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WORKERS' Power

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS APRIL 18, 1977 #203 15c

In This Issue:	
Bonus: \$446,000	2
UAW Elections	3
Ma Bell Off the Hook . . .	8
Atlanta City Strike	9
Slap Shot	11

Carter Kills Rebate Another Promise Broken

by Karen Kaye

TOO INFLATIONARY. That's the reason President Carter gave for dropping his proposal for the \$50 tax rebate.

Too inflationary? Who is he kidding. Everyone knew that the rebate plan was just part of Carter's public relations—"thanks for voting me in, here's fifty

bucks."

It was not a serious part of his economic recovery program. It was just a drop in the bucket—or peanuts, excuse the phrase, compared to the rest of his economic program.

But to all the people whose budgets were wiped out by fuel bills this winter, the \$50 was something to look forward to.

The rest of the economic stimulus bucket is still filled with proposals to reduce business taxes.

Business can look forward to a

continuation of a 10% tax credit when they invest.

They will also get \$1000 off taxes for every new hire, under Carter's proposal. Carter's business tax proposals are expected to pass Congress easily.

The rebate plan, on the other hand, was meeting stiff opposition, even among Democrats.

He was also under pressure from businessmen to drop the plan. The stock market went up when his decision was announced.

Carter said that another reason he turned against the rebate was because "the economy has already recovered enough."

Enough for who?

Maybe it has recovered enough for businessmen who will continue to get tax cuts of millions. But it has not recovered enough for all of us who were counting on that measly \$50.

This is just one of many promises of importance to working people

that Carter has broken.

Another was his campaign promise to reduce unemployment significantly. Shortly after taking office he declared that unemployment of 7% will be with us for at least a year.

He broke the unemployment promise to please business too: businessmen thought low unemployment would be inflationary.

For more on Carter's PRO-BUSINESS ANTI-LABOR economic policies, see page 2. He has a lot more in store for us. □



Aid African Liberation

There was something to celebrate in the Mitchell housing project in South Bronx, New York last weekend.

Residents of the project joined supporters of the Southern Africa Liberation Committee to collect supplies for African freedom fighters. The shoes, clothing, tampons and other supplies will be sent to the soldiers of the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) who are fighting to free their

country Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) from racist minority rule.

The collection is part of a national drive to raise badly needed shoes for the ZANU fighters, to protect them from water fleas and parasites.

SALC members and people from the community are shown here with some of the goods collected.

The movement to support southern African freedom is growing. You can contribute to it, join it, build it and help organize it.

How We Would Have Spent It

Working people were shocked when word came that the \$50 tax rebate was off. And surprised that Carter thought the amount they would spend was going to be "inflationary." Many people had already planned what to do with the money. Here's what three people had to say about their plans for the rebate check.

H. TUCKER, a Teamster, told Workers' Power, "The rebate wouldn't have been the economic stimulus it was supposed to be—a permanent decrease in taxes would do that. But I think this will make people loose confidence in Carter—he's already changed his policies so many times.

"I probably would have put the money in the bank and then spent it on necessities, since I'm fired and I have seven dependents. Inflationary? The amount isn't that great and you couldn't really do anything extravagant with it."

Tucker is one of 52 car haulers fired following a strike last year.

spend his \$50 on "bills. Utilities or food or paying somebody we owe money to. It sure wouldn't be pleasure money."

JAMES "THE HAWK" AARON is a toolsetter at GM's Chevy Gear and Axle plant, Local 235. He told Workers' Power, "I was hoping to get it before Memorial Day because I was going to barbeque and have friends come over. I wanted the money to pay for those expenses.

"I'm surprised that we won't be getting it. I voted for Carter and expected him to fulfill the promises he gave the voters. I think it will give the voters the shakes, because if he changed on this he could break other promises.

"I don't see why they didn't give it to us, seeing as how all our money ends up going to the government anyway."

LARRY IVORY works as an orderly in a hospital. He told Workers' Power that he had planned to

For full story, see pages 6-7

Carter's Economic Policy

BIG BUCKS FOR BIG BUSINESS

by Kim Moody

YOU PROBABLY DIDN'T notice it. Not a single picket line was up anywhere. But for the last year there has been a strike of national significance. A strike so crippling that it has held back economic recovery for months.

This was not a labor strike but a capital strike. It was conducted not by workers, but by big business.

Fearful of inflation, and suspicious of what a new Democratic administration might do, many of the businessmen who control the major sectors of the economy refused to use their wealth and growing profits to get the economy going.

They hesitated to buy new plant and equipment. They avoided hiring more workers who would produce more goods and services. The businessmen were on strike.

But Jimmy Carter has come up with a sure fire way of breaking this businessmen's strike. Give them what they want!

WANT PROFITS

What these reluctant businessmen want, of course, is a political and economic atmosphere in which profits are safe.

To most of them, this means limits on government social spending, no controls on prices or profits, big tax relief for companies that invest, and a balanced budget.

Many of these demands were voiced at a dinner party held by Budget Director T. Bert Lance, himself a banker. The guests were representatives of some of the biggest New York banks and investment houses.

There, these stalwart guardians of high finance complained about the \$50 rebate, which they imagined would bring inflation of enormous proportions.

On the other hand, they demanded further guarantees that the Carter Administration would not keep big business from raising prices.

These gentlemen, who were said to represent firms worth a total of \$100 billion, clamored for tax cuts for business. They warned of the dangers of an Administration that counted in its numbers social experimenters like Vice-President Walter Mondale and Labor Secretary Ray Marshall.

But T. Bert Lance was there to reassure these captains of capital that the Carter Administration would do no dangerous social experimenting or spending.

CONSERVATIVE

In the last few weeks, the Carter Administration has done much to convince many people that the President really is a conservative in his economic policies.

His unexpectedly low proposed increase in the minimum wage, a mere 20c, must have reassured some businessmen. His promise to balance the budget by 1981 must have been a fresh breeze on Wall Street.

But the real concession to big business is Carter's clear advocacy of a "capital investment first" strategy for economic recovery.

Historically there are two basic ways a government can help stimulate economic recovery.

One is through massive government spending on programs like Social Security, public works and food stamps.

This puts money in consumers' hands. Their spending encourages business to increase production. This approach is inflationary and is meant to be. This policy is associated with liberalism.

The traditional conservative approach is to put money more directly into the hands of business, to stimulate immediate investment.

One of the most approved ways of doing this is lowering taxes on business. Most common is a "tax credit" for profits spent on new investment.

BUSINESS TAX CUTS

Like most Administrations, both Republican and Democratic, Carter is doing some of both. But his latest turn is towards the second.

He has proposed to cut taxes for companies that spend profits on new plant and equipment, and for hiring new workers.

The credit for new investment would run to 10-12% of the employer's tax bill. Companies would also get a tax reduction of over \$1000 per new worker hired. This is what business wants to hear.

Carter's anti-inflation program is



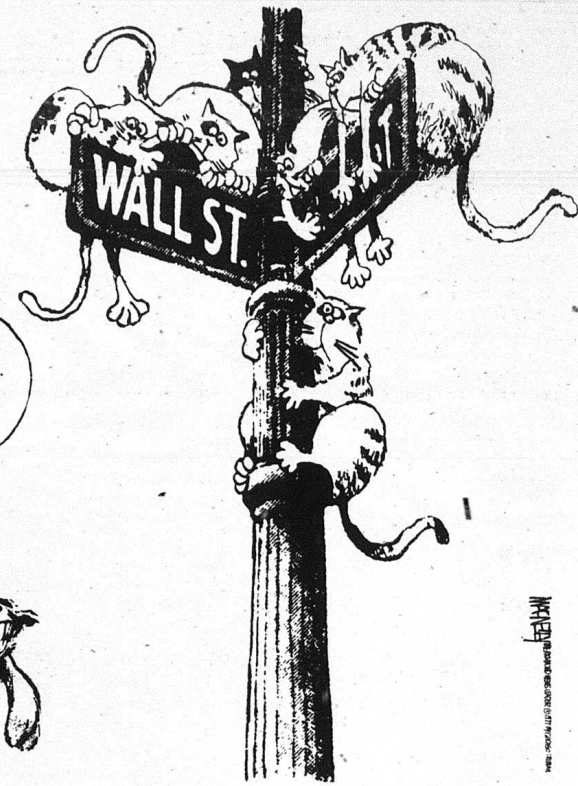
also calculated to please big business.

There will be no controls on prices or profits, just "consultation." Social spending—which benefits working people—will be kept fairly low.

A less noticed, but equally clever profit pleaser was how Carter handled price increases. Carter postponed the announcement of his anti-inflation program for business to late April.

Between January and April, wholesale and retail prices rose rapidly. Carter allowed businesses to raise prices and increase their profits before any program was operating.

The same approach did not apply to labor. Through his Labor Secretary, Ray Marshall, Carter has made it clear that wage and



benefit settlements for 1977 are not to be bigger than those in 1976. The results have already been spectacular.

The recent Steel Workers settlement is the first major one of this year. It was well below the 1976 level. The wage settlement was little more than 10% for three years. The cost of living might add another 5%. Increases in unemployment benefits and pensions will apply only to those with 20 years or more service.

Even the most exaggerated estimates place the cost of the steel package at around 30%, below what last year's auto contract was said to cost.

A Carter Administration economist expressed pleasure with the steel settlement. "There doesn't

seem to be anything shocking or unusual about it," he said.

Carter's strategy for economic recovery is to inflate profits and hope that business will spend them on investment.

Many businessmen were surprised that a Democratic Administration would take this conservative approach.

Irving Shapiro, chairman of DuPont Co., told the Wall Street Journal, "I think the administration has conducted itself in a prudent way, much to the surprise of many people who thought a Democratic Administration would be for a lot of pump priming programs."

LIBERALISM

It is not that Jimmy Carter is not a liberal. It's just that liberalism and the Democratic party are becoming more conservative.

They are as committed to the capitalist profit system as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Carter's first duty is to keep U.S. business profitable.

This liberal begins to look a lot like an old-time labor hating, business-loving, budget balancing conservative from Dixie. This is because the system is in trouble.

Under today's economy, it is more difficult to benefit both business and working people. When it comes to a choice, Jimmy Carter, liberal or conservative, is first a man of his class—the capitalist class.

Had Any \$446,000 Bonuses Lately? Not If You Work For A Living...

by Karen Kaye

NOT EVERYONE is having a hard time keeping up with inflation. Top government and business officials have received handsome pay raises this year.

Heading the list is the chairman of Chrysler Corporation, John J. Riccardo. He got a bonus of \$446,000 for a 1978 total of \$692,000.

Chrysler's President Eugene Caferio got salary and bonus hikes that brought him \$620,000. That's a 243% increase over his 1975 pay.

The men were rewarded by the company's owners because Chrysler made a \$328 million profit last year.

Chrysler hourly workers received 1c new money in their contract negotiated in November.

Other corporate big wigs getting hefty pay boosts included the top staff men of two fuel giants. Texaco's chairman Maurice F. Granville received a 25%

salary increase, up to \$651,000. James E. Lee, president of Gulf Oil Corp., got a 14% increase, up to \$398,000. These men head two companies that made a mint off this winter's cold spell and your high heat bills.

Both companies own extensive natural gas supplies. Texaco withheld 900 billion cubic feet of natural gas this winter, a Congressional investigation charged in February.

GOV'T PAY HIKES

The pay of high government officials isn't in the same league as what business chiefs get, but they did all right for themselves this year.

Congress gave itself a \$12,900 raise this year. They now get \$57,500. One of the bills Congress is presently stalling over is the minimum wage. President Carter proposes to raise it to \$2.50 from the current \$2.30. The AFL-CIO is urging \$3.00. A person working a

40 hour week at \$2.50/hour would make \$5200 in a year, \$6240 if the AFL-CIO bill passes.

Both are only less than half of Congress's raise alone. A congressman's salary would support 12 families living on the current minimum wage.

Three million people are now paid the minimum wage. It is 16c an hour below the poverty level.

President Carter recently hiked salaries of 48 White House officials. Nine received the same amount Congress gave itself. The rest ended up with \$48,500-\$51,000. Carter claimed the raises saved taxpayers money. He could have given them more under a law governing "executive level" government salaries.

Why do the salaries of Congressmen and top government officials keep going up?

It's simple. They're in office to protect the interests of the capitalist system. They get paid like capitalists, to make sure they think like capitalists.

Workers' Power 203

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A FEW FOR OUR SIDE

by Jenny Singer

This spring, United Auto Workers locals throughout the country held elections for Convention delegates and local officers. A powerful political machine led by the International Executive Board has controlled the union from top to bottom for 30 years.

The elections showed that in some places the machine is beginning to lose its grip.

In this year's elections, rank and file militants and oppositionists, some of them socialists, have won or come within a few votes of winning.

It is not unusual in the UAW for incumbent officers, members of the machine, to be turned out of office. But usually, those who replace the defeated officers share the same company-minded view of unionism.

Within months they themselves become part of the International's well-oiled machine.

The election of some genuine rank and file fighters, many representing organized opposition forces, means that there will be some sand in the International's machine from now on.

The reason these militants could get elected is not hard to find.

• Massive layoffs in 1974-75, along with the drying up of Supplemental Unemployment Benefits, undermined the confidence of many auto workers in the International.

While the fear that comes from massive layoffs paralyzed many workers and union activists for some time, it also made militant and radical alternatives appear more sensible at last.

• The International leadership broke three wildcat strikes in Detroit in the summer of 1973, and another in Indianapolis in 1977—demonstrating again that the International had the companies' interests most at heart.

• When the International overruled the skilled trades' right to reject their rotten contracts, it spurred the organization of the Independent Skilled Trades Council.

• Most recently, fights over local contracts provided the push for the formation of opposition slates.

The victories and near victories of the rank and file this year were scattered and uncoordinated. But they represent the beginnings of a movement to turn the union away from its present company-oriented course.

LOCAL ELECTIONS

Four members of the Independent Skilled Trades Council (ISTC), which organized thousands of skilled workers to vote against the national agreement last fall, won a landslide victory in delegate elections at the giant Ford Local 600's Tool and Die Unit. One of them was Al Gardner, Chairman of the ISTC.

Local 160 (GM Tech Center) is sending two ISTC members to the Convention. Another ISTC'er, Tom Ulrich, heads the delegation from Vernor Tool and Die in Local 212.

At Eight-Mile Stamping, another 212 plant, an opposition including skilled and production workers ran neck and neck in the plant against the ruling Green Slate. They were defeated by the retirees, who were sent a red-baiting letter by the Administration.

At Local 869 (Warren Stamping), the membership voted down the proposed local agreement twice. They then elected Dave McCullough, a leader of the rejection movement and long time plant activist, vice-president of the local.

McCullough, a socialist and Chairman of the local's Fair

Employment Practices Committee, won by building a campaign organization that for the first time united black and white, skilled and production workers.

Detroit Forge Local 47 members also voted down their local contract twice, forcing the International to set a strike deadline—which the local officers hadn't even asked for. In their delegate elections, the Administration managed to get only one of its own elected—as last alternate.

In Local 235 (Chevrolet Gear & Axle), Larry King, leader of a rank and file caucus called "The Heat Is On," was elected to the Shop Committee. Others elected were candidates the Administration had tried to stab in the back. Wendy Weinberg, a radical district committee person, came within 13 votes of being sent to the Convention.

At Local 15 (GM Fleetwood in

Detroit), two members who had been fired seven months before after a wildcat strike were elected to the Convention delegation. They and other fired members had fought to keep the issue from dying. Earlier, the Shop Committee organized a demonstration at UAW International Headquarters to protest the International's pro-company intervention in their local negotiations.

At Local 1226 in Indianapolis, Chrysler Electrical Plant workers voted for their fired President, Larry Schick, as Convention delegate. Schick had backed the membership when they struck for 12 days over a foreman's assault on a worker.

MACHINE

In most locals, of course, the machine was unchallenged or unbeaten. In the huge Dodge local in Detroit, #3, the ruling "Action Group" administration consolidated its hold in a near sweep of all local positions.

At the 6000-member Mack Stamping Plant in Local 212, there was no organized opposition to the incumbent Green Slate.

At Indianapolis Electrical, a conservative former president was elected delegate as well as Schick—indicating some demoralization over the lost strike and the officers' firings. At Local 15, Administration slates won 10 of the 12 seats.

The UAW hierarchy is a group of dying dinosaurs. By 1983, 40% of the present International Executive Board will have to retire. Many regional officers are also approaching retirement. This will mean a scramble for positions which will cause cracks in the machine.

As capitalism runs into more and more problems, the companies will pressure for more and more concessions from the union. These dinosaurs know only how to yield to the will of their masters—GM, Ford, Chrysler, International Harvester, and the rest.

Facing rising prices and declining working conditions, dissatisfied auto workers will turn to others who have some answers.

This year's local elections were just the first sign that the winds of change are going to blow. □

TIMES ARE CHANGING

Ordinarily, UAW members don't bother voting, or they just vote for the most familiar names, or they vote for the lesser of a few evils.

But when there are candidates who represent a new direction at a time when the old ways won't work, then members are willing to change their habits.

Dave McCullough, newly-elected vice-president of Local 869, heard these comments from his co-workers about his victory.

• • •

"It's the first time I voted in my 12 year: at the plant."

• • •

"I voted your straight slate. It's the first time I've ever done that. In fact, it's the first time I ever voted for you."

• • •

"I'm so glad. For 12 years we've been trying to throw these guys out."

• • •

"I didn't vote for you, because of the socialist thing. But now that you've won I'm kind of glad."

Local 15 Sends Fired Militants To Convention

DETROIT—Two UAW Local 15 members who were fired after a wildcat strike at General Motors' Fleetwood plant last August have been elected to the local's delegation to the UAW Convention.

Jane Slaughter and David Sole ran on a slate of five fired members. The slate asked for support both to get their jobs back and to "send the UAW International a message."

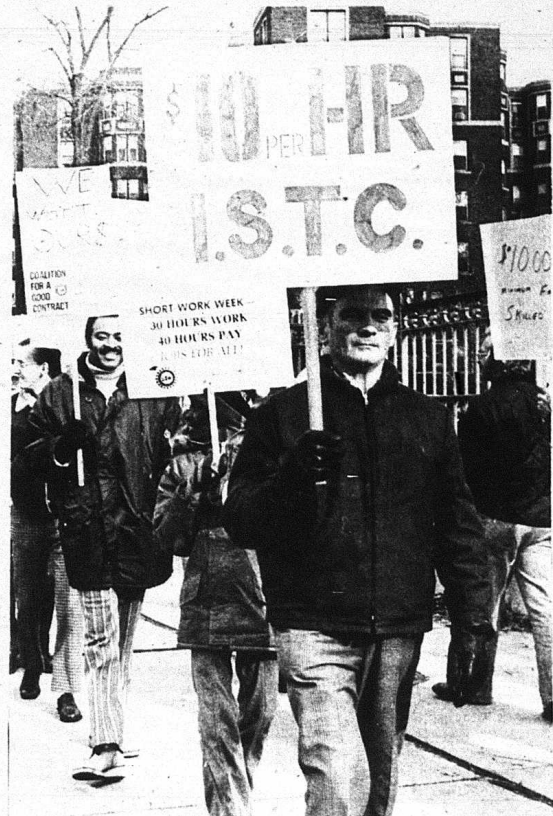
After the victory they announced that they would use their expense

money to send the whole slate to the convention.

TEN WERE FIRED

Ten rank and file members were fired last September after the Local 15 Shop Committee called a walkout and then helped break it. The local officials did not protest when UAW International Representatives arranged a settlement which included 10 fired and over 400 penalized.

Since that time, GM manage-



Independent Skilled Trades Council members picketed Solidarity House repeatedly last fall, demanding a decent contract. ISTC members will fight for skilled tradesmen's concerns, including protecting their right to a separate vote on contracts, at the UAW Convention in May.

Cadillac Local Sets Recount

DETROIT—The April 3 union meeting of Cadillac Local 22 voted overwhelmingly for a recount in its election for delegates to the United Auto Workers Convention. Ray Hall, a former Shop Committee Chairman and recently health and safety committeeman, charged vote fraud by incumbent President and top vote-getter Frank Rannels.

Rannels' slate won 14 of the 15 delegation slots, with Hall taking 13th place. Hall is opposing Rannels for president in elections to be held April 21.

Hall and other Local 22 members have asked President Woodcock to order new delegate elections and to send an administrator to run the local until the presidential election.

Rannels told Workers' Power that he considered Hall just a washed-up politician. He said that he had recommended a recount to the meeting.

Ron Banks, a member of the United National Caucus at Cadillac, told Workers' Power, "What's happened is that through the years our election process has really been weakened. We used to have accountants handle the entire election. It used to be with machines.

PRETEXT

"Now, on the pretext of saving money, we use paper ballots and the Elections Committee basically runs the election.

"Rannels has got a few lackies around the plant who are just like his butlers—they do anything that he wants them to. The worst one is this guy named Bob Frame.

"Bob Frame was appointed by the Elections Chairman to run the election and he had keys to the ballot box. Some of the ballot boxes didn't have seals on them, and he transported the ballot boxes from the polls to the local."

Banks felt that Rannels had the presidential election sewn up, "mostly because of all the political deals he's made. All the politicians in the plant are Rannels' people."

Banks said he supported Hall's challenge because, "Our elections have to be tightened up. Whether Rannels fixed the election or not really isn't the point. The point is the election could have been fixed." □



by Dan Posen

STEP BY STEP, the fighting in the African country of Zaire is escalating. It may become a major war involving many African nations.

A bloc of pro-western African states, supported by European powers, are rushing troops, weapons, supplies and military advisers to Zaire.

Their purpose is to keep in power Zaire's corrupt right-wing dictator, Mobutu Sese Seko. If Mobutu's army loses control of the copper and cobalt mines in Zaire's Shaba province, his government will probably fall.

Mobutu is the American government's most important ally in Africa, except for South Africa. He has received up to \$50 million from the CIA, some of it going back before he seized power in 1965.

FOUGHT ANGOLA

In 1974 and 1975, Mobutu helped the United States start a civil war in neighboring Angola. Mobutu even sent his troops into Angola in 1975. They occupied part of the country and fought against the Angolan national liberation movement, MPLA.

Today, Mobutu claims that the MPLA government of Angola is invading his country! But this charge only hides Mobutu's real problem. His army and his government can no longer control Zaire without massive outside help.

Zaire is also in debt to American banks to the tune of over \$1 billion. The banks are afraid that if Mobutu loses the copper mines, and is overthrown, those debts may never be paid.

Most important of all, Zaire is a central part of U.S. strategy in Africa. The U.S. wants Zaire to counter the influence of Angola and the spread of radical national liberation movements in Africa.

Just a few weeks ago, the Angolan government exposed plans by western powers to use Zaire as a jumping-off point for a new invasion of Angola. The invasion would be aimed at bringing down the MPLA government and setting up a right-wing regime.

FRONT FOR U.S.

The United States government desperately wants Mobutu in power. But the Carter Administration doesn't want it to look like American arms and aid are keeping him there.

So the U.S. government is encouraging its European allies and pro-U.S. African states to do the job instead.

The kingdom of Morocco has already rushed 1500 troops into Shaba province. They are fighting

the anti-Mobutu forces who threaten to take over the rich copper mines. So far Mobutu's own army has been totally ineffective.

Morocco has promised at least 1500 more troops for Zaire. They will be flown by French planes, with uniformed French pilots.

The French government is also providing instructors and probably military advisers. Earlier in the war

France rushed spare parts to Zaire for planes, helicopters and hundreds of armored cars that France sold Zaire in 1974.

The government of Egypt has also promised troops for Zaire. The Foreign Minister of Sudan, visiting the United States Strategic Air Command headquarters in Omaha, announced his government will also send military supplies.

This list includes many of the same African states which supported Washington's anti-MPLA intervention in Angola. Most of them are shopping for more American military and economic aid.

The governments of Egypt and the Sudan, especially, are afraid that the fall of Mobutu might encourage stronger opposition

movements within their own countries.

But the list of governments supporting Zaire stretches even farther.

South Africa is shipping oil to keep Mobutu's crumbling war machine running. The racist ruling class in South Africa realizes that its interests are completely tied up with those of western puppets like Mobutu.

And not only that. The government of China has applauded the French-Moroccan intervention. China claims this action is "supporting the just struggle of the Zaire people, victim of foreign subversion on its soil."

China appears increasingly committed to supporting American policies in Africa.

The Chinese government has given aid to several liberation struggles in Africa. But it knows very well that the pro-Mobutu bloc in Africa today will be an American tool to organize against those same liberation movements in Zimbabwe and throughout southern Africa in the future.

For its own purposes, the Chinese Communist leadership has joined the right-wing front that supports Mobutu. It even claims this represents the struggles of the people of Zaire.

But the people of Zaire seem to have a different idea. It looks like none of them, not even Mobutu's graft-ridden army, will lift a finger to save him.

Cuban Troops? Mobutu's Big Lie

SUPPOSEDLY, the reason various European and right-wing African states are rushing troops, weapons and supplies to Zaire is "to counter the growing Soviet-Cuban threat in Africa."

The Mobutu government is screaming for outside help, claiming that Cuban troops have invaded Zaire from Angola.

But after a whole month of fighting, there is no evidence so far that Cuban troops are involved in the Zaire war at all!

It is true that there are thousands of Cuban troops stationed in Angola. Several hundred Cuban doctors and technicians work in Tanzania. There may be Cuban advisers in a few other African countries.

It is also true that Cuban troops in Africa mean greater influence and power for Russia in central and southern Africa. Similarly, American corpora-

tions' \$2 billion investments in South Africa and \$1.5 billion in loans to Zaire make American imperialism the most powerful force in those nations.

The United States and Russia are battling each other for political, military and economic power over Africa.

All that is true. But the claim that Cubans have invaded Zaire looks like an excuse for Mobutu's allies to help save his crumbling, corrupt dictatorship. The intervention in Zaire today is coming from U.S.-backed western powers.

CLAIMS NOT BACKED

The fighting against Mobutu in Shaba province, and other parts of Zaire, is apparently being done by a number of diverse Zaire opposition movements—not Cubans.

Even the United States government hasn't tried to back up Mobutu's claim of Cuban troops in Zaire. Not a single U.S. correspondent has seen any evidence of Cuban troops in the battle zone.

Instead, they have seen Mobutu's army, which has nothing to fight for except the bribes its officers get, crumbling away at the first sign of trouble.

That's the real reason why Mobutu needs Moroccan troops, flown on French planes, to fight for him. That's also why he has imposed censorship on all news from Shaba.

The claims of Cuban troops invading Zaire give some U.S. allies an excuse to do Washington's dirty work—while the Carter Administration keeps pretending it believes that African problems should be solved by Africans.

When They Shop For Arms, Everybody Loves Jimmy

ITEM: Back during the election campaign, if you remember, Jimmy Carter and Fritz Mondale spoke out against America being the arms merchant to dozens of countries around the world.

They said these arms sales were jeopardizing peace and America's high moral standards. They said American foreign policy shouldn't be dictated by the profits of corporations producing weapons.

ITEM: Despite this high moral stand, there was one country where Carter and Mondale said there should be no cutback in arms sales. In fact, they said this particular country should get even more U.S. military aid than Nixon and Ford provided.

That country, the one Carter praised U.S. military aid to, is Israel.

ITEM: Last week the leader of a prominent U.S. ally in the Middle East visited Washington to ask for more U.S. weapons for his army.

Based on the first two items, you can easily guess that it must have

been the head of the government of Israel. Right?

Wrong. The Middle East leader who came to Washington for 200 F-5E fighter planes, anti-tank weapons and other assorted U.S. military hardware, was Anwar Sadat, the President of Egypt.

And when Sadat completed his tour, he seemed very pleased with the deals he had worked out with the Carter Administration. So are the arms producers who will scoop up the contracts, and the profits.

GUNS TO ALL

Now answer this. If Carter was against America supplying every government in the world (except Israel) with the hardware to expand its military power, why is he now going out of his way to make arms deals with Israel's main military rival, Egypt?

Here's part of the answer. Carter's stand on American arms sales abroad means just about as much as his commitment to human

rights.

That is, it means nothing at all. The countries which are lavishly supplied with U.S. arms, which they use to brutally suppress human rights, include: Iran, South Korea, the Philippines, Argentina, Chile, Ethiopia, Spain, South Africa—and Israel.

Now you can add to that list:

Why does the United States supply arms to both sides in the Middle East? Simply because both Israel and Egypt are committed to using those weapons to promote American interests.

REPRESSION

For years, Israeli advisers and weapons have been working for American interests in Africa, from Ethiopia to Uganda and even South Africa.

Now, President Sadat of Egypt says he needs U.S. arms to "fight the Soviet-Cuban threat in Africa." He has promised to send

Egyptian troops to Zaire if they are needed to protect the pro-western regime there.

Will American guns to Egypt do anything to advance the interests of the oppressed peoples of the Middle East?

The workers of Egypt, who rioted against starvation and food price increases and were shot by Sadat's special police, probably don't think so.

The Palestinian Arabs who are fighting for their homeland probably don't think so either. Sadat promised Carter he will force the Palestinians to accept a federation with their enemy, the King of Jordan.

Of course, America's policy of stuffing two military enemies, Israel and Egypt, with U.S. weapons helps bring a new Middle East war a little closer.

But if you have the morals of Jimmy Carter, what do you care about the lives of a few hundred thousand Egyptians, Palestinians or anyone else?

STEEL CONTRACT: THE JOKE'S ON YOU!

by Dennis O'Hara

GARY, Indiana—Steel workers were stunned last week by one of the worst contracts ever negotiated with the steel industry. Two days after it was announced, members of Local 1557 in Clairton, Pa. voted unanimously and with wild applause to take down the picture of union president I.W. Abel that had hung in their local hall. They voted to send it back to him along with a telegram denouncing the contract.

The Clairton meeting also voted to demand a special convention to change the United Steel Workers constitution to give the membership the right to ratify contracts. In basic steel, only the local presidents now have the right to vote on the contract.

The sentiment at Clairton was typical of rank and file reaction nationwide. One Indiana steelworker said, "The last contract I saw this bad was put out by the Mob."

At U.S. Steel's Homestead Works, local president Dave "Babe" Fernandez was physically run out of the hall by angry steelworkers. Fernandez had been an important McBride supporter in the USW presidential election. He was a key organizer of "SMART" (Steel Worker Members Against Radical Takeover), a group which concentrated on red-baiting the Sadlowski campaign.

Almost every opposition leader has condemned the contract. Jim Balanoff, newly-elected director of District 31, called it the worst contract he had ever seen.

REJECTED FIRST

The contract is so poor that even the local presidents at first voted by a margin of 148-143 to reject it.

That vote was a stinging defeat and a source of great embarrassment for the Abel/McBride machine, since these presidents are generally favorable to them. Only by some arm-twisting and a second roll call vote were they able to push the contract through, 193-99.

The local presidents' initial rejection was especially significant because of the apparently large number of Abel/McBride supporters who voted against it.

On the second vote, the Sadlowski supporters, the office and technical workers, and the iron ore workers generally voted it down. The office and technical and iron ore sections of the contract were, incredibly enough, worse than the rest. The office and technical representatives, who were a stronghold for McBride in the elections, were among the leaders in attacking the contract.

Clearly this contract has neither the confidence or the support of the membership. Activists in several places around the country want to make a clear public expression of this discontent by organizing rejection votes in their locals.

Such rejection votes, while not legally binding, would clearly mark the contract as the sellout it really is. Any individual or group which opposed the Abel/McBride machine in February, or who has since become disgusted with the contract, should get their local to take such a vote.



Why are these men smiling? Lloyd McBride (left) and I.W. Abel (right) laugh it up with chief steel industry negotiator J. Bruce Johnson.

But cracks widen in Abel's machine

by Jim Woodward

INSTEAD OF THE grand finale I.W. Abel wanted for his career as Steelworkers president, the 1977 contract is a big defeat for him.

Abel was able to deliver almost nothing new, and that labels his pet innovation, the Experimental Negotiating Agreement (no-strike deal), as one big failure. In addition, it means that Lloyd McBride, Abel's replacement, takes office with virtually the entire basic steel membership against him.

For months, the union had made one item the major goal of this year's negotiations: lifetime security. Abel wanted some unprecedented breakthrough as he retired to give him a secure place in American labor history. His idea was that steelworkers should be guaranteed a full time job with full pay for life. From the beginning, Abel was willing to water this goal down enough so management negotiators wouldn't get ulcers over it. But what Abel got in the contract is just a face-saving formula: increased SUB and job protection for workers with 20 years seniority.

As Anthony Tomko, president of

Local 1408, told Workers' Power: "We've been fighting for 20 year pensions, not to have the goddamn guy stay after 20 years! It's a real rare occurrence that anybody would ever be laid off with 20 years of service. In other words, this don't cost the company a nickel."

Besides the lifetime security fiasco, the new contract failed to make any significant progress on such critical issues as money and working conditions, the grievance procedure, health and safety stan-

dards, or outside contracting.

Beyond what's in or not in it, this year's contract marks a defeat for Abel in another way—it's one more big crack in the machine he built.

LOSING CONTROL

Through Ed Sadlowski's campaign for the USW presidency, and now through the negotiation of this contract, the mood of the rank and file has shifted decisively. The local officials are feeling this, and they too have become harder to control.

What They Think

"I've got nine more years I've got to work on this job under this shit. When we go to work tomorrow we'll just have to slow down."

—A member of Local 1557, during discussion of the contract at a union meeting April 11.

"There's not too much there."

—Attico Brandi, president of Local 1557, referring to the Lifetime Security provisions. Brandi is an Abel/McBride supporter who voted against the contract both times.

you never get laid off anyway. We won't even have a chance to collect it.

"It's a fake. The young guys didn't get anything, but the older ones didn't really either. And this raise won't even cover the jump in utilities."

"It's almost sad when it's contract time. And we didn't even get a chance to vote on it. It's pitiful."

—Robert Marshall, Local 1557, Clairton Coke Works, 31 years seniority

NO-STRIKE DEAL

Abel's no-strike deal may also be a victim of this year's contract. While the ENA was included in the contract (outlawing a strike in 1980), the poor results in this contract show what happens when you give up the right to strike.

Clearly, even the Abel/McBride people were not happy with this settlement. But they had no real weapon to make the companies bargain. And not only did the ENA fail to achieve a decent contract, Abel actually told the local presidents that they had better accept this contract because if it went to arbitration it would likely come out worse.

Tomko said that after the local presidents originally voted to reject, "Abel hit the wailing wall, and so did McBride. They started wailing and saying, 'Unless you people go along with us, the arbitrator isn't going to give you anything better. He's going to give you less.'"

"And I started thinking," Tomko continued, "if this is so, what the hell do we have the ENA for? If arbitration is worse than our own negotiating, then what do we need arbitration for?"

What's In The Contract?

The contract that the local presidents voted to accept was not a final contract, according to a spokeswoman in the United Steel Workers contract department. "There was a rough draft of the agreement, with just a few of the basic improvements. The attorneys are still working on it," she admitted.

But even though the union has ratified an incomplete document, its main features are clear:

- **Wages.** The raise is only 80c spread over three years. Last year the Teamsters got \$1.65. Under the ENA, steelworkers were guaranteed a minimum 3% yearly increase. The union won about another 5c new money on top of that 3%.
- **Cost-of-living.** Most people don't know it, but the 0.3 formula used in figuring the cost-of-living adjustments does not actually keep up with inflation. For example, if you make \$8.00 an hour and the inflation rate is 8%, you need a 64c raise to keep up. Under the present formula, you get 49c. No change in this contract.
- **Lifetime security.** The biggest joke in the contract. Mainly, it's a second year of SUB pay, but you've got to have 20 years seniority to qualify. But you won't get the second year if you're eligible for a pension or if the company offers you a job somewhere else in the country. Also, workers with 20 years seniority whose plant closes down can get an early pension if their age and years of service total 65.

- **SUB.** Benefits for all eligible workers will increase from \$100 to \$125.
- **Incentive.** The problem of low yield incentive was not dealt with at all. And the incentive increase was small.
- **Contracting out.** This was supposed to be a fighting issue, but nothing was won. A special joint review commission will issue a report. No later than September 1979.
- **Grievance procedure.** No important change.
- **Pensions.** No important change, except as noted above, and no cost-of-living.
- **Coke oven standards.** No important change.
- **Safety and health.** No important change.
- **Vacations and holidays.** One new holiday, United Nations Day (Oct. 24), beginning in 1979.
- **Orientation.** The union and companies will kick in half a million dollars each for an orientation program to inform new employees of their roles in the union, the industry and the world economy. When one local president complained that sounded like "a piece of junk, a company program," Abel replied, "I'll have you know it was my idea."
- **ENA.** The Experimental Negotiating Agreement was extended for the next contract. With results like this, the ENA is clearly one experiment steelworkers cannot afford to be the guinea pigs for.



"Looks like it's coming to the point where the worker has no control over his lifestyle. He pays all these union dues and when it comes to the point where something should really concern him, where he should have a vote, they leave him out in the cold completely."

"The only way that this increase in SUB for people with over 20 years will make any difference is if they close the mills. What with plant seniority



"This is without question the biggest disappointment of all the years I've been privileged to serve this union."

—I.W. Abel, after the local presidents had rejected the contract on the first vote.

"If the 340,000 workers covered by this contract had voted on it, it wouldn't have gotten 193 votes out of all of them."

—An Indiana steelworker, commenting on the fact that 193 local presidents voted for the contract.

"We build for Zimbabwe, we learn better ways to fight for ourselves."

by Steve Burns

SOUTH BRONX, NY—From the outside, it's not a very pretty place. Charred buildings stand gray and empty next to grassless, garbage-strewn lots.

Police cars, often in twos and threes, patrol only to protect property, not people. Those who live here are more harassed than helped by government officials.

It sounds a lot like Soweto, South Africa's black township where students and workers rebelled last June, shaking the apartheid regime.

However, it's not. It's right here

in the U.S.—the South Bronx of New York City. But, like Soweto, there are people here who are not afraid to fight for their rights or the rights of others.

People like Van. He and others are working in the South Bronx to oppose racist regimes in southern Africa.

SUPPORT

He said, "Look. It's simple. We've got to do it. No one is gonna help us. And once we get down, well, we're down and no one can take that away from us."

"We help brothers and sisters in South Africa, and they show us the way it's got to go here some day, too."

Like their African brothers and sisters, they are finding that a clear political support for the liberation struggle gets more and more people involved in the movement.

Last Saturday at Mitchell Public Housing was a great example. In one afternoon, Southern Africa Liberation Committee members helped gather over 1000 pounds of shoes, clothing and supplies for the Black African liberation armies.

Even more important, some new people decided to get active in the SALC as well. And these new members come from one of the poorest communities in the U.S.

"Sure, we're poor. But wh'it's old to us is gold to the liberation fighters," said Marshall, a leading SALC activist and new IS member.

"We haven't got much but we know it's important to share what we've got with people who have a need."

LINK

In speaking with Mitchell tenants, his words hit home again and again. People knew that the South African cause was linked to their own. The solidarity was almost automatic.

Old women who are usually too frightened to speak with strangers, unlocked their doors to give old shoes. One woman had her head and neck bandaged from a recent fall. She invited SALC members into her apartment to help gather

old clothes from her closet.

"I have to do it," she said. "We all have to help."

The result of the day's work for the freedom fighters was significant—both in supplies and in many new people understanding the fight against imperialism.

"Who the hell is ripping off the people in Rhodesia and South Africa? Who the hell rips us off in the South Bronx? It's not like there are different corporations there and here," said a SALC member as he carried two huge bags of clothes and shoes from Mitchell Housing.

"We can't get jobs because IBM won't work up here; people starve on IBM's wages over there. It's all the same thing."

SIMILAR

The SALC was successful because the problems are so similar. In Soweto, families are forced by law to live apart. Men and women receive starvation wages. And capitalists make some of the largest profits anywhere in the world.

In the South Bronx, families are broken up if they need welfare. Men and women receive poverty wages. And the same capitalists maintain a large pool of inexpensive labor to use for higher profits—either to perform the worst jobs in every industry, or to be thrown in and out of a job at the capitalists' convenience.

The people in the South Bronx are responding so dramatically to the struggle in Southern Africa because they know exploitation—very, very well.

OPPOSE NEW KRUGERRAND TV CAMPAIGN

NEW YORK—NBC may be planning to resume broadcasts of controversial advertisements for the South African gold coin, the Kruggerand.

A nation-wide sales campaign for the coin was the target, last winter, of groups that oppose South Africa's racist apartheid policy.

The Committee to Stop the Kruggerand picketed NBC and New York's Abraham and Strauss Department Store last winter. The department store has halted sales of the Kruggerand as a result of the picketing.

The Kruggerand ads on NBC stopped last December, but the network has apparently been considering renewing that campaign. As a result of the demonstrations, NBC notified the Committee, now renamed the Southern Africa Liberation Committee (SALC), of that possibility.

MEETING

On April 11, representatives of the SALC, the American Committee on Africa, and the National Conference of Black Lawyers, met with an NBC Vice-President to discuss advertising the coin.

NBC was willing to discuss only those aspects of the advertising having to do with possible fraudulent or deceptive advertising or violation on national of international law, an SALC representative told Workers' Power.

An example given by the network spokesman was, "does the coin really contain an ounce of pure gold" as the ads claim.

The real issue the SALC spokesperson told Workers' Power is if NBC is going to advertise a product that is a symbol and prop of the racist South African regime, or are they going to refuse such ads.

Gold is one of the main exports of South Africa. Three Black miners die on each shift, digging the gold that goes into the coin.

American business and the American government are major supports that keep the regime alive.

A spokesperson for the SALC said, "Our position is that we're going to do everything possible to stop it. We will resume picketing, have boycotts, anything that we see fit, if the advertising begins again."



SOUTH BRONX: Over 1000 pound

"Here things are a little less out front. We've sure got racism, but some whites get it in the neck, too. Look at the unemployment lines these days!" responded Ed in a discussion with other SALC members on differences between the U.S. and South Africa.

"Just because we're both getting the short end of the stick

THE SOUTHERN AFRICA LIBERATION COMMITTEES

The South Bronx is only one of many communities in this country where supporters of southern African liberation are collecting shoes and supplies for Zimbabwe's freedom fighters.

Chapters of the Southern Africa Liberation Committees in several major cities are also active.

The Southern Africa Liberation Committees are a recently organized network of local groups. They are fighting against all support for white racist Rhodesia and South Africa by American corporations and the U.S. government.

The SALC's are building for southern Africa liberation movements, such as ZANU in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) and SWAPO in Namibia (South West Africa). They hold meetings, show films and sponsor speeches by representatives of southern Africa liberation movements.

The SALC's are also committed to supporting the struggle against racism at home in America.

There is a national SALC committee in Detroit, which can let you know if there is a SALC or other liberation support group in your area. For further information, you can write: Southern Africa Liberation Committee, 149 Ford St., Highland Park, MI 48203, or call 313-867-3837.



SAN FRANCISCO: Longshoremen honored anti-apartheid picket.

Southern Africa News

HERE'S ONE IMPORTANT REASON why you should support the campaign to collect shoes for Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) liberation fighters.

Since the current school year started, 25,000 Black school children from one small area alone have left Rhodesia. They have joined the freedom fighters in their camps in neighboring Mozambique.

Mozambique is where the biggest Zimbabwe liberation army, led by ZANU (Zimbabwe African National Union), is based.

A British paper reported from Rhodesia last month: "The Rhodesian Air Force made 'pamphlet raids' along the border with Mozambique yesterday in a final attempt to persuade 25,000 Black children to return to school."

"The 25,000, all from the Manicaland region, centered on Umtali (in northeast Rhodesia near the Mozambique border), have been officially reported missing by the Education Ministry after failing to register for the new school year."

These students have fled with only the clothes on their back, to get military training and political education. Then they will return to their country to help overthrow the racist regime and establish Black rule.

They represent the future of Zimbabwe and the victory of national liberation over colonial oppression in southern Africa. The help we give can bring that victory a little closer.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

HERE'S ANOTHER IMPORTANT REASON why you should help build support for Zimbabwe freedom fighters.

British Foreign Secretary David Owen is touring southern Africa this week. He is trying to set up new peace talks to end the Black national liberation struggle in Zimbabwe.

Owen is proposing a deal that was secretly worked out in March by the governments of the United States, Britain and South Africa.

A rigged referendum in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) would elect a Black. This figurehead would negotiate with Ian Smith, the racist government's leader.

The United African National Council (UANC), led by Bishop Abel Muzorewa, has been promoting such a referendum for a long time.

A top Muzorewa aide, Gordon Chavunduka, has been on Rhodesian television and spoken to white audiences in South Africa. He boasts that the UANC would win a referendum, and then end the war by wiping out the bases of the Zimbabwe guerillas in rural villages.

In South Africa, Chavunduka even admitted the UANC has had secret negotiations with the Smith regime: "We have met with some of his people to discuss the referendum. But we must be sure this exercise will succeed, because failure would be disastrous for our organization."

The UANC says it will participate in a referendum where only Blacks with property can vote. It also promises to preserve capitalism, guarantee white property rights, and even keep the tribal trust lands where Black Zimbabweans live in near-starvation.

Jimmy Carter and Britain's James Callaghan have agreed to help. If this fake election takes place, they would pressure Mozambique to shut down the military bases of ZANU (Zimbabwe African National Union) in that country.

But as soon as this plan leaked out, the leaders of the liberation armies denounced it.

The western imperialist powers won't try their fake election right now. They can't force the Zimbabwean people or the freedom fighters to accept the rigged results.

But that is another important reason for building the greatest possible support for the liberation forces and especially for ZANU. ZANU has made it clear it will not accept sellout deals with the racist Rhodesian regime and its allies.



s of shoes and clothes.

doesn't mean the stick has to look the same."

The S.A.C. members are excited by the response of others in the South Bronx. They see that helping the liberation fighters eventually can only help them.

Rudy, one of the first active people in anti-apartheid struggles here in New York, summed it up.

"The South Bronx isn't gonna be saved tomorrow or the next day. We all know that.

"But you can't sit back and expect all this crap to go away. It won't.

"We build for Zimbabwe, we learn in the struggle better ways to fight for ourselves. Then we'll be ready when our time comes!"

From the outside, the South Bronx may look like a barren burned out place to live. It is. But, in the South Bronx are many people actively preparing for a better world.

There are many thousands more who can and should join this battle. It's people, not places, that make a revolution!

"Dump That Cargo In The Bay!"

by Anne Larson

SAN FRANCISCO—Over 500 people picketed a Danish-registered ship, the Ned Lloyd Kingston loaded with cargo from South Africa that is docked on Pier 27 of the waterfront here.

They successfully convinced 40 of the 50 longshoremen scheduled to work to honor their picket line, and not to unload the ship.

Instead, many longshoremen put in an hour "standby time" outside the picket line. After hearing nothing from the company, they left. A few joined the picket line at that time.

"Hey, hey what do you say, dump the cargo in the bay," the spirited picketers chanted. The demonstration was called by the Boycott South African Committee, a coalition of Bay Area church, community and political groups. The International Socialists participated in the protest.

LONGSHOREMEN ORGANIZE

The support by the longshoremen was a result of a year's work by a rank and file committee in the union.

The South Africa Liberation Support Committee of International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union (ILWU) Local 10 has done both educational work and active organizing to oppose South African apartheid.

They showed the film "Last Grave at Dimbaza" to fellow members. And they proposed a resolution putting the local on



PIER 27: Five hundred oppose unloading of South African cargo.

record opposing the handling of South African cargo. The resolution passed unanimously in the local.

Leo Robinson, a leader of the rank and file committee, was at the demonstration. He told Workers' Power that the picket line was "right on. Many of us support this protest."

COMPANY INTIMIDATED

The stevedoring companies,

represented by the Pacific Maritime Association, made no effort to force the men to work. They could have called in an arbitrator to force them to honor their contract.

The companies were apparently intimidated by the size and spirit of the demonstration, and its obvious support from many of the longshoremen.

Members of ILWU Local 10 plan to carry on with their organizing at the upcoming International Con-

vention starting April 18. They will put forward a resolution similar to the one passed in their own local.

The ILWU international executive board has already endorsed the Local 10 resolution not to handle South African goods.

GOALS

The Boycott South Africa Committee has three basic goals. They are organizing for a complete end

to all US government and corporate aid or trade with the racist South African apartheid system.

They call on the United States to support United Nations measures against the South African government.

They support the armed struggles for majority rule, against the racist ruling classes, in Namibia, Zimbabwe (Rhodesia), and South Africa.

GOVERNMENT LETS MA BELL OFF THE HOOK

Women, Blacks Disconnected

by Elissa Clarke

MA BELL, in a company publication, cheerfully announced "good news for the Bell System." The good news is that Ma Bell has made a deal with the federal government that will let the company off the hook in its Affirmative Action program.

The deal is called "re prescription." Represcription will lower the company's targets for hiring and promoting women and minorities. Targets, of course, means jobs.

When targets are lowered, there will be less jobs for women and minorities. Good news for the Bell System means bad news for telephone workers.

The Affirmative Action program was the result of a 1971 suit against Bell by the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission (EEOC). In hundreds of pages, charts, graphs and statistics, the EEOC documented the shocking racist and sexist practices of the phone company.

Before the Affirmative Action agreement was signed, 99.7% of all phone installers and line men were men.

It was not hard to prove racism and sexism in AT&T. You just walk into any big city Central Office and one floor will be overwhelmingly white and male. Another Black and female. The first floor is where the switchmen work; the second—the operators.

Those white male switchmen are making nearly twice the wages of the Black and female operators.

PROGRAM FAILS

And it's the same today; four years after the Affirmative Action program went into effect. After the Agreement, about 2000 women were accepted for training. But within a week 1000 had dropped out. Within six months, another 500 (already trained) left the job.

By the end of the year James Sheridan, project chairman at AT&T's Human Resources Laboratory said, "We couldn't find anybody we had started with."

The Affirmative Action program was supposed to correct decades of discrimination. But at the same time that the program went into effect, so did a hiring freeze. There has been very little new hiring.

The percent of women employed by the phone company has dropped in some states! A few women are hired into craft jobs, while men also took traditionally female jobs. At the same time, automation eliminated a lot of operators' jobs.

Before the Affirmative Action program, women accounted for 98.7% of all operators and 94.2% of the clerical jobs. Men held 97% of the middle-management posts. As a result of the program, men now have 5% of the operator's jobs, and women have about 6% of the middle-management jobs.

It is precisely in these areas where represcription will lower or eliminate targets. "Lines West," a publication of Midwestern AT&T, says that targets that will be relaxed are Level 12 (low level management) and Clerical.

Lines West says, "In 1976 there

Labor Notes

by Jim Woodward

Coors Brewery workers in Colorado are out on strike, and the company is bringing in the scabs. "This is the toughest decision I have ever made because it may lead to the loss of your jobs," said company president William Coors. Local 336 of the Brewery Workers immediately called for a boycott of Coors, which is distributed in the western states. The AFL-CIO is backing the boycott.

This will not be the first boycott against Coors. Several years ago, Coors beer drivers in Teamsters Local 888 in the California Bay Area struck. Coors brought in scabs, and called a decertification election in which the scabs were allowed to vote. The union was voted out, but Local 888 called a boycott of Coors. The boycott was reasonably effective in San Francisco, but died for lack of support from the International.

Four workers were killed at the Wisconsin Steel mill in Chicago March 28 when they were overcome by carbon monoxide and other gasses. The four worked for an outside contractor which had been brought in to repair a blast furnace. Six other workers were injured trying to rescue the four. No gas detection devices were operating at the time of the accident. Wisconsin Steel is owned by the International Harvester Co.

NBC coughed up \$2 million to 1000 of its women employees as a result of an out-of-court settlement of a sex discrimination suit. The New York Commission on Human Rights said that NBC has discriminated against women in recruitment, hiring, job classification, promotion, and benefits, and that women were rarely promoted to non-secretarial positions. You'd think NBC would need a full-time staff just to coordinate all that discrimination. In its defense, NBC claimed it was following the generally accepted trend of American society between 1967-1972.

Despite the Teamsters Union's recent agreement to leave organizing of California farm workers to the United Farm Workers union, the UFW emphasizes that its boycott of non-UFW grapes, lettuce and Gallo wine will continue until the contracts are signed with these growers.

A new government regulation spells out in black and white one of the privileges of being a boss in the government bureaucracy. Federal employees who earn over \$33,000 can get "executive-type wood office furniture," while ordinary workers have to make do with "contemporary steel office furniture." The wooden versions cost two-thirds more than steel. This must be what Jimmy Carter means by bringing simplicity back into government. We wish he'd explain, though, why the top bureaucrats can't work as well on the steel desks as on wooden desks.

A federal judge in Manhattan has ruled that it's unconstitutional for New York City to get its printing done only in union shops. The judge ruled that the city must also allow scab shops to bid on printing contracts.

Stanley H. Brams is the editor of a publication called, "Labor Trends." Recently he observed that "too much democracy within the unions may not be a good thing. After all," he notes, "the workplace isn't run democratically, so why should the union necessarily be any different?" If Stanley had to work under some of the contracts union leaders are negotiating these days, he'd certainly know that the problem is there's not enough democracy in the unions. So let's rewrite his question: "If the union should be run democratically, why should the workplace be any different?" Got any idea what might be changed if your workplace was run democratically?

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



Women installers get plenty of PR, but few jobs.

were 73 clerical opportunities. Twenty-one were targeted for white males and 17 for black females. In 1977, given the same number of opportunities, the targets would be lowered to 16 white males and five black females."

These figures show that Blacks have made some gains in the Affirmative Action program, but also that men are being hired into women's jobs, lowering the overall percentage of women employed by AT&T.

The truth is that the company has no commitment to employing women in the craft jobs. Women who land these jobs are harassed until they quit or opt to be downgraded into clerical.

THE WOMEN'S VIEW

Sheridan interviewed the women who dropped out and found that the injury rate was three times higher among women and that the women had difficulty handling large, heavy extension ladders. A \$15,000 study was conducted that came up with alternative methods of handling ladders.

But women who were hired into those jobs did not find so sympathetic an attitude.

One woman telephone worker described her training to Workers' Power, "Yes, those things were hard. It was hard for me to carry a big heavy ladder. But management

didn't try to help us. They would make it so hard on us, we didn't get the skills we needed because we were exhausted. You'd quit—or get hurt. If you couldn't keep up, management would write up a bad report—and eventually you'd be fired."

The new agreement will also do away with an arrangement that allowed women or minority group members from lower paying operator or clerical jobs to get preference for better-paying craft jobs.

Previously, a clerk or operator could "over-ride" the seniority clauses of the union contract. These clauses provide for separate seniority within craft, clerical and operators' jobs.

The over-ride in effect created plant wide rather than craft seniority for Blacks and women. Without the over-ride, the possibilities of transfers or promotions to the better non-management jobs become slim.

The Affirmative Action program is due to expire in 1979. Now the government has eased up on Ma Bell two years earlier. The truth is that Ma Bell has never been held accountable for its outrageous racism and sexism.

And until the Communication Workers union is ready to take on Ma Bell over this issue, you will still walk into the Central Office and see the strict race and sex discrimination. □

ATLANTA: JACKSON GOES FOR BLOOD

by Jack Trautman

ATLANTA—The City Administration is pulling every dirty trick in the book to break the two-week-old strike of city workers here.

The union-busting attack is headed by black Mayor Maynard Jackson. Behind him is the white Chamber of Commerce.

At the strike's peak about 1300 city workers, half the work force, were participating. By Tuesday, that number was cut in half.

The strikers, members of AFSCME (American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees) want a 50c/hour increase. The city is spending a bundle to prevent this.

FIRING THREATS

• The city has repeatedly threatened to fire the strikers—even sent letters informing them they were fired. The letters were not legal notification, but no matter.

• They have tried to provoke back-to-work movements, claiming they were hiring people to fill the workers' jobs. In fact, the hiring was simply to fill vacancies that already existed.

• They have refused to bargain with the union. On April 10, when a negotiating session was scheduled, the city sent a telegram to the union. They city refused to negotiate until the union met two demands:

(1) That the union take down its pickets, stop all its demonstrations and mass meetings, stop all ads and publicity, and stop saying "negative" things about Jackson.

(2) That the union tell all its members to re-apply for their jobs as new employees. They would keep their seniority, benefits, pensions—but the City would decide who to re-hire.

In other words, they demanded that AFSCME commit suicide.

The union countered with an offer to send everyone back to work with no reprisals.

The City refused. It is obvious they are going for blood.

GARBAGE TRUCKS

On Monday, the city tried to get the garbage trucks rolling again. The trucks are the most visible evidence of whether the strike remains effective.

They sent about 60 cops to each station. An armed cop went out with each truck.

At least one worker who was going back to work turned around and walked out when he saw the police. "I worked on a chain gang for 20 years, and I am sure as hell not going to work under police 'protection' now."

But the union has little strategy to win. There are no mass picket lines, and too few demonstrations and meetings to keep people up to date.

There have been no mass attempts to discourage scabs from signing up for jobs, and no effort to mobilize support from the Teamsters, auto workers and other organized labor in this town.

Union officials now talk most about voting against Jackson in the fall. That is hardly a winning strategy for now.

With no winning strategy, people are drifting back to work. Those who stay out include

workers with 20, 25 and even 30 years seniority. And they know why they are staying out.

Over and over again they will say: "If we go back in there, they will treat us like dogs. They will make us crawl around on our bellies like worms. We've got to stay out."

HANGING TOUGH

In some sections, they are hanging tough. The water works division is a highly skilled section

where the workers are hard to replace. There, 70% are still out, according to the City's official figures.

On Tuesday, the workers got some citizen support. A bunch of people took their garbage which had been sitting around uncollected for two weeks and dumped it on the steps of City Hall to show Maynard Jackson what they think of him.

For the first time in this strike, the stink got put where it belongs. □



Atlanta AFSCME workers take their slogan, I Am A Man, [top] from the 1968 Memphis sanitation strike. [Above] Strikers at a rally.

Atlanta Fireman Remembers:

"The only way to do anything is through unity"

THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME the Atlanta City Administration has treated its employees like dogs. In 1970, AFSCME struck over the same issues as today. At that time there was a white mayor, who gave the strikers the same treatment they are getting today. Maynard Jackson, then vice-mayor, supported the workers when they were fired.

In 1966, the City firemen went on strike. They were beaten, although they won some important gains through the strike. One of the four leaders of the strike told Workers' Power the story of their struggle.

Today they're treating these AFSCME workers the same way they treated us firemen ten years ago. I hope they will benefit from our story.

Atlanta firemen were represented by the International Association of Fire Fighters (AFL-CIO) for many years. We had little power because the city refused to sign contracts, which they still do.

In 1965, privates were making \$1.30 an hour. The average work week was 60 hours, all straight time.

People began getting seriously active in the union because of the terrible conditions. Fire fighter is the second most dangerous job,

after miners.

We begged the national union to come out of Washington, D.C. to help us. All they would say, we had to help ourselves. We got nothing out of them, so we got together and formed an independent union.

It was the Atlanta Fire Fighters Independent Union. Before the independent union was formed, there were no Blacks in our local. When we formed the independent union we invited all Blacks to join.

We were solid. It's not that way now. I believe the city likes to have conflict between Black and white.

STRIKE

In 1966 we went out on strike, taking out 600 of 700 fire fighters.

The city came out with a big line attacking us. You owe your services to the city, they said. Your action is a threat to the public, they said. You're Bolsheviks, they said!

But because we caught them by surprise, they started talking sweet. Within three to four days, we were back at work with promises of a raise, a cut in hours—maybe they would even pay our insurance.

We went from June to September and nothing was done. So in early September, we went on strike and took over 600 out again.

Within a few days the city sent



Carter Jumps On Maternity Rights Bandwagon

LAST WEEK, Jimmy Carter came out in favor of legislation for maternity benefits that would overturn a recent Supreme Court ruling. Many politicians are jumping on the bandwagon to support this popular legislation.

The Williams-Hawkins bill would amend Title VII of the Civil Rights Act to specifically outlaw discrimination against pregnant women. The Supreme Court had ruled in December that employers can exclude maternity benefits from their employees' health coverage without violating Title VII.

The bill has the support of a large part of the House and Senate. Ninety Congresspersons came out in support of it before it was even introduced.

Why the sudden popularity of women's rights? Politicians are responding to the outrage that greeted the reactionary Supreme Court ruling. A large number of women's groups, unions, and civil rights groups are actively fighting the Supreme Court decision. Some of these groups have organized a coalition called the Campaign to End Discrimination Against Pregnant Workers.

Jimmy Carter sent the director of the Women's Bureau of the Labor Department, Alexis Herman, to speak in favor of the legislation at a Congressional hearing. Ms. Herman said, "Discrimination based on pregnancy is discrimination based on sex. It makes it difficult for women to remain in the labor force and maintain the continuity of their family incomes when they have children."

RECORD

Carter's record on women since his election is not too hot. During his campaign, he wooed the vote of women with many promises. But, as President he has done very little.

As a candidate, he said that while he did not personally believe in abortion, he would not take a stand against it. After election day, he said that he is against federally funded abortions (medicaid) and that he will try to implement every alternative to abortion.

Before the election, he said that he would bring women into government. To date, women hold only 18% of the policy-making jobs in the Carter Administration.

Before the election, he said he favored the ERA and promised "to see that the Amendment becomes law." Since his election, the ERA has been rejected, rescinded, or tabled in five states and passed in only one.

UNION CONTRACTS

It is important that the Supreme Court ruling be overturned. But the decision does not prevent unions from fighting for and winning maternity benefits in their contracts. And if the law is passed, it will not guarantee adequate coverage.

While the Williams-Hawkins bill seems to be every politician's concession to women, some women workers are not counting on the benevolence of their congressmen to get this bill passed. Women steel workers from District 31 (Chicago and Gary) plan to go to Washington to testify in favor of the legislation themselves. □

E. Clarke

GAINS, UNITY

We won some real gains from that strike. Our hours dropped from 60 to 56 and there was better scheduling. They gave everyone a two-step raise worth about \$80 a month.

But I will tell you: the only way city employees will do anything is through unity. All for one and one for all. Without it they will do nothing.

You're talking about people who put their lives on the line every day for others. The way the employers treat us, it's a breeding ground for discontent and revolution by the workers. □

Where We Stand

WE OPPOSE

- **CAPITALIST EXPLOITATION**
We live under the capitalist system. The wealth produced by working people is stolen from us by private employers. They prosper from our labor.
- **CAPITALIST CONTROL**
Capitalists use their profits only to make more profits. When they need fewer workers, they create unemployment. When they need more money, they speed up work, downgrade safety conditions, and raise prices. The capitalist system spends little on health care, a clean environment, or social services, because these things make no profit.
- **OPPRESSION**
Capitalism needs inequality. Because it needs profits, it can't provide enough for all. So it gives some groups of people worse jobs and lower pay, and labels them inferior. In particular, capitalism locks black people into the bottom of society, and spreads racist ideas to keep them there. Capitalism keeps women responsible for taking care of the work force when it is not at work, including children, who are too young to work. Women who work for wages have two jobs.
- **CAPITALIST GOVERNMENT**
The government serves the capitalist class. Its only purpose is to protect the private profit system. It protects its interests abroad through economic control of other countries, spying and wars.
- **BUREAUCRATIC COMMUNISM**
Russia, China and other countries with economies like theirs are also oppressive class societies, run by a privileged ruling class of bureaucrats. They are not socialist and must be overthrown by the working class of those countries.

WE SUPPORT

- **THE RANK AND FILE MOVEMENT**
The unions protect workers from their employers. But today's unions are run by privileged officials who sell out because they support the capitalist system. They want labor peace, not labor power. We support the struggle for rank and file control of the unions.
- **LIBERATION FROM OPPRESSION**
Black people are an oppressed national minority in the United States. They have the right to self-determination—to decide their own future. The struggle of every oppressed group for equality is a just struggle—Blacks, women, gays, Latinos, American Indians. We are for the independent organization of oppressed peoples to fight for their freedom. Support from the entire working class movement will make the struggles of both—the oppressed and the working class movement—stronger.
- **SOCIALISM**
Society should be run by the working class. The wealth produced by those who work should go to fill people's needs, not to private gain.
- **WORKERS' REVOLUTION**
But the capitalist class will not give up their rule and profits voluntarily. Socialism can be created only when the working class seizes control of the factories and makes their own government. The working class will rule democratically because it can own society's wealth only together.
- **INTERNATIONALISM**
The struggle for socialism is world-wide. We support every fight of the working class against exploitation, and every struggle by nations fighting for independence from foreign rulers. We support every struggle for freedom—from the people of southern Africa against racism and western colonialism, to the struggle against bureaucratic rule and Russian imperialism in Eastern Europe. We demand complete independence for Puerto Rico from U.S. colonial rule.
- **REVOLUTIONARY PARTY**
The most class conscious members of the working class have the responsibility to lead the struggle toward socialist revolution. To do this they must build an organization to put their consciousness into action and make their leadership effective.
- **INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS**
The I.S. is an organization of revolutionary socialist workers. We are open to all who accept our basic principles and are willing to work as a member to achieve them. Join with us to build the I.S. into a revolutionary party, to build the movement to end exploitation and oppression and to create a socialist world.

Workers' Power
313-869-5964

Peltier Murder Trial Ending

by Candy Hamilton

FARGO, ND—The U.S. government has concluded its testimony against Leonard Peltier. The prosecution's case is most interesting for what it doesn't show.

Peltier is charged with murder for the deaths of two FBI agents, Williams and Coler, on the Jumping Bull's land near Oglala on the Pine Ridge Reservation.

The incident occurred June 26, 1975. An Indian man named Joe Stuntz Killright was also killed in a massive firefight that day, but no one has ever been charged with his murder.

Peltier is the last of four defendants to stand trial. All three of the other defendants have been cleared.

The government's so-called evidence against Peltier is less than circumstantial. Two teen-age government witnesses, Mike Anderson and Norman Brown, both Navaho

Indians, were coerced by the FBI to testify against Peltier, or face murder charges themselves.

The government has carefully established through Brown and Anderson's testimony that Peltier was firing from a treeline at the edge of a wooded area. This is the key to the claim that Peltier was responsible for the agents' deaths.

FBI Agent Gerard Waring testified that he, and a group of FBI agents and BIA police, circled the Jumping Bull's land and came through a creek bed to exactly the point where Peltier had been located.

But here is a huge gap in the government's case. In order to see the agents' cars (where they were killed), Waring said he had to climb a tree and look through his rifle scope.

To shoot the agents, Peltier would have to be shooting from up in a tree—not ground level. But

there was no testimony from anyone that Peltier was shooting from up a tree.

The government's real case is the claim that Leonard Peltier is a dangerous, violent man with a special vengeance for law enforcement people.

The judge, Paul Benson, has allowed the government to call over 30 witnesses to establish this contention. Some of them have talked about incidents in Oregon and other places when Peltier was not even present.

But Benson has refused to allow defense attorneys to present evidence that FBI Agents have changed their story from their first reports of the Pine Ridge shoot-out, just to construct a case against Peltier because of his political involvement with AIM (American Indian Movement).

Benson has also refused to allow the defense to present evidence of

specific incidents of violence against Indians on the reservation.

Even one of the prosecution witnesses, Norman Brown, told the jury the purpose of the AIM camp in Oglala was to help the people of the community. He said the people at Jumping Bull's expected to be killed when almost 300 law enforcement agents, including two SWAT units, arrived within minutes of the shooting.

"But," he said, "we had to stand and fight to protect our sisters and the children."

At the close of the prosecution's case, defense attorney Elliott Taikeff said: "We are left with a difficult situation. We still don't know what the government theory is as to how our client is supposed to have killed the agents."

"We have to cover all possibilities with our defense, but Mr. Hultman (the Prosecutor) wants to have everything and us to have nothing." □

Can Workers Eat Carter's Promises?

AFTER A STRING of defeats, the top leadership of the AFL-CIO has finally won something from Jimmy Carter. Another promise.

AFL-CIO President George Meany and 15 other top union leaders held a two-hour meeting with Carter April 6. They emerged reporting that he had promised to try to consult them more in the future before major decisions affecting labor were announced.

It has finally dawned on some of these top union leaders that the man they helped put in the White House, as well as many of the Congressmen they helped elect, are not on their side.

"We've got a lot of problems,"

said Steelworkers President I.W. Abel after the meeting with Carter.

The labor leaders have been stung by the defeat of the construction picketing bill, Carter's proposal for only a minimal increase in the minimum wage, and government economic policies that indicate little concern about unemployment.

THE STING

Lane Kirkland, secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO, sounded like a genuine victim of The Sting. He wondered aloud whether "our support [for Carter] was not just another triumph of hope over



Carter serves labor crumbs.

experience."

Of Carter's economic program, Kirkland said, "On the bottom line of that package you can read the message: 'There ain't gonna be no full employment here for the next four years.' Chalk up another one for business. Scratch another promise."

And Meany's top assistant, Thomas R. Donahue, said recent AFL-CIO defeats show that the balance of power in this country is still on the side of "the monied interests, the bankers, the builders, the media, the conservative political philosophers, and the Congressmen who vote their way."

Some of these AFL-CIO officials seem genuinely puzzled as to why they've been beaten. But another union official quoted in the New York Times put his finger on it. He said the Carter administration was

at first unsure how to deal with Meany and the AFL-CIO.

"But those people understand power," he said, and the picketing bill defeat "clearly showed the limits of labor's power."

FRIENDS

The reason the labor movement's power is so limited is that the union leaders have counted on their "friends" to do the job for them: a friend in the White House and Democratic friends in the Congress.

They've gone for friendship and forgotten about power.

Meanwhile, the real power the labor movement has—the power to sit down and refuse to work until changes are made—that power goes unused. While Meany cries in his beer. □

Women Miners Hit Back At Sexism

As one of the miners said, if the woman did hit the foreman, "He should have just put his fuckin' hat back on his head, walked off and kept his mouth shut." But the women's victory has nearly driven foreman Paul Dolin nuts.

Women miners at Armo's #8 and #9 mines near Twilight, West Virginia stood up and organized—and now have bath house facilities. On April 6, the company pulled in a trailer with showers and lockers for the women at #8. The women at #9 were scheduled to get their bath house shortly afterwards.

As one miner put it, "There is strength in numbers. I'm hoping we, the women in our area who are in the mine, can get together as a group and organize to inform new members of the problems they will face."

Rumor has it that Armo must hire 100 women at #8 and 28-38 women at #9, despite the fact that Bill Dulin, a boss, says he "hopes

the hell they never hire another woman."

Armo originally tried to fire one of the women who demanded the bath house facilities. Her discharge on the unproven charge of striking a foreman led to a two-day wildcat, which got her job back.

DOLIN—DOWN THE ROAD

Now Dolin has been transferred to Big Mountain, another mine.

A miner said, "I understand the company gave him the option of going there or going down the road [being fired]. I think he's on the verge of a nervous collapse. He made apologies to the men on the section, saying he was sorry it had to happen and he hadn't slept in three days over it."

"He made the mistake of asking a mechanic on our section what he would have done if it had happened to him. As the mechanic told him, it wouldn't have happened to him because he wasn't a prick." □

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.**

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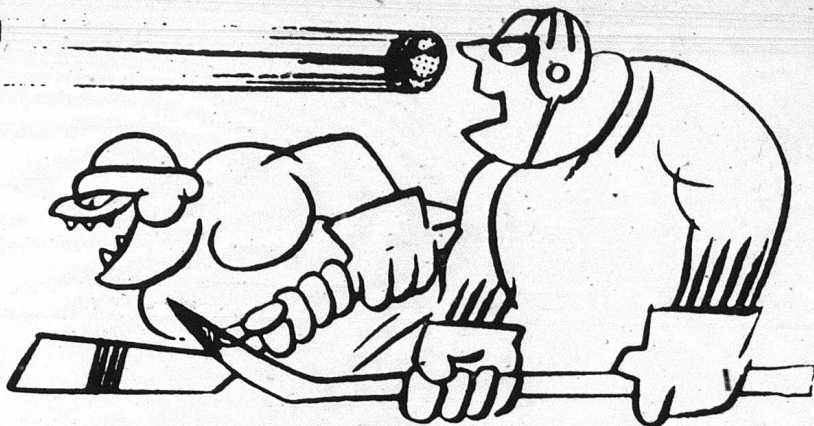
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VIEW FROM THE AUDIENCE

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

SLAP SHOT

BLOOD ON ICE



Slap Shot. Starring Paul Newman. Directed by George Roy Hill.

by Bradley Black

"Slap Shot" is labelled a "comedy," but the movie is loaded with desperation, self-pity and bleakness. Its heroes are the Charlestown Chiefs, a fifth-place minor league hockey team in a Pennsylvania steel town.

A recurring image is the steel mills belching smoke throughout the valley, a constant reminder of where they are. But their situation is even more hopeless. The steelmill is shutting down.

Besides throwing 10,000 people out of work, it will put the hockey team out of business. "Slap Shot's" plot revolves around the desperate efforts of the crafty, aging player-coach to make his team into a winner. Then it will be saleable at the end of the season.

OWNER?

In the end, the coach is doubly defeated by capitalism. Throughout the movie he cannot find out who owns the team. In this era of hidden partnerships, the joke hits the mark.

When we finally find out who the owner is, we also find out which matters more in capitalist society, profits, not people.

We also witness capitalism's incredible capacity for sacrificing quality for profits. The coach begins a campaign of steering players into playing more roughly.

He figures the more blood the team sheds, the more games they win, the more fans they bring out, the more financially successful they become. Even this crude formula

degenerates as the violence becomes an end in itself.

The blood-crazed fans shout for more. They are not there to watch hockey, but are just waiting for the next fight.

FANS

The fans play an important role in the film. They are going to be thrown out of work soon. They go to the Chief's games primarily to vent their frustrations on the players.

Once the team starts winning with its dirty playing, the fans become hysterical. Out of the bleakness of their lives, they finally have a winner. If the team wins with goon tactics, well then, that's alright as long as they win.

The fans' hysteria affects the team as well. There is the mindless brutality of the Hanson brothers, the new breed of hockey players who have been moved up too fast to learn the game so that all they know is the violence the game has degenerated into of late.

It is an atmosphere in which one of the players starts calling himself "Killer" and afterwards sports an earring and tattoos reminiscent of the Hell's Angels. The bus driver takes a hatchet to the bus to make it look "mean."

If you haven't finally gotten the idea at this point, the bus driver shows up for the final game in a Nazi uniform and helmet.

CRITICS

Critics have raised a brouhaha about how filthy the "Slap Shot's" language is: how could a woman write it (!), they wouldn't take their kids to see it, etc.

In a way Nancy Dowd, the screenwriter predicted this reaction when the owner of the Chiefs, a woman, says to the coach she wouldn't let her own kids watch a

hockey game. It is so violent they might "pick it up."

The word used most often was "fuck." It's an adjective, adverb, noun, though used only rarely as a verb. It shows up under all circumstances to describe anything. Looked at from the point of view of these hockey players, that's just the way things are—fucked.

The other big word is "pussy." It means anyone who is not Man Enough to fight. The sexism implied by this and other words runs rampant throughout the

movie, as it does throughout sports and the working class.

It is to "Slap Shot's" credit that it does not disguise this fact. What came through the sexist language and chest-thumping was the men's conflicting feelings and insecurities about their own sexuality.

One player is obsessed with his looks, another with "snatch." Another needs to expose himself before a women's group while modeling "faggy" clothes. Another does a striptease on the ice, and another secretly dresses up in women's clothing.

A major criticism of "Slap Shot" is its unending cynicism. It is saying that there is no way out for these people except in capturing brief moments of individual happiness and sanity.

Because of Dowd's own snobbery toward the players and people of Charlestown, she simply cannot imagine these people freeing themselves.

Despite this, "Slap Shot" deserves to be seen. It is one of the funniest (yes!), entertaining, political movies around right now. □

The Strike The Bosses Planned 300,000 Clothing Workers Out

by Kim Moody

"This was a [work] stoppage in which the employers also joined in protest, because it affects their industry and their operations, as well as the employees.

"So, it was not a strike against the employers," a spokesman for the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union told Workers' Power.

He was describing the action by over 300,000 members of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers and the International Ladies Garment Workers Union on April 13.

In over 60 cities and towns, these union members did not work. They demonstrated for government protection of their employers against foreign competition.

Together the bosses and unions demanded that the Carter Administration limit the growth of textile and garment imports to the same growth rate as U.S. manufacturers.

JOB LOSS

The unions are concerned over the loss of jobs. They estimate 144,000 jobs gone in the past ten years. Union leaders say that foreign competition did it.

At the New York rally, Joe DeBlasi, a ACTWU Business Agent, told nearly 10,000 garment workers, "We cannot compete with Taiwan and Japan."

Textile and garment jobs did decline from 1966 to 1976. But during that decade, production in textiles grew by 25% and apparel

production by about 7%.

It is more likely these jobs were lost to speed-up—fewer workers producing more goods. But the unions have not fought the industry on that issue.

The power behind the noise about foreign competition is the employers.

COMPLAINT

Two days before the strike, Burlington Industries ran a full page ad in the New York Times. They complained that foreign producers had captured 10.4% of the textile market and 17% of the apparel market.

International capitalist competition is hurting them at home.

U.S.-based producers don't want to have to compete on the U.S. market with companies based in South Korea, Hong Kong or other places where lower labor costs give those companies a profit advantage.

U.S.-based companies would have to keep prices down and thus limit their profits.

Needless to say, these same U.S. employers have no objection to selling their U.S. goods on foreign markets. Neither the Burlington ad nor the speeches of the union leaders mentioned that American textile and clothing exports had tripled in the past ten years.

SCARE TACTIC

By raising the fear of foreign competition cutting jobs the employers hope to convince the U.S. unions to moderate their demands.

And, indeed, for years the ACTWU and the ILGWU have done just that.

In fact, the unions have allowed the speed-up which is the more likely cause of job loss. Now the unions are fighting Asian workers for their jobs.

The way to protect jobs in the U.S. textile and garment industries is just the opposite.

U.S. unions should help Asian workers organize unions and fight for higher wages in their countries. This would help eliminate competition between workers in different parts of the world. Collective bargaining on an international scale would carry this even farther.

Opposition to American support to the dictatorial regimes which keep unions weak or illegal in most Asian nations would also help. Today these unions support U.S. foreign policy.

When a company or plant was actually forced out of business because it could not compete, the union could demand nationalization and the continuation of production.

After all, people here and all over the world need clothes—just like clothing workers need jobs. That people should go ill-clothed while clothing workers compete with each other for jobs is another sign of the putrid rot of capitalism.

In the end, the workers of the world will stand together. They will see the profit hungry masters of industry tossed out.

Workers will run these giant industries for and by themselves. Not so the few can hoard profits, but so the many can live in plenty. □

"El Pueblo Se Levanta" The People Are Rising

A film about the struggle of Puerto Rico and the Young Lords Party in the Puerto Rican community.



Will be shown in Detroit by the RED TIDE and WORKERS' POWER.

Friday, April 22, 7 pm. At Western YMCA, across from Western High School. 1601 Clark, off Vernor Avenue.

For more information call 869-8656 or 869-3837 in Detroit.

Workers' Power

EAST COAST DOCKERS GO OUT



[Photo: These cranes and containers took thousands of longshore jobs on both coasts. The ILA strike is to save jobs stuffing containers.]

A STRIKE BY the International Longshoremen's Association (ILA) could shut down ports from Maine to Texas and involve up to 50,000 longshoremen. The main issue in the strike is the loss of union jobs.

The strike was called by Thomas W. "Teddy" Gleason, ILA President, against only seven shippers in selected ports. However, rank and file longshoremen have a tradition of "one port down, all ports down."

That could mean stopping all East Coast and Gulf freight until and the employers are ready to talk sense.

The strike was off to a slow start Thursday. At Port Elizabeth, New Jersey picket lines were not up, and the members had not been contacted by the union. The strategy of striking only seven companies meant that about half the gangs were working.

However, the union has let it out that the strike may be spread. Ralph Massey, president of the ILA's Gulf Coast and South Atlantic District, said there might be unauthorized walkouts in his district between North Carolina and Mexico.

The key issue is the loss of union jobs to consolidators. Consolidators are employers who bring together loads of less than one container.

Consolidators have been stuffing and stripping containers at freight stations away from the waterfront, using cheaper non-union or non-

ILA labor.

The ILA demands that containers be stuffed and stripped by union members on the waterfront.

Longshoremen are fighting an attack by the Council of North Atlantic Steamship Associations and other employers, the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), and even the Supreme Court.

The ILA had an agreement with the employers that all consolidating of containers within the port district's 50-mile radius had to be

done by ILA members. Last December the NLRB ruled the agreement illegal, and the Supreme Court denied the ILA's appeal.

Job security is the key issue, but there are other issues too. The ILA is asking \$10 per hour for a 32-hour work week, double time for holidays and weekends, and increased contributions to the union welfare and pension funds.

The fight for jobs on the docks has been going on for the past 30 years. Both Gleason of the ILA and

Harry Bridges of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union on the West Coast made deals with the employers to allow them to automate shipping. The deals were supposed to guarantee the income of the longshoremen then working in the industry. But the new machinery introduced speedup and cost tens of thousands of jobs.

Both plans saved the big shippers millions upon millions of dollars.

Gleason's strategy of a strike against selected companies is weak. It leaves the ports open and the freight moving. But if this strike is anything like earlier ones, it will mean openings for the rank and file.

The rank and file's tradition of "one port down, all ports down" could bring the employers to the table with a serious proposal. □

Grocery Drivers Strike to Protect Jobs

CLEVELAND—Rentar Drivers Service took over management of Fisher-Fazio grocery drivers on Thursday, April 7 at 12:01. The drivers, members of Teamsters Local 407, struck the joint at 12:02.

When the drivers are called to come to work they ask, "Who's my boss?"

The dispatcher answers, "Rentar."

The driver: "I'm not working."

The 115 Fisher grocery drivers want to keep Rentar out because they are afraid they will lose jobs through change of operations or future change of employers. Rentar has a reputation in the grocery industry as a hard-nosed boss.

Rentar has fired about 70 of the drivers, but they are sticking solid. They were hit with a court injunction limiting picketing to eight. So the drivers have eight pickets at the gate—and a bunch not far away.

Some picket signs say, "Fazio sells its drivers like its meat—by the pound."

While the grocery drivers have stuck together, the strike has not stopped the warehouse operations. Produce drivers from IBT Local 400 and warehouse workers from Local 507 are crossing the picket lines.

And non-Fisher grocery drivers are also going through the lines, protected by Local 407 Business

Agents and Executive Board members.

The Fisher drivers have put their hopes on a court case. They claim their contract says that Fisher-Fazio operations may be taken over by common or contract carriers—but not by a leasing or driver management service.

The drivers believe the court will kick Rentar out. And they believe union officials will save their jobs.

The attack on the Fisher drivers in Cleveland is just one part of an employers' offensive in the grocery industry—which both the courts and the union are going along with.

Master contracts or pattern agreements have broken down, city

drivers have been put on mileage, and high productivity standards have been introduced in the warehouse.

A&P recently bought out National Tea in the Chicago area, throwing hundreds of Teamster drivers and warehousemen on the streets. When Globe took over High-Lo warehouse in Chicago a couple of years ago, 120 jobs were lost.

In Detroit, Rentar has fired several grocery drivers, members of IBT Local 337, when it took over Henry Vroom and Sons.

The Fisher drivers know what to expect from their new employer. That's why they are fighting. □

Five Blacks Face Lynching In Carter Country

by Kate Stacy

Five black youths from Dawson, Georgia may end up sentenced to the electric chair for a crime they did not commit—the murder of a white man.

Dawson is just 25 miles south of Plains, Georgia—the national symbol of the New South. But the case of the Dawson Five shows that the Old South's iron grip on race relations and American justice hasn't eased.

Over a year ago a white man was shot and killed in a small country store on Dawson's outskirts. Five days later the store owner told police that Roosevelt Watson, a 17-year-old regular customer, might have been involved. Watson, his brother, his cousin and two

friends were quickly arrested.

SOUTHERN JUSTICE

State police officials threatened to shoot Watson unless he confessed to the crime. They gave him a lie detector test which he thought was an electrocution device.

They threatened to castrate him. They forced him to wade in a cold pond for several hours in a "search" for the murder weapon.

Watson finally "confessed," but did not sign anything.

As soon as he was returned to Dawson, where he knew people, he withdrew his confession and protested his innocence.

All of the accused have solid alibis. At the time of the murder

they were drawing well water over two miles away from the scene of the crime. Several relatives and neighbors saw them.

But the accused were seen by Black people. It is questionable whether the whites on the jury will believe them.

DOWN IN DAWSON

Black people live in Terrel County, where Dawson is located. Live in extreme poverty.

But whites run it. Blacks hold no elected positions in the city or county government, or on the school board. The schools are almost all Black because white children mostly go to private academies.

No one seems to believe the

five young men are actually guilty of the murder. One law enforcement official said, "There is nothing on these kids."

A Black man said, "... they needed some suspects and no one else was available."

And Watson's lawyer says, "These poor kids wouldn't know how to shoot anyone if they wanted to. They are as innocent as could be."

GEORGIA'S NUMBER ONE

But the sovereign state of Georgia wants another legal lynching. Georgia had more executions than any other state as long as records have been kept—366. Its capital punishment law was signed by

then-Governor Jimmy Carter and recently declared legal by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The innocence of the Dawson five is so obvious and their arrests so clearly racist, the Five are gaining supporters.

Joann Little's defense lawyers are taking on the Dawson Five case. Three thousand supporters rallied on the Georgia Capital steps last week-end.

Just six years before, Governor Jimmy Carter declared that "the time for segregation is over."

The young men from Dawson probably don't believe Jimmy. They live there. They know it's a hell of a lot farther than the map shows from his speech-making in Atlanta to the jail house in Dawson. □