

WORKERS' Power

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LAWMAKERS FREEZE CASH-

But They've Got Theirs

by Steve Lantler

It was politics as usual in Pennsylvania. The clowns in the legislature who pretend to represent us were arguing about the state budget. Only no one was laughing.

They couldn't agree (elections are coming and no one wants to raise taxes in an election year). So there just was no budget.

And if there's no budget, you can't pay anyone. So 110,000 state employees didn't get their paychecks.

Several thousand state employees were laid off—the rest were working without pay.

Department after department was cut out—did employers withhold taxes? No one to check.

Caseworkers joined welfare recipients to demonstrate at the state capital in Harrisburg, as the state went over a month without a budget. Even the police at the scene hadn't been paid.

What did it mean to people? As Lou Rose, a welfare mother, put it, "Those people that are sick, and the senior citizens got to suffering bad, 'cause a lot of them are in the house and can't get out. Can't get food or meals. And what about them?"

State employees began lining up for loans.

Governor Milton Shapp, a Democrat, and the state legislature, controlled by Democrats (you remember—the party of the little people) continued to wrangle.

Of course, they didn't have to worry.

The governor is a millionaire. And the state senate—most of them are lawyers—managed to weather the storm.

They voted themselves a special emergency fund and continued to receive their salaries.

If we had anything to say about it, they'd be receiving something else.

Chrysler Strikers Say

We Told Them To Shove It

by Jenny Singer

TRENTON, Mich.—The United States District Court and the cops haven't stopped them. Chrysler Corporation hasn't stopped them. And top brass from the United Auto Workers haven't stopped them either.

The workers at Chrysler's Trenton Engine Plant are fed up and angry.

Trenton workers walked out Monday afternoon, August 8 when four stewards were fired for allegedly leading a heat walkout two weeks before. Four other workers were fired and nearly 50 were disciplined.

The strikers are demanding that all fired and disciplined workers be made whole before they will return.

Although Trenton is a relatively new and clean plant by Chrysler standards—most Detroit Chrysler plants were built 50 years ago—heat conditions were still unbearable the day of the heat walkout. Temperatures inside reached 125°.

As soon as the firings occurred, second shift workers threw up picket lines outside the plant. Police

scene but found no "violence" to busy themselves with.

They ordered area liquor stores and bars closed anyway.

The workers have kept the picket lines up around the clock, varying from a handful to several hundred people.

A union meeting was called Tuesday morning. Local 372 President Robert Smith and a troubleshooter from the International ordered the members back to work.

According to one striker, "We told the International to shove it up their ass—sideways!" Several of the stewards and committeemen took off their union shirts and threw them on the floor.

Chrysler also obtained a Temporary Restraining Order from a U.S. District Court judge Tuesday, ordering the workers to cease their illegal strike. The injunction likewise had no effect.

Marc Stepp, head of the UAW's Chrysler Department, flew back to town to deal with the situation. Another meeting—this time for elected officials of Local 372 only—was called Thursday afternoon at International headquarters in Detroit.



Miners March on Washington
Story, Pictures Pages 6-7.

Again the International ordered the local to get the members back, by Friday morning.

But the strikers were planning to stick it out—they had taken up a collection of 25c apiece to rent Porta-Johns to use during the strike.

The strike has already affected production at other Chrysler plants. Dodge Truck in Warren, Michigan was set to go to a one-shift operation Friday, and 70 workers were laid off at Jefferson Stamping. There were rumors of cutbacks at Jefferson Assembly and Dodge Main in Detroit.

Chrysler is trying to gear up production of four-cylinder engines at Tremont, Wis. new subcompacts, Horizon and Omni.

As of Workers' Power press time Thursday night, the strikers intend to stay out until their demands—reinstate the fired workers, and no reprisals for the strike—are met.

Chrysler has exploded with heat walkouts this summer, often followed by further walkouts as workers defend those disciplined for the first ones.

Dodge Main, Lynch Road Assembly, Jefferson Assembly, Newark Assembly, St. Louis Assembly, Missouri Truck, Dodge Truck, Warren Stamping and several plants in Windsor, Ontario all walked during July or August.

Usually the International union is able to get the local leadership to order the members back with no trouble.

But at Trenton not only the rank and file but even some of the local officials are supporting the strike all the way.

Carter's Welfare Reform - Life At Forced Labor

by Karen Kaye

President Carter calls his new welfare plan the Program for Better Jobs and Income.

It means that starting in 1980, if you don't work, you don't eat. Yes it contains a couple of improvements over the present welfare system. They are being widely applauded in the press.

The new plan allows a man with a low paying job to stay with his family when they still need welfare.

And it gives tax credits to the working poor.

On the other hand, an aged, blind or disabled adult will get \$2500 a year.

And a single parent with two children over six, who doesn't work, will get \$1100 for the first child, \$600 for the second and nothing for him/herself.

The idea is to force you to work. At what, you ask. Everybody knows that business makes all the profits it wants without hiring unskilled women with children, and that's why they're on welfare in the first place.

Even all the anti-discrimination laws passed in the last two decades haven't changed that. There hasn't been a job for everyone since World War II.

FORCED LABOR

So the government will create 1.4 million special "public service" jobs.

The jobs are dead-end, unskilled and they are an offer you can't refuse. Unless you want to starve.

By the way, involuntary servitude was outlawed along with slavery in the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, 1865.

President Carter will "encourage" people to seek jobs with private industry instead of taking the public service jobs by making sure you make less money in the "public service" jobs. For one thing, you don't get the tax credit if you work at public service.

But again, we can expect industry to hire very few welfare recipients when unemployment is already 6.9% among the people they'd rather hire.

Carter described the "public service" jobs. Few give you skills that you didn't already have before: trimming grass and shrubs, caring for the sick and elderly.

Others amount to sending people to daily apply band-aids to neighborhoods that require surgery: installing security devices in homes, patrolling neighborhoods or acting as watchmen, battling insects and rats and replacing broken windows in schools.

CHILDREN

Ironically, one of the proposed jobs is childcare. The plan says that when your youngest child is seven, you must get a part time job—full time if childcare is available.

So some will watch several children instead of just their own, freeing others to trim shrubs!

All this will be paid at the minimum wage... which this year was set at \$.35 lower than the AFL-CIO said was necessary. For each dollar you earn, your benefit is reduced by \$.50.

When your youngest is 14, you must get a full time job. At present, single parents are entitled to welfare benefits until the youngest is 18.

All these jobs should be paid at union scale. That's the only way to break the cycle of poverty.

The plan threatens to create a second class workforce—no unions, no strikes allowed. And while Carter promises it will reduce the number of poor, it will only take them off the records.

Many will fail to meet the work obligation because their life doesn't follow the master plan: part time work this year, full time seven years later. They will end up destitute and desperate when the benefits are cancelled.

And even though it says the children will still get benefits, if the parent doesn't get theirs, the whole family suffers. Carter isn't saving the children.

PLANS FANS

Who likes this plan? Senator Russell Long, Democrat of Louisiana, chairman of the powerful Senate Finance Committee. It was reportedly his idea to make the parents work when the child is seven, instead of 14. That's how Carter got his support.

Mayors of big cities like the plan

because it increases federal aid to welfare, taking the burden off their budgets.

The Democratic Congress likes it—they killed a similar plan authored by Richard Nixon. But with a Democratic Administration pushing this plan, it will be hailed as progressive instead of condemned as anti-union and inhumane.

Even Republicans are starting to admit they like it. Congressman John B. Anderson of Illinois, Chairman of the Republican Conference in the House, was the first to declare. "...yes, those are all the basic principles that I can support."

And why not? It doesn't force business to create any more jobs and it may give business some very low paid workers.

Every union should oppose this program.

As for really getting people off welfare, that will happen when industry is forced to open up more jobs and end their discrimination against women and minorities.

And when free quality childcare exists.

These things socialists must fight for. Until they are won, business will determine how many people are doomed to poverty, and government will find different ways to make them suffer.

"HANDOUTS WILL ONLY DESTROY YOUR INCENTIVE TO WORK..."



UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Low Pay Or No Pay

by Kim Moody

In America, low paying, non-union jobs are increasing. And the Carter administration is doing everything it can to speed up that trend.

Ten years ago, 42% of American workers worked in the more highly unionized and better paying jobs in manufacturing, construction, mining, and transportation.

Today only 32% work in those jobs. And only 20% of American workers are unionized.

Carter Administration changes in welfare and unemployment laws will force millions into low paying

jobs.

The presence of millions of workers without unions and making little more than the minimum wage, puts a damper on what union workers can win.

Employers are quick to point to these millions as a grim reminder that others are "willing" to work for less.

In previously well organized industries, such as construction and trucking, non-unionized employers have successfully taken away work from union workers in recent years.

Unions have failed to organize

these places.

Carter's new welfare "reform" plan will force millions of people on welfare to take minimum wage jobs or go hungry.

Many of these low-paying jobs will do work now done by better paid, unionized workers. This will further reduce the number of union jobs in public service.

But Carter's forced labor schemes are not reserved for welfare recipients.

Last April Carter signed into law changes in the unemployment insurance system that are forcing unemployed workers to take jobs well below their previous pay scale.

Unemployment benefits were cut from a maximum of 65 weeks to 52 weeks. And after 39 weeks you must take any job that pays more than the benefits or you don't get your check.

Unemployment benefits average from \$70 to \$100 a week.

An example of what this can mean appeared in the New York Times recently. A Kentucky carpenter, who formerly made about \$10 an hour, was forced to take a maintenance job for \$3.50.

According to the U.S. Labor Department, more than a million workers will exhaust their 39 weeks and become prey to this plan.

With unemployment still around 7% (over six and a half million people), this can only mean that many of those now on unemployment will be forced into lower paying jobs.

Taken together, Carter's "reforms" in the welfare and unemployment insurance systems amount to an attack on the living standards of the entire working class.

For the poor, it means a life of forced labor at poverty wages. For those who get laid off or lose their jobs, it means poor prospects for the future. For employed workers it means a harder fight to get any gains at all.

What is the answer?

Decent jobs at union wages. That's the answer.

For the government's part it means creating productive jobs paid at union scale. For the unions it means an aggressive organizing campaign among all low paid workers.

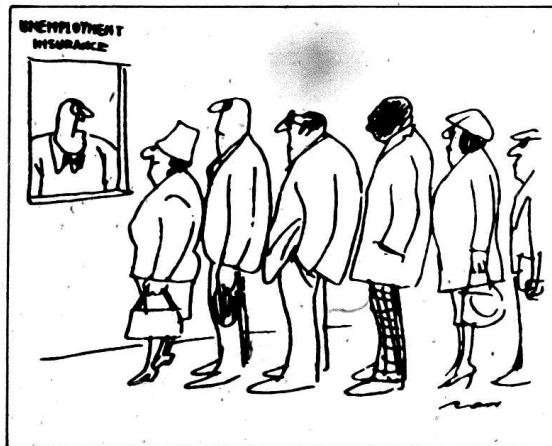
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IMMIGRANT WORKERS...

...Victims of a border war

What's the immigration "problem"?

Big business likes a work force that's beaten, cowed, subdued, servile.

So for 65 years the US government has fought a war on behalf of big business to make sure part of the work force, the Mexican and Mexican-American part of it, was just that.

The Border Patrol and the Texas Rangers have murdered, raped, beaten, deported, harassed, intimidated and degraded Mexicans and Chicanos.

The fight went on from border towns like Ciudad Juarez-El Paso and Tijuana-San Diego, to big western cities like Los Angeles, to industrial cities in the North like Chicago.

Sometimes immigration was encouraged by the government.

The Bracero program brought millions of Mexicans into the country as temporary workers. Many stayed, many came back when they'd seen there was something in the world besides the poverty of Mexico—even if it was the grey barracks of a farm labor camp.

At other times Mexicans have been driven out of the country by the millions, as in the 1950's when Operation Wetback was being carried out.

SAME POLICY

But at all times the immigration policy was the same at bottom.

Divide workers one against another—Mexican and Chicano against American. And Mexican "illegals" against Chicano citizens.

Find cheap labor. And not only profit by how cheap it is, but use it to cheapen other labor, to drive down wages and working conditions through competition.

The key to that policy was the constant threat of deportation hanging over the heads of between six and 12 million Mexicans living illegally in this country.

The Border Patrol raids and round-ups periodically reminded them that they were not even second class citizens. They were not citizens at all.

Without rights and without or-



Protests like these put pressure on Carter to change immigration laws. It will take yet more protests to get a humane law.

ganization, Mexican workers were at the mercy of the employers. They could be used to replace higher paid American workers and even to break strikes.

PRESSURES

Various pressures were brought on the U.S. government over the years about this question.

By the Mexican government which complained of its citizens being murdered and beaten by the Rangers or the Border Patrol.

By Chicanos, who although citizens, were often caught up in the dragnet of La Migra (immigration service and the Border Patrol). They were beaten, harassed, intimidated and abused right along with their brothers and sisters from

Carter's program will carry on the war...

• Six to 12 million illegal immigrants in the U.S. before 1970 are no longer outlaws.

The government retreats in its war against foreigners. It has lost the battle to deport these workers.

• Illegal immigrants here between 1970 and Jan. 1, 1977 can remain.

But they don't get food stamps, welfare, or other social benefits. The government hasn't given up the war. These people will be turned into a poverty-stricken sub-class.

• Two thousand agents will be added to the Border Patrol. The government opens up a new front in the war.

The vicious, racist Border Patrol and Texas Rangers will continue to harass alien and citizen alike.

• Allow Mexicans to enter the country on short-term status to do the stoop work and dirty work of the U.S.

The war is being fought after all in the interests of the employers who demand cheap labor.

• Penalize employers who knowingly hire illegal aliens.

If this is enforced, the companies will discriminate against all Latins, including U.S. citizens.

In all probability it won't be enforced. The government doesn't make war on its friends in business.

CARTER'S PROGRAM MEANS

Big Business will continue to divide foreign workers against

American workers, just as it divides Black against white, men against women.

Big Business will continue to take advantage of cheap foreign labor and to drive down wages and working conditions of U.S. labor.

The racist and brutal activity of the Border Patrol and the Texas Rangers will continue. □

The Real Solution

Carter's program is a program for continued exploitation of the Mexican and American people.

Carter's program is a program for continued racism and hate among the people of North America.

Carter's program is a program for the continued poverty of Mexico and for increasing poverty in the United States.

The final solution to the question of immigration is workers' power in the United States and in Mexico.

The economic wealth and power of America could be used to lift countries like Mexico out of poverty.

The beauty and abundance of all North America could be shared by both the Mexican and the Black, red, and white American people.

Our program is a way to get to that goal. □

...Our program would end it!

• Organize all workers in the U.S. into unions, whether citizens or aliens.

Workers have a right to a job, wherever they can get it.

• Fight in the unions for the unity of all working people, Black, white and Latin.

Stop the division of working people by race, color or sex.

• Cooperation between U.S. and Mexican unions to organize workers on both sides of the border.

Help Mexican workers fight for more jobs and higher wages. Raise Mexican wages to the level of U.S. workers.

• International cooperation between Mexican and American workers against our common employers.

For a larger share of the wealth for working people of both countries.

• No deportations. Open the border. Immediate citizenship for anyone entering this country.

The border is a line drawn by big business to divide us from our brothers and sisters in the Mexican working class.

OUR PROGRAM MEANS:

Workers are no longer divided against each other. Fighting in one international workers' movement, wages, working conditions and standard of living improve.

Racism against Mexican and Chicano people is reduced. □

Business and politics can't look like business and politics. So Carter's program calls for economic penalties against employers knowingly using illegal alien workers.

Business will probably keep this part from passing. If it does pass, it won't be well enforced. And if it passes it will cause discrimination against Chicanos as well as Mexicans.

So that's why there is an immigration "problem" and a new policy.

We have a policy that would end the immigration problem. It's much shorter and simpler—give every immigrant their citizenship papers and their union card when they cross the border. □

created a poverty stricken sub-class.

The millions of immigrants who came into this country between 1970 and January 1, 1977 will be allowed to stay for five years—but will end up working for minimum wages and get no welfare or food stamps when they're out of work.

What they gain in terms of security about their immigration status—which ain't much—they will lose in economic insecurity.

And in another gesture to big business, Carter is allowing some workers to enter this country on short term entry status. In a little-publicized Bracero program that is going on right now, they will do stoop labor in the fields, and dirty work in the sweatshops along the border.

Mexico.

By US unions who complained that employers took advantage of Mexican workers to drive down union standards.

Something had to be done. So Carter did something. But he did it strictly in line with his masters' politics and business.

The sweet part of the program is for politics. The amnesty for millions of Mexicans here since before 1970 is a small pay-off to the Mexican-American vote which helped put him in office. And, of course a bait for the votes of those millions of Mexicans when they become citizens.

The rest is business. For the greediest of employers Carter has

WHEN YOU'RE A BIGSHOT— YOU'RE NEVER GUILTY

by Susie McCarthy

PITTSBURGH—"I only threw rocks in jest, I would have hit her if I was really trying." That was United Steel Workers of America vice-president Joseph Odorich's defense against harassment charges at a hearing on August 3.

He was referring to an incident last May 22 at Linden Hall, the new USWA education and recreation area.

A group of rank and file steelworkers, friends, and children, had planned a picnic at the newly-acquired union facility in Fayette County, south of Pittsburgh. The steelworkers were mostly from the Clairton Coke Works of United States Steel.

They are part of a group called

Steelworkers Stand Up (SSU), a local rank and file group. SSU helped campaign for Ed Sadlowksi for union president and came out strongly against the recent basic steel contract.

ROCKS

The steelworkers had made advance reservations and had a receipt for the use of the picnic grove. But they were met at the gate by Odorich and almost fifty other men who refused to allow them to picnic, and who eventually forced them out.

Odorich and his pals intimidated and harassed the SSU members, and Odorich threw several rocks at Steffi Domike, an

SSU supporter from Clairton. She had been taking pictures of him.

When members of the group filed harassment charges against him, Odorich's defense was that he, as International vice-president had the right to allow or prevent anyone from using the union-owned facility.

Odorich brought to the hearing several of his friends who had been with him at the picnic. Witnesses were sequestered, so they did not know what sworn testimony had preceded them.

Odorich's lawyer called only one witness to the stand: Anselmo "Babe" Fernandez, president of Steelworkers Local 1397, US Steel Homestead Works.

Fernandez' testimony completely contradicted Odorich. He swore there was no drinking (while Joe Odorich testified he brought two case of beer and was passing them out), that there were only between ten and fifteen in their group (while Odorich said forty or fifty).

Babe claimed there had been no trouble or rock-throwing, both of which Odorich had admitted to.

With a defense like that, it's no wonder their lawyer decided not to call his two remaining witnesses.

But predictably, the local magistrate found the defendant "not guilty". Linden Hall is new in Fayette County, and Steelworker officials use the park frequently to entertain and hold special functions. Odorich is a powerful political figure in that region, his

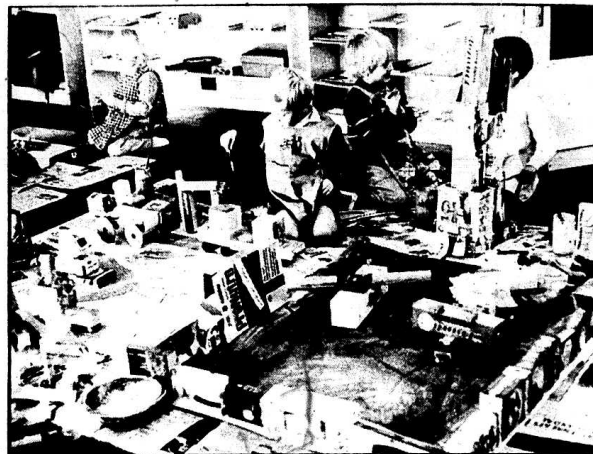
old stomping grounds, and no low-level politician like a magistrate can afford to be on his "enemies list."

The verdict was not a victory for justice. Odorich harassment of rank and file steelworkers went unpunished. And it looks like steelworkers can use "their" facilities only if they are uncritical of the present leadership.

But these events have also shown the membership that the International is scared of losing control. It has shown that that the courts will support the union bureaucrats instead of the membership; that the fight for rank and file power and union democracy, the fight for justice must be won within the union itself. □

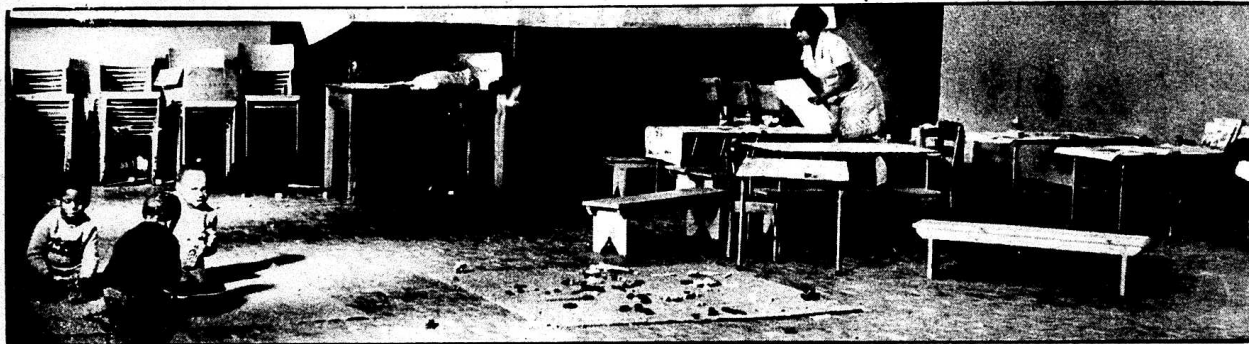
REBELLION IN SOUTH AFRICA

This School For Whites, This One For Blacks



Liberation News Service

White students can go to free, modern public schools like the one above. There are no free public schools for Blacks. At right is a Black school supported by a church charity.



BLACK STUDENTS in South Africa have shut down the school system. 200,000 Blacks have decided that they will tolerate inferior schools no longer.

Last week, three young people died fighting against what they call "education for slavery."

It is 14 months since the first uprising in Soweto, South Africa on June 16, 1976.

The struggle in Soweto does not attract headlines every day. On Monday a New York Times reporter wrote, "Last week the violence sputtered on, but only three young people died."

"Only" three Black school children killed, in one week. Not enough to disturb the South African government, or even cause a ripple in Jimmy Carter's human rights conscience.

But there's a reason why South African police are forced to shoot to kill every day in Soweto. Black people's self-confidence and organization has grown to the point where the struggle in Soweto is a permanent confrontation.

Last year's protest began because the Black schools were being

forced to use the hated Afrikaans language, the language of the Dutch settlers.

Today, 200,000 students have shut down the entire Black school system. They are on indefinite strike against the whole educational system.

They will not accept the inferiority of the Black schools, which they call "education for slavery." That means they will not accept the system's plans for them. They will not accept any aspect of the apartheid system.

COMMITTEE OF TEN

Last year the Soweto students organized an unofficial government that practically ran the township, called the Students Representative Council. Now they have helped set up a self-government body called the Committee of Ten.

The Committee's meetings and rallies have been banned by the South African government. The students' power is so great that the government is unable to find any so-called African moderates, or stooges, to deal with.

The student struggle in Soweto is the high point so far in the growth of the Black consciousness movement in South Africa.

In less than eighteen months, that movement has advanced more than it did in the last ten years.

So far, because of the severe economic depression, there has not been a repeat of the huge industrial strikes of 1973. But the potential for an explosive wave of workers' struggles is much greater with the current political crisis.

More than anything, that is what has South African officials, businessmen and western investors terrified. □

Terror Tactics Won't Save Rhodesia Racists

The powerful bomb that killed 11 and wounded 76, almost all Black, in the capital city of Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) on Saturday was, immediately blamed on the Black liberation forces.

This is a familiar story by now. Every attack in which Black civilians are killed in Zimbabwe is attributed to the nationalist Patriotic Front or its militant wing, the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU).

There have been numerous attacks on Black rural villages by men dressed in guerilla uniforms. There were also the widely publicized massacres of 27 Black tea plantation workers last December, and of 7 Catholic missionaries early this year.

In every one of these cases, it later became clear that the atrocities were, actually committed by Rhodesian government forces in guerilla disguises.

The Salisbury bombing has all the look of exactly this kind of government job.

RHODESIAN STRATEGY

The Rhodesian government has a strategy of murdering Black civilians and blaming it on the Patriotic Front and ZANU. Its purpose is to wreck the national liberation struggle by stirring up tribal suspicions.

The difference between earlier massacres and the Salisbury bomb blast is that this one occurred in a major city, not a rural village.

There is no military or political reason for the freedom fighters to attack a department store packed with Black shoppers.

But there is plenty of reason for the white minority regime, whose position is collapsing, to escalate its terrorism against innocent Black civilians. It has hundreds of paid agents and provocateurs for this kind of dirty work.

One so-called Black leader, the "moderate" Bishop Abel Muzorewa, played right into the white racists' hands by pledging support for a government "investigation" of the bombing.

Muzorewa's statement makes it even more clear that he is ready to help the Rhodesian army and government in their war against the freedom fighters.

However, a Patriotic Front leader, Joshua Nkomo, charged the government with responsibility for the bombing and pledged the Front would retaliate against military targets.

A railroad bridge six miles from the capital was blown up Monday. It may be the beginning of the freedom fighters' response.

The Rhodesian government does not care what the world thinks of its barbaric atrocities against Black victims. Only the freedom fighters' victory will bring those atrocities to an end. □

Lucky Couple Hits Jackpot —But Jackpot Hits Back

When Melchor and Victoria Javier of the Philippines came into a million dollars recently, they did more or less what self-respecting millionaires anywhere do.

In two months, they managed to spend just over \$800,000.

For \$433,000 they bought 160 acres of real estate in California. Legal fees consumed \$80,000; gambling losses, gifts and other expenses accounted for \$200,000, and so on and so forth.

They even spent \$20,000 on medical expenses when Mrs. Javier's father was sick.

By the standards of this system, there was only one thing wrong with the Javiers' brief but enjoyable spending spree. The money wasn't theirs.

MINOR ERROR

It seems that the Mellon Bank of Pittsburgh got its signals crossed with a West Virginia bank, and gave the Javiers a payment of \$1,000,000 instead of \$1,000.

Having discovered its error, the Mellon Bank is taking the Javiers to court to recover the \$999,000

overpayment. Too bad the Javiers have already gone through most of it.

The Mellon family, of course, owning banks and steel mills and such things, can spend ten times that much on yachts, cruises, gaming tables and the like.

They are outraged that the Javiers would spend like millionaires with money that they never earned. It's immoral.

But for the Mellons, of course, it's different. They earned their millions. Didn't they? □

There's Money in Pollution

LAST WEEK CONGRESS gave the auto companies another two-year delay in meeting standards for cleaner auto exhaust, staving off a threatened shut-down of the industry.

The auto companies claimed they just didn't have the technology to build cleaner cars. They never attempted to meet the 1978 standards, assuming all along that Congress would give in and grant them the delay.

Workers' Power talked to an emissions control engineer who works for one of the auto companies. He is active in environmentalist groups. His name has been withheld.

WP: What kind of health problems does auto exhaust cause?

EM: Problems related to carbon monoxide are mainly going to be heart disease. Carbon monoxide robs your body of oxygen and just basically puts a strain on your respiratory system, your blood system.

Hydrocarbons and oxides of nitrogen feed into oxidants—that's what smog is. That's the orange stuff in the air. What oxidants give you is destruction of the lung tissue, emphysema, all of your chronic lung diseases.

The oxidant standard in Detroit is typically violated 34 to 50 days out of the year. It's violated in Flint [Michigan] maybe on 150 days out of the year.

Basically, oxidants make the bricks fall off your buildings, peels the paint, destroys all organic substances.

Basically they harden anything that's elastic—like your lungs, your tires. There's foliage and crop damage, acid rain.

The industry claims the whole works will cost about 350 bucks per car. The National Academy of Sciences looks at those same numbers and they say it'll cost about half that. And they're about right.

But going from the standards we're at now to what Congress just passed for 1983, really we're talking about I would guess 100 bucks or less.

WP: With the profits they're making, the cost of the technology doesn't have to be a factor. Couldn't the auto companies have met the standards that were passed in 1970 by now if they'd wanted to?

EM: They definitely could have met the standards that are now set for 1983, by 1975.

Volvo has a really neat system that works real well on a car that size. It's called a three-way catalyst.

You take this old carburetor that used to cost like 20, 40 bucks and you add a piece of wire on it and a little electric motor on top of it and you've got a fancy carburetor that may cost maybe \$10, maybe \$100 more.

We've all known about this new converter for 5, 10 years, but there's not been enough reason to pursue it.

California already has very tough standards compared to the [federal] standards.

Ford has a closed-loop—and a three-way catalyst [on some of its small cars in California] and occasionally they accidentally meet even the ultimate air quality standards that they weren't supposed to be able to meet. So we know how to build those.

CAN THEY AFFORD IT?

A glance at second quarter figures answers the question: can auto companies afford expensive research for clean-air technology?

General Motors' profits for the second three months of 1977 broke the billion dollar barrier! GM earned \$1.1 billion profits for the quarter, double its first

quarter profit.

Ford profits for the quarter also set a record, at \$530.4 million.

Chrysler profits were \$90.6 million. They would have been about \$33 million more, Chrysler said, except for local strikes in St. Louis and Sterling Heights.



I mean, you can have the cleanest air in the world but if you can't manufacture anything what the hell good is it?

What the companies say is we don't know how to build them on the full line of production, which is like 9 million cars a year. And they're right.

They have not gotten their suppliers cranked up to provide them with all that much stuff. They have not cranked up the engineering effort to make that many packages work.

WP: How big are their research and engineering departments?

EM: As small as they can get away with. Every year they have to submit statements proving that they put in a "good faith effort."

So every company has a number of what are called good faith projects, which are projects they keep going to make it look like they're putting out a good faith effort. I've worked on those.

WP: Why do the companies get so outraged about pollution control? They can just pass the added cost on to the consumer, so what do they care?

EM: Part of it is just a real zealotry, it's a religious war they're fighting against government regulation. They can't stand the idea that they have all these what they feel are unwarranted restrictions.

I'm not saying they wanted to shut down the industry, that they wanted Congress not to meet the deadline last week, but they were prepared for it. And it wouldn't have been all bad for them, because they probably would have gotten much softer standards because of it.

And it would have made government regulation look like a real ass. Shutting down would have cost their shareholders a little money, but it might have had repercussions for the next 20 years for the government to look so stupid.

The main reason is that it's a poor return, it's that simple. GM is competing within itself about where to spend its money. They've got ways that'll pay off a lot better than emissions controls.

And that's what the companies are saying—who's gonna pay? But they don't want to get too far into that.

When they say, who's gonna pay, then a lot of people say, we already are paying—like this, this, and this. We'd like to stop. Would you please pay? □

Warren Wildcat: 'It Was Really Good To See That Kind Of Unity'



Bruce Thoms, skilled tradesman at Warren Stamping.

by Ken Morgan

Workers walked out of Chrysler's Warren Stamping Plant last week in the first wildcat there in 16 years. The strike occurred when a skilled trades apprentice was unjustly suspended.

The walkout won back the man's job, and although the workers were unable to get a guarantee of no reprisals, the corporation has taken no disciplinary action against anyone so far.

Workers' Power spoke to Bruce Thoms, a diemaker in the plant for the past eleven years.

"We've gone through one of the hottest summers on record, the temperatures have been unbearable in the plant, and there's been very heavy mandatory overtime.

"We have a local agreement which allows us to be worked as many hours as the corporation wishes. At the time of the strike, skilled trades, certain departments,

were on ten hours a day, seven days a week.

"People had a little money in their pocket, they were uncomfortable, and they were just tired of the whole thing. The fact of the apprentice being suspended was the triggering factor, that's all.

"You've got a situation where automobiles are more and more expensive—expensive to the point where the guys building them can't buy them.

"So in order to keep the price of the automobile down, the automobile industry has to reduce costs. And the easiest place to reduce costs is with the workforce itself—get more output.

"Management has grown considerably more strict at this plant over the last ten years. I've been here that long, and I know that."

UNITY

Like many others, Thoms was "very surprised" at the unity displayed during the walkout. "As far as on-the-spot action by the members of this local, that's the most unity I've ever seen in this place—in 11 years."

What has the union been doing in those years?

"If a person is to read certain publications that are geared toward the financial world and big business, you will no doubt, sooner or later come across statements to the effect that 'the union is having trouble 'controlling'—notice that word, 'controlling'—labor.

"I've read some of these financial publications—and that sounds exactly backwards to me.

"I thought the union was there to help us in achieving equality and liveable working conditions, and things like that—not control us.

"Supposedly we, the membership, are the governing body of the union. Then how is it in these financial magazines you read these things about the union controlling

the worker? It shows what the viewpoint is, from up above.

"Right now, we have a situation, I think, where the union does not use its powers.

"What I'd like to see is the local officers pursuing the problems in our plant with the fullest extent of their powers. I want to see them enforce the contractual gains that never seem to be implemented in the plant.

"That doesn't necessarily mean with strikes. What it does mean is bringing pressure to bear, the same way management brings pressure to bear on the worker.

"When management wants to get down on you, they enforce your breaks very strictly, they make sure you're not at the time clock more than five minutes before quitting time, numerous things like that. Small things—which make life kind of miserable for you.

"Well the union has the same type of power. The union could enforce a lot of things in the 'gray area.'

"I understand that production workers have this problem of being instructed on jobs and moved from job to job during their 5-minute break time.

"Well there's a place for the union to step in and put the pressure on, the same way the corporation puts the pressure on the workers—without the necessity of strikes and walkouts.

"I'm just a worker in there. I only know what I hear around the tables in the lunchroom and stuff like that.

"But I'd say there are a lot of people—definitely a lot of people—who felt that it was really good to see that kind of unity, and that it was a change, and a change for the better.

"And that possibly, in the future, we're going to be a stronger union." □

Smog over Los Angeles.



Miners' Message To Carter, Congress And Union Leaders:

GIVE US OUR HEALTH CARE OR GO DIG YOUR OWN COAL

by Jim Woodward

WASHINGTON, D.C.—There were a lot of grim and angry faces as a thousand miners arrived in town August 5. In cars and buses, they had driven all night from the southern part of West Virginia to protest the cutbacks in their medical benefits.

Linda J. Pack is one of the women who have become miners in recent years. Ironically, when asked why she went into the mines, her first answer was for the benefits—the very benefits that are now being cut by the coal operators.

She is quiet, and could easily be overlooked among the noisy, aggressive miners. But as she explained why she had come to Washington, there was a kind of toughness and determination that won't easily be shaken.

"They're always talking about how much we've got," Pack said. "And we don't have anything because they're always draining us and taking a little bit at a time. So we came up here in hopes that we could show them..." she paused and continued slowly, "that we are not little dumb, stupid people that crawl underground for a living."

"We wanted them to listen, to get behind us and help us and help us to get our benefits back, because we need them. It's not a question of what's right or wrong. We need them. We've got retired miners that's getting cuts on their pensions now. This is only the first step of many steps to come. That's why I'm here."

After their arrival in Washington, the miners split into several groups. Some went over to Jimmy Carter's house to picket, some went to the Capitol, and another group went to see the employers. Some went to the Health and Welfare Funds offices before they all ended up back at United Mine Workers headquarters.

LOCKED THE DOORS

Ben Lewis of Beckley, West Virginia, related the reception the employers gave them: "They locked the elevators on us, wouldn't let us go up them. Went up the steps and they locked the doors on us. Well that shows who's wrong, who's right. We've been trying for months to get meetings with them. They just won't talk to us."

Morris Feibusch, an official of the Bituminous Coal Operators Association, confirmed Lewis' story: "Right. We wouldn't talk to them." Later he added, "We're not going to subsidize and condone wildcat strikes."

At the Health and Retirement Funds offices, a hundred or so miners met Martin Danziger, director of the Funds. By any objective scientific standard, Danziger could only be described as an arrogant, pompous creep.

The nature of the meeting with Danziger is best conveyed by this one exchange. A miner was talking about "our good doctors" that "we made rich. You go to see them before this," he said, "they wanted to give you a pill or something, and if you was sick, they'd tell you to go to the emergency room. And now the doctors, they don't even want to see you. So I think if they don't even want to see us now, while the Fund is low, when we get this built back up their names should be turned in and we don't need them."

"I agree with you! I agree with you!" chirped Danziger. "And that's why we put regional offices in your areas. You from the Beckley area? Go in and see Dr. Chadwick..."

The meeting erupted in boos, hollers, and general laughter, as the miners shouted, "He's the first one we ought to get rid of!"

PENSION CUTS NEXT

Danziger confirmed that the health care cuts are only the beginning. He said that the Funds would probably have to cut pensions for retirees covered by the 1950 pension plan by the end of September. Letters to this effect have already been received by many retired miners.

A small delegation of miners met with Labor Secretary Ray Marshall. The reason the government is concerned with the situation was clear. On the day of these demonstrations, there were some 70,000 miners out on wildcat strikes, right near half the UMWA coal miners in the country.



Marshall reportedly said he'd try to do something, but made no commitments.

Many of the miners, however, weren't putting their trust in the Carter Administration. When one union official urged, "Let's give Jimmy Carter a chance," a miner shot back bitterly, "Fuck the peanut-head!"

NO LEADERSHIP

The last confrontation of the day occurred in a park outside union headquarters, when newly-elected



"I've been in that coal mine 50 years, fifty years underground, and then he kicked out with nothing!" this old timer shouted at Sam Church.

UMWA vice-president Sam Church faced the crowd.

The miners were angry because UMWA President Arnold Miller had been quoted in the previous day's papers as agreeing with the coal operators' spokesman that "a small group of UMWA members are defying their own union and placing in further jeopardy the medical and pension benefits for which their fathers and grandfathers struggled."

That's "right on target," Miller had said.

Miner after miner, angry that the union was providing no leadership, lit into Church, some looking for all the world as though they would like to string him up.

Church may have been saved by

a sudden thunderstorm, which quickly cleared the park. Afterwards, the miners boarded their buses and headed back to the picket lines.

They are certainly angry and determined enough to win any strike, but the one thing they lack is a leadership. No one is organizing and coordinating the wildcats. And for that reason, the outcome of this struggle is not as optimistic.

They may go back to work for a while, but if the old-timers have their pensions cut, you can expect more trouble.

MOTHER JONES

One miner, who wanted to be identified only as "John Doe from District 17," caught the mood of

HOW COAL OPERATORS INS

On June 20th, the trustees of the United Mine Workers of America Health and Retirement Funds had an important announcement. They said that after July 1, the 821,000 persons covered by the Funds' health plans would have to start paying part of their own doctor and hospital bills.

The trustees said each miner would have to pay 40% of the first \$250 a year of all hospital bills up to \$250, and the first \$250 a year of all hospital bills. These were the first cutbacks made since the Funds were begun in 1946.

Miners were angry. Many felt the announcement of the decision had been delayed to avoid hurting Arnold Miller's chances for reelection as union president. Miller had won re-election only a few days earlier.

The union's trustee at the Health Funds is Harry Huger, a Miller ally. In addition, the coal operators have one trustee, and a third is supposed to be neutral. All three trustees voted for the health care cuts.

Wildcats quickly began to spread through the coal fields. There was one clear way to



Lewis



Pack



Danziger



"John Doe"



Leonard Akers (left): "My son had appendicitis and it ruptured on him before we went to take him in. I had to write a check for \$15 to get him down to the emergency room. And after I got him lying down, I had to go back upstairs for about another hour to pay another \$250 before they'd take him on in. He could have died."

"They ain't gonna mine no coal because the majority, well, I'd say 95% of the boys that's mining today, their fathers was mining before, and they know what they went through with. So we ain't gonna have to do too much picketing to get em to stop."

Clarence A. "Smokey" Williams, Local 9534 (right): "If we don't get our hospitalization back and our funds back, they don't get no coal. I'll tell you plain flat-footed, cause there's enough retired miners to stand at every mine's entrance throughout the United States."

ARE - COAL!



SAVE THE
MINERS'
CLINICS

VISIT TO PA. CLINIC SHOWS WHY MINERS ARE ANGRY

NEW KENSINGTON, Pa.— It's not too hard to see why the miners are so angry. Just stop by the Miners' Clinic here or any of the fifty non-profit health clinics throughout the coal fields.

Both the clinic and the miners who use it have been hit hard by the health fund cuts instituted by the UMWA Health and Retirement Funds.

Don Conwell is the administrator of the New Kensington clinic. Workers' Power asked him what happened after July 1, when miners had to start paying many of their own medical expenses.

There was nothing complicated about his answer: "When the miners had to pay 40%, they stopped coming...drastically."

Conwell estimated that more than 50% of the miners had just stopped using the clinic. "I just saw that figure the other day, and I was shocked."

"I was talking to a doctor yesterday, telling him about this lack of utilization now, how it's decreased," he added. "And he told me that last week he had two coal miners that needed to be hospitalized and they said, 'I'm not going into the hospital.' The doctor said one guy really needed hospitalization, and he asked him to come in again the next day to try to talk him into it again, and the guy just wouldn't go because he had to pay \$250."

The situation is the same at the other clinics. The Cabin Creek Medical Clinic in Dawes, West Virginia reportedly had only 530 patients covered by the UMWA Health Funds in July, compared with 754 in June.

CLINICS ENDANGERED

It's shocking enough that the coal operators would be willing to play with miners' lives like this. But you've only heard the beginning.

Not only has medical care gone out of reach for miners who can't pay up to \$500 a year for it, it is also endangered even for those who can pay. This is because the miners' clinics themselves have been thrown into near-bankruptcy by the Health Funds trustees.

These clinics have provided quality health care to miners and other residents in remote areas of the country where otherwise there would often be no doctors. The reason the clinics could do this is

because they have not been operated according to the profit motive.

HOW IT STARTED

Most of them were founded by miners themselves. Don Conwell tells how his clinic got started 25 years ago. "Very simply, a group of coal miners decided that the company doctors weren't really looking for their best interest. So they went to the Welfare Funds and said look, we'd like to get our own doctor. And the Funds said OK, we'll give you any kind of financial support we can."

"So they found a doctor and started developing a group of other doctors to work with him. As the group grew, along with the Funds' cooperation and prodding and agreement, pretty soon they built their own building."

"It was a tremendous battle to get hospital privileges because group practice—doctors being paid on a salary—is not the American Medical Association's idea of how doctors should function. The reason our doctors are paid on a salary is so they can worry about patient care and not run patients in and out to make more money."

"In this community, the people picketed the hospital, the doctors picketed trying to get hospital privileges. The hospital finally did give them privileges, and now our doctors make up about a third of the staff at the local hospital."

"Then, as other areas saw these things happening, they started getting their own clinics. McDowell, Kentucky is a good example. Without their clinic, it's 35 miles of rough, country roads to any kind of a doctor. Even with one of their clinics they had to have a road built so people could get into the clinic."

"And the Funds supported these kind of things, because the idea was medical care to coal mining areas where there weren't doctors. By the Funds saying we'll support you, you could guarantee a doctor a salary. And that's how you got the doctor to come to that area."

Up until July 1, the Funds negotiated a flat monthly payment—called a retainer—for each clinic.

"Over the years," Conwell said, "there were a lot of things built into this retainer that the funds thought, along with the clinics, were good things to do, such as building satellite clinics and putting x-ray and laboratory in these satellite clinics. Things that may not have been economically feasible to do if it was your own organization. But the Funds felt that the convenience to the miners, the availability of patient care, was worth doing all these things."

WASN'T WORTH IT

On June 20, the Funds thought again, and decided it wasn't. On that date, when they announced that miners would start having to pay part of their own medical bills, they also said they'd stop paying retainers to the clinics. They announced that after July 1, everything would be on a fee-for-service basis.

That decision, along with the sharp drop in the number of miners coming into the clinics, has plunged the clinics into a financial crisis.

After making a number of quick cuts—laying off 19 employees, getting rid of coffee machines, and cutting down on copy machines and telephones—the New Kensington clinic is now considering shutting

down one or more of its three satellite clinics.

But all these are stopgap measures. If the Funds trustees don't restore the cuts, "we won't last six months, no question about it," says Conwell.

Some other clinics are in worse shape. The Regional Medical Group in McDowell, Kentucky doesn't expect to last beyond September. If that group closes, one of the clinics affected would be the Pike County clinic, begun five years ago in a jail cell, since that was the only space available.

MINER DIRECTORS

The New Kensington clinic is run by a board of directors consisting of 29 coal miners. The board is elected by the union locals, with one or two representatives each depending on the size of the local.

It's a far cry from your local Blue Cross, which is run by bankers and politicians who don't have to use the health services they provide.

The board of the Miners' Clinic in New Kensington is pretty angry about the cuts the Health Funds have ordered.

"Our board members feel that they're being told by the coal companies, you guys are being bad so we're going to punish you by taking your health benefits away," Conwell related. "And they don't think that's a very humane way to deal with wildcat strikes or whatever the coal companies' problem is."



Frances Lawrence, Pulmonary Function Aide at the Miners' Clinic in New Kensington, gives Bill Akins a test to discover airway obstructions, part of the testing procedure for Black Lung.

Many miners fear they will lose this kind of quality health care that the clinics give. One miner in Washington had this to say to Funds Director Martin Danziger:

"There's two types of medical care. The type we had in the coal fields up till 25 years ago was strictly for profit.

"We have over 50 clinics—basically nonprofit clinics—set up by our union in collaboration with the Fund to give us the benefit of having preventive health care instead of milking the Fund for profit."

"Now that the Fund has stopped giving a monthly retainer where we have an interest in preventing people from getting sick, in preventing us from going through unnecessary tests and care, these clinics in order to not go bankrupt are going to be like the rest of the hospitals. They're going to be saying, well, the only way we can get our money is to load these people up with a bunch of tests that they don't need so that we can get our money. Cause all they're interested in now is money."

"What you're doing to us—is you're encouraging the Fund to pay even more money than it would if you'd pay the retainer."



Conwell

the crowd by talking about the old days.

"Mother Jones come into West Virginia years ago to organize our union," he told Sam Church. "When Mother Jones come into Kingston, W. Va., the company was waiting on her."

"When she stepped off that train they put her back on it. The men that wanted to organize had to meet her in the woods."

"All right, when the men went in there and told the company they was organized, the company went into Virginia and brought thugs out of there."

"Covered wagons, my grandfather was in on that when they organized. When they come into Kingston, these thugs was on the

mountains down there. They shot them covered wagons and their mules."

"Then when that happened they come around to all the miners' houses that belonged to the United Mine Workers, and took their guns away from them. My grandfather, he had a gun, and he heard they was comin, and he took one gun on the mountain and hid it."

"He's dead and gone. He fought for the union. You think I'm gonna stand up and not say nothin for my union what he fought for, what he got for us?"

"Union is born and bred in ya. Yeah, it's comin back to this. Either you're union or you're a scab. It's comin back to that right now."

PIRED HEALTH FUND CUTS

avoid the cuts. The 1974 Retirement Fund has more money than it needs, and a re-allocation of some of its income to the two floundering Health Funds would have avoided the cuts. It was all legal, and had been done twice in 1976. All that was needed was the coal operators' OK.

The operators refused. They said the Health Funds were broke because of wildcat strikes, and they clearly wanted to use the cuts as a way of punishing the miners.

The Health and Retirement Funds get their money through

operator payments based on the number of hours worked and tons of coal mined. So the wildcat strikes did have some effect on the Funds, but so did last winter's weather, which curtailed production. A bigger factor was inflation, which skyrocketed medical costs.

The United Mine Workers leadership has deplored the health fund cuts, but has not used any of the power at its disposal to pressure the operators into agreeing to a re-allocation of funds. Instead, most union leaders have tried to urge or coerce the miners to go back to work.



This young miner has no teeth, but he still looked ready to bite Sam Church's head off as he shouted, "I voted for you!"

Black Women Under Slavery

Today, the health, welfare and dignity of Black women are under attack. For years, countless numbers of Black women have been forced or conned into sterilization.

Now the Carter administration is withdrawing funds for abortions, making it impossible for millions of Black women to get a free and safe abortion. And most recently, Carter has announced "reforms" in the welfare system that will force many Black women into dead-end, low paying jobs. But Black women will fight back.

The history of Black women, often hidden or distorted, is a history of struggle. In recent times, we have seen Black women play a leading role in the civil rights movement of the 1960's. In the late 1960's Black women fought to change the oppressive welfare system.

Workers' Power presents a page from the history of Black women, the era of slavery. We believe that a knowledge of this history can help to inspire the struggles that are yet to come.

Labor Notes

by Jim Woodward



A recent survey taken by the Opinion Research Corp. reports that more workers are dissatisfied with their jobs now than at any time since the company began these surveys in 1952. Thirty-eight percent of hourly-paid employees disliked their jobs, the survey said, and only 17% felt they were treated fairly at work.

United States Steel has laid off hundreds of workers in the Chicago-Gary area in recent weeks. At the same time, the company has increased its prices and complained about lower-priced foreign imports. Jim Balanoff, United Steel Workers District 31 director, commented: the steel companies "are out to really gorge themselves on maximum profits, whatever the American public will stand."

In the three years ended last September, Congress appropriated \$83 million to pay compensation to miners disabled by black lung. According to the Mountain Eagle, a Kentucky newspaper, only \$27 million was ever spent. That's because of the enormous amount of red tape a black lung victim has to deal with. Claims which originally were supposed to be processed in 90 days are now taking nearly two years... and then only 8% are approved.

Until early this summer, trade unions were illegal under Spain's fascist laws. But in the first month since the unions were legalized, hundreds of thousands of Spanish workers have streamed into the trade unions. The total organized in one month is about 20% of all Spanish workers. That happens to be almost the same percentage of workers that American trade unions have managed to organize in about 90 years. George Meany ought to think about it.

United States Steel is so cheap they have refused to pay \$6 million they owe the United Mine Workers Health and Retirement Funds. Under the Bituminous Coal contract, which U.S. Steel signed, the company has to pay royalties on any non-UMWA coal it acquires (scab coal or foreign coal). In refusing to pay up, U.S. Steel is contributing to the Health Funds' financial crisis which the coal operators, among them U.S. Steel, blame on wildcat strikes. The Health Funds are suing U.S. Steel for the money.

A U.S. Appeals Court has ruled that a white man, an employee of Lear-Siegler, Inc. in Detroit, can use civil rights laws to win his job back because he was fired for protesting the discharge of a black employee. Both workers were tool and die makers.

How's this for harassment. Lee Potter, United Mine Workers organizer in Stearns, Kentucky, reports that state police arrested six picketers in mid-July, then locked them in state police cars with the windows rolled up and heaters turned on.

Cesar Chavez, whose United Farm Workers union has a considerable number of Filipino workers, visited the Philippines last month where he was given a warm welcome and an award by President Ferdinand Marcos. Chavez, who should know better, praised Marcos and the martial law that now rules the country. When asked, Chavez said he wasn't aware strikes had been banned under martial law and that thousands of strikers had been jailed for engaging in some 150 strikes anyway.

The Labor Notes Quiz of the Week: What union represents the majority of American industrial divers working in U.S. waters and abroad? A free Workers' Power button to every correct answer postmarked no later than Friday, August 19. Send your entry to the address below. Answer in next week's Labor Notes.

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

“

These same old eyes seen powerful lot of tribulations in my time, and when I shuts em now I can see lots of little children just like my grandchildren, totting hoes bigger than they is, and they poor little black hands and legs bleeding where they scratched by the brambledy weeds, and where they got whippings 'cause they didn't git out all the work the overseer set out for 'em.

I was one of them little slave gals my own self, and I never seen nothing but work and tribulations till I was a grown-up woman, just about.

”

by Marilyn Danton

Black women suffered every type of oppression under slavery. Alongside the men, they worked in the fields or toiled sun-up to sun-down in the Big House.

They took care of their own children and the Master's children. They saw their husbands and children and parents sold away.

Many times they were forced to strip on the auction block so the white men could get a good look at what they were buying.

They had no right to resist the sexual advances from any white man—their husbands and lovers risked death if they defended them.

And for all this Black women living under slavery were called immoral, sub-human and not really women at all.

Yet these women fought to hold their families together and to protect their children as much as they could.

When freedom came many slaves searched out their families—in some cases women and children who'd been separated at birth found each other 20 years later and reunited.

FAMILY

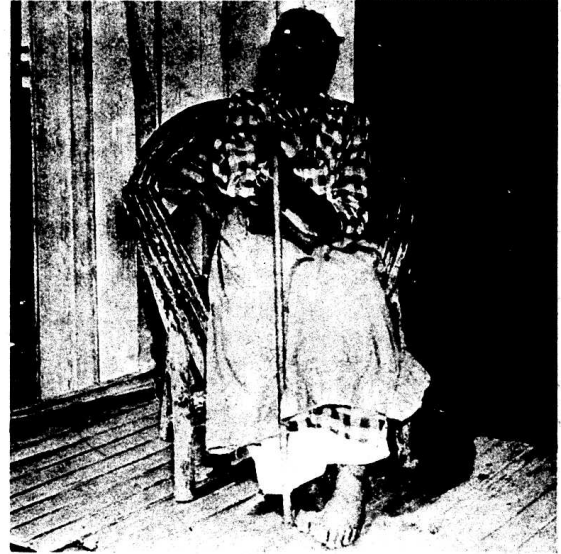
The Southern slave system tried to break up the Black family. Legally, slaves couldn't marry, and children could be sold off at will. Systematically, families were broken up if the price was right.

Women went to violent extremes to try and stop this practice. Lou Smith, a former slave from Texas described this.

"My mother tole me that he [the slave master] owned a woman who was the mother of several children, and when her babies would get about a year or two of age he'd sell them, and it would break her heart. She never got to keep them.

"When her fourth baby was born and was about two months old, she just studied all the time about how she would have to give it up, and one day she said, 'I just decided I'm not going to let Old Master sell this baby; he just ain't going to do it.'

"She got up and give it something out of a bottle, and pretty soon it was dead. Course didn't



nobody tell on her, or he'd beat her nearly to death."

In other cases women were forced to mate with specific men because the slave master decided that they would produce children that would sell well.

Rose Williams described her experience. "The next day I goes to the missy and tells her what Rufus wants [to mate with her] and Missy says that am the massa's wishes.

"She say, 'You am the portly gal, and Rufus am the portly man. The massa wants you-uns for to bring forth portly children.'"

Many tried to escape and were maimed for life: "They [hounds] gits near her and she grabs a limb and tries to hist herself in a tree, but them dogs grab her and pull her down.

"The men hollers them onto her, and the dogs tore her naked and et the breasts plum off her body.

"She got well and lived to be an old woman, but 'nother woman has to suck her baby, and she ain't got no sign of breasts no more." This account is from Mary Reynolds of Louisiana.

Despite the fact that she was treated no better than a farm animal, many masters trusted the slave woman with their own children.

Said Ellen Betts of Louisiana, "I wet-nursed the white children and Black children, like they all the same color. Sometime I have a white one pulling the one side and a Black on the other."

And many of the children the slave woman gave birth to were fathered by the slave master.

Mary Reynolds told that, "Us niggers knowed the doctor [slave master] took a black woman quick as he did a white and took any on his place he wanted and he took them often. But mostly the children born on the place looked like niggers."

And side by side they worked with the men in the fields: "The conch shell blowed before daylight, and all hands better git out for roll call, or Solomon [driver] bust the door down and git them out.

"It was work hard, git beatings and half fed. That conch shell didn't blow again 'til dark," another former slave recalled.

And side by side, Black women fought for freedom against the slave master.

Harriet Tubman is perhaps the best known. She was the Moses of her people who single-handedly led hundreds of slaves to freedom in the 1850's and "never lost a passenger" on the underground railroad.

Others, like Sojourner Truth fought for women's rights as well: "That man over there says that women need to be placed into carriages and lifted over ditches and they have the best place everywhere.

"Nobody ever helps me into carriages and over puddles and gives me the best place. And ain't I a woman? Look at me! Look at my arm! I have ploughed and planted and gathered into barns and no man could head me and ain't I a woman?

"I could work as much and eat as much as any man—when I could get it—and bear the lash as well! And ain't I a woman?

"I have born thirteen children and seen most of them sold into slavery and when I cried out with my mother's grief none but Jesus heard me! And ain't I a woman!"

Exploited as slaves, oppressed as women, treated like animals, their families torn apart, Black women fought back and with their men won freedom from slavery. □

All the quotes in this article [except Sojourner Truth] are taken from "Lay My Burden Down," edited by B.A. Botkin, U. of Chicago Press.

Editorial

We agree with the organizers of the anti-nuclear power protests, that the nuclear power industry is both dangerous and a rip-off.

Construction of nuclear plants should be stopped immediately. There is no doubt it will take a mass movement and large-scale protests to accomplish this.

Does this mean we are against cheap power? Are we against improved technology to meet energy needs? Do we think people should give up air conditioners, electric appliances and cars to save fuel?

Not a bit. We live in a world where cheap and plentiful energy supplies are essential for a decent standard of living.

But the most vital case against the nuclear energy industry is that its promise of creating clean, cheap energy by the end of this century is a total fraud.

700% INCREASE

Simple figures prove this. The cost of the basic nuclear fuel, uranium, increased seven-fold in less than five years! Scientific experts predict uranium reserves will be used up in 25 years.

The cost of uranium-consuming reactors, per kilowatt of electricity to be produced, is more than double what it was estimated at less than ten years ago.

Insurance costs on nuclear power are skyrocketing, and the power plants themselves have a very brief life span.

The massive government-backed nuclear power program is not intended to cut cost or produce cleaner energy. Carter's energy administrators are telling us we will have nuclear plants—and at the same time that our fuel bills will go up.

They are telling us we will have nuclear power—at the same time they are passing laws to require more, not less, high-sulphur air-polluting soft coal to billow from industrial smokestacks.

WASTE AND DANGER

The nuclear industry claims to provide safe, efficient energy by using subatomic processes to generate electricity.

But fantastic amounts of energy are actually wasted in this process, both as heat and radiation.

This is the reason why millions of gallons of water are needed as coolants, thousands of tons of steel and concrete are needed as shielding, and other safety devices are required to prevent the core of the plant from literally melting itself down.

The danger of nuclear power as a source for electricity arises precisely because it is not an efficient use of natural energy sources. Nuclear proliferation actually represents a trend toward higher-priced energy.

It is, however, a way of maintaining energy monopolies in the hands of private utilities. And it will have to be fantastically profitable, simply to pay the costs of building the plants and cleaning up radioactive accidents.

Polls show that most Americans are firmly convinced that the energy crisis was a fraud created by the energy monopolies to start with—and they are right.

Now people are also starting to learn that the same drive for profits is the reason those monopolies are pushing ahead with a program whose dangers cannot even be calculated. □

NUCLEAR POWER:

August 6th and 9th, 1945 were the days that the United States obliterated hundreds of thousands of Japanese civilians with the first atomic bombs at Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

For many years, the anniversary of the bombing has been

called "Hiroshima Day," a day for remembering the victims of this murder and holding anti-war demonstrations.

This year, Hiroshima Day protests in this country focused on the issue of the proliferating

nuclear power industry.

Following the lead of the Clamshell Alliance on the East Coast, demonstrations were held near the sites of active or proposed plants on both coasts, including a plant in California near a major earthquake fault.

Protests were held at three sites in Michigan over the August 5-6 weekend. FRANK RUNNINGHORSE, of the Detroit Red Tide [the International Socialist revolutionary youth organization], reports on what happened in Monroe Michigan.

The people don't want it From Michigan...

Around 250 demonstrators, including members of the Red Tide, gathered in Monroe, Michigan to demand "No More Nukes."

This is the site of the Fermi II reactor located 25 miles from Detroit.

A thousand helium balloons were released, carrying a post card with the following message:

"This balloon was released at the Fermi II nuclear power plant in Monroe, Mich.

"A leak of radioactive material could reach you as easily as this balloon, but would be far less pleasant to encounter. An amount of plutonium 239 equal to this balloon's slight volume, could induce millions of cancers.

"And plutonium won't disappear with a pinprick—it lasts 250,000 years.

FAST BREEDERS

Demonstrators pointed out why the Monroe reactor is called "Fermi II." There was a Fermi I—one of the first fast-breeder reactors built in the U.S.

Fermi I produced a near-disaster. Fast-breeder reactors are different from "conventional nuclear reactors" in that they create more radioactive nuclear fuel (plutonium 239) than they consume.

Unlike "conventionals" they are not immune from the possibility of

blowing up in a disaster.

Fermi I was opened at a cost of \$120 million in 1966, after an unsuccessful Supreme Court battle by the UAW to stop it.

In its very first steps of operation the reactor suffered a near-disastrous mishap. A partial core meltdown occurred.

Authorities feared a massive deadly radiation leak, even possibly a nuclear explosion. For nearly one month they feared Detroit's entire population might have to be evacuated.

COSTS RUN WILD

It took more than a year to safely dismantle the reactor, which has

never successfully resumed operations.

Besides the danger of a repeat of the Fermi I disaster, the demonstrators are angered by 200% cost overruns at Fermi II in the last two years.

Other Michigan anti-nuclear demonstrations took place at Cook Palisade plants near Benton Harbor and the potential "nuclear dump" near Rogers City.

They demanded an end to further construction and export of nuclear power plants and technology, no more funding of the deadly fast-breeder reactor, and a ban on permanent disposal of radioactive waste in any area adjoining the Great Lakes. □



French cops fire tear gas as 30,000 demonstrate against nuclear power

30,000 Say No To Nukes In France

One person was killed and more than a hundred injured when 5000 armed riot police attacked an anti-nuclear demonstration in eastern France, two weekends ago.

The demonstrators were protesting plans for a fast-breeder reactor, the nuclear reactor which both burns and reproduces plutonium.

Calling the protestors "foreign anarchists," the French government gave the riot police instructions to attack the demonstration in the most violent manner.

Despite this intimidation and lack of support from the two biggest French union federations, 30,000 protestors took part.

The biggest group of unions, the Communist Party-led CGT, has always opposed the anti-nuclear movement.

BOSSES WANT NUKES

The Communist Party even supports the French nuclear striking force. The CP changed its position two months ago, coming out in support of nuclear weapons "in the interests of national independence."

The other union federation, the CFDT, has half-heartedly supported some of the anti-nuclear

protests. But it opposed the mass demonstration two weeks ago.

The reason the trade union leaders have taken this attitude is that they support the Socialist Party-Communist Party alliance, which expects to win next year's French elections.

The SP-CP alliance supports building the nuclear power plants already planned, saying that this strengthens the so-called "national independence" of France's capitalist economy.

This is actually a cover for the position of big business and the military, which wants to reduce Middle East oil imports. □

...To Europe!

Public Used In Secret Tests

By The CIA



by Paul Broz

Are you one of the human guinea pigs the CIA used to study dangerous drugs, electroshock, chemicals, or sexual behavior? No? You don't think so?

Well, someone may be knocking on your door one of these days to tell you that you were.

The CIA conducted secret tests on Americans during the 1950's and 1960's, often without their consent or knowledge. The tests went under the names of Project Bluebird, Project Artichoke, and MK-ULTRA-MK-DELTA.

Recently, declassified documents have provided details of these experiments. CIA Director Stansfield Turner said that the CIA would try to contact people who were the victims of the tests, although he didn't know how many there were.

A CIA memo describes Project Artichoke as "the evaluation and development of any method by

which we can get information from a person against his will and without his knowledge."

Their goal was to "get control of an individual to the point where he will do our bidding against his will and even against such fundamental laws of nature as self-preservation."

As part of these projects the CIA experimented with LSD on students and prisoners.

Two men died during CIA drug tests. The cause of their deaths was kept secret from their families for more than 20 years.

The agency also set up houses of prostitution in San Francisco and New York, code-named "Operation Midnight Climax." Agents paid prostitutes \$100 a night to work in the houses and spied on them and their customers through one-way mirrors.

At one point research was underway to try to turn mushrooms into rubber, to dissolve the Berlin Wall, to develop a pill to make a drunk person sober, and to produce food that looked and tasted normal, but "when eaten, would create confusion-anxiety-fear."

The CIA conducted its studies by funding private doctors and scientists in 44 colleges and universities, 15 research foundations, 12 hospitals and clinics, and 3 prisons.

Money was supplied through two front organizations set up by the CIA.

Why did the CIA conduct such research? Is it just in the secret world of foreign agents and international espionage that such knowledge is useful?

During the Pentagon Papers trial of Daniel Ellsberg, Howard Hunt—one of the Watergate Gang—broke into the office of Ellsberg's psychiatrist.

He supplied the stolen materials to the CIA for the construction of a "personality assessment." The CIA also studied Ellsberg's lawyer, Leonard Boudin.

As one project, a New York magician was paid \$3000 to write a handbook teaching sleight of hand, showing agents how to administer drugs without the knowledge of the person being drugged.

Black Panther leader Fred Hampton was murdered in his sleep by police in Chicago. The autopsy revealed that he had been heavily tranquilized before the shooting. Was the CIA responsible?

The CIA now says that many of its experiments ended in failure. They say they've given up such research for good.

Or is that just another drug they're trying to feed the American people? □

C.W.A. GOES QUIETLY

by Brian MacKenzie

"A HUNDRED THOUSAND jobs have vanished in the Bell System," protested Glenn E. Watts, President of the Communications Workers of America.

"We need job security for those who may be displaced," Watts insisted. A national strike of telephone workers, Watts warned, was "nearly inevitable."

Tough talk. But that was on August 2, a week before the CWA contracts covering nearly 500,000 Bell System workers expired.

On August 7, just before the deadline, Watts signed a tentative agreement with Bell that does little to prevent the loss of another hundred thousand jobs.

SPEED-UP

The major causes of the drastic loss of telephone jobs have been technological advances combined with ruthless speed-up in the past few years. Productivity has risen 54% since 1970, 10.5% in 1976 alone.

The main features of the contract represent only token efforts to save jobs.

They include an incentive for early retirement, some pay-level guarantees for those downgraded during a reduction of the work force, and elimination on forced over-time.

The early retirement scheme, called Supplemental Income Protection Program, will pay up to \$250 a month extra for those now getting top pay. But it lasts for only two years—or less if you reach 62 or become eligible for Social Security before.

In today's economic climate, only dedicated gamblers are likely to opt for that one.

The new agreement also limits forced over-time to 10 hours a week for seven months of the year and 15 for the other five busiest months. New York Telephone has had this for many years and has still lost more than ten thousand jobs since 1970.

The wage increases are in line with those of other major contracts, but don't offer any real income protection. The first year increase will be 8% for the highest paid workers, 5% a week for the lowest paid, with 3% for the following two years.

Despite big talk by the CWA leadership, people in the lower ranges, mostly women and minority group members, will see almost no closing of the gap between themselves and the people in the higher paid occupations, mostly white males.

The only real concession to the women who make up over half the Bell work force was paid maternity leave for up to six weeks. This brings the CWA contract up to par with other unions like the United Auto Workers.

The lack of progress in narrowing the income gap sparked the only active opposition to the national settlement. Telephone operators in Des Moines, Iowa walked out for a couple of days in protest.

It is likely that the national contract will be ratified.

It is possible, however, that there will be some resistance around local bargaining.

According to the CWA's ratification procedure, the national contract can not go to a vote until the "local critical issues" are resolved in each of the sub-units of the Bell System.

Ed Dempsey, President of the

large New York City Local 1101, has called on his members to reject the national contract. He has also said he is willing to strike over local issues.

If the local bargaining in New York is not settled by August 13, it will hold up the national ratification procedure.

A possible walkout by AT&T Long Lines workers to reinstate fired militant Art Koski could throw

FOR HITLER'S RIGHT-HAND MAN, CYRUS VANCE IS ALL HEART

"LET THE NAZI mass murderer out of jail."

That was Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's plea. He called Monday for the release of Rudolph Hess from Spandau Prison in West Germany.

Hess was Adolph Hitler's Deputy Fuhrer, the number two Nazi leader and mass murderer of several million people. He is the biggest Nazi war criminal in captivity.

"I assure you that the U.S. government will continue to seek a four power agreement on the release of Mr. Hess," wrote Vance in a letter made public by a west German politician.

another wrench into Watts' usually well-oiled machine. This walkout could get Koski's job back. But it won't upset the major national contract.

Glenn Watts can once again be proud of the service he has rendered to the owners and managers of the Bell System. It is his kind of dedication that will allow Bell to reap over \$4 billion in profits this year. □

Now we know what the Carter Administration means by human rights.

The U.S. government has not called for the release of Black political prisoners illegally held by the South African government in occupied Namibia.

It has not demanded the release of Arab prisoners being tortured by Israeli jailers.

It has not secured the release of a single worker jailed for striking in Chile, Iran, South Korea, Argentina or anyplace else.

But when it comes to a Nazi, humanitarianism runs riot at the State Department. □

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.

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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.
- **CAPITALISM**
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 the private profit system. It protects its interests through economic control of other countries, spying and wars.
- **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.

Workers' Power
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VIEW FROM THE AUDIENCE

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



If You Lived In This City Would You Want A \$23 Million Hockey Rink?

by Dan Posen

DETROIT—This city just got a \$23 million lesson in what is called "rebuilding the central cities."

Last week Mayor Coleman Young scored a major political coup, and virtually sewed up his own reelection.

He announced that the city will lease its new riverfront arena, scheduled for completion in January 1979, to a private promotion firm called Olympia Corporation.

Olympia, headed by multimillionaire Bruce Norris, is best known as the owner of the Detroit Red Wings hockey team.

Over the past five years Detroit fans have taken to calling the team the "Dead Wings." That tells you how good a hockey team they are.

They are also sometimes called simply "that mess"—as in "I'm not going to pay seven bucks plus parking to go watch that mess."

RED WINGS

The Red Wings play in a crumbling barn called Olympia Stadium. Norris was on the verge of moving the entire operation out to a suburban complex to be called "Olympia II."

The designs were made, the land was bought, the suburban real estate investors had everything lined up, and the Olympia owners were already selling \$300,000 boxes to corporations for the new facility.

Then Mayor Young stepped in and blew the suburban plan away.



To keep the Red Wings and other promotions in town, Young made a deal with Norris which—well, it takes your breath away.

• The city is building a new 20,000 seat riverfront arena next to the current 11,000 seat Cobo arena. The projected cost is something like \$23 million.

Immediately on completion, the new arena will be leased to Olympia Corp. on a 30-year lease, at \$450,000 per year.

• Olympia won't just be renting—it will actually be running the building, with full management control of all events held there.

• But that's just the beginning. As part of the same \$450,000 package, Olympia also gets control of the city-owned Cobo Arena—two arenas for the price of leasing one!

• Just for a little extra gravy, Olympia also gets the Cobo Arena concessions contract, a fabulously lucrative operation estimated at \$600,000 per year—more than the total rent!

If this blows your mind, consider how it's being paid for. What made the new arena possible was \$5 million in federal public works funds.

Those \$5 million, which will save the city an extra \$400,000 a year, made the riverfront arena possible in the first place. . . . and therefore gave the city the chance for the huge giveaway to Bruce Norris and Olympia.

Now whether you happen to like hockey and downtown sports arenas or not, let's look at a few of the other things that the people of Detroit could use.

NO MONEY

Sports in the public schools, and for that matter all extra-curricular programs, are down the drain in this city.

Last week the Detroit Board of Education cancelled all public high school football openers, for want of a few tens of thousands of dollars.

The whole program is dead unless a last-ditch millage passes this fall, which is unlikely.

There is no federal money to save sports, music or anything else in the mostly Black schools of Detroit. But there is \$5 million in federal money for 20,000 people to watch 12 men play pro hockey.

Or, think of this. The price of one \$23 million super-arena could probably build half a dozen community cultural centers for music, neighborhood sports, whatever.

Or, it could literally rebuild a few of the worst ghettos in the city.

From a business point of view, can Coleman Young be criticized for putting the money into the arena instead of the community? Not really.

Federal matching funds wouldn't be available. Bonds couldn't be floated. Banks wouldn't back it.

And Young had to keep Norris and the Wings in the city. If he couldn't beat their suburban deal, Young would still have had a riverfront arena—sitting there dark, with no tenant.

As a businessman, Coleman Young is beyond reproach.

What can be attacked is a system which channels tax money into so-called downtown business development.

This means executive office suites, luxury housing and entertainment to make downtown attractive to Henry Ford and other capitalists, while the real communities that real people live in choke to death.

POLITICIAN

Coleman Young is a politician. He will not try to change this system. That is where he does deserve to be attacked.

What Young would do is add a 50c city surcharge to all ticket prices at the new riverfront arena.

This will be added to the price increases the Red Wings will charge when they move downtown.

Then, while the real Detroit goes on crumbling, hockey fans can pay nine or ten dollars, plus parking, to go watch "that mess." □

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Bell Cans Koski For Verbal Sabotage

by Kim Moody

AT&T is the biggest corporation in the world. Art Koski is the president of a small local of the Communications Workers of America in Minneapolis.

Last week, AT&T found Koski so threatening that they fired him. They said that this man was out to "verbally sabotage" AT&T's communications network.

Now, when it comes to criticizing the company or lighting a fire under the seats of the CWA leadership, there are those who say Koski is a loud mouth. But, until now, no one suspected that he had the power to do in an outfit like AT&T, verbally.

Koski, who has 21 years in the company, is a long-time dissident

in the CWA. For a number of years he has run a national telephone tape out of Minneapolis.

His advice is generally militant and to the point. At contract time, Koski is one of the first to call for serious strike action.

This year, he suggested that in the event of a strike, CWA members might call a certain number in Hawaii. The company said that if too many people did this it would sabotage customer service.

The fact is, however, that Koski was not fired because he proposed jamming a test line. They fired him because of his career as a militant union leader.

But even the biggest of capitalist giants makes mistakes. Their move against Koski may trigger a rejection movement against the tenta-

tive contract covering 15,000 AT&T Long Lines workers.

As Koski told Workers' Power, "It's a miscalculation on their part bred by their arrogance, which relates to their ignorance, thinking they're so damn omniscient they can't do anything wrong."

"What they tried to do was make a scapegoat out of me and they made a martyr out of me. It's going to defeat their contract, cause everybody's uptight about it now."

Koski is now working with other local presidents in the Long Lines unit of AT&T. Koski feels certain that the local leaders will turn down the contract until he is re-instated. He reports that "they are coming to me" about the firing.

A man like Koski deserves the support of all CWA members. □

Workers' Power

RACISM GOES ON TRIAL IN GEORGIA

by Jack Bloom

Five Black men are on trial for a murder they had nothing to do with in Dawson, a small town in rural Georgia, about 30 miles from Plains.

It is really the American justice system and Jimmy Carter's home territory which are on trial here—on trial for blatant, open racism.

The prosecutors' case is weak. The five were accused by an eye-

witness. But the witness could make no identification until 24 hours after the killing, which occurred during a robbery in a small store.

Then he decided that one of the

robbers was Roosevelt Watson, a man who regularly shopped at the store and whom he knew well.

Once Watson was identified, the four others were brought into it through him. The police got him to implicate the others in a crime they

never committed, by terrorizing Watson.

CONFESS OR DIE

The defense has brought out some of this persecution in pre-trial testimony. A deputy tried to force the defendants to show where they had hidden the guns they had supposedly used in the robbery.

He took one of the Black prisoners out into the woods, put a cocked gun between his eyes and demanded:

"Okay, nigger, where's the gun at? I'm gonna shoot if you don't tell me where the gun's at."

Knowing how Black life is valued in this country, and especially in the South, it is easy to imagine the terror he faced.

The Dawson five have been the subject of a big publicity campaign. In this respect they are lucky.

The attempted frame-up might have gone unnoticed. But the heat of the spotlight is on Terrell County where Dawson is located.

The result has been to put racists on the defense. Even before the trial started the prosecution was forced to make a concession in order to have a prayer at securing a conviction.

They announced on the first day that they would not seek the death penalty. In the state that has the most prisoners on death row of any in the country, this was a big surprise, and it reflects how weak they feel.

PISTOLS AND POISON

The defense has brought testimony showing that Dawson is basically unchanged from years before the civil rights movement.

One former Dawson policeman has testified how the police routinely harassed Blacks:

•A drunken Black man, brought to jail, had mace sprayed into his mouth and eyes.

•Police sat in the courthouse with a pistol "to try to deter Blacks from registering."

•Police kept lists of Blacks who bought firearms or ammunition.

•Police had laced hot dogs with arsenic and then fed them to dogs belonging to Blacks. This occurred on dozens of occasions.

He also testified that the mayor had stormed into the police station and demanded a machine gun, saying: "There's four or five niggers out hunting on my land."

He said he was "going to shoot him some niggers."

A professor from Atlanta University who specializes in studying newspapers said the weekly Dawson News is a "white newspaper... The newspaper, present the view of white supremacy."

The defense has so far been successful in putting the town on trial. And this is before the case has begun, before jury selection has even begun.

The case of the Dawson Five may turn out to be a real attack on white racism and white supremacy. Even rural Georgia may be forced to back down some.

Texas Farmworkers March

ATLANTA—The Texas Farm Workers, about four dozen strong, arrived here August 5. They are marching from Texas to Washington to demand help from the government and dramatize their plight.

They are demanding the repeal of Section 148 of the Taft-Hartley Act, which allows Texas to have an anti-union "right-to-work" law.

Top AFL-CIO officials have turned their backs on the Texas Farmworkers because they organize Mexicans working illegally in Texas.

But in Atlanta, city workers in AFSCME, recently on strike themselves, showed their support. So did the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers, who are trying to organize J.P. Stevens.



—“Give Us Jobs”—

by Steve Burns

NEW YORK—"Give us jobs when the lights are on, and we won't loot when the lights are out."

Two hundred chanting people organized by the "Looters for Jobs Coalition," most of them from the South Bronx, sent chills throughout the business and political community here last Wednesday.

The South Bronx residents, angry at being called "animals," marched from 170th St. and Prospect Avenue to the New York Unemployment Center. Major television stations and newspaper were there.

At 11 AM, an hour before the scheduled start, 30 fully armed police, ten model cities security goons, 5 squad cars, six "undercover" cops, and one police van gathered at the beginning of the march.

"They were there to intimidate us, to prevent us from marching at all," said one participant.

A lot of people there had been arrested during the blackout even though they had not been looting. The only crime they had committed was living in the South Bronx.

Some had been held for three days in jail, 40 people to a 12 person cell, and given two balony sandwiches a day for food.

They were treated like animals. "They say we don't want to

work," shouted Bob Long, a South Bronx resident. "They say we are lazy. But 8000 people show up for 2000 part-time jobs."

A few days earlier the city had announced that it had jobs cleaning up after the looting, to last for 33 days. But people were given incorrect addresses at which to apply for them. Many of the 8000 people who showed up were pissed off.

THE REAL LOOTERS

George Harris, speaking on WNBC-TV, stated the Coalition's case. "65% of the people here and in other ghetto communities are unemployed. We want jobs, a life that means something.

"If the situation is not changed, people must take to the streets. Everyone must remember 15 years ago. The South Bronx used to be a beautiful community. Blacks and whites got along—there were jobs, a stable and safe place to live.

"Then the banks red-lined it and made it impossible to get loans. Developers bulldozed buildings and left us living in rubble. Those are the looters."

"And now, after the real looting has taken place—and people everywhere better see this—other communities are starting to suffer the same fate."

Before the march, a Puerto Rican undercover cop approached a white in the crowd, mistaking him for another undercover agent. "You know the plan?" he asked.

The other man played along. "Yeah, most of it."

The cop continued. "You know what to do around here? Keep on circulating to scare away people from the march."

But it didn't work. Everyone knows there have to be changes. Some of the people of the South Bronx are getting organized.

The "Looters for Jobs Coalition" has a lot of work to do. It started with a few people at Prospect and 170th. It's now many times larger.

They are organizing door to door, with posters and loudspeakers. They want lives full of meaning and self-respect. They want jobs.

Next meeting of the LOOTERS FOR JOBS COALITION

Monday, Aug. 22, 7 pm 170th and Prospect

BE THERE, AND BRING SOME FRIENDS.