

WORKERS' Power

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS JULY 19, 1976 #167 15c

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AS CONTRACT TALKS BEGIN

State Historical Society Library
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JUL 18 1976

Auto Workers Rally:

"We Want Ours In '76 Contract!"

Postal Union Chiefs Spy On Militants

Rank and file postal workers have found out the hard way that their employer and union leaders don't care much for the "sanctity of the mail." At least when it is the "sanctity" of correspondence between militants in the union.

Evidence emerged in Philadelphia last month that mail addressed to The Rank and File Postal Worker newspaper was intercepted and opened by the American Postal Workers Union and the U.S. Postal Service.

An anonymous leaflet was circulated in the Philadelphia Post Office in early June. It contained photostats of a letter, envelope, and money order addressed to the paper.

According to Paul Roose, an editor of The Rank and File Postal Worker, the original letter never left his possession after it was removed from the newspaper's Philadelphia post office box. The anonymous leaflet was circu-

lated to discredit a slate of opposition candidates in the APWU local union election. The leaflet tried to link The Rank and File Postal Worker and the opposition slate to the political views expressed by the author of the letter.

This attempt was purely a poor red-baiting technique. The Rank and File Postal Worker makes clear its own program and demands.

DEMOCRATIC UNION

It stands for a fighting, democratic union, controlled by the rank and file, elected shop stewards; and a rank and file movement in the Postal unions. It clearly states that it is against productivity drives and harassment of women and minorities.

It is clear that there is only one group that would be interested in obtaining and circulating such information—the local APWU union leaders. They were willing to

Hundreds of auto workers from Detroit, Flint and Cleveland will converge on the GM Building in Detroit on Monday, July 19. They will be coming out to demand that this year's contract include a shorter work week, pensions that keep up with the cost of living, and an end to speed-up, forced overtime and unsafe working conditions.

The demonstration is called by both the 30 and Out Committee and the Coalition for a Good Contract. Mark Levita, Chairman of the 30 and Out Committee, told Workers' Power his group will be there to tell negotiators that "we need cost of living agreement for retirees and the short work week." "Dignity, not dog food, for our retirees, and security for all our working people," are the key issues, according to Oginsky. Mark Levita, member of the

Coalition for a Good Contract, agrees. "Everybody says this is the quietest year ever in auto, that we're happy just to be working. This demonstration will let them [the negotiators] know that we want ours this year."

The 30 and Out Committee and the Coalition for a Good Contract have invited all area auto workers to participate in this demonstration, Monday morning, at 9:30 am at the GM Building, 3044 W. Grand (Grand and 2nd), Detroit.

This Year's Bargaining—See p. 6.

DEMONSTRATE!

Opening of Auto Contract Negotiations

9:30 A.M.
MONDAY, JULY 19
GM BUILDING
3044 WEST GRAND
DETROIT
(Grand and 2nd)

break laws and violate rights to save their cushy jobs in the union office.

It is also clear that they could not have obtained the letter without the cooperation of management's postal inspectors. Postal employees are under constant surveillance to stop mail theft.

The postal inspectors have a long history of spying on and intimidating union militants under the guise of protecting the mail. Now they've joined the union's campaign to suppress dissent, and have trampled on civil liberties to do so.

As opposition to postal management's campaign against job security and working conditions rises, the postal unions and management will resort to anything to break the organized rank and file movement.

But Bailar, Filbey and Rademacher won't be able to scare away the movement. It was their idea to save the postal system by sacrificing postal workers' jobs. Now they'll have to face the music. □

Ku Klux Klan Drives For New Ky. Members

The Ku Klux Klan has been holding marches and cross-burnings in several Kentucky cities.

On June 14, the city council of Shepherdsville, Ky. approved of a parade of the United Klan of Kentucky when Sherman Adams, the Grand Dragon, agreed to pay for the extra police.

A petition campaign was launched immediately by the black community to halt the march. Ninety-six signatures were presented to the city attorney.

The attorney rejected the petition, saying, "You don't need a permit to have a parade so there is no permit to revoke."

The parade of 160 white-robed Klansmen was held on July 3. A crowd of 4 or 500 racists, familiar because of their activity against busing, cheered them on. Klan parade marshalls dressed commando-style and carried automatic weapons.

Reverend Kirby, of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, observed the march. Kirby had been promised that the parade would be halted by Mayor Sparrow. But on July 3, Mayor Sparrow packed his bags and booked out of town.

The only one who stood up to the racists was a horse who threw its sheeted rider and broke the fool's leg.

When the city council of Richmond, Ky. heard the Klan planned a parade in that town, they quickly passed a law requiring a permit for parades. When the Klan applied, they were denied permission.

Instead the Klan held a rally and cross-burning.

In Louisville, the Klan has never been able to hold a public march because of the large black community.

Instead a similar group, National Emancipation of the White Seed, called a march. They expected several thousand. Only six showed up.

The city of Louisville had a different attitude to the racists. They said they would unleash the riot police if the group attempted to march.

The city knows that the black community would organize against a march by the Klan, and win. □

David Shepherd

Who's A Peanut Farmer?

by Gay Semel

They came 20,000 strong—5,000 delegates and 15,000 relatives, friends, party regulars and journalists. But all their noisemakers, red, white and blue flags and funny hats with donkeys on the top could not turn around the thoroughly boring Democratic Party National Convention.

The certainty of Jimmy Carter's winning the nomination on the first ballot turned the Convention into a lackluster affair.

Even the \$12 million spent by the three major networks to cover the convention was unable to produce anything more interesting than a 1973 tape of the then unknown Georgia Governor on the TV show, "What's My Line."

No one bothered to quip that Carter's line is still undetermined. Depending on the audience, Carter is conservative, moderate or liberal.

THREE THEMES

Besides tedium, the convention had three themes.

The first theme was unity on any basis. "We've finally got a winner," chorused the party leaders, "and no one is going to raise any dissension to mess it up."

All wings of the Democratic Party fell in line. To prove the

harmony of the Democratic Party, both Coretta King and George Wallace were among the 17 presenters of the Democratic Party platform.

And to assure no opposition from the floor—discussion of the platform itself was ruled out of order.

The second theme of the convention was to combat cynicism. Most of the first evening was devoted to speeches against apathy and movies showing that current hostile attitudes towards politicians are merely a part of our national folklore and humor.

Cynicism to both American political parties couldn't have anything to do with Vietnam, Watergate or the eight million unemployed. Of course not.

The third theme of the convention was that anybody can become President if he (according to the myth it's still he) tries hard enough.

For four evenings in a row, on three channels, we learned about this small town peanut farmer who rose from obscurity to capture the Democratic Party nomination and probably the Presidency.

By myth's aside, small town peanut farmers do not rise from obscurity to become President in six months. Jimmy Carter is no exception.

Carter is not a Democrat's Party



regular as is Hubert Humphrey. But neither is he obscure. Nor in fact is he a peanut farmer. The only time Carter has ever tilled the soil is for publicity shots.

Carter is a wealthy businessman and commodity speculator. He is also backed by very wealthy Atlanta businessmen.

Now that the convention is over

the Democratic Party will attempt to sell itself as the 'peoples' party and its candidates as the people's choice.

Don't be fooled. The Democratic Party is still a Party of big business, racism, and imperialism. And its candidate, Jimmy Carter, was chosen by big business—they know what they're getting. We'd better know too. □

The Money Behind Carter

by Kevin Bradley

The Carter family farms 3107 acres and has one of the largest warehouses in Georgia.

Sales are over \$3 million a year. Last year they installed a \$1 million peanut sheller which covers over half a city block.

The company would sell for at least a couple of million dollars. Hardly a small business.

All this is possible because the American taxpayers pay out \$155 million a year to buy up 55% of the nation's peanut crop.

PROFITABLE

As Jimmy's brother, Billy,

put it, "I wouldn't say it out on the street, but peanuts are supported at way too high a price. Peanuts are as profitable as hell."

He says that in Georgia the farmers took in \$620 an acre after expenses while total investment was only \$300, a 267% rate of profit.

Billy said, "I can tell you as much about raising peanuts as anyone in the country, but I've never driven a tractor in the field in my life. I'd starve to death farming! Not Jimmy though."

Jimmy makes a good deal of his money speculating on the commodities market.

FROM JANUARY TO NOVEMBER 1975, Jimmy Carter raised \$700,000 for his presidential campaign, almost all of it from Georgia.

Jimmy borrowed money from his family business for his campaigns in 1966 and 1970, while his key-backers borrowed money on the basis of their signatures from banks. This was not difficult because two of them are bankers.

His five key financial backers are:

- Charles Kirbo. One of Carter's closest confidants, senior partner of King & Spalding, an Atlanta law firm, whose clients include Coca Cola Company, Cox Broadcasting, Trust Company of Georgia, the Woodruff Foundation (Coca Cola fortune) and the Housing Authority of Atlanta. He signed notes for loans for Carter.
- Philip Alston. Of the prestigious Atlanta law firm of Alston, Miller & Gaines. Clients include large national companies like Chrysler Corp., American Oil, Eastman Kodak and E. I. DuPont de Nemours & Co., and also local ones like Gold Kist, a large poultry company, and the Seaboard Coastline Railroad. He contributed

\$10,000 to Carter and raised contributions from friends and associates.

- David Gambrell and his father E. Smythe Gambrell. David was appointed to fill a vacancy to the U.S. Senate by Carter in 1971. Opponents said he bought the seat, while Gambrell denies it, but says he contributed \$4500 to Carter's campaign. His firm, Gambrell and Mobley, represents mutual funds brokers, real estate developers, architects and security dealers.

- E. Smythe Gambrell is a major stockholder in Eastern Airlines. His law firm Gambrell, Russell & Killorin & Forbes represents Eastern, along with National-Southwire Aluminum Co., the Atlanta Freight Bureau and various construction companies.

- William Gunter. Was a lawyer from Gainesville, Georgia. His firm represented the Ralston-Purina Company and other Georgia poultry producers. He gave \$3,000 to Carter and also borrowed money on his signature that was later repaid from campaign contributions. He was appointed by Carter to the Georgia Supreme Court.

- James B. Langford. Is a lawyer from Calhoun, Ga. His firm Langford, Pope and Bailey represents major textile interests: Commercial Mills, O'Jay Mills, Arrow Mills, Hallmark Needlecraft and Gold Kist Mills. Langford and Bert Lance, another big Carter contributor, are the main owners of the First National Bank of Calhoun. Lance was appointed by Carter as a director of the Georgia Department of Transportation.

The Coca Cola connection is particularly important. Carter owns stock in Coca Cola—as well as in Rich's Department Store and Advanced Investors). Tom Lowndes, a Coca Cola executive, worked on Carter's fundraising in 1970. Charles Kirbo is a lawyer for Coca Cola.

And when Jimmy Carter made trips to Europe on state business, but really to get experience in foreign affairs and building himself up for the presidency, the appointments were made by Coca Cola, and not the State Department.

Coca Cola is a multi-billion dollar multinational based in Atlanta; and the center of an insurance, banking and industrial complex.

When Carter travelled to Brazil on state business, arrangements were made by Lockheed Corp., a major Georgia corporation. It is also the largest military contractor in the country, and a recipient of over \$250 million in government loans. □

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What Court Ruling Means For Gary Tyler

Keep Up The Fight

Gary Tyler will not be electrocuted.

The Louisiana law under which he was tried, convicted and sentenced is one of those struck down by the Supreme Court. It called for a mandatory death sentence, and therefore was "too rigid and inflexible" to be Constitutional.

Beyond that, very few things are clear.

Walter Collins, the National Coordinator of the Free Gary Tyler Defense Committee, told Workers' Power, "They sent everything back for the [state] courts to decide, and now everything's up in the air."

NO BASIS

In Collins' opinion, there is no basis in Louisiana law for Tyler to be re-sentenced on a lesser charge without being re-indicted and tried again.

Particularly in Tyler's case this would be nearly impossible. Tyler was a juvenile when charged with first degree murder—a capital offense requiring the death penalty upon conviction.

"If a juvenile is charged with a capital offense he can be tried as an adult if he's at least 15 and under 18," Collins told us. Tyler was 16 when a white student died in a racist riot against school integration.

"If there's no longer a capital offense involved," Collins went on, "then the adult courts don't have jurisdiction. So the courts just have

no way of holding him."

Tyler can be indicted and tried as a juvenile—perhaps. Then, according to Collins, "double jeopardy" provisions would apply. Double jeopardy is a Constitutional protection against being tried more than once for the same crime.

Collins believes the courts would prefer to let Tyler free on a technicality if possible. The Defense Committee has uncovered tremendous government interference and illegality in the case.

NOT AUTOMATIC

But, Collins warns, "I'm not saying the state will just automatically set him free and forget it."

Tyler's lawyers are petitioning the courts on numerous points. Many of them could be precedent setting.

In the meantime Gary Tyler still sits in jail—subject to continuing harassment and physical abuse.

The Defense Committee is organizing a south-wide demonstration demanding his release on July 24 in New Orleans. Thousands are expected to attend. It is vital that public pressure and exposure continue because Tyler's freedom is by

no means guaranteed.

Unless the movement for Gary Tyler continues until he is set free, his life and liberty are still in danger. The court system that has declared his sentence unconstitutional, also found him guilty when

he was innocent, because of racism.

Without the movement, he could meet the fate of many other black prisoners: an unexplained suicide or an escape frame-up from those who want Gary Tyler dead.

In solidarity with the southern rally and march, activities are being held throughout the country. Committees in Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Detroit, Louisville, New York City, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, and Seattle are among those planning a wide range of events.

Strike a blow against racist injustice and help save a brother. Organize, build and attend these actions.

[See ad for details.]

Kate Stacy

BOSTON—Rally on July 24, 12 noon at Codman Square, Dorchester. March to Franklin Park. Call 661-0761 for info.

CHICAGO—Fundraiser on July 31. Contact Committee to Free Gary Tyler, 537 S. Dearborn; #804, Chicago, Ill. 60605.

DETROIT—Fundraising Disco, July 24, 8 p.m., 8211 Linwood, between Virginia Park and Euclid. \$3.50, B.Y.O.B. Call 869-8656 for info.

LOUISVILLE—Fundraising raffle on July 17. For info call 636-5060.

Southern Demonstration in New Orleans 12 noon, July 24, Duncan Plaza Park Area at Supreme Court Bldg., Gravier St. and Loyola Ave. March following to Rivergate Convention where Klan is having its national convention.

PITTSBURGH—Raffle and picnic July 25, 4 p.m. Frick Park at Fernwood Hollow in Homewood. Call 462-6843 for info.



HIGH COURT OK's LYNCH LAW MURDERS

Workers' Power Analysis

by Kate Stacy

The Supreme Court has rejected the argument that the death penalty is cruel and unusual punishment. While laying out guidelines that states must follow in setting up capital punishment laws, the Court upheld the death penalty in three states. Thirty-four states and the federal government had death penalty laws. Some of them comply with the high Court's guidelines, some do not.

For the 611 present occupants of death row this is the immediate effect:

- 144 prisoners can now be executed—by hangman, electric chair, gas chamber or firing squad.
- 202 inmates cannot be executed. Their death sentences have been voided.
- 265 remain under the shadow of death, as individual state statutes are examined in light of the high court's new guidelines.

PREVENT, RETALIATE

The Supreme Court decision is supposed to settle two controversial questions. Does the threat of death prevent crimes? Can a civilized society retaliate when a person has been convicted of a capital crime?

The Court admits that capital punishment has not been proven to prevent violent crime. For some it does, but for others it doesn't, the Court says. But it might work.

In fact, they are admitting that this is not a "civilized" society. They see no solution for rising crime rates except—they hope—terror. Rather than looking at the system they are appointed to protect, the Supreme Court blames increasing social violence on capitalism's victims. Unemployed, under-employed, or never-employed people, mainly minorities, who lash out in anger against a

system where the deck is always stacked against them.

Reinstating the death penalty under these circumstances puts it all out on front street. The entire legal system—from the cop in the squad car to the Supreme Court is an institution of social control. The death penalty is simply its most vicious weapon, to be hauled out when the system is losing its moral authority to rule.

But, the Court admits, they aren't really sure that capital punishment has any effect on crime rates. Therefore, the heart of the Court's decision is based on "society's moral outrage at particularly offensive conduct." Seventy percent of the states passed new capital punishment laws after a 1972 Supreme Court rejection of the way the death penalty was being carried out. The Court now says this is proof that 70% of the people favor legal lynching.

NO SOLUTION

In reality, all that statistic shows is that 70% of the states also admit they have no solution either, except terrorism. The capital punishment laws, written after the 1972 Court decision, were mainly aimed at crushing legitimate resentment against a brutal system that destroys people's lives and sanity.

Killing a cop became the most common offense that carried a mandatory death penalty, for instance. Now who is most likely to kill a cop? Well, for one, somebody who thinks a cop is getting ready to kill them.

Not exactly a description of Nelson Rockefeller. Yet he unleashed the massive police force that crushed the 1971 Attica prison uprising—killing 41 people. Not a description of a typical Klansman either—who could very well be wearing one of those police badges under his white sheet.

The Law is one-sided class violence, sometimes subtle and sometimes dramatic—like the bill collector and the gas chamber. And it's always on the side of society's rulers. The justices really raised the skirt of their black robes and gave us a peek at the white sheets lurking underneath on this one.

More than half—53.5% of those executed in this country since 1930 have been black. Yet the justice department dismissed the charges of discrimination with this: "Although blacks are sentenced to death at an apparently high rate, they also commit a disproportionate share of the capital crimes."

Certainly blacks are convicted at a higher rate—but that's because this system is thoroughly racist from top to bottom. And getting more so.

RACISM

North Carolina had 122 prisoners on death row—82 blacks. Yet a white woman from Henderson, N.C. was just acquitted of murdering a black man. She pled self-defense. The man she shot was in his own front yard, unarmed. Prosecution witnesses, one after another, denied that he had attacked her. Yet the white lady went free.

The government went on to argue that discrimination is no longer a factor "now that blacks sit in judgement on other blacks."

Tell that to Gary Tyler, sentenced to the chair by an all-white Louisiana jury. Tell it to Stanton Story, who got the same from an all-white Pennsylvania jury. Or to Hurricane Carter, sentenced to life by an all-white jury in New Jersey.

Tell it to each other, fellas, because there's nobody down here listening.

POLAND: Wildcat Strikes Smash Food Price Hikes

by Dan Posen

On June 24, workers in Poland answered the massive price increases on food imposed by the government.

It took them less than 24 hours to shut the railroads, ports and many factories. In less than one day, the government backed down and the increases were cancelled.

This was the second time in six years that the working class of Poland has openly challenged the power of the bureaucratic ruling class. In 1970, over the exact same issue, they brought down the government with a series of mass demonstrations, street fighting and rolling wildcat strikes.

THE VANGUARD

In the 1970 Polish workers' uprising, it was the shipyard workers at Gdansk who took the lead. Like their shipyard brothers in Portugal, the Polish shipyard workers are in the vanguard of workers' struggles.

This time around, they were joined by railroad and other transport workers. The main railroad track between Warsaw and Paris was torn up. At Radom, they set fire to the headquarters of the ruling Communist Party.

What is remarkable about this struggle was the instant response and the unity shown by the workers against the price increases. In Poland, like the other bureaucratic collectivist countries (ruled by the Communist Parties), it is illegal to organize against the government in any way, to call for strikes, to organize real unions, or publish workers' newspapers.

But the Polish workers already know the bureaucrats can be fought—and beaten—by working class action. They have strong traditions of struggle, and the memories of 1970 are powerful.

WORKERS' POWER

The bureaucratic regime in Poland wants to force down the already miserable standard of living, to create a larger surplus for exports and heavy industry.

In Poland, there is no capitalist market to regulate prices. Instead, prices are set—and standards of living fixed—by political decisions made by the state machine.

The regime also promised higher prices to farmers (in Poland, agriculture is still privately owned). Their way to raise the extra money was to take it directly out of the workers' pockets—and food out of their mouths. The increases were to range from 100% on sugar, to 70% on meat, 30% on dairy products, and so on.

None of this would affect the bureaucratic rulers, who have their own subsidized luxury stores where they can buy the finest of everything dirt cheap.

The Polish workers have shown the way forward, toward the destruction of the bureaucratic class in their own country and the rest of Eastern Europe. Whether it's in Portugal, Poland, the United States or South Africa, the working class struggle for socialism is world wide.



Soweto is our struggle!

An enthusiastic group of 600 people recently rallied across from the United Nations Building, supporting the struggle of the brothers and sisters fighting in South Africa.

William Booth, President of the American Committee on Africa spoke. "The New York Times would have you believe that what is happening in Soweto is a riot. It's a rebellion! And they'd have you believe that only a hundred or so have been killed. Our sources tell us—it's over a thousand!"

The rally, which was called by the American Committee on Africa, began with a spirited picket of the South African mission to the United Nations. The picket quickly grew from a handful to well over 200. The multi-racial crowd chanted slogans like "Boston,

South Africa, Same Struggle, Same Fight" and "Kissinger, CIA—Out of South Africa."

After 20 minutes everybody marched down 42nd Street to the U.N. for an hour-long rally. Celveland Robinson, secretary treasurer of District Council 65 and Henry Foner, President of the Fur, Leather Machine Workers Union pledged their unions to do all in their power to help in the struggle to "turn America's foreign policy around." Robinson later donated \$200 to the Committee.

Other speakers included David Sibeko, U.N. representative for the Pan-Africanist Conference and Peter Molotsi, a former resident of Soweto.

As William Booth said, "It's hot out here in the sun today, but it's a lot hotter in Soweto. And it's going to get hotter!"

Israel's Uganda Raid

Every newspaper, television station and politician in this country is delirious with joy over the "miraculous rescue" of the Israeli hostages at Entebbe airport in Uganda.

It is certainly true that the Israeli commando operation was a remarkable exercise. It showed, among other things, that Israeli intelligence has penetrated the military security of Uganda, and probably that of other African countries as well.

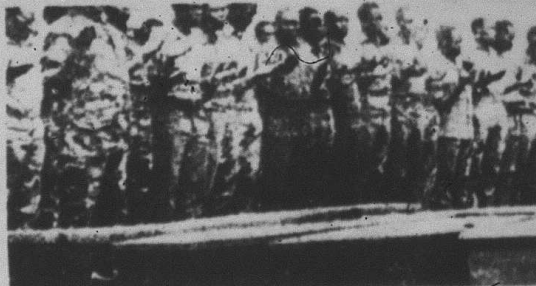
The raid also gave the Israeli government a new lease on life. The hijacking of the Air France plane, and the Israeli "rescue" mission, came at a time of serious political cracks in the internal structure of the Zionist state.

Israeli economic policy is in shambles. War spending is eating the economy alive. Taxes and prices are skyrocketing. Immigration is down, and people are leaving. Jewish workers have struck the ports, and rioted in the Tel Aviv slums.

STRIKES AND REBELLIONS

Israeli Arabs in Galilee and Palestinians in the West Bank, have waged general strikes and rebellions against brutal discrimination and national oppression.

Now the Israeli government is again riding high. Once again there is a "national unity" among Israeli Jews. The Cabinet once again has an excuse to continue its murderous policies: of blowing up Arab homes, jailing their leaders and



Service for Uganda soldiers killed in raid.

shooting down unarmed Palestinian teen-age students in the street.

That is why the hijacking of the Air France liner was a political disaster. It could not have come at a worse time.

In Lebanon, the Palestinian movement is facing defeat and extermination by Lebanese fascists and the Syrian government. Now their other immediate enemy, Israel, is celebrating a huge political victory.

The strategy of sections of the Palestinian movement, like the Popular Front, of plane hijackings and terrorist strikes against Israeli civilians, has always been a dead end. Now it has led to the worst catastrophe since the 1967 war.

New Slaughter In Lebanon?

The disastrous war in Lebanon is threatening to destroy the Palestinian liberation movement.

Palestinian camps and left wing forces in Lebanon are now under all-out attack. The Syrian army has dropped all the disguises of being a "neutral"

or peace-keeping force. It is openly fighting on the side of the far-right Christian and fascist militias.

Western Beirut, the Moslem section of the capital, is cut off. With no clean water supplies, electricity or sanitation, the Moslem districts may soon be ravaged by typhoid or other epidemics.

HOLDING OUT

Inside Christian-held East Beirut, Palestinian camps are under attack. The Tel Zataar camp has already held out, under incredible pressure, for over three weeks.

A few months ago, the Moslem neighborhood of Karantina was overrun. Christian militias (Phalangists) slaughtered hundreds of its residents, deported the rest and burned their homes to the ground.

Syrian artillery has destroyed the oil refinery at Saida, the only source of fuel and gasoline for left-wing Moslem and Palestinian fighters.

In northern Lebanon and the city of Tripoli, right wing Christian militias are also attacking. They have been equipped with brand new rifles and machine guns from the United States, and Russian tanks (supplied by Syria).

SOCIAL REVOLUTION?

The authority of the capitalist state machine in Lebanon collapsed almost a year ago. The army disintegrated. Left-wing Moslems and Palestinians fought off one right-wing attack after another.

This conflict is not a religious war. It was the result of a long struggle by Moslem workers for equal rights and freedom from oppression. That struggle threatened the whole corrupt system of power in Lebanon.

In southern Lebanon, and also in Tripoli, popular committees or local and Palestinian militias took over administration and city services. There are dozens of left-wing and Palestinian military organizations. But there is no significance or powerful working class party in Lebanon.

Lebanese workers have not been organized to take control of the factories and the cities. Instead, the fighting between left and right has largely pitted poor Moslems and poor Christians against each other.

So, even though the structure of Lebanese capitalism has been shattered, there has been little chance for working class power.

However, the war created a social upheaval that Syria has stepped in to stop. Syria's occupation of Lebanon is also aimed at increasing its own power in the Middle East.

The Palestinians, who have been fighting for national liberation for a generation, are going to be sacrificed—and quite possibly slaughtered as they were by King Hussein's army in Jordan in 1970.

The left-wing forces and Palestinians are still fighting an amazing war of resistance against the Syrian and right-wing offensive. If they are defeated, the only winners will be American imperialism, and its Middle East junior partners in Israel and Syria.

PORTUGAL - THE WORKERS ARE NOT DEFEATED

On the surface, the right wing was the clear winner in the June 25 Portuguese Presidential election.

Ramalho Eanes, the candidate of the right wing parties and the Socialist Party, was elected on the first ballot with 61% of the vote.

However, this is only a surface victory. The real significance of this election was the huge working class mobilization and the tremendous vote for the candidate of the revolutionary left, Major Otelo de Carvalho.

Carvalho ran second, with an amazing 16.5% of the votes cast, or about 450,000. In the industrial region of Setubal, and several other strong working class districts, he actually topped the poll.

This was no passive electoral campaign. Every worker who voted for Carvalho was probably mobilized for a mass campaign rally during the election.

Tens of thousands joined campaign committees called "dynamization groups of popular unity," or other similar names.

NON-PARTY CAMPAIGN

The Carvalho campaign did not have the support of a single major political party in Portugal.

The Communist Party bitterly denounced Carvalho (and even more bitterly, the revolutionaries who organized his campaign) for "dividing the forces of the left."

This was a big lie. In truth, it was the leadership of the Communist Party which tried desperately to divide the workers. They ran their own candidate, Octavio Pato, just to take votes away from Carvalho.

They failed. Pato got only 7.5% of the vote, or about half the CP's vote in April's National Assembly elections.

Thus Carvalho got around half of the votes cast for the CP in April, plus about a quarter of the total Socialist Party vote.

The reason this campaign was so successful was its broad, non-sectarian revolutionary character. Workers saw it as the campaign of their own mass movement. It was not the property of any party.

Only a non-party campaign could have mobilized the Portuguese workers, today, on this scale. No small revolutionary group, running



In the town of Barreiro (pictured above) and at dozens of other rallies across Portugal, meetings for Otelo de Carvalho mobilized tens and hundreds of thousands of workers. Over 200,000 workers who voted for the Communist Party in previous elections, supported the Presidential campaign of the revolutionary left.

its own party candidates, could have gotten over 1 or 2% of the vote.

ROLE OF REVOLUTIONARIES

This does not mean that organizing revolutionaries played no role in this election campaign.

Just the opposite. This tremendous campaign was possible only because revolutionaries initiated it.

The PRP (Revolutionary Party of the Proletariat) led the mobilization of workers for Carvalho. Its strategy was to re-vitalize the organs of workers' struggles, the workers'

COMMISSIONS AND POPULAR POWER COMMITTEES.

Many other far-left groups also supported the campaign, but it was the PRP that made it possible.

The PRP is still a relatively small revolutionary party, not a mass organization. However, the success of the election campaign opens up enormous opportunities to lead mass struggles and grow more rapidly in the months ahead.

S.P. AND EANES

Socialist Party leader Mario Soares, who will be Eanes' Prime

Minister, said he was sure Eanes will "respect the Constitution," which on paper legitimizes workers' control and a transition to socialism.

The truth is that Eanes is a lot closer to being a fascist than a socialist. Eanes was implicated in the attempted right-wing March 11, 1975 coup.

Eanes barely escaped being arrested then. He has close links with ex-President Antonio de Spínola, now organizing a fascist army from exile in Europe and Brazil. This is the man who the western

press now says will create "parliamentary democracy in place of revolutionary anarchy" in Portugal.

Actually, it matters very little whether or not Eanes, or any other general or politician, believes in capitalist-style democracy. The chance of this government bringing stability to Portugal is just about zero.

Portuguese capitalism has collapsed with the loss of the profits of its colonial empire. No parliament can bring back that empire, or replace the gold and foreign currency reserves which have evaporated.

There are no jobs to give to the million ex-colonialists who fled from Angola, and who are now festering in Lisbon hotels and Northern villages.

Most important, this government cannot bring massive Western European investment flowing back into Portugal. Europe will re-invest only if Portuguese workers are stripped of all power in the factories, and their wages are driven back to the near-starvation levels of fascism.

Any period of Parliamentary stability in Portugal is likely to be very brief. Capitalism can regain its power only if the workers are totally defeated.

That doesn't mean a right-wing majority at the polls. It means a struggle in the factories and on the streets.

SOCIALIST ANSWER

Half a million Portuguese workers have given their own answer to the crisis in Portugal. The vote for Carvalho was a vote for revolutionary unity, for workers' control, popular power, and a socialist re-organization of the economy.

The new administration has already announced drastic steps to cut the consumption of fuel, services, and utilities by workers and the lower middle class.

These measures, which are only the beginning, are already meeting resistance from unions and workers' commissions. A powerful new mass movement is being shaped—and with it, the opportunity for the PRP to take important steps toward a mass revolutionary party.

Why the Mercenaries Died

The American government was quick to "condemn" the sentencing and shooting of four captured mercenaries by the government of Angola last week.

The American government encouraged the hiring of the mercenary killers and has no intention of doing away with mercenary recruiting. It has done nothing to stop the recruitment of hundreds of Americans for the white-supremacist government of Rhodesia.

HIRE KILLER

Daniel Gearheart, the American mercenary executed on Saturday, didn't think he was going to Angola to lie on the beach. He advertised himself as a killer for hire in a

mercenary magazine. He knew why he was going. The only thing he didn't know was that this time the people of Angola would fight back and win.

HYPOCRISY

The American government condemned the executions because they "violated international law."

But it is not international law that the U.S. government has qualms about. In Vietnam they tortured prisoners with electric field generators and dropped them 2000 feet from helicopters.

It is really the MPLA government that the U.S. wishes to condemn.

It was the American govern-

ment, through the CIA, that funded the army that invaded Angola from the north in late 1975 and '76. It was the American government that provided the transport planes to supply the invasion.

Meanwhile, another invading army headed by South African tanks and South African troops marched from the south, hoping to seize Angola's capital Luanda and destroy the liberation movement, MPLA.

If this invasion had succeeded, tens of thousands of Angolans would have been massacred. A new colonialist government would have been imposed.

The mercenaries would have returned home as rich conquering

heroes. And the United States government would not have whispered a word of protest.

STOP MERCENARIES

We agree entirely with Angolan President Agostinho Neto when he said, "The crime of mercenaryism must be wiped off the face of the earth."

The only way to stop the mercenaries is to give them a direct message: you will be tried and punished for your crimes. That is the issue in this case.

That is why everyone who supports the struggle for African liberation should support the sentences imposed on the mercenaries.

Italy Left Vote

When our last issue went to press, we had not received the totals of the vote for the far left slate in the Italian election.

The joint revolutionary slate received just over half a million votes, which was 1.8% of the total. This vote was not as high as the vote for the far left in last year's regional elections, but it represented a gain over their showing in the last national election campaign in 1972.

In some industrial cities the far-left slate made a better showing, gaining up to 3% of the vote.

This is reasonably successful in an election in which the main issue was whether the Communist Party would gain enough votes to get positions in the capitalist government.

The three organizations supporting the far-left slate were Avanguardia Operaia (Workers Vanguard), FGUP (Party of Proletarian Unity), and Lotta Continua (Continuing Struggle).

AUTO TALKS UNDERWAY

labor notes

by Jim Woodward



How the Democratic Party talks out of both sides of its mouth. The Party's tentative platform, adopted in Washington last month, clearly states: "We support the right of public employees and agricultural workers to organize and bargain collectively. We urge the adoption of appropriate federal legislation to ensure this goal." That was interpreted, by both the AFL-CIO and by the anti-labor National Right to Work Committee, as supporting a bill in Congress which would extend the National Labor Relations Act to public employees, giving them the right to strike. But in response to criticism from the Wall Street Journal, Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis, chairman of the Democratic platform committee, wrote that paper a letter of reassurance. That section of the platform, he said, "does not support or condone giving public employees the right to strike. If it had, I would not have supported it."

Here's one reason there are so many deaths in the mines. When an Interior Department official tried to fine Harlan No. 4 Coal Co. for safety violations in its Harlan County, Kentucky mine, he was reprimanded by Kent Frizzell, Undersecretary of the Interior. One of the violations originally cited was faulty electrical equipment. Shortly afterwards, a 24-year old miner was killed in Harlan No. 4 mine, pinned against the roof by his scoop loader. The cause of the accident was not clear, but it was found that the "panic bar," which would have brought the machine to a halt in an emergency, was not working.

Lily Callahan retired last year. For 49 years—all her working life—she was a sugar worker for the Spreckels Co. in Salinas, California. After 49 years of service, she got nothing. No pension. Not even so much as a gold watch and a handshake. Callahan's case is being taken up by Salinas SWURF (Sugar Workers United Rank and File). SWURF wants to help Callahan and also ensure that other sugar workers won't get the same shaft on down the road.

The United Steel Workers District 38 conference in Rapid City, S.D. last month passed a number of resolutions embarrassing to both the national and district union leadership. They included a call for a 30-hour week at 40-hours pay and the right of all rank and file steel workers to ratify their contracts. The conference rejected a resolution to change the USW Constitution to allow union president I.W. Abel to run for another term. District 38 represents USW members in 14 Western states.

We're sorry to report that Teamsters Local 407 President John Tanski suffered a broken back May 21. This unfortunate accident occurred at the local's executive board meeting. One report, from a Pittsburgh rank and file paper, says: "Pres. John Tanski got his back broken when he 'fell' over a chair. Reliable sources tell us he 'fell' after accidentally running into the extended fist of one of the 407 B.A.'s."

The Supreme Court says a 1974 law extending minimum wage coverage to state and local government employees is unconstitutional. The decision also affects overtime laws. The Court cited "state sovereignty" as the basis for its decision. The last we remember, a man named George Wallace was associated with that sort of reasoning.

Trans World Airlines' 5100 flight attendants have overwhelmingly rejected a tentative contract reached with the airline by Transport Workers Union Local 551 bargainers. Crew scheduling and other work rules are the main issues in dispute.

The Supreme Court has narrowed, slightly the grounds on which an employer may obtain an injunction against a strike. In a case involving a strike against the Buffalo Forge Co., the Court said the contract's no-strike agreement was not the basis for an injunction because the strike was a sympathy strike instead of a strike over a grievance or other "arbitrable dispute."

"Dear Scabby." The nationally-syndicated Dear Abby column recently contained Abby's answer to unemployment. A 17-year old high school graduate wrote in that he had applied for 22 jobs, but no one would hire him. What could he do? Abby replied, "Dear Discouraged. Go back to some of the places you've applied and tell them that you are honest, dependable, hard working and so eager to prove your worth that you'll work for one week with no obligation on their part, and if they feel you don't qualify, they owe you nothing."

What's happening where you work? Send items for this column to: Labor Notes, 34131 Woodward, Highland Park, Michigan 48203. Or phone 313-869-5964.

CONTRACTS EXPIRE SEPTEMBER 14

by Jack Weinberg

Contract negotiations begin this week between the United Auto Workers union and the Big Three auto makers. Major auto contracts run out in two months, at midnight, September 14.

Union officials are asking the membership to accept Jimmy Carter's smile instead of a contract fight. Yet this year, auto workers come to the bargaining table in very bad shape.

Supplemental Unemployment Benefits (SUB) are bankrupt at GM and Ford, and inflation has badly damaged the 30 and Out early retirement program. A major speedup, coupled with forced overtime, poor plant maintenance, and a management "get tough" policy, make the auto plants worse hell holes now than anyone remembers. The auto giants come to the table reporting record profits. The ingredients should add up to a major confrontation.

There is only one way a strike will be avoided in auto this year: if the union accepts a sub-standard settlement and convinces the membership to take it.

This is exactly what the profit-hungry corporations are hoping for.

THREE MORE YEARS

Management hopes to get away with giving auto workers three more years of speedup, forced overtime, harassment, income cuts through inflation, pension deterioration, SUB bankruptcies, and the threat of mass layoffs.

If management feels confident that auto workers are not prepared to strike, they will not feel the pressure to give up a thing in 1976 bargaining. The news media is doing its best to discourage strike sentiment.

For months, Detroit area newspapers have been reporting that auto workers are happy just to be back at work following the 1975 layoff. They claim there is very little interest in the contract, and that all anyone wants is to avoid a strike and keep on working.

Auto workers would like to avoid a strike—but only if there is some way to get a good contract without one.

NO ANSWERS

Top UAW officials are providing no satisfactory answers.

In past contract years, Solidarity House always put out a few key slogans to focus membership interest on specific bargaining objectives.

In 1967 it was money; in 1970 it was 30 and Out and Remove the Cap on the COLA; in 1973 it was Voluntary Overtime and finish the 30 and Out.

This year all we hear is some very vague mentions of job secur-

ity. But no effective proposals have been put forward to solve the problem.

Rather, the top UAW leadership is pushing the line that the election of a Democratic president this year is more important for auto workers than anything that might be won in the contract.

The word is out that a strike in 1976 could hurt Jimmy Carter's chance in the election. If Woodcock can deliver labor peace in September, he will be rewarded with a Carter cabinet appointment in January.

The so-called "labor experts" are predicting peace—in auto negotiations. They believe the sell-out will go through.

TAKE ACTION

This year auto workers will not be able to rely on the UAW

leadership to look out for their interests in bargaining. They will have to take action on their own and force the negotiators on both sides to change their tune.

The Coalition for a Good Contract is a cross-local group that was formed to do just that. It is organizing auto workers to force action on the key issues of short work week, COLA on pensions, and working conditions.

The demonstration at the GM building in Detroit on July 19 is a first step. It is sponsored by the "30 and Out Committee" and the Coalition for a Good Contract. [See page 1.]

A defeat for auto workers in this year's contract will be a defeat for all workers with contracts coming up. An auto worker victory can help reverse the current management offensive, and can lay the groundwork in other unions. □

The Real Issues

• **Job Security.** Through SUB, auto workers once thought they had a guaranteed 52 weeks work per year, or pay for any lay-off period. This was wiped out in 1974/75 during the mass layoffs. The UAW negotiators are not even trying to re-establish the principle of a guaranteed annual wage for auto workers.

Instead, they want to "re-structure" SUB to make it go bankrupt even quicker for lower seniority workers, to keep money in reserve for higher seniority workers in case they get laid off later.

• **Short work week.** The UAW leaders have talked about "short work time" as a way to increase job security by spreading out the work.

But the only program they have floated is an attendance bonus scheme.

In return for a full week of perfect attendance, the worker gets something like 30 minutes bonus that goes in a bank. When the worker saves up eight hours worth of bonus time, he or she is entitled to a day off.

This proposal creates no job security. It's just part of management's "absentee control offensive" and is an insult.

Auto workers will have to let the UAW negotiators know they reject these plans. Job security requires: guaranteed SUB, short work week, no forced overtime, and double-time for overtime.

• **Inflation Protection.** In 1973, the UAW won what was supposed to be a final victory in the fight for retirement after 30 years service, regardless of age. But pension benefits are fixed, with no provision for cost of living increases to compensate for inflation.

The UAW agreed with management not to reopen pension bargaining until 1979. The leadership admits that it did not anticipate high inflation when making the agreement.

But it now insists that its word to management promising not to reopen the pension is more sacred than its word to retirees, promising them a living pension.

Active workers also need more money to protect themselves against inflation and to help them get through with no need to work overtime.

The present COLA formula pays for only 80% of the present rate of inflation. Another three years with the same formula and rising inflation means less money to meet even higher costs.

• **Working Conditions.** Conditions on the shop floor have steadily deteriorated over the last three years. Increased production has been won through speedup and forced overtime.

Hazardous conditions go uncorrected in order to cut corners on costs. Workers are harassed and intimidated into putting out the extra work.

When workers protest or fall sick, foremen are free to use whatever abusive tactics are necessary to keep them in line.

UAW leadership has failed to provide any clear goals on how to improve and correct working conditions in this year's contract negotiations.

Auto workers need strengthened representation in this year's contract to protect them from the employers' attack on them. There must be an end to speed-up, forced overtime and unsafe working conditions. □

Trenton: Hit Them Where It Hurts

DETROIT—Last week, members of UAW Local 372 struck Chrysler's Trenton, Mich. Engine plant. The issue was working conditions, everything from machines leaking oil to janitorial service.

But the most outstanding of all the union's grievances was the question of heat. The local's agreement states that the plant ventilation system has to be in operation by mid-June, but by July 7, the day of the strike, only half of it was working.

On one day, the temperature in the machining shop had reached

121°. Workers were falling out, passing out and walking out.

Management promised to correct the problems, did nothing, and then went so far as to put the word out that the union was "chicken" and would never strike.

Chrysler put the local in a situation where they had to strike. The local was trying to humiliate the union and demoralize the workers, then their completely arrogant policies backfired.

Since Trenton is the only plant which produces the 400 and 440 cubic inch engines, three Chrysler

assembly plants were immediately put on 4-hour shifts. With the changeover deadline near, they had to settle fast. On Monday, July 12, workers were back on the job.

This strike again shows how vulnerable Chrysler is to strikes in its critical supply plants. A strike in any of them can immediately shut down a number of assembly plants.

Local strikes like Trenton's should be part of the UAW's pre-contract strategy. They prevent stockpiling, foul up the company's tight production schedules, and most important, demonstrate to all the power of the union. □

A YEAR OF GROWTH AND STRUGGLE

The seventh National Convention of the International Socialists was held over the July 4 weekend in Detroit.

More than 60 delegates attended. They were elected by IS branches across the country. Over 200 members and friends attended as observers. One year ago the IS adopted a

perspective for organizing national rank and file movements, ready to fight in this bargaining round of major industrial contracts.

The first contracts to expire were the Teamster contracts in freight and in United Parcel Service.

In both these struggles the IBT officials were totally unwilling to fight the offensive of the trucking associations. Building a fight back

was left to a rank and file contract coalition—the TDC.

An important discussion at the convention centered around the lessons of the TDC for upcoming fights in auto, telephone and steel.

Large blocks of time were set aside for members working in particular industries to discuss specific perspectives for their work.

ACTIVE

The IS stands 100% on the side of the working class and is active in building the rank and file movement as the best way to stop the bosses attack.

The IS also believes that out of today's struggles for a better life, growing numbers of workers will come to understand the need for socialist revolution. It is through these struggles that the revolutionary party will be built.

Moving the IS forward on the road to becoming a fighting



Delegates pictured are Ken Paff, Bobbi Harrison and Lindsey Gordon (below).

workers organization and a revolutionary party was the other main discussion.

The convention also dealt with the broadening of the work of the IS in the past year. This has included building the struggle against the racist movement, fund raising and solidarity work for the Portuguese revolution, and building a revolutionary youth organization, the Red Tide.

Significant time was also set aside for meetings of the black caucus and the women's caucus. The national black caucus was formed over the last year and marks a significant step forward for the IS as a whole.

The convention was preceded by discussions in IS branches. Several important political issues were vigorously debated at the convention. But when the convention closed its business with the final singing of the "Internationale," the feeling was clear that the debates



had helped produce a stronger, more effective and unified organization.

One of the most important moments occurred when many friends came forward to join the I.S. and the revolutionary movement.

WE'RE JUST GETTING STARTED!

"You are not members of the same organization that existed a year ago. The International Socialists is now part of the working class."

These were the words of Glenn Wolfe, I.S. National Secretary in his report to the convention on our work of the last year.

"Last year our high point was the April 26 Jobs Now rally in Washington, D.C. For us this was a tremendous step forward. We helped organize a small contingent of rank and file groups inside a very big demonstration.

"Now, we no longer judge ourselves in these terms. We have moved beyond April 26. We are beginning to lead shop floor struggles, we are establishing roots in the black community around our work to free Gary Tyler.

"We have established international solidarity with the Portuguese working class and are learning the lessons of a real revolutionary situation."

TASKS

Wolfe reminded the delegation of the tasks we had taken on a year ago, and measured their success.

"Over the last year we developed a political method of campaigning, a focussing of resources. We had two main targets: the turn to agitation and worker recruitment. Although we failed to focus on more than one at a time, we made progress.

"The Portugal solidarity campaign in the fall was an important step. Through Workers' Power, rallies, and meetings we made a clear analysis of a revolutionary situation.

"We took a clear position of support while confusion existed throughout the rest of the left. We took a line and carried it and raised thousands and thousands of dollars for the Portuguese revolution.

"Similarly we projected a clear line and analysis on Angola and the MPLA. Events proved us correct, as the current developments in Zimbabwe and South Africa show.

"Then the worker membership campaign proved that this organization can recruit workers. We learned that sinking roots in the working class is not easy. We developed



"From Portugal, we are learning the lessons of a real revolutionary struggle."

confidence. But we have not yet analyzed that experience.

"There is an extent to which the tempo of last year kept us from analyzing it. This convention is about analyzing this experience, taking a clear line."

IBT STRIKE

Wolfe also discussed our experience in the Teamster strike, in which many Teamster I.S. members played a leading role.

"In the biggest union of the capitalist world the TDC helped organize a strike. Without our help, there would have been no TDC. And because of TDC several billions of dollars were taken from the ruling class and redistributed to the working class.

"Our impact in UPS was even greater. The significance of this step to us is that it takes us out of the world of the left sects and into the world of the working class, where there has been no revolutionary socialist presence for 40 years."

A Teamster from Detroit and member of

the I.S. National Committee, commented on Wolfe's report from the floor.

"Last year we said women can lead—this year women are leading. Last year we said we can recruit black people, that we can build the Red Tide—this year we are doing both.

"Last year we said that revolutionaries can lead in the working class—this year we have. Last year we said workers can lead this organization—this year that has begun, although it is not complete.

"We have had a problem of lack of political clarity. Political clarity comes from success in the real world.

"IBT President Frank Fitzsimmons was forced to say, 'These communists are trying to overthrow the government.' And soon he was saying, 'These communists; in league with the U.S. government are trying to overthrow me.'

"But while Fitz was trying to red bait us, the Teamster rank and file was saying, 'The blue paper [Workers' Power] is O.K.'

"They ain't seen nothing yet!"

VOTING NO MAKES SENSE

"Today national politics reflect the ruling class and employers' offensive against working people. The result is best seen in the cutbacks and crises in the cities, and the continuing attack on working class living standards."

Gay Semel, Workers' Power editor, began the session on I.S. political perspectives with a short analysis of the current trends in U.S. national politics.

Semel, also a member of the national I.S. Executive Committee, pointed out that this offensive is going on in both political parties. She cited the collapse of liberal politicians, like Hubert Humphrey, in the Presidential primaries as an example of this trend.

While the official politicians are becoming more conservative, there is also a leftward shift occurring. "We can see this in the growing working class restlessness and economic activity, like strikes and rank and file organization."

VOTE NO!

Continuing this theme, a Pittsburgh Teamster said, "To workers moving left our 'vote no' policy makes sense. We can point to the Democrats and the labor bureaucrats backing legislation against workers.

A Detroit autoworker delegate commented, "The United Auto Workers leadership is telling workers that the most effective thing they can do this fall is vote Democrat, rather than fight for a good contract."

Other delegates discussed the importance of organizing the rank and file sentiment against the official political parties and the growing conservatism. They stressed the role that our newspaper, Workers' Power, can play in doing this.

I.S.C The Road Revolution

The most vigorous political debate of the Convention was held around sets of the resolutions on "Next Steps Toward Building the Party."
The resolutions submitted by the Executive Committee were opposed by a set of counter-resolutions entitled "Build a Worker Leadership—Make the I.S. a Force in the Class."
The growth of rank and file struggles, and the work of I.S. members, in the past year

STOP RACISM: WE ALL MUST JOIN THE BATTLE

Fred Hobby, I.S. National Committee member, opened the session on black liberation:
"The rank and file workers' movement will be led by blacks—we're building it. The anti-racism campaigns of the last year prove that the I.S. is beginning to build the new liberation movement as well."
"The development of the I.S. Black Caucus has tremendous significance for us because we're building a leadership, particularly for the struggle against racism," said one Detroit autoworker in the session.
"This development is one of the most exciting and important advances of the I.S. in the last year."
Throughout the session, I.S. members, black and white, discussed ways of tying the growing black movement to our established

industrial and trade union work.
Larry Smith, the new I.S. Black Organizer, spoke on the deep need for movement against racism:
"How far will our black liberation work go? This society is racist. I could not go to South Boston. I couldn't go to sections of Louisville."
The same point was illustrated by Pittsburgh I.S. branch organizer Jack Trautman, who pointed out that "Next year we will have a President with the blood of black people already on his hands. Jimmy Carter sent in the national guard to slaughter six black Augusta, Ga. students."
"He said after the Kent State killings that he'd send in the guard too, and he did it. Politicians never fought for blacks until rebellions and movements demanded

action."
As one Teamster delegate said, "It's not enough to moralize. We have a revolutionary approach and method. We must take our Gary Tyler defense work and our Women Against Racism work and tie it to our industrial work."
In the last year the I.S. has been a leader in the fight against the racists' reaction to busing. One delegate, also a leader of Detroit Women Against Racism, summed it up:
"We aren't going to be taken seriously unless we are involved in community organizing, and this does not take the place of our industrial work."
"We can integrate our politics in these areas together, and involve working class families through these activities." □

Red Tide: The Spirit Of Revolution

One of the most important things that has happened to the I.S. is the growth of its youth organization, the Red Tide. It is an integrated group of young people fighting all forms of capitalist exploitation.
Last winter the Red Tide newspaper carried a shocking article about a 17-year-old black youth named Gary Tyler. His only crime was being black and standing up for his rights. Gary was charged with first degree murder, tried by an all-white jury, and sentenced to be electrocuted in Louisiana.
The Red Tide ran another article demanding a public outcry to free this young brother. They then contacted the National Gary Tyler Defense Committee in New Orleans. With the approval of the National Committee, the Red Tide set up the Detroit Committee to Free Gary Tyler and called a very successful demonstration. From there the Red Tide, with the help of the I.S. and others, began building support for the Gary Tyler case throughout the midwest and east

coast.
Bobbi Harrison, Chairperson of the Chicago Committee to Free Gary Tyler, said, "The Gary Tyler campaign is such a strong issue that nearly every worker can relate to. Remember, 'It Ain't Just Gary!'"
Harrison continued, "We don't want this to be a black movement. It's important that we bring white workers into the struggle also. They have to be out there chanting just as loud as we are. That's how Gary will be freed."
Merry Busch, Detroit Red Tide, said: "This campaign has given us all a lot of experience, and it's given our organization the credibility necessary to recruit even greater numbers of people."
"Through our efforts Gary will be freed, and we'll all be one step closer to our final victory."
In the discussion, a Detroit delegate summed up with "The spirit of the Red Tide is the Spirit of Revolution!" □



Socialists Build The Class Struggle

Over the last year, the I.S. has proven that revolutionaries can be leaders of the rank and file movement. The session on "The I.S. in the Class Struggle" discussed recent and upcoming contract fights.
Jack Weinberg, member of the Executive Committee, began the session by explaining the economic context of these struggles—the employers' offensive.
"What's new today is that the employers are feeling the crunch," he said. "They no longer have the leeway to grant wage benefits while attacking working conditions. Now they attack on all fronts."

favorable conditions and a longer time in which to build a strong rank and file workers' movement that can resist the employers.
A postal worker from the Bay Area explained how the employers' offensive has affected postal workers. "We got a lousy contract in '75," she said. "It's shot full of holes."
"We won a no-layoff clause, but they can fire us for anything! When we see a national offensive like this against the rank and file, the only effective action is a national campaign by the rank and file against the bosses."

discussion.
Moody said, "The most important lesson that we learned is that revolutionaries can be in the leadership of the rank and file movement, that we can lead thousands of workers."
In discussing this resolution, several members of TDC stressed the importance of building alliances with other rank and file militants.
A Teamster from Los Angeles, spoke about how she organized a TDC chapter. "With just a few of us trying to sell TDC, it wasn't going to happen."
"We had to get people to see themselves as leaders. We got them onto the steering committee."
"Before meetings, we called people and polled them on the agenda and asked them for suggestions. By the time they got to the meeting, they were ready to speak."
"Even though the Master Freight Agreement is settled, we have an on-going steering committee that can join with Teamsters for a Democratic Union."

RECOVERY
The employers' offensive is intensifying during the current business recovery. Even though investment is growing and production is booming, the employers are in no mood to make concessions to the unions.
The employers know this boom will not last more than a couple of years. They also realize that the employers' offensive itself—by slashing jobs, raising productivity, wiping out public services and forcing union leaders into line—has helped make the recovery possible.
The recovery of American capitalism will be somewhat stronger than we expected a year ago. This will actually create more

LESSONS OF STRUGGLE
On the second resolution, Kim Moody, Industrial Secretary of the I.S., laid out the lessons that the I.S. learned from the Teamsters for a Decent Contract (TDC).
TDC was a national rank and file movement that fought for a better Master Freight Agreement. In United Parcel Service, another movement called UPSurge was organized.
A number of members of the I.S. who are in the Teamsters union have been among the organizers and leaders of TDC and UPSurge. Some of them were delegates to the I.S. Convention and participated in the

HATE THE COMPANY
The third resolution was on the rank and file movement in United Parcel Service. Joel Geier, National Chairman of the I.S., said: "UPS is the vanguard of the employers'



The formation of Teamsters for a Decent Contract the past year. The Convention discussed struggles to follow.
offensive. That's why the response of the rank and file was so united.
"UPSurge was able to coordinate an eight-city wildcat against a company that had always crushed wildcats—victimized the leaders of such strikes. They couldn't do this time."
Anne Mackie, editor of the rank and file paper, UPSurge, said, "The success of UPSurge lies in the hatred of the company. This contract was a sellout, but we did not lose. We did not go backwards. There are some gains."
"Now we have to push the fight to improve the union so we can win a better

CONVENTION - 1976

Lead To A Revolutionary Party

have shown that revolutionaries can lead struggles by large numbers of workers if they organize around a focussed, limited and concrete program of struggle.

Organizing to lead struggles in this way is called "mass work." The resolutions introduced by the Executive Committee (E.C.) centered on carrying out more systematic work—in industry, in the black community, and in defense of prisoners like Gary Tyler—to increase the effectiveness

and influence of revolutionary politics.

Glenn Wolfe, introducing the E.C. resolutions, explained that it is out of mass work that the I.S. will grow.

"And," Wolfe added, "the I.S. must keep the doors wide open for workers to join. We have the same view we stated last year, that capitalism creates enough barriers to workers joining the revolutionary movement. We want to overcome those barriers, not create more of them."

WORKER LEADERS

The strategy of building I.S. through mass work was generally agreed on. However, the main speaker for the counter-resolutions, Ken Paff, a Teamster and member of the National Committee, argued that the next step to building the I.S. must be the recruitment of the existing leaders of the rank and file movement.

"There is a gap between our successful rank and file work, and our own organization," he said.

"The I.S. is still not a wing of the rank and file movement. Our recruitment strategy must be aimed toward rank and file activists who are fighting along side us. They can join I.S. as leaders in our mass work, and as leaders in changing the I.S. into a workers' organization."

Speakers for the E.C. resolution countered that building the I.S. depends on our ability to recruit workers who are just now joining the struggle. They have not been made conservative by years of struggling alone, in the last period when most workers accepted things as they were.

Now that the system is in trouble and workers are beginning to move, it is those new to the struggle who will be most open to revolutionary politics.

A Teamster member from Detroit summed it up:

"We want to recruit those people who can lead the rank and file movement beyond reform struggles. That means building a political periphery for the revolutionary party. From that periphery we can recruit the future leaders of the working class.

"We can lead. The key to building this organization is our politics, which must be infused into the struggle."

Lindsey Gordon, a telephone worker and a member of the National Committee, backed up this point when she said: "I've worked ten years for the phone company. But I haven't been a worker leader for very long. For eight of those years I just went to work, hated my job and went home.

"I am a leader now, because the I.S. has shown me how. And in the last year my branch recruited nine people—not one of those people was a worker leader before they joined the I.S."

Another Teamster member, supporting the counter-resolutions, argued: "The key to our work is the relationship between I.S. activists, and rank and file activists with their base and following.

"If we can recruit a few of these leaders they will be key to transforming our organization: They represent the existing traditions of rank and file struggle. Meshing those traditions with ours builds the revolutionary struggle."

Other speakers for the E.C. resolutions emphasized that building rank and file movements is not the same as building the revolutionary party. Rank and file movements require joint struggle by everyone who agrees on specific immediate demands.

Building a revolutionary party depends on winning over sections of workers, who have nothing to gain from preserving this system, to full revolutionary views.

After extended and thorough debate, the Executive Committee resolutions were carried by 35 votes to 27. □



The Convention discussed the growing role of women in heavy industry.

WOMEN WORKERS CAN LEAD THE STRUGGLE

Other important resolutions passed during the session on Party building concerned women's liberation and Workers' Power.

The discussion on the Women's Liberation resolution was opened by Barbara Winslow, I.S. Women's Organizer.

"The I.S. is the only revolutionary socialist organization with a commitment to women's liberation in both theory and practice," she said. "On the question of leadership, we have made important steps forward. 70 percent of women has increased—we have been able to recruit and train women despite the lack of a women's liberation movement.

"We have waged a fight to bring the politics of women's liberation into the rank and file movement. The men we work with have begun to understand these ideas."

Winslow's remarks were more than proved correct by the discussion. Many

women leaders of important industrial work as well as men, discussed the role of women in their industry.

A woman steelworker from Pittsburgh stated:

"There are fewer women in heavy industry, but the conditions you face force you to be much tougher. Women are some of our best leaders, although this used to be a question.

"In every case, in every industry, we've proved that we can lead and we are leading.

"Men at work ask you good questions about women's liberation. They are convinced when they see you fight for them."

Anne Mackie, UPS worker, editor of UPSurge and a member of I.S. National Committee received a round of applause when she discussed the major role women played in building and leading UPSurge. □

Build The Workers' Paper!

Gay Semel, Workers' Power editor opened the discussion on use of the paper.

"Workers' Power is our best organizer; our public face. It is a bridge between our work and our socialist politics," she said.

"However, in recent months it has stagnated. Two years ago Workers' Power was our first major step forward. But now it takes a back seat to the rest of our work. Circulation has dropped because the paper is not being used as much as it should. Much of the organization has become consumers, not distributors of the paper."

"One reason that Workers' Power circulation is down is that the resources of the organization have been stretched so thin. But failure to use our paper as seriously as we should was a mistake. A revolutionary socialist paper is an important tool in developing and training workers looking for ideas. By using the paper we will help recruit those workers to the I.S."

"We will have to rebuild the paper in the next period. Different sections of the organization will have to help plan articles for Workers' Power. In the fall we will conduct a national subscription drive. I.S. auto worker members are already planning a sub drive for this summer."

Jack Weinberg, member of the I.S.

Executive Committee discussed the specifics of the Workers' Power sub drive planned for the period of auto bargaining: "We will offer a three month sub at \$1.50. Our goal is 300 subscriptions. We will also continue to sell in the plants. Our goal is 500 in plant sales."

"During the campaign Workers' Power will give extra space to auto coverage. Along with Workers' Power sales will be a focussed recruitment campaign. We aim to double our numbers in the auto industry."

The Portland branch organizer discussed how the Portland branch built Workers' Power sales in the black community. "First we leafleted, then we sold. We asked people about their work. We then sold weekly in teams continually expanding the numbers we sold to. We soon learned who was willing to use the paper—who was willing to take bundles of Workers' Power to work."

"Thanks our successful selling of Workers' Power that helped us build a Free Gary Tyler demo of over 200 in Portland."

Kate Stacy, Workers' Power staff member, discussed the need to develop better communication between the Editorial Board and I.S. members in industry.

"We need regular communication—what arguments were effective—what were not." □



tract was one of the most important events of the lessons of the TDC and the other contract

contract next time around."

The final resolution was on "Fights to Come," and discussed the upcoming auto, telephone, and teachers' contracts.

A delegate who belongs to UAW Local 3, explained some of the reasons why the auto contract campaign has been slow getting started: "Auto workers were hit by layoffs the hardest of any organized workers. There are 60,000 still on layoff.

"The UAW is saying the fight isn't at the bargaining table, it's at the ballot box."

The four resolutions passed without opposition. □

I.S. CONVENTION - 1976

BEGINNING A NEW AGE OF REVOLUTION

The resolutions on international perspectives centered on the struggles in Portugal, southern Europe and South Africa.

Marilyn Danton, speaking for the Executive Committee, introduced a resolution on "The Present Potential for World Revolution." She explained:

"For years we have argued that the crises of international capitalism and imperialism would reappear. Now the capitalist post-war boom has ended. We are moving into a new period of revolutionary struggles, like the period of world revolution that began in 1914."

WEAKEST LINKS

Today's struggles are breaking out in the weak links of the capitalist system, such as Portugal and Spain. Within the next few years they will spread to Italy, Greece and Britain.

The current world capitalist boom will not be strong enough or long enough for these countries to stabilize their economies.

A counter-resolution was presented by a delegate from Bloomington, Indiana. He argued that revolutionary socialism is on the

defensive at the moment in southern Europe, and that the policies of the Communist Parties represent the current level of struggle and consciousness of most workers.

The speaker argued: "In the future we need broader and deeper discussions, to learn from revolutionaries in other countries. However, talking about revolutionary periods today means teaching illusions."

"In Spain, the strike wave has been over since January. In Portugal, there has been no real recovery of the working class from the defeat of November 25."

Several delegates argued against this view, citing the powerful struggles of workers not only in Portugal but also Italy.

The counter-resolution was defeated, and the resolution from the Executive Committee was adopted by a large majority.

PARTY BUILDING

In this new period of struggle, the creation of strong revolutionary workers' parties is crucial. A section of the discussion was focused on the role of the Revolutionary Party of the Proletariat (PRP) in Portugal.

Introducing this discussion, Joel Geier stated: "The PRP is the revolutionary party which is being created by the Portuguese working class, as the agency for its own self-emancipation."

"In Portugal, the revolutionary party has to be built in the middle of the revolution. The way to build a party in a revolution is to lead the struggles of the workers forward."

"This is what the PRP has done, at every new stage of the revolutionary process."

"Even though the advanced section of the Portuguese workers are hostile to political parties, the PRP has merged with a layer of revolutionary workers. But it has not liquidated or lost itself as an organization in this process."

Since November 25, the PRP has carried out a series of campaigns to mobilize the working class for new offensives. The latest and most successful was the Presidential election campaign.

Nearly half a million workers voted for the far-left candidate, Otelo de Carvalho, and all of them were mobilized in giant campaign rallies.

The success of the Portuguese revolution now depends on the PRP using this and future campaigns to grow into a mass revolutionary party.

The resolution on Portugal and Spain was adopted by a wide majority. The Convention also passed an additional resolution, introduced by delegates from several branches, stating that the I.S. had not sufficiently "discussed and debated" the revolutionary process in Portugal. The

resolution blamed the Executive Committee for discouraging discussion and stated that the I.S. must participate fully in the discussion of the Portuguese revolution going on internationally in the revolutionary left.

SOLIDARITY

The discussion on southern Africa, introduced by Dan Posen, centered on the important connection between the upheavals in Angola, Zimbabwe and South Africa and the consciousness of the black community in the United States.

The Executive Committee accepted a resolution from the National Black Caucus of the I.S. that solidarity with southern African liberation must be carried out this year.

Several members of the Caucus, as well as other delegates, spoke on the importance of this issue in all of our work.

A Teamster from Pittsburgh, said the I.S. should be critical of itself for not being able to respond massively and quickly to the uprising by students in Soweto, South Africa.

"In my city alone, tens of thousands of black workers were watching those events on TV and responding," he said. "It will happen again. Next time, we have to be sure our message is there." □

Workers' Power Replies To Fitz's Charges

Who Is Attacking The Teamsters Union?

Answer: An Unholy Alliance of Political Midgets, Some Lying Media Gossip Peddlers and a Few Self-Appointed Labor "Reformers" whose Secret Motives are Destructive and Un-American.

Who is the Real Campaigner in Our Society? ... Do They Support News or Media? ... Who Supports The Realist? ... Who Supports The Realist? ... Who Supports The Realist? ...

WHAT ARE THE FACTS ABOUT TEAMSTER POWER?

Who is the Realist? ... Who is the Realist? ... Who is the Realist? ... Who is the Realist? ...

by Jim Woodward

The leadership of the Teamsters union often responds to its opposition with methods that involve terror, intimidation, beatings, blackmail, and even murder. This time they've taken a new tack—a full page ad in the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The section of this ad attacking Teamsters for a Democratic Union (formerly Teamsters for a Decent Contract) is the most significant.

While the leadership of the Teamsters union is under attack from many directions, what frightens them most are the rank and file members of their union who are fed up with their leadership and are joining together to change it.

WHO LEADS TDU?

THE AD CHARGES: TDC was "led by a small group of socialists."

In fact, most leaders of TDC were not socialists. However, we are proud that some of the leaders of TDC—now TDU—are members of the International Socialists.

What all TDU leaders and members agree upon is the necessity of a rank and file movement to reverse the corruptions and betrayals of the present union leadership.

Frank Fitzsimmons is not busy publicizing these days the fact that it was revolutionary socialists who provided much of the leadership and strategy for building the Teamsters into a powerful union forty years ago.

But we're proud of that tradition. And we're glad that the days are over when a self-serving union politician can holler "Red!" and immediately destroy his opposition.

There was little other news coverage until the time when—as Business Week, an employers' magazine, reported—TDC's influence forced Frank Fitzsimmons to call the first national freight strike in the union's history.

The truth is that TDC organized thousands of Teamsters... and

represented the sentiments of hundreds of thousands when contract time came.

It is the official union leaders—TDU—who are out of touch with the rank and file.

It's a very easy way to prove it. Go out to any truck stop and ask the Teamsters you meet there what they think of Frank Fitzsimmons. Their answer will make clear that it's not a "handful of dissident union busters" who are upset with their union leadership.

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WHAT DO REVOLUTIONARY TEAMSTERS STAND FOR?

The reason socialists can be

among the leaders of the Teamster rank and file movement is that the present leaders of the Teamsters union are totally unable to defend the membership.

One working condition after another has gone down the drain, along with much of the union's bargaining strength.

The trucking employers have gone on the offensive precisely because the competitive capitalist system demands it. And traditional union leaders have been unable to fight back effectively because they accept the basic premise of the capitalist system: that everything must be based on the ability of the employer to make a profit.

Socialists do not believe in the profit system that creates riches for a few at the expense of the majority.

We consistently defend working people against the employers, and the government of the employers. So socialists always know what side they're on.

Unlike the Teamster leadership which, in this ad, denounces former Vice President Agnew as a crook—only weeks after Teamster President Fitzsimmons praised former President Nixon in front of all the Teamster Convention delegates.

The ad claims that socialists want to destroy the capitalist system. To that we plead guilty.

We want a system where the people who do the work are the ones who have the power. Not a system where you get to the top just because your name is Rockefeller or Morgan or DuPont.

If that puts us at odds with the leadership of the Teamsters union, that's okay with us. □

Ohio Conference of Teamsters - Teamsters Joint Council #1
3075 East 70th Street Cleveland Ohio 44102
17 years of
1959-1976



WORKERS OF CWA



AFL-CIO



CWA CONVENTION REPORT

Peanuts For Phone Workers

by Jim Brenson

LOS ANGELES—At the end of last month's Communications Workers' of America (CWA) Convention here, Jimmy Carter called to thank the union for the endorsement it had given him. CWA President Glenn Watts and others threw peanuts at the delegates as a symbol of Carter.

It was an unfortunately fitting gesture, since peanuts are all that telephone workers will get in next year's contract unless they organize to force Watts to fight. Watts and the CWA union leadership were able to push through a dues increase and defeat three out of four progressive resolutions put forward by the union's District 10.

RESOLUTIONS

District 10 proposed, first, that the union should adopt a "no contract, no work" policy in next year's bargaining. Watts ruled discussion on this out of order.

The second proposal, that a strike vote be taken 30 days before the contract expires, was narrowly defeated. Watts then ruled that resolutions for upgrading traffic (operators) and improving pensions were out of order.

The final District 10 resolution was passed—that there be no news blackout during next year's bargaining. This blackout was bitterly resented by the membership during the 1974 bargaining. Many local officials were voted out of office because of it, which is why so many of those remaining voted to make bargaining a more open procedure for 1977.

DEFENSELESS

With the bargaining procedures out of the way, about all that remained was the dues increase. The dues increase will divert 50c per member from the Defense Fund to the General Fund in the year before the contract expires!

This tips off A.T.&T. and the CWA members about the International's attitude toward next year's bargaining.

Another contested issue was the proposal to obtain four 25c per capita dues increases. While the vote was close, Watts declared it passed.

LAYOFFS

What prompted the request for a dues increase was the great drop in membership, especially in the past year. The response to the problem itself was left unanswered.

Watts displayed his insensitivity to layoffs in his opening remarks when he said, "You know, we have been very fortunate in our union, in our industry, to have escaped large scale layoffs."

Western Electric workers with 10 years seniority don't feel so fortunate—hundreds of them have been laid off!

But Watts and the other officers aren't starving. They received

\$1500 annual salary increases, with Watts leading the pack at \$52,710 in salary alone.

Aware of membership fears about job security, Watts deplored the loss of jobs to ESS and TSPS equipment and condemned Bell's absence control police and monitoring for discipline.

DISSSENT

Watts also spoke about dissenters in the union. He admitted that the membership is becoming more and more dissatisfied with his policies and are organizing opposition.

In thinly-veiled references to United Action, a rank and file group which has won large votes in several key CWA locals, Watts warned delegates about "trouble-makers" in the union.

But all his rhetoric can't stop the fact that the rank and file will be organized to fight for a good contract in 1977—whether Watts likes it or not.

International Socialism 90



Latest issue of the monthly journal of the British IS features The Soweto Uprising, by Alex Callinicos; the election program of Otelo de Carvalho; Terry Povey on the situation in Lebanon; a review of the second volume of Tony Cliff's political biography of Lenin by Duncan Hallas; We Came to Bury Housework... Not to Pay For It, by Judith Hamilton and Elana Dallas, and other features.

Send 75c postpaid to Sun Distribution, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, MI 48203.

Teamster Pension Crisis

Who's Got The \$700 Million?

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S investigation of massive misuse of the Teamsters Pension fund by IBT tops is bringing a lot of the dirt on the Teamster officials' betrayal of the membership out into the open.

But now that they've found that up to \$700 million may be missing out of the \$1.4 billion fund, will the government be able to get it into the pockets of the retirees?

This is doubtful, since one of their first steps was to revoke the tax exempt status of the Fund at the end of June. This move can only cut down on the remaining money in the fund to pay pensions with, since it means that employers, the Fund and even rank and file Teamsters may have to pay taxes on contributions paid into the Fund.

The government's other step has been to grill IBT President Frank Fitzsimmons for a couple of days of closed hearings.

Indictments may well be returned, after a few months, against Fitzsimmons and other trustees for allowing the abuse of the Fund. While no one can help but rejoice if a few of the thieves get caught, this too will not restore the \$700 million.

CONTRIBUTIONS

The Central States' Pension Fund receives employer contributions of \$22 per-week for each worker. The employers have half of 66 trustees, but these employees are always looking for favors from Teamster officials and are dependent on them. So they could look the other way.

And the employers knew that mob control of the Fund helped keep the union conservative and stacked against the interests of the members, their employees.

But as trucking companies consolidated and grew larger, they didn't need so many favors from Teamster officials.

The government would like more control over influential and underworld figures. Again, bringing justice to the dues-paying victims of the swindle is good publicity, but not a serious goal of the investigation.

So where is the money that is paying pensions? Teamster officials have simply illegally invested or loaned it to businesses that line their own pockets. The natural partners in these shady affairs is the mob.

SPECIFICS

Some of the specifics:
• Of the \$57 million loaned to Rancho La Costa in Southern California, where Fitzsimmons loves to play golf, \$40 million has never been repaid.

La Costa is run by Allard Roen, an admitted stock swindler, and Moe Dalitz of the Detroit Purple Gang as well as the Cleveland mob.

Meyer Lansky appears to be a hidden owner.

• Morris Shenker received a loan of \$290 million for San Diego and Las Vegas developments.

Shenker became famous as Hoffa's lawyer. He was appointed to the St. Louis Commission on Crime and Law Enforcement by Democratic Mayor A.F. Cervantes.

Then on May 29, 1970, Life Magazine showed that Shenker had business dealings with underworld figures.

• The Pension Fund has a high record of bankrupt loans. Some years ago it was estimated at 10% of all loans, but the new government investigation will undoubtedly show it to be higher.

Money is loaned to a company that is really owned by the mob. Then it borrows large sums from creditors, disposes of all its assets through mob outlets and goes bankrupt. There are hundreds of millions of dollars lent out by the Fund where no principal or interest has been paid back.

By denying benefits to 1000 members for a year, the Fund can make up a loss of \$3.6 million.

• Allen Dorfman is the key decision maker for the fund. His father Paul was a financial expert for the Capone mob in Chicago and a labor racketeer in the Teamsters and Electrical workers.

Allen has siphoned off Teamster monies through his insurance companies, and been a personal beneficiary of Pension Fund loans and finders fees.

Even after going to jail for receiving kickbacks on loans, he continues to make the real decisions for the Fund and flies around in one of the Teamster's five business jets.

TRUSTEESHIP

The government may put the pension fund under trusteeship after the Presidential elections, as provided under the new Pension Reform Act.

Is this a solution? Every time the government has intervened in unions in similar ways, the main effect has been to further stifle rank and file power.

In 1957 a Senate subcommittee investigated gangsterism in the Teamsters. When the investigation was over, the gangsters were still there, but the "hot cargo" clauses in Teamster contracts had been outlawed.

No, it's not the government, but the Teamster ranks who must control their Pension Fund. It is only they who actually have an interest in getting the pensions.

The government "clean-up" campaign is aimed at straightening out power relationships at the top of the trucking business, the union and the government.

Unless the Teamster ranks themselves control the fund, it will continue to be a rich pawn in someone else's game.

CENTRAL STATES UPS CONTRACT RATIFIED

by Christina Bergmark

The United Parcel Service Central States contract with the Teamsters Union was ratified June 30. The new contract is no more than the polished version of the sellout summary that prompted a one-day wildcat strike in eight cities May 17.

The ratification vote was 6190 in favor; 4226 opposed. But the results are more significant than these statistics show. In most all of the cities where UPSurge, the rank and file group, had organized and held meetings, the contract was turned down. Akron, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Detroit, Elyria, Oh., Jackson, Mi., Kansas City, St. Louis, Western Kentucky, and Youngstown, Oh. all voted against. Toledo would have voted to reject, but for one spoiled ballot.

In those places where the organization of part-timers was solid—Cincinnati, Columbus, St. Louis, and Western Kentucky—the percentage for rejection was much higher.

The results say clearly that the organizing UPSurge did this time provides a "solid" base to build from in the future.

"VOTE NO" CAMPAIGN

UPSurge did organize a "Vote No" campaign during the balloting. Why, with this and after an eight-city wildcat strike, was the contract accepted?

Success in the Vote No campaign depended on two things: the strength of local organization, and the organization of part-timers. In many smaller cities UPSers had seen the UPSurge newspaper, but had not built solid local organization. In the westernmost part of the region, most workers had not even seen the newspaper. In most cities, including some where UPSurge was strong, the organization of part-timers was lacking.

Another reason for the failure of the Vote No campaign is that UPSurge was successful in pressuring the negotiators to make certain concessions in this contract. They were not on the most critical issues. But things like the limited right of part-timers to transfer to full time jobs won votes for the contract.

EASTERN CONTRACT

Meanwhile, contract negotiations drag on for the Eastern States UPS contract. UPSurge activists in the East expect that the union will quickly try to pin the same Central States contract on them.

But Eastern UPSurge members are pressing three issues as most critical: 1) that part-timers in the East receive wages and benefits equal to part-timers in the Central States, along with first right to bid on full time jobs; 2) that all jobs now performed by full time workers continue to be performed by full time workers; and 3) innocent until proven guilty.

Steelworkers Local Fights On

LEESDALE, Pa.—Thirty-five members of Steelworkers Local 7987, have been on strike here against the Hussy Metals Div. of the Copper Range Corp. for ten months.

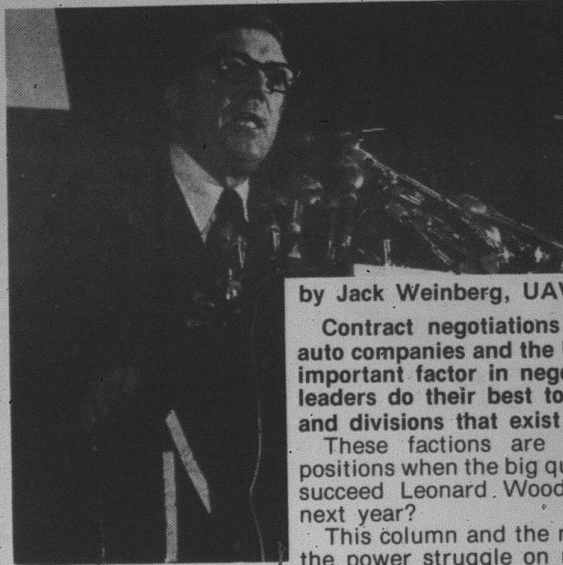
This recently organized local of office workers is demanding that the company abide by the seniority system and job descriptions established in their first contract.

The company has hired scabs to replace the strikers. The International union staff has done nothing to support them. But rank and file Teamsters are refusing to cross their picket lines.

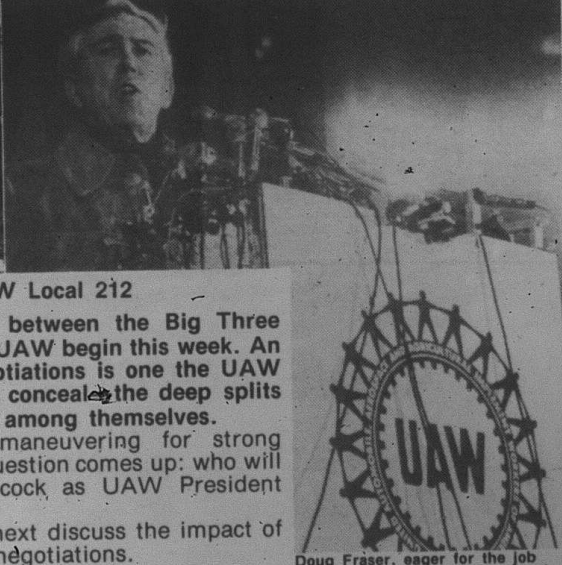
AUTO MOTION

The Road Forward for Auto Workers

Splits At The Top



Woodcock, vacating UAW presidency



Doug Fraser, eager for the job

by Jack Weinberg, UAW Local 212

Contract negotiations between the Big Three auto companies and the UAW begin this week. An important factor in negotiations is one the UAW leaders do their best to conceal—the deep splits and divisions that exist among themselves.

These factions are maneuvering for strong positions when the big question comes up: who will succeed Leonard Woodcock as UAW President next year?

This column and the next discuss the impact of the power struggle on negotiations.

Woodcock's successor—the next President of the UAW.

The UAW Constitution prohibits anyone past 65 from running for President. At the time Woodcock was elected, Constitutional Conventions that elect top officers were held every two years. Under those rules, Woodcock should have had to retire in 1976 because of age.

However, at the 1974 Convention, all sides agreed to extend both the time between conventions, and the term of office within the UAW to three years. This was done to postpone the succession battle from spring 1976—right before contract bargaining—to spring 1977—right after.

Woodcock's support for Carter represented a big turning point in the primary campaign. It represented Carter's first major breakthrough in labor union support. And since Carter was a candidate of the conservative wing of the Democratic Party, support from the traditionally liberal UAW was especially valuable.

First off, Carter must have agreed to make Woodcock and the UAW his chosen voice inside labor. This will give the UAW a leading position in a political alliance with George Meany and the AFL-CIO in campaigning to get Carter elected. And this, in turn, paves the way for UAW reaffiliation to the AFL-CIO from a position of strength.

will be vacated in January 1977—immediately after contract ratification on 1976 bargaining is completed.

The IEB will then choose the next President to succeed Woodcock, who will be able to come into a Spring 1977 Convention as an incumbent.

The liberal wing, however, still has one ace in the hole. The conservatives have no strong candidate for UAW President. Their best choice is Pat Greathouse, head of the Agricultural Implements Department of the union.

REPUTATION

He has the reputation of being a strong negotiator—a reputation much better than he deserves. And he is a genuine representative of the union's most conservative wing. But the department he heads lacks strength and prestige in the union.

Greathouse will be negotiating at Ag Imp. with contract deadline October 1, two weeks after auto. He has to make a name for himself in bargaining, if he wants to come out on top—and so will probably try some grandstanding.

In auto, pattern setting this year will probably be at Fords. The head of the UAW Ford Department, Bannon, also supports the right wing of the union. But GM Department head Bluestone and Chrysler Department head Fraser are both liberals.

If Woodcock wants to get a cabinet appointment, he will be under pressure to settle cheap and prove that the UAW is a "responsible union." Fraser and Bluestone, if they have any guts at all, may try to stir things up to strengthen their positions.

All sides still fear a public split more than anything else. They know a public split in the top leadership will open up the Pandora's box of membership participation in setting the direction for the union.

And once prepared, they know that whoever wins will have a hard time putting the lid back on. But as pressures build going into bargaining, anything can happen. [To be concluded next week.]

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BATTLE RAGES

Even with a tight lid on open campaigning, the battle for positions rages, fiercely. Only a few months ago, the union's right wing staged a brilliant coup by swinging the support of the UAW to Carter in the Michigan Democratic Party primary.

The IEB itself never took a formal stand on the question. Fraser, and his friends, were backing Humphrey, and therefore wanted to swing support to Udall in Michigan.

But the ground was cut out from under them when Woodcock, together with Detroit's black liberal mayor, Coleman Young, declared for Carter in a blitz of publicity.

RIGHT WING

Woodcock had won the nomination by mobilizing the support of the right wing of the bureaucracy. Its policies inside the Democratic Party are much more like those of Scoop Jackson or George Meany.

Its strongest support comes from the white, semi-rural sections of the union. It would like to liquidate the independent position of the UAW in the labor movement, and reaffiliate the UAW with the AFL-CIO.

Both sides still want to do all in their power to avoid a split. Both sides agree that the real test of strength comes in the selection of

Good Labor News

Dear Friends,

I would like to congratulate you on a fine ongoing job of covering labor news in general and the rank and file Teamster movement in particular.

Your May 24 issues was very helpful to my research for the article on the new UPS/Teamster contract and the rank and file movement within the Teamsters.

I'm doing the labor reporting for a local alternative paper here in Lincoln, Nebraska; Growing Season, (I've sent a copy of our first issue to you.)

Your articles on the United Rubber Workers strike against the big four rubber companies were also greatly appreciated.

Harry Richardson
Lincoln, Nebraska

A "Liberal" Company...

Dear Workers' Power:

When we read the recent letter on how liberal and good UPS is to its women employees, we were outraged.

You bet UPS has an Affirmative Action Plan and is the most "liberal" company in the trucking industry when it comes to hiring women.

Their Affirmative Action Plan is to, yes—hire women, even to promote them.

But their Action Plan is to get rid of them as fast as possible—almost as fast as they hired them, especially when they heard the EEOC was getting ready to sue their ass for sex discrimination.

We all work at UPS and are active in UPSurge because we're fed up with the Action Plan against women.

If women are so happy at UPS then why does UPSurge receive letter after letter from women drivers, loaders and employees' wives who all feel that this production-crazy company is trying to "do us in"?

We have an affirmative Action Plan for this company—this com-

pany that cares more for its cardboard boxes than its employees: Shove it, UPS!

Cella Dunlap-Petty,
UPS loader
Christina Bergmark,
UPS loader
Anne Mackie,
UPS package car driver



Women at UPS are constantly harassed.

How The Prisons Kill

Dear Workers' Power:

I would most emphatically appreciate you printing this communique to my comrades in the struggle—

Sister Rose Parks, Sister Juanita Tyler, Gary's mother, Sister Lisa Abroñ, Sister Bobbi Harrison, Brother Fred Hobby, Brother Ed Walker, and Brother Larry Smith. [See Workers' Power #165.]

And especially to you, Workers' Power, who has the courage to print this.

I have set out to make explicit the over-all nature of a demeaning situation that I and other comrades are forced to endure here in the many slave camps in Amerikkka (prisons).

My comrades, all prisons (or man-made concentration camps) take one beyond the psychological lines of resistance into the twilight of haunting frustrations and tormentuous anxieties, oscillating precariously on the fringe of instant insanity.

All prisons or institutions are controlled by the fascist sadistic-minded racist-pig administrators with their lackey captains who feed their perversions by spurring these frustrations to the maximum.

The blatant display of bigotry, sadism, and unprovoked brutality

would bring an approving nod from their evil faces.

I personally understand intimately what my brother Gary Tyler is going through.

For I have long ago accepted the fact that Amerikkka has become a nation of hypocrites, a nation of pimps. Political pimps who sell the souls of its people for a few extra barrels of oil, or a military base, or a missile site!

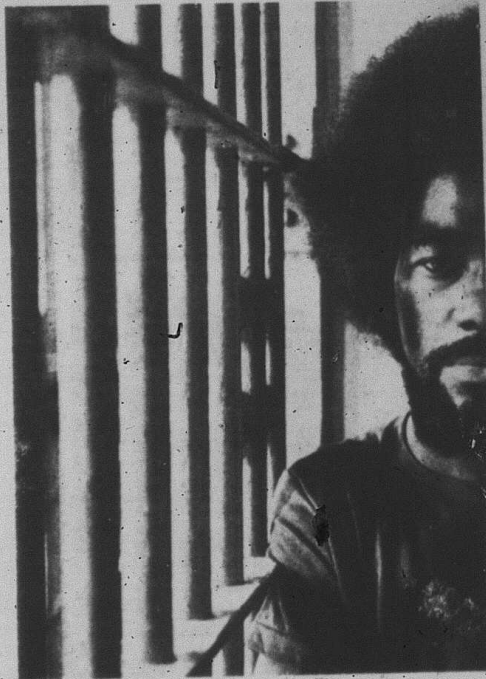
Amerika, who has denounced other nations for perpetuating

social and political injustices has fallen victim to its own denunciations! Amerika, champion excellence, of deceit, degradation, exploitation, genocide, repression, oppression, and racism.

Brothers and Sisters, the political games remain the same, only the names of the players have been changed to protect the guilty.

I have spoken the truth, and the consequences be damned!

Jomo Kenyatta
Oklahoma



A victim on Death Row in North Carolina.

The People Will Set Gary Free!

The following poem was sent to Workers' Power by a reader who has been active in the movement to free Gary Tyler.

Gary Tyler, Gary Tyler

Gary Tyler, Gary Tyler,
Didn't kill that white student,
That we all know.

But the white man said he did,
And they won't let him go!

Gary Tyler, Gary Tyler,
They put him on Death Row

But with the voice of the people
They'll have to let him go!

Gary Tyler, Gary Tyler
Will go free, because all our
Black brothers, sisters

Will help him, you see!
Gary Tyler, Gary Tyler

Is in jail and going through hell.
Gary Tyler, Gary Tyler

We must help him, you see.
So let's get together to help

Set him free!
Gary Tyler, Gary Tyler

We will help you all we can
Because it's about time

We woke up and dealt with
This white man's land!

by Ovilla Bridges

JULY 4 — BEHIND BARS

Dear Workers' Power:

I am presently incarcerated here at the Maryland Penitentiary.

I hope to be able to receive your paper, but at present I cannot afford the price of the subscription.

I am a socialist, and wish to keep abreast of the happenings, with information I feel I can trust.

Realizing your paper would be a reliable source of study of our troubled system, I hope you will oblige. Thank you for your time

and effort.

Today is July 4, and things are very tense here.

P.O.
Maryland

[This prisoner's request has been filled: Workers' Power has a special prisoners' fund providing prisoners with complimentary subscriptions upon request. Contributions to this fund are desperately needed. Send to: Workers' Power Prisoners' Fund, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, Mich. 48203]

...WHO ARE THEY KIDDING?

Dear Workers' Power:

I just had to respond to the letter written by "a UPS person" about how "liberal" UPS is towards women and other minorities. [See Workers' Power #165.]

As a woman working part-time at UPS, I think that letter could only have been written by someone in management. Because no one else could lie so blatantly!

I work in a hub with about 450 seniority employees. Of the 300 full-timers, NOT ONE is a woman! Of the 150 part-timers, about 15 are women, for a grand total of 15 out of 450, or 3.3%.

Within the past few years, two women were hired full-time. One of these was a mistake—she made her 30th day on the last day before the Christmas hiring freeze!

Both of these women quit after 2 years due to constant harassment, to which many of the male employees will testify.

For example, one of the women refused to come to work the day after a fellow worker had been killed by a bomb at work.

Although she was one of a large number of workers who refused, a supervisor taunted her about not being able to handle a man's job.

Perhaps there aren't any women who want full-time jobs? Not so. Many of the women working part-time, including myself, would like full-time jobs, but are in a difficult position.

Due to UPS' tricky application procedure, in which they selectively choose who to give full-time applications to, they enforce an extra screening measure against women, Blacks, and minorities.

I have filed a case against UPS with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), but the case will take awhile, partly because it had to be added to their file of cases on UPS.

While I hope that I and other women can win legal cases such as this against UPS, I don't believe this is how most of our

victories will come about. I am active in UPSurge because I feel that only through all UPS workers joining together—women and men, Black and white—can we exert the kind of pressure necessary to stop them from treating all of us like dirt.

I've talked with UPS workers from a lot of areas. My own experience plus what I've learned from them, says that if that "UPS person" wasn't outright lying, then she was talking about an exception.

I'm talking about the rule.

Rita Drapkin
Local 249
Pittsburgh

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.

SUMMER SCHOOL SHOWS I.S. MOVING AHEAD

"We are building the only movement, the revolutionary socialist movement, that will enable us to create a decent life in this country, in this world."

This was the way people felt as they left the International Socialists' annual summer school held outside of Detroit last week.

The summer school's purpose is to bring I.S. members together from all parts of the country to discuss and learn how to best build that movement.

For five days, 100 I.S. members attended a broad range of classes, held informal discussions, and relaxed in the outdoors. Because I.S. mem-

bers are active in trade unions and all aspects of working class struggle, the school helped train them to become more effective political leaders.

CLASSES

The classes included such topics as Stalinism, fascism, black liberation, Leninism, women's liberation, revolutionaries in the labor movement, the Portuguese revolution, Southern Africa, and

much more.

They began with short presentations and concentrated on lively discussions. Many classes were led by some of the newest I.S. members.

Practical workshops were also held: building a public meeting, organizing a demonstration, selling Workers' Power, fighting union/company intimidation, building rank and file caucuses, and self-defense.

The summer school was also a time for fun and relaxation. Members swam, camped,

hiked and canoed.

Many new I.S. members attended and found the school to be an interesting and helpful way to learn about the organization, and to become leaders and fighters in their struggle against class exploitation.

The summer school was a major success. It reflected the continuing changes in the I.S. as it becomes a stronger, multi-racial, workers' combat organization.

Wendy Casper

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JOIN US!

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

Union

Subscribe Now!



A taste of workers' power: Jefferson Assembly workers, Isaac Shorter and Larry Carter, take over the plant in Detroit to fire a racist foreman—summer, 1973.

National Auto Contract Bargaining begins on July 19. Workers' Power will be following these negotiations from now until the contract expires September 14.

Auto workers want theirs this time around and Workers' Power will be reporting on how and where they intend to get it. From the shop floor to the negotiating table, Workers' Power will have the information you need to know what's going on.

Take advantage of our bargaining week special and subscribe now. Three months for \$1.50. News from the auto workers' point of view, not the company's.

Yes, I want to subscribe to Workers' Power at the special autoworkers' rate of \$1.50 for three months.

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Local #

Zip

Where We Stand

WE OPPOSE

- **CAPITALIST EXPLOITATION**
We live under the capitalist system. The wealth produced by working people is stolen from us by private employers. They prosper from our labor.
- **CAPITALIST CONTROL**
Capitalists use their profits only to make more profits. When they need fewer workers, they create unemployment. When they need more money, they speed up work, downgrade safety conditions and raise prices. The capitalist system spends little on health care, a clean environment, or social services, because these things make no profit.
- **OPPRESSION**
Capitalism needs inequality—because it needs profits, it can't provide enough for all. So it gives some groups of people worse jobs and lower pay, and labels them inferior. In particular, capitalism locks black people into the bottom of society, and spreads racist ideas to keep them there and justify it. Capitalism keeps women responsible for taking care of the workforce when it is not at work, including children, who are too young to work. Women who work for wages have two jobs.
- **CAPITALIST GOVERNMENT**
The government serves the capitalist class. Its only purpose is to protect the private profit system. It protects its interests abroad through economic control of other countries, spying and wars.
- **BUREAUCRATIC COMMUNISM**
Russia, China and the countries with economies like theirs are also oppressive class societies, run by a privileged ruling class of bureaucrats. They are not socialist and must be overthrown by the working classes of those countries.

WE SUPPORT

- **THE RANK AND FILE MOVEMENT**
The unions protect workers from their employers. But today's unions are run by privileged officials who sell out because they support the capitalist system. They want labor peace not labor power. We support the struggle for rank and file control of the unions.
- **LIBERATION FROM OPPRESSION**
We support the struggles of every oppressed group to end its oppression: the struggle for equality and justice by blacks, women, gays, latinos, native Americans, and all oppressed people. Support from the entire working class movement will make both these struggles, and that movement stronger.
- **SOCIALISM**
Society should be run by the working class. The wealth produced by those who work should go to fill people's needs, not to private gain.
- **WORKERS' REVOLUTION**
But the capitalist class will not give up their rule and profits voluntarily. Socialism can be created only when the working class seizes control of the factories and makes their own government. The working class will rule democratically because it can own society's wealth only together.
- **INTERNATIONALISM**
The struggle for socialism is world wide. Nations fighting to throw out foreign rulers must have the support of the international working class as in Angola today. So must every struggle of working people to end their oppression, as in Portugal today, and in Russia and Eastern Europe.
- **REVOLUTIONARY PARTY**
The most class conscious members of the working class have the responsibility to lead the struggle toward socialist revolution. To do this they must build an organization to put their consciousness into action and make their leadership effective.
- **INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS**
The I.S. is an organization of revolutionary socialist workers. We are open to all who accept our basic principles and are willing to work as a member to achieve them. Join with us to build the I.S. into a revolutionary party, to build the movement to end exploitation and oppression and to create a socialist world.

BOOKS MUSIC TELEVISION ADS MOVIES TRENDS BOOKS MUSIC TELEVISION ADS MOVIES TRENDS BOOKS

"Good Times" Go Bad



by Wendy Casper

"Good Times" is one of the very few shows on television whose cast is all black. The show is another of Norman Lear's productions; and has been on for about three years.

Recently, management decided that John Amos, one of the main characters, will not return next season. Amos plays James Evans, the father of the show's family.

There is a lot of dispute as to exactly why his job has been terminated, and at a time when he wasn't even in contract negotiations.

The first year that Good Times was aired, it rated consistently in the top 10. It averaged about the fourth or fifth best of all shows on TV. That's a real breakthrough for an all-black show.

But last year the ratings fell down to 21st and 22nd.

There's no doubt that the quality of the show has fallen drastically as well. Amos says he's been trying to fight this change, but the only results he's gotten has been a dismissal.

"I've had serious differences with Norman and the production staff, Amos said, "which became increasingly abrasive to the point where I asked for changes to be made. Some concessions were made in scripts, but when I asked for more black writers, this was not done.

"We have one black writer, Bob Peete; who's a story editor, out of six. Some scripts are also farmed out to freelancers. We were told they scoured Hollywood and could not come up with any black writers."

Amos continued to explain. "Esther Rolle (who plays "Florida," the mother on the show) and I were very much aware that we were the first complete black family on TV and therefore we felt a tremendous obligation and responsibility to portray the most positive view possible of the black family. She fought as hard as I did. "There are enough exploitation

films that provide a negative image of black people, so we wanted to show the best of black life. We wanted to make a show that all people could relate to, and we did get a very good rating."

Amos cites the reason for the drop in ratings. "More emphasis was put on the negative aspects of black life. Pimps and prostitutes came into the apartment, for example. We fought hard to do away with these things."

"We had whole stories predicated on J.J.'s looks (the eldest son). I thought they represented stereotypical racist thinking. Our shows were saying that people who have features like J.J. are strange looking people and this includes 90% of all black people, both here and in Africa."

ECONOMIC?

The executive director, Allen Manning, has another explanation for Amos' dismissal. Purely economic considerations, he says.

"This is a game of economic survival and we were fighting the ratings."

As a result, Manning said it was decided that greater emphasis should be placed on the younger cast members. And since there's supposedly not enough money to go around, the older characters—at least one of them—will have to go.

Amos has never denied that producer Norman Lear informed him that more emphasis will be placed on the younger members of the cast.

As a matter of fact, the producers' decisions seem to be the reasons for the falling ratings, and thus support Amos' allegations. While the producers emphasize the younger cast more, they also bury what was a good show in piles and piles of stereotyped and often unreal situations.

It would not be surprising if the white producers were simply trying to take advantage of a successful black show by turning it around in order to further racist ideas. □

J.J., played by Jimmie Walker, is the eldest son on "Good Times." Producers say focussing on younger members of family is the reason for father's dismissal. Not every one agrees.

Abortion - A Woman's Right

by Barbara Winslow

Last month, the Supreme Court liberalized existing abortion laws.

The Court ruled on June 1 that states can no longer require a woman to have her husband's consent before having an abortion.

The Court also ruled that states may not impose "blanket" restrictions on single women under 18 to have parents' consent in order to have an abortion.

Before this ruling a husband could veto his wife's decision to have an abortion. In many states, a woman couldn't have an abortion even if she was separated from her husband!

The importance of this particular ruling is that it says that in the case of the couple, it is the woman who bears the child, and takes ultimate responsibility for it. Therefore the final decision whether or not to have children must be the woman's choice.

YOUNG WOMEN

This recent decision is especially important for younger women. About 15% of all women seeking abortion are under 19.

The majority of these young women need abortions because they state that they are not prepared to have children. The majority of these pregnant women under 18 are also found to be misinformed about contraception.

This ruling on abortion may also strike down a number of reactionary state laws that prohibit selling contraceptives to people under 18.

The court also made two other important rulings on abortion. The first was to allow abortions to be performed after 12 weeks using the

"saline method." The second was to strike down a Missouri statute that required doctors performing abortions to "exercise the same degree of care to preserve the life of the fetus as would be required to preserve the life of a fetus that was intended to be born rather than aborted."

Today one out of every four women has an abortion. This means that with the exception of the most ideologically committed against it, such as the Catholic hierarchy, Mormons, and political right-wingers such as Reagan, most people in this country are no longer militantly opposed to it.

The radical women's liberation movement of the 1960's was the prime moving force behind the Court's first liberal ruling on abortion in 1972.

While the radical women's liberation movement is dead, the middle class women's movement, strongly rooted in the Democratic Party, is not. And, it is this pressure that keeps the issue of liberalization of abortion laws alive.

COST

The social cost for abortion in this society is not that expensive. The capitalist class and the medical establishment are no longer opposed to black and working class women having abortions—as long as they pay for them.

However, the Court decision does not mean that women now have complete control over their reproductive systems. Abortion is still too expensive for many women, and in many states a wife must have her husband's consent in order to be sterilized if she chooses. □

Government Lies Exposed In Indian Frameup Trial

by Byron Gray

American Indians Robert Robideau and Darrell "Dino" Butler are presently on trial in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. They are charged with the murder of two FBI agents killed on the Pine Ridge Reservation June 26, 1975.

On that same day a young Indian man, Joe Killright, was also killed. Although the government

has been conducting a virtual reign of terror at Pine Ridge in search of the agents' killers, no investigation whatsoever has been made into the murder of Killright.

WHITE JURY

The trial, begun on June 7 of this year, has reached its final stage, and the all-white jury is presently

deliberating the case. The jury has been out since Monday.

The government maintained that it would prove that the two agents had been ambushed, that there were eyewitnesses at the site, and that there were witnesses who had heard Robideau and Butler confess while in jail.

The government proved nothing. The only "clear" evidence they could come up with was one of Robideau's fingerprints at the scene of the shooting. They could not connect any of the bullets found in the agents' bodies with any guns they could tie to Robideau and Butler on that day.

The government's eyewitnesses were two young Indian men who had been threatened with prosecution if they did not testify.

One witness admitted that he had been promised protection for his family, an education and financial assistance if he would testify. He also admitted that he had lied about Robideau and Butler in his account to a Grand Jury earlier in the year.

FACTS

The facts of the case are clear and simple. There is no evidence to prove that Robideau and Butler killed the agents. In fact there is no evidence to prove that any Indian on the reservation killed the agents.

The government is illegally occupying the Pine Ridge Reservation and has been since the 1973 liberation of Wounded Knee. Federal agents roam the reservation, breaking into homes, beating anyone who will not cooperate, arresting or murdering anyone who fights back.

This racist government feels it has a free hand to do whatever it deems necessary to destroy the American Indian Movement. The fact that two FBI agents were killed while terrorizing the Pine Ridge Reservation points this out.

It is very clear that Bob Robideau and Dino Butler are not guilty of anything except being Indian and fighting for their rights in this white racist society. □



Joe Killright, a young Indian man was also killed on June 26. No investigation has been made into his death.

Workers' Power STRIKES BREAK OUT IN ELECTRICAL UNIONS

OFFICIAL STRIKES AND WILDCATS HIT WESTINGHOUSE

A wave of official and wildcat strikes spread through the Westinghouse Electric Corp. this week, upsetting expectations of a peaceful contract settlement. By July 14, strikes had hit 38 Westinghouse plants. About one-third of the company's 53,500 union members were on strike.

A peaceful settlement was expected because two weeks before, General Electric reached agreement with its 13 unions without a strike. That contract was then ratified by the International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE) and the United Electrical Workers (UE), the two major unions involved.

However, no agreement was reached with Westinghouse by the July 11 deadline. One problem was contract language that the unions say would reduce benefits below those in the GE contract.

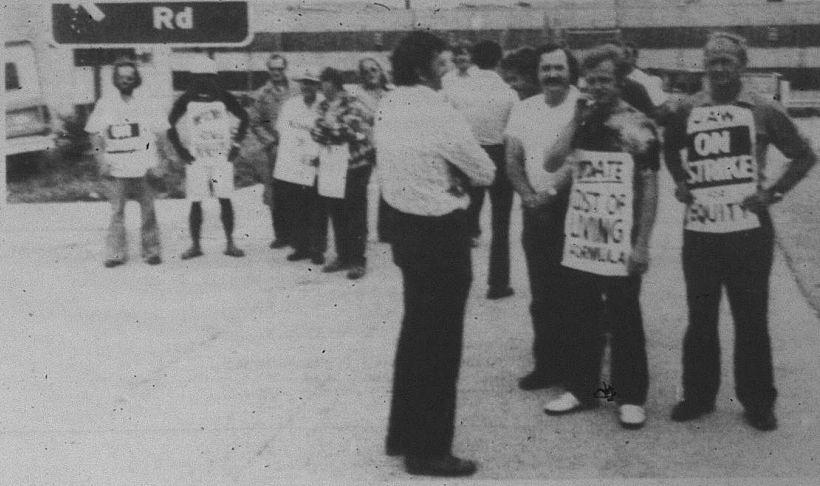
Despite the deadlock, the IUE, the UE, and the Federation of Westinghouse Independent Salaried Unions consented to a contract extension on a day-to-day basis.

STRIKE

The fourth major Westinghouse union, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), decided to strike. And many members of the IUE and UE were not willing to keep working without a contract. Over 7000 IUE members and almost 350 UE members joined the strike, despite the protests of their union leadership.

Westinghouse joined these union officials in deploring the strikes, and went to court for injunctions. On July 14, temporary restraining orders limiting picketing were issued in East Pittsburgh, Pa. and in Muncie, Indiana.

On the same day, the company went to its stockholders with some news: profits, for the first six months of this year, are up 36% over last year. That ought to strengthen the strikers' resolve to hold out—they know the company can afford to pay.



ONE GE PLANT THAT DID NOT ACCEPT the proposed contract is the Evendale, Ohio jet engine facility. UAW Local 647 President Ron Richardson explained as his members walked out on strike: The contract "did not fit the needs of our members. It is not enough. I would not take it back to the membership for a vote." About 3000 UAW members joined 1000 Machinists on the picket lines. One of the main issues is wages. The strikers want parity with workers in other jet engine plants, such as Pratt & Whitney, Ron Mason, a UAW International Rep., told Workers' Power that the wage level for a skilled worker in the plant, even with the proposed contract's raise, is lower than for floor sweepers at General Motors and Ford plants. There are also 75 local issues in dispute, and the company has not agreed on even one of them yet.

What GE Contract Says

Here's a look at the GE contract. GE workers lost up to 10% of their real wages over the life of the last contract, from 1973-76. The average GE and Westinghouse worker now makes less—after inflation—than in 1965.

The new contract promises 21% over three years. Everyone gets either 60c an hour immediately plus 25c or 4% (whichever is higher) in each of the next two years.

The new cost of living adjustment (COLA) does not have a cap. It has a gap. Up to 7% and above 9% inflation, the COLA will pay 1c for each .03 increase in the Consumer Price Index. But between 7% and 9% inflation, there is no increase at all.

After thirty years, if you can live 30 years, working at GE, you will get six weeks vacation. But GE and Westinghouse refused to grant a union shop, or 30 and out. That might be "Too expensive."

26 YEARS OF DEFEAT

IUE President David J. Fitzmaurice described the agreement as "the best contract I have ever negotiated with GE—and I have been dealing with them for over 26 years."

Fitzmaurice is describing 26 years of defeat for electrical workers.

A generation ago, GE and Westinghouse workers were paid the same as auto workers, steelworkers and Teamsters. Their work is just as hard, skilled and dangerous.

Today, however, a Teamster dock worker is getting \$8 an hour after the new contract signed in May. Electrical workers average well under \$6 an hour (the 60c increase brings them to an average of about \$5.60).

Electrical workers had good conditions once, because they were all members of one union. In the late 1940's and 50's, trade union unity in the electrical industry was destroyed.

There are now 13 different unions trying to negotiate with GE and Westinghouse. They are weak, corrupt, and divided, and the companies walk all over them.

Until rank and file electrical workers demand their unions unite and fight against the companies, the sellouts will continue.

Frank Will

IUE Members Strike, Throw Out Union Officials

EAST PITTSBURGH, Pa.—Officials of the International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE) Local 601 were told to get out of the union office by wildcat strikers from the Westinghouse Electric plant here July 14.

"The only ones who were let in were the secretaries," said one of the strikers. "They are the only ones who were doing any honest work."

The workers are wildcatting against both the company and the union bureaucrats. Their contract ran out at midnight on Sunday, July 11. At a membership meeting on that day, union officials implied they would go out on strike.

"We said we wanted a

contract or a strike," said one worker. "They gave us day-to-day extensions instead, and we don't want it. We gave them the right to accept, or reject the contract if it was equal to or better than General Electric's, and this is what we got."

Union officials have refused to tell the strikers anything about the progress of negotiations. So the workers responded by shutting down three plants in the Pittsburgh area and one in West Virginia.

MASS PICKET LINES

Then they acted against the salaried union officials. Workers still bar the union office, and

have set up mass picket lines.

Grievances in the plant are long-standing. Safety is a poor joke. When a worker has a grievance, he or she is often urged by the foreman to file it, because management knows it will be ignored in most cases. The union leadership cooperates with management and lies to the rank and file.

The rank and file has organized an opposition to the current leadership, called Members for Democracy (MFD). They are determined to take the union back, to make it work for the rank and file.

"Come election time, we want a new union. These guys got to go!"

Teamsters Win Strike At Associated Freight Lines

LOS ANGELES—The California Trucking Association and Associated Freight Lines boss John Pfeiffer have failed in their attempts to destroy the union at Associated.

On July 5, the Teamsters moving Associated Freight began returning to work at union wages and at very close to union conditions.

The eight-week long strike, triggered when Pfeiffer refused to sign the New Master Freight Agreement, became a real test for the Teamsters Union throughout California.

The union officials will now try to take credit for the victory. But during the strike, they caved in to court injunctions limiting picketing and even tried to run rank and file Teamsters off the line who showed up to support the strikers.

The truth is that the strike was won by the rank and file, through solid picketing on the line and flying pickets following and harassing the scabs.

SOLIDARITY

The union's strike benefits of \$35 a week were supplemented by contributions from other Teamsters throughout California.

Rank and file Teamsters volunteered hours of time to picketing, following scabs, and leafletting to spread the word about the strike.

In spite of the reluctance of local officials to encourage this form of activity, members of Teamsters for a Democratic Union and other rank and file were often the backbone of flying picket squads.

VICTORY

The new Associated contract is identical to the Master except for 150 riders. The contract will expire June 30, 1979 instead of April 30.

Also, grievances at Associated will be heard in arbitration for the next year instead of going to Joint Committee.

When the strike began, Associated ran through California to Las Vegas and had a connection to Arizona. During the strike, John Pfeiffer closed the company, sold the Las Vegas rights, then sold what was left of Associated to a new corporation established by a former Associated dispatcher, terminal manager, and Vice President.

The new company, known as LBD Freight, signed a contract, kicked out the scabs and resumed operations.

However, they still owe Pfeiffer a reported half a million dollars and some union sources believe they will default on payments and Pfeiffer will resume control.

There are still other companies, like Ringsby, who have not signed the contract. The victory at Associated is a clear statement that rank and file Teamsters expect nothing less than union wages at union conditions.

WORKERS' POWER

A revolutionary socialist weekly, published by the International Socialists.

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