

# WORKERS' Power

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS MARCH 7, 1977 #198 15c

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## How You Can Support African Freedom Fighters!

The Southern Africa Liberation Committee's campaign to raise supplies for ZANU (Zimbabwe African National union) is under way.

ZANU leads the major liberation army which is struggling to free Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) from white minority rule.

In Detroit, collections by members of the Red Tide and people in the community have begun paying off. Four hundred pounds of shoes and other items of clothing including jackets, shirts, and blouses are being shipped out this week.

One Chevrolet worker collected several shopping bags full of these desperately needed supplies for the freedom fighters.

### EXCELLENT START

This excellent start is only a small drop in the bucket, compared to what is needed. Shoes are especially important to protect liberation fighters in the camps from contracting infectious foot diseases during the rainy season.

Every week, hundreds of men, women, and schoolchildren flee Rhodesia to join the liberation struggle. They take nothing with them. Worn-out shoes, pants and blankets lying in your closet can save their lives.

To find out how you can get involved in this campaign for liberation, write to either: Southern Africa Liberation Committee, 749 Ford, Highland Park, MI 48203; or, ZANU Chief Representative, 89-09 162nd St., Suite 3D, Jamaica, NY 11432.

[News of the liberation struggle—page 4.]

**International Women's Day**

**March 8**

**See pp. 8-9**

## GOVERNMENT STUDY URGES:

# MASS ARRESTS, WIRETAPPING?

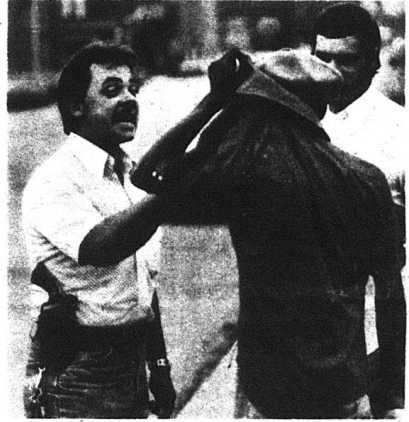
A government task force just finished spending \$260,000 to study solutions to rebellions caused by mass unemployment, racial oppression and rotten housing and living conditions in American cities.

Here are the recommendations they came up with:

- Give police immunity from being prosecuted for acts of brutality against demonstrators.
- Widespread wiretapping as "a tool" for preventing urban uprisings.
- Mass arrests of people involved in so-called "urban disorders."

Do these sound like any answer to unemployment, poverty and racism? They aren't. And they aren't meant to be.

But they are the means that the Justice Department's Task Force on Disorders and Terrorism suggests should be used to stop people who rebel against these conditions.



If the Task Force's proposals are implemented, this cop could take any action he wanted with no fear of prosecution.

The task force report, issued Wednesday, warned that there may be new urban rebellions like those of the 1960's in this country, if economic and social conditions continue getting worse.

The measures advocated in the 660-page report amount to giving police an open license to kill, creating mass detention centers for jailing people without trial, and giving agencies like the FBI authority to spy on suspected protest organizers at will.

In other words, the government's proposed solution to the crisis of this country is to wipe out the supposed safeguards written down on paper against arbitrary arrests, police brutality and a domestic police state.



Detroit, July 1967. The government's report says more urban rebellions can be expected if social conditions do not improve.

U.S. Attorney-General Griffin Bell received a copy of the report and called it "a useful piece of work."

The richest capitalist government in the world can throw away a quarter million dollars any day of the week, to design blueprints for crushing dissent.

What it can't do is provide the money to create jobs, save social services and rebuild the cities which are falling down around us.

# COFFEE PROFITS: WHO'S GETTING THE CREAM?

What's the deal with coffee prices? A pound of coffee costs \$2.50, and a cup goes for 30c...and up.

Is there an international coffee shortage, caused by freezing weather in Brazil, rainy weather in Colombia, an earthquake in Guatemala, and a civil war in Angola?

These conditions did cut coffee production, but only by 20% worldwide. "It's very hard to justify a 20% world decrease in supply and an increase in price anywhere from 300 to 400 percent," said Carole Coughlin, research analyst for the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs.

## ON OUR SIDE?

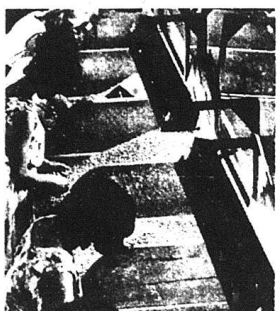
There is widespread outrage about the price of coffee. This has given the U.S. government an opportunity to look like it's acting on the side of the American consumer.

The government is giving informal support to the idea of a massive consumer boycott to force coffee prices down.

A U.S. Department of Agriculture economist said, "We don't have a coffee shortage right now. In spite of the frost in Brazil, there may be enough coffee stockpiled to last another 12 to 18 months."

It is a fact that the shortage is a hoax—and one familiar to American consumers who have witnessed similar price increases forced by meat, milk, sugar, oil, and gas producers over the last three years. What are the facts in the coffee case?

In July, 1975 freezing weather destroyed or damaged 73.5% of Brazil's coffee trees. The trees that



Brazilian workers who pick and sort coffee beans don't profit from high prices. Neither do we. But the landowners and coffee multinationals do.

were damaged would have become the 1976-77 crop.

Brazilian coffee production was cut drastically, from 22 million bags annually to about seven million bags last year.

But the damages to the world coffee crops account for only a 20% decrease in supply.

Yet the price of Brazilian coffee beans has risen from 63c to \$2.25 per pound (including taxes) and Colombian coffee has gone up from 71c to \$2.27. And the cost of African coffee beans has risen by 500%.

Taxes account for a large part of this increase. You now pay up to \$1.47 in taxes for every pound of coffee you buy. Brazil has raised taxes on coffee exports by 500% since 1975. That country's export tax in June, 1975 was 16c a pound. In January, 1977 it was 83c.

Similarly, Colombia's taxes on coffee rose from 18c to \$1.47 in the same period.

The rest of the price increases go to coffee plantation owners and interior buyers who warehouse coffee and trade it on coffee exchanges.

"Coffee that was picked and put in warehouses when it was selling at a fraction of today's prices is now being taken out and sold for exorbitantly high prices," said Douglas Bloomfield, legislative assistant to Rep. Benjamin Rosenthal (D-N.Y.).

So it's another case of third world countries ganging up to rip off the American consumer, right? Not so fast!

It's true, that's what the government, the American coffee companies and advertisers, and the supermarket chains would like us to believe.

But here are a few of the things they aren't saying:

- Who's making those fabulous profits Bloomfield mentioned on the coffee you're paying \$2.50—\$3.00 for this week? That coffee was bought from the producers at earlier, lower prices, leaving the traders and supermarkets to make huge mark-ups on stocks they already own. This is called "inventory profits."

- These inventory profits, along with all profits from trade, roasting of beans and marketing of coffee don't go to producers at all. These are controlled by multinational coffee corporations and their importers.

- Most important, we aren't told why various coffee-producing countries are totally dependent on the prices they can get for coffee.

The truth is, there's no world shortage of coffee. There's a surplus.

That leaves coffee-producing states two choices. They can hold back supplies to force up prices. Or, they can simply let the world market set the price of coffee—in which case, the price of coffee falls through the floor.

## VICIOUS CYCLE

Either way, the U.S. coffee firms and supermarkets get their profits. But if the price collapses, so do the tottering economies of Brazil, Colombia and a number of African countries.

Brazilian coffee workers make under \$70 a month. If the price collapses, they starve. The world

## TO OUR READERS

Workers' Power will not publish next week due to preparations for the eighth International Socialists convention. We will resume our schedule the following week. Next issue will be dated March 14.

## Workers' Power 198

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market forces these countries to lose. The huge capitalist landowners of Brazil and the coffee multinationals win. And the American government has an easy target to blame, to ride the crest\* of consumers' anger by endorsing the coffee boycott.

Meanwhile, the governments of coffee states are raising taxes in a desperate attempt to pay off loans for imported machinery and food, which they need to stave off total ruin.

It's a vicious circle. The workers and peasants of Brazil and Colombia lose. Coffee drinkers, ordinary American consumers,

lose. The cheapest way our government has of making people forget how our very own energy and natural gas firms have robbed us blind—right here at home. □

Elissa Clarke

# Labor Notes

by Jim Woodward

George Meany tried to continue his attack on Steelworkers presidential candidate Ed Sadlowski last week. He stuck his nose into internal USW business, but got it burned a little. Meany had charged during the USW election campaign that Sadlowski was under the influence of "outsiders." Last week Meany had the AFL-CIO Executive Council propose a way of dealing with that question—they asked the Senate Labor Committee to investigate. By the end of the week, though, the absurdity of asking this outside agency to investigate a charge of "outside influence" had gotten through even to George Meany. He had the Executive Council reverse its position, explaining: "Anything we might do at this time might be construed as interfering in the internal affairs of the United Steelworkers."

After heated criticism from coal miners, country singer Loretta Lynn has decided to stop making TV commercials for Amax Coal Co. The United Mine Workers Union has been fighting Amax's union-busting efforts at its Western strip mines, and had encouraged a boycott of Lynn's autobiography, "Coal Miner's Daughter."

A survey by the Retail Clerks Union shows that clerks in different parts of the country earn widely different amounts of pay for the same work. For a forty-hour week, clerks in St. Louis get \$300, while in Miami they earn only \$159.

Massive coal wildcat strikes again spread through much of the country late last month. The 33,000 miners off the job included 15,000 in southern West Virginia. There were also separate strikes in Pennsylvania and Illinois. While the United Mine Workers union tried to end the strikes, UMW Secretary-Treasurer Harry Patrick issued a statement supporting the West Virginia walkout. Patrick is running for president of the UMW, against incumbent Arnold Miller.

A federal appeals court has rejected an attempt by the steel industry to scrap several health and safety provisions for coke oven workers. The standards are an attempt to protect the workers from coke oven emissions, which cause cancer. They will require protective clothing, separate lunch rooms with filtered air systems, upgrading locker rooms, and monitoring coke oven emissions. The court's action ended a temporary injunction against enforcement of these standards which it had granted January 18. Industry lawyers, however, say they will continue legal maneuvering to get rid of the standards altogether.

Federal mine safety inspectors are not usually noted for their zeal in closing down unsafe mines. Nevertheless, there were 31 reported cases last year of assaults or threats of assault on mine inspectors. Presumably most of these attacks came from the employers—the same class of folks that goes running off to a judge hollering "law and order" every time there's a wildcat.

Tax fraud starts at the top. General Motors, the world's largest corporation, is being investigated by the Justice Department for criminal tax evasion. Brings to mind Charles E. Wilson's old saying, "What's good for GM is good for the country." Wilson was president of General Motors and Secretary of Defense under President Eisenhower.

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



## Teamsters: Would You Drive This Truck?

This is the new truck cab being designed by Strick Corporation, the nation's second-largest trailer manufacturer. The cab gives its driver all the protection of a sports car, as he heads down the turnpike at 55 mph carrying two 26-foot trailers.

Strick saw it's making the new truck because of the restrictive 55-foot length limitation for tractor-trailer combinations in many Eastern states. The company's solution is to put the tractor underneath the first trailer, thereby adding 10 feet, or 20% more cargo space, to the trailers.

Strick's cab stands a full 49 inches off the ground, with 8 1/4 inches clearance between the cab and the ground. By comparison, an MG sports car is 51 inches high.

Teamsters—would you drive this truck? Workers' Power will be glad to print your letters on the subject. □

# JIMMY CARTER AND THE CIA: SAME OLD TUNE

by Elissa Clarke

Last week, high sources in the Carter Administration revealed that the President had stopped CIA payments to Jordan's King Hussein—payments which had been going on for 20 years!

The news of the payments became public at the moment Secretary of State Vance was getting off the plane to visit Hussein.

Carter's response to the scandal has not been the open, frank, moral discussion he had promised. In fact, it can be characterized by the familiar old Watergate term: cover-up!

## A POLICY

At a press conference on February 23, Carter was asked if payments to Hussein were "proper." Carter answered that he had a policy, from which he refused to deviate, of refusing to comment "directly on any specific CIA activity."

Carter said further that he was "quite concerned" about "the

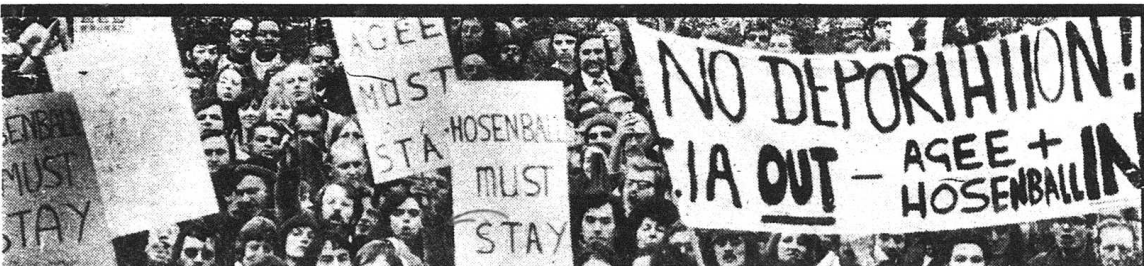
number of people who have access to this kind of information" and that he was working closely with Congressional leaders "to try to reduce the overall number of people" who have access to knowledge of covert operations.

Carter also sent personal apolo-

gies to some of the foreign leaders named in connection with CIA payments.

## DIRTIER

And the dirt on the CIA gets dirtier. Government investigations point to strong evidence that the



Demonstration in Britain against the deportation of Agee and Hosenball.

# AGEE LOSES APPEAL

by Jack Nelson

PHILLIP AGEE has lost his fight to avoid being deported from Britain. Agee is the former CIA agent who exposed the international operations of that spy agency.

The British government also ordered deported an American journalist, Mark Hosenball. He was involved in the investigation and exposure of CIA operations in Britain.

Agee is best known for his book "Inside the Company: A CIA Diary." "Diary" explained how the CIA engineers coups, assassinations, secret support for right-wing parties and unions, and spies on American citizens.

Since the book names many active CIA plots and "dirty tricks"—as well as many active CIA agents, Agee believed himself in jeopardy if he returned to the United States. He moved to Britain, where he has been working on a second book about intelligence conspiracies.

He has also been involved in exposing CIA operations to the scrutiny of the British working class. Among his contributions is an article written last year for Socialist Worker, the newspaper of the British International Socialists.

In it, he used his experience to show how the CIA would go about infiltrating the British labor movement and left groups. Their aim would be provoking embarrassing incidents and furthering the careers of moderate labor bureaucrats.

The CIA has been fighting back. With the assistance of Britain's Labour government, the intelligence agencies of Britain and the U.S. have not only succeeded in victimizing Agee and Hosenball, but have also arrested three men who were active in their defense.

Two of the men, Crispin Aubrey and Duncan Campbell were themselves investigating the use of electronic spy devices by British intelligence. The third, John Berry was accused of passing information to them.

The intelligence agencies have decided to act at a time when exposures and scandals of foreign intelligence operations are at a peak.

As long as a man like Phillip Agee is alive, he can give meaning to the smallest leaks. He can fill in the details of CIA plots from scant information which, to someone

without his experience, would be normally meaningless facts. So he must be stopped.

The British government has no need of Agee's services, either. His exposures of how the CIA and British intelligence have infiltrated the Labour Party have embarrassed the government. He has implicated several leading members of the present government.

Agee has exposed the fact that anti-labor policies in Britain are organized by politicians under the control of the American CIA and the British Special Branch (British counterpart of the CIA). This

makes it harder to convince British workers to go along with wage controls, job cuts, and hospital closings.

Just after the order to deport him was upheld Agee left England for Scotland. There, differences in security and deportation laws may buy him enough time to finish his book.

He may be temporarily safe, but he remains just one step ahead of his former employer, the CIA. That agency will do anything to prevent us from learning just how little freedom capitalism and its Secret Police have left for all of us. □

million to Japanese right-winger Yoshio Kodama. Kodama was the company's agent for the sale of military aircraft to the Japanese government and commercial aircraft to the Japanese airlines.

What did not receive so much notice at the time, was Kodama's covert association with the CIA or his role as political financier for the ruling conservative Liberal-Democratic Party.

By paying off Kodama (with the full knowledge of the U.S. government), Lockheed was promoting its own profitable contracts—and also helping U.S. policy by keeping the conservative Liberal-Democrats in power.

So the ruling party re-armed Japan, as Washington wanted, and Lockheed sold hundreds of millions of dollars worth of fighter bombers. The obvious, and so far uninvestigated question is: did the CIA actually finance Lockheed's criminal bribes—or maybe vice-versa?

In a similar case, Boeing Co. is now fighting to keep a secret list of sales consultants who quietly collected millions in commissions. With support of the U.S. State Department, Boeing is resisting efforts of the Securities and Exchange Commission to pry loose the list.

## AGENTS

However, it is known that Boeing's Middle East agents include Kamal Adharn, a relative of the royal family of Saudi Arabia and a friendly contact of the CIA.

In Kuwait, Boeing's agent is the brother of Jassim Y. al Marzouk, managing director of Kuwait Airways. Jassim headed an evaluation committee that recommended purchase of Boeing 747s. What a happy family.

Last year, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Activities produced a three-volume report which detailed CIA plots to assassinate some foreign leaders.

Senator Frank Church, the head of that Committee, made himself a hero by calling for "responsible control" over the CIA. But he did nothing to follow up the leads on the total merging of the CIA and most American overseas business operations.

Now that the elections are over, it's back to business as usual at the White House. Jimmy Carter campaigned on the promise of a legal and moral foreign policy and frank discussions of CIA "mistakes."

Now in the wake of his own Administration's first big scandal (the little ones are already too numerous to count), Carter is indistinguishable from his predecessors, Ford, Nixon, Johnson, and John F. Kennedy. □

# IS What We Think Carter Threatens Africa War

This week, the Carter Administration showed just how easily it could start a major war—and how close it will come to doing so.

American naval forces were rapidly built up off the East African coast. The Navy was supposed to be ready to protect American lives in Uganda.

Television network news showed us how Pentagon planners would use airborne troops and helicopters to save possible hostages from a mad African ruler.

But this was not the main purpose of the buildup. The U.S. government throws away the lives of its own people, not to mention others, without a second thought.

The Uganda crisis gave the

Carter Administration an opportunity to test public opinion of its emergency plans for military intervention in Africa.

Washington has blueprints for possible military action all over the world.

Jimmy Carter could send destroyers or aircraft carriers to protect the racist minority regimes of Rhodesia or South Africa. Or to promote pro-western coups in countries like Somalia. Or to protect American military expansion in the Indian Ocean.

The problem for the American government is that its own people will not accept getting involved in another Vietnam War. The government hopes to break down that resistance with operations like Ford's Maya-

quez bombing of Cambodia and now Carter's buildup off East Africa. Both were done in the name of protecting U.S. citizens.

Whether Idi Amin is actually unbalanced—or whether he is simply a petty, brutal dictator who has lost favor with the western powers who put him in office—is completely irrelevant. The barrage of propaganda about Idi Amin's mental condition only served to hide the real insanity that should have been exposed last week.

The basic difference between Idi Amin and Jimmy Carter isn't that Carter is (supposedly) sane, level-headed and calm. The difference is that Idi Amin has no power to start a world war. Jimmy Carter does. □

# MOTHER KILLED, SOLDIER REVEALS

# WHY BLACK TROOPS ARE DESERTING RHODESIA

This week on television, you may have seen Walter Cronkite bravely reporting from the border between Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) and Mozambique.

Cronkite didn't visit the border to talk to the Zimbabwe liberation fighters, who are at war to free their own country. In fact, he compared the Zimbabwe freedom fighters to sharks off the coast of Florida.

Cronkite interviewed white Rhodesian military commanders who bragged about how they have an integrated army of black and white soldiers supposedly fighting the "terrorists."

This was another example of American television's Big Lie at work.

The truth is that black soldiers and police do not join the Rhodesian forces to "fight terrorism." They join because they can find no other job. And increasing number of them are deserting.

## 19-YEAR OLD DESERTER

One of them is Robson Chaziwa, 19 years old, who left the Rhodesian police. Chaziwa gave an interview to the weekly magazine Tempo, published in Mozambique. Here is part of that article, translated into English by Africa News.

"I joined the police because at that time there were no other jobs in Rhodesia. There a person my age could only arrange food in the army or in the police. There is no work. . .

"My police number was X.456. My pay was twenty [Rhodesian] dollars."

Asked why he deserted, Robson Chaziwa was silent a moment, then began:

"I was in the police in a post near my own village. One day I learned that the police went to my mother's house because of guerrillas. . . When I arrived there they had killed her."

We asked him if his mother really had contact with the guerrillas.

"Not at all. She didn't. I know how it was."

He continued by telling the kind of actions he himself had been obliged to participate in. Normally the tasks of arresting, beating and killing fall to the black police.

They receive orders to go to a village to get information. There they are to arrest, beat up and if necessary kill the people if they don't speak up, or at least

denounce somebody.

Robson Chaziwa's own mother was killed this way. She had no information to give, she was beaten and her house was burned.

"The whites, besides earning a lot, rarely kill, because this is to be done by black police. And if they

don't follow the whites' orders, they are branded 'terrorists.'

"I fled because I couldn't stand it anymore. I walked two days without eating to cross the border into Mozambique."

About ZIPA (The Zimbabwe People's Army, the freedom

fighters' army based in Mozambique) Chaziwa said: "I don't yet know a single ZIPA guerilla, but Smith's soldiers and also the police are very frightened of them. Many black police and soldiers are deserting because they don't want to die."



The Rhodesian Army forces its black soldiers to commit massacres like this one.

# Human Rights? U.S. Aid Pays The Killers

The Carter Administration has announced cuts in foreign aid to the governments of Argentina, Uruguay and Ethiopia.

The supposed reason is Jimmy Carter's concern over violations of human rights in those countries.

This is one of the most cynical and dishonest statements Jimmy Carter has yet made.

For one thing, it flies in the face of plain facts—as State Department figures on aid to the government of Ethiopia show. And for another, it deliberately ignores what the real purpose of American foreign aid is.

For fiscal year 1976, the U.S. gave Ethiopia \$8.2 million in military aid, and \$13.1 million in economic assistance, for a total \$21.3 million.

For fiscal year 1977, the estimated figures are \$17.5 million military and \$1 million economic, for a total \$36.2 million—a 72% increase!

For fiscal 1978, the proposed economic assistance is \$20.7 million. The proposed military aid figure is not yet published.

## DOUBLED

Between 1976 and 1977, U.S. military aid to Ethiopia more than doubled. If Carter knocks a few million off for fiscal 1978, it is still certain to be a much higher figure than it was two years ago.

What does U.S. military aid to Ethiopia go for? Part of it goes to finance the Ethiopian regime's murderous war against the people of Eritrea, who are fighting for their national independence and survival.

The reason that U.S. military aid to Ethiopia skyrocketed is that this war has escalated.

U.S. money also supports the regime's police and armed forces, in arresting and murdering thousands of Ethiopian students, trade unionists and revolutionary socialists.

Every day that Jimmy Carter mouths his concern for human rights, American money actually pays for snuffing out dozens more human lives in Ethiopia.

## OTHER REGIMES

That is only one example. Carter's paper cutbacks on foreign aid to a few governments does not even include such close U.S. allies as South Korea, Iran, Brazil, or the Philippines.

The prisons and torture chambers in those countries, too, are bought and paid for with American aid money. And the torturers themselves are often trained in American CIA and police academies.

Jimmy Carter is getting reels of free publicity as a champion of freedom. Yet the truth is that no government ever spent as much money to enslave and destroy as many people's lives as the American government does today.

# Lebanon: Far Right Attacks Again

A new assault is underway on the Palestinian movement in southern Lebanon.

The Palestinians are not allowed to live in their own homes, which are occupied by Israel. After a bitter civil war in Lebanon, they are in danger of losing their right to organize their liberation struggle there.

Right-wing militias are attacking the villages and refugee camps of the Palestinians. At the same time, the Palestinians are also under attack from As Saïqa.

Saïqa is an organization that is made up of Palestinians, but gets its orders and money straight from the government of Syria. It is part of Syria's strategy for destroying the Palestine Liberation Organization, the Palestine national resistance movement.

## NO DISGUISE

The army of Israel no longer even tries to disguise the fact that it supplies right-wing anti-Palestinian

armies with weapons and information.

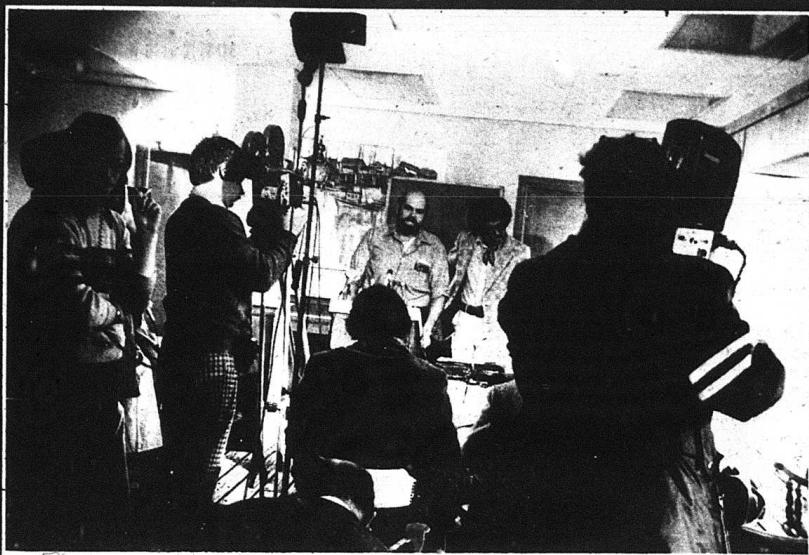
While Israel wants to crush the Palestinians completely, the Arab states of Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia want to dominate and use them for greater influence and power.

All the Arab-regimes are using money and muscle to force the Palestinians to accept a federation with King Hussein of Jordan, the same ruler who murdered over 10,000 Palestinians in 1970.

The Palestinian resistance fighters

are making a heroic military struggle against these odds. They have been denied their own land and their rights too long to stop fighting now. But no section of their movement has come up with an effective political response.

The position of the Palestinian movement is likely to become even more difficult. It will improve when there is a new radical upsurge or breakthrough by the working class of Egypt or Syria, or an enormous political crisis inside Israel.



Pete Camarata (left) and Al Ferdnace at February 25 press conference.

## TDU Leaders Face "Kangaroo Court"

DETROIT—Two members of the Teamsters for a Democratic Union (TDU) national steering committee, are fighting an attempt to expel them from the union. At a press conference February 25, Pete Camarata and Al Ferdnace linked the expulsion move to the success TDU is having in its campaign to reform Local 299's by-laws.

"These are tactics the union is using to stop us from getting what we're after," Camarata charged. "They think if they can get rid of a couple leaders, that'll be the end of it. But TDU is a rank and file organization; it's not dependent on just one or two individuals."

The by-law changes Detroit TDU wants are aimed at democratizing the local. They would provide for election of Business Agents and stewards, regular financial reports from the officers, and regular membership meetings.

The internal union charges brought against Camarata and Ferdnace relate to a wildcat strike of carhaulers last summer, when the International Union ordered the carhaulers' contract approved even though a majority had voted against it. Camarata and Ferdnace have now been charged with "conduct unbecoming a union member" in relation to that strike.

The International union will certainly approve of these charges. At the Teamsters convention in Las Vegas last summer, Pete Camarata was the only delegate to oppose Frank Fitzsimmons' re-election as General President.

As vice-president of Local 299, Fitzsimmons' son, Richard, will sit on the trial board when the hearing begins March 4. The younger Fitzsimmons was recently arrested for embezzling \$5000 from the local's pension fund, but he is apparently still an officer "in good standing."

TDU is well aware of what can be expected from this sort of trial jury. One reporter asked Ferdnace what the procedure will be for the trial. "Just plain old kangaroo court," he replied.

## BACK TO WORK AT HYATT BEARINGS

Two General Motors bearings plants which has struck for local contracts were back to work Monday, February 28. They and a third bearings plant make up GM's New Departure-Hyatt Division.

Together, the plants supply bearings not only for GM but for Ford and Chrysler as well.

The three locals had asked for a joint strike deadline but the United Auto Workers International instead staggered the deadlines over 12 days. Some local officials had felt that the strikes would last long enough that the three locals would be out together anyway.

But the UAW took a very cautious attitude toward striking the Hyatt plants. The two plants were on strike together for less than two days.

### LOCAL 736

A member of Local 736 in Clark, New Jersey told Workers' Power that at least one member of their Bargaining Committee voted against the new contract. He said

that although new language on health and safety was won, the company has proven itself skilled at getting around such provisions in the past. If the union leadership doesn't enforce it, its value will be lost.

At the ratification meeting, a member asked if anything had been done to change the "jail-like shop rules." Displaying the same militancy the International had shown in the strikes, the International rep replied that the union didn't accept GM's shop rules, but they couldn't do anything about them.

"Besides," he said, "GM has easy shop rules. I've seen some of your records. If you worked at any other company you'd be out on the street a long time ago."

The Local 736 leadership did not take full advantage of its first strike in 15 years by organizing the membership in support of its demands. As a result, some Local 736 members were hostile to the 11-day strike.

Local 736 settled on Thursday,

February 24. The Sandusky, Ohio plant went out on Tuesday and settled on Saturday. The Bristol, Connecticut plant reached agreement two hours before its midnight deadline the following Monday.

Ratification meetings in Clark and Sandusky were held Sunday, with large majorities voting for acceptance.

It could be the end of the line in Ventura, California, for passionate pets.

The County Animal Regulation Committee there has proposed fines ranging as high as \$500 as a way of curbing animal over-population. The ordinance would require special permits—at \$10 a year—before dogs or cats could mate.

Pets that engage in mating without official permission would subject their owners to a \$30 fine for the first offense, and higher penalties for repeat offenders.

At least one county supervisor, however, admitted that the ordinance has its drawbacks. Says supervisor Edwin Jones: "I can't think of any way to communicate the idea to the dogs." (ZNS)

Readers: Send items for Workers' Power Shorts Dept. to 14131 Woodward, Highland Park, MI 48203. Original clippings, please.

## If They Don't Show It, We Won't Vote It

by David McCullough  
UAW Local 869

WARREN, MI—The members of UAW Local 869 achieved a first February 27. They forced their union Bargaining Committee to postpone voting on the local agreement until the members could see what was in it. The demands won at the bargaining table were printed up and handed out in the plant.

The members had been led out on a one-day strike the week before, but were kept in the dark about what they were striking for.

The importance of being informed became clear when the actual details came out. They were not as impressive as the Bargaining Committee's talk. As a result, the package will probably be voted down.

### STORMY MEETING

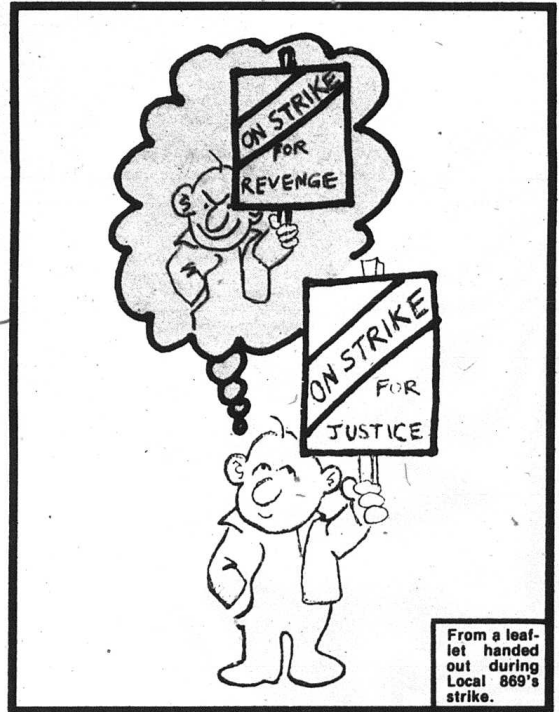
The victory happened at a regular union meeting with a large

turnout. "It was the best meeting I've been to in 15 years," said one worker, echoing a general sentiment.

In the past, members who attended one union meeting did not return. They were turned off by the local leadership's high-handed and bureaucratic practices. But the meeting of the 27th has already become "the one" that many regret having missed.

Again and again, the local president ruled motions to postpone the ratification vote out of order. The membership was able to force the leadership to do its bidding only because one worker after another kept returning to the subject they wanted: information.

Motions were finally forced to a vote and even the administration's supporters refused to go against the tide. It was a big upper for the members of this local, which has long been written off as a sleepy backwater where all the cows are contented.



## UAW Local 51 Sets Strike Date

UAW Local 51 at Chrysler's Lynch Road Assembly Plant has received a strike deadline for Monday, March 14. The bargaining committee and management are deadlocked over several key issues: hot food in the cafeteria, roof repairs, and protection for employees parking lots.

The local bargaining committee called a demonstration at the Local Hall Thursday, February 24, over the parking lot issue. Five to seven cars per day are broken into or stolen in the Lynch Road parking lot. The over two hundred workers at the rally were willing to strike for

more guards, watchtowers, and locked gates.

Since the bargaining began last summer, the membership's only source of information about negotiations has been the United Coalition, a rank and file caucus in the local. The Coalition has three members on the bargaining committee.

The Coalition has published regular reports on the state of negotiations in its newsletter. It has urged the membership to show the company, "If Strike We Must, Strike We Will!"

# 1977: WHAT'S AHEAD

by Karen Kaye

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY**, March 8, is an appropriate time to take a look at the status of American women today.

A starting point is the fact that has been true since the dawn of history: women are the home-makers of society, the daily cooks and cleaners, a responsibility periodically interrupted and then added to by births and the child-rearing that follows.

Way back in the past, before factories produced the goods we need to live, women took care of the home largely by producing goods: sewing the family's clothes, churning butter, making candles, cooking everything "from scratch" from ingredients grown at home.

**Today's woman needs money to accomplish her task: a lot of our time is spent shopping. Instead of making candles, we must pay the electric bill. We buy food instead of preparing what our family farmed.**

## JOBS

The need for money to afford the necessities of life has sent women out to work for wages ever since factories began. Single women, and women whose husbands' incomes are inadequate to support a family, must earn money.

Today, women make up 40.7% of the work force, and almost 48% of women work outside the home, on top of all the work they do at home.

But while society increasingly requires that women work, little has been done to help with her other full time job of child rearing and homemaking. Thus the dilemma of the working woman whose child becomes ill, or who gets unexpected overtime.

**The problem women face is being able both to work and to have families. Perhaps this explains the drop in the birth rate to 1.8 per woman, less than the rate that replaces the population.**

Our employers, always looking for the biggest profit, would like to ignore the fact that we have responsibilities at home, or to blame them on us as an excuse to give us lower wages and little job security.

A recent Supreme Court decision illustrates this. The Court ruled that companies do not have to pay women for maternity leave. This means that many women who become pregnant while employed will have to quit their jobs and go on welfare.

## AT THEIR MERCY

By refusing to help women with their responsibilities to home and children, companies keep women at their mercy.

**Women are often desperate for work, and so we take the jobs men won't take. We then have a situation where women make only 59% of what men make. And the gap is increasing.**

Most of these jobs aren't unionized, which makes women workers even more vulnerable to the dictates of the employer. Only 12.6% of working women are in unions.

Many working women hold jobs because their husband's income is inadequate. The largest proportion of women who entered the

workforce in the last few years are married women between the ages of 25 and 44.

**Other women work because they are the sole support of the family. Between 1960 and 1970 the divorce rate went up by 72%.**

Seventy-three percent of divorced women work outside the home. Only six percent collect alimony regularly, and 20% collect child support regularly.

## WHAT WE NEED

If women need access to equal employment and decent pay, what do we need to get it?

We need childcare we can trust. But in recent years the government has cut back on childcare.

We need more freedom in family planning: birth control that we can count on.

**But in the last several years, one study after another has revealed that whatever method of birth control doctors have been pushing lately causes some terrible disease. They don't test these products properly.**

For example, it was discovered by 1970 that conventional birth control pills increase the risk of breast cancer, heart attacks, stroke, blood-clotting disease, gall bladder disease and birth defects in children of women who continue to take the pill while pregnant.

Sequential pills were found to cause a greater risk of uterine cancer, at a time when one million US women were taking these pills.

The Dalkon Shield, an IUD, was then peddled by doctors to millions of women who feared the pill.

In 1973 Army Major Russel Thomsen, a doctor, found that the Shield was causing his patients septic abortions, pelvic inflammatory disease, massive bleeding, incessant cramps and near death. Now, 17 U.S. women are known to have died from its effects.

Finally in 1976 it was withdrawn from the market after the Food and Drug Administration held belated hearings. And after the A.H. Robins company, which marketed the device, had made \$16 million off it.

## ABORTION

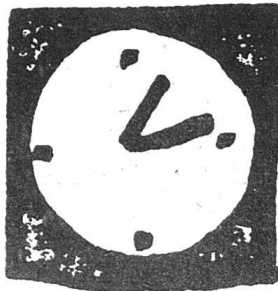
**Under these conditions, where the most effective forms of birth control turn out to be dangerous, many women find that they need an abortion.**

In 1973, the Supreme Court ruled that abortion in the first trimester of pregnancy was legal. This freed women from dangerous backstreet abortions, which often caused the death of the woman.

But ever since the decision, so-called "right to life" groups have been working to make abortion illegal again. They say that the life of a fertile egg is more important than the life of a grown woman.

**These groups have made some inroads. Soon after its 1973 decision, the Supreme Court ruled that private hospitals that receive public funding do not have to perform abortions.**

Congress has also passed the "Hyde amendment" that prohibits the use of Medicaid funds for abortion, meaning that women on welfare could not obtain the operation. So far, the courts have



blocked this law.

## FIRMS WANT \$S

What does it add up to? The U.S. economy is no longer booming as it did in the 1960's, when the government began to pass legislation that could help women achieve equality.

In the late 1960's women were clamoring for equality of work and pay with men. The government responded by ordering several big firms to stop sex discrimination, notably GM and the phone company.

"Affirmative action" programs began—the companies had to hire women. The Equal Employment

Commission (EEOC) was charged with enforcing Title 7 of the Civil Rights Act, which prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of sex.

**But the EEOC wasn't given the staff or the budget to do the job. As of 1976 it had a backlog of 50,000 cases, some seven years old. Where it did act, it found discrimination in only 5% of the cases. Penalties to employers were lenient.**

Other court actions are threatening the legality of affirmative action itself.

For instance, the Supreme Court ruled recently that you can't file a sex discrimination suit while you have a grievance on the same

injustice in the grievance procedure. But by the time the grievance procedure is exhausted, the deadline for filing EEOC suits (180 days) is usually over!

## GREED AND POWER

But it is the companies' greed and power that is behind the weakening of government policies, because the government is pro-business above all else.

**For example, women in Washington state recently won affirmative action goals for the State Apprenticeship and Training Council. However, the Plumbers and Steamfitters Union, which would be affected, had 600 apprentice-**

# HEAD FOR WOMEN?

## Working Women Tell Their Stories

**ROSIE LANE** is a wireman's helper and the first woman in her mine in West Virginia.



I took a college course in mining orientation, and then applied in the coal mines. Eight months later, since I hadn't heard anything and everybody else from the class was hired, I went to the EEOC and filed suit against the five companies.

The class was all men except for one other woman who got in after six months. About two weeks later Buckeye offered me a job. I had them over a barrel.

I've been in the mine 1½ years now. There are now four other women, two are black and two are white.

### HOSTILE

At first the men were extremely hostile—a woman was in competition with them in the working world. On the other hand, I was welcomed with open arms by the union—the UMWA has been good to me.

There was one brother who after about two months went to the company and told them I couldn't do the work.

Several of the union officials, the vice-president and the financial secretary who are on the mine committee, jumped on this fellow and dealt with him pretty harshly. They had some rough words for him. He was breaking the union contract.

In August we were on strike, that one that began in Logan County, West Virginia. You have nothing if you can't strike—that's your only bargaining power.

I think the majority of the miners see where the country is going, what government means to them and how it affects them. They're basically anarchists.

They can see how socialist aims can help them, but there's a big bug-a-boo about the words "communism" and "socialism" and in their minds they can't get past that.

Now there's a boom in coal—it has to happen that more women will be getting into the mines.

In Kentucky, the Kentucky Human Relations Commission got passed some legal maneuver that the coal companies, out of every two applicants they hire, one has to be a woman—that's up to 20% of the workforce. That's the best news I've heard.

**FLORENCE RODGERS** is a night janitor in an office building and supports four children. She was laid off her job for getting pregnant. It took five years of persistent effort to finally win her suit against the company.

When I told them I was pregnant, the superintendent told me—we can't keep you here, you might have an accident. I knew there was women's liberation, but I didn't know what we were really entitled to.

They told me to come back after I had the baby. So I went back a few months after, and they told me no, they didn't have any openings. I went back again in a few months. This time they made me put in a new application and sent me over to another bank.

They said they would recommend me highly. If I'm so good, how come I can't stay at my old building? I got so suspicious then.

### CAHOOTS

The union had sent me alone. But everybody said the union should have gone over there with me. The union is in cahoots. They get my union dues, and all the other women's dues, and it seems to me the union is for the company. You bet!

Every time the company makes us do something, the union goes along with it. They say, you shouldn't have done that, we can't help you now. Every grievance the women turn in hasn't been processed.

There was another woman who had a baby six months after me, and was back on a year later.

Yet, I couldn't even stay in my apartment. I had to get emergency housing. Instead of going up the ladder, I was going down. And not because it was my fault. I was on welfare all this time.

Two and a half years later I found out my rights. I went to the union. They sent me to the company.

The union representative asked me how old my baby was. I said 2½ years. He said, that's too long ago I said it may be too late for you and the company, but it's not too late for women's libbers and the law!

Then I went to EEOC and filed a suit. All I got after the lawyers fee was \$7600. It took two years, so it was five years in all.

### SKUNKED

The company should be made to take you back until that court order comes up. EEOC is crooked too. I got skunked all the way around.

When I went back to work, the other women saw what I could do and seven of them sued the company and the union—the



company for harassment and unequal pay with the men.

They took their case to EEOC, who sent them to Human Relations who laid a long rap. The women got tired and went to a lawyer.

EEOC is so slow it could take you 10 years. You should get interest on the money, as slow as they are. It's already been a year since they filed their case.

It went right back to the way it was. At my job, we have five blacks now out of 40. There were 12 when I left.

They better start giving black people decent jobs—revolution is going to be the only thing that will change things. And it's going to have to be the poor black people and the poor white people, because if the white doesn't participate, he is going to be without a job too.

Did you see what Portugal did last year? They said they were turning Communist because democracy is only for the wealthy. The executives are the criminals. They deny us the right to work and the right to make an honest living.

**ELEANOR WILLIAMS** has been a steward in a laundry for a year and a half. She's been a fighter. The IS helped her get out a newsletter when her co-workers were wrongly fired, but until recently she has been fighting by herself. That's been changed with a recent incident in her plant.

In fighting the union and the company, it seemed like the union was joining in with the company.

We had a big battle and I resigned as a steward because I couldn't fight the union by myself. The people were kind of scared of losing their jobs, and I didn't have everybody behind me.

Then we had a new election, and the people wanted me again. But the union didn't want to put my name on the ballot. The people wrote my name in anyway, but the union wouldn't accept it.

Some of the people at the plant got together and decided to fight it. We got in touch with the president of the local and had a meeting. The union couldn't give us a reason why I couldn't run.

### VICTORY

We had another meeting with the executive board to get another election, and the decision was made in a hurry that we could. We won one battle!

The way the people reacted made me want to be re-elected. They made me feel they would really stand behind me this time. They wanted to start a petition for me to take to the Labor Relations Board, but the executive board said to wait—they would step in if they found out there was any discrepancies in the election.

### WITH YOU

If the people are standing with you and fighting, I believe you can do anything. As long as you're right, as long as you have looked up all the facts. There's no way they can do the things they think they can do to you.

The union isn't doing what they're supposed to do to protect us. Don't get me wrong—we need our union. But we have to stick together to have a strong one. We, the people, are the union.

But this union is something—I never knew that the union would have a meeting with the people to get the production up. I thought that was the company's job.

The union called a meeting after work for two hours at the laundry—and without pay. We figure we should get paid cause it's a company issue.

### TIME

Now people come up to me and ask when another newsletter is coming out. I tell them it takes a lot of time to write something up. I have a committee of about eight or nine. After the election I can get them together and we can talk about another newsletter.

I'm going all out to fight the union and we can deal with the company if we have the union.

When asked what women are going to have to do to change things, Eleanor replied, "Speak up and stick to it!"

# YOU CAN JUDGE ... BY ITS RESORTS...



## THE AUTO WORKERS' BLACK LAKE

by Neil Chacker  
UAW Local 47

Far and away the most luxurious place I've ever been is the UAW Education Center at Black Lake.

This place is of an opulence that's easier to imagine than to describe. It's not the Las Vegas type of flash and glitter; it's the more subtle and solid kind of luxury that's built to last.

The Center is located on 1200 acres of beautiful virgin forest in northern Michigan. The exterior, of natural wood and stone, is designed to blend harmoniously with the surrounding countryside.

Black Lake offers a full range of services to its guests: a huge gymnasium, indoor swimming pool, saunas, a fine beach, horseback riding, year-round fishing, a mammoth barbeque pit.

One could also mention the hand-crafted Italian fireplace, the specially-made wooden chandeliers, and the enclosed walkways that connect most of the buildings in the complex.

The most ostentatious item is the circular alcove where sculpted bronze astrological designs duplicate the position of the heavens at the time of Walter Reuther's birth.

I was most impressed by the food at Black Lake. While Detroit auto workers are eating cardboard sandwiches out of the machines, guests at Black Lake are offered all the shrimp or crabmeat cocktails, beef stroganoff, roast turkey, melon salad, pecan pie, and chocolate eclairs they can eat.

There is also a bar, known as "Mazey's," where guests get free drink tickets.

### FOR BUREAUCRATS

Nobody would deny that auto workers are entitled to a little luxury. But not that many ordinary workers make it to Black Lake. Most of the guests are lower level UAW bureaucrats: stewards, committeemen and local officers. They return to Black Lake year after

year. Black Lake is supposedly an education center. In fact, classes are sometimes given, and somebody who paid attention could learn the basics of collective bargaining, labor legislation and grievance procedures.

Most of the pork-choppers don't pay that much attention. They just come up for a good time.

The main lesson you learn at

Black Lake is that the UAW takes care of its own. This doesn't mean the whole membership—it means those who support the Administration.

Black Lake offers them a taste of the kind of life they can enjoy if they support the people in power and go along with the program. It's all the more effective by being such a complete contrast to the way most rank and file auto workers live. □



## THE UNITED STEEL WORKERS' ANSWER TO BLACK LAKE

by Jim Woodward

We don't know exactly how much Linden Hall cost the United Steel Workers Union, but the stained glass windows alone in the 35-room mansion are worth \$150,000.

Linden Hall is the USW's answer to the United Auto Workers' Black Lake. The union plans to spend \$4 million to fix up its new 785-acre country estate in western Pennsylvania.

"This is not a sackcloth-and-ashes approach," USW spokesman Lawrence Spitz told a reporter. The union plans to build tennis courts, swimming pools, a golf course, a first class restaurant, and a 100-room hotel to go along with the already-existing formal garden, solarium, mansion and servants quarters.

"We hope to make our new complex a place where we can develop innovative approaches to the problems of being union members," Spitz said.

One steelworker who read about the union's big splurge felt another "innovative approach" would be more appropriate: "Why doesn't the International spend our dues money on something we need for once; they ought to be putting this money toward pensions."

### REWARD AND TRAIN

In fact, Linden Hall is not intended to do anything for the average steelworker. Its purpose is to impress the outside world and to reward loyal local union officials. Classes and seminars will be used to train young workers in the union leadership's way of thinking.

On weekends, the USW plans to throw the gates of Linden Hall open to anyone who wants to come and have a good time. You won't even need to be a steelworker...but you will need some cash. The prices will be comparable to those charged at any fashionable upper-class resort.

There will be some consideration, though, for steelworkers who can't afford a luxury vacation. Union officials say they'll be allowed to set up a tent on the lawn. □



Part of the UAW's Black Lake resort.

# Chinese workers: one step toward justice

Eighty-five Chinese workers have been awarded \$1 million in back pay and benefits from a San Francisco garment factory that closed its plant to stop a union organizing drive.

In July 1974, workers at the Great Chinese American Sewing Company went out on strike to protest poor working conditions and unfair labor practices, and to demand union recognition.

After three days of picketing, management closed down the shop, supposedly for financial reasons.

Militant picketing continued at the parent company, Espirit de Corps, and many striking workers were arrested. The case was finally taken to the NLRB by the ILGWU.

In its decision, the NLRB found

many violations of the law by Espirit de Corp. and ordered that each of the workers be reimbursed for any net loss of pay and benefits, until they obtain equivalent em-

ployment.

However, the National Labor Relations Board rejected further recommendations that the Great Chinese American Sewing Comp-

any be reopened by its parent company Espirit de Corp.

Appeals are currently being planned by both the International Ladies Garment Workers union (ILGWU) and Espirit de Corp.

Many of the garment workers have been unable to obtain similar work during the two-and-a-half year time lag since the ILGWU filed its complain with the NLRB.

John Anderson, the union attorney, stated that the time lag emphasized the need for reform in the National Labor Relations Act and the NLRB procedures.

A member of a local committee supporting a recent organizing attempt by Snow Lion garment workers saw it in a different way.

"I think the problem runs deeper. The courts are just a symptom of the system. What we need to do is change the system,

not just reform the law."

She added, "As I recall, many of the workers at the Great Chinese American Sewing Company, or Jung Sai as it was known in the Chinese community, saw the strike as something more than just a way of getting better wages.

"They saw it as a fight for the rights of all Chinese workers. They saw it as a fight against racism and exploitation.

"The NLRB settlement will certainly be welcomed, but the important thing to see is that the militancy of the Jung Sai workers has set an example for the struggle of other unorganized garment workers in the Bay Area.

"Their two-and-a-half year wait for 'justice' has only proven the injustice of the system." □

C. Hiratsuka

## International Women's Day

by Alexandra Kollontai

This pamphlet was first written in 1920. The author was a leader of the Russian Revolution and the Bolshevik Party.

Kollontai discusses the history of women's struggles for their rights throughout the world, and the importance of celebrating "the working women's day of militancy."

Order from Sun Distribution International, 14131 Woodward, Highland Park, MI 48203

Price 35c postpaid



# A UNION...

## ...OR BY THE STORIES ITS MEMBERS TELL



### Profits Before Safety At Bethlehem Steel

[The steelworker who wrote this story was formerly employed at Bethlehem Steel's Burns Harbor, Indiana mill. The events he describes took place a few years ago. His story shows clearly how big business puts productivity and profits before safety. But the fact that union leaders allow situations like this to continue indicates how unconcerned they are with the membership's problems.]

by Larry Hamilton

Early one morning, I went into work in the blast furnace. My job was cinderman or third helper in the production gang, which consisted of breaking up chunks of slag in the slag runner with long iron bars.

Slag is the 'dirt' in pig iron. That morning I was in a special hurry to get the slag broken up because it was running slow.

When I was almost done, my pant leg underneath my protective asbestos suit caught on fire from the tremendous heat. By the time I got all of my "safety" equipment off, my leg was burned so badly that I could see the calf muscle. It was a third degree burn, needless to say.

#### FORCED TO KEEP WORKING

I waited one hour for the clinic ambulance to arrive and then went to the clinic.

The doctor wrapped up my leg and sent me back to work! Within two hours of the accident I was again beside the slag runner with blood pouring into my boot from the burn.

Every day for the next month I was forced to do my regular job and also have my leg rebanded.

Because of the tremendous heat of slag (approximately 3000°) and also having to work right beside it, after one month the burn had not healed at all. In fact it still bled.

One day the company doctor said that my leg wasn't healing and that they would have to do a skin graft. I said that of course it hadn't healed, and that I should have been home for the past month.

He said that the company doesn't give "lost time" accident releases unless the accident is very bad, like death. The main reason for this is that if a company has too many "lost time" accidents their insurance rates will go up, and that would make for less profit.

After the operation I was put on "light duty" and doped up to the point where I was useless. After

settlement out of court, they said that the burn was a "mere scratch" and that they wouldn't give me any money for discomfort or anything else.

When I said that I would have to sue them, the company representative had the gall to say that "it won't do you any good because our corporate lawyers control the judges." They had the nerve to tell me that straight to my face!

#### COMMON THING

My case is not so special. This kind of thing goes on all the time in



### UAW Local 3 Resorts To Violence Against Dissident Member

### Edie Fox, a long-time UAW militant was attacked and beaten by a Local 3 official February 24. Edie is running for recording secretary and convention delegate on a slate in opposition to Joe Davis, Local 3's president.

Edie has worked at Chrysler's Dodge Main plant for 29 years. She was a chief steward and a

committeewoman for 12 years. She has consistently fought for a union that takes on the companies—which usually brought her into conflict with the local administration.

Workers' Power asked Edie to tell what happened to her last Thursday.

I was down at the local talking to another worker. I wasn't even talking to Davis and he jumped in and started calling me a witch. He repeated it over and over. He was getting his "Action Group" supporters all fired up.

As I was leaving I remarked that it looked like a bunch of gangsters around there to me.

Then "Betty Boo" Griffin, one of Davis' flunkies, came after me. She's a trustee and also a steward. And she is enormous.

She hit me and I hit her back. She knocked me down and started grinding her heel into the side of my face.

Finally someone pulled her off. I'm preparing legal action against her, Davis and the local. I'm going to take this as far as I have to go.

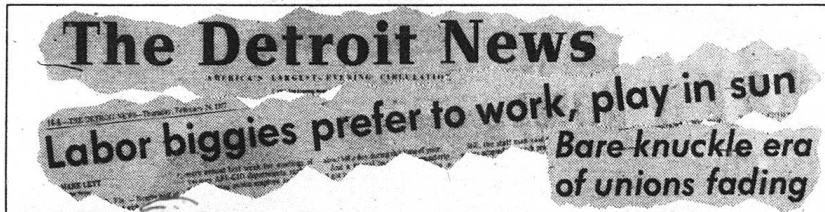
#### LEADERSHIP OF FEAR

They are afraid of people like me—people who aren't afraid of them. They've threatened Sam Johnson several times—he's running for president against Davis.

This is the whole leadership of fear. I've never seen an atmosphere of fear like this in a UAW local.

These things are money. They're fighting for the lucrative aspects of what these jobs are. There is no unionism there at all.

But the beating has made me even more determined to try to get them thrown out. Their horror tactics only benefit the company.



Sometimes a headline tells the story best. These came from two recent issues of the Detroit News.

two weeks I was sent back to my regular job as cinderman. Two months later I took off the bandages.

#### NEVER COMPANY'S FAULT

When the company accident report came out, of course the accident was totally my fault. The reason was that "I worked too hard, I should have taken a break."

Now for anyone who knows what it's like to work a production job in this stinking system, this is absolute horseshit.

You are screamed and cursed at every day to work harder and faster, but the company has to protect itself against safety grievances and lawsuits. So the accident was "my fault."

When on the advice of a lawyer, I went to the company to try to get a

the mill. One week before I quit, a guy I had worked with for the past year was using a gas lance on the side of the furnace when he hit a pocket of liquid iron and it blew back in his face. His face practically melted. The next day, to no one's surprise, he came back to work with almost his entire head bandaged!

The Sadlowski campaign has generated a lot of interest among the rank and file. Now is the time to organize to bring the union back to the ranks so we can fight against things like this, the rotten grievance procedures, the no-strike deal, and on and on.

Sadlowski may have lost but that doesn't mean we can't organize to fight back against the bosses using the same ideas of the Fight Back campaign.



Edie Fox

**South Africa: Act I Of The Revolution**  
by Glenn Wolfe

An International Socialist Publication 10c

Order from: Sun Distribution, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, MI 48203, 20c, including postage

## Black Worker May Face Blindness From Police Attack

CHICAGO—Bennie Lenard was nearly killed January 31 by police in Melrose Park, a western Chicago suburb. That was nearly five weeks ago, and ever since then he has been confined to a hospital bed.

Lenard works at the International Harvester plant in Melrose Park. Members of UAW Local 6 have organized a defense committee to defend him, raise money for legal expenses, and to fight for the firing of the police who were involved.

Further plans include packing the courthouse at the hearing to be held March 4. That same day, there will also be plant gate collections of money.

Lenard's condition is still so bad

that he can receive very few visitors. He is often in pain and threatened with permanent blindness in one eye.

The therapy program which doctors prescribed to save his sight is sometimes too much of a strain for him.

#### BEATEN, FRAMED

All this pain and suffering was handed out to Lenard only because he is a black man who got into a minor car accident when his car was hit by a white woman. She claimed he hit her on the arm.

When two white policemen arrived on the spot, they heard her

story and immediately handed out their own "justice."

No white man under the same circumstances would have been beaten unconscious, thrown in a cell with the window open to sub-freezing temperatures, while a pail of water was thrown over him.

The police claim he hurt himself when he fell down a flight of stairs at the jail.

In addition to the beating he received, the police have filed numerous charges against Lenard. These include transporting open alcohol in his car, driving without a license, carrying a concealed weapon, assault, assault on police officers and resisting arrest.

The police have a special interest in bringing these charges, since securing a conviction will become part of their effort to cover up the brutality and sadism of the Melrose Park Police Department.

Melrose Park is an all-white suburb. It is impossible for Lenard to receive anything like a fair trial there.

Besides the defense committee's other activities, we are also contacting other unions for support. In addition, plans are under way for a boycott against downtown Melrose Park merchants.

Ted Dibble  
UAW Local 6

# 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 other 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 class 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, gays, latinos, 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. 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.

**Workers' Power**  
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# CALIFORNIA I.S. Holds Working Women's Conference

OAKLAND, California — Sixty women attended a spirited working women's conference here on February 26.

Women from many different industries participated in the day-long event. They included long-haul freight-drivers, parcel drivers, postal workers, telephone installers, garment workers, students, teachers, refinery workers, service workers, cannery workers, and candle makers.

The conference began with a talk by Karen Gomez. Gomez described how capitalism requires both the exploitation and oppression of women, and outlined a strategy for fighting for women's liberation.

A panel of five working women described their experiences fighting back in their workplaces. The panel included Jane Watanabe, a member of the Snow Lion Workers' Committee; Kay Eisenhower, a leader of the Clerks County caucus and a local official in SEIU; Evie Thomas, a UPS driver recently fired for her political activity; Rita Drapkin, an activist in UPSurge East in Pittsburgh; and Delfina Lozoya, a leader of the Cannery Workers Committee.

The panel was followed by a lively discussion from the floor in which many women spoke of their efforts to fight back where they worked.

## WORKSHOPS

Later in the afternoon, workshops were held on independent organizing, organizing around women's demands such as matern-

Most Disgusting New Invention of the Year Award: Digital Products Corp. has invented a device to enable companies to automatically deliver "junk telephone calls" to you. The device will automatically dial up to 1000 calls a day, deliver a recorded sales message, and then record whatever response you choose to make. Junk mail was bad enough!  
Can you imagine night-shift folks, who try to sleep during the day, constantly being waked up by this machine? Maybe they could think of a good time of the day to phone the top executives of the companies that use it and tell them what they think.



Participants in a panel discussion at the working women's conference.

ity pay in contracts, and the use of government agencies.

A delicious lasagna dinner was provided by I.S. men.

After dinner, the women were joined by a number of men for a talk by Rita Drapkin on the history of revolutionaries in the trade union movement. The talk was followed by a fine documentary film, Union Maids, about three militant women organizers in the 1930s.

All the conference participants felt the day was a great success. "This conference makes me proud to be a revolutionary," one woman said after the day was over. The meeting was sponsored by the International Socialists' women's caucuses of the Bay Area and Los Angeles.

Anne Larson

## Boston Builds Southern Africa Solidarity

BOSTON—On February 25, 65 people attended a forum on the fight for freedom in South Africa, sponsored jointly by the Boston Coalition for the Liberation of Southern Africa, and the Boston branch of International Socialists (IS).

Thami Mhlambiso, the representative to the United Nations for the African National Congress (ANC), spoke on the history of struggle and resistance in South Africa.

He described the Soweto student uprising and its aftermath, and the critical need for a mass movement in this country in solidarity with the freedom fighters.

This talk was followed by a showing of the British documentary film "There Is No Crisis Here," which includes interviews with participants in the Soweto uprising.

Following the film, Larry Smith, National Black organizer for the IS, spoke on why the black working class in South Africa will lead any successful struggle for national liberation.

He also emphasized that South Africa's revolutionary struggle can spread throughout southern Africa and become a struggle for socialism.

The final speaker was Anne Crane from the Boston Coalition. She explained that U.S. multinational corporations play a major role in propping up the South African apartheid regime. The efforts underway in Boston to expose this are important in building a movement in support of African liberation.

Many of those present indicated interest in learning about future activities.

## DEMONSTRATION

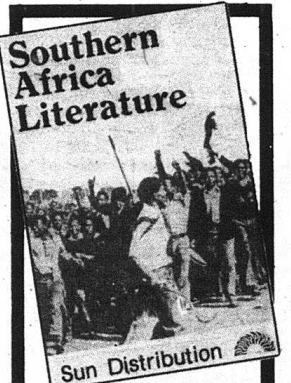
The day before, a demonstration in front of the Merrill-Lynch building in downtown Boston protested that company's sales of the South African gold coin, the Kruggerand. Seventy-five people braved a downpour to attend.

Signs and slogans called for ending U.S. ties with South Africa, and for victory to the freedom

fighters. The Boston director for Merrill Lynch, replied to the demonstrators: "I don't make the decisions, but I'll pass your comments on to those who do."

Where have we heard that line before?

The demonstration ended by leafletting several major workplaces in the area, including a big shift change at the nearby Ma Bell building. A number of office workers in the area, both black and white, joined the demonstration.



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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.**

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# WHO CONDEMNED

# THE SIX MILLION?

by Dan Posen

In May 1939, just a few weeks before World War II began, 937 Jews left Hamburg for Havana, Cuba on the German ship S.S. St. Louis.

These were people who had lost their homes, their possessions, their right to practice law or medicine or teach. They were mostly professional people with the money, the connections or the good luck to buy or finagle their way into positions for that voyage.

They knew it was the last chance for themselves and their families to get out of Germany. Behind them, the concentration camps were already swallowing up hundreds of thousands who hadn't escaped.

Suddenly, when they were so close to their goal they could literally touch it, the Jews on the St. Louis found out they were trapped.

They could not leave the ship. No country would accept them. There was nowhere they could go. Totally helpless, they were faced with the prospect of being taken back across the Atlantic to Hamburg, Germany.

There was no doubt about the fate that awaited them there.

"Voyage of the Damned" deals with the people on that ship, trying to respond to a situation that seems to spell certain death.

The events the movie described are real. That is the movie's strength. It is easy to understand who these people are, and the choices they face.

### CONNECTIONS

A few of the passengers with connections in Cuba, can try to buy the way off the ship for themselves or loved ones. For the rest, the only possible individual escape is suicide.

In the movie a few of the toughest, most desperate passengers are prepared to try more militant action. These are the people who had already been inmates of the camps. But it is too little, much too late.

All the passengers can do is await a miracle, with their lives in the hands of the German crew and the governments of Europe and America.

Here, though, the movie treads about as lightly as it possibly can.

The most important reason why

the refugees' position was so hopeless, is that the great, democratic and humanitarian United States government would not let them in.

### NO EMERGENCY

The movie makes it look as though the refugees tried to land in Florida only as an emergency measure. In fact, almost 80% of the passengers on the St. Louis had already been approved for entry by the U.S. Immigration Service. Allowing them in directly, instead of indirectly through Cuba, should have been a mere formality. But the government did not budge.

Relatively ordinary refugees had little or no hope of immigration in 1939.

Only in one brief line does the movie tell us that "Roosevelt has rising unemployment and an election coming in his own country." Supposedly, this is the whole story about why the Jews on the St. Louis couldn't come to America.

This is a big lie. The U.S. government simply found it convenient to give in completely to right-wing and anti-Semitic pressure. Roosevelt did nothing to support a bill that would have let 20,000 Jewish, Catholic and Protestant children into this country in 1939.

The Roosevelt Administration wanted nothing to do with what could become a wave of millions of

refugees. It was much more concerned with ensuring right-wing support for expanding the Air Force and the war budget.

### SO MANY

And that is one of the biggest reasons why so many Jews and other persecuted minorities were ultimately choked to death in t.e. gas chambers and melted in mass crematoriums.

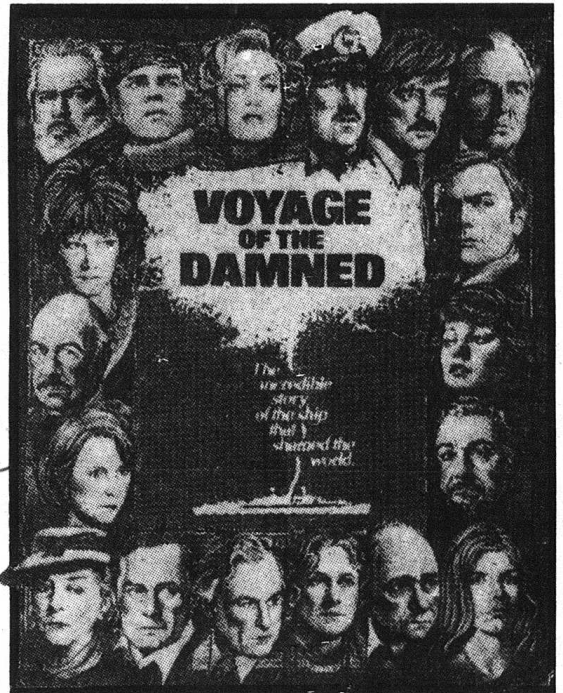
In the end, two-thirds of the passengers on the St. Louis died in the camps or under Nazi occupations.

The U.S. government only officially discovered the anti-human horrors of Nazism two years later, when it was suddenly convenient propaganda for joining the war. The lives of the Jews of Germany became pawns in the crusade to reduce Germany to ashes. But that had nothing to do with saving lives at all.

Without this understanding, "Voyage of the Damned" tends to dissolve into a set of individual tragedies.

Still, no one movie can show anything more than a tiny slice of the horrors of the rise of fascism in Europe. This film puts one slice under a microscope and dissects it pretty well.

But when you see it, don't forget the bigger picture. Don't forget that the fate of 937—and how many more of the six million?—was actually decided in Washington. □



One slice of the horrors of the rise of fascism in Europe.

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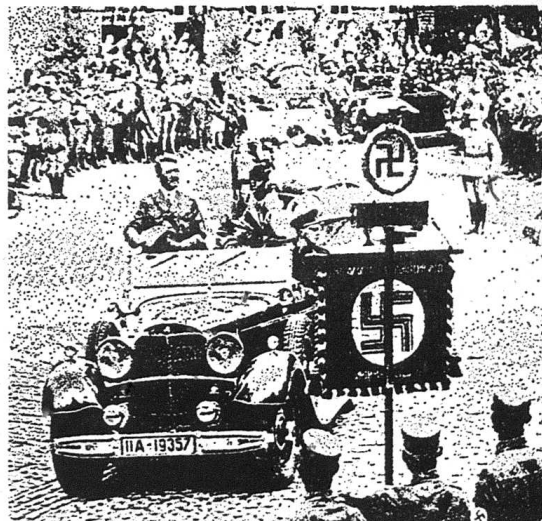
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### How The "St. Louis" Voyage Boosted Hitler

The United States refusal to accept the refugees from the St. Louis, and other ships like it, was a tremendous political victory for the Nazis. It proved to them they could do anything they wanted to Jews and other minorities inside Germany.

And they made the most of it for propaganda purposes, too. A German Nazi paper in August, 1939 exulted:

"We are saying openly that we do not want the Jews, while the democracies keep on claiming they are willing to receive them—and then leave the guests out in the cold! Aren't we savages better men after all?" □

# Workers' Power

## STEEL GROUPS MEET TO MAP NEXT STEPS

GARY, Ind.—Steelworkers Fight Back groups here and in Pittsburgh met last week to discuss continuing a national union organization. The groups originally formed around Ed Sadowski's election challenge to the United Steel Workers' leadership.

Although Sadowski was defeated, the union opposition became much stronger and more unified through the campaign. Those present at the Gary and Pittsburgh meetings discussed building on that unity to be ready for the next challenge to the union machine.

So far the national Steelworkers Fight Back leadership has given no guidance to the local groups.

They have said that up to a dozen Fight Back groups will be maintained, and that there will be a national Fight Back newspaper. The first issue is due out within the next month.

### SOLID

But they have been tight-lipped about any further plans. So, in many ways, the Pittsburgh meeting showed a solid way forward for Fight Back. It was called by members of two local rank and file groups: Local 1397 Rank and File from the U.S. Steel Homestead works, and Steelworkers Stand Up from Clairton Coke Local 1557. Fifteen Fight Back activists from five different locals in District 15 attended.

The group felt a major lesson of the Sadowski campaign was that the rank and file has to take more direct responsibility for Fight Back. As one person from Local 1397 put it, "This time we don't have to find out from Chicago how to run it. This time we're going to tell them what we're doing."

The group agreed to immediately begin a membership drive. Membership will be open to all steelworkers in the District who are for rank and file control of the union, membership ratification of contracts and election of officers, full and equal rights in the union for non-basic steel shops and fighting for a good contract, and who are against the no-strike ENA.

The Pittsburgh group set as its first goal organizing in the District around local issues in the upcoming basic steel contract. A demonstration was tentatively planned around local contracts at the USW headquarters in Pittsburgh.

### VOTING

The Pittsburgh meeting also discussed how to organize to keep the referendum vote for international officers. Newly-elected USW President Lloyd McBride stated in the campaign that he, like I.W. Abel, wants to do away with the referendum vote. He was clearly trying to limit rank and file challenges to his leadership.

If McBride can get away with it, he will change the constitution at the next convention. Then, international officers would be elected directly from the convention, which the machine controls.

The group decided to campaign

for convention delegates pledged to fight any effort to eliminate the referendum vote. But even then, as a woman steelworker from Clairton put it, "The only way to make sure the delegates vote our way is to build a movement behind them that will make sure they don't give in to pressure from McBride."

The Pittsburgh group hesitated, however, to keep the Fight Back name. Many felt that they did not know enough about the future of Fight Back and did not want to be limited by it. Instead, the group is named District 15 Rank and File.

### INDIANA

The same hesitation came out even stronger in the Gary meeting. Around 35 steelworkers came from a number of area locals. Many there were from the Indiana Steelworkers' Caucus, a regional group that was originally formed out of Sadowski's 1973-74 bid for District 31 Director.

Here, too, many felt that there was not a clear enough sense of what Sadowski or Balanoff would do with national Fight Back. Jim Balanoff was elected District 31 Director on the Fight Back slate.

## Fight Back's Road Forward

In the next three to four years Fight Back can be built to a strong, democratic rank and file organization. It can lead a new and even stronger rank and file challenge at the local, district and international level.

Fight Back can still turn the Steel Workers union around. A national opposition organization is a major step for steelworkers. Every effort should be made to build Fight Back both locally and across the country.

It should be open to all steelworkers who agree with the basic program of the Sadowski campaign. Local union rank and file caucuses should be encouraged to endorse its program.

The national Fight Back newspaper should publish articles by and for the rank and file about

union issues and struggles. It should provide information on the contract and other issues facing steelworkers.

The paper could maintain and expand the network of Fight Back activists throughout the union. An initial subscription and membership drive, and bundles of the paper made available to Fight Back activists will help it get the wide distribution it needs.

The major focus of the paper should be around national Fight Back campaigns.

The unity that has been achieved was forged through the campaign to elect the Sadowski slate. Now that unity will be maintained as Fight Back activists continue to work towards common goals.

There is plenty to be done, and

no reason to wait for Chicago to start it.

The Pittsburgh group is planning one such campaign: organizing to keep the referendum vote through the delegate elections.

Another needed national campaign would be against the extension of the ENA. Fight Back could organize the anti-ENA sentiment through its newspaper, leaflets and local union resolutions.

Finally, Fight Back can be built by district and regional groups helping and encouraging their members to develop campaigns, caucuses, slates and newspapers to support the Fight Back program and aggressively take on the issues in the mills, plants and locals.

Nor was there any clear agreement of what a local Fight Back group could accomplish on its own initiative.

The Gary group simply agreed to hold a commemorative dinner for

the Sadowski slate for now. They will meet again when there is more indication of what national Fight Back will look like.

Whatever the National Fight

Back leadership does, the group's real strength will be dependent on the strength and initiative of the local organizations around the country. The time to build those groups is now.

# UPS East: What You Don't See, Is What You Get

by David Katz

WHEN UNITED Parcel Service (UPS) workers in 15 Eastern states voted to ratify a proposed contract on December 9 and end their 13-week strike, they must have thought it was all over. Not so. Three months later, that contract is still not signed.

There's an old saying that you should never sign anything you haven't read. Yet in this case, Teamster officials were so anxious to end their strike, they got the membership to agree to a contract that was not even written.

Teamsters union officials have tried to keep the matter quiet. But the reality is that they took a contract to the membership that did not have the final language

worked out. And some of those "language problems" are causing considerable difficulty.

### UNSOLVED

William McCarthy, chief Teamster negotiator for the Eastern UPS contract, met with company officials late in February to try to work out the differences. These meetings are understood to be continuing.

Only one of the unsolved problems in the contract has been made public. At the February 27 UPS division meeting of Pittsburgh Local 249, Business Agent Winks Gram reported that the job security provision is one of the disputed items.

The job security clause is the key

to the whole 13-week strike. It was supposed to maintain the same number of full-time inside jobs available at any UPS hub. That was important because the company is aggressively trying to eliminate full time inside jobs and replace them with part time positions.

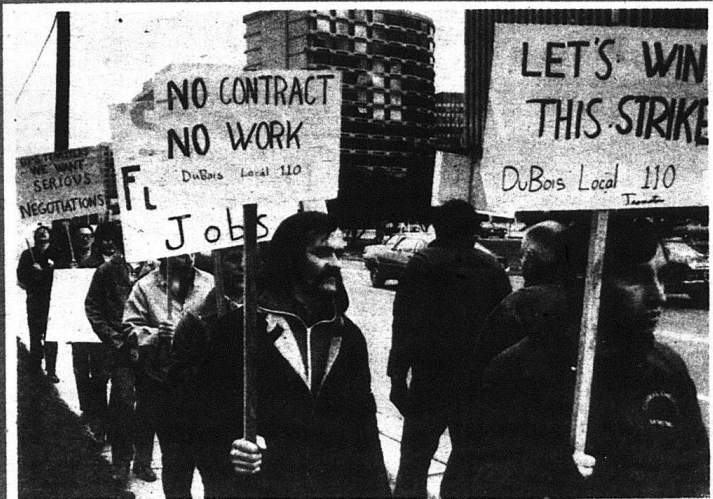
One week after the contract was ratified, UPS was supposed to make available a list of the full time inside jobs at each hub. Those lists were never drawn up. Everywhere the company is arguing about how many full time inside jobs there are, in some places claiming they don't even know.

Since December, there has naturally been some job turnover. Some full time inside workers have transferred to driving jobs; others have quit.

Under the contract that was ratified, part time inside workers should be able to bid on these jobs. In fact, according to Gram, not one part timer in any of the Eastern states has yet been able to use that clause in the contract.

UPS is using this situation for all it's worth. In some cases the new contract has been implemented. For example, the negotiated wage increases have been paid. But, in cases where it suits them, UPS simply maintains that grievances can't be resolved because there is no contract.

It's happened all too often in the past. Whether it's a travelling salesman, or a Teamster official, if he wants you to agree to a contract he won't show you, there's got to be something he's hiding.



UPS workers picketed the negotiations during the 13-week Eastern states strike.