the way for forced work programs by requiring welfare fathers, pregnant teenagers, those over 16 not in school full-time, mothers with school-age children, disabled, and recipients of any form of welfare who do not have jobs to register with the State Employment Service and take whatever referral is given out.

According to Service Employees International Union Local 535, the average family of 4 can receive only \$280 a month. Wages received under the California Self-Support Plan would be subject to taxes, with no social security benefits, unemployment or disability benefits, or any collective bargaining agreements.

west coast news

Danger In Division At Sears

BY BARRY GREY

SAN FRANCISCO—The nine-week old strike of Bay Area retail clerks, machinists, and Teamster drivers and warehousemen against Sears is rapidly reaching the explosion point.

Sears is mounting an all-out drive to break Teamster Local 287 at the Santa Clara warehouse, and then take on the rest of the striking union.

They are relying heavily on the action of the Bay Area Teamster leadership, which has refused to mobilize the strength of the Teamsters in defense of the striking drivers and warehousemen in Santa Clara.

The strike took a new turn last Tuesday when more than half of the warehousemen and some of the drivers from Local 287 crossed the union's picket line and returned to work.

According to a Local 287 member on the picket line, Sears called all of the men on Tuesday morning and told them they could return to work and they would be protected.

Sears told them the strike by the drivers was illegal.

SCABBING

Local 287 has notified the scabbing union members that they are liable to be brought before the local's executive board and fined a maximum of \$500 if they do not come back on strike.

Last week, Local 287 Business Agent Reggie Bravo ordered his men back to work. When Teamsters from Local 863 on strike at the San Leandro warehouse set up a picket line to bring Local 287 back out, about 50 police attacked them and escorted the strikebreakers' truck across the

picket line.

Jack Goldberger, Bay Area Teamster head, forced Bravo to call his men out again, but now that many have broken ranks again, an even larger confrontation with the police is imminent.

Strikers from both Teamster locals are manning the picket lines, while trucks rented by Sears and others driven by their fellow Teamsters drive through.

The strikers are extremely angered over the situation. One picket told the Bulletin:

"I agree with you 100 percent that we need a general strike by Bay Area Teamsters."

Jack Goldberger of the Teamsters and Walter Johnson of the Retail Clerks must be forced to take immediate action to stop the scabbing and police attacks.

Goldberger must call a Bay Area strike by Teamster drivers to smash Sears' union-busting.

This is a political attack on the Teamsters. It comes together with National Labor Relations Board elections which have decertified Bay Area Teamsters beer drivers locals on strike against Coors and other distributors.

This is Nixon's reward to the Teamster ranks for Fitzsimmons's service to the government.

As one striker said: "Force Nixon out now; that is exactly what we have to do."



Oakland Teachers Win 9% Increase

BY TED BAKER

OAKLAND—Teachers here must prepare to defend the nine percent wage increase they have won for the first year of the contract against Nixon's Cost of Living Council, which had declared that it will slash all increases above the 5.5 percent guideline.

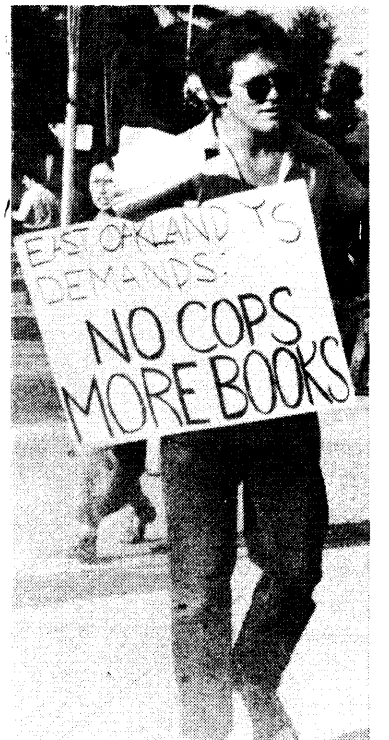
The teachers have shown their determination to wage this fight through their big opposition to the compromises already made by the leadership of the Oakland Federation of Teachers, which accepted a settlement

below the original pay demands.

Just hours before the Oakland Education Association and OFT meetings, the leaderships of both organizations announced their acceptance of the state mediator's proposals.

AFT leaders had gone into the meeting claiming that they could not strike because the OEA had accepted the agreement. This completely false argument was used to railroad through the agreement.

The fact that the OEA meeting originally was scheduled to consider striking in the event no agreement was reached shows the powerful position the AFT was in to lead all Oakland teachers. Nearly 10 percent of the OEA meeting voted to reject the contract, even without the leadership of the teachers union.



Youth from Castlemont High School at a rally called by Oakland YS in support of teachers. Rally fought around demands such as those above.

The Complete Grundrisse



Grundrisse, Foundations of the Critique of Political Economy by Karl Marx.

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The first English translation of the complete work. These manuscripts, written from 1857 to 1858, reveal Marx's fundamental economic and philosophical preparations for the writing of *Capital*. Available only through Labor Publications.

Order from: Labor Publications, 135 W. 14 St., New York, N.Y. 10011

editorial CP Opposes Chile Ban

The People's World, West Coast organ of the Communist Party, has come out against International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union official Dave Jenkins's proposal that longshoremen stop handling all goods from Chile.

This open betrayal makes clear that the Stalinists, for all their memorials to Allende, are opposed to any defense of the Chilean working class.

Having fully supported the Popular Front policies that led to the fascist coup, the CP now opposes independent action by the American working class in defense of the Chilean workers.

The Stalinists fear that action by the longshoremen against the shippers will lead to a political confrontation with Nixon in which the necessity of building a labor party against Nixon and the Democrats will become clear to millions of workers.

The opposition of the CP to Jenkins's proposal exposes the treacherous cynicism of the public meeting in San Francisco at which the party's national chairman, Henry Winston, spoke.

Flanked by posters of Allende, Winston and other Communist Party speakers not only defended, but eulogized, the Popular Unity coalition of Allende, the Chilean CP and a section of the Chilean bourgeoisie.

Winston stated: "The Popular Unity in Chile made history for the world. It was a magni-

ficent advance against US imperialism."

As to why it failed, Pat Kelly, a reporter for the Daily World who was in Santiago at the time of the coup, said:

"At that point, there was no way the military could have been defeated. There was no way a small Latin American country could have defended itself against US imperialism."

This is a lie and a slander on the Chilean working class. Those who support the Communist Party must demand of their leadership to know why the Chilean Stalinists, just days before the coup, were hailing the very generals and the very police who were making final preparations to massacre thousands of workers.

Winston and the rest must explain why the Chilean CP attacked and disarmed workers who began to arm themselves because they knew a coup was on the way.

Having declared the victory of the counter-revolution inevitable, and thus condemning all of the colonial and semicolonial world to the same fate, the Stalinists sought to minimize the defeat suffered in Chile in order to cover their crimes.

Winston said: "US imperialism has won a Pyrrhic victory, but only a temporary one."

Winston and the CP seek to prevent the working class from assimilating the lessons of the defeat in Chile, to lull American workers while Nixon carries on his plans for dictatorship at home.

La labor de esta columna es la construcción de un nuevo liderazgo en la clase obrera. Es por ello que necesitamos el apoyo de todos los obreros hispanos en desarrollar esta columna. Favor de dirigir su correspondencia a: Lucía Rivera, c/o Labor Publications, 135 West 14th St., New York, N.Y. 10011

lucha obrera

lucía rivera Control Communal De Fuentes

Durante una acalorada reunión de la Junta Escolar del Distrito 1, el martes, Luis Fuentes, superintendente del distrito, fue suspendido arbitrariamente de su cargo y cuatro jóvenes de la comunidad fueron arrestados. Tanto a Fuentes como a los tres miembros de la junta que apoyan el "control comunal" les fue negado el derecho a hablar por los 6 miembros que componen la mayoría de la junta.

Más de 400 personas que habían abarrotado el auditorium de la Escuela Pública No. 19 en el bajo Manhattan, fueron sacadas a empellones por la policía. Fuentes, en una conferencia de prensa el miércoles señaló que su suspensión era ilegal y que la llevaría a las cortes.

Durante su superintendencia de 14 meses, Fuentes se dedicó a agudizar los problemas raciales del área, cuya composición nacional es la más variada en toda la ciudad. Fuentes acepta los límites del capitalismo y trata de maniobrar dentro de ellos. El nacionalismo como expresión del capitalismo lo utiliza para poder dividir la comunidad.

El control comunal se usó hace cinco años atrás en Ocean Hills-Brownsville en la cual Leroi Jones, conocido hoy por Baraka y mano derecha del alcalde Gibson en Newark, y Luis Fuentes fueron los portavoces del control comunal y conscientemente utilizaron la lucha por una educación decente en una batalla racial entre padres y alumnos por una parte y maestros de la UFT por otra.

El control comunal crea la ilusión a los residentes de que estos son los que controlan la educación en las escuelas, cuando es en realidad el gobierno. La Coalición para la Educación del Distrito 1, liderada por Fuentes ha aceptado el corte presupuestal y de inmediato ha empezado a despedir maestros y substituirlos por "maestros bilingües" los cuales ganan alrededor de \$75.00 a la semana.

Esto es una burla a la comunidad ya que no sólo acepta las migajas del gobierno, si no que emplea a personas que están interesadas en una educación decente y les paga una tercera parte del salario regular de un maestro unionado. Esto a la vez representa un ataque a la condiciones que los maestros han logrado en sus largos años de lucha contra el gobierno. Shanker, presidente de la UFT no ha salido en la defensa de los maestros si no que ha aceptado los despidos masivos en toda la ciudad.

Las elecciones de la Junta Escolar el primero de mayo de este año presenta el carácter reaccionario del control comunal. De los nueve miembros originales de la Junta, seis fueron reemplazados por personas que tienen por fin la destrucción de la unión de maestros y que algunos de ellos tienen el apoyo de la Liga de Defensa Judía (JDL).

En la reunión de la Junta Escolar, el seis de setiembre, la comunidad se movilizó para defender los trabajos de tres miembros del personal del distrito 1. Antes de la reunión el Partido Socialista de los Trabajadores (SWP) organizó un piquete en contra de la Federación de Maestros Unidos, que de acuerdo con el SWP es está la responsable de los ataques en la educación, y en apoyo a Fuentes y el control comunal.

En esta reunión se vio claro la colaboración de Fuentes con los que él mismo tilda de racistas y enemigos de la comunidad.

Fuentes en su discurso de la noche afirmó que fue a instancias de él que el punto sobre los despidos no se tocara en esa reunión. Tanto el SWP como los nacionalistas del PSP tratan de cubrir esta traición de Fuentes en sus respectivos periódicos, el "Militant" y Claridad.

La comunidad que en su campaña de la primavera pedía 42 millones de dólares en el presupuesto escolar se ha visto defraudada. La Coalición se ha dedicado a llevar el fraude de las elecciones a las cortes y ha hecho caso omiso a la lucha por más fondos para el presupuesto.

El 11 de octubre la Coalición llevó a cabo su primera vista en busca de testigos del fraude en las elecciones de la Junta Escolar. La bancarrota de las políticas de la clase media en este periodo han sido expuestas. Piden la intervención del mismo gobierno que está destruyendo la educación de la juventud obrera y piden que sus cortes intervengan en un fraude que el mismo gobierno ha creado. Hasta el mismo Charles Rangel, congresista demócrata de New York, ha enviado un telegrama apoyando la demanda que la coalición ha hecho en contra de la presente Junta Escolar.

Los stalinistas del PC, el PSP, y el SWP apoyan el control comunal en contra de la UFT. Son ellos los que adaptándose al movimiento de la clase media, desarman a los trabajadores. Ni Fuentes, ni la actual Junta Escolar van a defender la educación en el bajo Manhattan. Es sólo la movilización de los padres, estudiantes y los maestros de la UFT, en la lucha en contra de los cortes en el presupuesto y en defensa de los trabajos de los maestros y paraprofesionales la que puede detener los ataques del gobierno.

La lucha por una educación decente en el bajo Manhattan, como en todo el país, no se puede lograr a través de las cortes ni aliándose con representantes del gobierno que son los mismo que legislan en contra de nuestros derechos. La construcción de un partido obrero basado en un programa socialista, es la única defensa en contra de Nixon y los ataques de los capitalistas.

Steel Wildcats Hit Pittsburgh-Ohio Mills

BY BRUCE McKAY

PITTSBURGH—A tremendous rebellion is sweeping the country's steel mills as the full meaning of I.W. Abel's no-strike pact with the 10 major steel companies becomes clear to every worker.

Wildcats over working conditions are hitting mills in the Pittsburgh-Youngstown area, and many locals have already repudiated the pact by overwhelming membership votes, even though Abel has no intention of actually submitting the agreement to the ranks.

"Most of us are upset and discontented at this no-strike clause," a worker at US Steel's National Works told the Bulletin.

"That's the sword over everyone's head. A guy like Abel comes along and says, 'Hey, no matter how bad conditions get, you cannot go on strike. There is nothing you can do. And all the conditions are deteriorating from day to day.'"

Under the "Experimental Negotiating Agreement" all disputes will be submitted to binding arbitration, with the union tied down to this ironclad no-strike clause until July 31, 1977.

At the same time, Abel announced the union would agree to a minimum three percent wage increase in each year of the contract, with workers receiving a one-time \$150 "bonus" in August of next year.

Two opposition groups within the union are threatening to take Abel to court to force a referendum on the agreement.

FORD . . .

(Continued From Page 1)

stay."

A close associate of Nixon since 1948, Ford maintained an intimate relation with Nixon after the first unsuccessful bid for the presidency in 1960.

Ford was among the first who advocated Nixon's renomination in 1968. Having become House Minority Leader in 1965, Ford used this powerful position to bring Nixon back into politics.

Behind Ford's unswerving support for Nixon was the Congressman's bitter opposition to the reforms that the working class wrested from the liberals during the boom of the 1960s.

Since 1965, Ford has established a voting record in Congress that is the pride of every right-wing labor hater.

- Ford led the 1965 fight against the repeal of the union-busting Taft-Hartley law.

- He was at the forefront of the fight to defeat the \$20 million rat extermination program put forward in 1967.

- He opposed a Senate bill to provide funds for nutrition programs for the elderly.

- He has consistently voted to end all school busing.

- He has opposed every minimum wage bill.

- Ford was one of the main advocates of the 1971 bill which forced West Coast longshoremen to end their strike.

- He has supported innumerable "compulsory arbitration" bills.

Ford has been among the most vicious opponents of the most basic right of the working class: the right to strike.

Before he was appointed as the



William Litch

At the center of this opposition is William Litch, secretary-treasurer of Local 1462 in Youngstown, Ohio, and the national chairman of the Rank and File Team (RAFT).

"The ENA set the minimum wage increase at three percent," Litch said.

"We know that when we have already agreed to three percent, we are not going to get any more. If I know Abel, we will be lucky to get even three percent."

Another RAFT leader, Local 1462 Vice-President John Bar-

bero told the Bulletin: "The right to strike is so basic to the steel worker and also to the entire labor movement that it must not be abandoned or tampered with without a complete and open discussion at all levels of our unions."

"It took a hundred years in the labor movement to win the right to strike, and it is not something we can give away."

"I think that unless we stop the pact here, we may have a hard time keeping it from infecting the rest of the union movement."

vice-presidential nominee, Ford was exposed with his hand in the till by a Washington lobbyist, Robert Winter-Berger.

In his book, *The Washington Pay-Off*, Winter-Berger revealed that Ford accepted money from the Old Kent Bank and Trust Company of Grand Rapids in order to become a director of the concern in 1968.

Ford told Winter-Berger: "In Washington, money's the name of the game. Without it you're dead."

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La labor de esta columna es la construcción de un nuevo liderato en la clase obrera. Es por ello que necesitamos el apoyo de todos los obreros hispanos en desarrollar esta columna. Favor de dirigir su correspondencia a: Lucía Rivera, c/o Labor Publications, 135 West 14th St., New York, N.Y. 10011

lucha obrera

lucía rivera

Control Communal De Fuentes

Durante una acalorada reunión de la Junta Escolar del Distrito 1, el martes, Luis Fuentes, superintendente del distrito, fue suspendido arbitrariamente de su cargo y cuatro jóvenes de la comunidad fueron arrestados. Tanto a Fuentes como a los tres miembros de la junta que apoyan el "control comunal" les fue negado el derecho a hablar por los 6 miembros que componen la mayoría de la junta.

Más de 400 personas que habían abarrotado el auditorium de la Escuela Pública No. 19 en el bajo Manhattan, fueron sacadas a empellones por la policía. Fuentes, en una conferencia de prensa el miércoles señaló que su suspensión era ilegal y que la llevaría a las cortes.

Durante su superintendencia de 14 meses, Fuentes se dedicó a agudizar los problemas raciales del área, cuya composición nacional es la más variada en toda la ciudad. Fuentes acepta los límites del capitalismo y trata de maniobrar dentro de ellos. El nacionalismo como expresión del capitalismo lo utiliza para poder dividir la comunidad.

El control comunal se usó hace cinco años atrás en Ocean Hills-Brownsville en la cual Leroy Jones, conocido hoy por Baraka y mano derecha del alcalde Gibson en Newark, y Luis Fuentes fueron los portavoces del control comunal y conscientemente utilizaron la lucha por una educación decente en una batalla racial entre padres y alumnos por una parte y maestros de la UFT por otra.

El control comunal crea la ilusión a los residentes de que estos son los que controlan la educación en las escuelas, cuando es en realidad el gobierno. La Coalición para la Educación del Distrito 1, liderada por Fuentes ha aceptado el corte presupuestal y de inmediato ha empezado a despedir maestros y substituirlos por "maestros bilingües" los cuales ganan alrededor de \$75.00 a la semana.

Esto es una burla a la comunidad ya que no sólo acepta las migajas del gobierno, si no que emplea a personas que están interesadas en una educación decente y les paga una tercera parte del salario regular de un maestro unionado. Esto a la vez representa un ataque a la condiciones que los maestros han logrado en sus largos años de lucha contra el gobierno. Shanker, presidente de la UFT no ha salido en la defensa de los maestros si no que ha aceptado los despidos masivos en toda la ciudad.

Las elecciones de la Junta Escolar el primero de mayo de este año presenta el carácter reaccionario del control comunal. De los nueve miembros originales de la Junta, seis fueron reemplazados por personas que tienen por fin la destrucción de la unión de maestros y que algunos de ellos tienen el apoyo de la Liga de Defensa Judía (JDL).

En la reunión de la Junta Escolar, el seis de setiembre, la comunidad se movilizó para defender los trabajos de tres miembros del personal del distrito 1. Antes de la reunión el Partido Socialista de los Trabajadores (SWP) organizó un piquete en contra de la Federación de Maestros Unidos, que de acuerdo con el SWP es está la responsable de los ataques en la educación, y en apoyo a Fuentes y el control comunal.

En esta reunión se vio claro la colaboración de Fuentes con los que él mismo tilda de racistas y enemigos de la comunidad.

Fuentes en su discurso de la noche afirmó que fue a instancias de él que el punto sobre los despidos no se tocara en esa reunión. Tanto el SWP como los nacionalistas del PSP tratan de cubrir esta traición de Fuentes en sus respectivos periódicos, el "Militant" y Claridad.

La comunidad que en su campaña de la primavera pedía 42 millones de dólares en el presupuesto escolar se ha visto defraudada. La Coalición se ha dedicado a llevar el fraude de las elecciones a las cortes y ha hecho caso omiso a la lucha por más fondos para el presupuesto.

El 11 de octubre la Coalición llevó a cabo su primera vista en busca de testigos del fraude en las elecciones de la Junta Escolar. La bancarrota de las políticas de la clase media en este período han sido expuestas. Piden la intervención del mismo gobierno que está destruyendo la educación de la juventud obrera y piden que sus cortes intervengan en un fraude que el mismo gobierno ha creado. Hasta el mismo Charles Rangel, congresista demócrata de New York, ha enviado un telegrama apoyando la demanda que la coalición ha hecho en contra de la presente Junta Escolar.

Los stalinistas del PC, el PSP, y el SWP apoyan el control comunal en contra de la UFT. Son ellos los que adaptándose al movimiento de la clase media, desarman a los trabajadores. Ni Fuentes, ni la actual Junta Escolar van a defender la educación en el bajo Manhattan. Es sólo la movilización de los padres, estudiantes y los maestros de la UFT, en la lucha en contra de los cortes en el presupuesto y en defensa de los trabajos de los maestros y paraprofesionales la que puede detener los ataques del gobierno.

La lucha por una educación decente en el bajo Manhattan, como en todo el país, no se puede lograr a través de las cortes ni aliándose con representantes del gobierno que son los mismo que legislan en contra de nuestros derechos. La construcción de un partido obrero basado en un programa socialista, es la única defensa en contra de Nixon y los ataques de los capitalistas.

Steel Wildcats Hit Pittsburgh-Ohio Mills

BY BRUCE McKAY

PITTSBURGH—A tremendous rebellion is sweeping the country's steel mills as the full meaning of I.W. Abel's no-strike pact with the 10 major steel companies becomes clear to every worker.

Wildcats over working conditions are hitting mills in the Pittsburgh-Youngstown area, and many locals have already repudiated the pact by overwhelming membership votes, even though Abel has no intention of actually submitting the agreement to the ranks.

"Most of us are upset and discontented at this no-strike clause," a worker at US Steel's National Works told the Bulletin.

"That's the sword over everyone's head. A guy like Abel comes along and says, 'Hey, no matter how bad conditions get, you cannot go on strike. There is nothing you can do. And all the conditions are deteriorating from day to day.'"

Under the "Experimental Negotiating Agreement" all disputes will be submitted to binding arbitration, with the union tied down to this ironclad no-strike clause until July 31, 1977.

At the same time, Abel announced the union would agree to a minimum three percent wage increase in each year of the contract, with workers receiving a one-time \$150 "bonus" in August of next year.

Two opposition groups within the union are threatening to take Abel to court to force a referendum on the agreement.

FORD . . .

(Continued From Page 1)

stay." A close associate of Nixon since 1948, Ford maintained an intimate relation with Nixon after the first unsuccessful bid for the presidency in 1960.

Ford was among the first who advocated Nixon's renomination in 1968. Having become House Minority Leader in 1965, Ford used this powerful position to bring Nixon back into politics.

Behind Ford's unswerving support for Nixon was the Congressman's bitter opposition to the reforms that the working class wrested from the liberals during the boom of the 1960s.

Since 1965, Ford has established a voting record in Congress that is the pride of every right-wing labor hater.

- Ford led the 1965 fight against the repeal of the union-busting Taft-Hartley law.

- He was at the forefront of the fight to defeat the \$20 million rat extermination program put forward in 1967.

- He opposed a Senate bill to provide funds for nutrition programs for the elderly.

- He has consistently voted to end all school busing.

- He has opposed every minimum wage bill.

- Ford was one of the main advocates of the 1971 bill which forced West Coast longshoremen to end their strike.

- He has supported innumerable "compulsory arbitration" bills.

Ford has been among the most vicious opponents of the most basic right of the working class: the right to strike.

Before he was appointed as the



William Litch

At the center of this opposition is William Litch, secretary-treasurer of Local 1462 in Youngstown, Ohio, and the national chairman of the Rank and File Team (RAFT).

"The ENA set the minimum wage increase at three percent," Litch said.

"We know that when we have already agreed to three percent, we are not going to get any more. If I know Abel, we will be lucky to get even three percent."

Another RAFT leader, Local 1462 Vice-President John Bar-

bero told the Bulletin: "The right to strike is so basic to the steel worker and also to the entire labor movement that it must not be abandoned or tampered with without a complete and open discussion at all levels of our unions."

"It took a hundred years in the labor movement to win the right to strike, and it is not something we can give away."

"I think that unless we stop the pact here, we may have a hard time keeping it from infecting the rest of the union movement."

vice-presidential nominee, Ford was exposed with his hand in the till by a Washington lobbyist, Robert Winter-Berger.

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