

WORKERS' Power

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WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS MAY 9, 1977 #206 25c

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Car bombs won't stop Teamster rebels

by Dan La Botz

A bomb exploded under the car of Teamster Business Agent Pete Karagosian in Detroit this week. It went off only three days after Karagosian testified in U.S. District Court for Pete Camarata and Al Ferdnace, two leaders of the Teamsters for a Democratic Union. Camarata and Ferdnace had been expelled from Local 299. TDU got a temporary injunction halting the expulsions.

Karagosian had been called to the stand by Ann Curry Thompson, lawyer for Ferdnace and Camarata, to document the bias of the

Local's trial board. It was headed by 299 President Bob Lins and Secretary Treasurer Otto Wendel, two targets of TDU criticism. Thompson was attempting to show that the expulsions were part of a local power struggle.

JOINT SLATE

Under oath Karagosian testified that he had been approached by members involved in the Concerned Members, another rank and file group. He was asked to run for local office.

Karagosian said Lins, who recently held his own campaign dinner, told him that anyone on the staff caught campaigning would be off the pay-roll. This challenges earlier testimony by President Lins.

He has maintained that he never threatened anyone's job or life. Several years ago Karagosian's son found 15 sticks of dynamite and a detonator on their front porch. There was speculation then that the dynamite was a warning that Karagosian shouldn't run for office against the Local administration.

While Karagosian hasn't been

active in either of the two rank and file groups, he is regarded as a likely candidate in the upcoming election.

No evidence has been found linking the car bombing to the Local 299 officials. But 299 officers have been desperately trying to head off the growing rank and file insurgency.

UNSUCCESSFUL

Following the unsuccessful attempt to expel Camarata and Ferdnace, Lins has been working to stop a campaign to reform Local by-laws. The reform campaign,

supported by both TDU and Concerned Members, would make Business Agents elected rather than appointed.

In a meeting of Carhauers, the reforms got 57% of the vote. This was first in a series of votes. To pass, however, the reforms need a two-thirds majority. The biggest vote will be at the Local cartage meeting this coming Wednesday.

The by-laws vote will test the strength of both sides. It's seen as a preview of the up-coming elections.

The TDU and Concerned Members have a tough fight ahead.

David Frost Interviews... Willie Sutton

by Dan Posen

Were you watching the David Frost-Richard Nixon interview on the Watergate scandal last Wednesday night? That's okay. You didn't really miss a thing.

However, **Workers' Power** has learned that sometime soon, Mr. Frost will be presenting to nationwide television a set of interviews he has done with the late Willie Sutton.

Willie Sutton was easily the most famous American bank robber of the twentieth century.

Workers' Power has obtained some advance excerpts from the interviews. We are publishing them here because of their authentic historical interest.

WATERGATE, WYOMING

FROST: Mr. Sutton, On June 17, 1972 a team of six Cuban exiles and one of your top security advisers were arrested in an attempt to rob the bank in Watergate, Wyoming. What was your first reaction when you heard this news?

WILLIE: Well, of course, my first reaction was, my God this is just awful. We have to get at all the

facts surrounding this and bring them to the attention of the American people, before someone else does.

So I immediately set in motion my team of trusted aides, H.R. and J.E., to get right on investigating the case.

Then as soon as I could possibly get around to it, like in about two or three weeks, I called up my very, very close friend, the director of the FBI. And the record shows very clearly that I told him, Pat—you know we were very good friends, I did call him by his first name, ha ha—Pat, you go right ahead with your investigation. Don't let the CIA or anybody else stop you.

FROST: Well, but the point is, obstruction of justice is obstruction of justice, if it's for a minute, or five minutes, or two weeks or whatever. I mean, if I try and rob a bank and fail, that's no defense. I still tried to rob a bank.

WILLIE: Now just a minute, there. You use the term "rob a bank." You perhaps have not read the statute with regard to, ah, robbing a bank.

Let me say here, that in the course of my own career I have had many, many occasions to very care-



Famous crook in action: can you identify this masked varmint?

fully study the statute on robbing a bank. The statute clearly says that robbing a bank requires a "corrupt motive."

The motive is all-important. Look, why if you didn't have to have a corrupt motive—well, for instance Richard Nixon would have gone to jail.

PURE MOTIVES

I had no corrupt motive. It was purely for financial gain. As I stated years ago when I was asked why I robbed banks, it's because that's where the money is!

It's not like I wanted to hurt anybody. I got caught up in this web, I

tried to protect the men around me, my lifelong assistants, too long.

But let me say this, the whole thing was so botched up. I—I let down my friends, I let down our whole system of bank robbery, I let down the dreams of all those young people who should get into bank robbery but think it's too corrupt.

It was mostly mistakes of the heart. But let me say, a man at the top must always let his head rule his heart. Mainly, he's got to have the brains not to get caught.

FROST (nearly choking with emotion): Mr. Sutton, I feel we've been almost through a life, not an interview, and we thank you so very, very much.

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THE HIGH LIFE GOES UNDERGROUND

A COUPLE of weeks ago some 750 socialites and politicians spent one evening in the New York City subway.

In flowing gowns and crisp tuxedos, the guests left their flashy cars for the subway tunnels.

Needless to say, the wealthy and allegedly "beautiful people" of high society are seldom found in such a setting.

Any week day around five in the afternoon, most subways are the scene of bonecrushing, teethgritting, suffocating reality

for countless thousands of working people.

But the rich had come for a party—an "Underground Society Bash"—to raise money for Brooklyn Junior League.

"You can always go to the Plaza or the St. Regis," said Ann Ellis, the League's executive vice president, speaking of two ritzy hotels.

"I never take the subway," declared guest Martin Segal, chairman of the city's Advisory Commission for Cultural Affairs.

"I want to congratulate you on your establishment," Segal told a subway official who was also present.

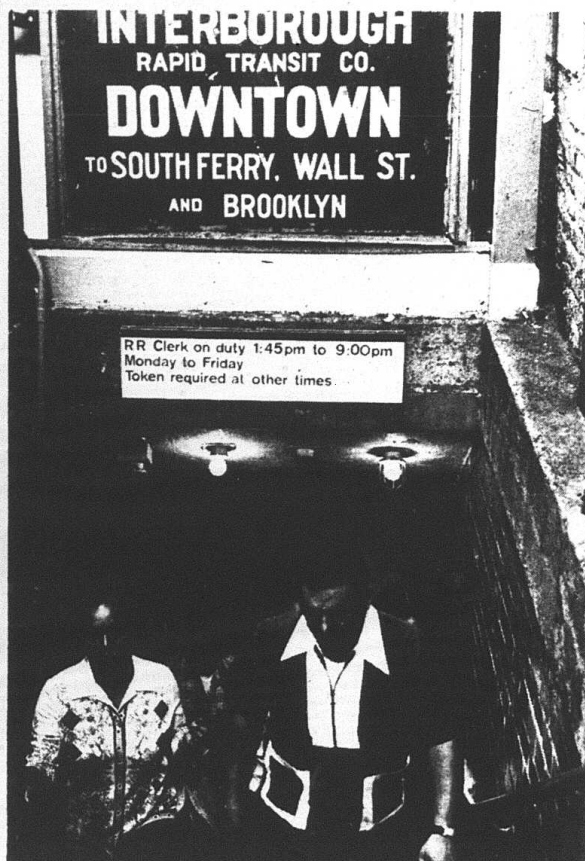
For most passengers the only pleasure is getting off and getting home.

The party was held in Brooklyn's Court Street Station. A special train, serving champagne, brought in guests from Manhattan. An orchestra provided dance music.

Not the five o'clock crunch. But then, these people were not quite the working class either. ☐



Subways can be a blast...



...if you don't have to ride them.

STEEL WOMEN FIGHT FOR MATERNITY RIGHTS

by Debbie Smith
District 31 Women's Caucus

GARY, Indiana—Twenty-three women steelworkers traveled to Washington, D.C. last week to demonstrate our support for legislation banning discrimination against pregnant women.

We went in support of the Hawkins-Williams Bill which would amend Title VII of the Civil Rights Act. The bill would make it illegal for "full coverage" disability plans to discriminate against women by excluding (or providing only limited) disability benefits due to pregnancy.

The women were all members of the United Steel Workers' District 31 Women's Caucus.

We travelled a long way to the hearings because it is an issue we feel strongly about. Women steelworkers have inadequate pregnancy coverage. The best interpretation of the disability plan pays only six weeks leave.

Some companies force women on leave much earlier in their pregnancy than is necessary. Others even terminate the women's insurance plan four weeks after the leave begins. In order to get health insurance, the woman must pay her own premiums—\$70-\$90 a month.

INTERNATIONAL

When our Women's Caucus decided to attend the hearings, the International tried to discourage us. They said it was "unnecessary" for us to come. They even refused to print letters we wrote to the union newspaper, Steel Labor, describing the discrimination in the benefits plan.

But we went ahead and raised the money for the bus trip ourselves. Most of it came from the locals and from District 31.

At U.S. Steel Gary Works Local 1014, the local officials refused to give money. But a woman from the caucus then went around the union hall and took up a collection. She got almost as much money as we had asked for!

When we got to Washington, we went to visit our Congressmen and Senators. They were impressed that we were so unified in our support of the bill, and that we had



Debbie Smith (second from right) and other steel workers take off for Washington.

taken time off work and ridden 16 hours on the bus to make our point.

But we couldn't get any commitments from them. Except for the few who were already sponsors of the bill, they all promised to "study the bill carefully" and report their conclusions to the Caucus... someday. They left us with the feeling that they didn't really care; we were taking up their valuable time; would we please leave; they were busy men.

Our representatives in government and the union had proved, once again, that they are hybrid humans who only develop ears during elections.

HEARINGS

We went to the hearings, but we were not allowed to speak. First the companies argued that pregnancy

is a voluntary act, and that is the basis for excluding it.

They also argued that the cost of covering pregnancy was too high—mainly because women would "cheat" and stay on paid leave longer than necessary. Their estimates of the costs of the bill were completely exaggerated.

This became clear when union representatives spoke in defense of the bill. Speakers from the Communications Workers of America, United Electrical, United Steel Workers and others pointed out that in places that require pregnancy coverage, costs have not risen significantly.

France, Canada, Great Britain, and West Germany require disability protection for pregnant working women, so why can't the U.S., the world's wealthiest industrial nation?

I find the argument that

pregnancy is "voluntary" for women to be ridiculous. When a couple decides to have children, one of them doesn't "volunteer" to bear it. If the capitalists have figured out how to make it voluntary, maybe one of the men who testified for the companies could volunteer to show us how it's done.

Men steelworkers can "voluntarily" have hair transplants or vasectomies under the disability plans. And they can "voluntarily" plan to have children...

Women steel workers, too, can choose to have hair transplants or tubal ligations or hysterectomies. However, women can't choose to have families—unless they can absorb the burden of insurance expenses in addition to losing their incomes.

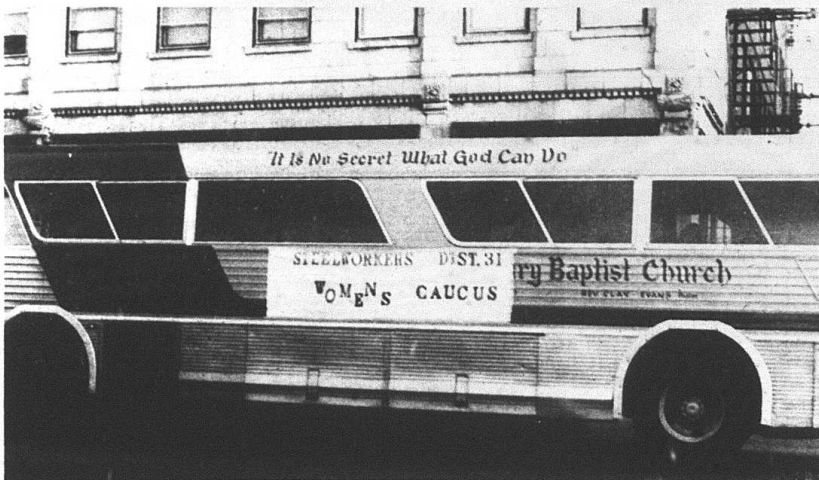
During the testimony, we tried to get someone to add our support to the official hearings since we weren't allowed to speak. Finally Leon Lynch, USW Vice President for Human Affairs, agreed to ask in his testimony that the Caucus' presence and support be added to the official record.

STEEL WOMEN SPEAK

When he spoke for us, we demanded recognition from a startled Labor Sub-Committee. One of our members introduced the Caucus and added some information to the testimony that had been overlooked by the union officials.

She pointed out that some companies have been harassing pregnant women by forcing them to report to the plant clinic for weekly pregnancy tests to prove they haven't terminated their pregnancy before collecting benefits.

On the way home, we all felt pleased with our efforts. A feeling of closeness and unity grew among us. We knew that it would be easier for us to work together in the future to fight for better benefits and better conditions on the job. ☐



Women steel workers raised the money for a bus to Washington.

Sterling Stamping Contract Approved - Barely

by Jenny Singer

STERLING HEIGHTS, Mich.—UNITED Auto Workers Local 1264 members, at Chrysler's Sterling Stamping plant here, narrowly approved a new local contract on Friday, April 29. The vote was 1,513 to 1,425.

The local had received a second strike deadline and gone out for a week, after the membership rejected the company's first offer. Four other Chrysler plants were closed and three put on half-shifts because of the Sterling strike.

Some gains were made in the contract, including improved language on dual supervision (taking orders from more than one foreman) and a two-week limit on temporary job assignments.

The local also won a vehicle to take ill or injured workers to medical facilities. The number of workers allowed to take a vacation at one time was increased by half.

REJECTS

The granting of two strike deadlines by the International is an innovation this year caused by the large number of contract rejections. Local 1264 isn't the first to feel heat from the membership over local agreements.

At another Chrysler stamping plant, Local 869 rejected their proposed local agreement twice after a half-day strike on February 22.

Dave McCullough, a leader in efforts to turn down the agreement, was later elected vice-president of the local.

He told Workers' Power, "From what I hear the strike and the renegotiated contract at Sterling Stamping was more a face-saving gesture for the local leadership than a genuine attempt to produce an adequate agreement."

"There are three indications of this: 1) [Regional Director] Ken Morris apparently ran the bargaining personally. 2) The contract barely squeaked by.

"3) Rumor has it that they asked for a second strike deadline in order to avoid a Local 869-type situation, i.e., twice having the contract thrown back in their face.

GOOD LEVERAGE

"Now Local 869, which has requested a second strike also, can expect either a similar face-saving situation or the argument that all they got at Sterling was a week on the street for nothing.

"Many Local 869 leaders aren't buying this. They say that because Chrysler has to get out its new sub-compact on schedule, we have good leverage. And we don't need and don't want the International running our bargaining.

"But it's very unlikely the International will respond to our request for a deadline before the Convention [May 15].

"With Doug Fraser [who is head of the UAW Chrysler Department] up for election for UAW President, all these contract rejections are embarrassing. After the election it's doubtful whether he'll give a shit." ☐

SOWETO FIGHTS BACK

by Dan Posen

MASSIVE BLACK PROTESTS shook the township of Soweto, South Africa again last week.

Thousands of demonstrators, led by students, marched and fought with police as they protested rent increases which will push Soweto residents a step closer to starvation.

The rent increases, ranging from 30% up to 80%, were scheduled to go into effect May 1. After the Soweto Students Representative Council, which organized the demonstration, called for a rent strike, the government ordered the increases postponed until June.

At least three students were wounded by police fire in Soweto. This week, mixed-race African people (called "Colored" under the South African apartheid system) joined the struggle at Eldorado Park Township. There, rents have doubled in the last month.

NO RUNNING WATER

The rent increases in Soweto will raise average rents from \$13.50 to \$23.00 a month. This is for government-owned flats which have no electricity or running water.

By law, Black people working in the all-white city of Johannesburg are allowed to live nowhere else. Then the same law forces them to pay outrageous amounts for the privilege of living in a township slum.

For an average Black worker in Soweto, \$23.00 a month rent represents twelve days pay. Meanwhile, about 20% of all Black workers in Soweto have no jobs at all.

Train fares for 220,000 Blacks who commute from Soweto to Johannesburg every day, to work or to beg for jobs, were already sharply raised last month.

PUNISHMENT

There are two reasons the white government is forcing through the rent increases.

One reason is punishment. The official reason for the 80% rent increase is that last year's rebellion in Soweto cost the government \$13 million in revenue from the destruction of Bantu beer halls.

This is a crude attempt to tell

people they will suffer every time they dare to resist oppression.

But the second reason is the general economic crisis in South African capitalism. The crisis is the worst since the 1930's. Foreign investment has declined rapidly as profit margins fell from 18% to less than 10% per year.

Like every capitalist government in the world, South Africa makes its workers pay—even more brutally than most.

Every week there are thousands more Black unemployed. Most have no unemployment insurance, welfare or any other source of support. Violent robberies have skyrocketed, with 14 people murdered in Soweto over the Easter weekend.

The South African state is stepping up military spending and its international propaganda campaign. But at home it is raising basic food prices, transportation and now rents for Soweto residents. The difference is that those residents are no longer passive victims of oppression—they are becoming participants in a revolution.



Soweto students, shown here in last summer's rebellion, are taking the lead again.

Poland: A Year of Workers' Struggle

Leaders of the Workers Defense Committee were released by the Warsaw police after being held 48 hours on charges of "slandering Poland."

The Workers Defense Committee was founded last July after a strike wave swept Poland when the government raised prices as much as 100%. Many workers were killed by the Communist Government. Many others are now serving up to 10 years in prison for participation in the strike.

The Workers Defense Committee has been demanding amnesty for the workers involved, for an inquiry into the government repression, and for the rehiring of the militant workers who were involved in the strikes, hundreds of whom are laid off.

The strike began in June, 1976 when Polish Prime Minister Piotr Jaroszewicz announced that the ruling Communist Party was raising prices between 50 and 100%. Meat went up 60%, vegetables 30%, sugar 100%, butter 50%, and cheese 50%.

Workers struck in several major industrial cities when the raises were announced. In Radom workers at Walter Metal Works walked. Women at the local shoe factory, railroad workers and others followed.

They marched on the Communist

Party headquarters, took the officials' cognac, ham and plush carpets and then set fire to the building.

In Ursus tractor plant workers walked, or rather rode out. They drove their tractors to the local Warsaw-Paris railway and tore up

the tracks.

In Plock workers marched on the Communist Party headquarters carrying the red flag and singing the workers anthem—the Internationale.

The government responded by murdering strikers in Radom, jailing hundreds in other cities—many of them in concentration camps. Subsequent trials imprisoned workers for up to 10 years.

Included in the round-up was Jacek Kuron. Kuron has also called for reform of the Communist Party and for independent trade unions. The Communist Party is the only legal party in Poland and the so-called trade unions are really company unions that get out production.

The Communist government of Poland has harassed the Workers Defense Committee by getting Communist Party members and government officials to sign a petition demanding the Committee be shut down. It has also periodically arrested the Committee for trumped up charges like collecting money illegally and slandering Poland.

"History Is Repeating Itself"

Jacek Kuron, wrote this letter to the leader of the Italian Communist Party. It is an appeal for support for Polish workers facing long jail terms for striking against food price increases. Kuron is a leader of the Workers' Defense Committee.

For writing this letter, the 40-year-old Kuron was punished by being drafted for three months of forced military service.

"The press, radio and television have characterized the demonstrations (against the food price increases) as acts of bandits and hoodlums.

"Everywhere thousands of workers are being laid off; in Radom and Ursus many were arrested, and those who returned from the police stations bore scars

of the mistreatment they received, sometimes even serious scars...

"For the first time, history is repeating itself. In June 1956 in Poznan and December 1970 on the Baltic Coast, the Polish workers paid a bloody price for the errors of those in power. No lesson was learned from these experiences...

"To place moral and legal responsibility for damages, which were incurred because of the impossibility of legally organizing demonstrations, on the shoulders of the demonstrators, has nothing to do with legality. It is simply vengeance on the part of men who have learnt nothing and understood nothing throughout their thirty years of power."



May Day demonstrator flees Spanish police tear gas.

In Madrid, A May Day To Remember

THE SPANISH working class gave the lead to workers around the world in observing May Day this year.

In the suburbs of Madrid, in Bilbao, in Valencia, in Barcelona, hundreds of thousands of Spanish workers gathered in an effort to hold peaceful rallies and demonstrations.

The Spanish government, which is hailed around the world as a new symbol of democracy, refused to allow the meetings.

In the Basque industrial city, Bilbao, riot police fired rubber bullets and charged into the demonstrators.

In Madrid, mounted riot policemen lashed fleeing demonstrators with leather whips. They also rounded up people in nearby cafes, forced them to recite fascist chants and then

beat them with horsewhips and wooden clubs.

This was the Spanish government's answer to liberals and moderate socialist leaders who believe workers will gain political freedom in Spain through quiet non-revolutionary means.

But more important, it was a clear answer to the government by hundreds of thousands of rank and file socialist, communist and revolutionary left-wing workers in Spain.

They are saying: no government will be allowed to tell us when, and where and how we may organize and demonstrate for our freedom.

IN RUSSIA, CHINA, and the Eastern European states, May Day was a very different story.

There, the governments held huge rallies to glorify their own power.

In Moscow, about two million people paraded past the applauding bureaucrats of the Communist Party leadership. The message read by the Party Secretary Brezhnev called on everyone to work harder.

In Peking, May Day was a spectacle to build up the image of the new Party Chairman, Hua Kuo-Feng. The official newspaper carried a three-page article signed by Hua, calling for the development of technical experts.

Russian and Chinese workers have had their May Day, the day that rightfully belongs to them, stolen away by a new ruling class. One day they will take it all back.

ATLANTA: WHO WILL REBUILD THE UNION?

by Jack Bloom

ATLANTA, May 4—One week after the strike of city workers here was officially broken, many of the strikers—perhaps as many as 400—are still off the job.

The city continues to hold them off work as it grinds through its red tape. It is clear to anyone who has eyes to see that the Administration is purposely punishing the strikers.

There had been no wait at all for those workers who returned to the job while the Mayor was trying to break the strike.

JUST ONE

This is just one of the reprisals that Mayor Maynard "Strikebreaker" Jackson is taking. The city is also breaking its promise to provide jobs for all strikers who want them. And it is trying to blame the union leadership for this too.

Local 1644 of AFSCME, the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, represents Atlanta city workers. It sent the city a telegram stating: "Our membership has acknowledged that you have succeeded in breaking our strike, and we have recommended that all striking workers return to work immediately."

City officials now claim that wording is "not good enough." Before using federal money to rehire the workers, (they demand acknowledgement that the strike is officially called off. They contend that it isn't enough to say it is broken and urge workers to go back.

It is a bit artificial, to say the least—especially since from the third week of the strike, Maynard Jackson's official line was that there no longer was a strike at all.

THE LATEST

This is the latest maneuver in efforts to defeat and humiliate the union and split the local leadership from the rank and file.

But it was not the final item in Jackson's bag of tricks.

He introduced resolutions to the City Council that would effectively withdraw union dues check-off and take away the right to strike. That right was upheld by a judge early in the strike.

After going through committee, these resolutions were turned down by the Council as a whole.

In the meantime, prosecutions go on against the strikers arrested in a sit-in last week. Six were bound over to Criminal Court yesterday, on charges ranging from unlawful assembly and assault to rioting and inciting to riot.

The latter charges are both serious and ridiculous. Serious, because of the penalties attached to them. Ridiculous, because there was nothing close to a riot in the sit-in. As usual, the closest thing to riotous behavior came from the police.

Jackson hopes to kill the city workers' union so it will never be a threat to him again.

SHAKEN

Many of the former strikers are deeply shaken. This is not surprising, after such a defeat. There is talk of not going back to work for the city. Many feel it will be a long, long time—if ever—before the union will be an effective force again.

But the union needs all the people who stuck out until the end

back to work. They will be the ones who bring the union point of view to the discussions that are going on, and will go on, about the strike and the union.

Should there be a union? Could it do any good? Can we ever stick together to win? If so, how?

The city workers will discuss these issues and come to decisions about them. That will happen with or without the people who are the best unionists, who understand solidarity the best. The conclusions of the best militants are

needed in those debates.

In any case, the workers—even the scabs—will be forced to turn once again to the union. They will do so for the same reasons they originally organized.

Because management refuses to treat people like human beings. Because the conditions are intolerable. Because you can't live on the wages.

These are the reasons the city workers originally went on strike—they are the reasons they will fight again.

WHAT THEY FOUGHT FOR

- Atlanta city workers struck for one month.

- The average wage of an Atlanta city worker was \$3.55 an hour.

- While the city claimed to be broke, it was revealed that \$2,885,752 in "unencumbered funds" existed. That could have covered the union wage demand totalling only \$800,000.

- The vast majority of the strikers were Black workers.

- In 1970, before he was mayor of Atlanta, Maynard Jackson supported a strike by the same workers. Then he said:

"If a city has any function at all, I believe it is to provide essential services to its people. It is also the City's duty to provide a fair wage to all of its citizens who render such services. That obligation should not

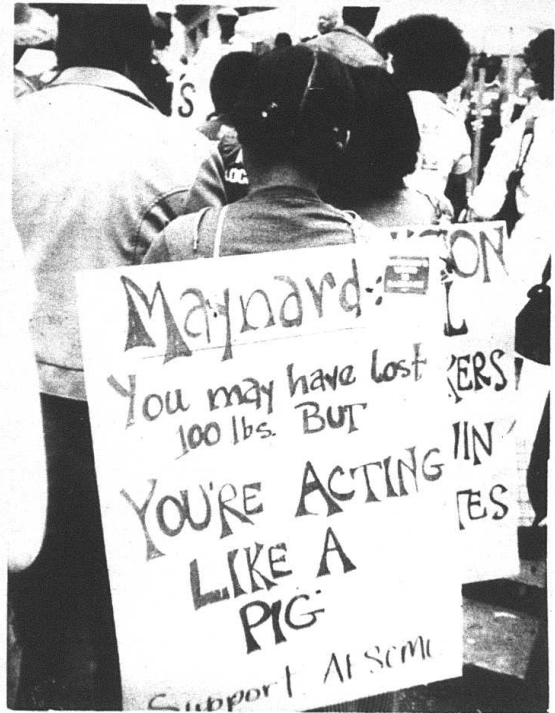
have to be forced on the City.

"It is the obligation of the City in fact to anticipate, in a creative way, the needs of the people who serve the City. That means everybody: garbage men, people who crawl around our dirty sewers, policemen, firemen and everyone else."

- After election as mayor, largely by the votes of the Black working class, Jackson preferred to follow the orders of that city's Chamber of Commerce.

- Middle class civil rights leaders, like "Daddy" King, betrayed the Black city workers by supporting Mayor Jackson's anti-labor position.

- In the last week, the strikers' International union, the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, withdrew its support for the strike.



Demonstrator socks it to Maynard "Strikebreaker" Jackson.

Supreme Court Rules: It's O.K. To Beat Up Kids

by Margaret James

It's okay to beat up kids. That is the meaning of the Supreme Court decision that school spankings do not violate the Constitution's ban on cruel and unusual punishment.

The case was brought to court by James Ingraham, a Black student in Dade County, Florida. In 1970, two school officials held Ingraham down while school principal Willie Wright beat him with a wooden paddle.

Ingraham was hit 20 times. He developed hematoma (blood mass under the skin) that kept him in bed for 11 days. Pain killers were prescribed by his doctor.

In spite of this shocking display of brutality, the Supreme Court majority position stated, "The schoolchild has little need for the protection of the Eighth Amendment. The openness of the public school and its supervision by the community affords significant safeguards."

YOUNG WORKERS

The Court's decision means physical violence against children is okay. It shows that the government believes the schools are supposed to train the next generation of workers to do what they're told.

As a teacher, I have seen violence against children time and time again. Children are physically punished when they walk out of the classroom after the teacher has

refused to let them to to the bathroom. It is "insubordination" to refuse to pee on yourself.

Children are paddled for being "stubborn" and refusing to complete work they didn't know how to do. While "good" children make marks on their papers and are not punished.

Children are grabbed and shaken for daydreaming or doodling while the teacher is talking. They are hit when they stand up for themselves or when they happen to irritate the teacher just one time too many.

Ingraham himself evoked his punishment for lingering too long after a school assembly.

Everything in the schools discourages independent thinking, assertiveness, and decision-making. Schools do not really try to educate kids—they teach them just enough so that they can take care of themselves and work.

WHY VIOLENCE?

Why do teachers who normally don't hit other adults when they are angry, resort to violence to "discipline" children?

Many teachers believe in hitting children. They accept the "Spare the rod and spoil the child" philosophy.

But others are victims of the poor educational set-up.

Schools are overcrowded and boring. Teachers are poorly trained. So there's always tension and conflict between teachers and students, and teachers who are

totally opposed to hitting children find themselves striking out at children in anger. And the children are not allowed to defend themselves. But the violence in the schools points out what's wrong with the system—not with the kids.

The child who is punished for not doing work he or she cannot do is being punished because the teacher does not have the materials or knowledge to help the child understand.

ABSURD RULES

Often absurd school rules make the situation worse.

When tensions mount, teachers are in a bind. They can't suggest that children go out and play or go to the library to read and relax until the tensions cool down. The problem has to be dealt with in the classroom with 35 other children looking on. So teachers resort to what works "best"—that is, fastest: physical violence.

The Supreme Court decision makes it less necessary for society to confront the problems which create the tensions in the first place. As long as children can be controlled by force there is no need to spend the money to improve the schools.

Safety Strike Is A Sign of the Times

DETROIT—Sign Hangers Local 591 is on strike here. The workers are asking for increased wages and benefits, particularly better insurance security in this highly dangerous occupation. At present an injured worker only receives \$80 a week in benefits, and only for 26 weeks.

The contractors and the union are not presently bargaining. The contractors appear to be boycotting the negotiations. Striking workers on one picket line told Workers' Power the "Industry is doing great. There is more work than there are men on the job."

Beginning with the previous contract, the bosses have been trying to increase their profits by cutting back on the number of union members on the job.

"That can kill somebody," one striker said. "If there's a serious injury the guy never comes back to work."

They are expecting a long strike because the contractors appear to be after their blood. Among other things the employers want this contract to last 3½ years.

If they win that demand, the next contract would be negotiated in the dead of winter making any strike much harder to sustain.

THE FIRST



100 DAYS

Carter's Scoreboard

	GRIN SCALE	
	Labor	Business
Construction bill lost		
Minimum wage \$2.50		
Less food stamps		
\$50 rebate dies		
Business tax break		
Fuel prices increase		

AND HE'S OFF....

Jimmy Carter likes to win elections. So he starts early. It turns out that he started campaigning for re-election in 1980 on Inauguration Day, 1977.

Carter's advisors told him: don't say much, but say it real nice. And wear dungarees. Don't take any positions. But don't take them in town hall meetings. Don't say what you're for, and don't say what you're against. And do it all in a fire side chat. And when nobody's looking give big business everything it wants.

A 56-page report from Pat Caddell, Carter's campaign pollster, said Carter would need a new coalition of support to win in 1980. A strong stand on "liberal issues"—like jobs, civil rights, or welfare

would lose support. But style and rhetoric—blue jeans and bombast—would unite it.

It's clear that by broadening support, Caddell means getting more support from big business and right-wing voters. A lot like Nixon's "southern strategy." Caddell calls for winning over the white Southern vote by this new style.

The Caddell report was submitted to Carter before the inauguration. And it's clear he's followed its advice. And it's worked.

Carter's anti-labor policies have been getting the support of big business. A recent CBS/New York Times survey shows more pro-business conservatives now support Carter. Almost half of those who voted for Ford (48%) were happy with Carter.

The Carrot For Business, The Stick For Us

Jimmy Carter's first 100 days as President have meant big bucks for business and big words for the working people. Brought to power by a coalition of organized labor and Black community leaders, Carter returned the favor with a kick in the face.

A quick review of his "achievements" and programs reveals Jimmy Carter as a double-crosser and a conservative.

Carter promised labor and the Black community lower unemployment through job programs and economic stimulation. But his job program is a drop in the bucket which concentrates mostly on temporary jobs. The unemployment rate is still above 7%, with no sign of falling much.

The \$50 tax rebate was withdrawn. But business will hold on to its 10% investment tax credit and get a new tax break for hiring more workers. This tax break will be worth \$2.5 billion a year. Business profits rose 7.7% during Carter's first 100 days.

BROKEN PROMISES

Carter promised AFL-CIO leaders he would support their construction industry picketing bill. It was defeated in Congress and Carter didn't lift a finger.

The United Auto Workers were led to believe that Carter supported their national health insurance plan. But Carter has now stated he will keep spending for such social programs down. His "health" plan is nothing more than price guidelines for hospital care.

Black leaders were told that there would be a high percentage of Blacks in the new administration. But only two Blacks have gotten positions of any importance.

On certain issues, like energy, the minimum wage, and the \$50.00 rebate, Carter has lost working class support, the same survey showed.

Carter's plan is to gain the support of business and the right-wing vote without losing the support of union and Black leaders. Carter believes labor and Blacks will end up campaigning for him anyhow because the Republican Party will be even worse.

In other words, if Carter gets his way, working people will get caught again in the Great American Suckers Game, where every candidate is worse than the one before. And every year government is more pro-business, more anti-labor.

The main Black appointee, Andrew Young, is used in the United Nations as a front for Carter's cold war policy in Africa. Carter sprung an unexpected and unwanted surprise on the American people with his energy program. This plan, while motivated as "equality of sacrifice," boils down to price increases on gas and oil.

This means higher prices for the people and higher profits for the energy companies. And he had to drum up phony figures to scare people into accepting this shuck.

Carter promised to fight inflation. But inflation is already running 6.5%—above last year's level of 4.5%. His energy plan is inflationary and his defense budget, larger than Ford's, will also push prices up throughout the economy.

BALANCE THE BUDGET

Carter crowned off his 100 days, and secured his title as a conservative, with the announcement that his top priority in the coming years was to balance the budget.

"Balance the budget" is simply the age old reactionary code word for cutting down on spending that produces jobs, education, health programs, or welfare improvements.

Beneath all the populist rhetoric, Carter's policies are the same as Gerald Ford's. It's billions for business, peanuts for people, and baloney for anyone willing to listen.



Here's Jimmy Carter telling a whopper even Miss Lillian doesn't believe.

A TOUCH OF CLASS

by Kim Moody

Jimmy Carter represents the "New South." And the "New South" means big business in Dixie. A businessman himself, Carter's main backers for the last ten years have been businessmen.

Carter and the businessmen around him believe that up-to-date practical men like themselves have helped to modernize the South.

Their image, therefore, is modern. They have no use for the lynch law lawyers and courthouse politicians that characterized the political life of the Old South.

So while they certainly didn't stick their necks out, "New South" politicians and businessmen like Carter stood aside to let the civil rights movement of the 1960's break down the crumbling barriers of segregation.

ALLIANCE

This is why a pro-business conservative like Jimmy Carter can strike an alliance with moderate civil rights leaders like Andrew Young.

It is also why Jimmy Carter was a presentable and even "fresh" candidate for the Democratic Party.

Liberal enough in some ways to pass as a liberal, conservative enough to hold the South, and unknown enough to repel the minimum number of skeptical voters, Jimmy Carter came along just in time to help "restore confidence in government."

Carter was supposed to convince the American people that you could trust the government—a tough job after Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, and Gerald Ford.

This is why style has been the major element in Carter's first 100 days. Carter wanted to solve the "crisis of confidence."

But he ran into another crisis—the crisis of capitalism. And this crisis proved more demanding.

CRISIS OF CAPITALISM

When Carter took office the economy was stagnant. Too many factories were still idle, too many workers unemployed, too many products unsold.

Business was not investing—it was not building new plants or getting old ones going; it was not buying machinery; it was not hiring more workers.

And business made it clear that it would not do these things unless its demands were met. It demanded hard cash in incentives for investment.

It demanded a tight lid on public works, welfare, health care, job creation and other programs that don't help business.

It demanded higher prices for oil, gas and coal.

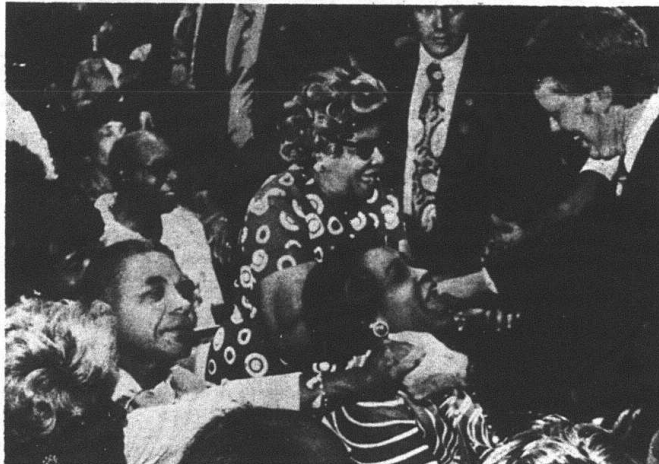
It demanded growing profits.

It is this crisis, the crisis of capitalism, that got what it wanted.

For the crisis of confidence there were words, gimmicks, and a few reforms (like amnesty for draft resisters) that don't cost anything.

But for business—results.

Did Jimmy Win By Shaking More Hands...



How Jimmy Won, by Kandy Stroud, William Morrow and Company, New York, 1977.

by Kim Moody

Kandy Stroud's "How Jimmy Won" is the first book out on Carter's presidential campaign. Like the campaign, this book is a public relations snow job.

According to Stroud, Jimmy Carter became President of the United States by starting early, being smart, having a good family and clever advisers, and being a Baptist.

There are no more than a dozen major characters in this book and another dozen minor walk-on figures. This small band of dedicated souls helps plain old Jimmy Carter become President through hard work—harder than the other candidates.

Carter is presented as the little man who rose from obscurity to win the presidency. Jimmy shook more hands, sooner, and remembered more names than anyone else. This got him the nomination.

There is very little talk about money. And, be assured, no ominous "special interests" ap-

pear in Stroud's account. The only discussion of money is that Jimmy spent his more carefully than his opponents.

MONEY

It is mentioned in passing that Carter raised \$21 million for his presidential campaign—no small amount. But the source of this money goes unmentioned.

In particular, the network of southern bankers around Bert Lance, Texas real estate interests around Jess Hay, natural gas millionairess Jack Stephens and Will Cain, are all invisible in this book.

Yet, this collection of big businessmen raised millions for Carter's campaign.

Furthermore, many of these businessmen were the same forces behind Lyndon Johnson for decades.

Not only were they "special interests" of a very powerful type, but they were no strangers to politics or Washington.

NO DEALS?

In this fairy tale version of American political life, there are no deals with the Democratic Party establishment, no compromises with big business, no promises to

top labor bureaucrats.

For example, Stroud tells us that it was local officials of the UAW that won Carter his first nomination in Iowa.

But she never mentions the well-known fact that Carter promised UAW President Leonard Woodcock a high position in government in return for the support of the UAW.

It is confessed that Chicago's Mayor Daley helped Jimmy carry the crucial state of Illinois in the primary and at the Convention. But we are expected to believe that Daley, the crustiest machine politician around at that time, asked nothing in return.

CARTER NO MAVERICK

The real story is that the old Democratic regulars, the big businessmen, and, to a lesser extent, the top labor officials who have the most to say about who gets the Democratic nomination, had no problem with Jimmy Carter. Some may have preferred Hubert Humphrey or Teddy Kennedy. But Teddy's Chapaquiddick and Humphrey's bad health—and worn-out image—disqualified them.

In one uniquely frank note in the book, Carter himself makes it clear that he went by the system all the way. Speaking of Eugene Mc-

Carthy's less orthodox and unsuccessful tactics in 1968, Carter says:

"The system is there. You can make the choice not to go by the system and bitch about it or you can go by the system and win. I didn't get 21 million dollars for nothing."

Carter was, and is, acceptable to the powers that be because he comes from their ranks—his little peanut business, after all, is worth \$5 million.

NEW FACE

Economic and political crisis have been part of the landscape for the last few years. The economy seemed incapable of recovering from the disastrous depression of 1974-5. Unemployment was still above 7%. Inflation still lurked in the background.

The Democrats could not afford to come forward with the same old bag of spending programs. Not if they wanted to win. The Democratic Party needed a new face, and Carter fit the bill.

Jimmy Carter won, and there is no fear in the halls of the Democratic Party, no terror loose on Wall Street. Jimmy Carter is President and U.S. capitalism has gotten past one more crisis. □

CARTER'S ENERGY PROGRAM DRAWS UAW FLAK

by Jenny Singer

It looked like United Auto Workers President Leonard Woodcock had a bitter pill to swallow when Jimmy Carter announced his energy program two weeks ago.

The plan could cost auto workers' jobs, because of the tax on "gas guzzlers." The auto companies use "downsizing" as an excuse to "downsize" the work force too.

But Woodcock has always been one of Carter's biggest supporters. He was the first important labor leader to come out for Carter in the Democratic primaries in 1976.

Now he is supposed to become the U.S. envoy to China.

So Woodcock's first reaction was to praise Carter for "recognizing the energy crisis." In testimony before a Congressional committee on April 22, he said that Carter's energy program "contains important proposals."

QUICK SWITCH

Then he got his orders from his first and real masters—the auto companies. The UAW leadership was dancing to their tune before Jimmy Carter even learned how to whistle.

The auto companies are against the auto tax/rebate plan. And now, so is Leonard Woodcock.

In an interview with the Detroit Free Press, Woodcock said that Carter's approach "doesn't make any sense."

He criticized the fact that it could lead to more imports of foreign cars, and echoed GM's claim that it would be unfair to large families. He said the UAW will lobby in Congress and with the President to defeat the plan.

The fact is, neither Jimmy Carter nor General Motors nor Leonard Woodcock expects the tax/rebate proposal to make it through Congress. Carter threw it in so he would look "tough on energy" and to draw attention away from the price increases the oil and gas industries will get.

Price increases for the oil and gas companies are the heart of Carter's energy plan, not the "gas guzzler" tax or the small car rebate. Carter doesn't care if these schemes are shot down in Congress. But the auto companies do.

The auto companies prefer not to make too much noise about their opposition to the taxes and rebates, however. When the auto giants complain too much, people get suspicious. So they enlist Woodcock to shill for them.

The UAW makes the arguments and tries to brush aside the embarrassing questions ("Isn't that the same thing the auto executives are saying?").

Jimmy Carter will be speaking at the UAW Convention in Los Angeles next week. You can be sure that he will receive a warm welcome from Woodcock and the rest of the assembled UAW dignitaries, in spite of their little disagreement.

And Carter will not be too miffed at his friend Leonard's seeming desertion. Jimmy, too, understands very well the importance of listening to the captains of industry. □

...or because he had the support of these men?



Jack Stephens, Investment Banker



Bert Lance, Southern Banker



Jess Hay, Texas Financier

Family Under Socialism Imagine The Future!

Talking About Women's Liberation

by Elissa Clarke

EVERYONE WANTS to know what life will be like under socialism. We don't have a blueprint—but we do know that socialism will have no meaning unless it relieves the oppression of women.

Under capitalism, the role of women as mothers and housewives is oppressive. Women who work have two jobs—one in the factory and one at home.

What would socialism mean for women?

Imagine if women could get jobs, just because we want to work, at the same pay-scale as men.

If there were free, quality childcare.

If we were not responsible for doing the wash every week, and cooking three times a day, and keeping our own homes clean.

We've all heard the saying "a woman's place is in the home." Most of us don't believe it—but don't think we've left it behind either! A woman still assumes primary responsibility for the home and the family, and a secondary position in the workforce—and the world.

If women are to be equal, society has to find alternative ways of doing the chores now done in the home by women as a private responsibility.

For example, now each woman does her own housework. Under socialism, housework would be organized as a job like any other.

The women quoted in this article spoke at a class on women and socialism sponsored by the International Socialists.

RETHA: "One thing I want to know about, will socialism mean an end to motherly love? I don't want my children to be raised by other people."

Just the opposite! Personal relationships would be closer under socialism.



"When my mother was visiting, she had my kids convinced that the girls should make Timmy's bed."

Yvonne



"One thing I want to know about: will socialism mean an end to motherly love? I don't want my children to be raised by other people."

Retha

It's hard to be warm towards your children when you've just come home from work and you're making supper, doing yesterday's dishes, and tripping over the baby.

The important part of the family is the love between its members—not the tedious jobs it now requires.

ISABEL: "When I come home I'm so tired I spend too much of the time I have with Karen and Joseph yelling at them."

"Under socialism we'll share the work so people will work fewer hours. Now what happens is working women come home so tired that they cannot enjoy the time they do have to spend with their children."

Many women are turned off by the idea of society organizing housework and childcare. The media has portrayed socialism as a system where women will lose the things that are best in their lives—a close relationship with their husbands, loving relationships with their children, as well as their personal possessions.

But an end to household drudgery would not have to mean an end to family relationships.

FAMILY

Many different forms of the family have existed throughout history.

The family we live with today is the nuclear family—a man and a wife living together with their children.

The idea of the nuclear family was established long before capitalism. Originally, it was not important to know who a child's father was because people did not accumulate possessions.

But when society progressed from hunting-and-gathering to herding and farming, for the first

time a surplus of food was produced. It became important to know the father of a child so the child could inherit his wealth.

In most societies, men "owned" the surplus. They were dominant because they controlled the weapons and hunted for food.

The decline of the family began centuries later, with the beginning of industry.

Men went off to work in the factories, and women were left at home. Previously, the family was self-contained and produced all its own needs. Now factories produced what the family had done for itself.

Housework—women's work—became a constant treadmill of tedious, boring and useless tasks. Lenin called housework "exceptionally petty"—and it's easy to see why. It's never over, and there's never anything to show for it.

WOMEN'S WORK?

YVONNE: "Housework is women's work, even though women are no more qualified to do it than men. This is a source of conflict between men and women."

"Children are trained at a young age that housework is their role."

"When my mother was visiting, she had my kids convinced that the girls should make Timmy's bed, and the only appropriate job around the house for a boy was taking out the garbage."

This myth was created to justify this role for women. The myth is that women are inferior, that they are incapable of factory work, and



"The family is supposed to be a haven for men. It's sort of an escape valve to keep men from blowing up about their jobs."

Terry

that they are emotionally and biologically geared for child-rearing. And they are dependent on men.

Women are dependent only because society has made us that way. Why would a social system do this to one-half of its population?

The family is designed to meet the needs of the capitalist class, not to help individuals to realize their potential.

The family is a great set-up for the boss. Women have the children and raise the future workforce.

Society takes little responsibility for its children, except for the overcrowded, rundown public schools and the pittance of ADC.

The family is the cheapest way for the capitalists to pay for the care and feeding of the male workforce. A man's wages have to go to support two, three, four or more people.

ISABEL: "Society is not set up to make it easy for women to work. When I lived in New York, they wanted \$83 a week for childcare for each of my kids."

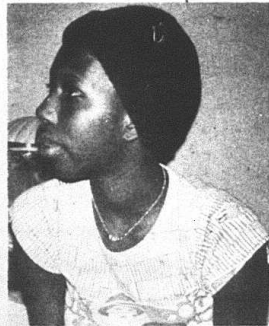
"It's hard for women to get childcare for their children, and even if they do, there is no provision if your child is sick, or for school vacations."

RETHA: "The way some childcare centers are run, women don't want to leave their kids there. I worked in one that was really bad. They were only interested in making money. That's another thing socialism has to turn around."

Since she is dependent on the man's paycheck, the woman is used to discipline the workforce.

She sees to it that her husband goes to work every day, on time, and puts pressure on him not to do anything that might make him lose his job—like talk back to the foreman or participate in a wildcat.

And women are used as a reserve workforce. If more workers are needed, there's always the women, anxious to work, even for low wages.



"Right. Work all day and come home and kick the dog."

Anita

TERRY: "The family is very isolating for women, but it's supposed to be a haven for men, away from the turmoil of the world."

"It's sort of an escape valve to keep men from blowing up about their jobs."

ANITA: "Work all day and come home and kick the dog."

CRISIS

Today, capitalism is in crisis, the family is being torn apart.

Women are forced into the workforce because one person's



"It's hard for women to get childcare for their children, and even if they do, there is no provision if your child is sick, or for school vacations."

Isabel

salary is not enough to support a family.

For women to be liberated, we need equal access to jobs. But capitalism cannot provide jobs for all.

The capitalist system needs high unemployment. It needs to use women workers against men workers to keep wages down. If this system had to provide jobs for all, it would collapse.

Women's liberation has to mean that women participate equally in the world. To achieve this, women must be relieved of the obstacles that stand in the way. These include women's responsibility for the housework and children. But without socialism, winning these things would only bring equal oppression for men and women.

We call for socialization of housework and childcare. Socialization of housework means that cooking, cleaning, laundry, would be jobs like any other. They would not be considered separate from the rest of the jobs in society.

In a socialist society, people would do these jobs and be paid for them. There would be free, 24-hour childcare so men and women would be free to work, and to be socially and politically active without neglecting their children.

We already have communal dining—for those who can afford to eat in restaurants whenever they want. We already have communal housing—for those who can afford hotels. We already have communal housework—for those who can afford to hire others to do it for them.

The working class can have these things and better.

We could choose between cooking at home and eating out. Communal doesn't have to mean impersonal under a system of workers' control.

Imagine the future! Let your imagination run wild! Socialism will mean a better life for women, for men, and for children. □

BOSTON: 800 MARCH FOR SOUTH AFRICA LIBERATION

BOSTON—On Saturday, April 30, over 800 marched through downtown Boston. They were showing their support for the freedom fighters in southern Africa, and their opposition to the economic support of the racist governments of Rhodesia and South Africa by the U.S. government and corporations.

A racist group called the "South Boston Liberation Army" had attacked a previous South Africa rally held a few weeks earlier.

They said they were "for white minority rule" and threatened to break up all future rallies held to support the struggle of Blacks in southern Africa.

But when the 40 goons from South Boston arrived, they saw the size of the crowd and realized there

was nothing they could do to stop the march from taking place.

So they slithered away, looking "pretty damned demoralized" in the words of one of the marshals.

The rally and march were sponsored by the African National Congress of South Africa, Eritreans for Liberation in North America, African Students and Workers for African Liberation, Youth Against War and Fascism, and the Boston Coalition for the Liberation of Southern Africa, which includes the International Socialists as well as other groups.

The rally was also called to commemorate May Day, the international workers' holiday.

At the rally, BCLSA and IS members distributed more than 400 leaflets describing the cam-

paign to collect shoes and clothing for the freedom fighters in Zimbabwe.

LAUNCH CAMPAIGN

Dick Clapp, of BCLSA, was one of the speakers at the rally. He talked about the involvement of US

corporations in southern Africa, centering in on the First National Bank of Boston's role in propping up the South African regime.

The Coalition will be launching a campaign over the summer to expose the activities of the bank to people in Boston as well as collecting supplies for the freedom

fighters. Themba Bilakazi, of the ANC, was the last speaker. He said, "We can all look forward to the day when the workers of South Africa stand with the workers of the United States and all over the world and say 'We have won!'"

Bill Fravis

Can Fascists Ban Blacks In Boston?

Boston Common. The police refused to protect the demonstrators.

The failure of the demonstration's organizers to organize any defense against a small gang of racists encouraged threats of more violence against left-wing or Black demonstrations.

However, another anti-apartheid demonstration (reported elsewhere on this page) was held April 30. Defense League goons who showed up were unable to interrupt it.

A small march and demonstration by supporters of the TV show "Black News" also went undisturbed.

The weakness of the far-right Defense League is shown by their numbers. On the first beautiful weekend day of spring, they were able to turn out only 20 supporters.

The Defense League is not new. In fact, it appears to be identical to

a group called the South Boston Marshalls, which appeared on the streets in the guise of a community fathers' group last year. The Defense League is believed to be the underground arm of the Marshalls.

But threats to attack any and all Black and left-wing demonstrations represents a new, and possibly dangerous, wrinkle.

The real political power in Boston is still held by the Democratic Party machine, not the fascists. But the Democratic machine is doing nothing to stop or organize against them.

The danger is that the Defense League's strength may grow unless a strong movement is organized to defend the right to demonstrate and the Black community in Boston.

Mike Hirsch

Labor Notes

by Jim Woodward

Remember way back in February, when the snow lay on the ground and the union bureaucrats lay all snuggled in their warm beds dreaming of fighting heroic battles against the mighty and powerful corporations...? Back in those olden days Glenn Watts, president of the Communications Workers of America, announced that his union intended to take on the mightiest of the mighty this year, AT&T. He said the CWA would demand less time on the job, possibly a four-day work week at no loss in pay, as a means of saving jobs in the phone company. The CWA opens contract negotiations with AT&T May 19, but it sounds like Watts is changing his tune. Now that it's time to go into battle, he may still be talking vaguely about job security. But in the CWA News article dealing with contract negotiations, there's not a mention of a shorter work week. Instead Watts says: "For the first time in our 39 years of dealing with Bell, CWA will try this year to get an early settlement. We want to finish ahead of the August 7 deadline if possible." Sounds like a real fighter, this man.

The following locals of the United Steel Workers of America (USWA) are among those voting to denounce the new basic steel contract. These votes have no official status, since steelworkers do not have the right to ratify their contract: Locals 1330, 1418, 1331, 1375, and 1462 in the Youngstown, Ohio area; Locals 1557, 1408 and 1256 in the Pittsburgh area; Locals 65 and 1033 in South Chicago; Local 1743 in Buffalo; and Local 1104 near Cleveland. These locals represent about 15% of the 340,000 workers covered by the contract.

Arnold Miller, president of the United Mine Workers, is having trouble running his campaign for re-election. Miller's five-member Washington, D.C. campaign staff quit when Miller decided to move his headquarters from Washington to Charleston, W.Va. The five included Miller's campaign coordinator, his chief fundraiser, his campaign scheduler, and a public relations man. One of the five reportedly said they quit largely because Miller refused to pay living expenses for the time they would be in Charleston.

Also in the UMW election, a federal judge has denied candidate Lee Roy Patterson's request for equal space in the union's newspaper, the UMW Journal. Patterson had been allotted less space since he did not have a full slate of running mates. Patterson's suit held up publication of the Journal for three weeks.

The Big Three auto companies' first quarter profits have set new records. General Motors alone made almost \$1 billion in three months; Ford Motor nearly half a billion. Chrysler's profits were \$75.4 million. In 1976, GM had to make do with only \$2.9 billion for the whole year. Higher prices on the 1977 models contributed to GM's \$903 million take this quarter. Last fall GM raised its prices by \$344. The company is expected to make \$3.87 billion in 1977.

A new public opinion poll taken by the Roper Organization, reports that only 4% of the American people think labor leaders have a "high moral caliber."

What's happening where you work? Send items for this column to: Workers Power, Labor Notes, 14131 Woodward Avenue, Highland Park, MI 48203. Or phone 313-869-5964.



HYSTERIA

Racial incidents where whites are the victims are played up in the press. But attacks on Blacks, especially working class, poor, or teenaged Blacks, are notoriously played down.

In the last month there have been several incidents that indicated the racial pulse of the city.

A white Harvard student was killed in the city's Red Light district. The trial was played as "professional Black killers murder Harvard student." The defendants were convicted and sentenced to life in prison.

This racial hysteria sets the stage for much of the biased prosecution of Blacks. It can provoke and justify the mob attacks on Blacks that often follow.

A year ago a prominent Black lawyer was viciously attacked by rampaging anti-busing high school students. In response to the beating, a white man, Richard Poleet, was dragged from his car by Black youths and stoned. He remains unconscious today.

Three of the six indicted Black youths were tried recently. Two of them were found guilty and could receive life sentences. The third defendant was found innocent—because he had a total of five witnesses who said he was not involved.

The trial seemed purposefully timed to be a warning to Black youths if similar retaliations for attacks take place this summer.

ATTACKED

An anti-apartheid demonstration against South Africa's racist government was attacked by 20 to 30 South Boston racists, members of the South Boston Defense League. Although there were 200 anti-apartheid demonstrators, the racists forced them to retreat to



CHASING THE KU KLUX KLAN...

Local Ku Klux Klan chapters have been running into a lot of opposition lately. When thirty KKKers tried to hold a march to "spread the miracle of white supremacy" in Columbus, Indiana, high school students' taunts ended the rally early.

Citizen resistance to a New York City Klan Klavern is forcing the vicious hate-mongers back into the closet. A KKK march in Tallahassee, Florida was met with a counter-demonstration by young white women. A Klansman was hit by a brick thrown by a young Black. Black Marines also fought back against Klan activity at Fort Pendleton, California earlier this year.

Evidence uncovered by Lake Worth, Florida police shows the viciousness of the Klan. After a man was abducted, handcuffed to a tree, flogged and shocked with a cattle prod, police raided the homes of known KKK members.

In one they found an over-thirty gun arsenal and a book called "How to Kill." The book showed "how to chop a man's head off, gouge his eyes, choke him, stab him..."

South African Films Show

DETROIT—The Southern Africa Liberation Committee showed the films "Last Grave At Dimbaza" and "There Is No Crisis Here" to many audiences last week.

The films were at classes at Wayne State University and at the different classes at Cass Technical High School. The Committee also showed the films to auto workers at the homes of several people who are organizing in the auto plants.

The Committee understands the important educational tool the films

are. They enable us to show the working people of this country in graphic terms what apartheid is and why the United States is involved in that brutally racist, but highly profitable system.

Through the showings several people became interested in working with the SALC. There is a real possibility of establishing a new SALC at Cass High because of the showings of "There Is No Crisis Here."

Larry Smith

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. Capitalism keeps women responsible for taking care of the work force 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 other 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 class 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**
Black people are an oppressed national minority in the United States. They have the right to self-determination—to decide their own future. The struggle of every oppressed group for equality is a just struggle—Blacks, women, gays, Latinos, American Indians. We are for the independent organization of oppressed peoples to fight for their freedom. Support from the entire working class movement will make the struggles of both—the oppressed and the working class 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. We support every fight of the working class against exploitation, and every struggle by nations fighting for independence from foreign rulers. We support every struggle for freedom—from the people of southern Africa against racism and western colonialism, to the struggle against bureaucratic rule and Russian imperialism in Eastern Europe. We demand complete independence for Puerto Rico from U.S. colonial rule.
- **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.

WE SUPPORT

- **THE RANK AND FILE MOVEMENT**
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- **WORKERS' POWER**
313-869-5964

“Unity is important in fighting these bosses.”

by Rudy New York I.S.

It was back in July of 1976 that I was fired. The management of the Nursing Home that I was working at had been harassing me real bad for a couple of years. Once they asked me to work two stations for a while. Now, I wasn't about to say no because of all the shit I would be getting—so I did it, but real slow. I figured that if I did a good job

all the time, soon enough that would be my regular workload. Sure enough, I was put back on my old job. After the firing I went to the union to file a grievance. They said there was nothing to be done, and later I found out that they never bothered to file the grievance. I ran around to the labor board and some Mayor's committee, but they all refused to help. I ended up going down to unemployment because that would force a hearing with the company.



WHY I JOINED I.S.

I.S., RED TIDE CELEBRATE MAY DAY

by Frank Runninghorse

DETROIT—A very successful May Day picnic, sponsored by the International Socialists and Red Tide, was held in Clark Park, in the working class Southwest district of Detroit. Around 250 mostly young Blacks, whites, Puerto Ricans and Chicanos listened to speeches and music provided by four excellent local bands.

The history of May Day and the revolutionary traditions of the working class were discussed by over a dozen speakers from the I.S., Red Tide, Southern Africa Liberation Committee, and Free Gary Tyler Committee.

There were also speakers on the continuing struggle for women's liberation, the Teamster rank and file movement, and justice for the farm workers.

There were several bi-lingual raps on the struggle for Puerto Rican independence. The speeches were interspersed between some excellent music provided by the "Flintstones," the "Amigos," the "Vargas Brothers" and the "Stage Fright."

CLEVELAND

One hundred twenty-five Blacks and whites attended the May Day picnic held here. Good times were had by all. Fifteen people came from Pittsburgh to attend, and a large number of UPS workers were present.

A number of Red Tiders and children of the May Day picnickers used this opportunity to go throughout the park and raise

NEW YORK (LNS)—The Texas Observer reported recently that of the 2.3 million houses in rural Texas, 26% are substandard, primarily because of inadequate plumbing. According to the 1970 federal census, nearly 75,000 rural people in the state live without piped water in their houses, and nearly 120,000 are without a flush toilet.

support for Gary Tyler. Around 50 I/Sers and friends celebrated May Day in a park in New York City. It was considered a real step forward for the I.S. branch here. The Oakland I.S. threw a successful dinner discussion and showing of the movie, "The Inheritance."

Idi Amin: MASS MURDERER TURNS STATESMAN

JUST A FEW short months ago, Idi Amin of Uganda was portrayed by the American press as the clown prince, village idiot and mass murderer of Africa.

Both Time and Newsweek ran cover stories, showing him as a wild man who slaughtered innocent Christian tribesmen and threatened American civilians.

But things can change in a hurry. Idi Amin has thrown his support and even sent some troops to help out America's favorite dictator in Africa, Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire.

Funny thing. All of a sudden the American press isn't telling very many Idi Amin jokes and horror stories anymore. As a matter of fact, they're pumping him up into something of an African statesman.

How does the wild man of the savage dark continent suddenly turn into a mature, responsible African leader? Very simple—he just joins the American side.

At 12:30 one day the union called and told me the hearing was the next day. They wouldn't even tell me the name of my lawyer. I had talked a few times with a lawyer in a legal services place. He had been a help, but I figured he was just bullshit like all the others. When I told him about the hearing, he said he'd be there with me. Now this was the first time anyone was going out of their way to help me, and it made me feel real good. I did eventually get my job back. But only cuz of Tim, the lawyer, fighting.

When I got it, there was a package of restrictions that were so bad, no one would want to go back, but Tim and I managed to get most of them dropped.

During all this, he invited me to see "Last Grave At Dimbaza." So I went. And I went the next day to a demonstration against the Krugger-rand [South Africa's gold coin] at an A&S department store.

Going there gave me real confidence to keep fighting that that I'll get my job back. And when we won I saw that unity among people could back a big store down. It was probably the most important thing that ever happened there.

BACK THE PEOPLE

It was the first time that I chose to back the people and won. And I felt that as long as I stuck on the side of rightness and love that I would win out.

It was around now that I found out about the International Socialists and Workers' Power from Tim. I really can't talk specifics about why I joined because I'm just so angry. I'm just so full of hostility for being exploited for so long.

All my life people just gave me shit to do, and I'm the kind of person who likes to help people. I guess I joined because I want to help working people and cuz I wasn't an ass-kisser.

You know, I've lived in the South

Bronx for 15 years and I've just seen this neighborhood fall to pieces. And it's all because of this capitalist system that keeps taking jobs out of here.

Back in 73-74 I enrolled in a computer course for six months, hoping to find a better job. When I got out I was just slapped all around everywhere I went.

These schools are just like factories churning out people to jobs that don't exist. And then people just get more frustrated and angrier.

I've got real hostility to the government too, for bringing all these drugs into the South Bronx. I took a course in College where we were told how just one or two people could control a neighborhood through drugs. The only people who get busted are the small ones.

DRUGS

One big pusher was just arrested though—he had a contract out on the pusher in Harlem and was trying to muscle in when he was busted.

And Lincoln Hospital here just makes me sick. Up until three months ago, it was a perfectly fine building that could have been used for a school or day care center or anything. Instead they're knocking it down just because they built a brand new building. It's such a shame.

Since I went back to work four or five weeks ago, no one will talk to me. They're all afraid of me.

The Nursing Home has told them that I'm just a troublemaker—they don't see that if we all just stuck together we'd be better off.

They don't see my fighting for my job and winning as any victory. Since they won't talk to me, it's hard to make them see that.

And that's what's important with Workers' Power. When we get some people outside the Home to sell it they'll read about how important unity is in fighting these bosses.

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

IT'S ALL IN A DAY'S PROFIT FARM WORKERS POISONED

by Dan La Botz

Carla Moody Lee and Jane Hernandez are in the hospital—because their boss poisoned them. They could be dead. The boss poisoned them to make a buck.

The Lakewood Greenhouse poisoned Carla and Jane. And it fired eight workers who tried to stop the boss from poisoning them. The boss fired them to make a buck.

The Lakewood Greenhouse peddled poison flowers. It sold them to make a buck.

A wonderful system, isn't it?

Many workers at the Lakewood Greenhouse just outside of Toledo have been sick—with swollen faces, throats and joints, with dizziness and nausea. They were sick because the boss poisoned them with Union Carbide's Temik.

The boss didn't explain the dangers and didn't provide the equipment necessary to safely use the stuff.

It happens to farmworkers all the time—in greenhouses and in the fields. It's done to make a buck.

POTENT

Temik is pretty potent stuff. It can kill you. Here's what the company says about it:

"DANGER—POISON. . . Harmful or Fatal by Skin or Eye Contact or by Breathing Dust or Swallowing Granules. Rapidly Absorbed Through Skin and Eyes.

" . . . Wear long-sleeved clothing, goggles and protective gloves when handling. Wash hands and face before eating or smoking during working hours. After work, wash entire body with soap and water. Wash contaminated clothing and protective equipment in strong washing soda solution and rinse thoroughly before wearing again. .



Jane Hernandez

"If package is broken, handle with rubber gloves. Sweep up and bury any spillage at least 18 inches deep. . .

"Burn empty bags and boxes immediately. Stay away from and do not breathe or contact smoke. Never re-use bags or boxes."

Lakewood Greenhouse didn't care about the workers.

And not only did it not care about Carla and Jane. Lakewood Greenhouse didn't care about you.

DON'T SELL

The plants are supposed to be held for four weeks after Temik treatment before being sold—but they were being sold the next day at places like K-Mart and Woolco and 40 other Toledo-area locations.

And Lakewood Greenhouse doesn't care about the health and safety laws of the country. It took a court order to get the Greenhouse to allow the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to enter and investigate. The owners refused to allow OSHA in.

Lakewood Greenhouse cares about making a buck. Pay the workers little, sell the plants fast.

The workers have been trying to organize a union in the greenhouse because of the health and safety conditions and because of the low pay.

The company fired eight of the workers involved in the organizing effort. The company is currently being struck by FLOC—the Farm Labor Organizing Committee.

The case of Carla and Jane, poisoned at Lakewood Greenhouse, is typical of the problems farmworkers face and the difficulties they have in organizing. Baldemar Velasquez, president of FLOC, explains what happened:

"The workers started complaining, and the employer wouldn't listen to them. He started to lay a couple of the people off. The people went to the Teamsters.

"But after the Teamsters found out that the greenhouse was registered as a farm and therefore not covered under the National Labor Relations Act, they turned their backs on the workers.

"The workers were kind of stuck.



Carla Moody Lee

Then, in a period of two weeks, the employer fired all the rest of the core of the people that were trying to organize a union.

"HELP US"

"So they came to us and said, 'Will you help us?' We said 'Okay, we'll support your action out there.'

"The biggest thing now is to get the officials to investigate. To get them to change some of those working conditions. And to press the employer to rehire some of the people.

"The TV news reported that they were only hired temporarily. But some of those workers who were

fired have been working there over five years."

These are the sorts of problems farmworkers face. The employers poison them. It happens all the time. Sometimes it's airplanes spraying them in the fields, sometimes it's chemicals they pick up handling the plants.

When they try to organize, they're fired. Sometimes blacklisted. Many unions turn their backs on them because they are not covered by the NLR. The news misrepresents their case.

But the fight goes on—and it will be won. Because of the dedication of the brothers and sisters in unions like FLOC who do say "Okay, we support you." □



Jose Angel Garcia, nine year union veteran, pickets Lakewood Greenhouse.

FLOC: Both A Union And A Movement

In Ohio some farmworkers are making \$.35 an hour. The reason is simple: Campbell's Soup. And Hunt-Wesson. And Buckeye Sugar.

In Putnam, Henry, and Hancock counties there's a lot of child labor. The reason is simple: Vlasic Pickles. And Libby's. And Smucker.

Baldemar Velasquez, president of the Farm Labor Organizing

Committee revealed these outrageous findings at a press conference last week in Toledo, Ohio.

An American Friends Service Committee survey conducted last summer among 172 migrant families in the northwestern Ohio counties found 262 violations of the federal minimum wage law. In 49.5% of the cases the federal minimum wage was not paid.

Wages ranged from \$.35 to \$5.45 an hour. For most families it averaged \$1.89 an hour.

Child labor violations and overcrowded and unsanitary living conditions were common.

Workers were reluctant to participate in the study for fear of deportation and blacklisting.

Ohio and U.S. taxpayers indirectly subsidize the canneries through food stamps, medicare, and day-care. They are given free because the canneries don't pay a living wage.

BEHIND THE FARMERS

While most farmworkers work for small farmers, behind the farmers stand the big canning companies. It is these huge monopolies, like Campbells, which actually set the price paid for the crops.

"Now we are talking about reorganizing the whole industry. That's the biggest thing we've been preparing for all these years."

Baldemar Velasquez explained the strategy of FLOC: "We mean to continue the campaign that we started last summer to unionize farmworkers and ask for some direct talks with tomato canneries."

Between 1968 and 1971 FLOC organized in Ohio and Michigan

and negotiated 33 contracts. Despite their success in signing up several hundred families into the union, and in negotiating those contracts, they had not achieved their goals.

The growers—small and medium sized farmers—find it cheaper to switch to another crop, rather than to pay a living wage, health insurance and other union benefits.

These growers produce wheat, corn and soy as well as tomatoes and pickles. They may employ only 15 or 20 farmworkers.

The price per ton for their produce is set by the big canning companies. The companies may buy produce from 50 or 60 growers. When the union organizes the grower, they simply drop tomatoes next season and plant more of another crop. FLOC's contracts all lapsed in 1971.

UNION AND SOCIAL

So FLOC has now developed a new strategy. Organize a union and

a social movement throughout Ohio, Indiana and Michigan.

Organize 500 or 600 workers at a time on the farms of a number of different growers and then demand to deal directly with the canneries.

FLOC is also fighting to win the same kind of collective bargaining law for Ohio that farmworkers now have in California. This would allow the farmworkers to demand representation elections in the fields.

In the last ten years the United Farm Workers have proven that agricultural workers can be organized. The big victories have been won in California: a collective bargaining law, contracts with the growers, an end to the Teamsters raids.

Now the struggle must be carried to the nearly two million farmworkers in the other 49 states.

Que viva la huelga! Que vivan los campesinos. Que viva nuestra union. □

Dan La Botz



Union President Baldemar Velasquez with FLOC members Ray Santiago and Incarnacion Contreras.

Workers' Power

UAW CONVENTION

Doug Fraser's Having A Party - You're Not Invited

There'll be speeches, awards, entertainment, lots of booze, Jacques Cousteau and Jimmy Carter too, at the 25th Constitutional Convention of the United Auto Workers

The big event from May 15-20 will be the crowning of Doug Fraser as new President of the UAW. Fraser will replace Leonard Woodcock.

As befits a coronation, most of

the convention will feature political big-wigs and other notables. But it appears that Fraser does want one piece of business, besides his "election," to come to the floor: the referendum vote.

Under the UAW constitution, top officers are elected at the triennial Convention by the delegates. Most of the delegates are local officials—well integrated into the Woodcock-Fraser administration's machine.

The referendum vote means that all union members would vote for the top officers in a general election. Under this more democratic system it is easier for an opposition candidate to get a substantial vote.

Fraser wants the referendum vote brought to the floor because he wants it voted down.

But some delegates are going to the convention pledged to fight for the right of members to vote on

their officers.

Jimmy Zarello, Shop Chairman of Local 736 in Clark, New Jersey, sent out a letter seeking support from delegates on this issue.

Locals 599 and 659 in Flint, Michigan are sending delegates pledged to vote for the referendum vote.

The membership of Local 659, one of the largest locals in the union, voted 6500 to 500 in favor of the referendum vote.

STAFF ARMY

It takes over 400 delegates to bring a resolution to the floor. And with Fraser's army of International Reps and staffers riding herd, it is usually impossible to get that many delegates to cross the Administration.

Fraser, however, has indicated that the hand-picked Resolutions

Committee may let the resolution get to the floor.

His hope is to see the opposition defeated and isolated at the convention, and the referendum vote buried as an issue.

However, the stage-managing of this gala affair has been so thorough that there may be no place on the agenda for such serious business.

Five of the six days of the Convention are taken up with speakers and awards, and the sessions don't start till after noon. Delegates from Region 1-A were told at an Administration Caucus meeting that the last day of the Convention would definitely be cancelled so the delegates could take off on vacation.

But the delegates who are going to the convention to fight for a more democratic union will be doing their best to get this one important piece of business before the delegates. □

Victory In Indy: Fired UAW Officers Get Jobs Back!

Members of UAW Local 1226 in Indianapolis have reaffirmed their confidence in aggressive union leadership in elections held May 3. In a record turnout, incumbent president Larry Schick won 47% of the vote for local president in a race against four other candidates.

Schick, who led the local in a 12-day wildcat strike against Chrysler Electrical in March, will easily win re-election in the run-off May 10.

All but one of the union officials fired by Chrysler in that strike are now reinstated.

Jim Lewis, co-editor of the Local 1226 newspaper, told Workers' Power, "The Local did the bargaining all themselves. The International wanted to take over, but Larry was afraid they'd get in there and start swapping people off."

The International has indeed been known to "swap people off"—keep them fired—in similar situations.

Members of Local 1226 walked out March 18 after foreman Marvin "The Cruncher" Crutcher assaulted a steward. They were backed up by the local officers. Chrysler management then fired 22 local officials.

The membership held out until

UAW Vice-President Doug Fraser forced them back to work on March 29.

CHRYSLER LOSES

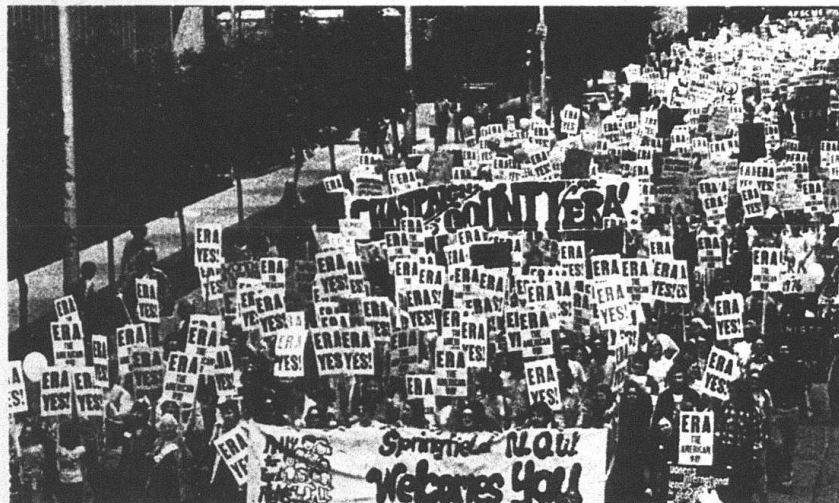
The Cruncher, meanwhile, is no longer a foreman. He is back in the plant as a worker.

Plant Manager L.S. Wisman issued a statement that there was no way to make up the lost production, and that no one had won the strike (translated: Chrysler did not win the strike). He said that we should try to learn from our mistakes.

Chrysler's mistake was thinking that the unity of the local could be smashed just because they got Doug Fraser to help them smash the strike.

Lewis said, "They got a bloody nose and they know it. People saw the election as definitely reaffirming the leadership Larry has given over the last three years."

"The people who voted against him were voting against the last strike. They don't realize that Larry has done something that many other locals haven't been able to do, which is keep the bargaining at the local and get all their jobs back." □



Last year 10,000 women marched to support the ERA in Springfield, Illinois.

WORKERS' POWER

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Hey! Hey! Whaddaya Say? Ratify the ERA!

Thousands of women will rally at the Chicago Civic Center this Saturday, May 14, to demonstrate in support of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA).

The ERA must be ratified by March 1979 or it will be defeated. Illinois is a key state. Christina Adachi, Co-ordinator of the Committee for the ERA, told Workers' Power, "The future of the ERA

could well depend on what happens here."

Three more states must ratify the ERA to make it part of the Constitution. The states must be drawn from a group of 15 conservative, southern states. Illinois is the only exception.

The Illinois State Legislature will vote on the ERA this spring. They have already rejected the Amendment several times. If the

ERA is not passed by Illinois before 1979, it doesn't stand a chance nationally.

Adachi said, "The ERA will write women into the Constitution. It gives us the legal tool that we need to fight discrimination in the law. There are over 800 federal laws and regulations that discriminate on the basis of sex, and thousands of state laws. The ERA would invalidate those laws." □