

# Socialist Worker

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## Cutbacks, strike breaking and union busting

# REAGAN'S PLAN: HELP THE RICH!

There are 153,000 auto workers on lay-off in the United States from the Big Three alone (General Motors, Ford and Chrysler).

Yet, 600 workers at the huge General Motors Lordstown complex near Youngstown, Ohio, are working ten hours a day, seven days a week. The company will not even allow them a day off after thirteen straight, despite a contract provision to the contrary.

### FAST

General Motors wants to get as many of its new J-cars onto the market as fast as possible, and it also wants to set production standards at the Lordstown plant.

Right now workers are producing 70 cars an hour, but David Perrone, GMAD spokesman at Lordstown, says this isn't enough. He wants 75 cars per hour.

The union, U.A.W. Local 1112, is threatening to strike against this speed-up. The pace is killing, and there are already 6,186 unsettled grievances, more than 500 on speed-up.

The local has taken a strike vote. 85% of the workers voted, and 79% voted to strike. But many workers believe that this was only done for show, and that it is unlikely the International union in Detroit would authorize a strike in any case.

Still the Lordstown workers are in a position of strength—should they choose to strike. Only two plants produce the J-cars so far—the Lordstown plant and one in Southgate, California.

# THE RICH!

The situation at the Lordstown plant says a lot about the kind of problems workers face today.

Last year, when the big auto and steel producers demanded concessions from the unions—the union leaders and many workers went along, fearing that a fight-back might make things worse.

### PROFITS

But now that the auto and steel makers have announced big profits for the second quarter of 1981, what has happened to the workers? There are still 7.7% unemployed in the United States, but those working face speed-up, worse conditions and more cuts to come.

And now the official news is that the nation is in a new recession, and that, according to the Department of Commerce, things are not likely to improve until the middle of 1982!

It would be more accurate to say that the United States—and the industrialized world—is in the

midst of a long term crisis, marked by stagnation and inflation—"stagflation" was the pronouncement of the summit meeting recently held in Canada. And there is no end in sight.

As of now, workers have chosen to accept this crisis passively, either out of apathy, or because they believe that they must sacrifice to help the economy and the country.

But surely Reagan's policies show the futility of this—even more clearly than Carter's. Sacrifice will only help the rich.

The workers at Lordstown—and workers everywhere—have only one alternative.

### WIN

We don't have to lie down and die. We don't have to take it. Workers can win—as the Polish workers have shown so often in the past year—but only if we are prepared to stand up and fight. □

## SOLIDARNOŚĆ



### CRISIS DEEPENS IN POLAND

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### NUCLEAR SAFETY -NOT IN 1980

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### ISO NATIONAL CONVENTION

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### NURSES STRIKE ONE YEAR OLD

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# Government to prosecute 134 draft resisters

On July 21, exactly one year since the draft registration program became mandatory, the Reagan administration has announced that it will begin prosecution of 134 men who have refused to register.

## NAMES

The Selective Service System sent a list of the 134 names to the Justice Department for "investigation and possible prosecution." First it contacted all the men on the original list of 150, telling them to register.

All but 16 stood firm in their resistance to the ever-growing military buildup that is central to Reaganomics.

The 134 resisters (out of the almost 600,000 non-registrants that SSS officials admit to) are being made an example of. It is the administration's way of letting young people know that draft resistance will not be tolerated.

In other words, Reagan is letting everyone know that if they continue to oppose registration—which he himself vowed opposition to while campaigning last year—they will be suitably punished.

"Suitably" is a federal felony charge, carrying a maximum penalty of 5 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

Though the administration has not yet officially given its approval to peacetime regis-

by GERI D'ANNIBALLE

tration and the draft, assistant SSS director Brayton Harris stated, "Everything we have done has had the approval of the Justice Department and the Office of Management and Budget."

He added that White House Domestic Affairs Adviser Martin Anderson is also aware of the SSS decision.

The Reagan administration's turnaround is certainly not a surprise.

We've seen it before. Johnson pledged not to extend the war in Viet Nam during his campaign. Nixon said he'd end it!

## CLEAR

It has long been clear that American presidents love nothing quite so much as a good, imperialistic, economy-boosting, profit making war.

So, Reagan wants it, Congress wants it, the corpora-

tions want it. The generals, who have been pretty bored with only a limited amount of lives and guns to play with, want it—what's stopping them?

What's stopping them is people who won't lie down.

People like Rusty Martin, one of the 134, who said, "If the government throws me in jail for not putting my name on a piece of paper, it will wake up a lot of people. It will make people rethink what's going on in this country."

And people waking up and rethinking is just the kind of response the administration wants least. It might lead to people putting things together—who is getting the breaks from the tax breaks; who gets the cuts from the budget cuts; and who, if we go to war to hold up this rotten system, will do the fighting and dying.

That type of thinking might spoil their plans. Maybe even their whole ugly system.

SSS director Bernard Rostker thinks the government will have no trouble putting resisters away "quickly".

But we can prove him wrong. It is time to come out in full and vocal support of the 134 resisters the administration would like to make an example of.

Time to raise the demand of "No draft, No war" more loudly than ever.

## ACTION

One way is to support the actions against the draft October 5-11 which have been called for by the National Committee Against Registration and the Draft.

Another is to support or organize anti-draft work locally.

Let Reagan know the persecution of draft resisters will be neither "quick" nor easy! □

## BEGIN'S BLOODY WORK

Begin the terrorist is at his bloody work again.

Israeli jets have attacked Beirut, Saida, Tyre and Nabatiyyeh—the centers of Palestinian Resistance and the Lebanese left.

The Palestinians have no aircraft of their own. Their simple radar gives no real warning. Israeli planes—supplied by the United States—fly so high that anti-aircraft fire is usually ineffective.

For the Israelis bombing the people of the Lebanese cities is like swatting flies.

## TARGETS

The computer-controlled bombing of the Israelis means that they can hit ground targets with great accuracy.

But long experience of bombing Palestinian camps and bases tells them that the huge bombs they use produce such a massive blast that everyone near the area of impact will be killed.

This is mass murder. Begin is holding to his election promise to 'eliminate' Palestinians in Lebanon.

Begin has denounced the rocket attacks of the Palestinians in reply to his bombers.

He would prefer the Palestinians to lie back and take it. For Begin, the Zionist movement has the right to obliterate all opposition.

Palestinians who get in the way will be snuffed out. Schools, clinics, offices and shops and hundreds of homes will be smashed. When the Palestinians stand up for themselves they are guilty of 'murder'.

## WINK

The raids have been carried out with at least a nod and a wink from the U.S.—Washington has produced scarcely a whimper of the usual protests.

The Arab governments have looked on in silence. Who care for the Palestinians?

Now a major conflict in Lebanon is closer than ever. Begin's fascist allies have run into trouble with internal wrangles and are under great military pressure. If Begin really wants to "deal with" the Palestinians in Lebanon he will have to use the Israeli army to do it.

Last time Israel invaded, in 1978, 300,000 people were made homeless. Still the Israelis could not snuff out the Palestinians.

Now, better armed and more highly trained, the Palestinians will give Israel an even bloodier battle.

## CHOICE

This is Begin's choice—to annihilate thousands more Palestinians and Lebanese with an even more ferocious war from the air—or to mount another full scale invasion.

## EQUAL PAY IN SAN JOSE

SAN JOSE, CA—City workers here didn't win all they wanted, but they did set a precedent by walking off their jobs for ten days demanding equal pay for women workers.

Following a ten day strike, members of AFSCME Local 101 ratified a new two year contract which calls for \$1.5 billion to be spent towards equalizing pay between men and women employees in the city.

The workers won a 7.5 per cent general wage increase this year, and an 8 per cent increase in 1982.

"This settlement represents a real crack in the market place labor system in this country," says Mike Ferrero, the president of Local 101.

## INHERENT

"The pricing of labor by supply and demand includes inherent prejudices against women and minorities. There's no way to make changes in those patterns of discrimination without changing market standards."

The union argued that "equal pay for equal work" would never change anything since the vast majority of working women were segregated into traditionally female jobs.

So instead the union raised the demand of "equal pay for work of comparable value." □



CHICAGO, IL—Within hours of the Israeli bombing of civilian targets in Lebanon, Palestinian organizations marched on the federal building and Israeli consulate.

Chanting "Zionism is racism, down with racism", and "Stop U.S. arms to Israel" and "Long live PLO", over 100 demonstrators showed their opposition to U.S. supported Israeli military action in Southern Lebanon. The emergency protest was called by the Chicago chapter of the Palestine Congress of North America and supported by the General Union of Palestinian Students, and the Palestine Human Rights Campaign (PHRC).

According to David Williams of PHRC, the success of the march and renewed Israeli aggression could spark an upturn in the Palestinian solidarity movement in the U.S.

"There's been a real need for this for a long time, but things are now coming to a head. Israel has created so much destruction in Lebanon that public opinion may be ripe for an anti-zionist initiative."

On Friday, August 21st, a related protest is being called to demand the release Ziad Abu Ein. Ziad is a twenty-two year old Palestinian refugee who has been held two years in a U.S. federal prison pending extradition to Israel. He is charged with a 1979 bombing in the Israeli occupied West Bank, even though the Israeli government's prime witness has legally sworn his accusations against Ziad were a lie.

For more information and details for the August 21st protest call the Ziad Abu Ein Defense Committee at 461-0425. Palestine Lives!

by BEN BLAKE



# Stop the attacks on workers

# UNION BUSTER REAGAN

**Socialist  
Worker**  
WHAT WE THINK



Anti-Reagan demonstrators in Chicago

## Polish workers demand food and freedom

All over Poland, Solidarity, the independent trade union movement, has plastered signs: "We demand eating on a civilized level," "We are hungry," "Where is the food," and "We are tired of lies."

### MARCHES

A new form of protest has developed—hunger marches. In the industrial town of Kutno, 75 miles west of Warsaw, one such march started with 50 people, then grew to 200. "Come on-join us-don't be afraid," the marchers called out.

By the time the march reached its destination there were perhaps 4,000 men and women. They heard a representative of Solidarity read a statement saying, "We declare that we do not feel free, just the opposite."

That same week 300 industrial workers, representatives of Solidarity, marched on the Parliament in Warsaw demanding that the government immediately revoke its announced 20% reduction in meat rations.

Solidarity has promised a national warning strike for the first week in August, and al-

### SOCIALIST WORKER EDITORIAL

ready there is a growing number of spontaneous strikes.

The government has responded with a hard line. "There is no hunger in Poland," says the Politburo, the leading body of the ruling Communist Party.

Yet it is determined to carry through with its cuts in food rations—at a time when there are shortages of almost everything—food, drugs, raw materials, spare parts.

And it insists that the 100% rises in the prices of essential commodities will also be maintained—"they are inevitable and cannot be delayed," warned the Politburo.

At the same time the military is issuing stern warnings and holding very public high level meetings.

The government says that the army may be mobilized to help combat the "growing black market," but soldiers are more likely to be used to intimidate street demonstrations and strikes.

The Russians, meanwhile, are assembling a huge fleet in the Baltic Sea, off the north coast of Poland—and issuing

stern warnings of their own.

Still Solidarity, ten million strong, and the Polish working class remain very powerful, and both the Polish government and the Russians will have to tread cautiously.

But the present situation cannot continue indefinitely. The Polish economy is a disaster. Behind the rising food prices and the shortages is the fact that Poland loses millions each year in its balance of trade crisis.

And it owes the Western banks billions. This year alone Poland must repay \$1.6 billion on its debt. And while Reagan made a gesture by freeing surplus food for Poland, the banks have taken a hard line.

So the crisis will continue—and deepen. And it will take more than "warning strikes" to defend what the Poles have won so far.

Everyday the government is testing the resolve of the Polish workers. And everyday the Russians are considering whether or not it is time to act.

As we have written numerous times now, the Polish workers will not be allowed to rest with their new found freedoms. The food prices and rations are just one sign of the government's determination to beat them back.

### FORWARD

The workers will either have to take their movement forward, ultimately toward workers' power and real socialism in Poland, or they will be forced back and crushed. Power to the workers! □

As we go to press, the nation's air traffic controllers have gone on strike, defying threats by the Reagan administration to jail their leaders, fine strikers \$1,000 a day, and decertify the union as a collective bargaining agent.

### FORCE

"We're going to bring the full force of the Justice Department down on the traffic controllers," threatened Transportation Secretary Drew Lewis. "It will probably be both civil and criminal penalties and the penalties will start immediately."

The Reagan administration has also announced its intention to use the army to attempt to keep the airlines operating.

Ronald Reagan, of course, campaigned for president by boasting that he was a friend of labor and that he had himself once been a union officer. Some workers, apparently believed him. But if there were doubts at that time, there should be none now. He is anti-union, and intends to give his backing to the union-busting campaign now in full swing in this country.

A central part of Reagan's economic program is to hammer the trade union movement—a movement already declining and very much on the defensive. It is simply the other side of his program of cuts. Workers pay both ways.

Reagan was successful with the postal workers. His threats—also of military intervention, firings, fines—worked against "militant" union presidents Vincent Sombroto and Moe Biller.

Will they work against Robert Poli, the head of the air traffic controllers' union and the 15,000 union members? Perhaps.

But the air traffic controllers are in a powerful position—as their counterparts in Europe have often shown.

The strike will cost the airlines as much as \$80 million a day. And hopefully airline pilots will think twice before they put their lives (and their passengers) in the hands of supervisors and soldiers.

The air traffic controllers are united. They voted 20-1 to turn down the tentative contract presented them in June. And they voted 80% in favor of this strike.

They have a strong case—if they make it known. They work long hours (42 hours a week, plus overtime), under terrible conditions. Many do not make it to retirement, unable to stand the constant stress of responsibility for so many lives—and unable to achieve reasonable staffing and safety margins.

They deserve to win—and they deserve the unqualified support of all airline workers—pilots, attendants, and ground and maintenance workers—and all workers.

### LESSON

They can also teach Ronald Reagan a lesson.

The president and his administration will take as much away from workers as they possibly can—with cuts and in contracts.

The time to stand up and fight is now. Victory to the traffic controllers! □

## FIGHTING WORDS

"Hereditary succession is a burlesque upon monarchy. It puts it in the most ridiculous light by presenting it as an office which any child or idiot may fill.

"It requires some talents to be a common mechanic but to be a king requires only the animal figures of man—a sort of breathing automaton."

Tom Paine,  
The Rights of Man 1776

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## NEA BACKS SALVADOREAN TEACHERS

MINNEAPOLIS, MN—The National Education Association (NEA) meeting here in its national convention, has condemned, the government of El Salvador "for its role in the assassinations and other acts of violence and injustice against the members of the National Association of Salvadorean Educators (ANDES)."

NEA's 7,500 delegates greeted an appeal for support by Rosamaria Rivera, a Salvadorean teacher, with tumultuous applause.

### JOIN

The NEA also resolved to join with other groups in calling for the "immediate termination of all U.S. military and economic aid to El Salvador." □

# STOP THE SOUTH AFRICAN SPRINGBOKS

NEW YORK, NY—South Africa is coming to New York City this September—and to Albany, and Chicago.

The Springboks, South Africa's rugby team, is coming to tour the United States. And it is coming at a key time.

### IMAGE

Springboks regularly tours the world with the purpose of upgrading the image of South Africa, the country where racism is legal, where 87% of the people have virtually nothing, no right to vote, no land, strictly limited economic, social and political rights. They are Black.

A tiny minority of white settlers controls everything.

And when their rule is challenged, they are savage in their repression, as after the historic Soweto uprising in

June 1976 in which 1,000 children were killed.

Right now the Springboks are in New Zealand. 125,000 New Zealanders marched in two demonstrations to oppose the tour before the team arrived.

Since it arrived, more than 50,000 have demonstrated and hundreds have been arrested in the worst civil disturbances in that country in 20 years.

The chief of police in Johannesburg, South Africa, said he was sorry to see New Zealand's police treat the demonstrators so gently!

The Springboks must not be allowed to advertise racism and apartheid here in this country.

And now is a good time to stop them.

New York, Albany, Chicago. Stop the Springboks! □

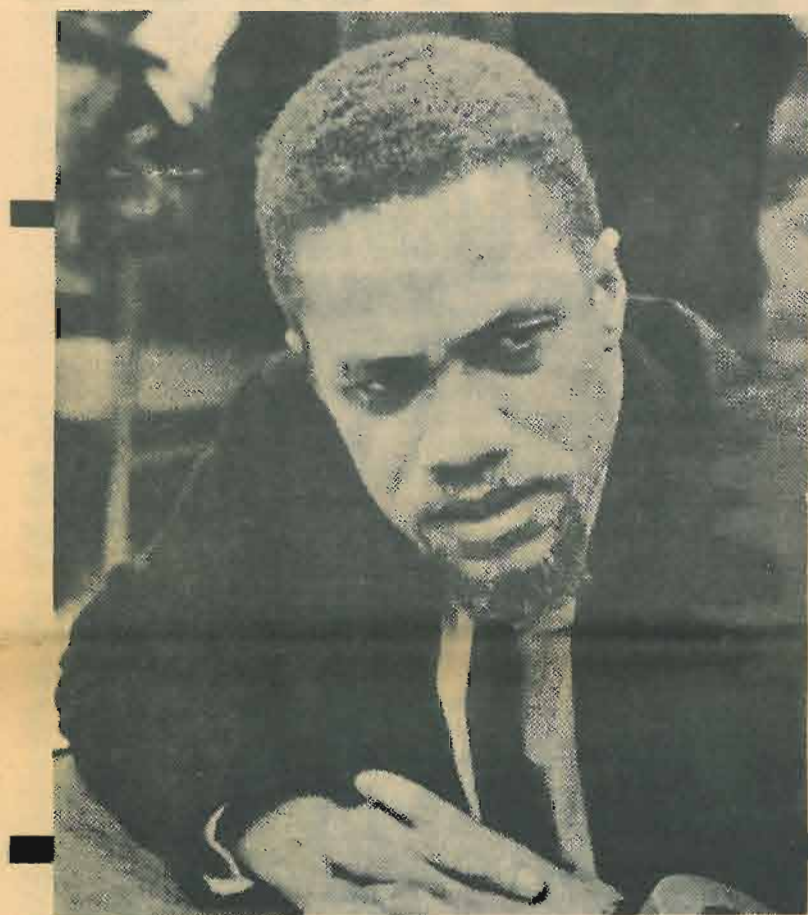


Soweto 1976

## BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY: BLACK POLITICS IN AMERICA

# Reagan: a clear and present danger to the Black poor

Malcolm X



The Reagan administration, according to Vernon E. Jordan Jr., is wedded to an outmoded ideology of radical conservatism. "The administration's refusal to temper ideology with compassion makes it a clear and present danger to Black people and poor people," declared Jordan, president of the Urban League, joining in with other Black leaders in voicing opposition to White Economics.

### FAITH

Although refusing to depart with their faith in the capitalist system, many self-appointed Black spokespersons have finally come to see that they are not going to get one single concession from the Reagan administration.

Reagan's budget plan which was passed enthusiastically by Democrats and Republicans alike, will cut social security, food stamps, public services, jobs, Medicaid, legal services, welfare and education—all programs designed to help the poor—were cut to ribbons.

Because nearly a third of all poor people are Black, due to 200 years of systematic racism, it is clear Reagan's main victims are to be Black people.

Coming on the heels of the passage of the budget plan Congress recently approved the president's tax cut proposal, thus dropping the other shoe on the heads of Blacks and the poor.

The tax cut was designed to give big business a 25 per cent cut in the amount of revenue they have to kick in to the federal government. Further, anyone making \$50,000 a year in personal income will receive a 23 per cent tax cut.

Yet a typical four member family with \$20,000 income, will take home only an extra two dollars a week in the last 13 weeks of 1981.

### CONTEMPT

Reagan's policies show a contempt towards Blacks and and the poor, not seen since the days of Herbert Hoover.

Even Reagan's only Black cabinet member is disciplined to an economic strategy designed to hurt the poor.

Speaking for the president at the national Urban League convention, Samuel Pierce Jr. said, "We can no more spend

our way into equal rights and equal opportunity than we can spend our way into economic

recovery."

If this is the position of one of the only Blacks in the

administration then Black people have no choice but to fight back. □

### Retha Hill reports on Reagan's war against the Black and the poor





# BLACK COMMUNITY PROTESTS

BY JOHN MASON

## Cincinnati hotel scandal shows big business racism at its worst

CINCINNATI, OH—Late last June, the convention center manager of the Westin Hotel—Cincinnati's newest—wrote a memo for presentation at a staff meeting called to discuss preparations for the Ohio Valley Kool Jazz Festival

to be held this year—July 31-August 1.

### KNOWN

The jazz festival attracts a crowd that is overwhelmingly Black. This fact is well known to the management of the

Westin and to the people of Cincinnati.

The memo warned that the jazz festival guests "will be loud," and that the hotel can expect "some blatant drug dealing" and an "increased number of towels, blankets and ashtrays to disappear."

The memo adds that these guests will be "low tippers."

In order to alleviate these anticipated problems, the memo suggests that the jazz festival guests be segregated on specific floors, that the restaurants be closed before the end of the concert each night, that ashtrays be removed from the guest rooms and that new towels be replaced with older, used ones.

Rooms at the Westin go for \$70-100.00 a night.

When the memo was leaked on July 17th to the press by a Black staff member of the city's Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Black community was outraged. The memo stereotypes Blacks as nuisances and criminals.

It called for a return of the Jim Crow segregation and second class treatment that decades of struggle in the civil rights movement sought to overcome.

### REACTION

Reaction to the memo was swift. The sponsors of the festival moved their headquarters out of the Westin.

Cincinnati's Black city manager publicly cancelled reservations he had made for friends who were coming into town for the jazz festival.

Officers of the local branch of the NAACP met with management of the Westin to demand an apology and the firing of the memo's author—demands that were reflected in talk on the street.

At first management of the hotel claimed the memo was a fake.

A few days later they admitted it was authentic, but they denied it reflected hotel policy. They said that the memo just contained "suggestions".

Only after a week of constant pressure from the Black community did the management offer a grudging apology and state that the memo's writer would be "disciplined."

No explanation of "discipline" was given.

This memo is an example of big business racism at its worst.

### CLICHES

This sort of thinking sees Blacks not as individuals, but as a collection of racist cliches. Nowhere in the memo is any evidence given for the assumptions made about the behavior of the jazz festival guests.

These are nothing more than what the memo's writer imagines will happen.

Despite the apology from the hotel the publication of the memo has let Blacks—whether jazz festival patrons or not—know what they can expect from the Westin Hotel. □

## 3,804 nuclear accidents in 1980 SAFETY-NOT AT THIS RATE!

There were 3,804 accidents reported at 69 plants last year, according to the anti-nuclear group Critical Mass.

The Tennessee Valley Authority's Sequoyia plant led the way with 238 incidents, even though it was in operation only 11 per cent of the year.

### GOAL

Nuclear power advocates say their goal is reducing the number of accidents to zero. Obviously they've got a long way to go.

The Critical Mass study, based on the reports that companies must file with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, listed incidents ranging from improperly calibrated monitoring devices to leaks of thousands of gallons of radioactive coolant.

The accidents were attributed to equipment failure in 57% of the cases, human error in 20%, design flaw in 16% and 7% to other.

Pro-nuke sources say the number of incidents result from overly stringent regulation, but Richard Udell, the author of the Critical Mass study, replies that "there is no such thing as an insignificant mishap," when nuclear power is involved.

Meanwhile nukes are here to stay—despite everything. Take the Clinch River breeder reactor at Oak River, Tennessee, the darling of Ronald Reagan and Howard Baker, the president's chief henchman in the Senate.

### PROJECT

The House of Representatives has just voted another \$288 million to begin construction on the \$3.2 billion project.

In 1970, Congress first authorized the Clinch River reactor, which is supposed to produce more nuclear fuel than it will use. It was expected to cost \$700 million, of which \$250 million was to be paid for by nuclear and utility industries.

By 1976 cost estimates had



Middletown, PA after the Harrisburg disaster

reached \$2 billion, and now it is predicted that the cost will be \$3.2 billion when it is finished.

Private industry, however, will still contribute a share of only \$250 million.

The Clinch River victory was in part spoils for southern Democrats included in Reagan's campaign to win votes for his budget.

But it is also just another part of the nuclear boondoggle

which costs the public billions while private industry prospers.

### PERSONAL

Take this example, for instance. On February 13, the Department of Energy reported that the chief of Westinghouse's data-processing facility at Clinch River had been using a \$200,000 computer for his own personal business.

He not only stored leases and business directories in the computer but used it for a football pool.

The Congressional Budget Office estimated that terminating Clinch River "could save the government \$1.4 billion over the five-year period of 1982-86."

But Reagan chose to make his savings elsewhere—food stamps, Social Security, Medicaid. □

## Health threat to federal workers

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The House of representatives voted July 30, to bar government workers from using federal health insurance coverage to pay for abortions except when the mother's life is in danger.

The bill was sponsored by right-wing Republican, John

Ashbrook of Ohio, who said it was similar to the abortion ban Congress has imposed on federal programs like Medicaid.

The bill will affect 10,000,000 people—three million federal workers, plus their families.

Opponents of the House

action have argued that this bill makes women federal employees second class citizens.

### BAN

The new law would also raise the possibility that Congress will extend the ban to health insurance policies cov-

ering workers in private industry.

The law is also an attack on health and safety provisions of all federal workers. This law, and the continuing attack on abortion rights makes it important for the reproductive rights movement to reach out to union women. □



# Graffiti

by PATRICIA GOLDSMITH

## First class service . . .

Clerks at a Northern Virginia post office say they interrupt normal duties on certain days to search through mail for a department-store ad addressed to the wife of Postmaster General William Bolger.

The Hecht's Department Store flyers are then routed to Mrs. Bolger for next day delivery. Clerks say they believe the routine began after Bolger's wife complained she received a department-store ad too late to take advantage of a sale.

"When a Hecht's ad comes in, the supervisor comes over and tells us to find the one addressed to Bolger," said Bruce Chido, a clerk. "with three or four people looking, sometimes we find it right away. Sometimes it takes up to an hour." The company mails advertisements about four times a month. □

## Wired . . .

A South Carolina bible school teacher has an unusual way of bringing home the word of god.

Young students must sit on a stool which has been wired and as the bible is read aloud, electric shocks are given to the children. □

## "Moral money" . . .

Robert Laughlin, a Portland, Oregon, businessman has started the Stewardship Bank of Oregon—a Christian bank. It is Laughlin's vision that Christians will create a network of banks that give 10% of their pre-tax profit to worthy religious causes.

"It's a financial parallel to the Moral Majority." The bank has declined to make known who will share its profits. □

## Save the bears . . .

600 brown bears were slaughtered to make new helmet adornments for the honor guard and soldiers for the British royal wedding. □

## Impulsive behavior . . .

(Quoted from the London Daily Telegraph).

Rioters may be taking to the streets because of the high level of lead in their bodies, it was claimed yesterday.

"Lead intoxication" lowers the tolerance to stress, said Prof. Derek Bryce-Smith, professor of organic chemistry at Reading University.

"In children, lead impairs the mechanism which controls impulsive behavior. They tend to be very impulsive and react violently when frustrated," he said. Dark skins were more susceptible to lead poisoning than white skins. □

# ISRAEL AND THE AMERICAN RIGHT

The military alliance between Israel and South Africa is relatively well known.

Between 1972 to 1979, South Africa bought 35% of all Israeli arms exports.

## SECOND

What is not well known is that Argentina is the world's second largest recipient of Israeli arms between 1972-1979.

Argentina is a country where torture is used on a routine basis, concentration camps exist for political prisoners, and where over 20,000 people have "dis-

appeared" since the military coup in 1976.

During the civil war in Nicaragua, preceding the Sandinista victory of July 1979, U.S. military aid was cut-off.

Israel stepped in to re-arm Somoza. Somoza executed hundreds of civilians and bombed all Nicaraguan cities to prevent the Sandinistas from coming to power.

Israel, according to Cynthia Aronson of the Institute for Policy Studies, became

by JOE ALLEN

Somoza's "most important new mainstay. After summer deliveries of rifles, ammunition and armed patrol boats, Israel restored the Guard in mid-November 1979. Reporters in Managua got United States embassy confirmation that unmarked Israeli planes delivered arms and ammunition after evening curfew."

Israel also supplied Somoza with heavy mortars and helicopters.

El Salvador has the most advanced air force in Central

America because of Israel. Israel, according to the institute for Policy Studies, between 1974 to 1979 sold El Salvador 25 Arava transport aircraft, 18 Dassault fighter bombers and 6 Fouga trainer aircraft. Israel also provided UZI machine guns and rocket launchers to the El Salvador government.

Israel's alliance with reactionary forces has spread from the right-wing Falangist militias in Southern Lebanon and the racist government of South Africa to the bloodthirsty military dictatorships of Latin America.

## TALKING ABOUT SOCIALISM

How important is Mitterrand's victory in the French elections?

# Can socialism be won through the ballot box?

BY DEBORAH ROBERTS

The recent election of Francois Mitterrand as President of the French Fifth Republic represents the first clear victory for the French left since the beginning of the Cold War in 1947.

Mitterrand is a socialist—at least in name.

But how real are the prospects for fundamental change resulting from the election?

Even more importantly, what are the chances for real socialism to come to power anywhere by way of a peace-

ful, legal election?

Can capitalism be overthrown a little at a time by the gradual nationalization of one firm after another, as Mitterrand intends to do in France?

Mitterrand is a big-time politician and has been for a long time. He served as a government minister on eleven different occasions under the Fourth Republic. Throughout his political career, he has proved himself to be a loyal agent of the French bourgeoisie and French imperialism.

## SUPPRESS

When the Algerian liberation struggle began in 1954, Mitterrand was Minister of the Interior. He organized the sending of French riot police to suppress the uprising.

Mitterrand was a staunch supporter of French repression in Algeria, insisting from the beginning that independence was out of the question.

"The only negotiation is war," he told the National

Assembly. "We want the Algerian people to be more and more integrated into the French nation, and it's because we cannot allow it to be separated that we are having recourse to force."

Mitterrand was also responsible for the banning of Bastille Day celebrations by the Communist Party.

The bourgeoisie surely know which side the new President is on.

Even if Mitterrand is no revolutionary socialist—and he clearly isn't—why do we think socialism can't come through electoral means under any circumstances? Didn't Karl Marx himself say that socialism is "the rule of the majority in the interests of the vast majority"?

Some people on the left believe that it might be possible for socialists to win enough popular support to gain control of traditional political institutions and by that means change the existing

state—the government bureaucracy, the "justice" system, the police, the military—to enforce laws that would curtail the power of the ruling class.

This point of view is what is meant by the term "reformism," and it is the position of many who have hailed Mitterrand's victory as an immense gain for the working class. But in the past, every attempt to establish socialism through that process has failed.

In Chile in 1970, the socialist Salvador Allende was elected President. Three years later the generals who had been invited to join the government overthrew Allende and brutally destroyed the working class movement.

While socialists who govern still-capitalist countries are gradually introducing "socialism," economic power remains in the hands of the capitalists.

Once the socialist politician really threatens the power of capital, the bourgeoisie forces a change in government. The ultimate power in capitalism resides not in government but in capital itself.

Another reason capitalism cannot be reformed into socialism is that the machinery of the state is not neutral but designed from top to bottom to preserve capital.

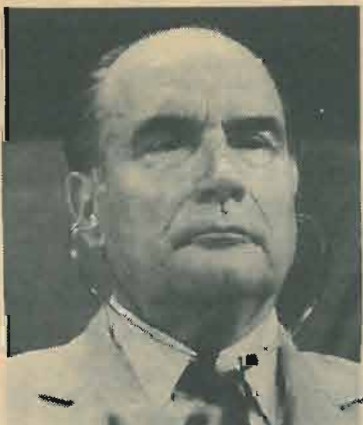
The state—which is owned by capital regardless of which party holds the presidency—controls the major means of violence and repression.

During the last five years, unemployment has doubled in France. Inflation runs at 14%.

## CHOOSE

As the crisis of world capitalism deepens, Mitterrand will be forced to choose between managing the crisis for capital or letting the working class take the initiative.

There is certainly nothing in his or his party's past to suggest that he will opt for worker's control—the fundamental basis for socialism. □



Mitterrand



Chilean political prisoners



# Socialist Worker Special



## The battle of Britain

**In July scores of British cities, from Liverpool to London, erupted in rebellion.**

**The youth of the inner cities took to the streets, burning, looting, driving the police from their neighborhoods.**

**They wanted simple things. An end to racist police harassment. Jobs. Decent housing. But these things are now impossible in Britain, where the economic crisis has produced 3 million unemployed—the highest rate in Europe. Unemployment is as high as 40% for young people, 60% for Black youth.**

**Americans got a glimpse of these rebellions on the television networks, but the images were smothered in the disgusting multi-million dollar spectacle of the royal wedding.**

**Rebellions are more significant than weddings, even royal weddings, however, especially here where Reagan is embarking on the exact same path that has led to burning and looting in Britain.**

**This special report was sent to Socialist Worker by Neil Smith and Faith Simon, American socialists visiting Britain. □**

PICTURES BY JOHN STURROCK-NETWORK



# The ten nights t shook

## A REVOLT AGAINST OFFERS YOUNG P



"The police beat up people for nothing. It's not something Whitelaw or anyone else can fix up until Blacks feel—'We've taught them a lesson'," said Tyrone Rudder of Brixton, a mainly Black working class area of London.

The latest riots began in early July when the police launched a campaign called SWAMP, in which 1,500 people were stopped on the street and arbitrarily searched. Tension mounted as more and more people in the community were faced with increasing police repression.

### SEARCH

The most recent riots resulted from a 3 am rampage by police through Brixton. The police claimed to be searching for petrol bombs in people's homes.

In the process they smashed furniture and televisions and ripped mattresses wide open. Of course, they came up empty-handed.

Even the 'Right Honorable' John Fraser, member of parliament for the area, said he was "stunned by the police provocation" and insisted that "property was wantonly vandalized by the police."

But it's not just Brixton. Throughout Britain people are taking to the streets in anger and frustration. In Southall, another area of London, 500 Asian youths defended the community against 200 invading fascists and the cops who protected them.

In Toxteth, notoriously the most deprived area of Liverpool, over 500 Black, Asian, and white youths fought the police out of their community during 2 days of rioting.

In nearly 40 other cities throughout Britain young people are defending themselves and their communities against the police and fascists.

Already, over 10,000 people have taken to the streets. It is estimated that more than 600 police have been injured—in Toxteth alone 255 police were injured, more than one-third

by FAITH SIMON

of the total force. 2,554 people have been arrested.

Of course, Maggie Thatcher and her reactionary press see things a bit differently. They say the riots are caused by hooligans, criminals, and immigrants. They claim outside agitators are involved. And particularly in Toxteth, they claim the riots to be highly organized.

### UNEMPLOYMENT

But the truth is a lot simpler. Even Margaret Thatcher is forced to admit unemployment "may have something to do with the riots." Even ministers in her government have admitted the existence of police repression.

Unemployment in Britain will hit over 3 million in July. This is 10.5% of the population.

The hardest hit are youth, particularly Black and Asian youth. In Toxteth, 90% of all youth are unemployed, in Brixton the figure is 85%. In the whole of Liverpool in the first week of July, only 12 jobs were advertised for school graduates, according to the Liverpool Career Office.

If you're young and Black in Britain, forget about a job. And it's not much better if you're young and white which is why most of the riots have involved whites fighting alongside Blacks.

So, what is Thatcher's solution?

She's talked about maybe, sometime, thinking about jobs programs ("when civilized behavior prevails"). Meanwhile, she has already prepared some of the most uncivilized legislation.

She is introducing a new Riot Act which will give the police and the courts a green light to proceed as they please.

It will lead to severely increased repression against all sections of the working class but particularly to an

increase in racist oppression against Black and Asian communities.

This is the real Thatcher. She and all her cronies care more about repressing the working class than about providing jobs and necessary social services.

### FUTURE

The riots are a genuine expression of the seething anger and resentment the young people of Britain feel against a system that is incapable of offering them a future.

We support the riots because that is one of the ways ordinary people take control of their lives and fight back. But riots alone are not enough.

It is the massive power that organized workers have that really threatens the state. And that power can not only change the face of a city street, but can transform society altogether. □

## "Blacks are o

TYRONE RUD  
TO SC

"People are going to be forced to organize." This year's uprisings began in April after the police got especially heavy-handed. It was all Blacks on the front line.

"Today it's different. Blacks are still the front line, but they are getting support from white youths who are also exploited by the system.

### SPARK

"Today, kids come in from afar when a riot is on. Blacks spark it, and they are always on the front line. White kids come in afterwards in solidarity.

"During the day there's different people on the front line from at night. During the day there's a lot of hustlers—

pushing dope for the Agent provocateurs.

"But at night it's unemployed—it's the people that sleep by day but take to the streets at night. The streets then to make things. The cops don't like it. They're not in control.

"It's the police. They're again and again. That's why we in Brixton have to come to terms with. For example, the police one day in the riot National Fronters (the fascists) behind their backs throwing stones and rocks.

"I know because my brother drives a minicab and he



# at Britain

A SYSTEM THAT  
PLE NO FUTURE



Pictures, Toxteth, Liverpool, July, 1981

## Racism, as in America, is on the rise

by NEIL SMITH

● 2 am. July 2. 53 Belgrave Ave. East London. 4 people murdered. While the British press was busy condemning the rioters as hooligans and criminals, they apparently had too little ink to report the racist murder of an Asian family.

Imran (2 years old), Aqsa (9 years old), Kamran (10 years old), and their mother Parven Kahn were killed when their home was firebombed by a racist. Fire engulfed the upstairs in seconds. Only the father escaped.

At first the police blamed faulty wiring, maintaining for a day and a half that there had been no suspicious circumstances.

But all it takes is a look at the damage done to know house was firebombed, and the police have been forced to change their tune.

● 11 pm. January 17. New Cross. Deptford. 13 people murdered.

Someone had firebombed the birthday party of Yvonne Ruddock, a 16 year-old West Indian.

Again, the police and the press tried to dismiss this massacre as an accident, the fault of the victims. Even though an incendiary device was found on the front lawn.

Since then both the British Movement and the National Front, 2 British fascist groups, have claimed responsibility. These scum have sent letters to the parents of the dead kids saying "13 down, thousands to go."

### RISE

Racism in Britain, as in America, is on the rise. Black and Asian communities face daily attacks. Twenty-four Black people have been killed in racist attacks in Britain since January.

The events leading to the riots in Southall were typical of the Nazi fueled race hatred. 200 racists invaded an Asian

neighborhood distributing leaflets of the "White Nationalist Crusade" calling for a war on aliens.

Often these attacks are spearheaded by the police. According to evidence presented by the British government's own Royal Commission on Criminal Procedures, the British police:

- regularly raid Black meeting places.
- fail to investigate crimes against Blacks
- arrest Blacks arbitrarily.
- employ 'gratuitous force' against Black victims.

### SPECIAL

Especially vicious is the Special Patrol Group (SPG), a sort of political SWAT team. The SPG is backed by a number of racist laws, especially SUS.

The SUS law dates from a 19th century Vagrancy Act which allows the police to arrest anyone who has "acted suspiciously on two separate occasions." SUS was rediscovered in 1977 as part of an intensified racist campaign by the police.

And the police are backed by the British state who now want to legalize the "Nationality Bill"—a thinly disguised racist program for deporting British Blacks.

But this is hardly new for Britain. When it comes to racism the British ruling class is the oldest and the best.

In the mines of South Africa, the cotton fields of India, and the plantations of Virginia and Jamaica, Black sweat has made British profits.

Within Britain itself, Asians, West Indians, and particularly the Irish have been imported as a cheap source of labor.

British employers grow fat on the racism they breed. □

## the front lines"

### OF BRIXTON TALKS ST WORKER

up the police radio broadcasts. "But people are angry now. Angrier than ever before.

"So much happened that people are really turning against the police."

Everyone in Brixton has a personal story about police repression. Tyrone will tell you how racists mutilated his foot and how the cops sided with the racists.

In Brixton Police Station they have an "Ace of Spades Club." Cops volunteer to work in Brixton. If you can get 40 Black arrests, your fellow cops award you an "Ace of Spades" tie.

"People have had enough,"

says Tyrone. "In the future it will not just be young people and the unemployed that are fighting. It will be older people too because consciousness has risen and people feel threatened.

### ISSUE

"What we're saying now is that this is not going to end soon. It will be fought out for as long as we have to fight. We will fight until the racist police are no more. Until the establishment stops being repressive. That is a class issue.

"Brixton people *must* fight the police, even if they do have rubber bullets, CS gas and guns. And we will fight. We will fight to get them off our backs." □





**THE  
U.S.  
SENT  
THEM  
THE  
CS GAS**

**BRITISH POLICE  
KEEP BRITAIN  
'CIVILIZED'**

"I was trying to help people get away from the gas when I got hit in the chest. Blood was squirting through my hands. I tried to get away and I was hit again in the back."

Phil Roberts, a resident of Toxteth in Liverpool, was one of the first victims of the use of CS gas on the British mainland.

He says, "I was hit by cannisters fired by the police."

One surgeon described the injuries that night as "very strange. They had deep gashes as though they had been speared." "They couldn't stitch the wounds," added Phil, "they had to just pack them and hope for the best."

The CS gas used against the rioters in Britain is made by the AAI Corp. of Baltimore.

Even the makers of this weapon print a warning on every cartridge pack saying: "Specifically designed for barricade penetration only. Do not fire at any person or crowd. Projectile may inflict serious injury should it strike anyone within a range of thirty yards."

**BRUTAL**

Merseyside cops claim the cannisters were aimed at only buildings and the ground. But mounting evidence shows at least 10 people received brutal injuries from direct hits, including a 3 year old child.

The British police knew well enough how to use CS gas. Immediately after the July riots began, the police commissioners of Britain's largest cities were taken to Belfast (at the taxpayer's expense) to see the new weapon in action.

In Ireland people have already died from British bullets, and in Brixton today people are getting prepared. They know the fight has just begun.

The British ruling class is also thinking ahead.

They are quickly developing even more vicious weapons to "keep Britain civilized."

A new gas labeled CR will soon be available for use. "It will be a fire gas which produces an intense burning feeling in the victim for over an hour," boasts one police commissioner. □

**WORKERS AND THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON**

Dear Socialist Worker,

I'm sure you have heard about N.A.A.C.P. and AFL-CIO September 19 March Against the Budget Cuts.

Unless a clear anti-capitalist and anti-American imperialism spirit is raised at the march I seriously doubt Reagan will be worried.

The AFL-CIO leadership

knows very well that working people want to mobilize and let the current administration know that they don't like his anti-unionism and racism. The union leadership will of course opportunistically use our interests to mobilize. They will of course pass of their own bureaucratic politics as ours.

Working people know there

are no real reasons for the cuts other than to fuel the war machine.

I'm a legal worker with U.A.W. District 65 and I know the recent no strike legislation that was passed in the House affects all working people. It affects the postal workers and other human service workers. I will not work for a corpora-

tion that goes along with a no strike law. Legal workers should be in the forefront in the September march.

I found your newspaper to be of a higher quality than most of the left newspapers I've come across over the years...

Thomas Siblo Landsman  
Catskill, NY

**Letters**

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

**Supreme Court to consider capital punishment for juveniles**

Dear Socialist Worker,

Now the right wants to bring back capital punishment for juveniles, something which courts struck down 57 years ago, in the famous Leopold and Loeb case, argued by Clarence Darrow in Chicago.

The U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to look at a case that would affect the futures of seventeen juveniles now sitting on death rows across the nation.

The case under review involves Monty Eddings who, when he was 16 years old (in 1977) sneaked out of his home with three of his father's guns, including a sawed-off shotgun.

Loading them into his brother's car, Eddings took off from his home in Missouri along with his sister and two friends.

After crossing the state line into Oklahoma, the four teenagers stopped at a service station for gas and something to drink. Pulling back onto the highway, Eddings briefly lost control of the car, and Highway Patrol Officer Larry Crabtree signalled the car to stop.

As Crabtree approached the car, Eddings told his passengers, "If the cop harasses me, I'll shoot him."

When Crabtree got to within six feet of the car, Eddings stuck the shotgun out the window. He fired a single shot, killing Crabtree instantly.

Eddings had a long history of contact with the juvenile system, including running away from home. A psychiatrist and a sociologist both testified that with intensive therapy—possibly lasting as long as twenty years—Eddings could be rehabilitated.

But under Oklahoma law, he was tried in adult court, where he pled no contest. The fact that Eddings was only 16, had a history of emotional problems and came from a broken home, did not move the judge and Eddings was sentenced to death.

Now Eddings may die, despite a United Nations treaty banning juvenile executions signed by 93 countries. It

remains legal in the United States, though it has not been inflicted since the famous

Chicago case.

Sandra Singleton,  
St. Louis, MO



**Liberty for those who can afford it**

Dear Socialist Worker,

Justice and equality are two very important words in this country.

In fact these two words are supposed to be the basic ideas in the make-up of our judicial system.

Yet I recently waited for the verdict in the Annie Small case with a weird sensation as to its outcome.

I first asked myself why it has come to this point at all. The ordeal had begun months ago with personal harassment and destruction of property for Mrs. Small, and ended with the death of a man and Mrs. Small standing trial for murder.

Do the cries of the Black and poor go unanswered until they end in violence?

How can we as citizens rest at night when we no longer have the right to protect ourselves against the warped minds which have become so prevalent in our society.

"Liberty and justice for all" is for those who can afford the best lawyers and minds in the country.

This is not only a common

**Capitalism profits from women's oppression**

Dear Socialist Worker,

I was impressed by the article in your July issue entitled "Stop the 'Right-to Life'." I am a nurse in an abortion clinic in Cleveland, and on a typical day see 40-50 women, Black, white, Hispanic, and Asian, ages ranging 12-55, who come with a basic need—to control their reproductivity

practice in Cincinnati but across the nation as well.

With the budget cuts already accepted by the ruling class of this country it will become increasingly hard for the poor and minority groups to end this type of judicial injustice.

Gloria Ward,  
Cincinnati, OH

and thereby control their lives.

The right knows the threat this represents to the existing power structure. Capitalism profits enormously from women's oppression and has no interest in "granting" them rights or freedom.

Gerri D'Anniballe,  
Cleveland, OH

Dear Socialist Worker,

Please send me one year's worth of your paper. It's good to get some real news from across the Atlantic.

Derek Chassay  
London, England

Dear Socialist Worker,

Congrats on your Atlantic feature. Real good stuff.

Matt Backer  
Coventry, England

**'Jumped at the chance'**

Dear Socialist Worker,

I occasionally get into the Redbook Store in Cambridge and when I do I pick up copies of the *Socialist Worker*.

In the last copy I bought there was a leaflet offering a special subscription rate for a dollar.

Since I am now unemployed I would like to jump to the opportunity to get *Socialist Worker* in the mail at this low rate.

Greetings from a corner of the Third World.

Norman Garcia  
Medway, Mass



# "no power greater"

by BARBARA WINSLOW



## The birth of the women's rights movement

# SENECA FALLS: 1848



Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton

The Seneca Falls women's rights convention in upstate New York marked the beginning of the organized fight for women's liberation.

The year 1848 was marked by revolution and reform, popular stirrings and new beginnings.

Revolutions and insurrections erupted in France, Sicily, Bavaria, Austria, Berlin, Budapest, Cracow, Milan and Venice.

In London, in that year, Karl Marx and Frederick Engels published the *Communist Manifesto*.

### BEGINNING

For women, the greatest manifestation of the 'year of revolution' was the Seneca Falls convention, held on July 19 and 20th in upstate New York.

This convention, or meeting really, marked the beginning of the organized movement for women's liberation.

In the 19th century women had no rights whatsoever. They could not keep their own earnings. They could not own property, sue or be sued in court.

Women could not vote or sit on juries.

A woman could not get divorced and had no legal rights to keep her children. Adultery was a crime for women—not for men.

A husband could beat, torture and even murder his wife. A wife had no such recourse.

Women were denied access to education, and of course to professional jobs. Working class women were paid one-third of a man's wage.

In other words, women were socially, legally, politically, economically and sexually, non-people.

These conditions led women to organize the women's rights movement. But there were other factors which pushed women into the feminist struggle.

All the early champions of women's liberation were militant abolitionists.

They wanted an end to slavery and believed in racial equality. They identified their oppression with that of Afro-Americans.

But it was sexist attitudes and practices by men in the anti-slavery movement that also led women to link the anti-slavery struggle with that of women's rights.

In fact, the idea for the women's rights convention

came as a result of the 1840 World Anti-Slavery convention held in London, England.

There the women were told they could not participate in the meeting, and had to sit in the back of the room behind a curtain.

Two of the women, Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, were so infuriated by this treatment that they vowed to hold a conference specifically about women's rights.

### DREAM

The meeting didn't take place until eight years later when Mott and Stanton finally went ahead with their dream. They called for a meeting to discuss women's rights.

The first day was for women only. The second day was open to the general public.

The women who organized the meeting were not sure what they wanted to accomplish. None of them had organizational skills.

In fact, James Mott presided over the gathering, for at that time, it was unthinkable for a woman to chair a meeting.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton modeled the women's Decla-

ration of Sentiments upon the Declaration of Independence:

*"We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men and women are created equal..."*

*"The history of mankind is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations on the part of man toward woman having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over her..."*

The Declaration went on to list the denial of legal, economic, social and civil rights toward women.

After the Declaration of Sentiments, 12 resolutions were offered demanding equality with regards professions, education, family and the legal system.

The only proposal which was considered controversial was the demand for the vote. Henry Stanton, Elizabeth's husband, was so enraged at his wife's demand for the vote, he moved out of town for several months.

The women themselves were nervous on that issue as well, and Frederick Douglass, the Black abolitionist had to move the resolution.

There were eloquent speeches made by women who

had never spoken publicly before, lively debates by women who had never before attended a meeting.

Women who had been told in the past that voting was "ungodly and unwomanly" voted on resolutions and signed their names to the Declaration of Principles.

Not all the women were middle class. Some like Charlotte Woodward, a glove-maker from Seneca Falls, who's ambition was to be a typesetter.

She went to the meeting because, "For my own obscure self, I can say that every fibre of my being rebelled, although silently, all the hours

I sat and sewed gloves for a miserable pittance, after which it was earned, could never be mine.

"I wanted to work, but I wanted to choose my task, and I wanted to collect my wages. That was my form of rebellion against the life to which I was born."

### RIGHTS

Looking back at the Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions, it is ironic that the controversial resolution—the vote—was the only demand which was achieved in the following years.

While we have won many legal rights since 1848, we are still systematically denied full social, economic, sexual and reproductive rights.

The women of Seneca Falls were for the most part middle class radicals who were rebelling against the circumstances of their own lives.

They launched, however, a movement which would, in time, involve millions of working class women in the struggle for liberation, and leave its imprint on the lives of their daughters and all women of the world. □



Frederick Douglass



# 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, the education system. 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 the fight against the present system.

## • Fight Oppression

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

We fight for women's liberation, supporting equal pay for all women. We fight for free abortion and an end to forced sterilization. There should be free quality child care for all who need it. We fight for equal hiring opportunities for women and an end to sexual harassment. Discrimination and harassment of sexual minorities must be fought.

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

## • Black Liberation

Our support for the struggle against racism is unconditional, and we oppose any attempt to subordinate this fight. We fight racism in all its forms, from institutionalized "legal" racism to the activities of groups such as the Nazis and the Ku Klux Klan.

We fight segregation in the schools and in housing, we support affirmative action, and we oppose racist firings and harassment. We support armed self-defense in the face of racist attacks. We support independent self-organization and the right of self-determination of the black community. We demand freedom for all political prisoners.

## • Rank and File Organization

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

To make the unions fight for workers' interests, workers must organize their power 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, so the struggle for socialism must be world-wide. A socialist revolution cannot survive in isolation.

We champion workers' struggles in all countries, from Poland to Puerto Rico, from Palestine to El Salvador. We support all genuine national liberation struggles. We call for victory of the black freedom fighters in South Africa and Namibia. 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 at taking the initial steps toward building a revolutionary party in a working class fragmented and cut off from socialist ideas. Revolutionaries must be involved in the daily struggles of workers and oppressed groups at the workplace, in the unions and in the communities. We build every struggle that strengthens 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.

# International Socialist Organization

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

## ISO NEWS

# What's ON

### BLOOMINGTON

Panel discussion on **The Nuclear Arms Race**. Thursday, August 6, 7:30 p.m., Balantine 006. Co-sponsored by ISO and Paddlewheel Alliance.

### CINCINNATI

**How Marxism Works Study Group**. August 21 and 23, 7:30 p.m. Call 871-1371 for details.

### CLEVELAND

Ahmed Shawki on **Capitalism and Crisis**. August 5, 7:30 p.m. Call 321-6143 or 371-7648 for details.

### SEATTLE

Sheilla Mitchell on **Black Liberation: WWI to the 20s**. August 5, 7:30 p.m. Call 324-2302 for details.

Kathy Paulin on **The Suffrage Movement and the Working Womens' Movement**. August 19, 7:30 p.m.

### Stop the Bombers! Defend the Clinics!

August 8 is the day the "Right-to-Lifers" invade abortion clinics from coast to coast.

Reproductive rights activists are rallying to stop them wherever possible. Call the Reproductive Rights National Network, R2N2, for details of activities in your city: (212) 267-8891. □

# ISO NATIONAL CONVENTION



### Sessions include:

- Poland: a year of revolt
- Perspectives for American workers
- Atlanta and the rise of racism
- The fight for reproductive rights
- The Central American revolution

There will also be debates, workshops, and international speakers.

**August 14, 15, and 16, 1981**

Please write: ISO, Box 18037, Cleveland, Ohio 44118 for details.

**March for the Irish Hunger Strikers**  
Saturday, August 8, 11:30 am  
Assemble: 8th Avenue, between 32nd and 34th St.

Sponsored by American Irish Unity Committee, and many more.

### AFL-CIO Solidarity Day

September 19, 1981  
Washington, D.C.  
Demonstrate Against People Hurting Cuts. For Jobs and Justice  
Sponsored by the AFL-CIO

**"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 cities:

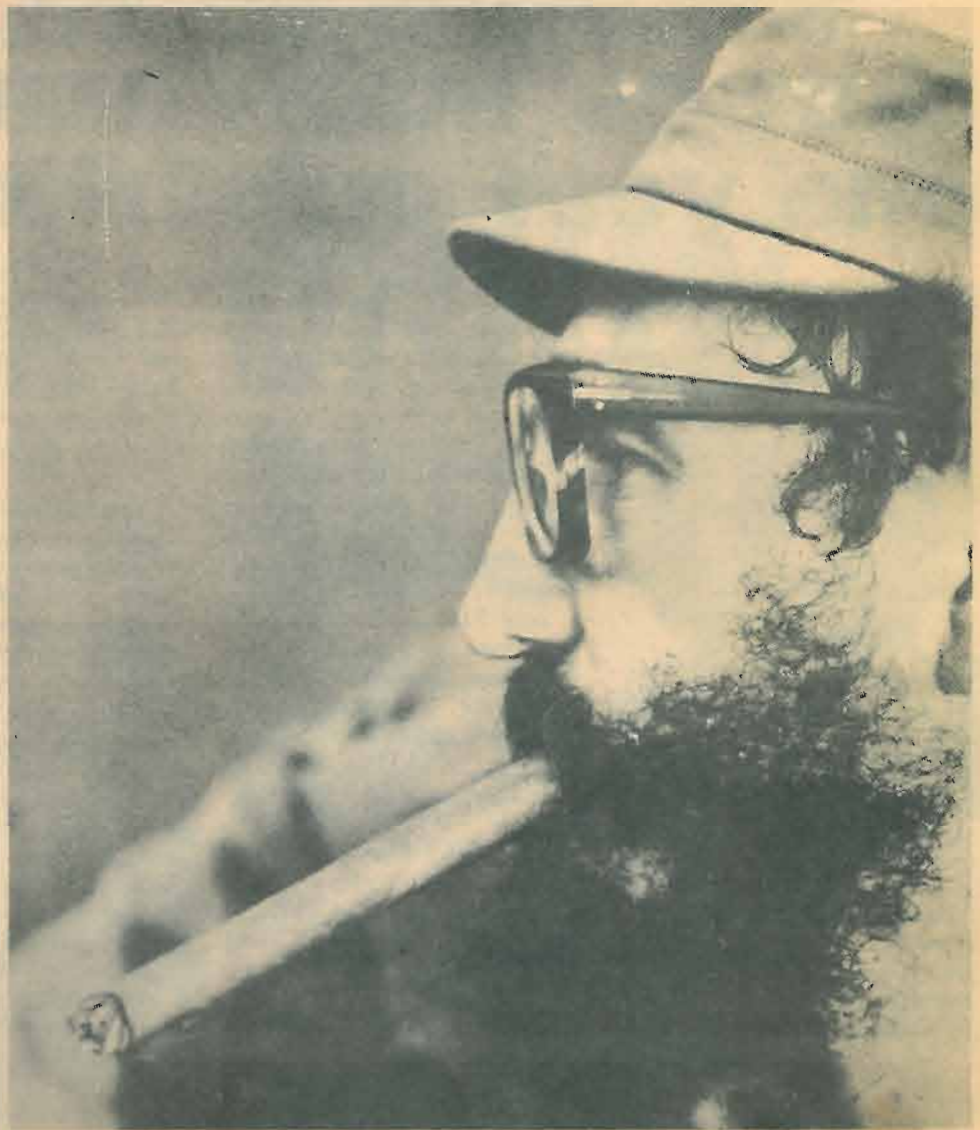
- |                   |                    |                   |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| ● Baltimore, MD   | ● Detroit, MI      | ● Northampton, MA |
| ● Bloomington, IN | ● Durham, NC       | ● Portland, OR    |
| ● Boston, MA      | ● Fort Wayne, IN   | ● Providence, RI  |
| ● Charleston, WV  | ● Indianapolis, IN | ● Rochester, NY   |
| ● Chicago, IL     | ● Kent, OH         | ● Seattle, WA     |
| ● Cincinnati, OH  | ● Los Angeles, CA  | ● Toledo, OH      |
| ● Cleveland, OH   | ● New York, NY     | ● Trenton, NJ     |
| ● Dayton, OH      | ● New Haven, CT    | ● Washington, DC  |

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



# reviews

# Castro, Cuba, and socialism



Fidel Castro

Together with the Chinese revolution of 1949, the Cuban revolution of 1959, has inspired and dominated the thinking of a generation of American leftists.

With China now joining the U.S. in foreign policy ventures, Cuba is by itself the most often cited case for revolutionary strategy and socialist development.

**Castro, Cuba and Socialism: The Economics of State Capitalism, Hera Press, Cleveland, Ohio, 1981. \$2.00.**

A new pamphlet, *Castro, Cuba and Socialism* traces the Cuban experience over the 22 years since Castro came out of the Sierra Maestra.

It examines the claims made by a wide spectrum of revolutionaries regarding the history and direction of this island nation.

## MODEL

Cuba has been described as a "workers state", as a model for revolutionary strategy, and



## Castro, Cuba and Socialism

THE ECONOMICS OF  
STATE CAPITALISM

by Peter Binns and Mike Gonzales

\$2.00 from Hera Press

the most revolutionary country in the socialist camp.

Peter Binns and Mike Gonzales in this new publication examine these claims in light of Cuban history and with clear definitions of what socialism is and is not.

## WORLD

Perhaps the most important part of this pamphlet is that the treatment of Cuba is not isolated from the rest of the world.

While sympathetic and supportive to the task of breaking with American imperialism, authors do not abandon scientific Marxism in analyzing Cuban history.

Following the twists and turns of Cuban history is not easy. But no amount of loyalty can change the facts or shift the odds. Cuba is not isolated from the rest of the world.

Every attempt by Castro to steer an independent course has resulted in a further step into the quick-sand of the world order:

*"The result has been both the transformation of the Cuban economy into a state capitalist one, and the transference of dependence from the USA to the USSR..."*

## CASE

Beginning in 1959 with Castro's claim that "our revolution is neither capitalist or communist", through his elusive goal of the ten million ton sugar harvest, and now the uncritical support of Russian foreign policy, Cuba is a classic case of the limitations of an underdeveloped economy unsuccessfully struggling for independence.

In future editions of this excellent pamphlet it would be useful to expand on the prob-

**Is Cuba an alternative to imperialism and capitalism? Is it socialist? Bill Roberts reviews an important new pamphlet from Hera Press.**

lems facing sections of the Cuban working class.

For example, it is claimed by some, that Cuba has solved the problem of racism. And why, as the pamphlet points out, is the representation of women at the leadership level so low?

## WISHES

The development of state capitalism in Cuba is not something we can discount because it does not fit our fondest wishes for the success of the Cuban people:

*"We do not debate Cuba in the abstract; it is not a matter of the 'correct line', any more than it is when we discuss Russia. To accept Cuba as a socialist country would have a series of implications for our understanding of what is meant by socialism."*

The bottom line of any genuine socialist movement "is the conscious repossession of their world by the workers."

No group can rule in the name of the working class. And no isolated national work-

ing class can survive long in a world dominated by capitalism.

The interests of the Cuban working class are the same as those of workers in the US and around the world.

## FREEDOM

Together an international socialist revolution must be made. Only this will guarantee any one national group its total freedom.

Today the Cuban bureaucracy is one obstacle in the way of that goal.

Binns and Gonzales have made an important contribution to the understanding of revolution in the less developed world. Readers will find this a useful addition to their libraries. □



Cuban workers: still not free





## on the picket line

# Nurses mark anniversary: one year on strike



ASHTABULA, OH—No one ever imagined it would take so long. 365 days of around the clock picketing, of frustration, hope and depression, of animosity, threats, guilt tactics by hospital administrators and doctors, of endless fundraisers, of looking for work, of travelling 3 hours to and from work.

July 21st marked the one year anniversary of the Ashtabula General Nurses Association strike. The nurses turned out in uniform for a mass meeting, to show their determination.

### VICTIMIZED

As Jane Crowell, a nurse of 34 years put it that day. "Time has absolutely nothing to do with principle."

The nurses, the community,

and an increasing number of the hospital's medical staff see themselves as victimized by the hospital Board of Trustees in their anti-union effort.

### TACTIC

Several unfair labor practice charges have been filed by the NLRB against the hospital for their activities during and prior to the strike. The hospital's latest tactic has been a "buy-out"—offering the nurses a 15-20% wage increase to ratify their latest contract offer. This offer, if ratified, means that nurses scabbing at the hospital will permanently replace those on strike and includes a weak union security clause—virtually guaranteeing the union's eventual dismantling.

The nurses refused to turn their backs on each other or

their union and voted against the latest offer by an 8 to 1 majority.

Morale was boosted in a recent nurses mass meeting when the Ashtabula Nurses Strike Support Committee of Cleveland donated \$600.00 to the strike fund. The money raised by selling buttons and a raffle—and the top prize winner in the raffle donated his prize money to the fund.

### THANKS

Mary Runyan, president of the Nurses association, gave special thanks to "our friends in the ISO" for their contributions sent in from around the country, chiefly in response to articles that appeared in *Socialist Worker*. □

by TOM WAGNER  
Negotiating Committee  
Ashtabula ONA

"The hospital Board of Trustees has said they can hold out for two years. Well, we've got one down and one to go."

—Dave Cunningham, RN

## TALKIN' UNION BY JOHN ANDERSON

# The crisis in Social Security

The crisis in Social Security is reported in the news media as something president Reagan has created. This shortage in the Reserve Fund was predicted in 1976 by government auditors.

Social Security is in crisis because of several factors. It was created in 1936 by president Roosevelt to win the votes of workers in his reelection campaign. No thought was given to the financial soundness of the so-called "insurance." During recent election campaigns both Republicans and Democrats have used the issue of Social Security. They have given no thought to the consequences of their promises.

### INFLATION

During the last ten years inflation has played havoc with the Social Security Reserve Fund. In 1972 Congress, with the support of president Nixon, granted the cost of living to Social Security beneficiaries. Double digit inflation has doubled the cost of benefits.

A decline in the birth rate to the lowest point in history, an ever growing population over 65 and the ever increasing number of workers who retire early, increases the number of beneficiaries while reducing the number who pay Social Security taxes. In 1947 there were 20 workers paying

into Social Security for each one drawing benefits; in 1956 it was 15; now it's 10.

The myth exists that half of Social Security taxes are paid by the employer. The fact is that all taxes, including Social Security taxes are written off as part of the cost of doing business. They haven't affected General Motors' profits. In 1937 the deductions were referred to as "contributions". Then as now they were a tax levied on the income of workers.

### MILITARY

Workers are now not only being taxed for benefits they may never collect but through taxation they are paying inflated pensions for politicians and the military. These pensions are far more generous than any Social Security benefits the workers can hope to collect. The military brass are the most generously rewarded. Some draw a pension from the government, one from a private employer and Social Security.

Any attempt to patch up Social Security is doomed to failure. Its regressive tax structure puts too heavy a tax burden on the wage earner. Two-thirds of them pay more in Social Security taxes than in their regular income taxes. The inequity between those receiving the minimum of \$121.00 and the maximum



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

of \$675.00 can't be corrected by a band-aid approach to the present Social Security system.

All other industrialized countries pay retirement benefits through general taxation. Canada spends 9 percent of its gross national product on its elderly. The United States must adopt a system of taxation and benefits similar to those of Canada and other industrialized countries in caring for its elderly.

### BANKRUPT

Private pension plans are tied to Social Security. Thousands of them are going bankrupt. Even General Motors pensioners may be asked to take cuts in their pensions in 1982 negotiations. In 1960 GM had 20 workers for each one on a pension. Now it has four.

Writing letters to Democrat and Republican politicians in congress or in the White House is an exercise in futility. Only a party of the workers can solve the problems of the workers. The Democrats and Republicans must be replaced by worker representatives. To do this a labor party must be formed. The time to start is now. □

## IN BRIEF

PROVIDENCE, R.I.—Garbage is collected in this city with armed guards.

In the morning, beginning on July 20 when city workers followed sewage workers off the job, the garbage trucks roll out of secret staging grounds to make their rounds, with city police escorting the trucks, shotguns held high.

The strike is the result of the efforts of the right-wing mayor here, Vincent "Buddy" Cianci, to cut costs. He has been fighting with the sanitation workers since May when he switched collections from twice a week to once, reducing both overtime and the number of workers.

In May, garbage sat on the sidewalks for weeks. So Cianci turned to the gun this time. He has also dismissed 51 garbage workers and turned their jobs over to a private company that promised to save him money.

Cianci is also seeking court injunctions against 162 city employees who were ordered to work by a state court, but refused.

### BUMBLING

Cianci lost his bid for governor of Rhode Island last November, and has long been considered a bumbling politician.

He hopes he can have a second chance at getting on the Reagan bandwagon by smashing city workers.

Cianci is not running on the platform of the "Moral Majority" however. He is a well-known chum of the Providence mafia, and carries with him the fact that he once was in court for raping a woman college student at gun point. He bought his way out of a conviction. ■■

HAMILTON ONT—Nearly 26,000 Canadian steelworkers have walked off their jobs demanding higher wages.

The steelworkers have shut down two of Canada's largest companies, the largest, Stelco Inc. of Hamilton, Ontario, and the third largest producer, Algoma Steel Corp. Ltd. of Sault Ste. Marie. These companies accounted for more than half of Canada's steel production last year.

### INCREASE

The workers want a \$3.00 an hour increase over two years plus benefits.

The Canadian steelworkers are represented by the United Steelworkers Union. They have been consistently more militant than the American members of the same union.

They have not negotiated away their right to strike, and the Canadian district was one of the few where the right-wing leadership of the USW lost in the recent district elections. □





# GARLAND MINERS FIGHT FOR UNION

FORT SMITH, AK—The rolling hill country along the Arkansas/Oklahoma border seems an unlikely place for a miners' strike, but there are 172 coal miners involved in a life and death struggle with the Garland Coal and Mining Co.

The miners, members of the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA), walked out of four mines owned by the Garland Coal and Mining Co., when the nationwide coal strike began in March.

## REFUSE

Garland hired "replacements" during the 72-day national contract strike, and then refused to rehire the strikers when the strike was over. They claim they cannot afford a UMWA contract.

Now they are protecting these scabs with guns and intimidation—plus the help of two former UMWA staffers, Tom Pysell, formerly an organizer in the union's District 6, and Donald Lawley, who once served on the union's International Executive Board, representing District 21.

Pysell told an Oklahoma newspaper that he had sent the striking miners letters telling them "we intend to work the mines" during the strike.

by CAL WINSLOW

"We encouraged them to come back," he said. "If they don't they're going to be replaced."

The miners stood up to Pysell's threats, so Garland and the two new employees have turned to armed guards and systematic intimidation and harassment.

Strikers have been threatened and fired upon, their families have received anonymous letters threatening that their houses would be burned down.

UMWA members have had their driveways "salted" with nails, and bomb threats have been received.

## PROTEST

On May 13, several union members and their families staged a peaceful protest on a public road bordering Garland's property at the Sigler (Okl.) No. 9 mine.

During the protest, two strike replacements pointed shotguns at James Welch, his wife, five-year old son, and another woman.

On the night of June 8, the picket line at Garland's Bokoshe, Oklahoma mine was fired upon by an unidentified assailant.

Seven shots were fired from a .22 caliber handgun. Shell casings were found in the road near the picket line.

A government mine inspector, who refused to give his name, said that the office at one of Garland's Oklahoma mines was filled with so many weapons that it looked like an "arsenal".

Thus far the strikers have remained peaceful, and have spent their time maintaining picket lines and attempting to build public support. At Bokoshe, three barbecues have been held. Strikers at Charleston held a fish fry and a community dance.

The UMWA has pledged not to abandon the strikers, and has promised to help. Help is needed.

"The problem here warrants national attention," said District 21 president Bob Oswald. "It could be someone else's problem down the road if we don't nip it in the bud right here."

Oswald is certainly right. The Garland strikers are only 72 in number, and District 21 has only a few hundred members in all.

## ATTEMPT

But the strike is clearly yet another attempt to destroy the the UMWA—to make American coal non-union coal.

If the union is defeated at Garland, as it was in Stearns, Kentucky, when the International union first refused to give the strikers serious support, and then pulled out, it will become just that much harder to organize the increasing number of coal mines that are non-union, East and West.

# Chrysler workers divided by substandard contract

DETROIT, MI—The chickens have come home to roost for the Chrysler Corporation—and the United Auto Workers union (U.A.W.).

Chrysler won massive concessions from the U.A.W. when it said the union would have to give in or the company would go under.

## GRANT

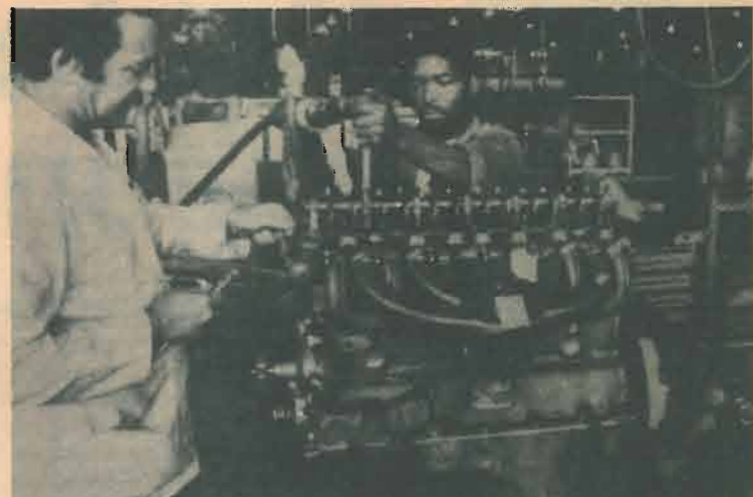
The union gave in, granting Chrysler terms far more generous than those given Ford and General Motors.

Now Chrysler is losing its skilled workers, product designers and electronics and engineering specialists, who are following better contracts to Ford, GM, and other companies.

In an effort to keep its skilled workers, Chrysler offered 600 highly skilled workers represented by the U.A.W. a twelve per cent raise.

This made other workers mad. Chrysler has 70,000 unionized workers, the vast majority of whom got no raise—despite all the boasting about Chrysler's new profits.

There have been lunch-hour demonstrations, pickets at the U.A.W.'s headquarters, Soli-



Chrysler workers: unequal wages

arity House, and wildcat strikes at Detroit Chrysler plants.

"This created such a stir among our members, such a great, great protest and disruption, it was causing a problem for both the union and the company," said Marc Stepp, U.A.W. vice-president and director of the union's Chrysler department. "So, Chrysler agreed to rescind the raises."

Chrysler said it agreed only "reluctantly" and at the "insistence" of the union.

Stepp said that Chrysler does have a problem, that it

may well lose more skilled workers.

But he also reported that he had written the workers who were losing their wages, urging them to stick with Chrysler.

## FIRST

The U.A.W. is not known for fighting for its members, but this one may be a first—a U.A.W. vice-president demanding the elimination of raises for its members!

Too bad it never occurred to Stepp to demand a 12% increase for all Chrysler workers.

## Many miners voted 'no'

When UMWA president Sam Church presented a tentative contract to the nation's union coal miners on March 31, it was voted down 2 to 1.

Sixty-seven percent voted "no", sometimes by margins as wide as 89% in the union's biggest district, District 17 in West Virginia, and 92% in District 30, Eastern Kentucky.

The agreement was rightly defeated—for it sold out coal miners' safety rights, union membership rights, and it undercut the union's strength by reducing UMWA jurisdiction. It gave up the union's right to a royalty on non-union coal used by companies covered by the contract.

By June 6, the coal companies had backed off some of their more outrageous demands, but they still presented a contract that took away miners' rights in comparison with the 1978 contract.

## SIMPLE

A Wheeling miner said, "It's simple, we've lost again."

But Sam Church was able to convince the membership that there was no hope in fighting on, and the rest of the international officers, including nearly all who had opposed the first agreement, threw in the towel.

Despite this, 31% of the miners voted "no", including the majority in Pennsylvania Districts 4 and 5.



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FILE  
ACTION**

## Postal workers losers in contract settlement

by KATHY WHALEN AND JOHN TRIPLETT

INDIANAPOLIS, IN—A postal contract was settled sometime on July 21, 1981.

A strike was avoided when the union negotiators extended the current contract past the 12:01 a.m. deadline. They had said earlier that they would extend the contract for a few hours only if there was some progression in talks.

They had been mandated by their conventions to abide by no contract-no work and to strike over the issue of an uncapped COLA. By stretching it a bit they remained within those mandates.

The contract falls far short

of what postal workers need or what the original demands were.

The worst part is the productivity clause. This trades jobs for money and pits older workers against younger workers.

For this reason alone the contract should be voted down. There is word of opposition in Northeastern cities.

Postal workers won \$300.00 annual raises for each three years of the contract plus three \$350.00 productivity bonuses which could be higher if productivity increases.

According to *Business Week*, union presidents Biller and Sombrotto, along with Postmaster General Bolger, realize that increased productivity is necessary to preserve the Postal Service from private enterprise and thus save jobs.

This is baloney. Over 74,000 jobs have already been lost to increased productivity and 60,000 more are on the line as new electronic automation comes in.

The original union demands of the 35-hour work week, double time for overtime, an all regular workforce and extension of the no-layoff

clause are not just nice demands but absolutely necessary for preserving union jobs.

There were other demands thrown out the window in the need to avoid a strike.

Nothing was done on sick leave harassment or making personal days easier to get. Nothing was done on childcare despite the fact that over one third of the workforce is women.

Nothing on maternity or paternity leave or bereavement leave. A clause allowing a worker to refuse to do an unsafe job was not won.

In other words benefits were traded for money (and not much at that!)

### PRESSURE

In defense of Biller and Sombrotto, there was a lot of pressure for them to settle at any cost. A lot of the workforce is conservative and threats of legal action against the strike and loss of jobs dampened militancy.

However, a strike could have been won. It doesn't take 100% to win a strike if you're solid in key areas. New York City, Chicago, Detroit, Bay Area, Los Angeles and Miami were known to be solid.

A modest turnout in the midwestern cities would have been enough. But trade union leaders are never going to call a strike or try to lead the more conservative members unless forced to do so.

This would require a rank and file organization of militant union members who are ready to lay it all on the line in order to preserve the union fight for better work conditions.

One further point should be made. The contract is as good as it is (after all no benefits were lost and uncapped COLA was preserved) because a lot of union members were prepared to get fired and possibly go to jail in order to fight for what is rightfully theirs.

Any scab (non-union or union who wouldn't strike) should keep this in mind. One need only look at the rural carriers, who said at the beginning that they would not strike.

### LESS

They won \$600.00 in increased salary and \$600.00 in productivity bonuses for the entire contract and they still have a capped COLA.

A rural carrier will probably be making \$4,000-\$5,000 a year less than a city carrier by July, 1984. The mailhandlers settled for binding arbitration. If everyone was united a lot more could have been won. □

■ ■  
Six women, charged with disrupting the Senate anti-abortion hearings on April 23, are going on trial in a Washington, D.C. court.

They have lost pre-trial motions which would have allowed them to discuss the hearings, the issues of reproductive rights and women's liberation—all the reasons why the pro-abortion activists disrupted the hearing.

Now they will only be allowed to argue whether or not they in fact disrupted the hearings.

The women, members of the Zap Action Brigade, go on trial on September 21.

They face possible penalties of six months in jail and \$500 in fines.

Yet they committed no crime. They need support.

Make checks payable to Libby Smith and send them to the Zap Action Brigade, 687 Sackett Street, Brooklyn, NY 11217. □



Reproductive rights activists in the Senate hearings

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