

Bulletin

Twice-Weekly Organ of the Central Committee of the Workers League

NOW
TWICE A
WEEK!

VOLUME TEN NUMBER FOURTEEN 350

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1974

FIFTEEN CENTS

PRICES SOARING 40% A YEAR



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Big Three Auto Corporations Lay Off Another 28,000 Men

BY DAVID NORTH
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downs for this week that will throw another 28,000 auto workers into the streets.

The latest shutdowns are

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According to the most up to date projections of the Big Three companies, the slowdown in production will mean a rise in permanent layoffs to a figure of 80,000.

GM plants in Pontiac, Michigan, Fairfax, Kansas, and Southgate, California, are closed this week, putting 14,400 out of work.

Ford shutdowns this week will affect 8650 auto workers, including 2025 from the Brook Park plant near Cleveland. The number of indefinite layoffs will rise this week to 12,275. Within

(Continued On Page 12)

BY THE EDITORS

The announcement by the Department of Labor that the wholesale price index rose a full 3.1 percent in January confirms what millions of working people and their families already know to be a reality.

The report on the rate of inflation and the predictions of price increases in the next six months mean that the living standard of the working class is being systematically driven back by this government.

The figures released this week are, by the government's own admission, the worst set of monthly economic statistics in over 25 years.

Food and fuel costs were the main, but not the only factors in the 3.1 percent jump.

In the past three months, the wholesale price index has risen at an annual rate of 32.3 percent.

Industrial raw materials rose 2.3 percent, 17 percent over the year before; farm products and processed foods were up 30 percent for the same period; and fuel was 76 percent higher.

HIGHEST

A 60 pound bushel of wheat on the Chicago Commodity Exchange is now over \$6, the highest price in history.

Economists predict that beef will rise another 10 percent by spring and pork, 15 or 20 percent.

While food prices rise at astronomical rates, workers in every city are being hit with huge increases for electricity service, rents, and public transport.

Encouraged by official support by the Nixon government, every corporation is scrambling to boost prices as high as possible.

George Meany responded to the Labor Department figures by declaring that "the living standards of American workers are being continuously undermined. Workers must be free to bring their wages in line with the cost of living."

Workers must force the union leaders to translate these words into action. Every union must now defy Nixon and demand immediate wage increases to compensate for the inflation.

RESIGN

United strike action and demonstrations must be organized in every part of the country to carry this out and the labor movement must raise the demand that Nixon resign and that a new election be held.

The unions must now prepare general strike action to force Nixon out and organize a labor party pledged to socialist policies to defend the interests of the working class.

While the Cost of Living Council rejects every demand for wage increases above 7 percent, Ford and Chrysler confidently declare that they will ask the Council for additional price increases for their 1974 models.

John Dunlop, director of the Cost of Living Council stated last Wednesday: "I do not believe it is clear that mankind today knows how to constrain inflation."

The announcement of these increases was coupled with the news that industrial production had fallen 0.8 percent in January.

These figures mean that the very lives of workers are at stake, that the most basic conditions are threatened with destruction.

With prices rising at 3 percent a month, auto workers were only granted a wage increase of 3 percent a year.

TROOPERS

Truckers who went on strike for a lowering of the fuel prices were treated like criminals and met with armed state troopers and the National Guard.

Dunlop's attempt to picture

(Continued On Page 12)

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Solzhenitsyn Expulsion Deepens Stalinist Crisis

The expulsion of Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn is a damning indictment of the weak and crisis-ridden Soviet bureaucracy that fears the working class.

Solzhenitsyn was deported in order to continue the monstrous lie that the present bureaucracy of Leonid Brezhnev and before him of Krushchev and Stalin are the true inheritors of the 1917 October Revolution.

It is a desperate measure to perpetrate the lie that Leninism represents the obscene collaboration with imperialism called "peaceful coexistence" practiced by the bureaucracy, at a time when revolution is on the agenda in many countries.

Forty-five years ago, Stalin expelled Leon Trotsky, leader of the Russian Revolution, head of the Red Army, and founder of the Left Opposition for his

untiring exposure of the bureaucracy's origins and policies.

Like Trotsky, Solzhenitsyn described in his book *Gulag Archipelago* how Stalin's bureaucracy persecuted and destroyed thousands of opponents, including the entire leadership of the Bolshevik Party that led the revolution.

Solzhenitsyn continued to courageously speak out despite threats and harassment in an attempt to find out the truth about Soviet history in the period of the 1930s and 1940s. He mercilessly attacked the censorship and the destruction of democratic rights under the bureaucracy.

His inability to understand the origins of Stalinism,

that it was not a product of Leninism, is the inevitable result of the Soviet bureaucracy's conscious distortion of history and of the true role of Leon Trotsky.

The bureaucracy fears above all that any open discussion of Solzhenitsyn's books and of Stalinism would open up the fundamental issues of who Trotsky was and his struggle against the betrayal of the Russian Revolution.

Trotsky took up a fight against the growth of bureaucracy, from the beginning of its development in the 1920s, until his murder by a Stalinist agent in 1940.

He saw that the bureaucracy was a product of the isolation of the Russian Revolution and of the backwardness of the Soviet economy and fought to combat it within the framework of preparing the revolution in Western Europe and other countries.

Trotsky exposed the bureaucracy's distortion of Lenin with their "theory" of "socialism in one country" and fought for the basic principles of internationalism with which Lenin had built the Bolshevik Party and the Communist International.

Trotsky said that the bureaucracy that took power from the Soviet working class was a parasitic caste that had no true independent power, but was dependent for its existence on the working class itself. The expulsion of Solzhenitsyn proves this to be as true as it was in Trotsky's day.

Just as they slander Solzhenitsyn today, Trotsky was accused of being a CIA agent and a fascist because the bureaucracy could not openly face a single issue he raised.

Today, once again, the American Communist Party does the bidding of the Kremlin bureaucrats and dutifully spews out the most venomous attacks on Solzhenitsyn just as they did against Trotsky.

In article after article, he is denounced as a Czarist, a fascist, an anti-Semite. Not once are the American Stalinists able to refute any part of the mass of historical facts about the Stalinist purges.

He is accused of breaking up the "detente" between the Soviet Union and the United States while it is the Kremlin bureaucracy which trades the working class of every country in for political and economic deals with the most fascist and barbaric regimes.

When Trotsky was expelled, his movement was isolated, hounded, and persecuted throughout the world. Today, the expulsion of Solzhenitsyn, far from silencing the opposition, will lead thousands of workers and youth to examine the real role of Stalinism.

We defend Solzhenitsyn despite his differences with Marxism because he struggled against the bureaucracy in the only way he was able to.

Brezhnev's fear of Solzhenitsyn expresses the bureaucracy's fear of the millions of workers who seek a way to fight capitalism and will not bow to Stalinism's "peaceful coexistence." It is this mass movement that has thrown Stalinism into mortal crisis and will break it apart.

It is only the Trotskyist movement that has continuously fought for the political independence of the working class, to construct revolutionary parties to lead the working class to power.

The Trotskyist movement today has won thousands and will soon win millions of workers and youth to its banner.

We have now entered a revolutionary period in which the conditions exist for the working class to take power in the capitalist countries and for the Soviet working class to throw out the usurpers of the revolution in a political revolution.

**What
We
Think**

Fascists Linked To 1969 Milan Blast

BY MELODY FARROW

Pietro Valpreda, the anarchist accused of the December 1969 bombing in Milan, Italy, will finally come to trial next month amid growing evidence that the bombing was actually the work of fascists.

The bombing of the Agricultural Bank in Milan took 14 lives and wounded 90 more. Two days later, the government banned a rally organized by the trade unions and launched a witch-hunt against the left. Valpreda was arrested shortly thereafter.

The persistent investigations of two judges in Milan and Venice have revealed that three rightists from northern Italy were undoubtedly responsible for the Milan attack and a whole

series of attacks between April and December, 1969.

The three men, Franco Freda, Giovanni Ventura, and Marco Pozzan have been called the "organizers and promoters" of 22 terrorist operations. The first two have been in jail for the past two years, the third is a fugitive.

Two other rightists being sought are Pino Rauti, of the fascist Italian Social Movement, and Guido Gianettini, a fascist journalist who was an informer for the military's intelligence division.

The Public Minister is also investigating the role of oil millionaire Attilio Monti, who is charged with perjury for denying financing Rauti.

The magistrates report states also that the SID (the military intelligence unit) "while knowing that the attacks were planned by a group of neo-fascists, aimed at subverting democratic institutions, did nothing to prevent or stop it."

Giannettini is mentioned as the leader who organized the

Milan bombing. A letter he wrote which was found in a trunk, outlined "an eventual wave of terror attacks to convince public opinion of the danger of maintaining an opening to the left."

The fascist wave of terror was launched in 1969 at a time of a massive strike offensive by the Italian working class. That month, over one million public service and rail workers were on strike.

Today, the fascists and the military have not given up their plans for a coup d'etat to crush the labor movement. Only recently, the Italian military declared an alert and staged a dress rehearsal for such a takeover in collaboration with the dictatorship in Greece.

A well-financed movement called Compass Rose was recently discovered in La Spezia.

The Italian Communist Party is playing into the hands of the fascists by maneuvering to join with the coalition government of Christian Democrats and the Social Democrats instead of organizing the working class for its own government.

There are now important sections of capitalists who are behind the fascists in Italy. Workers in every country must be prepared to defend the Italian working class to prevent the military from turning Italy into another Chile.

Phnom Penh Bombarded

The whole southern section of Phnom Penh, known as Psar Deum Kor, was flattened last week by the heaviest artillery attack ever launched by the Khmer Rouge, the Cambodian liberation forces.

Operating just a few miles south of the capital, the Khmer Rouge bombarded Deum Kor with 105 millimeter howitzers that they had captured from government troops in earlier battles.

The shellings killed 150 people and levelled every building in the

area. The government of Lon Nol is near collapse. Despite the fact that many of their families were killed in the shelling, workers and peasants who were still living in Phnom Penh blamed the government, not the Khmer Rouge.

A soldier stated to a Washington Post correspondent: "My salary is not enough to feed my family. I have not been paid in two months.

"I have to buy my own uniform and equipment. The goddamn rich people have all kinds of money to buy their villas. But what about us?"



Protests continue on island of Grenada against Eric Gairy regime.

Brandt Backs Down On Wage Offer

BY A REPORTER

The West German government of Willy Brandt has been forced to back down and offer an 11 percent wage increase to the striking public service workers.

The decision was made at a cabinet meeting last Wednesday after 50,000 more public employees joined the strike on Tuesday and postal workers went out the next day.

Over 200,000 members of the two million strong union went on strike to demand a 15 percent increase.

The strike paralyzed public transportation in all the major cities. Ground personnel at the airports also reduced service.

Originally, the government offered 9.5 percent, then 10 percent, which was rejected, and finally 11 percent.

The settlement reveals the tremendous fear the government has of the powerful German labor movement, and is a blow against Brandt's regime.

Nothing has yet been settled in the negotiations with the metal workers union which is demanding an 18 percent increase.

Chile Seeking More Credit

Chile's military junta is basing its "economic recovery" program on a major effort to attract foreign capital into the country.

With the unions and all opposition parties banned, all democratic rights smashed, and the slightest criticism met with brutal repression, the junta is seeking to lure investors with the promise of enormous profits to be extracted from the working class.

The generals are willing to discuss the return of the nationalized copper mines to private

ownership as well as a number of other industries seized by the deposed Allende regime.

The International Monetary Fund, impressed with the policies of the new regime, has provided a standby credit of \$79 million and an additional Special Drawing Rights credit of \$95 million.

A delegation from the World Bank was received in Santiago on February 11 to study conditions for granting new loans.

Under the junta, inflation has gone wild. Many commodities have risen by 200 percent since the coup. Santiago bus fares

have been doubled. The living conditions of the peasants and workers have been ruthlessly driven down.

These policies are intended to demonstrate to the world bankers that the working class can now be subjected to exploitation by foreign capital.

Conditions are now so stark that a group of Christian Democrats who originally supported the coup denounced the junta for abolishing all rights and for creating conditions which threaten the very ability of the working class to continue to produce.

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Young Socialists rallied in the South Bronx to build support for national unemployment march in Washington, DC on March 16 and local rally in Manhattan's Lower East Side next Saturday.

Nixon Rejects Cooperation Over Tapes

BY MELODY FARROW

Special Prosecutor, Leon Jaworski, has informed Senator James Eastland, Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, of Nixon's refusal to cooperate with his investigation into the Watergate breakin and related issues.

Jaworski's letter, outlining Nixon's refusal to hand over additional tape recordings and documents, is the last stage before the material is subpoenaed.

Nixon's special attorney, James D. St. Clair has rejected Jaworski's compromise proposal that if another 25 recordings are supplied by the White House, no further requests would be made.

The additional tapes Jaworski seeks include recordings relating to the Watergate breakin and cover up and contributions by the milk industry to Nixon's election campaign.

Jaworski is planning on handing down indictments some time after February 25.

The milk industry investigation involves a White House scheme to funnel \$200,000 in contributions from the dairy cooperatives through a Republican congressional candidates fund to the Finance Committee to Re-Elect the President.

The arrangement to make further contributions through the Congressional campaign fund was made after the March 1971 decision to raise milk price supports.

St. Clair has informed the Committee's lawyers, John Doar and Albert Jenner Jr., that Nixon wants the right to file counterbriefs on legal points and cross examine witnesses.

Nixon wants to hold up the inquiry with endless legal challenges while the Committee members insist that the rules of inquiry are "not subject to Nixon's approval or disapproval."

The House Committee is particularly interested in investigating Nixon's finances, and two investigators are now in Los Angeles in relation to this.

Despite the hesitancy of the Democrats and Republicans to clash with Nixon, his absolute refusal to compromise and his defiance of the courts is making a confrontation inevitable.

Meat Cost To Rise 17%

BY JEFF SEBASTIAN

The Nixon government is planning for a massive assault on living standards through skyrocketing prices, controlled wages, and mass unemployment in 1974.

Livestock economists are predicting that meat prices will be 17 percent higher than last summer's records with pork rising even faster than beef.

Claiming high prices for feed, cattle and hog growers have cut back on production and will actually produce less in the first half of 1974 than the year before.

Wheat prices are now reaching new records, with a bushel of wheat going for more than \$6 on the commodities exchanges, compared with \$2 in August of 1972 and \$4 in August of 1973.

Even the automobile industry, with declining sales and massive production cutbacks, is getting ready for a new round of price hikes.

For the working class, big business is planning a year of massive unemployment. The inflationary profit scramble is the

way big business prepares for recession.

The Department of Commerce reports that industry plans for plant and equipment investment have been slashed from a projected 12 percent increase to only 5 percent for 1974. With costs rising at estimated 10 percent, this means a decline in investment.

This demonstrates that the drive for higher profits is based entirely on inflationary increases rather than new production.

PROFITS

While workers wages have been taking a battering, a recent Wall Street Journal study reveals that the large monopolies have been raking in record profits.

The oil companies which recorded a 63.1 percent profit increase in the fourth quarter of 1973 over the same 1972 quarter are not the only industries engaging in profit-gouging.

The largest chain grocers managed to chalk up a 92.2 percent rise in profits for the same period.

The mining and metals industry increased profits by 81.1 percent, while the paper and pulp in-

dustry reported a 60.3 percent increase. The steel and textile industries recorded 45 percent profit rises and chemicals, a 38.3 percent.

The lifting of price controls by Nixon's Cost of Living Council on April 30 will only formalize what has already taken place.

TROOPS

The use of troops against truckers fighting for the right to a decent wage is an example of what the Nixon government plans for millions of trade unionists.

While big business conspires for a year of wild inflation and staggering unemployment, the labor movement must make it the year for the construction of a labor party to throw Nixon out to defend the living standards and jobs of the working people.

Arabs Continue Boycott

BY A REPORTER

The Algiers meeting of the leaders of Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Syria, and Algeria struck a blow against United States hopes for a lifting of the Arab oil boycott.

The Arab heads of state decided to postpone indefinitely a meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting States which was to convene in Tripoli on Thursday.

The Tripoli conference was to discuss lifting the oil embargo on the US. This was strongly opposed by Libya, Algeria, and Syria while Iraq announced that it intended to boycott the meeting because of its disagreement with the agenda.

Libya, with strong support from Iraq, recently nationalized three American oil companies

and Syria, which is still engaged in armed conflict with Israel in the Golan Heights, is opposed to any measures which would remove the pressure on Israel to evacuate occupied territory.

by the oil producers, the unity of the remaining 12 remained a matter of formal declarations.

No policy was agreed to prevent the signing of bilateral oil agreements. Thus the wild

Europe And America 1974

"The US has called this conference for one central purpose: to move urgently to resolve the energy problem on the basis of cooperation among all nations. Failure to do so would threaten the world with a vicious cycle of competition, autarchy, rivalry, and depression, such as led to the collapse of world order in the thirties."

Henry Kissinger

"Of course when everything is going well, approaches are friendly and completely elegant, but when everything is going badly, everyone tries to save his own hide. I see nothing against this. Except that we don't all have the same hide."

Michel Jobert
French Foreign Minister

It is reported that Egypt, which has negotiated a disengagement with Israel in the Sinai Peninsula, and Saudi Arabia were in favor of making concessions to the US. The split would have created an explosion at the Tripoli meeting.

At the same time, Kuwait announced that it is considering a sharp cut in oil production in order to preserve its oil resources.

It is considering a reduction of 500,000 barrels daily in addition to the cuts already in effect under the general boycott. This will intensify the squeeze on the imperialist powers.

These developments took place as the 13 nation conference, organized by Henry Kissinger, was winding up in Washington.

Although the United States was able to isolate France, which opposed the conference decisions for fear of retaliation

scramble to guarantee oil supplies through currency wars and individual trade and barter deals with the Arab states will intensify.

While the leaders of Libya, Iraq, Syria, and Algeria continue to maintain that they will oppose any easing of oil restrictions until Israel completely withdraws from Arab lands and "restores the rights of the Palestinians," the US is working to split the Arab states.

This is the purpose of Kissinger's meeting with the foreign ministers of Egypt and Saudi Arabia on Saturday, February 16.

But the diplomatic meetings remain a cover for Nixon's determination to gain complete control over world oil reserves. This will mean a sharpening of the trade war with the Common Market countries and American preparation for a new Middle East war.

VIP Treatment For Agnew

Former Vice-President Spiro Agnew has left for a vacation in California surrounded by Secret Service men, in open defiance of Comptroller General Elmer Staats.

Since resigning, Agnew has been granted around the clock protection by the secret service, ordered personally by Nixon.

On February 8, Staats declared that Nixon's claim that he had "inherent executive power" to grant this protection was "untenable" and that Nixon had no legal authority to

authorize it.

The number of agents is between 12 and 21, although the Treasury Department will not reveal the exact number on the grounds of "national security."

Representative John Moss from California has written to Treasury Secretary George Schultz who also authorized it demanding an end to the protection and has asked the House Appropriations Committee to investigate.

Agnew's secret service costs \$30,000 a month and between October 10 and last December 15, the total cost was \$89,222.

Young Socialists

March Against Unemployment

Washington-Chicago-San Francisco

March 16

\$5 transportation & dance

Haitians Denounce Deportation

BY A REPORTER
NEW YORK, NY—A demonstration of over 200 Haitians took place in front of the State Department Office here on February 14, to demand asylum for the 400 Haitian refugees now being held in prison in Miami.

They carried placards stating: "From Haitian jails to US jails...We want our freedom;" "Haiti is: heaven for tourists and hell for Haitians;" "US, stop supporting the fascist government of Haiti;" and "Deportation means death; asylum for the Haitians."

The brutal dictatorship of Jean-Claude Duvalier in Haiti has created such a reign of terror over the workers and peasants there, that hundreds of Haitians have fled to the US.

Many of these refugees risked their lives by sailing on rafts or small boats.

The US government which backs Duvalier, has jailed the refugees and has announced that they will be deported.

The Duvalier regime murders or tortures and imprisons its political opponents and their families.

One young woman who has been living in the US for eight years stated: "It is in the US

Constitution to give asylum because we are against the government in Haiti. Why shouldn't the US give asylum to the Haitians like they do to the Cubans?"

"Because the US supports the fascist government in Haiti. That is why the tourist has heaven in Haiti and the Haitian has hell."

APPROVAL

"In order to have employment in Haiti, you have to give your approval to fascism and dictatorship.

"The people in jail will definitely be killed if they are sent back to Haiti. One by one they will kill their families."

An older Haitian man told the Bulletin: "The 400 coming here by boat are all in prison. They will definitely kill them if they are sent back. They would much rather stay in US jails.

"We want support of the progressive movement in the US. All the good changes that they say are taking place in Haiti are only changes in the newspapers, but not for the Haitians. In Haiti, they will put you in jail if you ask for a job.

"There is no employment in Haiti. The only industry is tourism and that is owned by the US and Duvalier.

"If you want food you have to go get it yourself."



Demonstration of Haitians at State Department Office in New York.

400 Workers Strike NEA To Defend Job Security

BY C. WOODS
WASHINGTON, DC—More than 400 employees of the National Education Association are entering the second week of a strike in a dispute over job security, retrogressive employment conditions, and affirmative action failure after filing unfair labor practices charges with the National Labor Relations Board.

Members of the NEA Staff Organization, Communications Workers of America, AFL-CIO Local 2380, voted overwhelmingly in a secret ballot to walk out after rejecting a management proposal described by union officials as "Phase Three in NEA's efforts to break the union."

Local 2380 filed charges with the NLRB against NEA, charging them with "a blatant attempt to coerce employees" by offering economic benefits to members who "repudiate their union leaders."

"This is an undisguised and thoroughly discredited union-busting technique, an effort to drive a wedge between the union leaders and the rank and file," said David L. Graham,

president of Local 2380.

Graham added that the NEA contract proposal was "replete with retrogressions" aimed at depriving employees of the many rights and benefits won as a result of a bitter two week strike in June, 1971.

That strike, described by Graham as "Phase One of the NEA antiunion campaign," was followed one year later by "Phase Two—a massive reduction in work force which slashed the size of the union bargaining unit by one-third and caused any number of lengthy, costly, arbitrations."

"NEA in this latest round of contract talks has treated its staff worse than most school boards treat teachers," Graham asserted, pointing out that

NEA management's proposals contained 44 retrogressions.

The strike of these workers comes at a time when teachers and youth in Baltimore are fighting for the very same rights, benefits, and salary increases.

In fact, Dale Robinson, NEA negotiator, and president of NEASO two years ago and now a member of a special bargaining unit for field professionals, is aiding in negotiating the Baltimore teachers' contract.

NEA has broken off contract talks with NEASO by declaring that job security, reclassification, and salary schedules are nonnegotiable items.

NEASO considers the latest NEA offer "a slap in the face" and is prepared to stay out as long as it takes.

Teachers Union Silent On Latest Pay Offer

BY LARRY SYMONS
BALTIMORE, Feb. 17—As the teachers strike enters its third week, negotiators for the city's teachers last night may have reached a decision on whether to accept the city's latest contract offer.

Leaders of the Public School Teachers Association (PSTA) refused to say whether or not the decision involved acceptance of the city's offer.

No new bargaining sessions are scheduled, however, indicating possible acceptance. The offer, which will be presented to teachers at a Civic Center rally on Tuesday, is a complete insult providing little more than the city's original offer which provoked the strike.

The increases in the offer give the teachers a three percent raise this year and only a 5.5 percent hike for next year including fringe benefits. At a rally of 4000 teachers on Friday, PSTA leader Karl Boone spoke on a similar contract offer, saying: "We could not and will

not urge you to accept this informal offer."

This statement was met with loud applause and cheers, showing the teachers were not going to accept this type of offer on Tuesday. Boone also warned of coming fines and arrests, and said: "It is time, folks, to take off the gloves. It is open warfare."

Boone's only program for winning the PSTA's demands, however, was to leaflet the shopping centers, again lobby the city government, and "go to church this Sunday."

This shows an open refusal to fight for active labor support of the strike, at a time when the city officials are threatening to enforce the injunction beginning this week.

Now the PSTA is considering a proposal which does not even approach the teachers' original demand of 11 percent for the second year. Teachers must reject any offer presented on Tuesday which does not maintain their wages against inflation.

The Baltimore Labor Council AFL-CIO meets on Thursday. The demand must be made to the Council to call a general strike to defend the teachers and their demands.

Washington DC Cuts TB Funds

BY SHIN DANO
WASHINGTON, DC—The District of Columbia has the fourth highest rate of tuberculosis of any large US city.

The national incident rate of TB is 15.8 cases per 100,000 people. In DC last year, the rate was 47.2 cases per 100,000—more than three times the national average.

This shows a 10 percent increase in the number of new cases in Washington.

TB is a disease of the poor. It affects people living in crowded conditions whose nutritional state and general resistance to disease is poor. Children are especially susceptible.

In spite of these facts, which prove that TB is an increasingly serious problem, in DC the Department of Human Resources has cut back on TB control funds.

No TB screenings have been conducted in DC public schools since 1971, although 1.5 percent of the children tested reacted positively and should have been treated for exposure to active TB.

Two years ago, the Department of Human Resources closed the 10th Street and O Street Northwest Hemotherapy Clinic, thus reducing the city's control services by one-third.

REDUCED

The TB control staff has been reduced from 160 people in 1969 to 37. The two remaining clinics handle between 50 and 75 cases a

day. Each has only one full-time doctor.

The two remaining clinics cannot handle such a large number of active cases, let alone provide the preventive and educational services necessary to eliminate TB.

In 1969, 110,000 chest X-rays were taken. This year, the number was reduced to 30,000 due to staff shortages and lack of funds.

There have been drastic cuts in the TB control office's budget over the last five years. In 1970, HEW funds for TB control were cut 34 percent. In December of 1972, HEW stopped funding TB as a specific category.

This year's budget is expected to allot even less.

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Confrontation At Stella Wright

BY MITCH PATTERSON

On April 7 of this year, the Stella Wright Housing Project in Newark, New Jersey will be closed down by the city's Housing Authority.

All the public services including gas, heat, water, steam and electricity will be cut off.

More than 1000 families currently living in Stella Wright will be affected by this shutdown. The announcement that the projects will be closed marks the final blow against the tenants of Stella Wright after the Housing Authority had allowed the projects to rot for years.

Stella Wright tenants have been forced to live under inhuman conditions since the massive buildings were first erected in 1960.

Estimates show that the cost for building a project of this size and making it liveable for its occupants, is between \$30 million and \$40 million.

FUNDS

Even though the Newark Housing Authority had been allotted the necessary funds from the federal government in the late 1950s to build Stella Wright, they constructed the project with a total capital outlay of only \$18 million.

The buildings were therefore constructed with the shoddiest materials, guaranteed to fall apart in a few years. Hot water pipes which extend from the first to the twelfth floor run directly through the living rooms of each apartment.

Tenants have been appealing to the Housing Authority for years to at least surround these pipes with asbestos because their children were continuously being scalded by the hot pipes.

The continual breakdown of the elevators in the project, and the refusal of the Housing Authority to repair them for sometimes months at a time, has caused many injuries.

Mercedes, now 74 years old, fell down a flight of stairs in 1970 while attempting to get to her home on the tenth floor. The



Tenants at Stella Wright Houses have declared they will run the project themselves. Thomas Chatman, bottom right said, "They are going to have a good time trying to get us out of here." Tenants chairman Toby Henry, top right, said, "We are not going to be pushed." Benjamin Woodson is bottom left.

right side of her body is permanently paralyzed.

Even the little money that was spent by the Housing Authority on the maintenance and upkeep of Stella Wright was cut back after 1967.

REBELLED

At this time, thousands of Black youth throughout Newark rebelled. Hundreds of youth from the Stella Wright Project took part in this upheaval against unemployment, poor housing, and discrimination.

The Housing Authority used this as an excuse to cut services even further. Electricity was turned off periodically for no apparent reason. Hot water was made unavailable to the tenants for days at a time.

Garbage collection was delayed for weeks which created conditions for rats and cockroaches to infest the project.

Benjamin Woodson, a tenant at Stella Wright for eight years, told the Bulletin: "My kids wake up screaming at night because of the rats. The rats have bitten my children before."

The tenants launched their fight against these conditions on April 1, 1970. They began a rent

strike which was to become the longest strike of its kind in the history of the United States.

The rent strike was led by a group of militant tenants who made up the Stella Wright Tenants Organization. The strike, now in its fourth year, has been supported by almost all the tenants.

This action, however, has not been enough to change the conditions in the project. From 1970 until today, the Housing Authority has refused to spend one penny on the maintenance of the buildings. Instead, they have announced its closure.

The Housing Authority has promised the 215 families who have been paying their rent that they will be relocated into other projects.

SCUDDER HOMES

According to members of the Tenants Organization, these families will be moved to the Scudder Homes or the Christopher Columbus Homes. Both of these projects, only a few blocks from Stella Wright, are in the same or worse condition, and are scheduled to be shut down in the near future.

As Toby Henry said: "They

will be moved from one hell hole to another." Henry is the leader of the rent strike and the chairman of the Tenants Organization.

"The Housing Authority laughed when we told them that if conditions did not change, we would not pay the rent. As you can see, they are not laughing anymore.

WORSENERD

"Conditions have worsened since the strike began. The money is there. That is not the question.

"Nixon has refused to turn over \$225 million for public housing just like he refused to turn over the Watergate tapes.

"The Housing Authority has drained this place dry. They cannot make a profit off of us anymore. That is why they are trying to close Stella Wright.

"Everything that they say they are going to take away on April 7, has already been taken away. We had the energy crisis in the projects back in the 1960s before it became fashionable. We have gone for days without light before.

"We are not going to be pushed. We will take any action

that is necessary to keep this place open.

"People are going to band together all over to fight it out now. They will attack the system and rip it apart.

"We have to tear this system down and put one back that can serve the working people."

STAY

Henry stated that the majority of the tenants were going to stay in the projects no matter what the Housing Authority did.

He said that the Tenants Organization was going to begin negotiations with the Public Service companies and arrange a separate contract with them so that the tenants could manage their own project.

"They are going to have a good time trying to get us out of here," declared Thomas Chatman. Chatman is 69 years old and has been living at Stella Wright since the first day they were open. He is also on the Tenants Organization.

"We want to run this place ourselves," he said. "If that takes a different kind of system, fine. We will make a different kind of system.

"If they cut our lights off, we will have them back on in three hours. I do not want the young ones to find out what a pot-bellied stove is."

TUB

One tenant told the Bulletin that he had purchased a large tub that he put in the living room. "I take my baths in that thing," he said, "because the windows are broken out of the bathroom and you cannot get hot water anyway.

"I boil the water on the stove to make it hot and then pour it into the tub."

When asked about the rent strike, a young woman named Barbara said: "I used to pay my rent. But then I was robbed and my house was destroyed.

"The Housing Authority said that they would find me a new place to live. That was a long time ago. So I am not paying my rent.

"I live in fear around here. If I had another place to go, I would not care if they burned this place down.

"But where can we go? It turns into animal against animal because of these conditions."

This is the amended perspectives resolution unanimously approved by the Central Committee of the Workers League in January.

ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVES

(CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE)

The Coming British Revolution

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The old British capitalism is finished. The unprecedented financial crisis now destroys any ability of British capitalism to offset its industrial decline with its earnings as a trade and financial center. It is not a matter of further decline but an entirely new situation in which the Heath antiunion laws are aimed not simply at cutting wages but at the destruction of the unions and of the basic rights won in 200 years of struggle. Inflation, which is being used by the government to whip up middle class hysteria and drive down workers' living standards, is now provoking an enormous movement in the working class.

This signifies the breakup of the entire period of negotiation and compromise and the preparations for a massive political confrontation with the government. Sections of the ruling class now prepare for witch-hunts against the left, a showdown with the unions and the imposition of a Powell-type police state regime. It is under these conditions that the revisionists and Stalinists seek to bring about an historic defeat for the working class by refusing to fight for the defeat of the Tory government and its replacement with a labor government.

It is under these conditions that the Socialist Labour League, British section of the International Committee of the Fourth International has been conducting its struggle to transform itself into a mass revolutionary party. It has fought in every battle of British workers for an understanding of the need to force the Tory Government out, and for a Labour Government pledged to socialist policies, constructing the revolutionary alternative in the process. This campaign has led to the founding of the Workers Revolutionary Party, which is a major step forward for the whole international movement.

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These events in England and in Europe as a whole must play a central part in the education of workers in America. The Workers League must turn continuously to the developments in Britain to be prepared for the daily tasks ahead.

The American Economy Today

The onset of the recession in the US with a sharp downward turn in production and in retail sales had already started in the Summer of 1973 prior to the energy crisis. That this crisis has had such a devastating impact leading to hundreds of thousands of layoffs and a tremendous fall in the stock market, can only be understood by viewing it within the framework of the already developing capitalist crisis.

The oil shortage is not an actual shortage in oil in the earth. Nor is it a simple trick by the oil companies to drive up prices. What it involves is the failure of capitalism as a system of social relations of production to be able to develop any more the productive forces. Energy is after all the most basic productive force wrested from nature through man's struggle. The oil companies decided not to drill new wells and build new refinery capacity because the value of the dollar was so uncertain they could not be sure that when the entire productive and circulation process was completed years hence any real value would be returned to them for their investment. Instead they based company decisions on immediate profit making with existing facilities refining the most profitable products.

Over the past year, following the devalua-



PERSPECTIVES FOR THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

(Revised)

tions of the dollar, the United States was able to build up a significant favorable balance of trade and of payments. This was accomplished in an artificial way because the currency devaluation actually prices American goods in European markets below their cost of production. Someone had to pay the difference. The American worker is being forced to pay that difference in the form of what is now uncontrolled inflation which is actually reducing his living standards.

This change has been accompanied by a massive movement of speculative capital, largely in the form of dollar holdings abroad, into the country. This capital drove for a period the stock market and the commodity markets to unheard of heights. At the same time as unfavorable trade and payments balances were announced in other countries, such as England and Japan, the dollar began to float higher as against other currencies threatening to wipe out the American trade advantage.

This expresses the insoluble character of the capitalist crisis. At one stage American payments and trade deficits were the immediate cause of a monetary crisis and in the next American payments and trade surpluses become the immediate cause of a new monetary crisis. This is because, as we have explained, of the disequilibrium which exists in the relation of the dollar to gold.

In the most immediate period gold, which had been falling in price, is now on the rise. Speculative capital is being forced out of the stock market as the market falls hundreds of points. Great uneasiness exists in the bloated commodity markets as there is the danger that the slowdown in production can lead to surpluses in certain commodities accompanied by a crash in these markets as well.

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At the same time inflation will continue its uncontrolled and uncontrollable movement upward. In fact, the energy crisis is being used as an excuse to remove any kind of restraint on prices. Inflation is in any event an international phenomenon which cannot be contained in a single nation. It is rooted in the relation of the dollar to gold.

It is this insoluble economic crisis which stands behind the political crisis of the American government. It requires this government to seek to drive down the working class into open struggle against the capitalists and their government. The recent wage settlements in trucking, electrical, rubber and auto industries are impossible to live with. They are already producing tremendous unrest and upheavals within the unions.

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POLITICAL PERSPECTIVES

The Political Crisis And Watergate

Watergate represents the most profound political crisis the American ruling class has gone through since the period of preparation for the Civil War. The political crisis is fundamentally brought about by the economic crisis. This in turn requires of the capitalist class a head-on confrontation with the working class. But the working class is undefeated and has great strength, built up during the long boom period following World War Two. It is the question of how to proceed in this situation, which is international in character, which brings about the divisions within the ruling class.

Nixon represents the new forces of capital, created in the postwar boom period, wedded integrally to boom, tied closely to the criminal Mafia section of capital, and located largely in the perimeter areas of Florida, Texas and California. The more established capitalist interests, particularly the great families of the East who control Wall Street, fear that this strata is pushing the boom to the point where their own accumulated wealth is threatened. This





The working class will move politically against Nixon and whoever replaces him only to the extent that the Workers League constructs a leadership within the labor movement trained for that purpose.

Lessons From History

The American working class enters this next decisive period of the struggle for power shaped by its and capitalism's history in the United States. It is critical to understand this history in order to be able to confront all the problems which will arise in the struggle to develop a political leadership in the working class.

Thinking is determined, not directly but nevertheless determined, by being. This means the material conditions under which the American working class was born and matured have had a lasting impact on the way it thinks.

For a whole long period this has had a very negative result. American industry was built up through adaptation of technique from Europe, applied in a country with vast natural resources, combined with the cheap labor of immigrant workers, and unobstructed by any feudal hangovers. The result has been a long tradition of pragmatic thinking which saw no need for theory, which concerned itself only with the most narrow questions of practical application. This thinking of the bourgeoisie found its expression in the workers movement, contributing to the conditions which prevented American workers from creating their own independent party.

However, massive and highly scientific industry did develop. This advanced technique has had the fundamental effect of creating the conditions for advanced thinking in masses of workers. At the same time it has created in American workers a close identity with industry and a hostility to being separated from it. It is not accidental that the great sit-in movement began in the United States and that it was in this way that American workers organized themselves into massive industrial unions.

Thinking does not reflect material conditions in an automatic way. It proceeds rather through conscious conflict. In the next period we will see massive struggles of American workers against being put out of the factories they see as essential to their own ability to survive. At the same time a conscious struggle on the part of revolutionaries to conflict with the pragmatic thinking carried over from the past and consciously encouraged by the capitalists, will bring forward a powerful theoretical development among masses of American workers and in this way reflect the advanced technique.

The American worker has continuously striven over two hundred years to construct his own independent political party. Each time he has been derailed by the role of the middle class radical who sought to do something "for" the working class but bitterly opposed the working class when it acted for itself. Middle class radicalism is a tendency which seeks to utilize the working class for pressure within the capitalist system for reform. For a whole historic period, which came to an end by the turn of the century, there was an objective basis for such radicalism in the expanding character of capitalism geographically and industrially. Radicalism persists in the present period incapable of carrying out a progressive role of any sort. It can only serve capital in seeking to disorient the working class. The struggle to break the American worker from capitalism and its method of thinking will be a continuous struggle against radicalism as expressed within the workers movement. It is the role of Stalinism and revisionism to nurture that radicalism.

In the period before the Civil War the very weakness of the centralized state, the traditions of the pioneer culture, and the divisions in the ruling classes between those who ruled on the basis of free labor and those who ruled on the basis of slaves gave to America an openly explosive and violent cast. In the period following the Civil War this found its expression in the great railway strike of 1877, which was in certain areas virtually an armed insurrection.

However, following 1877 the American ruling class strengthened the power of its state, as the robber barons built huge industrial empires and as America turned into a great imperialist power. Rather than lessening the violent character of class relations these became sharpened to an

almost civil war form (Homestead, Pullman, Coeur L'Alene, etc.) The difference was that this time the struggles of masses of workers came up directly against the armed violence of the capitalist state itself. So also were the massive union battles of the 1930s (San Francisco General Strike, Minneapolis Teamsters battles, confrontation at Flint, Memorial Day Massacre and the Little Steel Strike).

There will be no peaceful road to socialism in America. What the American ruling class did in My Lai, what it supported in Greece and Chile, it will seek to do here in defense of its profits. The American working class will not submit to such terror peacefully. Its history fully proves its fighting capacity and abilities.

The Fight For The Labor Party

The central task facing the American working class is the construction of its own party distinct from and opposed to the parties of the capitalist class. It is this task which is posed all the more sharply for being postponed for so many years. Because the American working class has built up a powerful trade union movement, but has not constructed its own party, it is necessary to pose the task of constructing such a party to this trade union movement. It is on this basis that we fight for the construction of a labor party based on the trade unions and dedicated to socialist policies.

Because the construction of such a party has been postponed for so long, it will now take on a compressed form. Workers in other nations undertook the task of constructing such parties under conditions of the growth and maturation of capitalism in their countries and on a world scale. The American worker is forced to undertake this task under conditions of stagnation, decay, and crisis of world capitalism with the United States at the center of that crisis.

This does not mean that it will be an easy task for the American working class to politically break with the capitalist parties. Workers face a powerful labor bureaucracy with an iron grip on the unions. At the same time there must be a break with two hundred years of pragmatic thinking.

What it does mean is that once this step is taken—and it will be taken because it can no longer be avoided—such a party will face revolutionary tasks. This means the American working class' political development, even more so than its economic development with the rise of the CIO in the 1930s, will take on a compressed character telescoping whole stages of development which took decades in other countries into years, months, weeks.

Such a party will come into existence only through the most bitter struggle against the present leadership of the trade unions. These union bureaucrats are committed to the maintenance of capitalism and derive their privileges from compromises with the large corporations. This is why they oppose a political break with capitalism. The struggle for a labor party is a central part of the construction of a new leadership in the trade unions.

Precisely because the fight for a labor party is taking place under conditions requiring revolutionary leadership, we must struggle at every point for the socialist program around which such a party should be formed. As we conduct this struggle we assemble our cadres. We build the revolutionary party through the struggle to construct the labor party. The labor party is not a substitute for the construction of the revolutionary party which is our central concern.

The fight for a labor party will take place under conditions of the continuous and growing threat of open dictatorship on the part of the capitalists. This is clear from Watergate and the international role of the American imperialists. This means that each struggle of American workers to defend their unions, living standards and democratic rights will face physical attacks from the state and from all sorts of illegal and right-wing formations. Thus the fight for the labor party cannot be seen as simply an electoral activity.

It will be necessary, as the struggle proceeds, to develop councils of action in each working class community as well as committees in the unions and factories for the purpose of defense of the working class from attack, to promote the development of a labor party, and to consider all the political issues facing the working class.

(CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE)

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Both factions agree on the need to "discipline" the working class here and internationally. They disagree on Nixon's ability to do precisely that. The anti-Nixon forces seek to "restore confidence in government" so that that government will be able to tackle the working class effectively. The pro-Nixon forces seek to restore the confidence of the capitalists in them by illustrating their ability to tackle the working class.

At this point the major sections of the capitalist class are moving laboriously and slowly to force Nixon out one way or another replacing him with Gerald Ford. Ford, in turn, has been groomed for the job by the large auto manufacturers, a section of capitalists extremely skilled at struggles with the labor movement, and completely committed to the crushing of the labor movement. This makes clear that the removal of Nixon will not mean a change in basic policy towards the working class but even possibly an intensification of attacks.

The crisis over Watergate has been critical in exposing the character of capitalist government to millions of workers and the changes in the nature of government now well underway. As one section of capital moves against another which controls the executive, the ability of Nixon to cling on to power reveals the extent to which power, even before Nixon, has been concentrated in the hands of a few people at the highest levels of the executive department.

What is revealed is that over the whole past period of America's worldwide imperialist activities, power has been more and more concentrated in bonapartist style on

the highest levels of the government bureaucracy, the military heads and the secret police. Congress, in any event controlled by capitalists, has little voice, and the same goes for the judiciary. That for a moment in his struggle to maintain his power, Nixon could defy the courts, defy Congress, wipe out any independence of even his own executive, relying only on himself and the military is a warning to all workers that open dictatorship is the future here as well as in Chile if the working class does not itself take the power and create its own government.

What this means is that just as the conflict between the free labor and slave labor could not be resolved within the framework of the American Constitution and had to be fought out in civil war, so too the developing conflict between capital and labor cannot be resolved within the Constitution and will have to be fought out in civil war. The capitalists themselves are well along the road to substituting a bonapartist dictatorship for the democratic form of capitalist rule. The working class can only defend its democratic rights by constructing its own party and fighting it through to build its own workers government to carry out socialist policies.

The labor bureaucracy has been exposed as completely bankrupt in this situation. It was the refusal of labor to construct its own party which allowed Nixon to win in the 1972 election. In the period following the election all sections of the bureaucracy openly collaborated with the Nixon government. During the Watergate exposures all sections of the bureaucracy have refused to lead the unions in a battle to force Nixon's resignation and to construct a labor party. Now even the liberal sections of the labor bureaucracy like Woodcock support big business in replacing Nixon with labor hater Ford.

This is the amended perspectives resolution unanimously approved by the Central Committee of the Workers League in January.

ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVES

(CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE)

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Eastern establishment has been more than willing to expose Nixon to the public in this press and in other ways seek to weaken the Nixon Administration.

Both factions agree on the need to "discipline" the working class here and internationally. They disagree on Nixon's ability to do precisely that. The anti-Nixon forces seek to "restore confidence in government" so that that government will be able to tackle the working class effectively. The pro-Nixon forces seek to restore the confidence of the capitalists in them by illustrating their ability to tackle the working class.

At this point the major sections of the capitalist class are moving laboriously and slowly to force Nixon out one way or another replacing him with Gerald Ford. Ford, in turn, has been groomed for the job by the large auto manufacturers, a section of capitalists extremely skilled at struggles with the labor movement, and completely committed to the crushing of the labor movement. This makes clear that the removal of Nixon will not mean a change in basic policy towards the working class but even possibly an intensification of attacks.

The crisis over Watergate has been critical in exposing the character of capitalist government to millions of workers and the changes in the nature of government now well underway. As one section of capital moves against another which controls the executive, the ability of Nixon to cling on to power reveals the extent to which power, even before Nixon, has been concentrated in the hands of a few people at the highest levels of the executive department.

What is revealed is that over the whole past period of America's worldwide imperialist activities, power has been more and more concentrated in bonapartist style on

the highest levels of the government bureaucracy, the military heads and the secret police. Congress, in any event controlled by capitalists, has little voice, and the same goes for the judiciary. That for a moment in his struggle to maintain his power, Nixon could defy the courts, defy Congress, wipe out any independence of even his own executive, relying only on himself and the military is a warning to all workers that open dictatorship is the future here as well as in Chile if the working class does not itself take the power and create its own government.

What this means is that just as the conflict between the free labor and slave labor could not be resolved within the framework of the American Constitution and had to be fought out in civil war, so too the developing conflict between capital and labor cannot be resolved within the Constitution and will have to be fought out in civil war. The capitalists themselves are well along the road to substituting a bonapartist dictatorship for the democratic form of capitalist rule. The working class can only defend its democratic rights by constructing its own party and fighting it through to build its own workers government to carry out socialist policies.

The labor bureaucracy has been exposed as completely bankrupt in this situation. It was the refusal of labor to construct its own party which allowed Nixon to win in the 1972 election. In the period following the election all sections of the bureaucracy openly collaborated with the Nixon government. During the Watergate exposures all sections of the bureaucracy have refused to lead the unions in a battle to force Nixon's resignation and to construct a labor party. Now even the liberal sections of the labor bureaucracy like Woodcock support big business in replacing Nixon with labor hater Ford.

The working class will move politically against Nixon and whoever replaces him only to the extent that the Workers League constructs a leadership within the labor movement trained for that purpose.

Lessons From History

The American working class enters this next decisive period of the struggle for power shaped by its and capitalism's history in the United States. It is critical to understand this history in order to be able to confront all the problems which will arise in the struggle to develop a political leadership in the working class.

Thinking is determined, not directly but nevertheless determined, by being. This means the material conditions under which the American working class was born and matured have had a lasting impact on the way it thinks.

For a whole long period this has had a very negative result. American industry was built up through adaptation of technique from Europe, applied in a country with vast natural resources, combined with the cheap labor of immigrant workers, and unobstructed by any feudal hangovers. The result has been a long tradition of pragmatic thinking which saw no need for theory, which concerned itself only with the most narrow questions of practical application. This thinking of the bourgeoisie found its expression in the workers movement, contributing to the conditions which prevented American workers from creating their own independent party.

However, massive and highly scientific industry did develop. This advanced technique has had the fundamental effect of creating the conditions for advanced thinking in masses of workers. At the same time it has created in American workers a close identity with industry and a hostility to being separated from it. It is not accidental that the great sit-in movement began in the United States and that it was in this way that American workers organized themselves into massive industrial unions.

Thinking does not reflect material conditions in an automatic way. It proceeds rather through conscious conflict. In the next period we will see massive struggles of American workers against being put out of the factories they see as essential to their own ability to survive. At the same time a conscious struggle on the part of revolutionaries to conflict with the pragmatic thinking carried over from the past and consciously encouraged by the capitalists, will bring forward a powerful theoretical development among masses of American workers and in this way reflect the advanced technique.

The American worker has continuously striven over two hundred years to construct his own independent political party. Each time he has been derailed by the role of the middle class radical who sought to do something "for" the working class but bitterly opposed the working class when it acted for itself. Middle class radicalism is a tendency which seeks to utilize the working class for pressure within the capitalist system for reform. For a whole historic period, which came to an end by the turn of the century, there was an objective basis for such radicalism in the expanding character of capitalism geographically and industrially. Radicalism persists in the present period incapable of carrying out a progressive role of any sort. It can only serve capital in seeking to disorient the working class. The struggle to break the American worker from capitalism and its method of thinking will be a continuous struggle against radicalism as expressed within the workers movement. It is the role of Stalinism and revisionism to nurture that radicalism.

In the period before the Civil War the very weakness of the centralized state, the traditions of the pioneer culture, and the divisions in the ruling classes between those who ruled on the basis of free labor and those who ruled on the basis of slaves gave to America an openly explosive and violent cast. In the period following the Civil War this found its expression in the great railway strike of 1877, which was in certain areas virtually an armed insurrection.

However, following 1877 the American ruling class strengthened the power of its state, as the robber barons built huge industrial empires and as America turned into a great imperialist power. Rather than lessening the violent character of class relations these became sharpened to an

almost civil war form (Homestead, Pullman, Coeur L'Alene, etc.) The difference was that this time the struggles of masses of workers came up directly against the armed violence of the capitalist state itself. So also were the massive union battles of the 1930s (San Francisco General Strike, Minneapolis Teamsters battles, confrontation at Flint, Memorial Day Massacre and the Little Steel Strike).

There will be no peaceful road to socialism in America. What the American ruling class did in My Lai, what it supported in Greece and Chile, it will seek to do here in defense of its profits. The American working class will not submit to such terror peacefully. Its history fully proves its fighting capacity and abilities.

The Fight For The Labor Party

The central task facing the American working class is the construction of its own party distinct from and opposed to the parties of the capitalist class. It is this task which is posed all the more sharply for being postponed for so many years. Because the American working class has built up a powerful trade union movement, but has not constructed its own party, it is necessary to pose the task of constructing such a party to this trade union movement. It is on this basis that we fight for the construction of a labor party based on the trade unions and dedicated to socialist policies.

Because the construction of such a party has been postponed for so long, it will now take on a compressed form. Workers in other nations undertook the task of constructing such parties under conditions of the growth and maturation of capitalism in their countries and on a world scale. The American worker is forced to undertake this task under conditions of stagnation, decay, and crisis of world capitalism with the United States at the center of that crisis.

This does not mean that it will be an easy task for the American working class to politically break with the capitalist parties. Workers face a powerful labor bureaucracy with an iron grip on the unions. At the same time there must be a break with two hundred years of pragmatic thinking.

What it does mean is that once this step is taken—and it will be taken because it can no longer be avoided—such a party will face revolutionary tasks. This means the American working class' political development, even more so than its economic development with the rise of the CIO in the 1930s, will take on a compressed character telescoping whole stages of development which took decades in other countries into years, months, weeks.

Such a party will come into existence only through the most bitter struggle against the present leadership of the trade unions. These union bureaucrats are committed to the maintenance of capitalism and derive their privileges from compromises with the large corporations. This is why they oppose a political break with capitalism. The struggle for a labor party is a central part of the construction of a new leadership in the trade unions.

Precisely because the fight for a labor party is taking place under conditions requiring revolutionary leadership, we must struggle at every point for the socialist program around which such a party should be formed. As we conduct this struggle we assemble our cadres. We build the revolutionary party through the struggle to construct the labor party. The labor party is not a substitute for the construction of the revolutionary party which is our central concern.

The fight for a labor party will take place under conditions of the continuous and growing threat of open dictatorship on the part of the capitalists. This is clear from Watergate and the international role of the American imperialists. This means that each struggle of American workers to defend their unions, living standards and democratic rights will face physical attacks from the state and from all sorts of illegal and right-wing formations. Thus the fight for the labor party cannot be seen as simply an electoral activity.

It will be necessary, as the struggle proceeds, to develop councils of action in each working class community as well as committees in the unions and factories for the purpose of defense of the working class from attack, to promote the development of a labor party, and to consider all the political issues facing the working class.

(CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE)

FILM

by Mitch Patterson

The Exorcist

The Exorcist. Directed by William Friedkin. Original novel, screenplay, and produced by: William Peter Blatty.

The film that is destined to top the box-office record set by the *Godfather*; the film that has caused some people to faint, vomit, claim to be "possessed," and enter priesthood; and the film that has created controversy throughout religious circles—this is *The Exorcist*.

Technically, the film was little short of brilliant. All the old tricks used by the directors and special-effects people in the "horror classics" have been refined to perfection in *The Exorcist*.

Heads that rotate 360 degrees, beds that float in air, and the manifestation of the devil in the body of a 12-year-old girl are all frighteningly believable.



Make-up artist Dick Smith proves that he is the best that Hollywood has turned out since Lon Chaney.

These accomplishments are the film's only merits. They are understandable because of the \$14 million budget used for the film, one of the most expensive productions to be released in the last decade.

The "blood and gore" factor, the shocking scenes, the profanity and obscenity, and the technical precision which are all prevalent in *The Exorcist*, still do not account for the tremendous publicity and hysteria over the film that has been labeled "Exorcist fever" by the media.

Good & Evil

The plot deals with the stale topic of the battle between good and evil, between the Catholic Church and the devil.

The daughter of a rich, famous actress is gradually "possessed" by the Prince of Darkness and degenerates into the most vile creature. She commits murder, masturbates with a crucifix, beats up her mother, tortures her own body, all the while screaming the most vulgar profanities.

After the leading doctors in the country have been completely unable to cure the bedeviled Regan, they suggest to her mother that Catholic priests be called in to perform an exorcism. This was a ritual practiced by the church during the sixteenth century in order to rid a body of "evil spirits."

The exorcist, played by Max Von Sydow, performs the rite with the aid of another priest. Both priests die during the exorcism, the devil leaves the body of Regan, and all ends well.

What then has created the "fever" over the film?

With the exception of the technical skills displayed by the filmmakers, *The Exorcist* is no more

than trash. It is a disgusting, degenerate film pawned off as having great significance and value. It stands alone in all movie history for its sickness and perversion.

Friedkin and Blatty, director and author-producer respectively, put together a film that attempts to turn the hands of time backward.

Mysticism

To them, reality can be described or changed only through the occult, mysticism, witchcraft, and religion. That is the theme of the movie and that is what has become so appealing to sections of the middle class in this country.

It is precisely at the time in history when the greatest understanding of the material world is required, in order to change it, that films like *The Exorcist* appear. Its intention is to show that man cannot influence or change the world because the world itself is controlled by gods and devils. If evil is to be combated, then one must turn to spiritualism and the church.

This is clearly demonstrated in the film when medical science is shown to be bankrupt and the doctors themselves advise that Regan be taken to a witch doctor.

The reports of people entering priesthood or declaring that their bodies have been overtaken by the devil after seeing *The Exorcist* are most likely true.

Escape

The film offers to the middle class a way to escape the capitalist crisis. The crisis in this system which is now bringing on massive unemployment, skyrocketing prices, and a tremendous movement in the working class to defend themselves against these attacks, throws sections of the middle class into a hysterical frenzy.

Instead of confronting the necessary task of constructing a revolutionary leadership and overthrowing this decadent system, these people insist on returning to the reactionary methods of the past.

The Exorcist is released when the occult, spiritual sects, and witchcraft are becoming popular in the middle class.

Blatty and Friedkin are both very religious men. Blatty was schooled at Georgetown University, the Catholic school in Washington DC. Part of *The Exorcist* was actually filmed at this location.

The only controversy within the Catholic Church is over the question of the vulgarity of the film. There is no disagreement over the theme of the film.

The purpose of making this film was not only for the enormous profits that would be realized. All the technology of present day cinematography is used to present the church, mysticism, and the occult as realistic to try to convince people of the existence of supernatural forces that dominate men.

That is why the church, the press, and all of the media are promoting this film so vehemently.

'The Situation Is Critical' In Braddock

BY DAVID NORTH
BRADDOCK, Pa.
—Lying beneath the shadow of the Edgar Thomson works of United States Steel are several rows of dark brick buildings that date back to the turn of the century.

From about a hundred yards away they appear to be abandoned warehouses or the barracks of a detention camp.

But actually, these columns of brick blackened by the dust of the steel mill are the homes of hundreds of workers and youth in Braddock.

Located on Willoway Street, these buildings have been standing for as long as anyone in Braddock can remember. Annie Quarles, who pays the landlord \$60 each month to live there, guesses that the barracks are at least 80 years old.

"I'm not sure how old they are," she says, "but I know they should have been torn down a long time ago."

The buildings are infested with rats, roaches, and water bugs.

RAT

"You might find this hard to believe," Annie said, "but while I was sleeping one night, a rat ran right across my face. It is enough to give you a heart attack when something like that happens."

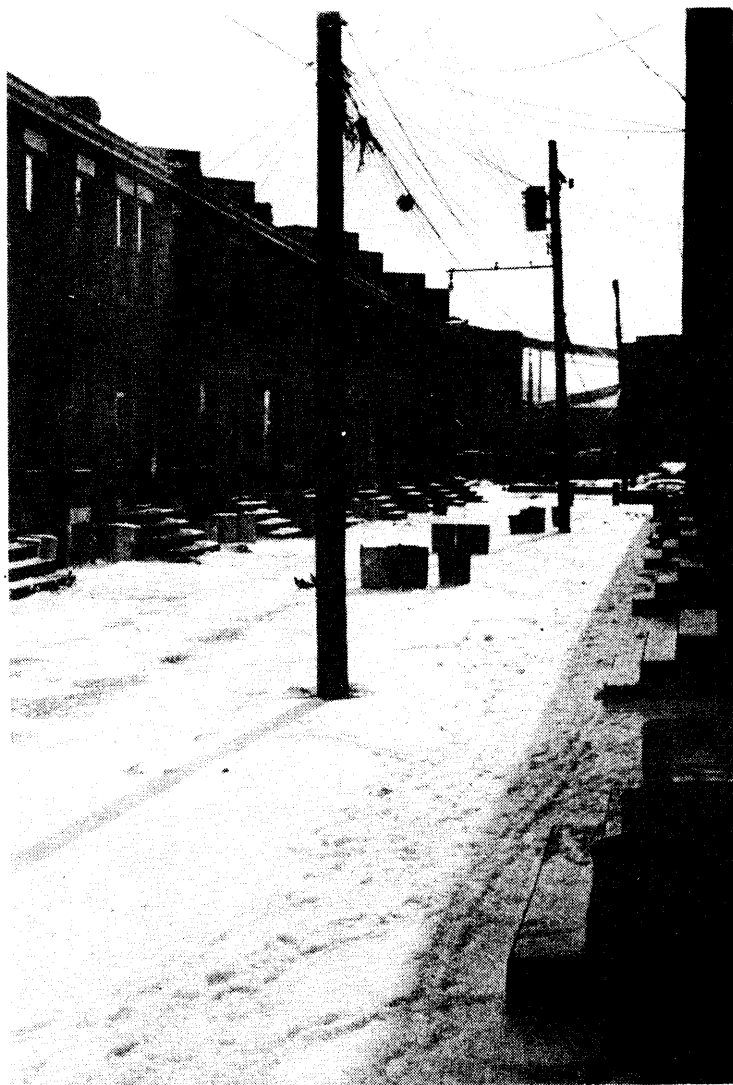
Gemiller Hughes had to take her baby son to the doctor because he had insect bites on his head and arms. Another son is in the hospital because he became ill due to dampness and lack of heating in the apartment.

Almost all the youth who live on Willoway Street are unable to find jobs. They face constant harassment from the police.

Having given up hope of ever finding a job in Braddock, Kevin Smith decided to sign up last fall for a program sponsored by the Job Corps.

KILLED

"I was sent up to Idaho. In the Job Corps, we were mistreated. There was a riot after this Black youth got killed. They said he died of a heart attack. We all wanted to go home because no one could believe that."



Brick homes in Braddock blackened from dust of steel mill.

"But they would not give us tickets to get back from Idaho, so there was a riot. The Job Corps people accused me of inciting it, and I was one of the six people put in jail. They said I was dangerous and a gangster."

"I was in jail for about a week and lost a lot of weight. Then they put me on a special bus back here."

John Marshall, 18 years old, said that he is disgusted with the unemployment situation.

"I took my physical to get into the Duquesne works and they were supposed to call me, but they never did."

"There is going to be a riot here soon. We always have one in the spring."

Tony declared that Braddock youth are not going to put up with unemployment.

"We are already at the extreme of not knowing how you are going to survive from day to day."

"They have got a manpower

office here, but it is no good. I have been there eight times. They have no respect for you here."

"The guy at the office told me I could have a job painting flag poles, but I told him I cannot stand heights."

After reading the *Young Socialist*, Kevin and Tony asked me to come down to the pool hall to show the newspaper to other youth.

"The situation is critical," declared Glen Ford as he looked through the *Young Socialist*. "I think it's getting to where there are going to be lives lost."

"First of all, there are a lot of people who used to have, but do not have now, and they are going to go out to get it back. People are not going to wait much longer. It is going to be a revolutionary thing."

"People are going to move out and take what they need. But whatever we are going to do, we better do in a hurry."

National Auto Conference Of The Trade Union Alliance For A Labor Party

DAYTON
MARCH 31
noon

Mall Motor Inn
21 So. Jefferson
(Carillon Room)

"That the UAW International follow the lead of truckers in the fight against inflation and unemployment by calling together the representatives of the trade union movement for the purpose of forcing Nixon out through national strike action and the building of a labor party as an alternative to Nixon."

This motion, put forward by the Trade Union Alliance for a Labor Party, passed in Local 1112, Lordstown.



midwest news

How FBI Spied On AIM

BY A REPORTER
FEDERAL COURT,
 St. Paul, Minn.—Proof that FBI undercover agents infiltrated the American Indian Movement (AIM) dominated the Wounded Knee trial last week in federal court.

This was revealed as prosecution witnesses were cross-examined by defense attorneys.

Stanley Keel, FBI agent and a government witness, admitted under cross-examination by William Kunstler and Douglas Hall that he and Charles Stethenson had used assumed names, had false identification, had falsely claimed sympathy for AIM, etc.

The accusation that he was spying on young people was ruled out of order by Judge Nichols, who was afraid it might influence the jury which contained five people under 21.

Lying as well as spying was proven in the cross-examination as repeated contradictions between Keel's direct testimony and a previous written report was shown.

WRONG

The report was written two days after the events he was spying on, yet today Keel claims his report was wrong and his testimony correct. These contradictions are on such vital points as:

"Did he talk to Vernon Bellecourt, or to Clyde Bellecourt, or to both?"

"Did he or didn't he actually see weapons?"

Last spring he claimed he saw them. Today, he admits he did not.

Also revealed in the trial was that Keel's main evidence came from Red Blanket, a mentally ill alcoholic, after getting him drunk.

Not only was Keel's testimony shot full of holes, but the



Demonstration of Ogala Sioux outside courthouse.

defense began to establish their case that they were protesting the reservation dictatorship of tribal chairman Richard Wilson. In addition, they claim the 1868 treaty with the Ogala Sioux was violated when 200 to 300 federal marshalls went to Wounded Knee last spring.

According to tribal constitution, only the tribal council can request federal marshalls.

Last spring, the marshalls came in at the request of Wilson alone, on an order signed by one tribal judge, Theodore Tibbett.

The request was not in the court files last August, and only appeared this January when Ivy Goings, clerk of the tribal court, was subpoenaed to appear in St. Paul.

GM Ranks Fear April Shutdown

BY JOHN DUNN

ST. LOUIS—This week all passenger car production at the General Motors plant here has been shut down.

Disciplinary layoffs and grievances have been piling up. Many workers have been transferred to the truck and Corvette lines from the Fisher Body side

of the plant.

The workers are being subjected to excessive work overloads. One said: "We are working one-half hour early to keep from falling behind."

CLOSED

It is rumored that the passenger car line, presently making large cars, will be closed down for 13 weeks in April, supposedly to convert the line to small car production.

"If they do not make large cars anymore, not every man will be called back," one Local 25 member told the Bulletin.

In related industries, production of auto parts has slacked off considerably. At Carter Carburetor Corporation here the production of large carburetors has been cut 75 percent. Smaller carburetors are being made, but of all carburetors being produced, most are going into warehouses and being stockpiled.

EXPECT

One Carter worker said: "We are working from week to week not knowing when they will layoff. It is something you expect, but do not know when it will happen."

Over 250 people have been laid off at Carter so far, about one-tenth of the work force.

Illinois Slashed 7029 State Jobs

BY CYNTHIA BLAKE

CHICAGO—A confidential report from the Illinois State Department of Personnel, just uncovered, reveals that 10 percent of state workers were fired last year by Democratic Governor Dan Walker.

Under Walker's administration, 7029 workers were fired. The report does not include the additional workers fired from the State Educational System or offices controlled by other elected officials.

Walker campaigned on promises to "cut the fat" from the state budget. The firings reveal that just like Nixon, Walker considers public services to be expendable.

The largest employee cutbacks were in the departments of transportation, mental health, conservation, labor, and corrections.

REVENUE

The only departments where people were added were the Department of Revenue and the Capital Development Board which oversees the construction of all capital projects financed by the state.

Under Walker, state employees have been granted the right to organize, but not to

strike.

The American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees has launched a massive organizing drive. With the release of this report, the fight to defend every job in the state must be at the center of this drive.

In a related development, Max Liberles, president of AFSCME Local 2000, has announced that a strike of public aid workers "looks imminent" as the result of the threatened layoff of 72 workers scheduled for February 28.

A statewide meeting of union representatives is scheduled to be held in Chicago on Monday.

Bomb Rips Home Of Truckers Leader

BY PETER KELLY

DETROIT—The home of William "Red" Anderson, a leader of independent truckers, was bombed on February 12.

The bomb ripped a four foot hole in the foundation and shattered the windows.

Anderson has received extensive publicity as a local

leader of the nationwide strike against fuel prices. Recently, he has emerged as spokesman for about 1200 striking independent truckers.

Anderson said the bombing was designed not to kill, but to frighten.

"I think it is some sort of message. If so, I do not understand. I have not gotten the message."



Speaker:
 Tim Wohlforth,
 Workers League
 National Secretary

THEORY & PRACTICE OF THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

All Classes: \$1 trade unionists
 75¢ youth

MINNEAPOLIS
 Friday, Feb. 22
 Phyllis Wheatley
 Community Center
 Activities Room
 9th & Fremont
 7:30 pm

CHICAGO
 Saturday, Feb. 23
 YMCA South Town
 6545 South Union
 Orange Room
 7:30 pm

DAYTON
 Monday, Feb. 25
 Dayton Christian
 Center
 1352 W. Riverview
 7:30 pm

PHILADELPHIA
 Wednesday, Feb. 27
 Wharton Center
 1708 22nd St.
 North Philadelphia
 7:30 pm

BALTIMORE
 Saturday, Mar. 2
 St. Katherine's
 Church
 Preston & Luzerne
 7 pm

THE CASE FOR A NEW ELECTION

BROOKLYN
EAST FLATBUSH
 Thursday, Feb. 28
 Community Hall
 Bedford & Hawthorne
 7:30 pm
 \$1 trade unionists
 75¢ youth

BRONX
 Saturday, Mar. 9
 St. Ann's Church
 St. Ann's Ave.
 & 140 St.
 South Bronx
 4 pm

Dance
 9 pm - 2 am
 The Hidden Star
 286 Brook Ave.
 Btwn. 139-140 Sts.

Tickets: \$1.75
 (includes meeting & dance)

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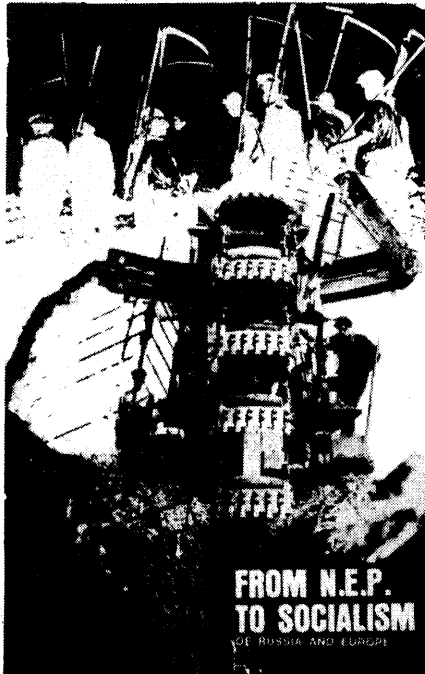
Just Out!

We have just received a new shipment of books from England, which are available in the USA exclusively from Labor Publications, Inc.

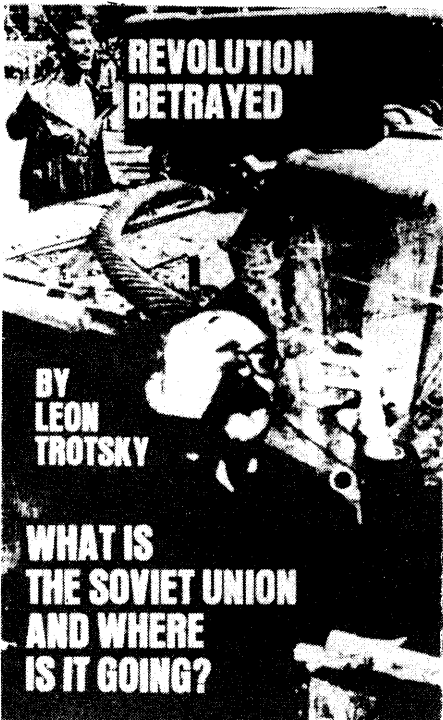
From N.E.P. to Socialism

By E. A. Preobrazhensky

Available for the first time in English, this book was written by one of the leading Soviet economists of the 1920s who joined the Left Opposition and was murdered on Stalin's orders. Preobrazhensky's views on planned industrialization in a backward country are contained in the book, which remains banned in the Soviet Union. Of great interest to all those concerned with Marxist theory.



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Revolution Betrayed

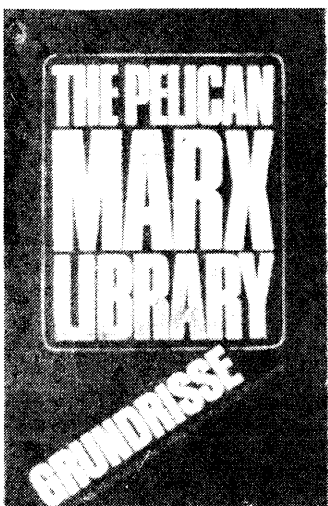
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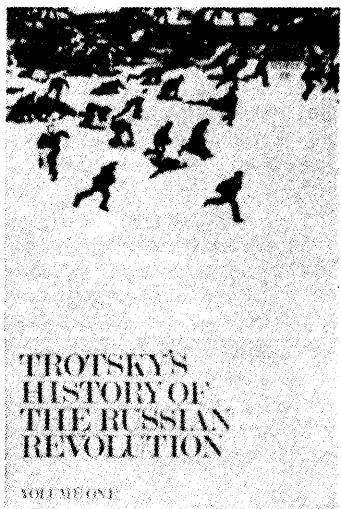
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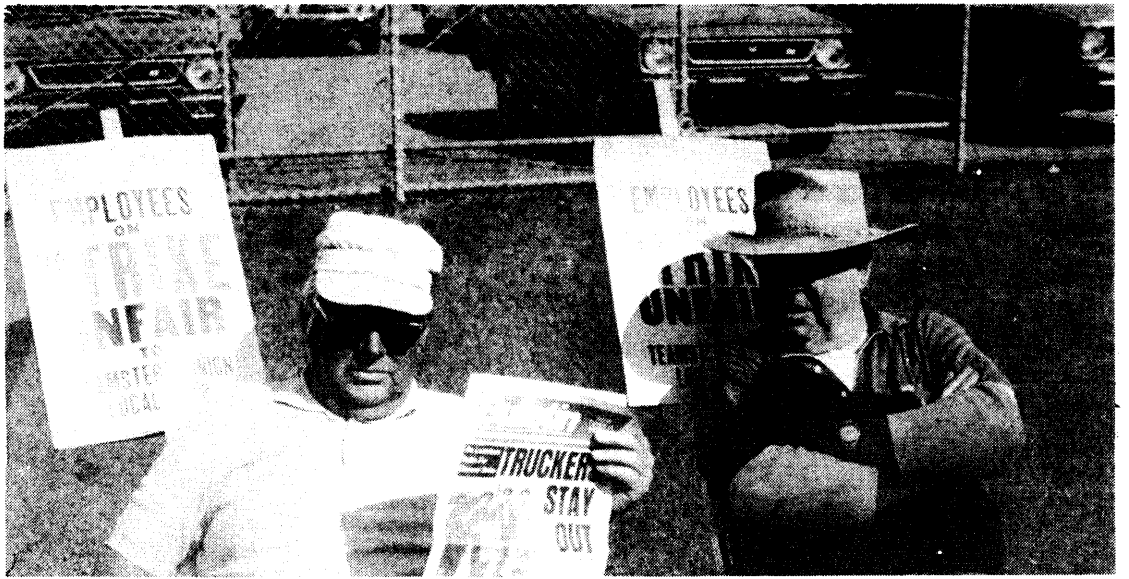
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Strikers at Carson Toyota in Los Angeles. Auto mechanics, the only ones unionized in all of southern California, have been on strike for three weeks for better benefits.

Sears Leaders Push Deadend Protests

BY MARTY MORAN
SAN FRANCISCO—

"We are human, we are not animals. We are not out here because we want to be, but because we have to be," said Ann, who has been striking Sears Geary Street store in San Francisco for six months.

"My husband is only working four days in San Leandro. He has to pay so much for gasoline to get to work. It is hard. Sometimes

you want to give up but you cannot give up.

"We went on strike for health benefits. Now we have lost that and we have been out six months just for a little raise. They offered us 50 cents on dinner money for people working nights, that is all. Nobody is going back, nobody is breaking down."

"You go back to your union," said another older woman, "and you tell them it is not big husky guys who have been out six months, but us, the little old ladies. On \$25 a week, and a lot of us are the sole support of a family."

"We cannot make it; but we are doing it. We are the crusaders now."

The strikers remain determined to win, despite the endless series of futile protests organized by retail clerks union leader Walter Johnson.

Rallies, marches, protest vigils, and now a one hour sit-in have not budged the billion dollar company, which is out to break Local 1100.

One striker said: "It has not worked. We have to do something else."

Johnson is now relying completely on the radicals, especially the Socialist Workers Party, to mobilize people for protest actions. At the one hour sit-in last Saturday, no advance publicity was even put out to rally other trade unionists.

One striker said: "They do not even tell us anymore. At the sit-in, they just marched in with two hundred people. We were surprised."

The completely reactionary nature of these protests is shown by the fact that the Sears strikers were kept outside picketing while the sit-in was conducted exclusively by union officials and their radical allies.

A rally of over 1000 workers two weeks ago demonstrated that mass labor support can be won for the strike. There must be a break with the substitution of middle class protest for the independent mobilization of the working class.

The San Francisco labor movement must be mobilized to stop the flow of goods into Sears and shut it down.

The Sears strike can only be won by linking it with the whole movement of the working class through a political fight to force Nixon out.

Veterans Occupy Office To Protest Hospital Care

BY DENNIS BREHM
LOS ANGELES—Fifteen

Vietnam veterans have been occupying the Westwood office of Democratic Senator Alan Cranston to protest the unbearable conditions in the Veterans Administration Hospitals.

A spokesman for the group which includes members of the American Veterans Movement (AVM) said: "We are here to protest the national disgrace of all VA hospitals in this country."

Six of the fifteen are paraplegics, confined to wheelchairs. One veteran put in very clearly: "We go to fight for our country and when we come home we are made prisoners of war."

Max Ingrott, a wheelchair confined veteran said: "The government can afford to send us to places like Vietnam to fight, yet they cannot afford to

see that we are adequately cared for."

The protest centers on the VA hospital in Long Beach.

The Long Beach hospital is the biggest of all 170 facilities. The 1600 beds are far from adequate for the number of patients. This year the facility will treat 250,000 out patients.

Major complaints by the veterans are the large size of the hospital, the long and bureaucratic diagnostic procedures, and the widespread use of drugs by patients.

The solution of the hospital administration is to bring more police in.

Cranston is currently holding the latest in a series of hearings on the conditions at the VA hospitals. He has held such hearings for the past four years, and there has been little change in the conditions.

Rohr-BART War Over Safety

BY A REPORTER
OAKLAND—The Bay Area

Rapid Transit system (BART) Board of Directors has voted to continue their embargo, refusing to pay any money to Rohr Industries or accept delivery of more cars because of continual breakdowns in the cars.

Rohr, which is the main subcontractor for building the cars, has announced that the one-year warranty has expired on 96 of the cars, even though only eight have passed the final acceptance test for service.

Rohr management has washed its hands of any responsibility for the electric cars, which move

at eighty miles an hour in San Francisco and the East Bay.

"We have three car failures a day, and the contract allows us six," Rohr executive L.A. Kranz said, maintaining that their performance was twice as good as required.

BRAKE

Brake shoes on the cars now wear out every two or three weeks and must be replaced. "There are no specifications for the life of the brake shoe," Kranz said.

BART directors are now discussing filing a lawsuit against Rohr. They have gone along for years with late deliveries, faulty design, and gross neglect of safety, not only in the

cars, but in every aspect of the system.

They are moving against Rohr now only because BART is in deep financial crisis. They are seeking to solve this by refusing to pay the subcontractors and suing them instead for damages. Another motion to refuse payment to Westinghouse, which built the automatic train controls which do not work, and Parsons - Brinckerhoff-Tudor-Bechtel, the engineering consultants, was narrowly defeated.

This conflict with the subcontractors is the last step before BART makes the working class pay for the crisis through higher fares and mass layoffs.

NLRB Rips Up Longshore Contract

BY BARRY GREY
The National Labor Relations Board has declared null and void all terms in the contract of West Coast longshoremen which guarantee them jurisdiction over all containers.

The ruling states: "Any and all paragraphs which limit, restrain, restrict, tax, or prohibit handling containers... by non-ILWU members are void and unenforceable."

This ruling at a stroke rips up the contract won by the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union with the Pacific Maritime Association.

It outlaws three central clauses in the contract:

- Requiring shipping companies to have containers stuffed and unstuffed at the waterfront by longshoremen.
- Giving longshoremen the right to refuse to move containers that were not stuffed or unstuffed by ILWU members.
- Requiring a tax of one dollar a ton on containers handled by members of other unions.

TRUCKING

The NLRB ruled in favor of the Teamsters and trucking companies. The Teamsters now have legal jurisdiction over container work done away from the docks.

This ruling upholds a ruling made months ago by an NLRB judge in Los Angeles. Harry Bridges, ILWU president, refused to carry out strike action against Nixon in order to defeat the ruling. Instead, he went before the NLRB in Washington together with the PMA to plead for a reversal.

The NLRB ruling will mean the loss of hundreds of longshoremen's jobs and millions of dollars of revenue from the tax on non-ILWU containers.

At the same time, the ruling is deliberately aimed at precipi-

tating an all-out jurisdictional war between the ILWU and the Teamsters over a rapidly dwindling number of jobs.

Bridges' policy of cooperation with the PMA and prostration before the government now threatens the existence of the ILWU. The ranks must demand a break with this policy now.

The government has broken the contract. There must be an immediate strike and this strike must be aimed at convening a Congress of Labor to kick Nixon out and build a labor party pledged to nationalize the docks and trucking. This is the only program to unite the dockers and Teamsters and defend the jobs of both.

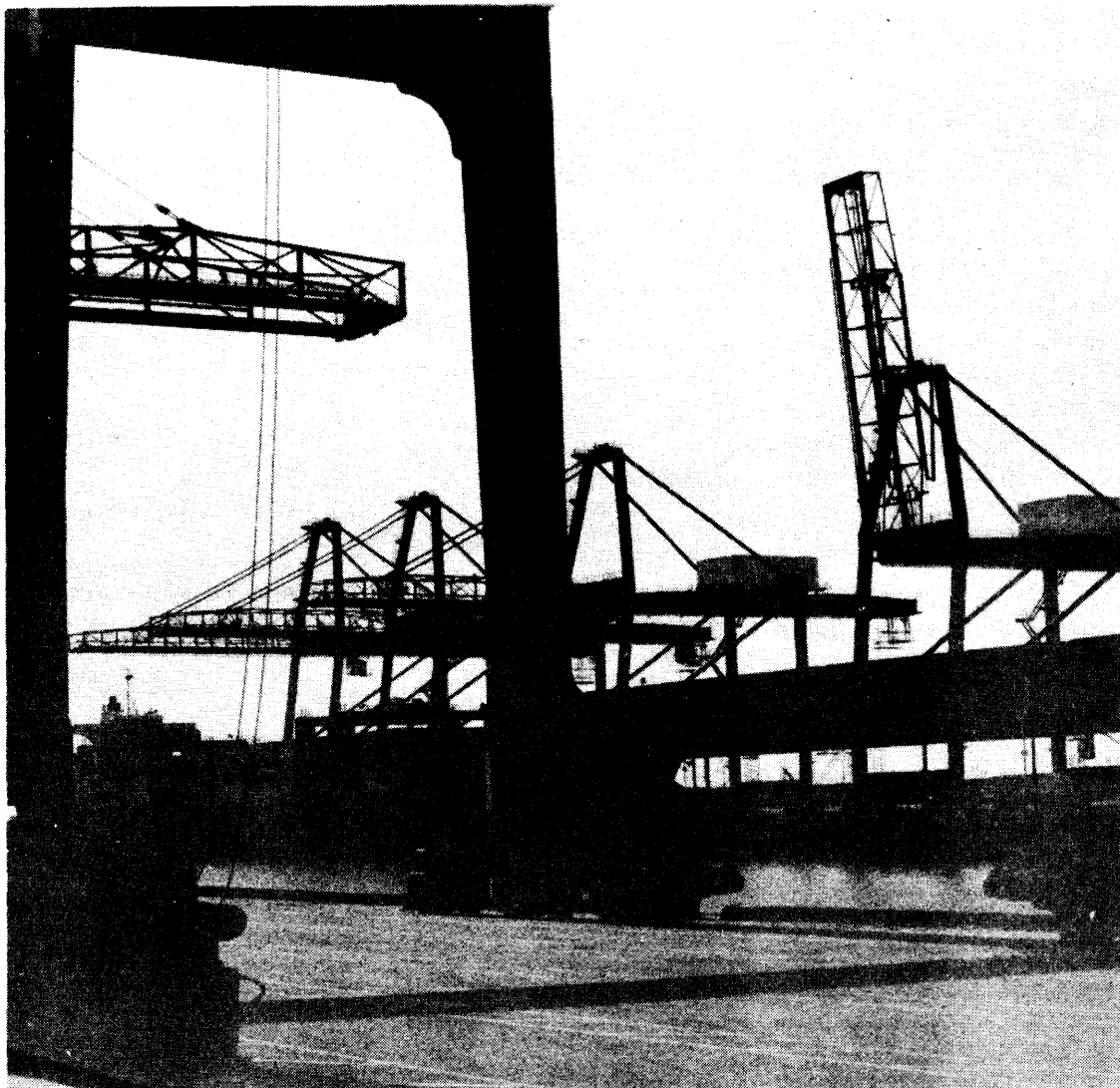
Social Workers Back YS March

SAN FRANCISCO—Social Workers Local 535 here voted to endorse the Young Socialists statewide march against unemployment on March 16 and to send a union delegation.

In the discussion preceding the vote, a supporter of the Communist Party spoke against the march, saying he would support it if it were not the Young Socialists, but some "broad coalition." He also objected to the union linking itself ideologically to any party.

A resolution for the union to call out its membership to participate in the Young Socialists lobby at the next board of education meeting against the Nazis on February 25 was defeated by one vote.

The CP supporter not only voted against both resolutions, but after the YS left the meeting, he tried to introduce a change in the union by-laws which would hinder the YS being able to speak before the union and win support again.



Container facilities at the Los Angeles Harbor are some of the most modern in the world.

editorial

Saxbe's SLA Witch-Hunt

The massive media campaign over Patricia Hearst and her abductors, the so-called Symbionese Liberation Army, has become national in scope.

It is being openly directed by the Nixon administration through Attorney General Saxbe and Randolph A. Hearst.

We warn that this witch-hunt will be used to give the police a free hand to terrorize the working class and all leftist organizations. Already the use of helicopters and police harassment has been stepped up in Oakland and San Francisco communities.

The very same methods were used recently in Britain. A series of bombings in Ireland actually done by police agents were pinned on the Irish Republican Army in order to outlaw the organization. In London, a bombing campaign was attributed to the IRA in order to link revolutionary organizations with the IRA, and to prepare the use of troops against the whole working class.

Nixon and the ruling class fear the strength of the working class which was demonstrated powerfully in the recent truckers strike.

Nixon knows he cannot take on the working class and defeat it under present conditions. That is why, in Watergate, and now in the uproar over the kidnapping, the government and FBI seek police state powers.

The SLA has all the characteristics of a CIA or FBI creation. Its name first came up last November after the fatal shooting of Oakland School Superintendent Marcus Foster.

At that time, the capitalist press ran banner headlines that a group called the Symbionese Liberation Army youth unit claimed responsibility although no one had ever heard of this organization before.

The police then claimed Foster had been gunned down "execution style" by three "dark complexioned men" with white insignia on their jackets.

The sudden appearance of the SLA had preceded the month before by the equally sudden appearance of the "August 7th Movement," which, according to police, claimed responsibility for shooting down a police helicopter in Oakland.

Subsequently, the National Transportation Safety Board ruled that the copter crashed due to mechanical failure and was not shot down. Nothing has been heard about the "August 7th Movement" since.

Nothing more was heard of from the SLA until January, when two men, Russell Little and Joseph Remiro, were arrested and charged with the murder of Foster. A woman, Nancy Ling Perry, is being sought.

At that time, the press played up Remiro's former connection with the Vietnam Veterans Against the War/Winter Soldier Coalition.

They also speculated that Nancy Ling Perry was being harbored by Venceremos, a radical organization which had disbanded several months before.

Police raided Little and Remiro's van and house and claim to have confiscated SLA literature. Police have refused to make this literature public.

Last month, four shooting incidents in San Francisco were attributed by the press to an underground Black organization allegedly bent on executing whites. The SLA was again linked to the shootings as well.

Then came the kidnapping of Patricia Hearst.

Attorney General Saxbe publicly attributed the kidnapping to the SLA several hours before a Berkeley radio station received a letter from the SLA claiming responsibility. When Saxbe made his statement, there was absolutely no evidence linking the SLA to the kidnapping.

The statement of Saxbe that the FBI should go in and "get" Patricia Hearst because the FBI knew where she was (this was later denied), is proof that the government is not interested in the girl, but is out to create an incident even if it results in a shootout, to provide an excuse to destroy left-wing movements.

The SLA has allegedly called on other radical groups and even the United Farm Workers Union to oversee the distribution of the food. In this way, other left-wing groups and a section of the labor movement can be implicated with the SLA.

Randolph A. Hearst, the head of the Hearst newspaper chain, which includes the San Francisco Examiner, represents the most right-wing section of the capitalist class.

Hearst is notorious for his hatred of the labor movement. His Herald-Examiner in Los Angeles broke the union there by locking the workers out and using scabs.

Saxbe, the man who called in the FBI against the truckers, wants to create the basis to witch-hunt not just the left, but the trade union movement.

These frame-up tactics are the response of this government to their economic crisis which forces the capitalists to use repression in an attempt to destroy the democratic rights of the working class.

This witch-hunt makes it imperative that the working class go forward with nationwide strike action to force Nixon out, demanding the unions call a Congress of Labor to build a labor party. This is the only way to answer Nixon's moves towards a dictatorship.



Laborers from Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers Local 1-128 are still on strike against contractors at the major oil refineries.

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Hernandez Colón que llegó a la gobernación bajo un programa de reformas, en menos de un año ha dejado ver el carácter del Partido Popular Democrático como un partido de la burguesía del país. En esta época en que la economía de los Estados Unidos se haya en grave crisis económica, Puerto Rico por ser una de sus colonias ha de sufrir este impacto con mayor fuerza aún.

La economía de la isla que se ha desarrollado a finales de los años cuarentas, se ha basado en capital artificial, manteniendo en estos momentos una deuda con los Estados Unidos que le tomaría al país décadas antes de poder saldar la deuda.

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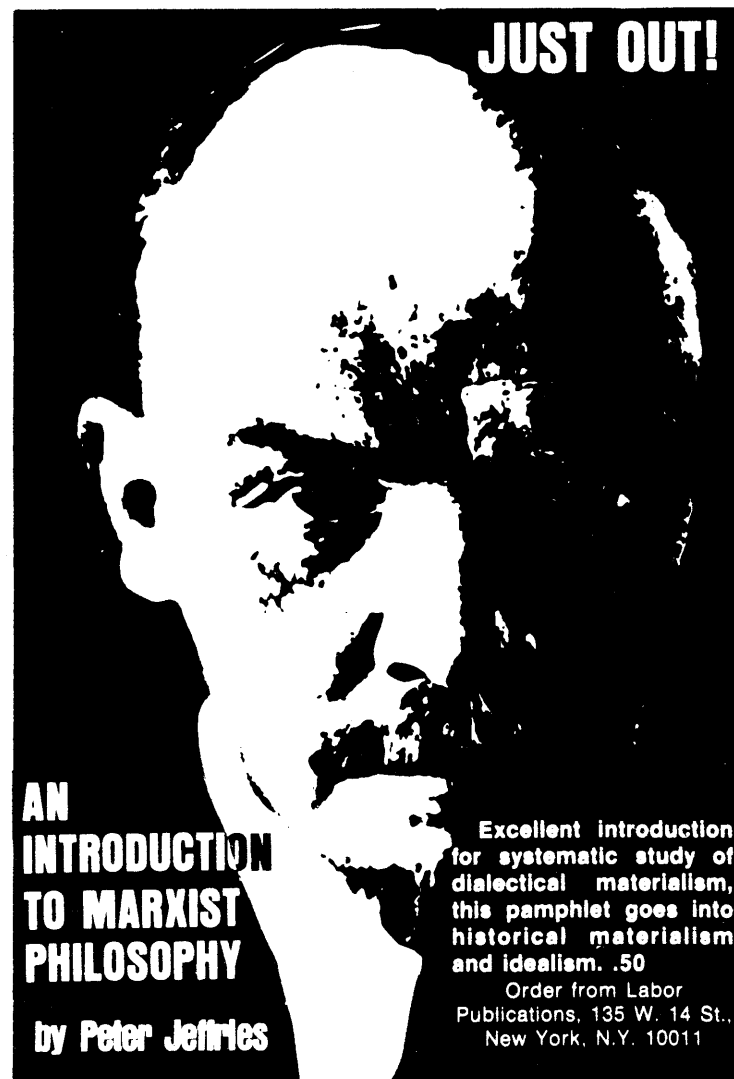
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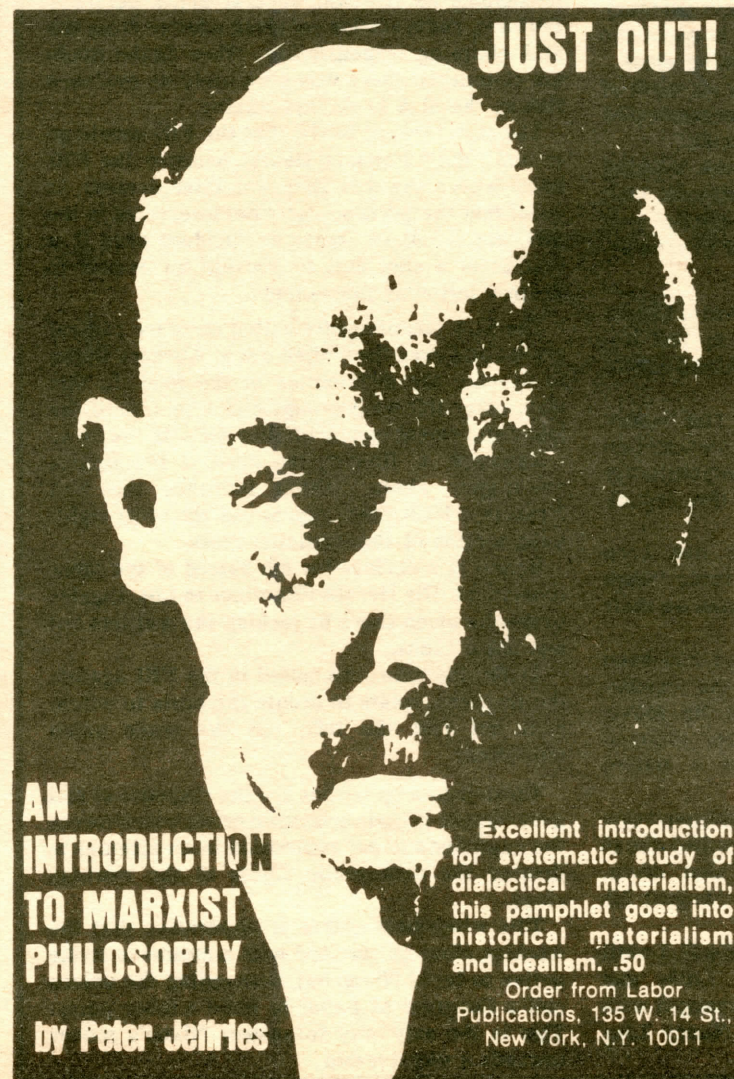
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