

# Bulletin

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

VOLUME NINE NUMBER FIFTY EIGHT 333

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1973

## East Coast Young Socialist Conference

# LAUNCH MARCH FOR JOBS NOW

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BY A BULLETIN  
REPORTING TEAM

The First East Coast Young Socialists Conference voted unanimously to launch a campaign against unemployment that will culminate in a mass march and rally in Washington, DC on March 16.

Over 350 young workers, students, and unemployed youth pledged to build the Young Socialists into a mass revolutionary youth movement. Delegations came from the New York area, Baltimore, Washington, Boston, Philadelphia, Allentown and Reading, Pennsylvania and Montreal, Canada.

The large delegations that attended from Baltimore and Washington DC showed the tremendous growth in the Young Socialists in these areas over the past several months.

Adele Sinclair, editor of the Young Socialist newspaper, opened the conference:

"In all the countries of the world, you have the working class moving forward to defend its rights, not only the workers in the colonial countries, but workers in all the advanced countries like the United States and Britain. These struggles are now being combined into one massive movement against capitalism."

"They are using this oil crisis to cut back on every single right workers and youth have fought for, and throw millions of workers out of jobs, to close



Youth from all over the East Coast and Montreal line up to participate in discussion at the conference.

schools, cut off gas." Sinclair told the conference that the strength of the working class was driving the capitalist class towards more police repression and dictatorship.

"The very same brutal methods that the capitalist countries developed to fight the workers and peasants in Vietnam are now going to be brought home here. The same people running this country are supporting the dictators in Greece and Chile.

"The only way we can take forward the fight against unemployment, the fight for a decent education, is for the working

class to construct its own political party. We must break from the methods of protest of the revisionists and the Stalinists of begging for crumbs from the Democrats and Republicans."

She stressed that the most important role of the youth and the Young Socialists was to prepare a leadership in order to bring forward the strength of the working class in a political fight against Nixon.

She announced that the Young Socialists will launch a campaign against unemployment that will go to unions throughout the country and fight for support. The Young Socialists marches will take place all over the East Coast to demand that the unions act to throw Nixon out and build a labor party.

This jobs campaign will be different than any marches in the past. The Young Socialists will not be going to Washington to ask Congress to provide jobs, but will demand that the unions use their strength to force Nixon out and construct an independent

party for the working people. Only in this way can wages and jobs be defended.

The Young Socialists will take up a fight against the bureaucracy of the unions who has taken no action against unemployment and has accepted wage cuts.

Our campaign will be aimed at exposing this leadership and building revolutionary leadership in the unions that will mobilize the power of the working class against the government.

Sinclair called on the youth to go back to the areas and fight to recruit masses of youth through the Young Socialist newspaper which has enabled new YS clubs to be built in only a few weeks.

In the discussion, many youth came forward and brought in the experiences and struggles that had led them to attend the conference. A young worker from Pennsylvania said:

"The system wants you to sleep. They work you 40 hours a week to get anything and another 20 hours overtime just to make

ends meet. This is twentieth century slavery. You are totally dependent on them."

Patricia, a young worker from New York said that youth had to fight to explain the program of the YS to workers:

"We are not just fighting for youth, but older workers want to fight back too. We have to unite these people. In my union, we are supposed to get a new contract and at the meeting, the union leaders told us what we were going to get so we had no voice. Many of the older workers don't like it, but they don't know

(Continued On Page 12)

### Building The Bulletin

In the second week of the December subscription drive for 5000 subs, we received 923 subs from the branches.

This is very close to our goal of 1000 subscriptions and brings the total sold by the branches to 1886.

The next two weeks will be more difficult because of the Christmas and New Years holidays.

The Pittsburgh trailblazers have finished their two week drive with a terrific total of 1182 subs. These subs plus those from the branches gives us a grand total of 3068 towards our 5000 goal.

A feature article about the Pittsburgh drive will appear in the next issue.

In The Weekend  
Edition

"SWP Refuses to Discuss 1953"—  
Statement of the  
International Com-  
mittee of the Fourth  
International.

## A Preparation For Revolutionary Struggle

The Young Socialists campaign against unemployment is a call to action to every worker and youth who wants to force Nixon out of office.

This campaign is being launched at a time when millions of workers are being forced into bitter struggles to defend even the most elementary right to a job, a decent wage, and an education.

The two day nationwide strike of truck drivers, the strike wave of butchers, Teamsters, carpenters, and hospital workers in California, the wildcat actions of auto workers are just the beginning of a powerful rank and file movement within the unions against Nixon.

### What We Think

There is no escaping that this government has decided on a collision course with the working class. Every strike, every partial struggle is answered with police terror, arrests, and fines.

The Supreme Court ruling to allow police to search anyone under any circumstances will be used to fabricate frameup charges against the most militant youth and trade unionists who are fighting back.

The youth face the brunt of these attacks by the government. The mass layoffs in industry condemn youth to a future of permanent unemployment under capitalism and the greatest repression from the police.

The Young Socialists is building a mass revolutionary youth movement under conditions where every trade unionist is forced to confront the political necessity to defeat Nixon in order to defend basic rights and living standards.

Youth today do not fight alone, but they must turn to the working class, to the labor movement as the only power that can fight Nixon.

The most pressing issue is not whether the working class will fight, but how it will fight. The trade union leadership seeks to confine the militancy of the workers to middle class protest, to isolate it and maintain the domination of the capitalist class.

The Young Socialists will take its campaign against unemployment to the working class around the demands that the unions mobilize to force Nixon out and build a labor party in order to take forward the construction of a revolutionary leadership against those bureaucrats who collaborate with Nixon and turn their backs on the youth.

It is only through this fight that a real unity between the youth and the older workers can be established.

Our marches for jobs will not be protest marches to pressure the government, but will be aimed at rousing the working class to use its strength to force Nixon to resign and to fight for its political independence against the Democrats and Republicans.

We build this movement against the Young Socialist Alliance and the Stalinist Communist Party which reject the fight for leadership and turn workers and

youth to futile protests.

The revisionists of the YSA and the Stalinists deny that there is any danger of a dictatorship in this country and continue to spread illusions that the government can be frightened by mass protests into making concessions.

These are the same dangerous illusions that led masses of workers to their deaths in Chile. Simple protest action can only leave the youth open to brutal attacks by the government.

We are now in a period in which every struggle over jobs and wages is a testing ground in which the working class must prepare for revolutionary struggle.

The youth will play a central part in building the revolutionary movement. It is their leadership, their determination to fight, that will show workers the way forward and bring the most militant sections into the revolutionary party.

The demand for jobs for all is a revolutionary demand because Nixon and the capitalist class will not give anything to workers and youth.

Our campaign for a labor party means that only through a struggle for power, only by establishing their own government, will workers be able to win decent jobs and all the needs of workers and youth.

We urge every worker to join the campaign of the Young Socialists and to immediately demand support in every union. We must demand that the labor movement convene a Congress of Labor that must set as its first task the building of a labor party that will throw Nixon out.

# On Eve Of General Strike In Britain

BY MELODY FARROW

The announcement of British Prime Minister Edward Heath to cut the work week for 13 million workers to three days a week with a corresponding cut in pay is a declaration of war against the working class.

This ruthless move, which will wipe out the jobs and livelihoods of British workers, is deliberately aimed at provoking a confrontation of civil war proportions with the miners, railwaymen, and all workers who are fighting for wage increases.

British workers are now on the eve of a general strike and revolutionary struggles in which they can and must defeat the Tories or face a dictatorial coalition government.

Heath declared in his speech to Parliament that the three day work week will begin January 1 after a two week period in which commerce and industry will be limited to a total of five working days.

The auto, chemical and glass industries will have to cut production 35 percent.

Heath also told workers they must heat only one room of the house and reduce lighting or the electricity would be forcibly disconnected.

Massive food shortages are expected to develop by New Year as a result of the Tory-imposed three-day work week. There will be reduced supplies of tinsplate, paper and cardboard which will affect the food supply.

Not only have the Tories slashed the wages of every worker, but they are trying to see to it that the working class will not be able to buy food with the money it has.

The day before, Heath extended the state of emergency that began November 13 to deal with the overtime ban by rail-



Hundreds of miners, delegates from all over England, lobbied at 10 Downing Street to insist that their leaders not sell out to Heath.

way men of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen. The cut in the work week was taken under these emergency measures.

Heath tried to blame the entire economic crisis of British capitalism on the work actions of the miners and railwaymen and arrogantly declared: "We shall have to postpone some of the hopes and aims we have set ourselves for expansion and for our own standard of living."

The British government is trying to claim that since it relies mainly on coal and not on oil from the Middle East the coal miners are responsible for the shortages.

This is a desperate lie. The huge trade deficit of \$621 million for the month of November and the collapse of the London stock exchange express the decline and the crisis of capitalism as an economic system.

He has moved now in order to whip up the middle class against the unions and stampede them into a General Election in an atmosphere of red scares and

violent provocations against the workers movement.

Huge stockpiles of coal have been brought over by the Royal Engineers and the Royal Navy from France in order to break a nationwide coal strike. Oil stocks have been diverted to the power stations.

Special leaflets have been issued by British Rail in Scotland urging railmen to join the Army's Transport Volunteers, which would be used as a scab force.

Under the state of emergency regulations, anyone who interferes with the movement of supplies is classed a "saboteur" and can be jailed, fined, or both.

Since the 1972 miners strike, police have been trained in breaking up picket lines and spying has been stepped up.

This has been accompanied by a vast legal attack on the unions through the National Industrial Relations Court, which has imposed huge fines on unions for picketing and unofficial strikes.

William Whitelaw, formerly Heath's main man in Northern Ireland, has just been appointed Employment Secretary. This is the man who directed the Tories' brutal suppression of Irish workers by means of murder, bombing, and torture camps.

Heath will now use these methods against British workers. Provocations such as

the bombs exploded by Tory agents in southern Ireland last year to pass a bill against the IRA are being readied in Britain while the right-wing leaders of the Labour Party move towards a coalition.

Only days earlier, Jack Jones, leader of the Transport and General Workers Union, was hailing Whitelaw's appointment as a sign of a "decisive change in the government's policy."

The leaders of the Trades Union Congress have spent the past 12 months in talks with Heath and have agreed that wages must be held down. Now it is clear that this vital period has been used by Heath to prepare for the present confrontation.

The Workers Revolutionary Party of Britain stated in its paper Workers Press last week that: "If the employers try to shut the factories, they must be resisted by occupations and the establishment of workers committees."

The Workers Revolutionary Party is fighting to build Councils of Action to unite all working class organizations to force Heath out and fight for a workers government.

On December 4 Workers Press declared:

"A victory for the miners means a struggle to bring down the Tory government. The Central Committee of the Workers

Revolutionary Party calls upon all workers to fight alongside the miners.

"What is required is the mobilization of the full political and industrial strength of the working class, spearheaded by all those in conflict against Phase Three of the state pay laws.

"Involved here is not simply a wages question, but the fight against mass unemployment (created by the oil crisis), a socialist solution to the crisis, the question of power."

American workers can expect the Nixon government or his successors—whether they be Republican or Democrat—to prepare the same measures here. Already plant shutdowns and soaring prices have severely reduced everyone's standard of living.

This is an international crisis. If it has hit harder now in Britain it is only because the British economy is older and weaker. When the government moves here their actions will be even more violent and ruthless.

The most vital lesson American workers can learn from the crisis in Britain is that we must prepare a revolutionary movement here that will fight in the unions to expose the labor bureaucracy which lines up with Nixon and provide an alternative, a labor party.

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THE BULLETIN, Twice-weekly organ of the Workers League, is published by Labor Publications, Incorporated, Seventh Floor, 135 W. 14th St., New York, N.Y. 10011. Published twice-weekly except the last week of December and the last week of August. Editorial and Business offices: 135 W. 14th St., New York, N.Y. 10011. Phone: 924-0852. Subscription rates: USA—1 year: \$6.00, 6 months: \$3.00, 2 months: \$1.00. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N.Y. Printed in U.S.A.



An independent trucker attempts to win support for blockade from fellow truckers in parking lot at rest stop on Interstate 95, west of New Haven, Connecticut.

# Nixon Under Fire On Taxes, Vesco Ties

**BY DAVID NORTH**  
Richard Nixon's latest statement on his personal finances has touched off new inquiries into the many "get rich quick" schemes in which he has participated since becoming president.

Officials of the Internal Revenue Service are investigating how Nixon managed to pay hardly any taxes since 1969, while his fortune jumped from \$307,141 to \$988,522.

As the tax specialists close in on Nixon, new evidence has exposed close ties between financier Robert L. Vesco and a former top aide to the president, Harry S. Dent.

Federal investigators learned this week that a helicopter used to fly Dent around during the 1972 campaign was the property of the International Control Corporation, which was owned by Vesco.

Investigators are looking into the possibility that the same helicopter was used to meet the needs of Nixon's brother and nephew.

It is illegal for any corporation to provide money or special services to a political campaign.

## EXTRADITION

Vesco, who has once again escaped extradition from the Bahamas, has been charged with looting \$50,000 from International Controls and with having plundered another \$224 million from four mutual funds.

Dent, who received this helicopter service from Vesco, is generally considered to have been the architect of the reactionary "Southern strategy" used by Nixon in both 1968 and 1972.

The ties between Nixon and right-wing speculators like Vesco are exposed in the president's financial statement. His report reveals that Nixon's personal wealth has been accumulated almost exclusively through special arrangements made by Bebe Rebozo and Charles Abplanalp.

## STOCK

In 1967, Nixon borrowed \$124,000 to buy stock in a development company on Fishers Island in the Biscayne

Bay. The major stockholder in the firm was Rebozo. Like almost all of his transactions, Nixon was able to sell the stock at a price arranged by Rebozo for a \$184,891 profit.

## LAND

In 1969, Nixon obtained two tracts of land in California worth \$1,500,000. Nixon put up only \$42,000. He borrowed \$625,000 from Abplanalp in two hunks. However, the \$964,000 is debt still outstanding and the money owed to Abplanalp was almost wiped away when Nixon sold part of the land to the B.C. Investment Company.

The deal was worked out by Rebozo and Abplanalp.

Investigators are also looking into the \$25,000 trust fund set up for Tricia Nixon in 1958 by Elmer Bobst, former chairman of the Werner-Lambert Pharmaceutical Company.

Sources noted that Bobst was lobbying the Eisenhower administration for special favors around the time that he made this gift to then Vice-President Nixon's eldest daughter.

## TAX DEDUCTION

In a new development, tax lawyers charged that Nixon's "gift" of San Clemente after his death will mean a big tax deduction for the rest of the decade. According to law, Nixon is just the right age to receive a 30 percent reduction on the value of such a gift.

Originally, the real estate was valued at \$571,000. However, so much Federal money has been lavished on San Clemente to satisfy Nixon's fancies that California officials say the estate is now worth \$1.3 million. Friends of Nixon in the state are asserting that the tax deduction should be based on a \$2.9 million estimate.

Thus, Nixon's posthumous gift would entitle him to a tax break of up to \$870,000 while he is still alive.

Nixon is able to remain in office in spite of this never ending flood of damning evidence only because the trade union bureaucracy has virtually abandoned all semblances of a serious campaign to force Nixon out.

Leaders of the Democratic Party, on whom the AFL-CIO is relying to impeach Nixon, said this week that next April would still be much too soon to begin impeachment proceedings.

# Miller Opposes Impeachment

**BY A REPORTER**  
**PITTSBURGH**—United Mine Workers President Arnold Miller engineered the defeat of a resolution calling for Nixon's impeachment at the constitutional convention which closed Friday.

Miners had been expecting the leadership to present an official impeachment motion written by the union's political action committee.

But Miller, who chaired the convention, never let it reach the floor.

A resolution calling for

Nixon's impeachment was introduced from the floor immediately following a speech by former Democratic Senator Eugene McCarthy.

It was defeated as most of the delegates abstained from the vote, apparently unwilling to give the impression that a vote for impeachment implied support for liberals like McCarthy.

Throughout the second week of the conference, Miller stepped up his attempts to muzzle the delegates after having suffered serious setbacks in the voting earlier.

However, rank and file delegates dealt Miller another major blow Friday morning when they defeated a resolution introduced by the leadership that would have curbed wildcat strikes.

## CONCESSIONS

Miller told the delegates that he would be able to get substantial concessions from the coal operators in return for a pledge to bar all wildcats. Under Miller's proposal, all strikes would have to be authorized by the International.

This resolution went down to a thumping defeat.

# Kissinger Clashes With European Heads On Trade

**BY JEFF SEBASTIAN**  
Henry Kissinger completed his trip to Brussels and London for meetings with NATO and Common Market ministers in an atmosphere of open conflict between Europe and the United States.

The conflict was underscored by the statements of French Foreign Minister Michel Jobert who publicly denounced American-Soviet detente and the nuclear agreements as a threat to the "US commitment to Europe."

According to Jobert, the US announcement of a precautionary world-wide troop alert during the Middle East crisis, without informing NATO is further indication of this.

Underlying the French statement is the tremendous econ-

omic crisis facing Europe. The European countries are being pressed to the wall by the Arab embargo on oil and by Nixon's determination to reverse its trade imbalances by depreciating the dollar.

Europe's inflation is now averaging over 10 percent a year and except for Germany every Common Market country is in a recession. French and German auto companies have already announced large layoffs due to falling sales.

The United States continues to insist that Europe must drop the barriers to American agricultural exports and accept the enormous trade advantages the US receives from two devaluations of the dollar.

Kissinger revealed that the US would fight every effort by the Common Market to bar American goods or to pursue independent policies.

"The attitude of the unifying Europe seems to elevate refusal to consult into a principle de-

fining European identity...We cannot be indifferent to the tendency to justify European identity as facilitating separateness from the US."

He insisted that the Europeans would be expected to pay heavily for the presence of US troops in Europe.

Kissinger hit out at the European attempts to reach separate agreements with the Arab states to defend their fuel supplies.

"This is a challenge which the US could solve alone with great difficulty and that Europe cannot solve in isolation at all. We strongly prefer and Europe requires a common enterprise."

Reporting on these meetings for the New York Times Clyde H. Farnsworth exposed the reality of the situation:

"Such competition has already begun. Should it spread, it would create a whole series of economic problems, high political tensions and ultimately, in the view of many European experts, another world war."



workers league young socialists public meeting

## 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF LEFT OPPOSITION

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speakers:  
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# Air Pilots Threaten Walkout

Pilots are threatening to join Teamster truck drivers in the fight against the fuel cuts by striking airlines during the pre-Christmas travel rush.

The Washington local of the Airline Pilots Association issued a call to the executive board of the national union to "meet post haste and consider all steps—including a work stoppage—if necessary" to force an increase in fuel allocations to the airlines.

## GOVERNMENT PLANS

Present government plans are to reduce fuel allocations to the airlines to 75 percent of planned 1974 requirements. Airline fuel accounts for four percent of fuel consumption.

The most conservative estimates for planned layoffs in the industry now run to 10 percent of the workforce or about 30,000 workers.

Eastern Airlines has announced 4160 "furloughs" including 800 pilots and 500 flight attendants. Thousands of ramp attendants, mechanics, and cleaners are slated to go no later than January 31.

## FLIGHT

One thousand flight attendants have been sent layoff notices from Pan Am. Early next week, the company intends to announce the full layoff plan.

Pan Am has already implemented a 25 percent reduction in schedules.

Allegheny has eliminated 324 daily flights, cutting most flights to smaller cities and is filing a request to eliminate twelve cities altogether.

North Central is slashing 18 percent of its scheduled departures.

Many of these job cuts will be permanent if the airline unions do not make a fight now.

The leadership of the pilots is reluctant to call for a strike. Pilots Association President J.J. O'Donnell has called for a 10 percent fuel cut instead of 25 percent and measures to stretch jet mileage.

A special meeting of the executive board of the pilots union has been called for this coming Wednesday.

## SETTLEMENT

Matthew Guinan, president of the Transit Workers Union announced a tentative settlement had been reached in the strike of stewards and stewardesses for Trans World Airlines.

TWA had threatened to lay off 500 employees and 300 cabin attendants on December 1 before the strike began on November 4.

TWA workers must demand full job protection in their new contract before they return to work.

# Chesimard To Face New Trial

NEW YORK, NY—The trial of Joanne Chesimard and Fred Hilton, alleged members of the "Black Liberation Army," ended in mistrial after the jury was unable to reach a unanimous verdict.

Judge Lee Gagliardi will turn over the case to a new judge and a new trial will begin on Monday. Chesimard's lawyer, Evelyn Williams, will be sentenced on contempt charges Tuesday.

The hung jury was a blow to Gagliardi and the state, which openly attempted to railroad the two defendants and sought to pressure the jury to bring in a guilty verdict.

The lawyers for both Chesimard and Hilton refused to participate in the trial because they were denied sufficient time to prepare a defense.

Despite this, the judge ordered the trial to proceed and even sent the jury back three times after they could not reach a verdict.

When Chesimard and her lawyers protested the proceedings, Gagliardi threatened to gag and chain her down in court.

The jurors requested that they be allowed to cross-examine the defendants themselves and questioned the lack of any defense, but Gagliardi refused.

Chesimard and Hilton are accused of a Bronx bank robbery on September 29, 1972 and will

also stand trial for murder in connection with a shoot-out on the New Jersey Turnpike with state troopers.

## IMMUNITY

The entire case depends on the testimony of Evon White and John Rivers, already convicted of the robbery and awaiting sentencing. White has been granted immunity from prosecution for his testimony and Rivers has claimed he will be given "consideration."

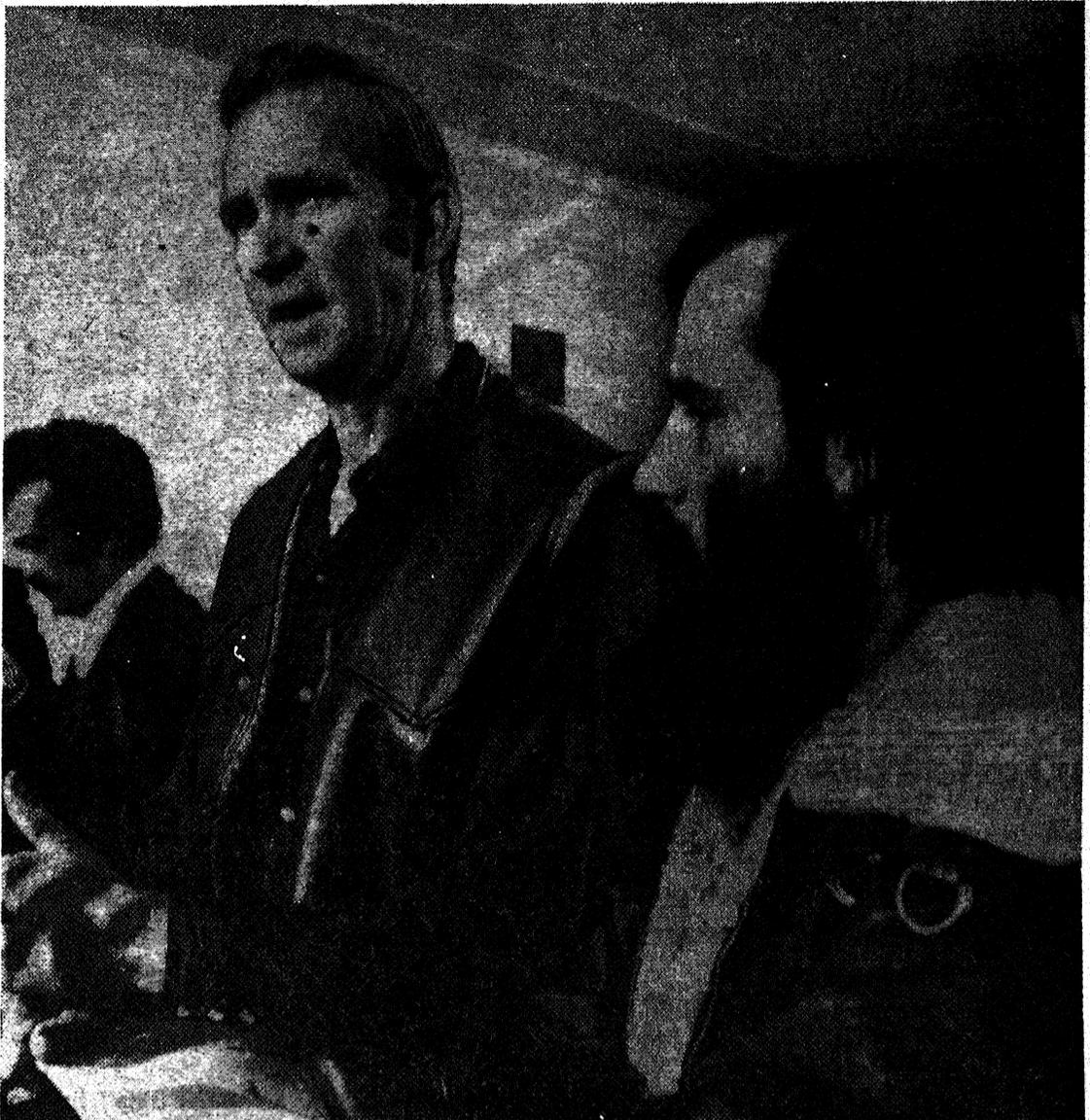
After their testimony, Chesimard shouted: "You lied. How much did they pay you? I never robbed a bank with you!"

Robert Blom, lawyer for Fred Hilton, stated that he would probably not participate in the new trial if they were not granted enough time to prepare.

This trial has all the earmarks of a frameup. Chesimard and Hilton have been denied the right to any defense and a democratic trial. The state wants to set a precedent in which all opponents of the government can be railroaded into jail.

Many Black youth have been murdered in shoot-outs with police and FBI agents solely on the police claim that they were members of the Black Liberation Army.

There is every reason to believe that the BLA is the invention of the police themselves to create a witch-hunt against Black youth.



J. W. "River Rat" Edwards, left, spokesman for the truckers, disputed in Washington a statement by Transportation Secretary Claude Brinegar that the work stoppages would end during the weekend. Edwards said, "Brinegar does not speak for the truckers." With him is Donald "The Flying Dutchman" Noll. See story, page 12.

# War In Naugatuck Strike

## BY A REPORTER

NAUGATUCK, Conn— "We were told that we had a right to walk a picket line, but I did not know you could get killed doing it."

Jack Trent, one of the strikers from the Eastern Steel Company, was badly beaten by police December 10 when the police attempted to aid scabs trying to cross picket lines.

Mr. Trent spoke to this

reporter from his home where he is convalescing from his injuries.

"We were letting foremen come in with their cars. The cops were across the street when someone yelled, 'Don't let that car in.'"

## SWINGING

"I tried to move away as the cops came at us swinging their clubs. I was struck by a cop's blackjack and knocked to the ground and he stomped on my face with his feet. I was out. I do not remember anything after that. I got a bad cut over my left eye and needed eight stitches. Two of my teeth were knocked loose and the dentist says they have to come out. I have bruises on my face and neck and I am so sore that I cannot eat anything but soup."

Rudy Fusco, a chief steward for the union, told the Bulletin: "We were at the plant gate when a car came up."

"We went up to the car to ask the people not to cross our picket line, when at least 35 cops, each with a club, came at us and started to club away."

"I saw one cop belt Jack Trent, knock him to the ground. I bent down to help Jack and was trying to tell the cops to stop when I got clubbed."

"I have a very sore right arm and a big knob on my right arm. Jack was taken to the hospital for stitches and a possible concussion. All this because the company refused to negotiate arbitration."

## PROMISED

Charlie Smith, President of Local 1558, United Steel Workers of America, said: "The chief of police promised me he would not give his men any nightsticks or mace to use."

"The unions must do something. We are fighting a lot of political power. They even took away our barrel where we lit a fire to keep warm."

One striker said: "You can see

what Nixon is doing. If he keeps up like this, you are going to have a civil war. There is a general strike coming here. Remember what happened in Canada with the railway strike."

Another said: "Tell your paper from somebody with 26 years experience, Nixon is trying to pit the Black man against the white. We showed them they cannot do it."

Another worker stated: "We are doing just like the truck drivers are doing—fighting for our rights."

# Union Head Framed On Gun Charge

BALTIMORE—Jerry Menapace, President of Amalgamated Meat Cutters Local 117, has been convicted on charges of illegal possession of an untaxed sawed-off shotgun. The charge carries a maximum sentence of 20 years.

Of all the union leaders in the city, Menapace has been the most outspoken opponent of Nixon's wage controls. The case has all the features of a government frameup against him. The shotgun was found in Menapace's car along with 38 calibre bullets with buckshot instead of a solid metal slug.

Some firearms experts have claimed that such bullets were of a type "used in gangland executions." But others have insisted that such bullets are used to hunt small game and are not illegal.

US government probation officers have now begun compiling a "background report" on Menapace for sentencing in a few weeks. The entire Baltimore labor movement must now be mobilized to keep Menapace out of jail.

# Troopers Arrest Truckers Leader

State troopers arrested John Sassi, a leader of the truck drivers wildcat strike in Newark, Delaware, and charged him with concealing a weapon.

In Pennsylvania a state of warfare has existed between the truckers and the state troopers. Many truckers were fired at or hit with stones.

Throughout southern New Jersey and Pennsylvania the strike halted virtually all trucking. Independent drivers used their rigs to close all the diesel pump stops.

At the 76 auto truck stop on Interstate 295 in East Greenwich Township, New Jersey, all stops between the Delaware Memorial Bridge and Trenton were blocked. Bands of truckers roamed the highways to keep the rigs off the road.

The stoppage halted all trucks from entering or leaving the gigantic US Steel Fairless Works in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

In Arkansas, a tractor trailer was blown up, completely destroying the cabin and motor.



Left: Monique and Prince Norodom Sihanouk on his visit to Cambodia in March 1973 outside famous Temple de Banteay Srei.

"One must nevertheless ask oneself what are the reasons which have pushed Moscow to revising its attitude. Is it, as some say, in order to embarrass the Chinese who have not yet broken off relations with Chile? Or else, do they know that a big attack is being prepared and have therefore decided to evacuate their men?"

"When the Russians arrive it is always because they think that a solution is imminent; they generally exhibit perspicacity. They want to push us towards a political solution, an agreement with the Khmers Rouges to prepare a massive attack in the dry season without talking to me about it...I do not have intimate relations with the Khmers Rouges, or, at least, I no longer have them. I have almost no relations with them any longer...I have already said that I found them Stalinist with their daily doctrinaire teaching, the language they use, their methods."

This also is a most odd contradiction, this statement of Sihanouk, for it is only six months since international leaders of the Cambodian front showed me a film of the visit which their Prince and head of state had made through the Ho Chi Minh trail into the occupied territories of their guerrilla forces.

They were then proud to exhibit the very close relationship between the Khmer Rouge commanders and the Prince. Proud to show the assembled masses of armed peasants greet their leader with wild enthusiasm. What, then, has intervened to strain this situation?

Having seen Sihanouk happily embrace Hu Nim, Hou Youn and Khieu Samphan, the three most important guerrilla commanders, and having seen their vast welcome for him prepared under the daily bombings of the USA, I would have to conclude that some great change of plan occurred; a plan for peace and compromise; a plan for a coalition government rather than a people's government; a plan which could not easily be hidden while the vociferous Sihanouk was bent on victory and not negotiation—for his own reasons perhaps.

But what is more important than any quarrel between the Cambodian Prince and the leaders of the liberation front is the fact that a people's army which was in a position to carry off a total victory against a corrupt military government set up by the United States has been somehow blocked from doing so.

Strange that it was only after the victorious push had been blocked through lack of supplies and a change in attitude of the leaders of the Cambodian resistance that the Soviet bureaucracy (followed immediately by East Germany and Bulgaria) accorded its recognition to the only legal government of Cambodia—the Royal government.

Since it is normally the Stalinists who stood by bourgeois legality, their position throughout the three and one half years of people's war in Cambodia (when they recognized only the puppet regime of Lon Nol—America's military yes man) is all the more deplorable.

Their seemingly "correct" change in allegiances can only signify a totally unprincipled peace in Cambodia—a peace against which another war will have to be fought by the Cambodian peasants and workers: the war against Stalinism and imperialism.

# Stalinist Deal In Cambodia

BY ANNA TATE, IN PARIS

On March 18, 1970, after years of crude conniving, the US Central Intelligence Agency—those warped minions of monopoly capitalism—in conjunction with the equally warped military men of Cambodia, succeeded in overthrowing the Khmer government.

They created not only a vast civil war but installed an infamously corrupt regime of generals headed by Lon Nol and aided by a mindless mandarin thrown in for extra measure.

The ex-king of Cambodia, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, official head of State, was in Moscow on that day. He appealed to the Russian leaders to help him reverse the situation and was told to go home and negotiate.

The chances of negotiation being somewhat slim, Sihanouk took his enraged royal person off to Peking where the Chinese leadership showed itself to be more prepared to aid a struggle against the United States-sponsored regime in Phnom Penh.

It was, after all, some time before the great "thaw," some time before the great smiling, bowing visit of President and Mrs. Nixon to China. In any event, the people of Cambodia had begun a resistance which, by the end of November 1970, had shown itself capable of taking over and holding about two-thirds of the country.

It was clear that the Lon Nol military government represented no one but itself. The

people had gone to war against it. A political and military war, a people's war. These liberation forces, under the name of FUNK (in French the letters stand for National United Front of Kampuchea), recognized only one government—the GRUNC—Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, with Sihanouk as its Chief of State.

The government is based in Peking. It gained the immediate recognition of China, North Korea, Albania, the Arab states and others, but not of Moscow or those east European states under the influence of the Soviet bureaucracy.

Not, that is, until the last few weeks or so, when, beginning with Russia, east Europe recognized the Royal Government. An extraordinary coincidence this new step and one which it is difficult not to compare with the Middle East question.

What is now desired in Indo-China, both by the USA administration and by the USSR bureaucracy is negotiations to be followed by a compromise "solution." Nothing must be allowed to stand in the way of the deals made between the White House and the Kremlin.

Some of the contradictions created by the collusion between the USA, the USSR and China were highlighted in a revealing interview accorded by Prince Sihanouk to Alain Bouc the correspondent of the French paper *Le Monde*.

While it is true that Sihanouk is a rather emotional man not given to great reflection, what he has to say accords strangely well with the puzzling fact that the liberation fighters of Cambodia who were strong enough months ago to storm the capital have been blocked in their offensives in an explicable

manner.

Sihanouk claims that this is because the resistance is desperately short of arms and ammunition and that there is now a massive disproportion with what Nixon is sending the Phnom Penh puppet military government every day. This, he claims, came about because the Paris Peace Accords of January this year led to the breakdown of provisioning from North Vietnam—and that is why the people's front of Cambodia could not take the town of Kompong Cham and hold it.

"In my opinion," said Sihanouk "the United States is trying to stabilize the situation in Cambodia while awaiting an overall settlement of the Indo-Chinese question. They made it known to North Vietnam that if Hanoi helped the Khmers Rouges (the Cambodian front) to the point of permitting them to overthrow Lon Nol, they would be obliged to intervene again. That is understandable; if we were to win, their whole plan for southeast Asia would be in risk of falling apart.

"The second reason is that Hanoi cannot endanger the payment by America of her war debts—debts which the United States call aid for the reconstruction of Vietnam.

"Finally, one must recognize that Hanoi and the National Front have set out a plan for the reunification of the country which requires time. They think that another confrontation with the Saigon regime is inevitable. The important thing for them is that the United States should not participate directly in the new conflict or that in any event they should not resume bombardments over Vietnam.

"To obtain a total American disengagement, a certain

amount of time must be allowed to lapse in order that the United States accustom itself to peace and that it thus becomes impossible for Nixon to launch his country yet again into the war."

Whatever else might be inaccurate in Sihanouk's assessment, one thing is clear: Hanoi is under pressure. One should also bear in mind that Sihanouk is very frequently in the North Vietnamese capital for talks with the leaders there. His statement reveals that:

"Kim Il Sung, the North Korean head of state, has proposed to supply us with as much material as we might wish, but what use is that since we could not transfer the material once it had reached the frontier of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam? The same problem applies to Chinese aid, with the added fact that Peking does not wish that in its negotiations with America, the US should reproach her with throwing oil on the troubled fire of Indo-China; therefore, China manifests little enthusiasm at the idea of sending arms...Moreover, China is obliged somewhat to court the United States to hinder the formation of a hostile America-USSR coalition."

The change in the position of the Russian bureaucrats who have now withdrawn their charge d'affaires and all their diplomats from the Cambodian capital (only after three and one half years of heroic struggle by the Cambodian people) must be seen then as a sign that some deal has been concluded between Russia and the USA. The head of the government which they are now recognizing does not himself understand the sudden "gift." He is obliged to speculate and concludes confusedly that:

These two books on the efforts of the American Trotskyists in the building of the Teamsters Union in the Minneapolis area are clearly written as a guide for trade unionists today in their struggles. This is particularly curious as the author, Farrell Dobbs, has headed for many years the Socialist Workers Party which has abandoned any activity in the trade unions.

The books are thus written as a guide to actions which the author's own party will not undertake.

The experience of the Trotskyist movement in Minneapolis remains one of the richest in the history of American Trotskyism. Today, as we enter a new period of labor upsurge in the United States and internationally brought about by a crisis in capitalism far deeper than that which shook America in the 1930s, a study of this period is absolutely essential.

With all its limitations, these two books by Farrell Dobbs could not be more timely. They deserve the careful study of all who seek to construct a revolutionary leadership in the American workers movement.

It is critical to understand what it is that prepared the American Trotskyist movement for its leading role in Minneapolis. It is insufficient to attribute this simply to "a deliberate policy based on the theory of the class struggle" as James P. Cannon does in his History of American Trotskyism and which also expresses the position of Dobbs in these books.

The Minneapolis struggles were prepared essentially through an international struggle for Marxist principles conducted by Leon Trotsky. It had therefore an international origin in Trotsky's struggle for Leninism against Stalinism.

This struggle was taken up by James P. Cannon, who in turn received the support of Ray and Miles Dunne, Carl Skoglund, and others in Minneapolis. These pioneer Trotskyists were educated in a battle over international perspectives against Stalinism.

This is most sharply expressed in the Dunne brothers. One brother, Bill Dunne, remained with the Stalinist movement. His role in the Minneapolis labor movement was traitorous.

He attacked the development of the Teamsters movement at every point and he aided the Stalinists in their eventually successful campaign to help the labor bureaucracy to dominate the trade union movement and subordinate this movement to the Democratic Party and capitalism. In background in the labor movement, in "militancy," in a "feel" for the working class, there was little to distinguish Bill from Miles and Ray Dunne. The determining question was that of international perspectives.

## Beginning from International Perspectives

The central lesson in the Minneapolis experience for trade unionists today is the necessity to begin at all times not from trade union questions, but from matters of international perspectives.

Only in the party fight to construct the Trotskyist movement against Stalinism can a leadership be developed in the American labor movement capable of defending this movement and bringing it forward politically against capitalism.

It is also important to note the role of theory in the life of those who led the mass Teamster struggles in that period. Here special credit must be given to Carl Skoglund, a Marxist worker from Sweden, who took it upon himself to help in the Marxist education of the workers who came into the party in that period. Dobbs quotes Ray Dunne on the way Skoglund functioned even before he joined the Trotskyist movement: "Skogie, as he was affectionately called from the earliest days by his comrades and intimate friends, was my teacher and close comrade. He was not only a skilled mechanic; he was an intellectual of considerable stature.

"He had a fine library of Marxist literature and in most of our spare time we were together. I spent a good deal of time reading the books and pamphlets in between short 'curtain lectures' by Carl.

"At times, there would be six or eight other comrades with us in his room, or in the IWW headquarters, or in the IOGT (International Order of Good Templars) on the north side in the sawmill district, which was the headquarters of the largest Socialist Party local in Minneapolis or St. Paul.

"He explained the strong and weak sides of the IWW. Even in those days, he was as

# MINNEAPOLIS 1934-40



much at home with Wobblies as he was in the Socialist Party. Both recognized him as a leader. But he was a party man, first and always; an internationalist of course."

Dobbs explained how Skoglund educated him as well: "One of Carl's foremost talents was his ability to teach young people the lessons he had learned. A Marxist worker with a high level of intellectual development, he understood the importance of theory and its use as a guide for action. He started me on a reading course in Marxist classics; then we would discuss what I had read and he would patiently explain points I did not understand.

"The experience was twice rich for me because, in addition to having a capable teacher, my lessons were enhanced by the intensive class struggle in which I was participating."

It would be wrong to in any sense underestimate the important role of this struggle to develop workers as Marxists undertaken by Carl Skoglund in the whole development of Minneapolis.

At the same time, this was clearly activity taken up on a local basis because of Skoglund's own understanding of its importance. It was not the result of a national policy on the part of Cannon. It was not carried out systematically in a later period when numbers of workers entered the party in other branches.

This led to a situation where in the 1950s literally no struggle for Marxism was undertaken among working class cadres of the party. Cannon himself describes the situation in his Speeches to the Party:

"The Detroit branch, sad to say, has been most remiss in the teaching and study of Marxist theory, and is now paying a terrible price for it. This branch has not got a single class going; no class in Marxism, no class in party history, no class on the Third World Congress or anything else."

Thus we can see that the leadership of the great strike struggle in Minneapolis was prepared through a fundamental struggle for international principles and perspectives against Stalinism and through intensive efforts on the part of some party members to train workers as Marxists, as party people, and not just leave them on the level of trade union militancy.

These lessons for today can only be extracted from Dobbs's book with the greatest difficulty, for Dobbs, himself

partly a product of this, sees the events in which he participated in only a surface way.

The Minneapolis strike struggles must also be seen within the framework of the development of the American working class and American capitalism. Reading the two Dobbs books brings this aspect out very clearly, though the author does not seem to be conscious of it.

## The Pioneer Outlook

The West has played an important role not only in the development of America as a nation, but also in the development of the American working class. It was particularly in the 1890s with the organization of the Western Federation of Miners that the Western worker entered into the political life of the American working class.

When he did, he brought to the American working class an outlook very much shaped by the development of capital in the region, an outlook which had a lasting impact on the political development of the American workers movement right through the early years of the American Communist Party and into the Minneapolis period of the Trotskyist movement.

The West was the last frontier area in America. This meant that particularly the thinking of those in the region, including the working class, was very much shaped by a frontier pioneer outlook at the time when American capital was emerging in maturity as a powerful industrial imperialist combine.

The frontier outlook has done much to shape the character of American thinking even though only a small section of the American population ever lived under frontier conditions. Most significantly, it was a highly individualist outlook, highly competitive, hostile to broad generalizations and theory.

The West was not a frontier area like the old frontiers of a century earlier when the pioneers crossed the Alleghenies and entered the Mississippi Valley. This is because of the powerful development of monopoly capital in the East and Midwest. The Western worker was forced to battle with companies owned by Eastern and Midwestern interests supported by national military forces. This gave to the strike struggles of the region a civil war character. But the workers who engaged in these

struggles, for all their militancy, shared even more than the working class as a whole a hostility to theoretical matters and a disposition against politics in general.

It was this militant Western worker who became the backbone, the mainstay, of the anarchist-syndicalist forces which took over the Industrial Workers of the World after 1907. They were miners from Colorado, lumberjacks from the Pacific Northwest, and migrant agricultural workers from the Western prairies.

James P. Cannon, himself born in Kansas, as well as the Dunne brothers, came out of the IWW. In fact, the whole section of the Communist Party led by Cannon and by William Z. Foster were viewed as the "Westerners" in opposition to the "Easterners" led by Ruthenberg and Lovestone mainly based on the foreign language federations.

We must understand that Minneapolis was a city very much influenced by the West. It stands in the western section of the Middle West, a day's drive even today from Chicago or any other Middle Western city. It was a transport, beef, and grain processing center for the whole Western plains.

It was populated either by immigrants from Scandinavia or by those driven off the farms because of the advance of monopoly capital. It was then and still is a most provincial city.

It is significant to note the number of those in the leadership of the party in Minneapolis who came out of the Western struggles of the working class. Here is how Dobbs describes Ray Dunne:

"Vincent Raymond Dunne was born April 17, 1889, in Kansas City, Kansas. While Ray was an infant, his father, a streetcar mechanic, was injured so severely he could no longer work and the family moved to the grandparents' farm at Little Falls, Minnesota. After getting only limited formal schooling, Ray went to work at fourteen as a lumberjack in the Minnesota woods.

"A year later, he hit the road, stopping first in the North Dakota harvest fields where he joined the IWW. From there he moved to Montana, on to Washington, down the Pacific coast, and across the Southwest. Along the way, he worked as a lumberjack, or at whatever he could find as an itinerant laborer."

It was not just a matter of the background of leading figures in the Minneapolis

Trotskyist party. As *Teamster Power* makes particularly clear, Trotskyists worked throughout the region with a layer of militants in the unions shaped by this essentially syndicalist outlook.

These militants, many of them veterans of the IWW and similar radical union work, agreed on the need for "class struggle unionism." However, they remained hostile to the political struggle, to theoretical questions, and to the construction of a revolutionary party. This was certainly the case with Bill Brown with whom the Minneapolis Trotskyists worked closely for many years.

This individualism and aversion to theory was not just a personality trait. It reflected the philosophical position of American capital. It meant that whatever heroic actions took place in sporadic class battles, capital remained firmly in control of the state and in time the union bureaucrats of the union apparatus.

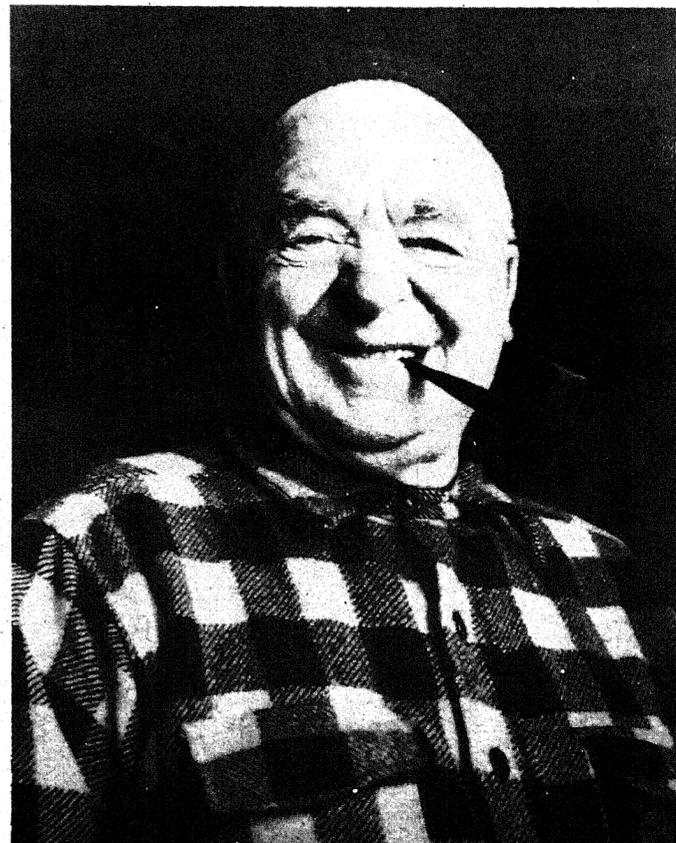
Of course, there certainly were grounds for collaboration with this tendency against the Tobin bureaucracy and the Stalinists. The difficulty is that there is no sign in Dobbs's book of any real conflict, any real wrestling with this tendency for the purpose of educating Marxist cadres in the unions. Because of this, a large number of the trade union members of the Trotskyist movement were barely distinguishable from this tendency in their own outlook.

It was this outlook which led to a situation where the struggles in Minneapolis were seen narrowly and locally and not as part of the national construction of the party. This was expressed in the fact that the organizing drive among the Teamsters and strike struggles had reached the point of the famous Battle of Deputies Run, in which the Teamsters beat back a police attempt to open up the central market area, without the national party leadership being involved in the work.

Dobbs quotes Ray Dunne on this question:

"I am quite sure—here looking backward—that we made a grievous mistake in our failure to keep the party center informed of the fast-developing situation in Minneapolis. This must be registered as a bad error in judgment.

"We talked about this, Carl (Skoglund) and I, but agreed that to do so would only add to troubles in the center with which they were confronted, due to an already



## A Review by Tim Wohlforth TEAMSTER POWER & TEAMSTER REBELLION by Farrell Dobbs

developing faction fight with a petty-bourgeois grouping."

It was to James P. Cannon's credit that he moved decisively into the situation, bringing with him some serious forces both to politically direct the work and to aid its development. This intervention was decisive, particularly for constructing, through these struggles, a serious party.

## The Minneapolis Branch and the Party

However, the original resistance of the Minneapolis branch leadership to communicate with the national leadership and to urge its aid and intervention must be assessed. It was more than an error in judgment for this relationship between the Twin Cities and the rest of the party was to persist over the whole next period.

First of all, the Twin Cities comrades saw the struggles within the party as a whole as something outside them. This was considered a New York matter. They dutifully supported the correct faction, but otherwise refrained from participation in the internal life of the party.

Cannon, for his part, accepted this arrangement and viewed the Twin Cities as some sort of working class haven for retreat, to get away from the petty-bourgeois pressures in the rest of the party. This section of the party was never really educated through the internal struggle required in the construction of the party.

When the struggle with Shachtman broke out in 1940, the same relationship persisted. It was this section of the party which worried Trotsky because of its impatience with the struggle and its distance from concern with theoretical matters. Even in the Cochran battle in 1953, the Twin Cities branch played little role.

This relationship between Minneapolis and the rest of the party would have other disastrous effects in the next period. Important as the Minneapolis struggles were for the Trotskyist movement, the decisive question was the building of the revolutionary party nationally as part of the Fourth International, confronting the political tasks which faced the American working class as a whole. After all, what the Trotskyists had done in Minneapolis the centrist Muste grouping had done at least partially in Toledo, and the Stalinists, in San Francisco. The critical question would be what

was learned from this experience and what could be taken into the next stage in the development of the working class, the rise of the CIO.

Farrell Dobbs quite correctly explains the reasons it was necessary for the Trotskyist Teamsters Local 544 to continue its work as part of the AFL. This was where the great bulk of the Teamsters were, and from a trade union viewpoint, it was through the AFL that a powerful national union of the truckers could and did develop. Dobbs also explains many of the tactics used in this development, particularly in *Teamster Power*, which required compromises including, in the end, working directly with right-winger Tobin.

Union policy, as Trotsky explained in his discussions in 1940 with SWP trade union leaders, does not originate in the union—at least not for revolutionaries. It originates in the party.

The great difficulty which faced the Trotskyists in their next stage of development was that after the experience gained in the 1934 Teamsters struggles, the workers who at least began to be trained as Marxists and party people were not brought forward nationally in the party work of constructing cadres in the unions as basic industry was organized in the CIO. This contributed to the stranglehold the Stalinists were able to get on the CIO, diverting it from the formation of a labor party and tying it to the Democratic Party and Roosevelt.

## Stalinism and the Political Tasks

We must also assess the work within the Minneapolis labor movement itself from this standpoint. This is shown particularly in relation to Stalinism. The Minneapolis comrades felt that the Stalinists could be handled without a head-on confrontation. The idea was that in practice the Trotskyists would be able to defeat them in the trade unions and with this mass base, isolate them. However, this avoided a central education in international principles for masses of workers.

For example, we can take the following editorial from the *Organizer*, a union paper edited by the Trotskyists, quoted approvingly by Dobbs:

"The epic battle of Local 574 is a drama to stir the souls of men. It conforms to the

The Executive Committee of Teamsters Local 544, left. The American Trotskyist movement played a leading role in the struggles of the Teamsters in Minneapolis in 1934 because of the fight for Marxist principles taken up by James P. Cannon, Carl Skoglund, and others under Trotsky's leadership. Carl Skoglund, right, a Marxist worker from Sweden, played a leading role by training younger party comrades in Minneapolis in Marxist theory.

classic pattern, even to the extent of having a clown and a touch of comedy. The name of this clown is, according to the leaflet surreptitiously distributed at our great mass meeting last night, 'The Communist Party of the USA, District No. 9'... The leaders of our union, they say, are double-eyed traitors and the way to win the strike is to get rid of them. Some of the boys, who have been reading the same thing in the statements of the Citizens Alliance, got sore and tore up the leaflets and gave the distributors a crack on the jaw. That's wrong. Such serious treatment should be reserved for serious opponents. They are not stool pigeons—at least, not conscious ones; they are just a little bit nutty and what they need is a friendly boot in the posterior. Maybe the shock will bring them to their senses."

But Stalinism proved to be a very deadly opponent indeed playing an important role in the Smith Act prosecutions of the Trotskyists, breaking the Trotskyist's strength in the Minneapolis labor movement.

Stalinism was able to regain its strength in the labor movement of the area primarily through its work in the Farmer Labor Party. It was its role in that party which facilitated its merger during the war with the Democratic Party producing one Hubert Humphrey!

Related to this, search as one may these two volumes, one can turn up no evidence of an attempt to tackle the political tasks before the American working class. Even though there existed a Farmer Labor Party in Minnesota which controlled the state government, there was no attempt to work within it in a systematic way as part of a national effort to construct a labor party. Since this political task was never confronted, relationships could develop within the unions with all sorts of centrist and simple trade unionist elements on the basis of "militancy."

Farrell Dobbs's own-trade union career illustrated this process as he became more and more enmeshed in union organizing activity completely separated from the construction of the party and the fight by the party to pose to the working class as a whole the necessity for a labor party.

What was true in the evolution of Dobbs became even more true for party trade union work in other unions where the party had no local union power base at all.

## Trade Unionists in the Revolutionary Party

This is why, of course, Trotsky intervened to insist that Farrell Dobbs give up his post in the Teamsters Union and come to New York as National Labor Secretary. It is to Dobbs's credit, and to Skoglund's credit who fought to train him as a party man, that he did not do this. But this was the evolution of one comrade. Hundreds of others without even the beginning of training that Skoglund gave, and without the experience of leading actual union battles as in Minneapolis, simply passed through the SWP joining as trade unionists, maintaining their membership as trade unionists, and leaving as trade unionists. The Cochran faction of liquidators which developed in the 1950s was an expression of this strata.

This is why in 1940, and this is not mentioned in Dobbs's book, Trotsky launched his sharp criticism of the SWP's union work, singling out the Northwest Organizer as an example of what was wrong. He said:

"In observing the Northwest Organizer I have observed not the slightest change for a whole period. It remains apolitical. This is a dangerous symptom. The complete neglect of work in relation to the Stalinist party is another dangerous symptom."

A study of the great Minneapolis strike struggles is extremely important today, but not just to note that they occurred and hope to reflect in their past glory. We must understand how Trotskyism prepared the way for those struggles through its theoretical struggle as well as the great limitations of the American working class movement and the Trotskyist movement revealed in this experience.

# editor's notebook

## The Mad Bomber Tells His Story

George Metesky, the "Mad bomber," was released from Creedmore State Hospital last week after 17 years of imprisonment for being criminally insane.

In May 1931, he worked as a low-tension mechanic for \$37.50 a week at Con Edison's Hellgate plant. After an accident at the plant in which he was gassed, he became tubercular, lost his job and was denied workman's compensation.

"I wrote 900 letters to the Mayor, to the Police Commissioner, to the newspapers, and I never got a penny postcard back," he said. "Then I went to the newspapers to try to buy advertising space, but all of them turned me down.

"I was compelled to bring my story to the public. I was sick and didn't expect to live. If I caused enough trouble, they'd have to be careful about the way they treat other people."

He began planting bombs in

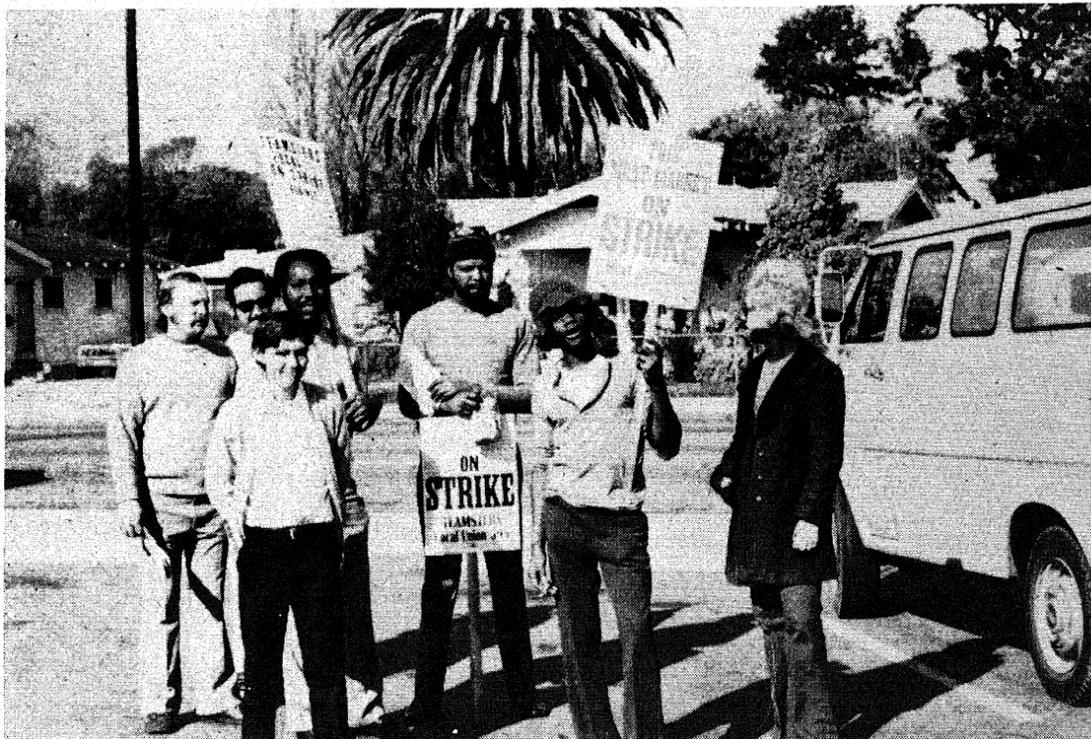
mitted through seafood, hepatitis and encephalitis viruses can result. The sludge also produces coliform bacteria which if breathed in through the air will give you meningitis or polio.

## San Clemente Tax Break

President Nixon has donated his house and grounds to the American people, to be given after his and Pat's deaths. Now, it does seem strange that someone would donate one five bedroom house to over two hundred million people. But the motivation becomes clearer when one looks at the tax benefits.

The gift comes under special tax rules which will permit 30 percent of the value of the gift as a deduction.

Some tax lawyers are speculating that the Nixons want to sign the deed transferring San Clemente to the nation in 1974 because 1973 will be the last year in which they can take a deduction for the gift of the presidential papers.



Meat cutters and Teamsters from Los Angeles striking Food Employers Council. See page 10.

# Delco-Moraine TUALP Fights GM Contract

BY A LOCAL 969 MEMBER

DAYTON—During the meeting to ratify the 1973 GM auto contract, Elmo Parrish, president of Local 696, spent 20 minutes of the meeting attacking a leaflet distributed by the Local 696 caucus of the Trade Union Alliance for a Labor Party.

The leaflet exposed the rotten Nixon-Woodcock sell-

out agreement. In view of the rapid increase in the cost of living, the wage package represented a wage cut.

Contrary to the propaganda by the union leaders, this package did not represent a 37 cent an hour increase as the workers had been led to believe. The wage increase amounted to no more than 1 to 5 cents an hour depending on the classification of the worker.

Ten cents from the cost of living allowance was bargained away to pay for a partial dental program and the thirty and out.

The leaflet also attacked Woodcock's policy of taking

union dues out of the Supplementary Unemployment Benefits pay of unemployed union members.

After Parrish's attack on the leaflet, he then began a red-baiting attack against two TUALP members, John Austin and Jim Lawrence. These attacks must be viewed as an attempt to destroy the only serious leadership that fights for the rights of all workers.

### AGAINST

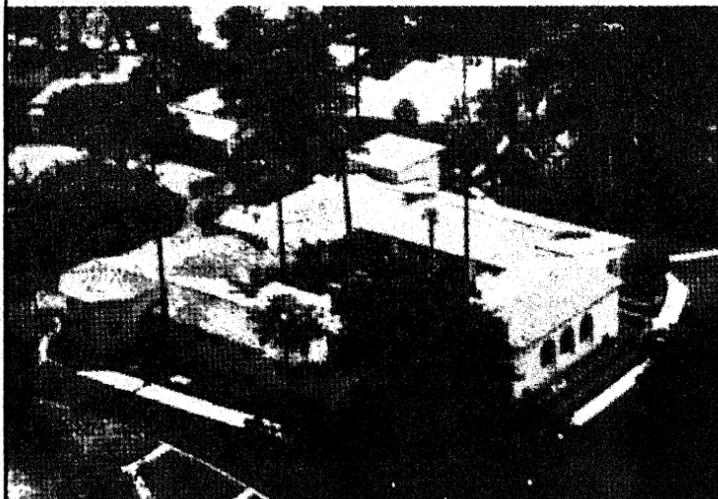
Elmo Parrish stated that the TUALP caucus was a radical group "against the country." Bob Woods, International representative explained the provisions of the contract in the history of the UAW. He said it was Nixon who prevented the workers from getting all that they wanted.

Woods said the UAW was trying to find a way to get around the Nixon controls, but he refused to endorse TUALP's demands for massive demonstrations to force Nixon's resignation.

During the discussion on the contract, the local leaders were constantly reminding the members that it was close to Christmas.

After one and one-half hours of explanations which failed to discredit the TUALP leaflet, one half of the workers walked out and many did not even vote.

The total vote was 500 to 18 for ratification. Over 100 workers did not vote. The total voting represented 11 percent of the 5000 Delco-Moraine workers.



San Clemente.

Con Ed plants, and later expanded to other places. Almost always, there was advance warning by a phone call or letter.

About his struggle with the courts he said: "For a while I had a terrific respect for the courts until I found the hypocrisy therein."

He has sold the rights to a book about his life. "I want to show in the book that people who have pointed the finger at me have pretty dirty hands. They, the judges and district attorneys and lawyers, and Matteawan did far more to hurt people than I ever did."

The value of this gift as a deduction may be as high as \$870,000.

## Solution To Oil Crisis?

Harold Bate of Totnes, England, invented and sells a device which distills the manure of pigs, cattle, chickens, dogs or humans into fuel for automobiles. One hundred pounds of pig manure, he reports, produces about eight gallons of "very high performance stuff."

## News Briefs

•The latest poll taken in California shows that 43 percent of those surveyed would, if given their choice, "unelect" everybody now holding office, both Democrats and Republicans.

•A one-drop-a-second leak for a hot water faucet will waste 2400 gallons of heated water in a year. Leaking faucets should be quickly repaired!

•Nixon's son-in-law Edward Cox reported for his first day of basic training in a White House limousine.

## Quote Of The Week

•Gerald Ford, in a recent interview: "My theory is that if the world is at peace, which I think it will be, and if our economy is healthy, which I think it will be, then I don't think Watergate will have much impact."

## Sludge That Kills

Scientists are warning that if the huge expanse of sewage sludge dumped in the Atlantic Ocean off New York continues to grow, it will be a "disaster."

The sludge, which is a by-product of sewage treatment plants is black and thick and in only three months has moved one-half mile closer to the New York beaches.

Wherever the sludge moves, all life around it dies.

Every year five million cubic yards of the sludge, enough to fill Central Park, are dumped into the ocean.

The threat to the beaches is nothing when one realizes the diseases that this sludge can create.

If the toxic poisons are trans-

## Ford Men Fear Closing

BY J. NELSON

ST. PAUL, Minn.—Ford announced today that its St. Paul assembly plant will reopen for production on December 19 as a result of the Canadian Ford settlement.

The announcement has done nothing to dispel the fear that the St. Paul Ford plant is headed for large-scale permanent layoffs or shutdown.

The Bulletin interviewed Al, a Ford worker with six years in the plant.

"I do not know how long the plant will be here in St. Paul. Not too long ago Ford closed a plant in Texas which had more men and ran two shifts.

"We have only one shift and have one of the oldest plants in the country. We do not get out the number of cars that the other plants do. We do a good job, but we cannot get out as many.

"It would be nothing for Ford to say everybody out. There are only 2300 men working here. Ford says that a little poverty is not going to hurt anyone anyway."

With the auto companies preparing more shutdowns because of the oil shortage and declining profits, Woodcock says that there will be no fight against layoffs.

"Woodcock will not do anything. He is not going to risk his job by fighting layoffs. Half our leadership is with the company.

"Woodcock comes down here and says that if the company does not do this and this, we will go out. Then just before the strike he comes on TV and says

we got the best possible deal.

"I believe the contract was rejected out here. A lot of the men did not vote because they figure that it does not matter whether we vote or not, the leadership is going to do what they want to anyway.

### TRUCKERS

"It's like the truckers blocking the highways and wanting the people behind them. The leaders they elected are up there sitting with the big man.

"When Nixon sends out the guards our leaders will not say that if the government calls out the troops then we are going to do something. They say nothing.

"I believe we need new leaders and I believe we need a party, but we will have to build a strong labor party to get Woodcock out."

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## midwest news

## Thousands Face Auto Layoffs

BY DAVID NORTH  
DETROIT, Dec. 14—The International Executive Board of the UAW is scheduled to meet Tuesday as thousands of auto workers face the danger of losing their jobs.

With 15 assembly plants now closed down for a full week before the regular Christmas holiday, the UAW leadership has stated that the unemployment situation will be on the meeting's agenda.

However, UAW President Leonard Woodcock has already declared that the union can do nothing to stop the layoffs and the union is deliberately attempting to minimize the extent of the spiraling unemployment.

## EXTENSIVE

A special Bulletin survey of UAW locals in the Ohio and Michigan area shows that the layoffs already implemented this month and anticipated for January are far more extensive than either the UAW or the capitalist press has actually reported.

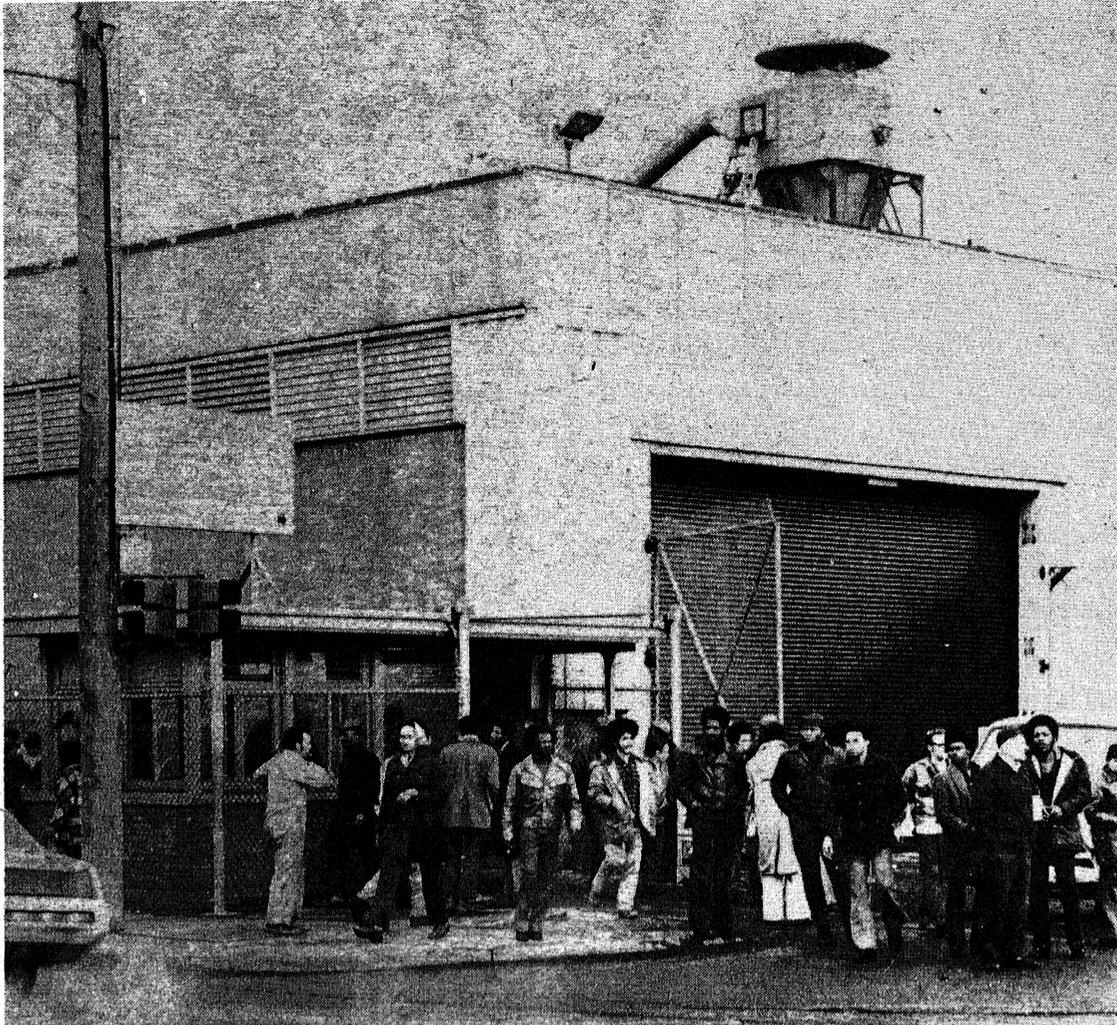
With only incomplete statistics available, it has become clear that thousands of young workers will be thrown out of the auto plants in the coming weeks. But the layoffs are not confined to those with little seniority. More than 13,000 auto workers in Flint have been affected by the one-week shutdown and it is reported that a substantial number will never return to their plants.

## LAYOFFS

The Chrysler Jefferson plant has announced the layoffs of 1700 members of Local 7, approximately 30 percent of the entire workforce. Workers with as much as 10 years seniority will be hit by this cut, which goes into effect this Friday.

Ford is going ahead with massive layoffs throughout Michigan and Ohio:

- Local 600 in Dearborn reports



Auto workers leaving the Lynch Road plant in Detroit.

1600 men will be fired for an indefinite period.

- 300 members of Local 723 in Monroe are being laid off.

- 1300 workers in the Wayne assembly plant, site of Local 900, are being laid off for at least two months.

- Ford has announced that it will lay off 3000 workers now employed at the massive Brook Park plant near Cleveland.

- In St. Louis, Ford has just laid off 2600 workers.

Massive layoffs are also hitting the General Motors' big car plants:

- The Fisher Body plant in Euclid, Ohio is dismissing 1600 men.

- Another Fisher Body plant in Mansfield, Ohio is dropping 1730.

- More than 8000 workers at the Pontiac Motor Division will be

off the job for two and one-half weeks.

- Local 488 in Kalamazoo reports that there have already been 300 permanent layoffs at the Fisher Body plant.

- At the Oldsmobile plant in Lansing, 5700 workers will be out for two weeks and most young workers with less than 90 days seniority will be let go for an indefinite period.

Workers involved in the auto industry but members of unions other than the UAW have also been hit hard. As of four days ago, 854 workers at the Packard electrical plant here, members of the IUE, were laid off. The union predicts layoffs totalling 8500 at the plant.

The dismissal of younger workers with less than three to six months seniority has become so widespread that the union

bureaucrats have accepted them as routine. An official at Local 674 told this reporter that there have been no layoffs at the Norwood assembly plant, and then added: "Just 200 workers with less than 90 days, that's all."

The Woodcock bureaucracy has refused to do anything to stop these layoffs.

Kenny Flowers, president of Chrysler Jefferson Local 7, told the Bulletin that he has received no instructions from the International. "The only thing I can think of," he said, "is to make appeals and hope for an end to the energy crisis."

The International has informed local officials that it is looking into the possibility of persuading General Motors, Ford and Chrysler to enter the mass transportation field.

This proposal only exposes the utter bankruptcy of Woodcock and his cronies. They are chasing after the most ridiculous reformist schemes rather than mobilizing the entire working class behind the UAW in a fight to defend the jobs and living standards of every worker.

The struggle for jobs means a confrontation with this government, whose emergency measures to deal with the "energy crisis"—itself an expression of the insoluble capitalist crisis—have been a driving force behind the growing unemployment.

Woodcock will not defend the jobs of auto workers. He stated last week that Nixon must be given "some latitude" in dealing with the crisis.

The fight for jobs must be taken forward in the UAW in a struggle against Woodcock through the building of a new leadership in the union.

We urge all workers to join the Trade Union Alliance for a Labor Party, which is leading the campaign to unite all workers in the fight to bring down the Nixon government and to construct a labor party pledged to socialist policies as the political alternative of the working class.

## Cops Kill Detroit Youth

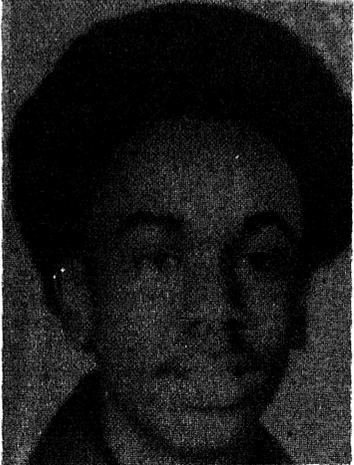
BY DAVID NORTH  
DETROIT—Fifteen-year-old Anthony Moor was shot down in cold blood Thursday night by two cops who later claimed that the youth had stolen a 1971 Ford.

The policemen chased Moor into the backyard of a house only one block from his own home, and then pumped two bullets into his head at point-blank range.

Claims made by patrolman Dewey Welch that he fired the fatal bullets because Moor was armed have been shown to be false by the fact that only a pair of pliers was found in the dead boy's back pocket.

Hugh Parker, who heard the two shots and then discovered the youth's blood-drenched body on the steps of his back porch, told the Bulletin that he saw no evidence that indicated that Moor was armed.

"The cops murdered Anthony," declared Mrs. Alma Smith, 50, grandmother of the



dead youth, in a telephone interview with the Bulletin.

"We have not been told anything by the cops. But we know that Anthony was not in a stolen car and he was not running when he was killed. He was just standing still.

"I do not know how it happened because I have been told so many lies. But I do know that Anthony's brains were lying on this man's doorstep."

Mrs. Smith described her grandson as a "quiet and gentle" boy who never had been picked up by the cops before. He had

lived with his grandmother ever since his mother died when he was four.

"The police say he had a weapon in his hand," said Mrs. Smith. "But only pliers were found in his pocket. How can a dead man put pliers back in his pocket?"

"The cop who shot him had to be right on Anthony to blow him apart like he did. The cop could not have been far away. Anthony's complete head was blown out.

"The top of his head came off from one bullet and the other bullet blew a big hole in his cheek.

"The cops are not supposed to shoot you when you have your hands up. I know that much about the law."

The cop who was chasing Anthony was not the one who shot him. Mrs. Smith has learned from witnesses that this cop asked Welch, who fired the gun, several times: "Why did you shoot?"

"He was such a quiet boy," Mrs. Smith said. "I do not know why the cops wanted to kill him. But when I find out, the whole world is going to learn about it."

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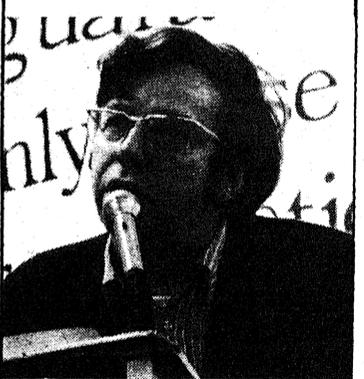
**CLEVELAND**  
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**Jeff Sebastian**

## Behind The Oil Crisis

The oil crisis which is devastating world capitalism, threatening the closure of whole industries and the collapse of entire economies is an expression of the crisis of the capitalist system itself.

Oil production today on a world scale is virtually dominated by seven large corporations which control resources greater than those of most countries.

These companies operate in every aspect of fuel production from exploration and transportation to refining, distribution, and marketing.

The production of oil like that of every other commodity is decided entirely by the profits to be realized in its production and sale and not by the real needs of men to survive and develop the means of production in their struggle against nature.

Thus the current shortages in oil were anticipated long before the recent Arab-Israeli conflict. In the five year period preceding December 31, 1972, the addition to US refining capacity was 1.9 million barrels a day. In the same period, demand for petroleum products leaped by three million barrels a day.

In early 1971, the Oil and Gas Journal, a major industry trade publication, was predicting a shortage of refining capacity. Both the American Petroleum Institute and the Interior Department published studies predicting the inevitability of extreme shortages.

Today it is predicted by the American Petroleum Institute that 60 new refineries would have to be constructed to meet 1985 energy needs.

Not one new refinery is currently under construction and most oil companies are already reconsidering their plans to expand existing facilities.

The development of the oil crisis coincides with the explosion of the international monetary crisis that began with the establishment of the two-tier gold system in 1968.

Under this system, the dollar value of the gold hoards held by central banks was artificially fixed while a free market was established by supply and demand.

On August 15, 1971 Nixon removed the gold cover from the dollar altogether, laying the basis for uncontrollable inflation and the turn of big business to speculation in commodities in the hope of retaining some store of value.

The severing of the link between gold and paper dollars means that the value of the huge hoard of dollars and credit is indeterminate.

The construction of an oil refining facility requires a minimum investment of \$250 million dollars. Not even the largest of the big oil companies is prepared to tie up capital in this sort of long range investment when confidence in paper money is collapsing.

This crisis is now intensified by the refusal of the oil producing countries in the Middle East as well as countries like Venezuela to continue to provide cheap oil.

The collapse of confidence in paper money means an explosion in oil prices. Thus the Arab countries are determined to hold down production of oil in order to retain their reserves while demanding an increase in price.

This is only the beginning as a recent auction of Iranian oil at quadruple the normal price indicates.

These increases must now send the prices of everything from drugs and synthetics to chemicals and animal feedstock all made from petroleum derivatives skyrocketing.

As prices soar and shortages develop everywhere, even the ability to keep drilling for oil is under question. Shortages in vital drilling pipe and well casings threaten as much as 25 percent of the new wells planned for 1974.

These developments threaten the very breakdown of capitalist production itself and the destruction of millions of jobs.

Capitalism as a system of social relations in which the means of production are privately owned with production for profit is now unable to develop the productive forces.

In fact it must not only destroy the very ability to develop energy basic to all production itself, but must turn on the most vital productive force, the working class and seek to wipe out its livelihood.

This means mass unemployment, slashes in living standards, and the threat of dictatorship and war.

The very survival of mankind now depends on the working class taking power, assuming control over the means of production with planned production under socialism.

# Compton Teachers Vote Down Offer

BY SHEILA BREHM

LOS ANGELES—

Striking Compton teachers overwhelmingly rejected the school board's latest offer, reaffirming their demand for an immediate 14 percent pay boost.

Close to 98 percent of the teachers voted down the offer of a 12 percent pay hike over two years.

Wes Hall, a graphic arts instructor at Compton High School, said: "They tried to spread it over two years to make it look like something, but it was not much of an offer."

Teachers have been on strike against the Compton unified school district since November 29. The 1500 Compton teachers earn about 15 percent less than other teachers in the LA area.

### ANTIVIOLENCE

Another issue behind the rejection of the offer is the teachers demand for a \$100,000 antiviolence program which would be used to finance projects and programs that have been cut from the school budgets.

Teachers say that the tremendous cutbacks in after school activities, such as sports and films have been responsible for the growth of gangs such as the Crips. Because of the teachers fight for more programs, many



Compton teachers at a school rally.

gang members are supporting the strike and according to one teacher: "I saw Crips leading the cheers at our rallies."

The teachers have continued to rally support in spite of an injunction issued on behalf of the Citizens Legal Defense Alliance, Inc., a John Birch backed group, ordering teachers to halt their strike.

Teachers have continued their mass picketing in front of all schools and have termed their strike a "protest" instead.

The school board is pleading "no money" to the teachers demands, and so far refuses to budge. Hall told the Bulletin:

"The urgency of the matter, our pay and the conditions in the schools, dictates that we may have to run our own candidates for the school board and presidency as well. I see this as very feasible."

The ability of the leadership of the Compton Education Association to fight for the demands the teachers need is put into question by their attempts to prevent the Bulletin from being sold on the picket lines and their threats to call the police. The opposition to any political issues being brought into the strike is a dangerous warning for every teacher.

## Butchers Renew Mass Picketing

BY JOHN BURTON

SAN FRANCISCO—The prospect is now for a long and bitter struggle in the strike by northern California butchers against the Food Employers Council, the organization which represents the food chains.

The strike-lockout in northern California coincides with a strike and lockout in southern California which has shut down the supermarket chains there.

Last week the union worked out a deal with the smaller chains in northern California aimed at ending the lockout. The butchers were to pull their pickets and allow the stores to reopen. In return, the markets pledged to keep the meat sections closed.

But the following morning the butchers union put the pickets back at all the markets because some had broken their pledge. QFI markets were found to be selling frozen turkeys, normally the job of meat cutters and wrappers.

### STOP PRESS

Fifty-three independent and smaller chain markets signed interim agreements with the Amalgamated Meat Cutters Union.

The butchers returned to work on the basis that these chains will accept the terms of any agreement reached with the major chains, which are still being struck. These include Safeway, Lucky, Alpha Beta, Albertson's and Ralph's.

The tremendous support from the labor movement for the butchers has forced some chains to break ranks from the Food Employers Council and sign separate agreements with the

union. Mayfair-Arden signed soon after the strike-lockout began and Cala stores signed several days ago.

Union officials would give out no information, but pickets interviewed by the Bulletin claimed these agreements guaranteed no centralized cutting and wrapping of meat nor the union's demand for a 5.5 percent raise.

The retail butchers and

wrappers who were able to find jobs in these warehouses would lose all seniority.

The other major issues are the cost of living escalator and the demand for a three year contract. The employers are demanding a one-year contract. As one picket at the Safeway store in the Mission District of San Francisco said: "They are going to give a one-year contract and next year they will close down and starve the people out."

## Sears Refuses Offer For Striking Clerks

BY MARTY MORAN

SAN FRANCISCO—Negotiators for Sears and striking department store clerks Local 1100 failed to reach any settlement Tuesday after talks during the weekend.

Since full-scale negotiations began, the union has dropped its insistence of a full medical plan, the original issue in the 18 week strike. The company has refused to make any serious offer.

"Sears has put nothing in writing. In fact, they hardly say anything," one striker told the Bulletin. The old contract expired seventeen months ago.

The latest stalemate means that strikers cannot receive any pay until after Christmas even if they did return to work.

The latest stalemate means that strikers cannot receive any pay until after Christmas even if they did return to work. Sears is clearly intent on prolonging the strike as long as possible in order to bleed the workers and if possible break the union completely.

One picket said: "They just do not want unions. We are willing to give up something, but after four months we cannot go back completely defeated."

Teamsters are still honoring clerk picket lines at the San Leandro warehouse, but Teamsters in the stores themselves have returned to work.

### MASS SUPPORT

Mass support was won by the Sears workers during the first months of the strike. Hundreds of trade unionists marched in defiance of court injunctions to back up the strikers.

This strength was turned into protest by clerks union leader Walter Johnson. The series of protest rallies did not move Sears one inch. Their only result was to demoralize and confuse the strikers.

A fight must be taken up in Local 1100 to demand that Johnson call on the rest of labor for mass action to close down Sears. The clerks can only win this fight in common struggle with the carpenters, butchers, and hospital workers.

**west coast news**

# Court Hearing On Carpenters Injunction

BY A BULLETIN REPORTER

**SAN FRANCISCO**—The government has begun hearings in US District Court here to extend the injunction against the wildcat by carpenters to all of the 46 counties of northern California.

The reason for this abrupt shift is the tremendous growth of the strike, which began in San Francisco and has spread throughout the northern part of the state. The carpenters have over the last several days succeeded in bringing out many workers from other trades, raising the possibility of a complete shutdown of all construction.

This strike is a political strike against the government. It is directed against Nixon's Construction Industry Stabilization Committee (CISC), which ordered the carpenters' wage increase won three years ago cut by 50 cents.

The government is now preparing to launch an all-out attack on the carpenters. The Associated General Contractors

(AGC) won an injunction against the strike last Friday, and are demanding fines of \$50,000 per day. Contempt hearings against the strikers are scheduled for December 19 and 21.

Over the last several days police harassment of the strikers has been stepped up. Pickets who move from site to site bringing out the men have been followed by patrol cars.

One carpenter was arrested several days ago and fined \$500. Another, John Stinson, told the Bulletin, "The superintendent tried to run us over with a pickup truck. He tried to kill us. He ran over my boot. We didn't expect him to do it. This is the worst thing we've ever come up against."

**REPRISALS**

The strike is unofficial. The union officials have refused to sanction the strike, leaving the men open to vicious reprisals from the courts, the police and the employers.

The Trade Union Alliance for a Labor Party has waged a campaign for immediate strike sanction. It has fought for the understanding that the only way to win the strike and defend the union is to call upon the entire labor movement, now on the offensive against Nixon, to force this government to resign. It has insisted that a Congress of Labor must be called to rally the labor movement to this task and construct a labor party pledged to carry out socialist policies.

**CRACK DOWN**

The carpenters can expect that the union leadership, who have until now stayed in the background, will crack down on the wildcat, using the courts and police to back them up.

A mass meeting of all northern California building trades must be called for this weekend to demand strike sanction, to mobilize the entire labor movement in mass demonstrations to force Nixon out through a general strike, and to call a Congress of Labor now.



Pickets from Manchester Community Hospital in Watts striking against management's refusal to negotiate.

## Truck Drivers Block Nevada Interstate

BY MARTY MORAN

**SAN JOSE**—Police and highway patrol were mobilized in California and Nevada against the threatened road shutdown by independent truck drivers.

The two day national stoppage of truckers against the speed limits and high fuel prices began to take effect Thursday morning centering on the major highways just south of San Jose and on the east-west link between Northern California and Nevada.

At midnight, police and highway patrol cars surrounded the bottleneck on US Highway 101 in Coyote, just south of San Jose to forestall the attempt by truckers to shut it down.

**TIE-UPS**

However, tie-ups were still reported on Highway 101 throughout the day and involved traffic on the connecting Highway 17. Route 17 is the main industrial freeway for San Jose and it remained monitored by highway patrol the entire day

with cars posted visibly at every exit.

In Nevada the police threatened the arrest of four drivers who stopped their trucks on all four lanes of Interstate 80 just west of Reno. The blockade lasted over two and one-half hours in the morning before they cleared the highway.

San Jose was one of the first truck centers hit by the fuel shortage, as several dozen trucks were stranded there the last week of November.

## Legal Assault On Beer Strikers

BY BARRY GREY

**OAKLAND**—East Bay beer drivers in Teamsters Local 888 face the danger of having their union busted despite a heroic seven month strike against the beer distributors.

Court injunctions long ago banned mass picketing of

distribution centers, thus allowing the companies, led by the vicious antiunion Coors, to bring in scab trucks with the direct aid of the police and armed security guards.

Rank and file Teamsters in the East Bay took matters into their own hands because of the union leadership's refusal to fight the injunctions. They began a mass campaign of picketing retail stores selling scab beer.

This was immediately met with another injunction, this time a federal order filed by the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). The injunction threatened fines of \$5000 plus \$1000 for each violation against the local, the Alameda Central Labor Council, and the northern California Teamsters.

The leadership of Local 888 and Bay Area Teamsters head, Jack Goldberger, then moved in to break the unity of San Francisco and East Bay drivers, forcing a rotten settlement on the San Francisco drivers and leaving the East Bay out in the cold.

**DECERTIFY**

The NLRB has held elections at virtually every warehouse now in the East Bay to decertify the union. These elections have been requested either by the distributors, who now claim they have replaced the strikers with permanent employees, i.e., scabs, or by the scabs themselves.

Those who voted were the scabs brought in to bust the strike. In each case, the vote was against the union.

At the same time, Judge Zirpoli, who issued the unprecedented ban for 45 days on legal

picketing of retail stores, will reopen hearings on January 4 on the levying of fines for contempt.

The beer drivers have been forced to limit their action to standing in front of retail stores which sell scab beer and handing out leaflets.

But one striker told the Bulletin: "It is like fighting with both hands tied behind your back. We cannot carry picket signs; we cannot talk to customers. How long will it be before the judge says we cannot hand out leaflets or play these tape recordings?"

Jack Goldberger and the International leadership of the Teamsters are responsible for this criminal situation. They have given in to every legal measure used by the government to break the strike as well as dividing

their own members.

**EXCUSE**

There is no excuse for this criminal policy at a time when strikes are sweeping the West Coast. It is the trade union leadership that refuses to unite this strike movement against the government which would enable the workers to defeat the NLRB and the courts.

Now it is absolutely urgent that every trade union local in the Bay Area come to the defense of the beer drivers. There must be mass labor demonstrations by the entire Bay Area labor movement to defend Local 888 by demanding Nixon's resignation and the calling of a Congress of Labor to replace Nixon with a labor party.

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

# lucha obrera

lucía rivera

## La Huelga De Camioneros

La crisis del petróleo ha desatado una ofensiva de la clase obrera la cual ha hecho claro que no ha de pagar por la crisis que se confronta el gobierno.

Esta ha sido el caso de los camioneros en este país como en Puerto Rico. Desde el viernes pasado los camioneros de Puerto Rico han paralizado toda la transportación de la isla recibiendo al igual el apoyo de sectores privados.

Narciso Maldonado, presidente de la Asociación de Camioneros Unidos ha declarado que los choferes de camiones han parado en todo el país en protesta por el sistema de cuotas impuesto por las gasolineras para la compra del fluido diesel.

Las grandes compañías que distribuyen el fluido diesel en la isla, la Gulf y la CORCO han pedido un aumento que representa un 200 por ciento del precio actual. La compañía CORCO a la misma vez a desafiado las cortes y la echo caso omiso de las estipulaciones que controlan las alzas en los precios de combustible.

A la misma vez la gasolina ha aumentado desde febrero, unos catorce centavos el galón haciendo más difícil la situación a los conductores privados del país, en particular aquellos de carros públicos.

Son estas condiciones que amenazan con los niveles de vida logrados por los camioneros y otros del sector privado, y es lo que ha logrado que hasta el momento el paro decretado por ellos halla sido exitoso, al no permitir estos ataques.

Pero este paro de los camioneros no es una simple protesta como lo presenta Narciso Maldonado. Es un abierto desafío a las medidas que ahora el gobierno tiene que utilizar en contra de los derechos básicos de la clase obrera.

A la misma vez que los camioneros en este país se enfrentan a los ataques de Nixon, en Puerto Rico los camioneros se enfrentan al gobierno lacayo de Hernández Colón. Este llegó al poder a través de un programa de reformas y ahora frente a las imposibilidades de cumplirlas se lanza en contra de los trabajadores.

Desde hace una semana y media los camioneros de este país han bloqueado las vías principales del país en contra del límite en el millaje, lo cual afecta directamente sus salarios. Estos camioneros son pagados por el millaje y con la estipulación que Nixon a impuesto de cincuenta millas la hora ha causado un corte en sus entradas salariales.

El presidente de la unión, Fitzsimmons es el principal colaborador de Nixon en el movimiento obrero y ha declarado su oposición abierta en contra del paro de los camioneros.

El día trece del presente mes los camioneros iniciaron un paro general en el país por espacio de dos días.

Nixon a la misma vez que trata de pacificar a los camioneros con promesas vacías, les envía la Guardia Nacional, policía especiales los cuales se han lanzado viciosamente contra los camioneros. Con explícitas órdenes del gobierno han tiroteado y agredido físicamente a los camioneros.

Este paro de los camioneros aquí y en Puerto Rico presenta un abierto desafío al gobierno y señala la ofensiva de los trabajadores internacionalmente.

Pero esta fortaleza presentada por los camioneros, su militancia, no es suficiente para destruir los planes del gobierno.

La historia de los camioneros en este país es una de perenne confrontación con la fuerza estatal. En la década de los treinta durante la formación de la unión de los "Teamsters" esta se desarrolló a través de virtualmente una guerra civil en contra del gobierno.

En la ciudad de Minneapolis en el 1934, cuna de la unión de los camioneros, la fuerza de choque policial como matones de la compañía se lanzaron en contra de las líneas de piquetes. Luego de una cruenta confrontación en la cual varios camioneros fueron asesinados y más de un medio centenar heridos, el gobierno tuvo que otorgarle las demandas que los camioneros pedían.

Pero la crisis a la que se enfrenta hoy el capitalismo es de un carácter más fundamental que en los años treinta. El gobierno esta tratando de sobrevivir esta crisis y esto requiere que todas las condiciones de vida de los trabajadores sean ahora destruidas.

Ellos no pueden otorgar ni la más mínima reforma en esta época. Los líderes sindicales se hallan en completo acuerdo con el gobierno y como en el caso de Fitzsimmons en completa colaboración para llevar a cabo estos ataques.

Las condiciones de guerra civil de los años treinta han de desarrollarse de un momento a otro en este país como en Puerto Rico. La única forma que los camioneros como el resto de la clase obrera puede defenderse es a través de la movilización masiva del movimiento laboral en la lucha por la construcción de un partido obrero.

Esta es la tarea inmediata del momento. La construcción de un liderazgo revolucionario dentro de las uniones que desenmascare a todos estos traidores como Fitzsimmons, es el primer paso en esta lucha en contra del gobierno y en defensa de los derechos de los trabajadores.

Esta es la misma lucha que la clase obrera puertorriqueña tiene que llevar en contra de su liderazgo reformista y traidor.

# Ohio Truckers Vow To Continue

BY A REPORTER

AKRON, Ohio—More than 300 truckers met here yesterday and rejected calls by the national leadership of independent drivers to call off their work stoppages and blockades.

Militant drivers in Pittsburgh who are refusing to end their job actions broke with their leaders over the weekend and set up the Fraternal Association of Specialty Haulers.

Truckers have been holding small meetings through Pennsylvania and the midwestern states to prepare for the next stage of their fight against rising fuel prices and the speed limits imposed by Nixon.

There were few incidents of blockades today mainly because freight lines do very little shipping on Sundays.

## CONFERENCE ...

(Continued From Page 1)

how to fight it."

Throughout the discussion, the questions of how to organize the working class, how to unify workers against Nixon, and how to construct a movement were constantly raised.

One young girl from Boston said that the only way Black people could get anything is if: "We have white people in front of us."

### BESIDE

One of the Young Socialists from Washington DC opposed this and received big applause when she said:

"We don't want white people in front of us, we want them beside us. We are uniting on class, not on race."

A young worker from Baltimore said:

"I used to think the same way, but the only prejudice you have is what you're raised with, you're not born with it. We are brain washed that way. Until we unify we are going to go through hell every day."

Chino, a student from Brooklyn College, stressed: "We are not just fighting Nixon, but the whole capitalist system."

A young French Canadian worker from Montreal called on the youth at the conference to go and fight to build the movement: "We have the same crisis in Canada. They are pushing the workers down."

The Montreal youth said that they had just held their conference and that now the Young Socialists was growing all over Montreal.

The conference showed the big change in the thinking of the youth since the last Young Socialists conference. The central issues fought out were how to build a movement and how to change the thinking of the masses of workers.

At this conference, many Young Socialists themselves took up a fight to explain to the other youth how this could be done.

Tim Wohlforth, national secretary of the Workers League, brought greetings to the conference:

"The struggle we are involved in here is an international struggle. In England, there is a

However, the mood of hundreds of drivers was expressed by one trucker in Akron who said: "Truckers with 18 wheelers better get them home by Monday or we'll take them home for you."

Nearly 35 percent of normal truck traffic was cut on Thursday and Friday as thousands of drivers supported the call for a two day strike against Nixon's energy policies.

Truckers used bricks and rocks to smash the windshields of drivers violating the strike call. Several scab vehicles were forced off the roads in Ohio.

At a truck stop near Cambridge, Ohio, drivers blockaded diesel fuel pumps with their rigs more than a week ago, halting all traffic.

After three days, they lifted the blockade to allow drivers to tank up and drive their rigs home. However, they did not allow the use of fuel for commercial purposes and the managers of the station were

forced to shut the pumps down on Thursday.

Tremendous support for the truckers existed in the town of Cambridge. People were quoted by the Cambridge Jeffersonian as calling the truckers' demands "legitimate" and one man said: "It might as well be truckers because somebody has to do something."

In Somerset, Pennsylvania, state police reported that the windshields of three trucks were smashed on the Pennsylvania Turnpike.

In another part of the state, truckers poured 1000 gallons of hot tar on a truck stop parking lot.

Further west, it is reported that the meat packing industry around Omaha, Nebraska, has been virtually shut down by the truckers' job actions.

Shooting incidents declined over the weekend, but it has been reported that one trucker in Indiana was shot yesterday.



"The Rare Experience" at the dance following the YS Regional Conference.

combined rail and mine strike and the government is seeking to create panic...We can see the development of a General Strike in Britain that the government will answer with troops. This will have a big impact on the thinking of workers here."

"We have entered a period of capitalist crisis, of a continuous downturn and decline in employment and production combined with a big increase in prices. At the same time, speedup is intensifying, creating the conditions for uniting old and young workers.

"Capitalism is collapsing as a system. They are talking about a downturn for the next five years.

He explained that the oil companies and refineries have deliberately only produced 50 percent of the new need for energy because they refuse to make long-term investments that do not yield an immediate profit.

He said that "millions of workers will begin to change in their thinking because of what they experience. It is the crisis in the system that will change peoples thinking, not simply what we tell them."

But these experiences will not automatically bring them to a socialist understanding. This must be brought in from the outside by the revolutionary movement which must struggle constantly to conflict with the workers present thinking and

fight for a political, a socialist understanding. In this struggle, workers will come towards us and be brought into the revolutionary party.

### CAMPAIGN

Selma Williams, from the Brownsville Young Socialists reported that the first unemployment march will be held January 26 in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of New York City.

This will be followed by marches every weekend in a different city, in the industrial areas of New England where hundreds of textile and plastic plants have closed, in Cleveland and Dayton, Ohio, in Philadelphia and many other cities.

On March 16 all the Young Socialists will march through the working class district of Washington DC and rally at the AFL-CIO headquarters to demand that the unions defend jobs by forcing Nixon to resign and build their own political party.

The conference concluded with a successful fund raising appeal that raised \$980 for the expansion of the Bulletin newspaper.

At night everyone attended one of the best dances the Young Socialists has ever held. Its success was guaranteed by the tremendous talent of the Rare Experience band from East New York.