

WORKERS' Power

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LETTER CARRIERS' CONVENTION: Kokomo Plan Is Dead!

HOUSTON—Even the air-conditioning couldn't hold the heat down as the 50th national convention of the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) opened here this week. Nearly 5000 delegates from Anchorage to Miami gathered to debate heatedly the future of U.S. letter carriers.

Retiring President James Rademacher dropped a well-timed bombshell in his opening address: "Kokomo is dead." He reported that an arbitrator had just ruled that the postal service must scrap the notorious "Kokomo" computerized speedup plan.

This announcement was met by a huge roar of approval from the delegates. But most carriers know that "Kokomo" is being instituted piece by piece under other names. "Call it Terre Haute," said one delegate. "It's still the same damn thing."

DISCONTENT

There were signs by the end of the first day that the present NALC leadership is losing control of the union. Rank and file discontent about longer routes, harassment and poor representation has set the convention on edge.

The delegates over-rode several recommendations of the official Resolutions Committee. On one such occasion, they voted to demand the contractual right to refuse a direct management order if it violated the contract or the law.

Much of the anger was channeled through the campaign of New York NALC branch president Vince Sombrotto. Sombrotto has many of the large-city delegations lined up behind his reform campaign for the national union presidency. He will be running against Joe Vacca, Rademacher's candidate.

A rank and file convention caucus was organized by supporters of the Rank and File Postal Worker, a national monthly newspaper. The caucus supports Sombrotto's ticket, but has blasted him for not leading the fight on current issues. Sombrotto has concentrated on union democracy, but has not showed much willingness to take on the Postal Service management.

According to caucus member David Berger from New York, "We're trying to get the discontent that's out here translated into tougher policies by the union. We want the union to support local job actions, like the one that almost broke out in Seattle this year."

San Quentin Trial: Three Convicted In Escape Frame-up

AUGUST 12—Today three of the San Quentin Six were acquitted and three were convicted. The charges stemmed from violence provoked by San Quentin authorities in a successful plot to assassinate George Jackson five years ago next week.

Jackson had gained international fame as a revolutionary writer and spokesperson for prisoners' rights. He was shot in the head on August 21, 1971 when an "escape attempt" was phoned-up by California prison authorities.

Fleeta Drumgo, Willie Tate and Louis Talamantez were acquitted. Johnny Larry Spain was found guilty of the first degree murder of two prison guards.

Hugo Pinell was found guilty of assault on two guards. David Johnson was found guilty of

assaulting one guard.

The Six black and brown prison activists, along with Jackson, had waged a long struggle against conditions in San Quentin's "Adjustment Center." Long-time confinement there has since been ruled un-Constitutional—cruel and unusual punishment.

The trial lasted over four years. During it, five of the Six were kept chained and shackled. Willie Tate was free on \$100,000 bond.

A visibly upset Tate, on hearing the verdicts, raised a double fist salute. All he had to say was, "I'm glad for the Brothers that are free."

The sentences of the convicted Brothers are not yet known.

Kate Stacy

SOUTH AFRICA THE FLAMES OF FREEDOM



Today, it's a bus or truck or government building that's burning. Tomorrow, it will be the entire South African political structure of white minority dictatorship.

South Africa's political leaders know it is their future at stake. And they are acting in a manner that befits desperate men, with privilege to protect: hundreds of unarmed black young people lie dead on the streets, mowed down by police gunfire.

The courage of these young South African blacks is truly amazing. The police can stop any one of them easily enough with a bullet through the head. But there is no force on earth that can stop them all.

In recent days, the rebellion has spread to Cape Town—meaning that now virtually every section of the country is involved.

For more news, turn to page 6.

Portable Toilets, Drinking Water for Farm Workers ?

'TOO INFLATIONARY,' SAYS GOV'T AGENCY

by Jim Woodward and David Katz

Some of the most disgusting bureaucrats in the whole U.S. government work in an agency set up by the President, the Council on Wage and Price Stability (COWPS). The Council has no formal powers; it is simply supposed to judge whether any particular government or business activity is inflationary.

The Council's latest pronouncement says it would be "arbitrary," "imprudent," and "inflationary" to require drinking water and

toilets in the fields for farm workers.

Such a regulation has been proposed by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). It would require portable toilet facilities and drinking water within a five-minute walk of every farm worker.

"They don't have any of these conditions for farm workers," said Maria Arevalo, a member of the United Farm Workers union.

"You have to bring your own drinking water and go to the toilet

behind the vines," she told Workers' Power.

The only exceptions have been since the UFW won union contracts, she said.

HEAT

Arevalo said that a farm worker working in the fields in 115° temperatures might have to walk a mile to get a drink of water—too far for anyone to do it, since they wouldn't be paid for the time. If you didn't want to go to the bathroom in the fields, she said, you would just have to wait until the end of the day.

The President's Council on Wage and Price Stability has a unique procedure for determining whether a proposal to alleviate such conditions is inflationary. It's not whether the proposal will cause prices to rise. Rather, the Council says, "If the costs of a proposed regulation exceed the benefits, it is inflationary."

For the entire country, providing toilets and drinking water for farm workers will cost, at most, \$16 million the first year, according to OSHA, and considerably less in future years.

Whether the benefits of providing farm workers with cold drinking water and portable toilets are worth this relatively small sum depends on your point of view. And rarely does the government's pro-business point of view become clearer than in the Council on Wage and Price Stability.

If profits are more important than people, then toilets and drink-

ing water are "inflationary" and "unrealistic."

A Council spokeswoman who didn't want her name used was not happy when Workers' Power asked how far it was from her desk to the nearest toilet. "That's totally illogical," she screamed. "You can't

compare working in a modern office building to working in the fields."

Nevertheless the answer, she admitted, was "no more than 100 feet, 150 at most." But she added, "This is a totally insane conversation."



Maria Arevalo, with daughter Estelle, talks about working conditions in the fields.

labor notes

by Jim Woodward

There's a plan in the works to postpone elections in the United Steel Workers Union (USW) until the fall of 1977. The plan is being pushed by Joseph Kender, director of USW District 28 (Cleveland). Kender wants the USW Convention, which begins later this month, to extend incumbent President I.W. Abel's term until after the present steel contract expires in August, 1977. Kender is among a group of USW district directors who are promoting the candidacy of incumbent Vice President John Johns to become president when Abel retires.

Rubber workers are carrying Christmas trees around on picket lines in Akron. It's an expression of their determination to stay out until Christmas if necessary to win their strike. The companies, for their part, are refusing to come across with the vacation pay they owe their workers. Goodyear says it'll give out vacation pay after the strike is over.

In Washington, Labor Secretary W.J. Usery has called the companies and the United Rubber Workers together again in his third attempt to end the strike. He failed in his first two attempts.

Unroyal, one of the Big Four companies are being struck, has been accused by the government of job discrimination against women and minorities. As a result Unroyal could lose its military contracts, which totalled \$46.9 million last year. But don't bet on it.

The National Labor Relations Board has rejected a bid by the Independent Skilled Trades Council (ISTC) to represent skilled workers at Chrysler. The Board says the ISTC didn't have enough signatures. The ISTC is a reactionary, racist organization which is trying to capitalize on the legitimate hostility many skilled auto workers feel towards the leadership of the United Auto Workers union.

Three thousand workers at the Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Co. in Philadelphia are wildcatting to protest the July 26 firing of Peter Ohrt, a machinist. Ohrt was fired after refusing to operate a highly dangerous machine without a helper. Neither a court injunction nor the arguments of Walter Strohl, business manager of Boilermakers Local 802, have been able to end the wildcat.

By a vote of 246-176, the United Auto Workers has won a bargaining agent election for workers at Federal Mogul Corp's Hamilton, Alabama plant. Federal Mogul ran away from Detroit in 1973 to find cheaper labor. The company may, in fact, still get what it wants. The UAW generally negotiates lower wages in Southern plants such as this one, on the grounds that the cost of living is lower in the South.

Big Brother is coming! Certain employees of the Morgan Guaranty Trust Co. of New York are required to use a fingerprint identification system called "Fingerscan" to get into work. The system, which is a spin-off from an FBI research program, replaces the traditional identification card or badge. It's manufacturers hope that someday Fingerscan will also be used to identify bank customers and credit card holders as well as large numbers of employees.

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

Pickets Hit Massachusetts Postal Bulk Center

SPRINGFIELD, MA—Pickets went up outside the Indian Orchard Bulk Mailing Center this week. Angry postal workers declared a Memorandum of Understanding between themselves and management to be null and void.

The Indian Orchard facility has been in operation since November 8, 1975. It is one of the largest bulk mail centers in the country. Nearly 400 of its 791 workers are represented by American Postal Workers Union (APWU) Local 7044, which is organizing the picket.

Federal government employees have no legal right to strike, so the picket is informational. It's run on the postal workers' own time. The mood, however, is militant. Union officials are aware that an impending strike in United Parcel Service strengthens their hand.

JOB POSTING

The main issue in the postal dispute is a local Memorandum of Understanding between the local and BMC management. According to the Memorandum, the management was required to prove in writing its reason for arbitrarily changing 20 posted jobs by July 30. When the deadline passed and the explanations failed to appear, the union declared the Memorandum

null and void. It called the membership out on an informational picket.

Other issues include job safety, compulsory overtime and the use of casual labor.

Craig Robinson, acting local president, and Sandy Combs, Clerk Craft union president, told Workers' Power, "Working conditions here are atrocious. It's only because this is a government institution that it's still operating."

Robinson said that workers were being severely injured, one knocked unconscious, by heavy parcels dropping from conveyor belts. Others have had their feet run over by conveyor belts projecting outside the building.

Workers are angry about other issues as well. Robinson said that on Friday, July 31, workers walked out on the overtime issue. But management's only reaction was to write each a letter of warning.

THREATS

He added that now the picketers were being harassed and intimidated—photographs were being taken and individuals were being threatened with physical violence. He said at least two workers were told by a supervisor that they would have their legs broken "unless they straightened out."

The union was taking these cases to the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). Robinson said it was noting the names of everyone on the picket line. If there was a pattern of victimization afterwards, it would file NLRB grievances.

Robinson added that he was interested in meeting with Teamsters Local 404, which represents UPS workers in the area. "If I have anything to say about it we should back up UPS if they go on strike."

"We're all workers and shouldn't be cutting each other's throats. If they do strike it will be an ideal time for us to act—it gives us quite a bit of leverage for bargaining." He went on: "I feel strongly that postal workers should have the right to strike."

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Strike Peaks With 120,000 Out

Union Leaders Scab On Miners' Strike

CHARLESTON, W. Va.—The four-week old national wildcat strike of coal miners peaked last weekend. With 120,000 workers out, virtually every coal mine east of the Mississippi River was shut down. Rallies of hundreds of miners were taking place throughout the coal fields.

This week, an intensive back-to-work movement is being promoted by International and local Mine Workers union officials. All week long, however, the rank and file miners who have actually led the strike were fighting to keep it alive. As of Thursday, the outcome was still not settled.

STRIKE COMMITTEE

The strikers' demands have not been met. They include the lifting of current Federal Court injunctions and fines against United Mine Workers locals, no reprisals against strikers, and a promise from the companies not to seek court intervention in future disputes.

Only the original injunction against the Cedar Coal miners, UMW Local 1759, which triggered the explosion, has been formally lifted under the tremendous pressure of the mass strike.

The strike movement organization took a big step forward at a rally of over 600 miners Friday, August 6 in Charleston. They established the first national rank and file strike committee, with democratically selected representatives of each union district.

This was a turning point for the struggle of rank and file miners. For the first time, the union activists have their own organized structure to build the strike, independent of the structures imposed by the union officials.

Events moved rapidly in the next few days. UMW President Arnold Miller called for a mass meeting of miners in Cedar Grove on Sunday, where he would order them back to work.

Miller's strategy was to split the movement by calling on the weakest unionists, with the most pressing bills, to return to work.

But when Miller found out strike supporters planned to attend the rally, he cancelled the rally saying there were threats against him.

One rumor is that he directed his silent partner, Secretary-Treasurer Harry Patrick, to call in a bomb threat so he wouldn't have to attend. Union militants turned the intended back-to-work rally into a thousand-strong strike rally.

THREATS

On Monday, with three-quarters

of the union's working membership on a wildcat strike in defiance of the leadership, the International Executive Board passed a resolution calling for a return to work.

They threatened: "Any member refusing to obey this directive shall on notice and hearing be expelled from membership."

This resolution, offered by men elected on the Miners For Demo-

cracy slate's promise to end trusteeships in the union, further stated that Local 1759 would be put into trusteeship if it didn't vote to return to work.

On Tuesday, the International Executive Board tried to meet in Charleston with the Cedar Coal miners to send them back. Five hundred angry miners showed up and roasted the-IEB for its threats on the membership.

On Wednesday, at a meeting limited to members of Local 1759, the union officials finally forced a

back-to-work vote.

TURNING POINT

The issue being fought out now is how the miners can use their power to smash the collusion between the coal companies and the courts.

The International officials are telling the miners they will win nothing by staying out. They say the miners have to depend on Arnold Miller to negotiate for them.

In the first week the strikers claimed that Miller's statements were in support of them. As the strike spread through Pennsylvania, Ohio and Southern Illinois, many local union leaders put themselves behind it.

But this week, Miller and the International Executive Board openly turned up the pressure to end the strike. The local union leaders cracked under that pressure and abandoned the strike movement.

The relationship between the rank and file of the miners, and the leadership at both the local and International levels, is now much clearer.

The union officialdom is divided into two warring factions, around President Miller and Vice President Mike Trbovich. But the strike has uncovered the far deeper gap between both leaders' factions and the union's members.

As a result, the fight to carry on the strike has become much more intense, as the militants are forced to rely on their own organization through the new strike committee.

Whatever happens next, this month-long struggle will go down as a watershed in the history of the miners and the whole labor movement.

The back-to-work drive of the union officials may divide the miners enough to defeat them—this time. But just like the early struggles to create the union, even though they too were often defeated at first, this battle has built a foundation for a tremendously powerful new movement.

One of those who understands it best is a District Judge in Western Pennsylvania named John Miller. He is one of the coal operators' flunkies whose injunctions the miners have turned into worthless scraps of paper.

"This is a sad time for many," he mourned. "It now appears that the days of eradicating labor strife through peaceful arbitration are close to extinction. There is in our midst a new breed of miners who are determined to fashion their own federal labor policy."



Striking coal miners rally in Charleston, W. Va.

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS:

PURGE IS ON

THE LEADERSHIP of the Communications Workers of America, the union representing most of America's telephone workers, has begun a systematic campaign to stifle dissent and drive all militants out of the Union.

In the June 28 issue of *Workers' Power* we reported that four members of United Action, a rank and file caucus in the CWA, are being tried on trumped up charges for "bringing the union into disrepute." For the simple act of selling raffle tickets which read "UA of Local 1101-CWA," they face expulsion from the union.

The four are Ilene Winkler, George Feldman, Brent Kramer and George Wilson. Their trial is August 18.

NOT ISOLATED

These events in New York are not isolated ones. Wherever United

Action has attempted to build a strong and democratic union, its members have faced similar harassment.

For example, in Seattle last winter several stewards, all members of UA and with a reputation for fighting and winning grievances, were decertified by the simple fiat of the local president. This came soon after two of their members were elected to the local executive board on a platform that called for elected stewards.

Similarly, in Louisville, every advance by the rank and file has been nullified or threatened by the local bureaucracy. Last October, UA won the treasurer's position and forced a run-off for two other posts in the local election. The bureaucracy then proceeded to overturn the results on absurd technicalities, and intensified a smear campaign against UA, which resulted in their defeat in the

revote. After UA member, Harold Kincaid was elected to the local executive board in March, both the company and the union conspired (successfully) to have him fired.

While the repression of CWA militants in three distant cities might appear to be coincidental, this is not the case. The International has formed a special committee just to deal with—and stifle—dissent.

This committee, under the head of Executive Vice President George Miller, has instructed local officials to send them copies of any "leaflets or handbills" from groups which would threaten their power in the union.

RUNNING SCARED

Why has the CWA leadership resorted to police state-like tactics

against its own rank and file? The answer is simple: they are running scared.

With the contract up in less than a year, the leadership knows that it has no solution to the problems that phone workers face, such as layoffs, forced downgrades, discrimination, and automation.

In this kind of situation, any opposition poses a threat to its power and privilege. In fact, it was United Action's winning 30% of the vote in the New York convention delegate elections which prompted the charges against them in their local.

Already, there have been signs that CWA President Glenn Watts and his cronies are losing their hold over the membership.

At the June convention, local leaders in the Union's District-10 (South Central Bell) succeeded in

winning a "no news blackout" policy during next year's bargaining despite opposition from the International leadership.

Also, a pressure group in the CWA, the National Black Communications Coalition, has begun to organize for a better deal for black phone workers, who in many ways have been the hardest hit section of the Union during the last year.

BUILD COALITION

Militants in the union are in the process of building a coalition of these and all other members who are disgusted with the leadership's sell-out policies, to fight for a decent contract in 1977.

If they succeed they will have taken the first big step in transforming the CWA into a fighting democratic union that really represents the interests of its members.

This Is The Way To Beat The Racists!

In Leamington, Britain, a racist named Robert Relf put up a sign outside his house reading: "For Sale To An English Family." This meant, "Whites Only"—no blacks or Asians allowed. Relf is a sympathizer of Britain's Nazi movement, the National Front. The Race Relations Act in Britain prohibits discrimination and "racial agitation." The Race Relations Act, though, couldn't bring down Relf's obscene sign. But the British International Socialists did.

I.S. members took the sign. Then they organized a victory march to burn it. It was a part of a week of campaigning by the I.S., the Southall Youth Movement (a young Asian workers' group), the Leamington Indian Workers' Association and other organizations.

The Nazis had planned to use the sign to organize. A series of runners, Olympic-style, were to carry it from Leamington to London, where it would be met by a demonstration of every fascist organization in Britain. But instead it was the anti-fascist, anti-racist marchers who took the streets.

When Relf put up a second sign, that was taken down and burned too.

This is the way to beat the Nazis and racists, whether it's in Britain or America. They must be smashed politically and challenged physically every time they show their heads.



More Jailed In Poland

THREE TO FIVE YEARS in prison is the sentence handed out to seven workers from the giant Ursus tractor factory in Warsaw, Poland, for going on strike.

A draft notice into the army was the punishment for a Polish revolutionary who defended them.

The workers took part in the huge strike at the end of June which forced the Polish Communist Party regime to withdraw food price increases of 60-100%.

The government, frightened by the strikes, still wants to raise prices by about 40%. So they are trying to frighten the workers in advance.

Even more vicious sentences—four to ten years—have been imposed on workers in the industrial city of Radom. There, the authorities admit that two workers were killed in fighting with police. Reports filtering through West Germany put the death toll at closer to 17.

REVOLUTIONARY

One of the victims of the new wave of repression in Poland is the revolutionary socialist, Jacek Kuron.

Kuron is part of a revolutionary opposition in Poland which supports workers' control and socialist revolution, to overthrow both capitalism and the bureaucratic Eastern European states.

When the Polish government put the striking workers on trial, Kuron called on the Italian Communist Party to defend them. The Italian CP leader, Enrico Berlinguer, asked the Polish leaders to treat the strikers "with clemency."

Jacek Kuron was seized and immediately drafted into the army by the Polish government.

Kuron previously spent six years in prison for co-authoring a pamphlet called "A Revolutionary Socialist Manifesto" or "An Open Letter to the Party," ten years ago.

The pamphlet shocked Poland's rulers with a Marxist analysis of the economy, political structure and bureaucratic ruling class in Poland that proved the country is not socialist.

He was released from that prison sentence in 1972.

PORTUGAL: FAR RIGHT CHEERS SPINOLA'S RETURN

EX-PRESIDENT Antonio de Spínola returned to Portugal on Tuesday. Spínola fled the country on March 11, 1975, when a pro-fascist coup he had organized collapsed before it could get off the ground.

On his return to Portugal, Spínola was immediately arrested. However no one expects the current government to treat him roughly.

The current President of Portugal, Ramalho Eanes, is a close friend of Spínola. So is the Defense Minister, Firmino Miguel.

A prominent right wing General, Galvão de Melo, greeted Spínola's return as "a show of confidence in the new authorities" in Portugal. Besides being another of Spínola's chums, Galvão de Melo is a representative of Portugal's most right-wing official party, the CDS ("Center Democrats").

Spínola has good reason to be confident the state will protect him. Although the Socialist Party runs the government ministries, it is Spínola's friends who control the Army, the police and other forces of repression.

Before long, Spínola will be back in business, guiding the activities of his own underground organization of right-wing and fascist

terrorists known as the "Democratic Movement for the Liberation of Portugal", (MDLP).

FASCISTS ORGANIZE

Spínola spent much of his time in exile meeting with people like CIA director Colby and former CIA head John McCone. McCone is now director of foreign operations for ITT, the giant U.S. corporation that helped mastermind the 1973 fascist coup in Chile.

Spínola's other contacts include the Franco family and extreme right in Spain, a prominent Italian arms merchant, and the secret services of Brazil, Italy, Spain, France and Israel.

Spínola's return is just one example of how the "moderate" social-democratic government of the Portuguese Socialist Party is opening the door to a comeback by outright fascists.

The Socialist Party government is trying to somehow straddle the fence between the demands of factory owners and landlords on one side, and the strength of the workers on the other.

The SP leaders took office promising to safeguard the rights of workers to organize, land reforms, and the nationalizations of

many industries since 1974.

They also promise, at the same time, "law and order" and favorable conditions for investment and profits.

They want a new law to cripple workers' control of production in hundreds of factories in Portugal, and they want to force farmworkers and peasants who occupied huge estates "illegally" to return some of it to the landowners.

CAN'T PERFORM

However, the Portuguese capitalists and their partners, the international bankers and the CIA, do not believe the Socialist Party can actually carry through these attacks on workers. And they are quite correct.

About the only thing the Socialist Party ministers can do is sit in office as the economy goes down, and as fewer and fewer people support them. They cannot prevent the country from ripping apart politically.

The right-wing parties, and the Spínolists, are confident the employers will turn to them as the only force that could crush the workers' movement.

That is why they happily greeted the news of Spínola's return.

WHICH SIDE ARE THEY ON?

Only two political parties in Portugal officially support the new Socialist Party government.

One of them is the far-right capitalist party, the CDS. The CDS leaders believe the SP government will fail, and open the door for a new right-wing advance.

But the other pro-government party is a small group called the UDP, or "Popular Democratic Union". But unlike the CDS, the UDP is not a party of businessmen, far right-wingers and fascists. The UDP is the main Maoist organization in Portugal.

During the recent Presidential election, the UDP after some hesitations joined in the revolutionary left presidential campaign for Otelo de Carvalho. (Carvalho was the candidate who stood for popular power and the struggle for socialism.) But the UDP is against struggling for socialist revolution in Portugal.

Instead, the UDP calls for a "patriotic and anti-fascist" government. They believe that

Portuguese workers must be ruled by such a government before socialism can exist, sometime in the future.

The UDP believes that the Socialist Party represents "a patriotic and anti-fascist" force. So they are giving "critical support" to this government.

The UDP, along with the PRP (Revolutionary Party of the Proletariat) and other revolutionary groups, has been one of the organizations building a new movement called "GDUPs". But the GDUPs ("dynamic groups for popular unity") are a revolutionary movement which is organizing direct resistance against the attacks on the workers by the SP government—which the UDP now supports!

The Portuguese Maoists will have to choose which side they are really on—with the working class struggle and the GDUP movement, or with the anti-working class government of the Socialist Party.

Chicago blacks face racist assaults

MAY 15—Robert Ellington sat in his car alone smoking a cigarette. He was waiting for a friend who was visiting his wife at the hospital across the street. Robert Ellington is black.

He looked up and "saw a white fellow looking out from some bushes. Then I saw two more white men on the other side of the drivers side and rolled up the window, then I reached over to lock the passenger's side," Ellington recounted to reporters, one week after he was stabbed 22 times and left for dead.

A brick was thrown through the car window and the three white men dragged Ellington from the car. "You know you aren't supposed to be in this neighborhood.

No nigger is supposed to be around here," Ellington was told, as the three men beat and stabbed him.

Somehow Ellington managed to crawl to the hospital door, dripping blood all the way. The brutal attack left him with severe head injuries, multiple stab wounds, including a foot-long verticle slash down his midsection.

JUNE 6—James Holman and his son were returning from church Sunday morning. They stopped for a red light. The Holmans, too, are black. "I was about five or six cars behind the signal light and there were other cars behind me. I think I was the only black," recalls Holman. "Suddenly I heard loud

voices. Then my son cried out, 'Look, Dad, look look, they're coming to the car.'

"About that time, one guy swung a baseball bat and broke out the window on the passenger side where my son was sitting. I was scared for my life and for my son's life. I believed they wanted to kill us. They acted like that way, the way they tore up my car.

"There must have been 300 or 400 of them and I was in the middle. They kept shouting: 'Get that nigger, get that nigger'."

WEEK OF JUNE 5—James Singleton and his friend Ronald Brown, both in their late 20's and both black, were riding bicycles

near a beach.

"We had to get off and walk the bikes along the path," tells Singleton. "It got real crowded. I had to stop my bike because a white guy on crutches was in the way. As soon as I stopped, my friend, who was behind me, had to stop too. That's when it started.

"A white guy yelled, 'Kill the black-ass niggers.' Another white guy picked up a beer bottle and smashed it over my friend's head from behind. The bottle broke and my friend fell down. I tried to help him up when they jumped on me. There were about 15 of them.

They were beating us, kicking us, cutting us—everything. They must have been using the broken bottle,

because I have a hole the size of a half dollar on my back.

"We couldn't even move, they were all over us. They started yelling, 'Drown the niggers in the water and drown their asses.' I thought they were going to take us into the lake and kill us.

"But after we were beaten badly enough they said, 'Run!' So we ran out of there and found a policeman to take us to the hospital.

"When we got to the hospital another guy was coming out of the emergency room. He was black too.

"The same thing had happened to him at the same place. He was in pretty bad shape. He was all bandaged up. They had jumped him just like they had jumped us."

All of these accounts are true. The story is the same—blacks unfortunately and accidentally find themselves in areas whose white racist inhabitants are prepared to keep blacks out of their white preserves with terror and even murder.

These events did not happen in South Africa, they did not take place years ago in America's deep South.

No, the above stories of racist terror took place this year in Chicago, an "enlightened" Northern industrial city.



MARQUETTE PARK: THE ISSUES

DALEY MACHINE FOSTERS RACISM

Chicago is a thoroughly segregated city. There are white neighborhoods, black neighborhoods, and changing neighborhoods. Racism is an extremely profitable business for Chicago's Real Estate interests.

Blacks are squeezed into overcrowded ghettos and forced to pay high rents for inferior housing. They have no choice—there is nowhere else to go. When a neighborhood begins to "turn," whites are scared into selling cheap by the real estate concerns. Blacks are then charged exorbitant prices for the same houses.

Chicago is also a city tightly controlled by the political machine of its Democratic Party mayor, Richard Daley. Daley controls his political empire through patronage, corruption, and thievery. Ballots are stuffed and favors bought and sold. Those who make trouble or vote wrong are visited by their ward captain and politely told their child might be expelled from school or police protection cannot be guaranteed for their store.

Daley is able to run Chicago because he does a good job of representing the interests of Chicago's capitalist class. He especially does a good job of representing Chicago's real estate interests.

Chicago is a segregated city because the Daley machine keeps it that way.

When a neighborhood begins to "change," it is not an accident, but a political decision. Mayor Daley and the real estate concerns decide to blockbust. They redistrict the neighborhood schools to bring in blacks. Then they overcrowd the school and cut off funds. Soon the schools are run down and blacks get the blame. Daley's people do this to force the first whites to sell. When the first blacks move in, the real estate people scare the other whites into selling cheap. The decision has nothing to do with any desire to end segregation or any attempt to meet the needs of black people for additional housing. Profit is the only concern of Daley and his friends.

VIOLENCE AND FEAR

For black people there are other far more important questions: the right to decent housing, the right to live anywhere one chooses, the right to live or travel anywhere without fear of violence or harassment.

Behind the increase of racist violence on Chicago's Southwest side are the needs of black people for decent housing outside Chicago's already overcrowded ghettos; and the fears of whites (taught to them for decades by threats from and experience with the big real estate concerns) that if blacks move in property values plummet, schools decay and whites are eventually forced out.

1966—CHALLENGE OF CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

In 1966 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. came to Chicago to launch the civil rights movement in the North. He led a march of thousands of Chicago's blacks into the all white Marquette Park area demanding open housing. King and the march were viciously attacked by racist whites. King himself was hit in the head by a rock and knocked to the

by Gay Semel



On August 7, 100 supporters of the Martin Luther King Jr. Movement marched through the black community of West Englewood to protest the racist attack on the July 17th march into Marquette Park. A contingent of workers from UAW Local 6 of the Melrose Park International Harvester plant was present, along with teamsters, steelworkers, shoemakers, postal workers, teachers, municipal workers and others. An organization called the Trade Unionists Committee to Fight and Secure Democratic Rights has been formed to fight against racism and has called an August 17 rally in support of the King Movement and the August 21 march. [Call 312-925-5250 for information.]

ground.

The march did not achieve open housing, but it laid bare the ugly truth that racism and segregation were not confined to America's South, but were woven into the fabric of all of American society.

Today, open housing is still the issue in Chicago. Only the boundaries have changed in the segregated city.

BLACK LEADERS RETREAT

But Chicago's black leaders are no longer willing to fight the Daley machine; they have made their peace. Men like Leon Finney of The Woodlawn Organization, James W. Compton of the Urban League and Jessie Jackson of PUSH have agreed to stay inside the allocated boundaries in exchange for development of the ghetto. They have given up

on the struggle for freedom in exchange for a more comfortable prison cell. Although these black leaders are quite powerful, they are having trouble keeping up their end of the deal. The overcrowding of the ghetto is actually pushing blacks beyond the boundaries.

A several-block expanse at the edge of the all-white Marquette Park area is slowly becoming integrated. This is happening without a political decision having been made by Mayor Daley and therefore without the protection of his machine. These few black families have been the object of fire bombing and continual harassment by racists organized by the American Nazi Party and the Ku Klux Klan.

Then Robert Ellington got stabbed 22 times and was left to die in the Marquette Park area.

NEW FREEDOM STRUGGLE

Several black ministers calling themselves the Martin Luther King Jr. Movement decided something must be done to open up the Marquette Park area to blacks and to end the increase of racial violence in the area. They began marching. Every day, in numbers of five to several hundred, they would attempt to march into the Marquette Park area. Every day they would be stopped by the police for any number of petty offenses.

These marches caused open conflict among Chicago's black leaders. Some, like Compton and Finney, called the marches unnecessary, suicidal and destructive. Failing to recognize that racial violence coming from whites in Marquette Park was already on a steep incline, these black leaders accused the marches of stirring up racial hostility.

Finney and Compton called on blacks to clean up their own neighborhoods first. In other words, "Don't try to shake up already established political relationships between Daley and the black leaders." Jessie Jackson sat on the fence. He would not oppose the marches but he would not help build them either, claiming to be "too busy."

Then on July 17, the marchers, having obtained a permit and the supposed protection of the Chicago Police Department, marched to Marquette Park from West Englewood, the adjoining black ghetto. They were met by over 2000 jeering, rock-throwing white racists. At least thirty marchers were injured.

JOIN THE STRUGGLE

This vicious attack brought the stark reality of racism in Chicago clearly into public view. And the courage and determination of the marchers is equally clear. There are two sides, and Marquette Park is where the struggle over the rights of black people is being fought.

It will become increasingly difficult for blacks and anti-racist whites to stand neutral. The Marquette Park marchers can now only be supported or left to be defeated by Daley's machine and all the racist forces it nourishes.

As the struggle grows, black leaders like Jackson and Compton will be pressed to break their peace with the Daley machine. They must be forced off the fence and bring their support to those who are putting their lives on the line to fight segregation and racist violence.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Movement is marching again on August 21. Join this march to put an end to racist terror.

REVOLUTION - IN THE LAND OF SLAVERY

SOWETO TOWNSHIP, SOUTH AFRICA, JUNE 16, 1976:

"I arrived in Soweto about 11 AM. The children were marching with banners. Police troop carriers arrived. Men poured out of the vehicles and fired tear gas..."

"The children were laughing and joking among themselves. They advanced on the police, but when they saw guns being held at the ready they turned and walked back to the Orlando West School... Suddenly a small boy dropped to the ground next to me. I realized then that the police were not firing warning shots. They were shooting into the crowd."

The events of June 16 will not be remembered as an individual incident. They will go down in history as the beginning of the black revolution in South Africa. The best estimates are that over a thousand people were killed by the police in the days of fighting that followed.

That was eight weeks ago. The struggle has continued without interruption since then.

At first, the government tried to reopen the schools in Soweto. The white racist rulers backed down from their regulation that half the subjects be taught in the hated Afrikaans language.

But the students simply used the schools as a base from which to reorganize and broaden the struggle.

Two weeks ago, students tried to organize a march from Soweto to the center of Johannesburg, to protest mass detentions of young activists. They were driven back, with more killed by police gunfire.

So the young freedom fighters have adopted a new tactic. Everyday, they set up barricades in the streets and railroads, to block commuter traffic from Soweto to the all-white city of Johannesburg.

About 220,000 adults in Soweto travel nine miles to work in Johannesburg—as servants, factory workers and laborers. The wealth of the white economy depends on the work they do.

A mass strike movement among the urban blacks who serve the white cities, would cripple the whole South African economy.

That is what the Soweto militants are now trying to organize. Similar organizing, and fighting, spread this week to over a dozen other townships in almost every section of the country.

COURAGE

The school children who are on the front lines blocking transport and resisting the police, have shown the most fantastic bravery imaginable. Every day, there are more deaths and dozens of arrests.

The traditional "Bantu" leaders, whose authority is tied to the racist apartheid regime, have tried to stop the struggle and split the student fighters from the older adult workers.

But nothing can stop this struggle now. Every day it continues, the consciousness of the power of Black anger and resistance sinks deeper roots in every township, and spreads further into the desolate rural "Tribal homelands."

The turning point will come when the movement of the urban blacks link up with the rural black workers, who are concentrated in the gold and diamond mines.

When their struggles are combined, a full-scale revolutionary situation will explode in South Africa.

Years of bitter and bloody struggle lie ahead. But the black masses of Soweto and the other townships now know their final victory is certain. □

"More children fell. There seemed no plan. The police were merely blasting away at the mob. What frightened me more than anything was the attitude of the children. Many seemed oblivious to the danger. They continued running toward the police—dodging and ducking."

"I began taking pictures of a little boy who was dying next to me. Blood poured from his mouth and some children knelt next to him and tried to stop the blood flow."

That was how the new black uprising in South Africa began. This eyewitness report was written by Alf Khumalo, a black reporter for the Johannesburg Sunday Times.



PUBLIC RELATIONS FOR APARTHEID

by Dan Posen

Can you guess:
•Which government has hired its very own public relations firm in the United States to publicize and promote the "virtues" of its political and social system?

•Which government hired a black former press secretary for John F. Kennedy to go on national television, to defend its virtues and call for more "understanding" and investment by U.S. corporations?

•Which government helped a group of its own businessmen reach an agreement with a cosmetic firm in Mississippi, to sell skin lightener and hair straightener to its black population?

The answer to all three questions is: the government of South Africa.

SELLING HITLER

The South African regime, in March, agreed to pay the Sydney S. Baron public relations firm the sum of \$365,000. It's for a one-year intensive campaign to build up South Africa's image in this country.

Details of the arrangement were revealed last Monday by the American Committee on Africa, a

pro-liberation organization based in New York.

Indications are that the South African fascist rulers will get full value for money on their investment. Baron's experts will "make every effort to encourage the American business and financial community to become acquainted with the economic opportunity offered by the Republic of South Africa..." or, how to make monster profits by investing in black slave labor.

Among its other services Baron will "promote exchanges of visits between the U.S. and South Africa," help South African officials prepare effective "press releases, publications, analyses, reports, films and other communication vehicles," and set up opinion polls to inform the South African government of "American attitudes and opinions."

It shouldn't be surprising that the South African regime can find public relations experts to pump up its image as a peaceful, freedom-loving and friendly place.

Public relations experts know that business is business. For a relatively modest fee, they would be more than ready to rebuild the

humanitarian image of Adolph Hitler. It amounts to the same thing.

BLACK CAPITALISM

What may be somewhat more surprising, however, is some of the other agents who have been recruited to shill for the South African racist police state.

One such agent is Andrew Hatcher, who just happened to sign on with the Baron company right about the time it signed the contract with the South African government.

Hatcher, who is black and a former JFK press secretary, appeared on NBC's "Today" show June 23. He argued that the police massacre in Soweto was just an isolated, rare instance of violence, and that the South African government was making "significant changes" in the apartheid system.

Then there is the black-owned E.F. Young, Company, in Mississippi. Young has just signed an agreement with the South African firm Andrew Harding Pty Ltd. (all white, of course). Young will supply skin lighteners and hair straighteners to Harding, who will

Labor 'Mediator' Goes To Pretoria

U.S. CORPORATIONS are sending one of their famed labor "mediators" to South Africa to teach their subsidiaries how to stop the rising tide of protest by African workers.

Ralph Seward, who has spent 40 years counseling companies such as GM, Bethlehem & US Steel, Harvester, Bell Telephone and the U.S. Postal Service, is being sent by the corporation-funded U.S.-S. Africa Leadership Exchange program to lead a seminar for businessmen on "collective bargaining" in Pretoria.

In South Africa, black workers have no rights to collective bargaining under the law. If they form unions, they cannot be represented in negotiations, period!

RESPONSE

This is how the government responded to a recent strike by African workers at a Heinemann Electric factory in South Africa, whose parent company is headquartered in Trenton, N.J.

Six hundred workers had gathered outside the gates of the factory when 20 workers were fired the previous week, over the company's refusal to recognize their Metal & Allied Workers Union.

They ended their meeting peacefully singing the African national anthem, when a policeman was heard to say, "These kaffirs [read: niggers] are cheeky—let's get them."

A black worker with 14 years at the company reported: "As people were walking away from the factory the police attacked them with truncheons and dogs. Lots of people were bitten, pregnant girls were hurt. I was hit on the shoulder and legs."

Four workers who were attempting to reapply for work the next day were arrested.

But even Ralph Seward can't stop African workers in their drive to control their lives. □

Paul Irish

market them at handsome profit to blacks in South Africa.

Charles Evers, the first black mayor in Mississippi in this century defended this agreement: Just let us (American black businessmen) get into South Africa and that monster will come tumbling down.

Actually, Evers knows better than that. U.S. investment in South Africa has gone from nothing to \$2 billion in the last 25 years—while apartheid has intensified and thousands of political prisoners have been jailed or shot.

BUSINESS IS BUSINESS

Andrew Hatcher, E.F. Young and Charles Evers have one thing in common. They support the philosophy of "black capitalism"—the idea that the way blacks in America will achieve equality is by helping a tiny handful of black businessmen become successful.

It's only natural they would feel the same way about blacks in South Africa, especially when there are such fine profits to be made there.

The black capitalists know what the public relations experts know: business is business. □

WOMEN IN APARTHEID SOUTH AFRICA

(from Women's Day Song)

Remember all our women in the jails
Remember all our women in campaigns
Remember all our women over many fighting years
Remember all our women for their triumphs, and
for their tears.

On August 9, 1956, Women's Day in South Africa, 20,000 black women converged on Pretoria, the capital. They were protesting the White government's decision to extend brutal 'pass' laws to women.

Hundreds of thousands of signatures had been collected on petitions to be presented to the Prime Minister. Women all over the country withstood vile intimidation to participate in the anti-apartheid demonstration.

In fear, the government banned all processions in Pretoria that day. In defiance 20,000 women divided into groups of no more than three. Slowly they converged, through the city, up the main avenue, to the government buildings.

A delegation took the petitions inside to the Prime Minister, who was "unavailable." Then the women stood silently in the sun for thirty minutes—even the babies on their backs did not cry.

Suddenly they burst into song—their own national liberation anthems. As they turned their backs on the unrelenting, unresponsive government and dispersed, the women began a new freedom song.

The refrain echoed over the city: "now you have touched the women, you have struck a rock, you have dislodged a boulder, you will be crushed."

WOMEN'S BURDEN

This and many other struggles, are vividly described in "For their triumphs and for their tears: Women in Apartheid South Africa" by Hilda Bernstein.

Besides providing invaluable information about the complex horror of apartheid, the book compellingly describes the crucial role women have played in the fight for liberation.

"Triumph and Tears" focuses on the mass movement to reform apartheid led by the African National Congress in the 40's and 50's.

Women had good reason to oppose the pass laws. Apartheid had already destroyed their family lives. Non-working Blacks were relegated to the reserves—the tribal "homelands" created by the white supremacist regime as dumping grounds.

Men were drawn to the cities. Women were left behind to scratch out starvation existences for the family, and hope for some money sent from the city.

There is never enough land capable of supporting a family available on the reserves. Today most of the people in the "homelands" have lived all their lives in urban areas; they never even saw their "homeland" until they were expelled to it.

Land hunger has been made more terrible by these expulsions, and the burden falls hardest on women. Only widows with children have any chance of being allocated land.

The families of most black African women die, while white South Africans enjoy one of the highest standards of living in the entire world.

So the women on the reserves left. They began to join their husbands in the black townships surrounding the urban industrial areas. Because the men were bound by the pass laws and other legal restrictions, women began to lead the struggle against apartheid.

In Johannesburg in 1943, 15,000 men and women walked 18 miles a day—to and from work—to protest a raise in bus fares. Women waged long conflicts with municipal and government authorities. As usual they also worked and they cared for their families.

In 1949 there was a one-day work stoppage called for May 1. Police fired into crowds of people in the townships. Eighteen were killed including children.

In addition to their leading roles in these political struggles, women led the trade union organizing movement. Despite their relative under-representation in industrial jobs, their exemption from the pass laws left women free to organize where men could not.

Thus women played an active role in organizing the African trade unions, unions never recognized as bargaining units. In particular women became the best known and most militant of the workers' spokespersons.

PASS BOOK FASCISM

It was to cut into the growing militancy and organization of South Africa's black working class that the white government decided to extend the pass laws to women. Besides providing the legal excuse of arbitrary terror and repression,

Book Review By Kate Stacy

"for their triumphs. . .



Women were leaders of the "Defiance Campaign", the '50's anti-apartheid movement. When the government could stop them no other way, they were subjected to the hated "pass laws"—to make the women leaders' political persecution legal. The most prolonged struggle of South African women centered around their refusal to accept passes.

the pass laws control the flow of blacks to "white towns." (No area of South Africa is actually "white." Urban areas are called "white" so that blacks can be instantly sent away. Blacks outnumber whites by almost 3 to 1 in these areas.)

All their lives women had witnessed the effect of the pass laws on African men: night raids, police vans sucking up people from the streets, searches, jobs lost through arrests, disappearance without notice. Nearly 2000 arrests each and every day for pass law infringements.

And so they fought against them. And the government fought the women. Old women who went to collect their tiny pensions were told, "no book, no pension." Men could not register a child without a book. An unregistered child could not legally exist.

Working women without passes were dismissed from their jobs and expelled. Leaders of the anti-pass movement were banned. Generally more and more women were forced to accept the passes to survive.

In the countryside the revolt against passes for women became

resistance to all of apartheid. In one village, only 76 out of 4000 women accepted books. Many later burned them.

In response many women were shot, more beaten, homes burned to the ground. The people were dispersed. Individuals were banished, many went into hiding for months on end.

POLICE TERROR

The silent peaceful protests, like Women's Day in 1956, began to change. In 1959, 2000 women gathered in one town to explain their grievances to local officials.

The police charged, striking women to the ground with their clubs, beating the babies tied to their backs.

The protests set up a chain reaction and the upheavals went on. Hundreds of women were arrested and jailed. In the Natal area the police arrested 4000 women at once. They were fined 35 pounds (\$90) or four months in prison. None paid the fines.

In the early 60's even harsher legislation was enacted. Women were prosecuted on political charges including treason, terrorism, sabotage, membership or assistance to a banned organization (almost all were banned), helping people to escape to the country, recruiting guerillas, and on and on.

Throughout the mass trials, women were not spared. They were tortured, killed, detained indefinitely without trial. When called to give evidence against each other they would be sent back to prison after refusing to testify. Their children were cared for by relatives or friends, or they wandered alone and often died.

The wave of police terror and trials that followed the Sharpeville massacre crushed the reform movement of the 1950's against apartheid.

The apartheid system in South Africa cannot be reformed, or moderated. The only way to change it is to overthrow white rule and crush it.

Today a new, militant young generation has taken up the struggles that were wiped out a generation ago. The battle against apartheid has become the struggle for social revolution—and this time, it will succeed. □

...for their tears"



Durban, June 1959: "2000 women gathered to explain their grievances."

Automotion

CONTRACT ISSUES

by Jack Weinberg, UAW Local 212

Seattle Nurses' Strike Strong And Growing

The "Picket Pantry" is a blue pick-up truck racing around "Pill Hill" delivering food, dispelling rumors, and boosting morale among striking workers in Seattle.

For the first time in state history, 1800 registered nurses, organized by the Washington State Nurses Association, went on strike July 12. The Seattle Area Hospital Council (SAHC) is negotiating one contract with the nurses for 18 hospitals.

The nurses want job security; restoration of the clause in the expired contract that requires "just cause" for firing. SAHC wants to institute firing for "incompetency," with management the only judge and no grievance procedure.

The nurses also want increased wages, agency shop, improved benefits, and overtime restrictions as well as several means of improving patient care.

The morale of the nurses is very high. Their imagination and creativity take many forms. Mass meetings every week and a 24-hour hot line put the rank and file in immediate contact with their negotiators. There is childcare for picket-line duty and mass meetings.

Their strike fund has grown over a period of one month from a little over \$300 to \$14,000. They have received donations from other labor groups, as well as asking for donations for community services such as blood pressure screening.

LABOR SUPPORT

Picket lines are being honored by Teamsters Local 174, taxi drivers, plumbers, and electricians. Painters at Cabrini Hospital refused to cross picket lines set up by the nurses. Manpower, Inc. refuses to send nurses to struck hospitals, and student nurses from the University of Washington School of Nursing have been withdrawn from struck hospitals. Some doctors are not admitting patients to hospitals where nurses are on strike.

Nurses have asked that other hospital workers not honor picket lines, so that some medical care will still be available. However, they have asked them not to do RN work—much of which is being done by head nurses and supervisors.

In going on strike, the nurses have overcome many barriers that have traditionally kept women in lower-paid jobs and also kept them working under poorer conditions. In becoming organized city-wide the RN's have a collective power that enables them to strike, to demand more control over their working conditions, better benefits and wages.

As the nurses are able to get a bigger piece of the pie, other hospital workers can in turn demand a larger slice. As a result, the Hospital Council is taking a hard line against them.

The nurses' identity has been a changeable one, closely linked with the status of women. Nurses long ago were relegated to a subservient role. Most of them worked with little expectation of monetary reward.

This was, and is, convenient to hospital administrators wanting to get more work out of fewer people. That it has worked so far is evident in the relative rarity of health care workers' strikes. However in Seattle, as elsewhere, this role is backfiring.

UAW Pushes A Sinking SUB

THE LEADERSHIP of the United Auto Workers Union has committed itself to demand restructuring the Supplemental Unemployment Benefits (SUB) program in 1976 automobile contract bargaining.

Going into bargaining, the UAW top negotiators have demanded total flexibility for themselves on every other issue. It is only on SUB that they have committed themselves to a specific contract demand.

The UAW negotiating team feels confident that management will agree to their proposal for restructuring the SUB plan, because this won't cost the companies a penny. Rather, it is a proposal to take money away from one group of UAW members to make it available for another group of members.

When autoworkers are laid off, it is almost always the low seniority workers who get laid off first. These are generally the younger workers, and they include a disproportionately high percentage of minority group workers and women workers.

When the 1974/75 depression began, the first workers laid off received SUB payments, provided they had at least a year seniority. SUB, when added to Unemployment Compensation checks, netted these workers a take-home pay of more than 90% of their normal 40 hour week wages.

But when the lay-offs continued and got worse, SUB funds went bankrupt both at General Motors

and at Chrysler. In many plants, large numbers of high seniority workers were laid off, just about the time the funds went broke.

Many had been paying into the SUB fund for ten years and more. Over the years they had drawn back little in return. When mass lay-offs finally came, and they badly needed SUB protection, they were told that the money was all gone. Predictably the workers were very angry.

So what is the UAW's solution?



'Child World' Teamsters Return To Work

by Anne Foster

Child World Teamsters from Local 653 Avon, Mass., have returned to work after being locked out of their jobs since March. After frustrating negotiations the sentiment for accepting a contract was split in a vote 15-11.

"You have to give to get," was the comment of one shop steward, "but I was one who was actually hoping for better."

The new contract calls for \$1.75 raise over a three and a half year period, with no additional sick time.

During the lockout period, various union members had been arrested for what the company claimed was "unlawful behavior." According to the new contract, not one of the arrested Teamsters will be allowed to return to their jobs. But who are the real criminals?

One Teamster explained, "I made \$98 a week with a family to support and they took my job away. We have been faced with obscene gestures and verbal abuses from management. The company vice president ran over one union member on the picket line, and while Child World was making profits, we were out of jobs."

Child World is a multi-million dollar enterprise which pulled in

\$18 million in new profits last year. Today small unions, like local 653, face a challenge to their existence.

SOLIDARITY

Teamsters from Child World proved that they could stay out and demand back their jobs. While scabs were being called in at higher wages, local 653 organized strong boycotts at the toy chain's stores and also picketed Child World stock brokers meeting at the State Street Bank.

Because of the solidarity of these Teamsters, the company was forced to rehire union members instead of breaking the union.

Attacks on small Teamster locals happen every day. Local 653 will face that challenge again at the end of the new contract period.

That is why no rights, no union, no job will ever be secure until all Teamsters organize together. And that's what Teamsters for a Democratic Union (TDU) is all about. TDU is a group of rank and file Teamsters dedicated to making the IBT a fighting organization once again.

When local 653 organized their pickets, other Teamster locals helped to walk the line. UPS Teamsters from local 25 were there as well. By organizing on the job, and in locals, Teamsters will learn from and support each other.

Seattle: Postal Workers Shafted

by Scott Wagner

SEATTLE—Next time someone tells you Federal employees have soft, easy jobs, you can tell them about the United States Postal Service.

Postal workers are blamed for the high costs, slow service and other inadequacies that make the Post Office appear to be an aging dinosaur.

In Seattle, postal managers have tried to solve their problems with cost-cutting schemes, directed against the work force.

Hundreds of postal workers have been transferred to the swing shift, without any regard to the disruptions of their lives and their families.

Many are also required to work a mandatory two hours overtime

every day. Some work a ten-hour day, six days a week.

The long hours, the resulting hazardous conditions and the harassment have driven lots of people to breakdowns, take sick leave, or get fired.

Workers who take sick leave, face additional harassment from the supervisors when they return to work.

The Seattle Postal Service has even contacted the local Group Health Hospital, telling them not to give people help in getting put on light duty status, even for valid medical reasons!

The Postal Service has succeeded in increasing the proportion of part-time employees. These part-time "flexibles" often work for years, at over 40 hours per week, never achieving full-time

status. Part-time flexibles are now about 10% of the work force, and rising. Regular schedules and seniority rights are denied to them.

At a recent local National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) meeting, union officials dragged in a lawyer who told the members if they went on strike they might lose their jobs, go to jail, watch their families starve and see their union treasury taken over by the government.

Although this "quit before you start" attitude demoralized enough members to defeat a strike motion, many voted for a strike anyway.

The miners have shown the way to fight for the right to strike, and how to win in the face of injunctions. They have given an example to be followed.

to
Workers' Power

VOLUNTARY OVERTIME - A JOKE

Dear Workers' Power:

In 1973, the UAW International told all Big Three workers that we had won voluntary overtime in our new 1973 national contract.

Unfortunately, they neglected to tell us what all the loopholes are. One key loophole is a clause

that gives management the right to work us as much overtime as they please three weeks before and three weeks after change-over.

Not only can they work us as much as they please, but they are not even required to give us any

advance notice. In the last two weeks, management has tried to get away with as much overtime as possible.

One night they tried to work the whole plant 11½ hours. So far we have worked 9.5, 10, 9.3, 10, and 10.2 hours. We never have any

idea of how long we are working until we actually work it.

Everyone now knows what a joke "voluntary overtime" is, and we'll be looking for these loopholes in the 1976 agreement.

End
Local 51
Detroit

Down With Kissinger, Down With Apartheid!

Last week, America's number one tourist came to Boston to deliver what was billed as a "major foreign policy address" at the national convention of the Urban League.

Kissinger's visit was not unmarked by protest. Over 80 demonstrators, both black and white, joined in a picket-line called by the Southern Africa Solidarity Committee, African National Congress of South Africa, African Students and Workers for African Liberation, Eritreans for Liberation in North America, and the International Socialists.

Demonstrators carried signs reading, "Apartheid=Corporate Profits" and "Out with Kissinger, Out with Vorster," and chanted "From Soweto to Boston, Same Struggle, Same Fight," a reference to the racist "anti-busing" offensive that continues to plague the city.

In his speech, Dr. K. alluded to the U.S. government's determination to provide "necessary" arms for the "self-defense" of "friendly" African governments such as those of Zaire and Kenya.



Henry Kissinger

What this amounts to, after all the "liberal" veneer is stripped, away, is another example of Kissinger's efforts to maintain the international rule of U.S. capitalists.

This along with continued covert support of the racist apartheid regimes of South Africa and Rhodesia (Kissinger recently met with John Vorster, Prime Minister of South Africa, at the height of the Soweto killings) makes up the grim reality behind the "pro-liberation" glitter of Kissinger's "New African Policy."

It may seem strange that a noted civil rights organization, such as the Urban League should invite Henry Kissinger to be the keynote speaker at its convention. It doesn't seem quite so strange, though, when one notes that Vernon Jordan, Jr., the League's executive director, is a board member of the Xerox corporation, and recently paid a call on South Africa as Xerox's official representative. Xerox has large investments in South Africa, and a big stake in continued

Should Mercenaries Die?

Dear Workers' Power:

I bought my first copy of Workers' Power a few days ago, and was moved to write you a short note about it.

Most of the articles were interesting and not overly bombastic. Rather than compliment you, I'd prefer to offer a comment or two.

In issue #167, is there not a contradiction between the piece deploring the Supreme Court ruling on the death penalty, and the story applauding the execution of the mercenaries in Angola?

I realize that we are dealing with a revolutionary government on one hand, and a reactionary capitalist one on the other. Nonetheless, if the U.S. is not "civilized" for its actions, is Angola justified in its?

We can understand why the Angolans thought it necessary to execute the mercenaries, but I doubt leftists can sincerely applaud the decision.

Gearheart, for one, was a born loser, and is guilty more of

ignorance than maliciousness.

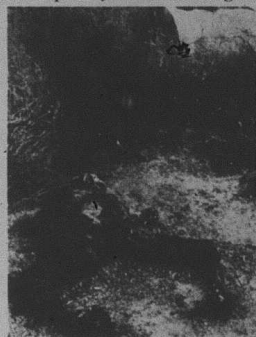
What I am simply saying is this: we cannot afford to become so callous as to support the execution of anyone. It may, in some way, be necessary. But I, for one, refuse to be enthusiastic about the death of any person, no matter how reactionary they may be.

Disarm them, re-educate them, but don't take out a tribute in blood. This applies to court-sanctioned murders in this country as well.

What are your feelings?

Daniel Cantor
Connecticut

These weapons can be used against completely innocent victims—such as Gary Tyler and Delbert Tibbs—just as much as against people who have committed murder or other capital crimes. But all victims of the death penalty have one thing in



Mercenaries did this to dozens of Angolan villages. Do the people of Africa have a right to defend themselves?

common—they are poor, minority, or both.

Socialists oppose the death penalty on grounds of principle. We demand that it be abolished.

We are also against the death penalty in every other country, including Angola.

We are against the MPLA government using the death penalty against its internal opponents—some of whom are revolutionaries.

But all this has nothing to do with the issue of the Angola mercenaries.

We supported the execution of the mercenaries for the same reason: the people of Angola did. We want to stop the recruitment of mercenaries for other dirty wars in Africa.

The people of Angola know this is the issue. They are not "callous" or bloodthirsty. The mercenaries are hired killers, who go to burn villages and slaughter people for one reason—money.

They can be stopped only if they know the price they will pay is too high.

Workers' Power Wants To Hear From You

What you like about the paper—and what you don't. What you think of the political ideas we present, and your comments on problems facing working people.

But please be brief.

Write to: Workers' Power, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, Michigan 48203.

"stability" there.

The issue here is not Henry Kissinger, however—he'll no doubt be swept out by the tide in November's elections. But there is no question that the policies and class interests he represents will be faithfully pursued by the administration of Smilin' Jimmy Carter when he takes office in January.

Bill Froyis
Boston

WESTINGHOUSE STRIKE: THIS WAS NO 'VICTORY'

Dear Workers' Power,

Right on to your recent issue featuring the back page on the Electrical strike. Local 777 IUE had a rally and mass picket on the Monday of the strike and Workers' Power was sold at the rally. Lots of us bought it and found a lot of information that we couldn't have gotten anywhere else.

We didn't know that local 601 IUE, the biggest IUE local in the Westinghouse chain was out on a "no contract, no work" wildcat. We didn't know that there was a local rank and file group there. The company won't tell us this stuff and neither will the International Union. This is precisely why workers need their own paper. Then they can use this information to build a network of rank and file groups that can put the power in the hands of the ranks—where it belongs.

The next issue of WP missed the boat when it reported "Ranks Win Strike at Westinghouse." While you correctly pointed out that the wildcats at local 601 and others were instrumental in forcing the strike to happen at all, the results of the strike were hardly a victory.

The main areas in which Westinghouse was chiseling on the GE offer were: not putting the second and third year wage increases on the incentive base rates, keeping the skilled trades workers from getting any appreciable increases, shortchanging salaried workers and putting no money in the pension offer. These points mean big money to

electrical workers (the matter of the incentive base rates meant from \$750 to \$1,000 through the life of the contract to each incentive worker). The final settlement only produced movement on one of these—pensions.

Nobody in Local 777 cheered when we heard the news of the settlement. The most common reaction was, "Why the hell did we go on strike in the first place, this offer is basically the same as what was on the table before we went out?"

It seems to me that the international knew they couldn't hold back the widespread sentiment for a strike and decided to have a phoney, short-term strike to let the ranks let off steam. Then, when the steam was let off, they would cram a crummy settlement down their throats.

This is just what they did. The President of the International told the Westinghouse conference board that the Union couldn't get any more from Westinghouse if we stayed out for six months. Hell, didn't he know this before the strike was called in the first place, did he all of a sudden get some new knowledge of Westinghouse in those last three days. No, he didn't. It was just a lot of crap to cover up the fact that he was afraid to really wage a fight to get the items mentioned above.

Wildcats alone will not force the International to make that fight, although they are an essential beginning. First of all, a fight has to be waged in the IUE-Westinghouse Conference Board to get the ranks the right to

vote on their contracts and to stop the practice of news blackouts and secret bargaining. This the official policy of Local 777 and we hope that others will adopt it also, especially now that they have seen the disasters that occur without it.

By the way, the cost-of-living provision that replaces the "cap" with a "gap" (no COL protection from 7-9% inflation is a con job). You shouldn't have been fooled by this one, WP. When you put the pencil to this you find that really all you get is a virtual 23c cap on a crummy formula.

Thank you, Workers' Power for putting out the workers' side of the story of the Electrical contract fight. We need a lot more news of what rank and filers are doing to gain control of their unions and their lives.

Todd Smith, Recording Sec.
Local 777 IUE.



Westinghouse workers want parity with the contract won by these workers at General Electric.



by Dan Posen

DID YOU KNOW the Republican Party convention is happening in Kansas City? No doubt you did—and if you didn't, you'll know it next week when you try to find something else to watch on TV.

Believe it or not, the Republican Party as a political spectacle is worth looking at, occasionally. Take this Convention, for example.

Like other Republican gatherings, this Convention will feature a lively cross-section of a broad spectrum of interest groups and walks of life. The people who make up the solid backbone of the Republican Party are used to doing plenty of good, honest hard work for a living.

For example, there are the hard-working stockbrokers who made their money by trading bits of paper, and speculating on the price of commodities that other people produce.

There are the corporation lawyers whose work is never done, as they plead with judges to issue injunctions to smash workers who threaten the patriotic profits of companies by striking.

(And, of course, the judges who get out of bed in the middle of the night to issue the injunctions, too.)

In fact, the Republican Party takes in everyone from the top corporation heads with seven-figure incomes, right down to their junior executives and errand boys who manage to scrape by on as little as \$25-30,000 a year.

Then there are the "Young Republicans". You can always pick them out—they're the stripe-suited little creeps who think they were born to run the world.

All of which is more interesting than whether the Republican Party finally nominates Gerald Reagan, or Ron-

ald Ford, or Harold Stassen, or whoever.

THE PLATFORM

Yes, once upon a time there was supposed to be a difference between what Ford and Reagan stood for. At least you'd have thought so from the way they knifed each other for the nomination.

However, the Ford and Reagan supporters drafting the Platform are anxious to prove that they don't have many differences.

Ford, who has run miles to the right to undercut Reagan's support, doesn't want to risk losing any delegates now. So his backers are cooperating with Reagan's as they draft planks demanding the outlawing of abortion.

Their maneuvers are literally a matter of life and death for thousands of women every year. Ending legal abortion would destroy basic rights women have fought for over decades.

But then, an anti-abortion stance would also reduce the risk of Betty Ford being labelled as a women's liberationist (fat chance).

The Republicans are also working on a plank to keep the schools segregated by stopping busing for racial integra-

tion. And they can all agree that it's even easier to take a hard line against Panama than it was against New York City!

All in all, the Republicans 1976 platform promises to be the most right-wing in a long time.

There are, of course, "liberal" Schweikers like Senator Richard Schweiker. He is known as a friend of labor, a forward-looking representative of the "new" Republican Party, and so forth.

Schweiker is so forward-looking, in fact, that he is eager to become Vice-President for Ronald Reagan, on the basis of the most vicious anti-labor, anti-black, anti-welfare and pro-business, program they can ram down our throats.

THE ALTERNATIVE

All this might make it seem that the alternative for working people to support in this election, is Jimmy Carter and the Democratic Party.

The only problem with this is that the Democrats have already adopted virtually a carbon copy of the exact same program.

The Republicans want busing stopped. Jimmy Carter defends the preservation of "ethnic purity."

The Republicans want abortion outlawed. The Democrats have promised that if anti-abortion bills pass, they will not stand in the way.

Schweiker, the Liberal Republican pledges total loyalty to the far-right Ronald Rea-

gan. Democratic Liberal Mondale pledges his loyalty to the candidate of Democratic Party racism.

However, everyone knows that the main thing the Republican Party stands for is big business, high profits and corporate power. Here is where the Democratic Party program of 1976 stands on these issues:

In transportation, the Democrats pledge to "revitalize" private organization of railroads, and "support" for healthy air, trucking and shipping profits.

In farming, the Democrats want to help out the "family farmers," such as the Russell Giffen agribusiness empire in Central California.

In economic policy, the Democrats pledge such things as "low-interest loans to business and state and local government to encourage private sector investment," through a "domestic development bank of federally insured bonds."

All this is nothing but a giant giveaway "welfare" program for the corporations—just like those of the last 20 years.

You couldn't put it much better than two genuine liberals, James Ridgeway and Alexander Cockburn, who wrote:

"The Democratic platform signifies nothing more than... corporate domination (and) allocation of public money to the private; a ratification, in short, of the posture of the Center-Right."

Doesn't that sound familiar?

Where We Stand

WE OPPOSE

• CAPITALIST EXPLOITATION

We live under the capitalist system. The wealth produced by working people is stolen from us by private employers. They prosper from our labor.

• CAPITALIST CONTROL

Capitalists use their profits only to make more profits. When they need fewer workers, they create unemployment. When they need more money, they speed up work, downgrade safety conditions and raise prices. The capitalist system spends little on health care, a clean environment, or social services, because these things make no profit.

• OPPRESSION

Capitalism needs inequality—because it needs profits, it can't provide enough for all. So it gives some groups of people worse jobs and lower pay, and labels them inferior. In particular, capitalism locks black people into the bottom of society, and spreads racist ideas to keep them there and justify it. Capitalism keeps women responsible for taking care of the workforce when it is not at work, including children, who are too young to work. Women who work for wages have two jobs.

• CAPITALIST GOVERNMENT

The government serves the capitalist class. Its only purpose is to protect the private profit system. It protects its interests abroad through economic control of other countries, spying and wars.

• BUREAUCRATIC COMMUNISM

Russia, China and the countries with economies like theirs are also oppressive class societies, run by a privileged ruling class of bureaucrats. They are not socialist and must be overthrown by the working classes of those countries.

WE SUPPORT

• THE RANK AND FILE MOVEMENT

The unions protect workers from their employers. But today's unions are run by privileged officials who sell out because they support the capitalist system. They want labor peace not labor power. We support the struggle for rank and file control of the unions.

• LIBERATION FROM OPPRESSION

We support the struggles of every oppressed group to end its oppression: the struggle for equality and justice by blacks, women, gays, latinos, native Americans, and all oppressed people. Support from the entire working class movement will make both these struggles, and that movement stronger.

• SOCIALISM

Society should be run by the working class. The wealth produced by those who work should go to fill people's needs, not to private gain.

• WORKERS' REVOLUTION

But the capitalist class will not give up their rule and profits voluntarily. Socialism can be created only when the working class seizes control of the factories and makes their own government. The working class will rule democratically because it can own society's wealth only together.

• INTERNATIONALISM

The struggle for socialism is world wide. Nations fighting to throw out foreign rulers must have the support of the international working class as in Angola today. So must every struggle of working people to end their oppression, as in Portugal today, and in Russia and Eastern Europe.

• REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

The most class conscious members of the working class have the responsibility to lead the struggle toward socialist revolution. To do this they must build an organization to put their consciousness into action and make their leadership effective.

• INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

The I.S. is an organization of revolutionary socialist workers. We are open to all who accept our basic principles and are willing to work as a member to achieve them. Join with us to build the I.S. into a revolutionary party, to build the movement to end exploitation and oppression and to create a socialist world.

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JOIN US!

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

Name

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Union

DELBERT TIBBS GETS NEW TRIAL

Delbert Tibbs is a 36 year old black man who has been on death row for over 2 years. On July 28, the Florida State Supreme Court ordered a new trial for Tibbs and removed him from death row.

Tibbs was convicted in December, 1974, on murder and rape charges in Ft. Myers, Fla. He received a life sentence for the rape charge and a death sentence for the

murder charge.

Considering the contradictory testimony and the factual evidence concerning the incident, the court had no choice but to overturn Tibbs' conviction and grant him a new trial.

Tibbs was convicted by an all-white Florida jury of the murder of a white man and the rape of a white woman. Tibbs did not fit the description the rape victim, Cynthia Nadeau, originally gave. Her testimony was vague and contradictory. She could only identify Tibbs with the help of the police. She was the only witness.

Neither the gun or the vehicle the witness claims were involved were ever located. The witness also claims the missing gun was thrown in a nearby lake. There is no lake. Tibbs had evidence indicating that he was over 200 miles from the

scene of the crime the day before and the day after the crime.

NO EVIDENCE

Now that Tibbs is off death row the struggle for his freedom must not die.

It was not Judge Joseph Boyd of the Florida Supreme Court and the "justice" system that removed Tibbs from death row. In this

society, "Equality before the law" is a bold faced lie.

No, it wasn't the courts that removed Tibbs from death row, it was the hundreds and hundreds of people who demanded the removal of Delbert Tibbs and are now demanding his immediate release.

Lisa Manchester

AIM Leader Russell Means Acquitted Of Murder

On Friday, August 6, Russell Means, American Indian Movement (AIM) leader, was acquitted of murder. He had been charged with accessory to murder in a March, 1975 barroom killing.

Since the 1973 Indian liberation of the town of Wounded Knee, S. Dakota, Means has been shot three times and spent over half of these three years fighting court battles.

Dick Marshall, fellow AIM member and Means' companion that evening, was convicted of murder in the same incident on April 6. He was sentenced by an all-white jury to life in prison.

On the night of March 2, 1975, Martin Montileaux was found shot in the restroom of a Scenic, S.D. bar. Means and Marshall had been seen in the bar that evening. Before he died, Montileaux specifically stated that it wasn't Means who shot him. He also did not identify Marshall.

COULDN'T IDENTIFY

The prosecution's emphasis at Means' trial was whether anyone saw Means coming out of the restroom where Montileaux was shot.

State's witness Marian Poor Bear testified that it was not Means, but a younger man who she saw coming out of the restroom. Other witnesses for the state could not identify Means.

Only one witness said he saw Means coming out of the restroom. This man, named Merrill, is the owner of the bar and big rancher in the area. He is also a staunch supporter of the BIA goons who have been systematically harassing Native Americans. However, at a pre-trial hearing, Merrill could not identify Means.

There was a great deal of changing testimony of common witnesses between Means' and Marshall's trials. This should open Marshall's appeal and give him a new trial.

Scores of Native Americans have been harassed, assaulted, and framed and railroaded by BIA agents and the government since the '73 Wounded Knee uprising.

The resulting legal fights have kept many Indian liberation leaders tied up in court since.

By Byron Gray

Women Against Racism - Fighting To Free Gary Tyler

IN DETROIT, WOMEN AGAINST RACISM, a group of black and white women, has been working to win Gary Tyler's immediate release from a Louisiana murder frameup. Women Against Racism was formed in January to oppose a white racist group, Mothers Alert Detroit. School busing was about to begin.

In early Spring, the group decided to participate in the Tyler campaign. Workers' Power reporter Pat Gallagher talked with VIVIAN HALL, a member of Women Against Racism's steering committee about why the group believes the Tyler issue is important.

"I found out about Gary Tyler when two Women Against Racism members came to my class at Wayne County Community College. Then, in July, I went to a rally here, were I learned about Women Against Racism for the first time.

"I signed up on the spur of the moment. And after coming home and thinking about it, I decided it really was a group I would like to join.

AWARE

"Before, I wasn't really involved in anything. Now it seems I want to

know things. Any kind of rally now makes me more aware of what's happening."

"What we need to do is make the public aware in the North. There will be a lot more Gary Tyler's if people aren't aware that this can happen anywhere. The opposition, like Mothers Alert Detroit, is getting their thing over. So we formed our own group to put over our thing.

"One thing I have found is that if a group is all-black or all-white, people will look on it as a racist type thing no matter what. If people see black and white people

working together to help Gary Tyler, or to help the neighborhood, it's real good.

"Hopefully the Tyler issue will be resolved soon. The next step is just anything that smacks of racism. Maybe we can look into the school cutbacks.

"Right now, we're having a Gary Tyler picnic on August 21. We've been selling raffle tickets to raise money for his defense campaign.

"There is a lot of apathy. But a lot of things can be done if you holler loud enough. One person can't do it. Two people can't do it. If you sit in your little hole, nothing



Vivian Hall

happens."

The Women Against Racism picnic to Free Gary Tyler will be at 12 noon at Palmer Park in Detroit. Everyone is welcome to come and join in the fun while helping to free Gary.

NEW YORK HOSPITAL WORKERS SOLD OUT-FOR A PROMISE

by Barbara Adler

Eighteen thousand municipal hospital workers, members of AFSCME Local 420, returned to work Sunday, August 8, after a four-day strike. The main issue was the rehiring of 1350 of their co-workers laid off the week before. In exchange for a promise not to

cut these or other jobs at least until January, the strikers gave up \$10 million in pay, an average of \$450 each. This will be accomplished by forgoing the cost of living raises.

The settlement came just as doctors and nurses were joining the picket lines for the first time. They were angered by an announced cut of \$21-\$23 million in state Medicaid funds. "There will be nothing left resembling decent medical care for those people who...have no place else to go," said the president of the Committee of Interns and Residents.

Instead of accepting this new support and fighting on, the leaders of AFSCME caved in. Local 420 members will lose their cost-of-living raises for as long as two years. And more jobs will be lost in January.

NOT FIRST SELLOUT

This is not the first sellout engineered by Victor Gotbaum, head of AFSCME District Council 37.

A year ago, on August 1, 1975, in return for a statement that "it is the intent of the city that there will be no more layoffs in this fiscal year," Gotbaum agreed that all his members would submit to a wage freeze until 1978. He also agreed they would hand back the cost of living pay increase that had just taken effect on July 1.

Two months later in October, 1975, 3000 hospital workers were laid off. The union leadership did not even protest this blatant double-cross.

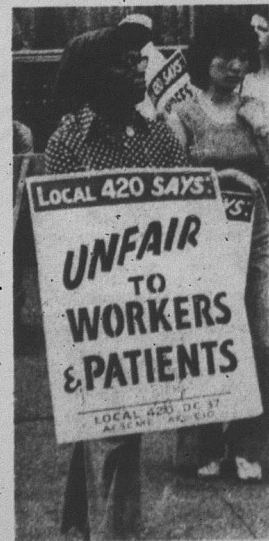
In May 1976, when the city announced plans to lay off 3150 more hospital workers, the union

leaders demanded "negotiations." Gotbaum promised it a victory when only 65 workers were laid off. But he agreed to leave it to a task force appointed by the city to determine the fate of the other 2200 jobs. It was this task force's decision to axe 1350 more that triggered the strike.

The losers are the overwhelmingly black and Puerto Rican housekeeping and dietary workers

in Local 420. Their union leadership was just not prepared to fight.

As a black man on the picket line at Queens Hospital Center put it, "The best time to have gone out would have been when the voluntary (private, nonprofit) hospital workers were out on strike in July. That would have been very successful...We were supposed to go out then...this local kept compromising..."



Local 420 member picketing during hospital strike in New York.

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WALKOUT HITS EASTERN UNITED PARCEL TALKS

PITTSBURGH—United Parcel Service workers are out on a wildcat strike in South Jersey. They are protesting the refusal of the company to rehire a fired employee, and they are spreading their wildcat.

The strike started Monday night, August 9. Roving pickets went from Jersey to shut down Philadelphia's main hub Tuesday morning. By late Wednesday night, they were picketing the Edison and Parsippany hubs in Northern Jersey.

A four person delegation was sent to picket the Eastern Conference of Teamsters-UPS contract negotiations in Arlington, Va. on Thursday, August 12.

The firing which set off the walkout involved a package driver out of the South Jersey Vineland hub. He was accused of molesting a woman customer and fired immediately. In civil court the driver was found innocent, yet UPS still refuses to reinstate him. His grievance is now deadlocked at the area grievance panel.

"This company thinks it is above the law—at UPS all you follow is their law," commented one Jersey driver.

John Greeley, president of the striking Local 676, met with UPS representatives last Wednesday to try settling the dispute. UPS considered rehiring the man, then decided not after obtaining an injunction against the strikers.

Compared to most officials, Greeley is taking an unusually militant attitude towards this firing. He has taken his local out over one individual's grievance, and is encouraging the defiance of an injunction.

CONTRACT FIGHT

The reason is that the walkout is taking place in the middle of the contract fight of the Eastern Conference UPS workers.

Local 676 is in a peculiar position in relation to negotiations now going on in Arlington, Va. The local is one of three out of the 74 or so in the Eastern Conference which voted not to be included in bargaining for a 15-state agreement.

Local 676 thought it would have more leverage if it was out of the Conference, but the result has been the opposite. It has been completely frozen out of the negotiations.

But due to the timing, the wildcat is able to build off a growing strike sentiment among UPSers all over the east coast. Their contracts expired July 31 and a strike authorization vote was taken on August 1. Although the members overwhelmingly voted to go out—8738-212—the International is sitting on that vote and is not informing people about any progress or lack of it in the negotiations.

As a result, even though the 676 issue is a local one, the roving pickets from Jersey are finding their lines respected by Philadel-

phia UPS workers. This is particularly significant since President Rinehart of Philadelphia Local 623, is down at the hub. He is instructing workers to cross the line because the strike has not been sanctioned by the International.

Given this situation, the wildcat strike can be no ordinary walkout

over local issues. It is affecting the entire Eastern UPS.

UPSers here are hot, just itching for the go-ahead from the International to go out on strike. The company and the union, however, may try to use this wildcat as an excuse to prolong and extend negotiations.

BULLETIN—The South Jersey UPS wildcat strike ended Thursday. At Arlington, Virginia, scene of negotiations for the UPS Eastern States Contract, pickets were up all day. Finally, the company promised that an arbitration hearing for the fired worker will be held Tuesday morning, and that a decision will be announced the same day.

However, the company has also filed suits against workers who were out on the wildcat strike.



Striking car haulers walk the picket line at the A.T.I. terminal in Detroit.

Car haulers Wildcat Again Against Union Officials

by Duane Hammill

Car haulers in the Detroit area are wildcatting again. Car haulers drive the trucks that carry loads of new cars to the dealers.

The last wildcat by the Teamster Local 299 members was June 21. The employees of Automobile Transport Inc. struck in sympathy with striking car haulers in Flint, Michigan.

The new strike began August 8 and includes not only A.T.I. but also Complete Auto Transit at nearby Willow Run.

The reasons for this strike are much the same as before. The employees of both companies went on strike against the inadequate representation that they are receiving from their International and Local Teamster officials.

The strikers feel that the negotiating team for the Central and Southern Conference of Automobile Transporters ignored their basic demands for this contract.

They have taken issue with the new Article 48 which puts an end to "deadheading" and will reduce jobs. "Deadheading" is returning to the home barn empty. The strikers also object to the continuing inclusion of Article 7, the "no strike clause."

In addition, the strikers are demanding that the International and local officials use their power to return the numerous fired men back to work. The firings were the result of strike actions in Cincinnati, Flint, and Detroit.

The number of fired individuals from these three cities totals 34, with many others receiving week long suspensions.

The strike is now in its fourth day. The strikers are refusing to return to work until the International Teamster officials are willing to agree to fight for the demands that the strikers

originally went out for.

In addition, the court has refused to issue an injunction. This is a direct result of the precedent set in the previous court case involving the strikers of A.T.I. In that case the court decided that it was unable to enjoin the strike because it was considered an "internal Union dispute."

More Vote Fraud?

Two votes on the car haulers' contract have left the 20,000 members unclear about the results.

The first ballot of the Central and Southern Conference of Automobile Transporters was turned down by a margin of five to four. During the mail ballot it was noted that an average of five people per barn did not receive ballots. When questioned about this fact, Teamster officials placed the blame solely on the postal service.

After the short renegotiation, a second ballot was mailed out. Again many of the Teamster car haulers did not receive ballots, and again the postal service was cited as the cause. During the counting of the ballots the computer conveniently broke.

Fitzsimmons sent out a memorandum to the companies stating that an agreement had been reached. No official word on the tally has yet been publicized, however.

The strongest unofficial rumor that has spread through the membership says that the contract was ratified by a margin of four to one. A result like this is totally unreasonable. The sentiment of the car haulers was strongly for rejection.

It seems that the International knew that the membership would not accept the sub-standard contract so they used the only other method of ratification that they have at their disposal.

UPSurge: 'Make It An Official Strike'

With frustration mounting daily in the Eastern UPS hubs, the threat of wildcats has increased in many areas. There have been confirmed reports of organized slowdowns in several places. And customers are cutting down their UPS shipments for fear their freight will get caught in a strike.

Through it all, the Teamsters negotiating committee is continuing to meet with the company, and shows no signs of preparing for a strike. There have been no progress reports. And no strike deadline has been set.

The steering committee of UPSurge-East met August 7 to discuss ways of putting pressure on the union to act. The committee has decided that its goal is a sanctioned strike of the entire Eastern Conference.

"The failure of the negotiating committee to set a deadline is only dragging our feet and giving UPS too much breathing room," says an UPSurge bulletin. "It's time to tighten the noose."

DEMAND MEETINGS

Pettions are being circulated in the locals demanding union meetings August 15 to report on the state of negotiations. The steering committee is urging UPSurge-East members to introduce motions at these meetings to set an August 18 strike deadline unless UPS comes up with an acceptable offer.

If the local unions refuse to call these meetings, rank and filers plan to call their own meetings to decide on further action. United Parcel Service has taken an aggressive position in these negotiations. The company has demanded: a 25% pay cut for new employees; an open-ended discharge clause; the freedom to use part-timers for pick-ups.

In contrast, UPSurge is demanding: protection of all jobs now performed by full-timers; full benefits for part-timers with the right to bid on full-time jobs, and part-time wages equal to those in the Central States; innocent until proven guilty; no performance or production standards; and an extend the best conditions in any local contracts to all Eastern UPS workers.

A head-on conflict is unavoidable unless the union proposes to surrender. It will take a strike to force UPS to come around. The rank and file now has the job of forcing their union leadership to get serious and strike for a decent contract.