

Socialist Worker

Paper of the International Socialist Organization
25¢ monthly



SEABROOK REPORT: SEE PAGE 6

JUNE 1980



NUMBER 38



Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses... unless they are Haitians, or Cubans who get uppity.

See page 8 for an analysis of the Cuban refugee crisis.



CARTER VS. REAGAN: NO CHOICE!



The primaries are over. Carter and Reagan are the candidates.

Kennedy's victories in California and New Jersey will help him in the fight for the spoils at the convention. But his loss in Ohio shows that he has been unable to convince the majority of working people in this country, particularly the unemployed and the victims of factory closings, that he has a real alternative to Carter.

At the same time, a new Harris Poll shows that at the height of the primaries, more Americans feel powerless and alienated than at any time since the surveys began in 1966.

Sixty-two per cent feel disaffected. Among Blacks the nationwide report showed seventy-one per cent feel powerless. This is higher than in 1968 and 1969 when Black alienation averaged 46%.

POORER

Seventy-eight per cent feel "the rich get richer and the poor get poorer." And eighty-four per cent hold the view that "special interests get more from the government than the people do."

These facts, and the obvious lack of interest in the elections, are very important. But they will mean nothing unless increasing numbers of "alienated" working people can be convinced that there is an alternative.

And that alternative is not the endless search for a better candidate come November.

We must convince people that the alternative must be rebuilding a socialist movement that fights everyday for the rights and interests of working people and the oppressed.

And we must convince them that building a revolutionary socialist organization is key to that fight. □

THE MEANING OF MIAMI
page 3

Cops protect Cincinnati Nazis



CINCINNATI, OH—A dozen Nazis aided by a large contingent of police found it impossible to get an audience for their racist filth here on May 10.

The blackshirts and their police escorts were met by a loud and angry counter-demonstration of 200. For more than an hour the Nazis were shouted down as they tried to spew their hate into the main city square.

The counter-demonstration was called by the Cincinnati Anti-Klan Network, a coalition of groups and individuals. Also present was the Columbus

by
BILL ROBERTS

based Those United to Fight Fascism (TUFF).

It took 223 cops at a cost to the city of over \$15,000 to protect the tiny band of racists. The rag-tag dozen marched into the square and out, surrounded by heavily armed police.

Before the Nazis arrived, police confiscated picket sign sticks from the counter-demonstrators. Asked under what

law they were taking the sticks, one cop said, "My law." Of course, the Nazis were allowed to carry their long pointed sticks and heavy shields. In addition, they had a ring of armed police for their protection.

Another important anti-racist demonstration is being planned by several groups for June 14. The Ohio Ku Klux Klan is holding its annual rally in Middletown, Ohio on that date. A large counter-demonstration will help push their ugly pointed heads back under their rocks. □

Carter cuts hospitals

The Carter Administration is now planning to reduce federal funding for hospital construction.

According to the government, too many hospital beds; a "major contributor" to the inflated cost of health care.

The plan is expected to meet with strong opposition, especially from veterans' organizations. Veterans' hospitals will be one of the targeted areas for the cuts.

The government is basing its plan on a report that says there are 130,000 unneeded hospital beds in the United States.

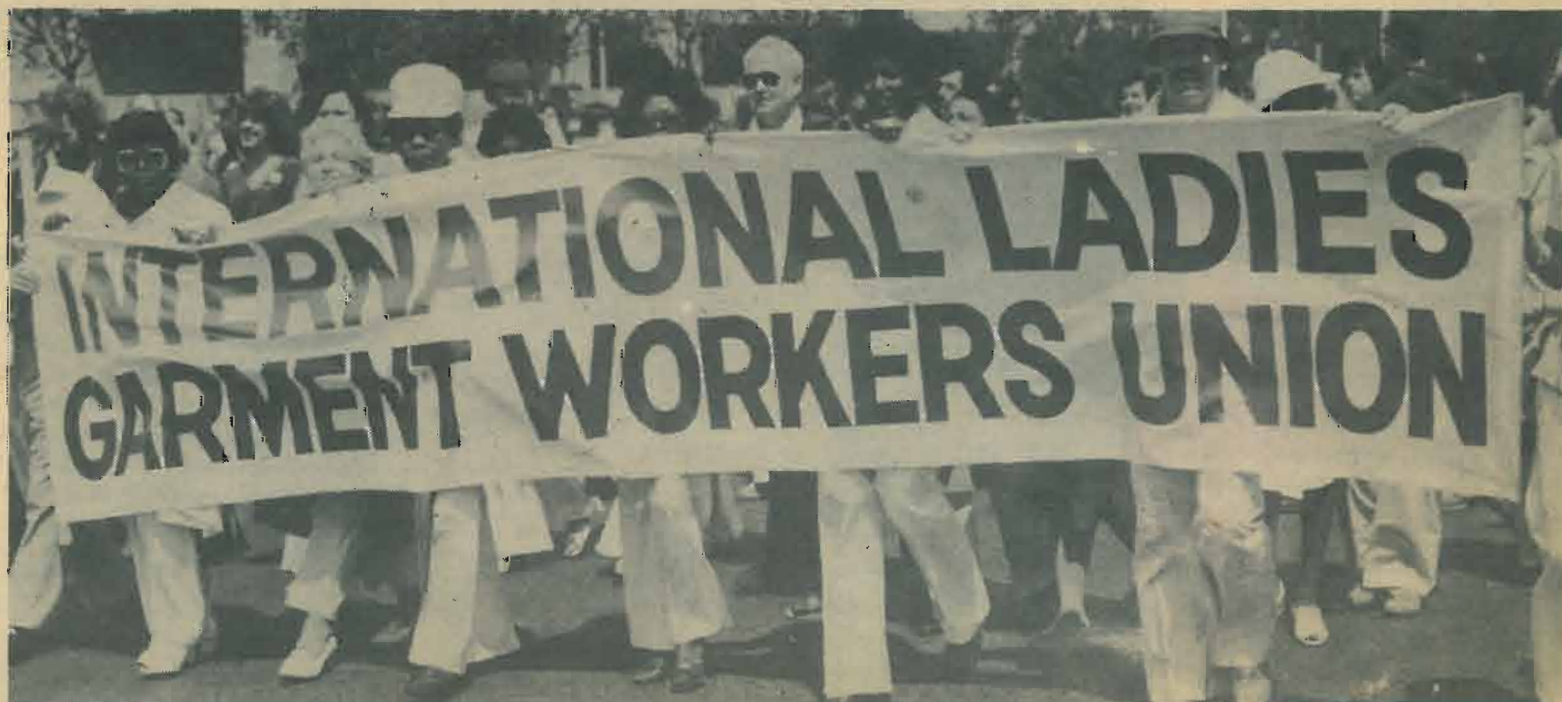
ABSURD

So, now along with unemployment, high interest rates and military spending, we get cuts in health facilities. Carter goes from bad to worse. The idea that reducing the amount of hospital beds will stop inflation is nothing but an indication of the absurdity of the capitalist system.

Regardless of the number of hospital beds in the U.S., the poor are often turned away from receiving medical care because they cannot afford it.

And now instead of dealing

with this, a real problem, the government invents the "problem" of hospital overcapacity and then devises a grandiose scheme to solve it. □



May 10, 1980. 50,000 marched in downtown Chicago to support the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA).

HOSTAGES' DAUGHTER SPEAKS

BOSTON RALLY SUPPORTS IRAN

BOSTON, MA—The Boston Coalition Against U.S. Intervention in Iran held a rally on May 17th.

Luzette Graves, the daughter of one of the hostages in Iran, was the main speaker.

It was the first time a hostage relative has spoken on an anti-war platform.

RAID

Luzette and her mother were ready to meet Barbara Timm in Teheran on Friday, April 24th, but that was the day when Carter nearly killed all the hostages with his "humanitarian" raid which resulted in the deaths of eight American soldiers.

The day before the rally, Luzette shocked some members of the news media when she related at a press conference that when her mother called the State Department a couple months back to say that she opposed any military efforts by the U.S. to try to free the hostages, the official from the State Department replied, "Well, you must understand that there will come a time when the hostages' lives won't count."

Luzette is a folk singer, and she began her talk at the rally with a song she composed. Some of the words were, "That greedy oil king and all his friends won't go to war. They'll sit back counting interest on their loans. Loans for war machines that you and I will have to pay. While we mourn, sweet Johnnie lost at war."

Here is part of what she said:

"I really feel as if we've been double crossed. Right from the beginning because my father was sent over to Iran officially to normalize relations with the government of Iran and nothing else.

"He wasn't supposed to represent the Shah's friends in any way. Suddenly when they were just beginning to gain the confidence of the Iranian people, Carter again changed the policy and brought the Shah into this country, fully knowing that if he did that, the least it would do would be to disrupt Iranian-

by
PETER LOWBER
and
KEVIN MURPHY



Luzette Graves.

American relations. That, I think was something my father and his colleagues are having trouble understanding. This is something that hasn't been getting into the press."

There was almost a total news black-out on Luzette's speech. The Boston Globe did not cover her visit to Boston. Period. And the TV stations gave her scant notice.

DEMANDS

Besides being against all U.S. forms of military intervention in Iran, the Boston Coalition demands the return of the Shah to Iran to face the consequences of his crimes; the return of the billions of dollars he stole from Iran back to Iran; the end of all harassment of Iranians living in the U.S., particularly to any deportations by the U.S. government of Iranians; that the U.S. government reveal all its classified information on its involvement with the Shah, especially concerning the role of the CIA. □

It's about time!

"Right on! It's about time!"

These words greeted the Liberty City rebellion in ghettos and Black communities from coast to coast.

The Blacks of Miami rose up, fired up. They could take it no more. There was smoke and fire for three days and nights. \$200 million in property damage. Fourteen killed. 400 injured. 1,267 jailed.

The story of the incident which sparked this fire is well-known—the barbaric killing of Arthur McDuffie by seven white cops.

The amazing thing is that no one even denies that they did it—not even the cops themselves. Yet, like cops everywhere who kill Blacks, they are free, freed by an all white Tampa jury.

VERDICT

This time was different, however. On Saturday, May 17, just hours after the verdict, the Blacks of Miami poured into the streets to fight back.

As usual, the media focused on violence against whites by Blacks. But the truth is that, with two or three possible exceptions, all of those killed were Blacks, including all of those who died after the first night.

The racism of the McDuffie murder was so blatant that even whites were appalled. Robert Owens, 14 years old and white, was killed in the first hours of the rebellion. His



Socialist Worker

WHAT WE THINK

mother cried out for justice: "Are those policemen who got off going to be tried for the murder of my children?"

"The McDuffie verdict revealed to everyone that the system doesn't work," wrote

Zandra Tompkins, a reporter for the Black community's Miami Times. "The rebellion was both spontaneous and selective."

The symbols of white power and authority were attacked—

a police station was set afire. A tire warehouse, widely believed to be the place where cops take Blacks for beatings and interrogations before delivering them to jail, was set on fire. Smoke from the fire filled the sky for two days.

Most Black businesses were left untouched, as were homes and apartment houses.

The rebellion ended only after the police, backed by 3,600 national guardsmen, terrorized the people back into a temporary submission. Almost all those jailed and wounded were Black.

CONDITIONS

But no one should think that the restoration of white power in Liberty City is the end of the story—for the conditions that led to the rebellion exist everywhere in America's ghettos. And summer has not yet begun.

There is much that can be said about the rebellion. It was a revolt against a system of racism, a system of legal lynchings. It was a revolt against the everyday legacy of slavery.

More immediately, it was a revolt against the fact that things have gotten worse for Blacks in the past decade. In the years 1970 to 1979, the percentage of Blacks who earn a "middle income" has fallen from 12% to 9%. Black incomes, in relation to white's, have fallen from 60% to 57%. The median income in Liberty City is \$5,700. Sixty per cent of Black youth have no jobs.

And, along with these facts, the system of police killings which culminated in the McDuffie murder.

The Miami rebellion has a wider meaning as well. Once again, after nearly a decade, it raises the specter of Black power, particularly of the power of Black workers in the cities.

Miami may well be just the beginning, the prelude to new long, hot summers. It doesn't matter. Whatever follows, it shows that nothing changed in the system—except racism, exploitation and oppression.

Black people, socialists, working people everywhere, should take strength from this fact—and from the courage of the ordinary people of Liberty City.

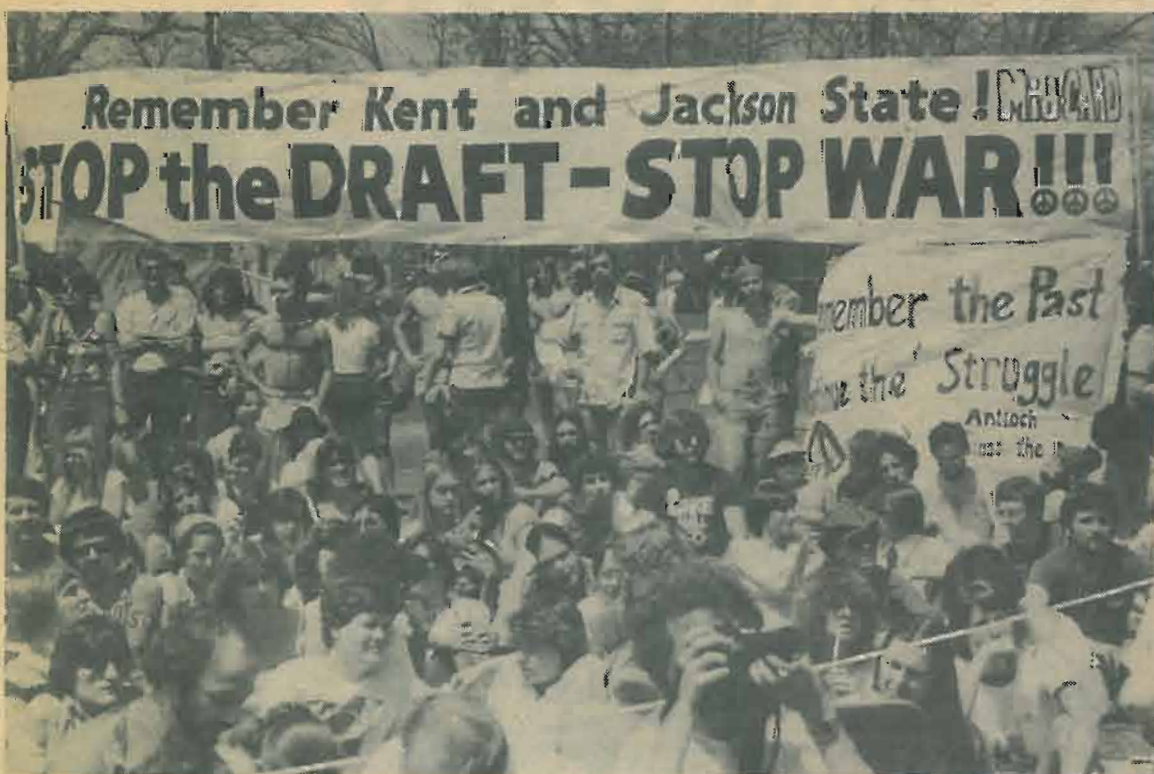
More than anything else, the rebellions of the sixties inspired the rebirth of a revolutionary spirit in the United States. But for more than a decade now, the politicians, the academics, and the reformists inside the Black community have tried to pronounce that spirit dead and buried.

They failed. Miami showed it still lives.

REAL

Socialists argued, right through the difficult years of the seventies, that nothing fundamental had changed in the United States since the sixties. The objective conditions existed for building a revolutionary movement and a revolutionary organization in this country.

Miami makes that argument a reality. The point now is to do it! Seize the time. □



May 4, 1980. 1,500 people gathered at Kent State to commemorate the 1970 killings

FIGHTING WORDS

"My name is John Brown. Two of my sons were killed here to-day, and I'm dying too. I came here to liberate slaves, and was to receive no reward. I have acted from a sense of duty, and am content to await my fate; but I think the crowd have treated me badly. I am an old man. Yesterday I could have killed whom I chose; but I had no desire to kill any person, and would not have killed a man had they not tried to kill me and my men. I could have sacked and burned the town, but did not; I have treated the persons whom I took as hostages kindly, and I appeal to them for the truth of what I say."

—John Brown, 1859

Socialist Worker

June 1980

Socialist Worker is published monthly by the International Socialist Organization, Box 18037, Cleveland Ohio 44118

Reproductive rights coalition plans protest

LOS ANGELES, CA—The National Right to Life Committee (NRLC) is holding its annual convention in Anaheim, California, this year, from June 26-29.

Among the speakers will be Senator Henry Hyde, author of the amendment prohibiting dispensing of federal funds for abortion, and California Congressman Robert Dornan, another supporter of a Human Life Amendment, which prohibits abortion under any circumstances.

Fortunately, they will be met on Saturday, June 28, by a large and spirited demonstration supporting reproduc-

tive rights and protesting the anti-sex education, anti-abortion, anti-woman policies of the National Right to Life Committee and similar groups around the country.

COALITION

The June 28 Abortion Rights Coalition was formed in February to coordinate the rally and educate the public on reproductive rights, the voting records of "right-to-life" officials and the ties between the NRLC (and similar groups) and broader conservative and right-wing movements.

The Coalition is composed of over 110 groups and numer-

ous unaffiliated individuals. It includes health, abortion and women's clinics nationwide, bookshops, church groups, Catholic and Methodist organizations, socialist groups, national and local health and feminist groups, school women's center, union locals, lesbian and gay groups, black and Latin organizations, food co-ops, etc.

The rally will begin at noon at Stoddard Park in Anaheim. Speakers will include Rhonda Copelon, attorney in the MacRae case against the Hyde amendment and Dierdre English, author of books on women and healthcare and

editorial board member of Mother Jones magazine. Other speakers are being added at this time.

Entertainment will be provided by the L.A. Women's Chorus, comic Robin Tyler and the Subject-To-Change Theater Company. The march to the Anaheim Convention Center will begin at 1:00. For rides, housing and general information call (213) 254-2863.

NUMBERS

The right-to-lifers' success with the Hyde amendment in the past and other legislative victories have generated state-

ments that they represent the majority opinion in the U.S. regarding abortion and other issues, despite numerous polls to the contrary.

They will be gearing up again this year for the Human Life Amendment, increased harassment of abortion clinics, and development of anti-women propaganda.

That is why the rally in Anaheim is so important. We must be visible in large numbers to show that abortion is the right of all women, regardless of ability to pay. □

by PAT GOLDSMITH

BLACK POLITICS IN AMERICA BY TONY BOGUES

The strike of over two hundred women at Sanderson Farms in Mississippi is the reality of the American dream. The strike is over one year old. It is not an ordinary strike. It is a strike for dignity, not just for a new contract.

Many of us, particularly in the North, may have thought that the era of slave-like labor for Blacks was over. The strike at Sanderson Farms is a demonstration that we have not "come a long way, baby." Black women workers at Sanderson's get \$50 for a 52 hour week. They are sexually harassed. They are not allowed to use the bathroom when necessary.

Individuals who have been militant have had their houses razed by the Klan. However, these women strikers have stood firm. In the words of one of them, "I ain't going to slave no more."

CONTEXT

Let us look at the strike in a wider context. The long awaited recession is finally here. Everyone now admits that there will be more lay-offs and a quicker erosion of the rights of workers and of Blacks.

In this year of election, the front runners—Carter and Reagan—have no proposals for dealing with the crisis—other than increasing, perhaps at different speeds, the continuous attack against the oppressed and exploited.

Yet, there are many of us who will vote in the elections. However, not only will we have maintained the system, but not one of the candidates will ever lift a finger to deal with Joe Frank, the boss at Sanderson's.

It is true to say that even in the Democratic or Republican parties, Blacks are under-represented. But even where there is Black representation, it is not of a kind nor quality that affects the lives of the vast majority of Black people.

A Black Congressman or Senator, no matter what good intentions they have, are the property of the system and its parties. They cannot make fundamental change in the nature of the system. They have to play ball with it.

"NO HANDS CAN FREE US BUT OUR OWN"

Look at Uncle Tom, Andy Young. He had a lot of talk about political prisoners in the U.S., about the way Black people are treated. But when it came down to it, he was the Black face to carry out the orders of the white American ruling class.

Why? Because for Young and company, this system is the best. In other words, elections for the oppressed is not a way to change this.

HANDS

For us it is how we organize to change this system. Garvey used to say, "No hands can free us but our own." Nothing could be truer. The criteria by which we judge candidates is who will do anything about the Sanderson's? Who will do away with conditions of slavery? Who will give us dignity?

Only we can do that, by our own power. The next candidates then are ourselves—the Black women at Sanderson's, the Black workers at Ford. And that means a new system. A socialist one, where we will be slaves no more. □



Laurel residents watch march.



Seven activists suspended

Banned at Kent State

In a remarkable show of vindictiveness, Kent State University's administration has suspended 6 students for one year. A seventh they dismissed indefinitely (effectively an expulsion).

Not satisfied with this alone, the administration added the fairy-tale-like touch of banishing them all from the kingdom for a year.

CRIMES

What crimes come to mind — behavior that could warrant such extreme measures? Seizure of a building? A brawl? Organized cheating? Selling drugs to pre-teen children of professors?

Nothing of the sort. The 7 students were guilty of one crime — political organizing and exercising their right to

by
CHRISTINA BERGMARK

free speech.

Last February, a dorm visitation policy, reminiscent of the 1950s, quietly began snaking its way through administrative channels at Kent State. Barring even siblings of the same sex from staying overnight in the dorms, the policy was more stringent than the majority of those struck down in colleges and universities all over the country in the 1960s as a result of the protests of students demanding their rights.

S.O.R.E.

Attempting to spread the word and to organize students



Glenn Perusek, Pat O'Malley, Peggy Meckling, Linda Byrket and Brett Kristoff, five of those suspended.

Repress Us, Please

*We're all good students, we don't wonder how
What we got in the 60s, we're losing now
Oh, Mr. Sorochty, we're violence prone
We all want guards of our very own*

*Oh, Mr. Sorochty, repress us please
We want more dorm rules, we're on our knees.
We've got to make sure no one stays after 12
Not brothers or sisters — no one but oneself.
We love to be hermits, we hate having fun
So keep adding rules til we all act like nuns.*

(An excerpt from a song composed by the students. Sorochty is Residence Halls Director)

against the policy, students formed a group called S.O.R.E. — Students Opposing a Repressive Environment.

To dramatize the issue, members of S.O.R.E. called a "sleep-in" in the downstairs

lounge area servicing three dorms. In fact, the event was an informal gathering no different from the spontaneous and planned events occurring in that public area every day of the week.

Though the name "sleep-in" implies a slumber party complete with sleeping bags, p.j.'s and toothbrushes, in fact the gathering was a two-hour event featuring individual conversations, guitar-playing and the collective writing of a song satirizing the new dorm policy. The student dismissed indefinitely, Brett Kristoff, was typing a term paper.

The first "sleep-in" attracted some 25 students and met with no resistance from the administration, so a second gathering was called one week later. The Residence Services Director, proud daddy of the new dorm policy, came for the personal satisfaction of handing over the "white slips," to a carefully selected sampling of those present.

SEVEN

Three were members of Student Caucus, the highest body of student government. With only nine positions on that body, the administration suspended one third of the student government.

The student most severely victimized by this administrative absurdity is a member of both Student Caucus and the ISO. A freshman, Brett Kristoff is faced with total uncertainty as to his future.

The "violation" seems absurd enough, but the charges are worse. The 7 were suspended for "conduct detrimental to the university" — a charge so vague as to be entirely discretionary.

If the academic futures of the seven students were not seriously threatened, this whole thing would be hilarious. But they are threatened. And worse still, this move is a message to all student activists about the 1980s.

EXAMPLE

An example has been made of these 7 students. It is an example that cannot be allowed to stand. It represents too much — nothing less than an attempt to retract the right to free speech won by students in the 1960s.

A campaign for the reinstatement of the S.O.R.E. 7 is underway. We need no new travesty by which to remember Kent State.

To express your solidarity or to contribute financially for the defense of these students, write to the S.O.R.E. 7 Defense Committee, 368 Poplar Oaks, #2, Kent, Ohio 44240.

by BRIANERWAY

Angry residents of the Love Canal area of Niagara Falls took matters into their own hands on May 19, and held two officials of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as hostages for about five hours.

From 1947-1952, the Hooker Chemical and Plastic Corp. used Love Canal as a dumping site for tons of pesticides and poisonous chemicals.

News has just broken that in the same period the U.S. military dumped nerve gas in Love Canal.

With full knowledge of the dangers involved, Hooker used the land for a residential subdivision. Home buyers were not informed that their children would be playing on land saturated with poison.

Now residents are demanding permanent relocation of some 710 families. Nearly 3,000 people are affected by the chemicals.

DANGER

The dangers of the buried chemicals became a matter of public concern two years ago, but the government has done little on relocation.

Hooker, a subsidiary of Occidental Petroleum, has denied liability.

Meanwhile the residents of the area continue to suffer abnormally high rates of birth defects, miscarriages, and cancers.

The chemicals buried underground continue to seep into basements and the soil around homes.

In mid-May, the EPA released a report that indicated nearly 1/2 of the Canal residents tested had damaged chromosomes.

The White House immediately ordered a "review" of the evidence. The geneticist in charge of the study has complained bitterly about the panel chosen, saying Carter "has sent a political committee to review my work."

LOVE CANAL: "WE MEAN BUSINESS"



A University of Buffalo neurologist reported that many residents may suffer nerve damage as a result of their exposure to toxic chemicals.

Symptoms include tingling sensations, numbness, and weakness in the extremities.

ANGER

People living in the area responded with anger and frustration to reports that the government might scrap plans for relocation. Small groups swarmed into the street, blocked traffic and set fire to lawns and trees around boarded up houses. "Let's turn this into another Miami!", some shouted.

The Love Canal Homeowners Association summoned two EPA officials to its headquarters, then told them to consider themselves hostages. They would be held until the White House decided to declare the Canal a disaster area.

Barbara Quimby was one of the residents holding the officials. Her

daughter is retarded and now has been shown to have chromosome damage.

"I'm more afraid of the chemicals and what has happened to my kids, and what may happen to their kids, than I am of the police if they storm this house," she said. "The deaths, the still-borns, the miscarriages—we're numb. We won't take it anymore."

DAMAGE

Lois Gibbs is president of the Homeowners Association and has a daughter with a rare blood disease. She told the hostages to "relax—I don't think you'll be here long enough to damage your chromosomes."

Meanwhile, outside the house crowds of nearly 300 residents marched up and down the street chanting, "We want out!" At about 9 p.m., a large force of FBI agents, federal marshalls and Niagara Falls police announced that they would disperse the crowd and storm the house in five minutes.

Left, an angry citizen of Love Canal.
Below, a child appeals for help.



At about the same time a phone call came from the White House. It promised nothing and indicated no new decisions, but the residents decided to release the two hostages.

Gibbs declared, "We have demonstrated that we mean business. If Love Canal isn't declared a disaster area by Wednesday, what they've seen here today is a Sesame Street picnic. The White House had better watch the hell out."

DELAY

So far, however, temporary relocation for some of the residents is all the government has been willing to provide.

What happens next will depend on how much more delay the residents are willing to put up with: how long before they can move from a neighborhood where toxic chemicals in the ground present an unseen menace to everyone there.

Traffiti

by PATRICIA GOLDSMITH

Conservative groups in Illinois were ready and armed with anti-ERA literature. One piece features "Nancy Smith" returning home from war in Saudi Arabia (sic) with half a leg, an eye patch and her arm in a sling. It bears the legend, "This is what ERA did for my daughter."

Furthermore, "Corporal Smith was assigned to combat duty after male soldiers rioted, charging less than 50% of the soldiers killed were female." □

The chic art of rolting, a vigorous muscle realignment technique, has finally gone to the dogs. Robert Prichard, a rolting specialist in (where else) California's Marin county will relieve your pooch's arthritis, back pain and other ailments for a mere \$60 per hour. Prichard prefers canine clients: "They're much more cooperative." □

According to the May issue of *The American Lawyer*, reporter Jane Berentson wanted to test the honesty of New York attorneys.

Posing as an accident victim, she went to thirteen Manhattan negligence lawyers with a fabricated case in which "their willingness to aid and abet me in perjuring myself could produce a large contingency fee."

She said that 5 of the lawyers "offered . . . to engage in the felony of aiding and abetting perjury."

Berentson did not directly offer to lie but strongly implied she would be willing to shift the location of the accident slightly.

Said one lawyer, "As it stands, you don't have a case. But if you're asking me to help fabricate a story, I can do this. All we have to do is bend the facts a little . . ." □

This past month should be designated as one of mourning for those dedicated to the preservation of the nuclear family. Anita Bryant, crusader "against the disintegration of the American family" and gay rights foe, filed for divorce in Dade Circuit Court in Miami.

In a prepared statement, she said manager-husband Bob Green had cooperated "with certain hired staff members who conspired to control me and use my name and reputation to build their personal careers instead of my ministry."

She asked for custody of the children, half the property, child support and use of the 25-room mansion until it can be sold. □

SEABROOK: TRAINING FOR THE FUTURE

by PAUL D'AMATO

SEABROOK, NH—1300 people gathered on the weekend of May 24th to try and end construction of the Seabrook nuclear power plant in Southern New Hampshire.

Throughout the weekend, repeated attempts were made by groups (called "clusters") of 50-100 people, from all over the country to take down fence and occupy the site. Similar groups attempted to blockade the three access roads that lead into the site, by building barricades of wood and junk and physically obstructing the gates. The attempts failed.

RESULT

The lull in the anti-nuclear movement since the uproar over Three Mile Island and

the general right-wing drift in this country as a result of the Iran crisis, led to May 24th drawing 1,000 less people than in the previous action almost eight months earlier.

Since the October 6 occupation attempt, the full implications of direct action have become more clearly defined. The fact that so many fewer showed up this time is a sign that the no-nuke movement as a whole is not prepared to do direct action because it provokes violence from the state and demands militancy and a willingness to brave danger from its participants.

Even though there were smaller numbers than on October 6, more were willing to take on the authorities and not be intimidated.

For those who participated, the action was not a defeat, even though it failed to achieve the stated goal of shutting down the site.

Many who had been through the October 6 experience realized that without many more people it would be impossible to occupy and blockade the site successfully. The May 24 action was tempered by this knowledge. Most knew that the action

would at best be disruptive and cost the state and the Public Service Company of New Hampshire money.

In the end, the state has lost \$500,000, and improved organization and preparation allowed the demonstrators to be more disruptive than on October 6.

TRAINING

The May 24 action provided a training ground for future direct actions. When the movement is larger, and it has spread itself and related to young and working class people who really can provide the strength and sheer numbers to overwhelm the nuclear power industry, then we will really put an end to nuclear power. □

TALKING ABOUT SOCIALISM

But isn't there too much steel being produced in the world?

by DEBORAH ROBERTS

Between 1967 and 1978, the number of Americans working in the basic steel industry dropped by almost half a million. Since 1978, and increasingly in the past year, many thousands more steel workers have been thrown out of work, and many plants are closing forever.

Government and business economists explain this drastic decline as resulting in part from an "overcapacity" of the world to produce steel. For example, *Forbes* magazine for January 1980 claims: "Right now, there is about 20% overcapacity (in steel) in the world."

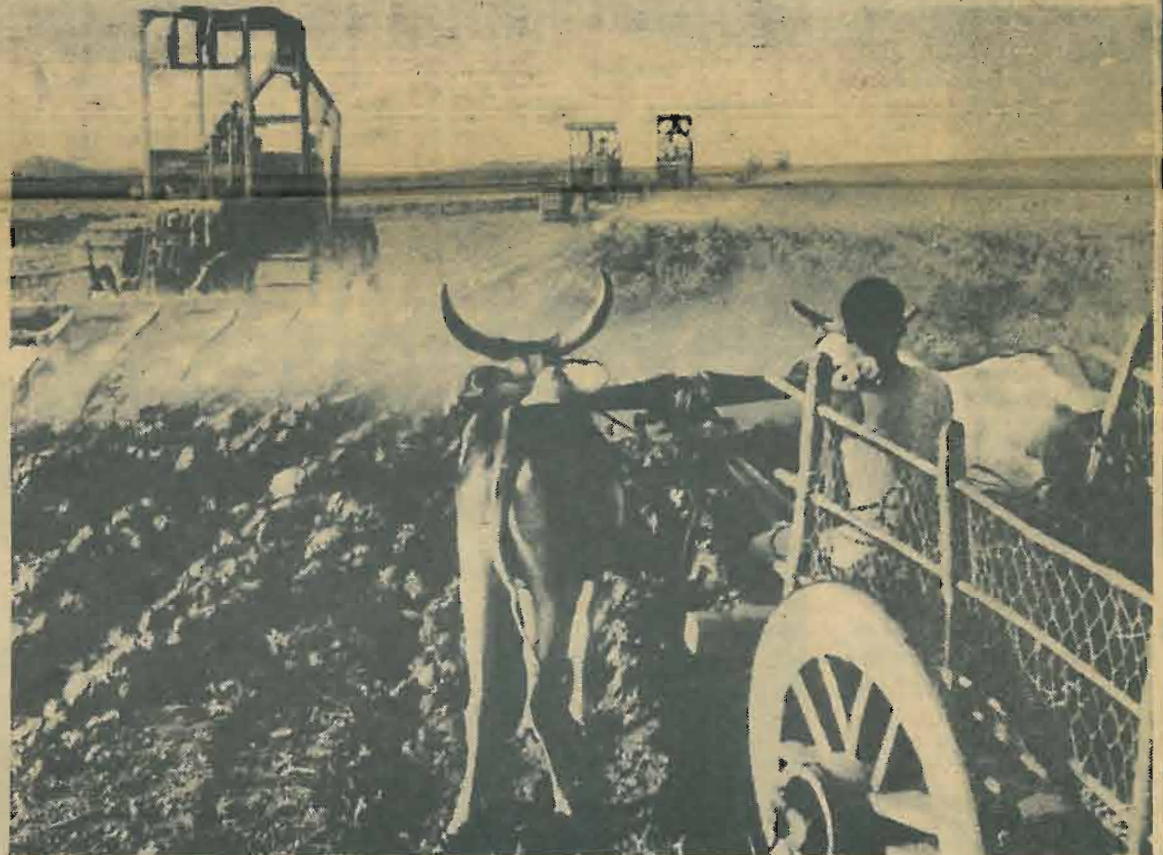
IDLE

Japan leaves idle fully 37% of its steel-producing potential. The corresponding figures for the U.S. and Western Europe are around 20 and 40 percent respectively.

By "overcapacity," the owners of the steel industry really mean that the workers in their plants can produce more steel than the companies are capable of selling at a "reasonable" profit.

When companies produce more than they can sell at a profit, or when they have more money tied up in production than their return on investment justifies, they cut production. Investors hate the thought that all that money was wasted, that it could have generated a bigger profit somewhere else—in oil, for example, or arms production.

What does "overcapacity" mean, though, to people who aren't capitalists? Does it mean that there's a potential to produce more steel than people can use?



Steel mills are closing despite a scarcity of steel for tools.

We live in a world where millions of peasants literally grub out their existence from the earth using wooden plows, often little more than sticks. Many of them starve because they can't grow enough food. Without metal plows, they experience a 100% undercapacity in steel.

SCARCE

There's a 100% undercapacity for the hundreds of millions of people who lack even a metal pot for cooking, a single needle or pin, a simple bicycle. Entire regions of the world lack medical supplies made from metal, such as scalpels and hypodermic needles.

There are places where such instruments are so scarce that medical care cannot be said to exist for any but the rich.

Profit, not need, determines production

The present world steel capacity of 700 million tons is grossly inadequate to meet the needs of human society. Meeting these needs would easily require 3 billion tons per year, according to the World Health Organization.

So what is the "overcapacity" the economic experts talk about? They clearly aren't referring to people's need for steel, any more than they're concerned about steelworkers' need to make a living.

They mean that investors can't make enough money in steel right now, and they intend to put their money elsewhere.

The people who need the steel—for medical supplies, farm equipment, water pumps, even pots and pans—

cannot pay the high prices the capitalists want, so they will have to do without these basic rudiments of survival. And steelworkers in many countries will have to try surviving without jobs.

The world economic system is not organized around our needs, but around a single "need" of the owning class: profit. That class's job is getting the maximum return on investment—in plain English, making a lot of money so they can go on running things.

PRIMARY

Socialists' job is fighting them, taking matters into our own hands, controlling our own lives. We must make the needs of human beings the primary business of society, everywhere in the world. □

Insurrection in South Korea

In the wake of the revolt in the city of Kwangju, the South Korean regime faces its most severe crisis in a decade.

Full martial law has now been declared.

Two divisions of government troops have been used to regain control of this southwestern city, which was taken over by its armed population.

The army has already killed 250 and hundreds more are wounded. And the revolt is not yet quelled.

The speed of the change is breathtaking. Only a month ago, the military government seemed absolutely in control. Only eight months ago, General Park was at the height of his dictatorship, commander of all he surveyed from his palace—the Blue House—in the center of the capital, Seoul.

POWER

Now it is taking 40,000 heavily armed troops with tanks and aircraft to guard the government buildings.

Park was famous for the ruthlessness of his rule, for the length his power stretched. His main opponent disappeared from a Tokyo hotel room under the nose of the Japanese police. He organized a spy network in Washington and anywhere else he needed it. He was another Shah.



The military strikes back.

AN ANALYSIS OF THE KOREAN EVENTS BY NIGEL HARRIS

Last October, he was murdered. The bonds of terror that chained Koreans to the military and industrial machine Park built began to dissolve. But the interim government made little move to dismantle the dictator's order, despite considerable student agitation and a rash of strikes.

In December, Park's godson, General Chun Doo Hwan, engineered a coup within the army, arresting Chief of Staff General Chung. In April, he added to his control of military security by making himself director of Park's notorious police, the Korean CIA.

AGITATE

People grew increasingly impatient at the delays in introducing reforms in Park's constitution, the 'Yushin'. Students began an agitation in the universities to remove professors who had collaborated with Park. By May, some 21 universities were at a standstill.

The police reaction was to try and seal off the universities in case the infection spread. At Wonkwang University outside Seoul, the students burst through the cordon; 5 police, 5 students and one professor were injured. But it was an inspiration to other universities to break the police stranglehold. Now the students' demands were for an end to martial law, the abolition of the Yushin constitution and the holding of free elections.

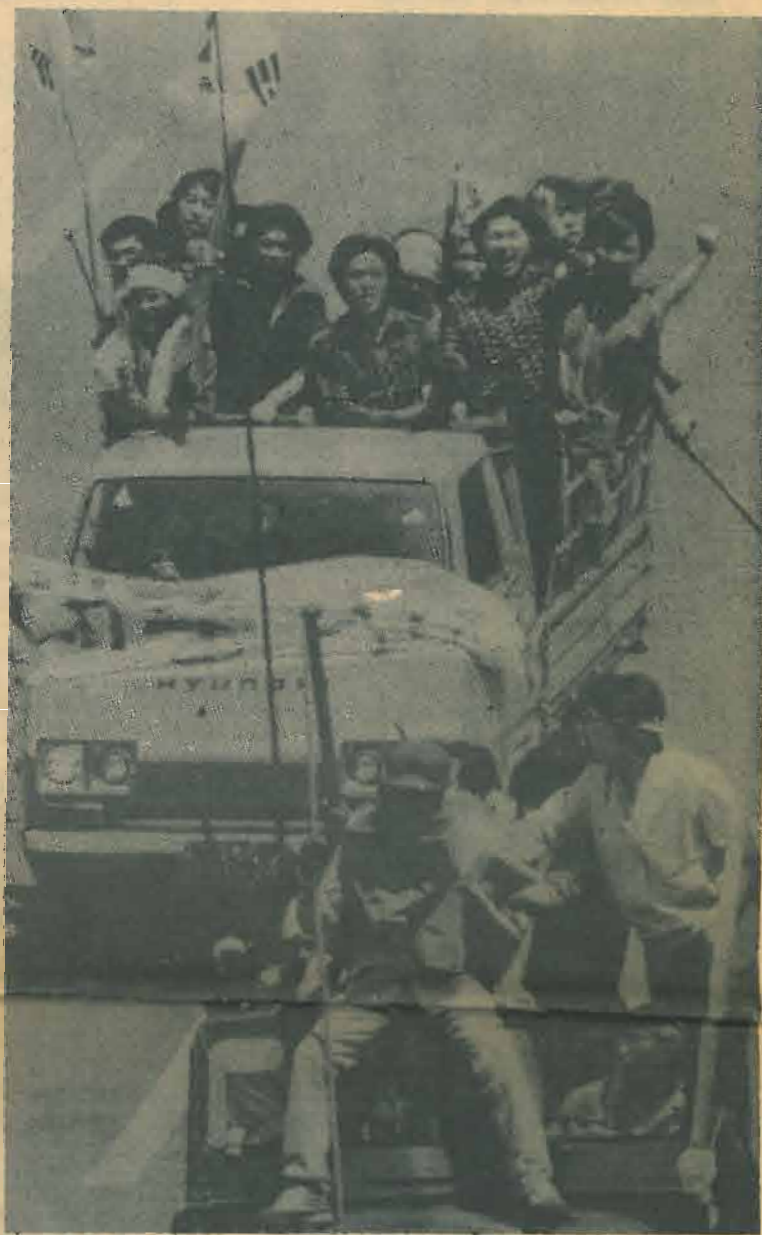
The police fought back. 40,000 students were hemmed in, in Seoul, but seized buses and smashed them through the massed police cordon. Three days of street fighting followed.

Finally, the army stepped in, taking over the civil government. All opposition and most of the student and trade union leaders were arrested. All political activity, strikes, absenteeism from work, criticisms of 'past and present Heads of State' was banned. Censorship was clamped on the press, and the universities closed indefinitely.

AREAS

But it was too late.

In Cholla province in the south west, one of the poorest areas of the country, the student movement persisted. The reaction of the regime in the provincial capital of Kwangju, was barbarous—anything up to 89 people may have been bayoneted or gunned down. There was an explosion of



Jubilant students in commandeered vehicles.

rage both in the city, and the surrounding towns and villages. Small farmers flocked to town to shout their answer to the regime. Miners, carrying dynamite from the pits, trooped into Kwangju to join the movement.

In a fright, the Korean military air-dropped paratroopers on Kwangju. But the crowds, armed with pointed bamboo stakes, chased the troops who fled to hide in the government offices. The crowds burst open an armory and armed themselves with automatics, seized military vehicles and tanks, and prepared for the siege. The food and milk shops were taken over and supplies distributed free.

PLOT

General Chun says the whole thing is a plot by Communist North Korea. But he has infuriated the government here in the United



States—there are still 30,000 US troops still in Korea—and Washington denies there is any sign of North Korean involvement or activity.

South Korea was lauded to the skies as a miracle of capitalist development under Park. Now we can see what lay beneath the surface. It is the miracles of heroism shown by young Koreans that now fill us with admiration. □

ISRAELI TERROR ON WEST BANK

A coordinated terrorist attack maimed two West Bank mayors. A third barely escaped injury.

Mayor Bassam al-Shaka of Nablus lost both legs above the knees when his car exploded. Mayor Karim Khalef of Ramallah had his right foot blown off.

As these bombs went off, a hand grenade was lobbed into a crowd at Hebron, injuring seven.

Israeli right wing groups took responsibility for the bombings and threatened further attacks.

Yassi Dayan of the right wing Kach movement and the Jewish Defense League explained: "We called on them twice to leave the area. Now they are paying the price. They can't call on everyone to revolt and at the same time not expect to be hurt. As soon as the Arabs leave the country, they'll have fewer troubles. There's room in this land for only one nation. Anyone who thinks Jews and Arabs can coexist is a

Prime Minister Begin denounced the bombings. But this is sheer hypocrisy. Israel has occupied the West Bank since 1967 and its army carries out systematic repression in the area.

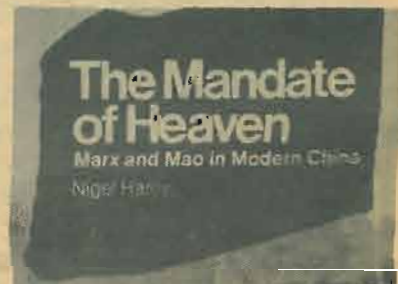
REPRESSION

West Bank Palestinians are randomly arrested. Torture is widespread. The military governor of the West Bank recently ruled that people throwing stones at Israeli military vehicles will now be treated as if they had used firearms.

And only last month, on May 2, the Israeli government deported three West Bank officials—two mayors and a religious judge—for voicing opposition to its policies.

The use of terror is not the exclusive domain of Israeli right wing groups. It is the policy of the government of Israel. Begin just doesn't want to provoke a revolt on the West Bank. But that revolt is inevitable.

\$5.95
from Hera Press
Box 18037
Cleveland, OH 44118



JIMMY CARTER, CASTRO AND THE CUBAN REFUGEES

By the beginning of June, 100,000 Cuban refugees will have entered the United States—delivered here by Cuban exiles in the U.S. who for six weeks organized a Dunkirk-style mission to evacuate their people from Cuba.

The exiles came from as far as Chicago or New York, some 10,000 in all, to assist in the expedition.

The influx of these thousands of refugees, called by Castro, "scum," "worms," "undesirables," and including people from Cuban mental hospitals, prisons, homes for the aged, has caused a great uproar in southern Florida.

Miami newspapers call it an "invasion."

They joke in Liberty City, where the Black rebellion recently occurred, and in other poor white and Black Florida communities, that now you will have to speak Spanish to get a job. Indeed, the jobs are scarce.

RISK

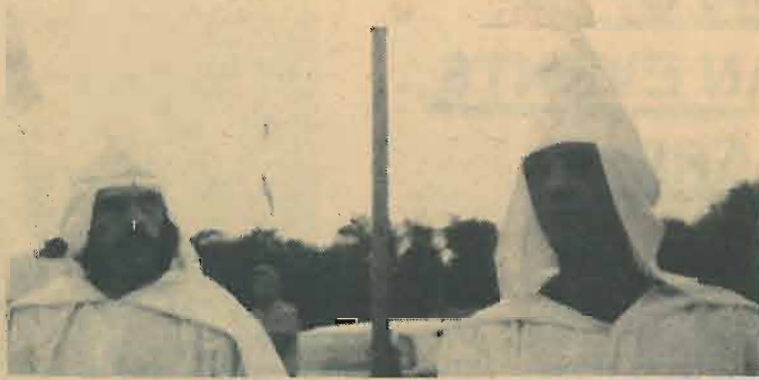
If to Castro the exiles are "scum," right-wingers, and so forth, to Carter they are victims of political repression—people willing to risk all for a taste of freedom.

But Cubans are leaving for both political and economic reasons.

The truth is that many are simply opponents of Castro's regime.

But they are not all right-wingers, and they are not all middle class. Thousands of the emigrants are working class Cubans, now being held in mass immigration camps. They are victims of the Cuban economic crisis. Even the job situation in a recession in the U.S. is a bright promise of prosperity compared to the situation in

THE KKK
LIKES
CUBANS
IF
THEY'RE IN
CUBA



Cuba. That is how bad the economy is there.

Says one Cuban, "I've been working for 18 years and no one has ever criticized my work. But when people talk to me about improvements in living conditions, I can't see any."

The crisis is not just Cuban. The whole Caribbean is in economic havoc; and it is not another example of the failure of "communist" economics.

Jamaica, now cut off by the International Monetary Fund, is on the brink of civil war.

HAITIANS

Haitians, just across the bay, face problems far worse than the Cubans. There, two thirds of the people are expected to survive on less than \$135 per year.

More than 80% of the population is illiterate.

So Haitians have responded in the same way as the Cubans.

Working as a dishwasher in Miami can be better than living in Cuba or Haiti.

The response of the U.S. government to these other refugees is telling.

The Cubans are let into the country, up to a point, and the government plays the anti-communist, anti-Castro talk up big.

But the Haitians seeking entry are sent away, transformed into boat-people. According to sources in Haiti, those who return are rounded up by the Haitian government and sent to Fort Dimanche, a prison the government claims is closed.

The Carter government is not letting refugees from Cuba into the country for humanitarian reasons. If they were, the Haitians would be allowed in as well.

Could Carter be letting the Cubans in to take heat off the failures of his foreign policy in the Middle East? Now all eyes are focused on the "massive influx" of Cubans. Memories of the fiasco of the Iranian invasion, Carter hopes, fade.

The Cubans who enter are now pitted against Blacks and other poor for the already meager supply of jobs. Racism grows.

UNWANTED

Castro comes out no cleaner. The Cuban government is actively aiding in the evacuation process. They are dumping their unwanted on the United States. Castro wants them to go.

Besides being a safety valve for discontent, migration helps alleviate the burden of a housing shortage and unemployment.

But what kind of socialist society would send the sick and elderly of its country to America?

In Key West, the conduit for Carter and Castro is the boat operators—people thriving on the trade of human flesh. They hire out their boats at \$6,000 per exile. The gasoline business is booming at the fuel docks on the Miami River.

KLAN

The Cubans, once they have been transmitted into the country, face stiff competition for an ever-shrinking job supply, along with rising racist attacks. The Ku Klux Klan has already demonstrated and even threatened violence against the Cubans.

The whole episode proves just one point. The barbarity of a capitalist world system in crisis and the insanity of national borders become more apparent every day—as does the need for a new system. A system where racism, exploitation and the profit on human flesh are the crimes. A society where human needs come first. □

by GLENN PERUSEK

"I have vivid memories of the 1930s and the resulting unemployment."

I have a vivid memory of the depression of the 1930s and the resulting unemployment.

John Anderson
the 1930s

I know the problems of that period have not been solved. Only during war time has there been full employment.

During recent years, upwards of 40% of the Black youth have been unemployed.

SUFFER

Millions of workers have suffered from closing plants, advancing technology and the moving of plants to low wage areas.

The multinationals have

built plants in Taiwan, South Korea to exploit workers for maximum profit.

What are the consequences of unemployment?

Employment is so important to some workers that they are driven to suicide when become unemployed for long periods.

Unemployment causes an increase of illness of all kinds, but especially mental illness.

It increases the rate of divorce and child abuse. It



GAY PRIDE WEEK

This year's Gay Pride Week (the last week in June) comes after a series of attacks by the right-wing against gays and lesbians.

In May, 1979, the murderer of Harvey Milk, the gay San Francisco city supervisor, was let off with a voluntary manslaughter charge.

Also there are two pieces of legislation in Congress aimed at legalizing discrimination against lesbians and gay men: the McDonald Resolution, H.R. 166 and the Family Resolution Act, S. 1808, which states that homosexuals and their supporters "... shall never receive special consideration or protected status under law."

In April, fundamentalists called the "March for Jesus" which was not only against gay and lesbian rights, but was also against the ERA and reproductive rights.

MEDIA

And the media has also stepped up its attacks on gays. Two recent movies, *Windows* and *Cruising* portray lesbians and gay men as psychotic. The recent CBS special report, "Gay Power, Gay Politics" warned that gays were taking over San Francisco. Being out was treated in the program as "flaunting one's homosexuality" and the focus was on abnormal sexual practices, instead of on the political issues.

However, it is clear that the lesbian and gay community are not going to sit back and take this. We will fight back! The light verdict granted Harvey Milk's killer was received in San Francisco by all night rioting, involving 5,000, directed at City Hall, the banks and the cops (59 were injured).

In response to the bills in Congress, a protest was called in Sheridan Square in New York, to coincide with the fundamentalist march in Washington, and was attended by 500.

by ALLYSON SMITH
and DAVID MCKAY

Gays and lesbians chanted, "Gay rights or Gay riots!" Greyhound, who supplied buses for the fundamentalist march, was leafleted.

The filming of *Cruising* was moved from New York when the strong opposition was shown in the form of demonstrations, and it opened in Boston to a demonstration of 1,000. *Windows* was greeted on its opening in New York with rain and protests by 400. Demonstrations were called in response to the CBS homophobic special report.

On this, the eleventh anniversary of the Stonewall riots, it is clear that we who are out are not going back in the closets. But the movement still has a long way to go. The majority of our gay brothers and lesbian sisters are still in the closet for fear of losing their jobs. Lesbian mothers and gay fathers still have to fight to retain custody of their children (and the majority of the time, lose).

PROVIDE

Being gay is not just for the rich, and oppression will not be changed by passing a few laws. Our oppression is part of the capitalist system which depends on the family to provide its future workers and on the oppression of women to provide free labor. Until we change the entire system, we will never be free to love who we choose. □

a Memory 1930s"

on on the depression of d unemployment today

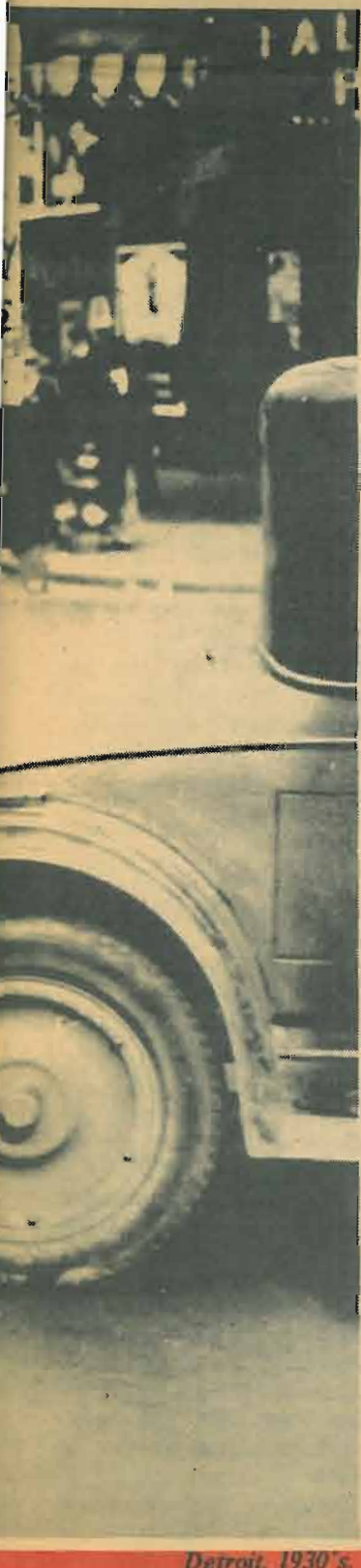
pones marriages and the start-
ing of families.

Unemployment causes
workers to lose their skills.
They mentally retrogress, los-
ing their ability to think
clearly.

RIPPLE

Mass unemployment, as it
now affects the auto industry,
has a ripple effect throughout
the community.

Workers postpone visits to



the dentist and the doctor. On-
ly emergencies are handled.

Every industry serving the
workers is forced to cut back
on its services.

Recreation and education
facilities, the police and fire
departments are cut back. The
health services most needed in
these times are whittled back
or eliminated.

REJECT

Unemployed workers must
reject the idea that they in
some way are responsible for
their situation.

They must place the blame
where it belongs—on the rul-
ing class—on the multi-
national corporations that
have gained control, not only
over industry, but over gov-
ernment as well.

It is they who have caused
our problems with Iran and
the other oil producing coun-
tries. It is they who have
formed the military industrial
complex leading us to a third
world war.

Those who are employed
live in constant fear of losing
their jobs. The employers
knowing the workers' fear are
able to get workers to give
their maximum effort.

The older workers who
can't meet the pace are fired
or forced to retire.

Faced with these painful
facts, why did we allow it to
happen? The workers have
been indoctrinated with the
idea that under capitalism this
would never happen.

The worker is so occupied
with earning a living, no time
is left to think. Workers put
their faith in their employer,
the government and the union
bureaucracy. They have all
failed.

During the depression of
the 1930s, Franklin Delano
Roosevelt proposed unem-
ployment insurance, Social
Security and the right of work-
ers to organize.

For these reformist meas-
ures he was called a com-
munist.

FAILED

All he was trying to do was
to save capitalism. But these
measures failed to end the
depression. That was done
with World War II.

Since World War II, Ameri-
can capitalism, by the use of

NO
HELP
WANTED

John
Anderson
is a retired
Detroit auto
worker. He is
the former
president of
UAW local 15



its military, economic and
political power, has gained
domination over most of the
underdeveloped world.

With only 6% of the world's
population, the U.S. con-
sumes nearly 50% of the
world's natural resources.

At home we continue to be a
racist society. Industry and
government are controlled by
a few multi-national corpora-
tions. With a depression,
poverty will grow among the
masses while a small minority
controls the wealth of the
nation.

To solve the problems of
this depression radical
changes must be made in our
society. Those who placed
their faith in their employer,
the government or the labor
bureaucracy will be looking for
new leaders.

Will it be a Ronald Reagan,
a Jimmy Carter or some other
instrument of big business?
Or will it be in working class
leaders determined to put the
needs of the people before the
profits of a few?

During the depression of
the 30s, thousands of workers
joined the Socialist or the
Communist Party.

Today the American worker
will not be attracted to the
state capitalism of Russia,
China, Eastern Europe or
Cuba. Their nationalized
economies do not make them
either socialist or communist.

Socialism must bring about
workers' control of industry
and government.

BENEFIT

They must be run for the
benefit of society, not for a
privileged few.

If the present left-wing par-
ties are to play a role in chang-
ing American society, they
must break with the heirs of
Stalin and Mao and with
Castroism.

These societies do not offer
an acceptable solution to the
problems of American capi-
talism.

I have joined the Interna-
tional Socialist Organization
because it makes a clean break
with the state capitalism of
Russia, China, the states of
Eastern Europe and Cuba.

The ISO doesn't claim to
have a monopoly on the social-
ist ideas that will change
American society.

We publish the Socialist
Worker, convinced that our
ideas will win thousands of
workers to the socialist
banner.

I speak from 47 years
in the socialist move-
ment.

Akron, 1980's: Rubber workers get the news of plant closing.



Thirty miles south of St. Helens...

SEATTLE, WA—It was as though a nuclear bomb had exploded within the mountain. The black mushrooming cloud rose over 12 miles in the air. A blast of searing gas tore down the north slope, stripping trees and toppling them like dominoes.

Fleeing from the angry mountain in their cars and trucks, loggers and campers were roasted alive by the detonation.

MONSTER

Mount Saint Helens had erupted. What was once called North America's most beautiful volcanic peak—near-perfect in its symmetry—is now a looming gray monster. Nobody is

sure if it is the end, or just the beginning.

It is difficult to comprehend the destructiveness of the eruption or the power of the explosion without making analogies. One which springs quickly to mind is that of the atomic bombs falling on Hiroshima.

Scientists now estimate the force of the blast on Sunday, May 18, 1980 as 2,500 times greater than the one of August 6, 1945.

Mt. St. Helens, of course, is not radioactive. And so far only 21 are counted dead because of the mountain. But few are saying how close we may have been to a new Hiroshima.

Thirty miles south of Mt. St. Helens, a distance equal and opposite of the campground where a man and a woman were burned to death by the explosion, is the Trojan Nuclear Power Plant at Rainier, Oregon. The

prevailing winds were to the northeast that Sunday morning.

But a week later, the second blast sent ash south, some of which fell on Trojan.

Spokesmen at Trojan assured the press that the possibility of a major eruption at Mt. St. Helens had been taken into account in preliminary studies before the plant was built. At the time, Mt. St. Helens had not erupted for 123 years.

Although earthquakes are uncommon in the Pacific Northwest, Trojan, they say, was built to withstand shocks of 5 on the Richter scale. The jolts at Mt. St. Helens sometimes exceeded that level.

COINCIDENCE

Studies of past eruptions of the peak concluded that mud and lava flows would not reach points 30 miles

distant. No mention has been made of studies on blasts like the one which happened May 18.

It was a coincidence that Trojan was shut down for re-fueling when Mt. St. Helens blew. When the mountain began its activity last March, Trojan officials refused to begin a cautionary shut-down.

They waited until late April when it was already scheduled. It takes 30 days for the plant to shut off once that procedure is begun.

If scientists studying Mt. St. Helens agree on one thing, it is that a volcano is not predictable. In spite of hundreds of thousands of dollars in sophisticated monitoring equipment focused on the mountain, the eruption of May 18 was a total surprise. Again and again, geologists are expressing shock at the magnitude of the destruction. □

by MARY DEATON

S-1612: GROUNDWORK FOR REPRESSION

Agents in hot pursuit of bank robbers or staking out Russian spy hideouts are images that have been maintained over the years of typical F.B.I. activity.

Slick propaganda from their own resources and media hype have portrayed every G-man as a dedicated Efram Zimbalist type whose only interest is to protect us from syndicate and foreign intrigue.

STATUS

Over the past decade this image has tarnished. The status of the F.B.I. has sunk to new depths with working people.

This is no surprise considering the revelations on domestic surveillance, smear campaigns, and Cointelpro (counterintelligence programs) that the Bureau has conducted. But then those are its primary purposes.

Evidence from documents stolen from the F.B.I.'s Media, PA office in 1971 reveals that 40% of all F.B.I. activity concerns itself with political surveillance of labor, left and minority groups. Fighting organized crime accounts for only about 1% of the Bureau's activity.

Legislation is currently pending in the US Senate that would make this previous activity of the F.B.I. legal in an attempt of avoiding the public exposure the Bureau has received in the past few years.

Senate Bill 1612 is a bill to create a charter for the F.B.I. introduced by Senators Kennedy, Hatch and Thurmond, who are also sponsoring the repressive Senate Bill 1722. If S-1612 becomes law it would give the F.B.I. expanded powers with which it could operate—all under the cloak of legality.

POWER

Under S-1612 agents would have the power to break any Federal, state or local law to obtain "information or evidence necessary for paramount, prosecutive, purposes."

S-1612 would act as a shield for any act by an agent when operating "to establish and maintain credibility or

by GEORGE AXIOTIS and BRIAN GIBBONS

cover with persons associated with criminal activity under investigation." Agent Gary Rowe's murder of civil rights worker Viola Liuzzo in 1964 to establish credibility with the Ku Klux Klan would be legal.

The F.B.I. under S-1612 is authorized to investigate terrorist activity.

According to S-1612, terrorist activity can occur whenever "two or more persons are engaged in a continuing enterprise to influence or retaliate against government policies or trade policies of multinational corporations through activity involving violence."

The language of the bill allows for the investigation of many labor actions (e.g. strikes, pickets, plant occupations) against multinational corporations because, of course, their purpose is to influence the policies of the multinational.

Public demonstrations that require "federal assistance" would allow the F.B.I. the opportunity of continued investigation of individuals and groups participating. The recent anti-draft and anti-nuke marches in Washington, D.C. would warrant such action.

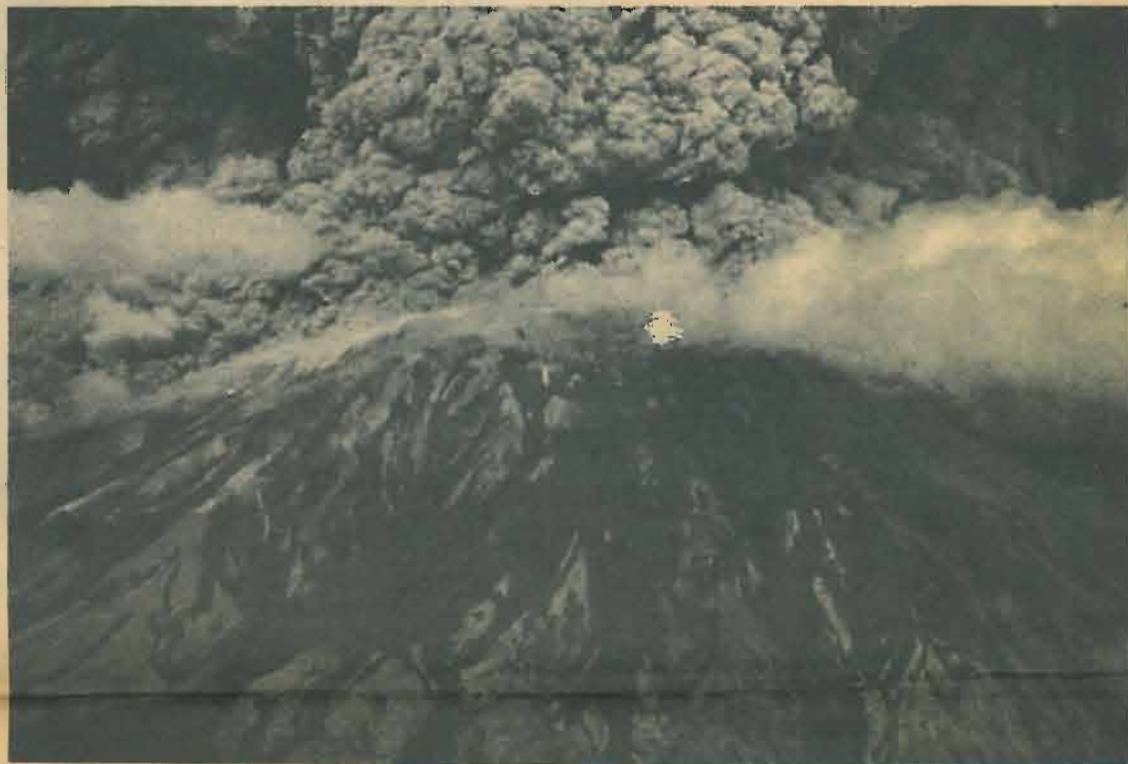
Also under S-1612, the F.B.I. would be accountable only to itself. Those who issue directives would also review their legality. The entire operation would be kept from the public eye.

REPRESSIVE

All this adds up to a more repressive environment in which the state can operate.

Because of the increasing crisis in world capitalism, the state must continually act as the strong arm of capital to contain the struggles of working people on the job, against the draft/war, sexism and racism.

With war moves abroad, it is necessary for capital to maintain order at home. S-1612, in conjunction with S-1722, will lay the legal groundwork for this repression. □



Mt. St. Helens, thirty miles from a nuke.

Letters

Write to Letters, Socialist Worker
P.O. Box 18037 Cleveland, OH 44118

SOME FACTS ON FASCISM

Dear Socialist Worker,

Here are some interesting facts about who supported the fascists last time around.

1. The Saturday Evening Post for years ran articles praising Mussolini and his backers.
2. Hearst newspapers from 1934 to Pearl Harbor in 1941, published dozens of signed propaganda articles by Dr. Goebbels, Goering and other Nazis.
3. In Italy, Socialist deputy Mateotti on May 27, 1927, denounced a law giving a monopoly to Sinclair Oil Company. A few days later he was assassinated by fascist thugs.
4. Fortune Magazine, owned by Henry Luce, a Morgan partner, wrote glowing reports of how big business was progressing under fascism in Italy.
5. The vermouth and wine giant, Martini and Rossi, was headed by Count Napoleon Rossi Di Montelora, a member of the Fascist Party.
6. Standard Oil, General Motors, and General Electric had investments in the I.G. Farben Company which was

controlled by Hitler and Goering.

7. In this country, DuPont financed fascist groups like the Liberty League, the Sentinels and the Crusaders.

8. Joseph Kennedy, U.S. Ambassador to Britain, in a secret

report to Roosevelt, favored Britain going fascist.

Other interesting facts available from "Facts on Fascism" by George Selde published in 1943.

Joe Dent
Cincinnati, O

Support Cuban refugees

Dear Socialist Worker,

The newspapers report of the "rampage" of Cubans in Arkansas. Hundreds of refugees in the 'relocation' center at Ft. Chaffee broke out and were repelled by state police and military troops, who fired on them. There were injuries on both sides.

Picture the plight of these people. They escape the economic hardship of life in Cuba (many of them), only to find that the dream they imagined to be America is instead a cruel nightmare of barbed wire, armed guards and taunting Ku Klux Klansmen.

We have no business determining the degree of our support for these emigres on the basis of their racial or

origin. None of them deserves what they are now enduring. Their situation is comparable to that of the Vietnamese "boat people." As Marxists we should support these individuals in their attempts to better their lot.

Ron Lang
Hartford, CON

Dear Socialist Worker,
Congratulations on the full coverage of the Sanderson strike.

Can you send me some more information about the boycott.

I think we can get some support here in Virginia.

Mary Andrew
Richmond

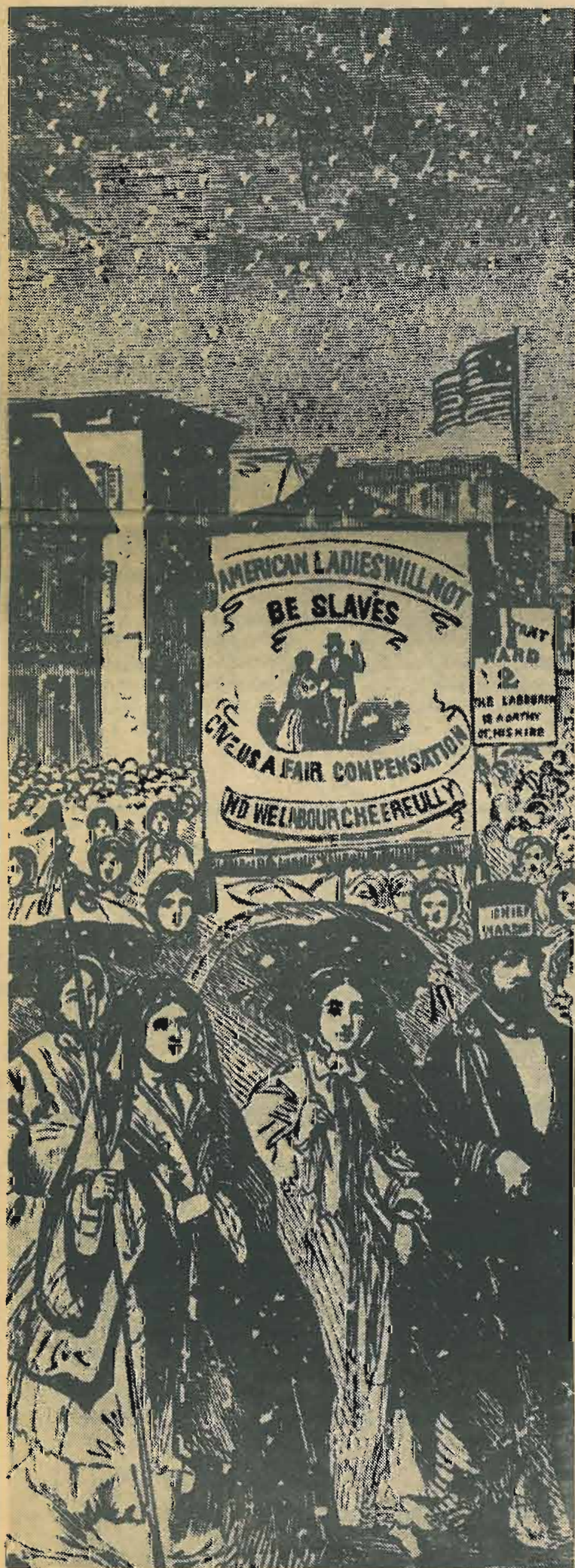
A PAGE FROM WORKING CLASS HISTORY

"no power greater"

by BARBARA WINSLOW



The 'factory amazons' of the first trade unions



Striking textile workers on the march

On September 15, 1845, five thousand textile operatives in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, almost all of them women, went out on strike demanding the ten hour day.

The strikers were members of the Female Labor Reform Association of Allegheny City and Pittsburgh.

The women held out a month, but then desperate and starving, some went back. The factories did not stay open for long.

Other operatives went from factory to factory, broke open the gates, seized workers at their machines and dragged them outside.

At the largest textile mill, Blackstocks, the women were joined by a "men's auxiliary."

STORM

The women crashed the gates at Blackstocks, carrying sticks and waving their bonnets.

After some struggle they were successful. The *Pittsburgh Journal* described the scene: "The gate gave way, hurrah! Hurray! And in a moment, the yard was filled, the fortress was taken by storm, and the garrison were prisoners of war."

The same paper lamented that "it was utterly impossible for any ordinary police force to have maintained order. There were hundreds of male friends of the operatives standing around—ready to interfere whenever it should become necessary . . . 'let 'em hit one of the gals if they dare and we'll fetch them out of their boots!' said a grim, double fisted fellow on our right while they were breaking down Blackstocks."

Who were these "factory amazons," the name the *Pittsburgh Journal* gave the militant strikers?

In the 1840's, most of the women who worked in the textile mills of New England had become active in a wide range of economic and political activity.

LEADERS

Sarah Bagley, Huldah Stone and Mehitabel Eastman became the first women trade union leaders, delegates to labor conventions and officers of regional labor organizations.

They founded the first femi-

PIONEERS OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS, THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY, AND THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT

nist trade union organization, the Lowell Female Reform Association in 1845, which fought for better working conditions and higher wages, as well as for the abolition of slavery and an end to capital punishment.

Many of the women were also early utopian socialists. And they were pioneers in the women's rights movement.

EQUALITY

Along with women like Susan Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, they wrote and made speeches demanding full economic social and legal equality for women.

The Female Reform Association attracted members throughout New England and into the western Pennsylvania region. It put out a magazine called the *Voice of Industry* and according to its editor, Sarah Bagley, it was "devoted to the females of this country and through which they shall be heard."

A typical letter to the paper read: "Woman is never thought out of her sphere at home: in the kitchen over a hot stove cooking from morning until evening—over a washtub or toiling in a cotton factory 14 hours a day. But let her for once step out, plead the cause of right and humanity, plead the wrongs of her slave sister of the South or the operative of the North and even attempt to teach the science of Physiology, and a cry is raised against her, 'out of her sphere.'"

These women spearheaded the American labor movement's first major struggle—the fight for a ten hour day.

The Lowell Female Reform Association declared that "the fourteen hour system of Labor adopted in the American factories . . . makes the system of factory life and Labor but little better than physical assassination."

Employers responded by

saying the ten hour day would encourage "laziness, idleness, crime, drunkenness, suffering, wickedness and pauperism."

Furthermore, they fired or blacklisted any women who campaigned for the ten hour day or joined the Lowell Female Reform Association.

Within the labor movement there were a number of tactics proposed to win the 10 hour day.

One was legislation, another was to win it factory by factory.

A third, supported by the Lowell operatives was proposed by John Cluer, a weaver and labor organizer, and that was to call for a general strike, "A Second Independence Day."

The strike for the ten hour day would be on July 4, with "all New England workers declaring their independence of the oppressive manufacturing power."

The "amazons" of Pittsburgh and Allegheny city chose the path of militancy, of direct action and struggle.

They appealed to their sisters in New England for support, and the women of Lowell sent John Cluer in to help them with their strike.

But it wasn't until 1874 that a ten hour day became law in the United States.

In pre-civil war America, the labor movement was still too small and too weak to take on the power of the manufacturing companies and the state governments.

LINK

Nevertheless, the operatives of Pittsburgh and Lowell were not only in the vanguard of the American labor movement—because of their willingness to fight for their rights, and because they linked the struggle of women's liberation to that of all workers and oppressed people. □

WHERE WE STAND



• Workers' Control

Workers create all the wealth under capitalism. A socialist society can only be built when workers collectively seize control of that wealth and democratically plan its production and distribution according to human needs instead of profit.

The working class is the key to the fight for socialism. Freedom and liberation will only be achieved through the struggles of workers themselves, organizing and fighting for real workers' power.

• Revolution Not Reform

The capitalist system cannot be patched up or reformed as some union leaders and liberal politicians say. Capitalism is based on the exploitation of workers. No reforms can do away with this exploitation. The only way workers can come to control society and create a system based on freedom and a decent life for all is by overthrowing capitalism and replacing it with revolutionary, democratic socialism.

• A Workers' Government

The present state apparatus (federal and state governments, the courts, army and police) was developed to maintain the capitalist system. This apparatus cannot be taken over as it stands and converted to serve workers. The working class needs an entirely different kind of state based upon mass democratic councils of workers' delegates.

Supporting the present state apparatus is a vast network of propaganda — newspapers, radio, television, movies, the education system. Workers are bombarded daily from all directions with capitalism's point of view. The working class needs its own sources of information. To help meet this need, we are dedicated to building a newspaper that the working class can trust and use in the fight against the present system.

• Fight Oppression

Capitalism divides the working class — pitting men against women, whites against blacks. Capitalism fosters and uses these divisions to block the unity necessary for its destruction. As capitalism moves into crisis, oppressed groups — blacks, women, latins, Native Americans, gays, youth — suffer most. We support the struggles of these oppressed groups.

We oppose racism in all its forms. We fight segregation in the schools and housing, and against racist firings and harassment. We demand freedom for all political prisoners.

We fight for women's liberation, supporting equal pay for all women workers. We fight for free abortion and an end to forced sterilization. There should be free quality child care for all who need it. We fight for equal hiring opportunities. Discrimination and harassment of sexual minorities must be fought.

We support the international organization and struggles of oppressed people to strengthen the working class struggle for socialism.

• Rank and File Organization

The unions today are largely business machines that long ago stopped truly fighting for the interests of the working class. Business union leaders act either as brakes on workers' struggles, or as cops, delivering workers into the hands of the bosses. We fight in the unions to put an end to this.

To make the unions fight for workers' interests, workers must organize their power on the shop floor. This can only happen if the rank and file organize themselves independently of the union bureaucrats. We work to build rank and file organizations in unions and companies wherever we are employed.

• Internationalism

The working class has no nation. Capitalism is international, so the struggle for socialism must be world-wide. A socialist revolution cannot survive in isolation.

We champion workers' struggles in all countries, from Portugal and Spain to Chile and Puerto Rico — from Palestine and Eastern Europe to China and India. We support all genuine national liberation struggles. We call for victory of the black freedom fighters in Zimbabwe and South Africa. We oppose all forms of imperialism and oppose sending U.S. troops anywhere in the world to impose U.S. interests.

Russia, China, Cuba and Eastern Europe are not socialist countries. They are state capitalist and part of one world capitalist system. We support the struggles of workers in these countries against the bureaucratic ruling class.

• Revolutionary Party

The activity of the ISO is directed at taking the initial steps toward building a revolutionary party in a working class fragmented and cut off from socialist ideas. Revolutionaries must be involved in the daily struggles of workers and oppressed groups at the workplace, in the unions and in the communities. We build every struggle that strengthens the self-confidence, organization and socialist consciousness of workers and the oppressed.

As the working class movement gathers strength, the need for revolutionary leadership becomes crucial. We are part of the long process of building a democratic revolutionary party rooted in the working class. Those who agree with our stand and are prepared to help us build toward revolutionary socialism are urged to join us now.

Join the International Socialist Organization

For more information about the International Socialist Organization (ISO), please write to Box 18037, Cleveland, Ohio 44118.

ISO NEWS

What's ON

BALTIMORE

Glenn Perusek on **The Bolshevik Revolution**. June 8, 7:30 pm, 701 Homestead.

Paul Gould on **The Politics of Sports**. June 14, 6:00 pm. Call 235-9630.

BOSTON

Bob Ginsburg on **The Politics of Cancer**. June 8 at 8:00 pm. Call 661-8765 for details.

Ahmed Shawki on **Trotsky's Marxism**. June 22, 7:30 pm, 595 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. Call 661-8765.

CINCINNATI

Brian Gibbons on **New Repressive Laws from Washington**. June 7, 8:00 pm, 134 Kensay—off Auburn.

CLEVELAND

Ahmed Shawki on **Capitalism and Slavery**. June 13, 7:30 pm. Call 321-6143 or 231-1278 for details.

NEW YORK

Barbara Winslow on **The Paris Commune**. June 19, 7:30 pm, call 213-3213 for details.

SEATTLE

Scott Winslow, **Cuba: Behind the Exodus**. June 22, 7:30 pm. Call 324-2302.

ISO Reprints

World Crisis and the System

by Nigel Harris

The Theory of State Capitalism

by Peter Blins

Party and Class

by Chris Harman

Available for 50¢ each from
Hera Press, Box 18037,
Cleveland, OH 44118

Socialist Summer School — Ohio



June 27, 28, 29, 1980

At the end of June, the ISO will be holding a summer school for the Ohio region.

Held at a camp in Northeastern Ohio, the conference will feature both lively political discussion and ample time for enjoying the great outdoors of the Buckeye State.

In addition to speakers on gay liberation, the economic crisis, and the Great Depression, we will have available two films for the weekend: "Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner" and "Bonnie and Clyde."

For information and reservations call (216) 321-6143 or 231-1278 or write ISO Summer School, Box 18037, Cleveland, Ohio 44118.



50¢ each



"The philosophers have merely interpreted the world. The point is to change it."

— Karl Marx

If you want to help us change the world and build socialism, join us.
There are ISO members and branches in the following cities:

- Baltimore, MD
- Berkeley, CA
- Bloomington, IN
- Boston, MA
- Charleston, WV
- Chicago, IL
- Cincinnati, OH
- Cleveland, OH
- Dayton, OH
- Detroit, MI
- Fort Wayne, IN
- Indianapolis, IN
- Kent, OH
- Los Angeles, CA
- New York, NY
- New Haven, CT
- Northampton, MA
- Philadelphia, PA
- Providence, RI
- Rochester, NY
- San Diego, CA
- Seattle, WA
- Trenton, NJ
- Washington, DC

ISO National Office, P.O. Box 18037, Cleveland, OH 44118

SLAVERY: REVOLT TO REVOLUTION

Capitalism, wrote Marx, "came into the world, dripping with blood from every pore."

And much of that blood was the blood of Africans, the Black African slaves transported to the New World to harvest the sugar and tobacco of the world's richest colonies.

Capitalism also created a world market, and tied together the far corners of the world with the commercial and manufacturing centers of Europe.

ABOLISH

Eugene Genovese's new book, *From Rebellion to Revolution*, is about how the rise of capitalism also transformed the rebellions of the slaves from attempts to escape slavery, most often in hopes of reestablishing a traditional African society, into struggles to abolish slavery itself, as a system.

At the same time, writes Genovese, these rebellions increasingly became part of the world-wide struggle for democracy and national liberation—part of the *Age of Revolution*.

FROM REBELLION TO REVOLUTION, by Eugene D. Genovese, Louisiana State University Press, \$9.95

Slaves in Louisiana, for example, whispered of the deeds of the Jacobins of Paris and predicted the day that they would fly the tricolor—the flag of revolutionary France.

The name Toussaint, the leader of the great Haitian rebellion of 1792, sent shivers down the backs of slaveholders from South Carolina to Tennessee for half a century.

And John Brown, the abolitionist, took inspiration from the maroons (escaped slaves) of Jamaica, while Gabriel Prosser in 1820 and Denmark Vesey in 1822 looked south to Haiti for assistance and solidarity.

Genovese has written a remarkable little book, which in just 137 pages is sweeping in its scope, the range of argument it covers, as well as the terrain—Brazil, Surinam, Haiti, Georgia, Venezuela, Jamaica.



A Mississippi slave family.

REVIEW BY CALVIN WILLIAMS

Genovese relies heavily on the works of the British Marxist, Eric Hobsbaum, particularly the *Age of Revolution* and *Primitive Rebels* for his context, arguing that after 1789, slave rebellions became part and parcel of the rise of bourgeois-democratic societies, both influencing and being influenced by events in Paris, Boston, London.

The outstanding case, of course, is Haiti, where Toussaint L'Ouverture's brilliant leadership led to the world's first Black republic—having defeated in turn the Spanish, the British, and even the cream of Napoleon's armies.

MAROONS

Genovese also considers the struggles of the maroons, the escaped slaves who established sizeable communities in the interiors of Brazil and Jamaica, often forcing the authorities to recognize and accept them.

There were maroons in the United States as well, though never on the same scale as South America.

Still, the pockets of escaped slaves, whether in the Dismal Swamp, on the coast of

Louisiana, and even in the mountains of Tennessee, spread fear through the ruling classes. At the same time, despite the fact that they were small and hardly a serious military threat, they were also a constant reminder to the slaves still on the plantations—an invitation to freedom.

Genovese also offers an interesting discussion of the complex relations between maroons, Native Americans, African and American born slaves.

And he offers an explanation as to why slave revolts were fewer and less successful in North America than in the Caribbean and South America.

Successful revolts, he argues, were supported by conditions which included: absenteeism on the part of the landowners; economic distress and famine; large scale slave units, 100 or more (the average in the Old South was 20 or so); splits in the ruling classes; Blacks heavily outnumbering whites; African born slaves outnumbering those born into slavery; the structure of the regime per-

mitting the development of autonomous Black leadership; and geography which allowed for the possibility of forming colonies.

RESISTANCE

Such factors, clearly, rarely favored the slaves of the United States. But still there were revolts, conspiracies, and a hundred other forms of resistance—New York City in 1712; Stono, South Carolina in 1739; Southampton County, Virginia, under Nat Turner in 1831.

The major drawback of the book is that it seems written exclusively for an academic audience—its arguments are for the classrooms of universities, not schools and streets.

The merits of the book aside, one will still have to turn to C.L.R. James' *The Black Jacobins* for history and inspiration.

One particular point struck me, however, reading this book in the week following the Miami rebellion, and it tied the legacy of slavery to the racism of 1980 America.

The slaves of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries rose up in spite of odds overwhelmingly against them.

They were always poorly armed if armed at all, relying instead on anger, courage and the demand for justice.

They were not afraid to kill whites, yet there is virtually no record of barbaric behavior, little or no evidence of torture, rape, mutilation.

The same cannot be said for the whites, who inevitably responded with savagery, whether in Louisiana in 1811, when slaveholders spiked rebel heads to decorate the river road from New Orleans to Major Andres' Plantation. Or the slaveholders of Tennessee in 1856 who carried impaled slaves on a parade.

"ANIMALS"

When Blacks went into the streets during the blackouts in New York in 1977 they were called "animals," by such papers as the *New York Times*.

Yet clearly such was not the case. The animals, now as when the captors of Nat Turner hanged him, skinned him, and sold his skin, are in the government and patrolling the streets.

They are the murderers at the Algiers Motel in Detroit, 1967, and the killers of Archie McDuffie. □



Tighten those belts!

Unemployment is rising and wages have taken a plunge. Our unions are under attack. The bosses and the union leaders say belts need tightening. But whose belts? Here are some salaries of union leaders for 1979:

Frank Fitzsimmons, Teamsters president, led the pack with a salary of \$296,854, including expenses. His secretary-treasurer, Ray Schoesling came second with \$138,144.

CLOSE

Close third was Edward Hanley, president of the Hotel, Restaurant Employees with \$130,495. His secretary-treasurer made \$116,066. Jerry Wurf of AFSCME made \$106,824.

It was a close contest between Lane Kirkland, George Hardy of the Service Employees, David Fitzmaurice of the Electrical



Fraser: \$71,386

Workers and Lloyd McBride of the Steelworkers who made \$97,940, \$95,431, \$92,609 and \$92,256 respectively.

The crisis in the auto industry has taken its toll on Douglas Fraser of the UAW who only took home \$71,386.

Others feeling the pinch are Sam Church, UMW president, with \$60,283; Emmet Andrew of the UPW with \$59,603 and Peter Bommarito of the URW with \$49,516.

Yes, times are hard—some belts do need tightening. □

PICKETS FIGHT BACK AT BAKER MATERIAL

BROOKLYN, OH—Despite police harassment, injunctions and a massive display of force by the sheriff's department, spirits are running high for UAW members as a strike at Baker Material Handling Corporation enters its seventh week.

Baker, which manufactures forklifts and related material-handling items, is located in Brooklyn, Ohio, a suburb of Cleveland. It is a division of the West German multinational, Lindy Inc.

SENIORITY

500 strikers represented by United Auto Workers Local 451 struck on April 21st as the contract expired and Baker refused to negotiate further.

Brian Gibbons reports from Brooklyn, Ohio

The primary issue concerns seniority and recall.

Baker is attempting to gut all seniority rights. Recall after a layoff period would be strictly at the prerogative of Baker. With this move to devastate the local union the membership is emphatic—"there will be no compromise on seniority."

An economic package was never discussed during negotiations, but Baker is ready with a "generous" 15¢ an hour increase.

The strike received little notice in the local media until Baker decided to ship some finished product through the picket line. Since the strike began supervisory personnel have been attempting to keep the plant operating on one shift.

A second plant on the East side of Cleveland is still operating. The workforce there is represented under a separate contract with the Teamsters.

In a provocative move, one of the supes struck a picket on the line while leaving the plant with his car. The supe's car was trashed immediately and limped away with three flats.

The worker received minor injuries, and a police report filed by the striker received no response from the Brooklyn Police Department.

GUARDS

But the incident allowed Baker to enter the courts to seek an injunction to limit the pickets. As this was in the works Baker brought in 10 trailer rigs escorted by armed guards.

Waiting inside the plant over 24 hours, the trucks were loaded and readied to cross the line—armed guards in place. In response pickets increased, and when Baker tried to cross the line they were met by over 70 strikers at the gate.

With the angry pickets outside, the armed guards and local police didn't appear to be adequate for Baker. They gave a call to Cleveland's answer to Sheriff Lobo, Gerald McFaul.

Being an election year and not being one to lose out on a chance for free election coverage Cuyahoga County Sheriff McFaul shows up with 150 deputies in full riot gear.

The unarmed strikers realizing the suicidal confrontation were forced to back down and the trucks went through the line.

By this time the injunction limiting the pickets to four to the single plant gate had been issued.

COPS

To orchestrate such a show after six weeks of striking indicates that the strike is being felt by Baker. Although the convoy made it through the picket line, the strikers know that much of that work was completed before the strike.

The role of the cops has added to the determination of the strikers. □

SUPPORT THE BAKER MATERIAL WORKERS' STRIKE!

BY JOHN ANDERSON TALKIN' UNION

GOODBYE TO A LOYAL BUREAUCRAT

On Saturday night, May 10th, upwards of 2,000 UAW (United Auto Workers) bureaucrats and their friends honored Emil Mazey, retiring Secretary Treasurer of the UAW. He had held the post since 1947, a period of 33 years.

Who paid for this luxurious party? Local 15 at its April meeting voted to buy ten tickets at \$30.00. Hundreds of local officers and committee members obtained free tickets in the same way. This in spite of the fact that thousands of these members will soon be applying for welfare.

HONOR

Anyone seeing this gathering might have thought it was a party of some retiring corporation executive. Union bureaucrats not only think, but look and dress like representatives of the ruling class. If the corporations didn't send their representatives to the party, it was because they didn't want to embarrass Mazey—not because they didn't want to pay him honor!

This calloused indifference of the International and local leadership toward the rank and file is characteristic of the United Auto Workers.

Having known Emil Mazey and having been associated with members of his family since 1936 when I joined the UAW, I have an intimate knowledge of him and his activities.

From 1936 until he was elected to the International Executive Board (IEB) in 1946, he was a good militant and a member of the Socialist Party. As President

of UAW Local 212 he led numerous strikes against the Briggs Manufacturing Company. He played an important role while serving in the U.S. Army in the Philippines in leading demonstrations of the GIs who wanted to return home.

After he was elected to the IEB in 1946, he became a timid flunkey for Walter Reuther. He red baited his critics. As president of UAW Local 15 and chairman of its shop committee, I learned to know Mazey as a hatchet man for Walter. He made big loans to the Local for the purpose of influencing its convention delegates. These loans financed the corrupt practices of the local's officers. As a result of this corruption, the local became an instrument of Fleetwood management and the International Union. It did not serve the interests of the workers.

CORRUPT

In 1973, Mazey played a leading role in the breaking of a strike of workers at the Chrysler Mack Avenue stamping plant. During his 33 years as International Secretary Treasurer, Mazey has been a key figure in corrupting the local unions. He used his office to destroy the opposition in the Union. During those 33 years he did more to serve the employers than he did to serve the workers. It is not surprising that the employers and the press should sing the praises for the heirs of Walter Reuther. Emil Mazey served them well.

Today with more than 250,000 auto



John Anderson is a lifelong militant and socialist. He was formerly president of UAW local 15 in Detroit.

workers on indefinite layoff and 50,000 more working part time, the UAW membership should examine the role played by Mazey and other UAW leaders over the last 33 years. Having given the employers control on the shop floor, conditions in the plants have degenerated to those of pre-union days.

Some union leaders are joining the employers and the press in blaming the workers for the state of the industry. Nothing could be farther from the truth. The workers have had no voice in the design of the cars or in their manufacture.

The UAW membership should breathe a sigh of relief when people like Mazey retire. The more of them that retire the better. This will give the workers a chance to elect someone to office who is more sensitive to the needs of the workers.

CHANGE

The political climate is changing. Redbaiting is going out of style. The voice of the dissenter is again being heard in the UAW. Those editing *Solidarity* are giving publicity to the IWW (Industrial Workers of the World) and others working for social change. This is giving encouragement to present day dissenters. They have much to do. □



Railroad Car threatens shut down

WASHINGTON, IN—The 7-month old strike continues at the Railcar Co. in this southern Indiana town of 12,000. The federal government has moved in to break the strike. The company, a division of Evans Products, says it is selling out because of violence.

These developments have pushed the strikers closer to the wall, but so far they are saying no to slave wages.

Railcar, which leases the cars it makes to railways, says it will shut the Washington plant down tight by July 1.

by MILTON FISK

It has gotten Mayor Leo Sullivan to agree that labor "trouble" has cleared it and two other companies out of Washington. The other companies were McCord and U.S. Rubber.

But according to Robert Long, one of the strikers, McCord left due to losing contracts and to mismanagement. U.S. Rubber workers took a cut in pay and still it moved out.

Smearing labor's image is an old management trick. Railcar is using it to perfection. The

facts aren't yet available to support the claim that the union caused the violence.

At this point there is just as good reason to suspect that the company paid to have its concrete block office bombed on April 19.

Railcar has brought 30 charges of violence or incitement to violence before the NLRB. On May 14, administrative judge Benjamin Schlesinger of Washington, D.C. opened NLRB hearings on the charges in Washington, Indiana.

Strikers feel the hearings are stacked against them. A Wackenhut guard employed by Railcar testified about numerous grisly episodes. But those he charged with violence have yet to be called to tell their side.

He accused Robert Long of wielding a club, but Long says the guard was coming at him with rocks, supported by five other company men. The two union officials who testified were not given a chance to answer the charge of violence since their time was taken up with nit-picking about money for picket duty.

BAN

The hearings are a pretext for getting the pickets of Local 39 of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen taken down. It is likely the judge will ban union activity against the company's use of scabs, who came in on March 10.

With the pickets down, the union will be defenseless and will either have to give the 362 jobs to scabs or go back to



Above: David McBeth, Velmer Byrd and Mary Byrd.

Seventy five people came out to a Bloomington Federation of Labor rally to hear six striking railway carmen and their wives talk about their seven month long strike against Evans Railcar Company in Washington, Indiana.

Striker Velmer Byrd Jr. said, "I've been American all my life, but now I feel the justice system needs some help."

Ten unions were represented at the rally and \$230 was raised.

On May 30th, however, the strikers voted to accept the company offer. But Railcar is still threatening to close. □

work for little more than the current \$4.91 an hour.

With the media in southern Indiana raging about violence, the strikers are being isolated by the whole community. An acquaintance of Long's complained about the union's not going back in order to keep Railcar from pulling out. "But that guy was getting a 75¢ an hour raise the next day; I was so mad I got up and left," said Long.

Railcar is not hurting for business. It has orders covering the next three years for badly needed grain cars.

The problem is neither poor business nor violence. It is profits—profits from the wages in Washington that are \$4 lower than those of other railway carmen. Evans is willing to smear the strikers while keeping them impoverished to get its profits.

BLUFF

With the union holding strong, Evans' bluff will be called. It will not move out—even if it has to raise its wages. The Washington plant will still be too profitable. □

OUR NORMAN



Economic index in record dive

The economy, according to the latest figures released by the government, is in deep trouble—and things may get worse.

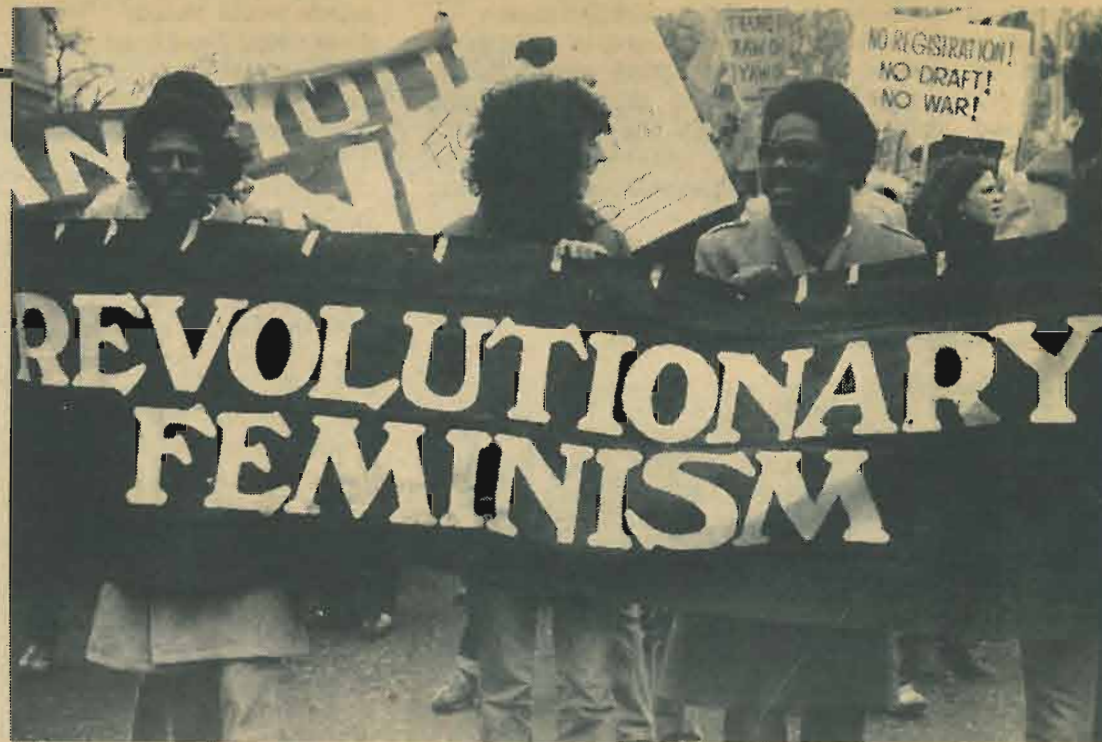
The government's ten leading economic indicators were down a record 4.8% in April.

All ten indicators were down, which has happened only once before since the statistics were first gathered in 1948.

The previous record plunge in the economic index was in 1974, when the economy was in the midst of the sharpest downturn since the end of the Second World War. Then, the index dropped only 3%.

PLUNGE

The recession has already had a devastating effect on the lives of working people. All along jobs have been scarce and prices continue to rise. Now we are being told things will get to be even worse.



Join Us

- I want to join
- I want more information about the International Socialist Organization

Name _____

Address _____

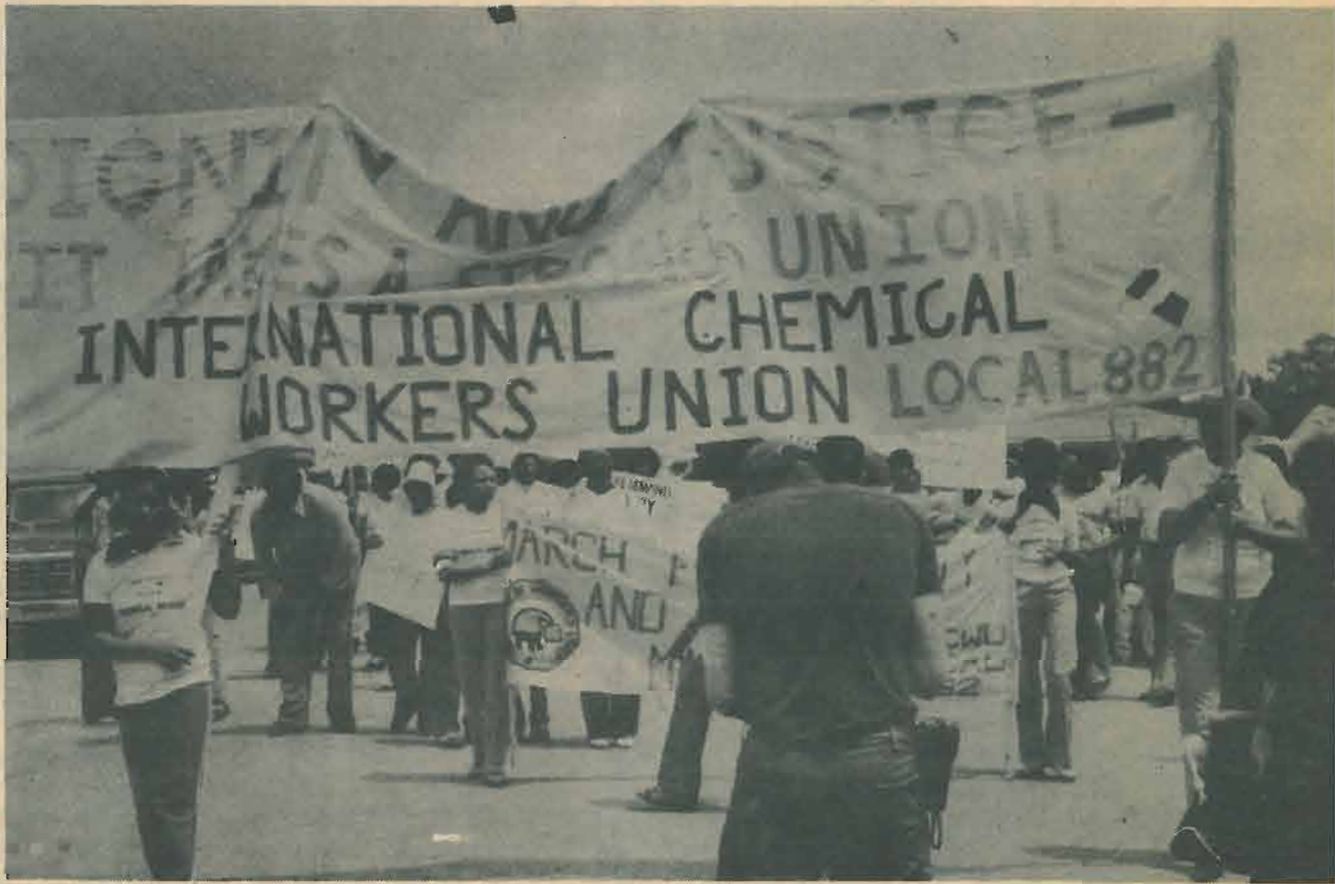
ISO PO Box 18037, Cleveland, OH 44118

Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST ORGANIZATION

2,500 Sanderson Farms Strikers and Supporters

March For Dignity and Justice



LAUREL, MS—Trade unionists and community groups from all over the South joined the March for Dignity and Justice in support of the 208 women who have been on strike for fifteen months at Sanderson Farms—a chicken processing plant in Laurel, Mississippi.

2,500 people took part on the march and thousands more cheered along the sidewalks of the route.

SUPPORT

Jones County teachers, maritime workers, oil, chemical and atomic workers, elec-

tricians and auto workers gave their support.

The Coalition of Black Trade Unionists and the Coalition of Labor Women organized delegations.

Community and church groups joined in with these, and the Black people of Laurel, and sang and chanted through the streets of the small town to the gates of Sanderson's plant on the outskirts.

"We're fired up, we ain't taking no more," was the call which brought many onlookers into the march.

A voice in the middle of the march would shout: "What do we want?" and hundreds of voices would reply: "A contract!" "What do we want it?" "Right now!"

Then this march of Black and white people would take up the theme that could ignite a new movement against discrimination: "Ra, ra, ro, ro, racist Joe has got to go!"

At the factory gate the International Chemical Workers Union President, Frank Martino, stressed: "This strike is about a lot more than just Sanderson or Laurel. There are plants like this all over the South. It is a fight for trade unionism. Today is a beginning, not an end."

The most moving speech came from Gloria Jordan, one of the women on strike and Vice President of Local 882 of the ICWU.

WRONG

"We told that 'master' what was wrong. We did it for ten

months. That didn't work, so we came on strike.

"I know how to pick cotton with ice on it, but if I can't do that work in Sanderson Farms, then I'm sure my daughters won't be doing it.

"The work was so hard that people would cry. One woman was crying so much I thought her mother had died. That's why we're fighting."

The union is certain that if the heat is kept on, then Sanderson will be forced around the negotiating table to bargain for a decent contract. Since his aim is to bust the union, then that in itself would be the start of a victory for the Sanderson women and for the South.

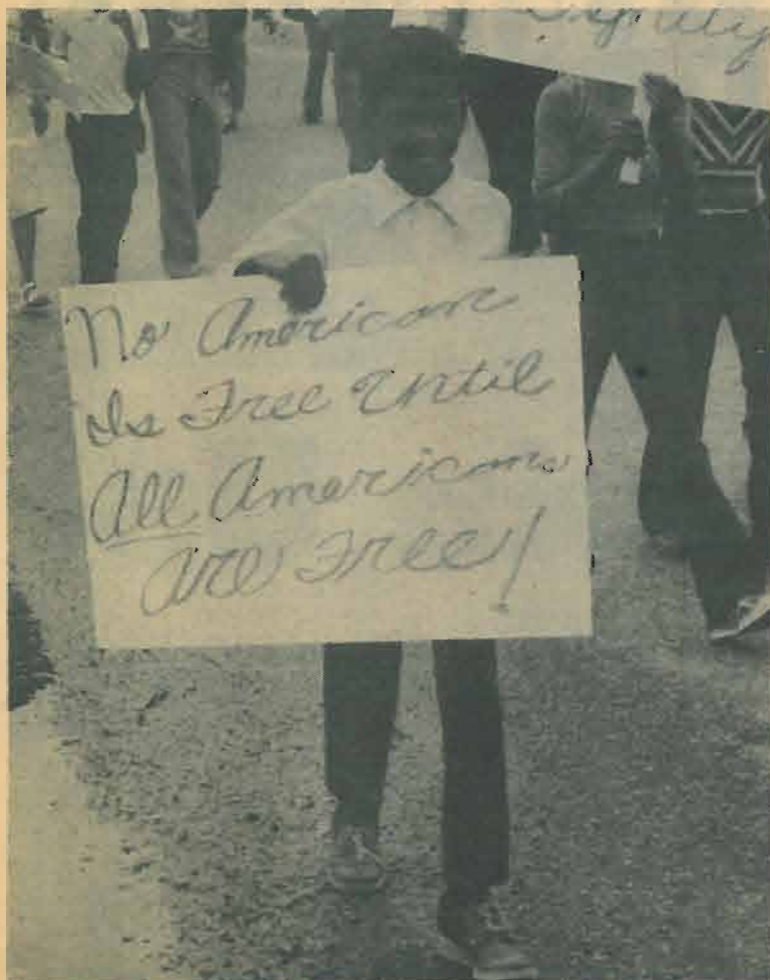
One way you can help keep the heat on is to raise the issue in your own union and get financial support to the Sanderson workers. Even a letter of support makes all the difference when you're walking a picket line 24 hours a day.



Gloria Jordan.

You can help organize a local boycott of Miss Goldy and Southern Beauty chickens. If your store sells them, get some of the official leaflets from the union office in Akron and start distributing them.

Or you can help organize the boycott of Church's Fried Chicken. There's bound to be one near you.



Socialist Worker

Have Socialist Worker delivered to your door every month. Just fill in the form below and enclose \$5 for a one year (12 issues) subscription; \$10 for a supporting subscription; and \$10 for an institutional subscription.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send to: Socialist Worker, Box 18037, Cleveland, Ohio 44118

Subscribe!