

WORKERS' POWER

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Teamster Talks Down To The Wire

April 1: NO CONTRACT, NO WORK

by Jim Woodward

Negotiations on a new Master Freight Agreement in the trucking industry are reaching the final stages. And even as Teamster President Frank Fitzsimmons prepares to take a strike vote, the crisis of his kind of leadership in the union is becoming embarrassingly apparent.

The deadline approaching is April 1, when the contract covering 435,000 drivers, dock and warehouse workers expires. This year, the employers have taken the most hard-nosed attitude ever. They have walked out of bargaining sessions, demanded concessions from the union negotiators, and gone over the negotiators' heads to the union membership.

In the face of this employer resistance, Fitz has been able to win next to nothing. The latest employer offer is amazingly skimpy: an 85c wage increase over three years; an increase in the "cap" on cost-of-living to only 25c per year; and an actual decrease in the formula through which cost-of-living pay is calculated.

In addition, the employers are demanding a lower wage rate for new employees. One Teamster called it "nothing less than a union-breaking proposal."

The union leadership has set strike authorization meetings for March 27-28. But it has provided the membership with virtually no information about what is going on.

That role has fallen to CONVOY, the publication of Teamsters for a Decent Contract (TDC).

TDC is a nationwide group of rank and file Teamsters. TDC has

kept enough pressure on Fitzsimmons to prevent an early capitulation to the employers. In the final days before April 1, and in the period after the contract expires, TDC has a critical job.

According to Ken Paff, TDC Secretary, the group will have leaflets ready for this weekend's meetings, and a special issue of CONVOY will be published Monday to keep the heat on the International. "If there is strike activity," Paff said in a telephone interview, "we have plans to issue a daily strike bulletin to keep everyone in touch."

PORK BARREL

In discussing the bargaining, Paff said: "In these negotiations the employers have absolute, complete, total contempt for the union, because Frank Fitzsimmons has let it degenerate into a pork barrel for himself and his friends."

"The union has lost so much power that the employers are not going to give anything up without a lot of persuading. Everyone knows that's the case, because it's the same thing that's been happening to us on the local level. They [the employers] have been pushing us around right and left—and getting away with it."

A strike, of course, is the way to reverse this state of affairs. But the strike votes this weekend do not mean a strike will take place.

Fitzsimmons is still unwilling to fight—even when he can smell the bad breath of defeat. And he has numerous delaying tactics at his disposal: contract extensions, quickie "let off the steam" strikes,

last-minute new offers, and more.

The government could also step in. Secretary of Labor W.J. Usery has recently been involved in the negotiations, and anti-strike injunctions are possible.

The thing to remember, though, is that all of these tricks will work only so long as the rank and file let them. The principle to remember is: "April 1, No Contract—No Work." □



McClinton Brown, chairing the Michigan UPSurge meeting, March 20: "First of all, we'd better set the ground rules tonight. If there are any supervisors, center managers, or whoever you may be—we are not on a brown truck tonight. We are not in a center.

"To make it sweet, you're in UPSurge country, baby."

Story on p.5

What We Think

Ford Threatens War

Gerald Ford and Henry Kissinger are afraid the white racist rulers of Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) may be overthrown. This week, they've come up with a new way to try to stop that from happening.

They are threatening to blockade or invade Cuba.

Does that make sense? To Ford and Kissinger, it does. If black national liberation fighters in Zimbabwe accept aid from Russia or Cuba, they warn the U.S. will step in.

Since nobody believes the U.S. government can directly intervene in Zimbabwe—it just failed miserably in Angola—Ford and Kissinger let it leak out that they have drawn up plans for possible attacks on the

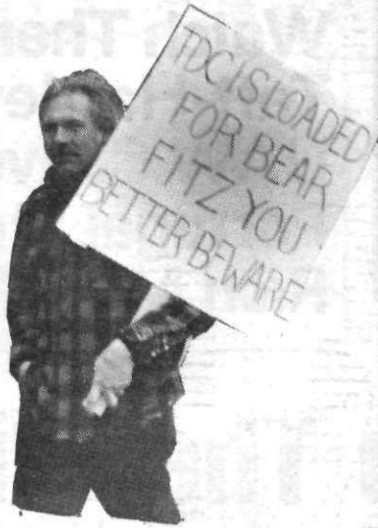
territory of Cuba itself.

Of course, any invasion or blockade might lead to World War III. These push-button, power-bloated imperialist statesmen who run the capitalist system are ready to play clever games with the lives of three or four billion people—just to buy a little more time for a white regime which lives on black slave labor.

Then again, they may be bluffing. At this point we don't know if Washington is really serious about threatening a war with Cuba. We don't know how long it will take for capitalism to destroy the world. The question is, can we afford to leave this system in power long enough to find out? □

labor notes

by Jim Woodward



Who really runs the country? Is it government or big business? Some time ago, under growing environmental pressure, Congress established the **Environmental Protection Administration (EPA)**. The EPA set up deadlines for compliance with various pollution standards. The steel industry, for instance, is expected to meet certain water pollution standards by 1977.

If our society wasn't based on the profit motive, industry would be expected to clean up their pollution with no procrastination. But three steel companies threatened to shut eight Ohio steel mills if the pollution regulations were enforced, throwing lots of people out of work. So the EPA has backed down and exempted these mills from the regulations.

It's not even a case here of the cost driving a marginal company into bankruptcy—**U.S. Steel, Republic Steel, and Youngstown Sheet & Tube** are all making lots of money. It's just a matter of greed. Making lots of money is more important to these companies than cleaning up the air and water. And if you've got lots of money, you get to decide which is more important.

Some of the money **U.S. Steel** could be spending on pollution controls is actually going to increase the pollution levels. Maybe you've seen the series of ads they've been publishing, featuring "prominent Americans." **George Meany** lends his name and picture to the latest ad, praising the steel industry's no-strike agreement with the United Steel Workers union.

The California Supreme Court has upheld the "access rule" which allows farm union organizers to enter the fields at certain times during the day to talk to farm workers. However, the rule is under attack in the state legislature, where the growers want it changed as the price for allowing union representation elections to continue.

In Seattle, officials of the **Teamsters Union** are continuing their attacks on the **United Farm Workers Union**. Since they've been unable to defeat the UFW in the fields, they've taken on the YWCA. When the **Seattle YWCA** seemed on the verge of formally endorsing the UFW boycott, Joe Edgar, head of Teamsters Joint Council 37 in Portland, stepped in. He threatened to cut off all Teamsters contributions to the United Way if the YWCA endorsed the Farm Workers. It worked. Joe Edgar must be proud of himself.

Last week this column carried a report from the **Cincinnati UPS hub**, stating that management had closed up the vending machines. We said that management claimed the workers had broken the machines, when in fact a supervisor had been seen using a coat-hanger to break in. Since then, a Cincinnati UPS worker has told us that he doesn't know anything about such an incident at his center. We checked further, and here are the details: The center involved is the main hub in Cincinnati, and the supervisor who broke into the vending machine is **Bob Irwin**. There are four witnesses. However, the vending machines are only out of operation for the AM sort and the Metro shift. Management claims the workers on those night shifts are responsible. The vending machines are now emptied each night and re-stocked in the morning.

Dept. of small but important victories: Mailroom clerks working at the **Presbyterian Hospital** in New York used to be referred to as "boys." They have now won the right to be addressed as "men" or called by their names.

The **International Society of Skilled Trades (ISST)**, a right-wing group which is trying to break skilled tradesmen out of the auto workers and rubber workers unions, has lost an important decision at the National Labor Relations Board. An NLRB examiner has dismissed the ISST's petition for a representation election. But the ISST can appeal, and promises "full-scale strike action."

Is the Democratic Party really the friend of working people? Well, look at the latest horse in the stable of Democratic presidential candidates. He is **Reed Larson**, head of the **National Right to Work Committee**, an out-and-out anti-union organization, funded primarily by employers. Larson's candidacy will probably be official shortly. His aim is to publicize his group's opposition to union-shop contracts.

If your work-place is a safety hazard, you might try this. **Ironworkers** at a hospital construction site in Erie, Pa. were plagued by serious injuries due to unsafe conditions. So every hour they held a 15-minute "prayer break," "to thank the good Lord that they had got through the hour without a serious accident" and to request protection for the next hour. Whatever the reason, the strategy worked after only one day. The contractors even agreed to pay the ironworkers for their time lost praying.

What's happening where you work? Send items for this column to: **Labor Notes, Workers' Power, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, Michigan 48203. Or phone 313-869-5964.**

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A TALE OF TWO FATHERS:

ONE RICH...



Seward Prosser Mellon is one of the richest men in the world. He is the 33-year-old overseer to the Mellon fortunes—estimated between 3 and 5 billion dollars.

The Mellon family made its money originally in banking. Today a large part of the Mellon fortune is made by ripping off Angolan oil to the tune of \$800 million in Gulf stock, and exploiting the labor of aluminum workers to the tune of \$500 million in Alcoa stock.

The Mellon family runs Pittsburgh and much of Pennsylvania. Seward Mellon does what he wants—and gets away with it.

Last week this son of a long line of thieves stole his daughters, Catherine, 7, and Constance, 5.

The two little girls had been living with their mother, Karen Mellon, in New York.

Karen Mellon had been awarded custody of the children by the New York State Supreme Court. The New York decision overruled a Pennsylvania court which had previously awarded custody to the father.

Seward Prosser Mellon did not like that—so he had his hired hands kidnap the little girls.

POSED AS FBI

Two men posing as the FBI whisked the children away from their bodyguard. The car, thugs, and little girls disappeared. Mellon said later the girls were safe but would not reveal their whereabouts.

The New York police are not sure if they will do anything. If the

children have been taken to Pennsylvania they say the kidnapping is no longer under their jurisdiction.

The Pennsylvania courts and the Pennsylvania police also will do nothing. They take their orders, indirectly—or sometimes directly—from the Mellon family and their friends.

Karen Mellon is afraid she will never see her children again. "Because of the power my husband has in Pennsylvania," she said.

Now that she is on the outs with this family, she is seeing the other side of the power she once enjoyed as the wife of a rich man.

"He owns the Pennsylvania courts," she said. Once she was in her husband's office when a judge called. "The judge asked him what kind of a decision to make." □

...ONE POOR

The law is not so easily manipulated by Thomas Boronson. Boronson is a migrant worker and the father of six children.

Boronson is currently in jail waiting trial on charges of assault and first degree kidnapping.

Driven to desperation by hunger and a sick baby, the Boronson family held three welfare workers hostage. They demanded immediate relief and "that the system be changed so that others can get help."

The Boronsons had been without an income for several months. They had repeatedly been denied assistance by the Welfare Department.

RELEASED UNHARMED

The welfare office manager agreed to their demands after three hours. The hostages were released unharmed.

Thomas Boronson and his family had been living in a broken down 1956 school bus in Portland,



Oregon. They had come to Portland looking for work. They could not find any.

The Boronsons were unable to get welfare or food stamps because of an Oregon state law which requires that aid recipients have a permanent address.

Migrant workers living in a broken down bus—even though penniless and close to starvation—do not qualify.

The family had been surviving by selling their blood.

"But we only had one meal a day for two months, and yesterday my

wife and son were turned down by the blood bank because their blood was low in iron because they haven't been eating properly," Boronson said after releasing the hostages.

"What could I do?" said Boronson. "I won't steal or rob. So this was the only thing I could do to get my family taken care of."

"I know that I will go to jail, but I know that my family will be taken care of."

The family is now receiving assistance that had been previously denied them. □

Thomas Boronson is rotting in jail. The Oregon judge refused to release him in the custody of a Portland minister.

His only crime—attempting to save his family from starvation. His only victims—three unharmed welfare workers. His penalty—jail.

Seward Mellon stole his daughters from their mother, who had legal custody. Here too, there are three victims—the two girls and the

mother.

All three have been harmed: the girls are still held captive, the mother threatened with never seeing her children again. There is no question of Mellon's guilt, yet he continues to rule his empire untouched.

There is one set of laws for the rich and one set for the poor. Think about it. For most of us, capitalism is a rotten, foul system. Its end is long overdue. □

Check Out These Turkeys!

What causes cancer? Maybe the government's Food and Drug Administration.

The FDA allowed thousands of contaminated turkeys to be put on the market.

The turkeys were tainted with a drug that is presumed to cause cancer.

The Agricultural Department found the poisoned flock last summer.

WRONG LOT

But when it came time to destroy

the birds, they got the wrong grower name and the wrong lot.

Healthy birds were killed, the contaminated ones combined with other lots, processed, and sold as turkey rolls.

The FDA found out. They are the agency it is supposed to make sure food is pure. What did they do?

A July 22 memo by Dr. C.D. Van Houweling, director of the FDA's Bureau of Veterinary Medicine reveals that they purposely did nothing.

He argued that the FDA had no

"obligation" to act since the turkeys were under the Agriculture Department's jurisdiction.

ASK NO QUESTIONS

Dr. Houweling instructed his bureau not to ask the department for any more information on the turkeys.

The whole affair came to light March 19 during a hearing of a Congressional subcommittee on "Oversight and Investigations."

This is no oversight—it's a crime. □

THE PRIMARIES: Would You Buy A Used-Up Wallace From This Man?

by Gay Semel



RACING FOR THE RIGHT

The first six Presidential primaries are over. The candidates who started out a faceless mob have been whittled down in number. The politics of those remaining has come into sharper focus.

What has emerged is a clear move to the right in both parties.

GERRY'S GIVEAWAYS

In the Republican Party Ford has emerged top dog. Two weeks before the New Hampshire race Ford's future was in question. He appeared about to become the first incumbent to lose his party's nomination.

How did Ford recapture the lead?

Ford beat Reagan in the first five primaries by adopting the most popular of his opponent's issues and leaving Reagan the lunatic ones.

Reagan's most successful attack on Ford has been the area of foreign policy. He received applause by calling detente a giveaway to the Russians.

Ford went around Reagan's right end. He dropped the word "detente." He and Kissinger demanded Congress authorize increased funds for continued US involvement in Angola.

Only three months ago Kissinger indicated interest in opening relations with Cuba—today he threatens possible military invasion.

PORK BARREL CONSERVATIVE

Even more successful for Ford's campaign has been the apparent upturn in the economy.

Ford's first economic policy and his continued rhetoric have been fiscal conservatism.

While preaching a balanced budget, Ford's budget for 1975-76 includes a deficit of \$125 billion, the largest in history. Ford's giant deficit has bought a limited recovery that should get us through the election.

Much of the increased deficit is the result of tax incentives to business and increases in arms spending.

Little has been done to put the 10 million unemployed to work or ease the burdens of life in cities stripped of basic services.

Inflation and then another recession by 1978 will follow but in the meantime the temporary recovery almost guarantees Ford the nomination and a real crack at re-election.

Ford has also learned a few other political tricks. He has learned how to put together a vote-getting machine that includes making ample use of his office. Ford is using the Presidency to buy support with the same energy as Nixon and Johnson before him.

A small sampling of the patronage thrown around by Ford includes:

- in New Hampshire—promising to keep the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard open when the Defense Department had previously threatened to close it down.
- He appointed Warren Rudman, New Hampshire's Attorney General, chairman of the ICC.
- In Florida—he helped the City of Orlando win the 1978 International Chamber of Commerce Convention. The Air Force awarded an Orlando company a \$33.6 million contract for missiles.
- The Dept. of Transportation granted \$15 million to launch a rapid transit system to Dade County.

Mr. Clean has become Dirty Dick.

But most working people expect that of the Republican Party—after all the Republican Party is the party for Big Business. The truth is that the Democratic Party, too, is a party of Big Business. And developments in the Democratic Party also mark a shift to the right.

Most of those already eliminated by the Democratic Party primaries have been the liberals—Birch Bayh, Sargent Shriver and Fred Harris. Only Morris Udall remains—and he is running fourth.

In front of him are Jimmy Carter, Scoop Jackson and George Wallace.

Wallace is running a poor third but he blames his losses on the fact that the other guys "stole his speech." He is right.

Jackson has stolen the busing issue. He is almost as viciously anti-busing as is Wallace—he is also a more respectable candidate inside the Democratic Party. The racist forces now back Jackson because he has a chance.

Jimmy Carter has stolen Wallace's anti-Washington rhetoric. He claims to be a peanut farmer

trying to represent the little people. The truth is that Carter is a wealthy man who makes his money in commodity speculation.

The Democratic Party claims to be the party that represents the interests of black people. These primaries have proven what a vicious lie that is. Because of Wallace's extreme racism and Jackson's more subtle version, blacks who have bothered to vote, have voted for Carter.

But Carter is getting the black vote only because he says nothing about the interests of black people—while the others are openly racist.

Because Carter says nothing he also gets a large section of the anti-black vote. In Florida he received 70% of the black vote and 50% of the anti-black vote. In North Carolina he drew 90% of the black vote and 70% of the conservative white vote.

Carter pulls this off by talking out of both sides of his mouth. Part of his general campaign speech includes a list of American heroes. To integrated audiences he in-

cludes Martin Luther King. To all-white audiences King is omitted.

Carter opened a campaign office in Boston's black ghetto. But it was never open.

His was the only one who even bothered. There are few blacks on the staffs of the candidates. No meetings in the black community. Nothing.

Jimmy Carter now has top billing as the Democratic Party "front runner." That does not mean he will necessarily get the nomination. Inside the real power centers of the Democratic Party, he is still little more than a smiling mouth full of gleaming teeth.

But Jimmy Carter's primary successes are a real symbol of the Democratic Party's role in American politics. He has held the votes of black people struggling for a better life—and stolen much of George Wallace's program for himself.

Wallace put it very well. Jimmy Carter, he sadly observed, "drinks from the same dipper as I do, but he just has a bigger mouth."

These primaries prove the danger of voting for the best of a bad lot—a process called "lesser evilism."

Blacks have supported the Democratic Party for decades because they are not as bad as the Republican Party. The Democratic Party knows this. As long as the Republican Party exists and is openly reactionary the black vote is tied to the Democratic Party.

When blacks begin to fight back as they did in the 60's, the Democratic Party hacks get worried. "Maybe black people will stop voting for the lesser evil."

Campaign offices are opened in the ghetto, and a lot of promises are made. Then the election is over and the promises forgotten.

Remember, the Democratic Party too is a party of Big Business. Most of its promises are never meant to be kept. Once elected the Democratic Party candidates obey the real interests they serve.

The same process happens with the working class—black and white. The Democratic Party says it is the party of working people. And year after year working people vote for the Democratic Party—because it sounds better than the Republican Party—and year after year the Democratic Party sells working people out.

There is one very important lesson to be learned from these primaries—and we must learn it well.

The solution to the problems of working people does not lie with the Democratic Party or with the politics of lesser evilism. The solution to our problems lies in building a powerful rank and file movement in this country that can win back our unions.

The solution lies in using a fighting union movement to build a party of our own.

ELECTION '76 — VOTE NO!

Third Ticket Goes Bust

by Ellen Donnelly

The National Black Political Assembly (NBPA) held its convention in Cincinnati on March 18-21. The purpose of the convention was to determine the organization's future strategy and activities.

The Assembly was called together in response to the fact that the Democratic and Republican Presidential candidates have totally ignored the demands of black people in the election primaries.

The rhetoric of the Assembly's leaders was militant. Ron Daniels, a key organizer of the convention, talked a lot about how the capitalist system oppresses blacks, how it is

an anti-human profit system which ignores human needs. What is needed today, he said, are "new politics for black people."

But for the NBPA new politics for black people turned out to be nothing more than the same old politics. They are trying to find a black Democrat willing to run as a third party candidate for President, not as a way to build an independent black movement, but as a means to pressure the Democratic Party to notice blacks.

The convention offered no program. Its only strategy was to run someone for office. But its two Presidential nominees, Democrats

Julian Bond and Ron Dellums, declined the nomination.

Dellums and Bond have been looked to as the most left of the Democratic Party Congressmen. But their ties to their roles in the Democratic Party are too great. The strategy of the planners and supporters of the NBPA collapsed.

The NBPA convention closed with a bust. Its disastrous Democratic Party orientation turned the conference into a bad joke. NBPA has only succeeded in further dissipating the tremendous anger and political potential power of the black community in this election year. □



"Henry...!"

Black Lung Sellout

by Cal Williams

Arnold Miller, President of the United Mine Workers, recently wrote to the New York Times, urging "wholehearted support" for the new black lung reform bill.

Miller wrote this just as a young West Virginia miner was being imprisoned for allegedly leading wildcat strikes protesting the new legislation as inadequate. Bruce Miller of District 17 was given six months.

These two stories say a great deal about the state of the leadership of the United Mine Workers.

For years miners fought for black lung protection. For years the coal companies and the legislatures in the coal states denied that black lung even existed, let alone that it was common among miners.

Only in 1969, 30 years after similar legislation was introduced in Britain, was the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act established.

And this came only after massive wildcat strikes and demonstrations threatened to cripple the nation's economy. Arnold Miller was one of the leaders of this movement.

That Act, however, was far from satisfactory. Today a disabled miner can receive \$198.80 a month if single and \$393.50 a month with three or more dependents.

Not much, but worse is the fact that 366,200 miners have been turned down since 1969.

The black lung (pneumoconiosis) is a terrible disease. It is an acknowledged medical fact that nearly all coal miners get it.

According to one disabled miner, "You get short of breath, can't walk up a hill, you even get tired talking."

Nevertheless the coal companies and their doctors and lawyers fight virtually every claim, and tie up cases for years, even though a miner must quit work to qualify.

The Black Lung Association, the miners' organization that has led the fight for protection, introduced a bill last year that would give automatic compensation to any miner with 15 years in the mines.

But what came out of Congress, and what Arnold Miller is now campaigning for, is a bill that gives automatic compensation only after 30 years.

Worse, the 30 years must have been completed before 1971, the year that new regulations covering mine ventilation were enforced.

FEW BENEFIT

That is why according to Arnold Miller, only 4800 miners will benefit from the new bill and hundreds of thousands of others will continue to suffer.

The 1971 cutoff date was included because the mines are supposed to be less dusty now. But in January the UMW Journal featured an article by Steve Early which proved that "thousands of UMW members may be exposed to on-the-job dust levels far above legal maximums."

The article also quoted Welby Courtney, a Bureau of Mines inspector from Pittsburgh. He said, that dust control programs now enforced were "inadequate" and "unsatisfactory," that today miners "were subjected to flagrantly hazardous environments."

This new bill is in fact a terrible betrayal of disabled miners... of all miners. But no one should be surprised if it is the best Arnold Miller can do.

The bill is the logical conclusion of a strategy that substitutes begging in Congress for fighting in the coal fields.

Surely it's time for miners to organize again, to build a new rank and file movement based on 100% unionism, class struggle unionism.

Its first job is to free Bruce Miller.

TAFT-HARTLEY:

WHAT IS IT IS AND HOW TO FIGHT IT

by Ken Brown

If a national trucking strike breaks out April 1, the Government may move to break it with a Taft-Hartley injunction. Just what is Taft-Hartley?

Taft-Hartley is a vicious anti-labor law that was passed in 1947. It has been used ever since to break strikes that the government decides "endanger the national health and security." It has broken seven longshore strikes, five in aerospace, three in maritime and two in atomic energy.

Taft-Hartley is one of the strongest strike-breaking tools the employers have. But it is also something else—a piece of paper. Like any other piece of paper, it can be torn up, burnt and thrown in the garbage by anyone with the strength to do it.

Taft-Hartley has been used twice against miners' strikes. Both times they defeated it. They had the power. Teamsters in 1976 have the same power. All they need behind them is the strength of a strike, of rank and file unity and an understanding of who and what they're up against.

Taft-Hartley is a labor relations bill for all seasons. Among other features it allows states to outlaw the union shop (section 14b), makes secondary boycotts illegal, and prohibits unions from using funds in election campaigns for federal office.

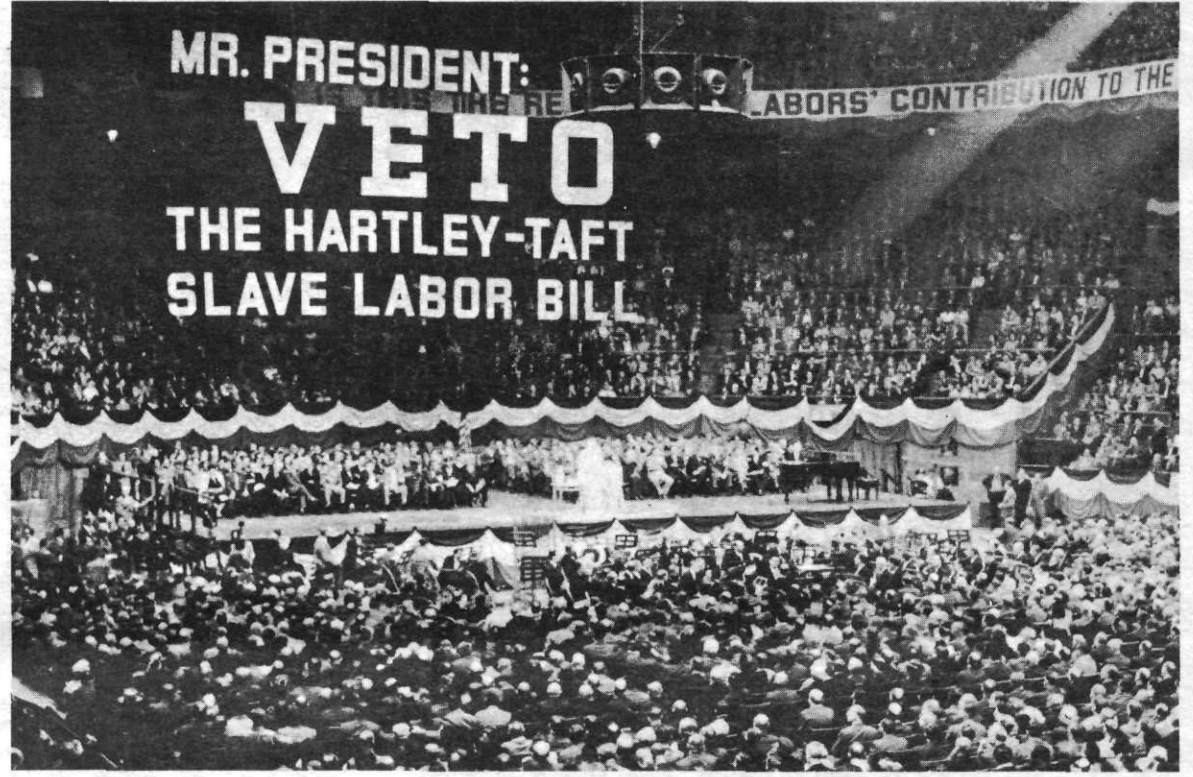
It also outlaws government employees' strikes, and prohibits Communists and others from holding union office for their political views, even if they are overwhelmingly elected by union members.

But for the coming Teamsters strike, the important section is the provision for an "80 day cooling off period" whenever a strike threatens "national interests," which means company profits.

This Act was passed by the Congress in 1947. In the House of Representatives 103 Democrats voted for it, 66 against. In the Senate it was 17 Democrats for, 15 against.

President Harry Truman, posing like a typical Democratic "friend of labor," vetoed the bill. He did so because he knew his veto would be overridden and the bill become law anyway. In the next 29 months, Truman proceeded to use Taft-Hartley 58 times, which is about once every two weeks.

The head of the American Federation of Labor, William Green, vowed "Labor will never become reconciled to this law" and would work 50 to 100 years if



necessary to abolish it.

The AFL thundered against the Slave Labor Law. But after a few years it worked only for repeal of section 14(b) and finally its opposition has quietly dribbled away to nothing.

BREAKING THE ACT

On June 23, 1947, the day the Act passed, 212,000 coal miners stopped work in Pennsylvania, Alabama, Ohio, Virginia and West Virginia in protest. Demonstrations of 100,000 were held in both New York and Detroit.

The United Mine Workers changed its contracts to include a provision that they could be terminated at 30 days notice. The penalty clause for wildcats was made null and void. The contract was operative only "during such time as such persons (miners) are able and willing to work."

On April 3, 1948 a judge issued an injunction against 320,000 coal miners at the request of President Truman. The miners struck to force the companies to make the payments into their pension fund as required by the contract.

John L. Lewis, head of the United Mine Workers, quoted the Taft-Hartley Act as saying, "nothing in this act shall be construed to require an individual employee to render labor or service without his

consent... nor shall any court issue any process to compel performance by an individual employee of such labor or service without his consent."

After four more days on strike in defiance of the injunctions the coal companies agreed to the full pension demands. Lewis telegraphed the locals that "your voluntary cessation of work should now be terminated."

Two-thirds of the miners stayed out on strike for two and a half months to remove the court's "contempt" action against the UMW and Lewis. On June 22 the judge was forced to rule the pension demand legal—a complete triumph.

On February 6, 1950 Truman issued a Taft-Hartley injunction against 100,000 striking miners. They were immediately joined by 270,000 more miners. Many UAW locals called for a 24-hour national strike. GM locals sent money and food to the miners and a huge labor caravan set off from Detroit. On March 5 the coal operators collapsed and agreed to 70c a day demanded by the miners.

BETTER ORGANIZED

The last thirty years have shown dozens of examples of Taft-Hartley as a powerful strike-breaking law. But they have also shown other

examples, like the miners' strikes, where Taft-Hartley proved useless to the government and the companies.

The difference is simply who is better organized, unified and determined—the bosses and the government they own, or the workers.

There are many other examples of all types of injunctions smashed by fighting unions.

In 1966 the Transit Workers Union shut down the New York City subways. Under state anti-strike laws the union's president was jailed, but the strike held—and won.

During the recent bitter Pittsburgh teachers' strike, fines of \$490,000 a day were levied against the union and its members. After the strike the judge went on TV and announced that most of this was uncollectable—it was only meant to intimidate.

That is the real purpose of every anti-strike injunction, fine or jailing—intimidation and fear.

But lessons are learned quickly. If school teachers can break injunctions, Teamsters know very well they can, too.

A Teamster militant in Pittsburgh told Workers' Power: "The feeling here in the street is absolutely clear. If we can stick together, if we've got unity, then that injunction is just like any other piece of paper—worthless."

Sterling Heights Walkout Could Cripple Ford

DETROIT—On March 24, United Auto Workers Local 228 at the Ford Sterling Heights axle plant walked out on an official strike over long-standing health and safety violations.

The immediate provocation was the suspension of one of the committeemen at the plant.

When the strike began there were over 250 health and safety grievances pending. Conditions at the plant are impossible. The hi-los are in bad need of repair—and two workers have been hurt driving them. Oil is all over the floor. One worker slipped in the mess and hurt his back. He was out of the plant for two months.

There are no guards on the machines. Recently a worker demanded a guard—management did nothing—and shortly afterward

this same worker lost two thumbs.

These are just some of the examples. Throughout the plant there are numerous health and safety violations. Management has consistently refused to do anything about them. And until the committeeman was given time off in a related question, the local also consistently refused to act.

The Sterling Heights plant is a critical plant for Ford Motor Co. It is the only plant producing axles. If the strike continues for very long, it could shut down the entire Ford operation.

The conditions at the axle plant are not unusual. Speed-up, overtime, and health and safety violations are the rule, not the exception today as the auto companies push full speed ahead in the economic recovery to raise their profits to new heights.

Injunctions: Made To Be Broken

Taft-Hartley injunctions are not the only type of strike-breaking injunctions likely to be issued in a trucking strike. All a company lawyer has to do is draw up a draft injunction, leave a blank for the signature and go in and visit a friendly judge. The union or the workers don't even have to be notified.

Judges are usually political hacks promoted upstairs or former corporate lawyers thoroughly dedicated to the capitalist system. They sign the Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) limiting or ending picketing all together and a hearing is held in a few days to decide if it should be made permanent.

The injunction is then served on the strikers and union officials.

Those officials who are cowardly order the strikers back to work. But those dedicated to the members' interests defy it and go to jail if necessary.

The miners repeatedly raised the slogan, "You can't mine coal with bayonets." Neither can 400,000 truck drivers and dock workers be replaced by the army. Whether or not the union leadership orders strikers back to work, a real rank and file leadership will call for defiance of any injunctions, Taft-Hartley or otherwise.

Leadership can be exercised in jail, if it comes to that—and there are thousands of rank and file leaders around the country willing to carry on the battle.

MICHIGAN JOINS THE UPSurge

Photos by Dorreen Leitz



"We're not going to wait until the last minute and then get ready. We are preparing for a strike now, if that is necessary, because if I have learned anything in the last three years I've worked for UPS, the only thing they understand is force."

"That is the only thing they understand, and where we're going to get that force is right here—the membership. You have to bring those brown trucks to a halt, that's all."

That's what Anne Mackie told almost 500 United Parcel Service workers meeting in a Detroit suburb March 20. Mackie is editor of the UPSurge newspaper, and the movement started by that paper has swept through UPS hubs all across the country.

The Detroit rally was called in preparation for a widely anticipated strike when UPS' Central States Contract with the Teamsters Union expires May 1.

The rally was preceded by a session of the central states UPSurge steering committee, which brought people from as far away as Minneapolis and Kansas City to discuss UPSurge's plans for the coming weeks.

RALLY APRIL 10

The steering committee decided to call a major rally in Chicago April 10. UPSers will come from all over the midwest, joining in a car caravan from a UPS hub to the site of the contract negotiations.

General principles of strike strategy were discussed at the rally.

John Hiner, a Livonia feeder driver, brought cheers when he said: "Together, we can bring this big brown precision-made machine to its knees and make them bargain fairly for a decent contract."

"Remember one thing," he added. "You are either part of the problem or part of the solution. And if you are part of the problem, get the hell out of the way because the fight is on!"



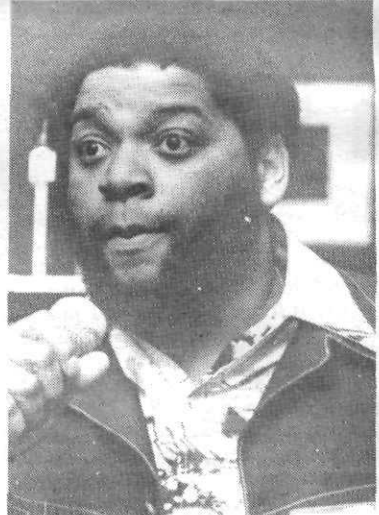
MIKE GORGES, Livonia feeder: "I've got this to say for Fitz. If he don't want to fight, stand aside because we're going to win."



VINCE MEREDITH, Louisville, Ky., chief steward: "I've had people come up and say, 'What's going to happen to UPSurge when the contract's ratified?'"

"Well, let me tell you that UPSurge is going to be more important than it ever was before, because we're going to have to sit here for the next three years and keep this union on the ball, and keep this union from negotiating the next contract we ratify down the drain through the grievance procedure..."

"Three years from now, we're going to put our people on the negotiating committee and take these BA's and let 'em sit in the back of the room!"



CHUCK HENRY, steward, Cicotte Hub: "Make sure that your 'must' proposals are stated the way that you want them stated [in the contract]. If they aren't, just vote no."

"We must not, we can not, and I hope we will not let dollar signs blur our vision, and lose what UPSurge has fought for these past few months."

"WE WILL NOT BE DIVIDED"

One of the topics taken up by the central states UPSurge steering committee when it met in Detroit was the company's red-baiting campaign against UPSurge and its leaders.

The steering committee issued a statement that, "This campaign has one purpose—to keep people divided and confused. Then UPS can continue to run its operation in a dictatorial manner."

"UPSurge stands for one thing, to improve our working conditions at UPS and get our union to represent us properly. The political point of view of any of the people participating in UPSurge does not matter as long as they agree with this goal."

ATTACKS DISCUSSED

Several of the rally speakers mentioned the red-baiting attacks. Cathy Wessels, a sorter from the Livonia hub, said: "The company might say that you're just dumb truck drivers."

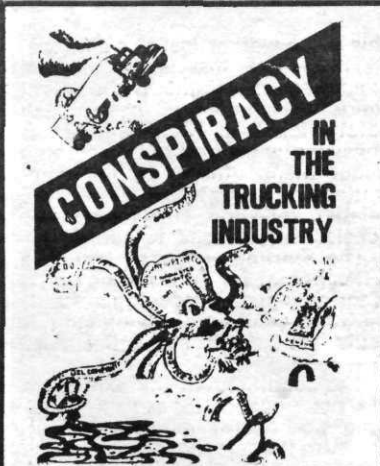
"The company might say that you can't make up your mind about what kind of political system you want to live under. But we're not going to tell you that here."

"We think that we have the right to have a free discussion on the kind of political system that we want, the kind of union that we want, and the kind of jobs we want."

Anne Mackie concluded: "It's important for everyone to understand I'm not hiding the fact that I'm a socialist. I believe that we could run the company a lot better than those supervisors can. I'm proud to be a socialist."

"You're probably proud of the fact that you're a Republican or a Democrat or whatever it is that you believe in. But the point is we are unified on a few basic things."

"That's the fight against UPS to get better working conditions and the fight to get our representation. And don't let the company tell you anything different."



Order from: Sun Distribution, 14131 Woodward Avenue, Highland Park, MI 48203. 50c postpaid. 40% for ten or more copies.

THREE HURT IN XEROX SCAB RAMPAGE

INDIANAPOLIS—Three people were injured the night of March 22 when a non-union semi ran through a picket line at the Xerox book warehouse here.

Teamster Local 193 went on strike March 20. The unidentified trucker headed his rig for the gate after returning from the dispatcher's office.

At about 40 mph he ran over one picket's leg.

Then he plowed into the back of a car, pinning another picket to a telephone pole. The truck roared through the gate which the strikers themselves had opened.

HARASSMENT

Warehouse workers and book pickers have been under continual harassment for at least six months.

The rank and file and their stewards, Lee Montgomery and Jim Mann, have already forced management to raise the temperature to a decent level and repair the leaky roof.

But Xerox attempted to speed up the workforce by raising the book picking rate to 800 an hour.

The strike is now 100% effective with full and part-timers banding together.

The workers believe that the company is trying to bust up the union by pitting casuals against full timers.

Xerox hoped to get the part-timers to accept a lousy contract with the promise of a full time job.

Management, however, wants the right to hire as many new part-timers as they wish and pay them non-union scale.

The ranks saw through this union busting scheme and are standing firm. They are demanding \$1.50 an hour increase over three years, job security for part-timers, improved sick leave benefits, and an end to ridiculous work standards.

Bill Connolly

Boycott "Child World"

BOSTON—On March 3, Teamsters from Local 653 in Massachusetts reported for work and found themselves locked out of their jobs.

The company, Child World, a toy distribution chain, refused to accept the workers' demands for a new contract.

These Teamsters now make \$3.50 an hour. They have no cost of living and no benefits.

They are asking for a 2-year contract with a cost of living increase, more paid holidays and sick time.

The company at first offered a three-year contract with a 20c raise per year. The Teamsters refused the offer and are sticking to their demands.

The workers want their jobs back, with better pay. Child World, located in 25 states across the country, says if the Teamsters get all they are asking for it would put the company out of business. But union employees at 653 know better.

HIGH PROFITS

One Teamster replied, "While Child World is in the process of expansion and opening new stores, it has \$20 million in reserves. Last year Child World made \$5 million in profits."

Since the first day of the lock out, 45 drivers and warehouse workers have organized picket lines in Dedham, Saugus, Natick, Hanover, and Brockton.

The Teamsters are asking people not to shop at Child World.

UAW Collective Bargaining Convention

WOODCOCK SNUBS RETIRED WORKERS SHORT WORK WEEK

by Jim Woodward

DETROIT—The United Auto Workers union held its Collective Bargaining Convention here March 18-20. The purpose was to set bargaining goals for this summer's contract negotiations with Ford, Chrysler, and General Motors. Here are the results of that convention:

- On Friday, the 19th, well over a thousand retired auto workers joined a massive demonstration in front of the convention hall, asking that the UAW fight for a cost-of-living allowance (COLA) on pensions.

Some of the retirees were veterans of the sit-down strikes that built the UAW in the 1930's. They felt they deserve the same COLA that active workers get. UAW President Leonard Woodcock said, "We can't do it. It's illegal."

- Remembering the massive layoffs of the last two years that put hundreds of thousands of auto workers on the streets, a number of delegates proposed that the fight for a short work week be made the number one bargaining goal of the union this year. Woodcock ruled it out of order.

- During the convention, Rick Martin, a delegate from Local 600 at the Ford Rouge plant, rose to report that three workers he represents in the coke ovens and blast furnaces unit had contracted cancer, all within the last month.

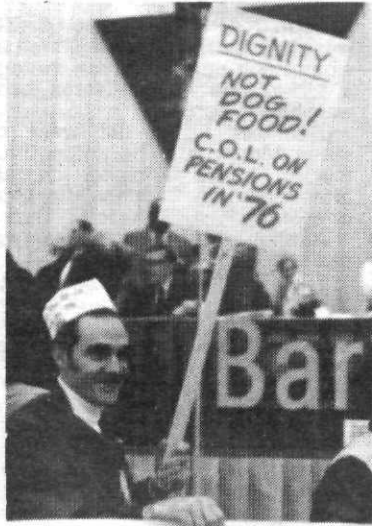
Martin spoke about the grave health dangers facing coke oven workers. He eloquently pleaded with Woodcock to allow a convention vote on a resolution calling for "25 and out" (retirement after 25 years) for coke workers, saying he would accept the convention decision if the vote went against him.

But there was no vote. Woodcock said it was not legally possible to reopen the contract on questions concerning retirement... and moved on to the next speaker.

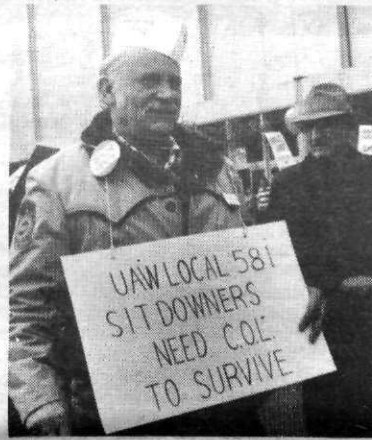
That's what happened at the Collective Bargaining Convention. The leadership produced a 69-page resolution that spoke to every question without committing the union to anything.

Woodcock won what he wanted—a free hand to bargain and

compromise as he pleases. The losers were the retirees, the workers who face the future fearful of more massive layoffs, and those coke oven workers (and the forge and foundry workers like them) whose very lives are being shortened even as you read this report.



This retiree had a message for Woodcock (in background).



Many convention delegates thought they had an obligation to the retired workers who built the union.

A massive demonstration drew close local unions in Detroit and Flint on

Holding up his resolution book, the delegate declared, "You say here that cost of living [on pensions] is against the law. It seems to me this resolution was written for the Big Three." □

How They Ran The Show

The Woodcock Team managed to get its way quite easily, even though there was massive popular support in and around the convention for the two issues the leadership had been skirting: cost-of-living on pensions, and the shorter work week.

The Friday morning demonstration on these two issues was massive, with 1500-2000 retirees and active workers participating.

Hundreds of delegates were seen wearing buttons supporting these two issues.

How then could the union leadership prevail without even coming close to losing anything important?

One reason is that the delegates to this convention were elected in the spring of 1974. There were no new elections held this year where the issues could be fought out on the shop floor.

And there were only a handful of delegates who entered the convention knowing what to expect from the Woodcock machine and prepared to put up a fight for a resolution with some teeth.

But more important were the tactics the International leadership used to prevent any meaningful discussion or voting.

FILIBUSTER

First there was the filibuster.

Almost two full days were taken up in just reading the 69-page resolution. All the delegates had the resolution in front of them.

And virtually without exception, they were bored to death.

Several speakers from the floor, and at least one newspaper ac-

count, commented on the listlessness of the delegates.

After the opening sessions, many delegate tables were close to empty. It looked a little bad in the press, but it was all according to plan.

Virtually no voting was allowed during the convention. Even attempts to dispense with the reading of the resolution were ignored.

The chairman ruled the resolution for cost-of-living on pensions "out of order."

But that required a bit of fancy maneuvering, since many delegates felt they had an obligation to protect the retirees against inflation.

Woodcock's arguments on this issue centered on the question of legality. In 1973, the UAW negotiated a pension agreement for six years.

Woodcock claims that to reopen it now would subject the union to legal action. He adds that, "beyond the law, there is a question of integrity of our contracts."

INTEGRITY!

The "integrity of contracts" with the Big Three has a hollow ring to it, since that integrity is apparently one-sided.

The auto companies have no such integrity, violating the contract whenever they think they can

get away with it.

One delegate refuted Woodcock quite well. He pointed out that in 1953 Walter Reuther demanded and got, a reopening of the contracts to deal with unexpected inflation.

And on the question of legality, the delegate noted that when Martin Luther King was fighting for black equality, he "was not concerned about what laws were written on the books down in Alabama."

On another issue, Canadian wage controls, Woodcock has implied that the union is willing to violate them, legal or not.

But he must feel that the "integrity of the contract" is worth more than the lives and dignity of retired auto workers.

Another, very simple resolution, on the short work week was raised by members of the Coalition for a Good Contract. And on that issue they were simply lied to, and then double-crossed by Woodcock and UAW Vice President Irving Bluestone. The resolution read:

"In the 1976 negotiations, the number one priority should be given to the short work week. The principle of the short work week should be a reduction in hours worked per week with no reduction in weekly earnings."

OUT OF ORDER

When this resolution was introduced on Friday morning, Woodcock said it would be in order after they had finished reading the 69-page official document.

On Saturday morning, before the

session began, Bluestone told one CGC member that the short work week resolution would be recognized first thing.

But when Bob Weissman, president of UAW Local 122, introduced the resolution, Woodcock ruled him out of order.

Woodcock's reason was breathtaking: the resolution, he said, was so much in opposition to the official resolution, that it could not be an amendment.

The delegates, he maintained, would have to throw out the entire 69-page document and start all over.

Weissman then tried to add one sentence, a quote from Woodcock's opening address to the convention, which said: "The central theme of 1976 bargaining has to be job security."

But that, Woodcock declared, was not necessary because the sense of it was already in the official resolution.

That was more than a little contradictory with his ruling the CGC's motion out of order, but by this time, late in the convention, there were not too many delegates around to notice.

"Please don't leave—we haven't voted!" shouted the wind-up speaker in the convention, as a massive exodus of delegates began.

The final vote on Woodcock's unamended resolution was unanimous—but that unanimity was just about as significant as the paper airplane one delegate sent soaring over the delegate body as the convention was adjourned. □



UAW President Woodcock (center) and other union officials watch demonstrators parade through convention hall.

IREES, ROPOSAL



2000 UAW members Friday morning. The demands were cost-of-living on pensions and a shorter work week. Several organized the demonstration, which was supported by the Coalition for a Good Contract.

Build The Coalition

Following the Collective Bargaining Convention, about 100 auto workers attended a meeting of the Coalition for a Good Contract (CGC). The CGC is the one group within the UAW which understands that a good contract means bucking the International, and is prepared to do it.

The Coalition is made up of various groups, including a few local unions, within the UAW.

It is united around a set of contract demands on job security, income protection, and working conditions. The most important of these demands are the shorter work week (four days work for five days pay) and full cost-of-living on pensions.

Jack Weinberg of UAW Local 212 and one of the founders of the



Mark Levitan, Dodge Local 3: "This may be the first day of spring, but it's also the beginning of the triennial UAW snow job."

CGC, told the meeting that "you can't wait until the contract expires to begin organizing."

The Coalition has already begun. It is forming local groups, and is circulating pledge cards.

The signers pledge to vote no on any contract that does not meet CGC demands, and back up their pledges with financial contributions.

PLEDGE CARDS

When negotiations begin this summer, the Coalition will present thousands of these pledge cards to the International union.

The Coalition's other activities in coming months will center around getting the support of local unions for its program. CGC members will try to get their local unions to affiliate with the Coalition by the June membership meetings.

In mid-May the CGC will hold plant gate meetings, and at the end of that month a short work week rally will be held in the Detroit area.

In September the Coalition is projecting a mass demonstration in Detroit, with participation from UAW members around the U.S. and Canada.

The Coalition meeting elected a steering committee to organize the group's work, and CGC members left the meeting enthusiastic about preparing this year's contract fight.

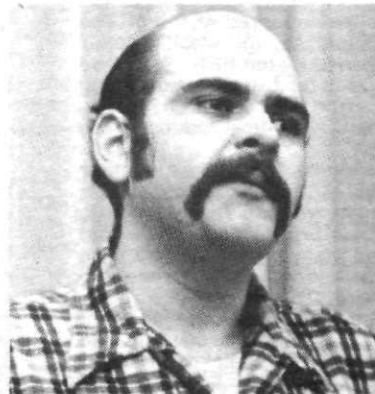
But everyone knows it will be a big job.

As Whip Bean of Local 51 said, "1976 is the year of decision. The Coalition for a Good Contract has its work cut out for it; it has been dictated by the International." □

[To get in touch with CGC, write: Coalition for a Good Contract, PO Box 38224, Detroit, MI 48238.]



Jordan Sims, president Local 961: "There's no way in the world you're going to [provide jobs] in this collective bargaining program without some sort of revolutionary program which destroys the 40-hour work week system."



Pete Camaratta, Teamsters for a Decent Contract: "What you're trying to do in the UAW, we're trying to do in the Teamsters Union. From 25 or 30 people who met in August, we now have people in 35 states and in 160 locals."

Hospital Workers Fight Racism

by Karen Woods

PORTLAND, Ore.—Black workers at Emmanuel Hospital here are organizing to fight racism against both employees and patients at the inner city hospital.

The struggle has the support among both "professional" and "non-professional" staff.

The Black Employees Committee (BEC), presented a list of concerns to the hospital's president, Roger Larson, on March 1. Present also were members of the Black Justice Committee, a community group.

The BEC demanded an investigation of the concerns and problems of black workers and the treatment of black patients. The administration denied any racial discrimination.

But hospital workers cited the fact that black workers are concentrated in the housekeeping and nurses aide departments.

They are given heavier workloads, denied transfers more often, hired less and fired more often than whites of equal seniority.

IGNORED, MISTREATED

Employees report that black patients are ignored and mistreated. A black aide spoke of doing total care for six bed-ridden patients. This is considered light work load.

Work loads for housekeeping staff have gotten heavier in recent months.

The employee health service even started wondering why so many more housekeepers are suffering back injuries and hypertension, a housekeeper reported.

Management of housekeeping department has been contracted to a private agency, Red Top. Red Top has vowed to break the union.

Hospital President Larson emphasized that in the past nine years the percentage of minority employees has risen from 11% to 15%.

But that means that out of a work force of 1600 in a predominantly black neighborhood, the total number of black workers is only 207.

Larson recommended repeatedly that workers should raise their problems through the grievance

procedure. The workers are members of SEIU Local 49.

DOESN'T WORK

Naomi Wrighten, R.N. and a member of BEC answered him. "That policy works just fine, but it works for whites—some whites, you understand—it does not function for the black patient and the black employees."

A statement by the local's business agent, Dan McDermott backed her up. "I've been here as a business agent for two and a half years and I have seen some discrimination going on."

Since the meeting the hospital suspended Wrighten and another members of the committee with pay for ten days.

This is supposedly so they can function in a fact finding capacity for BEC. But in effect they have been banned from the hospital premises.

The administration also appointed a community fact finding committee which they hope will come between the hospital and BEC. The BEC responded by reaffirming that it is the negotiating agent of the black employees.

NOT ALONE

The black workers at Emmanuel are not fighting alone. White workers too face deteriorating working conditions. Several have joined with the black workers to begin publication of a rank and file newsletter, the Grapevine.

The first issue gave complete information of the BEC's struggle. The BEC is distributing the Grapevine in the community as well as among employees.

The BEC, the Black Justice Committee and the Grapevine plant to continue their struggle.

Their goal is to transform Emmanuel into a hospital truly serving the needs of the community.

A BEC member stated, "They think they can single us out, but if they try to silence a leader, another will speak up. We're united and we will win." □

GE WORKERS WILDCAT IN BLOOMINGTON

"They've never had to deal with this kind of thing before," said Steve Norman, IBEW Local 2249 President.

He was speaking about management, to workers who walked out of the GE refrigerator plant in Bloomington, Indiana March 19 and 20.

Several hundred strikers gathered across the street from the plant within easy reach of the picket line. As they got together for the first time, all sections discovered they had common problems.

Both maintenance and production had suffered speedups, harassment, and ignored safety and seniority rules, for more than a year.

A woman in production said it plainly, "We're tired of being treated like animals in there."

IGNORED APPLICANTS

All the frustrations came to a head on March 18. The boss had hired a man off the street to work in maintenance, ignoring the in-plant applicants.

Maintenance walked out. Women and men all through the plant backed them up by marching out on Friday.

New Local President Steve Norman mediated between the strikers and management, aided by an International rep.

Norman wouldn't publicly back the strikers nor would the International make the strike official—it violated the contract.

Of course, the strikers went out in response to systematic contract violations by management.

With more than half the plant on strike, management was forced to recognize a wildcat for the first time ever.

They backed down on their plan to put a "last chance" warning on the record of every striker. They also promised no harassment or firings.

The victory was not complete, however. The strikers accepted a "normal" warning notice. No specific solutions to any grievances were promised.

Management agreed to discuss them with the wildcat negotiating committee after Saturday's return to work.

A team of on-the-spot Workers' Power reporters put out a strike bulletin that was well received by about 800 workers at the plant. Workers' Power sales have shot up.

As one Workers' Power reporter said, "This spur-of-the-moment skirmish has done a lot to convince people that a little militant and united action is the best hearing aid for bosses deaf to angry grievances sent through the 'established channels'." □

Lisbon, March 24: Strike Wave Spreads

The new wave of strikes in Portugal is now a flood. Textile workers, nurses, teachers, construction workers and others are walking out in cities throughout the country.

This strike wave has erupted right in the middle of the campaign for next month's elections.

Since last November 25, when the government engineered a right-wing coup and crackdown, Portuguese workers have gotten a strong taste of repression. Wages were frozen, fascists came out in the open, and the whole press crowded that the revolution was "finished."

While the government allowed right-wing bombings to go on without lifting a finger, it told workers they must sacrifice and keep quiet to allow "orderly" elections and keep the extreme right out of power.

Last month Portuguese workers gave their first answer, with mass demonstrations that forced the release of left-wing prisoners. Now they have replied to the government's argument that they must quietly accept low wages and unemployment.

The size and scale of the strikes show the

recovery of working class militancy. But beyond that, workers are going back on the offensive with very radical demands.

Even with this new upsurge going on, the capitalist government is still much stronger than it was last fall. Workers are not organizing to take power at this stage.

However, in many cases these economic struggles are raising even more advanced demands than last summer and fall. Workers have seen the economic crisis reach near-collapse under the right-wing government. Just to defend themselves they are forced to fight for extremely aggressive and militant programs.

A national congress of textile workers last weekend adopted demands against layoffs and for workers' control to protect jobs and hard-won working conditions. They joined these issues with a political demand: socialist planning and the total re-organization of the industry. Construction workers have made a similar demand for their industry.

Why are Portuguese workers demanding total re-organization of the whole industries,

under a nationwide plan organized and controlled by workers? Portuguese textile workers have seen the industry ruined by the punitive extra tariff slapped on it by the imperialist Common Market countries, when workers began seizing factories. The Portuguese capitalists cannot solve the industry's problem—the total economy is in crisis.

The textile workers understand that socialist revolution is the only way they can survive.

RIGHT WING ATTACKS

But they still face a powerful, deadly enemy. Shortly after the textile workers' congress adjourned, a tremendous explosion shook the hall in Lisbon where they had met.

It was a bomb, planted by right-wing terrorists. No one knows whether it was intended to actually massacre the delegates, or whether it was simply an attempt at intimidation.

Right-wing bombings occur daily all over the country. Offices of the Popular Democratic Union (UDP), the left-wing Maoist

organization, were blown up in Oporto. Yesterday in Lisbon, textile workers staged a large demonstration to protest the bombing of their meeting hall.

But right-wing terrorism cannot stop the advancing mass strike movement. All over the country, strikes are no longer isolated. Local struggles are now too numerous to count.

Unemployed teachers occupied the Ministry of Education building in Lisbon a few days ago. Twelve thousand new teaching graduates have been given no appointments by the government. Meanwhile, there are vacancies unfilled and shortages of teachers all across the country.

But the largest strikes are still to come. A strike of metal workers, who are among Portugal's most powerful workers, is scheduled over a new wage agreement. A miners' strike over wages and working conditions is also coming up.

Meanwhile, construction workers (see adjoining article) have resumed their struggle which threw the government into chaos in November. □

Building Workers Lead The Way

The struggle of Portuguese construction workers is the most central battle in the new strike wave.

In several areas of the country they are striking in direct opposition to the government and the Communist Party-dominated top national leadership of their own union.

Last November, these same construction workers surrounded the government palace and trapped the Prime Minister inside until he personally signed a 45% wage increase.

When the government cracked down on November 25, the construction workers' wage increase was cancelled and all wages frozen. Now the construction workers are demanding the immediate payment of everything they won in the earlier strike.

But they also want more. The construction workers' program of struggle demands re-organization of the building industry along socialist lines, new job openings and the socialization of all land on which construction takes place.

That means wiping out private real estate dealings and doing away with private profit in construction and rent of new buildings. The program was proposed by the revolutionary left in the union.

FED UP

Like the textile workers, construction workers are totally fed up with being ruined and driven out of work by a collapsing capitalist economy. They are determined to take it over and run it themselves.

The government's so-called Council of the Revolution, dominated by right wing military commanders, is trying to force workers to be "moderate" and call off strikes during the current election campaign.

The construction workers' national strike was set to begin last Monday. To stop it and to divide the workers, the Council of the Revolution proposed a "compromise." It offered a 60% wage increase to the lowest paid workers and to "soon consider" the other demands.

This offer was presented to the construction union's nine-member negotiating team. Five of them, the representatives from Lisbon, accepted it. They announced that the strike was off and that negotiations would resume—after the elections, over a month from now!

These five representatives are members or supporters of the Communist Party (CP). The CP, which part of the present government, is supporting the govern-

ment's efforts to halt labor confrontations.

It wants to buy the co-operation of the Socialist Party, to give the CP a greater number of seats in the next government. To do this it is bargaining away the strength of workers and selling them out.

NOT ACCEPTED

But this deal was not accepted by union representatives from outside Lisbon—or by the rank and file. In the key centers of Setubal and Beja (the south), the CP has lost its control of organized construction workers.

Setubal and Beja are both centers for large districts of the union. In the Beja district, covering most of southern Portugal, the strike has gone ahead. It is 100% effective.

This means that many rank and file CP workers are on strike against the wishes of their political leaders. It also means that the revolutionary left, in particular the Revolutionary Party of the Proletariat (PRP), is meeting with success in leading a major economic struggle.

In Setubal, a massive general assembly of all construction workers was called. This kind of meeting, general assemblies of rank and file construction workers to decide how to respond to the government, is spreading throughout the country.

These debates have enormous political importance. The government and the official CP union leadership labels workers who support the strike as "agents of right wing reaction."

The Council of the Revolution, the Socialist Party and the capitalist parties claim that the far right will take advantage of economic struggles to win more election votes.

Therefore, they demand workers passively wait for the elections and let their grievances be settled in negotiating rooms.

But this is the government which brought right wing repression against workers in the first place! Now these same government ministers speak of "right wing danger" and call for "peace" so they can protect their own shaky hold on power.

A growing number of workers no longer have any illusions that any of the politicians or officers in the capitalist government will protect them.

The revolutionary left is now gaining new strength among the crucially important rank and file construction workers. □



Isobel do Carmo, editor of *Revolucão*, now under government attack.

DEFEND PORTUGUESE WORKERS' PRESS!

Last week the Portuguese authorities launched a new effort to cripple the growth of the revolutionary left.

Police appeared at the offices of *Revolucão*, the weekly paper published by the PRP. They had warrants for the arrest of Isobel do Carmo, the editor of *Revolucão* and a political leader of the PRP.

Revolucão is coming under attack—for telling the truth. It is charged with violating the press laws for printing an article that called the government offensive of last November 25 a "reactionary coup."

In order to avoid the jailing of the editor, *Revolucão* was forced to deposit a bail of 100,000 escudos, roughly \$4000.

This bail is an outrageous amount by Portuguese standards. It is five times the amount imposed on *Diablo*, a fascist paper, which was charged under similar laws for attacking the President of the Republic.

Diablo was even briefly suspended, yet the financial burden imposed on it was tiny by comparison with *Revolucão*.

Remember last summer, when the international capitalist press screamed that the left was trying to "destroy the free press" in Portugal? In reality, they were screaming for the end of any kind of workers' control in the mass media.

Now that their right-wing friends in Portugal have returned Radio *Renascença* to the Catholic Church, and destroyed the worker-controlled daily newspaper, *República*, the international press has stopped protesting. Not a single capitalist paper in this country has protested, or even mentioned, the attack on the revolutionary press—the only press that tells the truth in Portugal.

With this first attack on *Revolucão*, the government is testing the waters for even heavier repression. If these charges are allowed to stand,

Revolucão may be destroyed and PRP leaders possibly jailed.

Friends of the Portuguese revolution, anyone who supports Portuguese workers' struggle for freedom, must come to the defense of *Revolucão*. The forces of capitalist reaction must be put on notice that they cannot destroy the voice of the socialist revolution with bail or fines.

I.S. branches have been holding activities to raise money for the PRP. The attack on *Revolucão* makes these events all the more vital. We appeal once more to our readers to help us raise the funds needed to ensure the PRP cannot be financially destroyed by this harassment.

We will also launch an appeal to other organizations which support the struggle in Portugal, to raise funds to defend the revolutionary workers' press in Portugal.

[Send contributions to: Workers' Power Portugal Solidarity Campaign, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, MI 48203.]

ARGENTINA - WHY THE TANKS ROLL

by Dan Posen

A right-wing military coup is taking power in Argentina. The official government of President Isabel Peron has already collapsed, in all but name.

The most incredible fact about the military takeover is that it is being planned completely in the open.

Lists of political leaders and unionists who will be arrested have practically been made public by military sources.

The coup is also being prepared by a huge wave of assassinations.

Thirty left wing students and worker delegates were kidnapped and murdered last week alone.

Right-wing terror groups, run by businessmen and politicians, are murdering whole families simply because they are related to suspected left wing activists.

These kidnappings, mass murders and fascist bombings have been going on with no government response for months. They have claimed thousands of victims.

The actual seizure of power will occur within days, probably by the time you read this article.

Even the leaders of the military junta that will rule Argentina are known. These are Jorge Rafael Videla of the Army, Admiral Emilio Massera and Orlando Agosti from the Air Force.

Nothing is being done to stop the generals. They have the complete backing of Argentina's banks and exchange houses, steel manufacturers and other capitalists.

THE VICTIMS

The chief victims of military rule in Argentina will be workers and their unions.

The generals' economic advisers favor the kind of "shock treatment" that has been imposed by the fascist junta in Chile.

"Shock treatment," which well-fed businessmen and bankers like to call "sound monetary policies" means brutal cuts in wages, services and jobs, in order to increase business profits and investment.

Economic "shock treatment" in Chile since September, 1973 means that hundreds of thousands of workers are living near the edge of starvation.

In Santiago, Chile's main city, a quarter of the population lives in housing that is not fit for animals.

Those are the policies which are in store for working people in Argentina.

Argentina's capitalist bosses and their foreign friends, the interna-



...while the generals laid their own plans for Argentina.



A militant bank workers' demonstration last July.

tional bankers of North America and Europe, have decided that only the most savage kind of austerity and repression can prevent the total collapse of capitalism in Argentina.

SOARING INFLATION

Inflation is now over 300% (between 25% and 30% every month). Foreign debts are well over \$1 billion and production is almost stagnant.

The country's economy is totally "useless and inefficient, anti-human and anti-egalitarian," in the words of a militant union leader who was exiled to Peru.

The generals will seize power in the name of "profound and patriotic changes" to bring order and efficiency out of this chaos.

In reality, their "changes" mean smashing workers' organizations and driving their living standards into the ground.

Argentine workers have the power, and the rank and file strength, to solve the crisis and protect their living standards by taking power themselves. The tragedy is that they are not politically organized to use that strength.

The Argentine working class is the most militant in Latin America today.

An earlier move a few months ago by right-wing officers to take power was blocked by a massive wave of strikes and workers' demonstrations.

Workers have also smashed every attempt by Isabel Peron's weak government to impose wage controls and force workers to pay for inflation.

Even in the face of jailings, murder and terror, workers continue the factory struggle and slow down production when they are attacked.

But workers' struggles have no national, unified political leadership. Most unions, even the militant ones, have given their backing to Isabel Peron's government.

This government claims to represent the united interests of capitalists and workers in Argentina. Instead, its leading ministers have created right-wing murder gangs and helped prepare the way for the generals.

The largest left-wing parties have also given no lead. Some have turned to guerilla warfare against hopeless odds.

Others spend their time in parliamentary maneuvers with government and union officials.

Because there is no national revolutionary workers' party, the immediate future for Argentine workers looks very bleak.

LIGHTS OUT

Dear Workers' Power,

I have been reading in Workers' Power how services in the cities are being cut off because of the economic crisis. I live in Detroit, and it is no exception.

Just in the last week they decided to leave street lights off until later at night to save money.

Maybe this doesn't mean anything to executives at City Hall who drive from their well lit parking garage to their well lit streets in the suburbs.

But I live in the city and I have to park around the corner from my apartment. Now every night I walk this block in the dark and I'm scared.

They also decided to end a free city ambulance service in this so-called economy drive. This ambulance service picked up old people who had no other way to get out to see the doctor.

Now their medical care is cut off.

And then today I read in the paper that library staff are going to be laid off for two weeks!

You know, all this is supposed to save Detroit! If you ask me, nothing will save Detroit until we are ready to throw these creeps out and run it ourselves.

Anna Wright
Detroit

THANKS!

Dear Workers' Power,

Thanks for sending me the paper and booklets. I passed them out at our banquet to mixed reviews.

Some workers seemed interested and some not so interested.

One of my union brothers tore up his copy, threw it on the floor, called me a disgrace to the union, swore he'd see me driven out of office and threatened to beat me up.

It seems he felt your publication was slightly communistic in its editorial policy.

Oh well. I still like your paper no matter what he says.

Jim Woods
President, Local IV-260
International Woodworkers of America
Alpena, Michigan

Workers' Power Wants To Hear From You

What you like about the paper—and what you don't. What you think of the political ideas we present, and your comments on problems facing working people.

But please be brief.

Write to: Workers' Power, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, Michigan 48203.

Letters

to

Workers' Power

Indian Struggle Needs Support

Dear Workers' Power,

The Indian people of South Dakota have made some amazing gains in resisting the government's efforts to jail scores of Indians involved in the liberation of Wounded Knee.

The legal victories and resulting political successes are cause for rejoicing among all of you who have provided support.

On January 27, 1976, Dick Wilson was defeated in his bid for re-election as tribal chairman. Wilson's ouster was one of the primary objectives of the Wounded Knee liberation.

His defeat would not have been possible if the people who resisted him at Wounded Knee had been in prison.

There were significant victories in the Means/Banks case in St. Paul and in scores of other less widely publicized cases elsewhere.

Trials were held in seven different cities in five different states. One or two more trials are still possible.

Of over 500 arrests and 185 federal indictments arising out of Wounded Knee, only 15 persons were ultimately convicted.

Leonard Crow Dog was convicted for giving the lecture to postal inspectors at Wounded Knee. Originally he was put on probation for eight years.

His probation has now been revoked and he is in federal prison following two separate frame-ups for assaults at his home in Rosebud.

Just recently a federal court in Bismarck convicted five persons for interfering with federal officers. The conviction was for trying to go to Wounded Knee even though they never got there.

Two prior decisions by the Chief Judges in South Dakota and Nebraska ruled out these types of convictions because of the unlawful military presence of federal forces.

All convictions are on appeal. The results of these appeals will affect the rights of Indians and non-Indians alike in "civil disturbances" cases for years to come.

A major committee response was required to the government efforts to subpoena 35 people to federal grand juries in South Dakota after the incident at Oglala where Joe Stuntz and two FBI agents were killed.

Defense of persons facing the death penalty for the alleged murder of these agents now requires heavy commitments of time and money.

Furthermore, committee lawyers have had to defend themselves from grand jury subpoenas in South Dakota and Iowa.

The Wounded Knee Legal Defense/Offense Committee (WKLD/OC), continues to give legal assistance to Indians on the Pine Ridge Reservation who have been harassed, beaten and killed for opposing Dick Wilson.



The violence on the reservation is likely to increase between now and April when Al Trimble, the newly-elected tribal chairman, takes office.

Following the murder of Byron DeSersa near Wanblee on January 31, the local district council passed formal resolutions asking WKLD/OC to respond.

Besides its legal defense efforts, WKLD/OC has taken the offensive by filing civil suits which are presently pending in several courts.

This is another tool for achieving the basic aims of the Indian people, i.e., sovereignty, treaty rights, and self-determination.

Most of the legal work continues to be done by unpaid legal workers and lawyers working under incredible hardships.

There have never been adequate working and living facilities or equipment. It has been difficult to pay the monthly phone bill.

The Wounded Knee Legal Defense/Offense Committee needs your financial support now more than ever.

Dennis J. Banks
Clyde Bellecourt
Omaha, NE

[Please send contributions to: Omaha Council Bluffs Office, PO Box 4287, Omaha, Nebraska, 68104. (402) 551-2804.]

I.S. Summer School To Be Held In July

The annual IS Summer School will be held July 6-10 in the countryside near Detroit.

The school will combine political education and training classes with good food, outdoor recreation and plenty of time for social activities.

There will be classes for every member from the newest to our national leaders.

The theme of the school will be **Revolutionaries in the Working**

Class—Building the Revolutionary Party in the US.

Three types of classes will be offered: political/theoretical, trade union, and IS organizational/technical.

BUILDING THE PARTY

Included in the first group are classes on the theory of building the revolutionary party, the history

of revolutionary experience in the labor movement and its lessons for us now, and the economic crisis today.

The trade union classes will include sessions on red baiting and how to fight it, and on revolutionaries as union representatives.

These trade union classes will be led by members with direct experience with the questions covered.

In the last group there will be classes on the use of Workers' Power, and how to build a successful public IS meeting.

The class leaders will use a variety of forms in their classes: films, slide shows, skits, role playing, as well as short presentations, all followed by discussion.

In the evenings political films such as "Blow for Blow," and "Finally Got the News" will be shown, followed by informal discussion.

IS members should plan now to attend. The school is set up so that people can come for one or two days.

Don't miss it—this promises to be the best school we've had yet. Check with your branch organizer to find out how you can attend!

Marilyn Danton

Capital, and our pamphlet *Fighting to Win*.

"Educational Notes," a monthly educational bulletin for use in branch discussions will begin in April.

It will carry the important political discussions of the national leadership to the organization.

The April issue will have articles on Southern Africa and the political significance of the primaries.

M.D.

Education Bulletin, New Class Series To Begin

We are now beginning to develop a well rounded education and training program for I.S. members.

Our Basic Education Program is being revised, based on comments from those who led and took the classes last fall.

And, a new class series based around six pamphlets has been designed to follow the Basic Education Program.

Some of the pamphlets for this class are *Lenin's State and Revolution*, *Marx's Wage Labor and*

Capital, and our pamphlet *Fighting to Win*.

"Educational Notes," a monthly educational bulletin for use in branch discussions will begin in April.

It will carry the important political discussions of the national leadership to the organization.

The April issue will have articles on Southern Africa and the political significance of the primaries.

M.D.

SPECIAL ISSUE!

The Master Freight Agreement expires this week. The Central States UPS contract expires in less than a month.

The closer the action gets the more the union leaders and the company attack the rank and file movement. Right now they are doing everything they can to discredit the TDC and UPSurge, and they are zeroing in on those leaders of the two groups who are socialists.

In Cleveland there have been

numerous anonymous leaflets, attacking members of the I.S. in city after city, UPS supervisors are telling workers that UPSurge is a communist paper.

On the west coast, B.A.s are going from barn to barn trying to discredit TDC.

The I.S. has now produced a special Workers' Power supplement for Teamsters to help answer these charges. It explains red-baiting. It talks about socialists in the unions. And it explains how socialists helped build the Team-

sters union in Minneapolis in 1934.

Now more than ever, I.S. members will have to get out and answer these charges and this pamphlet can help. See that it gets around. It can be handed out at union meetings, at picket lines, at TDC and UPSurge meetings, at hubs and barns.

The Workers' Power Teamsters Supplement is free and can be ordered from Workers' Power, Room 225, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, MI 48203.

Order some today!



There he is, reading that Commie propaganda again. We gotta put a stop to this.

From now on Creep, you're gonna read about how good you've got it and how well you're being represented. No more phony propaganda.

Cartoon reprinted from UPSurge.

I.S. Branches



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Teamster Rebellion

Teamster Rebellion is the story of the three Minneapolis Teamster strikes during 1934. These dramatic strikes laid the basis for the Teamsters becoming the world's largest and most powerful industrial union.

The strikers in Minneapolis displayed amazing resourcefulness. They set up their own hospital and commissary, put out their own daily newspaper, and dispatched "flying squads" of pickets throughout the city.

Many of the leaders of the strikes were socialists, including the author of the book, Farrell Dobbs. Regarding Dobbs' impact on the labor movement, Jimmy Hoffa wrote, "In the labor halls throughout America, the name of Farrell Dobbs was more than well-known. It was keenly respected."

Teamster Rebellion—a must for every Teamster.

\$2.45 postpaid
 Order from: Sun Distribution, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, MI 48203.

Where We Stand

WE OPPOSE

• Capitalist Exploitation

We live under the capitalist system. The wealth produced by working people is stolen from us by private employers. They prosper from our labor.

• Capitalist Control

Capitalists use their profits only to make more profits. When they need fewer workers, they create unemployment. When they need more money, they speed up work, downgrade safety conditions and raise prices. The capitalist system spends little on health care, a clean environment, or social services, because these things make no profit.

• Oppression

Capitalism needs inequality—because it needs profits, it can't provide enough for all. So it gives some groups of people worse jobs and lower pay, and labels them inferior. In particular, capitalism locks black people into the bottom of society, and spreads racist ideas to keep them there and justify it. Capitalism keeps women responsible for taking care of the workforce when it is not at work, including children, who are too young to work. Women who work for wages have two jobs.

• Capitalist Government

The government serves the capitalist class. Its only purpose is to protect the private profit system. It protects its interests abroad through economic control of other countries, spying, and wars.

• Bureaucratic Communism

Russia, China and the countries with economies like theirs are also oppressive class societies, run by a privileged ruling class of bureaucrats. They are not socialist and must be overthrown by the working classes of those countries.

WE SUPPORT

• The Rank and File Movement

The unions protect workers from their employers. But today's unions are run by privileged officials who sell out because they support the capitalist system. They want labor peace not labor power. We support the struggle for rank and file control of the unions.

• Liberation From Oppression

We support the struggles of every oppressed group to end its oppression: the struggle for equality and justice by blacks, women, native Americans, and all oppressed people. Support from the entire working class movement will make both these struggles, and that movement, stronger.

• Socialism

Society should be run by the working class. The wealth produced by those who work should go to fill people's needs, not to private gain.

• Workers' Revolution

But the capitalist class will not give up their rule and profits voluntarily. Socialism can be created only when the working class seizes control of the factories and makes their own government. The working class will rule democratically because it can own society's wealth only together.

• Internationalism

The struggle for socialism is world wide. Nations fighting to throw out foreign rulers must have the support of the international working class as in Angola today. So must every struggle of working people to end their oppression, as in Portugal today, and in Russia and Eastern Europe.

• Revolutionary Party

The most class conscious members of the working class have the responsibility to lead the struggle toward socialist revolution. To do this they must build an organization to put their consciousness into action and make their leadership effective.

• International Socialists

The I.S. is an organization of revolutionary socialist workers. We are open to all who accept our basic principles and are willing to work as a member to achieve them. Join with us to build the I.S. into a revolutionary party, to build the movement to end exploitation and oppression and to create a socialist world.

JOIN US

If you agree with the views expressed in this paper and would like more information, or, would like to join the International Socialists, then send this form to: **INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, MI 48203.**

Name

Address

Union

VIEW FROM THE AUDIENCE

BOOKS MUSIC TELEVISION ADS MOVIES TRENDS BOOKS MUSIC TELEVISION ADS MOVIES TRENDS BOOKS MUS

The Capitalist Totem Pole

by Wendy Casper

Two brothers—Tom, the younger: rebellious, mischievous, spontaneous, . . . the outcast; and Rudy, the older: reserved, charming, aspiring, . . . accepted.

Irving Shaw's "Rich Man, Poor Man" is the tale of these men and where the diverging roads they travel lead them.

The story has recently been made into a popular 12-hour television series. The final episode was aired Monday night, March 15, leaving tears in many a captivated viewer's eye.

The show was widely publicized and lavishly financed.

The soap-opera qualities of "Rich Man, Poor Man" played an important part in the film's popularity.

Although the relationships between all the characters were very realistic, the show enchanted viewers in much the same way that afternoon serials affect daytime TV-watchers.

It gives people an "understanding" hand; lets them know that their troubles are not unique.

After each episode of "Rich Man, Poor Man" it was not always easy to remember that the feelings and pain portrayed on the screen were not real life experiences.

TV'S RICH MAN, POOR MAN



Peter Strauss as Rudy (above), starred in Irving Shaw's "Rich Man, Poor Man" (not pictured).

ences more of life, and ends up being sensitive and warm.

Tom is the only white person in the film who actively confronts racism.

Tom's closest friend is a black man. They initially get together because they are both fighting the harassment of an obnoxious racist idiot named Falcon Eddy.

The other people in the situation either play along with Falcon Eddy, or they ignore the problem. But Tom fights it.

He sticks up for the black man. This is one of the things that Falcon Eddy eventually kills him for.

Despite Tom's struggle against racism, the series was extremely disappointing here.

There are only two black people in the story. The scenes they are in are always dominated by whites.

Portrayed as a rebellious troublemaker, Tom does not accept the capitalist system. He is the opposite of Rudy and does not get along with him throughout most of the show.

NOT AVERAGE GUY, he is able to buy a boat and live independently.

Had it not been for this, he might not have lived as long as he did.

He couldn't stand the capitalist system and he was a fighter of it: more power to him.

But Tom thought he could beat the system alone. He found that he couldn't. The movie was half-correct in that as a fighter of the capitalist system, Tom was the only happy one.

But with a lot of luck, an individual solution brought at best only temporary happiness.

Even if he hadn't died young, he would still have been crushed by the system.

Although he's the "Poor Man" financially, it becomes obvious that Tom's life is the only enriched one.

He is also the one who fights the system. For television, this was a surprisingly progressive message. □

WORLD WAR II

The story began just after the end of World War II. Tom and Rudy (played by actors Nick Nolte and Peter Strauss) were the sons of the owners of a small bakery in New York.

As the economy began to improve, the shop was closed and torn down by a larger grocery store, leading the family to unhappiness and poverty, the father to suicide.

The taking over of smaller stores by larger ones was common in the post war period.

For the most part, the series was a portrayal of alternatives—but not very good ones.

Rudy, the older, favored son, makes it through college with no money and many a hardship.

But he learns his lessons all too well, and goes on to become an executive for a prestigious company. Later he even makes it to being a wealthy politician.

The show was pretty good in giving the viewer an idea of what Rudy had to do, how many backs he had to crush, in order to make it to the top of the capitalist totem pole.

But it could have shown a lot more of the horror and tragedy of climbing that ladder than it did, and still would not have been exaggerating.

RUTHLESS

We can see a good example of Rudy's hidden ruthlessness in

action, in the character of Julie (actress Susan Blakely), Rudy's high school girl friend, and later his wife.

She is first shown to be pretty together in her younger days: fairly independent, fairly liberated.

She refuses to wait for Rudy and follow through his college career. She decides to live her own life, and moves to the city.

After divorcing her first husband, she marries Rudy, a long lost love.

After the initial bliss, she is thoroughly destroyed by Rudy's relentless capitalist aspirations.

He puts everything second in his career, including Julie. She becomes an alcoholic.

The show was disappointing in that it showed very narrow alternatives for women. Julie was the only woman to appear in every episode.

The others were dependent wives like Julie, or girl friends conditioned to act playful, or prostitutes.

The women it did portray were realistic, but there was no hint of independent, fighting women.

TOM

The other alternative was Tom, the younger brother, outcast of the family.

At first he is shown as very macho and chauvinistic, but he changes and grows as he exper-

An Auto Worker's Journal

WORKERS' POWER

A revolutionary socialist weekly, published by the International Socialists.

Subscriptions: \$10 per year. Six months: \$5. Supporting: \$15. Institutional: \$15. Foreign: \$15. Introductory subscription: \$1 for 5 issues.

I enclose \$ Please send me a subscription to Workers' Power.

Name

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14131 Woodward Ave.
Highland Park, MI 48203

In this new book, Frank Marquart deals with the hours, wages and working conditions in the auto industry beginning in 1914.

Marquart was born in 1898. He became interested in socialism during World War I and joined the Socialist Party.

After recovering from an illness he returned to Detroit 1935 where he got a job with the WPA on a Labor Education Project.

But he was laid off and became

An Auto Worker's Journal, The UAW From Crusade to One Party Union, by Frank Marquart; the Pennsylvania State University Press; 1975.

involved in the early sit-down strikes.

He aided and counselled workers in public speaking, conduct on the picket line, and forming flying squadrons.

Employed as the first Educational Director of Dodge Local 3, Marquart made an important contribution in training workers for their duties as stewards, committeemen and local union officers.

When the UAW won recognition at Fords by a strike in 1941, he became Education Director at Local 600.

By fighting for democracy in the local he won the enmity of the Communist Party.

The Communist Party was pro-war and Marquart criticized their flag-waving. He knew that any party that supported the war would not defend workers' rights.

The Communist Party, after gaining control of the local and the educational committee, finally succeeded in getting him fired in 1944.

LOCAL 212

From Local 600 he went to Briggs Local 212. At that time—1944—Local 212 had the reputation of being the most militant local in the UAW.

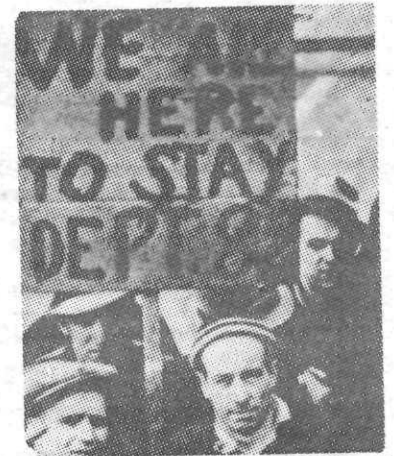
He saw that local degenerate, like the rest of the UAW, into a "One-Party Union" where no dissent was permitted.

As Educational Director of Local 212 from 1944 to 1958 Marquart learned there were two UAW's.

One was in Solidarity House, from which emanated public relations hand-outs.

The other was at the shop level, where the workers complained of oppressive working conditions, unanswered grievances, and a local leadership often working in collusion with management and the UAW bureaucracy.

Marquart lost his fight for



Sitdown strikers in the 1930s at Dodge Local 3 where Marquart was first Education Director.

democracy in 1958 when he was fired, for "economy reasons." He now lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and continues to be active among retirees and students.

I don't hesitate to say that this is the most insightful book I have read on the UAW and its history. □

John W. Anderson
Retired President
Local 15 UAW

LOUISVILLE: NEW DRIVE TO STOP KKK

by Tom Jackson

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—Okolona is south of metropolitan Louisville. It's a part of the majority white South End, which was wracked by racist violence in opposition to busing this past fall.

But there is more than anti-busing organizing going on in Okolona.

The Coleman family is black. They live in Okolona. The last few months have been full of racist terror for the Colemans.

It started out with shouted obscenities and threatening phone calls.

Then one night the window of their children's room was shattered by a brick. The latest attack was dynamite. A bomb went off just outside the house.

DEFEND HOME

In spite of this attempt on their lives, the Colemans are not moving. They intend to stay and defend their home. Pro-busing and civil rights organizations have been active in the Coleman defense.

Since the bombing, other groups and individuals have volunteered to spend nights at the house.

On Friday, March 19, a press conference was held to publicize the Colemans' struggle. Over 40 groups and individuals took part.

These included the NAACP, SCLC, Progress in Education, United Black Protective Parents, Women Against Racism, and others.

Most groups demanded police protection for the Colemans and exposed the racist double standards that exist in the police department and county government.

After months of harassment and finally an attempted murder, no arrests have been made.

In fact, some officials have gone so far as to suggest that pro-busing individuals may have bombed the Colemans to stir up sympathy.

After the press conference, the crowd confronted County Judge (and Mayor) Hollenbach.

He was asked why the finger was pointed at the victim, instead of a serious investigation being made.

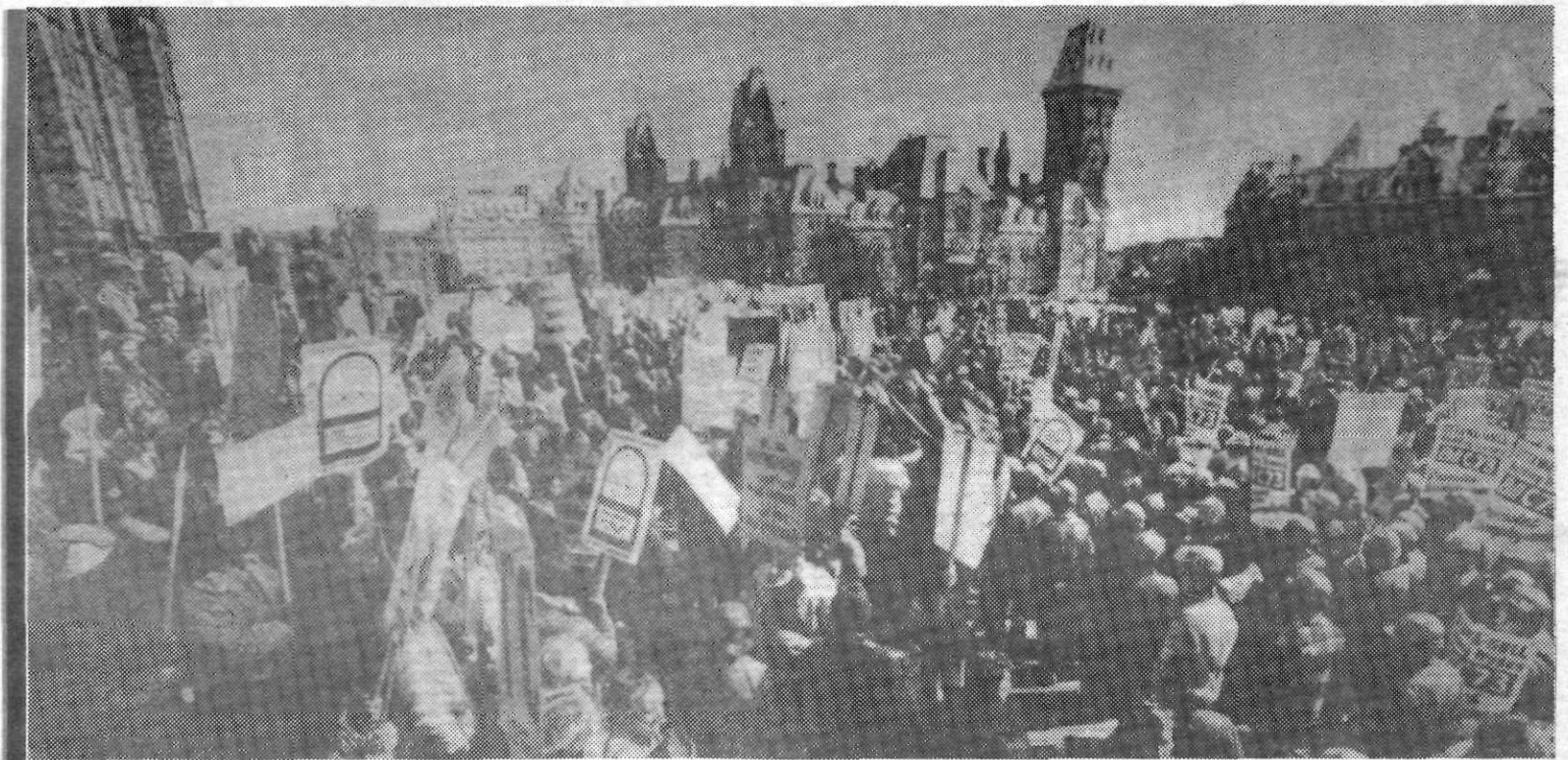
Hollenbach responded, "When we investigate a situation, we investigate the whole situation—if it touches both sides, it does."

POLICE DANGER

But what became clear was the folly and danger of relying on the police, many of whom are Klan members, for protection from racists.

Hollenbach, who opposes busing himself, kept repeating that he would do anything to make the Colemans feel comfortable. But he refused to give the round-the-clock protection that brother Coleman requested.

Hollenbach made a big point of the fact that he knew what it was



Smash Wage Controls!

THIRTY THOUSAND CANADIAN WORKERS converged on the Canadian Parliament in Ottawa, March 22, demanding an end to the government's wage control program. The demonstration was called by the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC). (The CLC is the Canadian equivalent of the AFL-CIO.) The march was even more of a success than the CLC expected. Workers came from all across Canada. It was the biggest demonstration ever held on Parliament Hill.

Many of the demonstrators were members of the United Auto Workers union. The UAW chartered a special train to pick up members between Windsor, Ont. and Ottawa. In Brantford, Ont., UAW members battled police after it was announced the train would not stop for them because it was already full. After fending off the cops, the auto workers blocked the tracks, forced the train to stop, and climbed aboard.

PLANTS CLOSE

A number of auto plants had to be closed because so few workers showed up. GM's plant in Ste. Therese, Quebec was shut when only 400 of

the 1200 workers were on the job. In Ontario, one of GM's three assembly lines at Oshawa was shut. Ford had to close down its Oakville truck plant, and Chrysler shut its Windsor car plant. In Quebec, teachers and public service workers staged a one-day strike, with thousands of them going to Ottawa for the demonstration.

It was the massive rank and file turnout for the demonstration which apparently prevented the CLC from making major concessions to the controls program. During the demonstration, CLC President Joe Morris spoke of moderation and the benefits of labor participation in planning the controls.

But the next day, under the impact of the large demonstration, the CLC leaders announced that they were withdrawing from the government's wage control supervisory bodies. That effectively destroyed those agencies.

U.S. workers should remember these events: we may be faced with wage controls again after the Presidential elections. We can't afford again to watch our wages freeze while prices rise. The Canadian demonstration's success shows how working people can fight wage controls.

NY Transit Talks Deadlock

Time is running out in the New York City transit negotiations with the city and the union no closer to an agreement than they were when they started.

The union is asking for improvements in wages, pensions and cost of living, while management is trying to roll back past gains.

The main bargaining point of the Transit Authority has been

that Emergency Financial Control Board (EFCB) guidelines rule out any wage increase, even cost of living.

The EFCB is in charge of New York City's finances. Its strategy is to make working people pay for the city's crisis.

With contracts for two hundred thousand workers coming up, they want a clean victory over the TWU.

Transit Workers Union President Guinan is now threatening that continued intransigence by the Transit Authority will lead to a "repeat of 1966," the year of the last strike.

He has called for a mass meeting of the membership on Sunday, March 28, at 1:00 P.M., at Manhattan Center.

The purpose of the meeting is

to inform the membership on the state of the negotiations and ask for their recommendations. Guinan wants to obtain strike authorization should no agreement be reached by the deadline.

Transit workers should show up in force to demand, "A contract we can live with—or a strike April 1."

A Few Noble Citizens

Who are the men charged with the solemn duty of cutting the living standards of hundreds of thousands of city workers and their families?

Three of the seven members of the Emergency Financial Control Board are corporation presidents:

- William Ellinghaus is president of N.Y. Telephone at a salary of \$225,000 per year. He was recently promoted to Vice President of ATT.

- David Margolis, president of Colt Industries, makes a cool

\$364,000 per year.

- Albert Casey brings in \$225,000 from his job as chairman of American Airlines.

Of course, these salaries are just the tip of the iceberg. They conceal private fortunes, stock options, and many other fringe benefits.

These public spirited citizens work for the state free of charge. They must enjoy smashing the working class.

Perhaps the worst of all is Felix Rohatyn, chairman of the Municipal Assistance Corpora-

tion (Big MAC). He was the chief architect of the three-year bail-out plan which EFCB administrators.

Rohatyn is a partner in the investment banking firm of Lazard Freres. Coming from modest origins—his grandfather owned a credit bank in Vienna—he has become a millionaire several times over.

His salary is unavailable, but his fees for conducting a single corporate merger range up to \$750,000.

Felix sits on the boards of

ITT, Engelhard Minerals and Chemicals Corporation, Pfizer, Howmet, and Owens-Illinois.

He engineered the shady takeover of Hartford Insurance Company which involved ITT in a long anti-trust suit.

Rohatyn is actually quite stingy personally. The New York Times reports that he recently gave a cab driver a 15c top on a \$1.45 fare.

The proper place in the transit negotiations for these men is — under the wheels of the D train.

like to be threatened, until Alfis Coleman himself pointed out, "...a stick of dynamite, a molotov cocktail—they're not threats, they're dangerous."

Since police protection was doing no good, one brother asked Hollenbach what he thought of voluntary armed defense of the Coleman residence.

He responded, "I don't think a display of weapons will help the situation at all."

Hollenbach went on to point out that the FBI was involved in the investigation.

And he stated, "As you know, the FBI never gets into anything unless it's vigorously, especially civil rights."

Unfortunately, Hollenbach's

statement is correct. As the press release of Women Against Racism pointed out, the FBI has quite a record on civil rights. They've worked "vigorously" against them.

They're responsible for the murders of Martin Luther King, Malcolm X, the leadership of the Black Panthers and countless others.

Recently, the FBI has "discovered" some racist criminals who killed blacks—15 and 20 years ago. At this late date they are "solving" lynchings from 1957 and bombings from 1963.

That's why volunteers continue to stay at the Coleman home. Because in Louisville, the Klan often wears more than one kind of uniform.