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# WORKERS' Power

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS APRIL 25, 1977 #204 15c

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# DIAL DOWN AND PAY UP

by Kim Moody

**Last week Jimmy Carter asked the American people to sacrifice. And sacrifice you will!**

There will be taxes on oil and gasoline, and price increases for natural gas and coal. Car prices—up. You will pay for the taxes on oil and gasoline, as well as for the numerous other price increases on these sources of energy.

You will also pay for the never-ending price increases that will hit other industrial products as manufacturers pass their higher costs on to you.

**Two weeks ago, you sacrificed Carter's promised \$50 tax rebate. Now you know why. So he could promise it to you again, this time as a rebate on gas taxes, to make this week's sacrifice less painful.**

But don't spend this one before you get it either. For even if you do get it, it will not cover the increased costs you are going to face as a result of this year's energy rip-off.

And anyway, you're only getting it so you can hand it over to some giant oil company.

**And that's what it's all about. You get a declining standard of living and the energy companies get a "fair" — that is, rising—profit.**



Jimmy Carter wanted you to believe he stood above the "special interests." Big opposition was predicted from the energy and auto corporations when Jimmy asked them to sacrifice.

But when the details had been announced, big business responded mildly and even expressed support.

- General Motors Chairman Thomas Murphy said he supported the plan.
- Frank Ikard, President of the National Petroleum Institute, said he agreed with Carter's approach to conservation and was pleased with the proposal to let prices rise with costs.
- Carl Bagge, President of the National Coal Association, had a few criticisms, but said his industry would work with the President and Congress to implement the plan.

**When this cast of characters is pleased, you have reason to suspect that they will not be doing much of the sacrificing.**

Indeed, the oil, natural gas, and coal industries will all get price increases. This, in spite of the fact that prices and profits for these industries have risen astronomically in the past few years.

The auto makers are satisfied too. Big car production will be hit. This trend was established before Carter became President. But big rebates for small cars will allow the companies to raise prices and step up profits.

**They get to raise prices, you get to dial down and shell out.**

**How real is the energy crisis? See page 2.**

**How the plan hurts auto workers. See page 2.**

# IS THE WORLD RUNNING OUT OF FUEL

## ...or is it the high cost of capitalism?

by Kim Moody and Karen Kaye

PRESIDENT CARTER has asked the American people to make "painful sacrifices" to prevent "a national catastrophe." He warns that "the oil and natural gas we rely on... are running out."

Before accepting painful sacrifices with a smile, we must ask first if Carter is right about the energy crisis.

Carter admitted that "some of you may doubt that we face real energy shortages." And with good reason.

The energy crisis of 1973 ended as soon as the gas companies succeeded in raising prices from about 35c a gallon to 60c and more today.

It is now generally known that fuel companies planned this winter's fuel crisis by failing to develop gas reserves for years. Then they blackmailed the public for higher prices. Even during the winter they withheld existing reserves.

Is this new energy crisis any different? Take a look at Carter's facts.

ferent? Take a look at Carter's facts.

### OIL RESERVES

He cited a CIA survey of world oil production that says world oil reserves will run out at the end of the 1980's.

The CIA report found is that demand will exceed productive capacity.

All that means is that oil companies will refuse to invest to expand capacity unless profits are higher. It doesn't mean that the oil supply isn't big enough.

The CIA report only considered "proven reserves." But there are still vast reserves that oil companies have not yet investigated.

There are also at least two sources of energy that can never be exhausted: solar energy and hydroelectricity (water powered energy).

And there are enough known coal reserves in the US to supply all its energy needs for hundreds of years, the New York Times reports.

### ARTIFICIAL

Carter's energy crisis is artificial as far as Mother Nature goes. The only real crisis is that the capitalist need for profits often means that companies don't produce what people need.

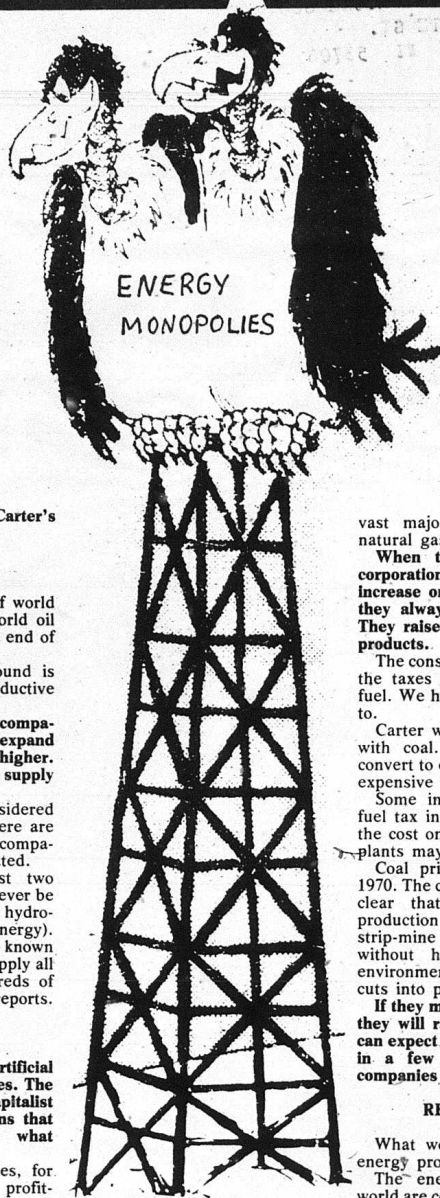
Middle East oil companies, for instance, today find it more profitable to raise prices on existing oil rather than to produce and sell more oil.

U.S. companies are no different. They will refuse to supply us with fuel unless they get the profit they need.

This is reality under capitalism, just like it's reality that people starve while American farmers are paid not to grow crops.

Carter foresees a business crisis, not a fuel crisis. And it's a business crisis that he is trying to solve with his energy program.

The "cornerstone" of Carter's policy is conservation. An examination of his proposals shows that



vast majority of crude oil and natural gas.

When taxes and prices rise, corporations will simply pass the increase on to the consumer, like they always do when costs rise. They raise the price of their own products.

The consumer will also be paying the taxes on gasoline and home fuel. We have no one to pass it on to.

Carter wants to replace oil use with coal. He asks business to convert to coal. However, it's quite expensive to convert.

Some industries will pay their fuel tax instead—and again, pass the cost on to the consumer. New plants may use coal.

Coal prices have tripled since 1970. The coal industry has made it clear that it will not expand production unless it is allowed to strip-mine the western plains without having to meet strict environmental standards. Ecology cuts into profits.

If they must meet the standards, they will raise prices further. We can expect a "coal shortage crisis" in a few years when the coal companies want price increases.

### REAL SOLUTION

What would a real solution to energy problems look like?

The energy resources of the world are controlled by a handful of rich and powerful people.

No jumble of taxes, "incentives," and rebates is going to end the man-made crises that result from production for profit and its Siamese twin, the withholding of production to jack up profits.

The first step for any serious plan in the U.S. would be the nationalization of the entire energy industry. This step would remove energy production from the shortages and waste of profit seeking.

Nationalization would allow national energy planning. It would open such planning to public influence.

But nationalization alone would not solve the problem. The rest of the system would still be driven by production for profit.

The entire population of this planet is affected by the production and use of energy resources. By right and necessity, the peoples of the world must have a say in how these resources are used.

This could only be accomplished under a world-wide system of democratic planning. This system is international socialism.

The alternatives to socialism grow more costly and hazardous each year.

## For auto workers energy policy is THE JOB GUZZLER

Auto workers will be hit the hardest by the "sacrifices" in Carter's energy program.

The auto makers claim it takes fewer workers to produce small cars. If the Big Three are forced to cut back on production of "gas guzzlers," they will use this as an excuse to lay off thousands of workers.

Whole plants, such as Chrysler's Jefferson Assembly which makes Imperials, may close.

Thomas Murphy, Chairman of General Motors, announced Thursday that he supported Carter's plan. A GM spokesman told Workers' Power, "We can make as large a profit with small cars as with large if the volume is big enough. Also we can add other touches to make the car more attractive to the buyer." (And increase the cost!)

The rebate on fuel-efficient cars is proposed only for those made in the U.S. and Canada. Rebates on foreign cars would depend on treaties not yet negotiated.

The agreement worked out will certainly mean that the Big Three can increase the price of their smaller models by two or three hundred dollars and still be competitive with Toyota and Volkswagen. So the auto companies really have little to complain about.

What is the United Auto Workers leadership saying about this plan that may well throw thousands of their members on the street?

In the words of one Regional Director, "I worked hard to get Carter elected, and I don't see why we should get all excited

about this little energy program now."

### PLAYING DEAD

Doug Fraser, who will become president of the UAW next month, appeared on the Morning Show on April 20. He said, "We believe there should be equality of sacrifice. Neither the auto industry nor auto workers are immune from it.... We must bear our share of the sacrifice."

Have the UAW leaders ever heard of ways to save some of the jobs that will be "sacrificed"—like fighting speedup and overtime? If so, they aren't letting on.

In other words, the UAW is going to roll over and play dead. Fraser is in no danger of "sacrificing" his job. The UAW will probably urge other unions to cooperate with the President and try to sell the energy plan to their members too.

UAW President Leonard Woodcock was one of the first labor leaders to endorse Carter for President. The UAW spent millions of dollars to get Carter elected. Jimmy is addressing the International UAW Convention in Los Angeles next month.

Carter promised Woodcock an important government position in exchange for his support. The word is that Woodcock will be sent to head the U.S. mission in China.

Now Woodcock, Fraser and the rest of the UAW hierarchy are making sure they do nothing to blow it.

Jenny Singer

they are aimed at helping U.S. big business. Despite his talk of equality, the ordinary citizen pays and sacrifices the most.

### HIGH PRICES

Carter's proposal for conservation is to cut fuel consumption by making energy more expensive through taxes and price hikes.

He proposes taxes on crude oil and gasoline. He will let prices on new natural gas and crude oil go up.

Industry and commerce use the

## Carter Fund Raiser Cleans Up On Conservation

Jackson "Jack" Stephens was one of Jimmy Carter's major fund raisers. Stephens owns Stephens, Inc., the nation's 11th largest brokerage firm, worth \$80.8 million in equity. Stephens also owns Stephens Production Co., which controls nearly one trillion cubic feet of natural gas reserves.

Carter's energy plan would raise the price of new gas shipped interstate from \$1.45 to \$1.75 per 1000 cu. ft. Jimmy's friend Jack stands to make a pretty penny off this "conservation" program.

# Atlanta Strikers Fight City Hall

by Pam Walker

ATLANTA—Mayor Maynard Jackson did not show at Friday night's Braves game here. Those who attended saw a large banner unfurled stating, "Maynard Jackson's word is garbage."

The banner spoke for city workers on strike here since March 28 for a 50c an hour raise.

The strikers, members of AFSCME Local 1644, had let it be known they were coming to the game in force to boo the mayor.

So far Jackson has made the strikers no offer at all. Instead, he has fired them all repeatedly, some five or six times, and has hired scabs into their jobs.

Jackson's massive strikebreaking efforts have seriously weakened the strike. The union estimates that 500 of 1300 union members remain out.

The union is now planning what they call the biggest march Atlanta has ever seen for Saturday, April 23.

The union hopes that Saturday's march on city hall will dramatize their situation and make their community support visible.

Up till now most community leaders who have spoken out, including Martin Luther King Sr., have endorsed the Mayor. But the strikers have wide support in the black working class.

Organizers of the march also expect buses of supporters from Memphis. It was in Memphis nine years ago that Martin Luther King Jr. was killed while organizing a city workers' strike much like this one.

Atlanta city strikers all wear buttons reading, "I Am A Man." That was also the slogan of the

Memphis strikers.

The Saturday march may be routed to pass and stop at the Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber of Commerce and other businessmen's groups are calling the shots in the black mayor's attempt to break this strike.

## UNION-BUSTING

This white power structure wants desperately to attract new business and industry to the Atlanta area.

One of Atlanta's main attractions for northern companies is the lack of unions and the resulting low wages in the Atlanta area.

Business interests want this union busted and busted good as a lesson to other working people in Atlanta.

Support from other unions has been slow in coming. CWA, UAW and TWU have indicated support.



Atlanta city workers—still holding out after three weeks on strike.

But apparently they are waiting for clearance from the Central Labor Council before providing real aid. The CLC itself is reportedly waiting for the go-ahead from AFL-CIO President George Meany.

AFSCME International has begun an intensive nationwide publicity campaign on the strike.

The union's strategy is to hurt Jackson's national reputation as a liberal, pro-labor Black mayor.

They feel that his ambitions are for a national appointment of some kind.

While exposure of Jackson's sell-out policies are to the good, it is the white power structure that is the real enemy.

At present the union's position is that the strikers will return to work and negotiations will resume if the mayor will agree to take back all strikers with no reprisals, recommitments or loss in seniority or benefits.

The mayor's position is that he wants to pick who will be rehired.

The union has rejected that offer as a strike-busting, union busting one.

"We all went out together, and we're all going back together or we're not going back at all," the strikers say.

The union is also planning a bigger demonstration for May 7, with national participation.



Susan Garrard.

by Elissa Clarke

ROME, Michigan — When Susan Garrard, a high school counselor, decided to have a baby last year, she planned her pregnancy carefully so the baby would be born during summer vacation.

But the Romeo Board of Education was not so obliging. The Board forced pregnant teachers to take an unpaid "maternity leave" after eight months of pregnancy.

"Under our contract," Garrard told Workers' Power, "a man can get paid sick leave to accompany his wife during labor—but a woman can't get sick leave to have the baby!"

In order to have the birth covered by the health plan, the teacher has to assume payment of the premiums.

If the leave runs into summer vacation, teachers have to pay premiums throughout the summer

—at a cost of about \$100/month. Garrard thought the policy was unfair.

"Women can work and have babies, too," she said.

When she pointed out to the Board that they would have to pay unemployment benefits if they forced teachers to take a leave, they reversed their position on this.

Garrard was permitted to work through the school year, and delivered her daughter, Robin, two

days after school let out.

However, the Romeo teachers' contract specifically excludes pregnancy from health coverage, saying that it is not a disability.

Garrard started doing some research.

She discovered that guidelines set up under the federal Education Act (Title 9), allow school employees to use paid sick leave, rather than unpaid maternity leave, to have their babies.

Garrard filed a suit on behalf of herself and other female employees of the Romeo school system. She charged sex discrimination under Title 9 of the Education Act.

The Education Act is administered under a set of guidelines by the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW). In response to Garrard's suit, HEW threatened to cut off \$115,000 in aid to the Romeo school district unless they reversed their policy on maternity leaves.

Jo Jacobs, Title Co-ordinator for the State Department of Education and a spokesperson for the Michigan Education Association (the union which represents the Romeo teachers) commented on the court's ruling.

"Congress had ample opportunity to remove the guidelines. Since they did not do that, it seems to me it was their intent to keep that in Title 9," she said.

## SUPREME COURT

Feikens' ruling comes in the wake of the December Supreme Court decision on maternity benefits. The Supreme Court ruled then that employers could deny coverage for pregnancy without violating Title VII of the Civil Rights Act.

Before, both Title 9 of the Education Act and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act were interpreted to define pregnancy as a temporary disability. Pregnant women could expect to get disability pay under employers' disability plans.

Feikens' ruling, coupled with the Supreme Court decision, leaves teachers and other women workers with no maternity protection—except what has been won in union contracts.

Patricia Cuzz Siles, Director of the Michigan Women's Commission, said, "This ruling, together with the Supreme Court ruling, is going to put us back where we were before there was any women's movement, any affirmative action, any anything."

HEW is expected to appeal the decision, but has not yet made any announcement.

## Teacher Protests Maternity Policy

# "Women can work and have babies, too."

## High Court Ruling A Field Day For Bosses

Employers are having a field day with the Supreme Court decision on maternity benefits.

In December, the Supreme Court ruled that employers could exclude pregnancy benefits from their health coverage without being guilty of sex discrimination.

Many states have laws which require pregnancy benefits for companies within those states. New York is such a state, but the law has not kept employers from breaking it. And usually they get away with it.

Marsha Spinowitz is an employee of the Brooklyn Union Gas Company. The Company denied Spinowitz maternity benefits for the birth of her second child.

Now, Brooklyn Union Gas Company knows damn well that under the law they cannot exclude

maternity benefits. The reason they are so aware of the law is because Marsha Spinowitz won a suit against them when they denied her benefits for the birth of her first child.

### STATE LAW UPHELD

At that time, the New York State Court of Appeals upheld the state's Human Rights Law in a decision on December 22, 1976 (two weeks after the Supreme Court decision).

The New York Court commented at that time, "The determination of the Supreme Court, while instructive, is not binding on our court."

But Brooklyn Union Gas is conveniently forgetting the law. And saving themselves a bundle.

Women are forced to fight for their rights as individuals—

through court cases that take months, or years, and lots of money.

On April 14, a demonstration was called at the Brooklyn Union Gas Company's main offices by the Campaign to End Discrimination Against Pregnant Workers.

The Campaign is dedicated to fighting the Supreme Court decision. They hope that the Hawkins-Williams Bill, introduced in the House and Senate, will pass Congress, thus overturning the reactionary Supreme Court decision.

Meanwhile, no one knows how many women are getting cheated out of their maternity benefits like Marsha Spinowitz—even when their benefits are 'guaranteed' by law.

E. Clarke

# UAW Local 47 Votes Up New Contract

by Neil Chacker, UAW Local 47

DETROIT—Workers at Chrysler's Detroit Forge, UAW Local 47, grudgingly ratified a new local contract 178 to 75.

The agreement was reached April 14, 3½ hours before a strike deadline.

The ratification vote was rushed through so quickly that many workers never heard about it until it was over. Previously, members of Local 47 had twice rejected the local agreement.

Apparently, local officers felt their best shot at getting the agreement ratified was to rush the vote through before anyone had a chance to speak out against it. A local rank and file caucus, the Coalition for a Good Local Agreement, played the lead in mobilizing the membership to vote against the previous offers.

This time the Coalition did not come out for rejection. In a leaflet they pointed out the shortcomings of the new contract, but concluded that the current union leadership was unlikely to come up with anything better.

This contract passed mainly due to the rumor that the UAW would leave the plant without any local agreement if it was rejected again. This happened at Mound Road Engine plant in 1973.

The new agreement is a slight improvement over the previous offers, but nothing outstanding... considering that the union has been negotiating over the past eight months. The main improvements made in this contract were in the areas of parking lot security, dual supervision (workers will no longer have to take orders from two foremen), facility maintenance, and protective clothing. Slight gains were made in the fight against forced overtime.

## COULDN'T BE DONE

The Coalition leaflet commented on the gains: "Even though the Bargaining Committee told us that they couldn't re-open negotiations, couldn't put anything new on the table, and couldn't set a strike deadline—they, with the International, went ahead and did it. As we previously predicted, the company was a lot more willing to bargain when they were up against a strike."

The main source of dissatisfaction with the contract is that it failed to resolve the much-hated computerized absentee control program.

Many workers are fed up with the local officers. In the recent elections to the UAW Convention, the local officers won only one alternate seat. It seems likely that there will be a drastic change of officers at next year's elections. □

## Workers' Power 204

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# Communist Party Legal—Revolutionary

# IS SPAIN FREE AT LAST!

The Spanish Communist Party has won one of its longest, most hard-fought battles. It has become a legal political party in Spain.

In return, the CP has agreed to recognize the Spanish monarchy. The top CP leader, Santiago Carillo, says the Party will accept this government "as long as it acts in the interests of democracy."

Does this mean the Spanish government is acting in the interests of democracy today? The Spanish CP may think so. But the reality is far different.

Spanish political prisoners who are charged with acts of violence are still in prison. They were excluded from an amnesty proclaimed recently by King Juan Carlos.

In the Basque country, in northern Spain, a Basque Day demonstration was broken up with massive tear gas and hundreds of new arrests. Workers and Basque nationalists are still being killed by police for demanding independence.

## FAR LEFT BANNED

But the same government that is carrying out these acts of repression has just decided to legalize the Communist Party. The CP can now openly recruit, run in elections and operate freely as a political party in trade unions and workers' commissions.

In part, the government's decision is a concession to a growing working class movement. Trade union activities, moderate socialist parties, and now the Communist Party are gradually being allowed.

But Spain's labor movement is still a long way from winning real political freedom. While the Spanish Communist Party is legal, far-left groups of revolutionary workers are still banned.

Yet on the extreme right, terrorist organizations like the Warriors of Christ the King bomb union offices and theaters with few real restrictions.

Why did a right-wing repressive government finally agree to legalize the Communist Party for the first time since 1939? The answer tells you a lot about what the Spanish CP stands for.

The CP has a large working class base through its activity in unions and workers' commissions. It wants to use that base to win a place within the framework of middle-class, liberal and pro-business parties in Spain.



The Spanish Communist Party is celebrating its legal victory. But revolutionary workers' groups are still banned by the Spanish regime.

The Spanish CP had every right to struggle for its democratic right to exist as a legal party. But to gain legality, the CP leadership agreed to recognize the Spanish monarchy as a genuinely democratic government.

This means that the Communist Party, for its own purposes, has agreed to accept the repression of revolutionary workers and other anti-government forces like the Basque nationalists.

The CP may still speak out against repression, but it will keep its criticisms carefully within the bounds of its general pro-government position.

This betrayal may not succeed in

protecting the CP from later repression. Already, the extreme right is mobilizing to force the government to overturn the decision.

Just a few months ago, five labor lawyers associated with the CP were machine-gunned to death in their office.

But the Communist Party believes it will be able to keep its new legal position, by helping the government restrain the demands of organized Spanish workers for wage increases to meet galloping inflation.

Probably, the Spanish government also hopes that a legalized CP will be able to prevent the growth of a powerful revolutionary left. □

## MOSCOW AGENTS?

The far right is trying to claim the CP should be banned as the agent of the Kremlin. But that's way off the mark.

The Spanish CP happens to be on rather bad terms with Moscow. As a matter of fact, one Spanish police official claimed that the Russians gave him files on 300 active Spanish Communists, in exchange for information on American bases in Spain.

The real reason the far right wants the Communist Party to remain outlawed is that the fascists want every organized activity of workers to be crushed out of existence.

And the government's reason for legalizing the CP is that King Juan Carlos and Prime Minister Suarez want the CP's support for their rigged elections where one vote from conservative rural districts will have as much weight as the votes of about ten workers. □

# For the Profiteers, Vietnam Was Such A Beautiful War

Some of the downtrodden, oppressed victims of the war in Vietnam are fighting back. They are demanding reparations (repayments) for the wrongs and damages inflicted on them during the conflict.

A spokesman for one of the victims stated: "We are not ready to forgive and forget. We are deeply interested in getting paid."

Who do you think made this statement?

## COMMUNISTS?

No doubt, it was a representative of the Communist government of Vietnam, demanding that the U.S. government pay for the billions of dollars damage it caused by bombing dikes, flooding fields, wiping out villages, factories and hospitals, and defoliating jungles. Right?

No, it wasn't that at all. Guess again.

Well then, maybe it was a representative of thousands of Vietnamese political prisoners who were permanently crippled in South Vietnamese "tiger cage" prisons and who want the United States to compensate them for their broken lives?

No. Try Again.

OK. It must be some of the refugees who fled from South Vietnam at the end of the war, including political leaders and wealthy businessmen, who say the U.S. is responsible for losing the war and want some money to start over again. Right?

No. One more guess!

Well, it was probably some American servicemen who lost years of their lives in the war, maybe came home crippled and now can't find jobs or find any way to feed their families. Are they the ones suing for damages?

Wrong, wrong, wrong again. Give up? Then we'll tell you.

The spokesman demanding damages from the war is named Frank Zingaro. He is an official of — the Caltex oil corporation!

Caltex is a consortium (combined operation) of Standard Oil of California and Texaco. During the war it held contracts to supply fuel to the U.S. Army, the Saigon regime and the civilian economy of South Vietnam. It was one of the largest of the war profiteers who made hundreds of millions in profits from the war.

Caltex says it lost \$15 or \$20 million in oil distribution facilities and other investments when the war ended. It is demanding that the government of Vietnam repay it for these losses.

Among other things, Caltex wants to be repaid for the loss of "our executives' villas in Saigon"! Actually, Caltex is only one of several U.S. corporations demanding payment from Vietnam. Another is Chase-Manhattan bank, which wants to be compensated for its fortified military bank structure it built in Saigon to help finance the war.

Can you believe this? It's all true. And the capitalists who could do this are capable of any other atrocity you could ever imagine. □



Who were the victims of the Vietnam war—these children, or American Oil companies?

# SUPPORT THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS!

**AUSTIN**—Tapson Mawere is 46. He is the official North American representative of ZANU, the Zimbabwe African National Union. ZANU is the left wing of the Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) national liberation struggle. It represents the great majority of the guerrilla forces.

Tapson Mawere goes about the United States telling people about the struggle and requesting supplies for the Zimbabwean guerrillas. He spent a week in Austin, Texas, meeting and speaking from morning to night.

His first meeting was in a large lecture hall at the University of Texas. People came early to wait for him.

He introduced himself to everyone interested in meeting him, and thanked each person for coming.

There were some announcements, including one about the

Southern Africa Liberation Action Committee (SALAC), a local liberation support group here in Austin. Then Tapson began to speak.

## COLONIZED

"Comrades, friends," he began. He talked about how well the freedom fighters are doing in the war. The government is losing control of an ever-expanding area. Three weeks ago the Rhodesian Army admitted there is growing insubordination by the Black soldiers, who are two-thirds of the Army.

He talked about the 400 U.S. corporations in southern Africa, motivated by high profits. He said an American auto worker makes at least \$200 a week. A Black auto worker in Salisbury is paid \$10 a week.

He asked for support. "You have to remember the role all of you students played in the Vietnam War. The Kruggerand (South Africa's gold coin) has been stopped by American groups in several cities."

He asked for clothing, shoes, medical supplies, money, tampons for the 7000 female guerrillas. He told about the ground fleas, "that jigger flea is a devil."

The larvae burrow into the soles of the feet, causing terrible worms and pain. Shoes can prevent its attack.

After his speech there were questions. He was asked about the moderate Zimbabwean leader, Muzorewa.

"Any child knows that to call yourself a moderate these days is a disgrace. Muzorewa may be groomed and strengthened, but if

he puts himself into the camp of Smith, he'll be a target like Smith.

"He's a Bishop. We hope he has a conscience. We have told him to stick to the pulpit."

## ROUND-UPS

Mawere spoke to many different types of groups, religious, political, curious; Black, white, mixed. At a SALAC meeting he said, "Ten dollars can support a freedom fighter for a whole month."

He told how the government has been rounding up civilians into 'protective villages' called keeps (concentration camps).

"The curfew lasts from 4 pm to 10 am. Curfew breakers can be shot, so many people are fleeing to Mozambique, 52,000 so far.

"They run away with only the clothes they are wearing. They need all sizes of clothing."

He spoke with pride of the help from the West German left. Seven land rovers, 500 wrist watches, 50,000 dollars.

In America, dockworkers are demanding space on board ships bound for Africa so that supplies can be sent.

Even mealtimes meant more questions. While Mawere ate he was asked, "We saw on TV that people are put in the keeps so they won't take food to the guerrillas. Is that effective?"

He put down his fork, and laughed softly. "No...no...no. The guerrillas are living in the keeps."

"Our revolutionaries are very well trained. And they have a lot of support. Besides, the jungles of the southeast are full of fruit and wild animals. How can they go hungry?"

—by Yvonne

## Is Apartheid Legitimate? Ask Uncle Sam. . . .

The United States government made it very clear last week where it stands on the issue of South Africa.

The State Department issued a statement that official U.S. policy considers South Africa's government legitimate and legal.

The statement was made to "correct" the American ambassador to the United Nations, Andrew Young. Young, in an interview, answered "Yes" when a reporter asked him if he considered the South African government "illegitimate."

Jimmy Carter backed up the State Department position with his own statement, saying: "South Africa has a legally constituted government and is a stabilizing force in the southern part of that continent."

Is the South African government legitimate or not? Maybe it all depends on how you look at it.

### LEGITIMATE MURDER?

Is it legitimate that 80% of all South Africans, the 20 million black majority, have no vote or any other political rights?

Is it legitimate that the South African government's policies mean forcing hundreds of thousands of blacks every year out of their homes, and into desolate rural "bantustan" areas?

Is it legitimate that in some of these bantustan areas, up to 80% of black children suffer severe malnutrition and brain damage?

None of this happens because South Africa is a poor country. It happens because official South African government policy creates black poverty and starvation.

But these figures do not hurt the profits made by American corporations' \$2 billion investments in South Africa. No matter how many black children die, Ford and GM can still pay their



## Protest hits Davis Cup

**LOS ANGELES**— Over 500 people disrupted the serenity and complacency of a nattily dressed tennis crowd to demonstrate April 16 against the presence of South Africa in the Davis Cup matches.

The demonstration was organized by the Ad Hoc Committee to Stop the Davis Cup Match, which members of the International Socialists helped build.

Although the match was not stopped, the noise from the loud

and spirited chants was heard quite clearly on the courts. The chants ranged from "What's the Word? Johannesburg!" to "U.S. Out of South Africa—South Africa Out of the Cup!"

Two men ran out and splashed motor oil on the courts during the match, delaying play for 40 minutes.

Though these two brothers were not affiliated with the demonstration, money was collected on the picket line for their bail.

The previous Wednesday, a few pickets from the same Committee were able to make it out to the San Pedro docks on short notice, to picket the Ned Lloyd Kingston, a ship loaded with South African goods. The dock workers (ILWU Local 13) immediately stopped work.

They resumed unloading only after cops were able to clear the small group off the docks, and a union business agent arrived and ordered the dockers back to work.

Brad Black

black workers in South African auto plants \$25 or \$30 a week.

In fact, the worse black unemployment and misery gets, the more workers there are for Ford and General Motors to hire at these wages.

And that is why American government policy is that South Africa's government is a legitimate, loyal and trusted U.S. ally.

But in that case, why is Andrew Young allowed to make statements that seem to say the exact opposite?

### POWER AND POLICY

Partly, Young is making a name for himself making speeches on African policy. But more important, the Carter Administration wants to look like a friend of justice and racial reform in southern Africa.

Young's statements will be

very popular in black Africa, where the Carter Administration badly wants friends. So Andrew Young, who is Carter's most prominent black appointee, is allowed to make statements about South Africa that sound more anti-apartheid than the real U.S. policy.

But make no mistake, Andrew Young knows who he is fronting for. He can denounce South Africa's policies every day of the week. But he has also pledged that as Jimmy Carter's U.N. ambassador, he will veto any resolution that calls for expelling South Africa from the United Nations.

The American ruling class has appointed Andrew Young into the corridors of political power. His job as a black spokesman, is to make the Carter Administration, and its support for South Africa, look "legitimate."

## SALC Wins One

**DETROIT**—Saturday, April 16, about 20 members of the Southern African Liberation Committee here forced a Farmer Jack to remove Del Monte sardines from one of their stores. Farmer Jack is a major local supermarket chain.

The Committee had approached the store manager and asked him to remove the sardines earlier in the day. He refused, and so a picket line was put up. The SALC explained what happened and sked the public not to shop at the store.

For about an hour Committee members chanted, and talked to the public about conditions for Black workers under apartheid. Finally Farmer Jack relented and removed the sardines from their shelves.

The Committee had succeeded in turning away about a half of their business in that time. As of Wednesday the sardines remained off the shelves.

## A Vanishing Species— South African Sardines In Atlanta

by Jack Trautman

**ATLANTA**—The largest supermarket chain here has agreed to stop carrying all sardines produced in South Africa.

Food Giant management gave in after the Southern Africa Liberation Committee (SALC) picketed two stores, forcing them to take the sardines off the shelves.

The brands that will go include Del Monte, Empress, Eatwell and Martell.

The SALC "sardine campaign" is part of a nationwide effort of Americans to stop US companies from supporting the racist South Africa government economically.

### VICTORY

When Food Giant agreed to meet with SALC, the Committee decided to picket one more store over the preceding weekend, to go into negotiations on the basis of a victory.

The SALC picket line of both Blacks and whites was joined by some members of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Many customers, both Black and white, turned away when told what the issues were.

Management responded by calling the police. The picketers refused to leave.

Seeing that they were getting nowhere, management agreed to remove the Del Monte sardines.

But a Committee delegation found another brand, clearly labelled "packed in South Africa."

When management refused to remove it, the picket line continued.

Within 15 minutes, Food Giant conceded. The following week the entire chain agreed to keep the sardines off the shelves.

It should not be long before South African sardines are nowhere to be found in Atlanta.

### March Against Apartheid

**BOSTON**—Fight Apartheid on May Day. Assemble Saturday, April 30 at Boston Common across from the State House at 12 noon. March to a rally at Arlington Street Church, at corner of Arlington and Boylston Streets, at 2 pm.

Sponsored by the African National Congress, the Boston Coalition for the Liberation of Southern Africa, and other groups. Endorsed by the Boston International Socialists. Down with Racism from Boston to South Africa!

# FARMWORKERS ON THE MARCH

## CALIFORNIA: UFW eagle flies

The United Farm Workers union (UFW) has launched a major drive to organize California farmworkers. The union is off to a good start. It won victories in 90% of the elections held since the new harvest season began.

The UFW has set itself a two-year goal of bringing 100,000 California farmworkers under union contract. And its chances of success are much better today.

Last month the UFW won its long fight to stop the Teamsters Union from signing sweetheart contracts with the growers.

Union representation elections are being held during the peak harvest season in the various growing areas. This is one of the procedures set out by California's Agricultural Labor Relations Board (ALRB).

During the recent elections, the farmworkers have experienced the same sort of harassment they have come to know so well: firings, threats of firings, false promises from the employers, and so on. But the difference is that the UFW is winning now.

UFW President Cesar Chavez spoke to a rally recently in the town of Coachella. He said, "The last time we gathered here it was 1973, and everyone was saying, 'the UFW is finished—the growers and the Teamsters have beaten us.'"

There's still a long road ahead. The UFW's boycott of grapes, lettuce and Gallo wines continues until the growers sign union contracts.

The growers have not given up fighting yet. But they are now very well aware that the UFW has not been beaten. □



by Christie Nichols

AUSTIN—Ending a 440-mile journey, 14 Texas farmworkers were joined by several hundred supporters to march the last few miles to the State Capitol building here on April 3.

The farmworkers ranged in age from young boys to a 106-year-old woman who was finally persuaded to finish the journey by car.

They walked 35 days, from their homes in the Rio Grande Valley, to show they are determined to get collective bargaining rights.

The farmworkers are members of the Texas Farmworkers Union, led by Antonio Orendain.

The marchers came seeking legislative support for a bill that would establish an Agricultural Labor Relations Board similar to that won by California farmworkers two years ago.

Farmworkers also want the

repeal of the Texas "right to work" law that prohibits union shops.

The 35-day march ended with a demonstration addressed in Spanish by state and local Chicano (Mexican-American) leaders.

Farmworkers then met with Texas Governor Dolph Briscoe.

Briscoe is a big landowner and known anti-unionist. But he found it necessary to meet with the marchers, unlike his predecessor John Connally. Then-governor Connally turned away 8000 farmworkers and their supporters in 1966.

Briscoe is hardly more sympathetic. A farmworker reported, "The question [of collective bargaining] was brought up, but... the subject was changed."



## Why Texas Is Ind...

The Texas Farmworkers Union separated from the better known United Farmworkers in August, 1975. The UFW wanted to organize California first. It refused to provide any real support for strikes

### NORTH

The harvest starts in the Imperial Valley, near the Mexican border, and moves north. The UFW has done well there, particularly among the asparagus workers. Four thousand of them will be negotiating UFW contracts now.

Since the middle of December, the ALRB has held 29 representation elections, mostly in the Imperial Valley. The UFW won 26; "no union" was selected in two cases, and a company union won one.

The spring harvests are now moving into the Coachella Valley. "We expect a lot of elections and we expect to do well," says a UFW staff member.

The first table grapes of the season are harvested in the Coachella Valley. So far, there have been two elections there, with the UFW winning both. One of these was at the big David Freedman ranch. This is one of the few grape growers which never signed a Teamster sweetheart deal.



Texas Farm Workers on the march from the Rio Grande Valley to Austin.

# Red Scare Backfires On Detroit Tea

DETROIT—Teamster Local 299's April cartage craft meeting was turned into a circus in what seemed to be a carefully rehearsed show organized by President Bob

Lins and Secretary-Treasurer Otto Wendel.

Lins allowed on the agenda an attempt to discredit the Teamsters for a Democratic Union (TDU), a

militant rank and file group. But he ruled off the agenda a discussion of the by-laws amendments which TDU activists and other members have been pushing.

The circus showed how scared the 299 leaders are of the May by-laws vote and the November elections which threaten to take the current leadership apart.

members have a right to know whether or not Pete's a socialist.' It was the first time anyone remembers Lins being concerned about the rights of the members.

As Lins called on Pete, members shouted out "Who cares?" and "I'm a Democrat."

Camarata stood up to explain that he belongs to the International Socialists. "But," he said, "I haven't got a red phone to Moscow in my house."

Camarata explained that the red-baiting was an attempt to avoid discussing the by-laws amendments. The Local 299 members agreed, and shouted out Pete's right to belong to any group he wanted to.

Then Otto Wendel, Secretary-Treasurer of the Local, jumped up to close the discussion. Suddenly he agreed that it was no one's business what a man's political beliefs were.

### BACK-FIRED

That's where the Lins-Wendel show was supposed to end. But the red-baiting had back-fired and the show went on, only now the rank

## HAY MAKING IT WHILE THE SUN SHINES

by Dan LaBotz

The Democratic Party looks like it will be the big winner in the government investigations into the Teamster Pension Fund.

Justice and Labor Department, Senate and Treasury investigations have gone on now for over twenty years. They were supposed to ultimately help rank and filers get better pensions.

Today, however, it looks like the one person whose future is secure is Jess Hay.

Hay is chief executive of Lomas & Nettleton Financial Corporation, a Dallas based firm which is the country's biggest investment banker.

The Pension Fund administrator, Daniel Shannon, and the government have made a deal to have

future investment handled by Lomas & Nettleton, along with the Crocker Bank of California.

Hay's company will take over some of the real estate investment of the \$1.4 billion Central, Southeast and Southwest Area Pension Fund of the Teamsters.

Over 70% of the fund is invested in real estate. About one-third of those loans are in the red.

### DEMOCRATS MAKE HAY

This job is expected to be helpful to Hay in his other role: Chairman of the Democratic Party's national finances.

Last year Hay raised \$300,000 for Carter in Texas. Control of the Pension Fund's real estate should make fund-raising even easier.

The Democratic Party has already profited from the Pension Fund. When Carter emerged as the front runner in the Democratic Party candidates' race for nomination, Teamster President Frank Fitzsimmons deposited \$23 million in the National Bank of Georgia.

Head of this bank is Bert Lance, now leader of the President's Council of Economic Advisors. The deposit was promoted by John Spickerman of Florida, vice-president of the Georgia Trucking Association.

Earlier this year both Fitzsimmons and Spickerman resigned as Pension Fund Trustees, in a deal between the Teamsters and the Justice Department, because of their loan practices and connections with organized crime. □

### LEAFLET

The meeting began with a leaflet handed out at the door.

"It's no secret," read the leaflet, "Pete Camarata admits that he belongs to the International Socialist Party. Why do they want to change the by-laws? Does the International Socialist Party want to take over the local union? Think about it. What do you think?"

Also reprinted in the leaflet was an article by Mark Lett, labor writer for the Detroit News, in which Camarata discussed his membership in the International Socialists.

Inside the hall, the meeting opened with one flunky for the officers getting up and reading from the leaflet, then demanding to know whether or not Pete was a socialist.

Bob Lins, Local President, said "I think that's in order. I think the

# MOVE caracha it crush

"We more or less understood that we weren't going to get the best response from the Governor."

"He listened to what we had to say, but he wasn't smiling much." Affirming that he is "not going to give up," TFW leader Orendain said, "some people want to walk on to Washington."

The farmworkers know that, like one of their symbols—the cucaracha (cockroach)—numbers are on their side. □

## is Union dependent

or organizing in Texas. With 100,000 farmworkers in Texas, the TFW refused to wait for permission to organize.

The TFW has also insisted on organizing workers on both sides of the US-Mexico border. This includes "illegals"—Mexicans hired by growers who fail to obtain legal permits for them to work in the US. The UFW is opposed to organizing "illegals."

The TFW's 1975 strike against Texas melon growers showed why organizing "illegals" is necessary.

During that strike a grower quoted in the TFW newspaper made this statement as he fired on the striking workers: "I'm going to make sure my melons get to market even if they have a little Mexican blood on them."

### UNITY

The TFW sought unity among all Texas farmworkers.

Besides "illegals," growers hire Mexicans who are issued cards by the US government, allowing them to work legally. They live in fear of having the cards revoked. The TRW organized 15,000 "green card" workers as they crossed the border to work.

The TFW continues to support the UFW's boycotts. But to continue their own efforts, they had to form an independent union. □



Migrant farm workers, on the road half the year, are often robbed of political, educational and welfare rights. In King City, California, some

have decided they're not going to be moved. After they were evicted from the houses in the rear, they protested by putting up these shacks.

## "For once we decided to fight"

**KING CITY, Calif.**—Vicente and Amparo Robles live in a makeshift shack 50 feet away from their home. The Robles are farm workers, and their home belongs to a grower.

Farm workers are only permitted to live in the migrant camps during harvest season, from May to November. Then they move on, looking for work elsewhere.

But this November things were different. Fifty people refused to leave. "For once we decided to fight for a right," said Vicente Robles.

Robles, Victor Navarro, and others in the group are members of the United Farm Workers. Through UFW contracts, they are now able to find year-round work in the King City area.

The farm workers are eager to seize this opportunity to stabilize their lives and the lives of their children.

But the city officials are not so

happy to have them. "They don't want us in King City," says Victor Navarro. "If we get established here, who knows, maybe we'll vote and they'll lose their power. Now it's only the rich people who run the city. They don't want us participating, even if our work is what gives them the money to have the power."

After months of legal skirmishes, a posse of deputy sheriffs evicted the families from their homes in the camp on March 22.

The group broke up. Some moved on, some moved in with already crowded friends. Four families moved into the local UFW hall. The union was threatened with eviction, because the hall was not zoned as a residence.

On Saturday, April 2, the four families put their belongings in their cars. They borrowed plywood, nails and tools, and drove back to the locked migrant camp.

They hammered together sheets

of plywood, plugging the holes with canvas and cardboard. Twenty people, including 12 children, live in the plywood shack, and in a pup tent and cars.

### FENCE

The Robles and the other three families are separated from their homes in the migrant camp by a chain link fence. Inside the fence, 80 homes stand empty. Their homes are roomy, two-bedroom frame houses with gas, electricity, and running water.

The homes in the migrant camp were built as low-income housing, but the city officials only permitted construction on the condition that they would be occupied only 180 days a year.

The growers who run King City want the field hands at harvest time—and they want them out of town when the harvest is over.

The city attorney is threatening

the families with criminal charges for living in homes that do not meet the housing code provisions. And they have been told that they will not be eligible to move back into the camp in May, because the migrant camp is only open to those who have come from 50 miles away!

The Robles and the other three families are breaking the cycle that runs their lives: following the harvest. Up the California coast, sometimes going as far north as Michigan, and then back to Texas for the winter crops. This cycle keeps farm workers from ever settling down, their children from ever getting an education. And the constant movement makes union organizing very difficult.

But the Robles and the other three families see a new day for themselves. They intend to stay in King City, and they will not move until the city provides decent, low-cost housing. □

## master Officials

and file were the producers. Members continued to shout support of Camarata and his rights.

One member, with over twenty years in the union, took the microphone to have his say. "This is America, Pete can belong to any political party he wants to. We don't want to hear any more talk about the members' politics."

When the hall had quieted down, members made motions to discuss the proposed by-laws changes which would call for the election of Business Agents.

But this proposal would threaten Lins' patronage machine of over twenty BA's appointed by past Presidents Jimmy Hoffa, Dave

Johnson and by himself. To Lins' way of thinking, it was clearly out of order.

The by-laws campaign is the preview to November elections. It is expected that rank and file groups like TDU and Concerned Members of 299 will run opposition candidates and possibly oust Lins and Wendel.

The red-baiting didn't end the meeting. The same leaflet was posted up around town in the barns at Automobile Transport Incorporated (ATI) and Complete Auto Transit, as well as at freight barns in the Local.

Union members demanded the leaflets be taken down, since the

members don't have the right to post rank and file literature.

### LATEST SHOT

This red-baiting attack is just the latest shot at TDU.

Pete Camarata and Al Ferdnace, another TDU spokesman, have both been fired by their employers, expelled from the union, and kept out of union meetings.

Camarata, who was rehired, is currently employed at Earl C. Smith. He is appealing his expulsion through the union and the courts.

Ferdnace remains a union member. His recent expulsion was set aside as unconstitutional, since he has litigation pending that involves the same parties.

Jim Austin, a Leaseway warehouseman and TDU activist has also been fired by his employer and has claimed union harassment as well.

The response of Local 299 members in the meeting and in the barns indicated that the red-baiting has backfired. □

## SHANKER WINS, BUT OPPOSITION GAINS IN NEW YORK TEACHERS VOTE

Albert Shanker won the battle, but may be losing the war for control over the teachers' union of New York. Shanker got 72% of the vote in the elections for President last week of the 50,000 member union.

But the big news is that two more militant groups to the left of his unity caucus got 27% of the vote. A big success in a union where Shanker was a hero and his election was almost always unanimous before.

The more militant Fight Back and New Directions caucuses accused Shanker of defending the banks which hold the mortgage on New York City instead of defending the teachers. Both caucuses claimed the money was there for the teachers' financial demands in recent contracts.

They also raised a cry to democratize the teachers union which Shanker has in a bureaucratic death grip. And both caucuses pointed to the racism of the Shanker regime.

### STRIKE THE BANKSTERS

The militant groups raised the demand to form a coalition with

other city workers. And if necessary, they called for a general strike of the city with other city workers to break the hold of banks, business and the union bureaucrats.

Shanker kept his hold on the union, but the votes don't tell the whole story. First 20,000 teachers union members laid off during the last two years were not allowed to vote.

Second, Shanker got barely 55% in the Junior Highs and 60% of the vote in the High Schools.

And Shanker red-baited his critics attempting to discredit the radical caucuses.

Shanker has a program for the city crisis: dictatorial control of the union, red-baiting the union's militants, and racism in the union.

That program won't solve the crisis that the teachers and other city workers have faced. The strategy of Fight Back and New Directions: a strike against the bankers who are holding New York City hostage will make more sense to more city workers every day that the city crisis continues. The next battle between Shanker and the rank and file may well see Shanker as the first casualty. □

## It's No Secret

PETE CAMARATA ADMITS THAT HE BELONGS TO THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST PARTY

2 Teamsters battling

Reprint from The Detroit News, March 16, 1977

Power fight ends a union friendship

By MARK LEIT

"Pete" admitted he had a "close" relationship with the I.S.P.

# 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. Capitalism keeps women responsible for taking care of the work force 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**  
Black people are an oppressed national minority in the United States. They have the right to self-determination—to decide their own future. The struggle of every oppressed group for equality is a just struggle—Blacks, women, gays, Latinos, American Indians. We are for the independent organization of oppressed peoples to fight for their freedom. Support from the entire working class movement will make the struggles of both—the oppressed and the working class 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. We support every fight of the working class against exploitation, and every struggle by nations fighting for independence from foreign rulers. We support every struggle for freedom—from the people of southern Africa against racism and western colonialism, to the struggle against bureaucratic rule and Russian imperialism in Eastern Europe, to demand complete independence for Puerto Rico from U.S. colonial rule.
- **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.

# PROFITS: How Much Is Enough?

by Jim Woodward

On March 16, the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. (AT&T) said its profits for the three month period ending February 28 had increased 20% to over \$1 billion. John deButts, AT&T's chairman, promptly announced that the company would "continue to seek rate increases."

DeButts added, "I recognize that there are risks in asserting that a business earning over a billion dollars a quarter isn't earning enough."

Ain't that the truth! We've got fuel bills and grocery prices coming out of our ears. And this creep says his company is making \$4 billion a year but it's not enough.

Absurd, right? Wrong. DeButts' statement is 100% correct...as long as you agree with one thing. Capitalism. The free enterprise system.

### COMPETITION

To understand this astonishing fact, we have to remember that capitalism is based on competition. If two employers make widgets, and the second can produce them cheaper, he can drive the first employer out of business by under-selling him.

Neither of the widget makers can ever make "enough" profits, because each is afraid the other will find a way to make more profits. They each have to constantly try to get more work at less cost from their employees.

At first sight, it may appear that the phone company doesn't have this problem. After all, for the most part there is only one phone company. Why do they have to worry about making "enough" profits?

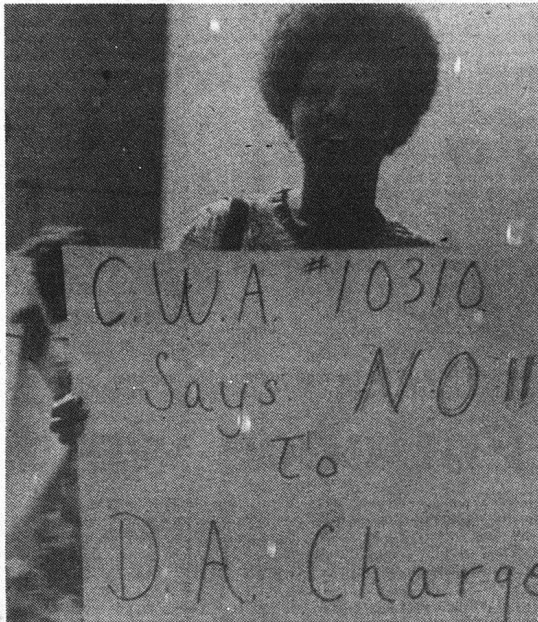
Here's what deButts says: "AT&T's net income [profits] for the quarter ended February 28 may appear impressive for its ten digits. However, it should be recognized that the company's return on the capital invested in our business is but slightly over nine percent.... Clearly it falls short of the rate of return being earned by many of the leading U.S. enterprises...with whom investors compare us before they decide where to put their money."

So the answer is, the phone company competes with every other company in the country.

### INVEST

Assume for a moment that you're rich. Feel good? OK, now you've got a million dollars you want to invest.

With a million dollars, you can do a lot better than the 5% interest you'll get at the bank down the



Members of Communications Workers of America protest directory assistance charge because it will mean loss of jobs.

street. Not only can you buy stocks and bonds, you can also deal in securities and options and futures and ten other kinds of things you never heard of before you got rich in the last paragraph.

What do you buy? Obviously, you invest your money where you can get the most back. The phone company needs a lot of outside investment, because it is constantly developing new and very expensive technology and equipment. So AT&T sells stocks and bonds and all the other sorts of exotic deals that appeal to rich folks.

AT&T has to keep its profits at the same rate as, say, General Motors if it expects the bankers and other investors to give it their

money. So AT&T doesn't make "enough" profits unless it makes more than General Motors, and then General Motors isn't making "enough."

### MORE PROFITS

How does the phone company—or any other corporation—make more profits? Two ways: raise prices and cut costs.

What does that mean for us?

## At New York UPS, The News Is All Bad

NEW YORK—New York City IBT Local 804 and UPS began "early" contract negotiations March 23.

Local president Ron Carey had no progress to report to the April 17 membership meeting. Nor did he report any proposals by either the company or the union.

The only news was bad: Carey told Local 804 members that job security is under heavy attack from the company.

If neither side has anything to

(You're not rich any more.) One example: it used to be that if you wanted to call someone and didn't know the number, you'd call the phone company and they'd give it to you. Reasonable enough. Then some bright junior executive thought, "Why don't we charge the suckers for it?"

That probably got the kid a promotion, and now the phone company is instituting directory assistance charges wherever it can throughout the country. Worse still, if you're a directory assistance operator, there goes your job because people will naturally not call so much if they have to pay.

That example just scratches the surface. The more new technology the phone company develops, the fewer employees are needed to run the equipment. There's this new machine called the No. 4 Electronic Switching System. It can handle four times as many calls as the previous equipment, but it needs only one-third as many people to maintain it. More workers on the unemployment line.

### ARE THEY RIGHT?

Now what have we got? A giant corporation, which constantly squeezes its customers and its employees.

On one hand, we have an operator forced on welfare to support her kids because the phone company decided to charge for directory assistance and they didn't need her anymore. At the same time we have a corporation which makes \$1 billion every three months and says that's not enough so they'll have to raise rates and throw more people out of work.

You know what's the worst thing about it? If you believe in capitalism, you have to admit they're right to do it. □



— LIBERATION NEWS SERVICE —

## Jury Awards \$5000 Against Racist Doctor

A white Alabama doctor who ripped the stitches out of the arm of an injured Black youth has been ordered to pay \$5000 damages.

Dr. Bobby Merkle had just applied the stitches to 14-year-old Melvin Armstrong's arm when he discovered that the youth could pay only \$20 of the \$25 bill.

"You don't go to a grocery store without money and you shouldn't go to a doctor without money," Merkle reportedly said. The good doctor immediately ripped out the stitches.

propose, some 804 members are now wondering what was the big deal about "early negotiations?"

Or is the company trying to play off 804 and the Eastern States UPS workers (whose contract still isn't signed) against each other? Is Carey in touch with Eastern States Chief Negotiator McCarthy to guard against any such tricks?

Rank and filers in Local 804 should be in touch with rank and filers in the east to make sure they don't end up with the same rotten deal. □

Armstrong was treated later by another doctor who charged \$20.

In the first trial stemming from this incident, an all-white jury last year ordered Merkle to pay the youth only \$20.

A judge ordered a new trial after this flagrantly racist judgement. And Merkle was censured by the Medical Association of Alabama because of the bad publicity coming out of the trial.

A jury of seven white and five Blacks deliberated for almost two hours before returning the more favorable judgement. □

## JOIN US!

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

Name .....

Address .....

Union .....

**Workers' Power**  
313-869-5964



## S. AFRICAN SARDINES REMOVED FROM STORE

Dear Workers' Power,

I work as a cashier in a grocery store that used to sell sardines packed in South Africa.

I always hated to check them out, because I knew that the African workers who produced them had to live in conditions as bad as slavery, just so the sardine company could make a big buck.

But I kept my mouth shut because I knew my boss would fire me if he ever heard me tell a customer not to buy something. He doesn't even want us to tell them about the specials!

Then the Southern Africa Liberation Committee came to the store and told the manager there would be a picket line out front unless he took those sardines off the shelf and sent them back.

At first he refused, but when he considered how much business he would lose from a picket line, his greed did the job where his conscience wouldn't.

Now the South African sardines are gone, and we have a new brand from Peru.

Every time they come through my line, I think, Right On—one more kick in the teeth to apartheid!

Sarah  
Atlanta, GA.

## NAZI BOOK STORE CLOSED

Dear Workers' Power:

The "Rudolph Hess" Nazi bookstore recently tried to open up for business in San Francisco. But the fascists made one big mistake. They set up shop right across from a synagogue attended by the families of German Jewish survivors of the concentration camps.

The book store was almost immediately ransacked and burned by outraged members of the community. The cops arrested Morris Weiss and his son Allen on charges stemming from the incident. But they let the Nazis go free.

An organization calling itself the "Sunset Anti-Fascist Committee" is now circulating a petition calling for a defense of the Weisses.

"This fight does not just involve people of Jewish descent. The Nazis and other fascist groups also spread false and criminal views on racial minorities, calling for their extermination as well," the petition reads.

Meanwhile, the real criminals are still on the loose—the Nazis who opened the bookstore. Defend the Weisses! Jail the Nazis!

Paul Ryan  
Oakland, Ca.

# Schools Use Drugs On Students

Dear Workers' Power:

We get busted, jailed and thrown out of school for smoking a joint. But guess what drug dealer is pushing "psychiatric" drugs on between 500,000 to 850,000 students across the U.S.A.

This pusher is forcing many young people to take drugs against their will, and even their parents are powerless to stop it.

Many students have fell victim to the harmful side-effects of this drug, such as growth retardation, epileptic seizures, and being turned into "zombies."

Most all this pusher's victims are either black or poor.

How can this be? Who is the depraved criminal?

The drug is Ritalin. The dealer is the public school system.

You see, some students cannot tolerate the bullshit called "the education system" in America. These kids' parents are told that they have "behavior problems" or that they're "hyperactive."

They're ordered to be drugged so they become "manageable" to "normalize" them.

If they or their parents do not agree, they will be banished from the public school system.

1984 gets closer every day.

Frank Runninghorse  
Detroit



# Ohio To End Common-law Marriages

Dear Workers' Power,

Marriage should be a matter between husband and wife, right? The state doesn't think so. A bill has been introduced in the Ohio State Legislature to repeal the law that recognizes common-law marriages.

Common-law marriages were first recognized during pioneer days, when preachers seldom

reached remote settlements. It's still on the books in Ohio, though in few other states: the man and woman must agree to marry, must live together, must consider themselves married, and must be considered married by the community.

If these things are true, their children are legitimate and the marriage will hold up for inheritance purposes. In practice,

of course, it's been hard to prove that you've been common-law married. The courts don't like people deciding to be married on their own, without registration or benefit of clergy.

Marriage and marriage laws have always been important tools for controlling peoples' lives—especially women's. Advocates of common-law repeal say that common-law marriage "indulges

people in their lax habits," and "attacks the three foundation stones of the family—good family relations, spiritual values and security."

Revolutionaries have viewed the marriage relationship differently. The Bolsheviks, leaders of the Russian revolution knew that the family as it exists under capitalism keeps women down and holds back the revolution.

After the 1917 revolution, they passed a law that said all that people had to do to be legally married was to consider themselves married.

Ohio State Legislators think otherwise. They want to come along on the honeymoon too.

Carolyn  
Cleveland, OH

# Peltier To Get Life In Murder Conviction

by Candy Hamilton

FARGO, ND—A jury of nine women and three men found Leonard Peltier guilty on two counts of first degree murder Monday, April 18. The charges carry mandatory life sentences.

Peltier was on trial for the deaths of two FBI agents on Pine Ridge reservation on June 26, 1975. Two

other Indian men accused of the killings were acquitted in earlier trials.

An Indian man, Joe Stuntz, also died in the FBI-provoked firefight that day. No one has ever been charged with his murder.

The jury deliberated only ten hours, and returned the verdict to a virtually empty courtroom guarded

by 11 marshalls.

Although over 50 spectators waited outside, Judge Paul Benson refused to allow them to enter. He would not state the reason.

### BIAS AND RACISM

Before the jury returned, Peltier said in a telephone interview that he had not received a fair trial because of the judge's complete bias and racism.

Immediately after the decision Peltier's supporters gathered in a circle outside the courthouse. Peltier left the courtroom quietly with his fist in the air.

The judge upheld prosecution objections to almost the entire defense case. The prosecution case lasted for three and a half weeks.

The defense was not allowed to call witnesses to testify about FBI misconduct in the investigation into the June 26 firefight and in the trial itself, nor specific incidents of violence on Pine Ridge.

Defense Attorney Elliot Taikeff maintained the government brought charges against Peltier because he is an AIM (American Indian Movement) activist and then tried to construct evidence that would convict him.

### EVIDENCE DISTORTED

In his closing arguments before the jury, prosecutor Lynn Crooks showed the autopsy pictures of the dead FBI agents to the jury and said, "That is the testimony of Ron Williams and Jack Coler."

He referred to the Indians present at the shoot-out as "brutal, cowardly, and a blood-crazed bunch."

Following Crooks' argument the defense asked the Judge to declare a mistrial, instruct Crooks, or give the jury a cautionary instruction because Crooks misstated the evidence more than seven times during his argument.

The judge refused to take any

action. In the defense summary, Taikeff described Pine Ridge as a "foreign land, a war zone." He showed the jury pictures of FBI agents in combat fatigues beside helicopters, carrying M-16's and alongside armored personnel carriers.

"This isn't southeast Asia," he said. "This is what your tax money pays for: war games in other people's back yards."

Peltier was moved to the South Dakota Penitentiary the next day to await sentencing in June. Apparently the only question in the sentencing is whether the two life sentences will run consecutively or concurrently. He still faces trial on other charges in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and Portland, Ore. □

Makes You Wonder Department: Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens noted that five of the nine Supreme Court Justices now have specifically recognized that death differs sharply from any other kind of punishment imposed in this country. Smart fellows. □

## Chicago: Fiber Bond Strike Ends

CHICAGO — The eight-week strike against the Fiber Bond Corp. has ended. By an overwhelming margin the Fiber Bond strikers voted April 20 to accept the company's offer of a 45c wage increase over one year.

The 80 workers at Fiber Bond might have been back to work much sooner and with a larger wage increase if the union, Teamsters Local 781, had not taken a do-nothing stance during the early part of the strike.

The union, which is headed by Joseph Bernstein, even held back

the workers' strike benefits for four weeks. It took a picket line in front of the union hall on Monday, April 11 to get Bernstein to release the strike benefits.

While no one was enthusiastic about the settlement, most of the Fiber Bond workers believed that they had shown the company that they were determined to fight.

"As one of the stewards said, 'We showed them that we meant business. And next time we'll be more together.'"

The Fiber Bond workers, who average \$4.50 an hour, returned to work on Monday, April 25. □

# SEARS ABANDONS DETROIT CITY STORES

by Kate Stacy

DETROIT—Sears and Roebuck is not your local corner store. It's the world's largest retailer. And its huge financial empire extends far beyond the retailing industry.

Sears got to be as big and powerful as it is by ruthless business decisions—like fleeing the inner-city market after years of fat profits and stockholders' dividends.

Detroit is a good example. Slowly but surely, Sears has driven every single one of its city stores into bankruptcy. The giant retailer then uses "falling profits" as the excuse for closing them.

Latest on Sears' hit list is the Grand River-Oakman store on Detroit's west side. The retail outlet is surrounded by 25-30 smaller shops. Unless it is taken over by a local retailer, as is possible, the store's closing will be a death-blow to the medium-sized shopping district.

That will add tremendous difficulties for the thousands of Black Detroiters who depend on the district for neighborhood shopping. The next closest shopping area is four miles away.

## METHOD

Sears has a method for closing its doors to Black people. The building is allowed to run down considerably. Janitorial staff is cut back, and the store becomes dirt. Sales personnel is cut back as well, so that service becomes very poor. The quality of the merchandise offered is often not as wide as Sears merchandise in suburbia.

Sears denies that it is leaving Detroit, and cites the eleven remaining Detroit-area stores as proof of their intentions.

They are really little more than proof of Sears' racism. All of the retail outlets but one are located in the far—and white—suburbs. Few Blacks go there because of the distance and because they know they are unwelcome.

For the last few years, each time Sears has opened a new store (always suburban), it has also announced the closing of a city store.

Their new Dearborn store is located in one of Detroit's most notoriously racist suburbs. Their Novi store is in a small city so far from Detroit that few consider it a suburb at all.

## MAKING \$\$

Sears' assets at the end of last year were over \$11½ billion. But it's even bigger than that.

The company owns controlling interest in two national trucking firms—Leaseway and Signal.

Through its Allstate Enterprises subsidiary, Sears is planning a merger that would make it the 14th largest savings and loan operator in the nation. Sears owns Allstate (the "good hands" people) which last year reported total revenues of \$3.9 billion.

The company prefers the suburbs to the city because profits are better out there. Ups and downs in suburban customers' purchasing power are not as drastic as they are in the Black community.

Sears says piously, we can't pay this quarter's dividends off of last year's sales. They callously cover up the fact that they have deliberately sabotaged their sales in the Black community.

## Workers' Power Talks To Sears Customers

**"Everybody in our neighborhood is talking about it. They hate to see Sears close down."**

"They're saying it's such a shame they have to take the only store from Detroit. The next nearest store would be really out of the way. It's really inconvenient.

"Some people will have to take the bus, and most people don't like to go downtown and shop. And they don't have a Sears store down there.

"Me and my husband, Richard, discussed this, and we really feel that it's not because of lack of business; we don't know why they're closing down.

"I don't know [if it's because most of the customers are Black]—the only thing that I can truly say is that people who shop here are really puzzled by it. They say it's a shame.

"We opened our account in '69, and its never been closed—never.

Laura Matthews



**"I'll hate it! And I'm sure not by myself."**

"I've been shopping here a long time—years. It's a nice place to shop, when you can find any sales help.

"I buy most of my brother's things here. He's very slim. The Sears on Gratiot and Van Dyke is closed, so I'll probably have to go to a special boy's shop and pay a great deal more.

"I was surprised by the closing because it's such a huge store. There's so many different departments, I wouldn't like to see it close down."

Laura Sangster

## Feds In, Freight Moves Out

by Dan La Botz

Thomas W. "Teddy" Gleason, president of the International Longshoremen's Association (ILA), led a strike last week just long and hard enough to bring in the Feds.

The 35,000 ILA members struck seven container shipping companies for five days over the issue of job security. The strategy left the ports open and the freight moving.

Now the Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) has come in with a promise—a promise of long talks between shippers, union officers and government bureaucrats.

The dispute is over loss of jobs to freight consolidators

(shippers who bring together loads of less than one container).

Consolidators are located away from the dock and use lower-paid, non-ILA labor (usually Teamsters), for the same work that longshoremen do. In addition, the FMC has given consolidators a discount rate of 52.5.

The mechanization of shipping through containerization, the cheaper consolidator rates, and the use of Teamster labor are at issue. Over the past decade thousands of ILA jobs have been lost and millions of dollars have been saved by the big steamship companies through these practices.

Gleason's strategy of federal

mediation and negotiations with the shippers has proven to be a loser in the past.

Like other regulatory agencies, the FMC is dominated by the very business it is supposed to regulate—the big steamship companies. The FMC has no interest in protecting the job security of longshoremen.

In the 1950's and 1960's Jimmy Hoffa raised the idea of an alliance between teamster and longshore workers, calling for a Conference on Transportation Unity.

This strategy, together with the militant strike and solidarity traditions of Teamsters and Longshoremen, could have meant job security in the transportation industry.

## New York Gun Club Brings Back Bounties

Three New York City businessmen who had murdered people they claimed were attacking them were slated to receive \$200 rewards in a public ceremony last week.

The reward is available to anyone who shoots and kills an "attacker," according to Jerry Preiser, president of the Federation of Greater New York Pistol and Rifle Clubs.

"The object is to encourage citizens who are properly licensed to carry firearms to defend themselves because of the complete breakdown of the criminal-justice system," he said.

Police Commissioner Michael J. Codd claimed to be "appalled." "This is dangerous to the people who are doing the shooting and dangerous to bystanders," he commented.

Notably missing from his concern were the victims—those gunned down on the streets by vigilante-minded individuals like Preiser—who don't have to be convicted, arrested or even accused before they are murdered.

In addition Preiser wants to increase the auxiliary police from its present 5000 unarmed force, to as many as 60,000 armed people.

The businessmen were also to receive "scrolls of commendation" at the ceremony. Preiser did not say whether they were obliged to turn in a scalp or an ear to prove their eligibility for the bounty.

Kate Stacy

## Pittsburgh Begins Anti-Apartheid Fight

PITTSBURGH—Before it was dark enough to show the film Last Grave at Dimbaza on a barnwall south of the city, rank and file Teamsters (mostly members of Teams 3rs for a Democratic Union) beat a team of miners at two games of volleyball last Sunday.

The film was part of an all day get-together in the country, and capped a week organizing for solidarity with the African liberation struggles.

The International Socialists and the Southern African Liberation Committee (SALC) arranged seven showings of Last Grave at Dimbaza in community centers, Y's, living rooms, and to the staff of two parish schools. The week kicked off the shoe drive for the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU). Pittsburgh SALC will send shoes to the freedom fighters in Zimbabwe.

## SAME STRUGGLE

For those who saw the film, the horrors of apartheid were brought home. The parallels with life and death in American factories, mines and schools, were unavoidable—especially since many of the companies are the same. And the racism of our bosses at home wasn't obscured by the exposure of its South African extremes—it was all the more vivid.

The Pittsburgh SALC is planning events to build the shoe campaign. On May 7, Edission Zvobgo, Deputy Secretary General of ZANU, will speak on the progress and needs of the struggle. The SALC, which is a member of a local coalition, the Committee to Free Southern Africa, has enlisted the aid of the Coalition in building this event.

In the weeks following Zvobgo's talk, the SALC will be showing another round of movies, building the shoe campaign and helping to organize neighborhood branches of the group. Anyone in the Pittsburgh area interested in participating in the SALC should phone 461-2975.



David Carradine plays Woody Guthrie.

# The Story Behind "Bound for Glory"

**Bound for Glory.** A United Artists picture, directed by Hal Ashby, cinematography by Haskell Wexler.

by Karl Werner

There is a new movie out on the life of Woody Guthrie, famous balladeer and song maker. Woody wrote such songs as "This Land Is Your Land," "Pastures of Plenty," "Union Maid," and about one thousand others in his life.

He wrote about everything—from one about the first time a child wakes up in a "dry bed" to a whole set of ballads about the frame-up of Italian-American radicals Sacco and Vanzetti.

But whether the subject was trivial or serious, Woody had a philosophy about the kind of song he wanted to sing.

As he says in the film, "I hate a song that makes you think you're not any good... that you are just born to lose. I am out to fight those kinds of songs to my very last breath..."

"I am out to sing songs that will prove to you that this is your world, and that if it has hit you pretty hard and knocked you for a dozen loops, no matter how hard it's run you down and rolled over you, no matter what color, what size you are, how you're built, I am out to sing the songs that make you take pride in yourself and in your work..."

### STYLE AND STRUGGLE

Woody's style of singing and guitar playing was no different from that of hundreds of other country singers of his time:

He learned much of his style from listening to the records of the Carter Family and Jimmy Rogers, the most popular country singers of the early 1930's.

But Woody's outlook on music and life was the opposite of most southern white country singers, then or now.

Many country songs talk about hard times and working class life. But nine times out of ten the message is, that's just the way things are, that there's nothing you can do about it. Or as Woody put it, that "you are just born to lose."

Woody's unique musical philosophy didn't just spring from his lively personality. It came from his politics. For, as the movie only hints, Woody was one of a handful of roaming country singers with a socialist outlook.

Woody didn't see the working people as losers, he saw them as the people who would come to rule the world.

### RADICAL AND FIGHTER

The film doesn't really tell you how Woody became a radical, although it deals with that period in Woody's life. It opens in 1936 when Woody is living in Pampa, Texas with his wife Mary and their two children.

Dust storms were destroying the land, and bankers were foreclosing mortgages or just kicking farmers off the land who had lived there for generations.

Thousands of dirt farmers and sharecroppers hit the roads for California, which they thought would be a "garden of Eden."

Woody joined them on the road. Along the road, in the movie, Woody meets up with Ozark Blue, a singer and union organizer.

Ozark has a local radio show and both his music and his message, "organize and fight back against the grower bosses," are enormously popular in the migrant camps.

Woody and Ozark team up after a narrow escape from company goons and are still in touch when Woody finally makes L.A. There Woody gets a job at a local radio station and sends for his wife and children to join him.

In real life, it was about this time that Woody met Ed Robbin, commentator for the People's World, the West Coast paper of the Communist Party.

Both Robbin and Woody worked at station KFVD. Robbin introduced Woody to Will Geer (currently Grandpa Walton on TV), and together they organized a troupe that sang songs and did skits for organizing and striking workers up and down California.

### TAKING SIDES

As Woody described it: "I sung songs for the cotton pickers and the cotton strikers, and for the migratory workers: packers and canning house workers, fruit pickers, and all sorts of other country and city workers."

"I wrote a daily article for the People's Daily World, called 'Woody Says.' I always read the radical papers over my program and took sides with the workers all I knew how."

The 1930's saw huge working

class struggles. Strikes, sitdowns, and organizing drivers swept the country.

As a result thousands of workers turned to socialist ideas and organizations. Most joined the Communist Party because it was the biggest and most effective organization.

The leaders of the Communist Party were certainly ardent followers of Joe Stalin. They covered up for the oppression of workers in Russia and tried to tell people that Russia was a "workers' paradise."

In these and many other ways, the Communist Party did not represent real socialism. Nevertheless, it was the CP that had the most effective organization among struggling rank and file workers.

This is why a country singer like Woody Guthrie, a blues singer like Josh White, an actor like Will Geer, and many others were attracted to the Communist Party.

They believed they were fighting for the working class and for socialism, and they did a lot of good because of it.

### THUMP THAT HAT

Like thousands of workers who joined the CP, or other radical organizations, Woody Guthrie was a fighter. He gave his entire life, his whole heart, and singing soul to the workers' movement.

He refused to be brought low, beaten down, or bought off. And Woody Guthrie knew there was more to the workers movement than singing songs.

In one of his columns in the People's World, Woody wrote: "Geeters and banjos ain't what makes the world go 'round. It's talkin' songs, and yellin' songs—and the best song, you don't even have to yell it."

"You just double up your fists, roll up your sleeves, and thump it out—on any convenient silk hat."

Hey, hey Woody Guthrie, you done a pretty good job!

## Labor Notes

by Jim Woodward



**United Steel Workers Local 1190** in Steubenville, Ohio has denounced a Ku Klux Klan march planned for Memorial Day. Local 1190 represents 5000 workers at the Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corp. A local union meeting voted unanimously to support anti-Klan activities which are being organized by a group of local ministers. Counter demonstrations are planned if the Klan rally actually takes place.

The thirteen top officers of the **Ford Motor Co.** and **General Motors** made \$10,355,267 in salaries and bonuses last year. Henry Ford II and Lee Iacocca of Ford and Thomas Murphy of GM pulled in nearly a million dollars each. The raises given to GM's top seven executives ranged from 65% to 98%. Poor Eugene Cafiero, president of Chrysler, got only \$692,000.

In the 1976 UAW contract, auto production workers received their traditional 3% Annual Improvement Factor, cost-of-living, and one penny in new money.

**Black postal workers in Chicago** are upset over plans by the U.S. Postal Service to move the South Suburban mail handling facility from the Ford City area of Chicago to suburban Forest Park. The move would add 10 miles commuting distance for many workers, and would decrease job opportunities for blacks in that area of Chicago.

The Russian leader **Leonid Brezhnev** recently told a meeting of his country's trade union organization that the job of unions is to emphasize "labor discipline." There are organizations called unions in Russia, but they act as tools of management and are forbidden to strike. There are some union leaders in this country who seem to have the same attitude. Maybe they should be told to "go back to Russia."

A court order has forced the **United Mine Workers Journal** to temporarily suspend publication. Lee Roy Patterson, a candidate for UMW president in the union's June elections, sued the union, forcing the halt in publication. The dispute concerns the amount of space in the Journal allotted to candidates. Patterson was originally given less space because he does not have a full slate running with him.

Acting on a complaint filed by members of UAW Local 595 in Linden, N.J., the National Labor Relations Board has charged General Motors with what amounts to trying to run the union. The Labor Board said GM unfairly disciplined many workers represented by committeeman **Doug Stevens** to discourage them from supporting Stevens and the **Linden Auto Workers caucus of Local 595**. The Labor Board also charges that two members of the union, one of whom opposed Stevens in an election, have been operating on behalf of management.

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

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# Workers' Power

## POSTAL WORKERS FACE SPEEDUP, JOB CUTBACKS

by Paul Ryan

If the Post Office cuts back on service, the prices of stamps won't go up, right? Wrong! Not according to the Commission on Postal Service, anyway.

Congress appointed this commission. Big business and bureaucrats run it. The unions have approved it. And we're going to pay for it. Here's their program for the Post Office: fewer jobs, higher prices, worse service.

### BLACKMAIL

The Commission came out for five-day service—meaning Saturday delivery will be cut. It's individual users who will be hurt. Most businesses don't need Saturday delivery to keep the profits coming in.

The price of mailing a letter will continue to rise while business junk mail will continue to go cheaply by the ton.

But it's the postal workers who will be driven from pillar to post by the Commission's program. Cutting Saturday service will mean fewer jobs or slashed hours for part-time flexible schedule workers and full-time carriers without regular routes.



**Mike McHugh, letter carrier, Hillside, IL:** "Most of us would love to have Saturdays off, but it would increase our workload. As it stands now, they would use it as an excuse to cut back the workforce. In our office, we could lose maybe ten guys out of 60. It's up to the union to see that we don't lose anyone."

### 'It would be total chaos'

**Tom Beardsley, clerk, Main Post Office, Oakland, CA:** "It's the first open admission that service is not the main concern of the post office. And as far as our jobs are concerned, the mail volume would still be there. It would just give management the option of moving the workforce to whenever and wherever they wanted to. I think it would be total chaos. You don't abolish someone's job they've had for 20 years without wrecking havoc."



**Edgar Payne, mailhandler, Bulk Mail Center, Pittsburgh, PA:** "I think it stinks. It's eliminating service to the people. It is going to put our jobs in jeopardy. People are taking it real bad right now with the way things are already. Lots of us are getting ready to do whatever we can do. We've got people ready not to come in to work, instead of work under the regulations, they're coming down with."

"collaboration" with the lawyers, businessmen and Post Office bureaucrats on the commission.

Dave Johnson, a young, Black and supposedly "progressive" vice-president of the American Postal Workers Union (APWU) approved the entire report.

And while retiring President James Rademacher of the National Association of Letter Carriers opposed the five-day delivery, he supported other job-cutting proposals.

All three major postal unions lobbied hard for the bill which set up the special commission. The APWU went so far as to blow its entire strike fund on publicity for it.

Congress may still balk at the Commission's report. Congressmen want more control over the mail service if they're going to shell out more subsidies.

Big business will be lobbying for postal cost-cutting regardless of who controls the Post Office.

Congress can't be relied on to stop the Commission's proposals. Rank and file postal workers and individual mail users will have to organize and fight to save jobs, push prices down and improve service. □

According to New York letter carrier Dave Berger, "There will be delays of mail, more harassment, and more overtime to get out the larger volume of mail on the remaining days. Mondays especially would be a mess."

Inside postal workers' jobs will be cut back as the usually heavy night shifts are pared down. And any big change in the flow of mail would result in forced transfers and

changes of schedule.

The attack on us as consumers and as employees should have brought the union officials rallying to our defense. But they couldn't get out of bed after an orgy of

## Steelworkers Protest Sellout "ENA Sells Us Into Slavery"



Members of Local 1557 picket the Clairton Coke Works, protesting the basic steel contract sellout.

Anger at the new basic steel contract continues strong among steelworkers around the country. In Pittsburgh, three demonstrations attacked the contract shortly after its terms were announced.

On April 14, twenty rank and file members of Local 1397 (US Steel—Homestead Works) showed up at the United Steel Workers International headquarters in downtown Pittsburgh. They denounced the no-strike agreement (ENA) and many of the specific contract provisions.

One of their signs read: "ENA Sells Steelworkers into Slavery for \$50 a Year, Minus Taxes, Etc." Another said, "We Had Three Losers Saturday: Pirates, Penguins, & Steelworkers."

Officials of the International kept peering out their windows, and finally sent someone down to summon the news media inside for the official side of the story.

Later the same day, members of Local 1557 held a rally after work at the gates of US Steel's Clairton Coke Works. It was organized by Steelworkers Stand Up (SSU), a rank and file group at the mill.

SSU said: "This disastrous contract is a direct result of the ENA. The Abel/McBride team campaigned for the ENA in the February International election. They had to show that the ENA

'worked' so they couldn't let the contract go to arbitration. The result: they had to accept whatever crumbs the company offered."

The Clairton workers discovered that they were able to make more progress towards a shorter working day with this one rally than the International union was able to make during the entire negotiations. Management let many of the workers out early so they would miss the rally.

Several wives of steelworkers held a demonstration at the Clairton mill a few days later. They said that the wage increase in the new contract is ridiculous and that their families can't live on it. They said they felt it was their responsibility to do something about this, since the union didn't seem to be doing so.

In Detroit, Steelworkers Fight Back held a meeting of activists from several area locals April 17. They decided to try to get resolutions passed condemning the contract and the International leadership, particularly in Local 1299 covering the big Great Lakes Steel mill.

The Detroit group is publishing its own District 29 Steelworkers Fight Back newsletter, and is selling subscriptions for a national Steelworkers Fight Back newspaper which is supposed to begin publication in the future. □