

# WORKERS' Power

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news direct from the revolution



# PORTUGAL

## Lisbon, Tuesday Evening, September 30, 1975:

Portugal is at the brink. At 8 am Lisbon time, Monday morning, Premier Pinheiro Azevedo, the leader of the new right wing Sixth-Provisional Government, attempted a coup.

In the past week, hundreds of thousands of workers, led by the Revolutionary United Front and soldiers of the SUV (Soldiers United for Victory), demonstrated in the streets of Lisbon and Oporto. In the face of a sustained offensive by the revolutionary left, Azevedo moved to strike back.

He ordered the army's top crack troops to take the nation's radio stations, including Radio Renascenca, the station that has symbolized workers' control in revolutionary Lisbon.

This act is the government's first open move toward destroying the revolution. It has shown that it will use whatever force necessary to achieve its aims.

Azevedo took this action in the wake of the sacking of the Spanish Embassy. Portuguese soldiers watched as Portuguese revolutionaries took revenge for the murder of five Spanish revolutionaries.

Azevedo announced that authority in the country was crumbling.

The workers immediately launched a counter

offensive of strikes and demonstrations.

The workers at Setnave, the shipyards, called for a general strike, and formed committees to fight the right wing uprising.

The Communist Party instructed workers to remain at the job, not to take part in demonstrations, and to continue support for the government.

Nevertheless, tens of thousands of workers marched on Lisbon to defend the revolution.

The workers at Lisnave, Europe's largest shipyards, joined the march on Lisbon. In the city of Marinha Grande, there is a general strike. The workers of Setubal, Portugal's second most important industrial city, also struck.

At the radio stations, the soldiers refused orders to use violence against the workers. There is fraternization, and even the government's most reliable soldiers went over to the workers.

The stations still play revolutionary music.

At the same time, in neighboring Spain, the violent response to the five executions continues.

There is a general strike in the five Basque provinces. The Fascist Franco regime now faces its worst general crisis since the Spanish Civil War of the thirties.

The latest reports are now that the government sent a newly organized commando unit to take Radio Renascenca. The workers responded by tearing up paving stones and building barricades in the streets.

## PORTUGAL: CIA Funds For Fascism

The CIA helped time the new crisis in Portugal. For months, the US government, the governments of Western Europe, and the Central Intelligence Agency organized support and poured in money to finance the counter-revolution.

Last week, the facts came out. Each month, the CIA funnels up to \$10 million to the Portuguese Socialist Party. This money is "laundered," Watergate style, by sending it through the socialist and labor parties of Britain, West Germany, Sweden and other European countries.

The Portuguese Socialist Party is the main political prop of the new right wing Azevedo government. It has demanded that this government, the Sixth Provisional Government, smash workers' control,

making it clear to all that in no way does it stand for socialism.

The Socialist Party is Washington's force in Portugal... to organize the counter-revolution and open the door to fascism.

State Department sources have also confirmed the fact that "other conduits for covert CIA aid were anti-Communist labor unions... that cooperate within member nations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

These labor unions are the pro-American labor organizations. They are closely tied to the AFL-CIO, and they support the reactionary policies of the United States.

They are used as fronts to disrupt workers' movements throughout the world. □

## High School Students Strike



by Byron Gray

HIGHLAND PARK, Mich.—On Wednesday, September 24, over 90 percent of the student body at Highland Park High School went out on strike.

Chanting, 'Parkers, Fight the Power,' more than 600 students marched from the school down Woodward Avenue to the school administration offices. They stormed into the offices of the Superintendent of Schools.

The students are demanding a quality education. This year's school budget has been slashed by \$1.6 million. 27 probationary teachers have been laid off, and students services have been cut.

The students charged the school administration with wanting only 'dummies who can play sports.' (HP High School won the state class A basketball championship last year.)

### MATH

"Our requirements include two years of physical education, but only one year of math," a student

spokesperson said:

"There are no calculus or trigonometry classes at all. The math is taught at a 5th or 6th grade level by unqualified teachers."

"A drafting teacher is teaching a health class. Science is being taught by a music teacher," the spokesperson continued. "Some of our classes are so overcrowded that there are not enough chairs." Superintendent D.C. Mitchell told Workers' Power, "I feel that the education here is as good as any in the state; just as good as Grosse Pointe [home of auto company executives]."

"The problem is you can take a horse to water, but you can't make him drink."

The students picketed and boycotted classes for three days.

On Monday, the 29th, most returned to school. If conditions do not improve this week, they may go out again.

The students have not yet received support from the faculty and community necessary to win. But the students proved their solidarity and strength, and that it is indeed possible to 'Fight the Power.' □

# TALES OF THE SLA

## Gunning Them Down

On May 17, 1974, 410 FBI agents and Los Angeles policemen surrounded a small, rose-colored house in the all-black, south central section of L.A.

The police were heavily armed. They wore gas masks and riot gear. They carried M-16 semi-automatic rifles.

Inside the house were six members of the Symbionese Liberation Army.

The police began shooting. The neighborhood had not been evacuated. Mothers grabbed children, pulling them out of the line of fire.

The only ones notified before the shooting began were the press. TV cameras brought the battle, live, to a horrified public.

Everyone at the scene kept saying it looked "just like a war." "Just like Vietnam."

When the battle ended the LA police had fired more rounds of ammunition within a concentrated space of time than ever before in its history, including the 1965 Watts rebellion.

Tear gas and incendiary grenades had set the building ablaze. When the smoke cleared the rose-colored house had been reduced to a pile of rubble.

The houses on either side had also been destroyed.

Among the ashes were the charred remains of 6 members of the SLA.

5,000 rounds of ammunition, incendiary grenades and odds of seventy to one, had been used to get them.

To all who watched, it was apparent that the FBI and the LA police had gone berserk.



When police and FBI destroyed SLA hideout in an all-black section of Los Angeles, they showed total disregard for the safety of neighbors.

## Why the FBI Went Berserk

The SLA had kidnapped Patty Hearst, forced her rich father to give away over \$2 million in food, won the political allegiance of their victim (heiress to millions) and had eluded capture for over two months.

In short, the SLA had made the FBI look foolish, even worse—incompetent. When found they had to be destroyed—serving notice that a violent end was in store for all who might follow in their footsteps.

But the battle in south central L.A. did not achieve the FBI's goal.

Rather than destroy the SLA, it elevated them.

Until the savage destruction of six of their members, the SLA had seemed like little more than a band of upper class, lunatic white kids, led by a black escaped con,

who were making fools of the authorities.

After the shootout the SLA gained respect—if for no other reason than the brutal way the government forces destroyed them.

For the last 14 months, the

ability of the remaining SLA members to elude the FBI had the passive approval of many, especially blacks.

Although predominantly white, the SLA had been led by a black man. And, not only had the white members shown their willingness to follow the lead of a black, they also had been willing to take up the gun and to die by his side.

When Patty Hearst and the HARRISES were finally caught—many felt an immediate flash of sympathy for them.



AMERICAN DREAM  
Gay Sengel

## The Hearst Empire:

We will probably never know whether Patricia Hearst willingly turned on the SLA or was forced to by the might of her powerful family. But whatever Patty Hearst's motives, the wealth and power of the Hearst empire assures her the best "justice" money can buy.

In fact, Patty's line of defense was worked out by an army of high priced lawyers months before her capture. The only thing missing was her signature.

The Hearst fortunes have been accumulated for several hundred years. Throughout all of them the story is the same. The Hearsts have made their money using every corrupt device in the capitalist book.

Buying "justice" from the courts of a rotten system fits the tradition exactly.

- John Hurst (the name was later changed to Hearst) left England for Missouri in 1680. He acquired 10 acres and nine slaves.

- To hold the land he drove off and murdered its rightful owners—Native Americans.

- In 1850 George Hearst bought large land holdings in California mining country. The land was bought with money the Hearsts made off the backs of their slaves.

- In 1859 thousands of tons of silver was found on Hearst property. The mine soon brought in \$4 million annually.

- Silver money bought George Hearst a U.S. Senatorship. When the 13th Amendment came to the floor, abolishing slavery, Hearst voted against it.

- In 1880 George Hearst bought the San Francisco Examiner as part of a political deal. In 1891 Hearst died leaving the paper and \$30 million to his son William Randolph Hearst.

- William Randolph Hearst is best known as the father of "yellow journalism." Meaning that he was more than willing to sacrifice truth for profit.

- William Randolph Hearst was an ardent admirer of some of the most bestial men of the 20th century. He was a close friend of Hitler and a vigorous fan of Mussolini.

- In 1934, during the Depression, Hearst along with two other publishers, set up the "vigilance committees." Their purpose was to raid the headquarters of striking workers and radical groups.

- The "vigilance committees" went as far as beating up anyone on the streets who "looked radical." Thousands were injured or killed.

- During World War II, Hearst played a major role in setting up concentration camps for Japanese-Americans.

- The Hearst family firmly supported the McCarthy witch-hunt of the 50's.

- Today the Hearst empire includes the following: 11 magazines, with a total value of between 15 and 200 million dollars; eight newspapers valued at 150 million; 212,000 acres of California land; 550,000 acres of Mexican land; important real estate in Boston, Baltimore, Alabama, New York, San Antonio, Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles plus other assorted holdings.

## Whatever Happened to Tania?

But within days of arrest, Patty Hearst turned on the SLA. In a sworn affidavit she stated that for the 19 and a half months since her capture by the SLA she lived in a state of semi-insanity and terror.

She denied ever having voluntarily joined the SLA and accused her captors of torturing her and forcing her to accompany them.

The rapid betrayal of Patty

Hearst wiped out much of the sympathy the SLA had received.

The FBI's goal was achieved. Any positive identification with Patty Hearst and the SLA was crushed in a wave of cynicism.

In the minds of most working people, black and white, the SLA is once again a bunch of lunatic, upper class, white kids. Only this time they are no longer making fools of the authorities.



## What the SLA was Really About

It cost the US government \$5 million to catch the SLA, in one of the longest, most extensive man-hunts conducted in FBI history.

Why was capturing the SLA so important?

Part of the answer lies in the fact that the FBI hated this band of "punks" that had eluded them, publically, for so long. But that is only part of the answer.

A more important part is political. The SLA had become a symbol of rebellion in this country and they had to be crushed.

American capitalism is falling apart—hundreds of thousands of

people, to differing degrees have begun to fight back. Their sympathy with the fight from capture of the SLA represents a positive aspect of the changing consciousness of American working people.

But their sympathy was passive and could be quickly changed to cynicism. This is the problem with the politics of the SLA and, in fact, the reason for the relative ease with which they have been destroyed—physically and politically.

The politics of the SLA did not build a movement. They were a

self-appointed group of do-gooders with guns.

They wished to change things for the people—they never helped build a movement with which the people could change things for themselves.

They were 12 people who had a genius for capturing the attention of the media. But in the end they were still 12 people. And when all 12 were finally captured—there is nothing left.

The media which they used so successfully to leap to fame, now has successfully destroyed any sympathy for them.

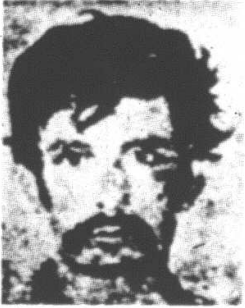
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# SPANISH EXECUTIONS SPARK WORLD OUTRAGE



Jose Alonso

The Spanish government's execution of five revolutionaries has unleashed a storm of violent protest and revolutionary action in the capital cities of Europe.

The Champs-Elysees in Paris, the city's most fashionable shopping district, looked like a battlefield after a night of street fighting between protestors and the police.

In Geneva, 60 policemen were injured in demonstrations in front of the Spanish Consulate. In the Hague, Netherlands, the top floor of the Spanish Embassy was destroyed by fire. In London, the International Socialists took to the streets in a night of militant protest.

In Spain itself, six demonstrators were shot by the police in a clash with 2000 workers in the Basque town of Algorta, an industrial

suburb of Bilbao.

## GENERAL STRIKE

Socialists and nationalists groups have now called for a general strike in all the Basque provinces.

At the same time, longshoremen and airline workers in Italy and France have placed a boycott on all Spanish goods.

The most powerful response to these fascist murders was in revolutionary Lisbon, Portugal. There a cheering crowd ransacked the Spanish Embassy and burned its contents in the street while sympathetic soldiers looked on.

Meanwhile, in the United States, Gerald Ford, Henry Kissinger, the CIA and the US government continue their policy of keeping Franco in power.

They are pouring millions of dollars into Spain to keep fascism alive. They are now preparing a new long term treaty to keep US air bases in Spain and guarantee US intervention on the side of Franco.

And, all the while, Kissinger, calls for the victory of what he terms the "moderate democratic forces" in Portugal.

The truth is that he plans to impose on Portugal the same



Ramon Sanz

"democracy" that exists in Spain—complete with firing squads, torture, and fascist terror in the streets and factories.

Too late, however. The revolution that is fighting for power is Portugal is beginning in Spain as well. There will be no stopping it. □

## Louisville

# United Action: Build A Fighting Union

LOUISVILLE—Voting for local officers is taking place this week in CWA Local 10310. The election campaign of the past weeks has been largely one sided—only the United Action slate has gone to the members to discuss the issues.

The incumbent local officers are trying to keep the campaign focused on personality and "experience." Nothing has been heard from the current officers about their program for the local. No doubt they want to keep their past records out of the election.

United Action candidates have been visiting major work centers. They have found, as they expected, that the number one issue is whether the union leaders can put themselves and the company before the members. The sorry truth is that at a great many work centers there is no union.

At one work center the only

steward is acting management. In less than 30 minutes, UA stewards wrote up two grievances.

At another work center the candidates received an unusually enthusiastic response. The reason: this was the first time in years anyone had bothered to come discuss problems at the work center.

And at one traffic office management tried to keep UA out. It seems the union had never done this kind of thing before and management thought it was a contract violation.

For the UA candidates these experiences are just further proof of what can and has to be done. The officers, they believe, should take the lead in organizing the members to fight the company.

## OUTCOME UNCERTAIN

UA is already doing what they

can to build the needed organization. In this election they are asking the members to throw out the officers who are only obstacles to really building the union.

The outcome of the election at this time is uncertain. There has been a long-standing rumor campaign by the local officers to discredit UA as "radicals" who are "out to break the union." Also, UA's efforts to build opposition to the Klan and the racism generated by busing have contributed to the radical reputation.

United Action answers the charge this way: "Any time you want to change something you're going to be labeled radical. Our efforts at getting the union to fight the company have been getting more and more support. We're going to win—maybe now, maybe later—because we stand for the members first." □

# A boss is a boss is a...

PITTSBURGH—Eleven office workers employed by Local 1407 of the Retail Clerks Union are finding that their boss is just like any other.

Officials of Local 1407 hired scabs to replace striking office employees. They fired six women from another department who refused to cross the striking workers' picket line.

Workers in the benefits department and those in the business office are organized by the same union, Office and Professional Employees Union, Local 33, but are covered by separate agreements.

The contract covering the business office expired July 1. The five women rejected the bosses' offer. On September 17, they struck for a week wage increase and a cost of living clause.

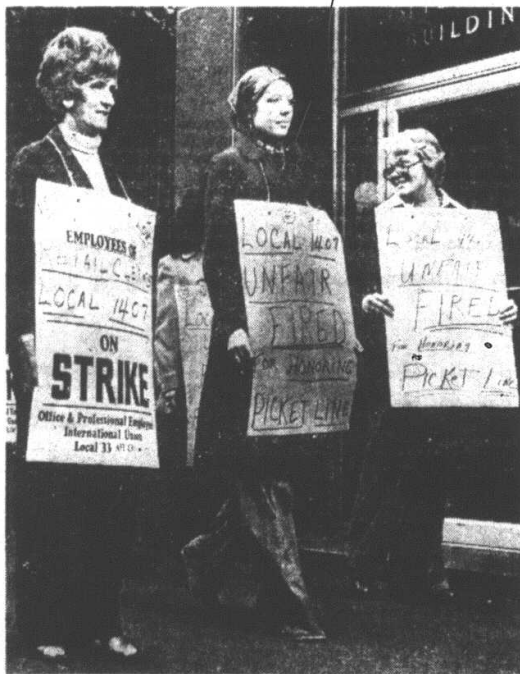
Workers in the benefits department refused to cross the business office workers' picket line. They then received telegrams and certified letters officially "terminating" them.

The six fired women from the benefits department are now picketing along with the strikers.

The five strikers and six fired women think that the union busting attempts of the Retail Clerks officials are an outright betrayal of basic trade union principles.

They intend to make sure that members of the Retail Clerks union are informed about the disgusting strike breaking tactics their so-called "union leadership" is using against workers. □

Steffi D'Amato and Sarah Schafer



Fired union employees joined strikers on picket line.

# Rate Hike: Phone Workers Say "No!"

SEATTLE—On September 26, telephone workers demonstrated against the Pacific Northwest Bell's (PNB) proposed rate increase.

The demonstration at PNB's Central Office here, was sponsored by United Action Caucus, a group of rank and file telephone workers.

In spite of intimidation by the company and the union, 25 telephone workers joined the picket line. Hundreds of phone workers signed United Action's petition.

The speaker for United Action stressed the need for telephone workers to organize to fight the company and make the union represent its members.

Supporters from the Teamsters, the Amalgamated Transit Union, and the American Federation of Teachers attended. A bus driver spoke on the need to build a rank and file movement in every industry.

## NEW CHARGE

The Bell System has proposed to the Washington State Utilities Commission that it be allowed to increase its rates. It wants a charge for directory assistance calls, and increases on several other services.

The company is trying to increase its already enormous profits at the expense of phone users. But PNB is also trying to raise its profits by eliminating jobs.

By raising the cost for operator, assisted calls and imposing a new charge for directory assistance, PNB aims to cut demand for these services so they can get rid of operators who provide them.

## CWA

The union most of these workers

belong to is Communication Workers of America. The union supports the rate increases with the exception of the directory assistance charge.

United Action is the only organized opposition to the rate increase by phone workers.

On the morning of the United Action demonstration, the union issued to bulletin to its members titled "READ AND HEED!" It warned telephone workers not to attend the demonstration.

In effect, CWA joined hands with the company in attempting to frighten people out of demonstrating to save their own jobs.

But the demonstration showed that many phone workers are in no mood to be intimidated. □

# Taxi Ranks Gain In NY

NEW YORK—Taxi drivers here are fed up with the sellout policies of their union president, Harry Van Arsdale. In shop committee elections last week the Taxi Rank and File Coalition and other oppositionists ran in eleven garages and won places in the committee in ten. In eight places, Rank and Filers won the top spot on the committee.

Van Arsdale supporters lost wherever there was serious opposition. Winners included Leo Laxarus, who ran against Van Arsdale for President in '71 and John Garvey, a candidate for union Vice President in 1974. □



# 'Why I Joined the I.S.'

by Lindsey Gordon, Steward, CWA Local 9102, Seattle

I started a few months out of high school, in 1965, working for New Jersey Bell as a telephone operator. I was looking forward to being a working woman, supporting myself and having all the material gains and freedom that \$78 a week could buy!

Generally I liked the people I worked with, and we had very little actual contact with management, so things worked out well. As time progressed I got to know the in's and out's of operating and defiantly accepted all the pushing, prodding, consistent intervention that was part of the job.

After nine months, I decided to transfer to the Seattle. That was my first real encounter with the management machine.

They said, no, we need you, it will take at least six months and even then we can't guarantee anything, it may take a year! I was stunned; I wanted to go right now, not a year from now!

So I did what any self-respecting 18-year old would do. I wrote a four page resignation telling everyone exactly what I thought of them and the entire company and that I would rather starve to death than work for Ma Bell ever again!

## A YEAR LATER.....

Well, a year later, close to starvation I was knocking on the door of PNB (Pacific Northwest Bell), begging forgiveness, saying I would stay forever. I submitted to hours of tests, interrogations, questions about my sex life and general humiliation. My only thought was "My god! What have I done to myself?"

And so it went for 8 years until last summer; our contract with PNB was up and there was a news blackout and nobody knew what was going on. Slowly the news began to leak out and I began to realize we'd been sold.

There was a lot of anger but no one knew what to do about it. Then I heard someone was trying to organize opposition and I decided to see what it was all about.

We met, about 6 of us, all operators and mostly women, and drew up a petition to circulate among other workers. We got about 300 signatures in a very short time and then the contract was ratified which meant the issue we had organized around no longer existed.

Decision time: should we stay together and try to organize others to fight, or do we just give up and forget it.

I had a personal decision to make

also—do I continue on as I had in the past, floundering around with each issue, making my decisions based on how I felt at the moment, with no understanding of how these decisions would affect me in the future? Or do I finally put into action all the ideas, feelings and thoughts I had been thinking for the past eight years.

had no clear idea of what we wanted. As a result we ended up just sitting around talking. But we did decide to meet regularly and that was something.

As time passed we tried to educate ourselves on the contract, the union, stewards, the company and anything else that was related in any manner—and if you have

any say by the people who do the work. We organize around violations of our contract, state and federal laws; anything that the company says or does that we disagree with.

## DISCRIMINATION

Probably the largest single issue in PNB, as in all other ATT companies is discrimination—race, color, creed, age, sex and all other types of discrimination occur.

This is a matter of public record, as ATT has had to pay millions and millions of dollars in back pay to people who have been discriminated against in the past. Most of these people were minorities and women.

A good example of sex discrimination at PNB is a comment from a male manager when told that a woman installer had been sexually harassed by a customer and had filed assault charges. He commented, "She probably didn't like his looks."

Not only is our caucus in Seattle organizing and fighting around all of these issues and more, but there is now forming a national rank and file caucus in CWA called United Action. There are already several United Action Caucuses in major cities throughout the country.

One of the tasks of UA is to unite plant people who work with equipment and are mostly male with traffic people who work with customers and are mostly female.

## UNITY

What does this mean to us? It means we can fight in their arena. ATT is a national organization with national communications and national policies; CWA's leadership has a national organization with national communications and national policies.

How can we expect to fight these giants with just a local organization in Seattle? We can't! We must have a national organization with

national communications and national policies also!

We must unite telephone workers in Seattle with workers in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, New York, Vancouver, Toronto. And we must unite with all the other workers in the cities, so when the final crushing blow of capitalism comes we will be ready to take over.

When I was first introduced to the IS I was very curious to see what it was all about. Then I began to discover that these people were really interested in me—my working conditions, my frustrations, my personal life, my feelings, my thoughts and ideas—all of me.

I didn't understand this in the beginning. But when we had trouble in the caucus or at work they were always there to help. As we began to work closer together I began to understand what these people were all about.

## WORKERS' CONTROL

They believe in workers' control, that is, they believe that workers should be able to run their own lives, personal and working. After all, who knows more about you than you do? Who knows your needs and wants better than you? Who knows how to run any company better than the workers? Why, then, should you be subjected to complete control by people in this society that you have no contact with, no way to reach and no communication with?

I heard all these perspectives and many more from the IS but in addition, I saw that they actually put their ideas into practice. It was after this I joined the IS.

I joined not only because I agreed with their perspectives on labor unions, women, Blacks, but because I could see that this is an organization that doesn't only talk about what has to be done but does it!

## VALUABLE

The IS has given me some long-range perspectives on what has to be done with this society. They have helped me tremendously in dealing with problems at work. They have taught me the value of the union and how to fight to make it a workers' union. As a result, I have become a much more valuable person, not only to myself but to all the workers I come into contact with as well.

As a result of the recent events in my life, I will be able to be an effective militant worker. I will be able to show people the correctness of our politics and the need to join this organization and to recruit other workers. We can make a revolution that will take this country from the ruling class and give it back to the people. □



Luckily for me, there was a person in the group who put that same question to me, with one difference. He had an answer, stay together and fight. He is a member of the IS.

## CONTACTED FRIENDS

From there we contacted some friends we thought would be interested in discussing the union, problems on the job, and what, if anything, we could do.

We were very disorganized, and

any idea of how big ATT and CWA are, then you know how big our task was and still is.

Our caucus and the people in it are becoming the organization that people look to when they need help or advice. We have encouraged many people to file grievances and try to help them in their ways. We hold meetings where we discuss issues that arise at the company, and how we can fight them.

We organize around issues of company harassment; policies they put into effect without, of course,

I joined the IS not only because I agreed with their perspectives on labor unions, women, Blacks, but because I could see that this is an organization that doesn't only talk about what has to be done, but does it.

... We can make a revolution that will take this country from the ruling class and give it back to the people.

## Fired - For Honoring Picket

LOS ANGELES—Drivers, dock and office workers of Barego Truck Lines here, members of Teamsters Local 208 have set up an informational picket line to fight for their jobs. They were fired for supporting the recent strike at Sears.

In August, drivers at Barego refused to cross the picket line set up by the warehouse workers of Teamsters Local 986, who were on strike against Sears.

In order to continue deliveries for Sears, the owner of Barego simply closed down the company, thereby laying off all its employees. He then shifted the work to De Anza

Trucking, another company he owns, which is non-union and which uses owner-operators.

The Barego workers, with the support of Local 208, set up an informational picket line at De Anza. They were just beginning to make things difficult when the company got a temporary restraining order banning the picketing.

So far, the union response has been weak. They are leaving the case to be decided by the courts even though the issues at stake are of vital importance to Los Angeles teamsters.

For some time Local 208 has been facing a broad attack from the trucking companies. They have already been making heavy use of owner-operators to get the once-powerful and militant local. If the Barego strike loses, it can only accelerate this process.

Even more basic, if the Teamsters Union shows that it is unable to protect the jobs of its members who honor the picket lines of their brothers and sisters, no teamster strike can be successful. If solidarity is lost, the union's power is lost. □

## Rules Are Made To Be Followed!

On Thursday, September 25, the Secretary-Treasurer of Teamster Local 804 led a work-to-rule campaign at United Parcel Service's Mid-Town Division in New York City. Endless speedup and harassment has the members angry. Reacting to increasing pressure to do something about it, the delegate stopped a line of trucks leaving the UPS barn at 43rd Street in Manhattan.

He then held a meeting during which he reminded the drivers and loaders that the best way to fight back was to follow UPS' own rules to a "T". That, he said, would be slower but it would create the need for more jobs and protect the jobs of present members. It would give UPS no excuses for firings.

The company has threatened to take him to court for advocating a violation of the contract. The Secretary-Treasurer is seeking rank and file support.

The best support the ranks could give him is to show UPS that they intend to work safely and correctly every day, not just when a meeting is called. □



# LOUISVILLE ANTI-BUSING MOBS INVADE BLACK COMMUNITY

by Tom Jackson

LOUISVILLE—The city has been a powderkeg for weeks. With the beginning of court-ordered busing, there were mass anti-busing demonstrations and riots by whites. The national guard was called in. School buses carrying black children have been attacked. Black parents have been threatened over the phone. Other blacks have been chased by whites.

Shop floors are divided, black-white, down the middle. Management is taking advantage of racial divisions. GE laid off 1300 workers. Union "leaders" organized anti-black strikes. Every workers' organization is being divided by racism and distrust.

The Klan has led white violence. They have organized public cross burnings. They have burned crosses on the lawns of blacks. They openly organize on the shop floor. Whites in the plants are threatened and intimidated to go along with the KKK.

On Sunday, September 21, the third annual "Black Day" was held in Louisville's predominately black West End. Hundreds checked out the displays set up by community service groups, artists, and craftspeople. The theme of the festival was "Black Unity." There was music and barbecue. Everybody seemed to be enjoying the afternoon.

At the same time, in the predominately white South End, hundreds gathered in a church to hear leaders from several anti-busing groups. The more right-wing groups, including at least one group with close links to the Ku Klux Klan, had formed a coalition called "Spirit of '76."

## MOTORCADES

At the end of the anti-busing rally, a motorcade of 150 carloads of whites headed for the West End. With anti-busing signs on their cars and horns blowing, they drove through the heart of the black community straight past the "Black Day" festival.

Some of the racist whites began taunting blacks on the street. As a result, rocks and bottles were thrown and several anti-busing signs were ripped off the cars.

The festival crowd refused to be broken up by the motorcade. As Brother Ben Simmons of the Black Panther Party told them, "We've

been trying to tell you about the need to be united. Just look behind you and you'll see what I'm talking about."

Since this motorcade occurred, two buses have been shot at—luckily no injuries. Outside of some formerly white high schools, demonstrations against busing have continued. Nearly 6000 people attended one rally called by Concerned Parents at the fairgrounds.

A week later an anti-busing demonstration was held in downtown Louisville. Eight thousand people chanting "Boycott!" marched through the streets. Both Democratic and Republican candidates seeking re-election spoke at the rally. Afterwards, motorcades with signs and honking horns drove all over town.

Motorcades into the black community by white anti-busing groups are not an appeal for solidarity

against busing. Such a motorcade is an act of intimidation—a warning it means whites are willing to carry the fight against school integration onto black turf. It means they're bold enough to do whatever is necessary to keep blacks out of "their" schools.

There must be a response to this intrusion. And there will be. A black and white coalition of labor and community organizations called Progress in Education recently

formed in Louisville. This includes People United—the group that has organized many demonstrations against the KKK.

Plans have not been finalized, but a march and rally in the downtown area of Louisville is planned on the afternoon of October 11. The theme of the rally will be to honor the students who have attended school in spite of intimidation, and to stop the racist violence and the KKK.



The anti-busing sign on this cop's motorcycle is one way of apologizing to the white racist protestors for having to bust up violent protests two weeks ago. It also represents the way cops feel: anti-busing, anti-black. The president of a major anti-busing group, Sue Connors, accepts the apology with a big kiss. Some things are back to normal in Louisville—the cops and the racists in fond embrace.

## COMPANION FRAMED

# BLACK ACTIVIST MURDERED BY POLICE

LONG BEACH, Calif.—On September 25, 1975 Betty Scott, a 30-year old black community activist from Long Beach, Calif., was murdered on Route 580 by a California Highway Patrolman after being pulled over for allegedly violating the speed limit.

Her companion, George Smith, also black and also active in the Long Beach community, has been charged with the murder in a patent attempt at frame up.

A Scott-Smith Committee has been formed for the defense. It is organizing a "Caravan for Justice," leaving from Long Beach to arrive on October 2 in Alameda County. That is where George Smith's hearing is to be held in the Livermore Municipal Court House, at 9 a.m.

The two Highway Patrolmen, officers Engbersen and Robins who stopped Smith and Scott had approached their car with guns drawn.

## SMOKING GUN

When officer Engbersen demanded to see Scott's registration, she replied that it was in the glove compartment. "Get it," Engbersen demanded. As she was reaching

over to open the compartment, she was shot and killed by Engbersen.

Shaking and with his gun smoking, Engbersen told Smith "Put your hands up." The next day the headlines of the Oakland Tribune announced: "Woman Speeder Slain—Pulls Gun on CH (California Highway Patrol)." It further reported that Scott had been "taken into custody for attempted murder of a police officer." It was alleged that Smith had pointed it at Engbersen.

The Scott-Smith Committee is demanding an impartial investigation which it thinks will prove conclusively that this is a cover-up of a brutal racist slaying. It is an attempt to shift the blame from the police to Smith.

Scott was shot in the side of the neck in such a way that it would have been physically impossible for her to have been pointing the gun, as claimed by the police. Other evidence supports this.

Donations are needed to support funeral services, attorney's fees and organizing expenses. Make checks or other monies payable to The Scott-Smith Committee, PC Box 4373, Long Beach, Calif 90804. For further information, call 213-591-4305.

## OREGON

# Low Income Families Suffer Day Care Cuts

PORTLAND—Sunday afternoon, September 28, 150 parents, child care workers and children met outside the Southeast Portland Services Division to protest day care changes planned to go into effect immediately.

The state wants to impose measures which will effectively kill day care for the working class families who need it most. Reimbursement to centers will be slashed from 80c to 67c an hour per child, and centers will be forced to become billing agents to collect money from parents.

New eligibility guidelines have also been drawn up. Only parents making between 80% and 115% of Oregon's median income will be eligible! Parents with low-income jobs simply have no place to go.

In addition, everyone on the state day care system will be forced to go through a humiliating re-application procedure, including interviews with case workers at Service (welfare) offices. Many mothers say they will drop out rather than suffer this red tape and humiliation.

Unless enough pressure is applied to force a re-allocation of funds, these cutbacks will leave working parents who need child care with few alternatives. They can hire private baby sitters, pay

for their children to attend expensive private centers, quit work or school and go on welfare, leave their children alone or with other children, or take their children to work with them.

# BUREAUCRACY ATTACKS PORTLAND CLUW

Last week the Multnomah County (Portland, Oregon) Labor Council announced that the Oregon CLUW organizing committee will be disbanded.

The mouthpieces for the Labor Council were two Oregon CLUW state convenors, Linda Rasmussen of the CWA, and Artha Adair of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union.

The excuse for this action was that Rasmussen saw members of CLUW talking with Workers' Power sellers at a labor rally called by the Woodworkers Union.

Rasmussen and others then called a press conference to announce that Oregon CLUW had been taken over by radicals!

## ASTOUNDED

The members of the CLUW organizing committee were astounded, to say the least. In the first place, the CLC has no jurisdiction over Oregon CLUW.

Second, this decision was taken without the organizing committee's knowledge.

Finally, the Oregon CLUW chapter has been involved in a number of women's trade union activities, such as holding meetings and classes on labor history, contract negotiations, and grievance procedures, as well as strike support work.

This action taken by the labor council follows a nationwide pattern. Activist chapters such as Seattle, Cleveland, Atlanta, Denver and now Portland are under attack by the trade union bureaucracy.

## VIOLATION

This is part of a move by these officials to have CLUW totally under the control of the international unions. The Multnomah Labor Council spelled it out clearly. If they can't dominate the Oregon CLUW chapter, they will try to

disband it and set up a new one—under their complete control

This policy by the leadership of the unions is in violation of everything that CLUW should stand for. CLUW was set up because of the leadership of the internationals had refused to do anything for working women.

Now they want to destroy CLUW, the first women's labor organization that was formed to fight for women's rights.

Portland CLUW members don't intend to have their chapter disbanded. They plan to continue building their chapter and to continue activities.

But other CLUW members and chapters must also take up the fight. CLUW activists must come to the December 6 convention in Detroit to fight for CLUW to be an activist organization which can fight for all working women.

Celia Emerson

# CLASS SIZE UNRESOLVED

## NY Teachers Face Losses at Strike's End

by David Miller

The teachers' strike in New York City is over. As Workers' Power warned last week, it was a disaster for teachers.

They received salary increase averaging 6%. But teachers will see next to none of that money since the city has ordered a wage freeze. At the same time, the average teacher lost \$800 in pay and fines during the five day strike.

The issue which became central in the strike—preventing increased class size—remained unresolved. The problem arose because 12,000 teachers and 6,000 para-professionals have been laid off. Since only 2400 will be rehired, class size is bound to increase dramatically.

The increase in class size is doubly resented since the rehired teachers will be paid with the money the school board saved during the strike. Money saved because teachers must now work two additional periods a week will also be used.

### FEWER SUBSTITUTES

On top of the additional work periods, teachers also have to fill in for absent teachers. The new contract allows the Board to demand this of teachers at least seven days a year. As a result, the Board is also saving money by refusing to hire substitutes.

The new contract also begins to phase out paid sabbatical leaves. Each successive year, a hundred fewer sabbaticals will be granted.

Perhaps most significant in the long run, for NYC teachers and all teachers, is the union's acceptance of binding arbitration for the future. If there is no agreement on salaries by the start of the next school year, it will be settled by binding arbitration.

This is against long-standing union policy. But it is also a clear signal that union President Shanker plans no real fight even next year! Clearly he is not looking for some strategy which will replace the one that failed this year.

Instead he has agreed to binding arbitration so that it will be harder for teachers to force a job action over Shanker's head, as they did this time.

### ANGER

Teacher anger at the union leadership is so intense that Shanker is starting an all-out campaign for a "yes" vote on the contract. [The vote last week was on whether or not to end the strike.] Shanker has taken five half-hour radio spots to sell the contract.

He will probably get the "yes" vote he wants. But even the "yes" votes will express not approval, but a recognition that with this leadership and its program, going out on strike again would be pointless.



## BLACK LUNG RALLY

WASHINGTON, DC—On Wednesday, September 18, a crowd of more than 2000 miners, miner's wives, and miner's widows filled the east wing steps of the Capitol. They were demanding improved black lung benefits. The demonstration was part of a two day lobbying effort, sponsored by the United Mine Workers. Despite this effort, however, the proposal to make all miners automatically eligible for black lung disability benefits after fifteen years on the job seems doomed.

Democrats on the house panel overseeing proposed changes in the federal black lung program agreed to dump the 15 year proposal as unworkable. The Democrats now support a compromise bill that would set a 35 year automatic eligibility.

## COAL BOSSES SUE UMWA

PITTSBURGH—In the wake of the recent explosion of militancy in the West Virginia coalfields, coal operators have added an important legal suit to their offensive against wildcat strikes.

The Bituminous Coal Operators Association is the coal industry's bargaining arm. It has asked a Federal Court to compel the UMWA to halt "unauthorized strikes."

The complaint asks the court to order "prompt and affirmative" action by the union, "using all reasonable means at its command" to stop a "national pattern and practice of illegal picketing and work stoppages."

### WILDCATS

The suit alleges that wildcat strikes have cost the industry 16.5 million tons in production so far this year. This is up from 11.5 million tons in all of 1974, and lesser amounts in previous years.

The suit also asks that the union be forced to instruct miners that

the contract, it contends, prohibits striking over arbitratable issues and that the refusal to cross picket lines violates the contract.

Specifically, the operators want the union to discipline roving pickets and any other union member who "instigates" or engages in illegal strike activity. Both the union and the company blame the pickets for the success of the recent West Virginia wildcats.

In Washington, DC leaders of the United Mine Workers announced that they would contest the suit. Representatives of the operators have said it is designed to "help" the UMWA control its membership. Therefore the operators have asked for no damages. This suit is being pushed despite the fact that the UMWA leadership was successful in breaking the West Virginia strike.

The UMWA leadership is desperate to stop the wildcat strikes. However, it opposes any actions which would make the union subject to fines, as this action would.

in the New York Post. Similar scenes have been filmed for CBS TV News.

The propaganda campaign is designed to aid the city's attempt to institute a major speedup. They are trying to force city workers to do the work of the thousands who were laid off this summer.

In Sanitation, 1400\* of 9500 workers were laid off. Those who remain face a 6% pay cut. No wonder garbage is piling up in the

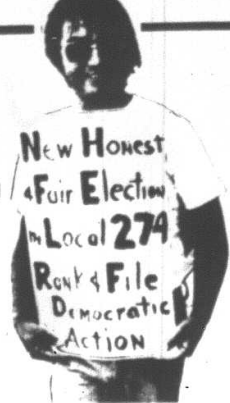
streets. As one sanitation worker told Workers' Power, "Most of the guys are out there giving a hard day's work, but they're getting disgusted at being attacked for not working. Morale is way down."

### CRACK WHIP

The city's response is to crack the whip. Sanitation Commissioner Robert Groh tried to reduce sick

## labor notes

by Jim Woodward



Which side are you on—Part I. William Piercy retired August 3 from his position as regional director of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, but he didn't go into retirement. Instead he took a job as Director of Personnel and Industrial Relations for Max Factor, the cosmetics company. The ILWU has contracts with Max Factor which Piercy helped negotiate. "It is obvious that I have changed sides," said Piercy, but he claimed no conflict of interest. Piercy is a longtime associate of Harry Bridges, the so-called "progressive" president of the ILWU.

Which side are you on—Part II. Thomas Langwell resigned August 14th as president of United Steel Workers Local 1304, which represents 45 shops in the California Bay Area. That was fine with rank and filers in 1304, for Langwell has a record of such militant activities as suspending a BA last year for filing too many grievances. From Local 1304, Langwell is moving to the management position of "Union liaison" for the Oxnard, California Abex plant. That plant is represented by OCAW Local 1-895. In the September issue of Up Date, the newspaper of Local 1-895, the lead article details Langwell's record in the USW and adds: "All we can say here at Oxnard Abex is welcome, Uncle Tom."

Which side are you on—Part III. I.W. Abel, president of the Steel Workers, has not given up that job, but he has joined the board of directors of Americans for Energy Independence (AEI). AEI is a lobbying group supported by GE, Westinghouse, and major utilities. RAFT, a rank and file steelworkers group, denounced Abel's action: "Abel has lent his name and the prestige of our union to a propaganda campaign of the utilities whose program involves de-regulating gas and oil prices, strip-mining vast tracts of the American countryside and building dangerous nuclear power plants."

The Gear and Axle Justice Committee at UAW Local 235 scored a victory September 21 when the local union meeting voted to hold a new election for committeeman of Plant 6, first shift. The original election in June was stolen when the Justice Committee neglected to provide a poll watcher. The local's executive board had refused to order a new election, even though 39 workers signed statements that they had voted for Justice Committee member Victor Jones after he had officially been credited with only 29 votes.

New England Telephone, a subsidiary of AT&T, has announced plans to lay off 1,400 workers, most of them installers and other craftsmen. This comes on top of 1900 layoffs since last October.

Bethlehem Steel Corp. is threatening to close three structural fabricating shops in Pennsylvania and one in California unless the workers agree to a 10% wage reduction. The four plants employ 2640 workers. The response of the United Steel Workers so far has been to open negotiations.

The first issue of UPSurge, a newspaper for United Parcel Service workers, has recently appeared. The first issue contains reports from rank and file UPS workers in nine cities. The paper should be a hit with UPS workers who are among the most regimented and harassed workers in the country. For a subscription, send \$2.50 to UPSurge, PO Box 18213, Cleveland, Ohio 44118.

One item from UPSurge. Workers at the St. Louis UPS HUB punch in on one clock and out on another. The second clock is five minutes slower than the first. UPS workers there figure that costs each worker \$100 a year.

Three years ago, US workers averaged 27c an hour more pay than Canadian workers. Since then, Canadian unions have been more militant than US unions in dealing with inflation. The result: Canadian workers (in manufacturing) now earn \$4.84 an hour, as compared to \$4.68 in the US.

What's happening where you work? Send items for this column to: Workers' Power, Labor Editor, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, MI 48203. Or phone 313-869-3137.

# NY PRESS AIDS SPEED-UP SANITATIONMEN ATTACKED

"By 10:30 there were seven sanitationmen in sight...six leaning on their brooms. At 10:40 two of the six retired...and sat on a bench."

"...a sanitation foreman in Queens was suspended for two days without pay, and 12 of his coworkers were ordered to face hearings after being identified in the Post...as taking two hour breaks..."

These words appeared in articles

in the New York Post. Similar scenes have been filmed for CBS TV News. The propaganda campaign is designed to aid the city's attempt to institute a major speedup. They are trying to force city workers to do the work of the thousands who were laid off this summer. In Sanitation, 1400\* of 9500 workers were laid off. Those who remain face a 6% pay cut. No wonder garbage is piling up in the

streets. As one sanitation worker told Workers' Power, "Most of the guys are out there giving a hard day's work, but they're getting disgusted at being attacked for not working. Morale is way down."

### CRACK WHIP

The city's response is to crack the whip. Sanitation Commissioner Robert Groh tried to reduce sick

leave and "improved" truck markings to help citizens make "complaints." He was forced to resign because he wasn't tough enough. His replacement, Martin Lang, has one idea: beef up the disciplinary unit. He has ruled out the one thing that can get the streets clean: more men and equipment.

What do the sanitation men think of the city's plans? "There is no disciplinary action that they could take that could get more work out

of us. "The guys are so disgusted with the harassment from the press and the politicians that they're beginning to resist by calling in sick. The time is definitely ripe for some organizing around here."

A rank and file movement of sanitation and other city workers—that's the way to keep New York City beautiful."

Al Steinberg



# Will Olga Madar Kill CLUW?

Olga Madar, president of the Coalition of Labor Union Women is convinced that unless she is on guard at all times, CLUW members will try to undermine CLUW. In reality it is Madar, through her actions and beliefs who is wrecking CLUW.

Recently she attacked her own chapter, Wayne County CLUW. The chapter has been organizing a Speak Out to discuss the impact of the economic crisis on women.

Women from a number of international unions, organizing drivers, domestic workers, as well

as women from welfare and community groups have been invited to speak.

Madar, and other women in the bureaucracy have done nothing to build this meeting. Instead they have tried to bring middle class politicians and other do-gooders to speak to working women.

membership to non-union women."

She goes on to state that "The occasion will not be used by CLUW to organize beyond our current membership eligibility requirements and no official action taken on behalf of CLUW will be taken."

Madar wrote this letter for a purpose. While she is paranoid enough to believe that this meeting was organized solely to undermine CLUW, this was not her main reason for sending out the letter.

debate on that question in order to avoid what has become a more crucial one for CLUW. That is that union women aren't joining CLUW because Madar and others like here are trying to kill it. They try to squelch every attempt at activity.

Madar's letter to Wayne County CLUW is not the only example. Ruth Miller from the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, and head of the important constitution committee of CLUW has stated that the only constitutional issue to be debated at the convention will be that of changing, CLUW's membership requirements.

We cannot allow Madar, Miller and the rest to sidetrack us from the real issues.

The fight at the convention should focus on making certain that CLUW is an activist women's trade-union organization that has no restrictions upon its ability to fight for all working women.

Celia Emerson

## Scab Truck Murders OCAW Picket



MELROSE PARK, Ill.—The Vice President of a local of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers was ruthlessly murdered here recently. A truck deliberately drove through a picket line of striking Capitol Packaging Co. workers.

The truck gunned through the line, hitting Dave Watson in the back and dragging him a hundred feet. He died a week and a half later.

The 300 workers at Capitol had been on strike for six weeks demanding an end to sweatshop wages and lack of adequate health and retirement plans.

Capitol responded by hiring scabs and then murdering Watson, making it doubly clear that workers' lives meant nothing in the pursuit of profit.

Not unexpectedly, capitalist justice and the police have given the company their full support. The truck driver who killed Watson was charged with "failure to yield to a pedestrian" and released on \$25 bond.

But when the strikers responded with a militant picket line to keep scabs out, ten picketers were arrested and given \$1000 bond each.

As Rose Kirk, chief steward said, "It's hard to win a strike with the Melrose Park police pushing you all over."

Dave Watson is survived by his wife and seven children. Contributions should be sent c/o Rose Kirk to Mrs. Watson, 1634 N 34th St., Melrose Park, Illinois 60161. □

### LETTER

On October 11, using national CLUW money and stationary, Madar sent a letter to members of Wayne County CLUW, attaching a leaflet publicizing the Speak Out. She alleges that the meeting is somehow being used to undermine CLUW.

"The almost interchangeable terminology, 'working women organized' and 'building a movement of working women,' with our name Coalition of Labor Union Women," she writes, "gives the impression that CLUW plans to expand its

### MAIN FIGHT

Madar wants CLUW members to believe that the main fight in CLUW is over bringing non-union women into CLUW.

This issue has divided CLUW's ranks from its leaders. The exclusion of unorganized women from CLUW strengthens the power of the bureaucrats.

However, Madar wants to focus



Which  
Side  
Are You  
On?  
by Kim Moody

## "Red Scare": Bosses' Weapon Hits Miners

The miners' strike is over. It had spread through seven states and involved 80,000 miners at its height. A strong coalition of employers, government, the press, and the top leadership of the United Mine Workers broke it. The major demand, the right to strike over grievances, was not won.

Consider all the forces arrayed against the rank and file miners. The bosses felt as strongly about the issue as the miners, and refused to re-open the contract. The courts threw hundreds of thousands of dollars in fines at the miners and the union. The union officialdom opposed the strike as well.

### DISUNITY

In truth, however, no strike can be broken unless the bosses get to some of the workers and turn them against the rest. Some workers, usually those who were conservative to begin with, get demoralized. The lies of the bosses begin to get a hearing.

Tactic number one for all bosses and labor bureaucrats is to divide the mass of strikers from their leaders. In the miners' strike, the leaders tended to be younger workers with little experience in union politics. Fushmore, outside of the storm center of the strike in central West Virginia, District 17, these leaders had little or no organization among themselves. Even lines of communication were makeshift and poor.

The bosses exploited this lack of organization and took steps to divide leader from leader by saying that one or another phase had gone back to work. This way they hoped to confuse both leaders and rank and file strikers. For nearly three weeks they were totally unsuccessful in this attempt.

The main dirty work of dividing workers from leaders and from each other was carried out by the top union leadership. The UMWA leadership finally convinced a few local leaders who had participated in the strike to lead a back to work movement.

The strike reflected mass dissatisfaction and a determination to win the right to strike over grievances. The bosses and their allies realized this and took steps. From their point of view it was not enough to break the strike, they had to break the movement as well. For this job they pulled the oldest tactic in the bosses' bag of tricks: red baiting.

The strike leaders who played the biggest role in raising the demand for the right to strike, were organized in the District 17 Rank and File Committee for the Right to Strike. This group has been around for several months. Some leaders of this Committee were open revolutionaries, others were radical in orientation. Because they are

radicals they were able to play an aggressive, militant role. The bosses want to isolate these strike leaders and purge them from the industry.

### TERROR CAMPAIGN

But, the bosses want more than to drive out the "Reds." They clearly want to use a campaign of terror to intimidate all rank and file militants. The daily papers in the coal producing areas have been filled with hysterical articles about reds, outside agitators, and all the tripe the bosses have always used to discredit a fighting group of workers.

With the enthusiastic cooperation of the companies and the backing of the union leadership, the FBI has announced a thorough investigation throughout the UMWA and the industry. Politically conservative miners have been agitated to threaten militants. In areas where it has been aggressive, the Klan will be brought in to this blood feast. No militant, even the most convinced anti-communist, will be "safe" unless he is also tamed.

The miners represent one of the most aggressive sections of the American working class. The bosses know this. They want to break their power and tame their union. It is not just the coal bosses who are out to break the power of the miners, it is the entire US capitalist class.

That is why the FBI is being brought in. They know that there is only a handful of actual revolutionaries in the UMWA. In reality, the bosses are worried about the whole layer of new, young, local militants who made that strike as massive and aggressive as it was.

It is these new, natural leaders who have been behind the local wildcat movements of the past few years. This is who the bosses want to disorganize, demoralize, and intimidate. By picking off the small number of militants who actually are revolutionary, then they can create an atmosphere of terror that will force a retreat by more and more militants. Next comes the speedup. Then the re-establishment of management power in the mines. Then an even greater decline in safety standards.

If the militants of the UMWA fail to defend the radicals that are under attack, they will be hurting their own cause. Unity in the face of this attack by the bosses, the FBI and even the top UMWA leaders, is the only way to defend the movement for the right to strike. Rather than hiding or retreating, the defense of all strikers must be aggressive. This can be the first step toward building a truly organized opposition to the companies and to the Miller administration of the UMWA. □

## Kokomo Comes To Portland

by David Haywood

On Oct. 9 the US Postal Service officially implements the Kokomo plan in Portland, Oregon. Local letter carriers are clear about what it means: speed-up.

The plan is currently being "tested" at the Rose City sub-station. An efficiency expert makes an exact measurement of every move the carrier makes. All the information is plugged into a computer which "equalizes" the routes.

At Rose City this "equalization" cost four carriers their jobs, and the rest work 10 to 12 hours a day.

The aim of the system is to increase productivity and cut costs. Many carriers interviewed by Workers' Power agree that there needs to be some cost cutting in the Postal Service.

"They've hired a bunch of administrators who don't know the first thing about mail delivery.

"They've introduced plans to increase efficiency that were dropped 10 years ago for being outmoded.

### SHOWPIECE

"We carriers have a lot of good ideas about improving service but

we're never asked. The Kokomo plan is about making the carriers pay for management's mistakes."

In order to make Rose City "a showpiece of productivity" there is a supervisor for every carrier. "Extraneous activity" like talking to fellow workers is clamped down on.

Other carriers say they got sold out with the last contract. That would have been the time to fight Kokomo. In fact, the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) 1974 national convention mandated a strike against Kokomo.

But now, grievances must be filed against changes in work rules. They will then be arbitrated, not struck over. Guess who will lose.

Currently Rose City is the only sub-station with the Kokomo plan, but it's coming soon at other sub-stations in Portland. Carriers there are sure about what their response will be.

"As far as I'm concerned, and this is the way most of the guys I know feel, the mail that's not delivered by 3:00 is going back onto the supervisor's desk. I won't work any harder than I am now."

To protect their current work standards letter carriers must organize in each sub-station. □



# 100,000 MARCH, CHANTING

## "Portugal won't be Chile o

### EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT

"VICTORY, VICTORY," we are shouting to a group of workers standing on a street corner. They reply with clenched fists and broad smiles. Soldiers United Will Win (SUV) has just forced the "Sixth Government" to release two soldiers arrested for organizing at the military academy.

Tonight, SUV has served notice that rank and file soldiers will not be part of any crackdown on the Portuguese workers movement.

The demonstration began at sunset. The groups of soldiers and sailors from as far away as Oporto began filing into the Placa Comercio, a large square in downtown Lisbon.

In all, some 10,000 soldiers came out. They led the demonstration in uniform, some carrying pistols. But the soldiers were only one contingent. Working people throughout the Lisbon area came to show support for the rank and file soldiers movement.

Workers carried banners from their "workers' committees" and "tenants commissions," proclaiming solidarity. Some signs just carried the name of their workplace. "Lisnave," "Setnave," "Republica," all well known strongholds of the Portuguese workers movement.

At its height, 100,000 people marched through the narrow streets of Lisbon.

We were chanting, screaming, in constant rhythm, "SUV, SUV, the soldiers will win," "The soldiers are always with the people," "Reactionaries out of the bar-

racks," "Death to the ELP," and "Portugal will not be the Chile of Europe."

#### ENTHUSIASTIC

The demonstration was enthusiastic and well disciplined. No police, no national guard stood watch. The only people in uniform were the soldiers leading the demonstration.

People leaned out of their windows, applauded and saluted with their clenched fists.

After two hours of marching, we arrived at Parque Eduardo 7 to listen to speeches. Each speaker was interrupted by more chants. No one wanted to listen. People were ready to act. Soon we created the opportunity.

A SUV leader tells the crowd the two soldiers have been arrested and are being held at Trafaria, a military prison 20 miles south of the city. He announces that SUV is demanding their release and will hold a demonstration there tomorrow.

We all have the same idea. Let's go now! The soldiers lead the chant, "Today, today!"

It's too far to walk, but the solution to the problem is easily found. Thousands of us rush to the nearest buses and take them over. We tell the drivers where we are going and why. Most are sympathetic or afraid not to be. They agree to take us to Trafaria.

Their buses will have to wait. A group of soldiers go to the bus garage. They demand buses and

get them.

On the bus we are leaning out of the windows, shouting to people on the street. Trafaria, Trafaria. We wave and scream to other demonstrators in buses and cars. As we leave the city, we join in singing the Internationale.

A worker asks me who I and my companions are. We tell them that we are in Portugal to establish communication between workers in Portugal and Britain and the United States. He translates our reply. People on the bus applaud.

#### AT THE PRISON

We arrive at Trafaria at 1:00, and already the SUV has organized a loudspeaker system. Some soldiers make a semi-circle immediately in front of the prison gates. Any action we take will be disciplined and led by the soldiers.

Buses keep arriving. Worker-controlled Radio Renascenca has broadcast a call to join the demonstration. For the next two hours we wait. There are more speeches, more chanting, and periodic announcements on the progress of negotiations between the delegation from SUV and the prison commandant.

Later we will learn of the night's real drama. A group of commandos, supposedly loyal to the government, were sent to disperse the demonstration. They were met by rank and file soldiers who

convinced them to turn around. The government has no choice. The order comes from Otelo Carvalho. We hear the news on the loudspeaker.

Our two comrades are going to be set free. 20,000 people cheer and chant: "Victory, victory!" We sing "Venceramos" (We shall win) as we walk back to the



Throughout Portugal workers have taken over many factories and are running them. Workers' Power reporter Kevin Bradley visited the Otis Elevator plant outside Lisbon. Workers there have been running the plant for four months. Bradley also interviewed Portuguese telephone workers, who discussed how they organized and won their militant strike this summer.

## WORKERS' COMMITTEE RUNS FACTORY

For four months the 300 workers at the Otis Elevator plant outside Lisbon have taken over and run the plant. Otis still schemes to get it back. But in the meantime it belongs to the workers. They run it as a co-operative.

When we visited the Otis plant in August, many of the workers were away on vacation. But those we talked to were calm, confident—and totally determined.

The Otis workers know their occupation is part of the battle for socialist revolution. If they lose, the result will be fascism. But they don't intend to lose.

#### SAFETY AND WAGES

A workers' commission of eight is elected to run the company's affairs. This commission has been elected twice so far, by mass meetings and open hand voting. Four members are inside workers, and four are outside installers.

The workers belong to many different left-wing parties, but they elect the members of the workers' commission on their ability to run

the affairs of the plant. The workers know each other well. Some have been there 40 years.

Under the old bosses, the lives and health of workers meant nothing. Now the workers have made sure that working conditions and safety are improved.

In the past the company imported many parts and supplies from abroad. Now these foreign supplies have been cut off and so they are made in the plant.

But even under workers' control, the company is affected by forces bigger than one plant. The drastic decline in the national construction industry has pushed business way down.

The problem is that Portugal's economy is still capitalism. It still operates by the rules of the capitalist market. Under capitalism whether a plant is run by bosses or workers, it must sell its goods or go bankrupt.

To save their jobs, Otis workers are demanding that the government nationalize the plant, and create an emergency building plan for housing, hospitals and schools.

Workers are protecting their jobs, but they have little wish to improve wages. Minimum wages are \$160 a month, for a 44 hour week with no extra pay for overtime.

Portuguese workers are the lowest paid in Western Europe. Prices in Portugal are only slightly lower than US prices.

Otis workers have saved money by eliminating the \$12,000 per month paid to the old plant director. His lavish standard of living in a downtown hotel showed he received a lot more on the side. The \$5500 per month paid to the landlord has been reduced by two-thirds.

Otis workers were eager to talk to us. They want to make sure their story is heard, to keep the company from destroying their new-found freedom.

If you work for Otis, raise motions of solidarity at your union meeting. Such support can put the bosses of Otis on guard that Otis workers, here and in Portugal, know they have the same interests. □

## Protests Turn To Occupations

A telephone worker told us about the recent struggle: "The strike in July brought nearly all of the telephones to a stop. It was organized through the biggest of the unions in the telephone exchanges.

"The Communist Party said the strike was reactionary. They tried to break it.

"We were fighting for better shop floor conditions, and a reduction of pay differentials. There are at the moment ten pay grades, each grade getting about \$20 a month (11c an hour) less than the next higher one. The highest paid grade is \$240 a month higher (\$1.32 a hour) than the lowest one."

In a country with a minimum wage of only \$30 a week, these differences in pay are enormous. Many strikes in Portugal, including at the Lisnave shipyards where the workers are most revolutionary, have been for eliminating these differentials by raising the wages of the lowest paid.

"Last April the union presented demands to the government, which

runs the phone company. The government made a counter-offer, which was accepted by several telephone unions but not the main one.

#### FROZEN

"From April to June nothing was solved, so we organized our own action. First, a slowdown. Then, paralysis—our arms got frozen! Finally, we occupied all the telephone exchanges.

"The press and government tried to break the strike. The union had a march of 5000 people—the radio said there were 300.

"Meanwhile soldiers were being trained to do the work of the telephone workers. They were told only a minority of phone workers were on strike. But when they arrived, they found the strike was solid. So they refused to break the strike and went away.

"The strike finally ended with a compromise. Each year there will be an increase in wages and a reduction in the pay differentials." □

# f Europe!"

by Moe Orianski

buses. There is a large pickup truck quickly filling up with workers and soldiers. "Are you going to Lisbon?" "Sure, get on."  
A worker still in overalls reaches

down and helps pull me up. Everyone on the truck is smiling, laughing, singing, yelling to the people we pass. "We won, we won!"



# BEHIND THE EXPLOSION

by Dan Posen

The events of Monday and Tuesday have shown exactly what the alternatives are for the Portuguese Revolution. Either there will be an armed workers' insurrection to take power—or there will be an uprising by fascist officers and civil war.

Premier Azevedo's move to seize worker-controlled Radio Renascenca and other radio stations amounts to an attempted coup, the first step to smash the workers' revolution. Tens of thousands of workers marched on Lisbon, confronted the soldiers at the radio stations, mobilized to defend their revolution.

Both sides are now measuring the power they hold in the streets and their forces in the Army. Every soldiers' regiment is being tested, as the soldiers decide which way their guns will point when the confrontation explodes. The crisis now raging appears to be the dress rehearsal.

## CLASS FORCES

The events of Monday and Tuesday came after two weeks of tremendous political convulsions and a huge upheaval in the Army. As the revolution reaches a climax, the forces in the military are responding more and more directly to their basic class interests.

The leading officers of the middle class Armed Forces Movement have signed on with the right, in the face of workers' revolution. The Supreme Revolutionary Council surrendered all its authority to Azevedo, saying that order must be restored over workers and soldiers for the government to function.

But masses of rank and file soldiers have swung over to the workers. Soldiers United for Victory, which formed a few weeks ago to defend soldiers' rights to free speech and assembly, published a manifesto last week. It stated that SUV's purpose is to destroy the bourgeois army, to help create workers' power and a revolution-

ary army.

Last Thursday, a demonstration of 100,000 was called by the United Revolutionary Front. It was joined by 15,000 workers in uniform, a quarter of all the soldiers in Portugal.

In the last month, the United Revolutionary Front which was formed in August has developed as a leading force in the working class. Within the Front, the Proletarian Revolutionary Party—Revolutionary Brigades (PRP-BR) is leading the political fight for arming workers and taking power.

An officer who supports the revolution, Captain Fernandez, turned over a

thousand automatic rifles to the revolutionary left. They are being used to arm the workers' commissions that control key factories in Portugal.

Last week's events, which ended by liberating the two Mafra soldiers and the burning of the Spanish embassy, showed the capitalist Provisional Government totally losing control.

The basic conditions for a workers' insurrection to seize power are rapidly developing in Portugal. The greatest test of the revolution is at hand: creating the powerful network of workers' commissions, militias or councils that can seize the power.

## Why Communist Party Says 'Don't Fight'

Every class force in Portugal is now acting out its most basic instincts. The Portuguese Communist Party is no exception.

The Communist Party knew about Azevedo's Monday morning coup six hours before it occurred. It did nothing.

The whole Lisnave shipyards joined the workers' march on Lisbon to defend the revolution—except for the members of the Communist Party, who stayed at work.

The CP leadership told workers to remain at work, to do nothing against the government, and to "remain on guard"—not against Azevedo, but against the actions of the revolutionary left!

And yet, if Portugal's workers are defeated and fascism is restored, the Communist Party will be among the first to be smashed. Its members and leaders will be tortured, jailed and slaughtered along with the whole working class.

If this is true, why is the Communist Party betraying and demobilizing the

working class in this crisis?

The reason is that fascism in Portugal can be defeated only by workers' revolution. The working class in Portugal knows this, and it is determined to fight for power.

But the Communist Party is not a party of working class revolution. It is the party of a bureaucratic apparatus that wants power for itself. The CP leaders cannot maneuver for that power so long as the workers' revolution is on the offensive.

So the CP has sold out the workers' resistance. If the struggle against fascism leads to socialist revolution, the CP will not support it.

But thousands of workers in the Communist Party know their lives are on the line. At some factories, they joined the revolutionary mobilizations of Monday and Tuesday against their leadership's orders.

The influence of the Communist Party among workers is still a powerful obstacle to the success of the revolution. But that influence has begun to break.



Workers' Power Portuguese Solidarity rallies attracted thousands of people in 11 cities, collecting over \$4000.

## Solidarity Campaign Successful

The Workers' Power Portuguese Solidarity Campaign organized a national speaking tour as its first major activity. The tour has given the Campaign and the Portugal Solidarity Fund a highly successful start.

I.S. branches around the country did weeks of hard organizing to make the rallies successful.

Antonio Silva was the featured speaker. He is a revolutionary soldier from Portugal. Silva gave the first account by a participant in the revolution that has been presented in this country. I.S. National Chairman Joel Geier, just back from Portugal, also spoke.

Silva and Geier spoke to meetings of 500 in New York and 300 in Boston, before going to the West Coast and Midwest: 300 people attended in Oakland. There were meetings of 200 in Los Angeles, Seattle, Bloomington and Detroit. Meetings of 85-125 people were also held in St. Louis, Cleveland and Chicago.

"Seattle Times" and "Cleveland Plain Dealer". The meeting in Oakland included 30 Portuguese workers from the San Leandro community.

The tour concluded September 26 in Toronto. 250 people, including 50 from the large Portuguese community in Toronto, attended.

Enthusiastic fund appeals at the meetings collected over \$4000. All of this money will go to Portugal to support the revolution, the workers' councils and the work of the Proletarian Revolutionary Party—Revolutionary Brigades. The totals collected were: New York, \$800; Detroit, \$639; Oakland, \$565; Seattle, \$400; Los Angeles, \$336; Cleveland, \$330; Boston, \$300; Chicago, \$263; St. Louis, \$202; Bloomington, \$174.

The work of the Workers' Power Portugal Solidarity Campaign has just begun. Demonstrations in several major cities are being planned for the near future. Contributions of any size are still needed for the Solidarity Fund, to help the Portuguese working class fight for power against the fascist counter-revolution that is being organized by the CIA.

**HIGHLIGHTS**  
There were several particular highlights of the tour. Silva was featured in articles in the

### Workers' Power Portuguese Solidarity Fund

14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, MI 48203

I want to support the workers' revolution in Portugal. I will contribute:

- \$100 will support a PRP-BR organizer working to build the workers, soldiers, and sailors councils for two weeks.
- \$50 will help the PRP print its newspaper Revolucao (Revolution) to help combat CIA propaganda in Portugal.
- \$25 will pay for 5,000 leaflets for the Revolutionary Council of Workers, Soldiers, and Sailors.

\$10 will help print wall posters for the Revolutionary Council of Workers, Soldiers, and Sailors.

I will make a regular monthly pledge of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help the Portuguese Revolution.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to the Workers' Power Portuguese Solidarity Fund.



# Successful Weekly Depends On Readers

by Gay Semel  
Workers' Power Editor

The next issue of Workers' Power will be the first issue of a new 12-page weekly newspaper. It will appear October 15.

For the International Socialists this important event is the result of a decision made nearly one year ago.

At that time the US economy was rushing into depression. The first wave of mass layoffs had hit the auto industry, and was about to spread throughout the economy. American capitalism is in crisis and working people are being made to pay.

Events were moving quickly, too quickly for a bi-weekly newspaper to keep up. American workers were beginning to fight back. In every plant, factory, mill and office, working people began saying "No!"

The IS needed a weekly newspaper. Members in the shops and other working class militants needed an organizing tool that covered their struggles as they happened—not after.

## HARD WORK

But becoming a weekly newspaper that is actively used by a large number of worker militants takes more than a decision at a meeting somewhere. It takes hard work.

Over the last period the entire membership of the IS worked hard. The task was to build WP into a well used fighting newspaper, whose influence was broad enough to sustain weekly publication.

Over a period of four months, from February through May, Workers' Power circulation was doubled. Sales went from an average of 3000 to 6000. But numbers don't tell the full story.

## INFLUENCE

The influence of Workers' Power grew even more dramatically. Those 6000 were not just random sales.

Workers' Power is sold where it can be used the most—at factory gates. And inside many plants and offices over the last six months, many readers became sellers. Working class militants, who read the paper and liked it, began taking small bundles to sell to their friends and workmates.

Workers' Power is now the paper with the best coverage of the rank and file movement in the US.



Take Workers' Power to work with you!

When workers at the Hyster plant in Danville, Ill. occupied their factory, and won, Workers' Power was the only paper to cover it.

When 800 workers struck Scullin Steel in St. Louis over racism, Workers' Power was there, reporting the story and helping the Scullin workers spread information about their strike.

## POST OFFICE

Workers' Power has on-going coverage of the growing opposition in auto, steel, teamsters, telephone, the mines and public employees. For several months before the expiration of the postal contract, Workers' Power carried coverage of the growing anger of postal workers. Each issue, in a special column called "Postal Points," Workers' Power carried news of activities of rank and file postal workers, and their opinions from around the country.

Workers' Power was the only place where postal workers could find out what was happening.

Workers' Power is able to carry news of the rank and file movement because it is part of that movement. IS members and Workers' Power supporters are active participants in the struggle. Much of our coverage is written by those involved.

But although the influence of Workers' Power has grown enormously, we have a long way to go. 6000 is enough to go weekly, but it is a mere drop in the bucket. Many

more thousands of workers must make Workers' Power their own.

The weekly Workers' Power must continue to grow. Posters and leaflets announcing the weekly paper are now available. IS members and friends will be distributing them. Put up a poster where you work, pass a leaflet on to a friend.

Packets of posters and leaflets are available from Workers' Power, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, MI 48203. Bundles of Workers' Power are also available. □

## Fund Drive Aims For \$30,000

As Workers' Power moves to weekly publication, you will have a more effective tool of building the rank and file movement. But to maintain expansion we need money from you. Unlike the bourgeois press, we're not supported by ads from big companies. We're fighting them. Our existence depends on support from our readers.

That is one of the reasons for the Fall Fund Drive of the IS, which starts next week. The drive will aim to raise \$30,000. This is 33% more than we have ever tried to raise. But the tasks before the revolutionary movement have increased far more than 33% in the last year.

## EXPANDING

IS is expanding into new cities. More books and pamphlets are being produced. This will help you in agitational work in the major industries. Dedication alone won't make this succeed.

In the last few weeks, IS has raised over \$4,000 for the Portuguese Revolution. Much of it has come from members of the organization.

To build the revolution here, we need help from all our supporters.

It is impossible for the members alone to shoulder the whole burden.

We urge all readers of Workers' Power to contribute as much as you can afford. The drive runs ten weeks. Send your contribution now. Insure the growth of the IS as a workers' combat organization.

Make checks or money orders payable to "I.S." and send your contribution to: I.S., 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, Michigan 48203. □



## What We Stand For

The International Socialists are open to all who accept our basic principles and are willing to work as a member of our organization to achieve them. We stand for:

### WORKING CLASS REVOLUTION

Working class revolution will destroy capitalism. Reform schemes cannot patch it up. The wealth produced by workers will be collectively controlled by workers to provide a decent life and freedom for all. Today that wealth is stolen from working people by the capitalist class. Socialism can be won only through workers' revolution. The capitalist state must be destroyed. So must its institutions: the legislature, army, police, and courts. A socialist society will be ruled democratically by mass organizations of all working people.

### MASS ORGANIZATIONS OF THE WORKING CLASS

Today the trade unions are the only mass working class organizations. We work for rank and file control of the unions to make them fighting instruments of workers against the employers. We fight for workers' action against the economic and social crisis of capitalism: Defend working conditions. No controls on wages. 30 hours work for 40 hours pay to fight unemployment. The right to a job at union wages for everyone. Organize the unorganized. Nationalization of industry without compensation and under workers' control.

### BLACK LIBERATION

We stand for black liberation. Full equality for black people and all national minorities. Defend the black community and other oppressed peoples against all forms of racism, police terror and discrimination. We call for independent organization by black and other specially oppressed people to struggle for their liberation and to build the unity among all workers that will lead to socialism. Independence for Puerto Rico.

### WOMEN'S LIBERATION

For complete social, economic and political equality for women. Free quality childcare, birth control and abortion on demand. Abolish oppression of gay people, and all sexual oppression.

### YOUTH

Equality for young people. The right to good jobs for all youth. Stop police intimidation of young people. For schools controlled by students, teachers and community. For a revolutionary socialist youth movement.

### AGAINST IMPERIALISM

We oppose US imperialism, its nuclear weapons and its alliances such as NATO. Unconditional support to movements for national liberation. We oppose Russian imperialism and its war bloc, the Warsaw Pact, which controls Eastern Europe. For an independent movement of the working class and oppressed peoples everywhere against imperialism, East and West.

### FOR WORLD SOCIALISM

The first successful socialist revolution was made by the Russian working class in 1917. But the revolution was isolated, and destroyed by a counterrevolution led by Stalin. Workers' councils, political parties and trade unions all crushed. Today Russia, China and the rest of the "Communist" countries are not socialist, but societies in which workers are exploited by a bureaucratic ruling class. We support workers' struggles in Russia, China and Eastern Europe for democracy and freedom. For workers' revolution to overthrow Stalinism and replace it with socialism.

### REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

To win the fight for socialism the most militant sections of the working class must be organized into a revolutionary party. The revolutionary party is a political force linking workers in separate factories, unions and industries, helping to organize and lead them to take state power and control society as a class. All the activity of the IS is directed toward building such a revolutionary party out of the struggles working people are waging today.

### I.S. BRANCHES

National Office: 14131 Woodward, Highland Park, MI 48203  
Amherst: PO Box 850, Amherst, MA 01002  
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## International Socialists



If you agree with the views expressed in this paper and  would like more information, or  would like to join the International Socialists, then send this form to:

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS  
14131 Woodward Ave.  
Highland Park, MI 48203

Name

Address

Trade Union



## Another Excuse To Harass Left

The two recent assassination attempts against President Ford are now being used as yet another excuse to attack radical and left-wing organizations. In newspapers and magazines across the country, the two shootings are being linked not only to the Hearst case but also to scores of organizations.

This week's Time magazine, for example, featured an article entitled, "Radicals: California's Underground." The article focuses on the fact that the shootings took place in the San Francisco Bay Area. Newsweek magazine included a story entitled, "Now the Violent Woman," which tries to tie the shootings to Women's Liberation.

The truth of course is that the shootings had nothing to do with either the left wing movement or the women's liberation movement.

### CULTIST INFORMER

Lynette Frumm has never been a radical. She is hardly a women's liberationist. She is a fringe member of the Charles Manson religious murder cult. Sara Jane Moore was a paid FBI informer. She was in the pay of the FBI at the time she shot at the President. She did in fact hang around the Bay Area radical movement. But

nearly every organization, from the Vietnam Veterans Against the War to the United Farm Workers Union refused her frequent requests for employment.

The media, of course, would love to build up the idea that it is the radical movement which is behind these assassination attempts and the increasing violence of American life. This will not be easy, however. The fact is that the same papers that report all this also carry the news of international CIA assassination plots, their deadly dart guns, cobra venom, and shellfish toxin.

And it is all this which really symbolizes the increasing disintegration of American society. It is the rot and disease of this system that leads to the violence—including the spectacle of paid government agents themselves being used in attempts to gun down top government leaders.

Nevertheless, these shootings, along with the Hearst case, will indeed be used as yet another reason for increasing political surveillance, infiltration, and sabotage of the left.

The result of the CIA disclosures will be simply to increase the density of the web of spies and provocateurs that are now commonplace in what the President still refers to as the "freest country on earth."



Sara Moore, a paid FBI informer, tried to shoot Ford.

## Teamsters Rally For Hoffa

LOS ANGELES—175 Teamsters attended a rally here Sept. 27 organized by a group called the Action for Hoffa Committee. The rally's stated purpose was to demand that the US Justice Department launch a full scale investigation into the disappearance of Jimmy Hoffa.

But the real concerns of almost all the participants, on the platform and in the audience, clearly went far beyond the question of Jimmy Hoffa. John T. Williams, co-ordinator of the Action for Hoffa Committee, announced the committee's intention to build a rank and file campaign to democratize

the union through changing the constitution.

### REFERENDUM VOTE

Their main issue will be the referendum vote: the demand that all international officers, delegates, conference directors, joint council officials, as well as trustees of the pension and health and welfare fund, should be elected by direct vote of the union membership.

Other speakers attacked the International for its failure to defend the membership or to support militant actions by locals.

In addition to Williams, speakers at the rally included Mike Parkhurst, editor of *Overdrive* magazine, representatives from the Bay Area Rank and File, and from TURF.

It was clear that some of the speakers supported the idea of persuading Jimmy Hoffa, Jr. to run for International president. Parkhurst declared, "The union is not the officials', it's yours." But he then announced his backing of the younger Hoffa for International president, "although he will not give you back the union."

### JIMMY JR.

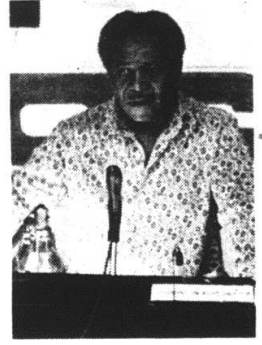
Jimmy Hoffa, Jr. had been

invited to speak at the rally, but declined the invitation. Instead he sent a telegram calling upon the membership to press for legal action on his father's disappearance.

The Los Angeles rally comes at a time when the monolithic control of Teamsters President Frank Fitzsimmons is in real danger of cracking up. Dissatisfaction is the norm among members of the union. With the big Master Freight Agreement coming up next spring, many rank and filers and some middle level union officials are looking for alternatives.

The Action for Hoffa Committee offers one possible alternative. But its biggest weakness is that it doesn't speak to the most critical issues facing union members. It will be hard to mobilize truck drivers around an issue of constitutional reform (the referendum vote) when they are faced every day with such problems as the loss of jobs due to mergers or bankruptcies, and the unwillingness of the International to put up a fight on this issue or much of anything else.

It will also be difficult to



John T. Williams, coordinator of the Action for Hoffa Committee

generate enthusiasm for a Jimmy Hoffa, Jr. campaign for president when some of the promoters of the idea know already that this lawyer "will not give you back the union."

## BOSTON TEACHERS SETTLE; FINES REACH \$60,000

by Mike Hirsch

BOSTON—School teachers went on strike for over a week. They were demanding a 9% cost of living increase, plus job security and improved working conditions. The strike was over 91% solid, and school attendance dropped to 13%.

To avoid being charged with willfully disrupting Boston's school busing desegregation plan, teachers delayed their walkout for three weeks after school began. Nevertheless, they were accused of attempting to sabotage the busing plan, both by the NAACP and by the Boston School Committee

which has fought school integration tooth and nail for a decade.

The strike was caused by the School Committee's policies. But the committee deliberately used it to disrupt the busing plan. Simultaneously it tried to use white racism to deflect teacher's militancy and smash the strike.

The strike ended, under heavy pressure from the courts. The result is a poor compromise far short of the teachers' modest demands. Court fines against the union, which the leadership meekly promised to pay, reached \$60,000 over the course of the strike.

### WORKERS' Power

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On October 15, Workers' Power is going to start coming out as a weekly newspaper.

This means better and more timely news coverage and analysis for all our readers. And faster service for our subscribers.

By going to a weekly, Workers' Power will be handled by the Post Office as first class mail. You will have same week delivery.

Renew or subscribe now and save money. Subscription rates will go up to \$10.00 a year on October 15. If you subscribe or renew now, it will cost you only \$7.50 for a year.



## HOFFA'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY

# The "Little Guy's" Last Words

There is one clear lesson in the new book, Jimmy Hoffa, The Real Story.

**Jimmy Hoffa had no intention of cleaning up the Teamsters. He simply wanted his old job back. And that's all.**

Still, that cost him his life. This book had been planned to build his campaign. After his disappearance, it was rushed to press unfinished, in a vain attempt to bring him back.

Hoffa had hoped to get back to the top of the Teamsters by blasting Fitzsimmons.

**HOFFA The Real Story, by James R. Hoffa as told to Oscar Fraley. Stein and Day, New York, 1975. 242 pp. \$8.95**

He began his book with charges. "I charge Frank Fitzsimmons with selling out to mobsters and letting known racketeers into the Teamsters."

...with awarding a \$1.3 million Teamster public relations program to two men with criminal records.

...with making vast loans from the billion dollar Teamster pension fund to known mobsters.

...with sending Hoffa supporters among the Teamsters officials to "Siberia."

And, "...with stripping my wife and my son of union posts as a further means of undermining my influence."

Yawn. These charges will help sell the book, but not much else.

### KNOWN FACT

Everyone knows that the Teamsters Union is corrupt. And the truth is that the situation is far worse than Hoffa charges.

Yet no gangsters will be driven from the union as a result of this book. No Mafia chieftains will fall.

The book is not in any sense a book about the Teamsters Union. And Hoffa offers nothing. No evidence. No names, dates, places.

The book is nothing more than another vindication of Jimmy Hoffa. It's another of his promises to bring back the good old days, the fifties, when everyone loved, or at least feared, "the little guy."

Jimmy Hoffa, The Real Story, retells all the old Hoffa stories. The strawberry strike at Kroger's. How Jimmy went to jail. How he fought the cops and the goons. The book reestablishes the fact that Jimmy Hoffa was tough.

Then, for nearly half the book, Hoffa attempts to clear himself of the charges that sent him to prison. He replays the confrontations with Bobby Kennedy, "that little shit," then an investigator for the Senate McClellan Committee.

### FRAMED, BUT...

It's clear, even in this account, that Hoffa actually was framed, the victim of the Kennedy thirst for power. But he was by no means innocent.

On page after page, he convicts himself.

He defends his old friend Joey Gimco, the Chicago hood who runs fifteen Teamster locals and brings in an income of \$840,000 a year. He boasts of his achievements in the real estate business. "Sure we loaned money to build motels and casinos in Las Vegas. So what. Las Vegas borrowers are good customers."

He acknowledges that he employed Teamsters, and that he owned trucking companies. But it was in his wife's name, of course, "for legal purposes."

He tells how he lived. "The building where I live in Miami Beach is the Blair House on Bay Harbour Island. It was built with a \$2.5 million loan from the Teamsters fourteen years ago."

Hoffa also gives some hints about his personal brand of unionism.

### DESPISED DISSIDENTS

First of all he despised "dissidents." That included the Minneapolis Teamsters of the thirties, who were "out and out commies." And it included just about anyone who would stand up against him.

He believed that running the Teamsters Union was "like directing the largest corporation in America."

And, as in the corporate world, "in an organization like the Teamsters, one man has to be boss and run things." Jimmy, naturally.

Hoffa reports that he was tough on the companies, but he had no "grudge against big business." In fact, he preferred negotiating with the top dogs: "The higher up you go, the more reasonable are those with whom you are arbitrating."

In fact, Hoffa enjoyed more than just negotiations with the employers. He lived with them at Lake Orion, vacationed with them in Florida, and posed for pictures in tuxedos with them.

He saw to it that his son Jimmy became a lawyer and his daughter Barbara married well.

### LIKED DRIVERS

He also liked to get out on the dock now and then. He liked truck drivers. He liked the power they gave him.

Hoffa hoped that he could bring back the good old days, when he could deliver the goods for truck drivers, and still have time to



"Hoffa replays the confrontations with Bobby Kennedy, 'that little shit,' then an investigator for the Senate McClellan Committee."

dedicate a hospital in Israel, or build a brothel in Nevada.

It would be a great mistake, however, to imagine that Jimmy could have redone the economy, brought back prosperity, and reconstructed the happy trucker. Times have changed.

It would be an even bigger mistake to think that the "little guy" would drive out the gangsters, put an end to goon squads, crummy contracts, and sweetheart deals. Hoffa thrived on all that.

And he taught Fitzsimmons everything he knows. He "hand-carried him all the way from shop steward to general vice president."

Right until the end, he lived high on the famous Teamster pension fund...\$1.7 million was given to him outright when he retired.

### MADE WAVES

Nevertheless, Hoffa's dreams killed him. Although he had no intention of disturbing the Mafia,

he made waves. He worried people. After all, things have a tendency to get out of hand. The mob didn't want a Teamster Watergate.

Hoffa also predicted stormy days ahead for the Teamsters Union, for all American workers. And in this he was right. He was wrong, however, in believing he'd be on "the front lines."

Hoffa no longer knew American workers, even the truck drivers. He believed that truckers worked "60 hours a week" just "to get away from the old lady." And that there was poverty in Detroit because "families on welfare...would never look for a job."

There is one other lesson in the Hoffa book, though it is one Jimmy would not have understood. Most rank and file Teamsters are not happy that their union is run by goons and gangsters. And their paychecks are no longer enough to keep them silent.

### GOVERNMENT

They should, not hope, however, that the government will be their savior. In the fifties, Robert Kennedy and the McClellan Committee spent millions to get Hoffa. But they did nothing to help the rank and file.

Today, with police informers taking potshots at Presidents, the CIA reading Nixon's mail, and the White House organizing burglaries, there is even less hope that the law, the government, will clean up the unions.

Still, it must be done, for rank and file Teamsters are right in fearing that if Hoffa can be blown away without a clue, their own lives will be worth even less.

The rank and file will have to change the union themselves, top to bottom. In the case of the Teamsters every decent trade unionist has a responsibility to support those rank and file militants who have taken up this task.

Calvin Williams

# Shoulder to Shoulder: Women's Right to Vote

"Votes for Women!" This slogan dominated political life in Britain in the early 1900's. For over a decade, millions of women were involved in a mass militant campaign to win the right to vote.

Women in all levels of society participated in demonstrations and marches, went to jail, suffered hunger strikes and forced feeding for their rights. Some, in frustration, began campaigns of arson and bombing. One woman even committed suicide for the cause.

"Shoulder to Shoulder" is a television series, in six parts, which tells about the struggle for the vote. It was made in England by the BBC, and women, involved in aspects of the present British women's movement, are portraying the early suffragettes. It begins on Sunday night, October 5, on your local Public Broadcasting Station.

While the series is about the British women's movement, it is worthwhile watching. It vividly recreates one chapter in women's history. It shows how a gigantic struggle, involving millions of

women, was necessary in order to win the right to vote.

It shows how women organized the Women's Social and Political Union, and how they had to take on the government and police.

### THE PANKHURSTS

The series brings to life the one family, the Pankhursts—Emmeline and her daughters Christobel, Sylvia and Adela—who were the leaders and organizers of this mass movement. They dominated English history for 10 years.

The last episode, which will be shown on November 2, could be the most interesting. This chapter focuses on the work of Sylvia Pankhurst, the middle Pankhurst daughter, who was a feminist and socialist.

In this chapter, Sylvia Pankhurst breaks with her mother and sister and builds a mass working class women's suffrage and women's liberation organization in the East End of London.

The East London Federation of the Suffragettes, the working class



"Mud March" rally in Chicago, 1907: working women march for the vote.

women's movement, kept up the fight for women's liberation during World War One. At that time, middle class women abandoned their struggle in favor of supporting the government in an imperialist war.

While the series stresses too

much the personal aspects as opposed to the political nature of the struggle, it is an exciting and interesting show. Shoulder to Shoulder. Sunday nights beginning October 5 on your local PBS station.

Celia Emerson



Letters

to

# Workers' Power

## Railroad Workers Support Jailed Teacher

Dear Workers' Power,

At the September meeting of Local 863, Brotherhood of Railway, Airline and Steamship Clerks (BRAC), our membership demanded the release of Mr. Norman Swenson, President of the Cook County College Teachers Union, jailed during the recent strike of this union against the Chicago city colleges.

However, it must be pointed out that Mr. Swenson did not suffer the full repression of our penal system. While other prisoners are crowded into cold, dank cells, Mr. Swenson had a large air conditioned cell with a color television, an unlocked door, and unlimited visitors.

The strike is settled now and Swenson has been released from

jail, but the union still has to pay a large fine and legal costs.

Please keep up your continuing coverage of the railroad industry. A number of my fellow workers look forward to your fine articles. We all thought that the one on the BRAC sellout was the best story we've seen.

M.G.  
Chicago

## Busing Improvements At Ghetto School

Dear Workers' Power,

In the last issue I wrote that I was for busing because, as a teacher in Louisville, I could see the tremendous differences in black and white schools.

My inner-city high school used to be all black. But this year due to busing, it is 80% white.

The opening days were a nightmare because everything was still the way it had been when the school was for black students. No books, no supplies. Broken equipment, windows and shades. Roaches everywhere. Rats in the auditorium.

I said then that the white teachers were raising Cain and that because they are white the school board would listen to them.

Well, in two short weeks the changes are already happening. We've received truckloads of books, although we still don't have enough for all the students. We've received many student desks.

Everyone got brand new pencil sharpeners, even though not all the old ones were broken or missing. An electric mimeograph

machine replaces the old manual machine that didn't print down one side of the page.

For the first time there is even a soft-drink machine in the teachers' lounge.

It certainly is true that in this racist society money for education goes where the white students and teachers are. And this makes an important difference in education opportunities. This is a big reason to support busing.

There still are, of course, serious problems. With the cutbacks in social spending and the desegregation order, teachers are being shafted. Especially at my school.

The racist school boycott still continues strong in some communities. Since the busing plan is based on geography, some schools are strongly affected while others aren't at all.

In my school the average class size is 18-20 students. This is great, but much lower than normal. The result is that all the teachers without contracts are laid off.

At the last faculty meeting the principal announced that a third

# Think Twice About That Next Sears Hot Dog

Dear Workers' Power,

I had a job at Sears recently and thought your readers would be interested in some of the conditions our store folks work under.

I worked in the snack area. I was hired in as part time. The first week I worked 35.9 hours. I did not qualify for any benefits.

The food we served was terrible stuff. The hot dogs were exposed all day to flies and anything that decided to sit on them. The french fry grease was not changed very often.

We had to punch in 15 minutes before starting time or we were late, but we were paid from starting time. We could not leave the store on our breaks and we were expected to cash our checks in the store. No leaning on the job, stand with two feet on the

ground.

The dress code is good too. Slacks, no jeans, skirts at a reasonable length, hose all the time, no shoes with toes out, and a Sears smock all the time with your name tag pinned on.

### KEEP BUSY

You are expected to be busy all the time, and on your feet even if all you are doing is washing the counter over and over again.

Security guards in plain clothes walk the store all the time looking like ordinary shoppers. Some-

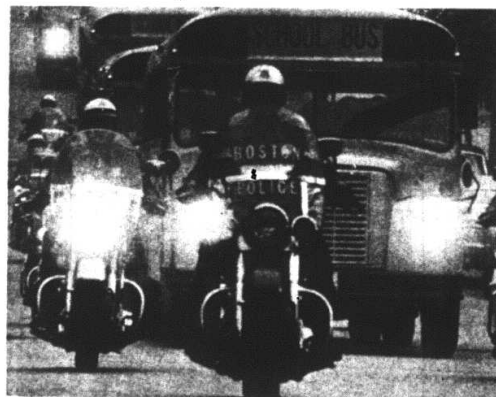
times there are more guards and cops than shoppers.

The food not eaten by the end of the day is thrown away. Anyone caught taking it from the store is fired on the spot.

Leaving the store is easier for a shoplifter than an employee. There is one door to leave from at quitting time. All bags and packages are checked by a security guard in plain clothes as you step out the door.

All this and much more for \$2.25 an hour. Wow!

B.Y.  
Detroit



more of the staff was planned to be cut. The school board is going to save money by combining classes and laying off teachers.

The union has no plans to deal with this very serious situation. Teachers have talked about striking. And a "sick out" was planned, but didn't get off the ground. One big reason is the lack of union leadership.

But another is that the racial tension and hostility in the school

and on the staff makes the unity we need to fight this near impossible. Racism is still the number one battle we have to fight.

Carol Duncan  
Louisville, Ky.

## Go Easy On China

Dear Workers' Power,

I am an old Socialist, Internationalist—and I subscribe to your paper. I am also a subscriber to 'USSR Magazine' and 'China Reconstructs.' I consider myself well read.

So let's go easy on China. Let's give them more time. There is a lot to be said pro and con for those striving toward socialism.

S.S.  
New Kensington, Pa.

## network Voice of UAW Militants

SEPTEMBER—OCTOBER ISSUE

### FOCUS ON SPEEDUP

Also—Contract Time—What they promised, what we got... How to get what we need in '76.

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## Woman Trucker: 'Right On!'

Dear Workers' Power,

I'm a woman in an overwhelming male field. I drive a truck. One of the most exciting and gratifying things about my job is the response I get from women: housewives I deliver packages to, secretaries and clerks—virtually everyone.

Young and old tell me to hang in there. "Right on, girl." Many want to talk, asking questions on how I got the job, whether or not I like it, if the men given me a hard time, etc.

One time a little old lady crossed the street and came up to me, peered into my face and gleefully exclaimed, "I told my Herbie you was a woman. Right on honey! Keep up the good

work. We gals can do anything." It made my day.

N.G.  
Detroit

### Raising Consciousness

Dear Workers' Power,

I was able to read an issue of your paper and found it to be very interesting. I would like a subscription so that I can receive a better understanding of the many subjects within it, and at the same time raise my level of consciousness while I am incarcerated.

In solidarity,  
J.Q.  
Comstock, NY

## Workers' Power Wants To Hear From You

What you like about the paper—and what you don't. What you think of the political ideas we present, and your comments on problems facing working people.

But please be brief.

Write to: Workers' Power, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, Michigan 48203.

# KLAN'S RECORD- 100 YEARS OF TERROR

The furor over busing has created a racist movement in which groups like the Ku Klux Klan grow. The Klan has been trying to establish a "new image" to attract people.

No longer, the Klan says, is it a violent hate group. No longer are they anti-Catholic or anti-labor. No longer, so the story is told, does the Klan believe in intimidation, violence and murder.

These are simply lies.

This "new Klan," in its press and its actions, traces its roots to the old Klan. It takes pride in its history and traditions. The modern Klan is no different than the post-Civil War Klan or the Klan of the 20's and 30's.

What was the KKK like? What did it do, and why did the government, then as now, allow it to organize a powerful, right-wing racist movement.

In this issue Workers' Power begins a three part series on the Ku Klux Klan, discussing these and other questions.

by Terry Cushman and Kay Stacy

The Klan was founded in 1865 by six well-educated ex-Confederate officers in Pulaski, Tennessee. It took its name from the Greek word kuklos, which means circle. To the Klan, "the name symbolized the circle of White kinship or brotherhood."

The Klan was financed by the old slaveowners, who had just been defeated in the Civil War. Its members were the worst scum. They were thieves, murderers, sadistic plantation foremen and ex-Confederate officers.

It had but one aim, to stop the revolution in the South. It also had a method: terrorism.

The Civil War was a revolution. Modern capitalism had been established in the North, while the reactionary slave system controlled

the South. These competing economic systems could no longer exist inside the same nation.

The war was initiated by the revolts of slaves on the plantations, and completed by an alliance of the Northern Army and the insurgent slaves. Slavery was smashed, and during Reconstruction capitalist enterprise took over.

While the mammoth plantations were not divided between newly freed slaves and poor whites, blacks did win the right to vote, to carry arms and to own land. Never at any other time in American history were there as many black elected officials. Never was there as much unity between blacks and whites as there was during Reconstruction.

But the old slave owners, that small class of wealthy aristocrats, were not about to give up their

power without a fight. There was tremendous power in the new system to be fought for. The Ku Klux Klan was an instrumental part of their fight.

In its first few years the Klan was responsible for numerous acts of arson, lynching and murder against blacks and poor whites in the South.

In the words of William Holden, Governor of North Carolina in the late 1860's:

"They met in secret, in disguise, and aris, in a dress of a certain kind intended to conceal their persons and their horses, and to terrify those whom they menaced or assaulted."

"They held their camps, and under leaders they decreed judgement against their peaceable fellow citizens from mere intimidation to scourgings (whippings), mutilations, the burning of churches, schoolhouses, mills, and in many cases to murder."

The Klan viciously fought the Republican Party, the party of the North. Its tactic was to terrorize blacks to prevent them from voting. In Louisiana 2000 people were killed or wounded by the Klan in the few weeks preceding the 1868 Presidential election.

## ATROCITIES

The Klan committed numerous atrocities in its terror drives, including quartering their victims or boiling them in sugar. The Klan had about 500,000 members at the time.

While there was tremendous resistance against the Reconstruction governments by white Southerners, most did not support the

Klan. If fact, many whites died while fighting side by side with blacks against the Klan.

In 1877, the conflict between the old slave-owning ruling class and the new capitalist class was resolved. The ex-slave owners, with help from Northern capitalists, assumed control of the Southern State governments.

President Hayes withdrew the Federal troops from the South. Blacks were swept out of office. The gains for black people that the government had supported while re-establishing its control over the South began to be cut back.

The first Jim Crow laws began to be passed. The "grandfather clauses" were laws which gave voting rights only to those whose grandfathers voted. Since most of the grandfathers of blacks had been slaves, the Southern blacks were disenfranchised.

The Klan became an increasingly unnecessary embarrassment. The segregationist State governments took on the Klan's old job of white supremacist rule.

When the Klan had been attacked by the Republican Congress, it formally dissolved. Klan units were local and independent. When it's usefulness ended, it died out for several decades.

## TODAY'S KLAN

This early history is a tradition today's Klan looks back on with

pride. In "An Introduction to the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan," the KKK makes its pride clear:

"After the cannon fell silent and peace descended upon the battlefields of the civil war, there came an infamous chapter of American History called 'The Reconstruction.' From this era, this abyss of human misery and despair, there arose like the morning sun the Ku Klux Klan... The glorious ride of the Ku Klux Klan of the Reconstruction era is immortalized by its achievements.

"The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan keeps alive the memory of the original Klansmen and the principles and traditions for which they risked their lives. However, the Klan today does not exist just as a memorial to past accomplishments, but as a living instrument for the ideals of Western Christian Civilization and the one element that makes them possible: the White Race."

Groups like the KKK must be isolated and destroyed. The racist poison they preach is very dangerous. Today it is still possible to mistake these hooded hate-mongers for a bunch of fools. But no one should forget that racism has deep roots in this country and that the Klan can grow from them. Next issue Workers' Power will examine the Klan in the 20's and 30's, a time when the KKK reached its peak. □



## THE KLAN TODAY

Negro control equipment Prices slashed!

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This advertisement ran in "White Liberty", the KKK's newspaper. The Klan does not consider blacks to be people. They would like to see black people physically eliminated. The KKK's racist filth should not be tolerated. Today they are no different than a century ago. The Klan must be destroyed.

## WORKERS' Power

DEFEND THE STUDENTS!

### KLAN MUST BE DESTROYED



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# TDC: CONTRACT CAMPAIGN ON THE MOVE

## Indianapolis—'80 Officials in the Teamsters make \$100,000 a year'

INDIANAPOLIS—The Teamsters for a Decent Contract (TDC) movement is off to a running start in Indianapolis. The campaign here was kicked off at a meeting of 70 teamsters Saturday, September 27. The meeting was called together by a group active in IBT Local 135, the Alliance of Concerned Teamsters (ACT).

Nearly all the teamsters in attendance were members of Local 135 which with 18,000 members is the fifth largest Teamsters local union.

The meeting featured two speakers. The first was Arthur Fox of Professional Drivers' Council on Safety and Health (PROD). He was

followed by Ken Paff of the TDC. Fox concentrated his talk on the corruption of the Teamsters officialdom. He pointed out there are at least 80 officers in the Teamsters union who make \$100,000 a year from the dues of the membership.

### EIGHTY VS. TWO MILLION

Paff started off his talk by pointing out that those 80 officials are out-numbered by over two million members. He went on to comment:

"The rank and file have the power, and that's why those 80 are working so hard along with the employers to keep us divided and

confused. They know we have the power, and they are working overtime to prevent us from discovering that power. That's what the Teamsters for a Decent Contract is all about, organizing the rank and file to use our power to win a good contract.

"And this is just the beginning. Our next step will be to remove those 80 parasites and make the Teamsters union the organization of our power."

After the meeting most teamsters present joined both PROD and TDC. They also involved themselves in the campaign for a decent contract by taking petitions and literature to distribute at their terminals and truck stops.

# Workers' Power

## Cleveland—'They've got that money because we moved the freight.'

CLEVELAND—"If we gather our forces together and organize, we can affect our contract. We can't afford not to." This was the message at recent meetings of truckers here called by Teamsters for a Decent Contract.

Fifty Teamsters, mostly from the freight industry and UPS, got together Saturday, September 20 to plan how they'll organize around their contract which expires March 31.

The meeting heard kickoff speeches from Dan LaBotz and Bob Grant from the Chicago Concerned Truckers for a Democratic Union (CTDU).

LaBotz outlined TDC's plan for a mass national petition drive. The group wants to bring the pressure drivers are feeling on the street into the negotiations on Miami's golf courses.

"Our officials may have millionaire salaries and friends in government," LaBotz said, "but they can screw us only as long as we are divided and disorganized. The most powerful people in the union are all the John Does and Mary Jones—only they don't know it—yet. When we find out our power, they'll tremble in their marble palace in Washington [union headquarters]."

### PROFITS

Grant pointed to the trucking companies' record profits which are reported in the CTDU's paper, the Grapevine. Grant said, "It's simple. None of us makes money like their profits or their executive's salaries. They got that money cause we moved the freight. They don't come up with the scratch, the freight won't move."

Ken Paff, of Cleveland TDC, reported that the initial response to the petition had been very positive. One petitioner in Cleveland got several sheets of signatures in one day with no turn downs.

Afterwards UPS workers from the meeting got together to formulate proposals for their contract. While UPS has separate contracts, wages and benefits are patterned after the freight contract.

## Teamsters Protest Layoffs

Cleveland Teamsters are picketing Lyons Transportation to protest layoffs. Workers with up to 10 years seniority are laid off, while Lyons is working others as much as 60 hours a week.

Lyons management told newsmen, "It is simply cheaper for us to work fewer men more hours."

Even though there is a clear clause in the Trucking contract which bans "excessive overtime" during layoffs, the practice is common in trucking. An "interpretation" by the Grievance Committee has gutted the contract clause.

The Lyons workers are not taking all this lying down. A meeting of Cleveland Teamsters for a Decent Contract, convinced many members of Local 407 to put some pressure on the company and the union with an informational picket line.

Other Lyons workers were friendly to the picket.

John Fisher, a seven year Lyons driver, told reporters, "The work is there and we want to do it. This company is turning down freight every day. The union is doing nothing about it, so we have to."



## CLEVELAND STEELWORKERS PICKET

# R.A.F.T.- 'We're Growing'

CLEVELAND—"Abel sucks up to the bosses—the rank and file takes all the losses" was one of the chants that moved approximately 30 people. They had gathered in front of the Sheraton-Cleveland to protest the sell-out policies of USW President I.W. Abel. The demonstration was organized by R.A.F.T. (Rank and File Team).

Abel was here to receive an award from the March of Dimes for his supposed "big heart." Steelworkers, however, had had more than a taste of his generosity—in the form of the "no-strike deal."

Carl Sutherland is a steelworker who has worked for Republic for five and a half years. He works his usual eight hour shift with not even a lunch break. He laid it out: "They throw a few bones our way, like a 25c wage increase," even though the cost of living has nearly tripled.

### GRIEVANCES

Carl has filed nearly thirty grievances in the past few years and hasn't seen one answered. "Without the right to strike they don't feel any need to settle your

grievance."

Meanwhile, back in the hotel, Abel was busy slopping up his \$100 a plate dinner.

It's clear that by August, 1977, when the steel contract expires, steelworkers will be anxious to make more than a few waves for Abel and the companies.

R.A.F.T. is both an expression of this and of the need to build a national organization.

Otis Brasfield, also from Republic, said of R.A.F.T., "We're growing...by the next contract we'll be recognized."

## FARMWORKERS ELECTION CONSPIRACY

OAKLAND—Harassment and outright cheating have destroyed all traces of the promised "fair" farm worker elections. The United Farm Workers may begin boycotting them.

UFW president Cesar Chavez stated last week that in Salinas, up to 30% of the workers are not voting.

The UFW is pushing for the ouster of Walter Kintze, legal counsel for the Agricultural Labor Relations Board (ALRB), who has done nothing on 500 unfair practice grievances.

Election returns remain close. The Teamsters Union has won 73 elections representing 9350

workers, while the UFW has won 63 elections representing 8301 workers.

The ALRB did reject the growers' and Teamsters' demand for bloc voting in the lettuce elections. But the ruling has no immediate effect since the growers will appeal.

The State Supreme Court threw out a ruling that prevented UFW organizers from entering the fields. But the ALRB cannot enforce the new ruling.

The "free, fair" elections promised under the Brown Bill have turned into a conspiracy of election-rigging.