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FORD WORKERS REJECT CONTRACT



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BY DAVID NORTH
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Woodcock also announced that he would continue negotiating with General Motors past this Monday's deadline and would not call a national strike because it would have a devastating impact on the economy.

Instead, Woodcock said that the UAW Executive Board has decided to use the

ineffective and discredited "apache" plan of short and isolated walkouts to pressure GM for a settlement.

Woodcock is openly defying thousands of Ford and GM workers and attempting to impose undemocratically a contract upon them just as a virtual rebellion has developed in the UAW against his leadership.

Auto workers must demand a national strike of the entire industry to defeat the pattern of impossible working conditions and three percent wage deal written into the Chrysler and Ford contracts.

This national strike must be the beginning of a massive campaign to drive Nixon, who stands behind all the attacks on living and working conditions, from office.

Support for the auto workers can be won on the basis of a call by the UAW for massive demonstrations in every city demanding Nixon's ouster, new elections, and the immediate convening of a Congress of Labor to build a labor party as the alternative to Nixon.

The conditions for such a strike clearly exist.

Local strikes have already broken out throughout the Ford empire as auto workers attempt to break through the Woodcock sellout.

Two assembly plants in Louisville, Kentucky, are out.

More than 7400 members of Local 425 in Lorain, Ohio, have shut down the sprawling assembly plant there.

A Ford truck plant in Avon Lake, Ohio, is also shut down.

At the same time, skilled tradesmen will not accept Woodcock's arrogant refusal to acknowledge their rejection of the contract.

The Woodcock bureaucracy's enormous fear and hatred of the ranks was shown most sharply Tuesday afternoon when a top official of Local 600 shot a worker outside the union hall who had been arguing against the Ford pact. (See exclusive interview on page 9).

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(Continued On Page 12)

Desperate Nixon Maneuvers For Support

BY THE EDITORS

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At a breakfast reception for 75 congressmen, Nixon arrogantly asserted: "If you cut the legs off the President, America is going to lose."

Throughout the week, Nixon has been meeting with Republican congressmen and senators in order to rally their support behind his presidency. He has also scheduled meetings with leading Democrats.

The statement of support given by those congressmen after being received by Nixon in the White House shows that the politicians of neither party will actually carry out a serious impeachment drive against Nixon.

In this new situation, as Nixon defies those who are calling for his resignation and seeks to rally the politicians of both parties, the AFL-CIO bureaucracy is attempting to use its impeachment campaign as a means of turning the labor movement back into the Democratic Party which supports every one of Nixon's attacks on the working class.

"There will be no demonstrations," an AFL-CIO spokesman told the Bulletin. "We don't go the demonstration route. We're not trying to pull a political coup

d'etat."

The ranks must demand that the AFL-CIO and UAW carry out their policy of demanding Nixon's resignation by organizing massive demonstrations in every city directed against this government, and by preparing a general strike to force Nixon out if he will not resign.

The labor movement must build the alternative to Nixon by convening a Congress of Labor to establish a labor party pledged to socialist policies.

The leadership of the AFL-CIO has shown that it will not carry out these policies. This is why it is urgent to build forces in the trade unions that will fight for this perspective now.

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(Continued On Page 12)

**Bulletin
Twice-Weekly
Fund**

This week we received \$1246.71 for the Twice-Weekly Bulletin Fund Drive. This brings our grand total to \$38,509.62. If we are to meet our goal of \$50,000 by December 1, we must receive \$6000 each week for the next two weeks.

We can make the goal if we make a big effort now. This weekend gives us an opportunity to go out and raise these funds.

**In The Midweek
Edition**

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•Statement of the International Committee of the Fourth International on the French OCI's slander of Michael Varga.

Bulletin

NOW
TWICE A
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Twice-Weekly Organ of the Central Committee of the Workers League

VOLUME NINE NUMBER FIFTY 325

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The Mideast: Three Vital Revolutionary Lessons

The maintenance of the Third Army on the west bank of the Suez Canal means that the Arab countries have won victory in the Middle East war.

Whatever the outcome of the peace agreement between Israel and Egypt, the final terms will have to be based on this indisputable fact.

Any settlement can only be tenuous and unstable. In Suez City where the two armies face each other only yards apart, fighting has flared up between United Nations forces and Israeli troops.

What We Think

Never again will Israel be able to regain control of the Sinai peninsula where Egyptian troops are now entrenched on the eastern side. In every area, the Egyptian Army is in a powerful position to renew its offensive.

King Faisal of Saudi Arabia has resolved to continue his oil boycott of the United States no matter what Sadat and Kissinger decide to do.

Underlying this boycott is the crisis that the inflation of the dollar is producing for the oil sheiks who have amassed huge dollar holdings through the sale of oil. The Arab rulers now see more stability in keeping their wealth in oil rather than accumulating millions of worthless dollars.

Thus the Arab rulers are striking their own blows against the capitalist powers at the same time as the Arab masses move into struggle against imperialist domination of their land.

There are three vital revolutionary lessons to be

drawn from the victory of the Arab armies.

The defeat of Israel has created for the first time conditions of revolutionary struggle within Israel.

US imperialism can no longer rely on Israel as an effective bulwark to protect its interests in the Middle East. This is the role it has played since it was carved out of Palestinian land in 1948.

The victory of the Arab masses has broken down the Zionist myths that have held Jewish workers in Israel tied to their own capitalist rulers.

The settlers of Israel who carried with them the memory of the Nazi genocide of Germany were encouraged to believe that the way out of this persecution was not in struggle against the capitalist system, but in the formation of a Jewish state. The myth was developed that the Jewish state was invincible and superior to all other peoples.

This myth and the conception of a "classless state" has now been destroyed. The defeat of the Israeli forces has openly split the ruling class, and right-wing as well as left-wing movements have developed.

This now makes it possible for the Israeli working class to begin to struggle independently for its own demands and needs, creating conditions to build a revolutionary party in Israel.

The second critical lesson is that the victory of the Egyptian army has created the conditions for revolution against the national bourgeoisie in all the Arab countries.

With the military victories, the Egyptian masses have begun to feel their own strength and begun to gain confidence in their power to fight their own oppression. In seeking to push forward in this fight, they come up against the limitations of the bourgeois leadership of

Sadat and seek to move beyond it.

Only our movement which based its policy on the Leninist principle of the right of colonial people to self-determination and for the defeat of Israel, has prepared for the new stage of the struggle.

These principles are not formal abstract points, but in the present period of revolutionary upsurge, they come alive and create conditions for revolutionary changes in the thinking of millions of workers.

Thirdly, the movement of the workers and peasants in the Middle East has deepened the split between Europe and America to the breaking point.

The victory in the Middle East weakens every capitalist government at a time when they are attempting to take on their own working class and drive down its living standards. The explosion of the economic crisis in the US and in Europe creates a revolutionary situation in all the advanced countries.

Every single client state established by the imperialist countries has been broken up.

First Pakistan was forced to relinquish control of Bangladesh after being defeated in the civil war in 1971. Now Israel has been dealt a decisive blow.

It is now only a matter of time before the Black workers of South and southwest Africa rise up against the terror of the white supremacist rulers and destroy one of imperialism's few remaining puppet regimes.

In each struggle, we take a stand on the side of the right of the colonial people for independence in order to create the conditions for socialist revolution.

On this basis, unprecedented opportunities now exist for the construction of sections of the International Committee of the Fourth International.

3000 Launch Revolutionary Party

BY A CORRESPONDENT

Over 3000 workers, housewives, and youth attended the founding conference of the Workers Revolutionary Party in London on November 4.

The transformation of the Socialist Labour League into the WRP is a historic step forward in the construction of the Fourth International and the greatest vindication of Trotsky's struggle against the betrayals of Stalinism.

The launching of the WRP—the largest Trotskyist party ever built in Europe—is the greatest proof that the objective conditions are now ripe for the construction of powerful sections of the Fourth International throughout the world.

The Workers Revolutionary Party will now fight for the leadership of the British working class on the basis of socialist policies in order to bring down the Tory government, smash the capitalist state machinery, and establish a workers government.

The great strength of the WRP and the broad support it now draws from the working class was shown in the completion of the \$250,000 party-building fund. When this unprecedented achievement in the history of Trotskyism was announced on the second day of the conference, the delegates applauded for several minutes.

An enthusiastic reception greeted the report of Gerry Healy, national secretary of the SLL, which opened the discussion of the draft resolution for the transformation of the League into the Workers Revolutionary Party.

He told the delegates, who came from every part of Britain and from several countries, that the struggles of the working

class now raise the issue of power. It had to overthrow the capitalist state or face destruction.

Healy declared that the founding of the party depended predominantly on the objective situation which revealed that

tion, comrade Healy declared:

"There has never been a period in history in which the internationalism of the working class struggle was stronger than it is today.

"What we are facing is not revolution in a single country, but the development of the world revolution on a massive scale.

"It is from this powerful background that the decision to transform the SLL into the Revolutionary Party receives its greatest strength. It verifies the perspective of the founding

detailed battles against syndicalism in union branches and factory committees could be trained in Marxist ideas.

The report on the trade union work said that the revisionists like the International Marxist Group (Pabloite co-thinkers of the Socialist Workers Party) and the International Socialists were the main weapons used by the bourgeoisie to prevent the growth of the Workers Revolutionary Party's influence.

Gerry Healy said it was wrong

militancy and spontaneous trade union consciousness and the one could not be transformed into the other without an intimate knowledge of the factory conditions and problems, which require a detailed participation in the everyday life of workers.

Discussing the report, a worker said that to build the alternative leadership it was vital to abandon formal thinking about how workers might progress from simple wages struggles to fights of a more political nature, and instead to



The transformation of the SLL into the Workers Revolutionary Party opens up a new stage in the development of Trotskyist parties internationally.

after a quarter of a century where the economic and political contradictions of the capitalist system had been covered over by an inflationary boom, they were now totally exposed by the uncontrollable growth of the inflation.

Referring to the havoc to the capitalist world economy caused by the Arab oil boycott, which is the form of the colonial revolu-

conference of the Fourth International in 1938, which the SLL is proud to represent in Britain. We say the preconditions for the social revolution are maturing rapidly."

The discussion on the trade union report brought out the growing strength of the factory cadres of the Workers Revolutionary Party. The discussion was on the highest level and tackled the central philosophical problems of how workers acquire revolutionary consciousness.

In training new factory cadres in basic philosophical questions of revolutionary theory, it was essential for revolutionists themselves to be the best trade unionists. Only by fighting the

to counterpose trade union consciousness and revolutionary consciousness as though one was bad and the other good. There was a dialectical relationship between theory and practice and the conflict between them was the source of revolutionary development.

He said it was abstract to regard the revolutionary development of workers as being the task of training them to be party leaders in the localities. The aim was to take the revolutionary theory of the growing economic and political crisis into the politics of the factory and show how what management does is governed by the crisis.

The path to revolutionary consciousness starts out with

tackle the most immediate problems facing the working class from the highest point of revolutionary theory—the crisis of capitalism itself.

At the heart of the fight to launch the Workers Revolutionary Party has been the struggle of the International Committee of the Fourth International in defense of dialectical materialism against revisionism.

The British section of the International Committee has been able to make this leap through the conflict between theory and practice in the development of Marxist cadres among the new forces in the working class and youth brought forward by the crisis.

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Is Gen. Haig Running The White House?

BY DAVE NORTH

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Since the outbreak of the Watergate crisis, Richard Nixon has turned increasingly to the military as his principle base of support in remaining in the White House.

This reliance on the military finds its clearest expression in the rapid rise of former four-star General Alexander Haig, who, according to the most knowledgeable sources, is the most powerful man in Washington next to Nixon himself.

Haig spends more than 12 hours a day with Nixon. Having been appointed White House Chief of Staff following for forced resignation of H.R. Haldemann, it is believed that Haig exercises more power than any past assistant to Nixon.

The extent of Haig's authority was shown most dramatically when he sent the FBI into action to seize the files of the Justice Department following the firing of Archibald Cox—which Haig supervised—and the resignation of former Attorney General Elliot Richardson.

Following both the firing of Cox and the military alert in the midst of the Arab-Israeli war, Haig told an associate that military combat is easier than the work he does as Nixon's aide.

"He is right at the center of everything," a leading Washington correspondent well acquainted with the White House told the Bulletin. "Haig is in on foreign policy, military matters and, of course, Watergate."

Noting that Haig was involved in last month's emergency alert, the correspondent said: "I presume that Haig keeps in touch with the military."

When Nixon appointed Haig as Chief of Staff last May 4, it was the first time in history that an active general had been brought into the White House to serve in a civilian post. It was also in direct violation of the Federal statutes.

A liberal Congressman from northern California, John Moss, notified the US comptroller general of this violation and instructed him to notify the White House.

This notification was transmitted to the White House, but Nixon ignored it. Haig remained on active duty while serving as Chief of Staff. It was only several weeks after he entered the White House that Haig resigned from the military.

An aide to Moss told the Bulletin that in spite of Haig's subsequent resignation, "a precedent has been set."

He said that Haig was known around Washington as a "political general" because he never held the command of a major unit.

"Haig's service in the White House while on active duty can be the basis for any military-dictatorial activity in the future," the aide said.

Since coming into the White House, Haig has enlisted the services of other military figures who have been kept in the shadows, but who exercise influence.

One of these men is a Major

George Joulwan who is Haig's personal assistant.

Another military figure in the White House is General Bennet, a retired two-star general.

Next to Haig, the man working most closely with Nixon on the Watergate affair is J. Fred Buzhardt, the Special Council, who happens to be a former West Pointer.

Even those with access to the White House find it difficult to pinpoint the exact scope of Haig's responsibilities. It is known that while in Washington, Nixon confers privately during most of the day with only three people: Haig, Henry Kissinger, and Press Secretary Ronald Ziegler.

Of these, Haig has the most independent authority. It is Haig who carries out all of Nixon's orders.

Furthermore, virtually no one can see Nixon. Whatever is to be said to Nixon is told to Haig who then relays it on. The process works the same way in reverse.

"Nobody knows what is going on in the White House and they will not tell you anything," a congressional assistant said.

Behind Haig stands the military. This is the force that Nixon has now turned to for support. With leading Republicans and Democrats demanding his resignation, with the courts pressing for new indictments, Nixon has found in the military his most dependable supporters.

It is precisely Nixon's weakness and the weakness of his opponents in the legislative and judicial branches of the capitalist state apparatus that now brings the military directly into the government in order to confront the powerful American working class.

These developments make it absolutely necessary for the AFL-CIO to immediately carry out its call for the ouster of Nixon through the organization of mass action by the working class.



United Nations forces on the truce line in the Middle East. Israel is now seeking to prevent them from manning the checkpoints along the Suez Road. See "What We Think," page 2.

Rebozo Bank Next For Bankruptcy

BY JEFF SEBASTIAN

Frank DeBoer, a vice-president in Charles "Bebe" Rebozo's Key Biscayne Bank and Trust Company, who has been under investigation by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, has resigned from the bank.

Rebozo's bank is being scrutinized for concealing a one million dollar slush fund for Richard Nixon. DeBoer headed the trust department which handles such funds.

DeBoer was expelled from the New York Stock Exchange in 1970 for giving false statements and for violation of exchange rules. His brokerage license was revoked by the Securities and Exchange Commission in 1971 for fraudulent conduct.

The FDIC usually intervenes in the affairs of a bank when it has reason to believe that the funds of the depositors it insures may be endangered by a financial collapse. The presence of DeBoer provides grounds for such a suspicion.

BLACK MARKET

Rebozo, who has been helping Nixon out since 1946, made his money dealing on the black

market in recapped tires while his business associates sat on the local tire rationing board.

Rebozo used his good fortune to invest in the Key Biscayne Bank and Trust Company which he used to buy up big holdings in Florida real estate. Rebozo has had long association with gambling, Lansky's crime syndicate, and a collection of Caribbean dictators.

Professor Archibald Cox's Watergate investigation was getting very close to some of Rebozo's seamier operations which may have convinced Nixon to carry out his coup against Cox.

Cox was looking into Rebozo's sale of \$91,000 worth of stolen IBM shares. Rebozo received \$300,000 worth of these shares as collateral for a loan made by his bank.

Rebozo is known to have concealed a \$100,000 political contribution to Nixon from Howard

Hughes.

Certainly, questions must now arise in the minds of Mr. Rebozo's uneasy depositors. What sort of bank is it that lends funds to the owners of stolen securities? What is the condition of a bank whose chief officer not only hires stock exchange swindlers as officers, but deals in stolen property himself?

BANKRUPTCY

Mr. Nixon's old yachting buddy may soon be joining C. Arnholt Smith in the bankruptcy courts.

A few weeks ago, the entire financial world was shaken by the collapse of the National Bank of San Diego, the ninth largest bank in California, owned by one of Nixon's oldest cronies, C. Arnholt Smith.

Smith, once known as "Mr. San Diego," was involved in a vast conspiracy to loot the assets of his own bank and funnel them off to Westgate-California Corporation, a conglomerate under his control.

Trading on his close association with the White House, he was able to borrow vast sums to prop up his debt ridden empire.

Smith is known to be closely involved with organized crime through his resort and horse racing investments and now that the entire house of cards has collapsed, his exposure as a crook intensifies the pressure to bring Nixon down as well.

The days of the high flying financiers who speculated with other people's money and amassed large paper fortunes are rapidly coming to an end with the collapse of paper currencies. Everything is up for scrutiny when the liquidators move in.

The Smiths and Rebozos are finished, and they may very well take Richard Nixon with them.

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1199 Ranks Blast Davis

BY A BULLETIN REPORTING TEAM

Hospital workers are angry and bitter at the betrayal of their one week strike by 1199 President Leon Davis.

Davis accepted the Cost of Living Council's cut of the 7.5 percent wage increase to 6 percent after the membership had voted overwhelmingly to stay out until the full amount was won.

At Beth Israel Hospital reports

were that the vote was 740 to 190 for acceptance and at Kingsbrook Jewish Hospital 419 to 155.

It was clear from interviews with workers at Beth Israel that those who voted "yes" felt they had no choice.

"It was rigged up," one young housekeeping worker said.

"The contract was lousy. They should throw Davis out. He figured he would wait a week and then go back. I think they had an agreement to end the strike so he would not have to pay the fine. Most of the people I know said "no." A lot of people did not know what to do."

Delores Easterling, a nurses aide at Beth Israel who was active in the strike told us:

"I feel like this. If I am going to step out of the boat, I am going to go all the way, it is sink or swim. We came out here for the 7.5 percent and we should have stayed out even if we had to stay out the whole year.

"Davis did not want the strike. They need to put some young people up there, because folks was really out here. Davis was really up a tree and probably had his hand under the table."

Myrtle Butler, also a nurses aide, felt the same way:

"I think Davis should have held out a while. If we all get together, we can fight the government because the government is supposed to be the people. I think he was scared of the fines that were piling up. I was not scared. I would have continued the strike."

Ray, a delegate from x-ray, said: "We were sold down the river. I think we lost. We did not win anything."

Eddie, an engineering worker, said that many workers were thinking about the next contract which is coming up in July.

"We should not have gone out in the street for that." He should not have allowed the sanitation trucks to go through. What is going to happen in six months? It will be summer and nobody will want to go back."



Delores Easterling, below left, from Beth Israel, said: "We came out here for 7.5 percent and we should have stayed out." Myrtle Butler, above, declared: "If we all get together we can fight the government."

City Seeks Cut In Firemen Pay Award

NEW YORK—The City's Labor Policy Committee has announced it will immediately apply to the Cost of Living Council to cut the wage increase awarded by an arbitration panel.

The panel's contract is a vicious blow against the firemen who called off their strike after their leadership agreed to accept compulsory arbitration.

The panel offers a raise of \$950 for a one year contract which improves the original offer of the city by only \$250.

But in exchange for the extra five dollars a week, the arbitrators have incorporated the very speedup and productivity proposals originally demanded by the city and rejected by the firemen.

These proposals call for slashes in manning on fire trucks and rapid water pumping equipment.

According to the procedures accepted by Richard Vizzini, president of the Uniformed Firefighters Association, if the union rejects this package, it will go before a board for binding arbitration.

There is absolutely no doubt that the decision of such a board will maintain the cost-cutting manning slashes which are estimated to save the city seven million dollars a year.

At the same time, a grand jury is now taking testimony aimed at preparing a criminal indictment against Vizzini. The jury intends to prove that the union leadership falsified the strike vote and called the shutdown against the wishes of the ranks.

The manpower cuts recommended by the impasse panel give the lie to all the propaganda that the firemen were endangering the public. These cuts will destroy the effectiveness of the firefighters at the cost of many lives.

The city is absolutely determined to smash the firemen's union as part of its drive to destroy civil service unions.

Vizzini and the UFA leadership's refusal to take on the government and the Taylor law has opened the union up for these dangerous attacks.

There must be no acceptance of this contract. Firemen must demand not only its rejection, but a break with any further arbitration which will only tie things up for months and give the city precious time to prepare its fines and indictments against the union.

Walkout At Booth Memorial

Workers at Booth Memorial Hospital in Flushing, Queens walked off their jobs Tuesday on learning that seven workers were to be fired as a result of the 1199 strike.

The hospital is trying to victimize militants who led the fight to keep scabs and delivery trucks from entering the hospital.

Kissinger's Friend In Peking

The visit of Henry Kissinger to Peking was carefully planned to cement an even closer alliance between the United States and the Chinese bureaucracy.

Kissinger spoke with Mao for over two hours on international questions followed by a banquet in Kissinger's honor the next day.

The Chinese papers laid heavy emphasis on the "friendly" nature of the talks.

This is right after Kissinger's boss Nixon shipped millions of dollars worth of arms, planes and other aid to Israel for the Middle East war despite the fact that Mao claims to support the Arab people.

One of the key topics in their discussion was Vietnam. Kis-

NEW YORK—Twelve hundred New York University faculty and library staff personnel are voting on November 14 and 15 for representation by a collective bargaining agent.

The university has launched a major campaign of intimidation against the unionization drive after losing a court battle to declare unionization illegal.

James Hester, university president, in a letter to all faculty, denounced unionization for introducing "rigidifying formalities" that would "hamper individuality and restrict freedom of action."

According to Hester, the union would "substitute an alien adversary structure which would only lower the status of faculty and librarians as professionals."

The situation at New York University shows the financial crisis now devastating private universities.

With cutbacks in federal aid and private donations, the university has been forced to institute sharp economy measures.

singer wants Mao to use his pressure to restrain the Cambodian liberation movement and the NLF in South Vietnam who launched a big offensive.

A joint Sino-US statement declared: "At the end of the meeting, Chairman Mao asked Secretary of State Kissinger to convey his regards to President Nixon."

Not too long ago, Chou En-lai in an interview with the New York Times about Watergate said:

"We never use the word scandal in discussing this. Since it is entirely your internal affair, we have never published anything about it in our press."

The Stalinists cover up for Nixon at the very time that the world imperialist system is in crisis.

These economies are hitting out viciously at staff. UFTC organizer Anthony Ficcio told the Bulletin that last year over 200 teaching jobs were eliminated.

PRESSURED

Older teachers are being pressured into early retirement. Professors are now being denied tenure and dismissed. A student told the Bulletin that one of his professors who had been on staff for six years is out looking for another job.

"There's a good deal of dissatisfaction with the administration. I read Dean Nizer's papers on the union and he was talking to the highest priced people. I am a full professor and my salary was not even close to what he claimed.

FIRED

"There have been layoffs in the political science department, some reduction through attrition, and others are just point blank fired or else they hint you should look elsewhere.

"I do not see them maintaining the graduate school of political science for long. I would not even be so sure the whole place will not collapse.

"We had a two year wage freeze. Then they gave 6 percent of the budget to the deans to distribute as they saw fit. I got 5.9 percent. Others got less and I have no idea what went into any of the decisions."

The entire uptown campus of the university was sold to the City University to cover past deficits and repay mortgages owed on NYU construction.

Hester and the tough businessmen who run the university are all too well aware that a union would restrict "freedom of action" meaning their freedom to fire staff and cut university programs.

Layoffs Spark NYU Union Drive

BY A REPORTER

New Civil War In Bangladesh



BY MELODY FARROW

This December, it will be two years since the masses of Bangladesh fought a heroic and bloody war against Pakistan and won their independence. They fought not only for national liberation, but for freedom from oppression and imperialist exploitation.

Today, Bangladesh is nearing civil war. After two years of autocratic rule under Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, conditions for the masses are getting worse.

The hopes of the oppressed workers and peasants for the "Golden Bangla" that Mujib promised have turned into a bitter hostility to the government. As one landless laborer put it:

"First my wife got ill, then came insects, then floods, and now rising food prices. This is the worst year of my life."

Mujib heads an enormous state bureaucracy involved in corruption and profiteering. Government officials of Mujib's Awami League pilfer the nationalized industries for their own benefit and divert essential goods onto the black market.

Everywhere there is a complete breakdown. Mujib has no program for the economy and his only measure has been to reinforce the police and army.

Nowhere is the situation starker than in the countryside.

GANGS

Armed gangs terrorize the villagers, stealing their food and the little money they have. A huge army of unemployed farmers, forced by debts to sell their small plots, roam the country seeking work in exchange for a handful of rice.

Mujib has protected the landowners and never carried out his pledge to limit the size of individual property to less than 15 hectares. The old system of money lending at incredible interest rates continues unchanged, crushing the peasants under a lifetime of debts.

Often a money lender's mutilated body killed by angry peasants will be found in the villages in the morning.

Those who are lucky to have



Bengali youth were the vanguard of the 1971 war for independence.

some land cannot get the necessary fertilizers or other equipment.

The agricultural system remains completely backward and stagnant. As a result, production of jute fiber, the nation's main export, has fallen drastically.

The jute is often smuggled across the border into India where it sells for a higher price. Many of the jute mills, which employ millions of people, are facing closure.

Prices on some of the most basic commodities have risen nearly 300 percent. One sack of rice has gone from 45 to 120 rupees.

In a recent interview printed in *Workers Press*, daily newspaper of the Socialist Labour League in Britain, M.A. Muttalib, general secretary of the Bangladesh National Workers

Federation described the situation:

"National liberation has not yet been achieved in Bangladesh. Hunger and poverty are getting worse among the toiling masses because prices are four to seven times what they were in December 1971.

"The people of Bangladesh wanted to get rid of the 22 families of Pakistan who dominated the economy before the war of liberation. Now the Adamji, Bawani, Dawood, Isfahani and Saigal families have been driven out, but their place has been taken by the Indian capitalists..."

Mujib has allowed the United States to reestablish its grip on the economy. The US is the primary source of aid, with a loan of nearly \$35,000 million in 1972, in addition to \$1071 million in credit from the World Bank.

Most of this aid wound up in the pickets of local officials.

The CIA through the Asia Foundation has returned to Dacca. They have sought to buy off various journalists, university administrators, and even left-wing leaders with invitations to visit the United States. CIA agents can be seen sitting around the lavish Intercontinental Hotel.

Mujib expresses the total arrogance of the nationalist petty bourgeoisie towards the workers and peasants when in a recent interview, he stated:

"After liberation, the people would have given me anything, dictatorial powers. But I do not want them... You cannot always resort to arms and authoritarianism."

In fact, there has been no democracy since independence. Four leftist papers were banned

and his Awami League has carried out terrorism and assassinations against members of left-wing organizations.

Only recently, Mujib asked for and got emergency powers from Parliament that would allow him to declare martial law. He has attempted to remove the right to strike in the nationalized industries.

One of the most important developments is the formation of the Bangladesh National Workers Federation, founded on August 5 out of the merger of two trade union organizations opposed to the Awami League, the National Workers Council of Muttalib and the Sramik (Workers) Federation led by Sirajul Hossein Khan.

This merger took place in a bitter struggle against the pro-government trade union group called the Bangladesh Sramik League which machine gunned hundreds of workers in a desperate attempt to take over the new movement.

While millions of Bengali workers are breaking with Mujibur Rahman and nationalism, the Bangladesh Communist Party has signed a pact with the Awami League and the pro-Moscow National Awami Party.

SUBSERVIENCE

This pact merely formalizes the complete subservience of the Stalinists in Bangladesh to the capitalist class all in the name of unity.

The Stalinists carry out the same policy as they did in Chile, blocking with the very same class that is preparing the most brutal repression against the workers.

Mujib and his Awami Party are incapable of carrying out the basic reforms needed by the impoverished workers and peasants. The grip of capitalism and feudal agricultural conditions can only be broken through a new civil war and a socialist revolution. The split between the unions and the government, the discontent of the peasantry, and the growth of guerrilla groups among the youth, all show that the conditions for revolution are over ripe.

As M.A. Muttalib told the *Workers Press*:

"The working class is getting united and prepared. We are certain that big struggles are in front and we want the cooperation and assistance from the working class of the whole world."



Vladimir I. Lenin

PART THREE: WORKERS AND INTELLECTUALS IN THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

The following is a series reprinted from Workers Press dealing with the British International Socialists.

As we noted at the end of the last article, one of Mr. T. Cliff's aims in the piece to which we have drawn attention, is to isolate and mechanically counterpose the position of "workers" to that of "intellectuals."

Once more, the distortions which this position forces Cliff into must be understood in terms of the political line and method of his revisionist group.

The state capitalist group "International Socialism" has been characterized since their foundation in 1950 as above all a group which worshipped spontaneity and was hostile on all counts to the building of a centralized party.

They have throughout their entire history sought to build up the "rank and file" while at the same time denigrating and opposing the struggle for principled leadership within the working class.

And as the working class now moves forward and prepares for great battles against both the employers and the Tory government so this aim becomes even more determined and even more conscious.

For much of its history the Cliff group has of course been largely composed of students and other middle class elements. Indeed, until recently it saw this social composition as a positive virtue. Along with other revisionist groups, notably the International Marxist Group, it subscribed wholeheartedly to the "theory" of student power in the heady days following May-June 1968 in Paris. Students, said these revisionists, were the new "vanguard"; the universities were modern "factories" in

which "technological labor" was trained to be exploited in basically the same way as that of the working class.

This is the theme of the International Socialism pamphlet entitled "Education, Capitalism and the Student Revolt" (Harman, Kuper et al.) written in 1968. Whereas the working class were non-political and "backward" the very opposite was the case of the student movement.

"Because of its origins the student movement can never involve the divorce from politics which characterizes the trade union movements in the advanced West." (p. 10)

The pamphlet, ending with the hope that the Revolutionary Socialist Students Federation (long deceased) would develop into a powerful student movement, made NO mention at all of the working class, not even to the extent of calling for a "student-worker alliance" which some other revisionists tried without success to pass off as Marxism at the time.

Now things have changed considerably. The "student power" days are things of the past for Cliff. Of course he never feels obliged to explain the reasons why his group engaged in this fraudulent campaign and what its outcome was.

No—his attention is now directed exclusively towards workers. And in trying to elevate the claims of "workers" as against "intellectuals" he once more tries to invoke the authority of Lenin.

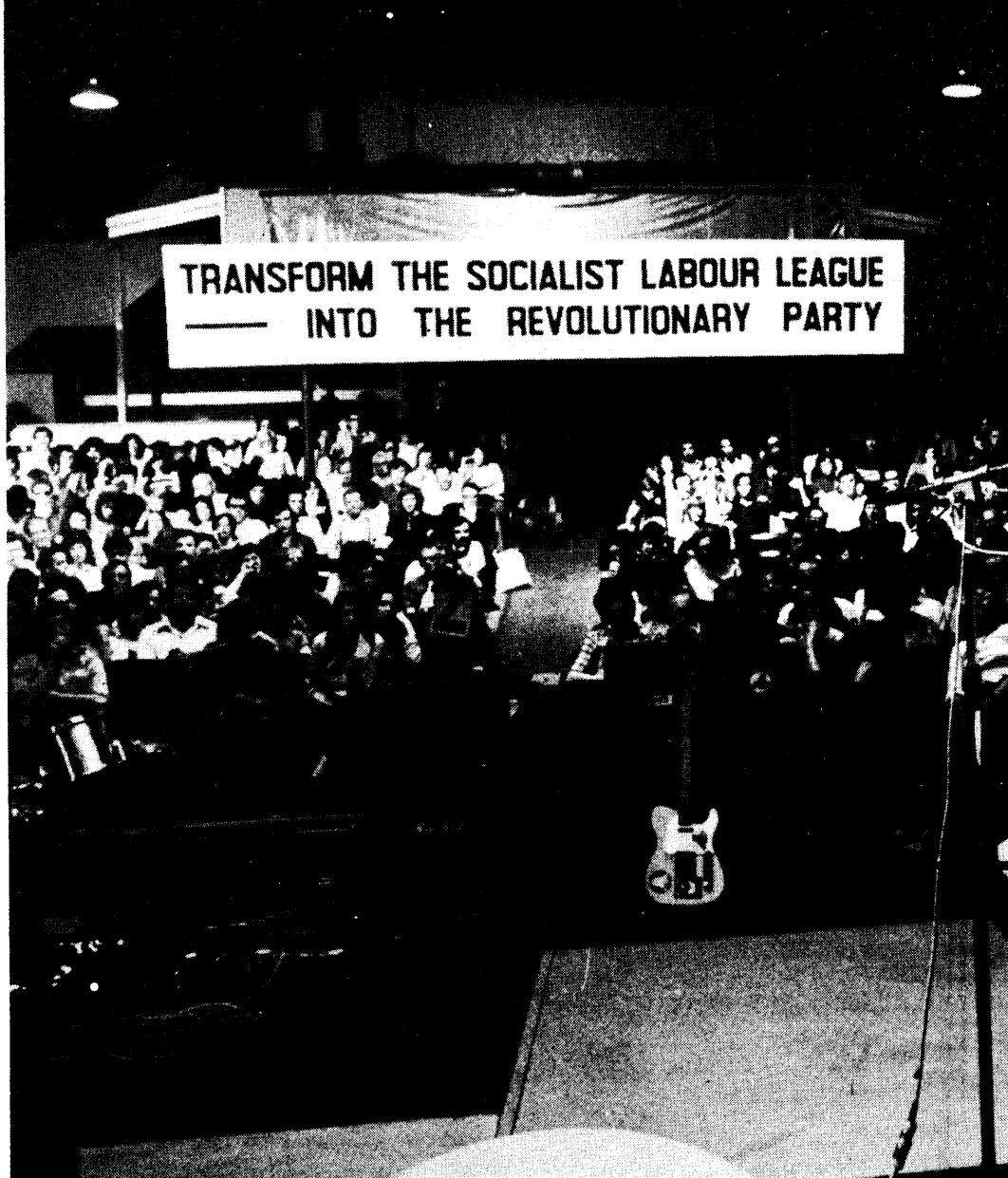
Cliff thus quotes from the article of 1905 to which we have already drawn attention "The Reorganization of the Party":

"At the Third Congress of the Party I suggested that there be about eight workers to every two intellectuals in the Party committees. How obsolete seems that suggestion today! Now we must wish for the new Party organizations to have one Social-Democratic intellectual to several hundred social democratic workers."

Once more the Cliff method of quotation is as dishonest as the examples we have previously noted. For this paragraph is a footnote which actually occurs in the following text, from which Cliff quotes not a single word:

"With regard to these conditions, we shall have to distribute the Social Democratic intelligentsia (now the footnote occurs—P.J.) in a more rational way to assure that they do not hang about uselessly where the movement has already stood up on its own two feet and can, so to speak, shift for itself, and that they go to the 'lower strata' where the work is harder, where the conditions are more difficult, where the need for experienced and well informed people is greater..."

In his rush to recruit and adapt his group to left-reformist workers and leave the "intellectuals" of yesterday behind (none of them were ever of course revolutionary intellectuals), Cliff has searched for some passages in Lenin which he thinks provide a cover for his opportunist "turn to the factories" and his creation of "factory



Gerry Healy, Nat'l. Secretary of the Socialist Labour League, addresses the All Trades Unions Alliance... democratic rights against the Tory government, it laid the basis for the transformation of the SLL into the rev...

Revisionist Fals

branches" which in his organization will be subject to no political control and allowed to engage in "trade union work" of the most reformist nature.

But Mr. Cliff's falsifications do not end here!

He reproduces a passage of Lenin from the article "Letter to a comrade on our Organizational Tasks" (1906):

PARTY WORK

"...The factory circles...are particularly important to us; the main strength of the movement lies in the organization of workers at the large factories, for the large

factories (and mills) contain not only the predominant part of the working class, as regards numbers, but even more as regards influence, development and fighting capacity. Every factory must be our fortress."

But there Cliff ends. He deliberately "misses out" the passage immediately following in which Lenin elaborates upon this point. We continue the quotation (Collected Works, Vol. 6, p. 243):

"For that, every 'factory' workers' organization should be as secret internally as 'ramified' externally, that is, in its outward relationships, it should stretch its feelers as far and in as many directions as any revolutionary organization. I emphasize (NB—P.J.) that here, too, a group of revolutionary workers should necessarily be the core, the leader, the 'master.' We must break completely with the traditional type of purely labor, or purely trade union, Social Democrat organization, including the 'factory' circle. The factory group, or the factory, (mill) committee (to distinguish it from other groups of which there should be a great number) should consist of a very small number of revolutionaries, who take their instructions and receive their authority to carry on all social-democratic work in the factory directly from the committee. (i.e. the local party committee—P.J.). Every member of the factory committee should regard himself as an agent of the committee, obliged to submit to all its orders, and to observe all the 'laws and customs' of the 'army in the field' which he has joined and from which in time of war he has no right to absent himself without official leave."

Here is precisely the point which Cliff wishes now to ignore. For Lenin is insisting that in a period of rapid expansion of the movement (as now) the essence of the question facing the revolutionary party is the training of a cadre of convinced and hardened Marxists in each factory who will win the best elements of the working class around them, and weld them, under the direction of the party, into a powerful revolutionary force. Only under these conditions can "every factory be our fortress."

Mr. T. Cliff of the International Socialists finds nothing in Lenin which in the slightest justifies his present contempt for students



May-June 1968, France. The General Strike had massive support from students and sections of the middle class. Without a Marxist leadership prepared to seize power, the strength of the working class was diverted and the government was left to the capitalist Pompidou.



...ance conference in Bellevue this summer. Attended by nearly 4000 trade unionists to defend dem... the revolutionary party.

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(including those in his own ranks) and his crude worship of spontaneity.

In our last article we have already given some examples of the "Cliff style of quotation." In that article we noted that Cliff quoted Lenin's *What is to be Done?* (pp. 31-32 FLPH ed.) as follows:

"We have said that there could not have been Social Democratic consciousness amongst the workers. It would have to be brought to them without... (We have already in our second article commented upon the fact that Cliff 'leaves out' at this point the words: 'The history of all countries shows that'—P.J.) the working class, exclusively by its own effort, is able to develop only trade union consciousness, that is the conviction that it is necessary to combine in unions, fight the employers, and strive to compel the government to pass the necessary labor legislation etc."

Now what follows, immediately after this extract from *What is to be Done?* The following two sentences, which Cliff also omits entirely from his "version":

"The theory of socialism however, grew out of the philosophic, historical and economic theories elaborated by educated representatives of the propertied classes, by intellectuals. By their social status, the founders of modern scientific socialism, Marx and Engels, themselves belonged to the bourgeois intelligentsia."

Such is Cliff's desire to propagate his rank and filism in the working class that he is obliged, in another piece of falsification, to leave out these sentences from his "version."

But we must not fall into the trap set by Cliff of counterposing the two groups, "intellectuals" and "workers," in an abstract manner and apportioning importance to each of them. This would be quite false.

The basic theoretical question is as follows: The working class cannot, because it is an oppressed class, develop Marxism spontaneously out of its immediate struggle. The consciousness of its historical role (that it was the "subject" and not merely the "object" of history) had to be brought from outside these immediate experiences. Historically that role had fallen to representatives of the intelligentsia (Marx and Engels above all).

But this did not mean that members from the working class could not develop as revolutionary leaders, both practically and theoretically. Quite the contrary, as the experience of the Socialist Labour League, in training such working class cadres in the trade unions, establishes beyond doubt. But such leaders would develop only if they ceased to be mere militant workers and became revolutionary fighters basing themselves consciously upon the theoretical conquests of Marxism.

They as much as any "intellectual" would be taking Marxism into the working class "from the outside," that is from outside the spontaneous, elementary struggle in which the working class is daily engaged.

In other words, a crucial theoretical point is at stake in Cliff's distortions. Marxism and the spontaneous struggle of the working class are, in fact, opposites. It is through the conflict between them as opposites that their identity and unity is established. Marxism develops and enriches itself only in the process of a continual fight against the influences of bourgeois ideology within the working class.

This is why the Socialist Labour League has never drawn the mechanical distinction between "workers" and "intellectuals" which the idealist Cliff wishes to draw.

Intellectuals may in certain periods take a more immediate interest in Marxist theory than many workers. But they must inevitably tend to approach Marxism from an idealist standpoint in which theory is separated from practice.

On the other hand, many workers may tend to resist a concern for theoretical questions in favor of day to day trade union activity.

The intellectual in the party therefore needs the determination and consistency of the worker, while the worker needs the intellectual's interest in Marxist theory.

The leadership, far from mechanically counterposing these two elements must strive to develop the conflict between them. It is only on the basis of such a conflict that the Party can be unified.

Intellectuals can only be trained as revolutionary leaders by continually urging them to take up their responsibilities in the party as these reflect the long-term interests of the working class. They must be encouraged by the party leadership to take up all the political and theoretical problems posed by the development of the party, problems which find their highest expression in the fight against revisionism.

Similarly workers can only be educated into Marxist cadres inside the working class on the basis of a continual fight against their limitations, one sidedness, and backwardness.

PREPARATION

This has been the method which always underlies the work of the Socialist Labour League. It has been the most vital part of the political preparations for the transformation of the League into a revolutionary party. Idealism, the tendency to divorce theory from practice, is in no sense a weakness confined to either workers or middle class intellectuals. It finds its reflection in both groups, and any tendency to play off one against the other, as Cliff's politics lead him to do, would smash any attempts to build such a party.

This is true in all countries, but above all true in England. On the one hand, because of the peculiar developments of British capitalism (and in particular the absence of a peasantry) intellectuals have tended to see their ideas in isolation from their actual source of origin, the class struggle. On the other hand, the working class in Britain grew up in the closest association with trade unionism.



Leon Trotsky

This tended inevitably, for a long period, to produce a method of thinking among workers in which they were concerned primarily with their immediate, individual day to day problems as trade unionists. They tended, in an idealist manner, to wall off their own problems from those of the working class as a whole.

The great strength of the Socialist Labour League, a strength which makes it an incomparably more powerful force in the working class today than any of the revisionist groups, is that it has recognized the essential unity of the problems of the working class and those sections of the middle class pulled towards Marxism and has continually, in the most principled and objective manner, fought against them, from whatever source.

It is clear from Cliff's most vulgar distortions of Lenin that the method which underlies the politics of his revisionist group is entirely opposed to that which has been at the basis of the struggle of the Socialist Labour League. He uses (or rather abuses) Lenin only for his immediate, narrow, opportunist ends. It is a method of the most vulgar idealist which believes that history can be re-written at will to serve current maneuvers.

The fact that the Socialist Labour League is now in a position to embark on a campaign to transform itself into a revolutionary party—a party which will win the best revolutionary intellectuals as well as the best workers—is above all a tribute to the continual fight for correct principles, and above all a correct attitude to history, against all its opponents.

We can certainly end by making a promise to Mr. Cliff and his friends: it is a fight we are determined to intensify and take to higher theoretical levels in the weeks and months ahead.

CONCLUDED



May-June 1968, France. In pitched battles with police and the threat of army intervention, the working class raised the question of workers' power.



Gerry Healy, Nat'l. Secretary of the Socialist Labour League, addresses the All Trades Unions Alliance conference in Bellevue this summer. Attended by nearly 4000 trade unionists to defend democratic rights against the Tory government, it laid the basis for the transformation of the SLL into the revolutionary party.

Revisionist Falsifiers Of Lenin

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Editor's Notebook

Saga Of The Missing Tapes

"Operation Candor" is the latest scheme Nixon's public relations men have dreamed up to patch up his administration so completely exposed by Watergate.

The president's script-writers like Gerald L. Warren are praising Nixon's new "tell the truth" game for creating a "positive reaction" and an appreciation for the "president's candor." This script would not even sell to the afternoon soap operas.

On Monday, Nixon issued a statement in order to "dispel doubts" about Watergate "once and for all." In tortured language, Nixon tried to explain how it was that two of the nine tapes suddenly became nonexistent.

Previously, Nixon's advisers had said that on the day of the conversation with John Dean, April 15, 1972, the recording devices were not operating. Now he claims that the machine just ran out of tape.

Last week, Nixon said that he would provide a dictation belt which recorded his summary of this meeting with Dean.

This week, it was suddenly announced that the dictation belt is missing. Next we will hear that there is a rat who inhabits the White House and has an appetite for magnetic tape.

Even the members of Nixon's own party are viewing his new operation with scepticism following a series of meetings with Republican leaders.

Many particularly questioned General Haig's contention that Nixon has a tape of a conversation with John Dean on March 21 in which Haig claims Nixon shouted "Oh My God" when Dean told him of the coverup.

Cutting Welfare In Style

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare has hired a team of executives to slash wasteful welfare spending.

In order to "improve communications" among these four Social and Rehabilitation Service welfare watchdogs, HEW Secretary Weinberger is going all-out. They will be moving next month into a suit of federal offices remodeled at a cost of \$120,000.

Nixon's Favorite

Nixon's most adamant supporter on the Watergate Committee, Florida Senator Edward Gurney, is not pleased with the investigation. In a private letter to New Hampshire Governor Meldrim Thomas, Gurney wrote:

"The only concrete contributions we have made have been to force down the stock market, up the price of gold, devalue the American dollar, hurt the economy and destroy

the confidence of people in the American political system.

"These are certainly concrete contributions, but about as useful as a block of concrete tied around a swimmer's neck."

Gurney now says he was just "letting off steam." But if he gets so hot under the collar about investigations into Nixon's corruption, he will really sweat now that people are looking into his own \$300,000 slush fund that recently came to light.

Wedding Of The Century

While the rest of the British population is faced with a state of emergency, Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips will be getting away from it all.

After their Westminster Abbey wedding Wednesday, they will be leaving on the \$30 million royal yacht for a honeymoon to the West Indies.

Phillips admitted Sunday night in an interview: "I never thought of her as a princess."

Maybe the Tuesday wedding service—conforming to that in the Church of England's 1662 Book of Common Prayer—convinced him.

Anne has insisted that she is a "very old-fashioned girl."

While a "mutual love of horses" brought them together in the beginning, the \$84,000 a year income Anne now receives after her marriage should certainly keep them together a long time.



18 Packs

Con Edison has assured New Yorkers that foul air will not be a problem—it wants permission to burn fuel with up to nine times more pollutants than are now permitted.

Leon Hess, board chairman of the company which sells Con Ed 22 percent of its fuel oil maintains: "People shouldn't be worrying about what's going to happen to the atmosphere."

Health experts say that breathing New York City air is like smoking two packs of cigarettes a day. If Con Ed goes ahead with its plans, every New Yorker will be "smoking" eighteen packs a day.



Young Socialist Editor Adele Sinclair, left, speaking at a highly successful recruiting meeting of the new Young Socialists branch in Cleveland.

Arbitration Threatens Firemen's Wage Fight

BY A BULLETIN REPORTER

MILWAUKEE, Wisc., Nov. 11—Union leaders put an end to the six-day work slowdown by Milwaukee firemen yesterday.

Joseph T. Ruditys, president of Local 215, elected two years ago on a promise to restore firemen's wage parity with police wages, is sending the contract to a binding fact-finding commission.

The sickout had continued firm despite National Guard scabs, an injunction against the strike, a state of emergency declared by the city, and a massive civil defense campaign for volunteer firefighters, only to be handed over by Ruditys into the hands of a government commission.

A member of AFSCME District 48 from Milwaukee told the Bulletin: "The last time about 10 years ago that the firemen participated in a work slowdown, they were demanding parity with the police. It also went to fact-finding and the firemen lost. That is why I am surprised that the union leadership did the same thing."

The city used every vicious tactic in its power to bust the work stoppage. On Friday, Mayor Maier declared the city to be in a state of emergency and began a hysterical campaign for volunteers to search for fires.

The city's concern was hardly for fires since as soon as the work stoppage had begun, a city ordinance which demanded a minimum number of firemen for each firehouse was repealed by the city council to avoid paying overtime to working firemen.

The support of the Ladies Auxillary was solid for the firemen. One member commented: "We have marked every day in front of the City Building from 12:00 noon to 1:00, for four days now and it has been cold."

"There have been from 30 to 45 women there. We are behind the men 100 percent. Prices are going up all the time and wages do not."

"The public thinks the city pays for the firemen's food—but they do not. They think the firemen get a lot, but they do not get half the stuff."

Parity with police on wages was the key issue in the work stoppage, because firemen now make \$11,070 for a 52.5 hour work week, while police will get \$13,142 effective May 4 for a 40 hour work week.

One woman reported that her husband looked for another job at Sears and it paid \$1.90. "That comes to about \$42 per week. Big Deal. Just try to make something getting paid less than \$2 per hour."

On top of that, 52 hours at the fire station plus 16 hours of moonlighting means a 68 hour work week. Firemen also must work mandatory overtime when there are fires, without overtime pay.

Harlan Mine Bars UMW Safety Team

BY A CORRESPONDENT

HARLAN COUNTY, Ky., Nov. 12—Officials of the United Mine Workers were barred yesterday by the Eastover Mining Company from inspecting safety conditions in the mines which have been shut down by a three-month long strike.

In direct violation of the rights of the UMW, the company—with the support of government officials—would not let John Sulka, executive safety director of the union, examine the mines which the workers have condemned as dangerous.

One of the main reasons the miners here began their strike for the recognition of the UMW was the determination to fight the dangerous working conditions.

As long as the miners were without a union, the government agency, Mining Enforcement and Safety Administration (MESA), hardly bothered to inspect the mines.

However, now that the UMW is attempting to organize the miners, MESA is directly supporting the company in its strikebreaking activities.

"MESA is in collusion with Eastover Mining," declared Sulka. "It and the company are definitely afraid of us seeing the

inside of the mines."

Sulka stated that miners have reported poor ventilation, insufficient rock dusting (which can lead to explosions), improper electrical wiring, inadequate escape ways, little fire protection, and above all, unsafe roofing.

Last month, two miners were killed in a Virginia mine because of gas accumulation. Thirty-one miners barely escaped. MESA had certified the mine as safe.

In order to maintain the deadly condition in the Eastover Mines, the company has organized an out and out union-busting campaign. Last week, the circuit court in Harlan upheld an anti-picketing injunction and jailed several miners.

However, the miners were back on the picket line this week and made it impossible for Norman Yarborough, president of Eastover, to send scabs into the mines as he had vowed to do.

Twice-Weekly BULLETIN

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UAW Official Shoots Ford Tradesman

BY DAVID NORTH

DEARBORN, Mich., Nov. 14—William Harrell, a 27-year-old skilled auto worker who was shot yesterday by an official of UAW Local 600, told the Bulletin today in a telephone interview that his assailant fired at him following an argument over the Ford contract.

Speaking from his hospital bed, Harrell said that the union leader, David Mundy, had chased him down the street before cornering him in a gasoline station where he fired several shots at close range.

"I was just not in favor of ratifying the contract which would let the company use unskilled workers in place of skilled workers during overtime," Harrell said.

The shooting occurred after Mundy, president of the industrial foundry unit of Local 600, was confronted by a number of skilled workers who opposed the contract.

The workers had gone down to the union hall because they had not been notified that a scheduled second vote on the Ford pact had been called off.

Harrell stated that Mundy told

the men that if they went on strike they would lose all their pay during the Christmas holiday.

"He was really pressuring us," Harrell stated. "They have been passing out this leaflet in the plant threatening us with our holiday pay to get us to ratify. The discussion got pretty heated."

"Mundy started making derogatory comments at me. He said I was an 'Uncle Tom' and I called him the same. Then he hit me and I hit him back.

"That's when he pulled his pistol and started shooting. Everybody started running and so did I. But he must have chased me for about an eighth of a mile before he caught up with me and fired from about five feet."

Harrell suffered a flesh wound in the right buttock and underwent an operation last night.

"I'm lucky to be alive," Harrell said. "It seemed that Mundy was really trying to kill me."

After he had finished shooting, union officials accompanied Mundy back into the Local's headquarters.

For the past week, Mundy has played a central role in attempting to force through the ratification of the Ford pact which has now been overwhelmingly rejected by the skilled workers. Describing the reaction of the ranks to the pact, Harrell said:

"I don't think that a lot of workers go for this contract. I think that the men are against the low wage settlement and the overtime. I don't think the contract is very beneficial."

Harrell added that he favored joint strike action against the contract by the production workers and the skilled workers.

"I don't believe the union should be split," he said. "The UAW should go out 100 percent or not at all."

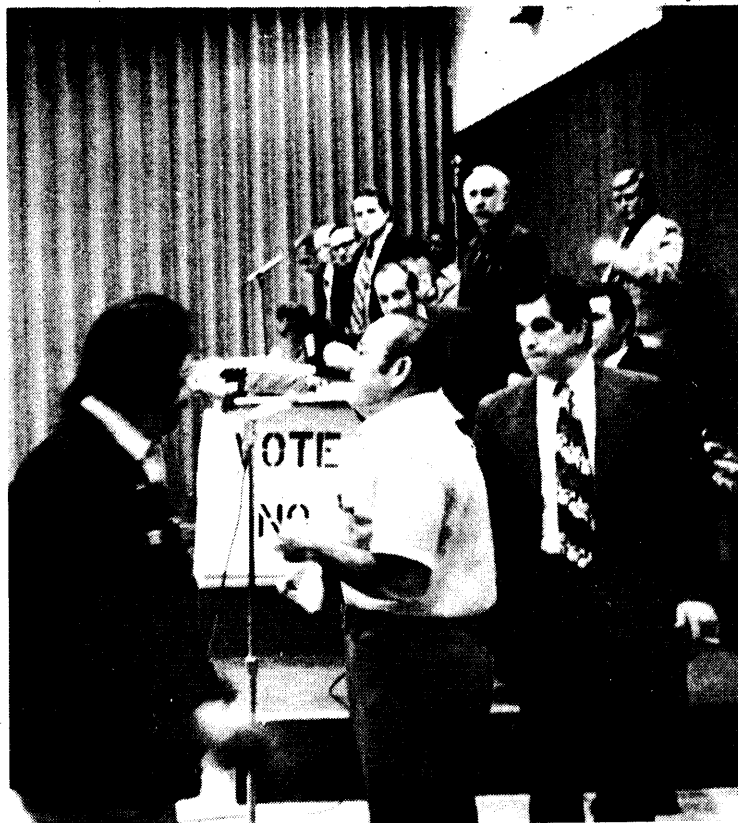
Square D Victory After 10 Months

BY A REPORTER

LINCOLN, Neb.—After 10 months on the picket line, 350 electrical workers have won their strike against the Square D Co., defeating a blatant and brutal attempt to crush the union's local.

In spite of the state's anti-picketing law, which was used by the police to make numerous arrests, the members of Local 1536 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers have won wage increases and benefits.

Square D had refused to nego-



Worker speaks at membership meeting of Ford Local 228 in Sterling Heights, Michigan where contract was rejected.

Minnesota YS Fights Ouster

BY KATHLEEN WHEELER

MINNEAPOLIS, Mn.—Through its Committee on Student Behavior, the University of Minnesota administration has launched a drive to expel the Young Socialists from the campus.

The YS received a letter from the committee secretary, L.F. Snoxell, requesting the YS to meet with him to determine whether to take official action against the YS.

This is the University's response to the campaign the YS has waged for the defense of the Arab Revolution. Throughout the campaign for a public meeting to defend the Arab Revolution, YS members and Arab students were constantly threatened and harassed by the Zionists.

The Minnesota Daily, a student newspaper, printed a letter from a Zionist who was excluded from the meeting to protect it from disruptions. The letter called for the investigation and suspension of the YS. His slanders of "anti-Semi-

tism" and "discrimination" were answered in a letter from Jay Sjerven, Minnesota YS organizer.

The University administration intervenes under the guise of "free speech" to defend the Zionists, right-wingers and provocateurs who seek to break up political meetings.

What is at stake is the right of students to freely discuss and organize against the Nixon government. The Watergate hearings reveal the deliberate use of provocateurs to break youth organizations.

The Young Socialists has pledged to wage its defense openly before the entire student body, and has begun a campaign that will make the political meaning of these attacks clear to the students.

Truckers Strike Compton

BY A REPORTER

ST. LOUIS—About three hundred drivers and warehousemen of the 12,000-member Teamster Local 688 are on strike against the Compton Leasing Service. Their contract expired Oct. 31.

The company has contracts to haul for many of the furniture and appliance stores in the St.

Louis area.

The company has refused to negotiate on work rules and pensions. One man said: "We want in writing what we are supposed to do."

Another said: "They do not want to negotiate on work rules."

SCAB

Some companies are using nonunion trucks to scab and others have said that they may leave the city or cut out deliveries altogether.

These tactics have always been used or threatened in order to try to break a union and force the ranks to accept less than what they actually need to maintain their standard of living. The company is trying to drive the workers back to sweat-shop conditions.

As one striker put it: "They want to be Hitler and they want us to be the peons."

PERSPECTIVES FOR THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

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1121 Bedford Ave.
(corner Monroe)
4:00 p.m.

BALTIMORE
SAT., NOV. 24
United Methodist Church
Chase & Washington Sts.
7:30 p.m.



Speaker:
Lucy St. John,
Editor, Bulletin

PITTSBURGH
University of Pittsburgh
Student Union
Schenley Hall
Room 425
SAT., DEC. 1
4:00 p.m.

CLEVELAND
THURS., DEC. 13

DETROIT
FRI., DEC. 14
Veterans Memorial
Building
151 West Jefferson
Room 814
7:00 p.m.



Speaker:
Tim Wohlforth,
National Secretary,
Workers League

Workers League-Young
Socialists
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Lecturer:
Tim Wohlforth,
National Secretary,
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Whirlpool Doubles Line Speed

BY MIKE JAMES

ST. PAUL, Minn.—A speedup drive has been launched against the 1800 members of Teamsters Local 827 by Whirlpool corporation since the end of the recent 13-week strike.

Taking advantage of the spineless leadership of the union revealed in the strike, Whirlpool is hell-bent on making the workers pay for every last dollar of profit lost during the strike.

Every day for the past month, including Saturday, the workers have done as much as four hours mandatory overtime.

Dan, a 25-year man, told the Bulletin that the assembly line speed for the compact mini freezer has increased from 20 units to 50 units an hour.

"They hired 300 to 400 people right off the street the day after the strike, and they push them around. These new workers don't know what their rights are. But they don't really have any rights until the 30 days are up and they join the union.

"Whirlpool is hiring more people. There's speedup every day. When they've got the whole thing rolling they are going to bring in the time-study men

Dan added, "The union tops are laying low. They are playing it cool and sitting by and letting it all go on."

"These conditions are the bitter fruits of that contract," Dan said and warned: "There's a big battle coming up."

FILM

by Jessie Taylor

Massacre In Rome

PART TWO

Basing the theme of Massacre in Rome on evidence from correspondence between the Pope and the Hitler dictatorship found in Robert Katz's book, Ponti shows us the real policies of Pius XII—whom the Vatican to this date claims knew nothing about the Ardeatine Massacre—when the Pope states to Antonelli that though dictatorship is an evil, the victory of Bolshevism is a far worse evil. The policies of the Vatican were indeed guided by this precept during World War Two, as they are today in Chile.

Collaborate

It was established church policy to collaborate and even welcome fascism throughout Europe, not simply the lack of moral judgment of Pius XII.

The historical record in fact tells us that only one priest, Bernhard Lichtenberg, Provost of St. Hedwig's Cathedral in Berlin, raised his voice against the Nazi extermination of Jews and offered up prayers to the victims of Nazism.

When Lichtenberg was arrested and sent to a concentration camp, the Vatican did not even protest this act of repression, so compromised were their relations with fascism.

And while the Church of Rome refuses to make any of its records public, more and more evidence is being compiled which conclusively proves Pius XII's hostility to the partisans and the working class. Long before his appointment as Pope, Pius had been a vicious anti-Semite and an ardent supporter of Hitler from the late 1920s on.

The day after Pacelli's election as Pope Pius XII in 1939, the head of the Department of Vatican Affairs at the Reich Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Counselor Du Moulin, prepared a memorandum on the political tendencies and personality of the new Pope:

"Pacelli has always been in favor of good relations with Mussolini and with fascist Italy. In particular, he encouraged and supported the nationalist posture of the Italian clergy. His brother played a leading part in the conclusion of the Lateran Treaties."(1)

Discussion

Pius immediately sent personal letters to Hitler and declared, according to Nazi Ambassador to Italy Bergen, that he would "be prepared at any time for a discussion with outstanding personages such as the Foreign Minister and Minister President Goering."(2)

In a letter addressed to Hitler written in March of 1939, Pius stated:

"We fondly remember the long years during which We lived in Germany as Apostolic Nuncio and in the course of which We did all in Our power to establish harmonious relations between Church and State, in a spirit of mutual understanding and open-hearted collaboration in the in-

terests of both parties; afterwards, We sought to make satisfactory provision for the implementation of the agreement reached."(3)

Ribbentrop

The most damning evidence is a letter from the Pontiff to Ribbentrop after the early Nazi victories of 1939 and 1940:

"...It was, in the final analysis, only the assumption of power by National Socialism that had prevented the outbreak of Bolshevik chaos in Europe, by which religious life as such would have been destroyed...

"The Minister made it clear that the relationship between Germany and the Soviet Union had fundamentally changed. A firm and lasting basis for positive relations between the two countries had been created, and this had been made possible for National Socialism because the German people were now immune to any form of Communist infection and because no further attempts were being made on the Soviet side to gain ground in Germany for the ideas of world revolution."(4)

This was not just the idea of a singular Pope, but the attitude of the Vatican as a whole, which in 1944 became increasingly dependent upon the Nazis for the protection of the property of the Holy See as Nazi atrocities brought about more and more resistance from the Italians.

Carita Civile

Pope Pius XII had been informed of the impending Ardeatine Massacre, and spoke out against the partisan raid.

He issued his "Carita Civile" only hours before the news of the massacre broke:

"Our appeal is made directly to the conscience of the population, who have so admirably demonstrated their spirit of sacrifice and profound sense of dignity. Do not with violent urges shatter this attitude, which is so worthy of the virtues of our people.

"Every ill-considered act would have no other result than to end by injuring many innocent people, already too tired by anguish and privation."

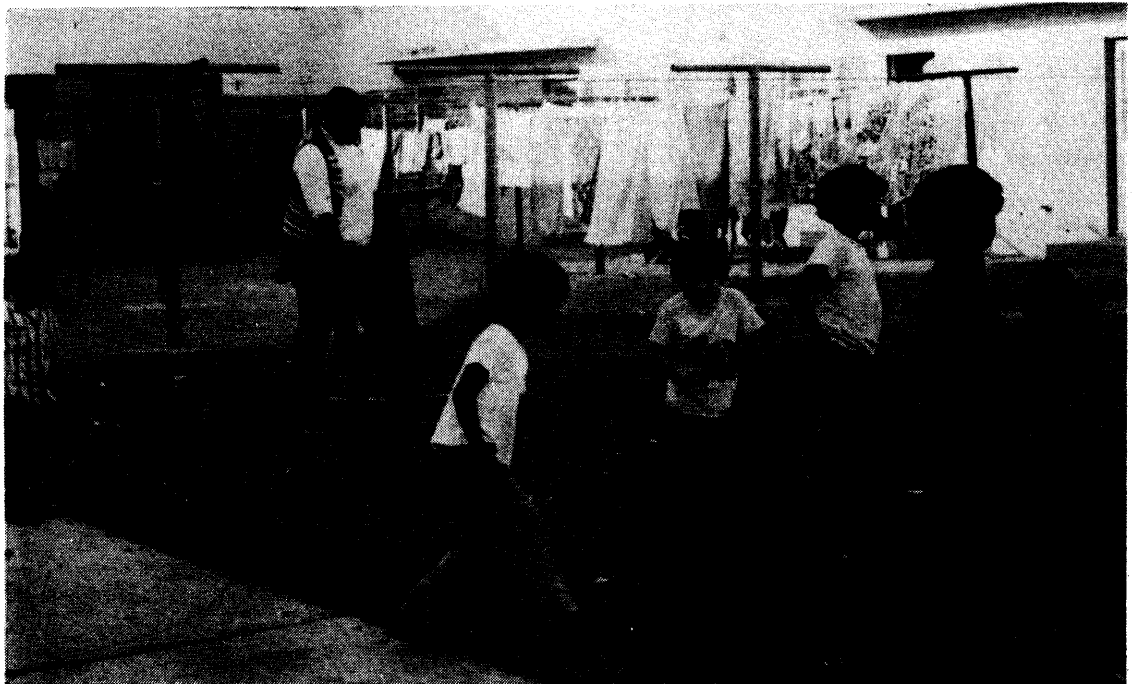
And so with the complete collaboration of the Vatican, the SS rounded up 355 Italians, tied their hands behind them, herded them into sealed meat trucks, and drove them to the old Christian catacombs of the Appian way.

The SS systematically discharged 9 mm bullets at the base of their necks at an angle that passed through the brain and the top of the skull.

It can only be a matter of time before the facts come out about the aid of the Catholic church in Chile to the junta in their murder of those who resist.

CONCLUDED

(1) Pius XII and the Third Reich by Saul Friedlander, 1966. Page 4.
 (2) Op. cit., page 7.
 (3) Op. cit., page 10.
 (4) Op. cit. pp. 44-45.



Housing projects in East Los Angeles. Bulletin trailblazers sold over 500 subs in the LA area.

East Bay Drivers Picket For A General Strike

BY BARRY GREY

SAN FRANCISCO—The International leadership of the Teamsters has ended the San Francisco beer drivers' strike.

The drivers from the rest of the 12 Bay Area counties involved are still on strike after 20 weeks. They are facing an all-out drive by the distributors backed by the courts and the National Labor Relations Board to break the union.

The deal passed 200 to 79 eliminates the past limit of 1250 case deliveries per week per man, the requirement for a helper on trucks carrying more than 300 cases a day, and the ban on trucks taking more than one load a day.

This opens the way for unlimited speedup and layoffs. The contracts gives priority for new jobs to the scabs hired during the strike over unemployed union members.

MARATHON

Despite a marathon negotiating session last Friday by Fitzsimmons' representatives, the East Bay distributors refused to accept the agreement reached with the San Francisco warehouses.

The settlement was presented by the leadership of Local 888 on Saturday. The day before, rank and file strikers in the East Bay set up picket lines at all entrances to the island city of Alameda to precipitate a general strike.

The drivers took this action in response to the arrest and savage beating of six of their pickets the previous day by Alameda police.

One driver from San Francisco said: "We are going back 50 years."

The Bulletin interviewed Bates Hylton, picket captain from beer drivers Local 888 of the Teamsters.

Bates and five other beer drivers and supporters were arrested and beaten by Alameda City police on Thursday, November 8 for violating a court injunction prohibiting picketing of stores selling scab beer.

"We set up a picket line in front of UC Liquors. We set it up because one of my people had contacted the owner and asked him to support the strike by eliminating Coors Beer.

"We only asked for Coors because Coors had openly stated they were going to break the union.

"The owner said he would support us. The following day he made a commitment. Ten minutes later I sent in my pickets to ask for Coors. He went into the back and brought out two Coors.

CHANTING

"After the picket was set up, we marched around chanting. All the delivery trucks coming up honored the picket line.

"There were probably 30 at most on the line. There were supporters from the Sears strike, Teamsters Local 70 warehousemen, and supporters from the public.

"We were approached by the police. Police Chief Young approached me and said he had a paper for me, a court order. I turned my back on him."

"The pickets began chanting: 'Hell no, we won't go.'

"Young broke through the line to get to me. The pickets closed around me.

"He then broke through the line again and grabbed my shirt from behind and tried to sling me down so he could serve the papers.

"The pickets surrounded me and forced him out of the circle. He broke through and grabbed me by the throat. He damn near choked me to death.

"Almost 50 police came. Then all of a sudden the police rushed us and took six to jail. Three were not beer drivers.

"When they got me they took me over to the car, handcuffed me and started beating me.

"An AFL-CIO member told them I had had two serious

operations on my leg. Then badge 30 hauled off and kicked me on the leg.

"They purposely booked me last so I could not get medical attention.

"After I was in custody for an hour, an hour and a half, they took me to a hospital. A doctor examined my leg, but refused to take x-rays. They demanded I promise to pay in 30 days.

"I told them no because I've been on strike five months. The doctor and the police laughed at that. They demanded that I sign a letter that I refused medical treatment.

"The charges were dropped against all but one of us, who is still charged with interfering with an arrest.

SHOT

"I've been spitting up blood since it happened. I said to badge 30: 'What would have happened if I had run?' He said I'd have been shot.

"The larger companies are trying to break the unions.

"During the strike, I lost 25 pounds, lost my apartment, lost my insurance, and I have not paid child support for four months. I sold my clothing, stereo, everything I could get together in order to fight the company.

"The courts are in favor of no strikes, no unions. They defend the businessmen.

"It is from Nixon right on down. We have to remove Nixon to defend our basic rights, Nixon and everybody with him in the government."

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Crane Kills Ford Worker

BY A BULLETIN REPORTER

MILPITAS, Cal.—An auto worker, Leo Manning, was crushed to death inside the Ford plant here on the Friday day shift.

Manning was working on a forklift underneath a crane mounted on a rail when the rail snapped and 6000 pounds of crane and rail fell on him.

Jim Helton, a friend of Manning's who saw the body, said, "The hoist crushed his head. The rail crushed his body. He was dead so quick that it cut his hand off and it didn't even bleed."

Manning had worked in auto for 23 years, first at Trim, Chassis and finally maintenance.

The accident took place only hours after the UAW Local 560 leadership called off a strike scheduled for noon that day. They announced that they had reached an agreement with management over local issues, including safety and working conditions.

The crane was mounted on a six-foot extension attached to a lauden rail which bridged the assembly line. Laudens rails are made of a special highly brittle metal which is not supposed to be welded, cut, or heated.

The extension was both cut and welded into place a year ago. The workmen who built it protested that it was dangerous and violated all safety standards.

The plant manager sent a letter to Local 560 saying that one minute of silence would be observed in Manning's memory.

Helton said, "The damn union is going along with it. Our safety has got to be a big joke as far as management is concerned."

Los Tres Released On Bail

BY MITCH PATTERSON
EAST LOS ANGELES—

Alberto Ortiz, Juan Fernandez and Rodolpho Sanchez, three youth known as Los Tres, were released on \$150,000 bail, pending hearings before the US Court of Appeals.

On August 7, 1972, Los Tres were indicted by a Federal Grand Jury on charges of conspiring to assault and rob a custodian of Federal monies and conspiracy to commit crimes against the US government.

La Casa La Carnalismo, which became the national committee to free Los Tres, was established in 1969 as a poverty organization within the Chicano community of East Los Angeles.

In mid-1970 they launched a big campaign to force pushers of hard narcotics out of the Chicano community. On July 22, 1972, three leading members of La Casa arranged to meet Bobby Parker who they assumed was a pusher, in order to discourage him from returning to the Estrada Courts Housing Project.

When they told him to turn over all money obtained from the sale of narcotics in the community, Parker drew a pistol. As an act of self-defence, Ortiz and Fernandez fired their guns and fled.

The whole incident from the beginning to end was a trap. Parker was later found to be an undercover man for the FBI. The trial followed a month later and was presided over by Nixon's ex law partner, Federal District Court Judge Lawrence Lydick.

Ortiz, Fernandez, and Sanchez were sentenced to 10 years, 25 years, and 40 years respectively.

Antonio Rodriguez, assistant defense lawyer for Los Tres, told the Bulletin: "The judge refused to hear the testimony of our key witness, Frank Martinez, exposing the government's conspiracy against Los Tres."

It was Martinez who was sent from Texas by the FBI in 1970 to infiltrate the Chicano youth organizations. He soon became the chairman of the National Chicano Moratorium Committee and was instrumental in provoking the police and National Guard to attack a peaceful demonstration of 20,000.

Tension Mounts At Fremont

BY TOM CAGLE

FREMONT—Strike fever is running high at Fremont GM as the November 19 strike deadline approaches.

"Smash the Chrysler-Ford settlement" and "To hell with any more extensions" is angrily exhorted by many auto workers at this location.

Many secondary local leaders of the union feel that if Woodcock pushes another extension they will shut down Fremont and call on the rest of the GM locals to join.

A strike committee has been selected and a mass meeting is scheduled for Saturday, November 17 to review the last minute status of all negotiations.

Shop chairman Earlie Mays and President Vern Dias have just been quickly summoned to Detroit by Woodcock for a council meeting in which Woodcock is expected to plea for an extension in order to clear up the rejection of the contract by the Ford skilled tradesmen.

General Motors has just announced to the UAW that 500,000 auto workers will not be paid holiday pay for Thanksgiving Day because they have the right under this extension to refuse this pay. This is an arrogant provocation by GM welcoming a strike.

Since Nixon's announcement on the fuel shortage, management has established an environmental committee to institute immediately cost-cutting policies for lights and heat. This has sent a rumor throughout the plant of possible mass layoffs.



Department store employees march in support of United Farm Workers boycott of Safeway stores in the Bay Area.

IBT Pressures To End Sears Strike

BY MARTY MORAN

SAN FRANCISCO—Department store union Local 1100 President Walter Johnson pushed through a motion at Tuesday night's meeting of striking Sears clerks authorizing the leadership to submit for ratification of any Sears offer with an "acceptable" wage increase.

The central strike demand of full medical and health benefits is to be dropped.

Teamsters Local 853 at the San Leandro warehouse voted 32 to 23 on Monday to accept this same motion.

"It looks like they are going to present the same deal to us," said a young Sears worker. An older woman clerk said, "There's got to be some kind of

change, the way things are going."

Johnson tried to use the Teamster vote to convince the ranks that they do not have the strength to win the strike. But pickets from Local 1100 have already been set up at San Leandro and are being honored by the Teamsters.

After the Tuesday meeting, workers crowded around

Johnson insisting that pickets be sent to every warehouse previously picketed by the Teamsters.

A decertification election held by the NLRB is now scheduled for the clerks at the Santa Rosa store November 20, and possibly later for the Santa Clara warehouse, where Teamsters Local 287 broke ranks and went back to work two weeks ago.

The Ad Hoc Committee has refused to organize a political fight against the government. They have called another protest Saturday at Sears Geary Street Store.

Nazi Party Link To Foster Assassination

BY TED BAKER

OAKLAND—The witch-hunt begun last week against youth after the assassination of Marcus Foster, Oakland Superintendent of Schools, has developed into a campaign against all left-wing organizations.

The Oakland Tribune, run by

Carpenters Wildcat

Bay Area carpenters struck sites in Redwood City, San Mateo, and San Francisco today against the cut by the construction industry's Stabilization Committee of a 65 cent wage raise effective last June 15.

The move to strike began at a stop-work meeting in the Cow Palace last Friday. Four thousand carpenters roared approval for a proposal to strike after District Council representatives J. Watts and J. Rebeiro were forced from the platform.

Site meetings have been called for tomorrow to set up pickets at all major sites in San Francisco. Alameda County sites will also be shut down tomorrow.

conservative Republican William Knowland, a former Senator, ran a banner headline on Foster's funeral with an interview with S.I. Hawakawa who stated that the shooting is a direct continuation of the politics of the Students for a Democratic Society.

The press is seeking to blame the "Symbionese Liberation Army" for the killing which it claims has taken responsibility. No one has ever heard of this organization before which is undoubtedly the invention of the police.

Just three weeks ago, the American Nazi Party distributed leaflets in San Leandro, south of Oakland, which began: "Should we do some killing?" and denounced "race-mixing educators."

The real possibility exists that the murder of Foster and the letters from the so-called Symbionese Liberation Army are a conscious provocation by the fascists to stir up racist attacks against Black youth.

While the Tribune and other papers have been forced to retract statements that Foster's assassins were all Black youth, they have not printed one word about the fascist leaflets.

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La labor de esta columna es la construcción de un nuevo liderato en la clase obrera. Es por ello que necesitamos el apoyo de todos los obreros hispanos en desarrollar esta columna. Favor de dirigir su correspondencia a Lucía Rivera, c/o Labor Publications, 135 West 14th St., New York, N.Y. 10011

lucha obrera

Lucía Rivera Lecciones De La Huelga De Hospitales

La huelga de una semana y media por los trabajadores de hospitales ha sido traicionada por el liderato de la unión. León Davis, presidente de la local 1199 ha capitulado frente al Concilio del Costo de Vida aceptando las directrices del gobierno en contra de la clase obrera.

Davis que durante la primera parte del trato de mantener a la membresía de la unión pendientes de las decisiones de las cortes en cuanto a sus salarios, por un espacio de diez meses, fue incapaz después de cuatro meses de vencida la segunda parte de contener el coraje de sus miembros y declaró una huelga en contra del gobierno.

La huelga de los trabajadores de hospitales presentaba un abierto desafío a los controles salariales de Nixon. La victoria de esta huelga requería el rompimiento total de los compromisos del liderato de la unión con la burguesía, la destrucción de las leyes en contra de los sindicatos y la creación de una alternativa de clase que sacara a Nixon del poder.

Pero Davis, al igual que los burócratas sindicales que tanto critica, como Meany, se negó desde un principio a pedir el apoyo del movimiento laboral del país.

Esta huelga le señaló a miles de trabajadores en la ciudad de Nueva York y en el país entero la vía a seguir en contra de los interdictos y de la junta salarial basada en la fortaleza demostrada por los obreros de los hospitales.

La vendetta de esta huelga no solo significa la reducción de 1.5 por ciento de sus demandas salariales originales sino que pone al gobierno en una posición más sólida para arremeter en contra de la clase obrera e imponer niveles inferiores del 5.5 por ciento y tratar de destruir los derechos básicos de los trabajadores.

Cualquier demanda salarial en esta época de crisis, se convierte en una lucha política en contra del gobierno. Los capitalistas están dispuestos a mantener su sistema de ganancias requiriendo esto la destrucción del nivel de vida de los trabajadores.

Fue por esto que el carácter de esta huelga fue tan violento. El gobierno utilizó sus cortes y su cuerpo represivo, para arrestar a más de cien huelguistas, golpear a otros tantos e imponer multas a la unión y al liderato, cuya suma sobrepasa al medio millón.

Davis ha prometido pagar las multas, aceptando de esta forma las leyes anti-obreras y los planes del gobierno de destruir el derecho a la huelga.

Las tácticas de los años treinta durante la lucha por la formación de sindicatos han sido revividas. Pero estas tácticas toman lugar en el 1973, luego de una segunda devaluación del dólar bajo el cual el gobierno no ha de permitir la más mínima demanda o reforma sino que tiene que lanzarse en guerra abierta en contra de las conquistas obtenidas décadas atrás por los trabajadores.

La unión de los trabajadores de hospitales que se organizó luego de agrias y cruentas confrontaciones en contra del gobierno a través de militancias luchas, se estrella hoy día contra esos límites de militancia sindical.

Esas fueron las lecciones del año pasado durante la huelga para organizar la unión en el "General Hospital" en Boston. Luego de una ola de terror policiaco, Davis capituló frente al gobierno como acaba de hacer en la ciudad de Nueva York.

Los stalinistas conscientemente les ofrecieron una cubierta a sus raiciones. El Partido Laboral Progresista se dedicó durante la duración de la huelga a llevarles donas y café a los huelguistas y adaptarse a la militancia sindical de los obreros.

El Partido Comunista que siempre ha sido el protavoz principal de la burocracia de la unión se opuso hasta el último momento a la huelga y durante la duración de esta llevo una tímida campaña de apoyo "moral" en su periódico *Daily World*. Fueron estos los que semanas antes de la huelga se unieron a la burocracia en su apoyo a Beame, para alcalde de la ciudad, a pesar de la oposición mayoritaria de la membresía de respaldado.

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Price controls in the US are now used as a device to wage the growing trade war with Europe and Japan—at the expense of the American worker—through the export of basic necessities abroad and the development of big shortages here.

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All of this is brought to the point of explosion by the Arab cutback in the production of oil which has forced the crisis to a head.

The United States is rapidly moving to force the major brunt of this crisis onto its trading rivals in Europe and Japan who face industrial collapse if cut off from Arab oil.

At the same time, the power crisis provides the excuse for big cutbacks in production. Mass unemployment in the United States—combined with huge

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The successive devaluations of the dollar and the brutal trade war measures of the United States are now expressed in the virtual collapse of the British economy. England faces a trade deficit of three-quarters of a billion dollars, massive power cuts and the powerful movement of coal and electrical workers who refuse to accept the attacks on their wages and conditions.

The government has now forced interest rates to an incredible 13 percent and been forced to declare a state of emergency in preparation for a showdown with the working class.

This is a warning of the conditions being prepared in every country of the world. Uncontrollable inflation, mass unemployment, slashes in the living standards of millions and bitter trade war now intensify the drive toward police repression and dictatorship. This must come head-on against the enormous resistance of the workers and peasants in both the advanced and colonial countries.

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Because this is a political fight against Nixon, auto workers must demand that the UAW act on its resolution calling for Nixon's impeachment by joining in a massive campaign with the AFL-CIO of demonstrations and strikes demanding Nixon's ouster.

This fight for a national strike can be taken forward only on the basis of policies aimed to bring down Nixon and to free auto workers from the Democratic and Republican parties through the building of a labor party.

La labor de esta columna es la construcción de un nuevo liderato en la clase obrera. Es por ello que necesitamos el apoyo de todos los obreros hispanos en desarrollar esta columna. Favor de dirigir su correspondencia a: Lucía Rivera, c/o Labor Publications, 135 West 14th St., New York, N.Y. 10011

lucha obrera

lucía rivera-

Lecciones De La Huelga De Hospitales

La huelga de una semana y media por los trabajadores de hospitales ha sido traicionada por el liderato de la unión. León Davis, presidente de la local 1199 ha capitulado frente al Concilio del Costo de Vida aceptando las directrices del gobierno en contra de la clase obrera.

Davis que durante la primera parte del trato de mantener a la membresía de la unión pendientes de las decisiones de las cortes en cuanto a sus salarios, por un espacio de diez meses, fue incapaz después de cuatro meses de vencida la segunda parte de contener el coraje de sus miembros y declaró una huelga en contra del gobierno.

La huelga de los trabajadores de hospitales presentaba un abierto desafío a los controles salariales de Nixon. La victoria de esta huelga requería el rompimiento total de los compromisos del liderato de la unión con la burguesía, la destrucción de las leyes en contra de los sindicatos y la creación de una alternativa de clase que sacara a Nixon del poder.

Pero Davis, al igual que los burócratas sindicales que tanto critica, como Meany, se negó desde un principio a pedir el apoyo del movimiento laboral del país.

Esta huelga le señaló a miles de trabajadores en la ciudad de Nueva York y en el país entero la vía a seguir en contra de los interdictos y de la junta salarial basada en la fortaleza demostrada por los obreros de los hospitales.

La vendutta de esta huelga no solo significa la reducción de 1.5 por ciento de sus demandas salariales originales sino que pone al gobierno en una posición más sólida para arremeter en contra de la clase obrera e imponer niveles inferiores del 5.5 por ciento y tratar de destruir los derechos básicos de los trabajadores.

Cualquier demanda salarial en esta época de crisis, se convierte en una lucha política en contra del gobierno. Los capitalistas están dispuestos a mantener su sistema de ganancias requiriendo esto la destrucción del nivel de vida de los trabajadores.

Fue por esto que el carácter de esta huelga fue tan violento. El gobierno utilizó sus cortes y su cuerpo represivo, para arrestar a más de cien huelguistas, golpear a otros tantos e imponer multas a la unión y al liderato, cuya suma sobrepasa al medio millón.

Davis ha prometido pagar las multas, aceptando de esta forma las leyes anti-obreras y los planes del gobierno de destruir el derecho a la huelga.

Las tácticas de los años treinta durante la lucha por la formación de sindicatos han sido revividas. Pero estas tácticas toman lugar en el 1973, luego de una segunda devaluación del dólar bajo el cual el gobierno no ha de permitir la más mínima demanda o reforma sino que tiene que lanzarse en guerra abierta en contra de las conquistas obtenidas décadas atrás por los trabajadores.

La unión de los trabajadores de hospitales que se organizó luego de agrias y cruentas confrontaciones en contra del gobierno a través de militantes luchas, se estrella hoy día contra esos límites de militancia sindical.

Esas fueron las lecciones del año pasado durante la huelga para organizar la unión en el "General Hospital" en Boston. Luego de una ola de terror policiaco, Davis capituló frente al gobierno como acaba de hacer en la ciudad de Nueva York.

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