

# Bulletin

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

NOW  
TWICE A  
WEEK!

VOLUME TEN NUMBER TWENTY NINE 365

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 1974

FIFTEEN CENTS

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BY DAVID NORTH

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The Bulletin has obtained from informed sources in Washington the details of the intelligence-gathering operation uncovered in documents originally released by Republican Senator Lowell Weicker on Monday.

These documents, combined with information already released in the course of the Watergate investigation, prove that Nixon began preparing for dictatorship almost from the day he took office in 1969.

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we are attempting to do or how we are operating, because disclosure of such information might embarrass the administration..."

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•By late 1969, the AOC was coordinating its work with military intelligence. On December 4, IRS Deputy Bacon, in charge of the 13-man task force, sent a letter to Colonel Cole, director of the Office of Special Investigations, Counterintelligence Forces of the Military.

This letter requested that the IRS—for the first time in history—be placed on the dissemination list of military intelligence.

Having now established links with the military and the FBI, the AOC moved to coordinate its secret espionage activities with the Secret Service.

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The IRS asked the Secret Service to supply "the name of those subjects identified in your file." It received in return a computer list of every name ever investigated by the Secret Service.

While this was going on, Haldeman and Ehrlichman were organizing a meeting of the intelligence community on the internal security threat which was held on June 5, 1970 in the Oval Office of the White House, Richard M. Nixon presiding.

# SPY NETWORK EXPOSED

With the AOC having assembled 14,000 names and several hundred organizations, the White House staff was ready to make official recommendations on June 25, 1970 on how these opponents should be attacked.

•On July 14, 1970, Nixon approved these recommendations and nine days later the notorious "Houston Plan"—which authorized breaking and entering, electronic surveillance, etc.—went into effect.

Nixon now claims that he ordered this operation ended five days later, but there is no evidence to back this up.

It is clear, however, that the AOC continued functioning.

Under the umbrella of the White House, a vast network of surveillance was established, coordinating the work of the Justice Department under

Watergate conspirator Robert Mardian, the military under Colonel Cole, and the IRS under Rowles.

Although the names of all the individuals and organizations gathered by Nixon have still not been released, there is no doubt that this list contains the names of every trade union, countless working class organizations, hundreds of militant workers, and socialists.

This is made clear by an IRS memo dated January 12, 1973, which called for special surveillance of those who "make threats against public officials, plan and organize prison riots (and) print and distribute publications advocating revolution against the government in this country."

Included in this category were those who "participate in and organize May Day demonstrations..."

The AOC was formally disbanded several months ago in the midst of the Watergate hearings to prevent public exposure.

The very crisis of the Nixon administration means that these well-advanced preparations to smash democratic rights will be speeded up.

The movements toward dictatorship flow from the desperation of Nixon and big business as it attempts to lower the living standards of a powerful, undefeated working class which will defend its rights.

They know that force is required to slash wages, create mass unemployment, destroy the trade unions and deprive millions of the means to enjoy a decent life.

That is why they have been

busy trying to assemble a police state dossier on thousands of people and working class organizations ever since Nixon entered office.

The AFL-CIO bureaucracy refuses to take any action to force Nixon out. Instead, it offers a "social contract" with the government and big business to police workers' wages and keep Nixon in office.

This betrayal must be defeated through the mobilization of the entire working class in a campaign to force Nixon out and through the building of a labor party pledged to socialist policies as the alternative to Nixon.

This fight can be taken forward in the working class only through the training of a revolutionary leadership, by building the Workers League and the Young Socialists.

A major step forward in the fight to build this leadership will be the Second National Conference of the Young Socialists on May 4-5 in New York City, which we urge all youth to attend.



North and South Minneapolis Young Socialists hold trailblazing drive to build for the Young Socialists National Conference in New York May 4-5.

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## Build the Second National Young Socialists Conference

The Second National Conference of the Young Socialists, to be held in New York on May 4-5, will mark an important step forward in the building of the revolutionary leadership of the working class that is required by the rapid development of the economic and political crisis.

The task before the hundreds of youth who attend this conference will be to actually prepare the campaign around socialist policies during the coming months to rally the working class against the Nixon government

### What We Think

and its plans for mass unemployment, wage cutting, union busting, and skyrocketing inflation.

Tremendous struggles between the working class and the capitalists are now on the agenda in the United States. The decision of the leading banks to raise interest rates to 10 percent while restricting the money supply will lead to collapse of business after business and force further cutbacks in major industries like auto, where there are already 200,000 workers laid off—70,000 permanently.

Under these conditions, millions of youth will be unable to find jobs this summer. A governor of the Federal Reserve Bank and adviser to Nixon, John Sheehan, recently predicted that the government's policies "would result in 15 to 20 percent unemployed by year's end, with 35 to 40 percent Black unemployed and zero employment for Black teenagers." He warned that riots would erupt and cities would burn.

Civil war conditions are not just threatened in the future, but the YS Conference is being held at a time when civil war conditions are revealed in working class struggles throughout the country—in the San Francisco strike, the truckers strike, and the coal miners' wildcat, and in every city where there is police terror and armed gangs patrolling the streets.

These conditions emerge out of the economic crisis. The working class is determined to defend what it has won during a century of bitter struggle. It will not be pushed back to the conditions of the 1930s, when millions were made homeless and forced onto the unemployment lines. Nixon knows this and therefore this government is engaged in one conspiracy after another, assembling dossiers on thousands of people and working class organizations, working behind the scenes with the military to prepare dictatorship. These conspiracies expose the weakness of the government.

However, the present leadership of the working class—the privileged bureaucracy of the AFL-CIO, UAW, and all the other unions—refuse to mobilize the strength of the working class to meet these dangers.

Instead, it collaborates with Nixon and refuses to lead a movement of the working class to force Nixon out, break with the two parties of big business—Democrats and Republicans—and build a labor party pledged to socialist policies as the alternative to this government hated by millions of workers.

The Young Socialists will play the central role in building a new leadership in the working class.

The fight of the youth for jobs can be won only as a revolutionary leadership is built inside the trade unions as workers fight to defend their jobs and living stan-

dards.

The Young Socialists will lead youth this summer in the fight against unemployment and against Nixon in communities throughout the country. They will fight for an understanding among youth and workers that no defense of jobs, decent wages and democratic rights is possible unless this government is thrown out and replaced by a government of the working class committed to socialist policies.

The fight of the Young Socialists will encourage workers to come forward politically and in this way the YS will play the central role in building a revolutionary leadership as the alternative to the corrupt, reformist bureaucrats in the unions.

The YS Conference will be critical in training a revolutionary leadership among youth and preparing for the campaigns in the coming months to build our movement.

Not only will this conference chart out a drive this summer to mobilize thousands of youth and workers in the fight for jobs, but it will also lay the basis for the first independent election campaign ever launched by the Workers League. Helen Halyard, Central Committee member of the Workers League, will run for Congress in Bedford-Stuyvesant in order to place the question of the labor party before thousands of workers and through this campaign recruit new forces to our movement.

The building of the Young Socialists will make possible the launching of the *Bulletin* as a daily paper in 1975, thus opening a new stage in building the revolutionary party of the working class. We urge youth and trade unionists to attend this Conference.

## Pompidou's Death Reveals Gaullist Split

BY FRANK MARTIN

The death of President Georges Pompidou has thrown France into an unprecedented political crisis.

Faced with a powerful strike movement of French workers, the ruling Gaullist coalition is completely divided over choosing a successor to Pompidou to run in the May 5 presidential elections.

Already three Gaullists have announced their candidacy—ex-premier Jacques Chaban-Delmas, president of the National Assembly Edgar Faure, and Finance Minister Valery Giscard d'Estaing.

This split reflects deep divisions in the ruling class over how to deal with the massive strike movement of French workers. Nine thousand shipyard workers in the Breton town of Saint-Nazaire have turned a lockout into a strike; bank workers who have been on a national strike now for over a month recently staged one of the biggest demonstrations through the streets of Paris since the General Strike of 1968; strike action is growing on the railways, in gas and electricity, in the mines, and in the ports

over the threatened retirement of the liner "France."

Chaban-Delmas waited exactly three hours for Pompidou to be buried to announce his candidacy.

The Paris correspondent of *Financial Times* of London wrote on the eve of Pompidou's death:

### STAKES

"The economic and political stakes in France are higher today than they have been for many years. While it is still much too early to speak of another May 1968, the pot is beginning to reach boiling point."

The strike movement is a direct response to the massive inflation which has been ripping apart the French economy and destroying the living standards of millions of French workers.

This makes the coming election campaign different from any other. The French capitalists realize that they must prepare for civil war against the working class in order to save themselves from the economic crisis.

Under these conditions, the Communist and Socialist Parties will run a joint election campaign in support of Socialist Party leader Francois Mitterand based on their common program for constitutional reform of the Fifth Republic.

The powerful movement of the French working class has driven the Stalinist and reformist leaders into tremendous crisis.

Mitterand and Communist Party leader Georges Marchais openly lie to workers when they say that the Fifth Republic can be reformed.

It was Mitterand himself who revealed last November that Pompidou was conspiring with the military to inflict another Chile on the working class in order to stop a Socialist-Communist government from taking power. The last months of Pompidou's life were entirely devoted to reshaping the French army for civil war operations.

Yet the Communist Party daily paper, *L'Humanite*, in an obituary for Pompidou praised his "courage and dignity" and spoke of the "vulnerability of the constitution" which puts too much power in the hands of one man.

The movement of the French working class and the divisions in the ranks of the ruling class now create the conditions for exposing these treacherous leaders before millions of workers. These conditions now urgently require the construction of an alternative revolutionary leadership in the French working class under the banner of the International Committee of the Fourth International.



German workers on strike in Bremen.

## Brandt Bait Leftist Youth

BY A

CORRESPONDENT

West German Chancellor Willy Brandt launched a bitter attack on radical forces in the Social Democratic party (SPD), blaming them for the major setbacks experienced by the government in recent local elections.

His denunciation of the Young Socialists, the moderately leftist youth movement of the SPD, is clearly the signal for a major attack on the trade unions and militant workers as well as a cowardly capitulation to the hysterical anticommunist campaign being whipped up by the press and the Christian Democratic party (CDU).

Brandt, calling on his reformist colleagues to "pursue the

politics of reasonable reform," declared: "The SPD, which is and will remain a popular party, will not let develop in its midst conceptions of the class struggle which applied to the last century."

"It is necessary to separate ourselves from those elements who have abandoned the principles of Bad Godesberg and the foundations of social democracy and who practice unity with the communists."

The Bad Godesberg program, adopted in 1959, proclaimed the SPD's official renunciation of any adherence to Marxism and the disavowal of all socialist measures, particularly the nationalization of industry.

Referring to the 30 SPD deputies who support the Young Socialists, Brandt stated: "Whoever thinks that his duties toward the party consist of malicious criticism of the party and its leadership would do better to criticize from outside the party ranks."

Brandt is seeking to witch-hunt the left within his party when the blame for the disastrous setback in the traditional SPD stronghold of Hamburg rests entirely with his own bankrupt right-wing policies.

Brandt has publicly denounced the trade union ranks for seeking wage increases to compensate for the inflation.

The constant retreats of Brandt as well as his attacks on the Young Socialists simply strengthen the hands of the right-wing Christian Democrats, who are preparing to force the early resignation of Brandt.

## Meir Regime Crumbles As War Explodes

BY CYNTHIA BLAKE

TEL AVIV, April 10—Israeli Premier Golda Meir resigned today, bringing down the coalition government formed only a month ago.

The Labor Party, which has governed Israel since 1948, has been deeply split by the defeat of Israel in the October war and the growing class battles in Israel itself.

The recent release of a report from the Agranat Commission, set up to assess responsibility for last fall's defeat, was seized on by both the right and left wing to

press for the resignation of Defense Minister Moshe Dayan and Meir.

A government official said after the resignation that he expects a "whole new alignment of political forces. If the party couldn't hold together over this issue, I doubt it will during an election campaign." Another said that compromise proposals for a shuffling of cabinet positions "would have been no more than a shot of morphine to a dying patient."

Prior to elections three to five months from now, Meir's cabinet will rule as a "caretaker" government. Indirect negotiations with Syria are expected to be continued.

In spite of the negotiations, Syrian forces have continued their offensive on the Golan Heights front, and new bombing raids were launched by Israel on April 6.

The raid was the first since the October cease-fire. Six bombers were sent out against Syrian forces which had pushed across the UN truce lines and threatened an Israeli position on the slopes of Mt. Hermon.

Two bombers are said to have hit houses in Syrian villages rather than military targets, although there were reportedly no casualties.

The push by the Syrian army followed nearly a month of continuous shelling. In the battles

following the 2 bombing runs, Syrian forces silenced 16 Israeli artillery and mortar batteries, and destroyed 2 ammunition dumps, and at least 3 tanks.

Two thousand Syrian tanks have been massed along the Golan Heights front, and Syrian Defense Minister Maj. Gen. Mustafa Tias said that his country is now prepared to launch "all-out war against Israel to win back territory seized by Israel during the six-day war in 1967 and the October war."

The Agranat report names several senior officers as those responsible for Israel's unpreparedness in October and does not directly charge Dayan or any other government officials.

# British Unions Launch Pay Offensive

BY

A CORRESPONDENT

The minority Labor government in Britain is being thrown into tremendous crisis as their "social contract" with the trade unions is being torn wide open by the movement of the working class.

Every section of the British working class is demanding wage increases. Having forced out the Tories and brought in a Labor government, British workers are now demanding that this government defend their rights and living standards.

Three thousand Perkin diesel engine workers and 1200 British Domestic Appliance workers are on strike for separate \$25 weekly wage increases. Sixteen hundred British Leyland workers at the Cowley, Oxford auto plant are continuing their two week old strike against speedup. By the end of this week, two million shipbuilding and engineering workers will begin a national overtime ban to press their demand for a \$25 increase in minimum rates. Bank workers are insisting on their demand of a 40 percent wage increase.

From the very moment it came to power, the Labor government of Harold Wilson has acted to defend and retain Tory policies which it was elected to abolish. It now stands as the sole guardian of the Tory Phase Three pay laws. While price inflation soars to 15 percent a year, this government has pledged itself to holding down wage increases to under



British Leyland auto workers voted to continue their strike at meeting Thursday, at Cowley, Oxford.

seven percent.

On every question, Wilson is in direct conflict with the working class. He has gone back on every pledge he made during the election and refuses to carry out even the program agreed to by his own party and National Executive Committee.

He has refused to release the jailed building workers pickets, the "Shrewsbury 6," who were imprisoned by Tory courts in a vicious attack on the right to picket.

## FINES

He has insisted on forcing the Labor councillors at Clay Cross to pay fines imposed on them by the Tories for refusing to collect rent increases under the Tory Housing Finances Act. The Clay Cross councillors were carrying out Labor Party policy in re-

fusing to collect the increases or pay the fines.

Wilson has refused to repeal the Industrial Relations Act and is in favor of forcing the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers to pay a \$120,000 fine awarded against it by the Tory Industrial Relations Court.

The Wilson government has carried out the cutbacks planned by the Tories in health and welfare services. Meanwhile, his education minister has announced a further \$450,000,000 cutback in college and university building plans.

In Ireland, after promising to decrease the troops, Wilson has sent more troops in. At the same time, the Irish Republic police have uncovered a secret British Army "Death Squad" sent to assassinate Republican leaders in the South.

This is being done with Wilson's full knowledge at the same time as he refuses to reopen the Littlejohn affair which reveals the direct complicity of top Tory leaders in organizing known criminals into kidnap and terror squads throughout Ireland.

## SPLIT

These policies represent a conscious strategy by Wilson to split the Labor movement as he defends the interests of the Tory and international bankers. Wilson is opening the door to the Tories, providing them with every opportunity to return to power or to form a coalition with Labor's right wing, led by Home Secretary Jenkins, with their entire reactionary program intact.

Wilson's capitalist policies

open up the British working class to the greatest dangers. Wilson follows directly in the footsteps of Salvador Allende who disarmed the Chilean workers and peasants with his talk of a "peaceful road to socialism" and opened the door to the fascist military coup.

Only the Workers Revolutionary Party, the British Trotskyist movement, has campaigned to expose Wilson and the Labor leaders and drive them out of the labor movement.

The WRP has led the campaign for an emergency conference of the Labor party to reject Wilson's policies and to unite the working class around a socialist program to meet the crisis. In this, they have won tremendous support in the working class.

## Inflation Fuels Huge Interest Rate Hikes

BY A REPORTER

Runaway inflation, which has already reached 12 percent in the United States, is sending interest rates soaring, threatening a mass of business failures and huge unemployment.

With worldwide confidence in paper money evaporating and the prices of gold and commodities reaching new highs every day, business demands for credit to keep up with the mounting costs of production is snowballing.

On Monday, the Bankers Trust Company, New York, boosted its prime rate, which is the charge to its best customers, to 10 percent. This follows a boost to nine and three quarters percent which was announced only last week. Other major banks are expected to follow Bankers Trust.

These latest measures are designed to push the economy into a major recession. Smaller businesses will be unable to borrow at these rates.

The homebuilding industry, already down, will be further depressed. The working class will be hit by higher rates for all consumer goods that require financing such as autos and ap-

pliances, forcing deep cutbacks in purchases and a slump in production.

The increases in interest rates are the direct result of the policies of the Federal Reserve Board. Its Chairman, Arthur Burns, is literally in a panic over "Latin American style double digit inflation."

He recently warned that a continuation of the present inflation will not only send interest rates even higher, but threatens to collapse the entire economy.

Burns is determined to put the screws on credit no matter what the consequences for business failures and unemployment.

There are already ominous signs that major business investments are being starved for lack of credit. Industry finances much of its needs by floating bonds to raise capital.

## INTEREST RATES

American Brands, Inc. recently attempted to sell \$150 million in bonds but withdrew the offer because of the interest rates demanded by potential buyers. Similarly the European Coal and Steel Community withdrew a \$50 million bond issue. Many Wall Street houses are simply refusing to bid on bonds in the expectation that rates will continue to escalate.

Mounting interest costs means further depression on the stock market which can no longer offer comparable yields on its

stocks.

Rising US interest rates must now intensify the bitter trade and monetary war with its European competitors. Higher European interest rates have drawn American money abroad. The outflow of dollars has meant a depreciation of the dollar in relation to European currencies. This has raised American inflation by hiking the cost of all imported goods.

The new policy is designed to keep American dollars from going abroad. It will also have the affect of sending American firms into Europe seeking loans which will intensify the pressure to raise European rates.

## SLUMP

This international interest rate war now combines with the uncontrollable worldwide inflation to deepen the tendencies towards international slump and mass unemployment.

The latest rise in interest rates makes all the more clear that capitalism has no policy to control inflation short of sending the economy into a major crash destroying the lives of millions of workers. This is precisely the perspective of the international bankers.

The working class can only fight back with socialist policies to construct its own labor party pledged to nationalizing the banks and capitalist industry under workers control.

## Young Socialists National Conference

### FORCE NIXON OUT!

### Jobs Now! Build A Labor Party!



## May 4-5

### Columbia University

### McMillan Hall

### 116th & Broadway NYC

conference & dance \$2.50  
for info call 212-924-0852

# Pittsburgh Newspaper Shut Down

**BY HAL STANTON**  
**PITTSBURGH**—Teamsters Local 211, representing 700 truck drivers and circulation men at the Pittsburgh Press Company, a Scripps-Howard newspaper, has struck for the second time in the last three months.

The union, which has been working without a contract since last December 31, notified the press on Friday, March 30, that they would strike at 5 pm the next day if no agreement on a new contract was reached.

The Press proceeded to lock out its entire work force the next morning, almost 48 hours before Local 211 established its picket lines.

The strike has shut down both of the daily newspapers serving Pittsburgh. The strikers have also closed a construction project at the Pittsburgh Press plant, as the members of the building trades unions refused to cross Local 211 picket lines.

Nothing has been resolved in 22 bargaining sessions which have been held between the union and the Press since November. The Press plans to automate its loading operations, destroying hundreds of jobs.

The union had struck for three days in December over this issue.

At stake is the length of the contract, wages, fringe benefits, holiday work, and car allowances.

## LONG

The Pittsburgh Press has prepared for a long strike. The company has made arrangements to publish a weekly edition out of state.

During a four month strike of typographers and pressmen in

# Roofers On Trial In Antiunion Drive

**BY A REPORTER**  
**MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Pa.**—The trial of nine construction workers, members of Roofers Local 30, has been sent to the jury, in a vicious campaign to destroy Pennsylvania construction unions.

The nine workers face 34 charges, ranging from arson to riot and conspiracy, and face massive fines and long-term jail sentences if convicted.

The charges stem from a demonstration of over 1000 construction workers at the construction site of the Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel in Montgomery County, Pa. on June 5, 1972. A large amount of property, estimated at \$300,000, was destroyed.

The men were protesting the non-union hiring practices of J. Leon Altomose, a notorious open shop contractor.

1971, Scripps-Howard attempted to publish the daily edition of the Pittsburgh Press with its press plant in Cleveland, but was blocked when its unionized workers there refused to put out the scab edition.

## NEGOTIATING

The Press is currently negotiating with the Typographers Union, No. 7, who have also been working without a contract, but have not yet called a strike.

The Press has already filed suit with the National Labor Relations Board to prevent the Local 211 pickets from halting construction work at the plant.

The union leadership, which has kept its members in the dark throughout the negotiations, has already weakened the union's position by postponing the strike for three months, giving the company valuable time to prepare.

They have also had an attrition agreement with the Press throughout the last contract, which the company has used to prepare its present assault on jobs.

# UPI Men Forced Back To Work

**BY**  
**MITCH PATTERSON**  
**NEW YORK, NY**—The 950 United Press International employees voted yesterday to end their three-week strike for higher wages and benefits.

Negotiators from the Wire Service Guild, the union that represents the UPI workers, have refused to campaign for the demands of the workers and have thereby laid the basis for the strike to be called off and the men to return to their jobs.

The trial, now in its twentieth week, is the longest in Montgomery County history, and the state has spent several hundred thousand dollars to prosecute the case. These costs parallel the cost of the Angela Davis trial, as the methods used to victimize militants and socialists are now brought to bear against the trade unions.

## DETECTIVE

Altomose himself hired a special detective to work with the police in gathering evidence.

Throughout the trial, the prosecutor referred to a conspiracy by the unions in their attempt to fight back against non-union conditions.

These rights can only be defended today in the critical struggle to construct a labor party to nationalize the construction industry under the control of all construction workers.



On strike since April 2, 1972, members of United Transportation Local 1699 began their third year of struggle against the eastern division of Continental Trailways.

# Washington Post Workers Walk Out

**BY A REPORTER**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C.**—Before the 4pm Monday strike deadline, members of the Baltimore-Washington Newspaper Guild at the Washington Post left their

typewriters for home.

"The vote to strike was unanimous and the vote to reject the contract was unanimous," said Bob Levey, spokesman for the Guild negotiating committee.

"The strategy is to deny the Post the people who bring in the

money, the people who bring excellence to the paper."

The issues in the conflict are economic. Post reporters have countered management's 5.5 percent increase with a demand for \$500 per week across the board.

Other economic issues include benefits, job security, and job classification.

No picket lines were thrown up. According to Levey: "The membership voted for this tactic to protect members of other unions who would be asked not to cross lines."

## POSSIBILITY

Neither Guild, pressmen, or typographical unions would comment on the possibility of united strike action. Pressmen and printers have been working without a contract since last fall.

Today, the Post is coming out in cold print, devoid of editorials and staff reporting.

One older woman Guild member expressed here suspicions of management, based on the past union-busting activities of the Post: "All executives are trained to operate the machines. They'll lock us all out and bring in the scabs."

While on the one hand noting the union's ability to break through the wage-price controls set by the Nixon government, Levey sees the labor party as a "philosophical" question. "Right now, I'm concerned about my 836 members, and I have no thoughts outside of this bread and butter issue."

"I go down fighting," said a newsman who was picketing in front of the Daily News Building this morning.

"We have been out here in the snow and the rain for three weeks and we are all disgusted with the whole situation.

"When the contract first expired, UPI offered us a 5.7 percent wage increase.

"Everyone knows you can't support a family on that. So we went out on strike. Now we are going back after three weeks on strike and getting 5.7, and no benefits, and no job guarantee.

"That's why I voted to stay out. So did these men here on the line."

Two days ago, the company presented the 5.7 percent offer to the Guild. It was the same offer they had made on March 18, when the strike first began.

## REJECTED

This offer was put to a vote by the Guild members yesterday and was rejected by 57.8 percent.

The union leadership stated that this vote was not enough of a majority to convince UPI to agree to the union's terms of a 10

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# PINOCHET REVEALS PLAN BEHIND THE COUP

BY JOHN CRAWFORD

General Auguste Pinochet, the Chilean military dictator, has admitted that the coup d'etat which overthrew the Popular Unity regime six months ago was planned more than a year in advance by the army general staff.

Interviewed by the magazine *Ercilla* in Santiago, Pinochet said: "On April 13, 1972, we analyzed the possibilities on the army general staff and that day we concluded that the conflict between the executive power and the legislature could not be resolved by constitutional means."

At the time, President Salvador Allende's government was planning to nationalize the copper industry but met opposition from the Congress dominated by the Christian Democrats. The Congress had previously forced the resignation of the Defense Minister Jose Toha.

## WASHINGTON

The Christian Democrats organized mass agitation among the middle class against the nationalization proposals and behind the scenes appeals were made to Washington. The companies involved were mainly American.

Only a fortnight before the date on which Pinochet said the coup plot was hatched, the Popular Unity government placed retired General Alberto Green and other former officers under arrest for plotting to overthrow the regime.

A statement issued at the time of the arrests emphasized that serving officers had "rejected approaches made to them by the conspirators," who belonged to the fascist Fatherland and Freedom movement.

Pinochet's interview makes clear that if the serving officers

did reject Green's overtures, it was only because they were plotting a coup of their own.

Throughout the whole period from April 1972 to September 1973 Popular Unity functionaries, with the Stalinists in the forefront, were assuring the workers that the armed forces would uphold the constitution.

Pinochet also demolishes the military regime's own myths. Since taking power on September 11 last year, the junta has maintained officially that the coup was hastily improvised to counter "Plan Z," a supposed plot by the Allende government to liquidate the right wing.

In fact, as Pinochet makes clear, the coup was minutely prepared long in advance. The plans were brought up to date in May 1973 and again after the abortive uprising of June 29, the *tancazo* which was halted by the intervention of General Carlos Prats, the then commander-in-chief.

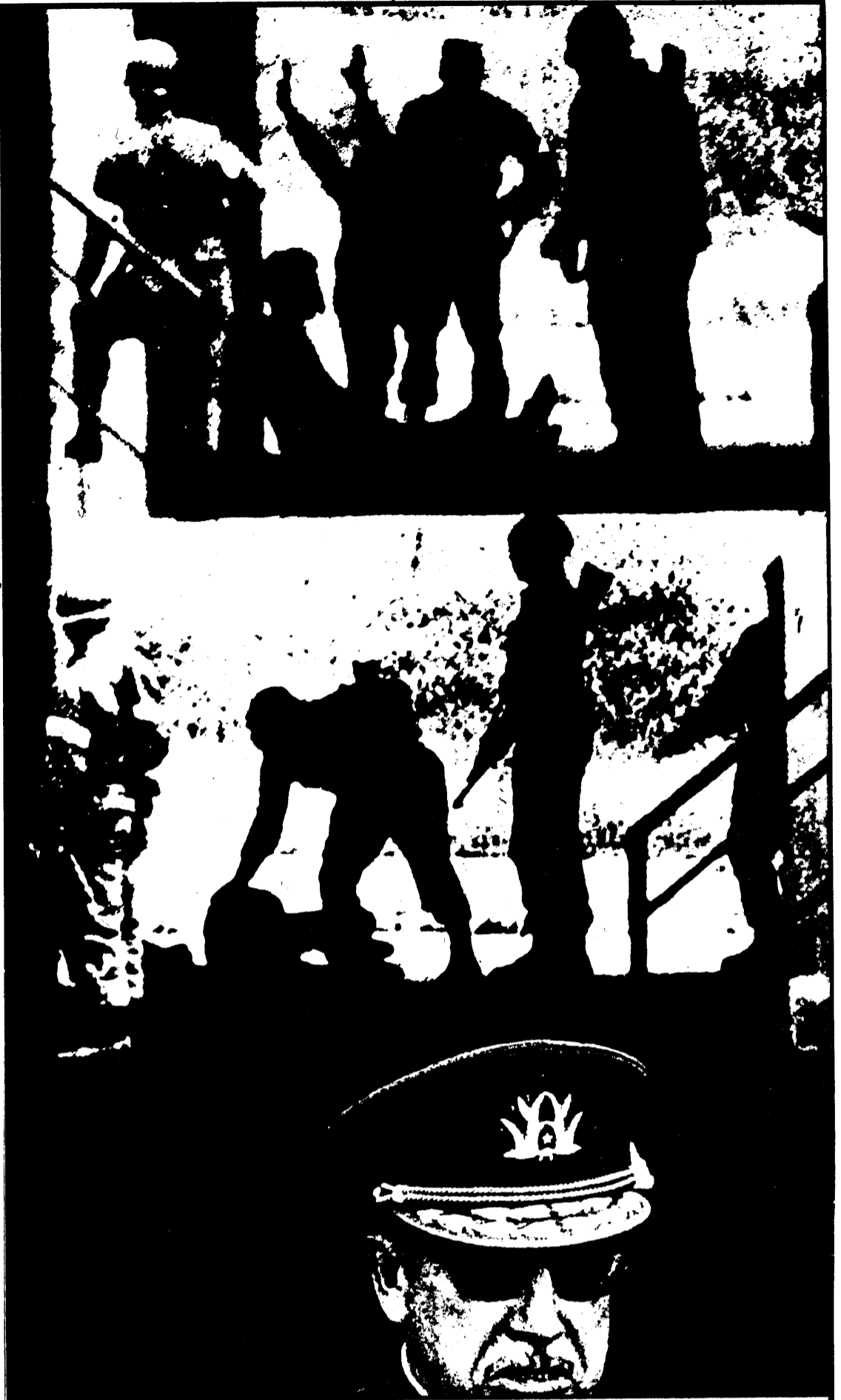
From that day on, Pinochet told the *Ercilla* reporters: "The wheel of history rolled inexorably to the morning of September 11, when the country was informed that a military junta had been set up and that it was demanding the resignation of President Allende."

The carefully-laid plans "became defensive-offensive, instead of being simply defensive, and they were carried out in an impeccable manner," he added. As for "Plan Z," Pinochet was more than vague: "We have seen information,"

he said. "We knew that there were arms...and that something was being prepared. But we did not know what or when. What drew the attention of our intelligence service was the propaganda that the government had begun against a civil war."

"This is a typical method when you want to start a civil war, so we were on the alert. When Hitler declared that he did not want to make war, that was exactly what he was getting ready to do."

So much for the Stalinist idea that they could avert a civil war



Collage by Peter Kennard (Workers Press)

by verbal appeals.

Pinochet's words are a crushing indictment of the criminal betrayal carried out against the working class by the Popular Unity regime.

The parties of the Popular Unity—the Communist Party, Socialist Party, Radicals, MAPU, etc.—never ceased to proclaim the loyalty of the armed forces to the constitution.

The workers were left completely defenseless—attempts to build up a militia were opposed, particularly by the Stalinists, on the ground that this could only incite the right wing. In the event, as Pinochet says, it was just this kind of talk against civil war that precipitated the coup.

From their own class standpoint—that of the capitalist class—the army chiefs of Chile were right. They foresaw the civil war months in advance and prepared for it. But the crime of the Popular Unity lies in the fact that it did everything to prevent the working class preparing to meet the class enemy in battle.

Despite the bureaucracy, some preparations were made in the working class. The Cordones Industriales in the factory belt around Santiago had some arms and in certain factories strong-points were prepared for resis-

tance should a coup occur.

But unlike Pinochet's forces, the Cordones Industriales were strictly defensive and lacked any overall command. Each factory was at best an isolated strong-point. The strength and weakness of this arrangement was already known to Pinochet and the general staff.

## HELICOPTER TROOPS

He tells how the abortive coup of June 29 revealed that the Cordones could react. To meet this situation, Pinochet claims to have changed the coup plan to bring in helicopter-borne troops against the workers' strongholds:

"God helped me and widened my vision of things. And on July 4 I changed my plans. I sent a note calling for the organization of mobile helicopterborne units able to intervene in street fighting..."

"I circulated the plans in the guise of internal security proposals. We decided that this struggle, this war, must take place here in Santiago. That is why I repeat: the hand of God showed us that the Cordones could react."

In fact, on September 11 there

was little real fighting. According to Pinochet this was because "the enemy was surprised." But, he added: "There is surprise and surprise. There is relative surprise and absolute surprise. In our case it was a relative surprise, like the Allied landings in Normandy in 1944."

"Everyone knew the landing would take place. But no one knew when. In Chile, everyone knew something was coming. But they did not know when..."

The lessons for the working class of western Europe, and British workers in particular, are all too obvious.

The "peaceful road to socialism" peddled by the Stalinists is a trap. It leads to the concentration camp and the graveyard. The capitalist state consists of bodies of armed men whose job it is to uphold the rights of private property.

The lesson of Chile, above all, is the necessity for the building of a mass revolutionary party dedicated to the overthrow of capitalist private property and the destruction of the bourgeois state machine and ruthlessly exposing all those who stand for the "peaceful road."

Reprinted from Workers Press, daily paper of the Workers Revolutionary Party, March 20, 1974.

At the same time that the Industrial Workers of the World was fighting to organize the western working class in the lumber, construction and railway industries, it turned to the mass of unorganized workers in the East, most of whom had just immigrated to America, spoke no English and were forced to work under brutal sweatshop conditions. The IWW fought from its very origins to reach these newly arriving immigrants, setting up virtual recruiting stations at Ellis Island to greet the new arrivals and to sign them up in the "One Big Union."

In order to reach all the different immigrants, it published 13 newspapers in English, French, Hungarian, Swedish, Yiddish, Japanese, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, Polish, Slavic, and Lithuanian.

It also conducted its street corner rallies in many languages and many of its top organizers, particularly Joseph Ettor and Arturo Giovannitti, were recently arrived immigrants themselves.

While the IWW placed one of its major emphases on the need to organize the immigrant worker, the American Federation of Labor was demanding restrictive legislation to keep out the European, and most particularly the southern and southeastern European, worker. The IWW took up a sharp campaign against the AFL on this issue, recognizing the international solidarity of the entire working class against the capitalists.

#### SHARP STAND

Because of the sharp stand the IWW took in defending the rights of the immigrants, it immediately became the most powerful organization among this section of the working class. One report in the *Industrial Worker*, which was to be duplicated thousands of times, reveals the tremendous support the IWW had among these workers:

"Our hall was surprised yesterday morning when 200 discontented slaves, of seven different nationalities swarmed in quietly and arranged themselves for a meeting. When asked the purpose of their visit, they answered in chorus, 'We want to join the IWW.' Two secretaries were kept busy the rest of the day making out the red cards."

The IWW launched a vigorous campaign throughout the country against discrimination against the immigrant and Black workers. It demanded that all workers be considered equal and united in a common cause. It fought against the socialists on the West Coast who, it stated, had "swallowed the capitalist bait" that the Japanese and Chinese workers were inferior people, whose presence would drag down the living standards of the American worker.

In this fight to organize all workers in one united movement, the greatest strength of the IWW lay. It was the first, and at the time the only, organization that fought for the principles of class unity in the struggles against capital. As it stated at its founding conference:

"There is no race problem. There is only a class problem. The economic interests of all workers, be they white, Black, brown or yellow, are identical, and all are included in the program of the IWW. It has one program for the entire working class—the abolition of the wage system."

#### THE LAWRENCE STRIKE

In carrying out its principles of organizing the entire working class, the IWW led two of the most powerful strike struggles in the history of the American working class. The first of these took place in Lawrence, Massachusetts in 1912.

Lawrence was controlled by the American Woolen Company, owned by J.P. Morgan, the most powerful textile corporation in America. Altogether, there were 12 mills operating in Lawrence, employing over 32,000 workers. These mills made enormous profits and in the course of the 10 years the American Woolen Company had existed in Lawrence, its dividends had increased 100 percent, while the capital it had invested rose less than 7 percent.

In order to carry out its superexploitation of workers, the American Woolen Company had gone on a big recruiting drive to induce immigrants to work in Lawrence. It had placed postcards and billboards in towns throughout southern Europe picturing textile workers holding bags of gold and standing outside of fancy homes.

Consequently, by 1912, thousands of



## Part Four

# The Great Lawrence And Paterson Strikes

by Nancy Fields

Italians, Poles, Russians, Syrians, and Lithuanians had flocked to Lawrence, seeking the great American dream. Within a one-half mile radius of the mill district, 25 different nationalities, speaking 50 different languages lived. The largest immigrant group in the city was the Italians.

Lawrence workers faced some of the worst conditions of any workers in the country during that period. The introduction of the two-loom system in the woolen mills, together with fantastic speedup in the cotton mills had led to mass layoffs, unemployment, and wage cuts. The average textile worker only made \$8.76 per week when the mills were running full time, which hardly ever occurred.

At the same time, the cost of living was higher in Lawrence than anywhere else on the East Coast. Rents for rotten tenement apartments were as high as \$6 a week. Thus, to survive, it was necessary for the entire family, including children, to work in the mills.

In fact, of the 32,000 textile workers in Lawrence, over half were women and children. A study made at the time of the working conditions revealed:

"A considerable number of the boys and girls die within the first two or three years after beginning work. Thirty-six out of every 100 of all the men and women who work in the mill die before or by the time they are 25 years of age. Because of malnutrition, work strain, and occupational diseases, the average mill worker's life in Lawrence is over 22 years shorter than that of the manufacturer."

In 1912, Lawrence was nothing more than one huge slum. It was the most crowded city in the United States at the time, with 33,700 workers, one-third of the population, living on less than one-thirteenth of the city's area. It also had one of the highest infant death rates in the country. Thus, although at the time the strike began only 2500 mill workers were unionized, almost the entire

working force went out. One of the strikers explained bitterly why these workers finally revolted:

"For years, the employers have forced conditions upon us that gradually and surely broke up our homes. They have taken away our wives from the homes, our children have been driven from the playground, stolen out of schools and driven into the mills, where they were strapped to the machines, not only to force the fathers to compete, but that their young lives may be coined into dollars for a parasite class, that their very nerves, their laughter and joy denied, may be woven into cloth."

The immediate spark that set off the strike was a sharp wage cut for all workers following the passage of the 54 hour law for women and children under 18. Although the IWW had only a few hundred dues paying members when the strike began, the work they had done in the city among the immigrants led these workers to immediately seek out the IWW to lead the strike. They asked that Joseph Ettor, who was well-known in the Italian community, be sent to Lawrence to coordinate the strike.

The strike began as a virtual battle on January 12, 1912. The unorganized strikers stormed the mills to halt production. They developed the technique known as the "flying squadron" where groups of strikers would storm the mills, shutting off power and disabling the looms.

By January 13, the city was paralyzed by an entire general strike, the company called in the police, and the state militia and the city became an armed camp.

The arrival of Ettor and the lead the IWW took changed the strike from one of a spontaneous outburst among undisciplined, unorganized workers into an organized, tightly run campaign that resulted, after a 10 week battle, in the victory of the Lawrence workers.

In the Lawrence strike, more than in any other, the IWW was revealed to be a highly disciplined, skilled, fighting organization.

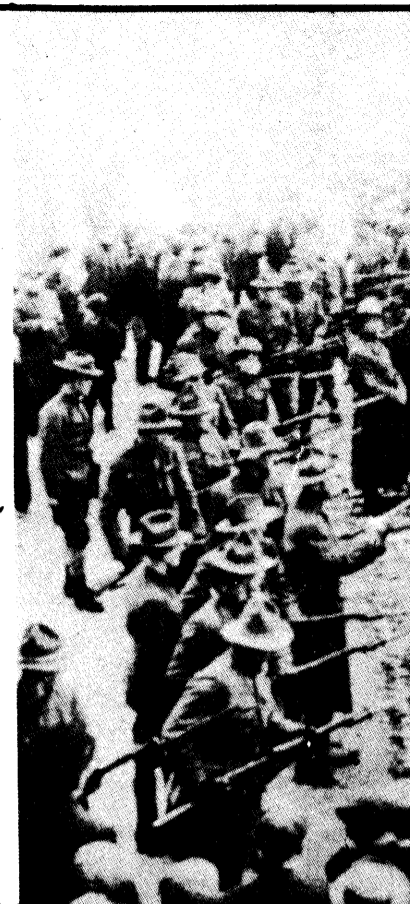
All the slanders of the IWW being an "undisciplined, sabotage-minded rabble" were exposed as complete lies in Lawrence.

Ettor immediately set up a general strike committee of 56 members which gave all nationalities equal representation. All the mills on strike and all crafts and phases of work were represented. In addition, subcommittees for relief, finance, publicity, investigation, and organization were also established.

Arturo Giovannitti coordinated the work of these subcommittees. A security system was set up to prevent Pinkertons from getting into these committees and all known agents were placed under constant surveillance.

The general strike committee called daily mass meetings to organize the day's picketing, to keep all the strikers informed of the latest developments, and to give the strikers the necessary feeling of courage and solidarity—in the face of the armed troops—to continue their strike. The international character of the strike was shown in the singing of the "International" on every picket line. The technique of mass picketing, which had never been used before in a large-scale way in any strike struggle, was organized with military-like precision by the IWW. When the picket lines in front of the mills were met by the clubs of the police, the strike committee devised the moving picket line. Day after day, the workers moved in a huge chain around the entire mill district and no one could get through the line without being stopped. It moved 24 hours a day and was usually made up of over 20,000 strikers at any one time. Furthermore, this tactic was not illegal, since the workers were not massed right in front of the mill. In fact, every time the city passed a new law aimed at breaking up the strike, the strike committee would devise a new technique to get around that law.

The tremendous power and organization of the working class was clearly revealed in these picket lines and because of the skill of



Above: the confrontation between chusetta strikers. Below right: progressing the Paterson strike. Below left: down New York City's Fifth Avenue.



Clash between soldiers and the Lawrence, Massachusetts, strikers. Below left: striking Paterson workers marching on Fifth Avenue.



the strike committee, the Lawrence strike is regarded not merely as a strike but as a mini "social revolution."

The employers reacted with complete panic to the actual threat to their power which was posed in this strike. Less than a week after it had begun, they planted dynamite around the city in order to frame up the strike leaders. Then, that same evening, a woman striker, Anna LoPizzo, was murdered by the police on the picket line.

Although Ettor and Giovannitti were three miles away addressing a mass rally, they were arrested as "accessories to the murder" and charged with inciting riots and violence. They were refused bail and imprisoned for eight months without even a hearing. Martial law was enforced and the city declared all public meetings illegal.

The employers had hoped to break the strike by arresting these two leaders. However, the IWW immediately sent Big Bill Haywood to take charge. Haywood had the respect of all the workers in Lawrence and more than 15,000 turned out to greet him, carried him through the streets to the Lawrence Commons where he addressed a rally of 25,000.

As was soon to be revealed, the employers had made a big mistake in arresting Ettor, for while he had begun the organizing of the strike, Haywood actually became the "astute general" of it. Haywood had the experience of many years of leading strikes behind him and he was capable of doing what Ettor was not, that is, of patiently organizing the day to day tactics of the strike. As it was noted at the time:

"To Haywood remained the more difficult task of keeping the ranks of the strikers intact in the face of daily attacks by the mill owners and their henchmen and leading them to triumph. So well did he perform this task that his fellow Wobblies looked upon the Lawrence strike as revealing 'William D. Haywood at his best in the role of strike strategist.'"

Following the arrival of Haywood, the most dramatic event in the strike occurred. In response to the civil war conditions in the city where numerous children were being killed and injured, the strike committee decided to send the strikers' children to other cities.

Over 100 children left Lawrence in February for New York where they were greeted by over 5000 members of the Italian Socialist Federation and the Socialist Party. Later 90 more children were sent and they paraded up and down Fifth Avenue. The condition of the children was described by Margaret Sanger, who wrote at the time:

"They were pale, emaciated, dejected children. I have seen the children of workers of other cities and industries. I have worked in the slums of New York, but I have never found children who were so uniformly ill-nourished, ill-fed, and ill-clothed. Out of the 119 children, only four had underwear on, their outerwear was almost in rags, their coats were simply torn to shreds, and it was the bitterest weather we have had this winter."

The sight of these children aroused tremendous sympathy for the Lawrence strikers throughout the country and so the employers passed a law forbidding any more children from leaving Lawrence. This action aroused the entire working class and Socialist Congressman Victor Berger passed a resolution in Congress condemning the action. Shortly after this action, the strike was settled, resulting in a victory for the textile workers.

**LESSONS OF LAWRENCE**

The victory at Lawrence had far more than local significance. It led to the organization of the textile industry throughout the Northeast and Midwest. Within two months, more than 250,000 textile workers had received wage increases as a result of the Lawrence strike.

The fact that 32,000 workers, speaking 50 languages could be organized into one united

fighting body gave a tremendous impetus to the developing union movement throughout the country. The AFL's assertion that foreign-born workers could not effectively be organized was soundly disproven at Lawrence.

By far the greatest importance of the Lawrence strike lay in the outstanding organizing techniques developed by the IWW: techniques which were to be employed later in the great battles of the 1930s which led to the creation of the mass industrial union movement, the CIO. In Lawrence, the great strength of the IWW, that is, its ability to organize and discipline thousands of workers, as well as to bring together workers of all nationalities, reached its high point. Together with the free speech fights, Lawrence turned the IWW into a mass movement.

However, as occurred following every successful strike led by the IWW, as soon as it was over, the organization virtually collapsed in the city. The real strength of the IWW, which was its leadership, was always pulled out of each local area to go off and lead another battle and thus, no cohesive, permanent organization remained behind. A member of the Lawrence IWW noted at the time:

"When the strike and the Ettor and Giovannitti struggle was over, every one of the organizers had work to do elsewhere, but the fact stands out, that the work of agitation during the strike was not followed by the more important work of organization."

Thus, the lack of a permanent organizing center in each local area was to contribute to the eventual decline of the IWW. In fact, it was the IWW's total scorn for the AFL's methods of business unionism which led it to disregard the real strength of the AFL, which was to actually create permanent, stable organizations to provide for the continuous defense of the needs of the workers, not simply to throw up temporary committees to lead great struggles.

Of course, this lack of concern for the creation of permanent organization is no accident, but lay in the very principles of the IWW. The IWW did not believe in negotiating with the companies over grievances workers might have, but held that there was only one action which could be taken in the fight against the employers and that was strike action.

Furthermore, they held that each local strike was only a step to one big general strike which would overthrow capitalism itself and it was to bring about this general strike that they devoted all their major efforts.

However, the IWW did not collapse following the Lawrence strike. In fact, they took forward the techniques developed in Lawrence in the rubber and auto industries in Akron and Detroit and above all in the great Paterson, New Jersey strike in 1913.

Since the conditions that faced the Paterson working class were virtually the same as those that existed in Lawrence, the area was ripe for militant, industrial unionism. Several unsuccessful strikes had been fought by the local AFL craft unions and when the strikers were sold out by the AFL negotiators, they turned to look for a new union to join.

At this point, Daniel DeLeon's faction of the IWW, known as the Detroit IWW, which had played no role in the struggles of the working class since it split from the IWW in 1908, entered Paterson to begin to organize the textile workers. The weavers joined DeLeon's Local 25 and in February, 1912, they went out on strike.

In keeping with DeLeon's philosophy of peaceful relations between classes, the strike was organized in a completely pacifist manner. No attempt was made to keep scabs out of the plants; in sharp contrast to the disciplined picketing of the Lawrence strikers, picketing itself was barred by the local leadership. A number of the strikers were dissatisfied with these tactics and began to look to the leadership of the Lawrence strike for aid.

The strike led by the DeLeon local soon was over and nothing was gained from it. Two months after an agreement was signed, it was repudiated by the employers. The Detroit IWW blamed the failure of the strike on the so-called discord spread by what DeLeon termed the "Bummery," that is, on Big Bill Haywood himself. Haywood rejected the charges of attempting to spread discord and divide the workers but, at the same time, he held that the strike had been lost because of the inept leadership of DeLeon.

Witnessing the success at Lawrence, the workers themselves were convinced that

Haywood was correct and thus, they turned to the IWW. The silk-weavers struck in March of 1913 in response to the tremendous speedup and wage-cutting of the employers.

Haywood took charge of the general strike committee and sub-committees like those in Lawrence were immediately set up. The working class was as diverse in Paterson as in Lawrence and the IWW moved to unite all the various nationalities on these strike committees. The same picketing techniques were employed, but the pickets were met with far more violence than even occurred in Lawrence.

More strikers were arrested during the Paterson strike than in any other in the history of the American labor movement. During the first month, over 5000 workers were thrown in jail and yet the police were unable to keep the pickets from the factories.

IWW speakers who came to Paterson to lend support to the strike were immediately arrested. The capitalist press launched a vicious campaign with headlines which screamed "Get Haywood," in an attempt to create a vigilante atmosphere to run the IWW out of town.

Failing to drive the IWW away through violence, the employers launched a campaign to whip up patriotism among the workers, asserting that it was their patriotic duty to desert the foreign IWW and return to work "under the American flag and in the American way."

The mill owners decorated the entire city with American flags and banners, which urged workers to return to work under the slogan: "We live under the flag; we fight for this flag; and we will work under this flag."

The strikers immediately countered this campaign. Each picket donned an American flag on his chest and wrote underneath it: "We wove the flag; we dyed the flag; we live under the flag; but we won't scab under the flag."

As the strike dragged on, the economic conditions of the workers and their families became desperate. At the end of the fourteenth week, the contributions which had come in from around the country to aid the strikers were gone. Nevertheless, the strikers were determined to hold out.

At this point, the idea was developed by John Reed, a young journalist who later went to Russia, became a communist and wrote *Ten Days That Shook The World* detailing the events of the Russian Revolution, that in order to gain mass support and funds for the strikers, it was necessary to publicize their cause. It was decided to hold a dramatic pageant in Madison Square Garden, called the "Pageant of Paterson Strike," and all parts would be played by the strikers themselves.

In three weeks, Reed trained over 1000 strikers to reenact scenes from the strike and he enlisted the help of many artists and performers from New York to design sets, play music, and create costumes. On the day of the pageant, thousands of strikers arrived in a 14 car train from Paterson. They marched up Fifth Avenue with red banners and with the IWW band playing the "International." The tremendous response the pageant received was described in the IWW press:

"That night, the letters, IWW, ten feet high in bright red electric lights, blazed from each side of the Madison Square tower and could be seen from miles away. Fifteen thousand persons, many who had walked from their homes, crowded the streets on every side of the block-square building. When the cheaper seats were sold out, the committee hurriedly decided to let the crowd in at a quarter apiece. The floor seats, advertised at \$1.50, were sold at the last minute for whatever they could bring, and hundreds of IWW members were let in free when they showed their red membership cards."

In spite of the tremendous support the pageant received, it failed financially because the expenses of a one night performance were simply too great. And as the summer dragged on, the strikers gradually began to return to work out of necessity. Haywood had fought so hard that, following the strike, he suffered a complete breakdown.

Thus, the tactics that had worked in Lawrence, failed in Paterson. Following this strike, the IWW underwent a tremendous decline, from which it was never to recover. Although it continued to lead battles in the Midwest and the West for a few more years, it never again was to emerge in the East.

TO BE CONTINUED



At the same time that the Industrial Workers of the World was fighting to organize the western working class in the lumber, construction and railway industries, it turned to the mass of unorganized workers in the East, most of whom had just immigrated to America, spoke no English and were forced to work under brutal sweatshop conditions. The IWW fought from its very origins to reach these newly arriving immigrants, setting up virtual recruiting stations at Ellis Island to greet the new arrivals and to sign them up in the "One Big Union."

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In carrying out its principles of organizing the entire working class, the IWW led two of the most powerful strike struggles in the history of the American working class. The first of these took place in Lawrence, Massachusetts in 1912.

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Part Four

# The Great Lawrence And Paterson Strikes

by Nancy Fields

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At the same time, the cost of living was higher in Lawrence than anywhere else on the East Coast. Rents for rotten tenement apartments were as high as \$6 a week. Thus, to survive, it was necessary for the entire family, including children, to work in the mills.

In fact, of the 32,000 textile workers in Lawrence, over half were women and children. A study made at the time of the working conditions revealed:

"A considerable number of the boys and girls die within the first two or three years after beginning work. Thirty-six out of every 100 of all the men and women who work in the mill die before or by the time they are 25 years of age. Because of malnutrition, work strain, and occupational diseases, the average mill worker's life in Lawrence is over 22 years shorter than that of the manufacturer."

In 1912, Lawrence was nothing more than one huge slum. It was the most crowded city in the United States at the time, with 33,700 workers, one-third of the population, living on less than one-thirteenth of the city's area. It also had one of the highest infant death rates in the country. Thus, although at the time the strike began only 2500 mill workers were unionized, almost the entire

working force went out. One of the strikers explained bitterly why these workers finally revolted:

"For years, the employers have forced conditions upon us that gradually and surely broke up our homes. They have taken away our wives from the homes, our children have been driven from the playground, stolen out of schools and driven into the mills, where they were strapped to the machines, not only to force the fathers to compete, but that their young lives may be coined into dollars for a parasite class, that their very nerves, their laughter and joy denied, may be woven into cloth."

The immediate spark that set off the strike was a sharp wage cut for all workers following the passage of the 54 hour law for women and children under 18. Although the IWW had only a few hundred dues paying members when the strike began, the work they had done in the city among the immigrants led these workers to immediately seek out the IWW to lead the strike. They asked that Joseph Ettor, who was well-known in the Italian community, be sent to Lawrence to coordinate the strike.

The strike began as a virtual battle on January 12, 1912. The unorganized strikers stormed the mills to halt production. They developed the technique known as the "flying squadron" where groups of strikers would storm the mills, shutting off power and disabling the looms.

By January 13, the city was paralyzed by an entire general strike, the company called in the police, and the state militia and the city became an armed camp.

The arrival of Ettor and the lead the IWW took changed the strike from one of a spontaneous outburst among unorganized, unorganized workers into an organized, tightly run campaign that resulted, after a 10 week battle, in the victory of the Lawrence workers.

In the Lawrence strike, more than in any other, the IWW was revealed to be a highly disciplined, skilled, fighting organization.

All the slanders of the IWW being an "undisciplined, sabotage-minded rabble" were exposed as complete lies in Lawrence.

Ettor immediately set up a general strike committee of 56 members which gave all nationalities equal representation. All the mills on strike and all crafts and phases of work were represented. In addition, subcommittees for relief, finance, publicity, investigation, and organization were also established.

Arturo Giovannitti coordinated the work of these subcommittees. A security system was set up to prevent Pinkertons from getting into these committees and all known agents were placed under constant surveillance.

The general strike committee called daily mass meetings to organize the day's picketing, to keep all the strikers informed of the latest developments, and to give the strikers the necessary feeling of courage and solidarity—in the face of the armed troops—to continue their strike. The international character of the strike was shown in the singing of the "International" on every picket line. The technique of mass picketing, which had never been used before in a large-scale way in any strike struggle, was organized with military-like precision by the IWW. When the picket lines in front of the mills were met by the clubs of the police, the strike committee devised the moving picket line. Day after day, the workers moved in a huge chain around the entire mill district and no one could get through the line without being stopped. It moved 24 hours a day and was usually made up of over 20,000 strikers at any one time. Furthermore, this tactic was not illegal, since the workers were not massed right in front of the mill. In fact, every time the city passed a new law aimed at breaking up the strike, the strike committee would devise a new technique to get around that law.

The tremendous power and organization of the working class was clearly revealed in these picket lines and because of the skill of

the strike committee, the Lawrence strike is regarded not merely as a strike but as a mini "social revolution."

The employers reacted with complete panic to the actual threat to their power which was posed in this strike. Less than a week after it had begun, they planted dynamite around the city in order to frame up the strike leaders. Then, that same evening, a woman striker, Anna LoPizzo, was murdered by the police on the picket line.

Although Ettor and Giovannitti were three miles away addressing a mass rally, they were arrested as "accessories to the murder" and charged with inciting riots and violence. They were refused bail and imprisoned for eight months without even a hearing. Martial law was enforced and the city declared all public meetings illegal.

The employers had hoped to break the strike by arresting these two leaders. However, the IWW immediately sent Big Bill Haywood to take charge. Haywood had the respect of all the workers in Lawrence and more than 15,000 turned out to greet him, carried him through the streets to the Lawrence Commons where he addressed a rally of 25,000.

As was soon to be revealed, the employers had made a big mistake in arresting Ettor, for while he had begun the organizing of the strike, Haywood actually became the "astute general" of it. Haywood had the experience of many years of leading strikes behind him and he was capable of doing what Ettor was not, that is, of patiently organizing the day to day tactics of the strike. As it was noted at the time:

"To Haywood remained the more difficult task of keeping the ranks of the strikers intact in the face of daily attacks by the mill owners and their henchmen and leading them to triumph. So well did he perform this task that his fellow Wobblies looked upon the Lawrence strike as revealing 'William D. Haywood at his best in the role of strike strategist.'"



Above: the confrontation between soldiers and the Lawrence, Massachusetts strikers. Below right: program cover for the staged pageant reenacting the Paterson strike. Below left: striking Paterson workers marching down New York City's Fifth Avenue.



Following the arrival of Haywood, the most dramatic event in the strike occurred. In response to the civil war conditions in the city where numerous children were being killed and injured, the strike committee decided to send the strikers' children to other cities.

Over 100 children left Lawrence in February for New York where they were greeted by over 5000 members of the Italian Socialist Federation and the Socialist Party. Later 90 more children were sent and they paraded up and down Fifth Avenue. The condition of the children was described by Margaret Sanger, who wrote at the time:

"They were pale, emaciated, dejected children. I have seen the children of workers of other cities and industries. I have worked in the slums of New York, but I have never found children who were so uniformly ill-nourished, ill-fed, and ill-clothed. Out of the 119 children, only four had underwear on, their outerwear was almost in rags, their coats were simply torn to shreds, and it was the bitterest weather we have had this winter."

The sight of these children aroused tremendous sympathy for the Lawrence strikers throughout the country and so the employers passed a law forbidding any more children from leaving Lawrence. This action aroused the entire working class and Socialist Congressman Victor Berger passed a resolution in Congress condemning the action. Shortly after this action, the strike was settled, resulting in a victory for the textile workers.

**LESSONS OF LAWRENCE**

The victory at Lawrence had far more than local significance. It led to the organization of the textile industry throughout the Northeast and Midwest. Within two months, more than 250,000 textile workers had received wage increases as a result of the Lawrence strike.

The fact that 32,000 workers, speaking 50 languages could be organized into one united

fighting body gave a tremendous impetus to the developing union movement throughout the country. The AFL's assertion that foreign-born workers could not effectively be organized was soundly disproven at Lawrence.

By far the greatest importance of the Lawrence strike lay in the outstanding organizing techniques developed by the IWW: techniques which were to be employed later in the great battles of the 1930s which led to the creation of the mass industrial union movement, the CIO. In Lawrence, the great strength of the IWW, that is, its ability to organize and discipline thousands of workers, as well as to bring together workers of all nationalities, reached its high point. Together with the free speech fights, Lawrence turned the IWW into a mass movement.

However, as occurred following every successful strike led by the IWW, as soon as it was over, the organization virtually collapsed in the city. The real strength of the IWW, which was its leadership, was always pulled out of each local area to go off and lead another battle and thus, no cohesive, permanent organization remained behind. A member of the Lawrence IWW noted at the time:

"When the strike and the Ettor and Giovannitti struggle was over, every one of the organizers had work to do elsewhere, but the fact stands out, that the work of agitation during the strike was not followed by the more important work of organization."

Thus, the lack of a permanent organizing center in each local area was to contribute to the eventual decline of the IWW. In fact, it was the IWW's total scorn for the AFL's methods of business unionism which led it to disregard the real strength of the AFL, which was to actually create permanent, stable organizations to provide for the continuous defense of the needs of the workers, not simply to throw up temporary committees to lead great struggles.

Of course, this lack of concern for the creation of permanent organization is no accident, but lay in the very principles of the IWW. The IWW did not believe in negotiating with the companies over grievances workers might have, but held that there was only one action which could be taken in the fight against the employers and that was strike action.

Furthermore, they held that each local strike was only a step to one big general strike which would overthrow capitalism itself and it was to bring about this general strike that they devoted all their major efforts.

However, the IWW did not collapse following the Lawrence strike. In fact, they took forward the techniques developed in Lawrence in the rubber and auto industries in Akron and Detroit and above all in the great Paterson, New Jersey strike in 1913.

Since the conditions that faced the Paterson working class were virtually the same as those that existed in Lawrence, the area was ripe for militant, industrial unionism. Several unsuccessful strikes had been fought by the local AFL craft unions and when the strikers were sold out by the AFL negotiators, they turned to look for a new union to join.

At this point, Daniel DeLeon's faction of the IWW, known as the Detroit IWW, which had played no role in the struggles of the working class since it split from the IWW in 1908, entered Paterson to begin to organize the textile workers. The weavers joined DeLeon's Local 25 and in February, 1912, they went out on strike.

In keeping with DeLeon's philosophy of peaceful relations between classes, the strike was organized in a completely pacifist manner. No attempt was made to keep scabs out of the plants; in sharp contrast to the disciplined picketing of the Lawrence strikers, picketing itself was barred by the local leadership. A number of the strikers were dissatisfied with these tactics and began to look to the leadership of the Lawrence strike for aid.

The strike led by the DeLeon local soon was over and nothing was gained from it. Two months after an agreement was signed, it was repudiated by the employers. The Detroit IWW blamed the failure of the strike on the so-called discord spread by what DeLeon termed the "Bummery," that is, on Big Bill Haywood himself. Haywood rejected the charges of attempting to spread discord and divide the workers but, at the same time, he held that the strike had been lost because of the inept leadership of DeLeon.

Witnessing the success at Lawrence, the workers themselves were convinced that

Haywood was correct and thus, they turned to the IWW. The silk-weavers struck in March of 1913 in response to the tremendous speedup and wage-cutting of the employers.

Haywood took charge of the general strike committee and sub-committees like those in Lawrence were immediately set up. The working class was as diverse in Paterson as in Lawrence and the IWW moved to unite all the various nationalities on these strike committees. The same picketing techniques were employed, but the pickets were met with far more violence than even occurred in Lawrence.

More strikers were arrested during the Paterson strike than in any other in the history of the American labor movement. During the first month, over 5000 workers were thrown in jail and yet the police were unable to keep the pickets from the factories.

IWW speakers who came to Paterson to lend support to the strike were immediately arrested. The capitalist press launched a vicious campaign with headlines which screamed "Get Haywood," in an attempt to create a vigilante atmosphere to run the IWW out of town.

Failing to drive the IWW away through violence, the employers launched a campaign to whip up patriotism among the workers, asserting that it was their patriotic duty to desert the foreign IWW and return to work "under the American flag and in the American way."

The mill owners decorated the entire city with American flags and banners, which urged workers to return to work under the slogan: "We live under the flag; we fight for this flag; and we will work under this flag." The strikers immediately countered this campaign. Each picket donned an American flag on his chest and wrote underneath it: "We wove the flag; we dyed the flag; we live under the flag; but we won't scab under the flag."

As the strike dragged on, the economic conditions of the workers and their families became desperate. At the end of the fourteenth week, the contributions which had come in from around the country to aid the strikers were gone. Nevertheless, the strikers were determined to hold out.

At this point, the idea was developed by John Reed, a young journalist who later went to Russia, became a communist and wrote *Ten Days That Shook The World* detailing the events of the Russian Revolution, that in order to gain mass support and funds for the strikers, it was necessary to publicize their cause. It was decided to hold a dramatic pageant in Madison Square Garden, called the "Pageant of Paterson Strike," and all parts would be played by the strikers themselves.

In three weeks, Reed trained over 1000 strikers to reenact scenes from the strike and he enlisted the help of many artists and performers from New York to design sets, play music, and create costumes. On the day of the pageant, thousands of strikers arrived in a 14 car train from Paterson. They marched up Fifth Avenue with red banners and with the IWW band playing the "International." The tremendous response the pageant received was described in the IWW press:

"That night, the letters, IWW, ten feet high in bright red electric lights, blazed from each side of the Madison Square tower and could be seen from miles away. Fifteen thousand persons, many who had walked from their homes, crowded the streets on every side of the block-square building. When the cheaper seats were sold out, the committee hurriedly decided to let the crowd in at a quarter apiece. The floor seats, advertised at \$1.50, were sold at the last minute for whatever they could bring, and hundreds of IWW members were let in free when they showed their red membership cards."

In spite of the tremendous support the pageant received, it failed financially because the expenses of a one night performance were simply too great. And as the summer dragged on, the strikers gradually began to return to work out of necessity. Haywood had fought so hard that, following the strike, he suffered a complete breakdown.

Thus, the tactics that had worked in Lawrence, failed in Paterson. Following this strike, the IWW underwent a tremendous decline, from which it was never to recover. Although it continued to lead battles in the Midwest and the West for a few more years, it never again was to emerge in the East.

TO BE CONTINUED

# LABOR TODAY

## The Apostles Of Corporatism

The present uncontrollable worldwide inflation is creating the conditions for a powerful movement by the working class in defense of its living standards which will bring it into direct conflict with the government.

This movement can already be seen in the wage demands being put forward by different sections of workers. Teachers in Cincinnati are on strike for an 11 percent hike. Printers at **The New York Times** and **Daily News** have refused to accept an offer based on the guidelines. Reporters at **The Washington Post** are demanding an across the board increase to \$500 per week.

Therefore, at the very time when the present system of wage and price controls are expiring, leading economists and representatives of the capitalist class are advocating more brutal methods of wage controls modelled on the corporate state setup which exists under the Brazilian military junta. In a corporate state, trade unions lose all independence and become an instrument of the state for policing workers.

A sophisticated school of corporate state theoreticians is emerging around right-wing economist Milton Friedman of the University of Chicago. His writings on the Brazilian system of controlling inflation have been praised by the **Wall Street Journal** as "absolutely dazzling."

Friedman advocates a system of government indexing for inflation. Under this scheme, the government would automatically adjust interest rates, rents, taxes, depreciation allowances, inventory estimates, and wages to correspond to the rate of inflation. Every aspect of the economy would have a government controlled escalator clause.

The heart of the Friedman proposal is that it would eliminate the right of the trade union movement to negotiate for wages, assigning this role entirely to state decision.

The trade unions would be transformed into institutions of the capitalist state whose main purpose would be to supervise and police government imposed wage dictates. This is a plan to reduce millions of workers to slaves with no rights to negotiate on wages.

When the military government took power in Brazil in 1964, inflation was soaring at nearly 100 percent. The "success" of the dictatorship in reducing inflation had nothing to do with Professor Friedman's indexes.

Starting in 1964, the dictatorship took measures to crash the economy. Through banning strikes, mass terror, and murder squads, the government created mass unemployment, drove down real wages by almost a fifth in three years, and transferred vast profits to the most powerful capitalists.

Huge numbers of peasants from rural areas were driven into the cities to work under slave conditions.

"The 'Brazilian miracle' was produced on the basis of broken unions, starving workers, and swollen profits for the capitalists. Today in Brazil, child mortality is 112 out of 1000, surpassed only by Haiti in all of Latin America.

It was in this way that Brazilian inflation was brought down to a present 15 percent rate and Friedman is not the only one to look towards Brazil.

A recent article in **The New York Times** by the chief economist of the State Street Bank and Trust Company of Boston concludes that Brazil "proves that it is possible to stay ahead of the inflationary spiral—and to grow."

That Milton Friedman is now looking towards such measures is no great surprise, but it is significant that he was anticipated by at least a year by the darling of the liberals Harvard economist John Kenneth Galbraith.

In a book entitled **Economics and the Public Purpose**, Galbraith praised Nixon's efforts at controls and advocated a system of government "planning" in which wages would be allowed to rise by government edict only in accord with rises in productivity.

Galbraith cloaked his corporate state proposals in socialist rhetoric maintaining that such control would enable the government to distribute income more equitably.

But in essence, the perspective is the same. Both liberal and conservative are advocating the destruction of the independence of the labor movement from the state and a system of state dictatorship.

Both Galbraith and Friedman are sounding the warning to the working class. The labor bureaucracy has cooperated with wage controls since 1971. Now they are proposing to deepen this collaboration with a voluntary limit on wage increases through a "social contract" with the government, opening the door to the destruction of the unions.

The only alternative to dictatorship is the fight to build a leadership in the unions committed to the complete independence of the unions from the state.

This requires a fight for the political independence of the working class through the construction of a labor party pledged to socialist principles.

by jeff sebastian

# 8000 People In Ohio Facing Starvation

BY LOUIS MILLER  
COLUMBUS, Ohio—  
More than 8000 persons here are facing starvation, according to a survey by the City-County Hunger Task Force.

The study is based on food demands made at emergency food pantries by persons who, "regardless of income, were in need because they simply don't receive enough money to live on."

The report reveals the majority of persons seeking emergency food supplies were on welfare or government pensions. Twenty-five percent had not received wages, pensions, welfare checks, and food stamps, but were eligible to do so.

Recently, **Bulletin** reporters were told by disabled Columbus

Coated Fabric workers that workmen's compensation payments had been stopped at the onset of a strike involving their union February 9. Attempts to resume payments had been futile due to governmental delay tactics.

The study shows many persons have had to go days without food, due to dwindling food supplies or requirements of the church-operated pantries.

Most pantries only provide canned goods to last three or four days. Churches also require membership and performance of cleaning duties at the church in return for food.

The number going hungry is said to represent the "tip of the iceberg." It is estimated a much greater number of affected persons are receiving food gifts from friends and neighbors or have resorted to theft.

Since the statistics were gath-

ered in November 1973, food pantries have experienced a tremendous increase in requests for food. The increase is directly attributed to a 562 percent rise in relief rolls, rising inflation, and "changes" in relief requirements.

Meanwhile, Governor John J. Gilligan, who called out National Guardsmen on striking truckers last February, has subsequently launched a campaign to reduce payments for Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) recipients.

An official of the Gilligan administration is said to have discovered a vast number of persons receiving illegally "excessive" amounts of aid.

The City-County Hunger Task Force report has found, however, ADC recipients are receiving 78 percent of the Ohio minimum standard of existence for 1969, five years ago.

# Teachers Strike Cripples Cincinnati School System

BY DAVID NORTH  
CINCINNATI, Apr. 9—  
The school system here is heading toward a complete shutdown as a result of the strike by the Cincinnati Teachers Association which began yesterday.

Nineteen schools out of 105 have already closed, and an agreement of cooperation with the Cincinnati Federation of Teachers, which is to be ratified tonight, will cripple efforts by the Board of Education to keep the schools open.

The teachers are striking in defiance of the union-busting Ferguson Law, which bans strikes by public employees in the state of Ohio.

Spokesmen for the CTA declared that the strike was necessary because of the board's refusal to make a decent wage offer and its decision to implement major layoffs this fall.

By more than a two to one margin, the teachers voted to strike and passed a resolution

which declared:

"Whereas an overwhelming majority of all Cincinnati public school teachers gave the Cincinnati Board of Education a Sunday, April 7, 1974 deadline for the completion of a master agreement, and

"Whereas the status of negotiations is not acceptable at this time, it is evident that a large number of teachers will be jobless in the fall, class rooms will be seriously overcrowded, the children in Cincinnati will receive a lower quality of education, teachers will be unilaterally transferred with no protection, the proposed increases in salary do not meet the present cost of living expenses,

"These and all other unresolved issues lead us to move that the Cincinnati public school teachers withhold all services effective this date, Monday April 8, 1974."

Harriet Russell, president of the CTA, said that the union is demanding an 11 percent wage increase for the first year of the contract as well as a reopener clause which would allow the union to negotiate additional wage increases in December to

compensate for inflation.

She also said that the board privately decided two weeks ago to eliminate several hundred jobs, and refuses to discuss any "maintenance of standards" clause.

On January 8, 1974, the CTA won the right to represent 3651 teachers in the Cincinnati school system.

Russell stated that the CTA is seeking the support of the labor movement and has already appealed to the Cincinnati Central Labor Council.

Union spokesmen stated that they were "well aware" that their wage demands were in excess of Nixon's official guidelines, but one said that it is impossible to live with the 5.5 percent figure.

# Mechanics To Strike

BY A REPORTER  
MINNEAPOLIS, Apr. 6—  
Auto mechanics and body shop men of the Minneapolis and suburban areas organized in the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 974 voted to reject the latest company offer and authorize strike action almost unanimously at a mass meeting held today.

About 1600 workers are preparing to strike some 50 auto dealers when the contract expires on April 21, if the company refuses to improve its offer. Under dispute are many issues centering on straight time rates, incentive and percentage rates, 40 hour guarantees, and the cost of living clause.

Meanwhile, the strike of the

St. Paul auto mechanics over similar issues is now entering its second week, with no new offer from representatives of the 30 auto dealers in the St. Paul area. These men, organized in Local 737 of the International Association of Machinists struck April 2.


As one worker put it to the **Bulletin**: "Our money demands are kind of complicated because of the many different ways the company figures out pay—but the main thing is the cost of living clause. Without that, anything else we get is meaningless today, the way the prices keep going up."

Another worker explained how their wages work. "We need at least \$6.50 an hour to make it at today's prices, and the most we get is \$4.75 an hour.

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midwest news

# Lordstown Men Attack Settlement

BY FRED MUELLER  
LORDSTOWN, Ohio—Workers at the Vega assembly plant are awaiting strike authorization following the local contract settlement for workers at the adjoining Fisher Body fabricating plant in the Lordstown GM complex.

The vote to accept the Fisher Body settlement was very close. Although 2000 came to the meeting, only 700 stayed long enough to vote, and the margin was extremely narrow in spite of pressure by the local and International leadership to accept.

Some workers saw no point in continuing the strike under conditions where the local and International leadership were isolating it from workers in other plants, even in the Lordstown complex itself.

## UNION

One worker at the fabricating plant told the *Bulletin*, "The company is doing fine. Our union is doing nothing. Only a few workers voted because they don't see anything happening. They don't see any change. The strike accomplished nothing. After the strike it is the same as before, except we lost six days pay."

Another worker said, "We shouldn't have gone back so soon. Nothing is changed. They settled a few things. It's only a tentative settlement. They don't want to do anything that will hurt the company."

A worker at the assembly plant expressed the feeling of the great majority of his fellow workers: "What teed me off is when they pull out the Vega plant, when the company shuts it down right after the fabricating plant goes out, the union allows the truck plant to keep working."

"They won't call out the workers at all three plants. They won't even call for all the members of Local 1112, which in-

cluded the truck plant besides the Vega plant, to stop work together.

cludes the truck plant besides the Vega plant, to stop work together.

"No one knows when we will get strike authorization. It's been six months already, and it could be another 6 months the way they're going. Right now, I'm teed off, I hate to talk about it."

Conditions at the Vega plant and throughout the complex require joint strike action, backed up by national strike action against the layoffs and speedup.

## VEGA

Sandra, a 2nd shift worker at the Vega plant, told the *Bulletin* about the company's continuing drive against absenteeism, and the attacks on health and safety conditions: "You have to get a doctor's note for everything. If your baby is sick, you must take him to the doctor and get a note whether he's sick enough to require a doctor's visit or not. Otherwise, you get a disciplinary layoff."

"One guy took off work for a funeral in his family, and he couldn't get enough proof. They demanded a letter from the funeral director that he had attended the funeral, and they fired him for absenteeism."

## HOSPITAL

"One worker was sent to the hospital at the plant when he complained of not feeling well. They sent him right back to the line. He fainted and was taken back to the hospital. He fell face down on the ramp, instead of between the cars. Those cars don't stop—if he had fallen between them, he could have been killed."

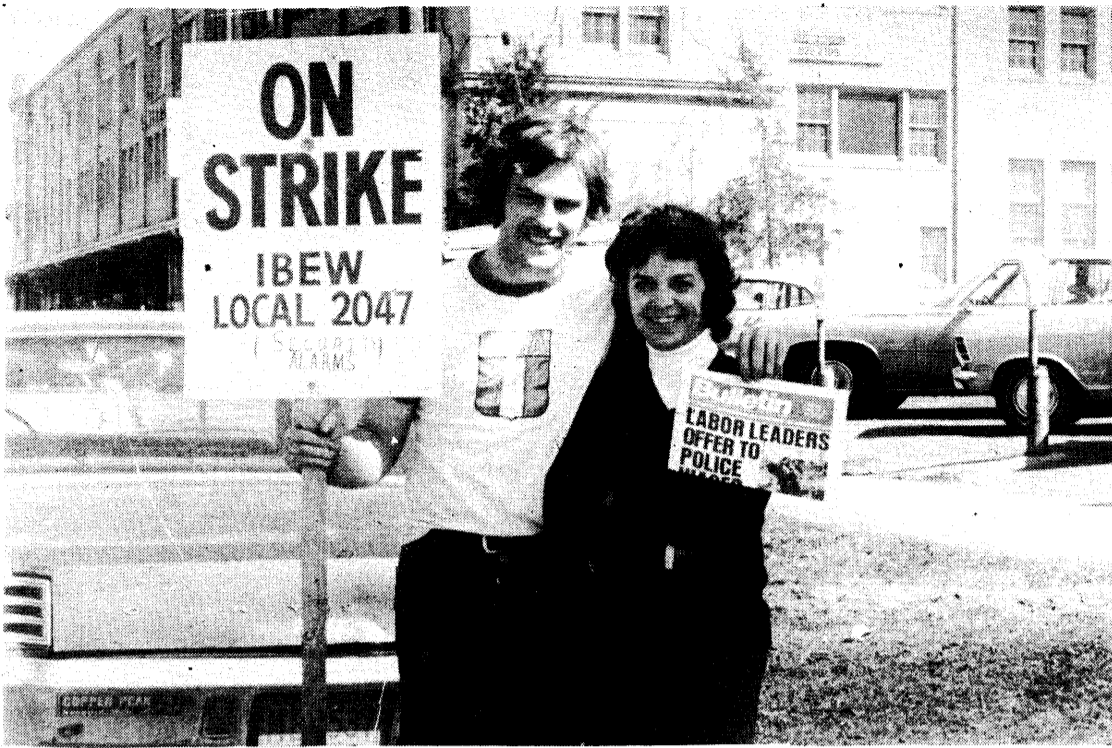
The ranks of Local 1122 have already begun a fight to get the strike authorization. This must be extended to a fight for a national auto strike and the building of a labor party to force Nixon out, to re-open the contract against inflation, layoffs and speed-up.

## TUALP

The Dayton Auto Conference of the Trade Union Alliance for a Labor Party took action on all these issues facing the Lordstown workers—the compulsory overtime with 9-hour shifts at the Fisher Body plant, the speed-up and harassment, the skyrocketing inflation, and the threat of layoffs spreading through the rest of industry and the economy.

The fight against these attacks must be linked to the fight against Nixon. On every issue, auto workers are facing the government of big business, which must be brought down through strike action and the building of a labor party.

A report-back meeting on the Auto Conference is being held by the Workers League and the Trade Union Alliance for a Labor Party, on April 17 in Youngstown, to take this fight forward.



The strike against Security Alarm in Minneapolis has entered its third week.

# AIM Charges New FBI Wiretapping

BY JEAN BRUST

Henry Peterson, assistant attorney general in charge of the Justice Department's criminal division, was subpoenaed to testify in a hearing on the Wounded Knee case by Federal Judge Fred Nichols today.

Along with Peterson, subpoenas were issued to Carl Blecher, chief of the criminal division of the Justice Department, W. Mark Felt, former acting second-in-command of the FBI, plus two top FBI agents, Roy Moore, chief of the Jackson, Mississippi FBI Bureau who was in command of FBI agents in Wounded Knee during the occupation last year, and Joseph Trimbach, head of the Minneapolis office of the FBI who was in charge at the start of the occupation.

The recess in the jury trial of

Russell Means and Dennis Banks is now in its third week, as Judge Nichols conducts hearings on the Defense motion to dismiss the case due to an illegal wire tap and also to government misconduct. The hearings were originally scheduled to last three days, but each day has brought new and more startling evidence confirming the police state methods used by the government to try to break AIM.

Evidence of the wiretap mounted as M. Joe Pourier, whose life has already been threatened by goon squads on the reservation because of his testimony, revealed Friday that he had personally given a key to the main telephone office on the Pine Ridge reservation to the head US Marshall, Tommy Hudson. Since this means the government had access to the switchboard, they probably were monitoring every telephone on

the reservation, not only the one in the Wounded Knee Trading Post.

In the face of this mounting evidence, Trimbach still insists he knew nothing of any monitoring of phones. As Kenneth Tilsen, one of the defense attorneys stated, "This hearing should end with Joseph Trimbach in prison. He has already been caught at three separate instances of perjury before this court."

In the meantime Dennis Banks and Russell Means have been excused from court during the hearings, and have been traveling trying to get the news of what has been going on in the St. Paul court house into the news media outside of the Twin City area. There has been almost a complete blackout of all news since the first few days of the trial, in spite of the astounding Watergate type revelations that are being uncovered each day.

# United Rubber Workers Shut Down Plant In Dayton

BY JOHN WERNER

DAYTON—1400 Dayton Tire and Rubber workers, members of Local 178 of the URW (United Rubber Workers) struck the company Sunday night.

Local President Robert C. Yates has not revealed what the union's wage demands are.

When the *Bulletin* reporter went into the local headquarters and asked a member of the negotiating committee what the demands were, he was told that "all questions had to be directed at the Federal mediator."

## RATES

There is a massive attack by the company on the piece work rates of the workers. The company has computerized to push work standards way up so that workers can't make out. One worker stated that through the computers "They are trying to make robots out of us."

The Tire room and East Tuber (auto) workers are now on computers. They have had their pay cut between \$1.50 and \$2.00 an hour and they are working harder than ever. One worker said "the overall goal is 133 percent of normal for the whole

plant."

The truck tire builders and the Banbury, where the raw rubber is mixed and made into tread rubber, have been cut. "Computers have killed them. They sent a hatchet man in and he's done a job. The company's absorbed all the lost earnings," one worker stated. "The East Tread Tuber, the passenger tire department and right on down the line, like a tidal wave taking its

# UAW Opens Aerospace Conference

BY JOHN DUNN

ST. LOUIS, April 9—

Leonard Woodcock, president of the United Auto Workers is in town for a three day National Aerospace Conference with representatives from across the country outlining bargaining objectives for the industry.

Woodcock said, "We're taking a look at the question of wages, with this rampant inflation."

He was quoted earlier as

toll, have had their wages cut."

The workers make clear that the union leadership have been prostrate before this massive attack on the tire workers' pay and working conditions. Moreover the leadership won't take up the wage fight posed by 10 to 15 percent inflation. What is needed is an all-out drive for a 15 percent wage hike and a restoration of the pre-computer piecework rates and working conditions.

saying he doesn't intend to make the wage package inflationary. What he is saying is that he doesn't intend to fight for pay increases that will keep up with inflation, as the national auto contracts bear out.

On a radio talk program on Monday evening Woodcock said: "There have been over 100,000 indefinite layoffs in auto. There is a 14.7 percent unemployment rate and there were 202,000 less jobs in March than in July of last year."

The massive General Motors plant here which has 2000 workers on indefinite layoffs is implementing speedups on the Corvette line from seven cars an hour to 10 cars an hour and has

**FILM**

by Collette Windsor

**The Conversation**

The *Conversation*, produced and directed by Francis Ford Coppola is a boring film whose only interesting feature is a glimpse into the world of electronic surveillance, through the experiences of Harry Caul, the top man on the West Coast.

A young couple has a conversation at lunchtime in a crowded public square complete with a band playing blues songs. Harry Caul will earn himself \$15,000 for recording that one conversation.

**Three Tapes**

Caul gets his three tapes through the use of a variety of devices, the most spectacular being something that erases all noises but the pitch of the hu-



Gene Hackman as Harry Caul in the process of eavesdropping.

man voice.

During the erasing and blending of the tapes, Caul's assistant wants to know who the people are and why anybody would be interested in them since the conversation is banal with the exception of two phrases. Caul in angered and responds that he's doing his job, and it doesn't matter who they are or why they are being investigated.

But there is something in the girl's voice when she says "We're not hurting anybody" and her companion's comment "He'd kill us if he got the chance" that gets under Harry's skin.

**Reasons**

His reasons for pursuing the case are not to stop anything from happening but merely to know the outcome. The question of just who these people are is the heart of the plot but the film's momentum is so labored, no one really cares but Caul.

Harry's a middle class man, going past forty, living by himself and playing his saxophone to relax: the little guy who does the dirty work for the bigger guys. And as long as he didn't ask questions he did all right. His personal reasons for getting involved are gone into in great length but they are superfluous. He gets involved in the case and is ruined.

While Gene Hackman's characterization captures Caul with fine detail, nothing else in the

film is done well. The camera goes from prolonged scans of rooms and offices to arty shots of modern building ramps, adding to the boredom of the plot. Hackman can project the personality of Caul but through no fault of his own, he cannot project the tension that should have pervaded the film, but simply wasn't there.

An interesting sidelight is a convention of people and manufacturing companies involved in surveillance. It is here that the staggering quantity and tremendous technological quality of bugging equipment is to be seen. Thus the film becomes a vehicle for showing off electronic gadgetry.

The *Conversation* attempts to pass off surveillance as just an-

other job, a field, as the convention scenes reveal, inhabited by the same sort of slimy sales and business people found in any other field.

**False Approach**

This is a completely false approach, for the people really involved are experts, employed mainly by the government, a fact which the film carefully avoids. The boast of Caul's acquaintance, that twelve years before he had bugged every move and phone call of a presidential candidate of a major party who subsequently lost the race is the only political reference made.

While funds for medical and beneficial scientific research have been cut there is no doubt that in the field of electronic surveillance, listed under 'national security', ample funds are being provided.

Though liberals may be offended at the lack of concern *The Conversation* shows for the rights of the individual supposedly guaranteed by the Constitution, the hard fact remains that the techniques and sophisticated equipment used to monitor a lover's conversation in the film are the same techniques used by this government today to spy on trade unions and other working class organizations, revealing the fear and the paranoid instability of Nixon's government faced with workers prepared to defend all their rights as a class.

# Chavez, Meany Plan Boycott

**BY SHEILA BREHM**  
Farmworkers' leader Cesar Chavez and AFL-CIO head George Meany announced that the results of their joint talks in Washington will be the AFL-CIO's support of a boycott of California table grapes and lettuce not harvested by the United Farmworkers of America. In return, the UFW has agreed to end their nationwide boycott of Safeway stores and other unionized retail markets.

Although Chavez hailed the agreement as a major victory, in reality the AFL-CIO's support is no support at all. It is a retreat and diversion from mobilizing the tremendous power of the labor movement to smash the strikebreaking efforts of the growers and the Nixon government. The agreement is a warning to every farm worker that Chavez is planning to use the boycott as a substitute for a strike in the fields this summer, and such a retreat could completely demolish the union.

Meany's support consists of urging the "entire AFL-CIO membership to rally behind the farm workers and support the boycott as they did in the GE and Farah boycotts to win justice for those workers."

Only a few weeks ago 13 farm workers were arrested in the Coachella Valley for picketing. The union has been hit with massive arrests through the years, as well as court injunctions, beatings by hired Teamster goons, and the murder of two farm workers in the fields last year.

**CHAVEZ**

After the arrest of the 13 workers, Chavez said that the UFW would "kick the Teamsters out of the fields and not give up strike action."

However, in the face of a virtual civil war in the fields, Chavez has chosen to cling to the road of protest, the boycott, and to this day maintains ties with the Democratic Party. Spokesmen for the UFW continue to hold out the illusion that the boycott has been effective, but in reality the growers have not moved an inch. The boycott has achieved nothing for the farm workers, and nearly all their contracts have been lost.

The boycott has cost the farm workers its membership which now stands at 10,000 compared to a peak of 50,000.

**ORGANIZING**

In the early years of the farm workers' organizing drive in the 1960s, it was the action of longshoremen refusing to handle scab grapes and the huge determination of the strikers in the fields that won the gains of the union. But today, the agriculture magnates can no longer afford to give any concessions; they are bent on destroying the



Cesar Chavez, President, United Farm Workers of America.

union in order to defend their vast profits.

**TRADE WAR**

Agriculture, which is California's number one industry, is being used in Nixon's trade war with Europe to drive down European agriculture with cheap American produce. In this plan, there is no room for unions, decent wages or decent working conditions.

The agreement reached by

Meany and Chavez is treacherous because the boycott is a dead end. Because of the crisis of capitalism the growers cannot be pressured to give in. Farm workers must demand that Chavez call for real support from the trade union movement, to carry on the strike in the fields and to demand that the AFL-CIO go on the offensive to bring the union-busting Nixon government down and replace it with a labor party.

# Bethlehem Shuts Richmond Plant

**BY TED BAKER**  
RICHMOND, Calif.—160 members of United Steel Workers of America are out of work because of the closure of Bethlehem Steel's Pt. Pinole galvanizing plant. According to Bethlehem, the closure will not affect other Bethlehem operations on the West Coast, including the Pt. Pinole fabricating plant.

An official of Bethlehem told the *Bulletin* the plant closed because it was unprofitable.

**PRODUCTION**

He admitted that Bethlehem plans to concentrate steel production facilities in the East and Midwest. All plans for improvements and additions in the West have been dropped. This, along with the fact that the Pt. Pinole plant was 10 years old, but still was considered unprofitable, casts tremendous doubt on Bethlehem's official pronouncements.

The leadership of the USWA has accepted the layoffs at Bethlehem, and in fact is assisting the company in carrying them out.

A USWA staff representative, for the Pt. Pinole plant, told the *Bulletin*: "Both the union and the company are cooperating to the fullest extent to attempt to find jobs for those laid off. That's really all we can do." He admitted "the employment picture is not too bright. In fact, it's pretty damn rough."

**SKILLED**

Out of 160 men laid off, only 24 have found other jobs at Bethlehem's plant. These were all skilled tradesmen. Many of the rest did not even receive severance pay because they lacked the required seniority.

Originally, Bethlehem had planned to build a huge steel complex at the Pt. Pinole site, including two rolling mills, fabricating, galvanizing and other processing plants. But all Bethlehem's expansion plans on the West Coast were dropped in the late 1960s because of Japanese competition. Only the fabricating and galvanizing plants were built at Pt. Pinole.

**BUILD**

Since the devaluation of the dollar, Bethlehem has been able to compete with the Japanese in West Coast markets. Despite this, there are no plans to build the complex once planned for Richmond. On the contrary, the closure of the galvanizing line at Pt. Pinole may only be the first of many closures of Bethlehem's plants on the West Coast.



Member of IBEW Local 1969 striking Lenkurt Electronics for 25 percent wage increase over two years.

## Mass Pickets Shut Electronics Plant

BY ALLEN SALTER

SAN CARLOS, Calif.—1600 members of Local 1969 of the IBEW struck Lenkurt's Electronics in San Carlos at midnight Friday, April 5. Mass picketing by over 600 workers has taken place each morning since the strike began. Workers voted 94 percent against the company's latest offer.

The IBEW is demanding a 25 percent increase over two years, paid sick leave, a dental plan and a two-year contract. A union representative said a three-year contract, which is what just expired, would be completely unacceptable because of inflation. The average wage of a production worker is only \$3.80 an hour.

### SUBSIDIARY

Lenkurt is just one of several subsidiaries of General Telephone and Electronics, a billion

## Bankrupt BART May Close July 1

BY MARTY MORAN

OAKLAND, Calif.—The Bay Area Rapid Transit System (BART) may close July 1, it was announced last week by BART general manager B.R. Stokes.

"There is the possibility that a federal grant may let us operate another month or two beyond July," said William Goela, director of finance.

The \$1.6 billion train system only opened in the East Bay one and a half years ago and in San Francisco only six months ago. The tube under the Bay connecting Oakland and San Francisco has never been completed.

Sales taxes financing construction of BART will be lifted soon and no provision has been made to subsidize the huge operating losses, which would total \$100 million over the next several years.

Paul Varacalli, head of Local

dollar corporation almost the size of ITT. Lenkurt produces communications systems for government contracts. They have offered the union a 94 percent increase over 3 years with no dental plan or sick leave pay and a cost-of-living with a ceiling of 6 cents a year.

The last strike at Lenkurt took place in 1968 and lasted 11 weeks. A picket captain told the Bulletin: "Things are a lot different now because we have younger employees. The last contract after the strike was not much different from what the company originally offered, and we sure regretted it. We're not going to go through that again. Not with this inflation."

### EMPLOYEES

There are a total of 3000 employees at the San Carlos plant. Almost 1000 are management and salaried personnel. The IAM workers at Lenkurt are honoring the picket lines as are Teamster drivers who have refused to drive supplies across the picket line.

390, United Public Employees, which represents the bulk of BART's 1200 workers, told the Bulletin: "They're playing games. It's just a matter of which month. It looks very bad. We have a 'reduction in force' clause which requires use of seniority on layoffs, but there is no unemployment insurance." Employees of government agencies are not eligible for unemployment compensation in California.

Varacalli said the union could do nothing about the impending layoffs except appeal for an extension of the sales tax.

BART management is clearly preparing to let the system collapse. Two weeks ago it was revealed that the \$30 million insurance policy covering errors and omissions in the design had been allowed to lapse.

The next contract negotiating meeting has been scheduled for April 11. As it looks now the union says it is "getting prepared for a long strike."

## Armed Sniper Squad In Hearst, SLA Manhunt

BY ANN LORE

SAN FRANCISCO—Attorney General William Saxbe said today that the "lid is off the kidnapping" and he expects the FBI to get some results now in "cracking the kidnapping" of Patricia Hearst.

The day after Patricia Hearst announced she was joining the Symbionese Liberation Army, California police declared they were combing the Bay Area with the assistance of Green Beret snipers armed with high-powered rifles.

It is clear that the totally unsubstantiated claims by all sorts of self-proclaimed "experts" on the SLA that Patricia Hearst is already dead are providing the FBI with an alibi to prepare a shoot-out with the SLA and deliberately kill her.

### SAXBE

Saxbe has been waiting for a go-ahead for two months to "go get her." That go-ahead has obviously been given after the most recent tape was received from the Symbionese Liberation Army. It contained a statement from Patricia that she was renouncing her former life and has chosen to become a revolutionary fighter with the SLA.

Her statement contained a blazing indictment of the viciousness of the capitalists

west coast news

# Pineapple Workers Join Sugar Strike

BY BARRY GREY

HAWAII—The strike by 9000 sugar workers, members of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union (ILWU), has now been joined by 6000 ILWU pineapple workers.

The pineapple workers joined the sugar workers on Sunday, April 7, almost a month after the sugar workers went out on strike. This combined strike has virtually paralyzed the economy of Hawaii, which is based on these two crops.

The ILWU has enormous power over the Hawaiian economy. It organizes the tourist trade and above all the docks.

The sugar harvest extends through June and July, and pineapple is harvested shortly afterward.

The central issue in both

strikes is job security. The pineapple companies have announced their intention to move their operations out of Hawaii to the Philippines and Thailand, where labor is non-union.

The sugar companies are planning rationalizing operations that will eliminate many jobs. The companies have refused to negotiate on the question of layoffs.

The union has taken the position that until the companies agree to no layoffs for the life of the contract, negotiations will not be resumed.

Before the pineapple workers went out, 200 ILWU members at the Dole can plant joined the striking sugar workers.

In the most recent issue of the Dispatcher, Bridges wrote in his "On the Beam" column: "In my opinion the sugar workers in Hawaii have won their strike and won it hands down. Now it's just a matter of the employers recognizing the fact."

Bridges is deliberately seeking to bring in complacency rather than bring out the longshorement to shut down the island.

who will defend their money and power above all else. Everyone is now proceeding on the premise that she is either dead or has been brainwashed.

There has been a great deal of speculation on the process of "brainwashing" which might have been used against Hearst's daughter. Hearst's paper, the San Francisco Examiner, contains an open attack on communism, saying that brainwashing is "the process...honed by constant usage throughout the Communist world," implying that the only way any worker or youth would renounce capitalism and become a communist would have to be through brainwashing.

The Hearst family have now given up on their daughter and have gone to Mexico for a "rest." This was immediately interpreted by Saxbe and the FBI as proving that they were no longer waiting for her return. Hearst said that he had proceeded during the past two months in the belief that he could deal with the SLA for his daughter's release.

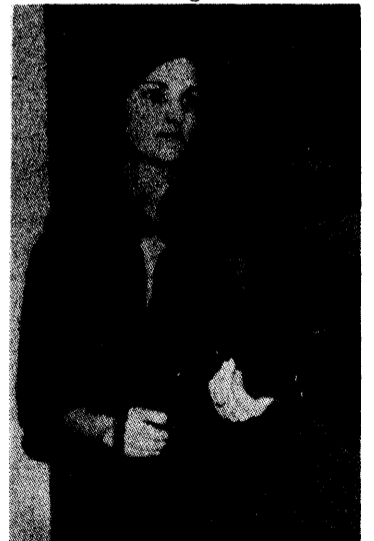
### WORD

"I guessed wrong on the SLA all along. I thought they were going to keep their word and they didn't." He said he is sure she has been brainwashed and that neither he nor the three escrow directors of the \$4 million food fund are going to release anything until she is returned to her family unharmed.

Assisting in the witch-hunt of the SLA are statements recently released by several radicals. Vincent Hallinan an attorney who has had a long association

with the Communist Party and defended many radicals, said, "I have serious concern Patricia Hearst is dead."

Hallinan was named by Randolph Hearst as one of three trustees of a \$4 million escrow for continuing the People In Need (PIN) Program.



Patricia Hearst

Hallinan said he could not believe that Patricia has voluntarily agreed to stay with the SLA.

Hallinan and also Dennis Banks, leader of the American Indian Movement, (AIM) are asking the SLA to contact them to work out possible meetings with Patricia to ascertain that she is alive.

The latest documents from the SLA were sent to John Bryan, editor of the San Francisco Phoenix. He turned them over to Hallinan for safekeeping. Immediately, the FBI came in and seized them from Hallinan on the grounds that they may contain clues.

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

# lucha obrera

lucía rivera

## Nixon Se Inclina Al Modelo Brasileño

Internacionalmente la clase capitalista ha llevado la política de inflación para destruir el nivel de vida alcanzado por millones de trabajadores. Solamente en el mes de marzo los precios han aumentado cerca de un 16 por ciento.

La negativa de las grandes corporaciones de producir mercancías o de extraer del suelo materia prima es basado en la crisis económica, debido a que el valor real del papel moneda es desconocido. Ellos no van a invertir su capital cuando el dólar es constantemente devaluado y no hay otra moneda que pueda reemplazarlo.

Es por esto que existe una carestía de petróleo, acero, cobre y de todos aquellos productos que dependen de estos anteriores para su producción, como los plásticos, fibras, químicos y medicinas. A la misma vez las grandes corporaciones utilizan esta carencia de materias primas para bajar su producción causando esto el despido masivo de trabajadores.

El poder de adquisición de los trabajadores ha disminuido en un 12 por ciento por primera vez en tres décadas. Nixon y las grandes corporaciones han mantenido los aumentos salariales en un 5.5 por ciento.

Es esta situación inflacionaria la que ha traído un poderoso movimiento de la clase obrera a escala internacional. Es este movimiento de la clase obrera la que ha causado una crisis política en cada país capitalista.

La derrota del gobierno conservador en Inglaterra (tory) en las pasadas elecciones de febrero, y la inhabilidad de los laborales de controlar a la clase obrera es una clara expresión de esta crisis política.

El escándalo de Watergate representa la preparación de Nixon y los militares en contra del movimiento de los trabajadores. Watergate revela los acuerdos secretos de este gobierno con las grandes corporaciones en alzar los precios para aumentar las ganancias de estas compañías.

Frente a la fortaleza de la clase obrera, la clase capitalista trata de destruir todos los derechos democráticos. Es por esto que en esta época miran hacia la dictadura militar en Brazil.

Desde el golpe de estado en el 1964 en Brazil, los capitalistas norteamericanos han colaborado cercanamente con los militares para mantener un gobierno de terror.

Cuando el régimen militar llegó al poder en el 1964, tomó medidas para controlar la economía, la inflación era de un 100 por ciento. Fue a través del terror masivo, los escuadrones de la muerte, (estos han asesinado a miles de opositores al gobierno y de jóvenes militantes) y el desempleo masivo de que les fue posible mantener la inflación en un 15 por ciento.

Los salarios de los trabajadores fueron reducidos en ciertos casos hasta el treinta por ciento. El derecho de negociar un contrato por las uniones fue destruido. Esto ha significado el empobrecimiento de millones de trabajadores y campesinos. Por cada 1000 niños que nacen cerca de 112 niños mueren, este es el porcentaje más alto en Latinoamérica sobrepasado solamente por Haiti.

Prominentes economistas norteamericanos como Friedman y Galbraith estan proponiendo un sistema bajo el cual el gobierno pueda rastrear el nivel de la inflación. Bajo este sistema el gobierno podría ajustar automaticamente las rentas, los impuestos y los salarios correspondiendo al nivel de inflación.

Esto requeriría que las uniones sean corporadas al estado y que todos aquellos derechos de negociar condiciones de trabajo, salarios y otros beneficios sean destruidos.

Siendo la producción capitalista basada en las ganancias que pueden sacar los productores, los controles de precios no se pueden limitar por ordenanzas gubernamentales. La carestía del petróleo señala que estas grandes corporaciones no han de producir si no obtienen vastas ganancias, y que por otro lado aumentarían los precios de las mercancías.

El precio de la inflación recaerá en los trabajadores para que paguen por la crisis económica. La burocracia sindical no ha echo nada en contra de los controles salariales impuesto por Nixon en el 1971.

Ellos han cooperados con cuanta medida el gobierno ha pasado en contra de los sindicatos. Han rehusado tomar acción en contra de este gobierno que ha sido expuesto en sus planes para destruir los derechos de los trabajadores.

Estos líderes sindicales al igual que las grandes corporaciones estan de acuerdo que es el salario de los trabajadores el responsable de la inflación. La construcción de un liderato revolucionario en las uniones es una tarea de urgencia en contra de las traiciones de estos burocratas.

Es a través de la independencia política de la clase obrera, la construcción de un partido obrero en que se puede presentar una alternativa en contra de los planes de dictadura y de la incorporación de las uniones al estado.

La Conferencia de la Juventud Socialista en mayo será un paso de suma importancia para preparar un liderato en las uniones y comunidades en contra de los planes del gobierno.

# Opposition Grows To No-Strike Deal

BY A REPORTER  
YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio—The I.W. Abel bureaucracy of the United Steel Workers of America is racing against a Monday deadline to ram through a new three year pact with the ten largest steel producers.

"Awfully close" to agreement is the way industry sources describe the negotiations.

Although the present contract does not expire until August 1, Abel's "Experimental Negotiating Agreement" calls for all issues not resolved by Monday to be submitted to arbitration.

Under the ENA the steel leadership has given up the right to strike in exchange for early negotiations, a guaranteed minimum three percent raise in the first year and a one-time \$150 bonus.

Abel's haste is dictated by his fear of the enormous opposition to his no-strike agreement among the rank and file. He hopes to nail down the agreement and convene the Basic Steel Industry Conference, consisting largely of local bureaucrats, for approval.

### BIG TEN

The 350,000 workers employed by the Big Ten have absolutely no vote on the contract under the USWA constitution.

"It will be pretty much the Aluminum Company of America deal," an industry spokesman declared.

The aluminum contract provided for a wage increase of 61 cents or about 13 percent over 40 months. It also agrees to a cost of living escalator on pensions and some small improvements in the old cost of living escalator which will compensate steel workers for less than half of any inflationary rise in the cost of living. In addition, the USWA leadership volunteers its cooperation in an industry wide productivity drive which threatens the jobs of tens of thousands of steel workers.

### EXPLODE

With inflation now well over 10 percent and prices on basic necessities such as food expected to explode by the summer, the Abel pact is a formula for massive wage cuts and unemployment throughout the industry.

The Bulletin spoke with a number of steel workers in the Youngstown area about the contract.

Tommie Sprowel of the US Steel McDonald plant told us: "If there is this kind of settlement, it doesn't really surprise me. This no-strike agreement doesn't give us any rights at all. If the majority of the steel workers are against this, it doesn't make any difference. They gave away our right to strike without asking us, and they will try to make us take this settlement without asking us, too."

"When the workers hear about this settlement, they are not going to like it. We have to do something before we have nothing left at all."

Larry Speed, US Steel, said: "This raise will be nothing with the rise in the cost of living. The

big argument for the no-strike pact was that the company couldn't stockpile. But look where we are. With all the increases, our wages buy less than a few years ago.

"It's the same thing with Nixon. There's one law for them, and one for us. Here in Youngstown, the Isaly-Daly Company owed a \$68,000 water bill. They still haven't paid, but nothing happened. But if I didn't pay an \$8 bill, they would shut off my water right away. You don't only have Watergate in Washington, but right down the line. County, city, state—it's the same thing all over, and it didn't start with Nixon. He got caught."

A worker from Youngstown Sheet & Tube said, "Steel workers are behind the workers in GM and in Packard Electric on wages, pensions, and medical benefits. We have to have the right to strike."

"It's hard to see what can be done about it, besides voting for a new leadership against Abel. But if everybody united against him, we might be able to do something. If all the steel workers demanded a special election, maybe we could get rid of Abel."

A worker from the Campbell works of Youngstown Sheet & Tube, Local 2163, told the Bulletin:

"If the auto workers and the coal miners can fight for their demands, then we should be able to strike just like them. If the workers at GM and in the mines have problems, so do we."

### LEADERSHIP

"We have to seize the leadership of this union. We need that. 'With who' and 'what,' is a question that many of us have just started thinking about."

The Trade Union Alliance for a Labor Party is fighting to turn the opposition developing in every plant to the construction of a leadership committed to the abolition of the productivity deals and the ENA.

The fight in steel must be taken forward in every local with resolutions rejecting this contract and demanding strike action to win a \$2 an hour increase with a 100 percent cost of living escalator.

This struggle in steel means an all-out confrontation with the government which is modelling its plans to control all wages on the guidelines set by the Abel bureaucracy. Such a political struggle can only be taken forward with the fight to build a labor party committee to the nationalization of the steel industry under workers control.



Campbell Works of Youngstown Sheet and Tube Mill.

## Bulletin 10th Anniversary Fund

We have received \$2259.27 this week towards the Tenth Anniversary Bulletin Fund for \$50,000, bringing our grand total to \$18,081.32.

We need \$14,740 or \$5000 per week, to bring us to the two-thirds goal of \$33,000 by April 30.

The \$7496 raised the last week of March shows that this can be done.

East Flatbush and the Lower East Side are off to a good start, with successful parties raising \$62 and \$75 each. St. Louis West raised over \$100 in one week, and Detroit came close to that with \$96.50.

Every branch must go all-out now to raise the \$5000 we need by next week.

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Los salarios de los trabajadores fueron reducidos en ciertos casos hasta el treinta por ciento. El derecho de negociar un contrato por las uniones fue destruido. Esto ha significado el empobrecimiento de millones de trabajadores y campesinos. Por cada 1000 niños que nacen cerca de 112 niños mueren, este es el porcentaje más alto en Latinoamérica sobrepasado solamente por Haiti.

Prominentes economistas norteamericanos como Friedman y Galbraith estan proponiendo un sistema bajo el cual el gobierno pueda rastrear el nivel de la inflación. Bajo este sistema el gobierno podría ajustar automaticamente las rentas, los impuestos y los salarios correspondiendo al nivel de inflación.

Esto requeriría que las uniones sean corporadas al estado y que todos aquellos derechos de negociar condiciones de trabajo, salarios y otros beneficios sean destruidos.

Siendo la producción capitalista basada en las ganancias que pueden sacar los productores, los controles de precios no se pueden limitar por ordenanzas gubernamentales. La carestía del petróleo señala que estas grandes corporaciones no han de producir si no obtienen vastas ganancias, y que por otro lado aumentarían los precios de las mercancías.

El precio de la inflación recaerá en los trabajadores para que paguen por la crisis económica. La burocracia sindical no ha echo nada en contra de los controles salariales impuesto por Nixon en el 1971.

Ellos han cooperados con cuanta medida el gobierno ha pasado en contra de los sindicatos. Han rehusado tomar acción en contra de este gobierno que ha sido expuesto en sus planes para destruir los derechos de los trabajadores.

Estos líderes sindicales al igual que las grandes corporaciones estan de acuerdo que es el salario de los trabajadores el responsable de la inflación. La construcción de un liderato revolucionario en las uniones es una tarea de urgencia en contra de las traiciones de estos burocratas.

Es a través de la independencia política de la clase obrera, la construcción de un partido obrero en que se puede presentar una alternativa en contra de los planes de dictadura y de la incorporación de las uniones al estado.

La Conferencia de la Juventud Socialista en mayo será un paso de suma importancia para preparar un liderato en las uniones y comunidades en contra de los planes del gobierno.

# Opposition Grows To No-Strike Deal

**BY A REPORTER  
YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio**  
—The I.W. Abel bureaucracy of the United Steel Workers of America is racing against a Monday deadline to ram through a new three year pact with the ten largest steel producers.

"Awfully close" to agreement is the way industry sources describe the negotiations.

Although the present contract does not expire until August 1, Abel's "Experimental Negotiating Agreement" calls for all issues not resolved by Monday to be submitted to arbitration.

Under the ENA the steel leadership has given up the right to strike in exchange for early negotiations, a guaranteed minimum three percent raise in the first year and a one-time \$150 bonus.

Abel's haste is dictated by his fear of the enormous opposition to his no-strike agreement among the rank and file. He hopes to nail down the agreement and convene the Basic Steel Industry Conference, consisting largely of local bureaucrats, for approval.

### BIG TEN

The 350,000 workers employed by the Big Ten have absolutely no vote on the contract under the USWA constitution.

"It will be pretty much the Aluminum Company of America deal," an industry spokesman declared.

The aluminum contract provided for a wage increase of 61 cents or about 13 percent over 40 months. It also agrees to a cost of living escalator on pensions and some small improvements in the old cost of living escalator which will compensate steel workers for less than half of any inflationary rise in the cost of living. In addition, the USWA leadership volunteers its cooperation in an industry wide productivity drive which threatens the jobs of tens of thousands of steel workers.

### EXPLODE

With inflation now well over 10 percent and prices on basic necessities such as food expected to explode by the summer, the Abel pact is a formula for massive wage cuts and unemployment throughout the industry.

The **Bulletin** spoke with a number of steel workers in the Youngstown area about the contract.

Tommie Sprowel of the US Steel McDonald plant told us: "If there is this kind of settlement, it doesn't really surprise me. This no-strike agreement doesn't give us any rights at all. If the majority of the steel workers are against this, it doesn't make any difference. They gave away our right to strike without asking us, and they will try to make us take this settlement without asking us, too."

"When the workers hear about this settlement, they are not going to like it. We have to do something before we have nothing left at all."

Larry Speed, US Steel, said: "This raise will be nothing with the rise in the cost of living. The

big argument for the no-strike pact was that the company couldn't stockpile. But look where we are. With all the increases, our wages buy less than a few years ago.

"It's the same thing with Nixon. There's one law for them, and one for us. Here in Youngstown, the Isaly-Daly Company owed a \$68,000 water bill. They still haven't paid, but nothing happened. But if I didn't pay an \$8 bill, they would shut off my water right away. You don't only have Watergate in Washington, but right down the line. County, city, state—it's the same thing all over, and it didn't start with Nixon. He got caught."

A worker from Youngstown Sheet & Tube said, "Steel workers are behind the workers in GM and in Packard Electric on wages, pensions, and medical benefits. We have to have the right to strike."

"It's hard to see what can be done about it, besides voting for a new leadership against Abel. But if everybody united against him, we might be able to do something. If all the steel workers demanded a special election, maybe we could get rid of Abel."

A worker from the Campbell works of Youngstown Sheet & Tube, Local 2163, told the **Bulle-**

**tin:** "If the auto workers and the coal miners can fight for their demands, then we should be able to strike just like them. If the workers at GM and in the mines have problems, so do we."

### LEADERSHIP

"We have to seize the leadership of this union. We need that. 'With who' and 'what,' is a question that many of us have just started thinking about."

The Trade Union Alliance for a Labor Party is fighting to turn the opposition developing in every plant to the construction of a leadership committed to the abolition of the productivity deals and the ENA.

The fight in steel must be taken forward in every local with resolutions rejecting this contract and demanding strike action to win a \$2 an hour increase with a 100 percent cost of living escalator.

This struggle in steel means an all-out confrontation with the government which is modelling its plans to control all wages on the guidelines set by the Abel bureaucracy. Such a political struggle can only be taken forward with the fight to build a labor party committee to the nationalization of the steel industry under workers control.



Campbell Works of Youngstown Sheet and Tube Mill.

## Bulletin 10th Anniversary Fund

We have received \$2259.27 this week towards the Tenth Anniversary Bulletin Fund for \$50,000, bringing our grand total to \$18,081.32.

We need \$14,740 or \$5000 per week, to bring us to the two-thirds goal of \$33,000 by April 30.

The \$7496 raised the last week of March shows that this can be done.

East Flatbush and the Lower East Side are off to a good start, with successful parties raising \$62 and \$75 each. St. Louis West raised over \$100 in one week, and Detroit came close to that with \$96.50.

Every branch must go all-out now to raise the \$5000 we need by next week.

subscribe now to the twice-weekly!

# Bulletin

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