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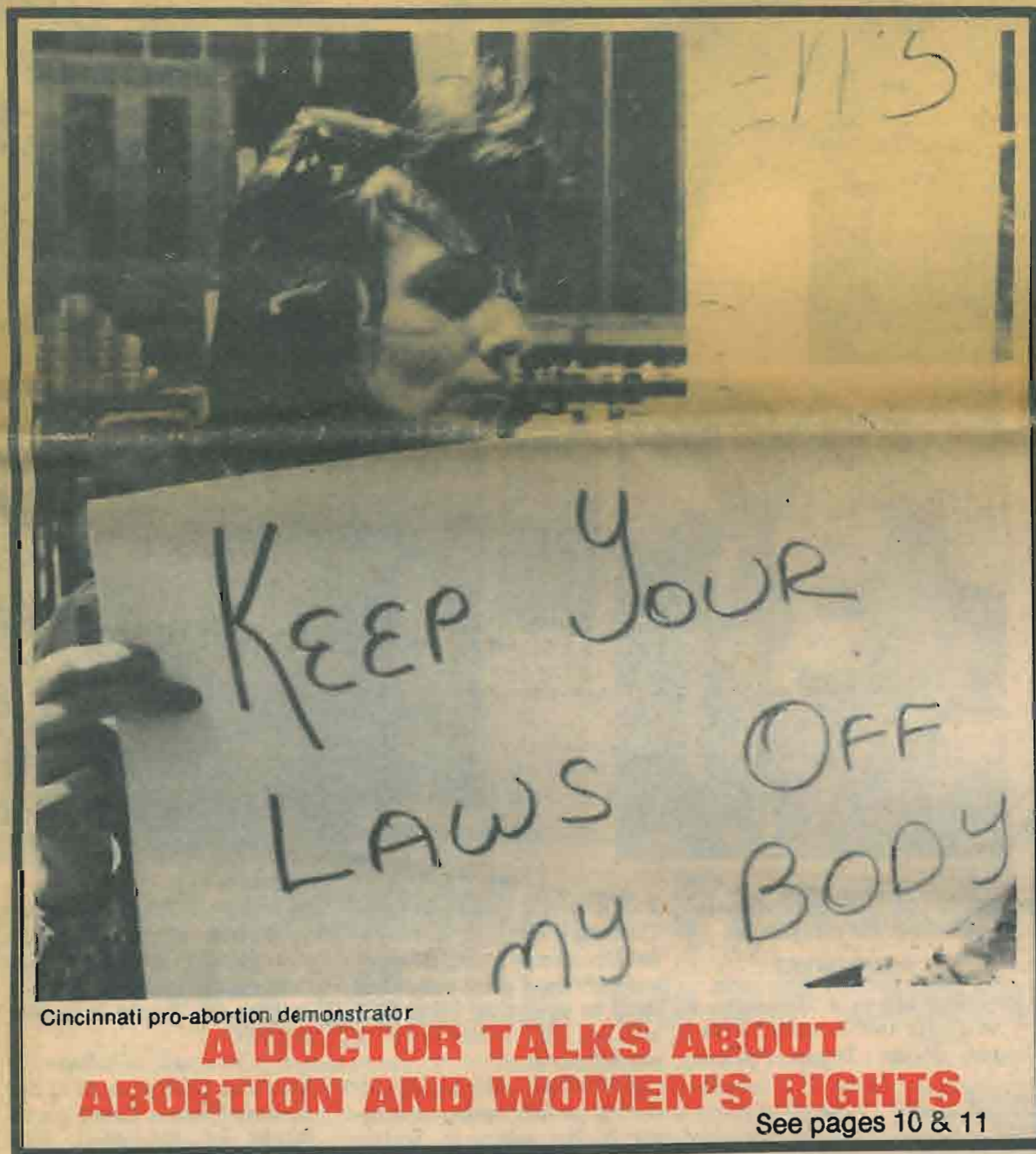
WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE MINERS

See pages 14 & 15

SEPTEMBER 1978

NUMBER 17

THE REAL CRIME AGAINST WOMEN



Cincinnati pro-abortion demonstrator

A DOCTOR TALKS ABOUT ABORTION AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS

See pages 10 & 11

Victim of desperation abortion arrested

BOWLING GREEN, KY—Marla Pitchford, a 22 year old psychology major at Western Kentucky University, faces a sentence of 10 to 20 years in jail. She is accused of performing an abortion on herself with a knitting needle. This is one of the first cases in this country in which a woman has been charged with inducing an abortion without the help of a doctor.

Marla Pitchford attempted to end her 5 month pregnancy June 9. After severe bleeding she went to the Bowling Green-Warren County Hospital. Dr. Roy Slezak treated her and in the process completed her abortion.

He then preserved the fetus as evidence she committed manslaughter and immediately called the police.

CHARGED

5 days later, a grand jury indicted Pitchford on charges of manslaughter and performing an illegal abortion.

The manslaughter charge was dropped the following week when Circuit Judge J. David Francis ruled that no court has established that a fetus is legally a person.

But Marla Pitchford still faces 20 years in prison on the abortion charge.

Bowling Green and surrounding Warren County have no facilities which perform abortions. Clearly Bowling Green residents, including Dr. Slezak, intend to see that no abortions are performed under any circumstances.

Anti-abortionists must make this a test case.

Unfortunately, however, Pitchford's lawyer intends to base the defense on temporary insanity, thereby avoiding a direct challenge to state law. The defense also intends to argue that the 10-20 year sentence would constitute cruel and unusual punishment.

But this case may well set a nation-wide precedent for cases involving women who perform their own abortions. The ACLU and several women's rights organizations, such as NOW, have already contributed to Pitchford's defense.

The trial begins August 28. Marla Pitchford did attempt to perform an abortion on herself. But she is not guilty of any crime. The crime is that this society forces women to use knitting needles, it forces women to go to back street butchers.

It will continue to—until women have the right to choose free, safe and legal abortions.

by CHRISTINA BERGMARK

OSHA: "IT'S ALL IN THE HEAD"

HUNTINGTON, W. VA.—The Perry-Norville Company here makes shoes. 400 workers take rawhide and turn it into shoes. Two thirds are women.

In November, 1977, 77 workers passed out in the plant in a three day period—48 in a single day.

DRAG

"We had to drag each other out of the plant," said Lois Blake, the secretary of Retail Clerks union 613. "The company wouldn't help."

"We called the police. Two cops and one ambulance driver passed out too. One cop couldn't work for two days."

Now an OSHA (Occupational Health and Safety Administration) has blamed it all on "assembly line hysteria." In a report which took seven months to complete, OSHA says the fainting and nausea were caused by "hyperventilation and overly fast breathing stemming from fear."

Incredibly, OSHA also reports that "the sickness was most severe in workers most dissatisfied with their jobs."

Now there is reason for being dissatisfied. The plant has no windows. The ventilation is terrible. A year ago, 99 workers

walked out when it broke down. But arbitrators said the walkout was unjustified.

The basic wage at Perry-Norville is \$2.64 an hour. One woman with twelve years in the plant gets \$3.80.

"Then in July they even took the pay phones out of the building," Blake told Socialist Worker. "We walked out again." The company fired eleven

workers, including all the officers of the union.

OSHA, it should be said, is not entirely unsympathetic. Dr. Mitchell Singal, who called the problem a "psychogenic illness," said "the symptoms are real, they actually do have headaches and nausea."

So OSHA recommended improving the ventilation and covering the firepots!

But why—isn't it just "psychogenic?"

August 6, 1945: We'll never forget

Mural by Mr. and Mrs. Iri Maruki

"THIS WAS NO ORDINARY BOMB"

Seventy-eight thousand people are known to have been killed by the bomb. Estimates go as high as two hundred thousand or more.

Those closest to the hypocenter (above which the bomb exploded) were incinerated on the spot by the extreme heat, or perished in the flames that tore through the streets.

Many others, within a mile and a half radius of the blast, succumbed shortly afterwards from flash burns and the intense dosage of radiation.

The survivors soon realized that this was no ordinary bomb.

Within hours or days after exposure, even those who were seemingly uninjured, developed strange symptoms. At first there was nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, fever, then purple spots on various parts of the body. Blood issued from the gums, throat, rectum and urinary tract. Their hair began to fall out, and their white blood cell count dropped. For many their was gradual weakening until death.

Within an instant the bomb destroyed sixty thousand houses in a three-mile radius. The flimsy wooden structures burned in a fury of the firewind that swept through them. Only the few buildings reinforced with concrete stood like spectres in the atomic wasteland.

There was a rumor that trees and flowers would never grow again in Hiroshima. That everyone who had been exposed to the bomb would be dead within three years. And that for seventy-five years no one could live there.

Today we are making bombs of more than a thousand times the strength of the Hiroshima bomb.



Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the names of these two Japanese cities have become the symbols of military atrocity ever since 1945 when the US destroyed them with atom bombs.

This year, Hiroshima Day on August 6 saw 40,000 people gathered inside Hiroshima's Peace Park in commemoration of the civilians who died so that the United States could show the world the meaning of the atomic age. This year, in the US, thousands joined them in a series of protests, rallies and illegal occupations as the movements against nuclear power and atomic weapons remembered the bomb's first victims.

The largest demonstration occurred just outside San Luis

Obispo as 5,000 rallied to protest the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant. As well as being the biggest this demonstration was the most militant. 500 members of the Abalone Alliance scaled fences or landed on the reactor site by boat and were arrested.

The next day, August 7, an additional 60 were arrested for blocking the power plant's gate. Most of those arrested refused to post bail. The resulting chaos for the courts caused the local judge to evict many of the occupiers from jail.

At the Seal Beach Naval Weapon Station (south of Long Beach) 1500 demonstrated against the storage of nuclear warheads. The Orange County site lies close to a seismic fault, which could



A survivor

generate an earthquake caused nuclear disaster.

NORTHWEST

Four days of occupations saw over two hundred arrested at the Trojan Nuclear



A ruin

Reactor site in Ranier Oregon. The supporters of the Trojan Decommissioning Alliance are fighting a plant which has been in operation since 1975 and lies only a mile from an earthquake fault.

In Portland, a thousand rallied to protest nukes on August 5. No nukers in Seattle staged a "die in" downtown involving 100 people on August 9.

CHICAGO

The Bailey Alliance linked the issue of nuclear weapons to the struggle in South Africa. The rally and march pointed out that the Israelis were supplying nuclear technology to the racist regime of South Africa that could be used against the black majority. The route of the 100 strong march included the South African embassy. Additional activities included a "die in" at the monument to the first nuclear reactor on the University of Chicago campus.

Activists in Cleveland held a "die in" of 100 downtown on Saturday August 5, followed

by a rally of 300 the next day at the site of the Perry Nuclear Reactor. Included in the rally was the presentation of petition to power comparison officials.

In Cincinnati, a balloon rally involving 120 happened at the Zimmer Nuclear Power plant. In spite of the rain, 100 helium balloons were released bearing cards stating that the finder would be radioactive had there been an accident.

EAST

In New York, 200 demonstrators marched on Westchester's Indian Point power plant to the city's Riverside Research Institute where a rally was held on the ninth.

On Manhattan's east side 500 marched in the evening with candles to a rally outside the UN.

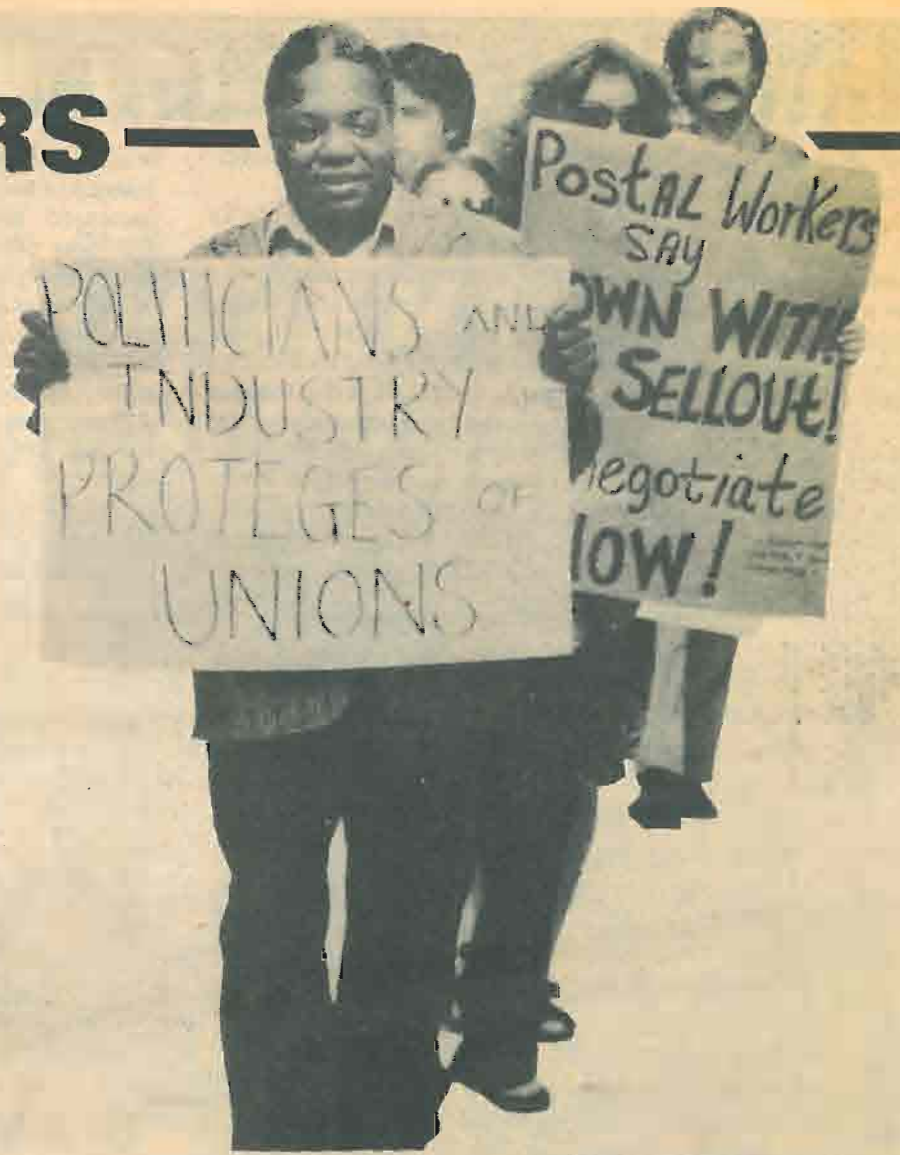
In New England, the Clamshell Alliance sponsored series of small local no-nuke rallies across several states. A week later, when the Seabrook Plant resumed construction several were arrested trying to block the reopening.



Anti-nuclear power demonstrators in Cincinnati

POSTAL-WORKERS

The first victims of "wage restraint"



The first victims of Jimmy Carter's "wage restraint" policies are the postal workers.

The contract which is being voted on is no better than junk mail, yet it stands a good chance of passing because of the bureaucratic maneuvering of postal union officials.

CONTRACT

This contract is so bad that even George Meany said that it was too low and encouraged rejection. Wages will increase 2%, 3% and 5% over the next three years. Cost of living adjustments are limited so that the most postal workers can expect is 19½%.

Inflation is currently above 11% annually. The postal contract means a wage cut.

George Meany's remarks about the postal contract did not fall on deaf ears. Jimmy Carter was reported to be "absolutely livid." Carter's

whole policy boils down to keeping wages below the rate of inflation and using the drop in workers' real income to cool off the economy and provide profits for business to invest.

After the defeat the miners handed Carter, Jimmy badly needs a victory in the postal contract to encourage "wage restraint" when the big contracts come up next year.

BUREAUCRATS

Comment on Meany's statement didn't stop at the White House. Emmet Andrews, president of the American Postal Workers Union, suggested that Meany "had his glasses on backwards when he read the contract."

Andrews can't blame this contract on Meany's glasses, he and the other postal union bureaucrats are responsible for it.

Before the contract expired on July 20th the bureaucrats made a brave show. "No

contract, no work, and no extension," they said. But when the hour struck they stopped the clock and minutes later agreed to the tentative settlement.

STRIKE

If the sellout had stopped at this point, there was still a chance for a strike and a good contract. Rank and file postal workers wildcatted in New Jersey and San Francisco closing down the bulk mail centers. But the strike failed to spread because many of the

postal workers were looking to another bureaucrat, Moe Biller head of the New York APWU.

Biller's response to the wildcat was to call an executive board meeting. The meeting did not sanction a strike but voted to have a vote of the membership. Thursday, Friday then Monday the vote was put off. During the week the New Jersey and San Francisco strikes were broken. The Feds came into New York with a

court injunction and Moe Biller caved in.

Union bureaucrats from George Meany to Moe Biller say different things at different times as it suits their interests. Rarely do the interests of the bureaucrats match those of the ranks.

Meany doesn't care about the postal contract. Meany opened his mouth because he is mad at Carter for the way the Democrats in Congress have treated the labor law reforms which would have made it easier for the bureaucracy to organize.

Moe Biller said, "Vote yes to strike!" but when the crunch came, Biller didn't even have the courage to hold the vote.

You cannot rely on the bureaucrats. The miners learned this and were able to do what the postal workers didn't—organize on a rank and file level and fight in their own interest. □

Socialist Worker

WHAT WE THINK

Douglas Fraser uncovers "a class war against labor"

Fraser said it. Douglas Fraser, President of the UAW, spoke of management carrying on a "class struggle against labor." He further stated that the Carter Administration's Labor Management Group served no useful purpose.

Fraser is right. Management has been carrying on a class struggle against the workers on the shop floor for the past 30 years. Fraser and other UAW leaders have given support to management's attack on the working conditions

and production standards.

Fraser is wrong when he says that the Labor-Management Group serves no useful purpose. It serves the interests of the employers. It acts as a smokescreen to cover up the employers attack on the workers.

Fraser's failure to offer any solution to this problem is an admission of the bankruptcy of the leadership of the UAW. □

By JOHN ANDERSON

Cleveland's Kucinich hangs on

Dennis Kucinich calls himself "the people's" mayor. And by some 200 votes out of 150,000 cast "the people" have kept him—the nation's youngest mayor.

But hearing Kucinich appeal to "the people" is about like listening to the Supreme Court sing "We Shall Overcome." Dennis Kucinich is nothing more than a small-time ward-healer, a right wing Democrat who

made his way up in the racist politics of Cleveland's West Side.

His administration is mostly loud talk and pretention. He surrounded himself with arrogant nobody's: his Law Director is best known because his father, Milt Shulman, leads the antibusing forces. He said busing in Cleveland would mean bringing "14 year old whores" into the West Side schools.

Kucinich's top dog is Bob Weissman, a UAW bureaucrat who served Republican Mayor Ralph Perk in the preceding administration. Weissman will tell you in private (very private) that he likes radicals, but the Plain Dealer newspaper recently discovered that he was an FBI informer in the 1950's.

So there's nothing progressive about the people's mayor, and he's in mainly because no

one else wants to be the mayor of Cleveland.

Cleveland is a dirty old city going broke. It's filled with empty houses and abandoned factories. But it's no joke. Not at all. It's an indictment of a system which lets its industrial centers decay, which leaves its tools idle, forces millions out of work, all while the majority in the world go without. □

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Hawaii: agricultural workers fight back

Paradise too has classes, it seems. 20 miles over the mountains from exotic Honolulu, the high Hawaiian surf pounds the beaches of Waikeane where 600 smallholders, agricultural workers and unemployed tenants are being kicked off the land they live on.

Prime agricultural land, it used to belong to Elizabeth Marks (she inherited it from her father, a plantation manager) till she decided to sell

out to a condominium developer.

The only hitch, which Marks didn't take too seriously, was the tenants who, under the surviving system of feudal land-holding in Hawaii, can only lease the land from major land owners. But the tenants took the hitch seriously. First they tried the courts but, alas, property rights prevailed over the ancestral home.

Marks became impatient for evictions and so made the

leases renewable monthly instead of annually. Then she increased the rents by as much as 300% in one year. All perfectly legal of course.

The tenants refused to pay rent increases and organized a defense committee. The state upheld the eviction orders, so when police began moving up the valley one night, the residents barricaded the road and kept them out.

To prevent the spectre of

real class struggle, which also promised to be bloody, the state bought the land. Delighted, Marks retired to her other 200 acres, \$6 million richer.

The state now wants to develop the land; they have tentative plans to build several hundred houses, each with two acres of land and a six-figure price tag. But the state also wants to keep things peaceful.

"It can't have it both

ways," says Guy Nakamoto, leader of the defense association. "We have people here who've been in their homes for 80 years, and others who've been relocated 5 or 6 times from other development schemes. We're not moving any more. Property laws or not, we'll put the barricades up as often as we have to."

by NEIL SMITH



By Any Means Necessary

BLACK POLITICS IN AMERICA

by CHRISTINA BERGMARK

We are all political prisoners

Occasionally an American diplomat slips up and tells the truth. And the truth is a political no-no.

Andrew Young, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, did that.

In the middle of the July Soviet dissidents' trial, while Jimmy Carter was playing up human rights and Soviet repression for all they were worth, Andrew Young drew a parallel.

He said that there are in American prisons "hundreds maybe thousands of people I would categorize as political prisoners."

POLITICS

In the U.S. politics does determine who goes to jail and who doesn't.

A young black who steals a bicycle may get five years, while a bank executive caught embezzling hundreds of thousands may merely lose his job.

A woman who commits fraud or misrepresentation to get a little more welfare money for her children may get two years, while a real estate executive may use misrepresentation to cheat hundreds of people out of hundreds of thousands of dollars and never go to trial.

But when Andrew Young referred to political prisoners he was pointing to something specific.

Since the growth of the Civil Rights and Black Power movements of the 1960's there has been a conscious effort by the U.S. government to harass, frame-up and imprison black political activists in order to create fear and intimi-



Attica prisoners demonstrating

dation among the blacks who dare to threaten the American way of racism.

The political imprisonment of the Black Panther Party leaders played a major part in destroying the movement around that Party.

George Jackson, politicized in prison, was set-up in 1970 as one of the murderers of a prison guard because he had taken political leadership in prison. His legal rap and his incarceration failed to slow his effectiveness, so he was shot down in prison on August 20, 1971.

ATTICA

One month later, 1500 inmates at Attica prison in N.Y. rose up angry about conditions in that barbaric prison.

They occupied one block and one yard and took nine hostages to insure that their demands were heard. Four days later on September 13 then-Governor Rockefeller

dealt with their occupation of the prison by ordering a wholesale massacre by the National Guard, State Police and Corrections Officials.

The nine hostages taken by the prisoners were killed by the state and many of the leaders of the resistance within the prison were assassinated during and following the uproar.

A total of 43 men died in the retaking of the prison.

Angela Davis was framed and imprisoned because she had eloquently and ably made a mockery of the American system of racist justice.

As she was being arraigned for murder, kidnapping and conspiracy in 1971, Davis said: "I stand before this court as a target of a political frame-up which far from pointing to my culpability implicates the state of California as an agent of political repression. Indeed, the state reveals its own role by intro-

ducing in evidence against me my participation in the struggles of my people, black people, against the many injustices of this society—specifically my involvement with the Soledad Brothers Defense Committee. The American people have been led to believe that such involvement is constitutionally protected..."

Also, in 1971 the Wilmington 10, a group of civil rights activists were arrested after two nights of demonstrations calling attention to a school boycott and honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Junior's birthday.

The ten were convicted of conspiracy to commit arson after a trial riddled with irregularities. The main witnesses for the prosecution have since said that they lied in court.

In January, the Wilmington 10 received word that their latest attempt at new trials had failed.

Gary Tyler in 1976 became the youngest American ever on Death Row. The 16 year-old had been used to "make an example" following a busing incident in Louisiana in which one white youth was killed.

These, of course, are the cases that make the news, and just a few of them at that. There are more, many more.

Andrew Young's guess was hundreds, perhaps thousands more—people in prisons because they are black.

George Jackson guessed there were two thirds of a million prisoners in the United States, people of all colors.

Why? I started out by saying that politics determines who goes to jail and who doesn't. Well, in the United States money determines politics.

CRIME

This is the way George Jackson put it:

"Crime is simply the result of a grossly disproportionate distribution of wealth and privilege, a reflection of the present state of property relations.

"There are no wealthy men on death row, and so few in the general prison population that we can discount them altogether.

"Imprisonment is an aspect of class struggle from the outset.

"It is the creation of a closed society which attempts to isolate those individuals who disregard the structures of a hypocritical establishment as well as those who attempt to challenge it on a mass basis.

"Throughout its history, the United States has used its prisons to suppress any organized attempts to challenge its legitimacy."

(Quotes from George Jackson, Blood in My Eye, Bantam Books, 1972)

How to save the cities- for the rich

**TAX CUTS FOR BUSINESS:
CUT BACKS FOR WORKERS**

by **BEN BLAKE**



Firefighters say cutbacks caused deaths.

On August 2, six firefighters died when the roof of a blazing New York supermarket collapsed.

The following day, the President of the Uniformed Firefighters Association, Richard Vizzini, announced the cause of the tragedy, "We charge that the city stalled on a second alarm for needed manpower to avoid paying overtime. Death was the grim paymaster."

This brutal cutback was made by the New York City government to help pay the \$200 million dollar annual interest it owes on money

borrowed from major banks such as Chase Manhattan, City Bank and Manufacturer's Hanover Trust.

REPEATED

This type of cutback in city services is being repeated throughout the country as the record \$18 billion surplus of local and state governments at the beginning of the year was reduced to \$5 billion by mid-year and is expected to turn into a deficit by the end of the year.

The huge surplus was the result of tax increases administered after the financial crisis

of the cities in 1974.

As a result, the flight of upper income people out of the cities increased, reducing the tax base, generating the "tax revolt" and creating a new financial crisis.

In an attempt to solve this crisis, tax cuts for people earning over \$25,000 and urban dinosaurs such as Detroit's \$337 million Renaissance Center have been created to attract the rich back into the cities.

ENFORCE

The Director of the Pennsylvania Avenue Development

Corp. (created with \$225 million in federal tax funds) explained this plan in these words, "We are going to enforce high living standards in downtown Washington, D.C."

To fund this strategy of saving the cities for the rich, massive cutbacks in services for the urban poor and working class are being implemented through attacks on city workers.

Over 53,000 New York City jobs have been eliminated in the past 21 months. In California, 86,300 have been terminated in the wake of Pro-

position 13.

In the last three years, over one-fifth of the workforces of Philadelphia, Baltimore, Pittsburgh and Detroit have been eliminated.

The remaining city workers are being overworked and their wages are being cut.

Detroit's administration has spent over one million dollars in the past three years just to try and find ways to make its workers work harder.

A recent study by the Urban Institute found that the real income of workers in seven major cities had been cut by 33% between 1971 and 1976.

STRIKES

Within the last few months, many city workers have fought back against these attacks. Strikes have developed in Detroit, Louisville, Philadelphia, New Orleans, Boston, Memphis, San Antonio and Washington, D.C.

The issue isn't merely jobs, pay, and good conditions for city workers. Urban development, financed from cutbacks, aims at creating "nice" neighborhoods for the white suburbanites who fled the cities in the 50's and 60's.

These strikes will determine who lives in the cities—the rich who feed off them, or the people who built the cities and are trying to keep them going.



Memphis wildcats win

MEMPHIS, TN—"It's just the fed-up working man who's finally saying no more," said wildcatting fire fighter Bill Branch. "No more being pushed around."

Push came to shove in Memphis as the city's fire fighters and police wildcatted for eight days last month. The issue was wages and inflation.

"EMERGENCY"

To get a 7% increase strikers illegally walked off the job, defied a court injunction, and provoked a "state

of civil emergency" which brought 1,500 National Guardsmen to town.

The Mayor of Memphis, had said that he would purge the wildcatters from the city payroll and take away seniority and benefits, but in the end it was the mayor who backed down. The strikers got 6% retroactive new money, and two scheduled increases of \$30 in April and 1.5% in October of 1979. If this contract doesn't keep up with inflation, then the wages section can be reopened next year. The wildcatters were reinstated with-

out reprisals.

This strike received national media coverage as a police strike. Ignored is the fact that the first blow against city hall was the fire fighters' three day wildcat in July that saw several fire fighters arrested for arson.

POLICE

The police were on the right side of the picketline, for once. A hundred of them, for picketing past the emergency curfew, even saw the inside of the jail. Way to go, pigs! □

CALIFORNIA TEAMSTERS FIGHT SAFEWAY

BURLINGAME, CA—More than 3500 Teamster drivers and warehouse workers from 8 locals are on strike in the Bay Area against Safeway and three other grocery chains.

The workers went on strike when negotiations with the food chains collapsed and the stores locked them out.

ISSUE

A key issue in the strike is the fate of 1,100 Teamsters striking Safeway's Richmond distribution center. Members of Local #315 wildcatted

July 20 over lack of progress in negotiations on a new time-measured unit (TMU) program which Safeway had instituted last year at the Richmond facility.

Under the TMU plan each movement workers make has been calculated and planned by a computer for "greater efficiency."

Since the speedup began more than a dozen workers have been injured and 10 others dismissed for "inability to perform work." These 10 included people who had

been doing the job for more than 15 years. Under the TMU plan workers are allowed only 55 seconds to use the restroom.

Members of Local #315 defied their regional union leaders who refused to authorize a strike. They walked out and demanded the right to negotiate their own contract. This action precipitated the strike by 2,400 other Teamsters ten days later and forced the Teamster officials to recognize their strike. Members of #315 were using

roaming pickets to shut down other Safeway distribution facilities.

CAMPAIGN

In recent days the strike has escalated. The four food chains have done an expensive media campaign in newspapers and on radio against the strikers. Scabs have been hired to keep stores open after members of the Retail Clerks and Butchers unions refused to cross picket lines. The Teamsters are threatening to spread the strike to

stores in southern California and distribution centers as far away as Colorado to prevent further deliveries.

Ray Miller, a member of #315, told Socialist Worker, "It's not just the money. We want working conditions that are safe. We know we can win this thing and we're organized to get what we deserve. We're not going back until they (Safeway) drop this TMU thing. We're people, not machines." □

By **TOM FREEMAN**

CAPITALISM: THE BATTLE FOR MARKETS

Capitalism is the most revolutionary social system that has ever existed.

Change, continuous and ever more rapid change, is built into its structure.

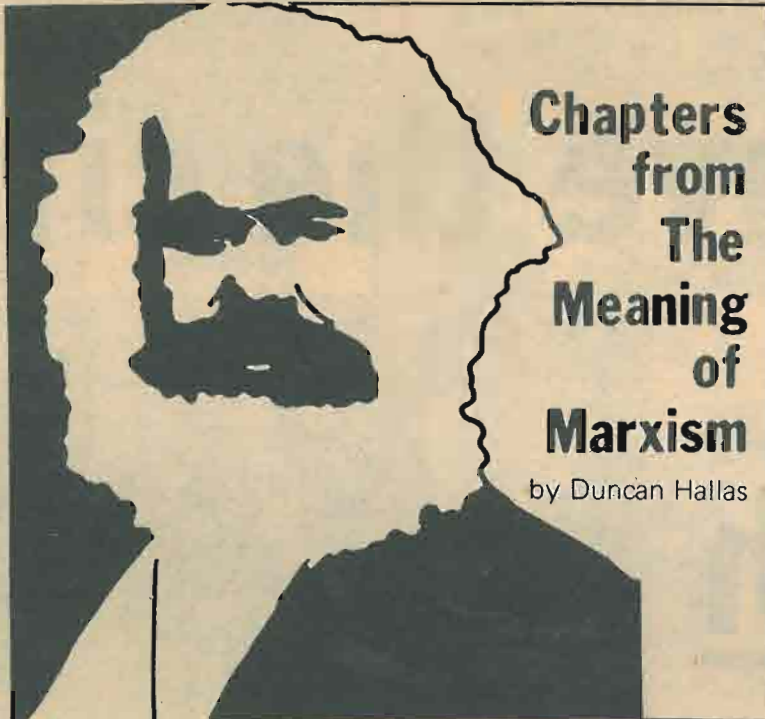
"The capitalist class cannot exist," wrote Karl Marx, "without constantly revolutionizing the instruments of production, and thereby the relations of production, and with them the whole relations of society."

PEASANTS

Two hundred years ago, peasants—and the majority of working people were then peasants—lived and worked in ways not too different from those of their Saxon ancestors.

The peasants still worked in the open fields with the same tools and the same methods that had been used from time immemorial. They still went hungry and cold every winter and celebrated the coming of spring with an enthusiasm unimaginable to us today.

The 'big houses', the magnificent homes of the gentry and the higher clergy, with their hordes of servants,



Chapters from The Meaning of Marxism

by Duncan Hallas

still dominated the land as they had done for a thousand years.

In 1750, the world stood on the eve of the greatest change in human life since the invention of agriculture. Industrial

capitalism, after centuries of gradual advance, was about to make its great leap forward. And the change was not to be a once and for all affair. Once the process got under way it was to transform the

world and go on transforming it.

First of all capitalism created a world market. Long-distance trade can be traced back to the stone age but its effects on most societies were marginal.

CENTRAL

With capitalist production they became central. The first breakthrough to industrialization in Britain could not have taken place without a conservative historian politely called 'the appropriation of extra-European resources and labor.'

War, looting and slavery played an important part in this process of 'primitive accumulation'—the initial gathering together of resources to turn into capital—but trade, unequal and semi-monopolistic trade, was the central feature.

The political basis for the series of wars of aggression that made possible the birth of British capitalism had been laid earlier.

The English revolution of the 17th century had created

a political system and a ruling class that could, at the same time, ruthlessly oppress the people of Britain and fight other ruling classes for world supremacy. Genghis Khan and his kind had created great empires but little social change.

The British expansion of the 18th and 19th centuries was quite different. It was the bearer of revolutionary social change. In some countries the outcome of earlier class struggles made it possible for capitalist classes to gain control and to imitate and improve on the British model.

France, Belgium, Germany, after more or less violent political changes, became developed capitalist countries. So, after a civil war, did the USA and later on, Japan.

WEALTH

Other countries, where the previous struggles had left potential or actual capitalist classes too weak to seize power, became colonial or semi-colonial areas.

But they, too, were transformed out of all recognition. Their social systems did not stand still. They were thrown back.

Their economies became more impoverished more 'underdeveloped' than they had been in pre-capitalist times.

'The West' industrialized, they were de-industrialized. In 1810 nearly 40 per cent of the people of India lived in towns and this in spite of the rapid growth of some big cities.

Once established the world market dominated, and continues today to dominate economic life everywhere. Purely 'national' solutions to economic and social problems are out of date.

The basis of internationalism is the fact that decisions taken in Frankfurt, New York, or Osaka affect vitally what happens in Birmingham and vice-versa.

The second revolutionary effect of capitalism was an unprecedented increase in the productivity of labor. Over a century ago Marx could write 'the capitalist class during its rule of scarce 100 years had created more massive and more colossal productive forces than have all the preceding generations put together.'

Since that time the growth in the productivity of labor and in techniques of production that has been produced by capitalist competition has made the productive forces of Marx's day look tiny.

Of course increasing output under capitalism will not solve our problems. In fact it can in some circumstances, make them worse.

BASIS

The point remains that the material basis for a world society based on free co-operation has been created by capitalism.

If the present productive equipment, without allowing for any increase, was rationally organized to produce for need and not for profit, it would be possible to abolish poverty everywhere in the world.

The third revolutionary consequence of capitalism has been the creation of the human basis of socialism, the modern working class.

The central theme of Marx's thought is that this class is unique in history both for what it is and for what it can become.



Banned in Boston

Why did PBS delay its showing of "Blacks Britannica in Boston?"

Apparently they felt that the sight of anti-fascist demonstrators breaking up the Nazi march in south London (Lewisham) would be too much for American eyes.

So they cut that. Rumor also has it that they cut out a few words from Kim Gordon, a comrade of ours in the British Socialist Workers Party.

I guess the rule must be that it's okay to be an anti-fascist—if you don't go around smashing up fascist marches. And it's okay to be a Marxist (they abound in the program) if you're not doing too much about it.



SHE PROMISES TO FIGHT

The latest addition to the struggle for tenants rights happens to be Mrs. Louise Vanderbilt.

Mrs. Vanderbilt said that she became "outraged when the landlord of her two apartments tried to

raise the monthly rent from a meagre \$950 to the outrageous sum of \$2,950."

The landlord then had the effrontery to say that the rent would continue to rise until it reached \$4,013 in 5 years.

So Mrs. V has now joined the Newport County Tenants Association, a group of mostly low income people fighting for lower rents. She promises to fight. □

Statistical fluke

Remember the big fuss the government made when unemployment dropped from 6.1% in May to 5.7% in June?

July figures are in and unemployment is back up to 6.2%.

To cover their embarrassment the government is

calling the June figures a "statistical fluke." In fact the government finds unemployment so embarrassing that they are talking about not counting it anymore.

They would rather count employment and look on the sunny side of life. □



Five thousand Zulus, working as extras on an American film in South Africa, struck recently.

The Zulus went out for higher pay when they found out that Toby, a dog appearing in the film was making more than they were. The dog got \$4.50 per day while the blacks were getting \$2.70 a day. The Americans generously raised wages to equal those of the dog's.

When the L.A. Times learned of the increase, they suggested that it would have been cheaper to cut the dog's wages. Human rights anyone? □



Since the development of the neutron bomb, a German inventor has come up with a neutron bomb shelter.

It holds around 8 people and sells for a cool \$70,000. □



Maybe you can be one of us.

The Marines
800 423 2600

Graffiti from Northampton Mass



CHICAGO: 1968

TODD JEFFERSON WRITES ABOUT THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY — THEN AND NOW

Ten years ago, thousands of demonstrators stood outside the Democratic Party convention in Chicago in protest of the Vietnam War.

Inside, Hubert Humphrey, a "hawk" on the war, was on his way to the nomination for president in spite of the anti-war campaign of Eugene McCarthy.

In 1968, the minority against the war was not big enough for the Party to seriously respond to, other than to throw a token "dove" candidate to the malcontents during the primaries.

DALEY

In fact, those demonstrators were brutally beaten by the police of Chicago's Democratic Mayor Daley, and the term "police riot" became a popular expression.

For many of the demonstrators and others who watched on TV the illusion was popped that the Party could be a vehicle for reform, and the Party became clearly associated with the repression of the government.

Four years later, however, the Democratic presidential platform of George McGovern was built solely around an immediate end to the war.

In those four years the minority against the war had become a majority after numerous troop escalations and reports of increasing brutalities in Vietnam. Anti-war and civil rights demonstrators had been murdered by government troops at Kent and Jackson State.

Demonstrations had peaked at hundreds of thousands, unpopular officers had been murdered by their own U.S. troops, and thousands of men had fled, gone to jail or underground to avoid the draft.

The difference between 1968 and 1972 was that the Democrats had to be nominally against the war or risk the loss of any credibility as the party of the "common people."

Most importantly, tens of

thousands of revolutionaries had been created by the war and Black Liberation Movement. These people, articulate about the inability of capitalism to reform itself, were a potential threat to the system itself.

VEHICLE

They had to be brought back into it, and the vehicle was the Democratic Party and George McGovern.

After his defeat, those radicals who took the ride by and large ended up as Party hacks or cynics to politics in general. The Party had effectively bought off and defused whole sections of the movement.

This function of channelling explosive discontent back into the institutions of capitalism was not a new one for the Democrats. Before the 1960's, there were virtually no

The reality was that they preached moderation and attempted to turn a mass movement in the streets into an electoral movement to support liberal Democrats.

In 1963, 100,000 blacks and whites converged on Washington. Yet the 1964 civil rights act that resulted from the movement was considered by Bobby Kennedy to be "his" legislation and a Democratic triumph.

The lesson we were supposed to learn was that this change is the result of the Democrats acting on our behalf in our best interests—not a result of our own independent demands and movement.

Whatever actions couldn't be turned into votes for the Democrats were brutally suppressed.

When Kennedy sent federal

revolutionary Black Panthers—were subjected to intensive infiltration and disruption by the FBI and systematic murder of their leaders.

Today the Party is not nearly as elastic. It doesn't have to be. There are no massive movements in the streets shaking the foundations of the system.

It's back to business as usual, and big business in particular. There is little difference today between the Democrats and Republicans on any issue of significance.

Both parties continue to support American investment in South Africa, and both support Zionism in the Middle East.

Both consider massive unemployment, especially among minorities, to be the status quo. Both refuse active support to the ERA, and

the defeat of the movements of the 1960's.

Because there are no mass movements, much of the Left feels isolated and confused. Many feel that socialism needs to be respectable and to relate to the powers that be in order to make any change.

They claim to have no illusions about the Party, but they believe that a left, socialist wing can be created out of it. This flies in the face of the reality that Democratic politics are made by the corporations that finance the Party.

More importantly, this view overlooks the fact that there are many young workers and students already to the left of partisan politics.

To these young radicals, respectability is a liability. For instance, the young mine workers who were the backbone of their strike wouldn't be very interested in socialism if they thought it were a part of the Party of Carter—the Party of Taft-Hartley.

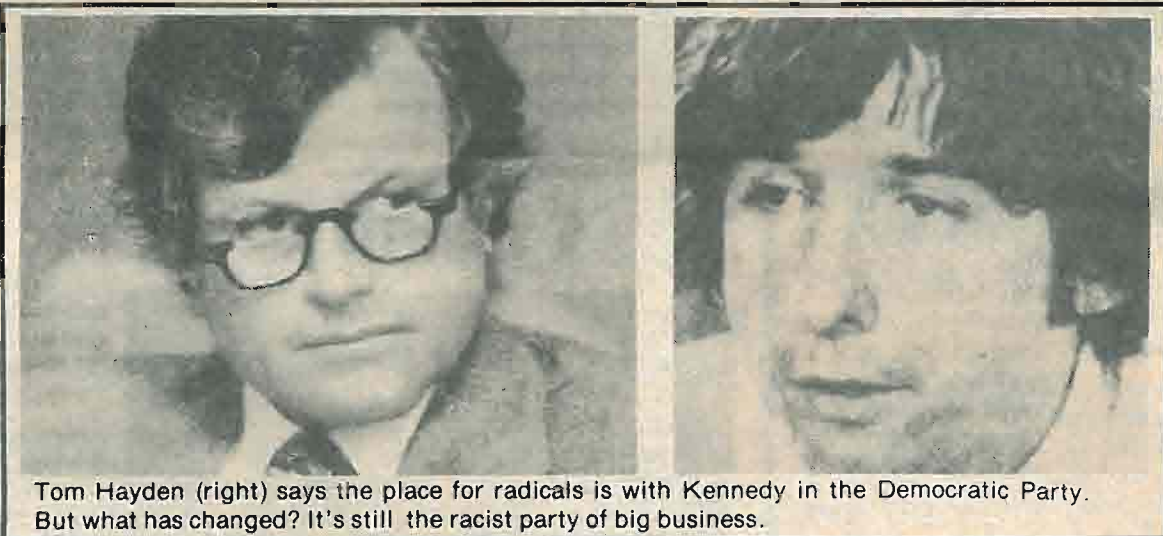
Yet it is precisely to these young militants in all industries that socialists should have something to say. What should be said is that the Democratic Party will continue to be a graveyard for radicals unless and until there's a real alternative to its capitalist policies.

ALTERNATIVE

In the next decade, it is entirely possible to build a revolutionary alternative—a socialist party. But only if we reject the idea that Edward Kennedy will open the door to change. And reject the get-rich-quick scheme of breaking off a section of a powerful capitalist party.

It is only possible if we patiently build our own independent organization out of the struggles, large and small, and growing movements of today.

The future of socialism depends on our independence from that which we seek to overthrow. □



Tom Hayden (right) says the place for radicals is with Kennedy in the Democratic Party. But what has changed? It's still the racist party of big business.

congressmen who would touch the black "problem."

The 1950's was the decade of "separate but equal," and the Democrats were a part of this status quo.

They had nothing to say about racism until the whole world watched blacks beaten, jailed, fire-hosed and murdered in the civil rights movement of the '60's.

Only then did the white "liberals" in the Party, led by the Kennedy brothers, identify themselves as the "champions" of civil rights. JFK was elected partly due to the black vote in the South.

troops into the South, it was not to protect blacks from racist attacks. It was to prevent the younger and increasingly militant blacks from responding to those attacks with violence of their own. The troops were stationed in the black community, not the white.

The Democrats were the cops of the movement—right down to RFK's order that the FBI conduct surveillance of Martin Luther King.

By the late 1960's, most civil rights organizations had direct ties to the Democrats. Those that didn't—such as the

neither party opposed the Bakke decision even though the Democrats would have claimed affirmative action as "their" reform only a few years ago.

And Carter, representing the "party of labor," invoked the Taft-Hartley Act against the most militant strike in recent history.

Yet today, the myth about the Democrats continues to be nurtured. And the Left continues to discuss the possibility of working within the Party. Ten years ago, such a possibility was due to illusion and deceit. Today it is due to

Rhodesia:

THE RULE OF WHITE RACISM AND BLACK OPPRESSION IS OVER

Britain

BIRTH OF OUR POWER



Asian strikers in East London

The "Birth of Our Power." That is what the British Socialist Worker called it.

In Manchester on Saturday, July 15, 35,000 people rocked against racism at the second Carnival Against the Nazis.

In Cardiff, on the same day, 5000 black and white people marched against the Nazi National Front and rallied at a Rock Against Racism concert.

BRICKLANE

Then came Sunday. Thousands packed into Brick Lane in London's East End to prevent a handful of national Front members from selling their racist rag on the street, an act they've only gotten away with in the past thanks to "objective," doing-our-duty police. The local Asians and Anti-Nazi League supporters made sure that changed.

And then Monday.

For the first time a generalized strike was called specifically to fight racism. 8000 Asian and white workers in London's East End responded to the call by local defense committees and the Anti-Nazi League. The strikers closed 80 factories, shops and restaurants. They picketed local police stations, which have done nothing about the recent series of racist murders, bombings and assaults by the Nazis.

WEAPON

The significance of these three days for the British Anti-Nazis and workers is overwhelming. Not only have they made fighting the Nazis a spirited mass movement, but workers most powerful weapon—the strike—is being used. Already some of the Asians that struck are talking of linking the struggle against the Nazis to attempts to unionize the East Ends sweatshops.

The message for all of us is clear. United we can win!

By ED MOOR

Rhodesia, the country of white racism and black oppression founded by Cecil Rhodes 83 years ago, is finished.

The white dictatorship there is beaten. So is the 'settlement' with black collaborators through which it hoped to cling to power.

The black revolution in Rhodesia is now in control of at least four-fifths of the country. In those areas, the only real power is that of the local guerrilla commander.

All transportation, all education, all health, all agriculture, industry and commerce depend on the orders of the liberation armies. Decrees and instructions sent from the white capital of Salisbury don't even reach their destination.

Even Salisbury itself is not safe for the whites.

As a remarkable and rare report in the London Times put it: "The internal settlement is a failure, and discredited among everyone except for the few politicians who enjoy its fruits.

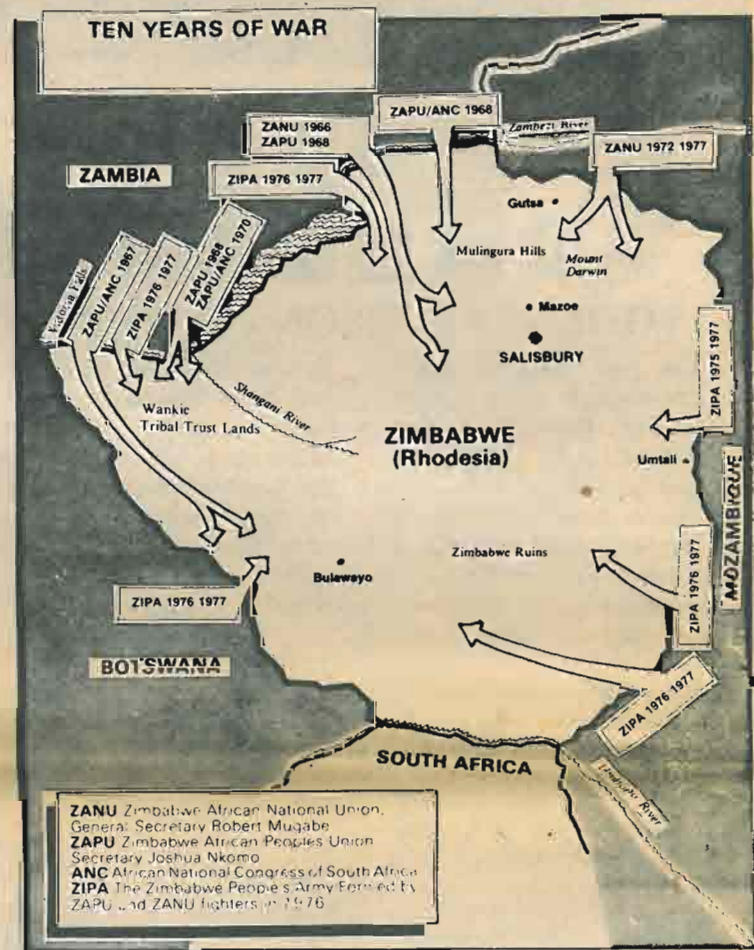
"Whites understand that this is a war which they are losing."

Sixty thousand white people are already booked to fly out of the country by the end of December. Emergency plans are being laid on to evacuate another 250,000.

The entire white population is preparing to surrender, and to depart. They are not interested in a country where they cannot exploit the blacks.

CONSCRIPTS

Meanwhile, the Rhodesian army depends more and more on black conscripts, many of them friendly to the guerrillas. The orders of white officers no longer count.



Back in Salisbury, the civil service which prime minister Ian Smith selected from among his closest henchmen, is drowning in its own corruption. Two weeks ago, six of its senior officers who were put in charge of "busting sanctions" were found guilty of salting away 15 million dollars of government money in their

own bank accounts in Switzerland.

The economy, to quote the Times, "is at the end of its tether." Last year's balance of payments deficit was the highest ever. Peoples' incomes are down by 25 per cent over 1974.

CONFIDENCE

The "proud" Rhodesian dollar, held up for so long as a symbol of white confidence has been devalued three times in three years.

"Everyone now accepts that the end is near," says the London Times. Nothing proves that more than the yelping of right-wingers in Congress, who feel their property in Rhodesia slipping out of the window along with the supremacy of their color and their race.

The end is near.

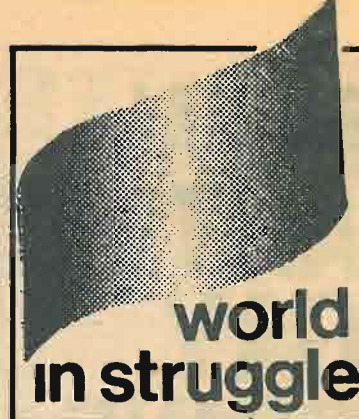
Twelve years of economic sanction and moral outrage from half the globe couldn't even disturb the Smith regime. The armed forces of black power have broken it to pieces.

Black miners strike

On August 16 Rhodesian police fired into a crowd of striking mineworkers, killing four blacks and injuring five

others at the country's largest copper mine, 90 miles northwest of Salisbury. Authorities said the shoot-

ing occurred after a crowd of about 3,000 blacks rushed police barricades at Mangwila Mine.



Eritrea: the Ethiopian attack

by JOANNA ROLLO

The Ethiopian troops set out at the beginning of July. 100,000 soldiers, tanks, big guns and armored convoys moved north.

Behind them lay the mountain ranges of Central Ethiopia. Ahead was Eritrea, the industrialized and densely populated land on the banks of the Red Sea.

For 17 years liberation armies have fought for independence in Eritrea. Its borders stretch for 600 miles along the Red Sea. Whoever controls Eritrea controls a vital shipping route through the Gulf of Aden and into the Indian Ocean.

Until the Second World War the Italians owned Eritrea. They lost the war and Eritrea was one of the spoils the Allies took.

The British kept it until 1952. Then they handed it

over to Haile Selassie, Ethiopia's brutal ruler. The Ethiopians looted Eritrea—its people were humiliated and exploited. In 1961 Eritrean liberation forces launched a war against Selassie.

Selassie was finally beaten four years ago—not in Eritrea, but in Ethiopia. A massive popular uprising united workers, peasants and soldiers to kick the tyrant out.

The army officers who took over the country, "The Dergue" say they are Marxists. But like Selassie, they are massacring all opponents.

Their opponents are factory workers, shot on the spot for wanting a living wage. They are students, mown down on demonstrations and publicly denounced in university lecture halls. They are the ordinary man and woman of

Ethiopia, up in front of a firing squad because an informer told the authorities they did not support the Dergue.

Dead bodies pile up on the streets of Addis Ababa, a warning that the "Red Terror" means business.

Like Haile Selassie, the Dergue were hungry for the power that control of the Red Sea would grant. So they continued his war with Eritrea, at first with American backing. The guerillas who had helped bring down Selassie found themselves up against a new offensive.

Even hungrier were the super powers. Russia, East Germany, Cuba and Libya now support the Dergue. So does Israel. They all want the Red Sea for themselves.

Once the Russians backed the liberation struggle. Many of the soldiers of the mass



liberation armies were trained in Cuba.

These fighters have been betrayed. Their former allies have gone over to the other side.

The Dergue now has a billion dollars worth of Russian military equipment. And along with Russian tanks, planes, warships and guns came 20,000 Cuban technicians, military advisors and soldiers.

Now warplanes made by Russians are bombing the guerilla strongholds. They are dropping napalm and cluster bombs on coast towns held by the liberation forces. Half a million refugees have fled.

Liberation held towns from Tessenei to the port of Massawa have been bombarded and attacked.

Asmara, Eritrea's capital city, has been surrounded and besieged by the liberation forces since last Autumn. Last

week, the Ethiopian troops relieved the city.

In the process, they slaughtered 2,000 people.

Now the Russians and the Cubans are dismayed by the barbarous monster they have armed. They have pleaded with the Dergue to negotiate. The liberation forces have also agreed to negotiate.

CUT

But the Dergue has tasted blood and power. It will not negotiate. It is out to exterminate the nation of Eritrea.

And the armies who have fought for 17 years, are still fighting. Their supply routes are cut, their people flee for their lives. They are forced to retreat from captured positions.

But they are still fighting against overwhelming odds. Their struggle for freedom must not be crushed. □



The July Offensive

Mengistu: the "red" dictator



SHOOTING IT OUT IN LONDON, PARIS AND BEIRUT

Palestine Liberation Organization offices have been attacked. Their chiefs in London, Paris, Beirut and Kuwait have been murdered. PLO supporters are attacking Iraqi Embassies in one country after another.

The warring factions are led by Abu Nihad, based in Baghdad, and Abu Jihad, second in command to PLO leader Yassar Arafat.

His strongest supporter is Syria.

Why are the Palestinians and their Arab backers, who claim to have the interests of the Palestinians at heart shooting it out?

It is not only, or even mainly a result of the leaders' personal ambitions.

OIL

Every Arab country is dependent on imperialism—oil imperialism.

Syria gets massive financial aid from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. These rich oil countries of King Khalad of Saudi Arabia, and Sheik al Kuwait, are part and parcel of the world oil empires with headquarters in Wall Street.

Iraq's main income comes from the Iraq petroleum com-

pany. It is owned by British, American and French interests. The British have the lion's share.

To meet the needs of the Palestinians and above all workers and peasants, Syria and Iraq must be able to look after its own poor.

Strikes are forbidden in Syria or Iraq (not to speak of Saudi Arabia or Kuwait). There are no democratic rights in any of these countries (recently, 21 communists were hanged in Baghdad!) The Palestinians are being used as pawns by the rulers of all those countries. □

1968: THE PRAGUE SPRING

In August, 1968 Russian tanks crossed into Czechoslovakia, in a brutal drive to crush a revolt of students, intellectuals, and young workers.

The rebellion was smashed, and the world was again shown that Russia, far from being socialist, is imperialist, in the same league with the United States.

Then President Lyndon Johnson assured the Russians that there would be no American interference. The U.S., in any case, was quite busy in Vietnam.



NEW ANTI-GAY DRIVE

SEATTLE, WA—A new initiative here, Initiative 13, sponsored by "Save Our Moral Ethics" (SOME) seeks to take away lesbian and gay rights and to cripple the office of women's rights.

It is a drive to legislate religious, moral and personal preferences.

SURVIVAL

Initiative 13 seeks to deny people's most basic rights. Not privileges, as some people would like the public to believe, but rights of survival—housing and employment.

Any person can be denied and/or removed from work or home by being accused of being a gay person. Proof is not necessary.

The measure would make it legal to fire school employees for being gay or for advocating gay rights in or out of the schools.

We are not alone as lesbians and gay men. The same right-wing groups are fighting against the rights of women, minorities, Jewish people, trade unionists, and poor people.

The people behind Initiative 13 are dead serious in their crusade to rob others of their rights.

The initiative was filed by a Mormon police officer, David Estes, with the help of another police officer, Dennis Falk, a known leader of the John Birch Society.

Both men are proud of their records as police officers—Estes for his suspension four years ago for using high velocity bullets, and Falk for his use of lead lined gloves during the late sixties to keep order during campus unrest.

People in Seattle, whether they are gay or straight, do not need their ethics saved, and we are actively fighting for our rights.

There are groups who have organized to fight back. Some of them are: Seattle Committee Against 13, Women Against 13, Artists Against 13, and Citizens to Retain Fair Employment.

All these organizations are fighting together to defeat the initiative and educate people about the oppression of lesbians and gay men. □

By DONNA BURGESS



Akron pro-abortion demonstrators

"W... COR... in a

MARTHA SO... TALKS TO SC

Since 1973 there have been about 500 abortions a year at County Hospital.

And they have been and medically safe abortions.

Prior to that time, there was a ward called the A Ward at County, Washington, where women came after they had been maimed on the side by septic abortions.

SERIOUS

They came to Washington where they either died or recuperated after very serious abortions.

However, although serious abortions take place at County Hospital, medical cards are cu

ABORTION: A FUNDAMENTAL

The right to choose abortion is a fundamental part of the fight for women's rights. If a woman has no choice whether or not to have children, she has no control over the rest of her life.

But there's another fundamental issue involved. Rich women have always had access to safe medical abortion, and they will continue to, regardless of abortion's legal status. It's poor and working class women who suffer as abortion becomes less available, more expensive, and/or is made illegal altogether.

Last year, Jimmy Carter defended the cutoff of Medicaid funds for abortions. He told us that "life is unfair," as if we needed to be reminded. Life under capitalism is grossly unfair and disgustingly cruel.

Revolutionary feminists and socialists are engaged in a long and determined fight to make life fair.

To make it possible for women to choose not to bear children, or to bear and raise them in decent surroundings, with good food, shelter, love, education, encouragement, and a future.

Socialist Worker
WHAT WE THINK

Millions of women suffer,

In the past year, at least eleven unsolved firebombings of abortion clinics have occurred in various parts of the country.

There have been well-organized daytime attacks on clinics in many cities, ranging from sit-ins and harassment of patients to criminal assault on clinic workers and destruction of medical facilities.

CUT

During the last 15 months, federal and state funding for abortion has been drastically

cut. On June 13 of this year, the House of Representatives took an even more repressive step than they did in 1977 to limit the availability of abortions to poor women—the "new" Hyde Amendment.

In 1976, 300,000 abortions were paid for by Medicaid. Today, only 16 of the 50 states still permit Medicaid payments for abortions in most cases.

A record \$120 billion military budget was recently passed with the elimination of any abortion services for military personnel or dependents.

New Jersey, which once gave Medicaid funding for 10,000 abortions annually, last year paid for only 240. For over a year, Utah has refused to pay for any abortion unless a board of doctors has determined that it will save the life of the mother.

SUFFERING

What recent statistics don't reflect is the suffering of millions of women and the yearly death of thousands which will result when women are trapped by unwanted pregnancy with no recourse to abortion.

Before 1973, when the Supreme Court made abortion legal, more than 1000 women were butchered every year on back street abortion parlors. Many more died through self-inflicted attacks to end pregnancy, up to and including suicide.

This all happened every day, every year, not long ago—and it's beginning to happen again. Unless we fight now against the woman, anti-sex and anti-feminist forces represented by "Right to Life," Congressman Hyde, the National Council of Bishops, and

A SHORT HISTORY OF WOMEN'S LIBERATION BY BARBARA WINSLOW



REVOLUTIONARY FEMINISM

A NEW PAMPHLET FROM HERA PRESS PO BOX 18037 CLEVELAND, OH 44118

\$1.50

POPE PAUL: ANOTHER

by PAUL FOOT



There is tremendous consternation when a Pope dies.

Because Popes, according to the Roman Catholic religion, are infallible, and it is always very depressing when the infallible turns out not to be immortal.

I get the feeling that people in the Vatican nourish a secret hope that THIS Pope has managed to work out what his predecessors, probably

for lack of time due to attention to their flock, had failed to do: namely, how to stay alive when other people die.

Anyway, the death of Pope Paul VI came as a welcome relief for an especially sunny day for news.

All the papers led front pages with the death of this Paul Montini, who was the son of a conservative banker.

... have company doctors sexist society"

INTERVIEW BY JEAN MAUNDER

BERG, A DOCTOR AT CHICAGO'S COOK COUNTY HOSPITAL,
LIST WORKER ABOUT ABORTION, DOCTORS, AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS

paying, the situation is not good. There is still a tremendously long wait for a woman to get an abortion at County.

The medical establishment itself has been very responsible for limiting access to abortion.

In private hospitals abortions aren't popular among residents in training because the surgery involved isn't exciting.

In hospitals in general, access is limited because medicine demands that an abortion be an inpatient procedure, requiring at least a day's hospital stay.

This involves the tie-up of hospital beds, which hospital

administrators get very nervous about.

All of this is not necessary since abortion could be an outpatient procedure, in fact, it is so in several other countries such as Sweden and Britain.

Abortion takes place and in a few hours women can go home. Furthermore, there is no reason why doctors themselves have to be involved. It can be performed very easily by other trained health workers.

DOCTORS

This brings up the whole role of doctors to the issue of abortion itself.

If we look at the medical indications for the therapeutic abortion, we can learn a whole lot.

Those indications are: number 1—when pregnancy threatens the life of a woman or seriously impairs her health. Number 2—when the pregnancy has resulted from rape or incest. Number 3—when the continuation of pregnancy is likely to result in a child with physical deformities or mental retardation.

These three indications for therapeutic abortion leave out a tremendous amount.

They leave out the mental and emotional health of a woman. They leave out the right of a woman to choose whether or not she wants to have a child.

They leave out the health of the unwanted child.

The "Right to Life" people worry a great deal about the unborn fetus, but they don't deal with the consequences of an unwanted child.

They don't deal with the consequences of abused and battered children that are seen every day at Cook County hospital.

They don't deal with the necessity of medicine to provide contraception for men and women.

Finally, medicine's limited notion of what is therapeutic denies the importance of uninhibited sexuality to the health of women.

In essence then, doctors perpetuate the oppression of women by perpetuating the definition of women by their biological function.

Doctors become in fact company doctors for a sexist society.

CONTROL

Underneath this ideological level of social control there is still one very basic economic fact, and that is that the woman who fulfills the criteria for a medical therapeutic abortion is still, 80% of the time, white and middle class.

80% of legal abortions that have taken place have been for white middle class women.

80% of the deaths that have occurred for illegal and septic



Martha Sonnenberg

abortions have been black, Puerto Rican and other third world women.

So in fact, abortion, as it now stands, is in fact a class privilege, and this is increasing given recent trends in legislation.

In general, the health care of working people all over has been increasingly eroded by attacks on the public health sector.

The reality of this is evident in the recent and ongoing attacks on the existence of Cook County Hospital with cutbacks on services and in the workforce.

I have painted a bleak picture of the role of doctors.

But there are a number of us at County and all over the

country who have actively joined the struggle for abortion rights.

As women and as health care workers we refuse to acquiesce in legislative attacks on women.

ALLY

We ally with the women's health care movement and feel that the struggle must not deteriorate to scrounging around to save what little we've got but must proceed to demand more.

We support women's right to choose. Full reproductive rights for women, abortion on demand, pregnancy disability leave and child care for working women. "

RIGHT

make it impossible that any will ever be sterilized against or without her knowledge

ssure that every person is equal access to the means of luding work and leisure, and e potential in every child is d by the whole society.

is much more that we must t. The active public defense ight to control one's own re- ve life is a vital battle that waged now.

Thousands die, but attacks continue

their well-heeled friends, this nightmare will again be the rule everywhere in America.

MOVEMENT

The 1973 legalization of abortion was an overdue and grudging acknowledgement by the Supreme Court of a large, militant, and activist movement for women's liberation and our right to control our own bodies.

We fought for everything we got, and refused to be polite and "reasonable" on this issue.

We'll be successful in

defending abortion rights in the same way. Our place is in the streets, schools, workplaces, clinics and welfare offices, not in Congress.

There are opportunities in most cities to begin countering the anti-abortionists publicly. Successful demonstrations have been held at "Right to Life" offices and businesses financing the mandatory pregnancy movement.

ORGANIZE

Groups can publicize activities that expose the hypocrisy of the "Right to Life," which professes concern for

the fetus and ignores the needs of the living.

Successful counter-organizing needs to take many forms, and requires energy, enthusiasm, and imagination.

Already local groups of activists have formed in New York, Cincinnati, Chicago, and elsewhere. There is a need for such groups to bring together feminists who are ready to act now, even when that means starting small.

It's also important for local groups to communicate with each other, to share ideas and build morale.

by DEBORAH ROBERTS



Note: Socialist Worker wants to hear from other groups and individuals working on or interested in abortion rights

defense. Please write to Deborah Roberts, c/o SW P.O. Box 18037, Cleveland, Ohio 44118.

IN A VERY LONG LINE OF TYRANTS

In spite of these origins, the papers heralded him as "a radical."

This idea of a "new broom Pope" sweeping away the cobwebs of prejudice and reaction has been very popular in the popular papers ever since the Pope of the time blessed the Fascist armies of Mussolini as they prepared for their invasion of Abyssinia in 1936. Is there any sub-

stance in it this time?

None whatever.

Paul Montini's first act on becoming Pope in 1963 was to remove from the council the central issue of doctrine for about 400 million women who are Roman Catholics... contraception.

This matter, he said, was a matter for him and no one else.

A few months later he concluded, after due thought, that the traditional Catholic view—that all contraception was banned by the Church—should be sustained without a single amendment or exception.

Thus, at a stroke, he condemned all those millions of women to a constant battle of conscience between their

own love of life and the dark superstitions of their faith. Heads, the Pope and his cardinals won. Tails, the women lost.

Either Catholic women took the Pill, and wrestled for life with religious guilt (to the prurient delight of their confessors), or they succumbed to doctrine, to male decision-making and to child-birth without choice, for which

the promises of rewards after life were thin recompense.

Pope Paul, in other words, was just another tyrant in a very long line of tyrants.

They rule, like God, because they rule.

Any other explanations, or questions about that explanation, are impermissible. □

The mini fascist state in Philadelphia

RIZZO'S POLICE MASSACRE

Rizzo's racist cops kick MOVE leader Delbert Africa. MOVE is an anarchist, back-to-nature group.



Dear Socialist Worker

Philadelphia's cops have done it again, aided and abetted by their patron saint, Mayor Rizzo. Long known as a racist police state, the city used 1000 cops against 12 Black revolutionaries this week, then sat back, hands on heart, while the press cranked out the usual drivel about police restraint, provocation and the need to maintain law and order.

But the biggest threat to law and order in this city are the police themselves. Already the subject of federal investigations into corruption and abuse of force, the city's police are known to have killed several innocent citizens this summer alone.

A taxi driver, for instance, was stopped by a cop in June and dragged from his car. The cop pulled his gun and it accidentally (police version) went off into the driver's body.

His crime? They thought he stole the taxi, which he didn't.

And his weapons? None.

The same with the MOVE massacre. Brutal force, speculative evidence, and down-right dishonesty.

Trying to defend several policemen who repeatedly and viciously kicked one MOVE member in the head as he lay bleeding on the ground, Police Chief O'Neill alledged Delbert Africa was carrying ammunition and a knife.

Press photographs of the massacre prove this a rank lie; even the Philadelphia Inquirer says so. And the police expect the public to accept the police department's investigation into its own conduct during the massacre?

Already police have tried to stifle widespread eyewitness reports that the first shot came from a sniper behind police lines; already they've announced that the dead policeman was shot by MOVE despite the fact that he was shot from above and MOVE were below ground level in

the basement.

The bullet which hit the cop disintegrated in his body, which is exactly what police bullets, hollowed out at the front, are made to do.

And when MOVE appear on trial, there's no doubt of the verdict. The D.A. has already said on TV that they are definitely guilty of murder and that the only fault he could find with the police concerned their leniency!

This city is alive now with groups organizing against Rizzo, against the police, against what appears more and more like a mini fascist state here in Philly.

Municipal workers, teachers, service workers, students, the unemployed, people from all over Philadelphia; we will fight Rizzo, O'Neill and whoever else we have to in order to keep the streets safe from the police.

In struggle,
Neil Smith
Philadelphia, PA

Letters

Write to Letters, Socialist Worker
P.O. Box 18037 Cleveland OH 44118

CAN WE CUT THE VIOLENCE

Dear I.S.O.,

I liked your pamphlet, "Who Wants Nukes?" It has a lot of collected information that we don't have in an organized form. The only thing that I don't like about it is the last page and its reference to the need for violence.

The Abalone Alliance was formed as a non-violent, direct action group and will stay that way. I realize that our philosophies differ in this area, and other than voicing this concern, I won't take time to argue it with you.

Because of the advocacy of violence, we cannot distribute your pamphlet in good conscience.

I think it would be worth distributing if you would consent to having the last page cut out. I would be willing to do that. Let me know if it's agreeable and we'll order a bunch.

In peace and non-violent struggle,
Sandy Downey
Staff, Abalone Alliance
St. Louis Obispo, CA

Note: The pamphlet "Who Wants Nukes?" can be distributed as is, but with a disclaimer if necessary. We still feel, however, that pacifism is a real roadblock to building a movement that can stop nuclear power and nuclear war.

Getting ready for the eighties

Dear Socialist Worker,

Recently I saw a brochure of yours outlining a political analysis of nuclear power.

The State of Michigan recently let a 350,000 acre exploratory lease (in Michigan's Upper Peninsula) to 7 uranium corporations and the Tennessee Valley

Authority in a joint project to explore for uranium. West German and French atomic mining corporations are also here. At the end of the 5 year exploratory lease a second mining lease will be let by the State of Michigan.

The TVA wants these uranium ones to fuel 12-13

nuclear power plants within the TVA during the 1980's.

We are in the preliminary stages of organizing here in the Upper Peninsula, and need all literature, information, etc., you've got. (Please!!)

Many of us are food-cooperative members and

were prime movers in mid-western movements in the 1960's. When we come, we come to fight!

Getting ready for the Eighties.

John P. Donley
Marquette, MI

We'll need more militant action

Dear Socialist Worker,

During my recent visit to the USA I took part in the demonstration on July 9 in Washington, D.C. for an extension of the deadline for ratification of the E.R.A. Due to the size of the demonstration (100,000 people) it was hours before our part of the demonstration set off, and by that time the head of the demonstration had reached the steps of the Capitol, and a mass of people, dressed

mainly in white (the early suffragist color) and overwhelmingly women, stretched through the Mall and Constitution Avenue.

It would be hard for me to overestimate the impression I received of the potential power of the demonstration, yet the demonstration predictably had a limited success: a week later Congress extended by three years the deadline for ratification of the E.R.A. but also allowed

states who have ratified the E.R.A. to rescind their decision. In a period when the rights of women and minority groups are under threat to have 100,000 people demonstrating to achieve this limited result cannot be considered the peak of a successful campaign.

From my observation of the lack of coordination (or even contact) between various chapters of NOW, I can see no possibility of NOW being

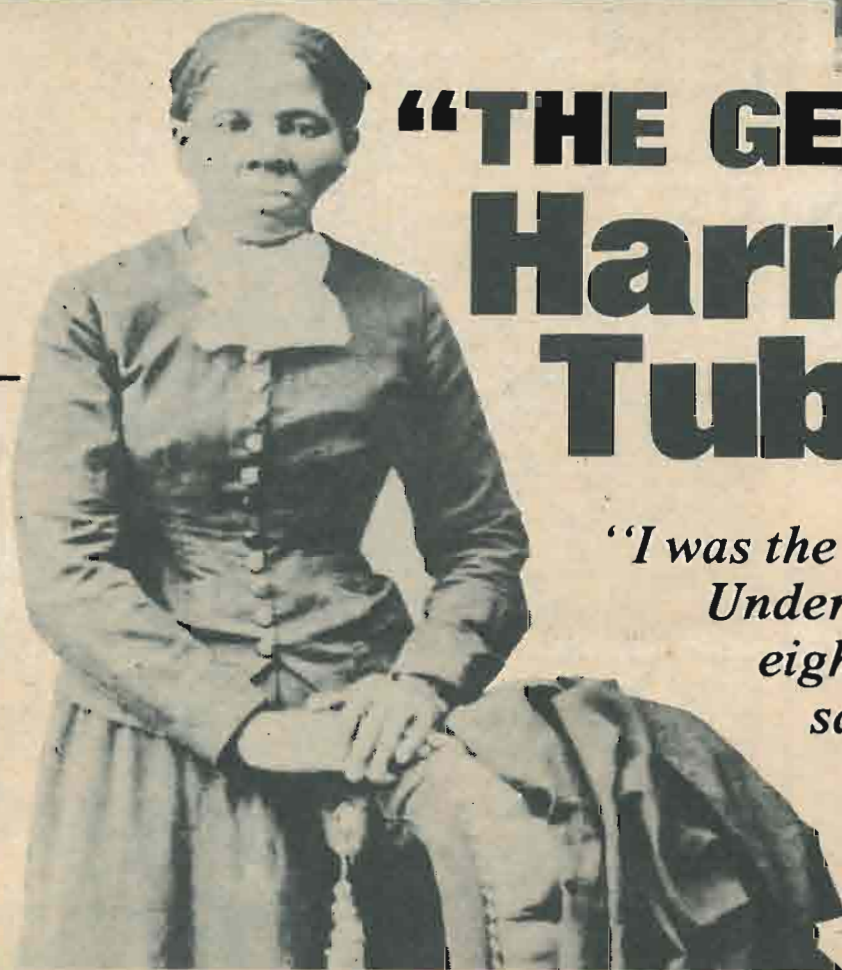
effective in the struggle for womens liberation while they rely on the Democratic Party to win formal, legal equality.

Womens liberation will only be won when women come out in the streets to win it for themselves.

Yours in struggle,
Ann Darby
Socialist Workers Party,
Southeast London,
England

"no power greater"

by BARBARA WINSLOW



"THE GENERAL" Harriet Tubman

"I was the conductor of the Underground Railway for eight years, and I can say what most conductors can't say—I never ran my train off the track, and, I never lost a passenger."

Harriet Tubman was an abolitionist, a feminist, a soldier. From her escape from slavery in 1849 to the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861, she made 19 forays into the enemy South. She rescued over 400 slaves from bondage.

PROPERTY

She was born Harriet Ross in 1820, in Dorchester County, Maryland. She was the property of plantation owner Edward Brodas.

At the time of her birth, the underground railroad, the vast network of routes leading slaves to the "North Star and freedom," was one hundred years old. There had been over 50 slave revolts.

When Harriet first started working at the age of five, there already was talk among slaves about building a black republic in the South.

At the age of 12, she was working in the fields alongside the men. It was here that she picked up the folklore of escape. One brutal incident transformed her life. Her overseer threw a 2 pound iron weight on her head. Harriet was unconscious for several days; she clung to life for months afterwards.

She never fully recovered from the attack. But this incident gave her a new kind of strength as she prayed, "Oh Lord, if you aren't ever going to change that man's heart, kill him lord and take him out of the way."

REVOLTS

It was not just the blow to the head which made Harriet an abolitionist. Slave revolts left their mark on the South—and on Harriet.

In 1800, Gabriel Prosser planned an uprising in Virginia. In 1822, Denmark Vesey organized an insurrection involving thousands of slaves. In 1831, Nat Turner delivered a stunning blow to slave holders in Virginia where he and seventy others killed 60 whites. For weeks, Turner eluded the whites until he was finally captured and hanged.

In 1939, Jose Cinque organized the first successful slave mutiny. 54 slaves had killed their captain and four crewmen. They sailed the ship *Amistad* into a Long Island port.

And as a result of tremendous pressure by abolitionists, these freed women and men were not tried or punished.



Five generations of Alabama slaves (pictured above). They reaped fortunes, but for their masters. By 1860, they and other Southern Slaves had succeeded in accounting for \$192 million in exported cotton—considerably more than half the total of U.S. exports that year. They worked the immense plantations of the Mississippi delta, but lived in shacks.

The stories of these insurrections made their way even down to Dorchester County, and they gave Harriet and others greater hopes for freedom.

In 1849, Tubman finally escaped. "There's two things I got a right to and these are death and liberty. One or the other I mean to have. No one will take me back alive. I shall fight for my liberty and when the time has come for me to go, the Lord will let them kill me," she vowed.

MILITARY

In 1850, she returned South to free her family. This was the first of 19 trips into enemy territory. A trip inside the slave South was a military campaign—a raid upon an entrenched and armed enemy.

The era of the underground railroad was one of prolonged small scale guerilla warfare between the abolitionists and the slaveowners.

The fleeing slaves were relentlessly hunted down with dogs and armed posses. If captured they would be mutilated or killed. Other escaping slaves would be sold off or worked to death.

The job of a conductor was particularly perilous. It is not surprising that while there were thousands of abolitionists, white and black, who gave money and shelter to the slaves, there were very few white conductors.

MARKED

By the late 1850's Tubman was a marked woman. A price of \$40,000 was placed on her

head. Two slaveholders conventions were organized in 1858 and 1859 for the sole purpose of planning her capture.

By 1858, Tubman made connections with John Brown. She, too, was convinced that only through an armed insurrection would slavery end.

For John Brown, Harriet Tubman was "the woman" in which he placed the greatest trust—the one person he admired above all other abolitionists—"the general." Only illness kept Tubman from John Brown's side at Harpers Ferry in 1859.

When her health recovered she continued her battle to free her people. In April, 1860, the "Battle of Troy" took place. A fugitive slave by the name of Charles Nalle

was incarcerated in a federal jail in Troy, New York. He was going to be sent back to his former master.

Tubman organized an army of 1,000 people, "many of them were black and a good share were of the female sex," wrote the *Troy Whig*. Nalle was rescued by the abolitionist army, but only after an armed conflict.

After the battle of Troy, Tubman had to flee to Canada for her safety. She returned after the Civil War broke out in 1861, where she served as a nurse, scout and union spy.

Again, she was involved in armed conflict against the slave owners. On June 2, 1863, she and Colonel James Montgomery, along with 300 black soldiers sailed up the Combahee River in South Carolina, set fire to slave plantations and rescued over 800 slaves. The loss to the Confederacy was in the millions.

WOMAN

To this day, the battle of Combahee remains the only military campaign in American history, planned and led by a woman.

It was also Tubman's last armed battle with the slave owners. After the Civil War ended, she became involved in the reconstruction, especially the health and welfare of the freed slaves. She also was active in the woman suffrage movement.

But she was ignored by the Federal government, who refused to give her the army pension she had earned.

She died in 1913 in Auburn, New York, penniless.

But she is not forgotten: she was "the General", the "Moses" of her people, "the greatest heroine of the age." □

more letters

AN ISO PRESENCE IN HOUSTON

Dear Socialist Worker,

I have considered myself a socialist for some six or seven years now. However, since I moved to Houston—about two years ago—I've been almost totally inactive politically.

I think that's partially been due to my own feelings of frustration and hopelessness at seeing the decline of the movements I had been involved in—the civil rights movement, the women's movement, etc.

I sort of felt it was useless to do anything. Then too, moving to a large spread-out city like Houston, I felt really isolated. It seemed that I never ran across anyone with ideas like mine.

What changed a lot of this for me was going to the ISO convention last month. I came away from that week-end with completely different feelings.

LETTER FROM A PRISONER

Dear Socialist Worker,

Greetings, salutations, well-wishes and the very best of regards to you and yours. I am a poor greasy incarcerated Black and proud of it. This dirty field nigger's trying like hell to get his head together and in order. So, situated so this I come to you humbly requesting any and all old, worn or used or slightly abused but still readable copies of you Socialist Worker newspaper. If I do they will be warmly received and greatly appreciated and your generosity won't be forgotten when I get back on the street (which won't be long from now). I lie to you not.

Yours as sincere as can be,
Bro. Sunni Ali Ber
State Correctional Institution
Graterford, Pennsylvania

New book of poems

Dear Comrades,

I have read and appreciated your paper for nearly a year now.

My politics are close to yours. My class is the same.

I'm a machine operator in a textile shop.

You have my permission to reprint any of these poems in the paper. I hope you enjoy them.

A DAY WITHOUT TIME

*A day with no more yes sir, no sir
A day with no more how high sir
A day with no more sweat dripping down my back
A day with no more contagion in my lungs
A day with no more inadvertent mistakes
A day with no more darkness in the afternoon
A day with no more fraternization forbidden
A day with no more boredom personified
A day with no more jumes and dust
A day with no more suffocating expectations
A day with no more debts as bay
A day with no more rags
A day with no more boots that sink
A day with no more admissions of status
A day with no more encounters with bourgeois snobs
A day with no more alcohol
A day with no more blood in my eye
A day with no more bitter obeisance
A day with no more longing
For a life with time.*

by RUSSELL GAVIN

I don't mean to sound like it was some powerful spiritual rebirth or something. It certainly wasn't. But it did make me face the fact that there are other people out there—in other cities, all around the country—who are doing something, even though they have felt the same frustrations I mentioned above.

It made me face the fact that even though there are no mass movements at this time, important issues and activities are alive—the issues of abortion, gay rights, and even more specific to Houston, the issues of undocumented workers, police brutality, school desegregation and the Texas Farm Workers Union.

In the past few weeks I have finally begun to move—making phone calls, going to meetings, checking out different groups, doing some volunteer work, meeting people.

It's still hard, but it is possible—even in Houston! I'm planning to begin to use Socialist Worker to help me, not only in understanding the issues more clearly and keeping informed, but also in finding other people here in Houston.

This letter is only a beginning.

As I become more involved and informed here locally, I hope to send in related articles and pictures. And with more coverage of this sort, the paper should be more attractive and meaningful to people in this area.

I guess what I'm really trying to say is that I plan to do everything in my power to insure that by next year's convention, there's more than one of me here and that our organization has at least a small presence in this city.

Linda Spatig

RANK AND FILE PLAN MINERS':



MINERS TRIED IN ROCKPORT

ROCKPORT, IN—194 union coal miners have been tried in a case stemming from the national coal strike. They are now awaiting a decision.

The miners are charged with destroying a non-union coal loading dock in February. Paul Teegarden, the owner of the dock, as well as two non-union mines, claims hundreds of miners attacked the dock.

He has sued the miners and the district officials for \$1.5 million.

He says he and his attorney were trapped in a trailer on his own property, that the trailer was rocked, set on fire, that its tires were slashed, and that the dock was put out of operation.

The miners are confident they can win this case. No

eye witnesses have been produced in the trial. No testimony has identified any miner or district officer as being on Teegarden's property.

The 194 miners who were arrested were all arrested on public property, mostly in their cars on public highways.

The judge must hand down a verdict within sixty days. □

CHALLENGE TO MILLER THE NEXT STEP

CHARLESTON, W.VA—This is the first summer in five that there is no wildcat strike wave in the coalfields.

There is a calm, there are no roving pickets. During April, May and June, the companies lost only 35,000 work days in strikes, compared to 317,202 in the 90 day period that followed the 1974 national strike. 1978, despite the national strike, may not even rank with last year, when wildcats cost the companies 2.4 million days.

CRUCIAL

The calm, however, is deceptive. This is a crucial period in the United Mine Workers. In fact, it may well be the turning point for the rank and file.

In early August, Arnold Miller announced that the special union constitutional convention would be held in Miami—far from the coalfields—in September, 1979.

He is already organizing to see that he controls that convention.

In Denver, earlier in the summer, his supporter's on the union's top body, the International Executive Board (IEB), refused to accept

31,000 miner's signatures, demanding that recall procedures be started. These signatures were gathered by rank and file miners, in the wake of Miller's sellout in the national strike, and his refusal to distribute relief funds to strikers.

Recall leaders have challenged the IEB decision in court, though there seems little chance for victory there. Nevertheless, rank and file militants are still organizing.

On August 12, miners from six districts met in New Stanton, PA. They proposed resolutions to demand that the special convention be held in Pittsburgh. They protested the decision on the signatures.

STEPS

More important, they took the first steps in uniting some of the widespread opposition to Arnold Miller and his administration. Rank and file district coordinators were chosen. There will be a rank and file newsletter. And there will be another rank and file meeting, this time in Beckley, W.VA. in the fall.

The problem now is not whether or not to organize—but on what basis to organize.

The United Mine Workers, like all unions, is full of politicians, ranging the whole length of the political spectrum.

Bill Bryant, the local union president from central West Virginia who led the recall drive, said his only goal was to remove Miller.

That, however, as most miners know, would simply have moved Sam Church, Miller's reactionary vice-president, up.

Lee Roy Patterson, a right winger from Western Kentucky, is already campaigning—again. Cecil Roberts, a one-time militant from West Virginia's District 17, is doing the same.

TRAGEDY

The tragedy of the Miners' for Democracy (MFD), the rank and file movement which put Miller into power, was that no rank and file organization survived it.

Will this opposition be any different? The time is now ripe to see that it is. Coal miners, who do not want a farcical repetition of the MFD, who are not simply hoping to change faces in the

union's Washington headquarters, these miners must start the arguments for a real rank and file organization now.

The issues—despite the calm—are all out front: how will Eastern Kentucky and the West be organized; how will the company's new incentive plans be fought; how will the right to strike on grievances be won; how will the rank and file see that Miller's sellout in the national strike—on pensions, health and welfare—is not repeated in 1981.

The opposition to Miller must be judged on what it stands for—and what it does. There is still time to win at Stearns, for example. The Stearns miners have held the picket lines—two years now. They need some real support.

This is all the more important because there is no reason to believe that the calm will last. If there is a new strike wave, the opposition will have to support it—it may have to lead it.

Yet, there are oppositionists aplenty who oppose the wildcat strikes, who supported the 1978 national settlement, who don't like the fact that the UMW constitution is still more democratic than most.

The time to organize is now before the campaign becomes a political circus. And a year

is just a short time. A solid rank and file organization is the only alternative.

Dave Forms, the president of local 1759 in central West Virginia, is now the target of a drive by Arnold Miller to rid the union of militants and radicals. His union is being audited. Bill Bryant faces the same. Miller swears he will get rid of Bill Lamb, the IEB member from Ohio, who led the drive in that district to vote down the contract.

At the same time, today's coalfield "peace" may be war tomorrow.

LIGHT

"We've been back to work less than five months," says Forms. "I'm just starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel."

"I wouldn't stake too much on this calm. I noticed the same thing in 1976, and the same thing last year before the benefits strike."

"It's just like loading the camel, the last straw does it."

Tony Bumbico, a recall leader in District 6, reports the same: "We have health cards not being honored, we have the same old backlog of grievances."

"There's no difference in the way people feel, we have angry frustrated coal miners." □

"We've got thirteen months to prepare for this convention"

"We've got thirteen months to prepare ourselves for the convention."

I think rather than fight Miller on where to have the convention, or demand another convention sooner than the one he's called in Miami, we should just get ready for the convention in Miami.

Get ready, be ready—with our own resolutions, our own changes in this constitution—see that we have a new elective process and can get rid of these international officers.

BASE

I hate to see another splinter group, but I think that in order to set up a power base, we're going to have to organize the rank and file right throughout the country, throughout the union period.

The Miners for Democracy's base was in Districts 17 and 29 (West Virginia), but it had ramifications throughout all districts. We have to get to the districts that are active—17, 29, 6 (Ohio) and 5 (Pennsylvania)—that's the people to work with.

I think the recall movement has run its course. Bill Bryant has taken it to court now, and that's all right, but really, I can't see suing the union. It's already in financial trouble, but mainly the courts are not going to rule in our



Dave Forms, president of local union 1759, talks to Socialist Worker about the upcoming UMW convention.

favor. They're not going to rule for the rank and file.

Arnold Miller is as much a part of the system as any coal operator is, and the system's going to take care of its own people. So I think there's no future for recall now.

Anyway, it is my understanding that Arnold Miller and his people are preparing for the convention right now—and picked delegates, the whole thing.

MOVING

I think that's why he's moving on me and Bill Bryant—the audit. I understand that he has said he will remove Bill Lamb from the International Executive Board, and he has the power in the constitution to do it.

So I think this is the whole

show. We have to band together, put personalities and politics beside us for the time being and go.

Now is the time to do it. At one time having a job in these coal mines was a luxury, especially in this area in the fifties, when the companies cut back so far.

But it isn't the case anymore. The companies are screaming for work, and we should take advantage of that and bring ourselves into a more unified and solid group.

But we can't do it with this administration, there's no way. Hell, Miller's had five years to organize non-union coal, and we've gone from about 72% union coal to 48%. That speaks for itself.

If we don't pick up in the next three years, we'll be mining maybe 25-35% of the coal.

I tell you, if we don't organize in the next three years, there will be no more national strikes—not in '81 anyway. We'll end up with district agreements, even local union agreements.

SOLIDARITY

And there can be no solidarity on that basis—it will be everyone on their own.

So we have to change the leadership of this union. We have to turn the union around—and now. □

Stearns' strike in third year



Stearns' women and state troopers

STEARNS, KY—The strike at the Justus mine is now entering its third year.

Two summers ago, the miners here voted overwhelmingly to be represented by the United Mine Workers (UMW). But the company refused to recognize the union. They filled the mine with armed guards.

Strikers had to dig trenches and use sandbags to maintain their picket lines. Shooting occurred almost daily for long stretches of time.

The Stearns strikers have received support from virtually every part of the

country. They have received delegations from miners in other countries.

Their own union, however, has done next to nothing to help them win. The UMW has called no support strikes, it has not mobilized the rank and file miners, it did not make Stearns an issue in the contract strike.

There are also coal miners on strike in St. Charles, Virginia and in central Pennsylvania. Independent coal companies have refused to sign contracts with union miners. □

WHERE WE STAND



WORKERS' CONTROL

Workers create all the wealth under capitalism. A socialist society can only be built when workers collectively seize control of that wealth and democratically plan its production and distribution according to human needs instead of profit.

The working class is the key to the fight for socialism. Freedom and liberation will only be achieved through the struggles of workers themselves, organizing and fighting for real workers' power.

REVOLUTION NOT REFORM

The capitalist system cannot be patched up or reformed as some union leaders and liberal politicians say. Capitalism is based on the exploitation of workers. No reforms can do away with this exploitation. The only way workers can come to control society and create a system based on freedom and a decent life for all is by overthrowing capitalism and replacing it with revolutionary, democratic socialism.

A WORKERS' GOVERNMENT

The present state apparatus (federal and state governments, the courts, army and police) was developed to maintain the capitalist system. This apparatus cannot be taken over as it stands and converted to serve workers. The working class needs an entirely different kind of state based upon mass democratic councils of workers' delegates.

Supporting the present state apparatus is a vast network of propaganda—newspapers, radio, television, movies. Workers are bombarded daily from all directions with capitalism's point of view. The working class needs its own sources of information. To help meet this need, we are dedicated to building a newspaper that the working class can trust and use in their fight against the present system.

FIGHT OPPRESSION

Capitalism divides the working class. It pits men against women, whites against blacks. Capitalism fosters and uses these divisions to prevent the unity necessary for its destruction. As capitalism moves into crisis, oppressed groups—blacks, women, latins, Native Americans, youths, gays—suffer most. We support the struggles of these oppressed groups.

We oppose racism in all its forms. We fight segregation in the schools and housing and against racist firings and harassment. We demand freedom for all political prisoners.

We fight for women's liberation. We are for equal pay for all women workers. We fight for an end to forced sterilization and for free abortion. There should be free quality child care for all who need it. We fight for the opening up of jobs for women and an end to sexual harassment and firings. We are for an end to discrimination and harassment of sexual minorities.

We support the independent organization and struggles of oppressed people to strengthen the working class struggle for socialism.

RANK AND FILE ORGANIZATION

The unions today are largely business machines that long ago stopped fighting seriously for the interests of the working class. Business union leaders either act as brakes on workers' struggles, or as police, delivering workers into the hands of the bosses. We fight in the unions to change this.

To make the unions fight for workers' interests, power must be built on the shop floor. This can only happen if the rank and file organize themselves independently of the union bureaucrats. We work to build rank and file organizations in unions and companies wherever we are employed.

INTERNATIONALISM

The working class has no nation. Capitalism is international and that is why the struggle for socialism must be world-wide. A socialist revolution cannot survive in isolation.

We champion workers' struggles in all countries, from Portugal and Spain to Chile and Puerto Rico, from Palestine and Eastern Europe to China and India. We support all genuine national liberation struggles. We call for victory of the black freedom fighters in Zimbabwe and South Africa. We oppose all forms of imperialism and oppose sending U.S. troops anywhere in the world to impose U.S. interests.

Russia, China, Cuba and Eastern Europe are not socialist countries. They are state capitalist and part of one world capitalist system. We support the struggles of workers in these countries against the bureaucratic ruling class.

REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

The activity of the ISO is directed toward the initial steps of building a revolutionary party in a working class that is today fragmented and cut off from socialist ideas. Revolutionaries must be involved in the day-to-day struggles of workers and other oppressed groups at the work places, in the unions and in the communities. We build every struggle that will strengthen the self-confidence, organization and socialist consciousness of workers and the oppressed.

As the working class movement gathers strength, the need for revolutionary leadership becomes crucial. We are part of the long process of building a democratic revolutionary party rooted in the working class. Those who agree with our stand and are prepared to help us build toward revolutionary socialism are urged to join us now.

Join the International Socialist Organization

For more information about the International Socialist Organization (ISO) please write to Box 18037, Cleveland, Ohio 44118

ISO NEWS

First convention held in Oberlin, Ohio



OBERLIN, OH—The first convention of the ISO was held here in late July.

For three days, one hundred delegates, members, and observers met to discuss the political situation in the United States, developments in the working class movement, and international questions.

There were sessions which focused on the black movement and the women's movement, evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of each, and their relationship to the working class and the fight for socialism.

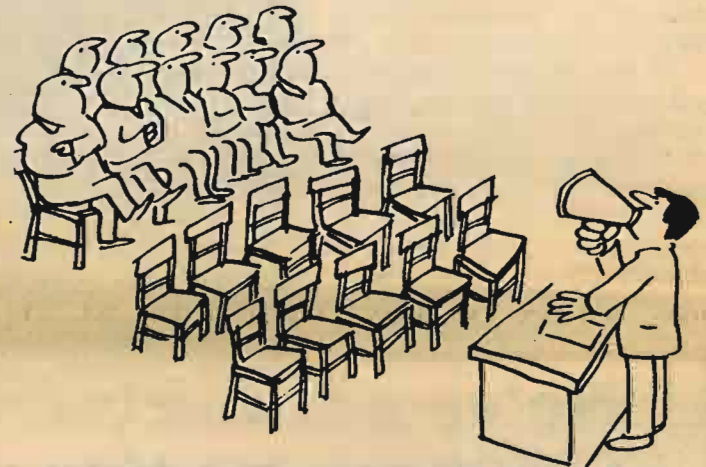
On international perspectives, the convention, after some debate, adopted the position that Russia and the so-called communist countries are in no way socialist. Instead they are state capitalist, and it is the responsibility of socialists here to support those who fight for workers' rights against the bureaucratic ruling classes.

There was an important session on Socialist Worker. While the basic format of the paper will remain the same, the convention voted to strengthen the coverage of the black liberation struggle by adding a regular column on black history and politics. The convention also agreed to launch a sales and subscriptions drive in the fall.

The convention also heard reports from rank and file workers, including a report on the miners' struggle by Tony Bumbico of UMW District 6 in Ohio.

There were messages of solidarity from revolutionary socialists in Northern Ireland, South Africa, Denmark, Germany, and Australia.

Dave McNally brought greetings from the International Socialists of Canada. And Steve Jefferys brought a message of solidarity and support from the Socialist Workers Party of Britain. □



GET THEM TO SIT AT THE FRONT...

Revolutionary publications from Britain

International Socialism.
The new theoretical magazine of the Socialist Worker's Party (GB). \$1.50

South Africa Since Soweto,
by John Rogers and Alex Callinicos. With an updated introduction. \$4.95

International Discussion Bulletin, special double issue on the women's movement and the revolutionary left. Articles from the USA, France and Italy. Also an article on the anti-nuke movement. \$1

Socialist Review, June, with an article by Sheila Rowbotham on the women's movement. \$1

Socialist Review, July—August, includes "Scramble for Africa." \$1

Available from Hera Press

"The philosophers have merely interpreted the world. The point is to change it."

- Karl Marx

If you want to help us change the world and build socialism, join us. There are ISO members and branches in the following places:

National Office, P.O. Box 18037
Cleveland, OH 44118

Amherst, P.O. Box 446
Amherst, MA 01002

Berkeley, P.O. Box 9580,
Berkeley, CA 94704

Bloomington, P.O. Box 29
Bloomington, IN 47401

Boston, P.O. Box 131, Kendall Sq. Station,
Boston, MA 02142

Brattleboro, P.O. Box 64
Brattleboro, VT 05301

Charleston, P.O. Box 1748
Charleston, W. VA 25310

Chicago, P.O. Box A-3698
Chicago, IL 60690

Cincinnati, P.O. Box 8909
Cincinnati, OH 45208

Cleveland, P.O. Box 18037
Cleveland, OH 44118

Dayton, Box 166, Wright Brothers Station
Dayton, OH 45409

Detroit, P.O. Box 2596
Dearborn, MI 48123

Gary, P.O. Box 1941, Glen Park Station
Gary, IN 46409

Indianapolis, P.O. Box 21122
Indianapolis, IN 46221

Louisville, P.O. Box 8312
Louisville, KY 40208

Los Angeles, P.O. Box 477
Lynwood, CA 90262

New York, P.O. Box 302
New York, NY 10011

New Haven, P.O. Box 2636 Yale Station
New Haven, CN 06520

Northampton, P.O. Box 284
Northampton, MA 01060

Philadelphia, 3909 Spruce
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Portland, P.O. Box 6743
Portland, OR 97211

Providence, P.O. Box 3961, Brown Station
Providence, RI 02912

Seattle, P.O. Box 9056
Seattle, WA 98109

Women, the family, and alienation

by KADI SPRENGLE
and BARBARA WINSLOW

Women often come to the women's liberation movement out of direct personal experiences.

For Inez Garcia or Joan Little the reason was rape.

For others it was sexual harassment at work, an illegal abortion, a horrible marriage, not being treated with respect in a political organization.

Women join the movement because of the thousands of ways women are battered—emotionally, physically, economically, socially or sexually.

All this, needless to say, must be of great concern to revolutionary feminists.

CRITICS

But the Marxist movement has written little about the problems of personal life and women's oppression, and women's liberationists are often rightly critical as a result.

Anne Foreman is one such critic. Her new book, *Femininity as Alienation*, is an attempt to analyze women's oppression under capitalism. And she is critical of Marxists who she says do not consider "their own subjective experience, their own individual relations of political concern."

FEMININITY AS ALIENATION: WOMEN AND THE FAMILY IN MARXISM AND PSYCHOANALYSIS, by Anne Foreman, Pluto Press, 1977.

Her central point is that she rejects the Marxist idea that the family is economically central to capitalism.

She does not agree that the oppression of women results from her role in the family in terms of bearing, rearing and educating the next generation.

Instead she reduces the family solely to a husband-wife relationship, where the purpose of the family is to relieve the alienation of the male worker. The family is "the realm of the personal and the sexual."



She goes on to argue that capitalism does not have a vested interest in maintaining the family. It is working class men who need it for their emotional and sexual relief.

CHILD CARE

Can this be true? Take the issue of child care.

Women raise children in the private family. In the United States 42.3% of all working mothers have children ages 3-5. 32.4% have children under 3. Yet only 5.6% of all children of working mothers are cared for in child care centers.

Simply to provide infant and child care centers on a scale which would socialize child raising would cost

billions and today, there is a growing cutback on social services such as child care centers, as a result of the capitalist crisis. Greater numbers of children are forced back into the privatized family/home for rearing. Capitalism cannot abolish the family; it cannot afford the social cost, not as long as profits always come first and there is recurrent crisis. If, on the other hand, capitalism could be expected to expand indefinitely, no doubt such reforms would be possible, and women might be liberated short of revolution.

Anne Foreman dismisses this as "economic determinism," and repeats that

capitalism could have already taken over the family if it weren't for resistance from working class men.

The problem with this analysis of the family resting solely on the husband-wife relationship is that it leads to the conclusion that you don't have to overthrow capitalism in order for women's liberation because working class men and sexist ideology are the main cause of women's oppression.

It can also lead to the idea that the chief task of revolutionaries is reforming personal relationships in the here and now, rather than building organizations which can smash the system that underlies all social relations. This

strategy, which is both idealist and utopian, usually spells disaster for both individuals and organizations which take it up.

There are other problems with her analysis—her definition of oppression is a classless one. All women are oppressed under capitalism, but as Joan Smith has argued in "Women and the Family"—"the degree of the oppression depends on their class."

Foreman wants to build an "autonomous" women's liberation organization and she believes the women's organization can be classless. "Self-organization then enables working class and middle class women to come together, in the women's movement, each on a political basis, each from their own source of strength (my emphasis). But in reality that would mean a woman's organization dominated by middle class women and always divided as to whether or not they wished to overthrow capitalism.

Revolutionary feminists always argue for the self-organization of women. But it is only in the struggle of working class women—for socialism, allied with men—that women's liberation can be won.

SERIOUS

This book fails, but it should not lead us to ignore the issues of oppression or personal life—not if we want to be taken seriously by the women's movement. There have been some—although too few—revolutionary feminists—Alexandra Kollontai, Emma Goldman, Sylvia Pankhurst or Eleanor Marx—who did contribute to the understanding of oppression. We should build on the work of these women, for if we don't no one will. We don't need to reject Marxism—we need to make our voices heard. □

Remember Chile

There is a continuing debate on the left as to whether socialism can be obtained through "democratic means."

If by this one means bourgeois democracy, then they are mistaken. The tragic experiment in Chile attests to that.

On this fifth anniversary of the September 11 coup, we need to look back and evaluate it.

THE GORILLAS ARE AMONGST US, by Helios Prieto, Pluto Press, 1974, \$1.25.

This book shows how the UP's (Popular Unity's) blindly reformist policies played right

Elizabeth Hamilton reviews Helios Prieto's book on the Chilean Coup. The bloody coup against Allende took place five years ago this month.

into the hands of the military and the bourgeoisie, bringing about the coup.

Prieto starts his book describing UP's initial policies, then he shows how, gradually, these policies were eroded by the opposition and by the UP itself, opening wide the way for the coup.

Prieto explains that one of UP's first policies was to increase the workers' buying power by increasing their wages. The long range effect was heavy inflation.

The author emphasizes that the unfettered bourgeoisie

was not going to sit by while its profits were lowered.

Inflation, hoarding, strikes by truck owners and other forms of economic sabotage greeted UP's initial and later pro-working class policies.

RESPOND

UP ends up by requesting that workers should respond to the economic crisis by holding back wage demands and by boosting productivity levels.

Sounds like the IMF talking, not a "Marxist" government. Another major way that UP

played into the hands of the military and the bourgeoisie was through expropriation of large land owners' farms and the nationalization of industries.

Prieto shows how these policies backfired. Cash (paid to the bourgeoisie in large lump sums) obtained from nationalizations and expropriations was either sent out of the country or invested freely in ways that further subverted UP's supposed "socialist" goals.

The UP also laid way for the coup by permitting the mili-

tary into Allende's cabinet. The military was able to perpetrate many acts of repression against the working class which increased in scope until they turned into the bloody coup of September 11.

This small book gives many concrete examples of what I have discussed here and it brings to light many more points that demonstrate that UP failed because it did not put all its trust in the working class.

UP betrayed the working class often, as it collaborated with the enemy. The bourgeoisie could not and cannot be trusted to turn against its own class interests. □



on the picket line



"UPRISING" OF MASS. STATE WORKERS

BOSTON, MA—Four thousand state employees demonstrated July 5 in front of the State House. They were protesting the withholding of their paychecks after the legislature failed to pass a budget because of an amendment which denied abortions to Medicaid users and state employees.

The next day wildcat strikes started at Walpole State Prison among the guards, and at Bridgewater State Hospital. Friday, July 7 workers at Wrentham State School walked out (see story). The strike was on the verge of spreading to the other 70,000 state workers when checks were issued the following Monday.

Union officials of the Alliance (AFSCME and SEIU) called the demonstration but were unwilling to strike. One bureaucrat called the wildcats the beginning of "a total uprising" of the rank and file

Wildcat hits Wrentham School

WRENTHAM, MA—At 6:30 p.m. on Friday, July 7, the members of Local 646, AFSCME, at Wrentham State School (WSS) voted overwhelmingly to strike. The reason was the withholding of paychecks by the state. Actually the strike had begun almost 12 hours earlier. The vote to strike was a formality forced on the local union officials by the rank and file.

Late Thursday evening members of the "Rank and File Workers Committee" at WSS began calling each other to discuss the possibility of setting up a picket line.

PICKET

At 7:30 a.m. Friday about 10 members of the Workers Committee began an "informational" picket. By 3:00 p.m. the majority of the evening shift employees had joined them and day shift workers were walking out. Faced with this "spontaneous action" by the vast majority of the workers, the local union was forced to make it "official" by a vote at a special union meeting on Friday evening.

By Saturday morning over 1300 workers, out of about 1500, were out on strike. They closed all side entrances



to the facility with barricades of sawhorses, trash cans, and lounge chairs so the majority of pickets could be concentrated at the main front entrance.

Both state and local police were on hand almost 24 hours a day to harass the strikers and escort scabs into work. Although the picketers were accused of violence, it was the scabs and cops who started most of the trouble.

"Scabs have hit people with their cars," said a striker. "The cops were right there and saw the whole thing, and yet they wouldn't do anything. When we complained

to them, they ignored us. They just tell us to 'Keep moving,' that's all."

Council 93 of AFSCME did nothing to help the strikers. In fact the council even sent two representatives, Frank Tovares and Ed Harrington, down to Wrentham to try to break the strike and get the rank and file back to work. On Sunday, July 9, Tovares and Local 646 president, George Carrol, crossed the picket line to work out a deal with the WSS administration and get everyone back to work as soon as possible.

At about 2:00 p.m. Sunday, the local called a special union meeting on the picket line to present the "deal" they had reached with management: Paychecks for the 3-11 shift employees would be available at 10:00 p.m.; all others would be ready by 6:45 a.m. Monday. There would be no discussion of amnesty for the strikers until everyone was back to work.

Both offers were unanimously rejected by the rank and file. "What the hell good is a paycheck at ten o'clock Sunday night?" shouted one striker.

At 6:30 p.m., when most of the strikers had gone home for supper, another special union meeting was called. By a secret ballot, it was voted 40 to 33 to end the strike at 11:00 p.m.

RESULT

The result was disastrous.

Over the next week George Carrol was fired, despite the fact he had opposed going out on strike from the beginning. All local union officers and about 30 other workers were suspended for 2 to 5 days.

In the short-run, the workers at Wrentham State School were defeated. They were defeated by the duplicity of the union bureaucrats of council 93. They were defeated because the strike didn't spread to the other state facilities as they had hoped it would. But in the long-run they were victorious. Their courage will serve as an example to all other state workers. Next time a sell-out won't be so easy.

By WAYNE STANDLEY

An Opinion

John Anderson is a lifelong militant and socialist. He was formerly president of UAW local 15 in Detroit.

WE SHOULD FIGHT FOR SHORTER CONTRACTS



On April 27, 28 and 29, 1961, the UAW held its Special Collective Bargaining Convention in Cobo Hall in Detroit.

One of the Resolutions adopted at that convention dealt with the problem of the long term agreements. The three year agreements had become standard for the Big Three auto makers as well as for most other employers.

The arguments presented in 1961 against the three year contracts are even more valid today. The delegates to the 1979 special convention should give serious consideration to this problem.

The resolution as printed in the Report of Joint Resolutions and Constitution Committee, Part 2 follows:

THE PROBLEM OF CONTRACT DURATION

The long-term contract, which has been customary in our industry and others, has become less appropriate as our members have suffered from the impact of more rapid changes in technology, in addition to the sharp upward and downward swing in consumer demand for the products we make.

The central purpose of collective bargaining is to solve the human problems of the work place through

democratic procedures and agreements. This purpose is largely defeated when provisions are frozen in the long-term contracts and become out-moded in a rapidly changing economy.

The long-term contract has become an unwieldy and inefficient instrumentality for protecting the workers' interests under present and emerging industrial conditions. What is needed is a more flexible means of meeting legitimate problems as soon as possible in the wake of changing circumstances.

In the industrial sphere as in the general community, justice delayed is justice denied, and the inflexibility of long-term contracts delays justice.

The human problems created by the accelerating pace of economic and technological change should not be put aside to wait for solution for so long a time that they grow to intolerable proportions.

One of the central dilemmas of our society stems from the fact that we have been allowing technological and economic change to get too far out in front of the arrangements we make for harnessing such change to our national purposes and making it serve our democratic values. One significant way to narrow this gap in the area of collective bargaining is to give labor and management, through short-

term contracts, more frequent opportunities to adjust their differences and to find equitable solutions for the many pressing human problems which technological and economic change creates but which only the democratic process can solve.

Accordingly, this Special Collective Bargaining Convention calls upon the Officers and the International Executive Board to limit contract duration to two years as a maximum if the contracts involved include cost-of-living escalator and improvement factor provisions, and to no more than one year for contracts that do not have such provisions. Duration of contracts in Canada must take account of the fact that our members in that country are denied the right to strike during the life of the contract.

It should be obvious to every alert worker the reason for the UAW leadership continuing to accept the three year contracts is to limit the opportunities of the opposition to appeal to the rank and file for support.

At each termination date it is possible to expose the bankruptcy of the union's policies.

During the next year the opposition should carry on a campaign to limit all UAW contracts to two years.



BAY AREA POSTAL WILDCAT



RICHMOND, CA—On July 22, Postal workers at the San Francisco Bulk Mail Center walked off their jobs in protest of the contract accepted earlier by their national union leaders.

More than 80% of the workers supported the wildcat action. Pickets said that they hoped that their actions would spark a national walkout and contract rejection. The workers of APWU #302 vowed not to return to work until issues of safety and forced overtime were resolved.

Many workers at the Bulk Mail Center are forced to work 6 days and 60 hours a week. The accident rate at the highly automated facility is the highest in the Western Region.

CHARGES

Since the initial walkout 78 workers have received termination notices. 22 are facing trial on criminal contempt charges for defying a court injunction banning picketing.

Those dismissed realize the only hope for returning to their jobs is a national rejection of the contract. They have been actively leaf-letting other postal workers in the Bay Area to vote the contract down.

Spirits continue to be high and the Richmond workers refuse to be intimidated by court injunctions, postal inspectors, or warnings from a Federal judge that they will do "hard time" for their illegal walkout.

They are demanding complete amnesty for themselves and workers at a Bulk Mail facility in New Jersey. □

By TOM FREEMAN



New York pressmen fight for jobs

Pressman from the New York Times picket in a strike that will determine the future of their jobs and their union. The Times wants to automate and eliminate half the pressmen.

When the Washington Post made a similar move over a year ago the result was scabbing and a broken union. The Times pressmen have a better chance. The nine other crafts and the Newspaper Guild are staying out and keeping the paper shut down. □

PHILADELPHIA

WORKERS DEFY RIZZO

PHILADELPHIA, PA—It's back to the saltmines for Philly's 20,000 non-uniformed city employees. Their eight-day strike, the most important the city has seen in years, ended on July 22.

The strike was an open defiance of the hated Rizzo machine.

On July 11 the outspokenly racist, ex-cop mayor of Philadelphia declared open war on the non-uniformed municipal workers of AFSCME District Councils 33 and 47, by demanding that in their new contract, AFSCME pay the cost of a recently negotiated 9% salary increase for the cops and firemen, through the layoff of 3500 to 4500 non-uniformed city workers.

MILITANT

These include sanitation men, the most militant force

in AFSCME and the backbone of the union, as well as secretaries, city nursing home employees, museum and recreation department workers, court employees and prison guards.

The workers, in response, shut down all city operations, demanding the same 9% increase as had been awarded the police, and no layoffs.

The strength of the strike lay in the sanitation workers, whose power was manifest in ever-growing piles of garbage, some reaching up to ten feet high. Their stand is reflected in the words of a striking streets department worker: "The city don't have its shit together."

NAME

When asked what his name was, he replied, "John Doe... spelled d-o-u-g-h, like in I

need more d-o-u-g-h from R-i-z-z-o. A sanitation man should get more money. You don't see the cop on the horse cleaning up the road apples."

The reference is to manure from the horses of the Philadelphia Mounted Police, the heavy accumulation of which was causing a more and more noticeable stench throughout the city, especially around picket lines where the cops were out in full force.

Rizzo and his understandably devoted police force did everything in their power to intimidate the strikers.

Private contractors were hired to haul away garbage. cops performed scab duty in the prisons. 2000 court system and prison employees, whose participation in the strike was illegal, were threatened with being jailed and fired if they failed to return to work.

"BACKBONE"

Rizzo himself, relying on his one great talent, heaped verbal insult and intimidation on the strikers. Calling the cops the "backbone of the city," he went on to proclaim, "If I'm going to decide between a policeman and a sanitation worker, the sanitation worker loses."

It was the sum total of these attacks, together with the unwillingness of AFSCME's top leadership, especially

DC #33's president Earl Stout, to fight, that led to the workers accepting a contract settlement that can only be termed a sellout and a major defeat for the union.

On Thursday, July 20, a tentative agreement was reached. It called for a 7% wage increase—2% less than the cops—and unlimited layoffs of non-uniformed personnel.

This contract, described by Mr. Stout as "lovely, a contract we can live with," was ratified by a vote of 6700 to 4200. Only half of the disgusted membership bothered to vote.

Sanitation men and others have yelled "sellout" at Earl Stout many times in the past. The same shouts were heard at 7th and Passyunk, the cite of the city garbage dump, the day the terms of the tentative agreement were announced.

WALKING

Although Philly municipal workers are back on the job now, no one knows how long they will stay. The current mood of the sanitation men was well expressed by this young worker on the day the contract was voted up: "I guess I'll be driving the truck again Monday, but I might be walkin' again before long." □

by SANDY MEREDITH

Bus builders back to work

MITCHELL, IN—The four and a half month old strike at the Carpenter Bus Body Works, the nation's largest school bus body builder, ended August 5th with 520 striking workers accepting a 33-month contract. The margin was 237 and 181 to reject.

GAINS

Many workers felt that the new contract made important gains. Not only were wage and most of the health and pension demands met, but other important issues, like retaliation by the company against strikers who tried to keep scabs from entering the plants, were settled in favor of the strikers.

Other workers were not so enthusiastic, however. One worker noted that the important issue of the company's having the power to lay off workers during slack periods

without compensation was left unsettled.

But as Bill Moore, who runs a press brake at Carpenters, put it, "This strike taught the company how together we are. Next time around they won't be so confident they can push us around." Despite court injunctions filed by the company against picketers, and harassing by local law enforcers, the strikers held their ground. Company attempts to resume production by hiring as many as 250 scabs were for the most part ineffective, as production was held to a minimum.

Just a week before the settlement, the strikers overwhelmingly turned down an offer which would have resulted in a loss of seniority of the strikers to the scabs as well as allowing the company to reprimand the picketers engaged in violence. □

By BOB MORRIS



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VW WORKERS FIGHT FOR JOBS

CHARLESTON, W.VA—Volkswagon here has fired 17 workers, including the Chairman of the plant's shop committee.

The workers were fired after they walked out in a dispute over safety. The Charleston plant was shut down for four days beginning July 24, and the strike forced VW to close down their New Stanton, PA,

assembly plant for six days.

The fired workers, members of UAW Local 1933, went to Detroit to appeal to the UAW executive board for support but instead they were told they shouldn't have been on strike in the first place.

They are now seeking support from other workers in Charleston, and hope to win their jobs back. □

Bankers make a killing on "history"



Poorest families pushed from homes

CINCINNATI, OH—Mary Bishop and Henrietta Lucas are from the Over-the-Rhine neighborhood in downtown Cincinnati.

They were recently forced out of their homes of 31 and 13 years, respectively, by an enterprising young capitalist, John Crom.

It seems there are profits to be made in Over-the-Rhine after years of neglect. It's called speculative buying.

Capitalists in this city are very keen on the poor neighborhoods—for themselves of course, not for those who are forced to live there.

BUCKS

Buy cheap, renovate and sell for a substantial profit. That's what Mr. Crom is doing. That's also what Judge Blackmore, who sits on the eviction court, has done. He recently bought a build-

ing in Over-the-Rhine for "historical restoration." Translated, that means big bucks.

Mary and Henrietta are not the first victims of this process. Other neighborhoods have fallen into the speculators pockets. Once restored, these neighborhoods attract those who have money to pay the higher rents and mortgages. Banks are making a killing off the "historical

heritage" of places like Over-the-Rhine.

Mary Bishop told Socialist Worker that she had no recourse and no hope of finding a place as suitable as the building she was forced out of. "We were harassed out of our homes. They locked us out of the little yard. They put the garbage cans by my door—in the middle of summer, that's not fair," she said.

Hoping to build community resistance to the take-over, the Over-the-Rhine Housing Task Force organized a demonstration in front of the building vacated by Mary and Henrietta.

John Luginbill of the Task Force told Socialist Worker, "We see this restoration process as an attack on poor people as a class, by those who are out for profits. □

By BILL ROBERTS

"STAR WARS" FOR DETROIT MECHANICS

DETROIT, MI—"All we want are decent working conditions and some respect." That's how a Detroit bus mechanic on the picket line at the Wabash Avenue garage explained the three day strike by over 3500 city workers represented by Council 25 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

The mechanics (paid \$13,000-18,000 a year without

COLA) have been forced to work in rat and roach infested pits under the buses, where grease and oil is inches deep, and there's no ventilation for exhaust fumes and temperatures climb to over 115 degrees.

Under conditions like these, city managers, such as "slave driver" Conrad Mallett (Director of Transportation, salary \$42,124 a year with

COLA), are trying to require forced overtime, 7 day weeks at straight time and a reduced number of sick days, along with a computerized maintenance speed-up program. "I think they went out and saw "Star Wars" and now they want to stick computer tapes in our ears and watch us spin around," commented a bus mechanic on the Schaefer Street picket line.

On the first day of the wild-

cat, strikers put together and distributed a leaflet stating ten strike issues and defied a court order to return to work.

RESULTS

On the second day, they refused to be intimidated by Mayor Coleman Young's threat to fire all strikers. On the third day, a shop steward from Local 542 explained the situation during a union meet-

ing, "We're willing to support the union all the way, but we want some results this time."

After the union officials, such as Bob Johnson, president of Council 25, did not support the strike or win any concessions, except an agreement from Young not to fire anyone, the strikers returned to work. The transportation mechanics have given the city 30 days to come up with some results or face a new strike. □