

Bulletin

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

NOW
TWICE A
WEEK!

VOLUME TEN NUMBER SIXTEEN 352

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1974

FIFTEEN CENTS

NIXON DEMANDS WAGE CUT LAW



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BY THE EDITOR

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The Council would remain to "monitor" wage and price increases through 1975 and could hold hearings on excessive wage demands.

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This means that the actual decline in workers wages of 2 percent nationally in January announced by the Consumer Price Index report will be further reduced.

Nixon takes steps to hold down wages while deliberately following a policy that will mean the biggest leap in price increases in history.

The Consumer Price Index figures show that prices jumped a full one percent in January, the greatest monthly rise in 25 years.

Prices are up 9.4 percent over one year ago, while "real" earnings declined 4 percent and in the New York-Northern New Jersey area, declined 3 percent.

This means that in the country as a whole workers have been forced to cut back on basic necessities a full 4 percent from one year ago.

In the New York area, fuel and oil rose 77.4 percent and food prices rose in January 21 percent over 1973.

Cereals and bakery goods were

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While these figures are announced, the government has revealed that its original estimate of inflation for the fourth quarter of 1973 was not 7.9 percent but 8.8 percent.

The continuous rapid rise in commodity prices which one Chicago trader called "frightening" will send retail prices soaring at least another 50 percent in the coming year.

Commodity dealers warn that this inflation now threatens to wipe out the hog and beef industries. One basic commodity, sugar, which was 8.9 cents last year, now trades for over 24 cents.

This means that in addition to wage cuts and skyrocketing food prices, workers will face shortages in basic goods such as meat and bread.

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(Continued On Page 12)

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At Northwestern High, three teachers were arrested after doors were chained and tied shut from the outside.

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Election Manifesto



Of The Workers
Revolutionary Party
Of Britain

See Centerfold-
Pages 6&7



In The Weekend Edition

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Military Prepares For Civil War

The hearings on the military spy ring within the Nixon government have now revealed that the entire Pentagon command received stolen documents of top security material.

Yeoman Charles Radford, the aide who passed National Security Council documents along to Rear Admiral Robert Welander has testified that 10 top military officials received copies.

Welander sent the material to not only Joint Chief of Staffs Chairman Thomas H. Moorer, but to Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Elmo Zumwalt, Jr., Air Force General John Vogt, Jr., and the head of the Pacific Command.

What We Think

While Moorer has only admitted receiving two batches of documents

that contained "no new information," Radford stated that hundreds of documents were involved, covering classified material on Nixon's negotiations with China and the Soviet Union.

It is clear that this spy operation organized in 1970 and 1971 far from being the work of just Moorer, was a well-planned conspiracy involving the entire general staff of the navy, air force, and army. They operated and still do with total independence and contempt for the Nixon government.

The Pentagon staff has in fact created an alternate government above Nixon which makes its own decisions on policy and is answerable to no one.

The fact that these military generals have now been

brought directly into high positions of power within the government, represented by Nixon's advisor Alexander Haig, does not lessen this independence.

The same generals who now take part in government decisions are the same men who plotted the overthrow of one Greek dictator Papadopoulos and replaced him with another and who plotted the overthrow of the Allende regime in Chile.

What is revealed in the Armed Services Committee hearings is not just that the generals spied on Nixon, but that they considered whether they would have to take over the government and run it themselves.

They have no loyalty to any individual president. They are prepared to use the savage methods of imperialism developed in Vietnam not just against workers in other countries but to defend the capitalist system against the struggles of American workers here.

The moves of the military towards control over the government is in response to the growing struggles of the working class to defend its wages from being destroyed by inflation and to defend the right to a job against Nixon's policy of mass unemployment.

Capitalism now faces an historic economic crisis that threatens the entire capitalist system with collapse. Nixon and the capitalists desperately seek to force the working class to pay for this crisis by brutal slashes in living standards, wage cuts, unemployment, and inhuman speedup in the plants.

The working class of every country is powerful and organized and will never accept these attacks. This has now created revolutionary conditions throughout Europe, Latin America, and within the United States.

It is the strength of the working class, its determination to defend all its conditions and basic rights

that forces the Nixon government to turn to the military, towards dictatorship. This goes hand in hand with a vast increase in the powers of the police and the FBI. The FBI seeks absolute power to declare a national emergency, and the Hearst kidnapping is used to launch a witch-hunt against every leftist organization in the country.

While the "SLA" is trumpeted all over the country as a "terrorist conspiracy" by the FBI and the press, the kidnapping of Atlanta editor Reg Murphy by right-wing fanatics is declared to be the work of one man.

Fascistic groups like the Nazi Party and the Ku Klux Klan are secretly encouraged to come out in the open to stir up their racist filth.

It was Alexander Haig who during the truckers strike opposed any concessions and was for a violent confrontation with the workers.

In Britain, we see the future of America. The refusal of the miners to accept wage cuts and state control over the unions has forced the Tories to call an election and behind the scenes to mobilize troops.

Nixon now prepares for a violent confrontation with the entire American working class. The question now posed in every battle over wages, in every strike, is which class will hold power—the Rockefellers and millionaires who will stop at nothing to increase their profits or the working class.

Everything now depends on the construction of a revolutionary leadership within the unions that is prepared to fight for the construction of a labor party in order to prepare workers to take power.

The construction of the revolutionary party in this fight is the only way the reactionary plans of Nixon and the Pentagon can be stopped.



Tory Prime Minister Heath got hostile reception in Scotland last week.

French Farmers Riot Over Prices

BY A CORRESPONDENT

Nearly 100,000 small French farmers staged violent demonstrations all over France last week to press their demands for higher prices.

The campaign was launched by the National Federation of Agricultural Unions as the Agricultural Commission of the Common Market met in Brussels to set prices for the coming year.

In Fougères, 25,000 peasants marched through the streets and were attacked with tear gas after they ripped off the gate of the police station. Sixteen police were injured.

In Strasbourg, 15,000 broke into the "House of Europe" and in Tours they burned an effigy of the head of the European Commission on Agriculture.

In Guingamp, a demonstration of 10,000 farmers ended in violent fighting with special

police forces, and 18,000 in Bordeaux blocked traffic in the center of the city. Hundreds of the farmers dramatized their plight by selling beef to passers-by at cut rate prices.

Common Market policy on agriculture is geared to wipe out the small farmers and guarantee huge profits for the large producers.

The farmers are demanding at least a 20 percent increase in the prices for meat and milk while the European Commission has proposed only seven percent.

When the Common Market was set up, it abolished the subsidy system which compensated farmers for the difference between costs and the market price.

Guaranteed prices are higher in the regions where production is greater, thus favoring the large producers with more technology such as the wheat and beet growers.

The prices are based not on how much is produced but on supply and demand. At the same time, inflation has forced up the cost of production while the prices received remain static.

Indian Police Open Fire

BY A REPORTER

Police opened fire on huge crowds of youth who staged a mass demonstration against the government in Gujarat, India, wounding eight demonstrators.

Premier Ghandi's Congress Party clamped direct rule on Ahmadabad Province several weeks ago after continuous demonstrations that left 52 dead in the last 40 days.

Since then, the strike movement continues in Gujarat against soaring food prices. Textile workers are out in Bombay and Madras, jute workers are striking in West Bengal, and technicians and electrical workers in Uttar Pradesh are continuing their strike.

Doctors are on strike all over the country and a work stoppage by rail workers is halting coal and steel production.

In Maharashtra, the Dalit Panthers (Oppressed Panthers), a

Buddhist movement of "untouchables," fought with members of the upper caste Hindus. The tribal population has launched a civil disobedience movement to protest the seizure of their lands by the big farmers.

In Gujarat, Orissa and West Bengal, despite a good winter harvest, rice cannot be found except on the black market.

Ghandi is fighting for her political life in the legislative elections that are being held in Nagaland, Manipur, Uttar Pradesh and Pondicherry this month.

But now for the vast majority of workers and peasants, her party has become a symbol of corruption and of the speculation and profiteering of the Jats, the big landowners.

In some areas Congress Party candidates have been attacked, or been forced to eat the millet cakes that are the peasants' diet and their homes have been burned.

WRP Candidates Expose Corporate State Plans

BY MELODY FARROW

With the British election only four days away, Prime Minister Edward Heath has made clear that if the Tories are reelected, they will institute a corporate state to smash the unions.

Heath has called for a "new form of partnership between management and labor in industry" which would place the trade unions under total state control, backed up by a military-police dictatorship.

While prices are expected to rise at least 50 percent in the coming year, Heath told a

meeting of Tory supporters last week: "We are the union for the unemployed and the low paid. We are the union for those in poverty and for the hard pressed. We are the union of the nation as a whole."

It is the Tories who slashed the work week to three days, throwing millions out of work, and have allowed massive inflation that is threatening to impoverish British workers, while troops stand by to move against trade unionists fighting to defend their rights.

Heath got a taste of what workers think of him at a visit to Johnstone, Scotland. As soon as he stepped out of the car, angry workers and housewives surged forward shouting "Heath Out." Police quickly rescued Heath and whisked him away.

A Scottish housewife said: "I

have got four kids to feed, but the Tory government is just crippling me. The price of bread has gone up five times in the last three months. I'm getting to the point where I just can't manage."

There is great disgust among workers with the leadership of the Labour Party which has no policy to answer the crisis and has refused to take a stand in defense of the striking miners. Labour Party leader Harold Wilson's call for "a great social contract" between the unions and management is no different than Heath's corporate schemes.

This is why there is so much support for the candidates of the Workers Revolutionary Party which has entered the campaign in nine districts to fight for the program of the WRP to prepare to take power and unite workers and youth behind it.

The Workers Revolutionary Party has exposed the real issues in the elections, the uncontrollable economic crisis of capitalism and the preparations that the Tories are forced to make to resolve this crisis with dictatorship and open violence against the working class.

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Art Director: Jeannie Cooper

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AFL-CIO To Vote On Oil Nationalization

BY JEFF SEBASTIAN

The Executive Council of the AFL-CIO meeting in Bal Harbour on February 22 agreed to consider calling a Washington conference in the next few weeks to draw up a detailed proposal for the nationalization of the American oil industry.

The proposal to draft a nationalization resolution was reportedly made by George Meany to the Council and passed unanimously.

Although the Executive Council energy resolution restricted itself to calls for increased taxes, elimination of loopholes and government machinery to provide oil industry information, the fact that nationalization is now under consideration is an unprecedented move in the history of the American labor movement.

It reflects the bitter class hatred developing in the labor movement towards the great monopolies and the government.

Meany and his right-wing bureaucracy are forced to make such proposals under conditions in which millions of workers are pounded by skyrocketing inflation, mass layoffs, shortages in basic necessities, and mounting daily evidence of corporate profit gouging.

STAGGERING

The latest government statistics reveal staggering increases in fuel costs in January.

Heating oil and coal went up 12.6 percent and gasoline and motor oil soared by 5.9 percent

in this single month alone.

While millions of American workers are enduring endless lines for gas, the giant oil monopolies are deliberately reducing imports of crude oil.

Administration policy requires the oil importers to sell crude oil to domestic refiners at a price average of the domestic price and the higher world market price. In Europe, a gallon of gasoline is selling for well over a dollar.

DIVERTING

US corporations are deliberately diverting foreign supplies to Japanese, European, and Caribbean refineries rather than bring it into the country. Imports of crude plummeted in the last two weeks by 30 percent from 2.8 million barrels to 1.9 million.

The oil companies are simply declaring that they will hold the country up to ransom until they get the higher prices they want.

The executive vice-president of Gulf Oil simply declared that there is now a "major disincentive for anyone who has access to foreign crude oil to import it."

CRUDE

Phillips Petroleum states bluntly: "We aren't going to be hunting for crude like we would have."

A case now in New York State Supreme Court against the Royal Dutch Company gives a glimpse of the monopolistic conspiracies aimed at grabbing super profits.

Under the Shell scheme, heating oil that would have gone to Shell Oil Company which is 30 percent controlled by Americans was diverted to Asiatic Shell wholly owned by Royal Dutch.

The American company's prices were limited to 14 cents a

gallon to wholesalers under US law. Asiatic Shell was able to charge anything the market would bear and realized prices of 47.5 cents a gallon, 300 percent above the controlled price. Such manipulations can be conducted with simple bookkeeping operations by the giant multinational companies.

Governor Shapp of Pennsylvania has revealed that in his state, the independents are still being forced out of business, while the big oil companies are continuing to open new gas stations.

A Pennsylvania probe indicates that huge supplies of petroleum are being stored in "unconventional" locations to create shortages and drive up prices even further.

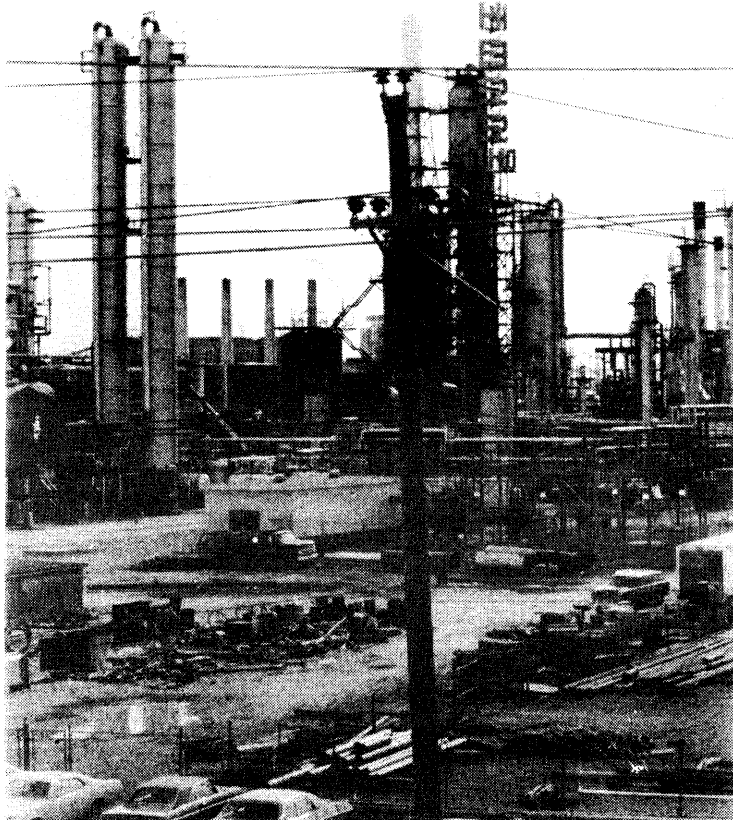
FUTILE

The recent decision by oil czar William Simon to increase allocations to the hardest hit states is a futile gesture under these conditions. New York State will receive an average increase of only six gallons per motorist per month. In mid-February in the New York City area, over 47 percent of the gas stations had no gasoline supplies whatsoever.

Schemes for rationing or a few tax increases will solve nothing as long as the basic energy resources are in the hands of the profiteers.

The chaos can only be eliminated when the giant oil companies and other energy industries are in the control of the working class and operated under a rational plan.

The expropriation of the great oil monopolies can only be accomplished by the construction of a labor party pledged to socialist policies to place the industry under the control of the working class.



Oil refinery in northern New Jersey.

Mexico Bans Anti-US Rally

BY DAVID NORTH

The meeting of foreign ministers from 20 Latin American countries in Mexico City, attended last week by Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, exposed the tremendous tensions in relations between the US and South America.

Mexico, the conference host, has been the scene of increasingly powerful industrial strikes

and peasant struggles. A massive demonstration that had been called by the Mexican labor movement against Kissinger's presence was banned by the government.

For all their talk of a "new relationship" and the establishment of a "western hemisphere community," the ministers could not mask their bitter resentment at the total domination of US capital over their countries.

However, Kissinger bluntly told the conference that the US will not tolerate any controls on investment in South America. At the same time, he brusquely turned aside pleas for easier trade and credit terms.

Though not mentioned in the conference, the specter of Chile haunts the Latin American regimes which understand that the US is prepared to organize a junta in place of any government unable to guarantee its massive investments.

THIRD WORLD

Mexican President Luis Echeverria Alvarez declared: "Latin America forms part of the Third World. Its struggles are coincident with and parallel to those being made by other nations against colonialism, modern attempts at subjugation, injustice in international transactions."

Colombian Foreign Minister Carrizosa said that South America must be detached from "the interests of private foreign capital."

Investment by the US has increased to monstrous proportions over the past decade. It is estimated that US corporations have invested more than five billion dollars in Latin America since 1970.

Kissinger's plans to protect these investments call for an intensification of repression against the working class and peasantry. These plans were revealed when Kissinger told the conference that it "must identify and preserve those aspects of the Rio Treaty and the Organization of American States which have shielded the hemisphere from outside conflict and helped preserve regional peace."

Free Puig Antich

The death sentence on Salvador Puig Antich, a Spanish anarchist student charged with killing a policeman in the course of a demonstration, has been confirmed by the fascist military supreme court.

Once the government has been officially informed the execution can be carried out by firing squad within 12 hours. Only General Franco can now intervene and grant a reprieve.

Puig Antich was sentenced at the height of the hysteria following the assassination of Admiral Luis Carrero Blanco by the Basque Nationalist ETA movement.

He was selected by the military courts as a blood-sacrifice to expiate Blanco's death.

His life is in the greatest danger. There is not the slightest doubt that Franco will have Puig Antich shot unless there is the most widespread protest against this act of fascist barbarism.

He is the first political prisoner to be sentenced to death in Spain since the Burgos Six were reprieved after a massive international campaign of protest.

We demand the immediate release of Salvador Puig Antich and call on all working class organizations to raise their protests immediately to save him from Franco's firing squads.

Telegrams and messages of protest should be sent at once to the Spanish Embassy, 2700 15th Street NW, Washington, DC, 20001.

Young Socialists MARCH ON WASHINGTON

FORCE NIXON OUT!

Labor Must Act On Jobs

Build A Labor Party

Buses leaving from NYC, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Bethlehem-Allentown-Reading area.



Chicago

Assemble: Sherman Park (Garfield & Loomis)
Rally: Ogden Park (Marquette & Loomis)
Transportation from Dayton, Detroit, St. Louis, Minn., Madison
For information call 312-327-2620 evenings.

San Francisco

Assemble: Dolores Park
Rally: Union Square
Transportation from Los Angeles, Oakland, Palo Alto, San Jose
For further information call 415-824-4096.

March 16 \$5 transportation & dance

For further information call 212-924-0852

UFA Calls Mass Rally For Support

BY MITCH PATTERSON

NEW YORK, NY—The Uniformed Firefighters Association has publicly announced it will stage a mass rally in front of City Hall on Tuesday, February 26 at 11:30 am to protest the city's attacks on firemen and have appealed to all workers in New York to join them.

The attempts of the City of New York and Fire Commissioner John T. O'Hagan to bust the Uniformed Firefighters Association have been continuous since the firemen went on strike last November.

Hundreds of firemen have been transferred from one company, where in some cases they had been working 20 years, to another company in a different part of the city miles away. These transfers have taken place without the consent of the firemen.

UFA delegates, particularly those who organized or participated in the November strike, have also been ordered to transfer. O'Hagan is consciously seeking to break up and isolate any organized opposition to his policies.

The sharpest attack launched by O'Hagan has been the tremendous cutback in men and equipment. While Squad Companies and Engine Companies have been completely eliminated. This has forced the remaining men to work under far more hazardous conditions and in some cases have cost the

firemen their lives.

In the February 22 issue of The New York Times, a full page ad, written by the UFA President Richard J. Vizzini, appeared.

It stated in part: "During his (O'Hagan's) eight years in command, 2237 civilians perished by fire; an average of 279 persons each year. An average increase of 106 persons dead by fire in each year of his administration.

"More than 47 civilians lost their lives by fire in communities where this Commissioner ordered fire companies eliminated. Examples: Squad Co. No. 1-Removed from Harlem, November 22, 1972. Civilian deaths by fire: 15.

"Engine Co. No. 217-2: Eliminated from Bedford-Stuyvesant, November 22, 1972. Civilian deaths by fire: 10. Squad Co. No. 5: Removed from Lower Manhattan, January 19, 1974. Civilian deaths by fire: 5.

"This Commissioner has cut fire protection in these sections to 32 percent of the department's resources. This anti-labor Commissioner continues a campaign of harassment and retribution which has brought the morale of a proud fire fighting force to its lowest ebb, affecting the best interests of all New Yorkers."

Two days after Squad Co. No. 5 was moved from Lower Manhattan to the Bronx, a woman was burned to death in a project building two blocks from where No. 5 was located. Squad Co. No. 5 would have been on the scene in seconds had they not been moved.

We urge all workers and every trade union in New York to join with the firemen in the February 26 demonstration and to demand that all charges against UFA President Richard Vizzini be immediately dropped.

FBI Covers Atlanta Rightists

BY A REPORTER

ATLANTA, Feb. 24—Georgia Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation declared over the weekend that they never heard of the right-wing American Revolutionary Army before the kidnapping of journalist J. Reginald Murphy, but have refused to explain why they were able to track down the kidnapers within hours of the payment of \$700,000 in ransom money.

While the alleged kidnapping of Patricia Hearst by the so-called Symbionese Liberation Army is being plastered all over the press as a left-wing terrorist conspiracy, the FBI and the newspapers are playing down the right-wing kidnapping as a one man get-rich-quick scheme.

The circumstances surround-

ing the kidnapping of Murphy, managing editor of the Liberal Atlanta Constitution, leaves no doubt that it was the work of fascist tendencies in Georgia.

Only several days before the kidnapping took place, the Ku Klux Klan marched outside the capitol building in Atlanta to protest the unveiling of a portrait of the late Martin Luther King.

Nixon's visit last week to Huntsville, Alabama, was an open appeal for support from all the rightist and reactionary elements in the South. He specifically denounced the "liberal" press.

William A. Williams, who has been seized as the kidnapper, declared that he abducted Murphy "to stop these lying, leftist, liberal news media."

In a description of his 49-hour ordeal, Murphy wrote that Williams claimed that the American Revolutionary Army has 223 members and six colonels.

Williams said, according to Murphy, that this organization had support on the West Coast "because there are enough radicals out there to follow our lead."



Young Socialists rally the support of workers and shoppers as they march across Delancy Street in New York's Lower East Side demanding jobs. As the marchers chanted slogans like "Nixon out, labor in—build a labor party" and "What do we want, jobs —when do we want them, now!," onlookers expressed their support by waving, applauding, and even joining the demonstrations. Many bought individual copies and subscriptions to the Bulletin.

The marchers assembled in Tompkins Square Park where Young Socialists speakers called for an all-out drive to bring youth and workers to the March 16 demonstration in Washington, DC.

"I came on this march today because I can't find a job," declared Darlene from Queens. "Things are getting worse all the time because prices go up and there are no jobs. It looks very bad for this summer."

Sonya from the South Bronx said: "We're out here because there are no jobs. We have to throw Nixon out. That's why everybody should join the Young Socialists."

Layoffs Hit Navy Yard

BY ESTHER GALEN

BROOKLYN, NY—In the Brooklyn Navy Yard, many departments have been hit with mass transfers and layoffs.

In the paint department alone, 40 percent of the men have been transferred, most to lower categories at lower salary. In the shops that make buckets, 80 percent of the men have been laid off.

Most of the transferred workers had been in the yard only 10 to 11 months. They have since been demanding the leadership of the Seafarers International union fight the transfers, but union officials refuse to

take any action.

Not "where he is supposed to be," they take down his helmet number. He then can get a suspension or written notice.

Grievances have been piling up and are creating explosive conditions in the yard.

Last Tuesday morning the men were sent home after two hours, even though weather would have permitted work. They demanded that the union get them the minimum four hours pay to which they were entitled.

Although the supervisor agreed, when their paycheck came, they had been paid for only two hours. Enraged, several of the men smashed the windshield of the supervisor's car.

Men from the Department of Labor Relations patrol the yard to try to intimidate the men

from fighting back. If a man is

Spotters, often on cranes overlooking the area, also take photos of men not in their areas. If it is very cold and a worker stands by the fire, he is written up by a spotter and after two notices, is suspended.

Inside the yard, SIU union representatives openly work very closely with the supervisors and management.

The SIU leadership was the only one to vote against reaffirming a resolution for Nixon's impeachment at the AFL-CIO executive council meeting in Florida. Several months ago, they invited Nixon to speak at their annual convention in Washington DC.

There is continuing talk among the men of beginning a petition to get another union.

JUST OUT

Exposes empirical method behind Mandel's and the revisionist United Secretariat's theories of neo-capitalism.

This second 112-page edition includes a new introduction by Alex Steiner and Dennis O'Casey assessing Mandel's philosophical methods and reactionary policies in view of the new stage of the economic crisis.

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Bulletin Comes To Youngstown

**BY NANCY RUSSELL
YOUNGSTOWN,
Ohio—A new branch of the Workers League as well as a Young Socialists club was recently established here by a Bulletin trailblazing team which blitzed through Youngstown during the last two weeks of January.**

There are now whole city blocks of homes that receive the Bulletin regularly through the mail. The Trailblazers sold 1149 Bulletin subscriptions and 120 subscriptions to the Young Socialist newspaper.

The campaign against Nixon and unemployment received an especially enthusiastic response from the youth in Youngstown. Hundreds of copies of the Young Socialist were sold during the blitz, especially at South High School and Rayen High School.

JOINED

Nearly 25 youth travelled from Youngstown to attend the Young Socialist Regional Conference held in Cleveland on February 2 and many joined the Young Socialists.

Youngstown is one of the biggest "steel towns" in the country. Approximately 80 percent of the population is employed by the steel companies; especially the largest ones, US Steel and Republic Steel. There are miles and miles of steel mills in and around Youngstown, and the smell and soot from the mills hangs over the city.

Conditions for workers at these plants are atrocious. The mills are some of the most antiquated in the country and are dangerously unsafe.

For youth trying to find a job in Youngstown, there is almost nothing. Apprenticeship programs for particular trades are extremely limited and very few who do apply can get in. Jobs offered through the local newspapers are often in cities like

Pittsburgh, 70 miles from Youngstown.

The blitz team came to Youngstown during the truckers strike. They campaigned in areas only a few miles from the Ohio Turnpike where the National Guard was mobilized against the truckers. In the community as well as at every factory where they sold the paper, there was overwhelming support among workers for the truckers.

The figures on unemployment in Youngstown have doubled over the last month. There were 900 workers laid off from Packard Electric, division of General Motors, layoffs totalling 1000 at the Sheet and Tube Steel Works, and the massive Lordstown GM Vega plant is operating only on an hour to hour basis.

It was these conditions that enabled the trailblazers to sell 130 Bulletin subscriptions at the plant gates alone.

One member of the United Steel Workers of America told the Bulletin: "I am with the truckers all the way. With the prices the way they are, who can live? Like when my union goes out, we have all got to stand behind them. That is why I cannot understand Fitzsimmons's not striking."

A trucker told the Bulletin: "I paid 49.9 cents for a gallon of No. 2 diesel fuel, and it was 29.9 cents in 1973.

"I am walking now because I cannot even use my car. I need gas. This is an outrage."

A member of Teamsters Local 377 who bought a subscription to the Bulletin said: "I have been out there stopping trucks all last night, all day yesterday, and all night the night before out on Highway 422. We are stopping quite a few.

"But there is no way you can stop Standard Oil. You will all be in jail through court injunctions. We cannot even picket them."

A woman whose husband had worked at Youngstown Sheet and Tube declared, "He was hurt on the job by a 1500 pound hot steel billet falling on him. It was the plant's fault. They have not given him anything. The other workers are afraid to tell what really happened because they

are afraid of losing their jobs, too.

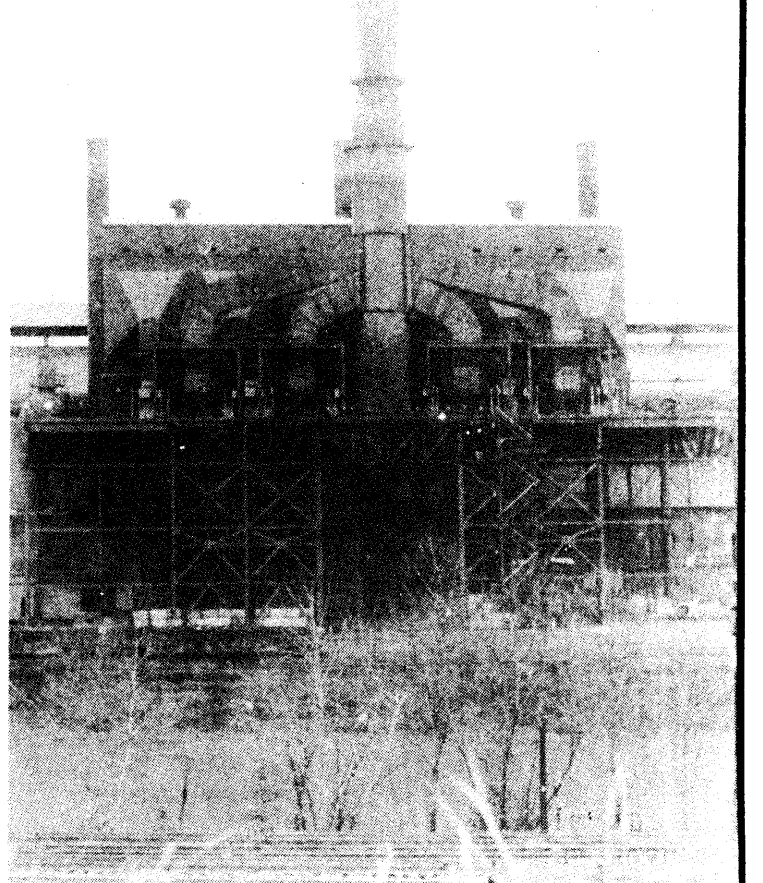
"We have been living on \$159 disabled benefits from the VA and \$25 a month welfare. Now they are cutting our welfare to \$19 because someone gave us an old beat up washing machine.

"This is supposed to support three of us. We lost our home six years ago when Sheet and Tube refused to pay us anything. They will not give him a job that he can do. He has \$500 to \$600 in the company savings plan that they will not give to him until he works one day. He filed a grievance with the union, but they have not done anything. Nixon has got to go."

NO GOOD

James, a member of the USWA, told the team, "This no-strike clause of IW Abel's is no good. Striking was the only thing that we had going for us. The majority of the men are against this. The union leadership signed away our right to strike for a \$150 bonus which we have not seen yet, and I do not know when we will ever get it. It is getting just as bad as slavery.

"It cannot go back to the conditions of the 1930s. It would be too bad. They are trying to take the unions away; that is where Nixon is going."



Above, Republic Steel's gigantic mill in Youngstown. Below, enthusiastic response to YS unemployment campaign from students at Rayen High.



Heath has declared that the main election issue is "our quarrel with the extremists." The question is, who are the "extremists"?

They are the 11 million trade unionists determined to defend their living standards and basic democratic rights, the millions of housewives who are cruelly exploited by enormous price increases and wide sections of the middle class whose mortgages and rents have reached intolerable levels.

The "crime" they commit is that they oppose the policies of the Tory government. They are branded as "extremists" because they want to defend their standard of living. When the miners refused to submit to the Phase Three pay laws, trade unionists and housewives all over the country stood in sympathy with them.

Having been forced to call an election 18 months before their term expired, the Tories are now desperately trying to regain office on the fraudulent basis that everyone is an "extremist" except themselves. This cry of "extremism" and "subversive forces undermining society" was used by Hitler, Mussolini and every other tyrant in history as a smokescreen for the most violent attacks on working people and anyone who stood up for their rights.

The Workers Revolutionary Party unhesitatingly supports all trade unions and trade unionists who are being bashed and red-baited by the Tories; we take the side of working class families forced to scrimp on food and clothing because the Tories have deliberately driven up the cost of living; we stand by every worker who is fighting to preserve his standard of living and the basic democratic rights of the working class.

If these people are "extremists" than the Workers Revolutionary Party is 100 percent with them. No one else will speak up for the working class in this election. The Labour Party leaders have already disowned the miners and they have produced a manifesto which does not contain a single socialist measure to protect the working class against rising prices and onrushing mass unemployment.

In the election the Tories will use phoney "red scares" and provocations to terrify the middle class and arouse all the most reactionary, anti-trade union and anti-working class elements. It can be taken for granted the Tories are not striving so desperately to get re-elected to settle the miners' pay in an amicable way! It is a party that is girding itself for the most vicious class war in which millions of people from the working class and middle class will have their living standards destroyed by mass unemployment, drastic wage cuts and soaring increases in the cost of food.

And as the Tories are basing their election on crushing the "extremists," what, precisely, are they planning for us all if they are returned? Doesn't it mean that the Industrial Relations Act and its notorious court will be applied to the letter, fining trade unions into bankruptcy, that militant trade unionists will be victimized out of a job and even jailed, that basic democratic rights of shop stewards' committees and other working class organizations to organize and to publish newspapers and pamphlets will be abolished?

The very fact that the ruling class is staging the election in the midst of a four-month state of emergency—the longest in history—shows that it is not simply about the selection of another parliament, but a stage in their drive towards smashing the working class. It is being held under virtual martial law conditions in which the only ruling force in the country is the unelected, unaccountable Privy Council backed by the military and the police.

The 1974 version of the Heath government will immediately implement the constitutional and judicial changes for a form of dictatorship over the working class.

This course is dictated by the depth of the international economic crisis. The postwar inflationary boom is irrevocably over, giving way to recession in every major capitalist country. This means that conditions which have been taken for granted for 29 years since the end of the war—relatively full employment, rising wages and reasonably priced food—are now things of the past. After World War Two the strength of the US dollar, convertible into gold, was the basis of world capitalist monetary agreement and the long inflationary "boom." Living standards and full employment were certain to collapse as soon as the boom came to an end.

On August 15, 1971, Nixon ended dollar convertibility thereby cutting adrift billions of paper dollars from any real value. It acted like an earthquake to burst open the

foundations on which all other capitalist currencies are based.

In July 1972 the pound was floated; over the past 20 months it has been devalued 20 percent adding astronomically to the cost of living through the increase in import prices. The recent oil price increases alone will add an extra two billion pounds to the trade debt, a sum that is itself equal to the entire gold and dollar reserves in the Bank of England.

The breakdown of dollar-gold convertibility, of fixed currency parities and of the inflationary boom has provoked a world trade slump. Throughout this century capitalism has proven that it is bankrupt and obsolete bringing to the working people only depressions and world wars. All those who said capitalism was stabilized and the class struggle was outdated have been proved wrong.

History reveals that in the last great economic catastrophe fascism triumphed in Germany (1933) because there was no revolutionary leadership in the working class ready to take power. These same appalling consequences face the British working class today if we falter in the task of preparing for power.

The world economic crisis will be felt at its sharpest in Britain since capitalism in this country has degenerated to such a stage of bankruptcy and parasitism. Stripped of its vast empire, the British ruling class is now fighting a last-ditch stand against the social revolution.

The British working class, the oldest, the most highly organized and the most powerful in the world, is called upon to seal the fate of British capitalism by building a revolutionary leadership to take state power.

As the recession destroys inflationary capital and the factories and machines are turned into scrap, so the lives of millions of people will be cast from relative prosperity into the degradation of mass unemployment. Will this bother Heath and his Tory friends in the City of London? Of course not. Their system is seeking salvation at the expense of your job, your living standard. And if you resist? Why, you are being "unpatriotic" and an "extremist."

The ruling class's "solution" to the present day capitalist crisis is no different from that adopted by their predecessors in the 1930s—workers and their families are to be driven back to inhuman conditions of mass unemployment, poverty, and hunger.

All the gains of the inflationary "boom" period must be taken away. That is why the Heath government centered its main attack on vastly accelerating the cost of living. Food prices have soared a record 49 percent, despite a 1970 election pledge that they would be cut "at a stroke."

The era of cheap food was over the day the Tories barged into the Common Market with the votes of 69 right-wing Labourites who support Roy Jenkins. The electorate was never consulted. Entry into the EEC was nothing more than a conspiracy between the monopolists and bankers to strengthen their hold on the working class.

While prices are soaring, the purchasing power of wages is being continuously eroded. A pound today is worth 25 pence less than it was in June 1970 due largely to the Tories' deliberate decision to float sterling.

Then, in November 1972, the government introduced laws to place a dictatorship over wages. Heath abolished free wage bargaining. Overnight everyone who wanted to fight for a living wage was turned into a "criminal" facing the possibility of fines and even imprisonment.

These intolerable corporatist laws were foisted on rank-and-file trade unionists with the direct connivance of the TUC leaders. Scanlon, Jones, Basnett, Chapple, Jackson and Greene have allowed Phases One, Two, and Three to be imposed on their members. Not a shot have they fired in defense of the basic right of the trade unions to conduct free wage negotiations nor in the defense of the standard of living of their members, totalling some 5 million.

When the miners voted 81 percent to reject the Tories' miserable offer and to go for strike action, they were speaking on behalf of the whole working class. The stubborn resistance of the miners which has brought about the resignation of the Heath government is not "unique." The members of any other major union would vote the same solid way if their executive gave a lead.

The three years and seven months of Heath rule have left no section of the working class or the middle class unscathed. Everyone's standard of living suffered:

Workers Revolut

MANIF



General Election

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Meanwhile the property speculators and asset-strippers were enjoying an unparalleled bonanza. They piled up fortunes and then shifted them into tax havens in the Bahamas.

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The Tories' deputy prime minister and Home Secretary, Reginald Maudling, was forced to resign after his business relationship with the Poulson empire was placed under Scotland Yard investigation.

While the bucketshop banking wing of the Tory Party was making hay, this only aggravated the financial difficulties of the industrialists. They now stand to get the full blast of the recession which Heath declared on December 13 last with his three-day week. This was followed by Barber's decision to cut a colossal 2000 billion pounds from public spending.

For vast sections of British industry,

three-day working is impossible to sustain. It is a financial disaster. Already there is agreement among big manufacturers to inflict the full brunt of the recession on their workers by tearing up layoff and wage agreements and imposing mass redundancies. After three weeks of three-day working there were 2.2 million workers on the dole; by the end of February the figure will be more than 4 million, the highest unemployment since the dreaded 1930s.

Any return to a five-day week will not be on the old production basis. Out of every five men laid off, only three will return to work. Employers will then slash wages and push up productivity to ferocious levels of exploitation.

Workers in industry must utterly reject any management attempts to arbitrarily repudiate trade union agreements. And if closures or redundancies are threatened, workers must reply by staging occupations in defense of their jobs. Factory committees should be elected to carry out this fight for the most basic right of any trade unionist—the right to work.

To sustain the factory occupations and broaden support, Councils of Action must be built in every area to enlist all working class organizations who want to defend the unions and basic democratic rights from the Tory attack.

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on February 28

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And what will be the role of the convicts that have been "compassionately" paroled? Are they to be the Littlejohns of the Yorkshire, Scottish and South Wales coalfields? Will they act as agents provocateurs for their new-found patrons?

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Recent Law Lord's rulings which outlaw picketing are going to provide the legal framework for the scabs to operate. Three members of the Shrewsbury 24 have been jailed for picketing while Lord Chief Justice Widgery, the man who whitewashed the

Parachute Regiment for its murderous activities on Bloody Sunday in Derry, has held that mass picketing, and even standing in front of a lorry is now an offense likely to lead to jail.

Working hand in glove with the judiciary and the scabs will be the police anti-picket squads under the central direction of John Gerrard of Scotland Yard. He heads the armed Special Patrol Group which shot and killed two teenage Pakistanis at India House last March.

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The plans for a dictatorial Britain are far more advanced than many people realize. A clique of militarists around Brigadier Frank Kitson are constantly developing plans for a civil war attack on the working class. These military conspiracies are being advanced in the closest consultation with extreme right-wing Tories, British intelligence and the most reactionary sections of the ruling class.

Ulster was the training ground for the type of operations they want to launch here.

Powell has attended some of these confidential discussions at the Royal United Services Institute for Defense Studies in Whitehall at which the ruling class's civil

war preparations are discussed.

Powell was guest speaker at a notable seminar on "Civil-Military Relations" when he shared the platform with top military and police chiefs.

Powell is the strongest defender of Tory policy. He wanted Heath to fight on. His policy is to cut off the money supply and return to the so-called "free market." This is nothing more than a recipe for mass unemployment and the crashing of whole sections of industry. It would lead to the splitting of the working class, its complete demoralization and the destruction of the unions.

When Powell once said "I am the virus that kills socialism" he meant it, and every worker should completely reject any attempt by the ruling class and the capitalist press to present him otherwise.

Why has he refused to stand? Powell wants to become the "hero" of Tory principles and rally the most reactionary forces inside and outside the Tory Party. Already he has the powerful backing of the racials and a substantial number of industrialists in the Midlands.

The Workers Revolutionary Party places before the electorate a socialist program to unite the working class against the impending catastrophe.

We say that prices cannot be controlled without the nationalization of the food monopolies with no compensation and under workers' control; jobs cannot be defended without the nationalization of basic industry under similar conditions; sufficient housing cannot be provided, rents and mortgages brought down and the property speculators abolished without the land, banks, insurance companies and building societies being brought into public ownership, with safeguards for small savers.

We call for the nationalization without compensation and under workers' control of the oil industry, the North Sea oil and gas resources and the renegotiation of Arab oil contracts.

We say that the conspiracies of the militarists demand the disbandment of the standing army and its replacement by a workers' militia recruited from the trade union movement whose officers will be elected and subject to recall.

We contemptuously repudiate the Communist Party's treacherous policy that the present army can be "democratized." In putting this forward the Communist Party is consciously disarming the working class and preparing the way for another Chile.

We demand the immediate withdrawal of all troops from overseas and we give complete support to the freedom and self-determination of all colonial peoples. We demand the immediate withdrawal of all troops from Northern Ireland put there in 1969 by the Labour government of Wilson and their immediate disbandment.

These tasks can only be accomplished by the working class led by revolutionary leadership, the Workers Revolutionary Party.

We have no illusions in parliament. It is an instrument of the capitalist state to preserve ownership, exploitation and repression.

If any of our candidates are elected, we will enter parliament only to expose it to the electorate. We believe that only the strength of the working class under the leadership of the Workers Revolutionary Party can provide the necessary conditions for the smashing of the capitalist state machine and the carrying through of a socialist program to build a socialist society.

On this understanding we call upon trade unionists, youth, professional workers and housewives to vote Workers Revolutionary Party in the selected constituencies we have decided to contest, and to vote Labour elsewhere.

The Labour Party leaders have no policy to meet the crisis. They have ignored every single rank and file demand to nationalize the monopolies. Instead, they are planning another round of collaboration with them just as they did from 1964 to 1970.

Wilson, Callaghan and Crosland have all made clear that their only electoral undertaking to the working class is "years of austerity"—the very thing that is being demanded by that well known socialist the governor of the Bank of England!

We call on all Labour Party members and trade unionists to vote Labour in constituencies where the Workers Revolutionary Party is not standing. We call on the electors to return a Labour government. In the struggle to compel the Labour leaders to implement the socialist policies we have outlined, they will be exposed and must be driven out.

We utterly reject the Communist Party's

appeal to the Labour leaders to introduce "left policies." It is formless and deliberately unpecific. This is no accident. At its biennial congress last November the CP leaders passed a resolution dropping the phrase "committed to socialist policies" and replaced it with "left policies."

This gives the Labourites a free hand to do as they please. It disarms the working class as to the revolutionary demands that are absolutely necessary to meet the capitalist catastrophe.

What the Communist Party represents is the privileged bureaucracy of the Kremlin which wants at all costs "peaceful co-existence" with the imperialist powers and not their replacement with socialism.

This election has been brought about by the strength and determination of the working class expressed in the fight of the miners. This strength must be built and maintained at all costs. Factory occupations must be staged wherever managements try to sack workers or shut down plants. Councils of Action must be built on a local, regional and national basis to unite all working class organizations against the Tories and for a socialist program to meet the crisis.

The Workers Revolutionary Party demands:

HALT RISING PRICES: Nationalize the food monopolies and the supermarket chains without compensation and under workers' control. Abolish the speculative commodity markets.

STOP UNEMPLOYMENT: Take basic industry, the banks and commerce into public ownership without compensation and under workers' control.

FULL RESTORATION OF SOCIAL SERVICES: An end to health service charges and pensions for the retired at average wages.

A SOCIALIST FUEL POLICY: Workers' control and the planned expansion of the mining and ancillary industries. The nationalization of North Sea oil and gas.

NO TO THE COMMON MARKET: Unconditional withdrawal from the EEC. For a Socialist United States of Europe.

HOMES FOR ALL: Requisition all building and office blocks, nationalize the land, the building industry and building societies.

END ALL ANTI-WORKING CLASS LAWS: Repeal the Industrial Relations Act, the Counter-Inflation Act, the Housing Finance Act, the Immigration Act and all anti-picketing laws. Legislate a Charter of Basic Democratic Rights of the Working Class. Abolish the House of Lords and the monarchy.

RELEASE ALL TRADE UNION and political prisoners from jail. Free the Shrewsbury pickets. Pay back the fines taken from the unions by the National Industrial Relations Court and reimburse all councillors who fought the "fair rents" Act.

ABOLISH THE FORCES OF REPRESSION: Disband the standing army and replace it with a workers' militia.

A SOCIALIST FOREIGN POLICY: Withdraw from NATO and all imperialist pacts. Relinquish all remaining colonies and withdraw troops from Northern Ireland and all foreign countries.

The Workers Revolutionary Party appeals for the greatest campaign throughout the Labour and trade union movement for this socialist campaign to meet the crisis. We will fight tirelessly for our program in the General Election, the Councils of Action and the factory committees.

Throughout the course of this election the Workers Revolutionary Party will fight for the maximum unity with the Labour Party, Communist Party and other groups for the defense of basic democratic rights against the threat of Bonapartist dictatorship and the growth of fascism.

Despite our differences with these organizations, and they are expressed in this manifesto, we stand for the defense of the basic democratic rights of all working class organizations while reserving the right to principled criticism.

We call for massive recruitment to the Workers Revolutionary Party from all sections of industry and the professions. For everyone who is seriously concerned about the gathering of the ugly forces of reaction and who wants to fight for socialism there is only one way forward—

JOIN THE WORKERS REVOLUTIONARY PARTY.

Workers Revolutionary Party

MANIFESTO



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LABOR TODAY

NLRB Rips Up Dock Contract

The NLRB, rejecting an appeal by the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union and the PMA has stated that the provisions in the contract guaranteeing jurisdiction over the stuffing and stripping of all containers to dockers are in violation of the Taft-Hartley Law.

The NLRB decision destroys in one stroke the entire relationship between dockers and employers established since the 1960 Mechanization and Modernization scheme in which the ILWU agreed to unlimited mechanization in exchange for cash payments and a retirement fund.

The NLRB declared quite openly that government policy was to smash all rights established by dockers and is moving to provoke a split between the ILWU and the Teamsters who claim jurisdiction over containers. The NLRB is preparing the way for mass unemployment and layoffs on the docks.

Referring to the M&M agreement, the Board declared that "to a large extent the make-work rights claimed by longshoremen with respect to cargo placed on the dock were effectively bargained away" in 1960 and that while dockers can claim that a container is an extension of a ship, "it is also true that the same container is part of a truck or perhaps a train."

Dockers are at the center of the government's attacks on the unions. The worldwide monetary chaos and trade war forces the government to fully automate the docks with a small tightly regimented work force subjected to intensive exploitation.

Harry Bridges, ILWU president, for many years has carried out a policy of accommodating the union to the needs of the state, with the full support of the American Communist Party.

The M&M agreement carried this collaboration to unprecedented limits, permitting an unopposed mechanization of the docks. While the work force declined through attrition, productivity was raised to intense levels.

Faced with mass unemployment, West Coast dockers struck in July 1971.

Nixon faced a powerful offensive on both coasts, as the ILA struck on September 30. When Nixon imposed a Taft-Hartley injunction against the ILWU on October 6, Bridges had the opportunity to rally the entire labor movement in strike action to break Nixon's wage freeze.

Bridges refused. He sent the men back to work. After the 80 day cooling off period had expired, the ILWU resumed the strike, but only after the ILA had settled.

Bridges quickly settled with the PMA, accepting the same offer the men had overwhelmingly rejected during the strike.

But this was just the beginning. Two months later, the new pay board slashed the ILWU's wage and fringe increase from 25.9 to 14.9 percent. The opposition to this move among trade unionists was so great, George Meany and all of the labor bureaucrats on the Board walked off, with the exception of Fitzsimmons.

But once again, Bridges capitulated before the government. He refused to strike to defend the contract and fight for the labor movement to mobilize behind the ILWU against the wage freeze.

Today, the policies of Bridges and the Communist Party on the docks are in ruins. While Bridges originally claimed that if the NLRB moved against the contract he would consider it cancelled, neither he nor the Stalinists have called for strike action.

Opposition to Bridges is now building up. The recent election in San Francisco Local 10, his home base, swept out the entire local leadership.

The NLRB decision coincides with the opening of negotiations on the East Coast for a new ILA dock contract.

The NLRB decision will be used against the container jurisdiction of the ILA as well. East Coast employers are making it clear that they intend to eliminate the Guaranteed Annual Income.

The entire past period demonstrates that dockers can win nothing without a political fight. Each retreat has increased the determination of the government to attack the union.

The ILWU must prepare a strike against the NLRB decision, this time fighting to bring out the ILA and shut both coasts.

The only answer to unemployment on the docks is the establishment of a shorter work week and a guaranteed of forty hours pay for all dockers, with no layoffs.

A dock strike means an all-out fight with Nixon. Dockers will have to fight to rally the entire labor movement to their support to force the government out and to establish a labor party to replace it with a government that will nationalize transportation under workers control.

by Barry Grey

More Auto Layoffs Ahead

BY DAVID NORTH
DETROIT, Feb. 22—

A new wave of layoffs are being prepared by the major auto companies in order to deal with the bloated stockpile of unsellable cars that has been built up since the fall.

The latest statistics show that the industry now has an 80-day supply of unsold cars. For the leading standard-size models produced by General Motors, the figure is much higher.

There is currently an 118-day supply of Oldsmobiles, a 131-day supply of Pontiacs, and a 140-day supply of Buicks. At this time last year, when cars were selling at a brisk rate, there was only a 41-day supply of Buicks.

Calling these figures "horrifying," *Automotive News*, a leading industry newspaper, wrote on February 18:

"An 80-day supply is difficult to comprehend. Theoretically, it means that the industry could go on selling until early May, if not another car were produced in the meantime.

"Some standards, at February 1 figures, could make it through midsummer at current selling rates without further production."

These figures show that a major industrial recession has already begun, and that the corporations will now move in

the direction of the biggest layoffs in the postwar period.

Areas throughout the country are reporting a sharp increase in unemployment. Detroit unemployment stands officially at 7.4 percent, up from 5.9 percent in January 1973.

Officials estimate that the city's unemployment rate for youth between the ages of 16 to 19 stands anywhere between 35 to 50 percent.

In St. Louis, where both Ford and GM have ordered temporary plant shutdowns, there has been a 44 percent increase in the unemployment rate since December 1973.



DETROIT—Wilson and Sons Dairy Company may shut its Detroit plant, leaving its 225 employees to join the long unemployment lines here.

Wilson and Sons has been operating the Detroit ghetto areas for over 50 years and has had a policy of providing jobs for ex-addicts and former prisoners.

No USWA Statement On Nixon

BY CYNTHIA BLAKE

CHICAGO—The Political Education Committee of the United Steel Workers Districts 31, 32, and 34 in Illinois met February 19-20.

Almost the entire conference was taken up with planning lobbying efforts for the next legislative session. Democratic Governor Dan Walker addressed the delegates, and State Senators Adlai Stevenson and Charles Percy were invited as well.

The conference concentrated on planning efforts to win a higher minimum wage, new laws against strike-breaking and other reforms, including federal insurance for pension funds at a time when Nixon moves forward to strip the unions of their

power.

The Supreme Court has now ruled that unions cannot negotiate pension benefits for workers who have already retired.

USWA President IW Abel himself has tried to force the no-strike agreement down the throat of steel workers.

District 31 Director Sam Evett told the *Bulletin* that Nixon was discussed frequently at the conference, but no resolutions were brought up.

Evett and the others refused to put forward any concrete policies to fight Nixon. Evett stated: "I am not for a labor party. I think a labor party is doomed to failure. We have always managed to work with the two-party system and I do not think we should change it."

This same crisis is exposing all the so-called "opposition" groups within the union, parti-

cularly the "Steelworkers for Change" group at US Steel's Southworks, which is led by the Stalinist Communist Party.

Their latest meeting, on the question of layoffs in the mills, was split by a struggle over whether the caucus should launch a fight for impeachment.

The Stalinist leadership came forward to squash this move toward politics by the steel ranks, thus acting as the chief support for Abel within the union. At the same time, they had no strategy for fighting the layoffs.

Today, every union question, the defense of every gain requires a political fight. The Trade Union Alliance for a Labor Party is being constructed in the steel mills to lead the fight for the August contract, for general strike action to force Nixon out, and for the construction of a labor party.

National Auto Conference

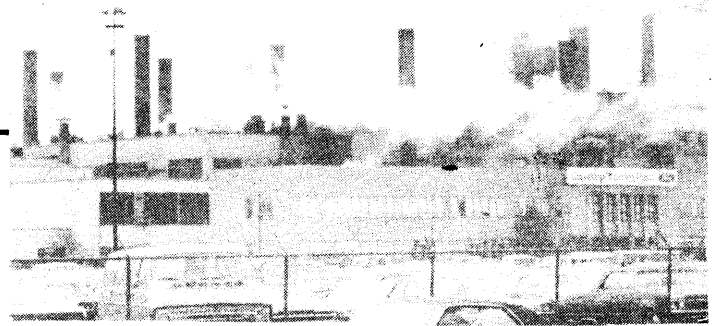
Of The Trade Union Alliance For A Labor Party

DAYTON
MARCH 31

noon

Mall Motor Inn
21 So. Jefferson
(Carillon Room)

Registration: \$2.50



"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

E. Cleveland Youth Join YS Jobs March

BY A REPORTING TEAM
EAST CLEVELAND, Feb. 25—Chanting "We demand jobs, force Nixon out," "Unions must defend the youth, build a labor party," youth from South High School in East Cleveland, John Hoy in Cleveland, and South High School in Youngstown, joined young workers and unemployed youth in the Young Socialists march against unemployment here today.

The marchers' determination to defend the right to a job against Nixon was not dampened in the least by snow and wind gusts of up to 50 mph at the time of the march. The march began at Hoy High School where 15-year-old Robert Dennis, murdered by police last month, used to attend school.

ROUTE

The route took the marchers through East Cleveland, where thousands of workers have been laid off at the Brook Park, Coit Road, and Euclid auto plants and at General Electric, Nela Park.

In the campaign the week prior to the march, many trade unionists contributed to help pay the cost of the banners and the other expenses of the march. One older worker paid for the cost of renting a van for the day in order to bring people to the march.

The marchers were enthusiastically greeted along the way with honking horns, clenched fist salutes from drivers, and shouts of support from workers in the houses along the way.

RALLY

At a rally following the march, Eddie of the Cleveland Young Socialists said: "We must get Nixon out now. Prices are going sky high and yet there are no jobs for young people. We must

bring our campaign to masses of young people now and begin to build the Young Socialists unemployment march in Washington, DC."

He also outlined the plans for the regional basketball tournament and dance to be held in Cleveland on March 2.

STEEL

Bruce Johnson from Youngstown South High School stated: "In Youngstown, the layoffs in the steel mills hurt everybody. No one can find a job. It is only the working class that can kick Nixon out through a general strike."

Perry Tilleraas brought greetings from the Workers League: "As this march is being held, conditions in England are being prepared for civil war."

"While every one is forced into a three day work week, millions more are permanently unemployed, the miners are on strike against the Heath government. That government is preparing to bring troops against the entire working class."

"The truckers strike and the National Guard in Ohio show that the same conditions are beginning to take place here. This march demonstrates the youth are in the lead of the fight against Nixon."

"We will not accept Nixon's prices, we will not accept his layoffs, and we will not accept his plans for dictatorship."

After the march, the Young Socialists signed up committees for the basketball tournament and put deposits down on tickets for the Washington unemployment march.



Police last week attempted to break up demonstration of striking upholsterers from Sealy Mattress Co. in St. Paul, but workers determined to win. Two strikers were fired for allegedly breaking windows.

St. Louis Ford Cuts 1300 On Night Shift

BY A REPORTER

ST. LOUIS—Massive layoffs have hit the Ford-Mercury plant here, and it is feared that the plant will work only the day shift for about two weeks a month between now and August.

This move will leave 1300 workers on the night shift out of work indefinitely. It is rumored that Ford will not operate the plant at all rather than change over to smaller cars.

Since the first week in December, the night shift has worked only three weeks and four days. Workers with up to seven years seniority have been laid off.

UAW Local 25 officials have assured those laid off that the Supplementary Unemployment Benefits will continue for a year.

At General Motors here, where on the night shift 2000 men on the passanger line have been

laid off indefinitely, the UAW Local 25 leadership has informed the members that at the present rate, their SUB pay would last five and one-half months, but this depends on no more layoffs. This explodes Woodcock's claim that "SUB pay softens the blow" as reported in the latest Solidarity.

One Ford worker told the Bulletin: "I enjoy the vacation now, but later will be different. Woodcock has not done a thing about the layoffs and has never done a thing for the union members."

"He is too far away from the workers taking care of himself. I support the truckers, and what this country needs is to be really shaken up. We need a change."

Auto workers from Ford, Chrysler, and GM plants here should attend the National Auto Conference in Dayton on March 31 to carry forward a fight for new leadership in the UAW.

Cops Attack OMC Strike

BY A REPORTER

OWATONNA, Minn.—Police were called to the Owatonna Manufacturing Company (OMC) Thursday to help the company herd its scabs and strikebreakers through the picket line of striking International Association of Machinists Local 1416.

Almost 300 workers of this

farm equipment plant have been out on strike since February 3 for the right to a union contract. They won their certification election last June, but attempts to gain a contract have broken down over the refusal of management to accept a union security clause.

Since the strike began, OMC has hired Pinkerton agents out of Minneapolis to patrol the plant

and has been running ads in the Twin Cities paper attempting to hire strikebreakers.

On Thursday, eighty pickets armed with sawed off baseball bats and pieces of lumber circled the entrances to the plant, determined to protect their jobs.

In the melee, two men were injured, one picket and one scab, and about 13 cars damaged. The sheriff's office sent men in full riot gear to attack the pickets, but by the time they arrived, union officials had forced the men to let the scabs and office workers through. Mass picketing and demonstrations continued around the plant all day.

By Friday, the OMC had appealed for an injunction limiting picketing and a temporary restraining order had been granted.

Asked by the Bulletin if they were going to obey the court order, Jerry Burnett, full time representative of IAM at Owatonna, confirmed reports that the union had voluntarily limited picketing even before the court order was issued and said that there were no plans for mobilizing the rest of the union movement to defend the strikers.

Plant Fumes Linked To Cancer

BY A REPORTER

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—A rare liver disease that has killed six workers in a plastics plant here has been attributed to the failure of the B.F. Goodrich Chemical Company to protect workers from unsafe exposure to vinyl chloride.

News that the same disease, a form of liver cancer, killed a worker in a Union Carbide plant in West Virginia means that the lives of thousands of workers employed in the plastics in-

dustry may have been damaged by unsafe working conditions.

Tests taken over the last month at the B.F. Goodrich plant show that possible signs of the disease, known as angiosarcoma, have been detected in 15 out of 270 workers.

Workers at B.F. Goodrich have been complaining about the lack of ventilation. However, not until a worker died of angiosarcoma in December—the sixth recorded death from this cause since 1964—did the company make any effort to investigate the dangers of exposure to vinyl chloride, a chemical widely used in the plastics industry.

The company has been forced to make a number of conces-

sions such as providing air masks and rubber suits for workers in areas where the concentration of vinyl chloride is especially high.

However, the deaths expose the attacks on working conditions not only in the plastics industry but in other sections of industry.

Several hundred workers have been paralyzed because of fumes in the Columbus Coating plant in Ohio. Shipyard workers report a growing number of deaths caused by asbestos poisoning.

The threats to workers' lives are growing more serious as corporations respond to the economic crisis with speedups and other forms of attacks on working conditions.



Speaker:
Tim Wohlforth,
 Workers League
 National Secretary

THEORY & PRACTICE OF THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

All Classes: \$1 trade unionists
 75¢ youth

PHILADELPHIA
 Wednesday, Feb. 27
 1708 N. 22nd St.
 7:30 pm

WASHINGTON, DC
 Saturday, Mar. 2
 2645 Stanton Rd. Apt. C
 Washington, DC Southeast
 7:00 pm

THE CASE FOR A NEW ELECTION

BROOKLYN EAST FLATBUSH
 Thursday, Feb. 28
 Community Hall
 Bedford & Hawthorne
 7:30 pm

13BRONX
 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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FILM

by Alex Steiner

Allende's "Left" Critics

When the People Awake, a film that purports to be a documentary of the experiences of the Chilean workers and peasants under the Popular Unity government of Salvador Allende, is currently playing in New York City.

The Popular Unity government was labelled an experiment in "democratic" socialism, in which Allende's Socialist Party and the Stalinist Communist Party formed a coalition government with capitalist parties to administer a capitalist state apparatus that would supposedly introduce socialism through parliament.

This "experiment" was ruthlessly crushed, along with the lives of tens of thousands of workers and peasants, when the fascist military junta overthrew Allende and ended bourgeois democracy in September 1973.

When the People Awake was produced before the coup, but after the treacherous illusions spread by Allende and the Stalinists that the military would remain loyal to the Constitution and that socialism could be introduced through parliament began rapidly falling away in the eyes of the workers and peasants who were learning from experience that the capitalist class was not about to let itself be expropriated peacefully.

The film vividly depicts the tremendous strength and history of the struggle of the Chilean working class against capitalism. It shows how the spontaneous movement of the workers and peasants was going far beyond the limitations of Allende and the Stalinists' popular front policies.

The film shows workers and peasants militias being organized, the spontaneous seizure and expropriation of lands and factories against the official opposition of the government, and marches of 100,000 workers carrying red flags.

regime while continuing to make "left" criticism and empty protests in order to push the Popular Unity government further left.

This middle class, centrist perspective diverted the working class from the central task of building a revolutionary party to lead the workers and peasants in an independent struggle for power against Allende's bourgeois government.

This is brought out in the film when the narrator comments that under the Allende government, the working class had a share of power. The real power behind the coalition government was always the military, which relied on the reformist illusions pushed by Allende and his "left" supporters like the MIR to buy time to advance its counter-revolutionary plans.

In another scene, a government bureaucrat and a worker who is with an MIR activist discuss the future of Chile. The worker and the activist want to know why the government is moving so slowly and inefficiently to better the conditions of the people. The bureaucrat, in a business suit, is portrayed as a man caught up in a vast machine that cannot really relate to the needs of the people.

The political conclusion to be drawn from this exchange, according to the narrator, is that although the state remains tied to the capitalists, the Allende regime cannot stop workers from seizing land and factories at a local and community level.

The irony, if not tragedy of the film, lies in the contrast between the revolutionary movement of the working class of Chile and the treacherous, reformist politics of the leadership of the working class, including the MIR.

Above all, this film attempts to prevent the working class from learning anything from the



MIR had no perspective for leading workers and peasants to power.

The strength of the working class which comes through in this documentary is in complete contradiction to the political perspective around which the film was made, which is enunciated by the narrator.

The film was made by the MIR, a centrist political party whose base was the peasantry in the south. The MIR emerged out of middle class students in the 1960s who tried to adapt Castroite theories of guerrilla warfare to conditions in Chile and found a certain response among sections of the peasantry.

The MIR ended up supporting Allende's Popular Unity government in the elections of 1970—although making some mild "left" criticisms—after having advocated "armed struggle" for years. After Allende came to power, the MIR supported his

experience of Chile. The film never once mentions Stalinism, or the political role played by the Chilean Communist Party.

The Chilean Stalinists were the most right-wing section of the Popular Unity government, opposing every factory seizure and continually urging the working class to trust the military.

The showing of this film now, after the consequences of such politics has been demonstrated in practice, serves the interests of those who want to cover up their own role in Chile and prevent the working class from drawing the lessons of Chile.

The MIR, themselves victims of the Stalinists, have served to perpetrate the lie that the Chilean working class was heroic, but could never have won.

Oil Scabs Remain

BY DENNIS BREHM
LOS ANGELES—Although the month long strike of over 1000 Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers Local 1-126 ended last week, hundreds of scabs are still working in the refineries.

The strike was against the contractors who provide maintenance services for the major oil refineries, such as Arco, Shell, Mobil, and Union oil companies.

The refineries were shut down for the first day of the strike because all other union workers refused to cross picket lines.

When the refiners obtained injunctions against mass picketing, the local union leadership instructed the regular refinery workers to cross. This opened the way for a massive scab force to be brought in to do the maintenance work.

Now, more than a week after the settlement, the scabs are still working in the refineries, and kept apart from the regular



OCAW members.

One worker said: "They say they have got to keep them because they signed a one year contract." The scabs are actually members of the Seafarers International Union, affiliated with the AFL-CIO.

REHIRED

According to the settlement, all OCAW members were to be rehired within two days, but many nonseniority workers still

have not been recalled.

Hanskill Company, one of the contractors, still has between 40 to 50 scabs working and about 150 members of the union are still on strike.

During the week, there were several instances of violence resulting in broken car windows and fights between union members and scabs.

Stan Szczesniak, a member of the local said: "They probably signed a contract with them. This way, they have a nucleus of scabs in each company for the contracts coming up with the regular workers."

About the violence, he said: "This country was founded on violence. We can walk the picket line 20 years and wear our shoes out and get nothing. It's going to take more than that now."

The contract settlement gives the maintenance workers a pension plan and reaffirms the union shop, but the union shop has already been made meaningless by the presence of the scabs.

Most workers were relieved to return to work and were bitter towards the union leadership who had done nothing to defend the right of mass picketing to shut the refineries down.

Carpenter Council Bars Militant

BY A REPORTER
SAN FRANCISCO—On February 20, a trial board appointed by Joe O'Sullivan and officials of the Bay Area Council of Carpenters found John Stenson from Local 483 in San Francisco, guilty of three charges.

Stenson, a militant oppositionist to the O'Sullivan leadership and one of the leaders of the recent wildcat against the Construction Industry Stabilization Committee, was found guilty of causing dissension, of divulging the business of a union body without its consent, and of "violating the obligation."

He was fined seven dollars and barred from regular union meetings for 18 months.

This attack on Stenson, a member of Carpenters for a Stronger Union, is a desperate move. The trial of Stenson lasted five hours and cost the union \$500, the longest and most expensive trial in the council's history.

At the district council meeting which approved the trial board's ruling against Stenson, a delegate was ruled out of order by O'Sullivan when he moved the charges be dropped after the verdict was announced.

When an alternate to the council, a supporter of Stenson and the Carpenters for a Stronger Union, rose to speak, O'Sullivan ruled discussion out of order and ordered him to sit down. Nevertheless, the vote to accept the trial board's decisions was nearly split 50-50.

"If he would have let the people speak," Stenson told the Bulletin after the meeting, "I think the vote would have gone the other way."

Stenson has filed charges against his accusers, including Local 483 business agent, Rull Poole.

Stenson told the Bulletin he has charged Poole with racist practices, among other things. According to Stenson, when a Black carpenter ran for office

recently, Poole and other bureaucrats circulated the story that the Blacks were trying to take over the unions.

"Watts and O'Sullivan said I would not get a copy of the transcript of the trial. When I asked for it, he said, 'You'll have to pay \$500.' He didn't want me to have a copy so that I can make an appeal."

The Trade Union Alliance for a Labor Party calls upon every member to rally to Stenson's

defense. This is an attack on every carpenter. Unemployment among Bay Area carpenters is as high as 25 percent.

TUALP is fighting to stop the layoffs and win back the wages cut by the CISC plus 20 percent more when the contract expires in June.

We are demanding an all-out strike and the fight for a labor party to nationalize construction under workers control.

Students Fight Attempt To Fire WL Supporter

BY A REPORTER
ALTA LOMA, Calif.—Chaffey Community College students have formed a committee to defend the job of Irving Hall, an instructor of political science and a member of the Workers League.

Hall has been teaching a minimum of two evening courses for almost three years and was hired last September to replace regular day staff on leave for two quarters.

The head of the Social Science Department has reduced Hall's teaching load next quarter to one evening class off campus.

INITIATED

Although Hall initiated the local of the California Federation of Teachers at Chaffey at the beginning of the year, and serves as its vice-president, in late January, the union president used the device of a departmental teacher evaluation to urge the administration to break Hall's tenure.

The leadership has politically paralyzed the union local for six months and the initiative for contract proposals to the administration has passed to the California Teachers Association.

Last month, the Social Science Department chairman requested department support for a policy of firing evening teachers in order to maintain the

positions of day teachers. Evening teachers receive less than half the salary.

Earlier in a four page resolution to the union, Hall had warned: "The present leadership of the union is increasingly becoming the open agents of the government against those workers who are willing to fight to defend their jobs and their wages."

ATTACKED

The union leadership put out a "confidential" memo in which Hall's union policies were attacked. While the Department head has been claiming publicly that the cutback was for purely "economic reasons," the "confidential" evaluation of Hall is reminiscent of the McCarthy witch-hunt of the 1950s with its accusations of "indoctrinations."

When Hall demanded an open discussion of these charges so that he could refute them and urged the department to grant the students' request for an open hearing, this was rejected.

A motion to discuss a resolution to defend Hall and to place it on the agenda of the next meeting of the Chaffey College Federation of Teachers never came to a vote.

The administration is now simply waiting for an opportunity to fire him. The attack on Hall is an attack on all teachers and students.

United Ramp Men Vote Strike

BY STEVE SAYLOR
SAN FRANCISCO—
Over 80 percent of United Air Lines' 500 ramp service workers at San Francisco International Airport have voted for strike action.

Over 50,000 airline workers, industry-wide, have been laid off across the nation. The United contract, which expired January 1, is under wholesale attack.

At United's national maintenance center in San Francisco, over 1000 employees have been laid off.

United has refused to offer the International Association of Machinists (IAM), which represents ramp service workers and mechanics, even one cent for any wage increase, and is already breaking up all classification rights.

One ramp service worker told the Bulletin: "They are using laid off machinists as part-time ramp men so they do not have to hire new people."

BROKEN

"Right now there are over six men with broken backs and knee operations on leave from ramp service. They push you so hard, they break your legs."

United intends to step this up tenfold. The company just announced an addition of 36 flights a day without any recall of the over 1440 workers laid off

nationally.

United is the largest domestic airline, with 16,000 employees nationally, 7000 in the Bay Area. TWA, American, National, and Allegheny, which all have expired contracts with the machinists and ramp service workers in the IAM, are taking their lead from United for a union-busting campaign.

NEGOTIATIONS

Negotiations between United and the union have completely broken down. One official of IAM Local 987 explained: "They want to take everything away that has ever been negotiated since we have had a contract."

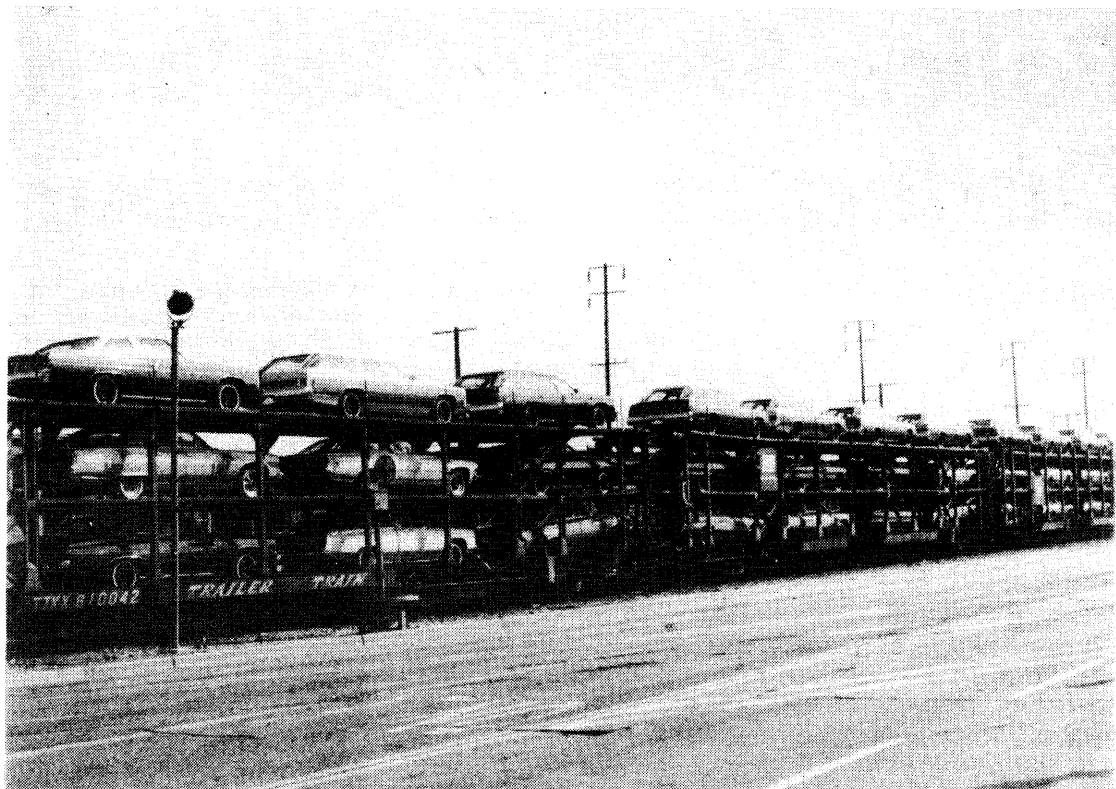
United workers are subject to the Railway Labor Act which regulates negotiations and suppresses strikes in the transportation industry.

EXHAUSTED

Although the union has exhausted the services of the Federal Mediation Board and is free to strike legally on March 21, a strike will be met with federal court injunctions.

An airline worker said: "Watergate is United Airlines. They brought Dwight Chapin, that liar and Nixon's dirty trick man, straight from the White House to be a vice-president of United. He is still collecting dividends from United."

United workers must demand that the IAM strike United and bring out all other airline workers to fight the mass unemployment and shutdowns in the industry.



Large Chevies being loaded at Southgate. Plant may be converted to producing Vegas.

GM Silent On Southgate

BY A REPORTER

LOS ANGELES—General Motors still will not make a definite statement on whether or not the Southgate Assembly Plant will be converted to production of the Chevrolet Vega. The plant is still on a three week layoff.

It is scheduled to reopen February 25 for one week only and then shut down for an indefinite period, possibly until late summer when the 1975 model year starts.

Steve Harris, public relations representative for GM, said:

"No final announcement has been made on the Vega. Top executives have merely speculated as to whether the plant might be converted."

Oliver Ussey, a member of UAW Local 216 and one of the nearly 2000 workers laid off indefinitely out of 3600 who worked at the plant, said: "Either way, it looks like I will not get my job back."

"If they put the Vega in, they will not need as many workers because it is a smaller car and I only have seven years, so I will be out."

"I'd say they need only 1000 workers. If they do not start up the Vega, we will all be out of jobs. The plant will close."

RESIGN

"Woodcock has not done anything yet and I do not think he ever will. He should resign."

If the Vega is brought in, the working conditions in the plant will be brutal. If the plant closes, the many years of pensions saved up will be jeopardized for hundreds of workers.

The layoffs at Southgate have affected many workers in related industries. At Norris Industries, where they make wheel rims, there have been layoffs. Many of the small businesses in the area are being forced to close.

Truckers and railroad workers who moved parts and finished cars are being laid off. One worker at the nearby Firestone Rubber Plant said: "I've only been working since November, but I am just waiting for the layoffs. With all the layoffs in auto, it has got to hit us."

Saxbe Uses SLA To Ask Death Penalty

BY BARRY GREY

SAN FRANCISCO—The government's elaborate witch-hunt against the left was brought into high gear last week as Attorney General Saxbe, in a Los Angeles press conference, raised the specter of international terrorism coming to the United States.

FBI director Kelly told the press that the FBI's activities in the Patricia Hearst case were "almost exclusively directed to the safe return" of multimillionaire Hearst's daughter.

But Saxbe expressed the real motivation behind the entire affair. He said America is "coming face to face with the trend we have seen in Munich and elsewhere," referring to the terrorist attack by Palestinian guerrillas last summer on the Israeli athletes.

TERRORISTS

Saxbe went on to warn: "We have to remember these terrorists will do just as much as they can get away with and we have to face this problem head-on."

Saxbe called for instituting the death penalty for kidnapping and made a sweeping call for law and order against crime: "The deterrents to crime are apprehension and prosecution of criminals and I personally feel nothing should stand in the

way."

With these words, Saxbe has launched the government's campaign to bypass the constitution and establish the apparatus for massive repression against the labor movement and the entire working class.

Saxbe's statements follow proposals from Republican Congressmen to strengthen the powers of the FBI to deal with terrorists and kidnapers.

FOOD

Besides the additional four million dollars, the latest tape received from the SLA demanded more food distribution centers, and linked Patricia Hearst's release to the fate of Russell Little and Joseph Remiro, the two men being held for the assassination of Oakland School Superintendent Marcus Foster.

From the very beginning, the kidnapping has had all the earmarks of an FBI scenario, planned in advance and being carefully acted out. A number of radical groups have willingly participated with Hearst and the FBI in distributing the food.

Last Thursday, a group claiming to have split from the SLA issued an "open letter to the people." The letter stated that the writers were in hiding and expected reprisals from the SLA.

They said they split from the SLA after the assassination of Marcus Foster. They stated they believed the SLA was "manipulated either by some local right-wing organization or the CIA itself."

San Francisco Teachers Rally For 15% Wage Hike

BY MARTY MORAN

SAN FRANCISCO—Two hundred teachers picketed the Board of Education for one hour on February 20 and then rallied to back up their demand for a 15 percent salary increase.

San Francisco Federation of Teachers (SFFT) Local 61 is demanding similar pay hikes for paraprofessionals and equality for substitute teachers and

teachers in the year-round children's centers.

SFFT President James Ballard announced that the union expected a response from the school board by March 8. In the last three years since the last strike, teachers have received increases of five percent or less.

STRIKE

"I think it will be necessary to strike to get the 15 percent," said one teacher.

"It is very hard to get anything out of the school board."

A child care teacher told the Bulletin: "I do not want it, but I think we are going to have it. That is what we are building for now."

When Ballard suggested that the picket signs they were carrying might be needed again, many teachers applauded. But later, Ballard told the Bulletin cynically: "I cannot tell. You know, the school board might give us everything tomorrow."

VOTE

An official from the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), which represents city clerical workers, addressed the rally, but made no mention of the city workers decision to have a strike vote meeting March 4. The zero percent wage increase offer made to city workers shows what teachers can expect.

Teachers must demand that the union schedule a strike vote meeting immediately after March 8 if the school board does not grant their demands. There must be joint strike action with the city workers and a campaign for all-out strike action by the city labor movement

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lucha obrera

lucía rivera

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WAGE CUTS . . .

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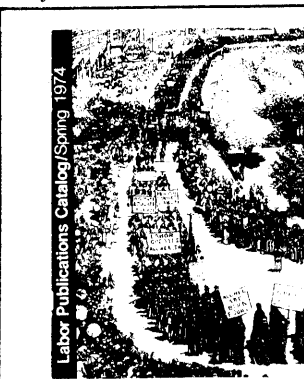
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