

# Eyewitness Report From Spain: "I was shot in Barcelona"

p.4

## WORKERS' Power

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS NOVEMBER 14, 1977 #231 25c

In This Issue:	
Scandal in Canada . . . . .	7
Int'l Women's Year . . . . .	9
Iron Ore Strikers Solid . . . . .	12
Detroit IBT Election . . . . .	3

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# RIGHT TO STRIKE: WILL IT BE A CRIME?

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OF WISCONSIN

by Kim Moody

A BIG STEP has been taken toward outlawing wildcat strikes. This time it comes disguised as a reform in the labor law of the country.

A month ago the Labor Law Reform Act of 1977 passed the U.S. House of Representatives by 257 to 163.

Top union officials from the AFL-CIO and the United Auto Workers had worked hard to get this law passed. They proclaimed it a great victory for labor. And, in most respects, it was.

But attached to the original provisions is a rider that would allow the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) to seek an injunction against workers engaged in a strike not authorized by their union.

The provision, which is now Section 12 of the Labor Law Reform of 1977, specifically names "wildcat" strikes and "stranger picketing" as valid targets for injunction.

"Stranger picketing" is the term used when workers from one company put up a picket at another company. The coal miners have effectively used stranger picketing to spread their strikes in recent years.



Detroit Teamsters voting to continue their wildcat in 1976. Under proposed law, their decision to withhold their labor could become a criminal act

### PRO-UNION REFORMS

There are reforms contained in the original bill that are an important advance for the union movement.

These reforms would speed up the process of union organization. They require faster representation elections. They would impose serious fines on employers who victimize workers for organizing activity. And, they would allow the government to withdraw federal contracts from companies that defend these laws.

### ATTEMPT TO GUT IT

But a package of outrageously anti-union amendments meant to

put the entire reform bill was proposed by Illinois Republican, Erlenborn.

Under intense pressure from labor, the liberal Democratic sponsors of the reform bill managed to defeat most of these amendments.

But Erlenborn's anti-wildcat provision was only modified.

His original amendment would have allowed employers to seek injunctions. The compromise, engineered by Democrat Frank Thompson, allows only the NLRB to seek the injunction.

So far, the only union to oppose this blatant attack on the right of workers to strike, to withhold their

labor, has been the International Typographical Union.

Most of the leaders of the AFL-CIO and UAW, Teamsters and even the United Mine Workers hate and fear wildcats almost as much as the employers.

### TREND

Section 12 would add weight to a trend that points toward the complete legal banning of strikes not authorized by the union hierarchy.

On practically the same day the Labor Law Reform Act passed the

House, a Michigan judge found seven Chrysler workers guilty of violating a court order prohibiting "blocking people from entering or leaving the plant."

Workers at Chrysler's Trenton engine plant were striking to protest the firing of workers for participating in an earlier walkout over intolerable heat in the plant.

These seven workers, known as the Trenton Seven, face jail sentences and fines. There have been other similar court decisions in recent years.

This amounts to a severe limitation on labor's basic right to

withhold its labor. Section 12 of the new law will go a long way to turn this right into a legal crime.

The Labor Law Reform Act will not become law until it passes the Senate, and is agreed to by the joint House and Senate conference. This is expected to happen early next year.

Rank and file union members would do well to demand that their union fight for the deletion of Section 12, before it passes the Senate.

Stop this attack on the rights of rank and file workers before it's too late. □

**DETROIT—Coleman Young begins his second term as mayor of this shrinking industrial city with the blessings of Henry Ford II, auto union President Doug Fraser, the local press, Jimmy Carter, and Detroit's Black political leaders, and with more than 90% of the Black vote.**

# COLEMAN YOUNG'S NEW DETROIT

## Safe For Business ...

The Black man who was once, according to the Detroit Free Press, fired by Ford Motor Company for hitting a white foreman with a pipe, now enjoys the confidence of the key elements of this city's power structure.

By Karen Kaye

Black and white, company and union, anyone with a stake in Big Business's success in Detroit was out organizing support for Young.

**What does this harmony at the top mean for ordinary Detroiters?**

Speaking at a recent Workers' Power Forum, a young Black Detroit woman addressed this question.

Retha warned against expecting Coleman Young to be able to really deliver to Detroit's Black working class population just because he himself is Black.

She described how Young came to power.

### LEGACY OF '67

"1967 was the year of what people call the great riot. America and Detroit's rulers had a lot to worry about.

"They understood the conditions of life which sparked and fueled Black anger. Since World War I, there had been a steadily expanding migration of Black people from the South to the cities of the North.

"The North, it turned out, was no promised land. Black people were still on the lowest rung of the economic ladder.

"What worried America's rulers was not the rebellions themselves. They could be crushed by the police and the National Guard.

"What worried them was the fact that the anger and militancy of so many Black people was now out of control.

"Black people were ready to demand justice—by any means necessary.

"The establishment knew that police power was no longer the long term solution to their problem—the how to pacify America's Black citizens.

"They knew they had to convince



Mayor Coleman Young. Only a Black city administration could get away with more promises to Black people...

**Black people that they had a stake in the system.**

"So after the streets were cleared and the fires put out, the politicians made their promises.

"The [then white] mayor and the Governor sponsored New Detroit, a committee of business, labor and even a few Blacks to serve as the central planning body for Detroit's regeneration."

But the establishment knew that

**Black Detroiters would not believe promises coming from whites any more.**

White flight to the suburbs finally gave Young a big enough base to become the city's first Black mayor last election.

He quickly dismantled the most notoriously racist and brutal police unit and began to force integration of the police and fire departments, and key city positions.

While the city's Black population's existence is now reflected in city government apparatus, the only other major change has been the construction of a large office building and hotel on Detroit's riverfront.

**The structure, called the Renaissance Center, reflects the goals of New Detroit and of its major backer, Henry Ford II:**

A New Detroit downtown for

business, and let a black political machine control the population.

As Retha told the audience, "Young wants to make capitalism work and in order to do so he will drive young people off the streets so that people will come from the suburbs to shop downtown.

"He will give corporations tax incentives to invest in the city even though this means higher taxes for private citizens.

"Big business has shown its gratitude with thousands and thousands of dollars in campaign money, but what have Detroiters gained?"

**"Are conditions better than they were ten years ago?"**

"In Detroit in 1967, Black unemployment stood at 10%—twice the national average. Unemployment for Black youth ranged between 20% and 40%.

"The official unemployment rate in Detroit today is 9.4%. This is during a year when the economy is supposed to be doing well.

### PROFITS UP—JOBS DOWN

"Mayor Young estimates that there are 100,000 Detroiters out of work. Yet all the Federal jobs programs only add up to 24,000 jobs.

"110,000 families are on ADC. 28% of Detroit's population is supported by the welfare system.

"The pupil-to-teacher ratio in city schools is 27 to 1. This is the second worst in all American cities.

"This massive poverty exists in a year when the auto companies are making record profits."

**The federal funds Young promises cannot buy a future for the city's unemployed youth while his ally Henry Ford and the other major employers are not hiring.**

"Blacks now head the Police, Fire, Personnel, Housing, Transportation, Recreation, Community, and Economic Development and Public Works departments.

"Over half the city workers are Black," Retha continued.

"These changes demonstrate the desire of Black people for Black leadership and advancement in society. But there is another side to this change as well.

**"Black faces in high places is also the way in which the Ford and other auto giants hope to keep control of Detroit's Black working class.**

"Young has a plan for the city of Detroit. It's the same plan as business—to make Detroit a safe place to make a profit."

# Red Tide seeks witnesses of arrest

On February 6, 1978, four more members of the Red Tide will go on trial. The Red Tide is the youth organization of the International Socialists.

The four Red Tiders (two white, one Black and one Puerto Rican) were busted March 23, 1977 on the public sidewalk in front of Mackenzie High School in Detroit.

They face a possible three months in jail if Gilliam, the principal, and his four or five police friends can convince the jury of their pack of lies.

The terrible crime was passing

**out leaflets to students, informing them about a demonstration against the brutal, racist white minority government of South Africa.**

The four were originally charged with being within 250 feet of the school property.

### CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT

The Red Tiders maintained that the right to distribute literature on public sidewalks is guaranteed in the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

After many court battles, every

one of which the Red Tide won, the Detroit city prosecutors have conceded the Red Tide its Constitutional rights to distribute literature on public sidewalks and in parks. They will no longer prosecute the Red Tide on those charges.

Going into court October 30, 1977, the defendants had been given assurances from the prosecuting attorney that the charges would be dropped.

**But seven months after the arrest and event, Gilliam and his boys changed their version of what**

**happened, so the prosecution couldn't drop the charges.**

Gilliam and the cops want the Red Tide put away. They couldn't care less about the truth or Constitutional rights: they can't stand to see young people fight for their rights.

### JURY TRIAL

They insist on taking their pack of lies to trial, which the Red Tiders insist be by a jury of their peers.

The Red Tide has unbeatable evidence of photographs and a

cassette tape transcript which will prove their innocence, because it shows them being busted on the public sidewalk.

There were also at least 25 student eyewitnesses, who saw the whole thing.

Besides arresting the four Tiders, the police also refused to allow the defendants to take names and phone numbers of students who had volunteered to act as witnesses in the trial.

**IF YOU SAW the bust or know somebody who did, call the Red Tide at 869-3137.**

# A CLOSE CALL FOR DETROIT TEAMSTER MACHINE

## Holmes On The Run

by Jim Woodward

DETROIT—Bobby Holmes was elated. Holmes, Fourth Vice President of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, President of Joint Council 43, and an important figure in Michigan politics, had just been re-elected to his other job as President of Teamsters Local 337.

Holmes defeated Bob Janadia, a member of Teamsters for a Democratic Union (TDU), a small but growing rank and file organization.

**"I whipped a national organization at the local level. I'm satisfied and I'm very grateful," Holmes told the Detroit News. He said his victory "proves" most Teamsters do not support TDU.**

Members of TDU feel the election proves that the opposite is very rapidly becoming the case. They note that Holmes' "national organization," the top Teamster bureaucracy, is considerably more powerful than TDU.

When the votes were counted November 3, Janadia received 2020, or 42%, while Holmes was credited with 2787.

### MONEY

This relatively narrow margin is amazing, when stacked against the two factors which controlled the election: Money and fear.

Holmes mounted a massive operation, using his power as the incumbent. He took advantage of the fact that the 12,500 members of the local are scattered over 500 workplaces.

TDU has considerable support at many of the larger barns, such as the Kroger, Chatham, and Spartan supermarket chains. But there was

little way TDU could effectively reach all of the small operations.

Holmes could. He organized a busing operation to bring workers down to vote. The buses picked people up from those workplaces where Holmes had support, but not from TDU strongholds.

For instance, a pro-Holmes Pepsi operation was given time off and bussed to vote, while a pro-Janadia Pepsi plant was denied time off.

Holmes refuses to say how much he spent, but guesses are that it was in the range of \$40,000-\$70,000. Janadia spent less than a thousand dollars.

Some members are saying Holmes bought the election.

Holmes also had the apparent cooperation of many employers. Fred Girard, a Detroit News columnist, reports:

"Two workers, who asked that their names not be used, admitted that their employers, who appar-

ently have a great deal of respect and admiration for Holmes, let them off work with pay to go vote for him."

In those barns where TDU is strong, workers were told they could be fired if they took off to vote during working hours.

### FEAR

As the busses rolled up to the local hall, the fear factor was evident on the faces of many workers. Most simply got off the buses, and, looking straight ahead, walked quickly into the hall.

"A lot of them wouldn't even look [at us]," Janadia said. "The BA's were watching them and were on the buses with them. Some of them seemed to be afraid to take any of our literature."

There is reason for the fear. Of the six candidates who opposed Holmes' slate three years ago, five have been fired, laid off, or otherwise driven out of the local.

In a situation where the employers have "a great deal of respect" for the union officials, workers think twice about going

### against Holmes.

With all these things going against him, Janadia told Workers' Power he considered the results "a victory. Even some of those on the other side say so," he added.

When Workers' Power asked Holmes for his comment on the election, he screwed up his face and turned his back.

### PROTEST

Janadia is filing a protest over the conduct of the election. It includes an objection to the way the officials set the date for the nominating meeting.

In June, this meeting was moved up to September 18, but that fact was not announced to the membership until August. Janadia objects that this took away time for himself and other potential candidates to do campaigning and fund raising.

The 337 results are sure to have an impact on elections coming up in another Detroit Teamster unit, Local 299.

Local 299 is the home local of both IBT President Frank Fitz-

simmons, and past president Jimmy Hoffa. TDU member Pete Camarata is running for vice president, while Pete Karagozian, a reform-minded business agent, is running for president on another slate.

Both have a good chance to win. TDU's strong showing in Local 337 will help. □

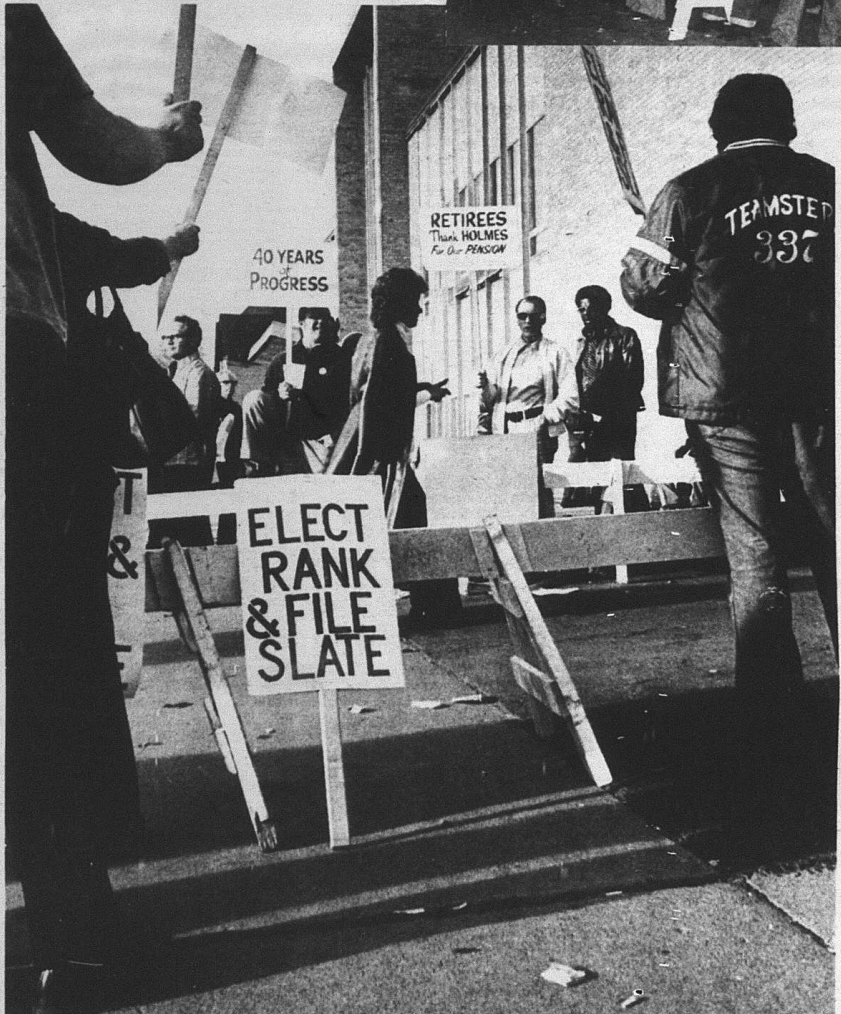
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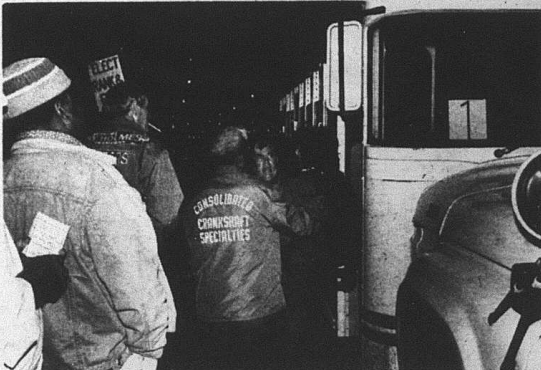
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Many Local 337 members were so fearful that they marched straight into the hall without glancing around. The Rank & File Slate ran Bob Janadia against Bobby Holmes, and Ray Yanez and Joe Urman for executive board positions.



The Holmes machine carefully shepherded its voters to the polls.

# REPORT FROM SPAIN

## "I was shot for standing on the street"

by Harry Seldon

Travel posters issued by the Spanish government claim that by turning any corner in Spain "you can follow the path of our colorful past."

One hour after arriving in Barcelona, I found not only the promised medieval cathedrals and cobblestone streets, but brutal street fighting between hundreds of people and the national police.

Although I wouldn't call it colorful, it was certainly a reminder of Spain's recent past.

Standing near the center of the city, Spain's present was literally brought home to me by a rubber bullet fired by the police.

**"Well," you're probably saying, "how bad could that be? After all, it was a rubber bullet."**

This had been my own reaction whenever I read about people getting hit with rubber bullets. I'm embarrassed to say their use even sounded almost humane.

The difference between reading about rubber bullets and getting hit with one is considerable.

In Spain, a rubber bullet is about the size of a baseball and made out of the same material as a hockey puck.

I was lucky to be only knocked out for a few minutes. These bullets shatter skulls, knock eyes out of their sockets, break backs, and at close range, kill people.

**Used indiscriminately, as they are, these bullets are meant not only to maim and cripple but to**

**terrorize the entire population.**

The street fighting of my first night in Barcelona was no rare occurrence. Confrontations with the police happened practically every day of the three weeks I stayed there.

What is rare is any coverage of these incidents in the press, either inside or outside the country.

At a time of international celebration of the new democracy in Spain, these incidents point to an unpleasant fact: the new democracy rests on the old and fascist national police.

These police are particularly hated in Barcelona, with its long history of working class struggle.

Barcelona is the major industrial center of Spain, and with its three million people is the largest port on the Mediterranean.

Heading west from the port to Plaza Catalunya about two miles away is a wide boulevard called the Ramblas. The center of the Ramblas is a paved walkway crowded with newspaper stands, cafes and street vendors.

The Ramblas is not only the geographical heart of the city. It is also the center of working class life.

Since the city has few parks and little open space, thousands of working class families come down to the Ramblas every night to walk, perhaps have a beer and watch thousands of others do the same.

Not only do workers come down to the Ramblas nightly but hun-

dreds of specially trained riot police are there as well.

Organized into a special elite unit, anti-disturbios, they dress in grey uniforms and wait like caged animals in grey buses, protected by heavy wire mesh and machine-gun toting companions outside the buses.

They are considered so vicious that the population widely believes they are drugged.

### COPS UNLEASHED

On my first night in Barcelona, a peaceful demonstration of a small left group for independence of sub sahara (a former Spanish colony in Africa) was enough of a provocation for the "greys" to begin action.

As soon as 40 or 50 of the demonstrators appeared on the Ramblas about 100 people piled out of two buses. With clubs and rifle butts, they began showing people the limits to liberalization in Spain.

Demonstrators as well as some young people who happened to be walking down the Ramblas, began grabbing chairs from cafes and throwing them at the police to halt the beatings.

At this point the rubber bullets started flying, knocking some people over and shattering the store windows that had not yet been covered.

One store owner screamed, "Pinochet [Chile's fascist dictator]



Another victim of a rubber bullet being helped by friends.

is a saint next to these guys."

Another man in his twenties was hit in the face with a rubber bullet, and knocked over. He got up, clutching his eyes with his hands and his face covered in blood.

### FIGHTING BACK

At this point, I expected the streets to immediately clear of everyone. Instead, people remained—middle aged couples, young people, old women, teenaged boys. They hadn't been part of the demonstration but they stayed,

either in solidarity with the demonstrators or at the very least with the feeling that they would not let the police interrupt their lives.

**People would get out of the line of fire, but return in droves to the area as soon as the firing stopped. This of course made it impossible to isolate the demonstrators.**

After a half hour or so, events would calm down, someone would yell "fascist assassins" and the fighting would start out again.

During one of the lulls, I was standing about one block from the Ramblas talking with three young workers who seemed to be in the demonstration.

When I asked them what this demonstration was about, they answered that they had no idea.

I then asked what they were doing in the streets. They replied, "It's the least we can do. The police are the enemy of all of us."

### OUT COLD

As I was about to ask another question, I suddenly felt as if someone had hit me in the stomach with a baseball bat, and I was out cold.

Unknown to me at the time, I had changed roles from an eyewitness to a victim as I was randomly and without warning picked off by a rubber bullet.

Carried off the street and away from the police by the workers I was talking to, I came to about five minutes later in a nearby building.

Looking up, I saw a small crowd around me looking concerned and upset. Someone pointed at me and yelled, "This is the new democracy in Spain!"

Much has happened in Spain since Franco died over two years ago. All the liberalization, however, has been presided over by a standing army of almost 250,000 and a paramilitary police force of 100,000, including 35,000 "greys".

Reforms were instituted from above so that popular discontent wouldn't blow the pressure cooker apart.

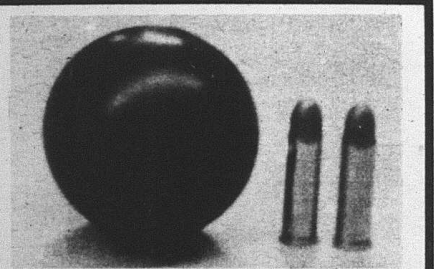
On the steets of Barcelona, you can see a lot more steam than the safety valve may be able to handle. □



Under "liberalization," just like under fascism, the police and the military hold the government up and the people down. (left)

But the Spanish people continue to demonstrate, strike, and throw up barricades in the fight for real democracy and liberation. (below)

The rubber bullet (right) that knocked down our eyewitness to repression in Spain. The actual bullet is 1/4 inches in diameter, or 50% bigger than the reproduction, shown next to two .32 caliber bullets for comparison.



# At Local 212, Making Waves Gets Results!

It started out a day like any other at Chrysler's 8-mile Stamping Plant, in Detroit. But events were to prove to be something out of the ordinary.

November 3, 10 am. Union and management officials were meeting in special conference. The topic: long-standing unresolved grievances—unsafe conditions—harassment—you name it.

Behind closed doors, polite chit chat, gentle sparring, jokes about the kids and next summer's vacations. Occasionally a harsh word or two.

11 am. The doors flew open and in marched 50 angry rank and filers demanding to be heard.

"We want an end to this harassment of Watchdog Team members. We want Chuck Gaston back."

8-mile Stamping is the home of a new rank and file caucus within the United Auto Workers Local 212—the Watchdog Team.

They stand for rank and file power, control over working conditions, for fighting back.

Gaston was a candidate for steward on the Watchdog slate. Chrysler had suspended him a few days before the election, without grounds, to make it harder for him to campaign.

Several weeks earlier, John Ware was elected committeeman on the Watchdog slate. His victory has management worried.

Watchdog ran Gaston for stew-

ard November 9, and will be running two others, Marvin Harris and Randy Scott on November 15 and 16.

They are getting a reputation for sticking up for workers' rights.

Two women with 30 years seniority are pissed off. A foreman tried to force them to work on a malfunctioning machine. When they refused, as punishment, he assigned them to one of the most difficult, backbreaking jobs, stock handling.

Confronted with 50 angry rank and filers, management was scared. "They thought we were going to walk out," said one worker. "One labor relations guy kept talking about how he was going to lose his job."

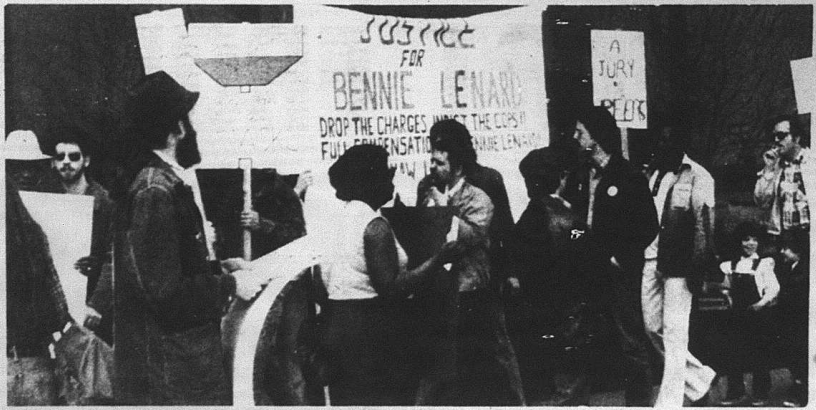
## LOOKING AHEAD

Rank and file pressure paid off. Chuck Gaston was brought back last Monday. He lost his election, but did well.

The Watchdog Team feels that they have a much better chance for the two positions coming up. Says committeeman John Ware, "Finally, we have a good opportunity to become a real force in the plant."

It appears that they already are. Fifty rank and filers rallied to their defense, and are beginning to fight to defend themselves.

That's the beginning of a real movement—a movement that can change people's lives for good. □



April 1977—UAW Local 6 workers demonstrate in support of Bennie Lenard.

# Here's Justice For You: Black Worker Beaten, Crippled And Acquitted Lenard Convicted of One Minor Charge

A Cook County, Illinois jury found Bennie Lenard, 41, not guilty of five misdemeanors and traffic violations October 21.

They convicted him of carrying an open beer can in his car. His lawyers plan to appeal.

If he wins the appeal, of course he'll get no sentence. That's the way our official justice system works.

But he still won't be a free man. It's too late for that.

The unofficial but very real justice system got him first.

The system of cops who act like Ku Klux Klansmen convicted Lenard of being Black the morning they arrested him.

No appeal, no court, no further workings of the justice system can free Bennie Lenard of what Chicago police did to him last January 31.

Even after 39 days in the hospital, he still isn't well enough to return to work at the Melrose Park International Harvester plant.

## BEATING AND TORTURE

The beating and torture inflicted on him that day left him with permanent partial vision loss and a still-crippled left arm.

The original incident is similar to many in which innocent Black people are attacked by cops.

On the way home from work that morning, another car hit Lenard's.

The driver didn't have her license. Lenard turned down her request that he not report the accident to the police.

When the cops arrived, the white woman claimed Lenard had assaulted her. Police handcuffed him and threw him in the back of the squad car.

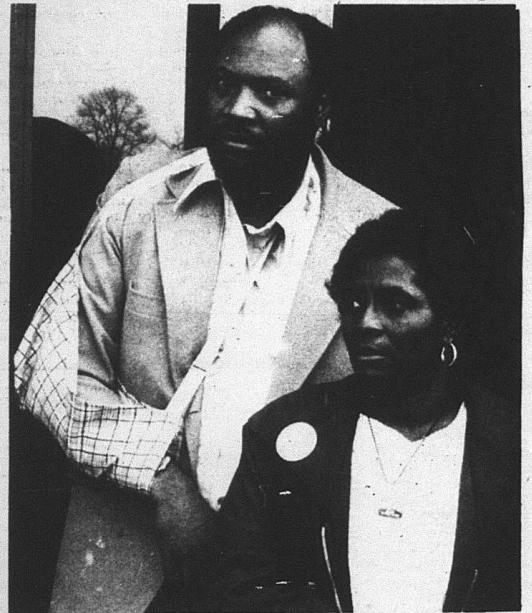
On the way to the station they beat his face with nightsticks, breaking his cheekbone, and screamed things like "Got you now, nigger!" into his ear.

At the station, cops stripped Lenard naked, opened his windows, and poured cold water over him. The temperature outside was below freezing.

He was left there for nine hours.

## TAKE TWO ASPIRIN...

Finally, police took him to Westlake hospital, where doctors gave him aspirin and sent him back to jail.



Bennie Lenard and Mrs. Lenard.

When his wife came down to the station, Lenard was released on bond.

Word of what had happened soon reached the plant. People were outraged.

Hundreds flocked to the next union meeting, where Bennie Lenard's situation was put at the top of the agenda.

By nearly unanimous vote, they established a defense committee. Four hundred dollars was collected to start things rolling.

Workers at the plant, both Black and white, united to defend Lenard. Stewards collected money at plant gates.

His co-workers packed the court room every day of the trial.

Their presence showed the court that this case could not be another routine racist conviction.

But what about the cops who beat him?

They're still out on the street, protecting the citizens of Melrose Park, upholding "law and order."

## Okla: Black Students Boycott Class

Black students in Boynton, Oklahoma have walked out of class because the school superintendent won't allow a student to recite a speech by Martin Luther King, Jr.

A high school talent show has been called off because of the strike.

Sherida Jones, a Black senior, was scheduled to recite King's "I have a dream" speech from the

1963 March on Washington at the show.

However, superintendent Harold Cantwell claims the speech had "racial overtones which would cause problems."

The school board is all-white. So far as we know the superintendent does not see any "racial overtones" there. □

## 1978 SOUTH AFRICA FREEDOM CALENDAR

Twelve wall posters, one for each month. Reproduced in their original vivid colors. Suitable for framing. These dramatic works of art were selected from 375 entries in the first nationwide anti-apartheid poster competition. Sponsored by the American Committee on Africa. The funds raised from the sale of this calendar will be used to benefit the victims of apartheid.

1978

JULY	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
AUGUST	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
SEPTEMBER	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
OCTOBER	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
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# I.S. West Coast Workers' Conference

## FIGHTING FOR UNITY - THAT'S THE KEY!

LOS ANGELES—On November 5 and 6, around 70 trade union, Black community, and women's activists attended the International Socialists' West Coast Workers Conference here.

Al Ferdnace, a carhauler in Detroit Teamster Local 299, fired for participation in a wildcat strike, and a member of the I.S. Black Commission, set the tone of the Conference:

"What you've come to is a forum about one thing—not just fighting little, fragmented battles all over the country, but to get together, find out how we can

change things so that we can have some sort of power over our lives. So that the resources of this earth will be used for life, and not for profits."

### UNITY

That was the idea—bring together fighters from different struggles to share ideas about how to forge unity in the face of a capitalist system in crisis.

As another Teamster pointed out, the employers, the politicians, and the union bureaucrats wanted to keep the working people divided, fighting among each other, so they couldn't fight back effectively. "Divide and Conquer—that's the name of the game."

He gave examples of how trucking bosses in the food industry played men against women.

"In the southern California food contract, where there was little rank and file orientation, the companies were able to play one group off the other, the office workers losing almost a dollar an hour over the life of the contract."

He showed that the capitalist crisis was spurring the employers to demand more and more concessions from the union and the workers. And he warned, "The bureaucratic union officials are not going to go out there and fight our battles. They're not going to go up against the corporations or the profit system."

It will take a militant, united rank and file movement to do that.

### BLACK COMMUNITY

Anthony Thigpen, general organizer of the Coalition Against

Police Abuse (CAPA), talked about the capitalist system from the vantage point of the Black community.

"I cannot conceive of any system that is more corrupt... whose President can go all over the world speaking about human rights, when he has citizens of his own country, who suffer from blatant and institutionalized racism and are denied our basic human rights."

Thigpen described life in the Black community:

"Our communities resemble war zones, with three times as many police patrolling the Black community as in the white. Police riot through our streets, violating our constitutional rights, and



Speakers at the conference: Al Ferdnace (above, right); Johanna Brenner (center); and Anthony Thigpen (below, left).

ignoring our human rights, treating us like animals, killing us like dogs."

Racial oppression, Thigpen argued, has meant massive malnutrition among Black children and a lower life expectancy and higher mortality rate among Blacks generally.

Discrimination in housing, education, and jobs has meant a lower income for Black people.

### MOST MILITANT

This oppression "has forced Black people inside this country as the most militant, hard fighting and resolute people in this land."

But Black people need support from the rest of the working class. "The alternative is destruction, or fascist misery..."



Unfortunately, Thigpen pointed out, white workers have usually supported or gone along with racist oppression.

"The material basis for Black nationalism—past, present, and future—is the racist, reactionary, state of the white working class in this country."

Thigpen, then, argued for why it is in the interest of white workers to fight the system.

"There is a material basis for unity, however. As the system of capitalism goes deeper into crisis... it will become clearer and clearer that in the final analysis this system protects only one group's interests—that is the capitalist class. All other interests will be sacrificed as the crisis deepens."

### WOMEN

Johanna Brenner spoke on how the crisis was affecting women. The gains made by the women's movement in the past 15 years are being taken away, she said.

Affirmative action, maternity

benefits, federal funds for abortion—all are under attack. And, as the job market shrinks, men are being pitted against women in employment.

Brenner called on women to organize themselves to fight these attacks. But, as with Black people, women can't go it alone.

All the sessions pointed toward the need for a united working class movement. And the discussion was realistic about the difficulties of overcoming the deep divisions within the working class fostered and encouraged by the powers that be.

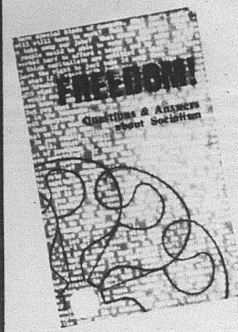
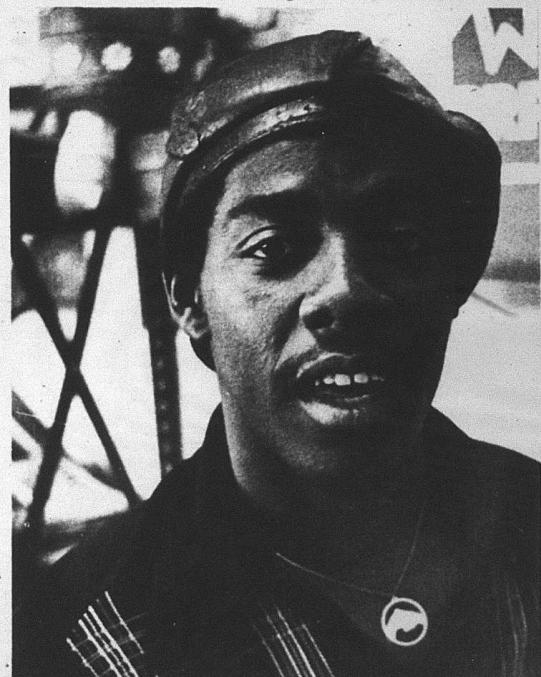
To make unity real, unions, rank and file organizations, and other workers' groups will have to take up the demands and the fight of Blacks, women, and other oppressed people.

Revolutionary socialists play a key role in making this happen. Members of the I.S. are active in all of these movements and can help forge unity.

The main session ended on the need to build the I.S. as part of this process. □



"What you've come to is a forum about one thing—to find out how we can change things so that the resources of this earth will be used for life, and not for profits."



### FREEDOM! Questions and Answers About Socialism

What is socialism? What about Russia? Who would pick up the garbage?... these and other frequently asked questions about socialism.

Order from: Sun Distribution, 14131 Woodward Avenue, Highland Park, Mich. 48203.

50c each



# Watergate -Canadian style

## break-ins, wire-tapping, barn burning

Demonstrations of workers and students like these in Canada, during 1970, led to undercover counter-actions by the Canadian government. Wiretapping, break-ins, barn burnings—Canada's own Watergate—were part of the government's strategy to sabotage activities of dissidents and opposition parties. Police actions conducted in the name of "security" and "national unity" are now coming to light.

A dirty tricks, police break-ins, and government cover-up scandal has just broken loose right next door—in Canada.

It's amazingly close to being a re-run of Watergate, American style. In 1972, the security force of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police—Canada's national police force, something like a combination of the FBI and Secret Service—broke into a radical French news agency in Québec.

Files and documents were stolen to be copied for so-called "police intelligence."

This was part of a major campaign by the Canadian government to destroy the nationalist and radical movements in Québec, who want Québec recognized as an independent nation.

Earlier, in 1970, the Canadian government occupied Québec with troops, suspended all rights and arrested hundreds of Québec nationalists without charges.

This was done on the pretext that a so-called "wave of terrorism" was threatening law and order.

But this was only the beginning. In 1973, in its continuing wave of surveillance and harassment, the RCMP security forces broke into the offices of the liberal, pro-business Québec independence party, the Parti Québécois.

Until just a few weeks ago, this break-in was totally unknown in Canada. Unfortunately for the Canadian government, however, the Parti Québécois won provincial elections in Québec a year ago and controls the Québec government. It has begun its own investigation of police harassment against the independence movement.

It was this investigation in Québec which uncovered the facts about the 1972 news agency break-in.

Just as the Watergate break-in led to uncovering illegal espionage and dirty tricks by U.S. government officials, a wave of information about Canadian police activities is now pouring out.

- A barn where Québec radicals were supposedly planning to meet members of the American Black Panther Party was burned down by a police squad in the night, to prevent the meeting.

- When Québec labor unions formed a united front in 1972, police stole their documents to find out union bargaining strategy.

- Now, even members of the conservative opposition party in Canada are claiming listening devices have been planted in their offices and phones!

### ROYAL PLUMBERS

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police are looking more and more like Richard Nixon's "Plumbers Unit." But the parallels with

Watergate go deeper than break-ins and dirty tricks.

The Canadian government claims it is preserving "security" and "national unity" against Québec separatism.

This kind of "national unity" has been enforced with police harassment and break-ins. Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau, just like

Nixon, now claims the government can break the law if it believes security is endangered!

But the people of Québec will have the last word. More and more of them are probably now convinced that Trudeau's "national unity" is just like Richard Nixon's "law and order"—a big fraud. □

Dan Posen



## Nixon accomplice makes good

H.R. Haldeman, ex-Nixon aide and convicted Watergate conspirator, is going after the big bucks.

The New York Post reports that Haldeman is about to sign on for a series of ads endorsing—of all things—tape recorders.

The Post article says that he has been offered \$30,000 for the ads, to be run only outside the U.S.

Workers' Power has obtained a copy of one such ad. We're pleased to be able to pass it on to you.

—Woody Grimshaw

## Bob Haldeman for Suny<sup>o</sup>

No 18 minute gap on your tapes with Suny<sup>o</sup>

"Nope. Because Suny<sup>o</sup> tape recorders are simple to operate—no complicated stretching and reaching—you don't erase what you don't want to erase... "Suny<sup>o</sup> put it's recorders through the acid test. They asked Rosemary Woods to play back a 30 minute segment of conversation. Stretch and strain as much as she could, not a minute—not a second—was lost... "Try a Suny<sup>o</sup>. Break in to your local hi-fi shop and get yourself one today... "Suny<sup>o</sup>—it pays off."

Record beautiful music like this...



# BATTERED WIVES

## Francine Hughes Wins A Victory—But What A Tragic Victory!

by Elissa Clarke

Francine Hughes poured gasoline around her husband's bed, ignited it, and drove herself to the police station.

James Hughes burned to death. Last week, Francine Hughes was acquitted in a Lansing, Michigan trial.

Francine had something in common with millions of women in America—her husband beat her and threatened to kill her.



She sought a solution to her problem.

But her relatives told her they "didn't want to be bothered."

Police were called innumerable times, but they told her there was nothing they could do.

Even after they divorced in 1971, James Hughes continued to beat Francine. When she sought help from the judge who granted the divorce, his secretary told her the judge was "unavailable."

"I didn't know where else to go," Francine testified.

Finally, in desperation, Francine Hughes killed her husband.

### VICTORY

Francine's victory in court is as important to the women's movement as the Joan Little and Inez Garcia cases. (Joan Little was acquitted of charges of murder when she killed a prison guard during an attempted rape. Inez Garcia was acquitted of killing a man who raped her.)

But Hughes' victory was less than decisive. She was acquitted because of temporary insanity—not the right to self-defense. However, after a psychiatric examination, Hughes was freed.

### TRAGEDY

The death of James Hughes was tragic. But the life of Francine Hughes was tragic.

For thirteen years, Francine was beaten, threatened with murder, chased with a knife, choked. One time, James tried to run over her with his car.

Her children testified that their father beat her "too many times to count."

"I don't think I could ever make anyone understand how much I've been through and how much I've hurt," Hughes said in court.

There is absolutely no place for a woman to go who suffers brutality at the hands of her husband.

### The police do nothing.

Sometimes they actually discourage a woman from leaving or prosecuting her husband by asking questions like: Who will support you? What did you do that made him hit you in the first place? Do you realize what he may do next time if you make trouble now? A study conducted in Kansas



Francine Hughes

City, Missouri showed that in 85% of all domestic homicides, the police had been called in at least once before. In 50% of the murders, police had been called in five or more times!

### COURTS

#### The courts do nothing.

In Montgomery County, Maryland, a man knocked out four of his wife's teeth with a radio when she woke him for work. The judge ruled that the husband had been "provoked" and therefore his conduct did not constitute assault.

Even when a man is found guilty, he is usually not sent to jail.

In New York State, for example, of 5600 cases in family court where a wife filed assault charges against her husband, only 34 resulted in convictions—usually with suspended sentences.

In Washington, D.C. a retired army colonel repeatedly struck his wife and threw her down a flight of stairs in front of two witnesses. After he had done this seven times, the woman filed charges. The judge handed down a \$500 fine and a 30-day suspended sentence.

One battered wife spoke of her attempt to seek help: "I turned to the church during this time repeatedly. The answer was always, 'Pray.' I told him I would leave unless he began psychiatric treatment. I was told by the doctor to expect only change for the worse."

### ISOLATED

There is a reason why there are no avenues open to wives who are beaten and tortured by their husbands.

Women in the family are isolated. They raise their own children, cook their own meals, wash their own clothes and clean their own houses. They also cope with their own tragedies.

One policeman told a beaten wife: "Your husband has the right to do anything he wants to you."

The family is a fine set-up for the capitalist system. The boss gets two workers for the price of one—the man who goes to the plant every day, and the woman who maintains his home so he can be there.

But it's not so fine for the men and women who take out the frustrations of their impossible lives on each other. Their tortured childhoos. A hard time on the job. No relief from the demands of two or three young children. Unemployment. The pressure of survival from week to week.

### SOLUTIONS

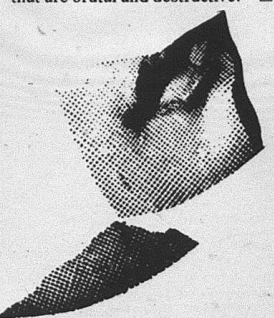
There is no simple solution to violence in the family.

Francine Hughes' acquittal was a victory—but what a tragic victory! It lays bare the most disgusting aspects of a decaying system.

But there may be men who beat their wives, and parents who beat their children in a socialist society, too.

The difference will be that we won't tolerate it.

Under socialism, the conditions which produce this brutality on a wide scale won't exist any more. Men and women will have security and freedom. No one will have to live with personal relationships that are brutal and destructive. □



## Labor Notes

by Jim Woodward

United Mine Workers President Arnold Miller recently criticized officials of the union's District 17 (Southern West Virginia) for taking so many cases to arbitration. He pointed to the nearly 2000 cases in District 17 since 1975, and praised the union's District 2 in Pennsylvania, where "they won't arbitrate some frivolous matter." The high cost of this arbitration has been partly responsible for serious financial troubles facing the West Virginia district. But union officials all over the country would do their jobs better if they listened to District 17 President Jack Perry's response to the criticism. "If you couldn't explain to a man why you shouldn't take a case," he said, "it ought to go to arbitration."



A reader returning from his union convention wrote to tell us that United Airlines flight attendants report that they have voted 92% in favor of strike action unless United agrees to "better working conditions, job security, and a shorter term of agreement". The flight attendants say this is the first time in the history of their union the members have voted to strike. They don't feel they are getting much publicity for their side of the story in the news media.

United Farm Workers President Cesar Chavez is continuing to take criticism for his recent trip to the Philippines and his visit with Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos. Marcos rules his country with martial law. Chavez held a 5 1/2-hour meeting in Delano, California October 15, attended by 600 people, which was supposed to resolve the controversy. It may have done the opposite. One invited guest was Jerry Montemayer, head of a Philippine peasant group, who defended Marcos. Montemayer said trade unions in the Philippines are doing better than ever before under martial law. The only restriction they face, he said, is "the limitation to the right to strike." Montemayer also criticized the priests and nuns who denounce torture in the Philippines, saying they are just having difficulty dealing with celibacy.

Life in the National Maritime Union was never that good, but on the river-boats, it's even worse. Two recent cases involving Jones & Laughlin boats on the Ohio and Monongahela Rivers show both the weakness of the union and the bias of the company. In one incident, a deckhand shoved a mate (part of crew management) in a dispute. The deckhand was promptly fired. In a similar case, the mate "decked" a deckhand. This time the mate got a five-day suspension with pay. When the injured deckhand insisted on seeing a doctor, he got five days off without pay. The union failed to win either case for the deckhands.

At the Buckeye Mine in Greene County, Pa., a miner was fatally injured when a ten-foot wall of coal collapsed, crushing him. When miners reporting to work after the holiday weekend learned that their brother had died in the hospital on Veteran's Day, they left work. This memorial gesture is provided for in the United Mine Workers contract. Buckeye management, in typically callous fashion, declared that they would not pay wages for the holiday. Since the man died in a hospital rather than in the mine, the company claimed that the memorial day-off was actually an unauthorized strike, therefore no pay for the preceding day. Hearing this, the miners promptly struck again.

Elsewhere in Greene County, where a dozen new mines are planned, U.S. Steel is trying to get around UMW militancy. At the new 700-employee Cumberland Mine, the company has built a complete, above-ground mining school. New miners are trained by management people without contacting experienced unionists. The company has stated that there will only be minimal experienced crews to get things going. Anything to beat the union.

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



# BATTLE OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR Women's Rights At Stake

by Elissa Clarke

THOUSANDS OF WOMEN will gather in Houston this weekend.

Will it be the death of the women's liberation movement, as Phyllis Schlafly has threatened?

**Hardly! But the sparks will fly in Houston at the International Women's Year Convention.**

The Convention will be held on November 18-21.

International Women's Year (IWY) began with lots of fanfare: proclamation signing, millions of dollars appropriated by Congress, and dozens of state and regional conferences.

All this to produce a set of guidelines "to promote equality between men and women." Stop any woman walking down the street and she could tell you how to achieve equality between the sexes.

**Furthermore, IWY has no machinery for implementing its guidelines.**

International Women's Year began as an empty gesture from a government that is intent on smashing women's right in other areas—the ERA, affirmative action, maternity benefits, abortion rights, gay rights. Now you see it, now you don't.

**But along the way something happened that changed International Women's Year and made it an event that every woman has a stake in. The right wing decided to use it as a forum to smash women's rights.**

In state after state, the right wing organized, mobilized, and took over IWY meetings that were designed to elect delegates and submit resolutions to the Houston Convention.

Conference organizers estimate that the conservatives will have 20% of the seats in Houston. They include members of the Ku Klux Klan, the John Birch Society, the Mormon Church, Stop ERA, and other right-wing organizations.

The Grand Dragon of the Mississippi Knights of the Ku Klux Klan announced his connection with the movement to crush women's liberation. "I helped advise them," said Grand Dragon George Higgins. "And I plan to go to Houston and do the same."

At the John Birch Society headquarters in Belmont, Massachusetts, spokesman John F. McManus said that Birch members "have been in leadership positions in every state where the ERA was

scotched." He claimed that some Birchers have been elected delegates to the Houston Convention.

## AGAINST WHAT?

**What are they organizing against?**

They are against abortion, against the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), against childcare ("mind control"), against shelters for battered wives (homes for "runaway wives"), against legislation against child abuse (interferes with the sanctity of the family), against gay rights, against the extension of rape laws to cover marital situations ("Other avenues of relief are available to the wife if she cannot, with God's help, resolve the problem by love and change of attitude").

In Utah a resolution actually reached the floor calling for a repeal of women's right to vote.

**Unfortunately, it's not funny.**

The right wing is serious, they're active, they're mobilized. While the moderate women's movement leaders were busy getting Betty Ford and Rosalyn Carter to speak out for the ERA, the right-wing out-manuevered them on the grass roots level.

Phyllis Schlafly, organizer of a group called Stop ERA, is a prime mover behind this effort. She commands an "army" of volunteers.

Schlafly tells her army that the ERA will cause abortions, destroy the family, end alimony, end separate bathrooms for men and women, force women to go to work and to war.

**The International Women's Year Conference is where they've chosen to take their stand.**

If the International Women's Year Convention had proceeded according to plan, it probably



13,000 women turned out to the New York IWY Conference.

would have had very little impact on our lives.

**But now the IWY Convention has a significance for all women. Wherever the right wing takes the offensive, women have to mobilize to defeat them.**

The right wing is against every right that women have won over the last fifteen years in the name of liberation.

## COMMITTED

But women committed to equal rights are also serious and enthusiastic about the Convention. Most delegate slates share common priorities: passage of the ERA; legal, safe abortions regardless of income; and civil rights for gays.

These women have flooded the

state IWY conferences. In New York, for example, 3000 women were expected. But 13,000 showed up!

Some stood in line for as long as eight hours to cast their votes on the delegate slate. The slate of 88 is solidly committed to women's liberation issues.

There will be 2000 delegates in Houston. But 10,000 to 20,000 other women are expected.

**Far from being the death of the women's liberation movement, International Women's Year has mobilized thousands of women.**

Some of them never even thought of themselves as feminists before, but they believe in equal rights and they refuse to sit back while a minority organizes to smash them.

## Mormon Church In Unholy Alliance



Mormons confer at Utah IWY.

church has always been concerned with threats to the stability of the family and the home. We don't make any excuses for our women's participation. We're proud of them.

**"Other women's groups could probably take a note from their book."**

Mr. Levere is right in that advice. Organizers of the IWY conferences bent over backwards to make sure a "diversity" of opinion—even against women's rights—would be represented. In most states, the moderates felt they could win over right-wing women with kindness and logic.

**But they were smashed.** Conservative women threw principles to the wind. They occupied meeting rooms, they shouted down speakers, they forced workshops to close with whistles and noise-makers. They complained loudly that they were not represented, but when they were over-represented (like in Mississippi where the delegate slate is all white, or Hawaii where the slate is 83% Mormon while the population is 3.2% Mormon) they were silent.

## SOLID

When elected as delegates, they announced that they would vote in Houston "as they see fit" regard less of the resolutions passed in their states.

Right-wing organizations have elected solid conservative slates in Alabama, Nebraska, Montana, Oklahoma, Missouri, Utah, and Mississippi.

In Indiana, Florida, Ohio, Kansas, and Hawaii they dominate the slates.

But 80% of the delegates at Houston will not be conservatives. Many of them will be women active in the Democratic Party and the Republican Party, women active in the National Organization for Women and other middle class women's groups. A smaller percentage will be feminists and radicals.

**The right-wing has made Houston an explosive issue. Keep an eye on the Convention. The sparks will fly.**

"It was like a war, only they had atomic weapons, and we had words."

That is how one feminist described the intervention of Mormon women at the Utah International Women's Year Conference.

Organizers for the Utah conference expected about 2000 women. Instead 14,000 turned out—at least 12,000 of them from the Mormon Church.

The Mormon Church is a vast reactionary organization based in Utah. They are against women's rights and are also racist. Blacks are not allowed to be Mormon ministers.

**The Mormon women were bused in to pack the meeting. They were armed with leaflets telling them how to register and what to vote for. Men with walkie-talkies directed the women on the floor.**

As a result, the Utah conference voted down every recommendation of the International Women's Year Commission.

Don LeFevre, a spokesman for the Mormon Church said, "The

## Workers' Power Women's Conference

**Women are on the move. We can't be stopped!**

In the pages of Workers' Power, you read about it: Women demonstrating against abortion cut-backs. Women saying No! to the right-wing. Women in the streets for the Equal Rights Amendment. Women fighting for equal job opportunities. Women demanding maternity benefits in their contracts. In many cities, the readers and supporters of Workers' Power are leading these struggles.

**If you're a woman and you refuse to sit back and let them take away our rights, come to our Conference. Sit down and rap with women who are concerned about the same things that concern you—and women who are doing something about it!**

A lively agenda is planned. A panel discussion of women activists. Skits. Slide shows. An inspiring film. Women's music. Women's party. Workshops will seek solutions to our problems.

**The Workers' Power Women's Conference will be held in Cleveland on December 3 - 4.**

**SEE YOU THERE!**



**I want to be there!**  
Please send me more information about the Workers' Power Women's Conference.  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Return to: Workers' Power, 4151 Highland Park, MI

# LETTERS TALLEB2

# 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. 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.



## Voice from the north woods

### Dear Fellow Workers:

Just returned from Portland, Ore., where we held our International Convention.

Thought I'd drop you a few lines on my impressions which may be of interest to your readers.

The entire convention had a brand new (to me) slant than any other I had attended in the International Woodworkers Association (four International, six Regional).

The slant was very definitely to the Left (capital L intended).

There were resolutions and

debate, strongly and heatedly calling for such things as:

National Health Insurance (without such things as insurance companies);

Strict enforcement of OSHA and sharp and speedy action to improve worker safety and health;

Nationalization of all energy resources on the North American continent;

Condemning "predatory multinational giants" who give lip service to the "common interests of labor and capital" in the North and viciously smash any attempt to organize in the South;

Condemning the hypocrisy of the same greedy conglomerates; who call for import quotas on one side of their mouth, and export jobs to downtrodden, fiendishly exploited workers in Third World areas.

Our International President, Keith Johnson, actually used the words "oppressors of the workers" in his speech and didn't even stutter.

Dave Barrett, of the New Democratic Party in Canada, was given several show stopping rounds of applause, as was Cesar Chavez.

Joe Morris of the Canadian Labor Congress, a high level bureaucrat from OSHA, and some local politicians also addressed the Convention.

The delegates pledged full financial and human resources to organizing the unorganized (especially in the South), the J.P.

Stevens boycott, the United Farm Workers, the Pacific Northwest Labor College, and Retiree Clubs.

They also voted not to change the name of the Ladies Auxiliaries to Women's Organizations.

It seems that some folks thought the term Ladies Auxiliaries came from the era of the "Wobblies and soup kitchen" (to quote one of the whereases).

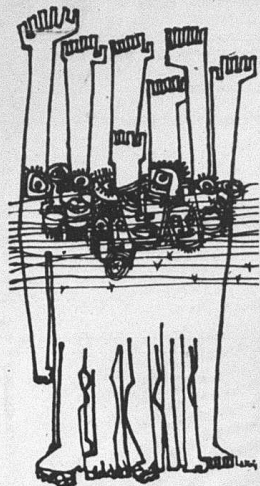
But the delegates, to their credit, not only thought there was nothing wrong with springing from that era, but loudly stated that they were proud to come from Wobblies and soup kitchens and don't even want any one to forget the sacrifices of life and blood that got workers where they are.

Some of the delegates even felt a return to some of the basic precepts and tactics of that earlier era might have a lot of merit.

We elected (by acclamation) four International Officers who are young (under 50), bright, and dedicated and give promise of being able to work as a team without the normal Byzantine shenanigans that normally occur at that level.

All in all a pretty good convention. If we can accomplish half of what we have set out to do—watch our smoké.

Fraternally,  
Jim Woods  
President, Local IV-260  
Member, International  
Executive Board  
International Woodworkers Association



## The worst of everything

### Dear Comrades:

Graterford [prison] is a potential goldmine for radicalism.

Almost all of us are gung-ho radicals of one anti-bourgeois belief or another, the majority being Muslims.

It would be the rare prisoner here who wouldn't be in favor of a Dictatorship of the Proletariat and public ownership of all property.

Graterford is the largest pen in Penna. in every way.

Each block is 100 cells long with two tiers and 400 cells to

each block. The five blocks have 2000 cells.

The blocks and the industry area are surrounded by a 70-foot high wall with about 20 gun towers. The diameter averages about one half mile between the walls.

The industries cover as much area as the blocks, making uniforms for state troopers, guards and prisoners throughout the state, as well as towels, sheets—everything from threads!

Graterford towels, sheets, cases, mattresses, pillows, beds, supply other state prisons as well as county jails and state hospitals. But Graterford prisoners get only the worst of everything.

Outside the walls is our massive farm. Graterford keeps the worst slop here and ships good food elsewhere.

Contradictions have become absurdities here. It is very educational.

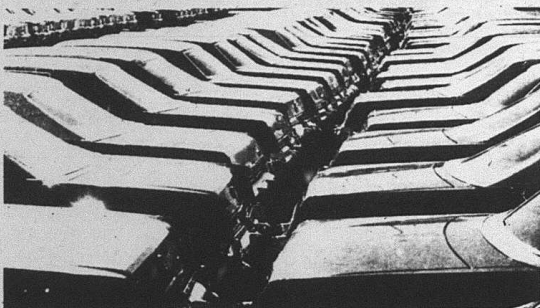
To Communism!  
Name withheld

## Stop buying violence?

### Dear Workers' Power:

Violence on the airwaves is there because the viewer buys the sponsor's product. One way to get them off is to stop buying the product. It takes only a very small percentage of people to make their sales fall off.

William R. Sullivan  
Vale, Oregon



## "...struggle even harder for the day Chrysler is thrown into the streets..."

### Dear Workers' Power:

I work at a Chrysler auto plant in Detroit. I just thought I'd write and let you know we are laid off for at least the week of November 7.

There is nothing unusual in this, since the auto industry has always laid off when sales are down (Chrysler's excuse to us).

However, this summer we were working six days a week, nine and ten hours a day in severe heat.

The heat was so intense that there were walkouts at all but one of Chrysler's plants; as your readers may recall, since it was reported in your paper.

We also hear we will probably be down at least another week before Christmas.

When the company deems it expedient (right before change-

over) we have to work as many hours as they need us, at no concern for our health or our family life.

But when things aren't doing so well, we are put on the street with virtually no warning, no time to have saved up, for those with less than a year's seniority who cannot collect SUB pay (Supplementary Unemployment Benefits).

It's enjoyable to have a week's time, true enough, but the callous disregard companies have for the people that work for them, to use at their discretion like so many pieces of machinery, makes me struggle even harder for the day when we will run the plants and Chrysler will be thrown into the street.

S.B.  
Detroit

# 'Goodbar': Not Your Average Schoolteacher

SHE'S A BEAUTIFUL woman—strong, young, and independent—who means to find personal fulfillment and sexual satisfaction in her life.

Her desires, her sexuality, and her fantasies are in sharp conflict with her daytime existence—a spectated teacher of deaf children.

But Theresa Dunn, played brilliantly by Diane Keaton, is not your average schoolteacher stereotype. And "Looking for Mr. Goodbar" is not your average Hollywood film.

It is the story of Theresa Dunn, who goes from one bar to another, from one man to another. As a single woman, she is left with little room in this society to find what she wants any other way.

"Goodbar" is one of the best films of the year. It is one of the few times we see women portrayed honestly and not through the eyes or desires of men.

**Looking for Mr. Goodbar.** Paramount Pictures. Directed by Richard Brooks. Produced by Freddie Fields. Starring Diane Keaton.

Dunn's sexual fantasies, for instance (fantasies that many men believe women never have), are interspersed visually in the film with the events of her normal daily life.

### CONFLICTS

These fantasies, and the personal freedom she seeks, are in sharp conflict with her strict Catholic upbringing and the guilt she has been trained to feel since childhood. And in conflict with society's moral standards—which would have her go home, watch television, and keep her legs crossed at night.

These are a few of the conflicts that make the film so much like our own lives. From the opening scene, in which Theresa is writing an essay on personal conflict, the movie reveals one contrast after another in her life.

Between her wish for independence, for example, and her authoritarian father.

"So long as you live in this house," he screams at her, "you live by the rules." "You're right, daddy," she says. And she packs her bags, leaving the cultural world of her parents' generation behind her. She moves on to find her own life.

But what she encounters is the biggest contrast of them all. The conflict between her own strength, maturity, and lovingness—and the immaturity and rough callousness of the men she sees.

Each of them, from the tough-guy ladies' man to the fawning Mr. Clean-type virgin, is hung up on his masculinity. Each responds differently and inadequately to society's inhuman pressures of what a man should be.

What "Goodbar" shows is that these men, and the ways they have reacted to those pressures, are

killing her—slowly and symbolically, and in the end, literally.

### WHOSE FAULT

Some reviewers of the film have laid the guilt on Dunn—that her death in the end is her own fault. What else can a girl who goes bar-hopping and picks up all kinds of men expect?

Those reviewers have seen nothing but their own values in the movie, for it shows just the

opposite. In this, the film deviates from the book that it was originally based upon.

The movie version shows that women looking for full, free, and independent lives have very little option. It shows that healthy relationships between men and women are perverted by social pressures, moral guilt, and brutality.

And "Goodbar" shows a woman who struggles to be free. Her fight is full of freshness, life, and sensi-

tivity. But she loses—loses the battle and loses her life.

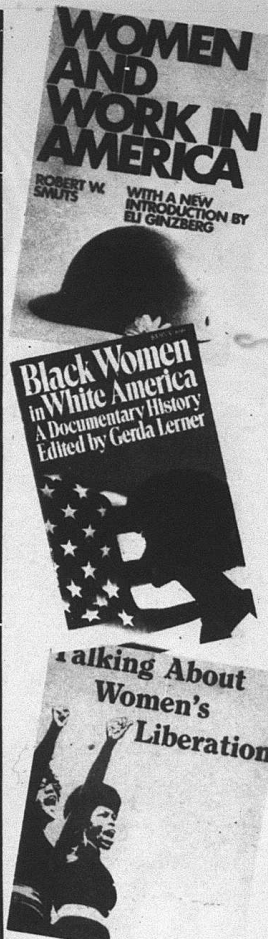
"Looking for Mr. Goodbar" shows why, in this society, it can't be any other way—why Theresa Dunn can't find personal freedom with the deck stacked against her.

And although the film gives us no way of fighting to change society and winning, it gives us a lot of reasons to want to. □

Terri Ferguson



Diane Keaton as Theresa Dunn.



A sample of books and pamphlets on Women's Liberation, available from Sun Distribution.

- Talking About Women's Liberation. A basic pamphlet on women's battle for equality and freedom—at home, on the job, in society. 50c for single copies, 30c each for 10 or more.
- Black Women in White America. History as Black women have lived it. \$3.95
- Women and Work In America. How women have joined the work force in this century and its impact on consciousness. \$2.75.

Order from Sun Distribution, 14131 Woodward, Highland Park, MI 48203. Add 25c postage.

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# Workers' Power

## Striking Iron Ore Miners Reject

### Dirty Deal

by Terri Ferguson

**Determined iron ore miners soundly rejected a tentative settlement in their three-month long strike last week.**

**The industry offer, negotiated by the United Steel Workers**

(USW) would have meant a pay cut of 20-30c an hour for 25% of the workforce.

"That would be a total impossibility for me to even consider bringing to my membership," Joe Samargia, president of Local 1939 in Iron Ore, Minnesota, told Workers' Power.

The issue at stake has been an incentive plan that would put the miners on a par with their fellow union members in basic steel.

The companies offered to establish an incentive plan, effective in 1979, covering 75% of the miners. The other 25% would be left in the cold.

"It would destroy the unity of the union," Samargia said. "We can't

live with 75% of our people covered."

But the settlement would go beyond simply denying incentive pay to nearly 4000 of the iron miners. It would also force them to give up the 20-30c attendance bonus an hour they now receive.

The attendance bonus would end in 1979 when replaced by the incentive plan. Twenty-five percent of the miners would end up without pay from the old plan, and without coverage under the new one.

#### THREATS

Samargia also explained that in their attempt to break the solidarity of the miners, the steel companies are threatening to import more foreign iron-ore.

"U.S. Steel alone imports 28 million tons of iron ore a year in this country. What they're threatening now is that they're gonna go out and make more long term import contracts and we may never get back to work. At the same time as they're blackmailing the steelworkers in the steel industry, the imports are hurting 'em!"

The iron miners aren't buying the industry's threats. And they mean to stay out until they get a settlement for everyone.

They have been forced to go it pretty much on their own. Little help has been forthcoming from international union president Lloyd McBride. He refused a badly-needed increase in strike benefits from \$20 to \$40, though he later agreed to \$30.

McBride spoke to the local negotiating committee in favor of the company proposal which the committee unanimously rejected.

#### SOLIDARITY MARCH

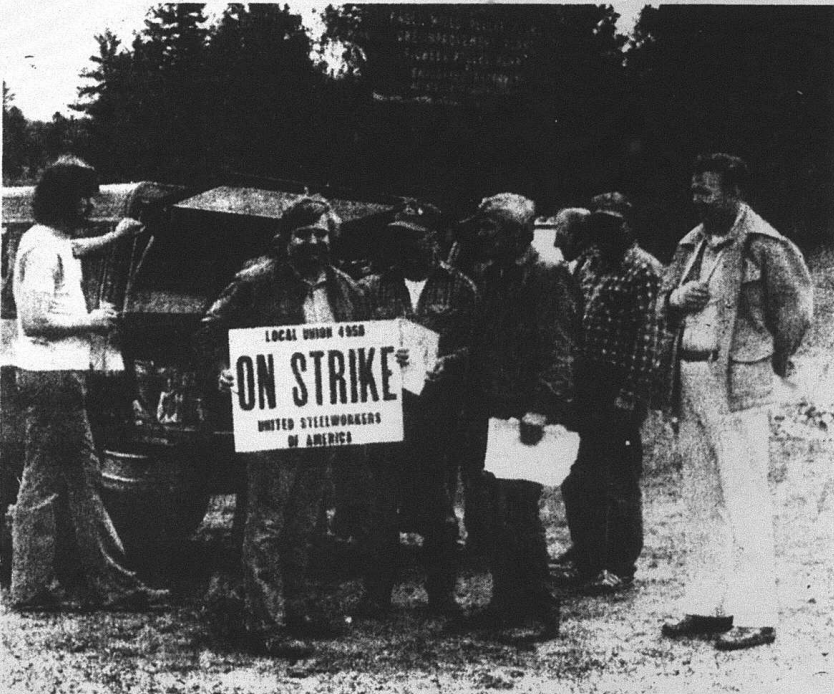
Earlier in the day, local iron miners showed McBride and the companies that they have a different idea of unionism.

They held a solidarity march and rally of about 3000. "It was fantastic," Samargia told us. "The march was geared back in this history of the 1916 iron ore strike of the IWW down here. We marched the same streets that they marched in 1916.

"At that time, there was some people shot; one died in the march. U.S. Steel spent \$260,000 just to hire armed guards and buy off sheriffs.

"A lot of people that are on strike right now—my grandfather, and a lot of the guys' grandfathers or fathers—were involved with it.

"So we were going back in the history of it. The slogan was **United Steelworkers: Solidarity Then And Now—1916-1977.**"



Iron ore miners on strike.

## Steel Workers Say: U.S. Out Of South Africa!

by Craig Johnson

In South Africa, Blacks are denied the right to form trade unions or even to meet together in groups to discuss their problems. A rigid color bar keeps them in the lowest paying, most dangerous jobs. During every shift in the gold mines, an average of three miners lose their lives.

But a fight against the racist South African government has begun in District 31 of the United Steelworkers of America, in the Chicago-Gary area.

At a recent District Conference, delegates heard Zola Zembe, from the South African Congress of Trade Unions, speak on the struggles of Black South African workers for justice.

He spoke about the need for international support of the struggle.

The United States, Britain and many other countries have massive investments in South Africa. Recently, they defeated a U.N. resolution for an economic boycott of South Africa.

Support for the rights of Black workers in South Africa will not come from the American government or big business.

It will have to come from

American workers, students, and the union movement.

To back up Zembe's call for international solidarity, resolutions were introduced calling for union support of the struggle.

USW Local 65 (U.S. Steel South Works) called on U.S. Steel to remove its mining interests from South Africa.

Export of chrome, and other metals important to the steel industry, are an important part of South Africa's economy. U.S. Steel's South Africa divisions contribute millions in taxes to the government.

Removal of that money would go far to weaken the government.

Representatives of Local 1010 (Inland Steel) called for solidarity with the Black South African workers. They also asked that all locals in the District remove their funds from banks doing business with South Africa.

This motion will be taken up at the next meeting of Local 1010 and voted on.

#### PROFITS AND REPRESSION

At the union's October membership meeting, the film "Last Grave at Dimbaza" was shown.



50,000 South African miners on strike.

It documents the living and working conditions Black South Africans face, the constant police repression, and the incredible profits that numerous American and British corporations sweat out of the Blacks under the apartheid system.

The beginnings of Black resistance, scenes of a strike by Black metalworkers, were also recorded. People were enthusiastic about the film, which was followed by a short talk on the current situation.

"Last Grave" will also be shown at other locals in District 31. □