

Workers World

Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite

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Vol. 16, No. 6

March 22, 1974

25 cents

Inflation hits workers and poor hardest

Living costs soar, no end in sight

- Over the last 12 months, prices increased more than at any time in the last 27 years.
- Projected at a yearly rate, the cost of living rose 16 percent in January.
- Food prices for 1974 are rising at a 52 percent annual rate.
- Fuel prices are rising at a 75 percent annual rate.
- In January alone, clothing prices were up 8.2 percent.
- In 1973, baked goods rose 31 percent, fuel 67.8 percent, gas and electricity 24.2 percent.

Compared to this multibillion dollar crime by the big corporations, Nixon's bribes look like petty cash!



Angry consumers of gas and electric protest attempt to rubber stamp Con Edison's latest rate increase [above]. They set up people's hearing [left] after "Public Service" Commission members walk out. See page 5.

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Editorial Staff
Naomi Cohen, Deirdre Griswold,
P. Meisner, Tom Mitchell,
Sharon Shelton, Andy Stapp

Contributing Editors
Vincent Copeland
Fred Goldstein

Technical Editors
Alice Robinson
L. Stein

Manager
Dorothy Ballan

Published Bi-weekly

46 West 21 Street
New York, N.Y. 10010
Tel. (212) AL-5-0332

Mrs. Harvey and her neighbors know how to fight city hall

By ANDY STAPP

BROOKLYN, N.Y., March 16—A city marshal armed with a gun and an eviction notice kicked down the door of the Brooklyn apartment. The movers entered the living room and began ripping down drapes, knocking over lamps, and emptying the contents of drawers—letters, family photographs, personal papers—onto the floor.

Upon receiving a phone call from another tenant, the woman who lived in the apartment rushed home. She saw the wreckage of her home and begged the city marshal to stop. He laughed and ordered the movers to continue to dump her belongings in the center of the room. He had evicted families before. It was always the same. They would complain, the children would cry, but it inevitably ended the same way: the family's blankets, pans, beds, tables,

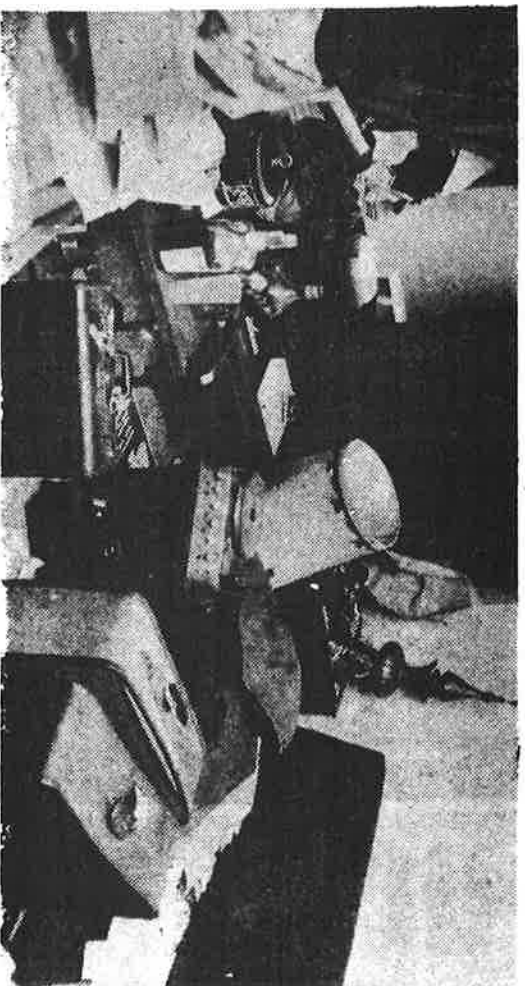
books, chairs, sofa, crib, everything heaped in a pile on the sidewalk outside. Marshal Grottano had seen it all many times, and Mamie Harvey and her daughter wouldn't be any different.

Frankly, Mrs. Harvey called 911—the police emergency number you call when a crime is being committed.

The cops came. One of them told her in a bored voice that Marshal Grottano had "the proper papers." The police left.

Watching the eviction from their doorways and from the hall, Mrs. Harvey's neighbors were getting angry.

As president of the building's tenant council, Mrs. Harvey had led a strike last year to protest Maximum Base Rent hikes. Most of the tenants paid their usual rent while refusing to add on the MBR rent increases. Nehring Bros., who owned the building, had refused to make repairs for



The rats that wrecked Mrs. Harvey's apartment are a greedy landlord and a city marshal.

S.F. strike rolls back wage freeze

MARCH 16—Faced with rising prices that threatened to severely depress their standard of living, some 20,000 San Francisco workers answered the call of the Service Employees Union to "shut it down." For 9 days from March 7 to March 16, all city services came to a standstill.

The striking unions, Local 400 Civil Services Association, Local 250 Hospital Workers, Local 66A Building Service Workers, all of the Service Employees International Union and Local 535 Social Services Workers Union, and Local 61 American Federation of Teachers, were joined by the municipal Amalgamated

Transit Union workers who walked off the job on the city's trolleys and buses in sympathy.

The overwhelming strength of the strike was guaranteed by the Rank and File Negotiating Committee, comprised of five members of each striking union. This committee, which was empowered by the workers to accept or turn down any offer from the employer, was victorious in blocking the "discriminatory staggered percentage" increase offer which brought on the strike in the first place. (This offer would have benefited the highest-paid workers most and the lowest-paid ones the

years; rats scurried in the building and holes riddled the walls.

Mrs. Harvey owed a little more than \$100. Starting in December, Nehring Bros. began returning her rent checks uncashed. They wanted her out of the building. She had explained to the other tenants that Nehring Bros. were in violation of the law. So Nehring Bros. got a corrupt magistrate to issue a 72-hour eviction notice and then sent David Grottano, the marshal of the landlords, to push Mrs. Harvey and her 16-year-old daughter out onto the street.

The neighbors knew that Mrs. Harvey was being evicted because she had complained about the rats, because she had helped them to fight the slumlord. They watched with growing rage as Grottano swaggered about the apartment treating Mrs. Harvey's modest furnishings, the fruits of a lifetime of work, like garbage. Grottano didn't notice when the first person came and stood in the door leading out of the apartment. But soon there were 5, then 10, then 30.

They began shouting.

Mrs. Harvey's neighbors still wanted the rats out of the building—all of them. The smile faded on the marshal's face. He called the cops.

When the police arrived, they took one look at the crowd in the door and decided that Grottano's papers maybe weren't so legal after all. They escorted the marshal, now thoroughly shaken, out of the building. The eviction was foiled.

Later in the day a spokesman for Nehring Bros. said, "Regardless of what happened today, we will still try to evict her. We have dealt with City Marshal Grottano before and we are very satisfied with his work."

The capitalists who live in 28-room townhouses on Sutton Place in New York City extol "the sanctity of the home" and opine that "a man's home is his castle." They also say, "You can't fight city hall." Mrs. Harvey and her neighbors know better.

least. It would have meant only a \$2 weekly raise for the lower-paid workers.)

The striking workers proved stronger than both California's ultra-rightist Governor, Ronald Reagan (who said all the workers should be fired 5 days after the strike began) and Judge Clayton W. Horn, who granted an injunction sought by the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce and ordered the strikers to return to work or be arrested en masse.

San Francisco Mayor Alioto, knowing well the determination of the strikers, moaned, "I don't know of any jail around here than can hold 10,000 strikers." The power of the united workers reduced Horn's injunction to a scrap of paper and on the 9th day of the strike the city capitulated.

In the largest work stoppage since the city's 1934 general strike, the working class of San Francisco has shown their brothers and sisters east of the Rockies how to stop Nixon's anti-labor wage freeze.

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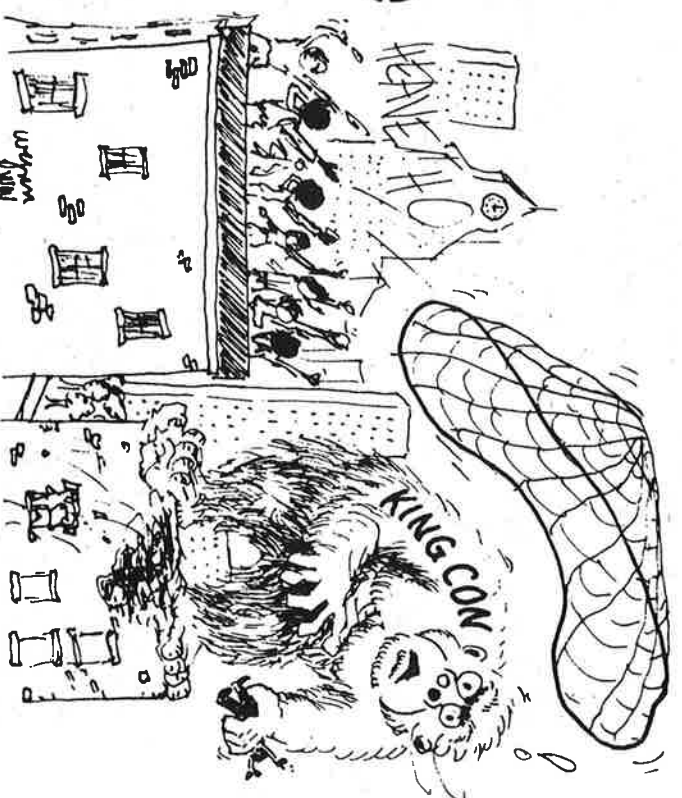
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Fight Con Ed, utilities should be free!

that shows a need for at least \$2,680,000 to prepare defenses for all 61 Brothers. The state has an obligation to supply these funds if the Brothers are to get any semblance of a fair trial.

The Attica Brothers Legal Defense is calling for an end to the prosecution altogether, with the funds going to improve prison conditions. Otherwise, funds for the defense must be provided.

Clark Squire

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J., March 15—SUNDIATA ACOLO (Clark Squire) has been sentenced to life in prison, plus an additional 24 to 36 years, following his March 11 conviction for the death of a N.J. State Trooper in a May 1973 shootout on the turnpike.

ASSATA SHAKUR (Joanne Chesimard) was also captured and faces trial at a later date on the same charges. ZAYD MALIK SHAKUR was killed in the battle.

Sundiata's "trial" was a mockery of justice. The jury was selected from overwhelmingly white Morris County, where the average income is more than \$15,000 a year. The atmosphere surrounding the courtroom was that of an armed camp: dozens of nervous security guards inside and outside the courtroom, thorough searches and ID checks on spectators, closed-circuit-TV cameras surveilling the area.

Instead of appealing to the jury's sense of logic, the state could only appeal to their fears and emotions, repeatedly waving the bloodied clothes of the dead trooper and demonstrating the paths of the bullets that killed the trooper on the body of a live, uniformed sheriff's deputy.

New Jersey juries have been quick to convict Black people. Only a few weeks ago, a New Jersey jury convicted Gail Madden and George Merritt of murder charges arising from the 1967 ghetto rebellion in Plainfield, where a cop was killed by an angry crowd that had watched him shoot a young Black man.

Today, in his statement to the court before sentence was pronounced, Sundiata took up the issue of the Black Liberation Army that the state says he is a member of. "The Black Liberation Army," he said,

concentration camps. Yes, there is nothing left for them to do. Yes, I can understand my comrades.

Long life the revolution!

George E. Blue

Comstock, N.Y., Feb. 25:

This afternoon, Feb. 19, comrade Shaleen (Milton Jones) was dragged from the messhall and beaten by 12 rank-and-file swine under the direction of Sgt. Juckett and Sgt. Marshal. Shaleen's head was split open in two different places, front and back, then he was taken to the hospital for stitches before being placed in the box (F Block). How serious his injuries are we do not know but if his life depends upon the medical treatment available in Comstock, there is little doubt that these multiple skull fractures could end his life. This incident is but the most recent in the wave of physical brutality witnessed here in the past month and a half, a situation we are trying to

—Ecology

(Continued from page 10)

conservation a universally honored national ethic."

What hypocrisy! The New York Times Sunday edition alone weighs about 10 pounds, most of which is pure waste in the form of advertising—so that the readers of the Times (who are not workers) will buy more . . . things.

The forests depleted of trees to provide such profitable waste material may be the concern of sincere conservationists, but not of The New York Times, whose whole aim in raising the ecology question is to help disorient the concerned middle classes into supporting the capitalists' attempts to beat the workers and the oppressed down.

"has been accused of killing policemen. All we do is stop the police from killing us."

"The poor people of the nation are being victimized by the system," he continued.

"There is no justice. I will give my life for the poor people."

Henry Brown

NEW YORK, March 19—Jury deliberations began today in the trial of HENRY BROWN, accused of killing two cops, Rocco Laurie and Gregory Foster, on the Lower East Side of Manhattan two years ago.

The New York City Police Department has identified Brown as a member of the Black Liberation Army, hoping to get a conviction on the hysterical press coverage of the group. At the start of the trial, the Daily News featured a serial purporting to be excerpts from a captured diary of a B.L.A. member.

In the trial itself, the prosecution could not even definitely place Brown in the vicinity at the time of the slayings. Brown wasn't even among the half-dozen people that the cops originally announced were wanted in the case.

But when Brown was captured in St. Louis along with another man, while a third man was killed, the cops said he had the guns taken from one of the dead New York cops. That is supposed to be proof.

Defense in the case has been hampered by the fact that the state is trying several other cases involving alleged B.L.A. members at the same time. Because the evidence is thinly fabricated, the state has resorted to the most direct railroad methods.

FREE HENRY BROWN!

STOP THE B.L.A. FRAME-UPS!

Crusade for Justice

By JOE ZORBA

NEW YORK, March 17—New York, Chicago, Denver, and Los Angeles were the sites of rallies and demonstrations this day called in a National Day of Solidarity with

present to our people on the street so that they might help us in any way possible.

On two occasions previous to the assault on comrade Shaleen, the goon squad, accompanied by a doctor before the fact, has been sent to the box where men were severely beaten. These men, including Shaleen, are all political activists who have tried to better the miserable conditions all prisoners face in Comstock. They and many others have met with isolation and brutality for this work, yet the work goes on to make this prison factory a place where we can at least survive in. We need your help to insure incidents such as these cease immediately.

Albany runs these prisons . . . The man immediately in charge of these prisons is Peter Prieser, Commissioner of Corrections. . . . When the eyes of the people are upon him, when everywhere he turns there is a constant reminder that he is subject to peoples' justice, then the power of the people inside and outside can bring real changes

—Europe

(Continued from page 7)

superpowers over Europe."

The recent brutal and unrestrained assaults against the European countries, first by Kissinger and then by Nixon himself in a desperate effort to club them into line with Washington's predatory oil policies, clearly demonstrates the measure of the problem and the inability of the European bourgeoisie to deal with it even when U.S. power and influence are so sharply on the decline.

USSR & STATUS QUO

While Soviet diplomatic, political, and military influence on the European arena

the Crusade for Justice and the Chicano community in Denver, Colorado.

The Crusade and the Chicano community have been the focal point of continuous police attacks in the past, often times resulting in arrests, beatings, and death by the local arm of the ruling class.

One year ago today, Luis "Junior" Martinez, a choreographer for the Crusade, was dragged away from a party by the police and murdered in cold blood. The police then arrested thirty-six others charging the victims with being the aggressors, in one of many calculated police set-ups aimed at crushing the growing unity and militancy of this oppressed nationality.

In New York, at a service and rally held at St. Mark's Church, messages of solidarity were read by representatives from the



"The hole"—punishment for rebellious prisoners who demand improved conditions in the prisons.

behind these walls. His "business" address is as follows: Peter Prieser, Dept. of Correctional Services, SOBC, Albany, NY, 12226.

Write him . . . make him aware of the fact that "while the common enemy surrounds us with walls, the common people surround the enemy and his prisons." We salute you with our solidarity in struggle, knowing your hands reach out to ours and that you will help.

Minister of Information
Peoples Party III

Chesterfield, Va., March 8:

I would here like to express my warmest greeting to the working women of the world on this day of March 8, International Working Women's Day. In memory and celebrations of the march of thousands of women in New York's Lower East side in 1908 that demanded better working conditions and the end of sweatshop conditions

offsets the continual incursions of U.S. imperialism and curbs its ambitions, it at the same time operates as a bulwark of conservatism so far as the socialist interests of the European proletariat are concerned. Even though a workers' state, it is, to use the words of Marx and Engels, "a pillar of the existing European order."

Indeed, the essence of all the maneuvers of Soviet diplomacy, especially as they refer to the pending "European Security Conference" for the "consolidation of peace in Europe," can in practice mean nothing more than strengthening the status quo: leaving the exploiters to continue the task of robbing, pillaging, and plundering the exploited.

Now, when revolutionary storm signals herald a new round of working class struggles in Europe, is an opportune time

Puerto Rican Socialist Party, Youth Against War and Fascism, and the Houston 12 Support Committee. All three statements condemned the racist acts of violence of the Denver police and expressed militant solidarity with the Crusade and the Chicano community in its struggle against police repression.

Today, despite the collusion between the press, radio, T.V., and the police to create an atmosphere of hysteria, the Brothers and Sisters remain strong and determined to defeat any attempts to undermine their struggle.

For more information contact the Crusade for Justice, 1567 Downing Street, Denver, Colorado, (303) 222-0825 or El Centro Chicano in New York City at St. Mark's Church, Second Ave. and 10th Street.

for North American revolutionaries to extend the hand of class solidarity to the European working class. This can be done most effectively by renewing the slogan to withdraw all U.S. troops from European soil; by demanding that the U.S. government withdraw all financial and military support to the Portuguese dictatorship; and, in particular, to invigorate support efforts for all the liberation forces that are struggling against Portuguese colonial domination in Angola and Mozambique, while calling for firm support for the independent state of Guinea-Bissau and the Cape Verde Islands.

The struggle of the European workers for a revolutionary reconstitution of the social foundations of Europe needs the firm support of all the progressive people in this country.

Larry Murdock

Police take over Argentine city

Peron behind rightwing coup in Cordoba

By P. MEISNER

After deceiving millions of his supporters at the polls last September, Juan Perón is now systematically setting up a rightwing capitalist dictatorship in Argentina with the most brutal kind of neofascist terror. The most recent events, which include the rightwing police coup in the city of Córdoba, confirm this newspaper's earlier analysis which stated that Perón was allowed back into Argentina from exile only by agreement with the Argentine bourgeoisie and military to revitalize and reinforce capitalist rule in this crisis-ridden nation.

On Feb. 27, Perón launched the most serious attack against elementary bourgeois democratic rights and the right of workers to be independently organized. That night, Perón and his rightwing henchmen organized a police takeover of the most militant trade union city in Argentina, Córdoba, ousting and imprisoning the legally elected provincial governor and 80 other left Peronist officials.

Under the leadership of ex-chief of police Col. Antonio Domingo Navarro, policemen seized the Córdoba radio stations and began broadcasting:

"Citizens of Córdoba, General Perón

himself has decided to direct our city's destiny. Give him your wholehearted support and do not listen to a seditious Marxist coterie that wants to lead us to violence."

Meanwhile, it was Perón's goons who were terrorizing the people of Córdoba. At least 15 people were killed by rightwing thugs and police, as Perón's coup met some fierce resistance in the streets of this industrial city.

On March 1, a bomb destroyed the Córdoba home of a judge who is handling the case of 19 policemen accused of summarily executing five farmers in January of this year after mistaking them for leftwing guerrillas. Policemen also attempted to bomb and destroy the printing presses of the city's largest newspaper, *La Voz del Interior*, for having detailed the charges against the 19 accused policemen.

(Perón just officially closed down the leftwing newspaper *El Mundo* in Buenos Aires, after having its offices bombed several times in the last few months.)

The ouster of Córdoba governor Obregon Cano follows Perón's previous overthrow of the governor of the province of Buenos Aires in January. Perón has also

stepped up a nationwide purge of the Peronist movement's leftwing. Besides the bombings and closings of leftist newspapers, Perón has been given the power to appoint the rectors of Argentina's universities.

In addition, a bill just passed by the Peronist-dominated legislature forbids political activity on campuses, mainly as an attack on the leftwing student majority in the universities. The bill is seen as a signal for a wide purge of leftwing university administrators, professors, and student leaders.

The only organized revolutionary opposition to Perón's dictatorial rule has come from the Revolutionary Army of the People (ERP) and the Revolutionary Workers Party (PRT). The ERP just concluded the successful kidnapping of Exxon executive Victor Samuelson, obtaining more than \$14 million for his release. Much of this money has been earmarked for food and medicine for Argentina's poor. Perón's repression has failed to crush the ERP, and it remains the main thorn in the side of the government's capitalist and military backers.

To some in the U.S. left, it might appear that the new Perón regime represents a

form of Bonapartist dictatorship, aloof from both the capitalist class and working class of Argentina. Nothing could be more mistaken than this view.

Actually, for 18 years, the previous military dictatorship was never able to come close to crushing the militant, left Peronist trade unions (especially those in Córdoba). And this is because the first Perón regime had granted large concessions to the workers. But this time the situation is very different.

The Argentine capitalist class and military, as well as their backers in Washington and Wall Street, brought Perón back to Argentina last year (after exile in Spain) with the understanding that he would do their bidding, and on their terms. Thus, still with a mass following and a loyal ultra-conservative labor bureaucracy, Perón came back to Argentina to carry out a complete "pacification" of the proletariat on behalf of the Argentine bourgeoisie.

But Perón's repression has failed to silence the great majority of Argentina's workers, whether they be from Córdoba, Buenos Aires, or Rosario. The might of the Argentinian proletariat has yet to be felt by Perón and his ruling class backers.

Two PSP leaders wounded in Puerto Rico, but...

Fascist bombing attack on 'Claridad' foiled

SAN JUAN, P.R., March 20—A pro-colonial band of fascist thugs were foiled last Saturday night in their attempt to destroy the printing shop and editorial offices of *Claridad*, the biweekly newspaper of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP). But the fascist aggressors also opened fire and wounded two members of the PSP's Central Committee at the print shop and three innocent bystanders at the editorial offices. However, members and sympathizers of the PSP defending the print shop returned the fire and wounded one of the fascist ringleaders, who was later to be found in a nearby hospital. He is a known member of the colonial chapter of the Young Americans for Freedom (YAF), an organization with CIA ties here in Puerto Rico. This fascist organizer, Jose Felipe "Aipe" Diaz, is also a Vietnam veteran known by his neighbors to have boasted with his own photos of his sadistic practices in Vietnam, such as chopping off heads of alleged members of the National Liberation Front.

The first attempt took place at the print shop in Carolina, an adjoining town to San Juan, when the fascist band tried to set off explosives at the door of the building but failed as they were discovered by PSP members. They quickly fled by car and drove to *Claridad*'s editorial offices in Rio Piedras, San Juan's largest borough. Mistaking some neighbors for *Claridad* or PSP workers, the fascist goons opened fire and wounded three of the bystanders.

The band of at least four or five thugs fled again by car and returned to the print shop in Carolina with more explosives and weapons. They again failed to detonate their explosives as a larger contingent from the PSP and supporters were on hand. It was



Two fascist goons who took part in attack on the office of *Claridad*, newspaper of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party. Also shown are some of the shells fired by the fascist attackers.

then that the fascist goons again opened fire and wounded Manuel de J. Gonzalez, member of the PSP's Political Commission, in the shoulder, and Domingo Vega, Administrator of *Claridad*, in the groin. (As of

and wounded Diaz, mentioned above, and perhaps wounded one or two of the other thugs, but all escaped except for Diaz who needed hospitalization.

In statements issued to the press, PSP Secretary General Juan Mari Bras accused San Juan police and colonial Governor Rafael Hernandez Colon of complicity in the attacks, claiming that numerous patrol cars were stationed next to the print shop but refused to intervene and apprehend the fascist thugs. Mari Bras also accused the fascist band of having ties with a congressman of the New Progressive Party (PNP), the ultra-reactionary pro-statehood party of ex-Governor Luis A. Ferre.

In a telegram sent to Governor Rafael Hernandez Colon last Sunday morning, Mari Bras stated:

"You have no scruples in sending the National Guard or Tactical Police against workers and students who are merely defending their rights. And in these very same days, you had the gall to push through the most reactionary and repressive piece of legislation—which renounces all elementary civil liberties—making you an accomplice of these barbaric acts aimed at the party of the workers in Puerto Rico and the newspaper of independence and socialism."

"I want to warn you that socialist militants will utilize the right of self-defense, individual and collective, to repel all aggression of terrorist bands who, acting with impunity under the protection of your government, unleash their criminal violence against us. I am not asking that you investigate these events; I am accusing you of being an accomplice—by action or inaction—of these crimes."



Workers World
salutes the
Joint Declaration:
a turning point
in the struggle

Just like 43 years ago

Striking Ky. miners battle gun thugs

By TOM GARDNER

NORFOLK, Va., March 19—Since June 26, 1973, workers at the Brookside Mine of the Eastover Mining Company (owned by Duke Power Company) have been on strike. They are seeking to improve health and safety conditions, gain pay from the time of entry to the mine, and win other benefits and protections of a contract through their union, the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA). The Eastover-Duke Company refuses to negotiate a UMWA contract and offers instead a no-gain settlement like the ones they used to sign behind closed doors with the company union which previously sold out the Eastover miners, the Southern Labor Union.

This is, of course, not the first time miners in Harlan County, Kentucky, where the Eastover mines are located, have tried to gain a union contract. Back in 1931, the National Miners Union (NMU) organized Harlan County miners and called a strike. The coal companies responded then with forced evictions from company-owned houses and with gun thugs, deputies, and National Guardsmen.

BLOODY HARLAN

The violence unleashed by the companies earned the county the nickname "Bloody Harlan." In one shootout between striking miners and gun thugs, later called the battle of Everts, five people were killed, including a deputy sheriff. Immediately after that battle, a panel of nationally prominent writers, lawyers, and others conducted an investigation which exposed the plight of the miners and the violence of the companies. (The findings were published in a book still available entitled *Harlan Miners Speak*.)

Now, as then, the striking miners are taking on more than a local mining company. Eastover Mining Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Duke Power Company, the sixth largest utility in the country and part of the powerful Duke family empire. In the 1930s, the struck mines were owned by the powerful Morgan

Coal Miner Jack Smith Has No Future



During the past 15 years, on the average of one coal miner has been killed in the nation's mines on every working day. Coal miner Jack Smith lost his legs in a mine roof fall.

Brookside Miners Are Fighting Duke Power For Theirs

Support the UMWA
Brookside Miners

and Rockefeller interests, which still control much of the mining in the area and the country.

But the strikers face even more than the Duke dynasty. It has been only through decades of combined company-government violence that many of the coal companies operating in Kentucky have been able to keep their miners from bringing in a decent

union contract, and it is clear that the other companies operating in the area are all using their combined power and bought politicians to try to break the strike and keep the UMWA out of the Kentucky mining region.

Now, as in the 1930s, the companies have the full backing of the police and local, state, and federal governments. Early in the strike an injunction was declared by Judge Byrd Hogg (a small mine-owner himself) limiting the picket line to three strikers.

WOMEN TURN BACK SCABS

But whenever an attempt was made to haul in scabs, they were turned back by several hundred pickets, including strikers and their families, workers from other mines, retired and disabled miners, and community supporters. The consistent and militant backbone of the picket line since the injunction has been the Brookside Women's Club, formed by the wives of strikers and other miners, and armed on the line with antiscab switches and sticks. The picket line was so strong, despite numerous arrests and company violence, that another judge was forced to lift the injunction, declaring it "unenforceable." The injunction, however, has been reinstated by an appeals court.

In addition to the injunction, the company has hoped to break the spirit of the strikers by the use of direct violence and harassment. Shots have been fired at strikers' homes and cars, tires slashed, and strikers and their families threatened repeatedly. The Eastover Company president admitted to hiring gun thugs or "armed guards," as he calls them, and as the coal operators called them 43 years ago. The Eastover-Duke Company even went so far as to cut off the water for three days to the company-owned houses where most of the miners live.

As one retired miner put it, "These coal operators have always operated this way, with gun thugs and violence, while their friends in the White House, like that

criminal Nixon, cry about law and order." But the violence and callousness of the company have only served to strengthen the fighting spirit of the miners and to broaden their support in the community. When the company tried to use the reissued injunction to start hauling scabs into the mine on March 7, they were met by more than 200 picketers, many of them stick-wielding women.

After the first militant "welcome" to the scabs by the picketing women, the police moved in to protect and encourage the trembling strikebreakers. When the captain of the State Police attacked and clubbed Lois Scott, a leader in the women's support group, other picketers came forcefully to her aid. The struggle nearly escalated into another Bloody Harlan day when the cops nervously brandished their weapons. The police captain was rescued from his just fate, however, not by his nervous cronies, but by strikers who judged that then was not the time to administer workers' justice to the police captain.

Although a warrant was taken out for the police captain, who had also bumped a picketer with his car, it was not enforced and no indictment was returned by the grand jury against any police or scabs. Instead, 12 of the leading strike activists were singled out and given summonses for violating the injunction.

CONTEMPT TRIAL IN APRIL

The 12 picketers, eight men and four women, will be tried for contempt and other charges on April 1 in Everts, Kentucky. April 1 also happens to be a miners' holiday and it is expected that the courthouse will be flooded with supporting miners and people from all over Appalachia.

National support has also continued to build for the strike and those charged. A two-day hearing to expose conditions in Harlan County was conducted on March 11 and 12 by a panel of writers, academics, and organizational representatives paralleling the panel headed by Theodore Dreiser in 1931.

At the hearing, in addition to striking miners and their families and community supporters, there was also a group from North Carolina representing the consumers of Duke Power Utility Company. This group of North Carolina workers supported the

(Continued on page 14)

People tell Illinois governor: 'We know about hunger—you don't!'

By SHARON SHELTON

CHICAGO—Governor Dan Walker of Illinois is a clever politician. Last spring during his election campaign, for instance, he hiked over 1,000 miles throughout Illinois to create a "personable image." He can even be critical of the police, as is shown in his well-known book (*Rights in Conflict*) about the mass demonstrations in Chicago in 1968. And even though he's a millionaire and bank director, he goes out of his way to assure voters he knows what it must be like to be poor.

Yet, on Feb. 28, one of Dan Walker's favorite schemes backfired. The setting was Chicago's South Side where the governor tried to stage what he calls an "accountability session," a device designed to make it look as though he is responsible to the public. It was the 22nd time Walker had faced the public in this way, but the first time he had dared venture into a Black community with his charade. This time he was met with boos and hisses.

SHOUTS OF 'LIAR'

South Side residents confronted Walker on a number of issues such as his shady dealings concerning mass transit and the oppressive, flat-grant welfare system he rammed through the Illinois Legislature. Walker's record is studded with such hard-line stances as opposing legalized abortion, restoration of the death penalty, and refusal to negotiate with inmates during the Menard Penitentiary and Stateville Prison rebellions. The crowd let him know they saw

through his play of representing the poor and oppressed, and drowned out his attempts to "explain" some of his controversial actions with jeers and shouts of "liar, liar."

Walker's face reddened as Betty Hines, chairwoman of a community organization in Chicago, demanded to know: "Do you know what it's like to be hungry?" (Walker's previous earnings as Vice President and General Council of Montgomery Ward were \$120,000 annually. He is now paid \$48,000 a year as governor.)

The governor also tried to dodge questions concerning his Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), a plan that has been cooked up more to line the pockets of wealthy bondholders than to benefit users of mass transit. When he tried to defend the RTA by pointing out that a white racist had opposed it as a plan that benefits Blacks, he was shouted down by the crowd, which was all too aware of whose interests the plan really serves.

OPPOSITION TO NEW WELFARE SYSTEM

Most of the discussion, however, centered on the highly unpopular flat-grant welfare system that Walker personally ushered through the Illinois Legislature right after his election. Under this new system no special provisions for clothing, furniture, medicine, or other emergency needs are allowed. Welfare recipients are given a flat sum of money, which is supposed to cover all expenses that come up. This sum, of



The people of Chicago call Gov. Walker to account at "accountability session."

course, is inadequate even to live on, let alone cover special expenses.

"My children have to sleep on box springs because we get \$288 a month now," protested Mrs. Evelyn Cifax, a member of the Altgeld Gardens Welfare Rights Association, "and we used to get \$325 and special allowances for furniture needs. We need that furniture."

Despite Walker's insistence that this cut in welfare funds really benefited those on welfare, another member of the crowd, Mrs. Willie B. Sims, said, "With the flat grant, they cut \$6 a month off our food stamps just because one of my daughters became 13. Before, we got raises as they got older."

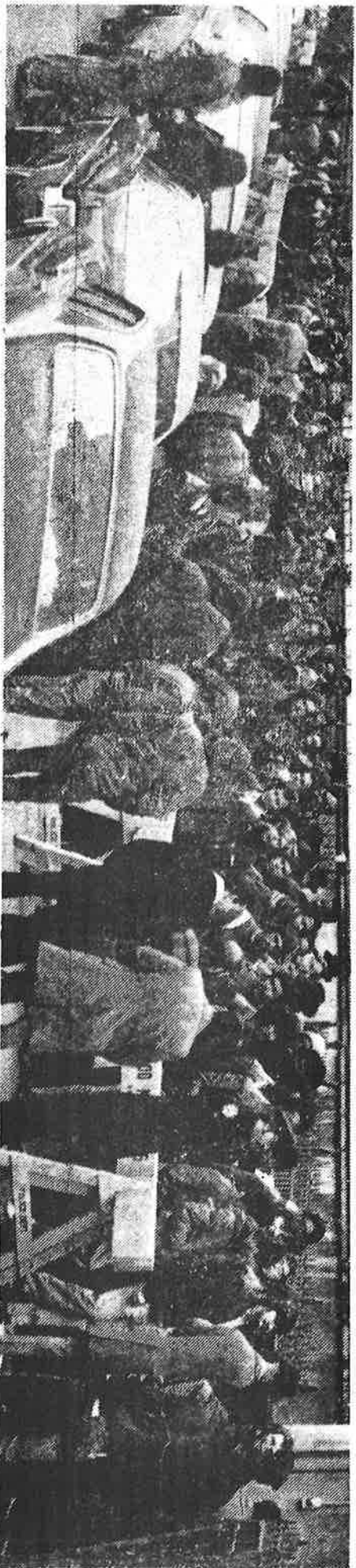
SESSION A 'FARCE'

When he tried to continue his feeble justification of his welfare plan by pointing out that Illinois recipients received more money than those in some other states, a woman shouted out angrily that that wasn't the point. "The ones getting hurt worst (by the flat-grant system) are the ones who need more and the most," she charged.

There was not one single issue that Walker was able to defend himself on adequately. Harriette McDonald, a secretary, summed up the feeling of most of the audience concerning the meeting, "These accountability sessions are a farce," she said. "This is the second one I've been to. People want direct answers to vital questions."

So after 22 "accountability sessions," Dan Walker was exposed.

Dan Walker is a liberal. And like most liberal politicians, he frowns on the use of naked force to maintain order. Celebrated as a champion fighter against the Daley machine, he has no taste for the heavyhandedness that has characterized Illinois politics. Yet, South Side residents know that while his own methods may be much more subtle, his purpose is the same as any other politician. They know that beneath his "man of the people" veneer, Dan Walker is dedicated through and through to protect the interests of business and to keep the lid on in the oppressed communities.



Thousands hopefully took a test for jobs that don't even exist.

100,000 take exams for non-existent jobs

By JOSEPH WEXLER

NEW YORK, March 16—On March 2, over 100,000 people took examinations for nonexistent jobs with the New York City Sanitation Department. The thousands of working class youths, Black, Latin, and white, were roped into this fraud by an intensive city-wide campaign centered in the Black and Latin communities, a campaign designed on the one hand to lead the Black and Latin communities to believe that long-belated steps were being taken to make these jobs that pay up to \$13,741 a year available to them, and on the other hand to antagonize unemployed white workers by creating the impression that they were being pushed out of these jobs by Blacks and Puerto Ricans.

Last year the City of New York was ordered to recruit "minority" applicants for Civil Service jobs as a result of a federal suit brought by the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Committee.

The City's Personnel Department opened up a test for the Sanitation Department and began a big recruitment drive mainly in the Black and Puerto Rican communities. By the middle of February

163,039 persons had applied to take the test. The test was given on March 2.

NO JOBS NOW—FEW LATER

Right now there are no job openings at all in the Sanitation Department, which has a total of 10,600 on its payroll. Environmental Protection Administrator Robert A. Low now claims that the recruitment drive was no hoax at all and that over the next three years 6,000 sanitationmen will leave the department (over half of the workforce)! Most sanitationmen stay on the job until retirement because of the job security and pension benefits they have won over the years through their union, and it is hard to see how more than half of them will leave in the next three years.

WHY THE HOAX?

Why would the city government go through with such a gigantic hoax?

For one thing, contract negotiations will take place this year for sanitationmen, firemen, and transit workers, and the city will as usual try to limit any wage increases and will attack the fringe benefits these workers already have. Traditionally they, along with the press, publicize the wages

and benefits these workers already get for their very important and dangerous work because they are higher than the benefits available to most New York workers, who are unorganized. Now they have waved the promise of these relatively good jobs in front of the faces of hundreds of thousands of unemployed and low-paid workers only to deny the jobs to them. They hope that, instead of struggling for these same gains themselves, other workers will oppose the city workers when they demand higher pay to keep up with inflation.

INCITE WHITE RACISM

Wide publicity was given to the fact that recruitment for the test was being done in the oppressed communities, and many

whites were under the impression that the jobs were not for them. Of course they weren't—because there were no jobs at all! The Sanitation Department is predominantly white and it would be correct for Black and Latin workers to demand preference in any hiring that takes place. Unemployment in the oppressed communities is twice the rate as among white workers, and progressives support any demand that would reduce and eliminate the unfair burden of unemployment suffered by Black and Latin workers.

What all workers need most is full employment with decent pay and benefits—not a hoax that sets unorganized against organized and white workers against Black and Latin workers.

Police smear real workers, campaign against raises

By MARK DORAN

"Police-sanitation parity? GARBAGE!" Such reads the billboard overlooking Manhattan's Union Square. That and eight others are part of a campaign by the New York Patrolmen's Benevolent Association to keep New York cops the highest paid uniformed city employees in the city.

This is no squabble between unions. This is a deliberate anti-union campaign by the guardians of private property, the cops. The very use of the word "garbage" in reference to the sanitationmen shows a contempt of a master toward slaves, of a boss toward workers.

The cops claim that theirs is a hazardous job that deserves high pay. But in fact it is the sanitationmen who have higher accident and death rates than the cops, being victimized by cuts and rat bites and run over by cars and oncoming trucks.

The demand by sanitationmen for equal pay with police is a legitimate demand by workers performing an essential service. And winning it is necessary to keep up with

inflation, especially rising food prices. It is a different matter with police, who are not workers but a strikebreaking army engaged in keeping down the oppressed Black and Latin communities, as well as selling dope, taking bribes, and extortion. The police want to be the highest paid employees in New York, not just for economic reasons but because they want to maintain the status of being elite troops of law and order. (For most of them, their legal salary is just the beginning, anyway.) Their very contempt for the sanitationmen, who perform dirty, unrewarding work for the city, bears this out.

The cops want to prevent parity in pay because they already enjoy a special relationship with the capitalist class, which sets them apart from workers both in terms of pay and the function they play as an organ of the state.

It is not just because the police are viciously anti-labor that they opposed parity. It is also because their special relationship may be jeopardized if real workers are paid the same.

Police attack made on Third World YAWF rally

NEW YORK, March 10—Just as members of the Third World Caucus of Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF) began a street meeting about the energy crisis this afternoon, a barrage of police with at least four or five patrol cars rushed in to put a stop to it all, arresting eight of the participants. The meeting was to have been held at the hub of a busy, multinational street market at Orchard and Delancey Streets in the city's Lower East Side, where many residents of the largely Black and Puerto Rican community, who must work the rest of the week, are able to do their shopping on Sunday.

The meeting was the second of a series on the energy crisis. In February, a large crowd in the downtown Flatbush Avenue shopping area of Brooklyn had responded enthusiastically when members of the Third World Caucus talked about the way the huge oil monopolies and other profit-hungry corporations are taking the energy crisis out on the poor, oppressed, and working people. They had spoken about the colossal amounts of oil wasted (for the sake of the banks and huge companies) in the plunder of the people in Vietnam and the Middle East.

And now, the speakers pointed out, these U.S. monopolies are trying to wrest from the people here—in the form of higher utility rates, higher rents, higher prices for everything, and job layoffs at the same time—what they can't steal so easily from

abroad anymore. People don't matter, as long as these corporations get their profits. Well, the YAWF members proclaimed, that might be how the profit-hungry monopolies feel, but the people don't agree. So the people will have to take the companies over and run them for themselves.

It was this same message that the caucus members were bringing to their sisters and brothers on the Lower East Side today, and the message didn't seem to suit the cops' taste. One of the speakers reported that, when they first arrived, a cop on the scene telephoned for help from his fellow porkers with a line that could have been drawn from a movie script. "The socialists are here!" he relayed.

Jaime Veve had just begun to talk and a sympathetic crowd was gathering. When the police began to harass him, Veve asked the crowd if they wanted him to continue, and the people yelled that they did. But according to one young woman, the place was swarming with cops, who feared the just sentiments of the crowd. They pulled Veve down off the ladder he was on and took him and the seven others to the precinct. The Delancey Eight were given the ridiculous charges of failure to display the flag, obstructing the sidewalk, and disorderly conduct.

The Third World Caucus of YAWF will continue its campaign to speak to the people on what's behind the energy crisis.



Members of Third World Caucus of YAWF talk to Delancey Street shoppers about the energy crisis, as cops prepare for arrest. W W photo: Sharon C

Ethiopians tell how uprising broke out

Information for the following article was supplied to Workers World by an Ethiopian student in the U.S.

By JULIO A. GHIGLIOTTI

Despite many efforts to placate the rebellious workers, soldiers, and students who have rocked his U.S.-backed regime, Ethiopia's Emperor Haile Selassie finds himself face-to-face with demands for sweeping social reforms from a population decimated by a severe drought and burdened by inflation rates ranging from 70 to 100 percent.

U.S. interests in Ethiopia—and especially in Eritrea—center on the strategically placed Kagnev base in Asmara. Built at a height of 7,500 feet, and at a cost of \$60 million, this base provides the U.S. with crucial electronic intelligence on the Mideast, the USSR, Southeast Asia, and Africa. Five thousand American troops are stationed at Kagnev with underground weapons systems and missile installations.

Also, an Israeli military school in Decamare, Eritrea, teaches the Ethiopian military counter guerrilla warfare—used to suppress the intensifying fight for liberation by the Eritrean liberation forces.

Through U.S. control of the area, Israel has also obtained the use of two islands—Halib and Fatimah—close to the narrow channel connecting the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden. Maintaining control of this area is crucial for U.S.-Israeli aggression in the Mideast.

SOLDIERS MUTINIED

Ethiopian sources told this reporter that signs of what was to come appeared early in February when rank-and-file troops in Ogadea, on the Somalia-Ethiopia border, rebelled and demanded higher wages. Their demand was met after they took Gen. Derese Dubale as a hostage. The government claimed recent border clashes with Somalia as the reason for meeting the demands of the soldiers, but the demands cannot be separated from the problems faced by the general population—a drought which has already claimed 250,000 lives and the rising cost of living. For these same reasons, teachers and taxicab drivers, with the support of university and high school

students, went on strike Feb. 18.

On Feb. 26, soldiers who were stationed in Asmara, Eritrea, to suppress the actions of the workers imprisoned their commanding officers and took control of the city and outlying areas. They issued demands calling for higher wages and social reforms. The soldiers also proclaimed that their action was in support of the striking workers and students. Soldiers at the Eritrean seaport of Masawa stopped all their work and forced their commander, Iskender Desta, grandson of the Emperor, to flee to Djibouti in the Afars and Issas territories (French Somaliland). Air force troops in Debre Zeit showed their support by distributing leaflets by helicopter.

Haile Selassie could not buy off the soldiers with a token raise in pay. This was brought home to him when soldiers marched four cabinet ministers to him and demanded that the cabinet be ousted and put on trial. The 81-year-old Emperor ousted the cabinet



Haile Selassie's regime is based on subjugation. An Ethiopian official had to kiss his feet to show his loyalty.

—Inflation

(Continued from page 5)

any illusions, that prices won't go back down. What ever happened to supply and demand?

The supply of all major products is now controlled by big business. They create shortages to artificially force prices higher. Most dramatically, the deliberate withholding of beef supplies last summer could never be passed off with the tired old stories about "bad weather": agribusiness was demanding ransom.

Prices used to go up and down along with the business cycle of boom and bust. When the bust came, working people didn't have enough money to buy everything at a profit to the capitalists.

These days, the government tries to manipulate the economy to prevent another depression, but not by putting more money into our paychecks. Our paychecks are eaten away by increased taxes before we even get to the inflated prices at the cash registers.

DEFICIT SPENDING AND

PERMANENT MILITARIZATION

Every year, the government financial deficit adds to the national debt, amounting to several thousand dollars for every man, woman, and child, that is owed to the big Wall Street banks.

This deficit spending goes for enormous handouts to big business in high-profit government contracts, especially for

military production. The permanent militarization of the U.S. economy is so great that conservative estimates connect 20 percent of the gross national product to military spending.

Besides being an enormous waste of labor and resources for criminal purposes, military operations are especially inflationary.

Because almost none of the military production ever reaches the marketplace, as far as the balance between money supply and things-for-sale goes, all the military output might as well be dumped in the ocean.

With military bases, CIA operatives, and counter-insurgency programs operating along supply lines to the remote corners of the "free world," billions of dollars must be spent abroad to preserve and protect the system of exploitation and profit.

The cost of the imperialist war machine completely outweighs any surplus in the balance of trade between the U.S. and other countries, so that all throughout the 1950s, the balance of payments deficit grew. It was the enormous cost of the Vietnam war that brought the breaking point and forced the U.S. to devalue the dollar.

That devaluation is being brought back home through higher-priced imports, falling hardest on poor working people who depend on inexpensive imports such as shoes and clothes. Now with "floating" international currency exchange rates, the U.S. cannot so easily export inflation by sending overvalued dollars abroad.

Every boss is always trying to increase

and installed a new one under Endelkachew Makonnen.

"NIXON'S JANITOR"

Makonnen had been the Minister of Communications in the old cabinet and ambassador to the UN some years back. While in the UN, according to these same Ethiopian sources, he developed friendly ties with George Bush, then U.S. ambassador to the UN. His pro-U.S. views are well known and the Ethiopian students raised the slogan "Makonnen is Nixon's janitor," expressing their belief that he is nothing but a lackey of the U.S. This claim is further strengthened by the fact that the foreign minister under Makonnen is the same as under the old cabinet.

Selassie found that this did not fool the workers, soldiers, and students who saw through his camouflage action. In an effort to derail plans for a general strike announced by the Confederation of Ethiopian Labor Unions, the Emperor announced that plans for a constitutional convention were being drawn up.

However, his plans did not include letting the people choose their own government. He had given Endelkachew Makonnen 6 months in which to draft a new constitution.

GENERAL STRIKE!

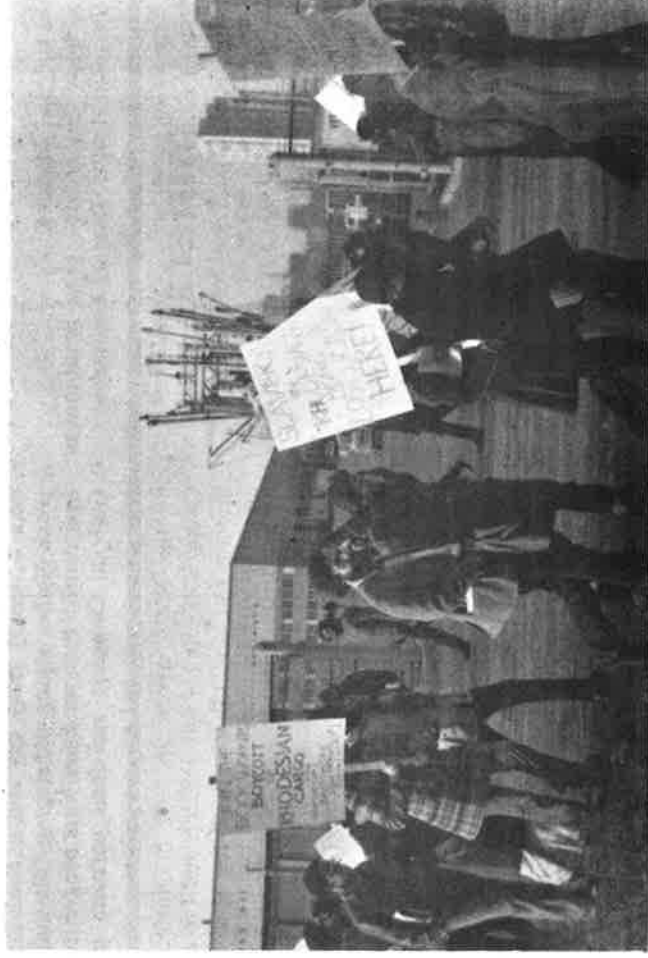
The general strike began, as planned, on March 7. The Confederation, with a membership close to 100,000, called on the population to leave their jobs and presented the government with a list of 16 demands. These included higher minimum wages (from 50 cents a day to \$1.50), the right to strike, pension plans and a social security system, legalization of political parties, and other social and political reforms.

The Ethiopian Students Union supported the actions of the workers and initiated worldwide demonstrations—in the U.S., in Europe, and in the USSR. In a bold move showing support for the demands of the people in Ethiopia and Eritrea, the Ethiopian Students Union of North America took over the Ethiopian Consulate here in New York and the Embassy in Washington for 6 hours on March 15.

While the general strike was still on, 36 prisoners in Addis Ababa were killed by the police in what the government claims was an escape attempt. The Ethiopian Students Union expressed doubt that this claim is valid and are concerned for the lives of many students who are being held prisoners for their political activities. Students are still being arrested and this "escape at-

private profit can the disease of inflation be cured.

In the socialist countries, there is no inflation because production and money supply is organized and planned to prevent imbalances. Instead of a thousand millionaire thieves holding back production and raising prices, there are a thousand million workers raising production and holding back prices.



Boston protestors picket the docks in support of dockworkers' boycott of Rhodesian cargo. WW photo

tempt" story might be a way to get rid of more dissidents.

Even though the strike ended on March 10, the workers have retained their militancy and have threatened to go on strike again in support of the airline workers who are now out. These workers are not unionized and 46 were arrested on March 13 for distributing leaflets. Their demands also reflect the call for social reforms which will mean the end of Selassie's absolute rule. And on March 17, at least 3,000 women marched to the palace demanding equal pay and better working conditions.

Another development that is directly attributable to the intensifying struggle is the close cooperation between workers and students. This is unprecedented in the history of Ethiopia and portends the fall of Selassie's almost mythical rule.

Meanwhile, the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) has taken advantage of the situation. Commandos took over a major road in Eritrea and there are reports that they have now begun active urban guerrilla warfare while before they had been operating in the countryside—much of which they control. Both the Eritrean and Ethiopian peoples have in these few weeks made great advances in the fight for their liberation from the U.S.-backed regime of Haile Selassie.



Ethiopian students in New York display banner from consulate they occupied in solidarity with their sisters and brothers at home. WW photo: Ed

political prisoners

Dennis Anderson

By JIM MILLER

Milwaukee, February 27—In the past week, members of the Milwaukee Prisoners Solidarity Committee (PSC) have confronted two of the chief "law enforcement" officials in the State of Wisconsin. On Feb. 20, the campaign to force the state to dismiss the phony burglary charges against Dennis Anderson, a Black activist in the PSC and ex-inmate, was taken right to DA E. Michael McCann, whose office is continuing to hold these charges over Anderson's head.

McCann was speaking to a rightwing criminal justice audience on the subject of the "discretion of the prosecutor." PSC members attacked the racism of his talk, which ignored police brutality in the Black, Latin, and Native American communities here, and the racism of McCann's own record.

Holding a banner that read, "The people say drop the charges against Dennis Anderson," PSC members demanded that McCann speak to this question. Under fire, McCann admitted that the charges would probably be dropped, but the PSC continued to demand that the DA's office act immediately. A petition campaign has been organized around this demand.

On Feb. 28, two PSC members went right into the heart of a Republican Party meeting in a white suburb of Milwaukee to expose Attorney General Robert Warren, the GOP's leading spokesperson and the probably candidate for Governor this fall for his racist attitude toward prisoners: Mike Manson, a PSC member who has spent half his 29 years in Wisconsin prisons, got up and attacked Warren's record. He demanded to know, "Who are the prisons

for—the rich or the poor?" He brought up the fact that Warren was the DA in Green Bay, Wis., who prosecuted Mike on the false charges of assaulting a prison guard, for which he served 10 years. While in prison, Mike initiated several Federal lawsuits concerning the brutality and the illegality of his original confinement.

The PSC here has shown its determination to defend the right of ex-inmates to speak out against the prison system as well as its resolve to continue to demand freedom for Dennis Anderson. And it has demonstrated that it will continue to expose what goes on inside the prisons, from the county jails to the maximum-security institutions.

George Carney

By KATHY JONES, Chicago Prisoners Solidarity Committee

MARCH 6—Another murder has been committed against a brother in an Illinois concentration camp, and the responsibility falls squarely on the sagging shoulders of the prison authorities.

On Monday, Feb. 25, 1974, GEORGE CARNEY was burned to death in his isolation cell at Stateville penitentiary. George Carney was the same man who was outspoken in condemning the farce of "rehabilitation" through prisons, at the press conference won by the rebelling brothers in Stateville last September.

Brother Carney, a resident of a small Illinois community, had done 14 years at Stateville. He said that the only feeling the prisons gave him was that of a caged animal which, upon release, would return to the community with thoughts of revenge. Although he was a 38-year-old white man, Brother Carney also recognized and spoke to the difference in treatment of white and Black prisoners and pointed out that so



Atlanta, Ga., March 7:

Open letter to the Symbionese Liberation Army; Greeting Comrades:

—Ky. miners

(Continued from page 3)

Eastover-Duke strikers. They said that the Duke Power Company had hiked their utility rates 40 percent since 1970 and that "Duke apparently treats the miners in its coal companies with the same meanness and contempt it has for its consumers." Duke Power Company recruiters have also faced strong picketing and opposition from students and workers at many college campuses throughout Appalachia and nationally.

After 8 months on strike, facing arrests company violence, and hardship, the strikers' morale is extremely high. The Brookside miners, many of them very young men, and their families seem to echo the words written by Florence Reese in her song, "Which Side Are You On?" inspired

many of the prisoners are very young Black men taken from the street and locked behind bars for years of their lives.

For this kind of talk, this refusal to comply with the lies and brutality of Stateville, Brother Carney and the other brothers who were so outspoken were placed in isolation. The others remain there to date.

On the day of his murder, George was to have a visitor. He was told that this right was being denied him and was given no explanation. George protested and demanded to see the lieutenant. The hack also refused him this right. The next hours meant death for Brother Carney, and the reports of that death are two—one from the guards and one from the other prisoners, George's brothers.

The hacks say George told Sergeant Griffith he was going to bring attention to his case by setting his cell on fire. The guards say he then barricaded himself in the cell by placing the bed—piled high with clothes, magazines, and newspapers—against the door and then set the bed on fire. They say Brother Carney was badly burned and later died.

The brothers say George told the hack he was going to bring attention to his case by starting a fire. Sergeant Griffith answered that he didn't care if George set his cell on fire and said, "I'll even give you the matches." The brothers say the cell exploded in flames when the fire got to the cell walls, which were covered by many coats of old paint. They point out that Brother Carney couldn't have barricaded himself inside because the door opened outward.

We know that the prison system is responsible for many murders of courageous brothers and sisters who, realizing the power of the state and standing in the face of death, continue to fight back. George Carney's death, like the deaths of his

crime don't feed everyone, just a select few.

It was Malcolm X who taught us that power does come out of the barrel of a gun. Amerika history is a prime example, it should be obvious that the ruling class will never give up its power. You must take it as they did to get it. For hundreds of years Black and poor have accepted crumbs from the slavemaster table. Waiting for that "pie in the sky" they are still waiting. Believing the lies of brought misleaders. Yes, I can understand comrades.

People must realize that when a government cease to serve the people then you have a right to disobey that government. When millions of people are without work and decent housing, then that government isn't working for the masses and must fall by any means necessary.

Comrade Fahizak understated the situation when she said, "We right here in Amerikka are in a state of war." Black people have been under attack from the

state's Civil Rights Law.

When the commissioner and Edward L. Block, the examiner, left the dais, Bob Russo and Pam Kirkland of CULA along with Laurie Fierstein of WUA called for the formation of a People's Commission to continue the hearings. A CULA banner demanding a working people's Public Service Commission was taped to the wall behind the dais. Representatives of all the groups present (with the exception of the Socialist Workers Party, which did not participate in any way in the action) joined the people's commission. Janet Stebins finished her testimony—with the recorder present—and the CULA read its statement.

Bob Russo stated, "The PSC has shown itself to be a willing rubber stamp for Con Ed's rapacious desires. . . . It has acted as the stooge and mouthpiece for these bandits. . . . The Center for United Labor Action has

prison sisters and brothers, will not be forgotten.

When the day comes that the oppressed and poor are freed from the concentration camps and the hacks and administrators are behind bars facing peoples justice, we'll remember Brother Carney and see how Sergeant Griffith likes the taste of a fiery death.

Tear Down The Walls!

Attica Brothers

The State of New York has appropriated \$6,500,000 for the prosecution of the ATTICA BROTHERS.

The Attica Brothers Legal Defense has been granted not one cent, but they have gotten systematic obstruction from court and prison officials in their efforts to assist the 61 Brothers charged with more than 1300 felonies for their participation in the Attica rebellion of September, 1971.

Almost \$4,000,000 has already been spent by the state in the frame-up of these heroic prisoners who revolted against inhuman treatment, but not a single cop or prison official has been charged with the 41 deaths during the assault on D yard by state troopers.

The Attica Brothers are being held in solitary confinement in order to physically prevent them from consulting and planning their defense, in addition to trying to break their spirit of resistance.

The cost of preparing legal defense will be enormous because the "crime" took place over 6 days with 4000 people on the scene. There are hundreds of items of physical evidence, including the prison itself, from which the Defense has been barred for 30 months. All the witnesses and evidence must be investigated.

The Attica Brothers Legal Defense has prepared a budget based on expenses so far,

capitalist pigs for four hundred years plus. Check the bloody history (lynchings, police murder, human guinea pigs, exploitation, mental genocide). You name it, Amerika troops have did it to the Blacks. The poor whites have been under attack too. He just doesn't realize it. The ruling class give him the "white skin privilege treatment" and this lead him to believe that he belong. He remains so protected until he realize that he is just another slave in disguise, hiding behind false racism to ease his daily burden. Once he realize what he is, then he too feel the weight of repression as the enemy will let nothing or nobody threaten his power structure. Yes, I can understand comrades.

Do not worry about the prisoners. The enemy has did everything humanly possible to us. We have been subjected to slavery in its rarest form—vicious assault, starvation, mind genocide—to the savagery butchery of humans by the likes of Rockefeller's, Reagan's, and the puppet who control their

been attending Con Ed rate hike hearings for 3 years. Never in our experience has the PSC acted in the interests of the poor and working people."

After an hour of people's control of the hearing, Commissioner Marr returned and demanded that the people on the dais return to their seats so that the hearing could "resume." Eventually the state's PSC regained control of the hearing, but not before the people made it clear that they disapproved of the PSC's record of collusion with Con Ed and other corporations who come to them for hikes. The Commissioner was forced to issue a "reserve judgment" comment on holding hearings at night in a large capacity hall.

Two signs of a people's victory remained—the CULA banner over the head of the commissioner, and the cassette recorder of the radio reporter at the stand.

People take over utility hearing

By JULIO A. GHIGLIOTTI

NEW YORK. March 19—"Isn't \$214 million profit in 1973 enough, you greedy animals?" was the indignant statement hurled at Con Edison by Katherine Hoeg, testifying for Women United for Action today at the Public Service Commission's rate-hike hearings held at the World Trade Center.

The testimony of Women United for Action (WUA) was the first heard, and it set the tone for the rest of the hearing—which climaxed in the setting up of a People's Commission to replace the PSC because of its rubber-stamp nature. This angry testimony pointed out that "While New York workers have the lowest wages of the

top 20 U.S. cities, Con Edison customers pay the highest prices for electricity in the country. We pay as much as four times the amount paid in other major U.S. cities."

Katherine Hoeg also pointed out that Con Edison has got the highest percentage of increases in the country during the last year. WUA concluded with the demand that the PSC be dissolved, that no rate increases be granted, and that a commission truly representative of the people be set up.

CATCH 22:

'FUEL ADJUSTMENT'

Mrs. Charles Hack, a Flushing homeowner, testified that 23 of her neighbors and herself are refusing to pay the fuel adjustment part of their electric bills, which Con Ed attached to the regular bills because they can't make enough profits with people cutting back on electricity usage—partly due to Con Ed's "save a watt" campaign, but mainly due to the ever-increasing rates. "Fuel adjustment" is a Catch 22 clause—they charge you more because you can't afford to use more electricity!

Even during the WUA testimony, the demand for the presence of television cameras had begun and was building to a crescendo. The public, which numbered about 100 at its peak, demanded that the cameras and recorders remain so that the 9 million New Yorkers who did not know of the hearing because of no publicity, or could not attend because it was held in the morning during a workday, could see the proceedings on TV at home after work.

It was also felt that their presence was necessary to insure an accurate record of the proceedings. The transcript for the last hearing did not include the testimony by the Center for United Labor Action (CULA), Harlem Consumer Education Council, and several other groups.

SECRECY VS. CAMERAS, RECORDERS

When Janet Stebins, testifying for GET Consumers Protection, Inc., started speaking, WBAI radio reporter Nick Egleson placed his recorder's mike on the stand next to her. Commissioner Carmel Carrington Marr stopped the testimony to order that the mike be removed. However, Ms. Stebins demanded that it remain and the audience immediately picked up on the demand. The demand for the TV cameras and reporters, who had been barred from the hearing, was raised again. This time, the

(Continued on page 14)

Read this, and you'll know why!

NEW YORK. March 19—King Con, the Consolidated Edison utility monopoly that holds 5.5 million households of the greater New York City area in its grasping paw, has demanded yet another impossible-to-pay rate increase.

In the last 6 months Con Ed's rates have gone up faster than at any other time in the company's history. Last year alone, the average Con Ed customer's bill shot up 88 percent from \$12 to \$22.

Only last December Con Ed, a multibillion dollar monopoly, was pleading poverty before the so-called Public Service Commission. The PSC (whose officials' salaries are paid directly by Con Ed, supposedly for "auditing services") then granted the Rockefeller-controlled utility an increase of \$174.7 million, boosting the average bill up 12.3 percent from \$14.97 to \$16.86.

Two months later, stunned New York families received the following message with their electric bill: "...we very much regret that the commission did not grant the full amount deemed necessary."

Con Ed wants another \$422.6 million hike—an increase of 29.2 percent! And this is on top of the 56 percent "adjustment increases" to cover fuel prices. The joker is that Con Ed directors also sit on the boards of directors of Exxon (whose 1973 after-tax profits towered at \$1,656 million), Mobil, Getty, and Hess oil companies.

While New York blue collar workers have the lowest wages of all workers in the 20 largest U.S. cities, Con Edison customers pay the highest prices for electricity in the country. The average monthly charge per 250 kilowatt hours is \$7.45 in Tennessee (TVA), \$8.29 in San Francisco (Pacific Gas & Electric), \$9.00 in Philadelphia (Philadelphia Electric), \$9.98 in Chicago (Commonwealth Edison), and a crushing \$22.08 in New York City (Consolidated Edison).

Not surprisingly, Con Ed has raked in the highest percentage of rate increases across the country in the past year. The rate increases, by percentages, granted Con Ed and other companies are as follows: Con

Edison, 85 to 100; LILCO, 50; New Jersey Public Service, 27 to 43; Philadelphia Electric, 22; TVA, 14; PG&E, 15.

As though this weren't outrageous enough, Con Ed has decided to penalize its captive customers for using less electricity!

Since 1971 Con Ed has spent \$1.4 million on its massive advertising campaign to "save a watt." But when people used less (in February Con Ed's electrical sendout was down 10.9 percent from a year earlier), Con Ed claimed a loss and hit them with a 6.7 percent rate increase blandly termed a "conservation adjustment."

Desperate New Yorkers simply cannot pay any more. After raising its rates into the stratosphere, Con Ed is now complaining about a 35 percent increase in uncollected bill payments over the last year. For the 20 percent of Con Ed's customers whose payments were 6 months late, Con Ed has doubled its field collection staff, embarked on a campaign of rapid disconnects, and is demanding \$5 to \$20 to reestablish services.

But while poor and working people get cut off for not complying quickly enough with Con Ed's demands for payments, a big firm like the Jamaica Water Service Company, with arrears amounting to a quarter of a million dollars this month, has not yet been denied electric service.

Con Ed threatens the health of other New Yorkers through lethal air pollution that its plants belch out. Last year, the chairman of the board of Con Ed got a salary greater than the amount Con Ed has spent on pollution control in the last 5 years! According to John A. McCall, Vice President of the Public Utility Department of the Irving Trust Company, "Electrical utilities have raised more capital in the first 3 years of the 1970s than they did in the whole decade of the sixties."

In 1973 Con Ed's profits were \$214 million.

According to Shearson, Hammill & Co., 100 percent of Consolidated Edison's dividends (the part of the profit paid directly to stockholders) was entirely tax free in 1973.

That's pure robbery.

Steel rank-and-file fight to recover right to strike

By a RANK-AND-FILE STEELWORKER
PITTSBURGH. March 15—The "Experimental Negotiating Agreement" (ENA), which President I.W. Abel of the steelworkers signed last year, gave away (a year before contract expiration) the union's right to strike against the ten major steel companies.

In return, the steel companies "gave" the workers a \$150 bonus each (2.5 cents an hour over the three-year contract). The ENA also guarantees a minimum 3 percent raise each year. At present inflation rates this amounts to a wage cut.

With the steel industry running full blast and months of orders backlogged that can't be filled for lack of capacity, a strike this year (or even the threat of a strike) could have won major advances for the steelworkers. Instead, Abel's so-called "better way" will send all issues not resolved by negotiation to compulsory binding arbitration.

With the strike threat gone, the companies have no reason to make any concessions to the workers.

Now a coalition of rank-and-file steelworker groups from around the country has taken Abel and the companies to federal court to try to regain the right to strike. The court case was March 4-6 in Pittsburgh, and rank-and-filers from across the country packed the courtroom.

The general counsel of the union, when asked why there was no vote by the

By TOM MITCHELL

Inflation is bad and not about to get better, as any worker knows, amounting to a 9.4 percent wage reduction for every worker over the past 12 months, according to understated official figures.

In fact, America now comes first, ahead of almost every Western industrialized nation, in this measure of how fast the bosses are taking away our real income.

But none of the learned government economists is about to describe today's inflation as a form of a general wage cut directed against the working class as a whole.

No, these mystifiers obscure the obvious behind the accusation that American workers get paid too much, that not enough people are unemployed and desperate, that inflation is caused by wage increases won in an effort to keep up with inflation.

The circular reasoning of the "wage-price spiral" theory of inflation has been thoroughly discredited by the results of the government wage-price controls.

While every boss has been authorized to limit wage increases to 5.5 percent, latest government figures show that industrial workers' productivity has gone up 9.9 percent over the past two years, so labor

cost per unit production has stayed about the same.

Nevertheless, inflation has been rapid. No wonder 1973 was a year of record profits!

MONEY SUPPLY AND PRODUCTION

Money is used for exchange, of course, in the transfer of things for sale. Paper money used to be based on gold, but no more. Have you noticed the "1" is missing? Look at any bill. It says: "In God We Trust."

Everything for sale has been produced by labor, and the price is a measure of the amount of work that went into making it. When the balance of money and things for sale is upset by the government printing extra currency, the balance is reestablished by price increases.

This is one immediate cause of inflation today. The Federal Reserve Bank has been increasing the money supply about 6 percent over the past year, twice as fast as the year before, as reported quietly in the Wall Street Journal.

MONOPOLY PRICE FIXING

Now that the "energy" crisis shortages are apparently easing, Nixon and his economists are warning us, in case you had

(Continued on page 13)

membership on the ENA, testified that the union constitution did not require membership votes, and that no membership vote had ever been taken in the past. (In other words, because there has been no union democracy in the past, he sees no reason to start now.)

When the judge asked him what harm would result from submission of the ENA to a membership vote, he answered that it might have been turned down. In this case, why didn't Abel let the membership have a chance to decide? This is the same as saying, "The workers are too stupid to know what's good for them; only I know!"

Negotiations on the ENA were secretly carried on from 1968 until 1973, without even the International Executive Board of the union finding out! Abel and the companies contend that Abel's talk of finding a "better way" to resolve differences should have been sufficient notice.

But in 1967, when the companies made a similar proposal, Abel said that before this type of agreement was made, there would be a poll of the membership. Taking Abel at his word (something many steelworkers won't do again), the membership was totally unprepared for the shock of reading in local newspapers that the ENA had already been signed!

The right to strike is the most important right that workers have. Abel's sell-out of this right cannot be tolerated by the workers who had to fight to get the right to strike.



EDITORIAL

Ideological casualties of the war

Now that most of the Arab oil-producing countries have lifted the embargo against shipments to the U.S., which they had imposed during the Middle East war of last October, it is appropriate to examine at least tentatively some of the significant results that have followed in the wake of the war and the embargo.

One thing is absolutely certain. The myth of Israel as the invincible little giant capable of holding the multi-million oppressed Arab people in subjection and terror at the behest of its ruling masters in the U.S. has been totally exploded. So much so, indeed, that the Israeli state is assuming more and more the stature of an expendable puppet regime. The U.S. ruling class is beginning to look at the Arab oil-producing states as more lucrative, fabulously profitable, and urgently needed clients than Israel could ever hope to be.

Of course, it is not the military victory over Israel in the October war which accounts for this in and of itself—a victory which is tentative, conditional, and precarious. Nor is it the oil embargo alone which can account for it. It is the combined character of these and other factors which has drastically altered the relations between the Arab world and its imperialist oppressors and has given the Arab nations a new and very formidable status in the world arena.

All this is not to say that the U.S. has definitively abandoned the use of the Israeli state as a provocative instrument of aggression. For the time being, however, the U.S. is desperately seeking to make a temporary accommodation with the Arab nations, at a time when outright unilateral military intervention is too hazardous and impracticable.

EMBARGO ENDS, BUT ENERGY CRISIS GOES ON

Here at home, the lifting of the embargo ought to dispel some of the confusion generated by ruling class propaganda regarding the nature of the energy crisis. For it is neither wholly a conspiracy born totally out of the greed and avarice of the oil monopolies, nor is it a kind of energy crisis born out of the scarcity of oil—as the oil monopolies and the Nixon administration would have the American people believe.

The crisis is of a profoundly political character. It has its roots deep in the fear of

entrusted by them to assume their leadership and destiny. Only then will the leadership in Moscow be forced off its craven conciliatorist attitude to Washington. Only then will the imperialist monopolies understand that the days of their domination are at an end.

'SUPERPOWER' THEORY FAILED THE TEST

And how has China's theory of the two superpowers fared since the October Middle East war? According to the current Maoist doctrine, the U.S. and the USSR are two rival imperialist powers jockeying for position, privilege, and profit in this vital area of the world—only phraseology distinguishes one from another.

The October Middle East war will go down as a world historic event, and it is in the crucible of such historic events that the validity of any theory that seeks to explain the meaning of the event can be tested and verified. If the struggle between the U.S. and the USSR were in reality a naked predatory struggle between two imperialist powers for privilege and profit, the USSR, as a mighty, formidable military and economic power, should have (according to Maoist doctrine) emerged after the October war with a considerable material and economic advantage—certainly enough to be visible to all who are willing to see, 6 months after the event.

As matters stand now, there is not a scintilla of evidence to support this false theory. On the contrary, the tremendous military equipment and materiel given by the USSR to Egypt and Syria adds up to a considerable economic and financial drain

Can't survive on \$85 pension

Brooklyn, N.Y.:

For almost 4 years our Union Retirement Pensions have been frozen at \$85 and, for some members, \$75 or less. At the 1971 Convention in Miami, Florida, President Stulberg declared that the Retirement benefits would be increased. But, after more than 2 years, new union agreements have been signed without any mention of any increase for us.

Our Federal Social Security benefits are also low, because when we were employed in the Ladies Garment Industry our earnings had been low. Wild inflation and the constant rise in the cost of living makes our survival and our daily existence ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE.

As pioneers and veterans who bled and sacrificed in order to build the Union to what it is today, ONE OF THE STRONGEST AND THE RICHEST IN THE COUNTRY, we deserve a better treatment.

Our Leaders, by ignoring our just demands and rejecting an increase, are revealing a SHAMEFULLY-BRUTAL at-

national security laws, the Seoul district prosecutor's office said.

"They were novelists Lee Huchul and Chung Ul-byung and Profs. Im Hon-young, Kim Wee-jong, and Chang Byung-hee.

"The five were leaders of a group of 61 literary men who declared their support for students, civic leaders and church people who had demanded constitutional changes to allow more political freedoms in South Korea."

The precinct connection

New York Times, March 9:

Twelve present and former members of the Police Department, including two lieutenants, were indicted yesterday on Federal charges of stealing cash from narcotics dealers, reselling heroin they had seized in an arrest and offering bribes to fellow officers to hinder prosecution of drug traffickers.

"All 12 men were assigned to the elite special investigating unit of the Narcotics Division from December, 1969, to November, 1970, when the incidents detailed in five separate indictments occurred. The defendants, most of whom were arrested

which is not compensated by commercial and trade agreements with the Arab countries to any extent. The opening up of the Suez Canal, cited by some Maoist sources, is unquestionably helpful to the USSR, as it is to all maritime nations who can use the canal and who pay the same fare for transit rights. Certainly, even a perfectly sound and revolutionary workers' state in the USSR would have need for Suez Canal transit rights on the same basis as other nations, without privilege and without discrimination. Finally, unlike Panama, the Egyptian government has sole and exclusive control over the canal.

No, the theory of the two imperialist superpowers has not been confirmed. On the contrary, in the crucible of the historic October war it has been invalidated. The USSR, as a deformed workers' state, is still fighting a wholly defensive struggle against U.S. imperialism.

The experience of the Middle East war shows that it can and will act as a deterrent against imperialist aggression. It will also fight to maintain the status quo and try to stop the U.S. from upsetting it, particularly if it do so directly menaces the position of the USSR. By being a bulwark of the status quo, it can act as a regressive social force and become a brake on the revolutionary cause of the oppressed people and the working class. On the other hand, by acting as a deterrent against the incursions of imperialism, it defends the interests of the oppressed. In this latter aspect the USSR occupies a progressive position, and should be defended by all workers and oppressed people of the world.

itude towards the vital interests of the needy, sickly and elderly retired members who gave the Union the best years of their lives.

When it comes to the granting of a much needed increase to us, the high officials of our Union claim POVERTY. But to give the retired OFFICERS ten and twenty times more than us, they have PLENTY OF FUNDS. We were informed that Brother Dubinsky, who retired a few years ago, receives an annual pension of \$20,000 (TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS). What became of the slogans: EQUALITY, DEMOCRACY AND BROTHERHOOD?

We maintain, AND CAN PROVE, that our Union has the necessary funds to give us, the retirees, the MUCH NEEDED increase. The pension fund, from \$321,000,000 (three hundred and twenty-one millions) in 1971, increased to more than 350 millions and is still increasing week by week.

We are appealing to you, Brothers and Sisters who are working, WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT. Write letters to Stulberg and other members in the General Office of the I.L.G. W.U., 1710 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10019.

For the Retired Members of New York Joseph Mangano

yesterday, allegedly realized a total of \$434,100 from corrupt practices during the five cases."

The Church of Latter-Day Racists

Salt Lake City (AP):

"President Spencer W. Kimball, leader of the 3.3-million member Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, says he does not expect the church to lift its ban on full participation for blacks.

"The Mormon church gives its priesthood to all faithful male members 12 years or older unless they are of black, African descent. The church says only that this is God's will.

"Asked on NBC-TV's Today show whether he anticipated a change, Kimball said, 'No, I do not anticipate it. If it should be done, the Lord will reveal it and we believe in revelation. And we believe the leader of the church is entitled to that revelation and that it would come if it's necessary and it's proper.'"



Who's he kidding?

Randolph Hearst, father of the kidnapped heiress Patricia Hearst, recently told reporters, "I can't raise any more funds. There's just no money left in the kitty."

Randolph Hearst owns the following newspapers: The San Francisco Chronicle-Examiner, Los Angeles Herald-Examiner, Boston Record-American & Herald Traveler, Baltimore News-American, Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Albany Times Union-Knickerbocker, a couple of other dailies, 20th Century Fox Films, and several book and magazine companies. The New York Times (Feb. 27) estimated his wealth at around \$100 million.

An author the capitalists love

Solzhenitsyn (who has tucked away

And authors the capitalists hate

Seoul, Feb. 25 (AP):

"Five prominent South Korean intellectuals who criticized the government of Park Chung Hee were indicted today on charges of violating the anti-communist and

What's holding back the honorable impeachers?

By BOB McCUBBIN

From the point of view of the American people, most of whom were long ago convinced that Richard Nixon is a first-class crook, the tedious and low-key drama being played out in Washington has a distinctly unreal air about it. People are wondering why it's taking so long to get done what obviously needs to be done.

"What's the problem?" said a cashier in New York recently as she rang up a sale. "That guy is one big crook. He cheated on his taxes by more than I'm going to earn in a lifetime." "Yeah," said a young worker waiting to make a purchase, "and he ripped the government off by \$10 million for those 'retreats' of his in Florida and California."

"And don't forget the bombing of Cambodia," piped up a student. "That was against the people's wishes and against the law. He even wants to set free that mass murderer Calley."

Yes, all those things and more. Nixon has surrounded himself with racists, Nazis, gusanos, and other crooks, many of whom are now under criminal indictment and some of whom, like Agnew, have already been convicted of felonies. And his presidential campaign was an open appeal to racism, his economic policies are blatantly pro-big business, and his mentality is as militaristic as that other "great peacemaker," Dwight Eisenhower.

WHAT KEEPS HIM IN?

No wonder the people are saying, "What are they waiting for? What's the problem? Why does 'due process' take so long?"

But the men assigned to carry out the impeachment, indictment, or whatever, have a slightly different view of the whole thing than the ordinary people. Even though these officials (Congressmen, Senators, judges, prosecutors, etc.) seem to have the upper hand and seem to have the support of the people, there are a few things that trouble them deeply.

For example, they're worried that the people will support them too well if they're not careful. If the people get too riled up about the mess in the White House, they might take it upon themselves to intervene in their own way, like millions of Americans

did on the issue of the Vietnam War. And the politicians definitely don't want that kind of thing happening again! So they've got to play it cool and not get the people angry to the point where they might take matters into their own hands.

THEY ALL HAVE SKELETONS

Another thing that bothers them is the skeletons they all have in their own closets. Of course they'd all deny any personal misconduct, just as Agnew denied his guilt—until he was caught red-handed! But the truth is, the politicians have to be very careful in their campaign against Tricky Dick that he doesn't turn the tables on them—or else pull them all down with him. Nixon may be a bit cruder than some of them, but the deals he made with ITT, Vesco, and the milk monopolies, though secret from the millions of voters, are taken for granted in the ruling political circles of the country.

In fact, the secrets that have been revealed thus far are only the tip of a gigantic iceberg. A number of establishment political figures have said as much in the last year. So the investigators have something of a problem on their hands. They don't want the people to see the whole iceberg, the whole rotten system of political payoffs, backroom business deals, swindles, trickery, profit grabbing, and international intrigue that constitute the real business of the nation's capital. While the newspapers dutifully report the public business of the government each day they almost never report the daily private business, the business of giving away the nation's resources to big business, short-changing the workers at every turn, subsidizing the businesses of political cronies, and all the rest of the crooked dirty backroom deals, going on at our expense in the "behind the scenes" places of Washington, D.C.

So a politically powerful section of the billionaires has given their political lackeys in Washington an assignment. Get rid of Nixon. The problem is, if they do a real good job of exposing Nixon, they may expose too much! Then the people may take over and undertake the kind of housecleaning that will sweep them all out!

In SLA—Hearst case

Massive food lines explode myth

By ANDY STAPP

"There is no longer any criticism of the group that demanded as a condition for Miss Hearst's release that her father, the newspaper executive Randolph A. Hearst, distribute free food to the poor," reports Earl Caldwell in the March 10 New York Times.

Caldwell quotes a volunteer at one of the food distribution centers, "The press keeps trying to get a sampling of opinion, pro and con, but everyone on the line is for the food and they don't care where it comes from."

"Others were even more blunt," Caldwell reports.

"These people don't give a damn about the Hearsts," a young man said. "Nobody does. These people see the police shooting up their neighborhoods all the time and they see people dying from all kinds of stuff. No, they don't care. They just want the food."

The ultra-conservative U.S. News and World Report of March 25 confirms Caldwell and adds, "With inflation, higher food prices, the number of people having problems is increasing. Many on the lines are likely wage earners, feeling the squeeze. 'Look, man,' one husky construction worker wearing a hard hat said to a fellow beside him, 'I work hard every day and I still have to come here to take a handout.'"

On March 8 an estimated 35,000 showed up, many arriving before dawn to get in lines for the free food. In all 120,000 bags of

groceries have been distributed.

Caldwell adds, "On the food lines there is not only growing support for the kidnappers but also mounting criticism of those who have spoken out against them."

The vehement attacks against the SLA by certain socialist groups who have forgotten the elementary lessons of class solidarity have become downright scandalous.

In one horrified chorus, the Communist Party, the Socialist Workers Party, and the Guardian have rushed into print with condemnations, not only of the Hearst heiress kidnapping, but even of the free-food program itself and of the people who have been waiting in long lines to get a bag of groceries!

The Daily World, organ of the CPUSA, editorialized on Feb. 16: "Far from being radical or revolutionary, the kidnap gang's tactics are shaped by CIA concepts."

On March 1, the misnamed Militant, newspaper of the SWP, reported without the slightest trace of irony that, "The reaction in the Black community here to the SLA kidnapping of Patricia Hearst has been overwhelmingly negative."

The Guardian, too, groveled before the ruling class, and on Feb. 27 wrote an article ("SLA Gets No Support") that would have been worthy of the notorious William Randolph-Hearst himself.

"Reaction to the SLA demand from poor



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Sharon Chin for the HOUSTON 12

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HOUSTON 12

On October 9 in Houston, Texas, a demonstration against the U.S. involvement in the war in the Middle East was brutally attacked by over 100 police agents of the oil billionaires—accompanied by over 25 patrol cars, three paddy wagons, a police helicopter, attack dogs, and various weapons. Eight Chicanos (Mexican-Americans) and four whites were arrested and held on \$250,000 bail. Five of the twelve start trial on April 8 and are facing life imprisonment! Again the victims are being charged as "criminals."

WOUNDED KNEE

The trial of more than 200 Native Americans persecuted for defense of their own land constitutes the largest mass trial ever to occur in the U.S. The 71-day siege of Wounded Knee, over a year ago, by agents of the Bureau of Indian Affairs was a continuation of the centuries of genocide against the Indian people by the U.S. government. That siege left two Native Americans murdered and hundreds of others arrested, jailed and harassed. And, as usual, the government has the audacity to accuse the victims of being "criminals."

and working people was nearly unanimous in condemnation," the Guardian wrote, and went on to imply that chiselers (not really poor) were getting on line twice.

Why is it that the supposedly "left" press can't see what the reactionary press so clearly recognizes—that the poor people

of California are grateful for what they can get from their millionaire oppressors?

Are they afflicted with a blindness born of dogmatism—or rather a cowardly eagerness to prove that they are not to be confused with "terrorists"?

International Women's Day

The past remembered, the future anticipated

By JILL ROUNDTREE

CHICAGO. March 9—It was evident here in Chicago today that women are fighting back against the economic crisis they find themselves in as workers, mothers, consumers, and part of the worldwide anti-imperialist forces.

For the first time in recent years, the celebration of International Women's Day brought together in Chicago a variety of women from political organizations, welfare groups, unions, consumer and community

groups, and lesbian organizations in a coalition that took to the streets. Some 3,000 people marched down State Street, to the support of thousands going by.

Slogans and chants ranged from "Rollback food prices, rollout Nixon," "Adequate welfare grant," "Impeach Nixon," "Pass ERA," and "Women have a right to decent medical care," to "Support the struggling women of South Africa."

The women of Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF) carried a banner showing



WW photo: Mary

Women in New York and Chicago join together to march in celebration of International Women's Day, March 8

Vicious execution stirs antifascists in Spain

By JOHN OTTO

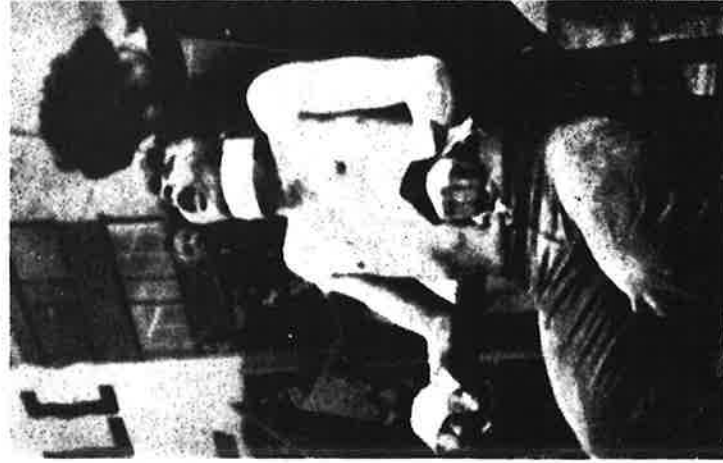
On March 2, at dawn, the fascist Franco dictatorship murdered by garroting 26-year-old Salvador Puig Antich, a Catalanian revolutionary condemned to death last January 18. Antich, who was a member of the Iberian Liberation Movement, was executed as part of a general crackdown against the entire Spanish working class, and in particular against the Basque and Catalanian minorities who have been carrying on national liberation struggles against the Spanish regime. This savage execution (garroting is done by tightening a

metal collar around the neck until the victim is strangled or the spine is broken) was carried out in the hope of intimidating the Spanish workers and antifascists generally.

So far, however, the execution has only succeeded in awakening even further resistance among the workers and progressive students. It has also prompted protests by sympathizers around the world. On the day the state strangled Puig Antich, hundreds of militants ran through the streets of Barcelona. The next day 1,500 demonstrated against the regime, and on Monday the struggle mounted until 2,000 people were fighting with the police in the streets. Sympathy demonstrations at Spanish embassies have also taken place in Italy, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Belgium, and Mexico. In France, where there are many exiled and emigre Spanish workers and where the workers' movement has a great deal of sympathy for the antifascist struggle, there have been many protests against the execution.

As a result of the growing discontent among the people, the once monolithic Spanish regime is showing signs of internal strife. This became apparent when Franco's government put the Bishop of Bilbao under house arrest for merely saying that the Basque people had a right to preserve their identity.

While the Spanish regime has been talking lately about "liberalization," Premier Arias has made the most belligerent statements against what he calls "subversive minorities" and groups that resort to violence—meaning any of the organizations that have been in the antifascist movement. Antich's execution has made it absolutely clear that any talk of more freedom is a mere ruse to keep the lid



Simulation of execution by garroting

solidarity with our sisters of Wounded Knee. There was also a large gay contingent, organized and led by the Gay Caucus of YAWF demanding an end to discrimination against gay working women.

Today's march was preceded by three actions held on March 7 designed to support the ongoing struggle of groups in Chicago. Seventy women marched to the Federal Milk Market Administrator's office behind a bright yellow, checked banner with a picture of a cow reading "We won't cow to rising milk prices." While women picketed, a delegation led by Women United for Action went upstairs to demand of the administrator public hearings on milk prices and a rollback on dairy products. In the usual fashion of "public officials," the milk administrator tried to pass the buck in answer to the women's demands.

The women then marched to city hall where the demand of equal pay for equal work was raised. Susan Baites, a 20-year-old Black janitress, spoke about her struggle against the city for equal pay with janitors,

who now earn over \$1,000 more for the same work.

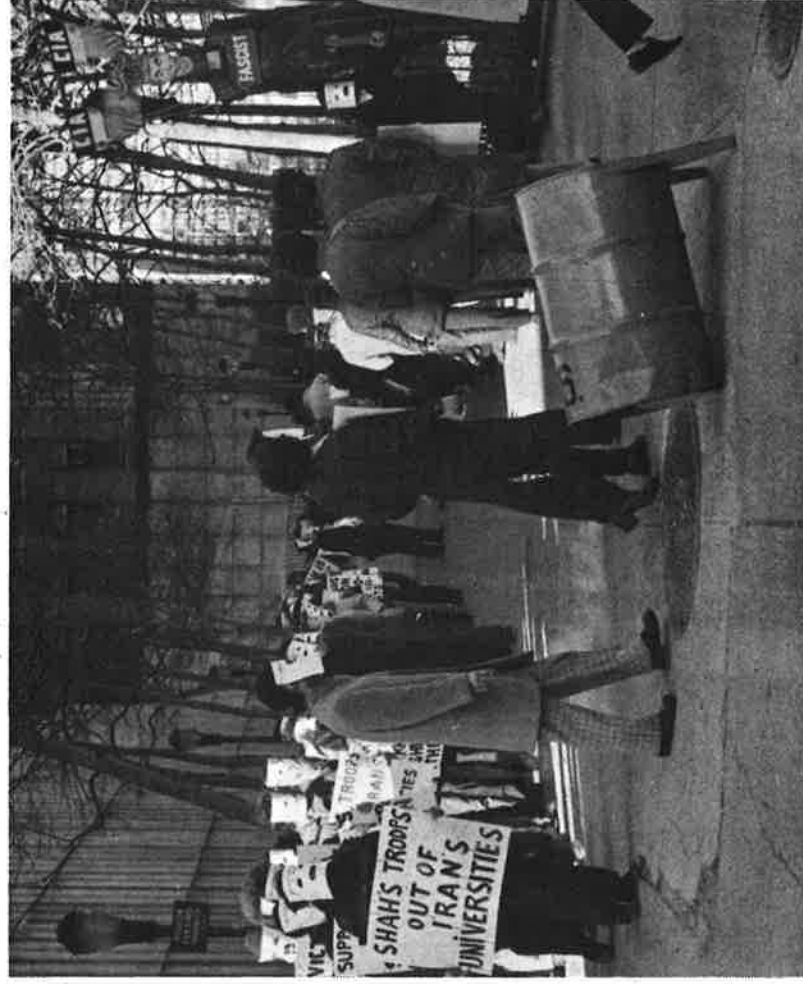
At 1:00 p.m. about 70 people assembled inside the State of Illinois building where Gov. Dan Walker was supposed to have met with members of the National Welfare Rights Organization. As usual, Walker was not there and building officials refused to allow women upstairs in a public building.

Angry chants of "This is our building, let us in!" finally forced officials to open a room on the 20th floor. Members of the Chicago Welfare Rights Organization spoke about the conditions recipients are suffering under the new flat-grant program and a pledge was made by all present to go to Springfield, the state capital, on March 22 to raise the recipients' just demands.

These actions as well as today's march were a tremendous show of struggle on behalf of poor and working women. In the tradition of International Women's Day, we are uniting to fight for a decent life for ourselves and our families.



WW photo



NEW YORK, March 15—These are Iranian students demonstrating in front of the United Nations against the fascist Shah. The masks are not a joke. Should they be identified, the students fear that their families and friends in Iran would be harassed by the authorities, or even killed.

WW photo: Ed

on an explosive situation.

The key slogan and pledge of the demonstrations in Europe was "Puig Antich will be revenged." While there have not been such demonstrations in the U.S., and many workers in this country may not see the connection between an execution in far-

off Spain and their fate, it must be remembered that the U.S. government is a key economic and military prop for the moribund Franco regime. The bankers and generals who keep Franco in power would not hesitate to use his tactics if they deemed them necessary here.

Europe between the U.S. and the USSR

By SAM MARCY

Europe, the cradle of capitalist civilization and the birthplace of the liberating doctrine of Marxism, is once again in the throes of a genuine revival of the revolutionary class struggle of the proletariat against the bastions of the bourgeois order. Signs of this are multiplying all over Europe and in Britain. However, the most dramatic demonstration of the emerging struggle came in the form of two revolutionary storm signals on the Iberian peninsula which have shaken the two oldest fascist governments to their very foundations.

The first, of course, was the assassination last December of Spanish Prime Minister Carrera Blanco. This revealed to the whole world, once again, the deep hatred of the Franco dictatorship among the Spanish people and the slow but certain surfacing of working class opposition. It also demonstrated the extreme vulnerability to collapse of the whole rotting totalitarian structure of fascism as a result of a spontaneous intervention of the masses similar to that which toppled the old monarchy.

The military rebellion against the Caetano regime of Portugal is just as much a harbinger of the future, if not more so. The very idea that General Antonio de Spínola, the former commander in Guinea-Bissau, would inspire this rebellion by publicly admitting that military victory in Angola, Mozambique, and Guinea-Bissau is impossible and calling for a negotiated peace, proves not only that Portugal has exhausted its material and military resources, but also the utter futility and bankruptcy of U.S. support for the colonial subjugation of such a huge portion of the African people.

Greece and Italy, while differing profoundly in many respects, are afflicted with the same fundamental malaise: endemic poverty, and ruinous and galloping inflation which has deprived ever larger sections of the petty bourgeoisie of virtually any economic stability and leaves them in no better position than the proletariat. Such

a situation makes a revolutionary outburst of the popular masses virtually certain.

FROM THE PERIPHERY . . .

But all of this, it will be said, is taking place on the periphery of the continent. "Violent outbursts (are wont) to take place sooner in the extremities of the bourgeois organism," said Marx many years ago, "than in the heart, because here regulation is more possible." Both the Russian and the Chinese revolutions took place in the "extremities" of the imperialist system, where it was weakest and most vulnerable.

... TO THE HEART

But even in the very heart of Europe where, in the words of Marx, "regulation is more possible," the continent is convulsed by long-delayed economic ills which have been buried deep beneath the surface through the medium of state capitalist regulation and intervention. The malady, the private ownership of the means of production in a society where production itself long ago became socialized, poisons the organism and makes revolutionary outbursts absolutely inevitable.

How can anyone forget the lesson of the 1968 revolutionary struggle in France? Yet not one single problem has been solved there, the masses can point to not one concession that has not been eaten away by the ravages of inflation. But the great merit of the 1968 revolution is that it left the basic class forces of the working class practically intact in spite of the police-state repressions that have accumulated since then and in spite of the reformist policies of the French CP.

The point to remember is that 1968 was not a defeat like the one which followed the collapse of the Popular Front. In the meantime, the bourgeois regime and its political and social institution have continued to decay and disintegrate. Clearly, a favorable situation for the further development of the revolutionary prosecution of the class struggle of the proletariat, not only in France but in all of

Europe, is in the offing.

Bedeviled by the growing acuteness of inter-imperialist antagonisms, the Common Market patchwork more and more seems to become the source for new infections rather than a cure for old imperialist rivalries. The oil and energy crisis is just one more affliction added to the others. It is at this point that the European bourgeois is likely to throw up his hands and point to the U.S. and the USSR as the fundamental cause of Europe's troubles.

North American revolutionaries have a special obligation to examine this aspect with particular care and understanding and in the spirit of proletarian internationalism.

Both Russia and the United States have loomed large in the historical development of Europe. In a preface to the Russian edition of the Communist Manifesto, by Marx and Engels in 1882, the authors recalled that when they had written the section which described the position of the Communists in relation to various opposition parties, both Russia and the United States had been left out. At that time, the authors explained, when the movement was limited and undeveloped, both of these countries had been in one way or another pillars of the existing order in Europe.

Russia had been the last great reserve of European reaction. The United States was absorbing the surplus proletarian forces of Europe through immigration. Both countries had also provided Europe with raw materials and were at the same time markets for the sale of its industrial products. By 1882, however, Marx and Engels were already hailing Russia for constituting the vanguard of revolutionary action in Europe. The United States, with its tremendous new industrial resources, was able to engage Europe in economic competition which would break the industrial monopoly of Europe, and was already shaking the very foundations of European landed property.

Thus we see that in two different historical epochs, both Europe and Russia each played a different, but very important,

role. It scarcely need be recalled that the October Socialist Revolution changed the face of the earth and well nigh brought Europe to the very edge of a continentwide socialist revolution which would have swept away the domination of its present possessing classes. It was American dollars that saved Europe from the havoc and destruction caused by the First World War and the spectre of new proletarian uprisings. In return, European finance capital became so indebted to American bankers that Europe virtually became a conglomeration of semi-vassal states of American high finance and industry.

IMPACT OF DEPRESSION . . .

The Great Depression enormously accelerated this process and helped in the rise of Hitler. The Soviet Union, on the other hand, which had been the fountainhead of revolutionary ideas on strategy and tactics and inspired the European proletariat to revolutionary struggle, now became the generator of reformism. It retarded the development of the class struggle and the emancipation of the proletariat from the yoke of European capitalism.

... AND WAR

While the Second World War radically altered the balance of forces in Europe, in that the stranglehold of capitalism in Eastern Europe was destroyed by the advancing victorious Red Army and the armed might of Hitlerism was broken, the war nevertheless strengthened American imperialism on the European continent as never before. The Marshall Plan enabled the spread of American multinational corporations to every nook and corner of Europe.

The revisionism of the Western CPs under the aegis of the Soviet bureaucracy did little to weaken the stranglehold of American corporations. From this fertile soil arose the demagogic accusation by European imperialist statesmen and politicians about the "hegemony of the two

(Continued on page 15)

Profits and the October war

By BOB McCUBBIN

"Never forget, men. War is opportunity!" These lines, the highpoint in a British comedy about World War II, not so humorously sum up how some of the biggest U.S. corporations feel about the carnage and destruction of property that is modern warfare.

An executive for an aircraft company recently put it even more bluntly. "The effect of the (Mideast) war can't help but be salutary," he said. What a choice of words! Salutary: "promoting health," says the dictionary. In other words, death and destruction for the people of the Middle East means good health for the U.S. aircraft industry.

And you can be sure that the merchants of death aren't happy because of the victories of the Arab people in the war. No, they'd much rather see their ally and client, Israel, win.

But they can find something "salutary" even in the losses of their own puppet! The Israelis, by their own estimates, lost \$6 billion worth of military hardware in less than a month of war. This figure includes at least 120 planes and 500 tanks. It will all have to be replaced, of course, which means \$6 billion in new orders for the U.S. arms manufacturers.

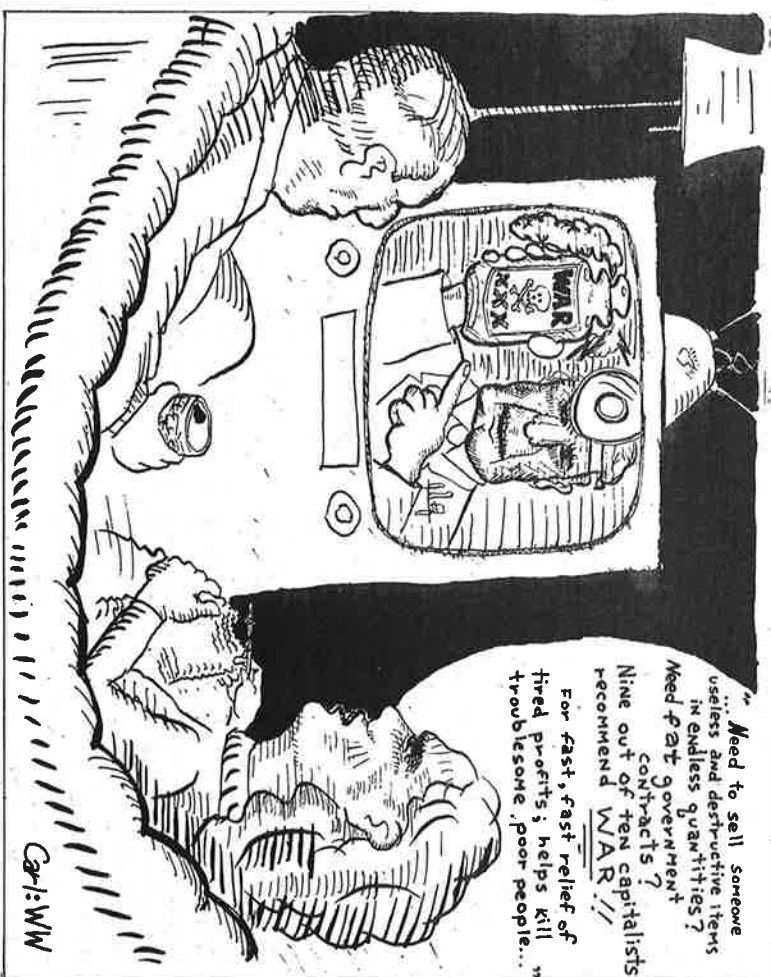
For another thing, the strong performance of the anti-imperialist Arab forces was a signal to the U.S. that further militarization of U.S. allies in the area, such as Saudi Arabia and Iran, is now in order. Singled out for special blessings in this

age of airborne destruction have been the U.S. aircraft companies (the so-called aerospace industry). It's no wonder, then, that a spokesman for McDonnell-Douglas, a U.S. aircraft company which had been in something of a slump because of the decrease in demand for its commercial jetliners, admitted to Barron's, the New York financial weekly, that "The effect of the war can't help but be salutary. We expect to build more Phantoms this year than last." His cautious words belie the fact that his company, in addition to its regular orders, will be replacing all the F-4 Phantoms and A-4 Skyhawks downed in the Mideast War, and then some.

At Lockheed things are looking up too. Its C-5A Galaxies were a major factor in the U.S.'s ability to rapidly resupply Israeli forces. These \$35-million airlifters are the only planes capable of hauling M-60 tanks. Production of both the Galaxy and the C-141 Starlifter, another cargo hauler used in the Mideast War, is being stepped up.

Northrop and Lockheed are profiting from the military buildup in Saudi Arabia. King Faisal has already purchased 30 Northrop-built F-5E Fighters for \$130 million and is now negotiating for another 70. Lockheed has a \$160-million operation and maintenance contract with the Saudi government for existing military hardware.

By far the biggest buyer of U.S. weaponry in the post-October arms buildup has been Iran. Like King Faisal, the Shah of Iran is a rabid anticommunist whose regime is characterized by tyranny and terror against the impoverished masses. The Shah



has placed orders for 190 of Northrop's F-5Es and for 250 helicopters from Textron's subsidiary, Bell Helicopter. Grumman Corporation has profited to the tune of \$900 million for 30 F-14 fighter planes.

Negotiations are also underway with McDonnell-Douglas for 50 F-15s. This plane, the U.S. Air Force's vaunted "air superiority" fighter, is supposed to give the U.S. an invulnerable air terror weapon throughout the 1980s.

Now it's true that U.S. aircraft company earnings were, on the average, down almost 40 percent for 1973. But the real meaning of this is that even the superprofits of war-related production are proving insufficient to bolster the grossly inefficient, irrational,

and government-spoon-fed "defense" industries. These companies, which produce to destroy, add nothing to the wealth of the nation or the world. Rather, they subtract from it.

But make no mistake. They do generate profits for the money-hungry magnates who sit on their boards of directors. Just like all the other capitalists, they steal what the workers have produced.

These vultures have pocketed who-knows-how-many millions in blood money off the latest Mideast War just as they did off the Vietnam War and just as they do off every war. Isn't this a monstrous crime? Isn't it about time the people sounded the death knell for these merchants of death?



Sam Marcy, chairman of Workers World Party, addresses meeting attended by over 400 people. W.W. photo. Dick

Sam Marcy addresses landmark meeting

By NAOMI COHEN

NEW YORK, March 16—Workers World Party (WWP) and Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF) organized a landmark meeting here tonight to discuss the legacy of Lenin 50 years after his death. Held at a midtown Manhattan hotel, the meeting hall was packed with over 400 people who came to hear the Workers World analysis of the revolutionary heritage of Lenin and its applications to the world revolutionary movement today. Present here tonight were political activists from different parts of the country and representatives of various liberation struggles around the world.

Speaking beneath a huge banner reading "Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite," the chairwoman, Sharon Chin, introduced the subject of the evening by remarking that we have to examine the struggles of the past to understand their effects on the present. "Workers World Party is not a blind follower of any socialist country," she said, "but we are staunch defenders of all socialist countries against imperialism."

The opening remarks on tonight's agenda were made by Deirdre Griswold, editor of Workers World newspaper and formerly a member of the London Secretariat of the Bertrand Russell International War Crimes Tribunal. Running down the party's history of struggle, Griswold put tonight's Marxist analysis into the kind of perspective that has characterized WWP in its 15-year history. "To explain our ideological positions alone is not enough," she declared. "The real importance of our history is what we do with our analysis. As Engels put it, 'Our doctrine is not a dogma, but a guide to action.'"

This tradition of activism was underscored by Larry Holmes, a Black YAWF leader and member of the Houston 12 Support Committee, who spoke on the upcoming trial of the Houston 12. These defendants face heavy prison sentences in Texas as a result of a police attack on a YAWF demonstration against the war in the Midwest last October. (See article on the Houston 12 case, page 11.)

DEGENERATION CAUSED BY PRIVILEGE

Sam Marcy, Chairman of Workers World Party, delivered the main talk of the evening. In analyzing Lenin's heritage, Marcy explained the development in the USSR after Lenin's death of two tendencies, one led by Stalin and the other by Trotsky. The Left Opposition led by Trotsky, Marcy pointed out, was defeated because of a swing to the right caused by the almost complete collapse of the Soviet economy after the civil war.

Stalin, Marcy showed, based himself on

400 hear WWP analysis of Lenin legacy

a privileged bureaucracy which broke down socialist solidarity by introducing pernicious material incentives and appeals to self-aggrandizement, particularly during the first 5-year plan and the period of collectivization. This privileged bureaucracy, he emphasized, was the cause of the degeneration of the Soviet Union. The terrible repression of the Stalin period was merely the tool of this privileged grouping.

Thus, Marcy differentiated WWP's analysis from that of those in the movement who claim the degeneration in the USSR came with the rise of Khrushchev. Khrushchev only continued the trend towards greater inequality begun under Stalin. Marcy also emphasized that while the Soviet Union has been deformed by a bureaucracy, it is nevertheless still a workers' state and is objectively allied with the workers and the oppressed of the world.

EFFECT OF CIVIL WAR

Marcy graphically illustrated his point by describing the first years following the Bolshevik Revolution. The blockade of the USSR by the capitalist countries and the organization of counterrevolutionary invasions by 14 imperialist powers were attempts to literally starve the entire country into submission. During the 3 years of blockade and civil war, Marcy pointed out, industrial production dropped to 14 percent of what it had been in 1914. This is an 86 percent drop in industrial production. Compare this with the 40 percent drop in industrial production in the U.S. during the depression of the 1930s, when some 20 million people were unemployed, and one just begins to get an idea of the colossal problems suffered by the people in the USSR during those years.

"The magnitude of the devastation caused by the imperialist blockade and civil war must be understood in order for us to understand the deformations and deficiencies in the USSR today," Marcy said.

In the face of industrial collapse and mass starvation, the Bolshevik Party was forced to make a tactical retreat. Lenin proposed what is now known as the New Economic Policy (NEP) to try to stimulate the economy by reinstituting some forms of capitalist production and inviting foreign

investors back into the country.

But the NEP alone does not account for the degeneration in the Soviet Union, Marcy asserted. It was a temporary expedient. The fundamental cause of the degeneration, he emphasized, was the way in which Stalin carried out socialist construction after Lenin's death.

Both in the area of industrialization and collectivization, Stalin's policy was to encourage self-aggrandizement, material incentives, and privilege—and this was done without any accountability to the working class as a whole. This policy broke down class solidarity and pitted worker against worker, peasant against peasant. NEP men climbed swiftly in the government and in the controlling organs of the economy. The gap between the workers and poor peasants on the one hand and the technicians, state farm managers, and government bureaucrats on the other widened. Finally, an entrenched, privileged bureaucracy became interested in preserving its favored status above all else.

KHRUSHCHEV'S REPORT

Marcy went on to characterize the period just after Stalin's death as a crucial one for the world revolutionary movement. Everyone was wondering how the pendulum would swing—would it be to the right or to the left? "The question in the minds of revolutionary communists was whether there would be a revolutionary turn to abolish privileges and return the control of the state and the initiatives to the masses."

Khrushchev's report to the 20th Party Congress, though it attacked Stalin, did not signal a return to Leninist principles. There was no mention of the privileges of the bureaucrats, nor any denunciations of their country houses and limousines, nor even a mention of the deep cleavage between the workers and the bureaucracy.

"Yes, Khrushchev abolished some of the repressive measures of the Stalin regime, and that was correct," Marcy said. "But the question then posed was: Who would enjoy the new freedom?" We have seen since that time that all the freedom went to the very rightist elements who were most hostile to genuine Leninism.

THE BOURGEOIS OPPOSITION

As a result, the so-called freedom fighters in the USSR today are nothing but

WWP statement to Council of Revolutionary Coordination United front of Latin guerrillas hailed

Remarks by Tom Soto at "Legacy of Lenin" meeting:

Recently four revolutionary organizations of Latin America—the National Liberation Movement (Tupamaros) of Uruguay, the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MLR) of Chile, the National Liberation Army (ELN) of Bolivia, the Peoples Revolutionary Army (ERP) of Argentina—announced that they have merged in a Council of Revolutionary Coordination for the purposes of advancing the struggle against U.S. imperialist domination and of carrying out the political and ideological struggle against bourgeois nationalism and reformism.

For Workers World Party this new unity represents a tremendous victory in the struggle against imperialism and for socialism. Our party has consistently supported the national liberation movements of oppressed peoples and the struggles of the workers and poor of all countries, and particularly in Latin America where U.S. imperialism has historically ruled unchallenged and is most entrenched through its military dictatorships and U.S. capital penetration. The peoples of Latin American are directly

bourgeois restorationists. While WWP has always stood for the restoration of civil liberties in the Soviet Union and the revival of proletarian democracy, giving Solzhenitsyn and his ilk the chance to be heard in the USSR should be used as a tactic to expose their reactionary ideas and defeat them ideologically.

Khrushchev's report to the 20th Congress caused a great deal of confusion in the world revolutionary movement. The Socialist Workers Party, which claims to be the inheritor of Trotskyism, was so delirious to hear Stalin denounced that it failed to see that the denunciation was from the right and not from a genuine Leninist viewpoint.

ROLE OF THE CHINESE PARTY

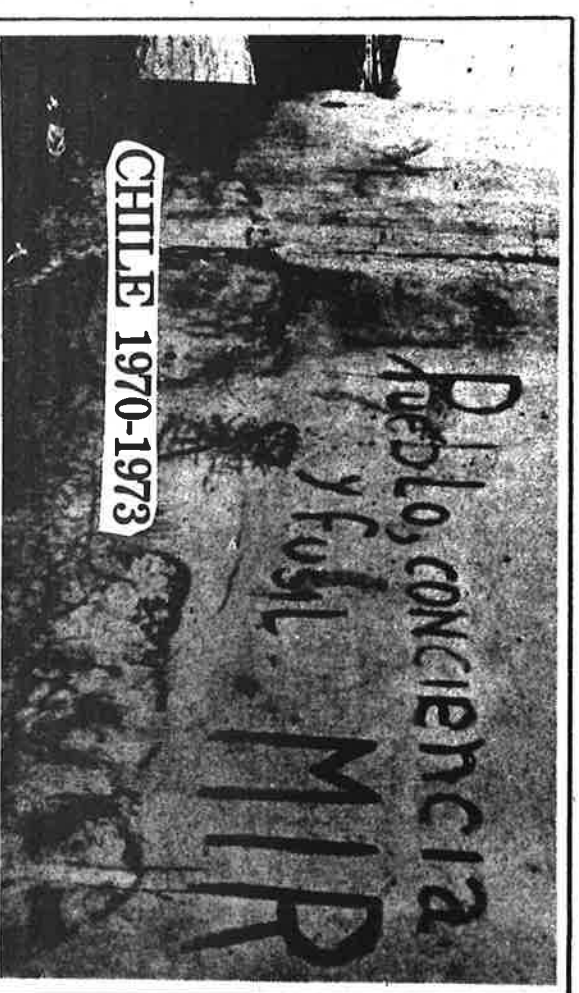
Marcy also pointed out that while the Chinese Communist Party now calls Khrushchev a counterrevolutionary and says that the Soviet Union has become a fascist state since his time, the Chinese leaders at the 20th Congress fully endorsed his report. This added to the confusion in the international movement on the real



Sam Marcy on the legacy of Lenin: "Only the active exploiters and bring about... the death knell of imperialism."

under the gun of U.S. imperialism and therefore require particular support from our party and the movement of this country. Two issues ago in the Workers World

newspaper of February 22, we hailed the formation of the Council of Revolutionary Coordination in an editorial. In the following issue of March 8 we printed our own English



The pamphlet, Chile 1970-1973, is available from World View Publishers, 46 West 21st Street, New York, N.Y. 10010. The price is 75 cents.

meaning of the report. Only several years later did the Chinese begin to denounce some of the reactionary policies of the Soviet leaders.

Marcy showed that among their criticisms of the Soviet party, the Chinese CP denounced its attempts to make an accommodation with U.S. imperialism. Yet, it was Stalin who began the attempt to accommodate himself with the imperialists and today the Chinese leaders, too, are following the same erroneous course.

In the tradition of Lenin, Marcy ended his talk by demonstrating how impossible was any lasting accommodation with imperialism. His concluding remark brought the audience to its feet in a long ovation at the words, "Only the action of the proletariat can liquidate the exploiters and bring about the kind of accommodation we want—the death knell of imperialism."

Tonight's meeting closed with the reading of a message sent by WWP to the newly formed Latin American Council of Revolutionary Coordination. Tom Soto expressed Workers World's enthusiastic support for this coalition of four Latin revolutionary organizations (see accompanying text of message). The audience again rose to its feet to applaud this new development and ended the meeting by chanting in solidarity with the Chilean people, "Down with the fascist junta, workers and peasants to power!"



The action of the proletariat can liquidate the imperialism." WW photo: Dick

translation of the full text of this declaration by the four organizations. To our knowledge this declaration has not so far appeared in any other North American publication in either English or Spanish. Nor has this extremely important development been taken note of by the radical press except in the most perfunctory way, although the ruling class is very well aware of its significance.

We not only take note of it, but we look on it with great expectation and hope for the struggle in Latin America and have drafted the following message of solidarity:

To the Council of Revolutionary Coordination:

Workers World Party greets the formation of the Council of Revolutionary Coordination with great optimism and the deepest solidarity. That your four organizations have been able to proceed from ideological to practical collaboration under the conditions of clandestine struggle imposed by U.S. imperialism and domestic reaction is undeniable evidence of the maturing revolutionary conditions in Latin America.

Revolutionary socialists everywhere cannot fail to be inspired by this rebirth of international solidarity forged in the furnace of armed struggle. We in North America sense an immediate impact on the raw nerves of the U.S. imperialists who, not having yet recovered from the Cuban

Nixon blesses union of Latin American dictators

MARCH 16—Mrs. Nixon was sent to South America this week to give the blessing of her husband (and her imperialist ruling class) to the four most ruthless fascist dictatorships in the Western Hemisphere.

Yesterday, Mrs. Nixon arrived in Brazil to represent Washington at the inauguration of a new fascist puppet president, Ernesto Geisel. Today, Mrs. Nixon was present when the heads of state of Brazil, Chile, Uruguay, and Bolivia met "unofficially" in Brasilia, capital of Brazil.

It is significant that Nixon and the U.S. ruling class are openly embracing these four brutal regimes at a time when repression in these countries appears to be at its peak. In Brazil, the most incredible tortures of political opponents have been reported and documented by even the most liberal outside organizations. In Bolivia, the Banzer regime recently murdered peasants in cold blood for merely protesting against high food prices. In Chile, the violent consolidation of the fascist military regime that overthrew the Allende government continues, with torture and murder of the masses an everyday occurrence. And in Uruguay, moderate politicians opposing the Bordaberry dictatorship have been known to be tortured.

PRO-IMPERIALIST BLOC

The main topic of discussion in Brasilia seemed to be a proposed anti-communist bloc of the four countries. The four dictators nevertheless denied such a formal alliance and spent most of their time with reporters denying it.

However, Uruguayan president Juan Maria Bordaberry could not help but let the cat out of the bag by saying that a "common Marxist aggression" exists in Latin America and that some "response" to it must be planned.

It is now well known, of course, that these four regimes fear for their survival after learning of the newly formed Council of Revolutionary Coordination between the guerrilla organizations of three of these countries, plus Argentina. The four organizations are the Revolutionary Army of the People (ERP) of Argentina, the Revolutionary Left Movement (MLR) of Chile, the National Liberation Army (ELN) of Bolivia, and the National Liberation

Revolution, are training their propaganda machine increasingly on your struggle.

Still stinging from a humiliating defeat in Southeast Asia, preoccupied with the rising energies of the oppressed Arab masses, the U.S. imperialist ruling class views with horror the formation of a revolutionary socialist united front in that part of the world they have arrogantly viewed as their exclusive domain for perpetual exploitation.

Your joint declaration is, moreover, a fitting and well-timed response to imperialism's grisly victory in Chile. The fascist takeover there tragically proved the negative position: that power cannot be transferred to the working class through the vehicle of capitalist class institutions. Your struggle, we are confident, will prove the positive side of the question: that independent working class struggle, relying ultimately on the armed strength of our class, is the only road to socialist reconstruction and genuine liberation from imperialism.

Forward with the rebuilding of proletarian internationalism!

Down with imperialist oppression and capitalist exploitation!

Long live the socialist revolution in Latin America!

And for our Chilean comrades especially:

Down with the fascist junta!

Workers and peasants to power!

Movement (Tupamaros) of Uruguay.

Any new U.S.-backed fascist alliance in Latin America, which may very soon include Peron's rightwing regime in Argentina, is destined to fail as the Council of Revolutionary Coordination will certainly grow stronger every day and unite the Latin American oppressed masses to overthrow the U.S.-puppet fascist "gorillas."



Boston demonstrators protest ITT's fascist role around the world.

WW photo

Hit coups in Chile, Greece

By PETER DONNELLY

BOSTON, March 2—A crowd of 500 people put the manager of the Sheraton-Boston Hotel here on the spot today, as part of a demonstration against U.S. involvement in the bloody coups in Chile and Greece. Mr. Grosse squirmed and evaded questions from the crowd about the role of ITT (which owns the Sheraton) in the Chile coup.

The Sheraton was the next-to-last stop on a march sponsored jointly by the Chile Action Group and the Action Group for Greece. It began on the Boston Common with a rally featuring a speech by Edward Boorstein, an economic advisor to the Allende government and to the government of Cuba during the early 1960s. Boorstein pointed out that while the U.S. would prefer to rule the so-called free world under cover of democratic forms, it does not hesitate to instigate and back military and fascist dictatorships to preserve its domination. He also noted that the U.S. ruling class would not hesitate to do the same thing in this country if they felt it was necessary. Only the resistance of the people could stop such a coup, he said.

Following the rally, the demonstrators marched to the Greek consulate, chanting "U.S. out of Chile, U.S. out of Greece" and "ITT, CIA, hands off Chile and Greece." Members of Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF) carried a banner which read

SWP'S HERO

"SHOUTS THE TRUTH"

"The call to action—the act of personally rejecting falsehood—is the end of Yevtushenko's appeal, but Solzhenitsyn's beginning. Solzhenitsyn pessimistically asserts that most Russians (sic) have not matured enough politically 'to march to the squares and shout the truth out loud or to express out loud what we think.' He proposes an individual response to the Kremlin falsifiers: 'Let us refuse to say that which is not true.'" (The Militant, March 15, 1974)

AND THE TRUTH ABOUT

WHAT HE "SHOUTED"

"The same old primitive urges rend and sunder our world—greed, envy, license, mutual malevolence, though they may now adopt euphemistic pseudonyms as they go, such as class struggle, the struggle for racial emancipation, the struggle of the masses, the struggle of organized labor. Whenever any group of workers have a chance to grab something extra—never mind if they don't deserve it, never mind if it is more than they need—they up and grab it, and ruin take society." (From Solzhenitsyn's 1973 Nobel Prize speech, Manchester Guardian, Feb. 23, 1974)

Farah contract OK'd; boycott right in doubt

By TOM MITCHELL

NEW YORK, March 12—Today a three-judge panel sitting in Federal Appeals Court ruled that an injunction is still in effect against the Center for United Labor Action (CULA) in Rochester, N.Y., for picketing in support of the Farah strike.

Even though the boycott was called off on Feb. 23, the ruling is important because it is tied to two cases relating to the boycott that could leave a legal precedent against strike-support boycotts by any organizations, as well as leaving the Farah workers' union, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America (ACWA), liable for \$2.5 million in damages.

In the agreement to begin negotiations, announced on Feb. 24, Farah had promised to drop all legal suits, but the Rochester cases are technically in the hands of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) and Sibley's department store (of the largest retail chain in the U.S., Associated Dry Goods).

Yesterday in El Paso, Texas, details were announced of the first contract ever between the ACWA and Farah. In addition to union recognition, the Farah workers will get \$.80 an hour over 3 years (bringing the minimum to \$2.50 an hour), better holiday and vacation schedules, and company-paid medical benefits including coverage for dependents, maternity, sickness, and accidents.

Perhaps most important to the Farah workers is the establishment of seniority rights, job security, and grievance machinery, in a company that had allowed just one worker in all its history to retire with benefits. Also important will be the right of union engineers to check production standards in order to break attempts by Farah to recoup the wage increases through production speedups.

The March issue of *Advance*, newspaper of the ACWA, is almost entirely devoted to

hailing the settlement. The union recognizes that the crucial reason for success was the determination of the Chicana women to win dignity as a people as well as workers. The ACWA is looking forward to winning recognition in the garment industry throughout the Southwest and the South.

WILL THERE BE "PEACE"?

In El Paso, a Farah spokesman declared: "Now that it's settled, we're anxious to get busy and restore our company name." Certainly, Willie Farah is still hurting from the effects of the boycott, through which his name became known to union-busting, racist, sweatshop boss.

The ACWA officials are also looking forward to a period of "labor peace" at

Farah. The officials and the Farah workers are hoping for a quick recovery in Farah sales, because there will be no jobs for thousands of them until Farah reopens all the plants closed down by the boycott and strike.

But the big garment bosses in the Southwest, who stood so firmly in support of Farah's desperate efforts to keep the union out, will not simply roll over and give the ACWA dues-check-off rights in their own plants, because wage increases and benefits granted by a union contract pay for dues a hundred times over.

The Rochester, N.Y., boycott cases show the lengths to which the big clothing stores, in cahoots with the garment bosses, will go in resisting union benefits and rights for garment workers. In Federal Appeals Court, the Sibley's lawyer said he was also representing the National Association of Retailers.

The big department stores, which sell mostly clothes, want to be ready to get injunctions in the future against any group that conducts a boycott of their stores for selling scab clothes.



then modern civilization will prove impossible to sustain."

Who does the Times mean by "man"? Since the editorial is directed against people fighting the wage controls, it is clear that "man" is a euphemism for workers, women and men. So, if working and oppressed people do not face up to these new "realities of life" and allow their consumption and their population to be limited "voluntarily," then, the liberal Times continues, "the necessary readjustments will be accomplished by wars, famines and other sacrifices."

Now it is clear who this multimillion dollar publishing empire is after. They want the middle class to believe that the workers, through over-consumption, and the oppressed peoples, through rapidly increasing population, are refusing to face up to the "reality" that a finite earth has finite resources." If they refuse to buckle under and submit to austerity (like the wage freeze) and partial genocide (like the sterilization of welfare mothers), then it won't be the great liberals (like the Times) and other concerned "ecologists" and "Malthusians") who will be to blame for the consequences, but the workers and oppressed themselves.

And what are those consequences? "Wars, famines, and other sacrifices." They are actually threatening the workers with fascism or military dictatorship.

PICKING ON THE

UNDERPAID MINERS

As if this weren't blunt enough, and a direct enough attack on all poor and working people, 10 days later, in an article entitled "End of an Illusion," Anthony Lewis dished out the following from London: "The implications of the miners' strike are especially acute if we think of a future without growth. Until now we have told ourselves that we can keep on giving everyone larger slices of the economic pie

At the request of Sibley's, the NLRB is considering charges that the CULA is an "agent" of the ACWA, as well as being a "labor organization" like a union and thereby barred from any secondary boycotts. Sibley's has also filed suit for \$2.5 million in damages from the CULA boycott in Rochester.

The CULA is a national organization of rank-and-file workers that has taken action on a variety of issues, including transit fares and utility rates. Not only is the CULA completely independent of all union officials, but there is no way that Sibley's could ever collect \$2.5 million from this group that is funded entirely by contributions from working people.

But if the NLRB holds that the CULA is an "agent" of the ACWA for supporting the Farah strike, then Sibley's could try to pass the damage suit on to the ACWA.

So, no matter how much the ACWA officials would like to settle into a prolonged period of collecting dues, the garment industry bosses show signs of preparing to counterattack against the union drive in the Southwest and its boycott weapon.

because the pie as a whole will grow. . . . But that illusion is coming to an end. . . . Some day soon . . . the upward curve of production will have to be stopped if we want to avoid a natural calamity on earth. Human beings will still be able to yearn for more education, more leisure, more beauty, but not rationally for more things."

In other words, with industry in actual decline (as the case with Britain) or ultimate stagnation (as predicted by the ecologists) it is irrational for workers to demand "more things," i.e., more food, clothing, and shelter. And without zero population growth (ZPG), the same amount of "things" will have to be divided among more and more people. Only this can help avoid a "natural calamity on earth."

Lewis has continued to propagandize against workers' demands, even for the mere maintenance of their already-cut living standards, since his 1972 article. He was then, and is now, one of the most enthusiastic supporters of Nixon's wage-freeze policy.

This propagation of zero-growth ideology was most recently expressed by The New York Times in their lead editorial this past New Year's Day in the form of a New Year's "Resolution For a New Era." We are told that:

"With 1973, an era died, an era of profligacy unprecedented in human experience when most Americans embarked on an orgy of consumption. . . . In order to meet the challenge of the new era of scarcity which has been heralded by the 1973 energy crisis, Americans must begin at last to take seriously the long-term warning of conservationists that the resources of this land, and planet, are finite. . . . This and future generations can continue to live abundantly and in freedom only if Americans today firmly resolve to practice in the New Year and the New Era the thrift of their forefathers and to make resource

(Continued on page 14)

Ecology: Spoilers of earth cry austerity for workers

By MYRON JEFKA

MARCH 18—The ecology movement has been and still is a largely middle class reaction to those distasteful features of the capitalist system which put profit ahead of human needs and immediate private gain ahead of long-term social planning. Monopoly capitalism fails to take into account the needs of future generations to continue to have the same natural resources, raw materials, and clean air and water which have always been taken for granted in the past. The industrial magnates give lip service to conservation needs, but they in fact ignore them in their never-ending drive for more and more profit.

However, the ideological retainers of the capitalist class, especially the editors of The New York Times, have gone out of their way to channel what could be a progressive movement to save the world's resources from depletion and spoliation at the hands of capital into a reactionary movement directed against the workers and oppressed, who suffer far more from a blighted environment than these ecologically enlightened, middle class elements. It is the duty of the vanguard of the workers and oppressed to expose this capitalist hypocrisy and turn the just wrath of the ecology movement against the real wasters of natural resources, the real spoilers of the air, land, and waters—the capitalists themselves, and their military-police machine.

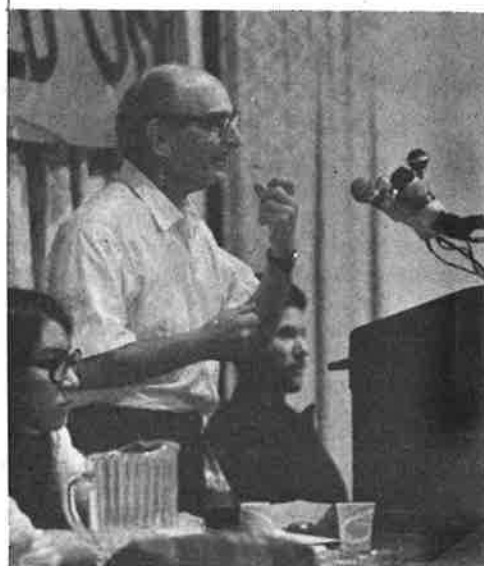
WANT TO FREEZE POVERTY

The Times, on many occasions, has picked up one of the most reactionary

academic movements of recent years, the zero-growth movement. Workers World was quick to point out the reactionary, utopian implications of the Club of Rome's study, prepared by a group of MIT think-tank seers and entitled "The Limits to Growth." (See WW article of April 20, 1972, entitled "Doomsday: Is it Around the Corner?")

This book calls for a "global equilibrium state" at which population growth and industrial development would be frozen. It, and a similar British work titled "Blueprint for Survival" express the bleakest fears of the petty-bourgeois intelligentsia toward continuing capitalist "progress." In their distorted way, they predict what life would be like, given another century of industrial development and population growth, if one takes the capitalist order of society as given. And as our earlier review skillfully points out, were capitalism to survive another century, the outlook for the future of humanity would indeed be pessimistic.

It is no accident that The New York Times should have begun to take an interest in "ecology" in early 1972, nor that "The Limits to Growth" should have been published and circulated in a popular edition at that time. It was at the height of the 1972 British coal strike and Nixon's Phase 2 wage freeze that the Times editorialized in its Feb. 4 edition: "The current bickering in this country over the minor dislocations caused by wage and price controls provides basis for pessimism . . . (because) a finite earth has finite resources and cannot be subject to endlessly escalating demands and drains. If man will not . . . adjust his requirements to the planet's capabilities,



Sam Marcy, chairman of Workers World Party, addresses meeting attended by over 400 people. WW photo: Dick

Sam Marcy addresses landmark meeting

By NAOMI COHEN

NEW YORK, March 16—Workers World Party (WWP) and Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF) organized a landmark meeting here tonight to discuss the legacy of Lenin 50 years after his death. Held at a midtown Manhattan hotel, the meeting hall was packed with over 400 people who came to hear the Workers World analysis of the revolutionary heritage of Lenin and its applications to the world revolutionary movement today. Present here tonight were political activists from different parts of the country and representatives of various liberation struggles around the world.

Speaking beneath a huge banner reading "Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite," the chairwoman, Sharon Chin, introduced the subject of the evening by remarking that we have to examine the struggles of the past to understand their effects on the present. "Workers World Party is not a blind follower of any socialist country," she said, "but we are staunch defenders of all socialist countries against imperialism."

The opening remarks on tonight's agenda were made by Deirdre Griswold, editor of Workers World newspaper and formerly a member of the London Secretariat of the Bertrand Russell International War Crimes Tribunal. Running down the party's history of struggle, Griswold put tonight's Marxist analysis into the kind of perspective that has characterized WWP in its 15-year history. "To explain our ideological positions alone is not enough," she declared. "The real importance of our history is what we do with

400 hear WWP analysis of Lenin legacy

a privileged bureaucracy which broke down socialist solidarity by introducing pernicious material incentives and appeals to self-aggrandizement, particularly during the first 5-year plan and the period of collectivization. This privileged bureaucracy, he emphasized, was the cause of the degeneration of the Soviet Union. The terrible repression of the Stalin period was merely the tool of this privileged grouping.

Thus, Marcy differentiated WWP's analysis from that of those in the movement who claim the degeneration in the USSR came with the rise of Khrushchev; Khrushchev only continued the trend towards greater inequality begun under Stalin. Marcy also emphasized that while the Soviet Union has been deformed by a bureaucracy, it is nevertheless still a workers' state and is objectively allied with the workers and the oppressed of the world.

EFFECT OF CIVIL WAR

Marcy graphically illustrated his point by describing the first years following the Bolshevik Revolution. The blockade of the USSR by the capitalist countries and the organization of counterrevolutionary invasions by 14 imperialist powers were attempts to literally starve the entire country into submission. During the 3 years of blockade and civil war, Marcy pointed out, industrial production dropped to 14 percent of what it had been in 1914. This is an 86 percent drop in industrial production. Compare this with the 40 percent drop in industrial production in the U.S. during the depression of the 1930s, when some 20 million people were unemployed, and one just begins to get an idea of the colossal problems suffered by the people in the USSR during those years.

"The magnitude of the devastation caused by the imperialist blockade and civil war must be understood in order for us to understand the deformations and deficiencies in the USSR today," Marcy said.

In the face of industrial collapse and mass starvation, the Bolshevik Party was forced to make a tactical retreat. Lenin proposed what is now known as the New Economic Policy (NEP) to try to stimulate the economy by reinstituting some forms of capitalist production and inviting foreign

investors back into the country.

But the NEP alone does not account for the degeneration in the Soviet Union, Marcy asserted. It was a temporary expedient. The fundamental cause of the degeneration, he emphasized, was the way in which Stalin carried out socialist construction after Lenin's death.

Both in the area of industrialization and collectivization, Stalin's policy was to encourage self-aggrandizement, material incentives, and privilege—and this was done without any accountability to the working class as a whole. This policy broke down class solidarity and pitted worker against worker, peasant against peasant. NEP men climbed swiftly in the government and in the controlling organs of the economy. The gap between the workers and poor peasants on the one hand and the technicians, state farm managers, and government bureaucrats on the other widened. Finally, an entrenched, privileged bureaucracy became interested in preserving its favored status above all else.

KHRUSHCHEV'S REPORT

Marcy went on to characterize the period just after Stalin's death as a crucial one for the world revolutionary movement. Everyone was wondering how the pendulum would swing—would it be to the right or to the left? "The question in the minds of revolutionary communists was whether there would be a revolutionary turn to abolish privileges and return the control of the state and the initiatives to the masses."

Khrushchev's report to the 20th Party Congress, though it attacked Stalin, did not signal a return to Leninist principles. There was no mention of the privileges of the bureaucrats, nor any denunciations of their country houses and limousines, nor even a mention of the deep cleavage between the workers and the bureaucracy.

"Yes, Khrushchev abolished some of the repressive measures of the Stalin regime, and that was correct," Marcy said. "But the question then posed was: Who would enjoy the new freedom?" We have seen since that time that all the freedom went to the very rightist elements who were most hostile to genuine Leninism.

THE BOURGEOIS OPPOSITION

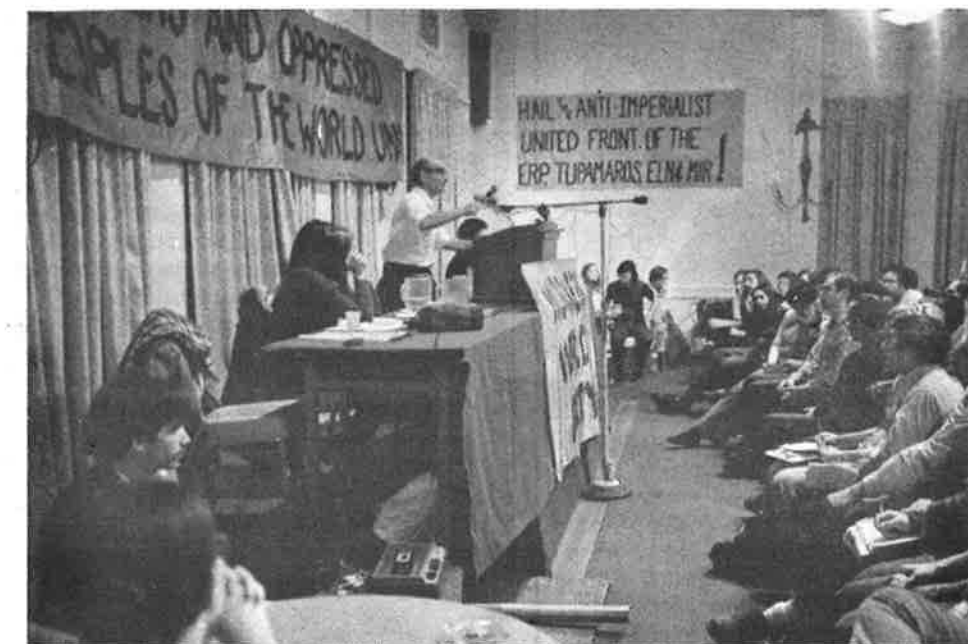
As a result, the so-called freedom fighters in the USSR today are nothing but

bourgeois restorationists. While WWP has always stood for the restoration of civil liberties in the Soviet Union and the revival of proletarian democracy, giving Solzhenitsyn and his ilk the chance to be heard in the USSR should be used as a tactic to expose their reactionary ideas and defeat them ideologically.

Khrushchev's report to the 20th Congress caused a great deal of confusion in the world revolutionary movement. The Socialist Workers Party, which claims to be the inheritor of Trotskyism, was so delirious to hear Stalin denounced that it failed to see that the denunciation was from the right and not from a genuine Leninist viewpoint.

ROLE OF THE CHINESE PARTY

Marcy also pointed out that while the Chinese Communist Party now calls Khrushchev a counterrevolutionary and says that the Soviet Union has become a fascist state since his time, the Chinese leaders at the 20th Congress fully endorsed his report. This added to the confusion in the international movement on the real



Sam Marcy on the legacy of Lenin: "Only the action of the proletariat can liquidate the exploiters and bring about... the death knell of imperialism." WW photo: Dick

meaning of the report. Only several years later did the Chinese begin to denounce some of the reactionary policies of the Soviet leaders.

Marcy showed that among their criticisms of the Soviet party, the Chinese CP denounced its attempts to make an accommodation with U.S. imperialism. Yet, it was Stalin who began the attempt to accommodate himself with the imperialists and today the Chinese leaders, too, are following the same erroneous course.

In the tradition of Lenin, Marcy ended his talk by demonstrating how impossible was any lasting accommodation with imperialism. His concluding remark brought the audience to its feet in a long ovation at the words, "Only the action of the proletariat can liquidate the exploiters and bring about the kind of accommodation we want—the death knell of imperialism."

Tonight's meeting closed with the reading of a message sent by WWP to the newly formed Latin American Council of Revolutionary Coordination. Tom Soto expressed Workers World's enthusiastic support for this coalition of four Latin revolutionary organizations (see accompanying text of message). The audience again rose to its feet to applaud this new development and ended the meeting by chanting in solidarity with the Chilean people, "Down with the fascist junta, workers and peasants to power!"

WWP statement to Council of Revolutionary Coordination

United front of Latin guerrillas hailed

Remarks by Tom Soto at "Legacy of Lenin" meeting:

under the gun of U.S. imperialism and therefore require particular support from our party and the movement of this country.

newspaper of February 22, we hailed the formation of the Council of Revolutionary Coordination in an editorial. In the following

translation of the full text of this declaration by the four organizations. To our knowledge this declaration has not so far appeared in any other North American publication in either English or Spanish. Nor has this extremely important development been taken note of by the radical press except in the most perfunctory way, although the ruling class is very well aware of its