

Bulletin

Twice-Weekly Organ of the Central Committee of the Workers League

HOOVER

JUL 30 1976

INSTITUTION

NOW
TWICE A
WEEK!

VOLUME NINE NUMBER FIFTY FOUR 329

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1973

UNION LABEL 6

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FIFTEEN CENTS

Nixon Heroin Connection?

BLANKS FOUND ON ALL TAPES

BY DAVID NORTH

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At the same time, there has been an utter collapse of the AFL-CIO bureaucracy's impeachment campaign against Nixon. It has refused to mobilize the American labor movement against this government even in the face of the most shattering evidence that reveals Nixon's continued defiance of the courts and constitution.

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In effect, by turning over these mutilated tapes which by all accounts were in excellent condition until recently, Nixon did not comply with the court order and acted in open defiance of the law.

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who believes he can exercise dictatorial powers.

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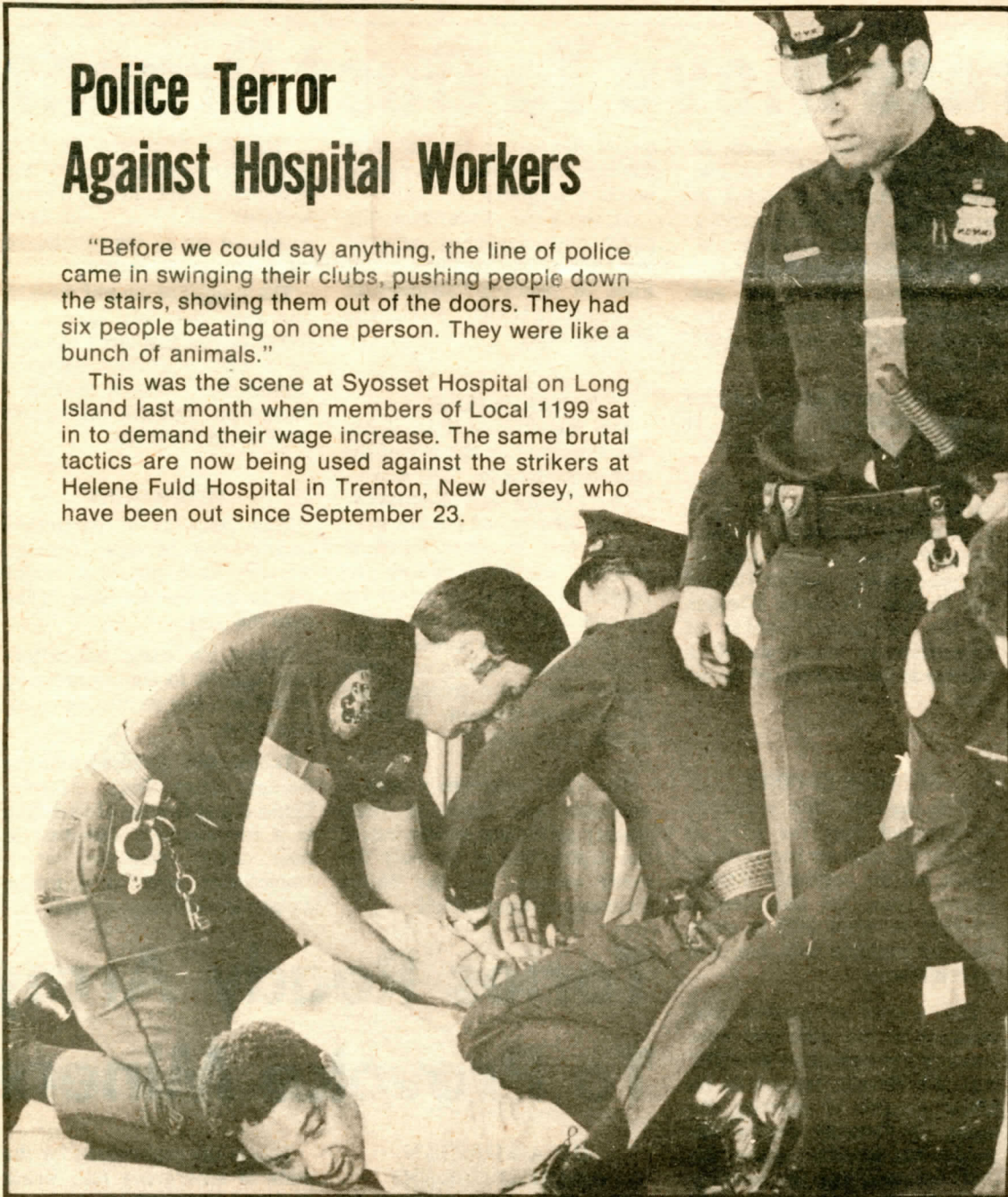
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AFL-CIO Must Act Against Unemployment

BY THE EDITORS

The most fundamental right of the working class, the right to have a job, is now under a deliberate and ruthless attack by the American corporations.

The oil crisis has been the signal to all the major industries to create the most massive unemployment in this country since the depression.

General Motors took the lead by announcing last week that the entire production line would be shut down for one week in December.

At GM plants throughout the country, there are already reports that entire shifts will be eliminated in the next few months.

In the Fisher Body plant in Kalamazoo, Michigan where body parts are made, 300 pro-

duction workers are to be laid off permanently.

It is not only the auto plants. United Air Lines will begin the immediate layoff of 1000 workers.

US Steel in Pittsburgh has laid off 70 men and Kaiser Steel in California is to throw out 200.

Continental Can in San Leandro, California is threatening to let go the entire 325 work force.

(Continued On Page 12)

In The Midweek
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•Third part of the four-part "Draft Resolution on Perspectives" of the Workers Revolutionary Party of Great Britain.

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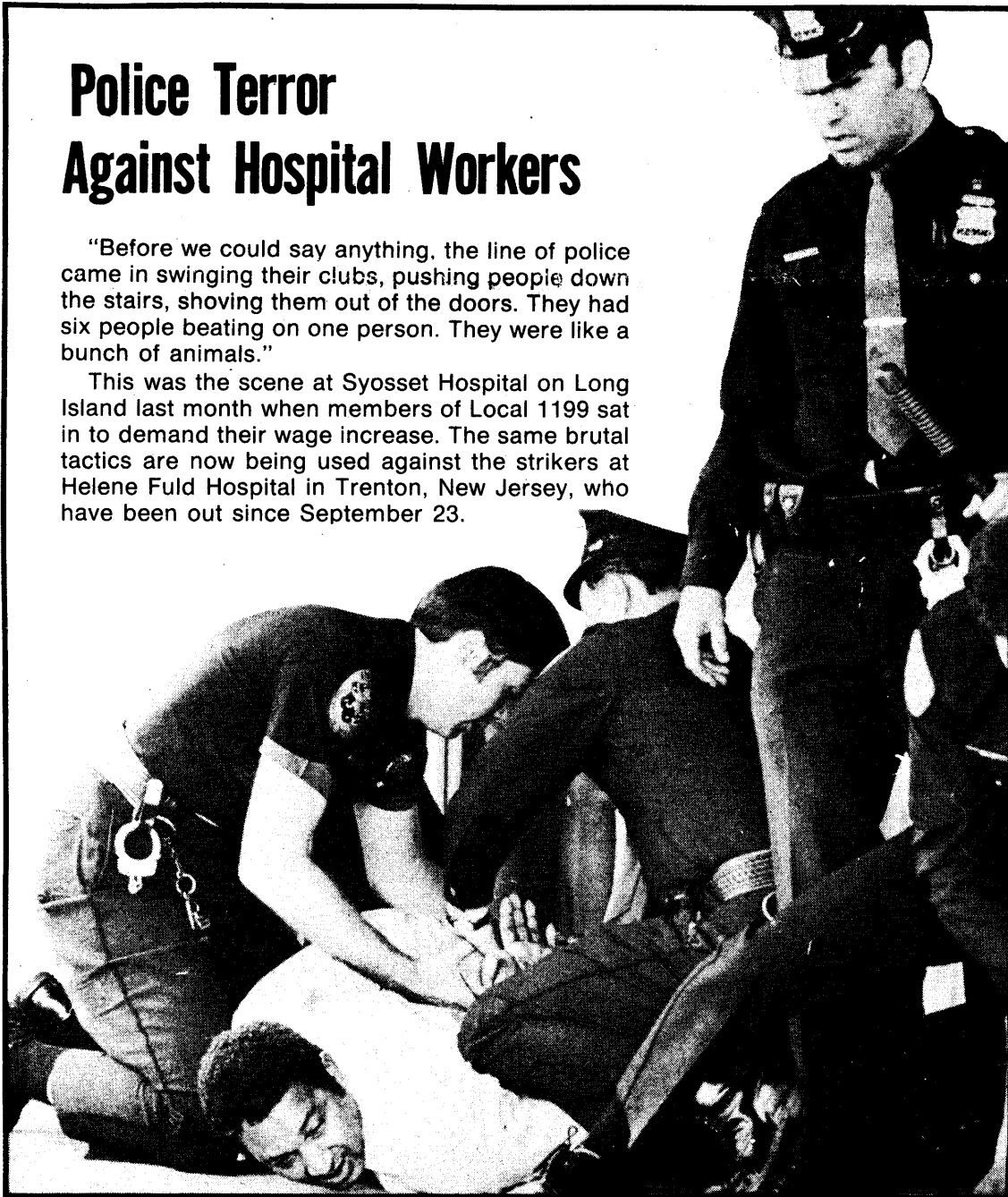
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Greece: A Warning To American Workers

The right-wing military coup that took place in Greece on Sunday coming only two months after the military seized power in Chile is a direct warning to American workers of the threat of dictatorship here.

It was the United States which organized and directed first the overthrow of Allende in Chile and now the overthrow of the very dictator, George Papadopoulos, who the US brought to power in 1967.

Administration officials admit that the Greek coup was "no surprise" and that in fact they were well informed months in advance.

What We Think

On the same day that General Dimitrios Ionnidis and General Gizikis moved their tanks into Athens and arrested Papadopoulos, Assistant Secretary of State Joseph Sisco was in consultation with Greek

embassy officials in Washington.

The new Greek Premier Adamandios Androusoyopoulos was closely connected to the CIA during the period he was attached to the Greek embassy in Chicago.

The men who planned this coup, the men who are responsible for the murder of at least 50 people during the street battles in Athens, are the same men who hold power here. Evidence is now coming out that Nixon was instrumental in calling off an investigation of his close friend and campaign contributor Robert Vesco that would have revealed Vesco's connection to heroin smuggling. These are the type of gangsters around Nixon.

Who is actually running the United States? Nixon, Kissinger, and a small group of reactionary military figures in the Pentagon represented by General Haig make all the decisions. The military, through their spokesman General Haig, is directly in the government and Haig is Nixon's closest advisor.

When the Greek generals state that they were forced



to take over to prevent an "electoral adventure" this is the real voice of Nixon and Haig speaking.

If Nixon organized a military coup because Papadopoulos had scheduled elections, will he decide to do the same thing here and get the army to back him up? Is there any assurance that there will be another election in this country?

This is the danger that all American workers face. If even the slightest crack in the Papadopoulos regime produced such fear in the Nixon government, then his attack on American workers will be even more ruthless.

It is the struggle of the working people here to defend their living conditions and wages against soaring inflation, to protect their right to a job that pushes this government towards dictatorship.

Every strike over wages now challenges Nixon's attempt to force the workers to pay for the economic and monetary crisis of capitalism.

The Watergate conspiracy, the "dirty tricks" department, the secret spy rings that gathered intelligence independent of any official government bodies, the subversion of the 1972 elections are not things of the past. Nixon and Haig now are preparing to use these methods against the unions and the youth.

Police repression is being stepped up in every city. In the past month, police and FBI agents have intensified their harassment and arrests of Young Socialists and Workers League members.

The continuing existence of the Nixon government is a direct and immediate threat to every worker. Every day he is allowed to stay in office gives him more time to prepare a conspiracy to destroy democratic rights.

Despite the clear warnings, despite the hatred of millions of workers for Nixon, the AFL-CIO leadership refuses to do anything to force him to resign. Since Meany's call for Nixon's impeachment, the AFL-CIO has maintained a criminal silence on the attacks of this government.

The student uprisings in Greece after six years of military rule and the offensive of the Arab masses against the puppet state of Israel show the tremendous weakness of imperialism and the power of the working class.

The lesson of Greece is that a revolutionary leadership must be built in the unions against the present bureaucracy that will mobilize this power against Nixon and fight for a labor party on a socialist program. There is no time to lose.

It is only the Workers League and our twice-weekly paper, the Bulletin, that is leading this fight. We call on every worker and youth to join the Workers League and the Young Socialists in order to build this leadership.

Christian Democrats Move To Oust Brandt

BY DAVID NORTH

The development of a full-scale recession in Germany is producing the most serious political crisis in that country since the end of World War Two.

Chancellor Willy Brandt's social democratic-liberal coalition government is under heavy assault from the leading reactionary big business party, the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), which is determined to oust Brandt.

At its party convention this past week, the CDU made clear that it plans to establish a government capable of breaking the powerful trade unions and the living standards of the German working class.

The so-called economic miracle of postwar West Germany has come to a decisive end.

In September, unemployment stood at 219,000. By mid-November, there were 267,000 workers without jobs. A government official recently stated: "In winter, we could reach 500,000 unemployed."

BOYCOTT

The Arab oil boycott is disrupting the important German petrochemical industry which was one of the most important creations of the postwar boom. Finance Minister Helmut Schmidt warned last Saturday that the boycott will have "significant, so far unforeseen, economic consequences."

However, the oil boycott has

actually exacerbated an economic crisis that was already assuming drastic proportions before the outbreak of the Mideast war.

The revaluations of the German mark since August 15, 1971 have made the country's trade position increasingly difficult. The breakup of all connections between paper currency and gold and the wild inflation has undermined confidence



Willy Brandt

in the mark and led to a downturn in investment. This retrenchment by major industries has been spurred by credit restrictions adopted by the government.

Big layoffs began to hit the construction industry and the machine tool industry over the summer. The largest manufacturer of construction machinery, Rhein Stahl/Hanomag, laid off 1000 workers in October.

The German auto industry is now suffering the most sudden reversals as there has been a sharp downturn in consumer spending.

More than 7000 Ford workers

in Germany were placed on short hours two weeks ago, and heavy layoffs are expected in early 1974. With sales lagging behind even the most pessimistic expectations, Ford's two new models, the Consul and Granada, have become the Edsels of the German auto industry.

"At this moment," said one Ford spokesman, "no one is buying standard size models."

Ford is not the only auto company suffering losses. Opel, a leading German manufacturer, reports that sales for its most popular models, Rekord and Kadett, are down. Workers in the industrial center of Rüsselsheim have noted a buildup in the stockpile of unsold cars.

SERIOUS EFFORT

It is against this economic background that the CDU is making its most serious effort to throw out the reformist Brandt regime since the unsuccessful attempt in April 1972 to overturn the coalition with a vote of no-confidence.

The waves of strikes and wildcats in the auto and coal industry has convinced the CDU that the Brandt regime is no longer capable of meeting the needs of German capitalism. Brandt has actually assisted the CDU by attacking the working class for its tremendous militancy, and the trade union bureaucracy has sought to oppose every strike.

Under Brandt's guidance, Interior Minister Genscher has built up a massive paramilitary police force to be used against the working class.

COALITION

Brandt has maintained his coalition with the liberal Free Democratic Party (FDP) which is now negotiating behind the scenes with the CDU, its old partners, in preparation for sud-

denly deserting Brandt and leaving him without a parliamentary majority.

At the CDU conference, the party enthusiastically adopted the call of its leader, Helmut Kohl, to reject a "Strategy of Accommodation" with the working class.

THREATENS

The meaning of this slogan was explained on the eve of the conference by a top CDU spokesman, Philipp von Bismarck: "Trade unions and parties have in the last 10 years failed to consider carefully enough the results of building up power for its own sake; and at what point the growth in the power of the trade unions leads to not more justice and more freedom, but threatens all freedom. We stand at this point now."

The CDU conference was a veritable war dance of reactionary politicians screaming for the destruction of not only the trade unions, but the Social Democratic Party itself.

The drive to return the CDU and its Bavarian sister party, the even more reactionary Christian Socialist Union (CSU), has been supported in an unprecedented campaign by the media.

The renowned liberal weekly, Die Zeit, not only opened its pages to von Bismarck but also to a CSU member Gerhard Todenhoffer, who is leading a campaign against immigrant workers in Germany.

WITCH-HUNT

This issue is of particular importance because foreign workers have played a major role in the recent strikes in the auto industry.

Brandt has aided this witch-hunt against foreign workers by imposing a ban on continued immigration.

Todenhoffer declared that the workers from Italy, Algeria, Tunisia, and Greece are heading in a revolutionary direction in their native countries, which Todenhoffer sees as a major danger to Germany as well.

Tories Ready Army To Provoke Miners

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

The Tory government in Britain is establishing a top secret circle of army and police officials to move against the miners if they strike against the pay laws.

This conspiratorial group held a three day meeting to discuss urban guerrilla warfare. Bomb Squad Chief of Scotland Yard was present at the meeting.

The Tories are preparing for a ruthless showdown with the working class including violent provocations that they will blame on the miners.

This is the real reason for the state of emergency that Heath declared last week.

All the brutal methods in which the British Army has been trained in Ireland are now to be used against British workers.

A special intelligence executive which includes the Bomb Squad, the armed Special Patrol Group and the Special Branch has been assigned specifically to deal with the miners.

Strong sentiment for strike action is sweeping the mines. A nationwide miners walkout can unite all British workers in a general strike to force Heath out of office.

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US Surplus Deepens Money War

BY JEFF SEBASTIAN

The latest figures for US foreign trade continue to register a large surplus for exports in the month of October.

For the first 10 months of 1973, the balance of trade shows a surplus of \$680 million in exports over imports. This is in the sharpest contrast to 1972 figures which wound up with a record \$6.4 deficit.

These figures are a measure of the devastating blows being struck against the European and Japanese economies by the two dollar devaluations that have cheapened the price of American goods for foreign purchasers.

The dollar value of American exports has risen 39 percent over last year, reflecting an enormous increase in the volume of goods.

At the same time, while the dollar value of imports has risen 22 percent, the volume has remained almost constant.

The effect of the dollar devaluations has been to allow the US to sell abroad at competitive rates while taking it out on the American worker in inflated prices at home and frozen wages.

But even this enormous turnaround in the trade situation is not enough for the United States. US officials continue to project a trade surplus of seven billion dollars as their goal.

MINISTERS

This is the meaning of the recent conference of the finance ministers of the United States, Japan, Britain, France, and West Germany, held secretly in France.

The Americans are concerned that the recent rise in the dollar against foreign currencies which threatens to return it to the old predevaluation rate will wipe out all the trading advantages that have been won.

The deepening oil crisis and the threat of world recession has the sharpest impact on Europe and Japan and is leading to a collapse in confidence in their currencies. The US is insisting that its rivals continue to support US trade surpluses by selling dollars, keeping up the value of their own currencies and cutting their own throats on trade.

BANKRUPT

In other words, the United States is demanding that Europe and Japan bankrupt themselves. Thus the very development of a US trade surplus intensifies the crisis tremendously. It is impossible to reach any agreement on such a policy and it is for this reason that the conference resolved nothing and agreed on no concrete policies that can be announced. This is a measure of the enormous rivalry now ripping apart the world capitalist system.

Nothing fundamental can be agreed upon because underlying the dispute on trade is the disintegration of the entire world monetary system.

When on August 15, 1971 America took the dollar off the

gold standard, the value of all currencies which had been pegged to the dollar and through it to gold became completely uncertain.

This set into motion the extraordinary wave of commodity speculation that bid up the price of commodities to unheard of heights as speculators scrambled to get their hands on something they hoped would retain value.

TWO TIER

Only a few weeks ago, the major industrial nations agreed to abandon the two tier gold system set up in 1968. Under this system, the price of gold held by central banks was pegged at \$42.22 while gold, allowed to find its own price on the market, rose to over \$100 an ounce.

The latest decision severs the last link of the dollar to gold. With the \$42.22 price thrown out, the value of all paper money is completely indeterminate.

FLUCTUATIONS

It now becomes impossible to exchange one currency for another except through the wildest fluctuations on the currency markets.

The rapid rise in the price of gold and commodities threatens the huge hoards of dollars held abroad with destruction as billions in paper value is wiped out.

This is the situation that now threatens the disintegration of world trade and the collapse of whole economies. Capitalism can only seek to resolve this crisis through the most vicious slashes on workers living standards and the destruction of the unions.

Auto Workers Rally At UAW Council Meeting

BY KEN WESTON

DETROIT, Nov. 28—The GM Council of the United Auto Workers voted almost unanimously Tuesday to accept the contract negotiated last week by Leonard Woodcock, and refused to call for action by the ranks to stop the layoffs now being instituted by the company.

"They told us the situation for 1974 looks bleak and we could anticipate more shutdowns," UAW Vice-President Irving Bluestone told the Council.

Delegates later denied that the coming layoffs played a role in their decision to accept a contract which has aroused tremendous opposition from the ranks.

UAW members must reject this contract as voting begins this week and demand that Woodcock launch a fight for a decent wage and in defense of every auto worker's job.

GM is attempting to blackmail the ranks into accepting the



Auto workers outside the Linden, New Jersey GMAD plant which will shut down December 17 for one week.

GM Layoffs Hit Tarrytown 'We Will Not Accept It'

BY MITCH PATTERSON

TARRYTOWN, NY—"It is quiet in the plant right now; but it looks like the quiet that comes right before a storm," declared an auto worker who has worked for 20 years at the General Motors Assembly Division in Tarrytown, New York.

Tarrytown GM is slated for a one week shutdown beginning December 17, along with many other plants across the country. GM stated that the reason for the closures and layoffs is the big decline in sales and the energy crisis.

"The men are now signing up for unemployment to cover the week with no pay. I went down to the unemployment office yesterday myself. The newcomers with no seniority are going to get it the worst because they cannot get the money from unemployment."

"They cannot sell the big cars anymore. A car dealer near my house usually sells 50 cars a week.

"Last week he sold 5. It all comes from the energy shortage. That is why they are closing this place up."

PICKET

"We might be out in the street with picket signs in a couple of days. We are not stupid.

"We know that Woodcock is going to sell this contract down the drain; he has sold every contract down the drain."

Another worker said: "We do not accept the layoffs. If they asked us to vote on these layoffs, we would never be put out. We do all the work around here, we should be able to speak for ourselves. If we do not like this contract, that they settle, we are going out."

Pete, a young auto worker said: "Nixon is using the big companies to get out of the energy crisis. He thinks that if he gets out of the energy crisis, no one will bother him about the Watergate scandal."

Woodcock has not lifted a finger in defense of the auto workers' jobs. Instead, he has arranged for another three percent deal in the GM contract. This tremendous "contribution to the national economy" threatens not only the wages, but now the very jobs of every auto worker in the country.

This plays right into the hands of Nixon. At every point, Nixon's strategy is to make the working class pay for his energy crisis. In order to do this, however, he must break the back of the powerful unions, particularly the United Auto Workers.

REJECTION

Nixon's strategy and Woodcock's agreement with it must be answered with a flat rejection of the contract and these layoffs by the auto workers themselves. Preparation for nationwide strike action against the Big Three must begin immediately.

Boston Projects Face Heat Cutoff

BY A REPORTER

BOSTON—The Boston Housing Authority recently announced that heating oil in the city's low-income housing projects will last only until the end of this week.

The housing authority has appealed for emergency allocations from Governor Francis Sargent, but as yet has received nothing.

Cutbacks in the heating have already been made. Residents of the Ruggles Street Project say that heat is being cut off at night and hot water is often unavailable between 6 and 9 in the morning when it is most needed.

At the same time, school districts have met in emergency sessions to find ways of re-

ducing oil consumption in their facilities.

Besides turning down thermostats, recommendations include ending all afternoon school activities including sports, closing off auditoriums and other recreational areas, and cutting back the amount of classroom space being used.

Another proposal representing a great danger to the jobs of thousands of teachers calls for changing the required yearly educational period from a daily to an hourly measurement.

Massachusetts is the nation's largest consumer of heating oil and the present shortage threatens disruption in the whole of the region's economy.

Moscow Urges Deal On West Bank State

BY JOHN SPENCER

Leaders of the Palestine resistance movement are now in Moscow for talks with the Soviet bureaucracy. A delegation led by Yassir Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, arrived in Moscow on Tuesday.

It includes representatives of all the major constituent groups of the PLO: Zoheir Mohsen for the Syrian-backed Sa'iq; Nayef Hawatmeh for the pro-Stalinist Popular Democratic Front; Abu Luft and Abu Salah for Fatah; George Habash and Ahmed EL-Yamani for the Popular Front; and Abdel Wahab El-Kayali for the Iraqi-backed Arab Liberation Front.

This delegation was to have left for Moscow more than a week ago and its departure was wrongly reported from Beirut. But disagreements between the various groups forced the postponement of the trip.

According to Said Hammami, London representative of the PLO, the purpose of the visit to Moscow is to seek assurances from the Soviet Union on three points:

1. The delegation will be asking for an official definition of the meaning of the Soviet Union attaches to the term "legitimate rights of the Palestinian people," first used publicly in last week's joint Soviet-Yugoslav communique on the Middle East.

2. They will be asking how far the USSR would support the right of the Palestinians to self-determination in their homeland.

3. They will also want to know whether the Soviet Union will continue to accept the PLO as the sole organization with the right to represent the Palestinians as a whole.

The PLO visit coincides with a major diplomatic offensive by Moscow in the Arab countries.

Following the ceasefire agreed between Egypt and Israel on October 22, Moscow has been applying every pressure to ensure that peace talks, with Palestinian participation, get under way in Geneva next month.

This is the vital next stage of the joint American-Soviet plan to impose a so-called peace settlement on the Middle East.

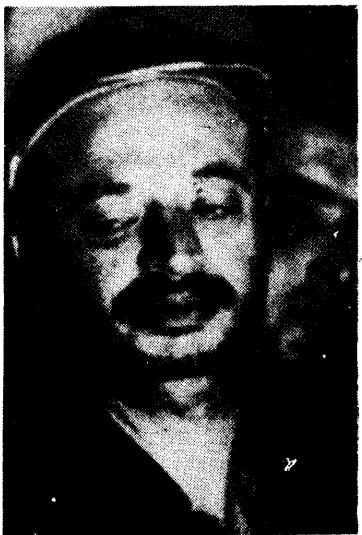
The broad outlines of the

secret diplomatic deal done between Moscow and Washington are already clear.

In return for Arab recognition of Israel and guarantees of its boundaries, the plan envisages an Israeli withdrawal from at least some of the lands conquered in 1967.

It would mean the return of Sinai to Egypt and the Golan Heights to Syria. But the fate of the west bank of the Jordan, the Gaza strip and the Hemmah area on the Syrian border is left unsettled.

All these were Palestinian lands which did not fall into the hands of the Zionists when the



Yassir Arafat

Israeli state was established by force in 1947-1948.

The west bank was grabbed by King Hussein of Jordan's grandfather Abdullah—an act which was approved after the event by his Palestinian stooges at the Jericho conference.

The Palestinian movement has never recognized this forcible annexation of its territories by the Hashemite monarchy and correctly insists that the west bank remains Palestinian territory.

Musicians Accept Pact

BY MITCH PATTERSON

NEW YORK—After a ten week strike against the officers of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra, 106 Philharmonic musicians of the Associated Musicians Union voted to accept a contract offer.

The new contract provides wage raises of \$20, \$10, and \$20

over three years. This is about six percent in the first year and only three percent in the second. The union has accepted the government wage guidelines in a completely inadequate package.

Other fringe benefits won include a modest increase in pensions and a life insurance policy.

Last Sunday management had offered even less and a musi-

But this correct demand is now being exploited by opportunists among the Palestinians to promote the rotten and reactionary conception of a Palestinian state on the west bank, perhaps linked by corridor to the Gaza strip and Hemmah.

Hammami, for example, says that the formation of such a state is "a very necessary step in order to close down the refugee camps and put Palestine again on the map."

He says: "It is our responsibility to decide what this territory is going to be. I want to see it independent, a fully-fledged state. A member of the United Nations."

"I believe this could be accepted by the great majority of the Palestinian people. I for one would give my vote to this."

The Moscow bureaucracy has never favored the self-determination of the Palestinian people and has no intention of doing so now.

Acceptance of the formula of a west bank state means renunciation of the basic demand of the PLO for a secular democratic state within Palestine.

Not only will the formation of such a state be a blow against the Arab minority inside Israel, it will also deprive the Jewish masses of their most powerful allies in the fight against Zionism.

There can be no peace in the Middle East so long as the Zionist state remains as a spearhead for imperialism against the Arab and Jewish workers and peasants.

The Soviet-US plan must be rejected as completely counter-revolutionary and designed to deprive the Palestinians of the legitimate national rights for which they have fought so long.

Heavier and heavier work-



Egypt's troops in Sinai desert.

Nurses Organize In Washington DC

BY SHINN DANO

WASHINGTON D.C.—A committee of public health nurses here has been formed to fight for a contract based on professional nursing standards to replace the current loose job descriptions provided by the District government.

In the face of increased workloads, inadequate facilities and staff, this committee insists that public health care can be improved and that professional nursing must be defended.

Heavier and heavier work-

loads are forced on the nurses as a result of the cutbacks in funds allocated for public health. As more and more nurses are lost due to normal attrition, the vital positions of field and clinic nurses are not filled.

Geographic areas assigned to individual nurses are increased resulting in greater caseloads.

In many instances, home visits are not made even though serious health needs exist.

All of these cutbacks in services come at a time when there are more elderly and retired workers with chronic diseases in need of health supervision.

Long waiting lists for senior citizen housing and nursing homes force many elderly to remain alone in their own homes or apartments with the constant danger of injuries through falls and no means to purchase and prepare nutritious meals.

Field nurses who normally could provide supervised living situations are now required to work in clinics in addition to their other responsibilities. The clinics are unable to provide even the poor quality care of the past because they are faced with the constant turnover of nursing staff.

Health care in the elementary schools, for which field nurses are also responsible, is necessarily neglected.

Health education can only be provided by individual classroom teachers if they find time in their crowded schedules.

The nurses who provide health services as well as the would-be recipients feel keenly the full effects of Nixon's attacks on social services. As the deliberate speedup of nurses goes forward, they have had no means to protect their rights without union representation. The nurses are fighting for a decent standard of living as well as a reduced caseload for public health nurses, and a contract which ensures full community health services. This can only be fought for on the basis of union affiliation with the AFL-CIO and a fight against the Nixon government which is eliminating the basic right to decent health care.

cians meeting resolved to continue the strike.

Monday morning, the pickets were put right back up in front of the Philharmonic Hall. L. Arons, the president of the musicians Local 802, reported the new proposals at the meeting.

Management originally proposed an increase in wages of approximately 15 percent over an extended period of three years.

This was the longest strike in the history of the Philharmonic. The new contract corresponds closely to a pact signed by striking Chicago Symphony musicians last month.

While officials on the Board are collecting fat salaries, musicians themselves are being told that they have to accept Nixon's starvation wage guidelines of 5.5 percent.

Public relations manager for the union, Sy Levitan told the Bulletin: "The orchestras in Europe are subsidized by the federal government."

"We in the United States are left at the mercy of private contributions and whatever management decides. Their salaries are a great, great deal higher than the musicians."

Although the musicians have signed, the New York City Ballet Company dancers and the employees of the Museum of Modern Art are still on strike.

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Egypt's Workers Foot The Bill

This is reprinted from the Workers Press, daily newspaper of the British Workers Revolutionary Party.

BY JOHN SPENCER

The immense cost of the 25-year struggle against Israel is thrown squarely onto the backs of the poorest sections of the population, who form the great majority in Egypt.

It is a tribute to the enormous strength of Arab national feeling that this burden has not produced a political explosion against the Sadat regime.

According to Dr. Hamed El-Sayed, head of the National Bank, the direct cost of defense preparations has been billions of dollars a years since 1967.

This does not count the indirect effects of the war, though Egypt has been compensated by the Arab states for closure of the Suez canal.

It does not take into account the drain of skilled and trained forces, the losses at the front and the indirect economic effects of the conflict with Israel.

Dr. Sayed estimates a third of the country's gross national product goes on defense spending. The burden of this expenditure is thrown onto the working class through state control of wages, subordination of the trade unions to the state and deprivation of the political rights of the working class.

Wages have been dictated by the state in Egypt since the end of the first five-year plan in 1965. Dr. Sayed said the plan had



Young Arabs undergo training at the Gezira Sporting Club. Top: conditions in Old Cairo.

demonstrated the dangers of "over-consumption."

This is an absurd assertion in a country where the poverty of the majority of people is in glaring contrast with the opulence of the bourgeois few.

To combat "over-consumption," Dr. Sayed went on, "we put real pressure on wages. Wages were frozen and credit was restricted."

The government—which now controls 80 percent of total industrial capacity following a series of nationalization measures—introduced a wage ladder with 12 grades.

At the bottom of the ladder workers earn about \$16 a month. This is the largest grade in the public service, embracing a huge army of unskilled laborers from hospital laundresses to road

sweepers and teamakers in government offices.

Naturally the scales are much higher for administrative grades, reaching about \$160 a month for the top grade. This is treated as a minimum rate rather than a maximum: the salaries of top civil servants and army officers are far above this scale. A man like Mohammed Heykal, the Al Akhram columnist and confidant of Sadat, earns over \$20,000 a year.

CORRUPTION

In addition there are widespread allegations that many managers of nationalized enterprises double their salaries through illegal but still extremely widespread corruption.

Despite a series of campaigns,

allegedly aimed at eliminating corruption, it has proved impossible to eradicate. In Egypt as in Britain, corruption is inseparable from capitalism itself: those who set out to reform it end up the most corrupt of all.

A typical example is the Ministry of Reconstruction, established with much fanfare by the regime following the ceasefire with Israel to take charge of the rebuilding of Port Said, Ismailia and Suez.

The man appointed to head the ministry, Osman Ahmed Osman, also happens to be the owner of Egypt's largest civil engineering and construction company. He had the lucrative contract for designing the huge water cannon which destroyed portions of the Bar Lev defenses along the east bank of the Suez

canal.

Dr. Sayed tried to justify the low level of wages in the nationalized industries on the grounds that other important benefits, such as free education, universities, health, social security and family planning.

These, he said, should be counted towards the standard of living as well as wages. The trade unions are in no position to argue this point because they have become completely tied to the state and are part of the sole legal party, the Arab Socialist Union.

"We are in the happy position that the trade unions are led by enlightened people," said Dr. Sayed, the banker.

"They are in the ASU and they say it is harmful to fight for higher wages, especially since the working class has benefited at the expense of the feudal people from the land reform.

LITTLE CAPITALISTS

Dr. Sayed did not explain how the so-called land reform, in which the big estates were parcelled out among the peasants, producing thousands of little capitalists in the villages, helped the working class.

Not all the workers adopt the attitude of their trade union leaders. In Alexandria 25 workers have been in the Hadra Prison for the last six months accused of trying to organize their fellow workers independently of the state.

With them in prison is the author Ibrahim Fathy, a left-wing opponent of the Sadat government.

Attempts at independent organization among the workers have been fuelled by a big rise in the cost of living. Some estimates say that this has risen more than 100 percent over the past ten years. Over the same period, wages have risen only 25 percent.



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In the first place, it is a lie that "democratic means" were used. The government deliberately broke its pledge to consult the electorate before entry became definite. It acted without a mandate and in effect deprived the people of the right to vote, a vote won in centuries of struggle, particularly by the working class before the Reform Act of 1832 and the extension of the franchise in 1867, and for the women's vote in the early part of this century.

But Thomson's declaration is much more revealing. The dictators he refers to are Hitler and Mussolini. They tried to "unite" Europe and enslave the European working class by building war machines on behalf of the big financiers and monopolists. This was the only way the Italian and German capitalists could overcome the conflict between modern productive forces on the one hand and the nation state and private capitalist property on the other.

No less than in the 1930s, so in the 1970s, Europe can be "united" under capitalism

only through the impoverishment, defeat and physical destruction of millions of workers.

Today the contradiction is even more acute. Heath and the European capitalists are attempting to build a power bloc, a dictatorship, to confront the economic giants America and Japan. Within this bloc, they are working to protect the power and profits of big business, the same bankers and industrialists who financed Hitler, and destroy the interests and rights of the workers throughout Europe.

They will not flinch from the same measures as Hitler took, just as the US imperialists did not shrink from bombing to death in Vietnam more people than were killed in the same way in the whole of World War Two. That is the real meaning of the Common Market and the Tory government. It is the real meaning of the betrayal of the Labour Party right wing in supporting entry. (Thomson himself is an ex-Labour Minister!)

The essence of the Tory program is to destroy trade unions as we know them, destroy the standard of living built up over generations, destroy the democratic rights of individual citizens as well as trade unions—in short, to destroy all basic rights.

They do this in the name of "fair play," and pose as the defenders of the people's rights against the so-called "monopoly" of the organized working class in the factories, mines and building sites.

The real driving force behind them is not their sense of "fairness" but the economic crisis which forces them to take measures to secure their privileged class interests whatever the consequences. When they say they attack the "monopoly" of the trade unions over labor supply and costs, they are really defending their own monopoly of all the wealth, their own monopoly which enables them to condemn millions to unemployment.

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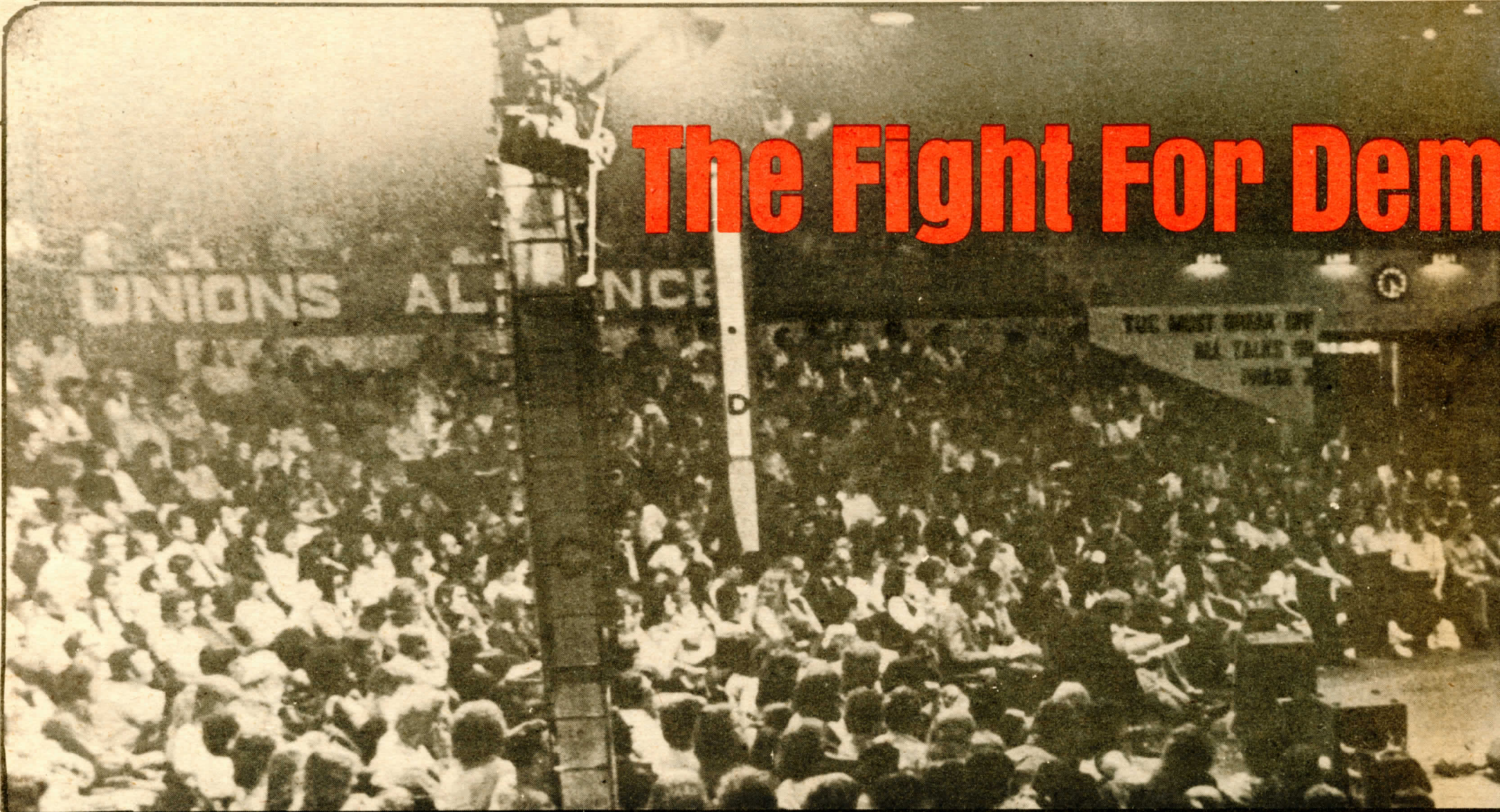
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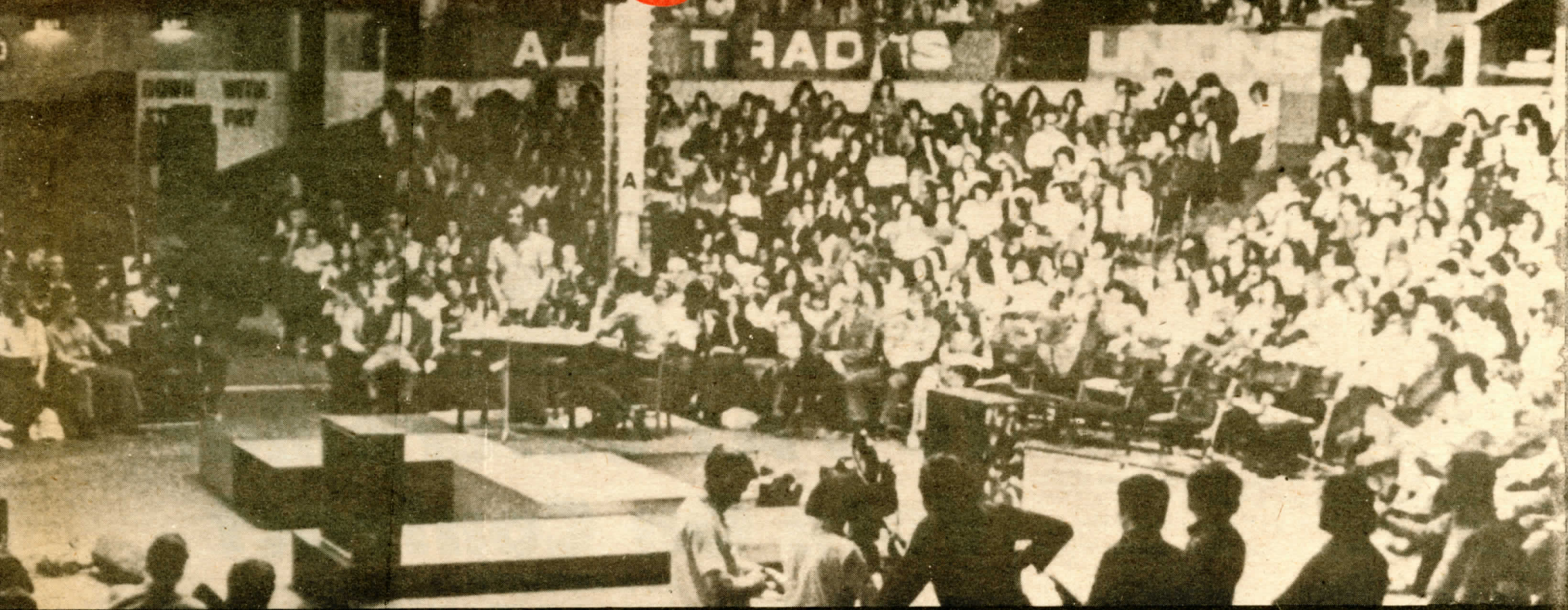
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Democratic Rights



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The state machine and government are being made over into the kind of dictatorship which is suited to these monopolies and their control over labor.

The Cabinet is manned, more and more, by men like Peter Walker and Anthony Barber, products of the great finance capital bonanza of the 1960s. Reginald Maudling, dropped because of the Poulson scandal, ranked as top thinker and representative of this political and business elite, and rightly so. For the protection of the profits of these men and the class they serve, state control of "prices and increases" has been decreed, again in the name of fairness and equality of sacrifice.

Once again this is a fraud. Wages are actually cut by state decree, and even negotiations for future increases are banned.

The Tory government's powers under the Counter-Inflation laws amount to state dictatorship over all wages and living standards. The capitalist class plans to make these powers permanent.

This means the destruction of basic rights to a decent standard of living and of the right of the working class to defend itself against the effects of capitalist profiteering, exploitation and unemployment.

The Tories, not content with the wide powers they already possess for states of emergency and rule by Privy Council, are attacking the whole system of democratic rights.

More and more, changes are made in the mechanism of state control without any reference to parliament, let alone the electorate. Small teams of permanent civil servants, Cabinet Ministers and top lawyers, consulting businessmen (and even TUC leaders in order to decide their tactics) decide and determine major issues like the Industrial Relations Act and the new state control of wages.

The truth is that the Tory government has already legislated the people's basic democratic rights out of existence. At the first great clash between the government and the working class the workers will realize with a shock that its treasured rights no longer exist!

The right to strike and to organize in unions: The Industrial Relations Act is used to levy a 55,000 pound fine on the engineering union, because unions are deprived of their basic right to unite and to

implement their own rules—the right of the membership to exclude those who actively oppose trade union principles.

The House of Lords judgment after the release of the five dockers from Pentonville jail in June 1972 is a return to the 1901 Taff Vale judgment, which made trade unions as such legally and financially responsible in the courts for all the actions by their members. The aim of this Act is to destroy independent trade unions completely.

The right to a decent standard of living: Above all the British capitalists want to get out of the crisis created through their own profiteering and greed by reducing their labor costs, i.e. reducing the worker and his family to the poverty line, wiping out the wage concessions won since World War Two.

The end result of all the reformists' "incomes policy" is the present state control of wages backed by the new law to increase rents. In this way the Tories hope to reduce the resistance and fighting capacity of the working class.

The attack on welfare benefits—school meals, school milk, the health service, spending on education—and especially on entitlement to supplementary benefit and the return to the means test—are part of the same attack on the basic right to a decent living standard.

Behind the Tory government's attitudes stands the incurable international crisis of capitalism, with inflation as its main manifestation. All basic prices, and above all food, are going up in price at an intolerable and uncontrollable speed. Speculators are even moving out of currency and hoarding basic commodities in order to profit from the increases in their value. The world price of cocoa and sugar, for example, has doubled in the last year. Added to this, the British working class family faces the prospect of the same kind of declining purchasing power from metrication as came from decimalization.

Only socialist policies to take food production and distribution out of the hands of private ownership can provide the basis for cheap food. Nationalization of the land, and of great monopolies producing agricultural machinery, chemicals (fertilizers, etc.) and animal feeding stuffs is an elementary requirement.

Committees of workers in these industries and in agriculture, together with trade unionists and housewives and workers in the distributive trades, must be the instrument of workers' control in these industries and services. A Labour government must also take strict control of all import and export of food supplies.

The right to work: The capitalist class has never accepted the right to full employ-

ment fought for by the working class. They consider it their right to have a vast reserve army of unemployed with which to intimidate the employed. In response to the temporary fall in jobless to 750,000 in December 1972, the government took 400 million pounds out of the economy to stop prosperity getting too "overheated"! Unemployment is a weapon of the Tory government. The right to work must be defended and guaranteed!

The right to decent housing: In order to ensure the thousands of billions of pounds interest and profit payable to banks and building societies on the one hand, and building and materials' monopolies on the other, existing housing becomes impossibly expensive and current building is diverted to speculative property projects which do nothing to ease the housing shortage. The "fair rents" Act is the instrument for this.

Over half the homes in Britain are "owner-occupied." The building societies have already raised mortgages to levels which became impossible for millions of people. Now interest rates all over the world are rising again, as finance capital protects itself against the future results of galloping inflation.

The building societies will offer higher interest rates to investors, to compete with other institutions, and once again will increase mortgage rates. So long as the building societies and banks remain private capitalist institutions, the worker owning his own house is at the mercy of these factors.

The housing shortage and high cost of accommodation could be resolved in a very short time. Already all the funds and resources for an emergency house building program are concentrated in the hands of a few building societies, insurance companies, banks and building firms.

A socialist government would nationalize all these under workers' control and without compensation (except to small savers).

The immediate problem of the thousands of homeless must be tackled more urgently. If a census were taken of all unoccupied houses belonging to the wealthy, and of estates and vacant office properties, the homeless would soon be found somewhere to live, at rents they could afford.

This applies to every need of the working class: the solutions are at hand, but the existing privileges of the rich, taken for granted for so long, stand in the way! These are the obstacles which a socialist government should remove. They would have the backing of the working class to enforce these solutions. Only the refusal of Labour governments in the past to attack these privileges has kept the capitalists' power intact.

The right to vote: Even this right is

infringed by the entry into the EEC without the "consultation with the electorate" pledged by Heath. The most vicious clauses in the Industrial Relations Act went through without parliamentary debate. Phase Two of Heath's "freeze" was implemented by Order in Council with no opportunity for parliamentary debate or even question. Not only that. In the implementation of the Housing Finance Act against Labour Councils, the Tory government appoints Commissioners and has the power to dismiss and disqualify the elected representatives of the people.

The right to freedom of expression: The Tories are preparing to attack this basic democratic right. The NIRC President, Sir John Donaldson, has already warned the press against commenting on cases coming before his Court. The suppression of programs on TV, and the campaigning of the right wing on "moral purity" and "offenses against public taste" are attacks on these basic rights.

All these attacks on basic rights and changes in the form of government reveal one thing. The Tory government represents a decadent ruling class setting its face stubbornly against the necessary historical change to socialism. To do this it is prepared to roll back all the gains made by the workers in the past. It therefore resorts to "Bonapartist" dictatorial forms of rule. This is what Heath meant at the first Tory conference after coming into office. "We will change the course of history of the nation."

And how will they do it? Heath went on, at the United Nations the next month, to predict that the 1970s would be a period of "civil wars." Anyone who doubts his words should look across the Irish Sea. There forces for "civil war" in Britain are being drilled and turned out on bloody exercises.

In Britain, it was recently revealed that a special Army Corps, 60,000 strong, is being built to deal with security. Preparations are well advanced to abolish trial by jury in many cases, and the rights of accused have already been slashed.

Such a Bonapartist regime can come about and survive, given two conditions: the rottenness and weakness of the existing ruling class; and the unpreparedness of the working class.

It is the job of every socialist to immediately change this second condition, to disrupt the enemy's preparations, and initiate the process of unifying the working class for the struggle for its own power. This means: transform the Socialist Labour League into a revolutionary party; take up the leadership of the fight to throw the Tory government out; replace it with a Labour government pledged to a socialist program.

(CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE)

Democratic Rights



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Once again this is a fraud. Wages are actually cut by state decree, and even negotiations for future increases are banned.

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Behind the Tory government's attitudes stands the incurable international crisis of capitalism, with inflation as its main manifestation. All basic prices, and above all food, are going up in price at an intolerable and uncontrollable speed. Speculators are even moving out of currency and hoarding basic commodities in order to profit from the increases in their value. The world price of cocoa and sugar, for example, has doubled in the last year. Added to this, the British working class family faces the prospect of the same kind of declining purchasing power from metrication as came from decimalization.

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Committees of workers in these industries and in agriculture, together with trade unionists and housewives and workers in the distributive trades, must be the instrument of workers' control in these industries and services. A Labour government must also take strict control of all import and export of food supplies.

The right to work: The capitalist class has never accepted the right to full employ-

ment fought for by the working class. They consider it their right to have a vast reserve army of unemployed with which to intimidate the employed. In response to the temporary fall in jobless to 750,000 in December 1972, the government took 400 million pounds out of the economy to stop prosperity getting too "overheated"! Unemployment is a weapon of the Tory government. The right to work must be defended and guaranteed!

The right to decent housing: In order to ensure the thousands of billions of pounds interest and profit payable to banks and building societies on the one hand, and building and materials' monopolies on the other, existing housing becomes impossibly expensive and current building is diverted to speculative property projects which do nothing to ease the housing shortage. The "fair rents" Act is the instrument for this.

Over half the homes in Britain are "owner-occupied." The building societies have already raised mortgages to levels which became impossible for millions of people. Now interest rates all over the world are rising again, as finance capital protects itself against the future results of galloping inflation.

The building societies will offer higher interest rates to investors, to compete with other institutions, and once again will increase mortgage rates. So long as the building societies and banks remain private capitalist institutions, the worker owning his own house is at the mercy of these factors.

The housing shortage and high cost of accommodation could be resolved in a very short time. Already all the funds and resources for an emergency house building program are concentrated in the hands of a few building societies, insurance companies, banks and building firms.

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This applies to every need of the working class: the solutions are at hand, but the existing privileges of the rich, taken for granted for so long, stand in the way! These are the obstacles which a socialist government should remove. They would have the backing of the working class to enforce these solutions. Only the refusal of Labour governments in the past to attack these privileges has kept the capitalists' power intact.

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The right to freedom of expression: The Tories are preparing to attack this basic democratic right. The NIRC President, Sir John Donaldson, has already warned the press against commenting on cases coming before his Court. The suppression of programs on TV, and the campaigning of the right wing on "moral purity" and "offenses against public taste" are attacks on these basic rights.

All these attacks on basic rights and changes in the form of government reveal one thing. The Tory government represents a decadent ruling class setting its face stubbornly against the necessary historical change to socialism. To do this it is prepared to roll back all the gains made by the workers in the past. It therefore resorts to "Bonapartist" dictatorial forms of rule. This is what Heath meant at the first Tory conference after coming into office. "We will change the course of history of the nation."

And how will they do it? Heath went on, at the United Nations the next month, to predict that the 1970s would be a period of "civil wars." Anyone who doubts his words should look across the Irish Sea. There forces for "civil war" in Britain are being drilled and turned out on bloody exercises.

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The Tory Government's Attack

The Tory government has taken Britain into the European Common Market. Behind the propaganda about a "great adventure" and a "better tomorrow" lies the stark reality.

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In the first place, it is a lie that "democratic means" were used. The government deliberately broke its pledge to consult the electorate before entry became definite. It acted without a mandate and in effect deprived the people of the right to vote, a vote won in centuries of struggle, particularly by the working class before the Reform Act of 1832 and the extension of the franchise in 1867, and for the women's vote in the early part of this century.

But Thomson's declaration is much more revealing. The dictators he refers to are Hitler and Mussolini. They tried to "unite" Europe and enslave the European working class by building war machines on behalf of the big financiers and monopolists. This was the only way the Italian and German capitalists could overcome the conflict between modern productive forces on the one hand and the nation state and private capitalist property on the other.

No less than in the 1930s, so in the 1970s, Europe can be "united" under capitalism

only through the impoverishment, defeat and physical destruction of millions of workers.

Today the contradiction is even more acute. Heath and the European capitalists are attempting to build a power bloc, a dictatorship, to confront the economic giants America and Japan. Within this bloc, they are working to protect the power and profits of big business, the same bankers and industrialists who financed Hitler, and destroy the interests and rights of the workers throughout Europe.

They will not flinch from the same measures as Hitler took, just as the US imperialists did not shrink from bombing to death in Vietnam more people than were killed in the same way in the whole of World War Two. That is the real meaning of the Common Market and the Tory government. It is the real meaning of the betrayal of the Labour Party right wing in supporting entry. (Thomson himself is an ex-Labour Minister!)

The essence of the Tory program is to destroy trade unions as we know them, destroy the standard of living built up over generations, destroy the democratic rights of individual citizens as well as trade unions—in short, to destroy all basic rights.

They do this in the name of "fair play," and pose as the defenders of the people's rights against the so-called "monopoly" of the organized working class in the factories, mines and building sites.

The real driving force behind them is not their sense of "fairness" but the economic crisis which forces them to take measures to secure their privileged class interests whatever the consequences. When they say they attack the "monopoly" of the trade unions over labor supply and costs, they are really defending their own monopoly of all the wealth, their own monopoly which enables them to condemn millions to unemployment.

When they pass the "fair rents" Housing Finance Act, the world "fair" is used to conceal its opposite: the monopoly control

of the big banks, building societies, building and building materials, industrialists, and landlords and real estate speculators over all housing and planning.

This monopoly they use to extort massive rent increases and interest payments from ordinary tenants and householders.

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In the name of a "Fair Trading Act" the Tory government is building up laws and legal penalties against "restrictive practices" by workers in the factories. They mean by a restrictive practice any means by which the workers have organized to restrict the power of the employer to dictate terms of work and payment. The Act will be used to destroy these rights, built up in years of struggle, to reduce the worker on the shop floor to the status of a mere instrument of the capitalist's will.

What is behind the appeal to "fairness"? It is this: the Tory government is setting itself up as the representative of the "consumer" or "individual citizen" who wants "fair play" undisturbed by strong, organized groups. Thus the power of the unions must be curbed to stop inflation, for example, and a strong government must be given middle class support to do this.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, who drafted the Industrial Relations Act, is brought into the Cabinet as "Minister for the Consumer." Just as uncontrollable inflation heralded Nazi dictatorship in Germany, so today it provides the basis for the "British" variety.

The Tory and Liberal propaganda idea of the independent citizen-consumer, standing up for fair play against monopoly, does not exist. Tory ideas of "rights" are based on property ownership, which has always been confined to the privileged minority. The nineteenth century myth is being used to stand in the way of the only forces that can challenge monopoly capitalism: the organized working class and the socialist revolution.

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The Fight For Democratic Rights

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The state machine and government are being made over into the kind of dictatorship which is suited to these monopolies and their control over labor.

The Cabinet is manned, more and more, by men like Peter Walker and Anthony Barber, products of the great finance capital bonanza of the 1960s. Reginald Maudling, dropped because of the Poulson scandal, ranked as top thinker and representative of this political and business elite, and rightly so. For the protection of the profits of these men and the class they serve, state control of "prices and increases" has been decreed, again in the name of fairness and equality of sacrifice.

Once again this is a fraud. Wages are actually cut by state decree, and even negotiations for future increases are banned.

The Tory government's powers under the Counter-Inflation laws amount to state dictatorship over all wages and living standards. The capitalist class plans to make these powers permanent.

This means the destruction of basic rights to a decent standard of living and of the right of the working class to defend itself against the effects of capitalist profiteering, exploitation and unemployment.

The Tories, not content with the wide powers they already possess for states of emergency and rule by Privy Council, are attacking the whole system of democratic rights.

More and more, changes are made in the mechanism of state control without any reference to parliament, let alone the electorate. Small teams of permanent civil servants, Cabinet Ministers and top lawyers, consulting businessmen (and even TUC leaders in order to decide their tactics) decide and determine major issues like the Industrial Relations Act and the new state control of wages.

The truth is that the Tory government has already legislated the people's basic democratic rights out of existence. At the first great clash between the government and the working class the workers will realize with a shock that its treasured rights no longer exist!

The right to strike and to organize in unions: The Industrial Relations Act is used to levy a 55,000 pound fine on the engineering union, because unions are deprived of their basic right to unite and to

implement their own rules—the right of the membership to exclude those who actively oppose trade union principles.

The House of Lords judgment after the release of the five dockers from Pentonville jail in June 1972 is a return to the 1901 Taff Vale judgment, which made trade unions as such legally and financially responsible in the courts for all the actions by their members. The aim of this Act is to destroy independent trade unions completely.

The right to a decent standard of living: Above all the British capitalists want to get out of the crisis created through their own profiteering and greed by reducing their labor costs, i.e. reducing the worker and his family to the poverty line, wiping out the wage concessions won since World War Two.

The end result of all the reformists' "incomes policy" is the present state control of wages backed by the new law to increase rents. In this way the Tories hope to reduce the resistance and fighting capacity of the working class.

The attack on welfare benefits—school meals, school milk, the health service, spending on education—and especially on entitlement to supplementary benefit and the return to the means test—are part of the same attack on the basic right to a decent living standard.

Behind the Tory government's attitudes stands the incurable international crisis of capitalism, with inflation as its main manifestation. All basic prices, and above all food, are going up in price at an intolerable and uncontrollable speed. Speculators are even moving out of currency and hoarding basic commodities in order to profit from the increases in their value. The world price of cocoa and sugar, for example, has doubled in the last year. Added to this, the British working class family faces the prospect of the same kind of declining purchasing power from metrication as came from decimalization.

Only socialist policies to take food production and distribution out of the hands of private ownership can provide the basis for cheap food. Nationalization of the land, and of great monopolies producing agricultural machinery, chemicals (fertilizers, etc.) and animal feeding stuffs is an elementary requirement.

Committees of workers in these industries and in agriculture, together with trade unionists and housewives and workers in the distributive trades, must be the instrument of workers' control in these industries and services. A Labour government must also take strict control of all import and export of food supplies.

The right to work: The capitalist class has never accepted the right to full employ-

ment fought for by the working class. They consider it their right to have a vast reserve army of unemployed with which to intimidate the employed. In response to the temporary fall in jobless to 750,000 in December 1972, the government took 400 million pounds out of the economy to stop prosperity getting too "overheated"! Unemployment is a weapon of the Tory government. The right to work must be defended and guaranteed!

The right to decent housing: In order to ensure the thousands of billions of pounds interest and profit payable to banks and building societies on the one hand, and building and materials' monopolies on the other, existing housing becomes impossibly expensive and current building is diverted to speculative property projects which do nothing to ease the housing shortage. The "fair rents" Act is the instrument for this.

Over half the homes in Britain are "owner-occupied." The building societies have already raised mortgages to levels which became impossible for millions of people. Now interest rates all over the world are rising again, as finance capital protects itself against the future results of galloping inflation.

The building societies will offer higher interest rates to investors, to compete with other institutions, and once again will increase mortgage rates. So long as the building societies and banks remain private capitalist institutions, the worker owning his own house is at the mercy of these factors.

The housing shortage and high cost of accommodation could be resolved in a very short time. Already all the funds and resources for an emergency house building program are concentrated in the hands of a few building societies, insurance companies, banks and building firms.

A socialist government would nationalize all these under workers' control and without compensation (except to small savers).

The immediate problem of the thousands of homeless must be tackled more urgently. If a census were taken of all unoccupied houses belonging to the wealthy, and of estates and vacant office properties, the homeless would soon be found somewhere to live, at rents they could afford.

This applies to every need of the working class: the solutions are at hand, but the existing privileges of the rich, taken for granted for so long, stand in the way! These are the obstacles which a socialist government should remove. They would have the backing of the working class to enforce these solutions. Only the refusal of Labour governments in the past to attack these privileges has kept the capitalists' power intact.

The right to vote: Even this right is

infringed by the entry into the EEC without the "consultation with the electorate" pledged by Heath. The most vicious clauses in the Industrial Relations Act went through without parliamentary debate. Phase Two of Heath's "freeze" was implemented by Order in Council with no opportunity for parliamentary debate or even question. Not only that. In the implementation of the Housing Finance Act against Labour Councils, the Tory government appoints Commissioners and has the power to dismiss and disqualify the elected representatives of the people.

The right to freedom of expression: The Tories are preparing to attack this basic democratic right. The NIRC President, Sir John Donaldson, has already warned the press against commenting on cases coming before his Court. The suppression of programs on TV, and the campaigning of the right wing on "moral purity" and "offenses against public taste" are attacks on these basic rights.

All these attacks on basic rights and changes in the form of government reveal one thing. The Tory government represents a decadent ruling class setting its face stubbornly against the necessary historical change to socialism. To do this it is prepared to roll back all the gains made by the workers in the past. It therefore resorts to "Bonapartist" dictatorial forms of rule. This is what Heath meant at the first Tory conference after coming into office. "We will change the course of history of the nation."

And how will they do it? Heath went on, at the United Nations the next month, to predict that the 1970s would be a period of "civil wars." Anyone who doubts his words should look across the Irish Sea. There forces for "civil war" in Britain are being drilled and turned out on bloody exercises.

In Britain, it was recently revealed that a special Army Corps, 60,000 strong, is being built to deal with security. Preparations are well advanced to abolish trial by jury in many cases, and the rights of accused have already been slashed.

Such a Bonapartist regime can come about and survive, given two conditions: the rottenness and weakness of the existing ruling class; and the unpreparedness of the working class.

It is the job of every socialist to immediately change this second condition, to disrupt the enemy's preparations, and initiate the process of unifying the working class for the struggle for its own power. This means: transform the Socialist Labour League into a revolutionary party; take up the leadership of the fight to throw the Tory government out; replace it with a Labour government pledged to a socialist program.

(CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE)

LABOR TODAY

SWP Radicalism Aids Stalinism

The United Farm Workers Union is fighting for its life against a massive onslaught from the growers and the government in alliance with the Teamsters bureaucracy.

Reduced to a handful of contracts and slashed in dues-paying members from a high of 70,000 to a few thousand today, even the original grape contracts are now largely in the hands of the Teamsters Union.

This comes after years of boycott activity which has been used to replace the power to strike and mobilize the support of the labor movement with hopeless protest activity.

The purpose of the boycott was always to exert pressure and generate publicity to convince the capitalist state, particularly the Democratic Party, to intervene with concessions to the union.

There can be no avoiding the struggle in the fields. Even the Chavez leadership is caught in the contradiction and forced to recognize that the survival of the union depends on its ability to constantly renew its mass base.

Chavez, while expanding boycott activity, declares: "We are now preparing to again strike in Coachella; we are preparing to strike this coming summer in Arvin, Lamont, Delano, and Fresno and with good luck we may be able to strike this winter in the lettuce fields of the Imperial and Yuma valleys and then in early summer in Salinas."

Each time the UFW has struck the fields, trade unionists and youth have rallied to the fight.

At precisely these times, the Chavez leadership has intervened to liquidate the strikes and renew the boycott activity.

This is Chavez's method of signaling that he has no intention of challenging the capitalist state, but is being forced into strikes and mass struggles by the refusal of the government to be "reasonable" and "just."

It is in this situation that middle class radicalism plays its most treacherous role. Particularly pernicious is the activity of the Socialist Workers Party.

The SWP has turned away from the struggles of the working class, engaging instead in protest activity. Suddenly with the upsurge of UFWU boycott activity, the **Militant** has become the vehicle for the most uncritical admiration of Chavez and the boycott tactic.

The November 23 **Militant** editorializes at great length on the application of its Vietnam "mass action" techniques to the UFWU boycott.

It proposes to extend to the farm workers precisely the same sort of "support" it offered to the struggle of the NLF in Vietnam.

The civil war in Vietnam goes on. The antiwar protest movement, led by the SWP, continually refused to fight to mobilize the working class to bring down the Nixon government by constructing a labor party. It ended up liquidating itself and accepting the deal worked out by Nixon and the Moscow and Peking Stalinists at the expense of the Vietnamese revolution.

The evolution of the SWP today is distinctly to the right of Cesar Chavez. The November 30 **Militant** consciously and openly downplays Chavez's threats to strike the fields in order to emphasize the renewal of boycott activities.

By supporting Chavez and the boycott, the SWP upholds the reactionary tradition of American radicalism seeking to confine farm workers to heroic and militant actions in order to prevent a political development. In this way, they prepare the UFWU for liquidation into the Democratic Party.

This was precisely the role of Stalinism in the 1930s, which acted to prevent the development of a labor party by channeling the powerful movement of the American working class into the coalition around Roosevelt and the New Deal.

Today, Stalinism no longer has the strength and roots in the labor movement to accomplish this by itself. It is the role of radicalism, most sharply expressed by the SWP, to prop up Stalinism and give it time to prepare such a betrayal.

They did this in the antiwar movement and now bring the same methods into the labor movement itself.

The capitalist crisis is driving the working class forward. There can be no stopping the development of enormous explosions and confrontations in the fields under conditions in which the entire labor movement must defend its basic rights.

This is the new situation in which the fight for a powerful political movement in the unions to launch a labor party and the struggle for a worker's government will proceed.

The decisive question is the building of a revolutionary leadership in the unions in a fight against Stalinism and its radical apologists. This is the task of the Workers League and the twice-weekly **Bulletin**.

by marty moran



UAW Local 974 members from Peoria leaving the fieldhouse at Bradley University, where UAW officials conferred with police, who patrolled the meeting during voting on the contract with Caterpillar.

10% At Caterpillar Vote On Contract

BY A REPORTER

PEORIA, Ill.—"We won a little, but we lost a lot," reported a member of United Auto Workers Local 974 as the huge local voted to ratify a new three year contract with the Caterpillar Tractor Co.

Several members of the Local 974 executive board refused to recommend acceptance, because of new provisions that provide for 13 full-time grievance committeemen, but eliminate shop steward participation in grievances after the first stage.

Production workers voted to ratify by about three to one, with only 10 percent of the 22,000 members voting. Skilled trades workers nearly rejected the contract by a vote of 491 to 320 for acceptance. The Caterpillar local in Decatur, Iowa remains out over unresolved local issues.

The ratification meeting was heavily patrolled by police called in by the union leadership.

"They are more interested in

North Star Steel To Lay Off 400

BY J. NELSON

NEWPORT, Minn.—The oil shortage is causing a large scale breakdown in Twin Cities' industry. Because of dwindling fuel supplies, factories and foundries are cutting production and jobs.

North Star Steel mill, the Twin Cities' largest consumer of fuel oil and electricity—using some 16,000 gallons of oil per day—will run out of oil by mid-January. At that time North Star intends to lay off at least 400 men in the rolling, finishing and shipping departments.

The North Star mill has fuel to operate through December only because they hired a Minneapolis broker who was able to find a Canadian source to sell North Star a month's supply of oil on a one shot deal. When this supply is depleted North Star says the layoffs will follow.

Nylas Kittel, president of Steel Workers Local 7263, told the **Bulletin**: "Big business is out to run their profits up. But how many lives are they willing to ruin? If this shortage is contrived they are willing to ruin quite a lot."

preserving the International's treasury than in us. They are forcing us back just in time to avoid paying strike benefits," one production worker noted bitterly.

"They tell us to report back right away tonite, too—hold the threat of losing our Thanksgiving pay over our heads.

"The company likes it when we strike just before the holidays. We never should have waited a day past October 1.

"I do not think organized labor is doing enough as far as politics is concerned. I think people in the unions should put in their own man, and I think it is going to happen soon."

St. Paul Proposes Winter School Closing

ST. PAUL, Minn.—The St. Paul School Board has announced that it will run out of heating oil, some time in the middle of winter.

One of the proposed solutions to this crisis is a two month shutdown of the entire school system, the time to be made up this coming summer.

"A whole lot of people will be hurting if they close the schools," one mother told the **Bulletin**.

"They just cannot do it. Nixon is to blame. He is following right in the footsteps of Herbert Hoover."

The plan comes up directly against the terms of the present contract between the teachers, represented by Local 28, St. Paul Federation of Teachers, and the Board. The contract clearly defines the school year, its starting and closing dates. The Executive Board of Local 28 is meeting Monday to decide a plan of action to deal with the threatened shutdown.

A spokesman for the Education Association told the **Bulletin** that they are on record demanding full salaries on a pro rata basis if it is necessary to re-open school beyond June 7, in addition to being paid in full during any shutdown.

This the board has no intention of doing. One member of the Board revealed that they plan to renegotiate the contract to change to a flexible school year definition. This would put both the teachers and the students at

the mercy of the Board. Throughout the year, the Board has been laying off personnel, consolidating elementary schools and cutting back school lunch programs.

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midwest news

Nixon Directs Police Attack On YS

Beginning with the Bulletin trailblazing campaign in October, members and supporters of the Cleveland Workers League and Young Socialists have been viciously hounded by the police force and federal agents.

Sales of the Bulletin at plant gates and in the communities have been disrupted on almost a daily basis by the police in a desperate attempt to prevent the Bulletin from reaching the working class.

Statement of the Cleveland Workers League

The following is a list of only some of the incidents which have taken place over the last six weeks:

•During the trailblazing campaign, East Cleveland police ripped up the newspapers that members of the trailblazing team were selling outside Shaw High School and threatened the arrest them.

•Throughout the campaign, it was impossible for Bulletin salesmen to remain on the same block for more than a half hour without being stopped by the police and harassed for "soliciting."

•Following two successful meetings of the Cleveland Workers League and Young Socialists at the East Cleveland YMCA, the director of the center was visited by agents of the FBI who told him: "If you know what's good for you, you won't have anymore YS meetings here."

The East Cleveland YMCA no longer will allow YS meetings to be held inside its premises; and two other YMCA centers in the city have barred the YS. The revisionist Spartacist group directly aided the FBI by creating disturbances and provocations inside the YMCA during both our meetings.

•At the Brook Park Ford plant, two members of the Workers League were picked up by the police for not carrying identification. Other Bulletin salesmen were ordered to leave the plant area by two policemen, Badge Numbers 47 and 48 of the Brook Park Police Department, on grounds of "disturbing the peace."

•At the first YS party held in East Cleveland, the police—after cruising around the building with a shotgun underneath their dashboard—burst into the party with their guns drawn. Because not all the youth at the party were carrying identification—there is no law requiring that one do so—the police

broke up the party and demanded that all the youth leave. When asked on what grounds they were closing the party down, the police replied: "We are the law."

One youth was picked up by the East Cleveland policemen, Badge Numbers 42 and 47, ordered into their vehicle, and taken for a ride during which he was pumped for information about the Young Socialists.

•At numerous plant gates, plainclothesmen have photographed Bulletin salesmen.

The attacks upon our members and supporters in Cleveland is only part of a nationwide witch-hunt aimed at the Workers League and Young Socialists that has intensified rapidly since the launching of the twice-weekly Bulletin and its enthusiastic reception by thousands of new readers and subscribers.

The scope of this witch-hunt leaves no doubt that it is being coordinated in Washington, D.C. by federal agents under the direct supervision of the Nixon administration.

This witch-hunt is being directed by the same Nixon government which only several days ago organized and carried out the right-wing army coup in Greece to install an even more brutal regime than that which existed before and to stamp out every trace of democratic rights in that country.

Nixon is determined to do in the United States exactly what he has done in Greece. But he fears the tremendous power of the American working class which is fighting back against every attempt by Nixon to drive down its living standards, take away its jobs, and destroy its basic rights.

SECRET AGENTS

That is why he is using his police and secret agents against the Workers League and Young Socialists, which is fighting to build a political leadership in the working class to throw Nixon out and construct a labor party pledged to socialist policies as the alternative to his government.

The Cleveland branch of the Young Socialists and Workers League is a new branch, but we have already constructed a strong base in this city. We are not going to be driven away from this city by the police.

We have barely begun our fight. We will expand our sales and our activities and win new supporters every day.

We call on all the workers and youth of Cleveland to defend the Workers League and Young Socialists from these police attacks which are aimed against the democratic rights of the entire working class.

Delco-Morain To Lay Off 700

DAYTON—Layoffs have begun at the Delco-Morain GM plant, and it is reported that the number of laid off workers will reach 700 by January 1974.

James Williams, a Delco-Morain worker, said: "GM does not give a damn about the working man, and the union does not either. Woodcock and Cole (President of GM) are probably brothers.

"I don't think we have any choice but to get our own party. Nixon thinks the working man is a fool. But he should know even a fool can be dangerous when he is hungry."

Williams told the Bulletin: "I think Nixon should be impeached, but I know the Democrats and Republicans will not do it. He knows too much about what they have done wrong. We should kick them all out of the country."



Greek youth and workers drew wide support last week as they marched through Chicago's Greek community chanting "Down with Fascism!" Students from the Committee for a Free Greece led the rally.

Wage Cut In IUE Delco Pact

BY JOHN WERNER

DAYTON—Despite the attempt of union chiefs to keep a tight lid on details of the IUE contract, important features have surfaced which reveal a complete sellout patterned on the same rotten Woodcock formula of three percent wage increases.

This sellout is compounded in local agreements here which agree to additional wage cutting.

Using the threat of layoffs now posed at auto plants throughout the country, Delco Local 755 lame duck President Robert Preston agreed to a wage cut for new employees.

The Frigidaire Local 801 under Arnold Thompson continues to split automotive workers and appliance workers who do not even get the three percent or the cost of living increases in the national contract.

The IUE has five General Motors plants with a total of about 35,000 workers. Two are in Dayton, Ohio: Frigidaire has 14,000 workers and Delco Products has 4600 workers.

The Dayton locals are the only ones where the leadership quickly agreed to local settlements, despite rampant speedups and a breakdown in grievance procedures at Frigidaire.

SURPRISE

The wage cut Robert Preston agreed to for new young workers at Delco Products comes as a complete surprise to the Delco workers who have been kept in the dark about negotiations.

Preston has boasted of the contract, saying it is the best he ever negotiated.

He stated that the company, who moved 900 jobs out of Delco in Dayton in 1970, told him at the negotiations that the union would have to agree to terms that would enable them to "make a profit," or they would have to move 2100 more jobs out.

In 1971, after a concerted campaign by Frigidaire, the International and local leadership of IUE negotiated a split in the union and imposed drastic

wage cuts and withheld annual improvement and cost of living increases for all appliance workers and an additional 25 cent an hour cut for rehiring and new employees. This has meant a 94 cent an hour cut for all appliance workers over the last two years.

According to the Journal-Herald, appliance employees will receive 10 cents an hour this year, a 5 cent cost of living increase the second year, and a 10 cent hourly increase the third year.

CYNICISM

With complete cynicism, Arnold Thompson, who engineered the wage cut three years ago, stated to the press: "I'd rather not talk about the money."

In reference to the appliance workers, he said: "I don't think you are ever going to narrow that gap. The only thing we can do in the future is get the most we can get while making sure they stay competitive and stay in the business."

FURIOUS

Workers at Frigidaire are furious at the leadership. A worker at Plant 1 (automotive) said: "It is Woodcock that settled this contract."

A worker at Plant 3 told the Bulletin: "Thompson is keeping the terms a big secret."

Large opposition by all Delco and Frigidaire workers is expected at the ratification meetings now taking place. Automotive and appliance workers at Frigidaire will have to join together for their common interests and fight the wedge the company is trying to drive between them.

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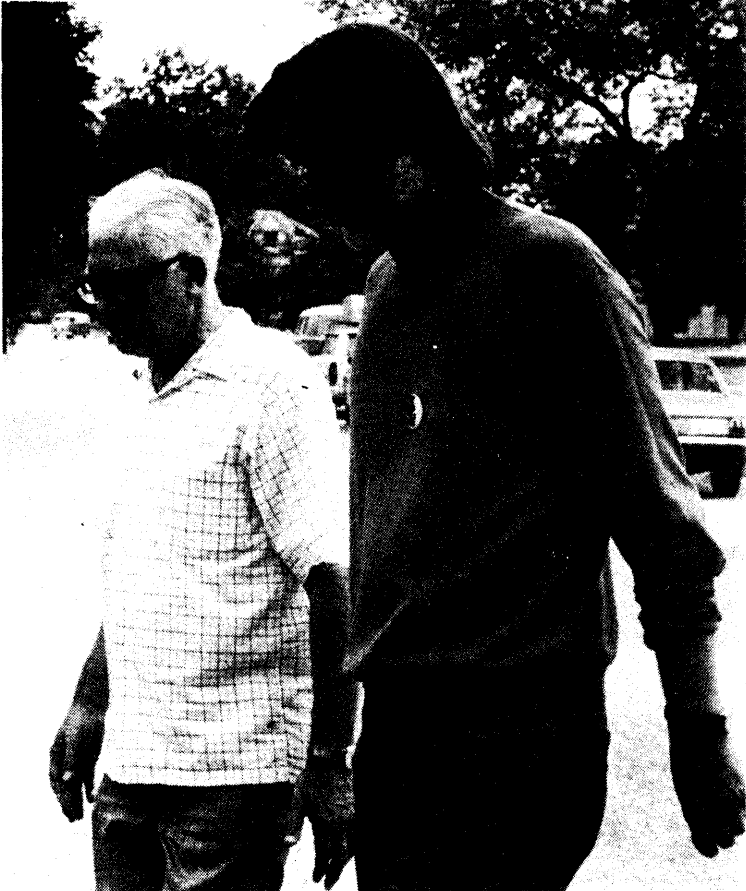
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Marx Versus American Radicalism

by Tim Wohlforth



David Herreshoff, right, anti-Marxist author of *The Origins of American Marxism*, with George Novack of the Socialist Workers Party.

PART TWO

In his book, *The Origins of American Marxism*, David Herreshoff refuses to recognize the importance of the struggle that took place in the First International.

The struggle that took place between Sorge's German group and the middle class radical group around Victoria Woodhull at the 1872 Hague Congress of the First International is highly significant. The Woodhull group was typically American radical—Woodhull was an advocate of women's liberation, free love, various monetary and land schemes, as well as spiritualism. With the full support and participation of Marx, this group was decisively disaffiliated from the International, and the Sorge group recognized. Through this act, the principled basis of Marxism in America was clearly defined against the political confusion of a section of the capitalist class—the petty bourgeois radicals.

First International

It is significant that these principles were established as part of the construction of an international movement leading to the decision to move the general council of the First International to New York. This decision in turn was the result of a principled fight against anarchism in which Sorge and his section played an important role of support to Marx.

Thus, we can see these early American Marxists made a significant contribution to the further development of the American and international workers movement through their struggle against American radicalism and their firm support to international principles.

Even a cursory study of the general labor movement in America reveals that what these Marxists fought out, theoretically faced the labor movement as a whole. The history of the American working class of the nineteenth century was a history of continuous efforts on the part of workers to organize mass industrial unions and to

break politically with American capital.

Such efforts were just as continuously undermined as radicals subordinated the workers movement to the reformist rebellions of the middle classes. This is what happened to William Sylvius's National Labor Union, to the Knights of Labor under Terrance Powderly, and to Henry George's Labor Party in New York City.

Cromwell

Herreshoff concludes this section of his book stating:

"Looking back over the careers of Weydemeyer and Sorge, it appears that tragic inevitability is inherent in their failure to shape a mass movement in the United States ... Barring the presence of some unnoticed village Cromwell, no one on the scene was equipped to master the conditions confronting American radicalism."

There was nothing tragic about the work of these pioneers. They were the beginning and they did this beginning work with considerable determination and clarity. Since the bourgeois revolution was already complete, a village Cromwell would have not gotten very far in America.

There were in the nineteenth century many, many petty-bourgeois radicals who tried to play Cromwell's role. That they could not overthrow the grip of monopoly capital lay in the nature of their outlook—that is, an acceptance of the essentials of capitalism itself.

The task of Marxists is not always to master conditions, for there are conditions which cannot be mastered. It was necessary for America to pass through its period of geographical and industrial expansion, accompanied as it was by massive immigration, before a mass workers movement could fully mature. These were the material roots of the middle class radicalism which continuously swamped the efforts of American workers to build their own movement.

TO BE CONTINUED



Student outside Wilson High School in San Francisco after a demonstration against police harassment.

Oil Crisis Layoffs Hit Steel Ranks

BY TED BAKER

Massive layoffs due to the oil shortage and shortages of other basic commodities have already begun throughout the Bay Area. In a special survey of Bay Area industry, the *Bulletin* uncovered the following layoffs.

General Motors assembly plant is laying off the entire passenger car assembly line of 2200 workers for at least a week. This is part of a nationwide shutdown of GM plants due to a sharp decline in the sale of cars.

Kaiser Steel in Napa has laid off nearly 200 of its 600 employees as a result of a shortage of steel plate. The Napa fabricating plant has cut production from 200 tons a quarter to 97 tons a quarter.

US Steel in Pittsburg has laid off 70 men due to cuts by Pacific Gas and Electric Company in natural gas supplies. This is the second time layoffs have occurred in the last two weeks at the Pittsburg plant. Future gas cutoffs will lead to even larger layoffs, as the plant has used up its entire reserves.

Continental Can Company in San Leandro has threatened to lay off all 325 workers in the

event of more gas cutbacks. Continental has already had its natural gas cut off twice by PGE.

Owens Illinois glass factory shut down two extra days over the Thanksgiving weekend due to a stoppage of natural gas by PGE.

TURMOIL

Workers in the plants affected, as well as those not yet hit, were in a tremendous turmoil over the layoffs and other effects of the energy crisis.

A member of the United Steel Workers at Pacific States Steel, described the reaction in his plant.

"Nothing like this has ever happened since I have been alive.

"It is like all of a sudden there is a depression like in the 1930s. Everyone feels it like a cloud hanging over their head. Everyone wants to know what to do to stop it."

In plants and offices where no

layoffs have been announced, tens of thousands of workers are being hit by the energy crisis through a dramatic deterioration of working conditions.

Dozens of major plants, as well as most city and government agencies have announced that heating and lighting will be reduced in working areas.

At Peterbuilt Trucks in Newark, California, a worker told the *Bulletin*: "We are talking about walking because they have turned the heat off all over the plant."

"Now they are even talking about charging us to park in the company parking lot."

Other major plants cutting off heating and lights include the giant Livermore Radiation Laboratory, the Oakland Army Base, Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical in Pleasant Hill, National Steel in Newark, General Electric in Vallejos, and Trailmobile in Fremont.

First Shift Sits In At GM Plant

BY SHEILA BREHM

SANTA FE SPRINGS—The first shift at the General Motors parts division in Santa Fe Springs sat in and refused to work when management walked out of a local negotiating meeting.

Local GM officials immediately called GM headquarters in Detroit and were given the go ahead to fire all 250 men if they did not resume work.

UAW Local 645 officials refused to send the men back to work. According to one worker: "The union officers told management that they had stomach aches and could not make it down to the plant."

After 20 minutes, the men resumed work. The sit in, which came on the heels of Woodcock's hasty agreement with the biggest auto manufacturer, expresses the huge explosion erupting among GM workers whose standard of living is being slashed by skyrocketing inflation.

OPPOSITION

There is big opposition in the plant to the auto pacts that Woodcock has signed. Gerald Harris told the *Bulletin*:

"I do not want to accept the three percent. It is not helping us.

"It is keeping us down and we cannot rise above the cost of living. We should get a fifteen

percent raise if the cost of living goes up 10 percent.

"Woodcock is just another politician. He is working with them. He is trying to get ahead and keeping us down.

"He does not pull for the union men. I am going to vote no on this contract."

The GM Parts Division, located 20 miles outside of Los Angeles, supplies parts to the Southgate Assembly Plant.

Southgate is one of the plants that is scheduled to close down in December. Plans are already underway there to eliminate Buick production because the orders are down drastically for the cars which consume huge amounts of gas.

The cutbacks slated next month will have a heavy impact on the parts division and will mean heavy layoffs in the very near future.

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United To Eliminate 1000 Jobs

BY A BULLETIN REPORTER

SAN FRANCISCO—United Air Lines, the largest airlines in the US, announced it will lay off more than 1000 employees immediately and cancel 100 daily flights because of the fuel shortage.

United made it clear that these layoffs, including 300 pilots and 650 stewardesses, are just the beginning.

The airline's president, Edward Carlson, said the layoffs were scheduled before Nixon announced an additional 15 percent cut in jet fuel. He said there would be a new round of layoffs effective January 7.

All the airlines are certain to follow the lead of United. The fuel cuts raise the very real possibility of the collapse of huge sections of the airline industry.

The cutback in daily flights, which amounts to about 9 percent of the flight schedule, will have a devastating effect on the 7000 mechanics at United's maintenance center at the San Francisco International Airport. R. Thomas, Business Agent for Local 1781 of the International Association of Machinists, which represents the United maintenance workers, told the Bulletin: "This will be a crushing blow to our membership."

"Management has already told us there will be layoffs, but the exact number we do not know yet. We do not know what can be done."

An IAM member who spoke to the Bulletin outside the plant had no doubt what had to be done: "Nixon should be impeached immediately if not before. Labor should organize to get him out of there."

The notice of layoffs comes in the midst of contract negotiations which have not budged an inch since the old contract

expired on August 31.

The company is adamant on the demand to change established work rules to allow unskilled workers to do jobs currently done by skilled mechanics.

Proposals of this kind are being put forward by all the airlines. The major carriers recently banded together in an airline conference for the purpose of going to war with the unions.

Massive layoffs and speedup are the central means by which the companies hope to stave off the economic crisis.

WORK RULES

R. Thomas said: "They are demanding work rule changes that would set us back 20 to 30 years. It would mean the immediate loss of 1300 mechanics' jobs."

The IAM leadership has opened the way to these layoffs by its refusal to join with the current strike against TWA and PSA and take up a fight against the Nixon government.

Instead, they have complied with the reactionary Railway Labor Law, which enables a federal mediator to indefinitely delay a strike.

These layoffs can be stopped, but only by taking immediate strike action as the first step in convening a Congress of Labor to get Nixon out and build a labor party. The first task of the labor party must be to nationalize basic industry, like the airlines, to guarantee every worker a job.



Carpenters in the Bay Area are shutting down new sites every day in support of wildcat against Nixon's CISC.

Striking Carpenters Defy Back To Work Injunction

BY BARRY GREY

SAN FRANCISCO—The wildcat of over 4000 Bay Area carpenters against the Construction Industry Stabilization Board is continuing to spread despite a court injunction and the threat of a \$50,000 a day fine for contempt.

The strike is receiving a tremendous response from the carpenters, who are shutting down new sites every day. The men are eager to take on Nixon's wage board, which slashed their third year pay increase of 65 cents.

One carpenter told the Bulletin: "What do you need a union for if they can throw an injunction on you? We are sick of Nixon."

"I am a delegate to the Building Trades Council. Last meeting we voted unanimously for Nixon to resign or be impeached."

The courts are attempting to crush the strike. The contractors have filed suit in US District Court for contempt of an earlier back to work injunction, demanding that the union and the strikers be held in contempt, including the massive fine of

\$50,000 a day.

A hearing is scheduled for Friday. The strikers are planning a demonstration in front of the Federal Building.

The leadership of the carpenters is doing everything in their power to sabotage the strike. They have refused to give it official sanction in order to

avoid a fight with the government and the courts.

This leaves the rank and file strikers open to vicious reprisals by the government.

Now the union officials are directly organizing scabbing. They are dispatching workers from hiring halls to break the strike.

HUD To Demolish Hunters Point

SAN FRANCISCO—The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has decided to raze 191 apartments on Hunters Point with no provision to build low cost public housing to replace them.

The Area Director of HUD, James H. Price, has made the destruction of these old and dilapidated units, 161 of which are presently occupied, a precondition for approving federal funds for a 153-unit private housing development nearby on the point.

The new private units will be much too expensive for those who are being thrown on the streets to make way for them. Price told Mayor Alioto last week that the old houses had to go because their proximity made the proposed new development "financially unfeasible."

In other words, the investor sponsoring the new project, All Hallows Catholic Church, would not under those conditions make a big enough profit.

ARROGANCE

With absolute arrogance, Price stated that he will only make a recommendation to HUD Secretary James Lyn to provide federal money for more public housing if and when the present housing is demolished.

Several weeks ago, it was announced that Nixon had slashed all money previously planned for new housing on Hunters Point. James Lynn made a special trip to San Francisco and announced

that the government would not "turn its back" on Hunters Point. The following day, the San Francisco newspapers carried banner headlines reading "Hunters Point Saved."

All of this was a carefully mapped out campaign of lies and distortions aimed at disarming and confusing the people of Hunters Point and the working class in San Francisco. No new money will be appropriated for new housing, while the present old housing will be torn down.

EXPLOSION

Nixon and Alioto know that this will produce an explosion in the community. For that reason, Alioto has stated the first phase to this plan to "save" the Point will be to bring in more police.

The people i. Hunters Point are determined to defend their homes. One youth told the Bulletin: "Now Nixon is trying to take our houses. Now we have to get him."

A young housewife said: "Nixon is trying to make us suffer. He has three mansions and now he is saying I cannot have any place to stay."

The Young Socialists and the Workers League are taking up a fight to defend the right to decent housing on the Point. A community meeting will be held to demand the unions mobilize their strength to force Nixon to resign and build a labor party. Every youth and worker in Hunters Point must now join the Young Socialists and the Workers League to take up this fight.

Thrifty Clerks End Strike

BY DENNIS BREHM

LOS ANGELES—The sixteen-day-old strike by 4800 retail clerks against the 393 Thrifty Drug Stores has been ended.

The major issues in the strike were wages, the grandfather clause in the old contract which permitted Thrifty to pay employees hired after October 1969, 55 cents per hour less, union membership for part-time workers, and improved working conditions for pharmacists.

The grandfather clause is still accepted in the new contract, but the differential in wages is slightly reduced. This has been accomplished by a wage increase of 42 cents per hour over two years for workers hired before October 1969 and a 53 cent per hour increase over two years for workers hired after October 1969.

This still leaves a differential in pay of 44 cents per hour at the end of two years. A union spokesman said: "It is impossible to get it (the grandfather clause) out over the period of one

contract."

Judy Johnson, a member of Local 770 said: "Equal pay for equal work. If someone does the same job as another worker, they should be paid the same."

The wage increase is about 11.5 percent over two years, accepting Nixon's wage limit. During the strike, many workers had told the Bulletin they were willing to fight the wage board because: "We are not going to pay for his problems."

The strike did stop Thrifty

from destroying the health and medical benefits as well as retaining the right to union membership of part-time workers.

The new contract was ratified by a 90 percent vote at a meeting of less than half the membership. One member told the Bulletin that the meeting was so rushed and so confused that most people did not understand the contract or even know what they were voting for.

Young Socialist West Coast

SAN FRANCISCO:
SATURDAY, JAN. 19
12 noon
MISSION YMCA
4080 MISSION
For information call
(415) 824-4096

LOS ANGELES:
SUNDAY, JAN. 20
12 noon
EMBASSY AUDITORIUM
839 SOUTH GRAND AVE.
LIVE BAND
Tickets \$2.00
For information call
(213) 678-3528

Regional Conferences

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lucha obrera

— lucía rivera —

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Los contratos originales de la uva se hayan en su mayoría en las manos de la unión de los Teamsters, reduciendo a la UFWU a un puñado de contratos y una membresía de unos miles que en el pasado era más de 70,000.

El propósito del boycott siempre ha sido ejercer presión y generar publicidad para convencer al estado capitalista, particularmente al Partido Demócrata, para que intervenga y le conceda concesiones a la unión.

Los días de reforma han llegado a su fin. El gobierno esta determinado a destruir las uniones. La bancarrota de las viejas políticas cada día es más aparente.

No hay salida de la lucha en los campos. Hasta el propio liderato de Chávez se encara a esta contradicción y ha tenido que reconocer que la existencia de la unión depende de la habilidad de constantemente renovar su base en el movimiento obrero.

Chávez, mientras desarrolla la actividad del boycott, declara: "Nos estamos preparando nuevamente a declarar huelga en el Valle de Coachella, estamos preparados a irnos en huelga este verano próximo en Arvin, Lamont, Delano, y Fresno y con buena suerte podremos este invierno irnos en huelga en los campos de lechuga en los valles Imperial y Yuma y entonces en Salinas a principio del verano."

Precisamente en estos momentos el liderato de Chávez ha intervenido para liquidar las huelgas y renovar los boycotts.

Este es el método utilizado por Chávez para señalar que no tiene ninguna intención de desafiar al estado capitalista, pero a la misma vez se ha visto forzado ha declarar huelgas y luchas masivas por la negativa del gobierno de ser "razonable" y "justo."

Es en esta situación que el radicalismo de clase media juega el papel más traicionero. Particularmente dañino es la actividad del Partido Socialista de los Trabajadores (SWP).

El "Militant" del 23 de noviembre editorializa extensivamente para imponer sus "acciones masivas" como en Vietnam y trata de aplicarlo en la situación de la UFWU.

Propone darles a los campesinos precisamente el mismo "apoyo" que ofrecio a la lucha del Frente de Liberación Nacional (NLF) en Vietnam.

"El movimiento en contra de la guerra de Vietnam provee un modelo muy útil en la campaña del boycott...planeando sus actividades con el propósito de educar y movilizar masivamente al pueblo norteamericano, el movimiento en contra de la guerra jugó un papel significativo forzando la salida de las tropas norteamericanas."

La guerra civil en Vietnam aún continúa. El movimiento de protesta en contra de la guerra, liderado por el SWP, continuamente rehusa luchar por movilizar a la clase obrera y sacar al gobierno de Nixon a través de la construcción de un partido obrero. Ha terminado liquidandose y aceptando el tratado hecho por Nixon y los stalinistas de Moscú y Peking a espesa de la revolución Vietnamita.

La evolución del SWP se haya hoy claramente a la derecha de César Chávez. "El Militant" del 30 de noviembre conscientemente echa a un lado las amenazas de Chávez de declarar huelga en los campos para poder enfatizar el renovamiento del boycott.

A través de su apoyo a Chávez y al boycott, el SWP mantiene la tradición reaccionaria del radicalismo norteamericano tratando de limitar la heroica y militante lucha de los campesinos para evitar su desarrollo político. En esta forma, ellos preparan la liquidación de la UFWU en el Partido Demócrata.

Fue precisamente este el mismo papel que el stalinismo jugó en los años 30 quienes actuaron para prevenir el desarrollo de un partido obrero canalizando el poderoso movimiento de la clase obrera norteamericana en la coalición alrededor de Roosevelt y del Nuevo Tratado.

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La crisis capitalista impulsa a la clase obrera. El desarrollo de las enormes explosiones y confrontaciones en los campos bajo condiciones en el cual el movimiento laboral debe defender sus derechos básicos no puede detenerse.

Esta es la nueva situación en la cual la lucha por un poderoso movimiento político en las uniones en la construcción de un partido obrero y la lucha por un gobierno de trabajadores procederá.

La cuestión fundamental es la construcción de un liderato revolucionario en las uniones en la lucha en contra del stalinismo y sus complices radicales. Esta es la tarea de la Liga Obrera y de su bisemanario el "BULLETIN".



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The Peroff revelations open up an entirely new front in the investigations of the endless chain of crimes to which Nixon has been linked.

Workers must act to force this government out now, just when Nixon is at his weakest. This corrupt administration could not last another week without the refusal of the trade union leadership to mobilize the working class in an independent political

campaign to force the resignation of this government.

Every day that Nixon is allowed to remain in office increases the dangers to the working class. The growing unemployment and decline in living standards makes clear that Nixon is preparing for a major confrontation with the trade unions; he is relying increasingly on the support of military men who are willing to overlook Nixon's corruption so long as he can defeat the working class.

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UNEMPLOYMENT . . .

(Continued From Page 1)

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This unemployment is rooted in the inability of the capitalist class to expand production on the basis of private profit. The severing of gold from the dollar which has transformed millions of dollars into worthless paper

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