

Bulletin

NOW
TWICE A
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FIFT

Oil Crisis Excuse For Big Business:

Over 60 police armed with mace and clubs were called in to aid scabs attempting to cross the picket line of the United Steel Workers, on strike against the Eastern Company in Naugatuck, Connecticut. In a confrontation with police on December 10, the workers overturned the scab car at the plant gate. The men have been on strike since October 13 against Eastern's refusal to allow them to take grievances to arbitration.

PRICE ORGY

See
Page 3

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A UPI photo.

Supreme Court Ruling Clears Way For Police Frameups

BY DAVID NORTH
The police have been given virtually unlimited powers to search people without a warrant in a decision handed down Tuesday by the Supreme Court.

All constitutional guarantees against "unreasonable searches and seizures" have been wiped away by this six to three ruling, which allows the police to body-search anyone stopped on the most minor charges, such as double parking or passing a red light.

This ruling by the Supreme Court, stacked with Nixon appointees, is a blow against the democratic rights of the working class.

It will be used primarily

Gun Battles Mark Truck Strike

**SPECIAL
TO THE BULLETIN**

YOUNGSTOWN, Dec. 13—A three-hour gun battle erupted near here early this morning as the two day nationwide strike called by truckers against Nixon's emergency energy program and rising fuel prices began.

against trade unionists, youth, and members of all working class political organizations as an instrument of harassment and frameups.

The decision came as the

Shotgun blasts were fired at seven large tractor-trailer trucks in Mahoning and Trumbull Counties that were operating beyond the strike deadline.

One huge trailer traveling west on Interstate 80 was hit by a storm of bullets and put out of commission when its radiator was blown apart.

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Supreme Court upheld the separate convictions of two men who had been arrested for motor vehicle violations and then charged, following a search, with possession of narcotics.

In both cases, the police conducted their search without a warrant, which, until now, has been legally required.

According to the ruling, it is not even necessary that the offense preceding the search be sufficiently serious to warrant an arrest.

For example, police could stop a worker who, if he does not happen to have his automobile registration, can be taken to headquarters and strip searched. The police can then claim that

they discovered either drugs or a concealed weapon and charge him with a felony.

Precisely these methods were used against four militant Lordstown workers in October, who

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In The Midweek
Edition

•"Minneapolis 1934-1940": Assessment of the role of the Socialist Workers Party in the Teamster rebellion.

•Stalinist Deal in Cambodia.

Gangsterism In The Unions And The Defense Of Democratic Rights

In the past several months, rank and file militants within the unions have been the target of violent physical attacks by their own union leadership.

In November, William Harrell, a Ford skilled tradesman in Detroit was shot by an official of the United Auto Workers during an argument over the contract negotiated by UAW President Leonard Woodcock.

In Baltimore a few weeks ago, a longshoreman was shot at an International Longshoremen's Association meeting during a fight over a new clause sought by the rank and file that would bar anyone convicted of felonies from holding union office.

What We Think

Not only has the ILA Baltimore leadership been convicted of taking payoffs from warehouses for allowing non-

union labor to be hired, but it sought to prevent the merger of the previously separate Black and white locals.

Arnold Thompson of the Frigidaire International Union of Electrical Workers local in Dayton, Ohio called in police against his members when they rebelled against having wage cuts and layoffs rammed down their throats.

At the Lordstown GM plant in Ohio, union bureau-

crats have physically attacked Bulletin salesmen and have threatened union militants who support the paper.

In Los Angeles, the leadership of the Compton Education Association whose members are now on strike, called the cops at Centennial High School to remove Bulletin salesmen and at another school a Bulletin salesman was actually arrested.

These attacks are motivated by a frenzied fear of the rank and file whose refusal to accept wage cuts, unemployment and destruction of basic rights and conditions forces the unions into head-on collision with the government.

These violent attacks have gone hand in hand with an unprecedented collaboration between the labor bureaucracy and Nixon.

Woodcock, Thompson, and Teddy Gleason of the ILA not only refuse to take any action to defend the rank and file, but defend the employers "right" to slash jobs and wages and assist them in doing so.

They seek to crush any militant opposition that can give leadership to the struggle against Nixon's wage guidelines.

The labor leadership in this country has based its entire existence on compromise with the employers and has established a privileged position that it ruthlessly seeks to hold on to. This was only possible as long as decent wages could be won.

Now when the government and corporations seek to destroy everything that was won in the past, this

bureaucracy goes over from compromise to actually jointly administering the capitalist system and threatening the independent existence of the unions. They openly police the unions for the government.

The bureaucracy has the greatest fear of all for those who fight to build revolutionary leadership in these struggles. This is why they lash out with such frenzy against supporters of the Bulletin.

The more the bureaucracy is faced with the question of politically defeating the government, the more they collaborate with Nixon and turn against the rank and file.

To cover their cowardice, their acceptance of capitalism, labor leaders like Leon Davis of Local 1199 tell the workers they cannot fight the government, or like Arnold Tompson of the IUE say a wage cut is the only alternative to layoffs.

Every one of these arguments has been exposed as a lie. It is only this leadership that stands in the way of bringing down Nixon and building a labor party. It is their very fear of the ranks that reveals their weakness.

All trade unionists who are seeking a way to fight the corruption and betrayals of this leadership must build a new leadership that does not accept capitalism, that will fight to unite the workers politically in a labor party that must carry out socialist policies. This is the task of revolutionary leadership in the unions.

The Case For A General Election In Britain

The following are the major portions of a statement by the Political Committee of the Workers Revolutionary Party in Britain on the present crisis in Britain.

The scene is set for the greatest class conflict seen in Britain since 1926.

But the situation is entirely different from 1926 because the ruling class is immeasurably weaker and the strength of the working class, organized in trade unions, is at its highest-ever point.

In stark contradiction to the determination of the rank and file is the cowardice of the trade union leadership. They don't want to fight the Tory government, they don't even want to fight to defend the basic democratic rights of their own movement.

They fear the militancy of their own members more than they fear the Tory government. That is why they collaborate so readily with the Tory government, which also fears the strength of the working class.

The Tories and the TUC leaders have been closeted together for the past 12 months although both sides knew perfectly well that they could not impose on the working class an agreement to cut wages using state pay laws.

The main lesson of these timewasting talks is that confrontation is unavoidable. That is what Heath set out to do in the first place and that is where we have arrived. There is no more compromise.

For the reformist Labour and trade union leaders to suggest fresh negotiations or conciliation is to mask over the Tory government's ruthless plans to smash the trade unions and drive down the standard of living of all working class families. It is to disarm the working class and to betray it.

The National Industrial Relations Court fined the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers (AUEW) 180,000 dollars in the Con-Mech recognition dispute and now Sir John Donaldson has ruled that the largest union, the Transport and Gen-

eral Workers' must compensate General Aviation Services (GAS) for loss of trade at Heathrow Airport, GAS is claiming \$250,000.

These judgments reactivated the notorious Taff Vale judgment of 1901 which held that in the eyes of the law unions are responsible for the actions of their members.

•After the 1972 miners' strike

The right-wing Labour leaders like Wilson, Jenkins, Prentice and Crosland say that if the government is brought down by industrial action, Labour's reelection chances will be damaged. This is cowardly rubbish.

They are simply expressing their fears of a working class that will be emboldened a thousandfold by bringing down

Chile—and impose a military dictatorship in order to smash the working class and their trade unions.

The miners must not be left to fight alone against the Phase Three pay laws. If they remain isolated, the police and troops, backed by the blackleg coal from the United States and Poland, will break them, and it will be a devastating repeat of 1926.

power to a successful conclusion with the establishment of socialism, requires a mass revolutionary party. That is why our most urgent responsibility is to fight in trade union branches, trades councils and Constituency Labour Parties for the policies of the Workers Revolutionary Party and recruitment to it. The party must summon to its banner tens, hundreds and thou-



British miners during the Downing Street talks.

the military and the police began joint training in strike-breaking and picket-busting. Surveillance of the workers' movement, using spies, telephone-tapping and mail-opening was stepped up to an unprecedented scale. "Blacklists" have been drawn up of militants who will be jailed as "saboteurs" during the General Strike.

The most important fact of the present situation is the strength of the working class. It must be mobilized in massive political and industrial action to drive out the Tory government and demand a General Election.

But the question of the General Election—and for that matter who wins it—is subordinate to the confidence and political stature that the working class will gain in a successful fight against the government.

the arrogant Heath government. The very worst that could happen in the ensuing General Election is that the same Tories would be reelected.

But a working class that can bring down one Heath government can bring down another.

In this situation it is of the utmost danger that the Tories be permitted to choose the time and issues of the General Election. Heath is attempting to maneuver himself into a "safe" electoral position by preparing a massive provocation in which the middle class will be driven into panic, the working class divided and trade unionists blamed for the economic crisis of British capitalism.

He would then propose a coalition with the Labour leaders on the grounds of needing a strong government to suppress the demands of the working class.

Parliament is an instrument of the capitalist state used by the ruling class to pass legislation to defend itself against the economic crisis. It is also used to disguise the real plans for dictatorship. The Tories will dispense with parliament at a stroke—as in Greece and

But backed by the 10 million-strong trade union movement, Heath can be kicked out and a Labour government returned compelled to carry out socialist policies.

The Workers Revolutionary Party was founded on November 4, 1973, in preparation for just this situation, a confrontation in which the question is which class shall rule?

To carry the fight for workers'

sands of trade unionists, housewives, students, youth and professional workers.

- Mobilize with the miners to force the Tories to resign!
- Demand an immediate General Election!
- Join the Workers Revolutionary Party and its industrial arm, the All Trades Unions Alliance.

November 28, 1973

Grenada Unions Demand End To Police Terror

A ten day general strike ended December 10 on the Caribbean island of Grenada, but tensions are still high.

The strike, initiated by dock workers, paralyzed the island. Telephone, electricity, and gas service were halted and all schools, stores, and the airport were closed.

The strike began after three members of an opposition group, the New Jewel Movement were kicked and clubbed half to death and then dragged through the street to the police station. Their heads were shaved and they

were thrown bleeding into jail.

Premier Eric Gairy's regime is based on the feared secret police who mete out brutal repression in public and are as ruthless as the police of Duvalier in Haiti.

The trade unions in Grenada immediately demanded Gairy appoint an inquiry into the incident and demanded he disband the secret police.

While the strike has ended, the Technical and Allied Workers Union declared it will not be satisfied until Gairy completely disbands and disarms the police.

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Essex Community College students demonstrating Tuesday before voting to continue their strike against the appointment of Carl Baratta as vice president.

Essex Students Strike To Stop Budget Cuts

BY DAVID NORTH
NEWARK, Dec. 11—More than 500 students at Essex Community College declared at a meeting today that they will continue their strike in protest over the appointment of Carl Baratta, the school's former budget director of business affairs, to the post of vice-president.

Virtually all of the college's 5000 students have not attended classes since the board of trustees acted independently of a special student-faculty administration

committee and appointed Baratta last Wednesday night.

Students massed around the school's entrance this morning carrying picket signs and chanting slogans which called for the immediate removal of Baratta.

Many faculty members and school workers have endorsed the strike and the students' demands.

BRUTAL

Baratta, who has a long experience in issues related to school budgeting, has been appointed by the trustees in order to carry out brutal cuts in scholarship programs and in other educational facilities.

Students reported to the Bulletin that Baratta has advocated

the abolition of the school's open admission program.

"We all know we are living in a capitalist society run by money and politicians," strike leader Marvin Hall stated.

"Baratta knows how to handle both and that is why he was appointed.

"Because things are not getting easier—Nixon is cutting funds and Baratta does not oppose this—many new students will be affected."

Conditions have deteriorated steadily in Essex over the last three years under the Gibson administration and the long promised campus under construction several blocks away is far from completion.

Students declared at the meeting that they would not end their strike without the board first removing Baratta.

Torture On Dawson Island

Dawson Island, off the coast of Chile, is used by the military dictatorship of Chile as a torture camp for some of the most prominent former leaders of the Allende Popular Unity government that was overthrown September 11.

The tortures described here and the murder of thousands of workers and youth following the coup d'etat are the brutal consequences of the collaboration of Allende and the Stalinists with the military and especially of the Stalinists' refusal to bring the workers to power.

Julio Duran, a 21-year-old Venezuelan who managed to get out of Chile, has told how the military regime's detainees are tortured on Dawson Island.

Duran, a student of the Puento Arenas State Technical University, more than 2000 kilometers from Santiago, was arrested by an Air Force detachment and taken to Dawson Island in the extreme south, despite the fact his papers were fully in order.

Barefoot and blindfolded, "they tied me to a bunk, and took my trousers down. I felt them putting something on my genitals, my cheek and left arm and then I felt the first electric shock going right through my body," said the student.

"Eventually they switched off the current and then I began to feel them forcing water up my

nose. I had to open my mouth to breathe and when I did they threw burning cigarette ash into it. Shouting was no use.

"When they saw I was half-suffocated they freed me, pulled up my trousers, left my hands tied and took me outside. They grabbed my shoulders and spun me round. When I fell they kicked me back up."

According to Duran, one of the soldiers said to him: "You want to kill yourself, don't you?" When he said he didn't, the fascist repeated "yes, you do, you want to kill yourself."

"Then—says Duran—he put a gun in my hand, put my finger on the trigger and put his finger on mine. He squeezed it: kill yourself...shoot...I don't want to get my hands dirty with you..."

On his fifth day on Dawson "someone found out they were bringing a group of people from Santiago, including senators, deputies, and ministers from Popular Unity.

"The guard was doubled. The first person to get out of our hut saw Jose Toha (ex-minister of the Interior and National Defense) and I think Daniel Vergara (ex-Under Secretary of the Interior). That's how we found out the rumors were true."

The guards forced the prisoners to use numbers instead of names.

One group tried to get in touch

with the prisoners in the next hut by flashing a mirror, but the base chief warned them that anyone who tried to look over the fence would die, because the guards on the other side had orders to shoot anyone doing so, said Duran.

The student said his group heard people being pushed against the zinc walls of the huts which house Ministers and Parliamentarians.

"We could hear blows and cries of pain. Later we found out that they made them step out of rank, threw them against the walls and kicked and battered the ones that fell.

"We couldn't see them all, but the few we did see looked really bad, in a critical condition. The huts were next to each other so during the night we heard whenever they took somebody out of the next hut."

The day after the Popular Unity leaders arrived, "around ten o'clock at night we began to hear people running round the hut and then bursts of machine gun fire. We knew someone had tried to escape and we were frightened because they'd told us that if one ran away they'd kill us all.

"But it's impossible to get out of there.

"The huts seemed to have been put up in plenty of time. They are solid. But not solid

Nixon Council Unleashes Price Hikes

JEFF SEBASTIAN

A new wave of inflationary price increases is already well underway in the United States as the government prepares to remove all stops on price increases of basic necessities.

The most optimistic forecasts project a rise of eight percent in the cost of living for 1974.

Nixon's Cost of Living Council is now functioning exclusively as an agency to hold the lid on wages, while relieving big business of all restrictions on prices.

On Tuesday, the Nixon administration announced the removal of all controls on the automobile industry in exchange for a pledge that the manufacturers would exercise "restraint" unless forced to change this by "unforeseen major economic events."

General Motors and Ford immediately announced increases of \$150 and American Motors plans \$100 rises in average wholesale prices. Chrysler claimed that it refused to commit itself to any limit.

Last week copper and aluminum raised prices by 13 percent and 40 nonferrous metals followed cement and fertilizer in being exempted from controls. This was immediately followed by a 30 percent increase in the cost of zinc and equally big in-

creased in other metals.

Food monopolies are recording record profits with Iowa Beef up 77 percent and United Brands, one of the leading conglomerates up 58 percent over last year.

The oil crisis is consciously being exploited by big business to force through increases in all basic commodities.

Oil affects far more than power and fuel. Petroleum products are used to make drugs, feedstock, solvents, plastics, synthetics, and chemical rubbers.

The huge increases in oil prices are now surging through the economy driving up the cost of all these goods. The prices of natural fibers and rubber are being bid up because of the developing shortage of synthetics.

ECOLOGICAL

The oil majors are also using the crisis to break down all environmental and ecological protection. Construction of the Alaska pipeline is going ahead, offshore oil drilling is being resumed in California, and limitations on using low grade fuels have been removed.

Recent testimony before a Senate subcommittee revealed that West Coast canners are engaged in wholesale fraud in packaging underweight and sub-standard quality food.

Inflation is now a worldwide phenomenon. Prices for Europe and Japan are being projected by the Common Market to rise by over 10 percent in 1974.

Prices are raging out of control. The removal of the gold cover from the dollar on August 15, 1971 has resulted in a collapse in confidence in paper money and wild speculation in all commodities.

Columbia Cancels

Gus Hall Rally

NEW YORK—Nearly 300 people rallied at Columbia University Monday night to protest the cancellation of a meeting which was to have been addressed by Communist Party General Secretary Gus Hall and State Senator Sydney Von Luther.

The meeting which was sponsored by a number of campus organizations was banned on December 5 by the Board of Managers on the grounds that it posed a "security risk."

Although no evidence existed that any violence would occur, the board based its decision on previous attacks by the National Caucus of Labor Committees on a Communist Party election rally.

On December 9, the board withdrew its decision and announced that the rally could proceed. This was reversed again by the Columbia administration which ruled that only Columbia students could attend and that a fee of \$900 for additional security guards would be required.

enough to keep out the cold at night—it's terrible. Nearly all of us were frozen stiff. Some had bronchitis and bad chest trouble.

"Afterwards they told me they put them into sacks and hit them. Ossees had his nose broken. Then they threw them in the river—the water was freezing—and when they tried to get out they kicked them under again, till they lost consciousness. Afterwards they took them to a torture chamber."

Duran was witness to the torturing of Punta Arenas Communist Party leader Francisco Alarcon, who was forced to eat excrement.

Alarcon and Duran were switched from Dawson to the Cochrane Detachment at Punta Arenas.

"At Cochrane he told me they brought him hanging from the bow of the boats, they kept dipping him in and out the water all the way."

Alarcon was still being questioned and tortured every day. "He looked weaker all the time till one day two of them brought him along and left him lying on the ground. We wanted to help him to walk, but he couldn't take a single step.

"Several days later he explained that they injected him and gave him some pills. I don't think he'll ever be normal again."

Eastern Dismisses 800 Pilots

BY A REPORTER
NEW YORK—Eastern airlines is expected to lay off 5000 by January. A pilot told the *Bulletin* that 800 pilots would be laid off.

"It will be like the 1940s and 1950s when work was only seasonal. I will probably be bumped to co-pilot. In 1972 and 1973, about 700 new pilots were brought in and they will all go."

A ramp man said: "The union is not doing much. I do not know what guys who just bought a house and get laid off are supposed to do."

"I am single, but I am not going to go back to working at some job for \$125 a week."

Another ramp man stated: "They are just using fuel as an excuse. Nixon is letting his friends get rich and nobody is going to take this."

"Some men think the layoffs will go to 9000. As far as I am concerned, they are just going to have to tell Israel to get off all of that land so the Arabs will start shipping oil again."

Layoffs in the whole industry will hit 25,000 workers by January according to the Air Transport Association.

These estimates are based on fuel saving measures announced by the government which will reduce 1974 service to 75 percent of what was previously planned. Current airline employment is 300,000.

Pan Am is already calling for complete suspension of its service to Baltimore and New Orleans as well as to 10 foreign cities.

Meanwhile, the airline steward and stewardess strike is continuing at TWA. A spokesman for the strikers told the *Bulletin* that calls were coming in all day from people worried about layoffs.

The union will be going into court on Monday to fight a restraining order preventing them from picketing Pan Am and American which have a mutual aid pact with TWA to provide it with money during the strike.

The strike has been on since November 5, with TWA offering only a two percent raise and determined to starve out the strikers.



Supporters rally for hospital workers fighting for union recognition at George Washington University Hospital.

156 Pittsburgh Drivers Face Contempt Charges

PITTSBURGH—On Monday morning, the bus and trolley workers of the Amalgamated Transit Workers Union ended their one week old strike and ratified a new contract 935 to 43.

The new contract called for

wage increases totaling 87 cents over the next three years with an immediate 32 cent an hour increase retroactive to December 1. A quarterly cost of living adjustment is included.

On the important issue of split shifts which require drivers to work 13 hours, only the slightest gain was won. The split shifts will be removed in the spring and the shift reduced from thirteen to twelve and one-half hours on week days.

One of the transit workers had this to say: "The split shifts are hard. You hang around the garage for five hours doing odd jobs, like cleaning the coaches. You don't get full pay and they use the 13 hour shifts to take away overtime."

RULING

The drivers are still facing a ruling by the Cost of Living Council, criminal contempt charges against 156 workers, and a \$30,000 fine against the union.

Joseph J. Pass, attorney for the union has told the local that he has been assured by "a member of the court" that the contempt charges "will be disposed of by a method other than by trial."

This is completely false and helps to isolate the 156 men from the rest of the union.

Judge Wessel who is strongly antilabor has not dropped the criminal contempt charges against the men. He has ordered the trial to start Monday and has said that the men will be tried in groups of 20 to 50.

The Judge told the men in court: "If you take the law into your own hands, then you no longer deserve the right to a trial by jury, and the whole system will fall apart."

One driver, commenting on both the bus and truck drivers strike, said: "Those truck drivers are supposed to strike this Thursday. We need something like that. A man should have the right to strike for something he believes."

The strike in Pittsburgh showed the strength of the union which not only paralyzed the city, but received tremendous support from other workers and their families.

It now remains to be seen if Dan Maroney, International president of the union will call strike action as he has pledged if the contempt charges are not dropped.

Boston Police Expand Power

BY BILL VANN

BOSTON—The police department here has launched a big "law and order" campaign to force the state to reinstate the death penalty and to grant the police unlimited powers to shoot down the youth in the communities.

Several hundred policemen from Boston and the surrounding areas massed at the Massachusetts State House chanting: "We want Sargent" and "We want the governor of the hippies."

The police were demanding that Governor Sargent approve a

bill in the state legislature to institute a mandatory death penalty for various crimes, above all the killing of policemen. The police organized the demonstration after a funeral procession for slain Boston patrolman John D. Schroeder.

The police are threatening further demonstrations and strikes and have vowed to destroy Sargent's political career if he vetoes the bill. At this writing, Sargent has killed the proposal, but has indicated his approval for the death penalty in the case of cop killings only.

SHOTGUNS

At the same time, the state house has approved the use of shotguns for all patrol supervisors, while the police want shotguns in every patrol car.

Legislators are already favorable to this move which they had voted down in the past.

The police have been encouraged to launch this right-wing and racist campaign by the powers they were given several months ago following the killing of a white girl. The entire police force and FBI agents in the state flooded the Black neighborhoods and arrested hundreds of innocent youth. This was aided by hysterical articles in the press declaring that a "race war" existed in Boston.

The labor movement must immediately launch a fight against the death penalty and the arming of police with shotguns. These weapons will be used against youth and trade unionists who are fighting for their rights.

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Bitter Union Fight At Washington Hospital

WASHINGTON, DC—Hospital workers at George Washington University Hospital are continuing the fight for union recognition by Local 1199.

The first action by the workers to force the hospital administration to meet with them resulted in arrests, firings, and suspensions. Donald Novack, the hospital administrator, insists that the union drive has the support of only a few dissidents.

Hospital workers at George Washington are fighting for a minimum wage of \$3.50 an hour, job security, better working conditions, and hospitalization benefits.

The vacancies in the hospital staff brought about by the firings and suspensions have not been

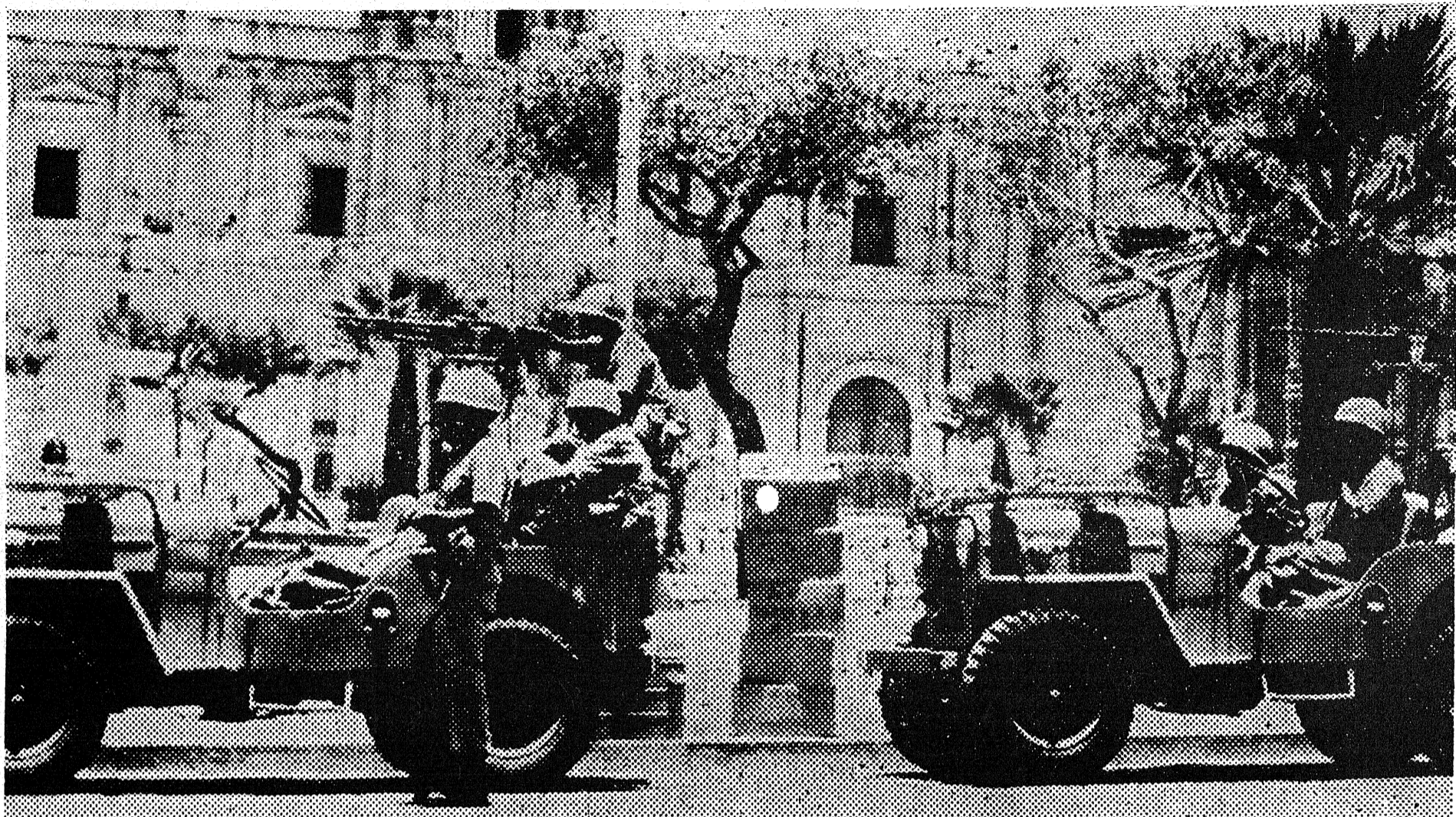
filled. Instead, an accelerated speedup campaign has been launched against the workers.

One nurse's aide who has worked at George Washington for six years and was recently fired for disorderly conduct, told the *Bulletin*: "There was a training class going on in there for nurse's aides, but it has been stopped so they can get the nurse's aides to push the trolleys around. The hospital is hurting."

A series of rallies and a lunch-with-1199 demonstration have had little effect on changing the hospital's position against unionization.

At present, a sick-in is being planned and grievance procedures are being followed to fight for reinstatement of the fired employees.

Stalinist Strikebreakers In Peru



Armored jeeps in Arequipas Plaza de Armas.

BY BILL VANN

An eight day general strike erupted at the end of October in Arequipa, Peru's second largest city. The strike, called in response to the repression and jailings of striking teachers across the country, developed into a severe crisis for the military dictatorship of General Velasco.

It also dealt a serious blow to the supporters of his corporatist policies, the Stalinist leadership of the Peruvian Communist Party and of the CGTP (Confederacion General de Trabajadores Peruvianos), the country's trade union federation which is dominated by the Communist Party.

The national strike by SUTEP, the Peruvian teachers union, began last October 24. Within three weeks, most of the union leadership and about 400 rank and file teachers had been jailed.

SUTEP, which represents the vast majority of Peruvian teachers, is considered an illegal organization after refusing to allow government intervention into the union.

The jailings provoked demonstrations by university students and forced campuses to close in Lima and Cuzco where government buildings were attacked and at least two students were shot.

Defense

In Arequipa too, the first support for the teachers came from university students. But soon workers from nearly every industry walked off their jobs in defense of the jailed strikers. Truck and bus drivers were joined by bank workers, and even newspaper boys.

Those factories which were

not struck were forced to close because of heavy absenteeism. As the entire city ground to a halt with all public transportation and even telephone service withdrawn by the strikers, the leadership of the strike formed the Commission for the Defense of Union Rights.

The Commission, which called for the immediate release of the jailed teachers, was formed after the CGTP and its local council, the Workers Federation of Arequipa, issued the following statement:

"We do not support nor will we support the strike announced by a group of trade union leaders and teachers. We consider this strike to be entirely political and to have a subversive character with the intent of creating chaos and disorder."

From the beginning, the CGTP and the Communist Party denounced the teachers strike as "traitorous and seditious." Above all, they warned, the strike was a direct threat to the united front and an attack on the "unity of the working class."

Alliance

Behind these high-sounding phrases, the Stalinist united front is in reality an alliance between the mass CGTP dominated by the Communist Party and the CTRP, a government controlled corporatist tool, the purpose of which is similar to that of the "unions" set up by Mussolini and Hitler in the 1930s.

The Stalinist "unity of the working class" is a unity of the CGTP and the mass Communist Party with the military dictatorship which seeks to destroy them. The Stalinist leadership has tirelessly sought to subordinate the unions to Velasco's corporatist plans.

They have been opposed in these efforts by the CGTP membership itself and by the determined struggle of the Trotskyist party Liga Comunista, to develop a revolutionary leadership against the betrayals of Stalinism.

The Sixth Congress of the Peruvian Communist Party held in Lima from November 2 to 5 gave Velasco its unconditional support.

Velasco's Minister of Agriculture spoke at the Congress and claimed that agrarian

policies.

The SUTEP has been kept outside of the CGTP by a leadership of Maoists and nationalists. This group has refused entry on the grounds that the CGTP leadership is reactionary. This rationalization has

either they will be put down or our revolution will fall.

"If there are people killed, what can we do. With pain in our heart, we will accept it. SUTEP will not bring this government down. SUTEP is not recognized by the government because it refuses to abide by the law.

"Out of the 120,000 teachers only about 20,000 are corrupted. The rest are healthy professional people. We will break up the leadership and we will have healthy people in the teaching profession, people capable of carrying forward the Educational Reform Program.

"If out of 120,000 teachers we can only keep half, then we will just have to make do with that half."

Army

On November 20, a march called by the Commission for the Defense of Union Rights was met by army special forces units in Arequipas Plaza de Armas. After the Army fired tear gas into the crowd, barricades were erected by the workers and university students.

One group attacked the building of Sinamos, the political arm of the dictatorship. In the fighting which followed, over twenty were wounded and two killed, a university student and a young bus driver.

The dictatorship then placed the city under martial law, declaring a 10 pm to 6 am curfew. Armored cars were placed at strategic points throughout the cities and machine gun carrying soldiers surrounded it. After two days of martial law, the Commission ended the strike.

The events in Arequipa show the tremendous hatred of the Peruvian working class for Velasco's regime and the necessity for the construction of a revolutionary leadership as the alternative to the Stalinists of the Communist Party. This is being taken forward by the Peruvian section of the International Committee of the Fourth International, the Liga Comunista.



General Velasco.

reforms had produced big advances in production in the countryside.

Leo Figueres attended the conference on behalf of the French Communist Party and blamed right-wing members of the previous regime who rule with Velasco for plotting a Chilean type coup.

On the basis of minor agrarian reforms and a few nationalizations, the CP is allying with Velasco and has been the biggest spokesman for repression against the Trotskyist Liga Comunista.

While the Stalinists openly support the Velasco dictatorship in its brutal attack on the striking teachers, the leadership of SUTEP, the teachers union, has played a treacherous role in giving the CGTP leadership a free hand in their

served only to isolate the teachers and strengthen the Stalinists in the CGTP.

The dictatorship's attack on SUTEP is part and parcel of Velasco's drive to destroy the independent organizations of the working class in order to drive down wages, and increase unemployment and productivity.

With the teachers, however, the present confrontation was accelerated by the dictatorship's attempts to institute the so-called Reform of Education. Its main provision is the destruction of free public education.

In a press conference held at the beginning of the Arequipa strike, Velasco made clear the position of the dictatorship:

"If they want war, they will get war. That will not stop us;

Middle Class Utopianism In The American Labor Movement

The development of the early American labor movement, following the upsurge in the 1820s which led to the brief independent political action of the working class through the formation of the Workingmen's Parties, was marked both by the rapid growth and expansion of capitalism and by the political domination of the alliance of workers with the small farmers and the middle class of the North.

From the 1820s through to the 1850s, the labor movement was still relatively small and the trade unions were composed primarily of skilled mechanics and artisans, independent workers, who at this early stage of industrialization and capitalist expansion with the vast areas of America still undeveloped felt that they could "make it."

In addition, during this period, the fight to organize trade unions was held back by the enormous influx of cheap labor stemming from the immigration of more than three million people between the years 1846 and 1855 who were fleeing the famine in Ireland and the suppression of the revolutionary upsurge in Europe. The immigrants were used by the capitalist to break the incipient trade union movement by providing the cheap labor necessary to enable the employers to cut the wages of all workers.

For the first time in America's history, there was a surplus in the labor force which the employers sought to exploit to the fullest.

At the same time, this huge wave of immigration—three times as many people entered the US in one decade than in the previous half century—created divisions within the working class because of language barriers, etc., which made the organization of national labor societies virtually impossible.

Of course, the employers fought effectively to pit one section of immigrant labor against another to hold down the living standards of the entire working class.

It was the factor of immigration and brutal conditions created by the beginnings of industrialization—with its introduction of mechanization and unemployment—that led to a sharp turn away from trade union organization during the period.

From the 1830s to the 1850s, the leadership of the working class seemed determined to escape the very logic of the ruthless expansion of capitalism by turning to utopian schemes of creating ideal communities as pockets of bliss within a brutal society.

The central characterization of the working class movement during this time was its domination by the middle class who, according to a contemporary writer of the day: "descended in droves upon every meeting or convention that might be summoned to consider labor issues and succeeded in wholly dominating it."

These utopians, grouped together in a society of "Associationists, promised an escape from the consequences of the industrial revolution and actually hoped to recreate the simpler society of an earlier day."

Dominated by the utopian socialism of Charles Fourier, the Associationists actually sought an alliance with the capitalist class, claiming that the cooperative communities they advocated provided the only avenue of escape for the capitalists themselves from their own destruction. Robert Owen, founder of Brook Farm and one of the most influential utopians, wrote of the cooperatives:

"These establishments will enable the capitalists and men of extensive practical experience to solve without difficulty the Great Problem of the Age, that is, how to apply the enormous and ever-growing new scientific powers for producing wealth, beneficially for the entire population."

Along with the cooperatives, the agrarian schemes that wrecked the early Workingmen's Parties continued to prevail in the workers movement, primarily because the economy of the country was still dominated by agriculture, although by the 1840s the balance had changed except in the South.

In fact, the influence of the small farmers and the radical agrarians continued for a decade after the material base for their dominance had disappeared.

Together with their domination by middle class utopians, the workers movement was tied to the Democratic Party politically. This placed them in a completely contradictory alliance with the Southern slavocracy. This alliance was to hold back their all-out participation in the fight against slavery until the question of the destruction of the Union was sharply posed.

While these three factors, that is, the still-expanding nature of capitalism and the agrarian nature of the economy, the wave of immigration, and the dominance of the middle class over the workers movement, all combined to hold back the development of the American labor movement, it was above all the existence of slavery—the division in the country between two fundamentally opposed social and political systems—that prevented any fundamental development of the working class movement.

The American Working Class And The Civil War

By the 1850s, it was becoming increasingly clear that the very ability of capitalism to develop and continue to expand required a confrontation with the Southern slavocracy.

The Southern aristocracy began to move in two ways by the 1850s, both of which threatened the basic survival of capitalism itself. First, it moved to prevent the development of any industry in the areas of the South it already controlled because it understood that any development of a free labor system would undermine the very structure of the slave system.

As one slaveowner wrote about the dangers of northern workers entering the cotton fiefdoms:

"A large proportion of the mechanical force that immigrate to the South are a curse instead of a blessing; they are generally a worthless unprincipled class—enemies to our peculiar institutions—pests to society, dangerous among the slave population, and ever ready to form combinations against the interest of the slaveholder, against the laws of the country, and against the peace of the commonwealth."

To provide the legal basis for this expansion of the slave system, the planters secured the repeal of the Missouri Compromise through the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854. This extension of slavery ran into a head-on collision with the needs of Northern capitalism which required, for the development of industry, a full national labor market.

It was this action, more than any other, that brought the American working class forward in the struggle against slavery, understanding now that this fight was necessary for its own preservation and development. It was this realization that slavery was not simply going to remain in the South, but was expanding into new territories and threatened to continue unless checked, that brought about the urgency among workers that, as the Boston Workingman's paper noted: "Slavery must be extinguished...Whatever may be the question...this enormous dragon has something at stake...We go for direct and internecine war with the monster."

The working class had, for an entire period, virtually abstained from the struggle against slavery. An understanding of the identity of interests between the struggle against slavery in the South and wage-slavery in the North only developed when the very existence of the Union was posed.

The initial abstention by the working class from the struggle against slavery flowed from two fundamental reasons: its ties to the Democratic Party and its hostility to the Abolitionist movement.

The working class of the day was composed primarily of immigrant groups who rallied behind the Democratic Party out of fear of the anti-immigration moves of the Whigs.

Since the slaveowners comprised a major section of the Democrats, many trade unionists feared that the slavery question would rip apart the party and open the door for vicious anti-immigration laws to be passed by the Whigs.

In addition, with the threat of unem-

William Sylvis



And The National Labor Union

Part II of Radicalism And The Birth Of The American Working Class

by Nancy Fields



Pennsylvania miners voting, part of the political campaign of the NLU.

ployment hanging over the heads of the workers, the Democrats were able to exploit this very real fear among Northern workers that the freeing of the slaves would bring thousands of Blacks to the North, thereby driving unemployment even higher.

This demagogic campaign was given added weight by the fact that, during strikes and in open moves to prevent any trade union organization, Northern employers would hire nonunion freed Blacks to replace members of trade unions.

While the Democratic Party was exploiting the fears of the working class on the one hand, the Abolitionist movement, dominated by the ruling class who viewed the question of slavery from a purely moral, paternalistic point of view, were launching a vicious antilabor campaign themselves.

In the first issue of the Liberator, the national organ of the Abolitionist movement, its editor denounced the trade union movement as "an organized conspiracy to inflame the minds of our working classes against the more opulent. Trade unions are in the highest degree criminal for they lead workers to believe that their employers were their enemies."

A major workingman's paper condemned the Abolitionists who, it held, "expressed pity for the Southern slave, but would crush with an iron hand the white laborer of the North."

Nevertheless, a growing movement developed among Northern trade unionists against slavery as it became increasingly clear that the American working class as a whole could not go forward unless the Southern slave system was abolished. For only with the destruction of slavery could the working class be united and thereby gain the power to fight the employers.

By the late 1850s, mass meetings of workers were being held throughout New England and Ohio denouncing slavery. At a rally held in Boston's Faneuil Hall, during the European Revolutions of 1848, a resolution was adopted which became the rallying cry of workers throughout the North. It stated:

"While we rejoice in the organization of free institutions in the old world, we are not indifferent to their support at home, and we regret the despotic attitude of the Slave Power of the South, and the domineering ascendancy of the Money Oligarchy. Both are equally hostile to the interests of labor and incompatible with the preservation of popular rights. Down with both Chattel slavery and wage slavery."

If capitalism was to develop further in America, bourgeois democracy expand, thus making possible the further advance of the working class movement, slavery had to be destroyed.

In fact, it was above all else, the existence of two conflicting social systems—a conflict which would only be settled through the destruction of one or the other—that had held back the independent political struggle of the American working class.

As Marx noted: "In the United States of North America, every independent movement of the workers was paralyzed so long as slavery disfigured a part of the Republic. Labor cannot emancipate itself in the white skin where in the black it is branded."

Thus, when the irrespressible conflict between the slavocracy and the Northern capitalists broke out into the Civil War, the American working class came forward in a conscious movement to defend the Union.

Prior to the actual outbreak of the war, the German-American working class, led by the Marxists who had come to America after the defeat of the 1848 Revolution in Germany, had waged a mass campaign throughout the trade union movement against slavery.

In sharp contrast to the moralistic approach of the Abolitionists against slavery, the Marxist movement fought in the working class from a class point of view against slavery. They insisted that any expansion of slavery would undermine and eventually destroy the power of free labor.

As Herman Schlueter notes in his book Lincoln, Labor, and Slavery, the Marxists fought for an understanding that "unless the slave power was smashed, slave labor would become the dominant labor system in the factories and shops of the North as it was fast becoming in the fields of New Mexico."

In fact, it was the fight against slavery waged by the Communist clubs—led by Joseph Weydemeyer—that accounted for the

immediate response of the trade union movement when the actual battle broke out. Entire union locals immediately volunteered and the working class constituted almost half of the Northern armies, a ratio greatly out of proportion to their number.

The trade unionists recognized that the defense of the Union required more than simply defeating the South's moves to secession. Both Weydemeyer and Sylvis—two of the major workingmen's leaders fighting in the Civil War—held from the outset that the North could not win unless the slaves were freed.

Thus Sylvis wrote that "from the day the first gun was fired, it was my earnest hope that the war might not end until slavery ended with it."

As Marx noted at the time, in his correspondence with the American Marxist movement, the North could only win if it conducted the war in a revolutionary manner for the annihilation of slavery.

Throughout the Civil War, it was the leadership of the working class which fought for the liberation of the slaves and it was their battle, not the benevolence of the ruling class of the North, which culminated in the passing of the Thirteenth Amendment freeing the slaves in 1863.

The Civil War And The International Working Class

The American Civil War was not simply an American issue and it was not simply fought through by American workers. The destruction of the slavocracy was not simply necessary for the development of capitalism in the US and the growth of the workers movement here, but for the spreading of bourgeois democracy and the labor movement internationally as well.

Workers around the world, but most importantly in England, took up the defense of the North against the South. As Marx noted:

"It was not the wisdom of the ruling classes, but the heroic resistance to their criminal folly by the working classes of England, that saved the West of Europe from plunging headlong into an infamous crusade for the perpetuation and propagation of slavery on the other side of the Atlantic."

The resistance of the British working class was crucial for the victory of the North, for England possessed the largest navy in the world and its intervention on the side of the South would have given the slavocracy the necessary military might to defeat the North.

The campaign of the First International Workingman's Association, formed in 1864, was decisive in mobilizing the English workers against the attempts of the British to aid the Southern aristocracy. The importance of its work was later noted by one Northern Congressman who said:

"In the darkest days of our own war, when the governing classes of England would have been glad to have joined the emperor of France in recognition of the Southern Confederacy, what prevented it was the angry growl of the workingmen of Lancashire, say to the English Government, 'We love the workingmen of North America a great deal better, we are more nearly allied in interest and in feeling to the aristocracy of England and although we have borne many things from you, one thing we will not bear, that you should array the power and might of England against the cause in which those American workingmen are engaged!'"

The decisive smashing of the slave power system brought the American working class for the first time into its own as a class. As the Address of the International Workingmen's Association to Abraham Lincoln stated: "The workingmen of Europe feel sure that as the American War of Independence initiated a new era of ascendancy for the middle class, so the American anti-slavery War will do for the working classes."

The Growth Of The Workers Movement: The National Labor Union

With the end of the Civil War, a new era in the development of the American working class was initiated with the founding of the National Labor Union which represented the beginning of the movement to organize workers nationally as a class.

It is in the history of the NLU, from its rise in 1866 to its decline in 1872, that all the tendencies which have dominated the development of the American labor movement began to emerge sharply.

The NLU was formed directly in response to the changing nature of American capitalism. The immediate end of the Civil War brought about a fantastic deterioration in the standard of living of workers. While wages fell sharply, prices rose between 1865 to 1866 by 78 percent. At the same time, a national organization of employers was formed to defeat any attempts to organize trade unions.

A capitalist had warned Sylvis in 1864: "The day is not far distant when the condition of the workmen will be worse than ever before. The day will come when men who are now active in the labor movement will be forced upon their bended knees to ask for work...A spirit of retaliation has been aroused in the bosom of every employer, the fruits of which are now being manifested in the widespread and universal organization of capitalists for the avowed purpose of destroying your unions."

With the growing consolidation of capitalism, the workingmen's papers urged the establishment of a national labor federation. One wrote: "The longer action is delayed, the more difficult it will be for the workmen to secure the end they seek. Capital is centralizing, organizing, and becoming more powerful every day."

The founding convention of the NLU drafted the resolution which was to dominate its work during its existence. The two most significant proposals of the NLU were the fight for the eight hour day and the resolution demanding an independent party of labor. The latter proposal was put forward by Edward Schlegel, representing the German American Marxists, who called for the immediate formation of a labor party. The antipolitical tendencies within the NLU, which were soon to dominate and lead to its downfall, had the resolution amended to state that "such a party shall be put in operation as soon as possible." With growing domination of the middle class in the NLU, this proposal was completely shelved.

The evolution of the NLU, both its tremendous significance as well as its rapid decline, is best expressed through the most powerful labor leader of the day, William Sylvis. In fact, through him all the problems that have dominated the American trade union movement, as well as its strengths, are sharply illustrated.

Sylvis had previously created the first really national trade union, the Iron Molders International Union as the first tightly structured national labor organization. He was the pioneer of new methods in labor organization—such as the dues check off system, a nationwide strike fund, a national membership list and a centralized organizational structure.

In fact, it was Sylvis's organizational innovations which later formed the basis of the structure of the American Federation of Labor. Gompers simply adapted the measures first developed in the Iron Molders and the NLU.

Sylvis began his fight to lead the American working class as a trade unionist and during his reign as president of the Iron Molders Union he personally organized thousands of locals coast to coast and in Canada. However, by the time the NLU was formed, his own union was practically crushed by several strikes which had ended in total defeats. Thus, because of these defeats, he pragmatically turned away from the fight to organize unions and adopted the reformist utopian schemes being circulated by the middle class.

Almost from the outset, the activity of the NLU was turned away from the actual concrete fight to raise the standard of living of workers into reformist attempts to make

capitalism work. In that sense, it still reflected the utopianism of the pre-Civil War period.

Sylvis's central concern came to be the establishment of consumers' and producers' cooperatives and the fight for cheap and available currency. He became involved in the greenback movement, which was dominated by small businessmen and farmers and it was this involvement which led him to drop the fight for the labor party that he had taken up so sharply in 1867 to 1868.

Sylvis turned away from the fight to organize workers as a class politically because he held that while "in Europe a revolution sweeping private property away was necessary, in America all that was needed was a cathartic to cleanse the economic body of the gold disease."

By 1870, following Sylvis's death, the NLU was completely transformed into a reformist agrarian movement, and the trade union movement had no further affiliation with it.

The Significance Of The NLU

F. A. Sorge, the German-American leader of the First International, stated in a letter to Marx the fundamental reasons for the decline of the NLU:

He wrote: "The National Labor Union which had such brilliant prospects in the beginning of its career, was poisoned by Greenbackism and is slowly but surely dying. The leaders of the National Labor Union have learned nothing and, it is to be feared, will never learn to understand the labor question."

The NLU, by abandoning the fight to organize trade unions, in effect abandoned the workers movement.

Nevertheless, in spite of its eventual domination by the middle class, the NLU marked an enormously significant step in the development of the American labor movement. It raised before the entire working class some of the most pressing issues facing workers and it rallied the class throughout the country around these issues. It began the fight for the eight hour day and it created the first National Labor Party in the history of the American workers movement.

In addition, it fought to establish the unity of the American workers movement with the international working class and it was recognized as the representative of American labor by the International Workingmen's Association and sent an official delegate abroad to attend the convention of the First International.

Its downfall flowed from the essential character of the development of capitalism of the day, that is, its still-expanding nature, and the completely pragmatic, antitheoretical tendency of its leadership. It was Sylvis's pragmatism, that is, the method of simply seeking to do what seemed to work at the immediate moment, that characterized the entire early development of the workers movement and allowed that movement time after time to be dominated by the middle class radicalism of the day.

In the years that followed the decline of the NLU no real national labor organization developed. Nevertheless, the working class movement continued to grow and bitter strike struggles were waged between 1870 and 1877. These struggles were largely spontaneous—leaderless and without cohesive organization.

However, the power and determination of workers to fight back against the ruthless exploitation of the capitalists was to erupt on a nationwide scale with the railroad strikes of 1877. These strikes were conducted under civil war conditions and virtually paralyzed the entire country's transportation system.

Whole cities, like Pittsburg, were controlled if only for a brief period by workers. Thus, Engels' prediction that the defeat of the slavocracy would bring forward a new era in the American labor movement was borne out as only a little over a decade after American workers had fought in the Civil War, they were now fighting in a class war which actually began to raise the questions of taking power in the workers movement. CONTINUED IN THE JAN. 1 & 4 ISSUES

LABOR TODAY

'Left' Apologists For Arnold Miller

Both the Communist Party and the Socialist Workers Party have hailed the convention of the United Mine Workers of America, which just came to an end this Friday, as the bold expression of the rank and file's interests and an example for the entire working class.

The **Daily World**, organ of the Stalinist CP, headlined its issue following the opening of the convention: "Mine Parley Keynote: Rank and File Power."

Drawing on the same theme, **The Militant**, organ of the SWP, proclaimed that the convention was being held "Under the banner 'For a rank and file union,'" and stated:

"The current convention is proceeding in an open, democratic manner. The working committees, which will bring in resolutions on major issues, are made up of a majority of rank and file delegates. Their proposals will undoubtedly reflect many of the needs of coal miners today."

In this uncritical praise for the new leadership of the UMW, the talk of "rank and file" power is nothing less than a cover for the bankrupt policies of not only the Miller bureaucracy, but the entire pro-McGovern faction of the trade union bureaucracy which dominated the Mine Workers Convention.

It was at this convention that this section of the labor bureaucracy, represented by such figures as United Auto Workers President Leonard Woodcock, United Farm Workers President Cesar Chavez, and Miller himself, came out in bitter opposition to any political campaign to force Nixon's resignation. They stated that they would welcome labor-hater Gerald Ford as the new president if big business eventually moved to force Nixon out.

The so-called rank and file Miller leadership has been exposed in the one year since it came to power as substantially the same as the bureaucracies established in other unions.

The fact that Arnold Miller was once a coal miner does not alter the fact that he leads the UMW today as a trade union bureaucrat, unable and unwilling to defend the living standards and basic rights of miners because that fight now requires a direct confrontation with the government and poses the question of power to the working class.

This is why Miller does not plan to make substantial wage demands in the upcoming contract talks, why working conditions have deteriorated in the mines since Miller came to office, and why UMW locals throughout the country have been unable to fight back against the injunctions brought against the union during the past year.

It is at this point that the Stalinists of the Communist Party attempt to bolster Miller by claiming that he is turning the UMW into a "rank and file" union.

This is an out and out distortion of what Miller actually represents. In the first place, the CP is attempting to cover up the fact Miller is part of a trade union bureaucracy which represents a middle class strata in the labor movement in that it seeks to negotiate a compromise between the working class and the employers within the limits of the capitalist system.

Secondly, the Stalinists—while waving the banner of the "rank and file"—support the domination of the ranks by the capitalist politicians through Miller, who is firmly opposed to breaking with the Democrats and Republicans and establishing a labor party.

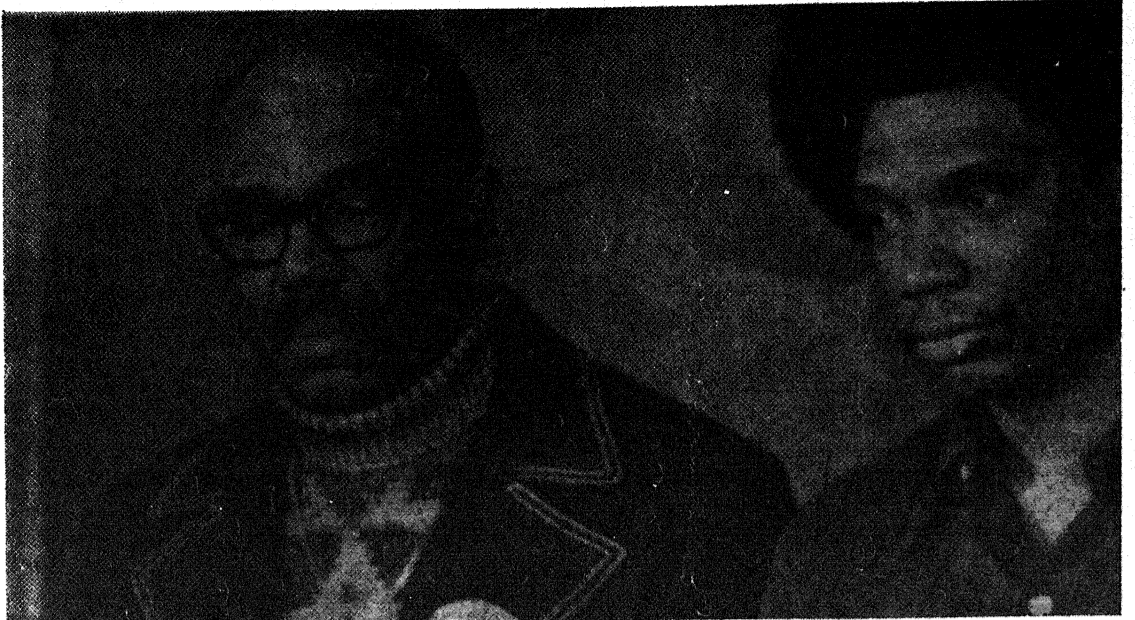
The Communist Party supports Miller to oppose the independent political development of the working class, which is to disarm the working class in the face of Nixon's attacks.

In the case of the Socialist Workers Party, the support for Miller reflects its movement toward an openly reformist position that is compatible with the labor bureaucracy.

Having for many years turned its back on the working class in order to engage in middle class protest activity, the SWP now turns some attention to the labor movement only to endorse the labor bureaucracy. Just as it trailed behind all sorts of middle class protest movements as a substitute for constructing a leadership in the working class itself, the SWP now trails behind Miller and other erstwhile rank and filers in the trade union bureaucracy as the alternative to fighting for Marxist leadership in the trade unions.

To claim, as the SWP does, that Miller's policies "will undoubtedly reflect many of the needs of coal miners today" is to stand with the bureaucracy and the Stalinists against the political fight to bring down the Nixon government that is required to defend even the most basic rights of miners and every other worker.

by david north



Fred Hampton's family, demanding a new investigation into the 1969 police raid. See article below.

UAW Officials Attack Bulletin Supporters

BY MITCH
PATTERSON

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio—Acting out of tremendous fear, Tony Zone, president of United Auto Workers Local 1112, Gene Naples, executive board member, and about eight other local officials led a vicious assault on four supporters of the **Bulletin**, newspaper of the Workers League, who attempted to sell it to auto workers at a union meeting, December 9.

The **Bulletin** has been leading a fight in every issue against the contract negotiated by Woodcock and for a new leadership in the UAW.

Within seconds after getting out of the car, 10 thugs ordered the salesman: "Get back into your car. Do not say anything. Just get out of here and do not come back again."

They were forced to get back in the car but before leaving this reporter snapped a picture of the 10 men.

Immediately they attacked the

Hampton Parents Seek Inquiry

CHICAGO—The family of murdered Black Panther leader Fred Hampton is demanding a new investigation into the 1969 raid and murder of their son and Mark Clark.

William O'Neal, Jr., at that time leader of the Chicago Panthers, has been exposed as a paid FBI informer, and has been ordered to testify in a civil suit on the raid.

If federal officials knew about the raid, they could be indicted for denial of civil rights, and on state charges of murder and obstruction of justice. O'Neal was never called to testify before the Grand Jury which investigated the raid.

Former state's attorney Edward Hanrahan and 13 others were charged and later acquitted on charges of conspiring to obstruct justice during that investigation.

It is now clearer than ever that the guns in Hampton's apartment were planted deliberately by O'Neal, with the full knowledge of county, state, and federal officials.

car, kicking in the rear and attempting to shatter the windows with their fists.—Three of them, including Gene Naples then jumped into a car and chased the four down the highway in order to get the film.

The **Bulletin** supporters were forced to go 90 miles an hour down the Ohio Turnpike endangering their lives until the union bureaucrats cut them off and forced them to give up the film.

At the union meeting, the leadership tried to intimidate the members by declaring that they would "lynch all communists."

Chuck, a young auto worker recently fired from Lordstown attended the meeting and defended the **Bulletin**. He challenged the leadership and said: "How come you want to restrict what the membership reads? You act the same as management."

It was the tremendous fear of the policies which the **Bulletin**

fighters for that created this hysterical attack by the union officials.

The one thing that the bureaucrats seek to prevent at all costs is for the ranks to be armed with a program to fight against General Motors and Nixon.

Local 1112 is in Youngstown, only a few blocks from the Lordstown General Motors plant. Lordstown is one of the plants in the country that has not yet been hit as hard by the massive layoffs and cutbacks in production because it produces the small Vega.

The workers there are facing the fastest line speed in the country, as well as virtual military rule by the bosses. These conditions have once again turned Lordstown into a tinder box. There is an overwhelming hatred for the three percent contract recently negotiated by Woodcock with GM.

Drivers Wildcat In Cincinnati

BY LOUIS MACON

CINCINNATI—Bus drivers and mechanics here went out on a wildcat strike after voting by 416 to 55 to reject a contract negotiated by Amalgamated Transit Union president Eugene Metz.

The workers are protesting a wage and pension offer contained in the contract.

James Ryan, attorney for the Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority, is threatening to retaliate against the 600 transit workers by dismissals, or invoking the Ohio Ferguson Act which bans strikes by public employees and imposes penalties.

Hamilton County Judge William R. Matthews has already issued a temporary restraining order against the strike and is preparing to issue an injunction and contempt citation against the workers.

The restraining order has forced workers to take down picket lines set up around two bus terminals in the city. The workers, however, have since called in sick for two consecutive days and have gathered around bus terminals in an effort to prevent scabbing by minority dissidents.

Despite predictions by Metro management that between 30 and 50 percent would report to work, only a handful of scabs arrived.

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midwest news

Chrysler To Lay Off 1700 In Detroit

BY KEN WESTON

DETROIT—The Cost of Living Council has announced that all wage and price controls will be suspended for the automotive industries.

This comes only days after the last of the Big Three contracts, the GM contract, was ratified.

At the same time, Chrysler has announced 2100 workers with seniority will be laid off in January. Seventeen hundred of them will be laid off at the Jefferson Avenue plant which produces Imperials.

An additional 400 are to be laid off indefinitely at the Belvedere plant which produces Monacos and Plymouth Furys.

The large GM plants in Flint are also preparing for big layoffs. More than 7500 workers at Buick Local 599 will be out next week during the temporary shutdown ordered at 16 assembly plants. However, a Local 599 official stated that at least 400 workers will be given K-releases: that is, laid off permanently.

"We're very concerned because we're the 'big car' producer in Flint," he said.

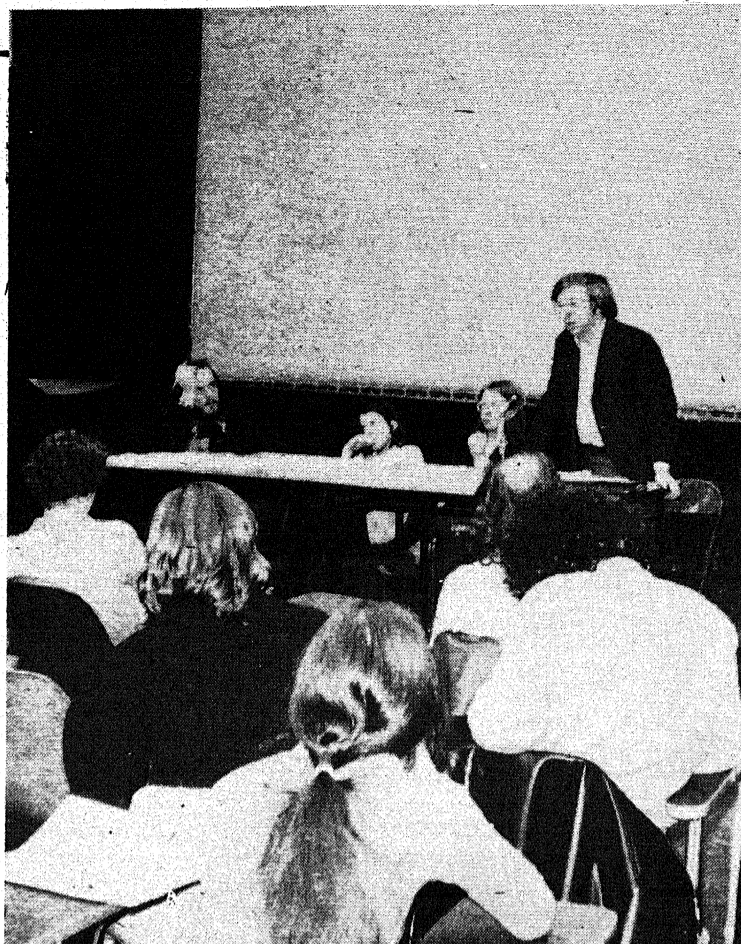
At UAW Local 659, there will be about 100 layoffs at the V-8 engine division and more in the manufacturing unit. Skilled tradesmen are to be hit especially hard.

"There is nothing we can do about the layoffs at the local level," said George Smith, financial secretary of the huge Chevrolet local.

He told the Bulletin that Leonard Woodcock is attempting to interest the corporation in the idea of entering the field of mass transit in the event that the recession in the auto industry becomes worse.

Auto workers are reacting to these cutbacks with anger. At Lynch Road, Bob, a worker with five years seniority told the Bulletin: "All this is coming at once. This has got to be a conspiracy."

"Only three days after the contract's signed, and they lift the price freeze. I think Woodcock is part of this conspiracy too."



Tim Wohlforth, Workers League National Secretary, addresses founding conference of the Canadian Young Socialists in Montreal last week. Plans were laid to wage a campaign against the enormous unemployment among youth and growing police repression.

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PERSPECTIVES FOR THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



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Fuel Cuts Slash Drivers Income

BY B. WILLS

MINNEAPOLIS—Minnesota Teamsters are determined to join the rest of the nation's truck drivers in stopping all movement of freight on December 13 and 14.

Asked by the Bulletin about freight haulers' intentions here if International Teamster President Frank Fitzsimmons wires them forbidding strike action, over the road driver Charles Haats of Local 544 in Minneapolis answered:

"I am going along with the pack no matter what Fitzsimmons says. The way the boys have been talking, all it will take will be a complete shutdown for 24 hours and Nixon will see the light."

"Up to now I never had any problem in getting all the fuel I needed for my truck. But now you are lucky to get 50 gallons and many truck stops will not sell you more than 25 gallons."

"Why that's nothing for a rig like mine that averages only three miles to the gallon."

EXTRA

"As a result, my trip from Dyersberg, Tennessee, to Minneapolis required four extra stops and my partner and I made the trip in 26 instead of the normal 19 hours. That 7 hour delay meant I missed taking a load to Chicago."

"I am not greedy, though it sure cuts into your take-home. But the ones really hurting are

the independent drivers.

"Most of them are in the Teamsters Union though they own their own trailer and have huge mortgage and insurance payments to make."

"What with today's delays and price gouging for diesel oil, they cannot possibly survive. Do you know that just a few months ago when I bought fuel at a 76 Station in Arlington, Kentucky, it was 25 cents a gallon and last week it was double, 49.9 cents, and they would not sell me more than 25 gallons either."

The Bulletin spoke to another trucker, Fred McArdle, who owns his own truck-trailer. The investment is \$45,000 for which he makes monthly payments.

REPOSSESS

"I am not going to be able to make it. I will have to let the bank repossess it. I just returned from Iowa on a run for which I will get \$120 when I deliver the stuff."

"The gas cost me \$40 and the most I could get at any one place was 40 gallons. After I deduct the payment on the truck, insurance, license fees, let alone depreciation, I am making \$10 for an entire day's work. It is not worth it."

"You see this house? I am going to have to move out of it—just cannot make the payments."

"I am sure going out with the rest of the truckers next Thursday and Friday, even though it means a \$500 loss. We have got to do something. We are being wiped out."

Chicago Truckers Angry At Price Gouging

BY CYNTHIA BLAKE

CHICAGO—The members of Teamsters Local 710, the nation's largest local, will be supporting in massive numbers the

nationwide "park-in" this Thursday and Friday.

Anger over the pay cuts from Nixon's speed limits has been fueled by Governor Dan Walker's blunt announcement that he will use the National Guard immediately if there is any blockading.

Drivers are also angered by the price gouging practices in the heavily traveled Chicago to Gary highways, where a meeting to launch a 200-truck blockade was broken up by Indiana state police December 6.

The price gouging is aimed is aimed especially at the brokers, who own and operate their own rigs. A driver for a major trucker reported that he paid 37.9 cents a gallon at an Indiana truck stop, and the broker next up at the pumps was charged 58 cents a gallon.

Strikes Hit

BY NANCY RUSSELL
MADISON, Wisc.—Meat cutters across the Midwest are on strike at Packerland Packing, M.G. Packing, Parrot Packing, Krey Packing and Marhoffer of Indiana.

Workers at the Oscar Meyer plant in Madison, Wisconsin, are forced to work up to ten hours a day because the Los Angeles

Oscar Meyer, Iowa Beef Plants

plant has been shut by a strike. At Iowa Beef Processing, the world's largest beef slaughterhouse and processing plant, workers are still locked out in a bitter struggle that began last July.

Marhoffer workers in Indiana have not had a strike in 25 years but walked out October 13 when the company only offered a 60 cents increase over three years

and a 5 percent ceiling on the cost of living.

The situation at Iowa Beef reveals the conditions the big packing houses want to impose in all the plants. Iowa Beef pays six to eight cents an hour less in its non-union plants. Scabs have been ushered in to run the plant during the lockout.

This pattern will be followed by Swift Company at the new \$12

million packing plant being built in Des Moines, Iowa.

According to the recently negotiated contract of the meat cutters, the six month cost of living increase is due January 1.

But at the November meeting of the National Packinghouse Bargaining Committee in Chicago, all the AMCBWA leadership proposed was to send 1000 people to picket the Cost of Living Council in Washington.

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Footnotes Against Trotsky Revisited

by Tim Wohlforth

PART TWO

Naomi Allen of the Pathfinder staff disagrees with what we have to say about the 1932 factional dispute between Cannon and Shachtman. In *Intercontinental Press*, she simply baldly asserts:

"Trotsky, who did not hesitate to pin responsibility for political errors, and who did so unspairingly when he felt the situation called for it, attributed the dispute instead to the objective difficulties faced by the American Group."

Precisely because he felt the problems of the party had this objective basis he opposed Cannon's organizational methods in handling them. He stated quite "unsparingly": "It also seemed to me that the majority, as the leading faction in the central committee, showed a certain impatience and attempted to apply organizational measures which, without giving permanent results, could not help but sharpen the conflict."

However, Allen is correct on one point in this part of her article. It was clearly Trotsky's position that there were no principle issues involved in the dispute and thus one could not really choose sides in it. It reflected difficulties due to the isolation of the movement and its immaturity, difficulties only exacerbated by organizational methods.

Having made this correct point, she then proceeds to defend Cannon's incorrect point made nine years after the fact that there were "great political issues implicit" in this dispute. She even suggests that our difference with Cannon on this point stems from a Shachtmanite past.

Class Trends

To accept this position of Cannon's would be to deny dialectics, to see the American Trotskyist movement mechanically as composed of simply two class trends each based on the class backgrounds of the individuals in the party. Theoretical struggle within such a party would therefore be unnecessary. It would be a waste of time in relation to the middle class elements who would betray anyway and unneeded in relation to the working class elements who could not help but do the right thing.

The great damage of such a position is that it leads to neglecting the theoretical development of the working class cadres of the party. It was precisely this

neglect which Trotsky pointed out in his discussions with the SWP leadership in 1940 and which Cannon himself had to admit in 1953 in relation to the Cochran faction.

Finally, Naomi Allen ends her article with the weirdest contortions to justify running a virtually full page footnote quoting Isaac Deutscher's criticism of Trotsky for being too harsh in his judgment of a group of Polish leaders who capitulated to Stalin.

We are told that after all James Burnham's writings appear in an appendix of *In Defense of Marxism* and Andres Nin's letters are included along with Trotsky's letter to Nin in *Spanish Revolution*.

In both of these contexts, there can be no question exactly where Trotsky stood. In the context of this particular footnote, the editors, purportedly supporters of Trotsky, do not disagree with Deutscher in any way. They do not even point out to the reader that Deutscher opposed the formation of the Fourth International and that his major writings in the latter part of his life were devoted to justifying this position.

This point is made even clearer if we follow up the reference made at the bottom of this footnote to another footnote which appears in *Writings 1934-35* on the question of Pilsudski and fascism.

This footnote quotes Deutscher's criticism of Trotsky on this point and then proceeds to answer Deutscher and defend Trotsky's view. Why do not the editors defend Trotsky's view in the 1932-33 footnote? It could only be that they are sympathetic with Deutscher precisely on Deutscher's softness toward those who capitulate to Stalinism.

We continue to applaud the efforts of Pathfinder in publishing Trotsky's writings and in fact our movement is among the largest distributors of these writings. We throw no mud, as Allen imputes, on this work which is rooted in the past of the SWP. But we cannot allow mud to be slung on any aspect of the history of the Fourth International.

This history is now present. We face precisely these questions in constructing a movement which develops Marxists, which educates all its members in dialectical thinking as it turns into the working class under conditions of sharpening international crisis.

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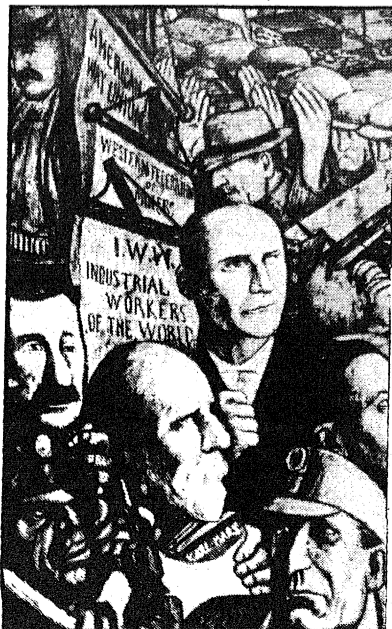
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The strike of California meat cutters is having a tremendous impact in hurting sales at major food chains.

Kaiser Provokes Strikers

BY TED BAKER

SAN FRANCISCO—The strike by more than 5000 hospital workers at 14 Kaiser Hospitals and clinics in northern California has successfully forced Kaiser to drastically reduce all major services.

The strike of Hospital Workers Local 250 is part of the growing wave of strikes in the Bay Area in defiance of Nixon's 5.5 percent wage guidelines.

The union is demanding a one year contract with a wage

increase of 8.2 percent.

Spokesmen for the highly profitable Kaiser Foundation have now admitted that they have been forced to cut all out-patient service and clinics to the bare minimum.

Only emergency cases are being accepted to hospital wards, while all patients currently in Kaiser are having their cases reviewed for possible transfer to other hospitals.

SCAB

Police have been present in large numbers at every hospital

to escort scab deliveries through union picket lines. In Oakland, ambulances are being used to make deliveries, and trucks driven to locations near the hospital are actually being driven across the picket lines by police.

One picket described the situation to the *Bulletin*: "I have never seen anything like it in my life. There must not be any police left in case someone robs a store, because they are all down here."

"They even have the nerve to drive the trucks across our lines, and when one of us asked him to stop because he is being paid with our taxes, all he said was: 'I am the law, not you.' And these are the same people who are always complaining because they get shot at too much in Oakland."

In addition to their use of police against strikers, Kaiser has now announced that it will not pay for medical treatment of members of the Kaiser plan who are forced to obtain treatment in other medical facilities because of the strike.

The vast majority of Kaiser plan members are workers enrolled in the plan through their trade unions.

Negotiations are scheduled to reopen Tuesday, but most pickets who spoke to the *Bulletin* feel that Kaiser is intent on provoking a long strike.

Bulletin Salesman Arrested At School

BY DENNIS BREHM

LOS ANGELES—A member of the LA Workers League was arrested on Tuesday, December 11 by officials for trespassing at Jordan High School in Watts while selling the *Young Socialist* newspaper.

Shortly before 9 am, security guards at the school approached three members of the *Young Socialists* and told them to step inside the administration building. Within 15 minutes the LA Police Department had arrived.

They refused to arrest the Workers League member because they were not there at the time of the incident. One of the school officials filed a citizens arrest, charging her with trespassing.

"You mean we are just like criminals?" asked Ava, a new member of the Watts YS who was selling the newspaper.

"We were just selling papers on the sidewalk, not disturbing any classes or anything."

The other two members were released on a warning, but the Workers League member was booked and jailed in the Civil Brands Institute in East LA after being handcuffed and escorted to the squad car.

The arrest takes place after months of continual harassment of YS members which has been

stepped up considerably since the start of the twice-weekly *Bulletin*.

Last week after the *Bulletin* and *Young Socialist* received enthusiastic support at the Compton teachers strike, a red-baiting campaign was launched against YS and Workers League members by the leadership of the Compton Education Association and Compton Federation of Teachers.

The Workers League member was finally released Tuesday evening on \$500 bail.

Staff Walks Out At Watts Hospital

SAN FRANCISCO—The entire staff walked off the job at Manchester Community Hospital in Watts Friday, demanding back pay and decent working conditions.

The wildcat was successful in shutting down the nonunion hospital within hours, bringing two law suits against the owners to remove their license.

REFUSED

"We haven't been paid in four weeks," one worker said. "My last check was October 25. The management has refused to meet with us and now he thinks he can call the police."

"We are going to eat and sleep. He cannot get anyone to walk through that door and replace us."

Wages at the hospital have

been at least 75 percent below union scale. Yet Manchester charges some of the highest rates in Watts. The facilities are the worst in the city. Workers receive no benefits and pay-checks are never on time.

CHECK

One nurse told the *Bulletin*: "If you are not the first 10 or 12 to get to the bank, you cannot even cash your check. Their funds run out."

The anger of the staff was expressed by one worker who said: "To work eight hours a day for a whole week and then not be able to collect pay is like living in Germany under Hitler."

"You could take everyday people off the streets and put them in the White House and they would do better than Nixon. A labor party is just what we need to do."



Over 300 striking carpenters and supporters from Sears strike demonstrate in front of San Francisco Federal Building.

Carpenters Wildcat Snowballs

BY TIM NELSON
SAN FRANCISCO—Northern California carpenters continue to spread a wildcat strike against the Cost of Living Council.

Fresh forces have joined the strike in Sonoma, Santa Rosa, and the San Joaquin Valley. Strikers in Eureka, Sacramento, Stockton, and the Bay Area are battling to close all the Associated General Contractors before moving on the home builders and smaller contractors. Already one billion dollars is idle.

Friday, December 7, Federal Court Judge Burke issued an injunction declaring every striker a criminal. The decision was based on the first "order" ever issued by the Cost of Living Council.

"Nixon has no right to take our money," said a carpenter from

Local 1158 in Berkeley.

"This never should have occurred. We should have gone out in July.

OFFICIALS

"Where are our union officials? \$28,000 a year and what do they do for you? Nothing. We should get rid of them right up to Sidell."

Joe O'Sullivan, chairman of

Magee Retrial Due In January

SAN JOSE—The retrial of Ruchell Magee has been set for January 4 by Santa Clara Superior Judge William Ingram.

Magee is being tried on kidnap charges from the August 7, 1970 Marin County Courthouse shootout. His last trial ended in a hung jury. Magee's lawyer, Robert Carrow has been allowed to withdraw from the case and Magee has 10 days to find a new attorney.

the Bay Counties Council of Carpenters has refused to assemble the 46 counties council to sanction the strike.

One picket reported seeing the chairman peeking from a passing taxi at a downtown site.

Already the carpenters have rallied great strength in the labor movement. Monday, December 10, three pickets were sent to the General Motors plant in Fremont. They were sent to pull carpenters off the \$10 million addition. Stationed at the front gate, they turned back Teamsters hauling essential parts for car assembly, crippling production. Over 2000 auto workers went home.

Many other building tradesmen, engineers, and cement truck drivers have honored picket lines throughout the state.

The Trade Union Alliance for a Labor Party has led the fight against O'Sullivan to carry this movement forward with strike sanction.

O'Sullivan's radical supporters in the strike committee

put forward a motion to expell a supporter of the TUALP. It passed, but was reversed by unanimous vote two days later.

WARNING

Strikers must take sharp warning from Governor Reagan's preparations to use the National Guard against the truckers in L.A. Any compromise would leave pickets open to the most vicious

reprisals.

The Trade Union Alliance for a Labor Party is fighting for these demands: full 65 cents; immediate strike sanction to shut down all northern California construction; a mass demonstration of labor demanding Nixon's resignation and calling for a Congress of Labor to take action to force him out and build a labor party.

Carpenters Shut Down Fremont GM Plant

BY A BULLETIN REPORTER

FREMONT—The entire day shift at the General Motors plant in Fremont was sent home early on Monday when two carpenters, part of the northern California wildcat against the Construction Industry Stabilization Committee, set up picket signs at the entrance gate.

The carpenters had been working on an addition to the rear of the plant, but walked off to join the growing wildcat.

Teamsters respected the picket line and refused to make deliveries to the plant, even

though the signs did not say AFL-CIO, because the strike is unsanctioned.

The pickets came after the shift started, but the cutoff brought production to a very quick halt since they were to make deliveries of rush shortages of materials. Management was forced to send the men home.

News of the pickets spread like wildfire throughout the plant. The men, who were just forced by Woodcock to accept the worst contract in UAW history, were jubilant that they could strike back at GM and support the carpenters.

The same day that the Teamsters supported the unofficial strike of the carpenters by refusing to cross the picket line at GM, Teamster truck drivers shut down Route 580 near Tracy, California in protest against Nixon's cuts in fuel and his speed limitations.

Butchers Leaders Obey Order To Halt Supermarket Pickets

BY BARRY GREY
SAN FRANCISCO—Negotiators for striking butchers have agreed to pull their pickets and allow eight smaller supermarket chains to reopen their 53 stores in the Bay Area, except for the meat departments.

All major supermarket chains locked out their butchers last Wednesday in retaliation for a strike by the Amalgamated Meat Cutters against Lucky's and Safeway in northern California.

The Food Employers Council, which represents the food chains, also locked out union members in southern California. There the butchers struck with Teamsters, operating engineers, and machinists in the food industry. Statewide, the strike-lock-out idled nearly 100,000 workers.

A court order has banned mass picketing and imposed a limit of two pickets to an entrance. Pickets from Local 120 of the meat cutters at the Lucky's warehouse in San Leandro were bitter over the leadership's decision to allow some stores to reopen.

At one point, six police cars were brought in to escort a scab truck out of the warehouse

parking lot.

Pickets at the Cala store in the Mission District of San Francisco all agreed the union should stay out until all its demands were won. The major demand is a ban on the use of centralized warehouses for cutting and wrapping the meat sold in the markets.

The food chains want to institute this in order to wipe out jobs and destroy seniority and pension rights of retail butchers and wrappers. The other major demand is for an unlimited cost of living escalator.

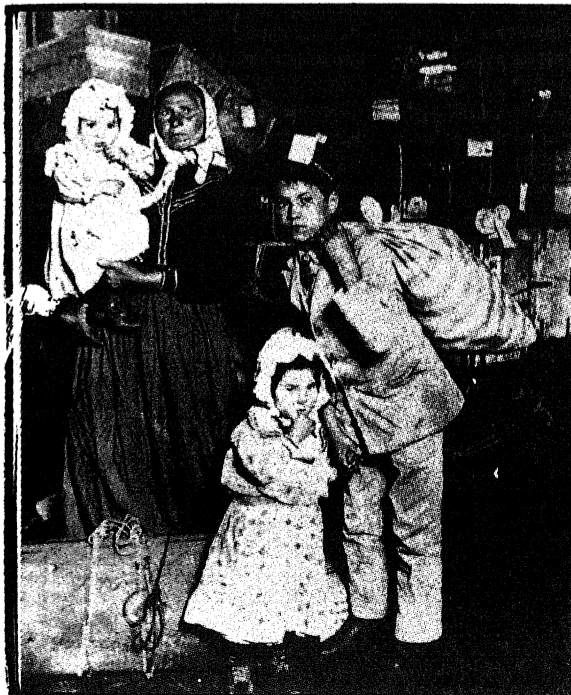
Pickets interviewed by the Bulletin said the word was the strike was on the verge of being settled. Only the cost of living clause was standing in the way.

However, the vicious stance taken by the Food Employers Council indicates they are prepared for a long struggle. This same industry group led a union-busting drive against Teamster soft-drink drivers who struck the Bay Area two years ago.

Last Saturday, a full page ad by the Food Employers Council appeared in the Oakland Tribune. The ad appealed to consumers to break the strike. In huge letters it read: "Help Us

Fight Inflation. Shop Where The Pickets Are."

The butchers have won complete support from the clerks and Teamsters, who have refused to cross their picket lines. The supermarkets are being badly hurt by the strike and smaller chains are weakening.



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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: Lucia Rivera, c/o Labor Publications, 135 West 14th St., New York, N.Y. 10011

lucha obrera

—lucía rivera—

Desempleo Masivo En Auto

Los planes del gobierno de desempleo masivo ya se están sintiendo con gran impacto en las industrias básicas del país en particular en la industria del auto.

Miles de trabajadores han sido temporalmente despedidos en las últimas semanas esperándose que otros cientos de miles más peirdan sus trabajos durante las fiestas navideñas.

El liderato de la unión de auto, Leonard Woodcock, ha hecho claro que no tiene ningún plan para defender el derecho de sus miembros en conservar sus empleos.

Fue el mismo Woodcock el que aceptó el corte en los salarios de los trabajadores de auto al acatar un tres por ciento de aumento en el nuevo contrato, cuando la inflación a la que se enfrentan los trabajadores es cuatro veces más alta del llamado "aumento." También rehusó luchar en contra del sobretiempo obligatorio y defender la garantía de empleo.

El liderato de las uniones esta con Nixon y el gobierno frente a estos ataques. En esta época donde la demanda más mínima es transformada en una cuestión política y en abierto desafío a las medidas del gobierno, el liderato de las uniones tratan de mantener la colaboración con el gobierno.

Las uniones que nacieron a través de sangrientas luchas en contra del estado y las grandes compañías durante los décadas de los treinta y cuarentas, fueron estas mismas luchas las que hicieron posible que obtuvieramos los derechos democráticos, un trabajo, una educación decente, que hoy estan amenazados.

Pero hoy estas luchas militantes no son suficientes para defender esos mismos derechos. El gobierno no puede otorgar ni la más mínima demanda salarial ni proveernos de nuestras necesidades básicas.

Esto es demostrado claramente cuando el gobierno ha vaticinado que millones estarán desempleados en los próximos meses. Woodcock en vez de luchar en contra de estos planes movilizandolos a su membresía y la gran fortaleza del movimiento laboral en este país, se ha unido con otros burócratas sindicales en su apoyo al recién nominado vicepresidente Gerald Ford.

Los obreros hispanos dentro de la industria automotriz, han sido uno de los sectores más afectados por el cierre de las plantas. Por ser uno de los sectores relativamente joven en la industria del auto, son los primeros en ser despedidos.

En la planta de Tarrytown en el Bronx en su gran mayoría son trabajadores hispanos, esta planta será cerrada el diecisiete del presente mes lo cual significa que de no ser abierta nuevamente antes del 21 de diciembre perderan su bono de navidad.

Esta es la situación a la que se enfrentan a través del todo el país los trabajadores de auto. En Chicago la semana pasada más de 3400 mil obreros fueron despedidos temporalmente al caracer la compañía de las piezas necesarias para la producción de dos modelos de autos. Estas piezas son producidas en Canadá donde las plantas de Ford se hallan cerradas a causa de una huelga en contra de estos mismos ataques.

Detroit que es la cuna de la industria del auto se espera que sea la más afectada por estos despidos. Más de medio millón de trabajadores solamente en este estado serán despedidos a causa del cierre de las plantas tanto directa como indirectamente.

Frente a los ataques del gobierno los trabajadores del auto han echo claro que no han de aceptar que sus condiciones de vida sean destruidas por la crisis a la que se enfrenta el gobierno.

La lucha de los obreros del auto en contra de las medidas del gobierno es central, y señalaría el principio de la movilización masiva del movimiento laboral en defensa de sus derechos.

Pero esta lucha requiere más que militancia sindical, requiere como nunca antes la construcción de un liderato revolucionario en la UAW (Unión de Trabajadores del Auto). Esto significa una lucha obierta en contra de el liderato de la unión y en contra de todas aquellas tendencias, como el Partido Comunista y los nacionalistas que han apoyado a Woodcock y la negativa de este de romper con el Partido Demócrata y que ahora lo lleva a apoyar abiertamente a Ford, uno de los más viciosos anti-obreros.

Esta lucha tiene que ser conducida basandose en la construcción de un partido obrero que una a todos los sectores de trabajadores en contra de los ataques del gobierno. El Partido Demócrata ha presentado su real cara al unirse con Nixon y los republicanos en atacar a la clase obrera.

Esta es la lucha que solo la Liga Obrera lleva en la industria automotriz. Fuimos nosotros el único partido que llevo una lucha en contra del contrato firmado por Woodcock con la explícita aprobación de Nixon.

La Alianza de Trabajadores por un Partido Obrero, brazo sindical de la Liga Obrera, es la única alternativa en la industria del auto. Es necesario que todo trabajador se una a esta lucha en contra de las medidas de desempleo masivo por parte del gobierno.

La Conferencia Regional de la Juventud Socialista, brazo juvenil de la Liga Obrera, a celebrarse el sábado 15 de diciembre es un paso de gran magnitud en la preparación de este liderato. Es solo la lucha de la clase obrera y la juventud la que puede ponerle fin a los ataques de Nixon y defender los derechos democráticos.

US Rearms Israel For New Attack

BY MELODY FARROW

As December 18 approaches, the day the Geneva Mideast conference is due to open, it becomes more and more apparent that this conference will either not take place or will break down the first day.

The Israeli government has deliberately obstructed any resumption of the negotiations that Egypt walked out on two weeks ago.

Defense Minister Moshe Dayan's arrogant posturing is an open provocation against the Arab countries. Israel has refused to withdraw any troops from the Sinai peninsula or recognize its military defeat.

Dayan told an Egyptian general that "The Egyptian Third Army was broken and is kept alive by our mercy."

Now Dayan claims Syria must furnish a list of war prisoners or Israel will not deal with Syria at the Geneva conference and is charging that many Israeli pri-

soners were tortured to death.

This is a desperate attempt by the Israeli government to justify the far higher rate of casualties than was originally reported. Demonstrations have taken place outside the Israeli parliament by grief stricken relatives who discovered that their "missing" sons were actually dead.

HARD LINE

Israel's hard line expresses the real position of the United States and Henry Kissinger who has just arrived for his second tour of the Arab countries.

Newsweek reports that it has discovered that it was Kissinger who blocked a tentative agreement between Israel and Egypt on thinning out troops on either side of the Canal and instructed Israel to wait until the Geneva meeting.

Behind Kissinger's diplomatic maneuvers, Israel and the United States are conspiring to find a way to provoke Egypt and Syria into a new war.

On his trip to the US, Dayan discussed a \$3 billion order for new military equipment with

Defense Minister James Schlesinger. The House of Representatives has just approved the \$2.2 billion in military aid requested by Nixon to replace what was destroyed during the war.

Dayan is eager to acquire the US Lance surface to face missiles that have a range of 300 miles and can carry a nuclear warhead.

The Arab countries do not intend to capitulate to Dayan's war mongering. The recent meeting of the Arab oil ministers in Kuwait announced a further 5 percent cutback in oil shipments to Japan and eight countries in the European Common Market, to go into effect in January.

The Zionist government of Golda Meir is facing the biggest crisis in its history. The burden for the cost of new arms will be placed on the backs of Israeli workers who are already being hit by big taxes and price increases. The ruling Labor Party is split with one faction urging some withdrawal and a right-wing military group challenging Meir in the upcoming elections.



Canadian Firestone rubber workers demonstrate in Montreal against Nixon's trade war policies, which mean massive unemployment in Canada.

TRUCK DRIVERS . . .

(Continued From Page 1)

Police reported several trucks with shattered windshields, side windows and sidings.

Shortly before 6 am today, tractor-trailers driving on Meridian Road within the city limits were hit with shells fired from two overpasses.

No arrests have been made, and police stated that they were unable to identify anyone involved in the shootings.

Similar incidents have been re-

ported throughout the country as the strike builds up.

More than 350 trucks are bottled up at a station near New Stanton, Pennsylvania, as drivers have stopped most commercial traffic on that connection between the Pennsylvania Turnpike and Interstate 70.

There have been reports of shotgun blasts in that area.

In the vicinity of Highspire and Washington, both in Pennsylvania, police patrol cars have been instructed to "use caution" when traveling through underpasses because truckers have

been dropping boulders from these vantage points onto the highway throughout the early morning hours.

SUPREME COURT . . .

(Continued From Page 1)

now face jail terms and heavy fines following their arrest on a picket line.

In cities like Cleveland and Detroit, the police have mounted an unprecedented campaign against workers and youth through the use of illegal seizures and entries.

Combined with the infamous "no-knock" law, the Supreme Court has now given the police the legal basis to attack even the most basic personal liberties.

Nixon has told the police that they can ransack workers' homes and search through their clothing while he has refused to allow prosecutors to investigate his papers and tapes even in the face of numerous court orders.

This latest attack on democratic rights underscores the urgency of a campaign to bring down the Nixon government through industrial action by the trade unions and the construction of a labor party.



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