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Why did a top steel union official throw rocks at these children?

Joe Odorich returned to the scene of the crime last Wednesday. Odorich was sworn in as Vice-President of the United Steel Workers of America, with George Meany himself standing by. The inauguration took place at Linden Hall, the union's newly-acquired country club near Pittsburgh.

Bought supposedly for the education and recreation of union members, it was at Linden Hall that Odorich personally led a mob of fifty goons in an unprovoked attack against steelworkers who were trying to hold a picnic. The May 22 assault was launched against members of the Steelworkers Stand Up (SSU), their friends and families.

SSU is a rank and file newsletter at Clairton Coke Works, near Pittsburgh. SSU supported Ed Sadlowski and the Fight Back slate—Odorich's opponents—in the recent union election.

They also opposed the new national contract negotiated by outgoing president I.W. ("no-strike") Abel, new president Lloyd ("me neither") McBride, and strongly supported by Odorich.

While the oath of office was being administered, both Meany and Odorich were aware that Joe might have to raise his right hand again—this time to "swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth."

Odorich has been charged with criminal assault and conspiracy, and faces civil and internal union charges as well.

PATTERN OF REPRESSION

During the attack, one union member was beaten up by three thugs. Odorich himself threw rocks and pop cans at a car with children in it. According to SSU, this was part of "a pattern of repression and intimidation...directed at United Steelworker members" who worked for Sadlowski and opposed the new contract.

Unable to defend the contract on its merits (it hasn't any), the McBride administration is apparently trying to scare its critics into silence by physical violence. Instead, they have stirred a hornet's



JOE ODORICH
 Newly-installed Steelworkers Vice-President led a goon squad attack on union members May 22. Odorich personally threw rocks at car with children in it (right).



nest of anger among Steelworkers throughout the Pittsburgh area.

Already on the defensive because of the contract, and now further weakened by this emerging scandal, McBride lashed out at his opponents at the inauguration. He warned them to stop "casting stones" at the union.

Odorich must have loved that one.

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Labor's Laws Fail

in Carter Congress

by Kim Moody

ORGANIZED LABOR got a kick in the face when Congress defeated one of their major legislative goals a couple months ago. The Carter Administration just sat by and watched as the construction site picketing bill went down to defeat.

George Meany and other top AFL-CIO leaders had expected their "friend" Jimmy Carter to get things done and keep his promises. No such luck.

So, the AFL-CIO and its political arm COPE (Committee on Political Education) pledged to step up their pressuring and lobbying efforts. No more Mr. Nice Guy, said George Meany.

But in the closing weeks of May, labor wasn't doing much better than before.

Another top AFL-CIO goal had been the repeal of the Hatch Act. This law prevents public employees from participating in party politics.

Public employee unions, such as the American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees, wanted their members free to be active in politics.

POSTPONED

Jimmy Carter spent his legislative energy last week pushing through his election registration bill. It would allow voters to register on election day.

Carter stood aside as the repeal of the Hatch Act got postponed.

What happened was, some crafty Republicans made a pre-emptive strike.

They put forth an amendment to Carter's registration bill that would further limit organized labor's ability to spend union funds on political activity.

This amendment would have ruled out even non-partisan voter registration drives.

Figuring that George Meany's AFL-CIO political strategists could not walk and chew gum at the same time, the Republicans put the liberal Democrats on the defensive with their amendment.

It worked, and action on the Hatch Act repeal was postponed.

Not only that, but the anti-labor amendment passed the House of Representatives, forcing Democratic leaders to postpone action on the registration bill as well.

The AFL-CIO's supposedly "high-powered" legislative operation was to have lined up votes on both bills. But it proved unable to

do so on either.

But the unstoppable tacticians of the AFL-CIO are already planning a way to prevent being shot down

on the other proposals.

To head off failure on a number of technical amendments to the National Labor Relations Act, the

AFL-CIO is planning to drop its campaign for the repeal of Section 14B of the Taft-Hartley Act.

14B is the section that allows states to adopt "right-to-work" laws banning the union shop.

The repeal of 14B would help open the way for the much needed unionization of the South.

Shrewd move, fellows.

SAME OLD FLOP

Year after year, president after president, Congress after Congress, labor pursued the same old policy of depending on the Democratic Party while offering mild criticism.

Year after year, this policy is a flop. And now with a Democratic Administration and a Democratic Congress, this policy is as big a bust as ever.

Isn't it about time organized labor used the enormous power of its rank and file to get something?

Last week, the labor movement in France called a one-day general strike in opposition to wage controls.

They say they will strike again if they don't get some action. Think about it.



AFL-CIO President George Meany has been complaining about Carter's labor policies.

Jobless pay to end for NY strikers

by Kim Moody

THERE WAS JUBILATION down at the headquarters of AT&T in lower Manhattan last week.

Barely recovered from the celebration of the April news that they had made \$1 billion in profits in the first three months of 1977, the grey suited tycoons of AT&T had new reason to rejoice.

United States District Court Judge, Richard Owen, had just ruled that it was illegal for the State of New York to pay unemployment benefits to striking workers.

This decision was the result of a court suit filed by AT&T during a seven-month strike of New York telephone workers in 1971.

Strikers have been able to collect unemployment benefits after the first eight weeks of a strike for the past 40 years in New York State.

Naturally, the celebrating at AT&T was soon spread throughout the business community of New York State.

The New York Times reported that, "Spokesmen for business and industry hailed Judge Owen's decision and said it would make New York a more attractive place for employers."

No doubt it will, if it is upheld.

Feeling the exuberance that comes with liberation, New York Tel. Vice President, Michael C. Clendenin said, this decision will restore "an equilibrium to collective bargaining."

The company, you see, had argued that by paying unemployment benefits, the state was intervening on the side of the strikers and giving them an unfair advantage.

And Judge Owen agreed with them.

At the time of the strike, the maximum benefits in New York were about \$75 a week. The total bill for the seven months of benefits was \$49 million.

Most of these grey suited gentlemen down at AT&T, or at its New York Tel. subsidiary around the corner, make well over \$100,000 a year, or nearly \$2000 a week.

The whole \$49 million for the seven-month strike amounts to less than 5% of AT&T profits for three months.

What kind of an "equilibrium" is that?

SCABBING UNFAIR

And there's something else, the



These telephone workers collected unemployment benefits during a 7-month strike in 1971. Now AT&T has convinced a New York court that the benefits give strikers an "unfair advantage."

wise Judge Owen and his distinguished fans left out.

The strike lasted seven months because AT&T brought in some 1500 or more supervisory scabs from around the country.

They did maintenance work on the telephone system. The company felt no compulsion to maintain any "equilibriums" on that score.

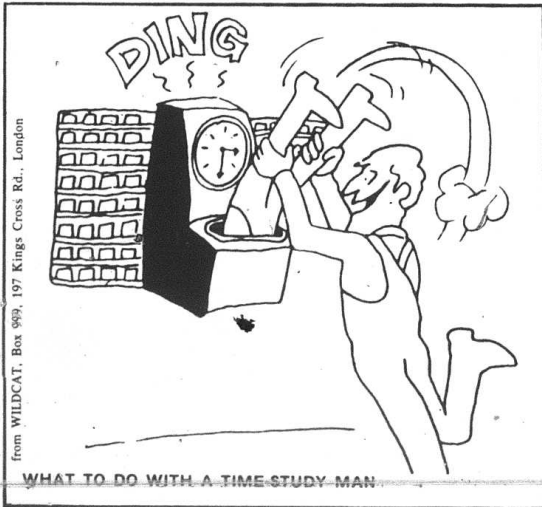
And Judge Owen take note, AT&T broke the law with impunity by bringing in these scabs. New York City has a statute making it illegal to import scabs during a labor dispute.

The union brought this fact to the attention of the City Fathers and the courts. The judges sat on the case and refused to rule. The strike dragged on and the company refused to budge.

Once again, justice goes to the highest bidder.

And, once again the working

people are warned: if you want a little "equilibrium," you have to use your organized power to get it.



WHAT TO DO WITH A TIME STUDY MAN

from WILDCAT, Box 969, 197 Kings Cross Rd., London

Workers' Power 210

Copyright © 1977 by I.S. Publishing Co. Editor: Kim Moody. Production Editor: Karen Kaye. Circulation Manager: Tom Dougherty.

Subscriptions: \$10 for one year; \$5 for six months. Introductory rate: \$1 for eight issues. Institutional: \$15. Foreign surface: \$15. Foreign air mail: \$20 for six months.

Published weekly, except the first two weeks in July and the last two weeks in December. Second class postage paid at Detroit, Michigan. Send notice of undelivered copies or change of address to: Workers' Power, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, MI 48203.

Workers' Power is a subscriber to Liberation News Service and a member of the Alternate Press Service. It is indexed in the Alternate Press Index and microfilmed by University Microfilms. International Standard Serials Number (ISSN): 0019-0535.

Steel Union Heads Eye Miners' Election

by Jim Woodward

There are signs that the United Steel Workers union has adopted a long-range goal of gobbling up the United Mine Workers (UMW).

As a step towards this goal, the United Steel Workers (USW) leadership appears to be backing the candidacy of Lee Roy Patterson in the UMW's June 14 presidential elections. Their ultimate objective will be to tame the militancy of the miners.

This plan is not the kind of thing you can get Patterson or anyone in the Steelworkers' leadership to admit to. But there is evidence in this direction.

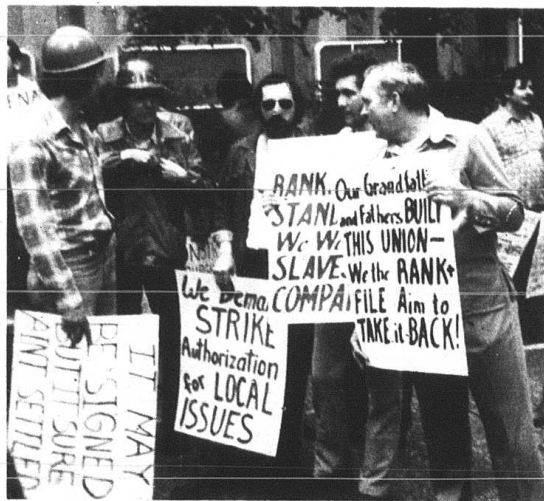
CHUCK BAKER

The most significant piece of evidence is named Chuck Baker. Baker is Lee Roy Patterson's campaign manager. He has a long history of association with the United Steel Workers, specifically with I.W. Abel's administration.

Baker went to work for Abel in 1965 during Abel's campaign for USW president against incumbent David McDonald. Baker developed Abel's key slogan of opposition to McDonald's "tuxedo unionism." It was a slogan that would be aptly applied to Abel himself in the following years.

Baker continued to pop up in the USW from time to time. In 1974, Abel sent him to Chicago to campaign against Ed Sadlowski in the election for Director of District 31.

He's also done work for the AFL-CIO's Industrial Union Department, which is headed by I.W. Abel. Now Baker has gone to work for Patterson, reportedly without even arranging a fee for his services.



Is this the mine workers' future? These steel workers are protesting a bad contract they didn't have the right to vote on. They can't strike either.

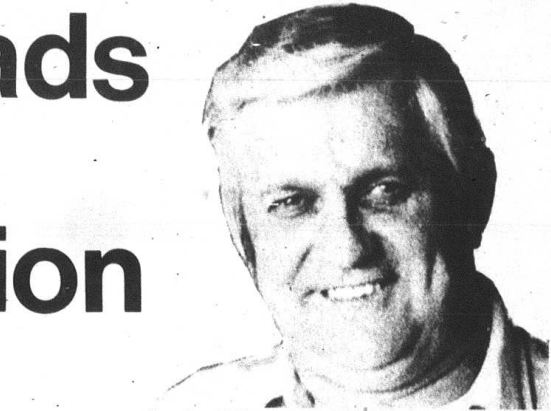
There have also been persistent rumors, according to the Charleston (W.Va.) Gazette, that Patterson is getting other campaign help from the Steelworkers. Patterson officially denies those reports.

But at a press conference in Washington May 5, Patterson did say that, if elected, he would consider merging the UMWA with the Steelworkers at some future time.

It may never be possible to prove that the USW is helping Lee Roy Patterson. But it is certainly true that Patterson's victory would please the USW and the AFL-CIO leadership just fine.

Consider it from their point of view. In front of their very eyes is

union of coal miners who do not let their officials boss them around. Who are ready to walk off the job as



Lee Roy Patterson, the Steel Workers' agent in the miners' union.

Should Our Union Be Taken Over By The Steelworkers?

Lee Roy Patterson Says YES. Harry Patrick Says NO!

Lee Roy Patterson has a plan to turn over our union to the United Steelworkers.

Of course, he's not talking about it much in the coalfields. He knows he'd be hanged by his thumbs.

But when he was in Washington recently, he let the word slip out. In answer to a question at a press conference on May 5, he said he would "definitely" consider a Steelworker takeover of the UMWA. (He'll probably deny it, but it's on tape.)

Has Lee Roy already made a deal to trade away our union?

He's not saying. But we do know that his campaign

Stone and Allied Products Workers. And then District 50, Allied and Technical Workers.

Will the United Mine Workers be next?

I don't have anything against the Steelworkers. After all, we helped build their union.

But I disagree 100 percent with Patterson on turning over our union and our treasury to them.

If Patterson's merger goes through, what will happen to the rights of our working miners?

Steelworkers don't have the right to ratify their own contracts.

Steelworkers don't have the right to strike when

Harry Patrick's literature, campaigning against Steel takeover.

often as necessary because they've learned that direct action gets things done.

Who unceremoniously kicked their international officers out the door in the last election and who will probably do the same this time around. Who think that a union convention is a place for the rank and file to make decisions.

In short, leaders of other unions are frightened by the example set by the UMW. They don't want their own members getting any ideas.

None of the three candidates running for UMW President can destroy the miners' militant and democratic traditions overnight. But both the coal operators and the Steelworkers officials see Lee Roy Patterson as their best bet for the

long haul.

Patterson was an ally of former UMW President Tony Boyle, best known for ordering the murder of a union opponent.

MERGER

Consider what a merger of the UMW and USW would mean for the militant miners. Their power comes from the fact that they have a certain amount of control over their conditions of work and over their union.

In a UMW convention, for instance, decisions are actually based on rank and file attitudes and on the convention floor debate. The more persuasive arguments carry the day—not UAW-style arm twisting and back-room politicking, or Teamster-style intimidation and terror.

If the 150,000 working miners are swallowed up in the 1.4 million-member USW, the wildcat strikes and control over their local unions could not be ended immediately. But it would take away what influence and control miners have on their union's district and national levels as well as their control over certain union representatives, such as safety officers. That would begin the process of isolating the militants and bringing them under the control of a distant union leadership.

Campaign literature put out by Harry Patrick speaks to the question of affiliating with the Steelworkers. Patrick points out:

"Steelworkers don't have the right to ratify their own contracts.

"Steelworkers don't have the right to strike when their Basic Steel contract expires. At contract time, either the union caves in or the company can take everything to arbitration. Under this system, they just settled for an average wage increase of 4% per year for three years.

"And now top Steelworkers leaders are talking about taking away the right to vote on international officers."

Leaders of the United Steel Workers would like to see the UMWA re-created in their own image. They have apparently found an ally in Lee Roy Patterson. □

POP DRIVERS STRIKE OVER JOB RIGHTS

by Dan LaBotz

CHICAGO—Pop drivers and helpers are on strike here—primarily over sick days, overtime and working conditions. The 1200 drivers and helpers, members of Teamster Local 744, struck six major bottling companies on Memorial Day.

Another 1000 bottling company production workers have honored their picket line.

The drivers and helpers have voted down three contract proposals by a two-thirds majority since May 1. The strike has stopped deliveries of RC, Pepsi, Coke, 7 Up, Canfields, and Canada Dry.

There are five major issues in the strike:

- Sick days. They now have none.
- Forced overtime. Companies force drivers to stay out until they finish the run. The strikers want all overtime to be voluntary.
- Sunday and holiday work. The companies are trying to make it mandatory. The drivers resent this attack especially.
- Overtime. Drivers are now

paid what is called in the trade "Chinese overtime." It means you get paid less for overtime than for straight time.

- Commission on empties. Drivers are now paid nothing for

handling empties. On some days, especially following summer holidays, the drivers may do nothing but empties.

Money is not the big issue in the strike—most drivers currently make between \$20,000 and \$40,000

a year. Helpers make somewhat less.

The last time the pop drivers struck was in 1969. They made some progress in that contract, and they feel the employers are now trying to get even. □

Are these drivers overpaid? Not on your life!

Grocery companies and store managers have been going on the radio in Chicago to talk about the pop drivers' strike. A manager of the Treasure Island chain says it's outrageous that drivers making 20 to 40 grand a year would go on strike.

The grocery store managers get paid between 20 and 40 grand themselves — and nobody squawks about that.

It's true that pop drivers make a good buck. Drivers' pay is \$111 per week plus 18c per case. The average driver makes about \$471 per week; a helper about \$273. Pop drivers only make this kind

of money for about 10 years at the most. Delivering pop is back breaking work. In the heat of summer, in the cold of winter, dragging the dollies over the curbs, weaving them through the aisles, chucking them up in stacks in the back room or displays in the store. Sometimes ten high.

The men have to sort the empties before returning them to the bottling plant. But many stores have no back room or shed. So in the 60 below windchill of Chicago they sort outside, sometimes for hours, handling the bottles.

The work is piece work. The men are drivers and salesmen. The store managers know they want the account and the commission on a big sale. And they take advantage of it to force drivers to mark prices on the pop—which is against the contract.

After five or ten years of lifting, throwing, carrying, of pushing and pulling the two-wheelers, the men's backs begin to go.

So for ten years they made 30 grand—so what? Aren't they entitled to it? Where do they go now? There's no light duty in the pop business.

Yeah, they make a good buck. And earn every penny of it. □

TELEVISION WON'T TELL YOU

Why South Moluccans Are Holding Hostages

by Dan Posen

For almost two weeks, every television news program has started off with the South Moluccan gunmen holding innocent school-children, teachers and train passengers hostage in Holland.

The stories have covered almost every detail of the negotiations and the worsening danger of sickness and death of the hostages.

But they have told practically nothing of why this crisis is happening, or where it came from.

No doubt, when it is all over we will be told that it is another symptom of the rise of political terrorism in the world today. They will say that somehow this disease must be controlled, and their only answer will be through international police measures.

But this has nothing to do with what really should be learned from the events in Holland. The real lesson is how whole nations, and whole generations of innocent people, become victims of imperialism.

□ □ □

The South Moluccan people used to be called "Spice Islanders." That was during the days when Indonesia was ruled by Holland and known as the "Dutch East Indies."

In its day, Dutch imperialism was as savage as any other. Like every other colonial power it fought ruthlessly to hang onto its rich rubber, sugar, coffee and tea plantations in the East Indies.

The Dutch enslaved the Indonesian people and created a profitable plantation economy.

And, like most colonial powers, the Dutch colonialists recruited some of their colonial slaves into an army to fight against the rest.

In the 40's the East Indies fought for independence. It was a vicious, bloody war. Thousands of South Moluccans were recruited to become the foot soldiers for Dutch imperialism, just as some Vietnamese fought for French and U.S. imperialism. Just as some Indians fought for British imperialism.

The South Moluccans fought as hard, or harder, than Holland's own troops. And when Holland lost, and Indonesia became independent in 1949, many of them fled the new nation to live in Holland. They had little choice.

REWARDED

The Moluccans were rewarded in Holland the same way imperialism usually rewards the ordinary people who are recruited to fight for it. Since they were no longer needed, they were crowded into slums, filthy refugee camps, and later barracks.

There are few or no jobs. Many cannot speak the language. There's no future but despair for the South Moluccan community in Holland.

Their conditions are at least as bad as those of the worst Black ghettos in America.

Meanwhile, Indonesia itself has been ruled since 1967 by a military dictatorship, heavily backed by the U.S. and Holland. In Indonesia ethnic and national minorities of all kinds, South Moluccans included, are brutally suppressed.

So the South Moluccans in

Holland are literally people with no place to live, and no place to go back to.

No wonder that some members of the community turn to desperate actions. There is no realistic alternative, even though terrorism wins them nothing and has no chance of winning anything.

The South Moluccan terrorists demand that the Dutch government use political leverage to establish a South Moluccan state, independent from Indonesia.

There isn't the slightest chance that this will ever happen. The South Moluccans are too weak. Holland supports the Indonesian dictatorship.

□ □ □

Who are the victims of this tragedy?

Tens of thousands of Indonesians who died in Holland's murderous war to retain the Dutch East Indies.

Tens of thousands more South Moluccans, who fled to Holland

and found only misery waiting for them.

But that isn't all. The victims of Dutch imperialism now include some innocent children who were held hostage as the result of a conflict they had nothing to do with and know nothing about.

The crimes committed by imperialism don't take place only in far-away lands. They often come back, one way or another, to afflict the people living in the imperialist country.

It happens here in America, too.

The American government helped organize the Chilean secret police. They now operate in this country and even plant bombs to kill their political opponents.

As it decays, the imperialist system produces incredible misery all over the world. And it leaves time bombs just waiting to go off—like the South Moluccan crisis in Holland.

That is just one of a hundred reasons why imperialism must be overthrown and destroyed forever. □

DETROIT ARAB WORKERS MARCH ON PALESTINE DAY



The Arab community in the Detroit area recently held a major demonstration and rally to mark Palestine Week.

Palestine Week is observed each year in many American cities to help publicize and build support for the Palestinian struggle.

The Palestinians' lands were occupied by Israel in the 1948 and 1967 Middle East wars. They want the right to return to their homes and to run their own country.

In Detroit, thousands of Arabs work in a number of the biggest auto plants. Many are members of UAW locals like 600 (Ford Rouge), 3 (Dodge Main) and 51 (Lynch and Mound Road Chrysler).

Because of the size of the Arab working class and the strength of community organization, the Palestine Week action probably mobilizes more workers than any other single political demonstration in Detroit.

Workers' Power interviewed Abdeen Jabara [photo above], a lawyer who was one of the organizers for the demonstration.

Some of the posters called for unity between Arab and American working classes.

We had statements of support from workers in the UAW. In fact, the president of UAW Local 600 issued a very strong solidarity statement, and someone from Local 3 Executive Board was there although they did not issue a formal statement.

It is very significant that many of the resolutions of support (from unions and local government bodies) not only support the human rights of Palestinian refugees, but also the political rights of the Palestinian people.

The Arab-speaking community in the Detroit metropolitan area is the largest in North America, and has been growing by leaps and bounds.

There has been a very sizeable recent immigration from Lebanon, along with continuing immigration from Iraq, Yemen and the territories occupied by Israel in June 1967.

The process of organizing this community actually began ten years ago, after the June 1967 war. That war had a very traumatic effect on the morale and psychology of many individuals in this community.

Perhaps the single most important event during this time, in demonstrating to the community the power of united action with workers, was the November, 1973 demonstration at Cobo Hall.

[This demonstration was held to protest an award to Leonard Woodcock, then-UAW President,

(Above) Palestine Day march in Detroit, demanding political rights for the Palestinian people. (Left) Abdeen Jabara, one of the organizers of the demonstration.

for the union's support of Israeli war bonds.]

Between two and three thousand workers, shopkeepers, students, unemployed, elderly and women participated from the community.

The participation of Arabic-speaking workers shut down a whole shift at Dodge Main. We didn't actually realize this at the time.

That demonstration had a profound effect on the union hierarchy. Woodcock was visibly shaken by the massiveness of the demonstration.

Here was a mass demonstration of Black, white and third world workers protesting the complicity of the UAW in supporting a racist regime in the Middle East—that is, Israel.

Emil Mazey charged the whole demonstration was Communist-inspired, which of course revealed where much of the union leadership was at. That is, out-and-out McCarthyism and red-baiting.

Among other things, we built that demonstration by putting ads in the Black press and circulating leaflets explaining how we, as Arab workers and UAW members, feel about dues money deducted from our paychecks being spent on Israeli war bonds.

We regard this just as Black auto workers would feel if money were taken from their dues to support the government of South Africa.

The argument is always used with us by leaders of the union movement, that Israel is a

democracy and has a viable union movement called Histadrut.

But there are also unions in South Africa for white workers. That doesn't make it a country with a viable labor-based union movement.

ISRAEL'S UNIONS

In Israel, there is a labor structure with European (Ashkenazi) Jews at the top, Oriental (Sephardic) Jewish workers below them, Israeli Arabs further down, and Palestinian workers from the occupied territories, with no real protection from the unions, at the very bottom.

Today Israel, in fact, is strengthening its ties with South Africa.

Just last week it was announced that Israel is cooperating to build a military security fence around South Africa.

For a long time they have cooperated in the area of intelligence and military information. Israel is an importer of over half a billion dollars worth of South African goods.

The union movement in this country has also used the Histadrut to come into third world countries to establish pro-U.S.-government unions there.

We have made it clear we intend to make these facts known, either by massive demonstrations or by exposing them, and to show that these activities are against the wishes of rank and file workers. □

UAW LEADERSHIP: TWO TOKENS, SMALL CHANGE

DETROIT—President Doug Fraser has appointed the United Auto Workers' only Black vice-president to head the union's Chrysler Department. Marc Stepp is the first Black to direct one of the union's Big Three departments.

The appointment is widely

regarded as a crumb to the many Black leaders of Chrysler locals. Stepp will not do any more for Black auto workers than any of his cronies in the UAW leadership.

He has been a professional token throughout his union career. He was appointed vice-president in

1974 when the previous Black vice-president, Nelson Jack Edwards, died.

Stepp was one of a group of Black UAW local leaders that formed the Trade Union Leadership Council in the late 1950's. The TULC was organized to fight for the rights of Black members.

By 1961, however, the top leaders of the TULC made their peace with Walter Reuther and the International Union Leadership, when they were offered a few appointed positions.

FIRST RUNG ON LADDER

In that year, Stepp was appointed to the staff of the UAW's Community Health Association in Detroit. In 1976 he became an International Representative.

He has been a loyal member of the UAW's administration team for years. And his presence will change nothing on the Executive Board.

Stepp knows that his job is to be a token. And a token doesn't make waves.

There has never been more than one Black UAW vice-president out of seven. Unofficially, there is one "Black seat" and one "woman's seat," (now filled by Odessa Komer) just as officially there is a Canadian seat.

These two positions are treated publicly as tokens. Last winter, Detroit papers were full of speculation over who would take retiring President Woodcock's place.

They buzzed about the four white male American vice-presidents. Neither Stepp nor Komer was ever mentioned as a possibility.

CRISIS

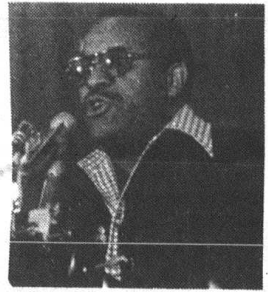
The UAW faces a crisis of leadership in the next six years. Two of the top officers must retire in 1980 because of age and two more have announced their intention to do so.

By 1983 all of the top officers—except the Black, the woman and the Canadian—will be gone.

Martin Gerber, the new vice-president elected last month, was chosen largely because of his age (61).

He is generally regarded as a do-nothing. But the International Executive Board didn't want to pick a younger man who would then be the only one left in 1983—and almost automatically become president.

The UAW leadership is hard-pressed to find replacements who will carry on their policies with the same concern for the companies'



Marc Stepp, UAW Vice-President

profitability. They do not want to entrust the health of the auto industry to just anyone.

They don't have much faith in the next generation of union leaders which they themselves trained.

The current UAW leadership is best at functioning as a solid machine against the membership. It makes the rank and file feel that "you can't fight city hall" (the International).

But with the machine crumbling over the next few years, the membership will be in a better position to get its two cents in. By 1983 Black auto workers may have a real candidate for President.

Then the UAW machine will get a run for its money. □

Labor Notes

by Jim Woodward

As expected, Ed Sadlowski's appeal of the United Steel Workers' February election has been rejected by that union's International Executive Board. Sadlowski now plans to ask the Department of Labor to overturn the election results.

Child molesters? Well, not in the usual sense. In the first half of fiscal 1977, employers were caught violating the child labor laws 89% more often than a year earlier.

There are almost 38 million working women in this country, and often male workers claim these women don't really need to work. But an AFL-CIO study shows that 84% have no choice in the matter. Forty-three percent of the women are the sole support of their families, and the rest have to work because their husband's income is inadequate.

Steelworkers Local 1011 in East Chicago is demanding that Youngstown Sheet & Tube stop using "products produced in non-union conditions in Southern Africa, including chrome from Rhodesia and coal and coke from the Republic of South Africa."

The AFL-CIO News carried an article May 14 reporting on the labor movement's contributions towards disaster relief in the West Virginia-Kentucky area hit by heaving flooding in early April. The story reports on financial contributions from several unions and on a trip to the area by an AFL-CIO representative. But it does not mention the most effective action taken to bring flood relief into the area: a one-day strike by miners and other community residents protesting the slow pace of federal relief efforts.

Teamsters won't be surprised, but a recent study shows long-distance truck drivers suffer more frequently from hemorrhoids, nervous stomach and stomach ulcers, appendicitis, and lower-back pain. Bus drivers were found to have many of the same problems.

"Women for Miners" is the name of a new group of women, organized to support the two-month strike against the Westmoreland coal mine in Big Stone Gap, West Virginia. Miners have been striking because of problems with the grievance procedure. "We want to show Westmoreland that we're behind our men and they won't be able to run over them like they have in the past," said Charlotte Gilly, a spokeswoman for "Women for Miners."

A federal appeals court has ruled that employers cannot use the Freedom of Information Act to see which of their employees have signed union authorization cards. In overturning a lower court decision, the appeals court said allowing the employer to see these files would "constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy."

Just as Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson was finally breaking the strike of Atlanta city workers last month, the National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees was holding a luncheon to honor Jackson. The Alliance is a Black union which was frozen out when the Postal Service agreed to collective bargaining with the Letter Carriers, Mailhandlers, and Postal Workers.

George Allen, coach of the Washington Redskins, must be the bosses' idol these days. He recently revealed that he hires young men for his staff without pay for the first year. He promises them a \$10,000 job the second year if he likes their work. "You get people who are hungry and it doesn't cost you anything," he recently boasted.

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.

Auto Makers Can Breathe Easy - We Can't

by Jenny Singer

The auto industry and the United Auto Workers Union (UAW) leadership scored a victory last week over what one lobbyist called "the breathing public."

The U.S. House of Representatives passed the Dingell-Broyhill Amendment to freeze standards on auto exhausts for two years.

The bill, if also passed by the Senate, would phase in slightly stricter pollution standards through 1982—but not as strict as originally passed by Congress in 1970 or as strict as environmentalists wanted.

The auto industry used the UAW leadership as their front men in drafting and lobbying for the proposals.

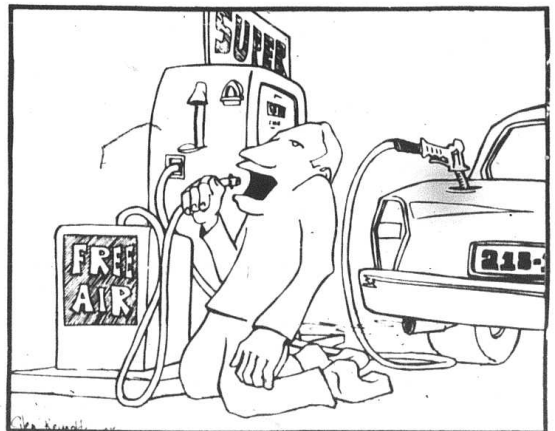
The UAW said its concern was to save jobs: emissions control equipment would make cars cost more, they said, leading to lower sales, leading to unemployment for auto workers.

EFFECT ON SALES

In fact, pollution control equipment would not be likely to affect sales significantly. Most American families need to have at least one car, and the auto makers know it.

The truth is that the auto companies were afraid that they might not be able to recover all the costs of the new equipment in higher prices.

They prefer to spend their



re-tooling budgets on style changes rather than on new catalytic converters.

And the UAW leadership is always quick to protect the "health" (profits) of the auto industry.

The auto companies claimed that the two-year delay was necessary because they don't yet have the technology.

But in 1976, Volvo, a Swedish auto maker, met standards stricter than those Dingell-Broyhill calls for, using a new three-way

catalyst. GM has been experimenting with the three-way catalyst for years, but hasn't installed it on any of its cars yet.

Retiring UAW President Leonard Woodcock certainly seems to feel he's done his union's membership a great service by helping out "their" industry this way.

He seems to have conveniently forgotten that auto workers are part of "the breathing public" too. □



Angolan sugar workers helped the MPLA come to power. Now left-wing union, women and youth militants may be victims of government roundup.

ANGOLA CRISIS EXPLODES

by Dan Posen

A major crisis erupted in Angola last week. The government has reported several hours of street fighting in two cities, Luanda and Malange.

Official statements by Angolan

President Agostinho Neto indicate that hundreds of people are being arrested following the fighting. They include activists from unions, women's and youth organizations.

A leading government official, Interior Minister Nito Alves, was stripped of his position and jailed

by the government a few days earlier.

So far, reports in the western press are much too sketchy and unreliable to determine exactly what happened. The stories have come from Angolan government broadcasts monitored in South

Africa, a thousand miles away.

At first, the newspapers indicated that a "pro-Russian faction" headed by the jailed Alves had attempted a coup.

This seems unlikely. Cuban troops were reported helping the government patrol the streets after

the fighting, at the same time mass arrests were being made. They would not do so without Russian approval.

It is more likely that the Angolan government is launching a mass purge against left wing activists of the MPLA, Angola's ruling party. The Russian government may be willing to use Cuban troops to assist whatever forces it thinks will wind up on top.

Western governments would approve a crackdown, too. There are already signs that they regard the current struggle as a victory for so-called "MPLA moderates." "Moderates" describes those who want to build closer economic ties with American and European corporations. □

Rhodesian Soldiers Invade Mozambique

How Long Will Racists Terrorize Africa?

Heavily armed terrorists invaded the Black African state of Mozambique this week. They have seized a town 50 miles inside the country and are raging through the surrounding countryside, smashing or gunning down everything they find.

Those terrorists are known as the Rhodesian Army. The Rhodesian officers say their purpose is "to disrupt terrorists activity in the area."

The raid was aimed at destroying the bases of guerrillas of the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU).

Rhodesia is a 96% Black nation ruled by its white minority. The liberation forces call their country "Zimbabwe." They have guerilla bases in parts of Mozambique.

The Rhodesian government claims it has the right to send its army into neighboring African states in pursuit of Black guerillas.

RUTHLESS

Quite recently, Rhodesia has also sent "pursuit squads" into Botswana and lobbed artillery shells into Zambia.

The Rhodesians have simply seized an opportunity to show that they will stop at nothing to hold onto their racist state and their privileges.

The political strategy of the Rhodesian government is to spread the war into neighboring African countries.

They believe that is the first step toward full-scale war. South Africa and the U.S., they believe, will intervene to save Rhodesia from defeat.

Rhodesia's rulers want to provoke the African countries into calling in Cuban troops for self-protection. That, in turn, would trigger a massive U.S. and South African response—which is what Rhodesia wants.

There is only one way to prevent a full-scale war in southern Africa. African countries must give total and unconditional support to the Zimbabwe liberation fighters.

Some African countries are encouraging the U.S. government's call for "peaceful negotiations." They are indirectly encouraging more Rhodesian terror—and risking their own destruction as well. □



Who Gives The Go-Ahead?

WHY IS THE RHODESIAN police state able to carry out these atrocities, one after another, and get away with it? To a large extent, it's because they get unofficial approval from major western powers, like the United States.

In this case, the U.S. government has officially come out against the Rhodesian raid into Mozambique.

A State Department spokesman claimed: "We made it clear to the Rhodesians that we disapprove of their cross-border operations."

But those words ring hollow next to the numerous actions the U.S. government is taking in southern Africa. Consider the following:

- U.S. Ambassador Andrew Young attended the United Nations conference on southern Africa, held in Mozambique. He told African liberation move-

ments they should put down their weapons and negotiate for a peaceful settlement.

- Young refused to sign a conference resolution calling for an arms boycott of South Africa, which is Rhodesia's chief ally and supplier.

- The Rhodesian Army's oil is supplied by the American company Mobil, through its business dealings in South Africa.

- While Andrew Young was telling Africans to stop fighting for their own liberation, Vice President Mondale was holding friendly discussions with the South African government on the future of Zimbabwe.

It is clear that the United States supports the Rhodesian and South African armies having weapons of military terror—but opposes the southern African liberation forces having arms or armies of their own. □

The present government in Angola was established by the national liberation movement, the MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola).

For nearly 15 years the MPLA fought an armed struggle for independence from Portuguese colonial rule.

In 1974 and 1975 the MPLA also had to fight a bitter civil war, against two puppet armies supported by the United States and South Africa.

But now that national independence has been won, class struggle among Angolans themselves is erupting.

The MPLA says it is committed to building socialism in Angola. But in fact it is constructing a new African ruling class to develop capitalism.

During the independence struggle the Angolan people built "popular power" committees in the factories and neighborhoods.

The MPLA in power has moved to restrict and control these committees. Its policy is to turn the popular power committees into officially controlled arms of the MPLA and the government.

President Agostinho Neto has not told Angolan workers to expand their own control of factories or build workers' councils. Instead, his main message has been that they must work harder.

This course is certain to produce revolts and government repression. The regime is coming in conflict with some of the masses who fought for Angola's independence.

Winning their national independence was a huge victory for the Angolan workers and peasants. But Angola will face more violent crises, one after another, until workers in Angola and throughout southern Africa organize themselves for workers' control and socialism. □

Steel Union Veep Casts First Stone



Candace Cohn, US Steel Clairton Coke Works, Local 1557:

"The rank and file forces behind Sadlowski haven't given up or gone away. That's why the International is going after us in locals all over. But all they did at Linden Hall was to cement together those of us they wanted to scare off. And they started something in the mills all over this valley. What they've done has just brought a lot more of us together."

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

Kelly Turnell, 11 years old, daughter of one of the steelworkers:

"When we went there my mom drove up and we were going to have a picnic. But there were some creeps there who told us we couldn't have the picnic there. One guy told me to roll the windows up in the car, but then this guy started throwing rocks and pop cans at us. Some of the rocks hit our car. My little sister was in the car with me. These guys are acting like little kids."



Walker Watson, US Steel Edgar Thompson Works, Local 1219:

"Why did the International do this? They don't want nobody rocking the boat. We're considered radicals, dissidents, and communists because we're not satisfied with what they're trying to ram down our throats."

"We have to go back to Linden Hall, hopefully in force, not because we're some radical group looking for trouble like they say, but because we're entitled to enjoy ourselves and have a picnic. Our dues bought that place. We have to prove we have a right to use it."

Steelworkers Stand Up Petitions To Dump Odorcich

PITTSBURGH—Joseph Odorcich's goon squad assault on members of his own union [page 1] has put the newly elected United Steel Workers leadership on the defensive.

A spokesman at the union's headquarters here quickly became irritable when Workers' Power inquired about the incident. "That's a complete fabrication," he complained.

"The media is subject to such manipulation it's pathetic. We've checked it out and it's a complete fabrication."

The spokesman refused to explain whether the union had made an investigation or how it had checked out the story. "What difference does it make?" he screamed. "We've checked it out and that's all."

FILING CHARGES

But rank and file steelworkers held a press conference May 31 on the steps of the International headquarters to announce they were filing criminal charges against Odorcich.

In addition, they will file both civil and internal union charges against him.

One man who was at the picnic explained that he has been in the

union for over thirty years. In the old days, he said, the company would attack the union and steelworkers who tried to organize.

Now the International Union attacks members who try to organize for better conditions, he pointed out.

The Abel/McBride leadership has shown its contempt for the rank and file in many ways. Steelworkers across the country consider the recent contract (which they were not allowed to vote on) nothing but an insult.

CONTEMPT

But the contempt the bureaucrats have for the members who pay their salaries is shockingly clear in their reaction to the Linden Hall attack.

One staff man explained that talk around union headquarters is that the members and their families who were attacked were just "a lot of women with big tits and some niggers."

Publicly, the attack has blemished McBride's carefully cultivated image as a labor statesman.

Recent news stories, while denying that Abel was a dictator, said McBride would be more liberal and broad-minded than his predecessor.

Typical was Business Week magazine: "McBride is likely to be more tolerant of dissension within the union... than Abel is."

The Odorcich affair has tarnished this image. It must have caused McBride considerable embarrassment.

In his inaugural address, McBride attacked his union opponents: "Good trade unionists and good steelworkers do not smear their union in public. They do not engage in radical, bullhorn tactics designed to embarrass their union."

They do, apparently, throw rocks at other union members, but they do not do this in public.

SSU

Steelworkers Stand Up is asking for support from other local unions.

They are asking USW locals to pass resolutions condemning the use of violence against members and demanding an investigation.

They want the investigatory committee to consist of one staff representative selected by the International, one rank and file selected by SSU, and one mutually agreeable person.

They demand that if Odorcich is found guilty, he be removed as Vice President of the union. □



Patricia Turnell, US Steel Clairton Coke Works, Local 1557:

"Over \$3,000 a month is a lot of money to pay somebody to throw rocks at your kids. You know, Abel was supposed to have campaigned against tuxedo unionism—so now he's giving us country club unionism."



Robert Marshall, US Steel Clairton Coke Works, Local 1557:

"People have a saying: 'When a snake raises its head out of the hole, chop its head off before the rest of it comes out.' That's what the International thinks about us getting organized. They're scared of us. They're scared of what we represent. We must have a very good thing going to cause this much reaction. But we have a saying too: 'When the going gets tough, the tough get going.' We ain't giving up!"

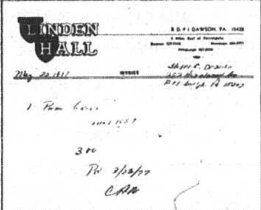
The Permit—Here's Proof!

This is the permit which was issued to Steelworkers Stand Up, giving the group the right to picnic at Linden Hall May 21.

When the group arrived, these steelworkers and some of their children were assaulted and physically intimidated by a crowd of 50 men, led by newly-elected USWA Vice President Joseph Odorcich.

Several eyewitnesses will testify in court that Odorcich threw rocks and cans at the group. One member required hospital treatment.

Odorcich has given out several versions of what happened. To a friend who is former head of the grievance committee at an area local, Odorcich reported that there was no violence while he was present. He claimed he left



when some women steelworkers started using foul language.

Odorcich has also told at least one union official that he wasn't even at Linden Hall. He has also said he was there for a golf game and for a party, and that SSU was

just there to spoil his fun.

After SSU's press conference, Odorcich was quoted on one Pittsburgh TV station as admitting there was a scuffle. On another channel, he said he wouldn't even "dignify charges that are such garbage with a denial."

"In my opinion," he said, "it represents continued opposition by people who supported Sadlowski."

Members of six local steelworker unions sent a letter to George Meany who was scheduled to participate in McBride and Odorcich's inauguration ceremony.

They informed Meany of the assault, asking him not to attend the ceremony. Meany ignored the request, and has not replied to the letter.

Public Workers Hold Sick-In

Two thirds of the workers in the Illinois Department of Public Aid (IDPA), members of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), stayed home last week.

Clerical, para-professional and professional workers joined in the so-called "green flu" in protest of working without a contract for close to 15 months.

The job action, called by AFSCME Local 2000, was strongest in Chicago and Cook County. The Madison, Western, Michigan and Park Manor offices were virtually out of business for the day.

The union has been negotiating

first with the Democratic Administration of Dan Walker, and then with the new governor, Republican Big Jim Thompson.

The union is asking for a 14% increase to simply keep up with the cost of living.

Jim Kelly, AFSCME steward for the large Madison District office, told Workers' Power about the response of the State of Illinois.

"Walker said either accept the contract as is, or you won't have any contract at all... Thompson, who's the new governor, so far has offered no money at all because he says there's no money there."

Thompson's final offer is no money the first year and five and a half percent the second year.

Thompson is being so hard nosed because a change in the state constitution means that Thompson has a short two-year term. He wants to win reelection by showing a budget surplus and no tax increases.

In response to the State's refusal to make any reasonable money offer, the President of AFSCME 2000, Max Liberles, called for a strike vote this January.

The vote was 90% for a strike. But there has still been no strike, because of the lack of support from the AFSCME council in Chicago and the International.

Kelly described what happened. "AFSCME has now set up this new bureaucratic council structure like

they have in New York. They say no one else is militant or wants to go on strike or do a job action."

JOB ACTION

Unable to strike without the support of the International, the Local leadership decided on a job action.

Kelly said, "We had this work action just last Thursday, it was a sick in, a sick out, a green flu. It was sponsored by our local. We went out, [Local 2000] were the only ones."

Jerry Wurf (AFSCME International President) called up Liberles at the last moment. He threatened to put the union in trusteeship and

sent a telegram ordering the union to stop."

It was Kelly's feeling that because Local 2000 members are caught between Governor Thompson's election campaign and the International's failure to fight, they might have to settle for a smaller wage increase than they want this time around.

But Kelly was hopeful that things could be changed in the future.

"These other locals are either controlled or manipulated...."

"My long range view is to start influencing AFSCME all over to get a lot more militance, so the bureaucrats don't have a chance the next time it comes around." □

Women In Struggle - We Will Win!

Talking About Women's Liberation

by Margaret James

- Equal pay for women!
- Paid maternity leave!
- Childcare for working mothers!

Can you see your union president putting these demands on the table and striking to win them?

It's women who suffer when they lose their income because they are pregnant. Or can't keep their jobs because they can't get childcare.

People fight first to solve their own problems. Men are not directly affected by women's issues. That's why women sometimes have to organize separately from men.

The women quoted in this article spoke at a discussion on women in struggle sponsored by the International Socialists.

RETHA: "There's a saying: 'If you want something done, do it yourself.' That's true for women. If we want to live better lives, we have to fight."

Many men accept the sexist assumptions of this society. They believe that a woman's place is in the home. They don't want their wives to work.

They agree with the boss that having a child is a personal choice, so a woman should suffer the consequence of losing her job or pay.

BEGIN NOW

We must begin the fight for women's liberation now. Through the women's movement of the 60's, women made a lot of progress.

One issue was the right to legal abortions. Hundreds of thousands of women marched in the streets demanding legal abortions. In 1973, the Supreme Court made abortion legal.

This law was not won because nine men decided it was fair. Like the other gains, abortion was won because women organized and fought for what they needed.

YVONNE: "The first thing that comes to my mind is the Joan Little case. Little was acquitted of the charge that she murdered her rapist on the grounds of self-defense."

"Many more women than men got involved in that case. I guess women do take more of an interest in rape."

True. Around the same time, many small groups of women started to take the problem of stopping rapists into their own hands. Here in Detroit, women painted the word "Rapist" over the house of a man who had been tried and acquitted of rape three times.

One of the women said, "If justice for the crime of rape cannot be gotten through the legal system, women must take steps to defend themselves against rapists."

RETHA: "But shouldn't women just join the fight for socialism instead of concentrating on these smaller issues that only affect women?"

When women fight for maternity benefits or for washrooms at work, they take a step towards the day



"There's a saying: If you want something done, do it yourself. That's true for women. If we want to live better lives, we have to fight."

Retha



"The first thing that comes to my mind is the Joan Little case. Many more women than men got involved in that case. I guess women do take more of an interest in rape."

Yvonne

when working class men and women will join in the bigger fight against the whole system.

The fight for socialism rises out of struggles for smaller issues.

Often, women are not the kinds of fighters that men are. Their conservatism starts with their isolation in the home.

Men who work in large, organized factories are part of a fight every day—against the foreman's harassment, against speed-up, against unbearable working conditions. As men fight for these demands, they move towards a larger fight for socialism.

A STAKE

We help women break out of their conservatism by getting them to fight about things that they have a stake in.

ELISSA: "Every time that women win a reform, it weakens the capitalist system. If the boss has to pay for maternity benefits, it cuts into his profits. And it makes our lives better!"

"We'll win some of these things now, and some we will in a socialist society."

But unless women begin to organize and fight their oppression right now, we will probably never see a socialist society. If half the working class is kept at home, out of the struggle, they will hold it back. Women must be part of the fight for socialism.

ANITA: "Red Tide women really had to fight to be leaders of our group."

"Society makes it so that women are always pushed down a whole lot faster than men. A man with a big mouth can really hurt somebody or tear them down."

There are many inspiring ex-

amples of women in struggle. losing their jobs, they will refuse to join with men in fights against the boss.

TOGETHER

It's when women and men join together to fight that the real strength of the working class is felt.

A few months ago, a woman miner was fired from her job. Supposedly she was fired for striking a foreman. But really it was because she had fought for and won women's bathrooms.

When she was fired, the rest of the miners struck for two days, demanding that the company take her back.

They won! When men and women, Black and white, stick together—sky's the limit!

Before the 1917 Russian Revolution when workers took control of that country, conditions for women were terribly oppressive.

Women workers were fired immediately if the boss found out they were pregnant. Many women would hide their pregnancies, and often the baby was born right in the factory. Many times, mothers would kill their babies.

Even in the revolutionary party, the Bolshevik Party, women had to fight against sexism.

One woman illustrated this when she described her Bolshevik husband:

"And in those very meetings which he forbids me to attend because he is afraid I will become a real person (what he needs is a cook and mistress-wife)... in those very meetings where I have to slip in secretly..."

"...he makes thunderous speeches about the role of women in the revolution, and calls women to a more active role."

CRUSH STRIKE

In an attempt to crush the strike, the circuit judge in the area issued an injunction limiting the number of picketers at the mine entrances.

Scabs poured into the mine.

The miners' wives decided to take their husbands' place on the line. Since they were not on strike, the injunction did not affect them.

The women sat down in the street. They beat up the scabs. They were jailed. But they kept the scabs out. The strike was won!

One of the women, Bessie Lou Cornet, said, "After the strike women would say, 'Well, we can fight just as hard as men can. We have some power and influence in the county. We can work like men, too.'"

ISABEL: "Men live with women. They suffer because so much of their income goes to childcare. They suffer when an insurance plan won't pay for their wife's pregnancy. Why won't they fight for women's demands?"

Sometimes men fail to realize that every woman who works for a low pay keeps their pay down too. If the boss can always hire a woman cheaper, it hurts the whole working class.

The boss uses men against women—and women against men. As long as women are the lowest paid workers, always in fear of

The Bolshevik Party began to organize Russian women to fight for maternity benefits and childcare facilities.

ORGANIZED WOMEN

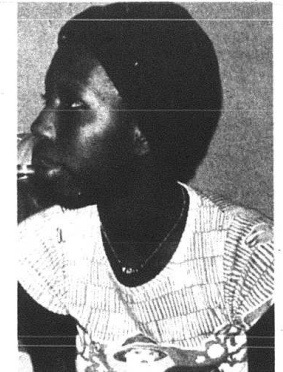
For the first time, women who had never fought for anything—and as a result had endured unbelievable suffering—began to see themselves as militants.

One member of the Bolshevik Party recounted her work in organizing women:

"I remember the first women's meeting I called. One after another got up and talked of her own troubles."

"Each one had to tell how she had suffered during the revolution and famine. How could she get bread and clothing, how could she get work, why should so much misfortune have been visited on her?"

"Now they are talking about our problems—how we can organize



"Red Tide women really had to fight to be leaders of our group. Society makes it so that women are always pushed down a whole lot faster than men."

Anita

day nurseries to take care of our children and how we can improve our condition. That is a great advance, to have got the women to think and act collectively."

SOLUTION

When women organized and fought for the things that they needed, they became part of the solution to overthrowing capitalism in Russia.

The struggle for women's liberation is a fight that will be waged by women first. But men will join in when women demand support from their co-workers and unions. And men will demand support from women in return!

In that way we will build a unified struggle for the liberation of all people. And we will win! □



"If the boss has to pay for maternity benefits, it cuts into his profits. And it makes our lives better!"

Elissa

Workers' Power Wants To Hear From You! Write: 14131 Woodward, Highland Park, MI 48203

Fired For "Low Productivity," Man seeks Justice

Dear Workers' Power,

I have been unjustly fired from the Administrative Service Department of American Telephone and Teletype at Basking Ridge, N.J. for attempting to organize a union.

They fired me for "low productivity," which I feel is very ironic, as I watched supervisors read comic books and place bets for the track all day long, while I typed statistical data and worked with a calculator in arranging computer data.

Approximately three weeks ago I wrote to the National Labor Relations Board in Newark, N.J. in an attempt to obtain a petition to file to get my case in court to get my job back.

After one letter and one telephone call I have failed to obtain any information regarding this matter. This I feel is a very ironic commentary on the "due process" in this country, which I believe is the legal term, although I have not gone to law school.

I have just mailed a postcard to the United States Federal District Court in Newark in an attempt to file with them regarding obstruction of justice by the National Labor Relations Board.

Yours truly,
Steve Strouse

Sermon On Mount Shows Christ Was Radical

Dear Friends,

I want to object to the image of Christianity which you projected in your article about the woman trucker's accident. You portrayed a specific approach to the tragedy of human suffering as seen by a particular group of Christians.

Sorting through what Jesus is supposed to have said, really did say and might have said is a task for others; I'm not interested.

But it does seem fairly clear that the Sermon on the Mount wherein he expressed the views which seem to hold together his life and work affirms another type of interpretation.

Jesus was far more radical than many elitist political people today who speak for the poor.

Jesus spoke to the poor and believed that because the poor and the outcast, i.e., those who suffer, are closest to the truth, they are the ones who will liberate the world. They will seek the truth and be free!

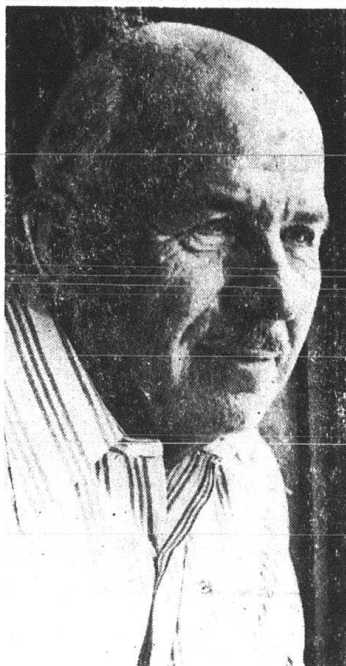
For this belief and for his actions in behalf of the oppressed and most especially in behalf of women, Jesus was killed.

It was a correct assessment on the part of the power structure of his time: Jesus was a dangerous and glorious radical whose message remains despite all authoritarian interpretations.

Cindy Urban
Detroit

Steelworker Is Angered by Attack

Newly elected United Steel Workers International Vice President Joe Odorcich. When a group of steelworkers picnicked at Linden Hall, the USW's country club May 22, he told them, "You have no right to be here, this is private property." He then led a gang of hoods in an attack that sent one picnicker to the hospital. The picnic was sponsored by Steelworkers Stand Up, a rank and file group that has criticized the recently-negotiated steel contract as a sell-out.



Dear Workers' Power,

What happened at Linden Hall. First let me say that I'm not attacking Linden Hall, but I am addressing myself to the USWA International and Joe Odorcich, vice president of the USWA [United Steel Workers of America].

I would like to say what Joe Odorcich has done to us only makes the SSU [Steelworkers Stand Up] more determined to continue our fight and struggle for what we want.

I will continue to fight and struggle for our rights, but I am only one, and if you look in front of me, to the left of me, to the right of me, and behind me, you will see many more comrades with me.

For my family my strength. For my comrades my light.

For the sisters and brothers whose fighting spirit was and is my liberator.

For those whose humanity is too rare to be destroyed by the International.

And especially for those who are going to struggle until racism and class injustice are forever banished from our history.

Patti Stokes
Steelworker, Clairton Coke Works
Clairton, Pa.

Abel Drops Aluminum Pension COLA

by Jim Woodward

The new contract negotiated by the United Steel Workers (USW) for its members in the aluminum industry takes away a benefit which very few other American workers have. The union gave up the cost-of-living on retired aluminum workers' pensions.

When the pension COLA was won in 1974, the USW hailed it as a

great advance that would spread to all unions. It only covered about 65% of inflation; but it was an important start.

Pension COLA never spread any farther than the USW's aluminum and can contracts, however. The bargainners of the United Auto Workers, for example, refused even to try for it.

This year, the Big Three aluminum companies—Reynolds,

Kaiser and Alcoa—asked the USW to discontinue the pension cost-of-living. They argued that it created too much financial uncertainty for them.

On May 24, the United Steel Workers agreed. Instead of trying to eliminate the uncertainties of retirees living on a fixed income with high inflation, the Steelworkers Union is eliminating the uncertainties of the Alcoa Vice

President for Budget and Finance.

NOT MUCH ELSE

There's not much else surprising in the new aluminum contracts. Aluminum workers will get the same 80¢ wage increase over three years which steelworkers got—leaving aluminum workers 40¢ below wages in steel.

There are similar income protec-

tion provisions for workers with 20 years seniority, and slight improvements in SUB pay.

The smaller Aluminum Workers International Union (AWIU) bargains jointly with the USW, and reached similar agreements with the companies. Members of the AWIU have the right to ratify or reject the contracts their leaders come up with. Their ratification vote should be complete within a week.

Aluminum workers in the USW have no right to vote on their contracts, so they have no way of changing this raw deal for their retirees.

The aluminum contract was the last major agreement signed by the USW under I.W. Abel's leadership before he retired June 1. It's entirely fitting.

For years, I.W. Abel has argued that there was a better way than fighting the companies. He preached that the union and the companies had a mutual interest in cooperation, rather than confrontation.

For just as many years, rank and file steel workers have argued that Abel's philosophy meant ignoring the needs of the workers in favor of the needs of the employers. He waited until a week before he retired to give us the best example of his whole career.

Laid Off? Going Broke? Tough Luck, Says Court

WHY SHOULD ONE employer be penalized because another employer's workers go on strike?

The Supreme Court of the United States asked itself this question last week and concluded that this would not be fair. So instead, they decided that the workers should take the penalty.

Sounds strange? Well, that's just what happened.

The Supreme Court upheld state laws that deny unemployment benefits to workers laid off because of a strike at one of their

employer's suppliers.

Get it? You are laid off because of a strike at another company, which supplies your company, and you don't collect unemployment benefits.

The highest court in the land said that such a strike would raise your employer's contribution to the unemployment fund if you got paid. And that, they declared, wasn't fair.

The high court decision said that in considering this case, "the court

must view its consequences not only for the recipient of benefits, but for the contributors to the fund and for the fiscal integrity of the fund."

This is just the latest in a growing number of legal decisions designed to make life easier for the employers.

Like the New York decision preventing strikers from collecting unemployment benefits [see page 2], this ruling is meant to discourage strikes.

In this case, employers hope to

use those laid off against the strikers.

Your employer lays you off. Tells you it's not his fault—nothing ever is—and blames those nasty strikers at the other company.

Even if you belong to the same union, your plight is used as evidence of the "irresponsibility" and "selfishness" of the strikers.

Meanwhile, your employer gets off scot free, and you go stone broke.

Kim Moody

IT'S NOW BEFORE CONGRESS

New Federal Law Would Halt Political Dissent

by Kate Stacy

Many of the most anti-democratic court decisions of recent years are presently being hardened into federal law.

The Criminal Code Reform Act of 1977, now before Congress, is aimed at halting political dissent and narrowing civil liberties.

The Act is sponsored by Senator Edward Kennedy. Because of his liberal reputation, many groups are being suckered—some willingly—into supporting very dangerous legislation.

This one bill brings together and streamlines all of the thousands of federal criminal court decisions that have been made in this century.

PROTEST OUTLAWED

The right to protest federal government policies is practically outlawed—by making the protest itself illegal or by allowing harassment and abuse of protesters.

• Demonstrations to influence a judicial proceeding will become illegal. That's a federal trial, a hearing, anything. Under this Act, nationwide demonstrations planned to support the Wilmington 10 could be illegal.

• Obstructing the performance of a federal public servant is a new violation. Refusing to talk to an FBI agent, for instance, will leave one open to prosecution and harassment.

• Illegally obtained evidence that could not be introduced during a trial could be admitted for sentencing. One last whack at a prisoner before he's packed off to jail.

• Penalties for blackmail and extortion are so vague they may be used against strikers. This possibility reverses a 1973 Supreme Court decision exempting labor from blackmail provisions.

• Immunity can be forced upon a witness who does not wish to testify. This denies the Fifth Amendment right not to incriminate oneself.

• Federal conspiracy statutes remain powerful tools for prosecu-



BILL WILL BOOST KENNEDY'S CAREER

Ted Kennedy, like many other politicians, has discovered that crime-fighting is a popular issue—with both conservatives and liberals. And like the rest of his family, he is not particularly strong on civil liberties.

He is a career politician. In two years the chairmanship of the Senate Judiciary Committee becomes vacant. Kennedy is in line for the job.

The chair of that committee is one of the most powerful positions in the Senate. The politician who holds it is in excellent position to wheel and deal, trade favors, make and break careers.

To get it, Kennedy has to prove his trustworthiness to the old men of the Senate. Thus he has worked long and hard to come up with the Criminal Code Reform Act of 1977.

No civil liberties freak here, that's for sure.

supposed to balance all of these right-wing provisions are so weak they're practically a joke.

The Act repeals the Smith Act of 1940, widely used during the McCarthy period. It will no longer be a crime to advocate overthrowing the government.

It also gets rid of the Logan Act of 1799. Nixon threatened to use it against Jane Fonda and Ramsey Clark for visiting Hanoi during the Vietnam war.

The conservative co-sponsors of the bill went along with these reforms because the government rarely—if ever—uses this legislation. Other laws effectively take its place.

The only controversy on a liberal reform is over the new marijuana law. It will no longer be a felony to possess relatively small amounts of the drug.

But the present marijuana possession laws are only infrequently enforced. And many young people who might otherwise oppose the reactionary bill may now remain silent.

This bill is no threat to crime. It's a bill written by a government that views the people as a threat. A government that wants to put the lid on dissent or outrage with its practices.

In particular, this legislation allows the government much greater power to move against organized protests and movements—the Black movement, women's movement, labor movement. It is a move towards heavier political control by the government.

tors to use against political activity. Those indicted for conspiracy need never have met, and may only have the most casual relationship to the criminal act. They can still be considered as closely connected as the spokes on a wheel.

• Wiretapping laws will still

allow massive violations of privacy.

• Extremely conservative pornography decisions become federal law.

BALANCE

The liberal reforms that are

Judge Rules Rape Is A "Normal Reaction"

DRESS DESIGNERS will now determine how rapists are treated in court, it seems.

Judge Archie Simonsin ruled last week that rape is a "normal reaction" to women's "revealing" clothing.

A 15-year-old boy pleaded no-contest to charges that he raped a girl in a stairwell at West High School in Madison, Wisconsin. Judge Simonsin found the youth delinquent, but ruled that he should stay at home under court supervision for a year as his punishment.

"This community is well-known to be sexually permissive," said the Judge. "Should we punish a 15- or 16-year-old boy who reacts to it normally?"

Outside the courtroom, 42 women had the answer to the Judge's question. They shouted, "Rape is a crime, not a normal reaction!"

Archie's women's groups demanded Judge Archie Simonsin's resignation.

Anne Gaylor, one of the women demonstrating, said, "Rape is a violent crime, a terrible crime. No woman... should ever have to appear before him [Judge Simonsin] for any reason."

Gaylor is a member of Madison National Organization for Women (NOW).

CRIME

The Judge's decision reflects the sexist attitude that rape is not really a crime, that women ask for it and enjoy it.

Women who are victims of rape rarely find justice in the courts. Women who prosecute their rapists must endure cruel public exposure.

In justifying his decision, Judge Simonsin cited sexual permissiveness in newspaper advertisements, prostitution arrests, sex stories, bars with nude dancing, and young women who appear in public and "even in court" in revealing clothing.

It makes you wonder what the

Judge's decision would be if he were beaten up in a dark alley one night.

Probably, he would rule that his muggers were not guilty because society is so violent. Kids see so much violence on television, in the newspapers, in books and movies.

And under stairwells in high schools...

E. Clarke

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

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 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 profits of the capitalist class. Its interests are spread 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 and Russian imperialism in Eastern Europe. We 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.

Workers' Power
313-869-5964

VIEW FROM THE AUDIENCE

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

Classic '61 Tapes Finally Released

Impulse Records, in 1977, has finally seen fit to release these 1961 recordings by John Coltrane.

The music reveals a lot about the monumental changes in jazz that Coltrane and a few other innovators launched in the late 1950's and early '60s.

Even if you are already familiar with every Coltrane record on the market, the music will be exciting and inspiring.

If you have never heard jazz of this kind before, the impact may be mind-boggling.

"The Other Village Vanguard Tapes" was recorded during a series of Coltrane performances at the Village Vanguard nightclub in New York.

Some of the material was issued on Coltrane's early albums, such as "Impressions" and "Live at the Village Vanguard."

Although these albums are classics, the performances just released are every bit as good.

On some songs, such as "India" and the famous extended blues choruses called "Chasing the Trane," the performances are even more inspired and more adventure-some than those released at the time.

Eric Dolphy, in particular is brilliant on these tapes. He is much more prominent on all his instruments (alto, flute, bass clarinet) than he was on the versions originally released.

The real musical partnership between these two giants, Dolphy and Coltrane, has perhaps never been properly documented till now.

CHANGES IN CONSCIOUSNESS

The jazz revolution which exploded into public view in the early 1960's was closely related to the changes in Black consciousness produced by the civil rights movement.

It is no coincidence that between 1958 and 1961, a number of already mature musicians including Coltrane, Dolphy, and Ornette Coleman enjoyed some of their most

fantastic bursts of creativity.

The new Black movement of that time provided the impetus that allowed these artists to break out of the narrow technical and harmonic limitations of earlier years. The emerging vision of Black liberation weakened the stranglehold of artistic, commercial and political pressures on Black music.

The jazz revolution of the early 1960's was to be a fountainhead for further developments. A few years later, Archie Shepp developed it further by expressing musically the same kind of revolutionary message Malcolm X laid out in words.

But why did it take till 1977 for "The Other Village Vanguard Tapes" to reach the light of day?

NO CONTROL

Coltrane, like almost every other Black musician of his stature (in jazz, blues, soul music, or rhythm and blues), never had the slightest control over what the record companies released, or when.

Possibly the executives at Impulse (now a subsidiary of the ABC conglomerate) thought that some of the performances were slightly too "far out" for public acceptance at the time.

But 1977 is the tenth anniversary of the death of John Coltrane. Many classic Coltrane recordings are getting a little more air play and publicity.

So a new Coltrane release is going to sell pretty well, with a minimum of outlay on marketing and advertising by Impulse and ABC. At least one other record company has issued a previously unreleased Coltrane concert, too.

The musical needs of the artists and their community have nothing to do with why these performances gather dust in a vault for over a decade, then suddenly hit the record stores.

But better late than never. Especially if you have never listened to a modern jazz record in your life, you couldn't do better than to start with this one. □

—Dan Posen

The Other Village Vanguard Tapes. John Coltrane. Impulse AS-9325 (two record set).

Coltrane



"ON THE LINE"

— socialism's the answer

by Dan LaBetz

"...socialism." That's the movie's last word. George Bowen, a Black production worker from Ford's Mahwah, New Jersey plant says it. And says it's the answer. And after you see this movie, you'll believe it.

The International Socialists have been showing the film, *On The Line*, in Detroit to audiences of auto workers and Teamsters to show what capitalism is—and why it must go.

The movie is about the 1975 depression...

... San Francisco... New York... the folks in the unemployment lines...

"I worked over thirty years for this company... and now I'm just thrown out. All they care about is profit." "I don't know what I'm going to do now."

... the jobs demonstration called by the AFL-CIO April 26, 1975... Hubert Humphrey is speaking to the crowd. He says, "We care..." But hundreds of workers rush onto the field screaming, "We want jobs." They don't believe he cares at all.

A worker interviewed after the demonstration says what he thinks of Humphrey's speech: "It's all bullshit."

TENANTS

... Co-op City, the Bronx, New York. "Built for moderate income families" says the newspaper clipping... then the rent is doubled... by the bond holders, the owners... Chase Manhattan Bank, First National City, Morgan Guaratee Trust...

The tenants call a rent strike. They fill the hall.

An old woman, a leader of the strike, takes the podium... "Behind this is the banks and their profits."

The injunctions come down... "Don't take my daddy to jail," says the kid's sign.

Pointing at the screen, one of the Detroit carhauleders at the movie showing says, "Boy, that's just like they done to us."

Mahway, New Jersey, the Ford plant... a young white auto worker talks: "The company's

speeding us up... It's getting to be hell in there."

An auto worker watching the film says... "Just like Chevy."

... A flashback... the organization of the Ford workers in 1941... the battle of the overpass as the goons of Henry Ford battle the rank and filers of the UAW-CIO. Clubbing the workers for trying to form a union...

The women in support with their picket signs, "We support our husbands." "For our little tykes."

STICK TOGETHER

... A welfare caseworker who lives in the Co-op City apartments... "I've never joined anything. But I guess what we've learned is that we've all got to stick together."

The point is clear... as a worker, a tenant, a consumer... we are all on the line.

It's a system. It affects every part of your life. Citizen, worker, human being.

It's called capitalism. After you see the movie you'll probably agree with George Bowen, "...socialism." □

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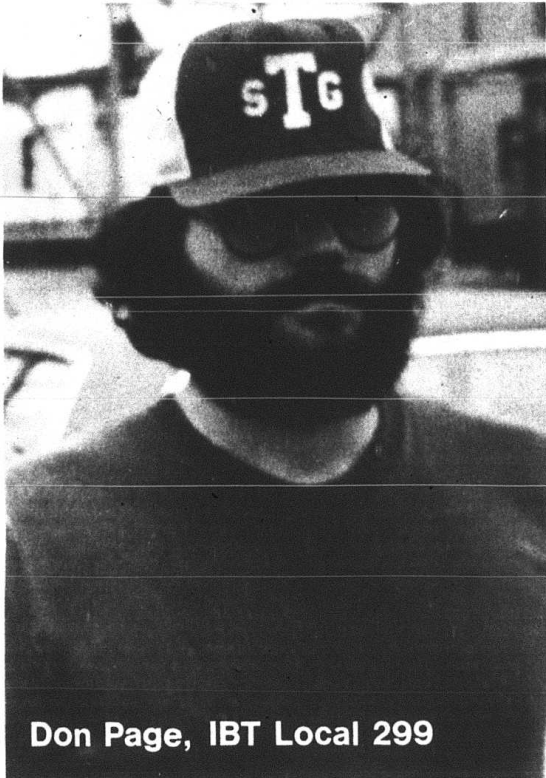
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ROADWAY ROBS DETROIT TEAMSTERS



Don Page, IBT Local 299

"The company and union, they seem to be working together down here."

by Dan La Botz

DETROIT—Roadway here is robbing its dock workers. The trucking company is taking away their overtime pay.

It's also trying to wreck their family life, forcing them to work weekends. And Bob Lins, president of Teamster Local 299 is helping the company out.

It's robbery pure and simple—but it's all contractual and it's all legal.

It's called flexible scheduling. DON PAGE, Local 299 Committeeman on the Roadway Dock told Workers' Power what it means.

"Well, I think for the people that are coming in here, they're going to be working either a Tuesday or Wednesday through. That's going to be their regular work days.

"They're going to have to work a Saturday and a Sunday. That means they're going to be away from their families. I don't feel it's right.

"Some people, they like to go to church, they've got a lot of

activities, a chance to be with their wife, their children on weekends.

"I also feel that even here, for the men, I feel what it's going to do is limit our overtime. It think it's going to cut it right out."

Flexible scheduling—a Monday through Saturday or Tuesday through Sunday work week at straight time—is to be introduced at Roadway's Detroit terminal this coming week.

"Rank and File Speaks," a newspaper put out by Teamsters for a Democratic Union (TDU) in Detroit points out some of the other problems with flexible scheduling.

"The current seniority roster won't be affected by these changes. But with retirement, firing and other attrition, Roadway will gradually replace seniority workers with more 'flexible' workers."

Roadway's not the only company to introduce the flexible work week.

It's happening at Yellow Freight, Wilson, Consolidated Freight (CF), Pacific Intermountain Express

(PIE), and McCleans and other big freight companies.

And it's done the same way in almost every town.

Here in Detroit the company threatened to move the terminal to Toledo, which already has the flexible plan.

At Yellow in Cleveland the company threatened to move to Akron.

UNION INVOLVED

And in company after company, it's the union officials who are helping the company out.

Don Page explains how it happened at Roadway Detroit:

"Half the men here, they feel it's a bunch of bullshit. They don't want to go through with it.

"But the company and the union, they seem to be working together here. They come on down. They try to put this vote down our throat about three different times.

"The vote finally did pass. But we had one man in the hospital. They say his vote isn't going to count. We had [absentee] no votes against this thing, and they wanted to go ahead and say 'Uh-uh, no they don't count.' Now to me that's not very democratic it's not anything.

"Everyone here's got their right to vote no matter how it's voted upon.

"The first time the vote was taken President Lins made the statement 'That's it' and I've got witnesses to that myself."

CAN BE STOPPED

This kind of robbery and home wrecking doesn't have to go on. It can be stopped.

"Speak Out," the voice of Cleveland area rank and file Teamsters, a paper put out by TDU, writes about this.

"Presser and the Ohio Conference could have stopped Yellow and made the job loss threat meaningless.

"All they would have had to do was deny the flexible work week anywhere in Ohio. Fitz could have stopped it in the whole country."

TDU has made a big start in beginning the fight by explaining how the game works and what it means to the life and livelihood of the Teamster members.

But the rank and file must do the rest—must organize and put the pressure on the union and the company.

High Court Knocks Down Black Workers' Rights

by Kim Moody

ONLY 20 YEARS AGO, racial segregation was still the order of the day. And on May 31, the United States Supreme Court cast a wishful eye back to those times.

In a 7 to 2 vote, the Supreme Court decided that segregated seniority lists weren't so bad after all.

Now, of course, the top judges of the land couldn't go against the law. So they only said that the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was not meant to prevent the use of separate seniority lists—even when they continue the effects of pre-1964 discrimination.

FILED SUIT

The decision arose from a suit filed by a group of Black truck drivers working for TIME-DC, a major national freight hauling company.

Like most trucking firms, TIME-DC maintains separate seniority

lists for dock workers and drivers.

Traditionally, the drivers were almost exclusively white. Some Black and Spanish speaking men worked on the docks.

Black or Latin dock workers were unable to become drivers—particularly over-the-road drivers, who make the best money.

A long list of court suits, struggles, and the impact of a Black liberation movement, finally won the right for Black and other minority dock workers to transfer to driving positions.

However, the continued existence of separate seniority lists meant that a Black worker who became a driver had to give up his existing seniority.

This, in turn, meant starting with the poorest-paying runs. The suit against TIME-DC was filed to correct this, and allow dock workers to carry their seniority to their new driving jobs.

After years of court hearings and findings, the highest court in the

land has said, no deal fellows. Before it was specifically outlawed in 1964, segregation was okay.

INTENT VS. EFFECT

The Court is maintaining in this—and other—cases that a practice must be proven to exist solely for the purpose of discrimination in order to be illegal.

In the past, if a practice was shown to have a racist effect it stood a good chance of being struck down.

This decision runs against the findings of numerous lower courts and the policies of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the Justice Department.

Those findings and policies are based on the previous standard of racist effect being illegal discrimination.

It took two decades of struggle by Black people in the U.S. for equality and liberation to establish that standard. Now the Supreme Court is issuing decisions similar to

the old segregationist "separate but equal" standard.

Their new standard of "racist intent" is very difficult to demonstrate in court.

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was a concession from a government faced with a mass Black movement demanding equality.

The various "consent decrees" and "affirmative action" programs directed at breaking down the old barriers of racial segregation in employment were also the result of years of struggle by Black people, Spanish speaking people, women and other oppressed groups:

Of course, there is a message in this decision. Segregation was always meant to divide the working class along racial lines, to force Blacks to accept substandard jobs and lower pay.

By upholding the effects of past segregation the Supreme Court is not only saying segregation was okay. They are saying: "and don't forget it."