Viral capitalism

Racist, sexist bosses kill jobs

By Kathy Durkin

Another 1.3 million people filed for unemployment benefits during the week of Sept. 28, adding to the ranks of the 12 million workers still jobless due to the pandemic. They and their families have lost health insurance, not provided by this ruthless capitalist government. Evictions and homelessness are on the rise. Food lines are everywhere.

Yet no pandemic rescue plan is in sight. Despite the suffering of millions of workers and their families, the Democrats and Republicans cannot come to an agreement. Especially hard hit are Black, Latíx, Indigenous, immigrant and low-income workers. Undocumented workers deserve assistance, but this racist government denies them any aid, even medical care or food stamps.

October marks the third week since laid-off workers receiving unemployment benefits failed to get the extra $600 weekly federal benefits that expired at the end of July. Right-wing politicians refused to agree to it. Even more workers have lost jobs since the White House halted stimulus talks on Oct. 6. That trend will continue if the pandemic spikes again and businesses close. (Economic Policy Institute, Oct. 8)

What recovery?

Job growth slowed in September, with many furloughs becoming permanent and the “recovery” losing steam. While some companies are hiring, others are laying off workers and 15.9% of young workers are still unemployed. (Bureau of Labor Statistics, Oct. 2) White workers are being rehired twice as quickly as Black workers due to entrenched racism. Many laid-off Black workers have joined the ranks of the 3.8 million people who permanently lost their jobs as of last month.

Denying further rescue funds will severely harm Black, Latíx and Indigenous communities, who already suffer from lower incomes and assets due to systemic racism. It means no more federal funds for housing, health care, protective equipment for health workers, COVID testing and treatment, or the Postal Service.

Answer to fascist threat? Working class struggle!

The following are lightly edited remarks on the recent election debates, with WWP’s First Secretary Larry Holmes in New York City, leading comrade Teresa Gutierrez in San Antonio, and comrade moderator Ted Kelly in Philadelphia. Tune in Thursdays at 8 p.m. ET/ 5 p.m. PT for revolutionary analysis from WWP members and our allies. WWP videos are available at youtube.com/wwpvideo. For more information, see workers.org.

Ted Kelly: We’ve talked about the fascist plot in Michigan [where neo-fascist militias planned to kidnap and kill Democratic Gov. Gretchen Whitmer]. We’ve talked about the increasing danger against our trans brothers, sisters and siblings, against the tens of thousands of immigrant/migrant U.S. concentration camps who are suffering everything from death in the pandemic to forced sterilizations. So—Is Trump fascist? And if he’s fascist, should we not be uniting with the Democrats to stop Trump? What do we do if Trump doesn’t concede? Or worse yet, what do we do if Trump wins? These are questions that I think are on the mind of the working class right now.

Teresa Gutierrez: I think Trump is a fascist. If it walks like a duck and talks like a duck, it’s a duck. But we’re not living under a fascist state. That’s the difference. If we were living under fascism, we would not be able to have this meeting. Fascist actions are happening—that’s for sure. But we’re not living under fascism yet. I do think that there is an element of the ruling class that is getting ready for fascism. We don’t know, we’re not in the boardrooms where we can hear these things. But we have to be prepared for anything.

That’s one of the reasons why it’s so important to be revolutionary internationalists. There are many activists who don’t see the fact that many of our problems could be solved by taking money away from the Pentagon. The money that’s going to “defense” and U.S. war could be used for COVID relief, for health care, for education and so forth.

But you can’t vote away imperialism; you can’t vote away fascism. You have to uproot it, and that’s an intense struggle. I have had the privilege of traveling and meeting many activists and revolutionaries from around the world, specifically in Latin America. We have sisters and brothers and family there who have experienced fascism, like our Chilean comrades under President Augusto Pinochet, who was a fascist. Hundreds of thousands of workers were massacred in Chile.

We learn from these comrades what it takes to stay in the struggle day after day, night after night. This is why we have to be internationalist—because our comrades and sisters and brothers and family from around the world have experienced the naked arm of capitalism. They have so much to teach us, and there is so much we can learn from them.

This is why we have to always raise that there are no borders in the working-class struggle. We’re not just caring about the working class in the United States. We care about every single worker. Especially because U.S. imperialism has created the conditions that have forced people to leave their homelands.

Internationalism has to be part of our program in the coming days. It is a tenet of the Party’s work, and it has to be a tenet of the movement.

Larry Holmes: From a Marxist perspective, fascism is viewed differently depending on who you are in society. To us, what’s a fascist? A fascist is someone who is violently racist, violently homophobic, violently anti-working class, wants to crush unions, wants to smash the oppressed, smash migrant workers, carry out wars both beyond the borders of the U.S. and inside the border.

Continued on page 3

Racism & federal executions

Jalil Muntaqim home!
Free Kao Saelee
Abolitionist 10 point program

Indigenous Peoples’ Day
ICE targets VietLead activist
Book review ‘Capitalism on a Ventilator’

The rich, richer — The sick? Sicker

Workers Assembly Against Racism. See p. 2.

The working class can’t be silent! Act by mobilizing to shut down racism on Oct. 18! (shutdownracism.org)

It doesn’t matter whether you’re in a union or if you have a job, 99% of us are part of the working class. And more than 60 local, regional and national labor unions have declared the labor movement must organize work stoppages and general strikes against racism and police terror (laborforblacklives.com).

Fighting racism is a working class issue. Support for a General Strike/Shut Down Against Racism movement must be built inside the labor movement—and, just as importantly, among those of us not in a union.

Most of the millions of people who recently marched in the streets against white supremacy, racism and police brutality are workers—many with gig jobs, and many now unemployed because of the pandemic. And workers who have held work stoppages in the past months to protest unsafe conditions are in the forefront of the movement to bring back the general strike.

A Workers Assembly Against Racism has the potential to bring leaders from workers struggles together in one place. Contact shutdownracism.org and help make the general strike/shutdown more than an idea. Make it a reality! ☐

Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multiracial, multinational, multigendered multigenerational organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it’s the only way forward.

Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the never-ending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression, attacks on im/migrants, misogyny, LGBTQ+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means homelessness, increased homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

The U.S. is the richest country in the world, yet no one has a guaranteed right to shelter, food, water, health care, education or anything else—unless they can pay for it. Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with huge student debt. People need a guaranteed right to shelter, food, water, health care, and jobs that pay a living wage.

Workers who have held work stoppages in the past months to protest unsafe conditions are in the forefront of the movement to bring back the general strike.

The threat of a teachers’ strike forced the NYC mayor to close down the schools at the start of the pandemic. Workers in hospitals and at Amazon, Instacart, McDonald’s and on farms walked out, stopped working and shut down business as usual. They gained PPE and better safety regulations. They showed what workers’ power could do!

The time has come to act to demand more—in solidarity with Black lives, the targets of police shootings and systematic oppression; with the migrant community, put into concentration camps by ICE or designated ‘excluded workers’ denied income support during the pandemic, with Indigenous and Latinx communities hit disproportionately hard by COVID, with descendants of enslaved Africans and Indigenous people who demand reparations!

Especially now, when there is Depression-level unemployment and the prospect of mass evictions around the corner, the general strike/shutdown must become a weapon in the struggle to defend all workers.

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If you are interested in joining Workers World Party contact: 212.627.2994

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Continued from page 1

Jerome Powell, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, reacting to President Trump’s order to stop rescue plan talks, warned that if the virus spreads, more businesses will close and the economy will tank. His concern is not about workers suffering but about companies losing profits as the economy slows. At the same time, the capitalist class fears growing mass anger by the multinational working class and political instability.

$1.2 trillion bonanza — to the wealthy

One group has fared quite well during this pandemic. The 2,189 billionaires whose combined wealth soared 27.5% between April and July to a record $10.2 trillion bonanza — to the wealthy. NAIBOC leader Jean-Luc Pierre welcomed Palestinian activists to share the platform. A representative from Italian Americans for Indigenous Peoples’ Day spoke to the fake narrative that removing Columbus is anti-Italian. All speakers acknowledged a new holiday is just the beginning. As NAIBOC leader Mea Johnson put it in a press statement, “The bare minimum action required is to change Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples’ Day and remove all symbols of white supremacy from our neighborhoods, streets and parks.”

Several hundred strong, on Oct. 10, in Faneuil Hall named for an enslaver, hundreds of cities, towns and school communities across the U.S. The time and space claimed by the SinkingColumbus action was a force of decolonization and cultural resistance, centering Indigenous people and Black and Brown allies. NAIBOC leader Jean-Luc Pierre welcomed Palestinian activists to share the platform. A representative from Italian Americans for Indigenous Peoples’ Day spoke to the fake narrative that removing Columbus is anti-Italian. All speakers acknowledged a new holiday is just the beginning. As NAIBOC leader Mea Johnson put it in a press statement, “The bare minimum action required is to change Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples’ Day and remove all symbols of white supremacy from our neighborhoods, streets and parks.”

AUNIE leader Moonamun James welcomed the crowd with an acknowledge- ment of the stolen unceded territory that the settler “state” is built on: “Your presence liberates [this land] from those who make monuments to butchers and rapists.”


“For we’re here: we’re not going any- where, and [Boston Mayor Marty Walsh] needs to listen to us,” Mahltown Munro, leader of Indigenous Peoples Day MA and UAINI, asserted in front of so-called Faneuil Hall — named for an enslaver. Kevin Peterson from the New Democracy Coalition — a group leading a boycott of the racist site — also spoke. Both criti- cized Walsh for his attitude toward communities of color. As Munro said, “He’s like, ‘I agree with your point here, and I don’t agree with your point there’. … [but] he has not once said to white people to decide what is offensive to us and what is important to us!”

“Columbus is not a day, but a sym- bol of genocide, gender violence, colo- nization, slavery and white supremacy,” Chali-Naru Dones, representing the United Confederation of Tribo-Peoples, told the crowd. Dones’ children joined her in mounting the empty pedestal, once used to support a statue of Columbus, which was finally removed after its sec- ond behooving in June.

One of the children sounded a conch shell horn to thunderous applause. The child who towered from the pedestal and summoned the crowd’s attention was an especially pointed uppling of the colono- nialist narrative.

This powerful image of resistance affirmed that living Indigenous people are reclaiming space from dead white oppressors and increased mass awareness about the toxic founding myths of the U.S. and increasing Black Lives Matter- inspired direct action against ongoing racist injustice.

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By Joe Piette

Philadelphia

Nancy Nguyen, Executive Director of VietLead, a Philadelphia-based Vietnamese refugee organization, was handcuffed and arrested Oct. 8 as she was changing one-year-old baby’s diaper in her Philadelphia home. Her arrest involved the cooperation of several federal and local agencies, including the Philadelphia Police Department — in a city that claims sanctuary status.

Her so-called crime? Not murder, not kidnapping, nothing to do with drugs, no violence was involved, not even property damage. Her actions weren’t even a felony. Nguyen was arrested under a law enforcement agency in motion were — littering and trespassing — 250 miles away in Richmond, Va., a month earlier.

Arrested for organizing for migrants, refugees

On Sept. 8, migrant and refugee activists in cities from Little Saigon, Calif., to Miami to Washington, D.C., denounced newly-installed Immigration and Customs Enforcement director Tony Pham. Two dozen organizations signed a statement condemning Pham’s appointment as a racist maneuver. They demanded Pham “bring human rights home” by addressing ICE’s many abuses: “We raise our voices as refusers and the descendants of refusers — from Viet Nam, Haiti, El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala ... as witnesses of the wretched treatment of our refuge sisters and brothers from around the world by the Trump administration,” by U.S. Customs and Border Protection and by ICE.” (tinyurl.com/cy36dp6p)

A few activists descended on Pham’s home near Richmond, Va., to plant tombstones and signs on his lawn exposing ICE’s incarceration of migrant children. The head of ICE, which is guilty of imprisoning children, is leading a massive distribution, by U.S. Customs and Border Protection and by ICE.” (tinyurl.com/cy36dp6p)

The attack on the leader of ICE is a threat faced by all activists at every level in every city, and even in some other countries. (Image credit: Huy Hoang)

The impact of COVID-19 in China & the U.S

‘Capitalism on a Ventilator’ — A WWP book review

By Ted Kelly

“Capitalism on a Ventilator,” which chronicles the terminal decline of capitalism, is itself an example of cooperation by progressive working class organizations.

In line with President Trump’s many Twitter calls for punishment for those who break the law, including those who protest ICE crimes, the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Capitol Police, and local police departments and agencies are using the same tactics of the old white supremacist regime. … Tony Pham is not our family, and he does not represent us.” Directing her comments to Pham, Cat Bao Le continued, “We will not let this administration use Vietnamese refugees as a wedge to further divide us from our siblings.”

ICE under Pham, same old ICE

Tony Pham, of Vietnamese descent, was named head of ICE on Aug. 25. At a protest of his appointment, Cat Bao Le, executive director of SEAC Village — the oldest Vietnamese American community in North Carolina — said that the strategy of using “people that appear like they come from the community” was a well-tackled tactic of police, ICE and other agencies. “We know that Tony Pham is being used as a puppet of this white supremacist regime. … Tony Pham is not our family, and he does not represent us.” Directing her comments to Pham, Cat Bao Le continued, “We will not let this administration use Vietnamese refugees as a wedge to further divide us from our siblings.”

The working class of China, Cuba, Vietnam, and other socialist countries has provided us with an example of what can be overcome through the power of a united and uncompromising working class. 

Capitalist COVID’s toll on workers

Millions of workers in the U.S. joined the ranks of the unemployed, as jobs vanished without any guarantee of hazard pay. Even hospitals faced mass shortages of personal protective equipment (PPE), as nurses and other health care workers had to reuse disposable face-masks and shoes from out-of-date and trash bags. 

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Amid claims of racism, another federal execution set

By Gloria Rubac

The federal government has just set its eighth execution for 2020. U.S. Attorney General William Barr directed the Federal Bureau of Prisons to schedule the execution of Orlando Cordell Hall for Nov. 19 in Terre Haute, Ind. If carried out, this would place federal executions ahead of those by the states for the first time ever.

Hall, an African American man, was sentenced to death by an all-white jury. Immediately after the Sept. 30 announcement of the upcoming execution date, Marcia A. Wider and Robert C. Owen, Hall’s attorneys, issued a statement to the media which charged: “The proceedings that led to Mr. Hall’s death sentence were marked by racial bias and incompetent lawyering. During jury selection, the prosecution team enlisted the help of a former state prosecutor known for keeping Black citizens from serving on criminal juries. With his help, an all-white jury was seated to decide Mr. Hall’s fate.

“In the years since Mr. Hall’s trial, the U.S. Supreme Court has expressly found that this very prosecutor discriminated against Black potential jurors on account of their race and then lied under oath in an attempt to conceal his racist conduct. In this way, Mr. Hall’s case also reflects the significant and troubling racial disparities in the operation of the federal death penalty, in which 60% of those currently on federal death row are people of color, including 45% who are Black.” (Id.org, Oct. 1)

Hall never denied his role in the crime that sent him to death row. But because his trial attorneys did no proper investigation, the jurors never learned that Hall suffered severe trauma from growing up in poverty and that he and his siblings were victims of daily violence from their parents.

After his parents abandoned him, he was left alone to raise his younger brothers. This led him to begin selling drugs to care for them. Once, Hall saw his three-year-old nephew drowning in a swimming pool, and heroically jumped from a second-floor balcony to save the child’s life.

In a statement giving background on the case, Wider and Owen concluded: “Had they known these facts about Mr. Hall, there is every reason to believe the jury would have spared his life, especially given that jurors deliberated Mr. Hall’s fate over the span of two days before finally returning a death verdict.” (tinyurl.com/3y4gcdm)

Abolish the death penalty in all states!

Only five states carried out executions during the first nine months of 2020. Tennessee is the only state where an execution is still scheduled. If carried out, it would total eight state executions this year. According to the Death Penalty Information Center, the last time there were fewer than 11 executions in a calendar year was in 1994 when states carried out a total of five prisoners to death.

One reason for the low number of executions this year is the COVID-19 virus. Even so, state killings have consistently decreased over the last 15 years. In March, Colorado became the 22nd state to abolish the death penalty. Currently, half of U.S. states have either abolished the death penalty or imposed moratoria on executions.

The DPIC reports: “Two-thirds of the 50 states either no longer authorize capital punishment or have not executed anyone in more than a decade. New death sentences are down nearly 90% since the mid-1990s and executions have declined by 75% since the turn of the century. And more than 80% of U.S. counties have no one on death row and have not executed anyone in the past half century.”

“…”

Free Kao Saelee now!

By Ted Kelly

“What is the point of sending somebody back to a country where they don’t have family?” asks Kao Saelee. “I would be frightened out of my mind.”

Like many migrants kidnapped by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement since its creation in 2003, Kao Saelee is imprisoned at a concentration camp in Louisiana, 2,000 miles from his home. Despite the fact Kao that the 41-year-old has lived in California for over 23 years, he now faces deportation to Laos. His family fled the country after the devastating imperialist wars waged on the region by the U.S. from the 1950s to the present day. He has not been there since he was two years old.

August 6 was the day Saelee was supposed to walk out a free man, after 22 years in a California prison. Instead he was shackled, turned over by California state prison guards to a private mercenary and delivered to ICE for deportation. Even as he was “transferred” between prisons, his family was waiting on the other side of the prison walls to bring him home.

The practice of handing prisoners over to ICE for deportation is increasingly common in the “blue” state of California, where Democrat Gavin Newsom is governor. Like his California colleague Sen. Kamala Harris, Newsom’s persona has been crafted by public relations experts to put a progressive face on reactionary carceral policies.

Saelee was also one of thousands of imprisoned workers who have been dispatched to fight wildfires in California. But the capitalist state, indifferent to the heroic work he performed in 2017 and 2018, moved to deport him anyway.

Kao Saelee is just one of hundreds of millions of workers who, by sentence or by happenstance, calls this prison nation his home. Workers World Party and the

JALIL MUNTQAQIM IS HOME!

We are thrilled to announce that former Black Panther and respected and beloved elder, Jalil Muntaqim (Anthony Bottom), was released on October 7th after serving nearly 50 years in prison. During his decades in prison, Jalil led education and mentorship programs for other people in prison, as well as earning numerous educational degrees and mentoring many younger incarcerated men.

Workers World Party believes that prisons are concentration camps for the poor and the oppressed. The U.S. mass incarceration apparatus inflicts daily cruelties and humiliations on millions of members of our class, a disproportionately massive number of them Black, Brown, and Indigenous. Anything less than the complete dismantling of the prison industrial complex is unacceptable. Abolition is our demand and our goal. The major pandemic hotspots across our country are prisons. There is no better time than now to loudly demand — Free Them All! Prisoners are incarcerated workers and members of our class, the working class. These transitional demands (on page 4) are about exposing this system and the mass death of incarcerated workers from the COVID-19 pandemic. They are demands on our way to abolition. They are demands to save lives.

Free Kao Saelee now!

Kao Saelee is just one of hundreds of millions of workers who, by sentence or by happenstance, calls this prison nation his home. Workers World Party and the
Rich get richer, poor get poorer — and sicker

“The rich get richer and the poor get poorer.” The old cliché is still true — obscenely true. In six months, March to September — when the working class was clobbered by COVID, mass unemployment and a rise in violent supremacy — the rich got richer. Specifically, the collective wealth of this country’s 643 billionaires expanded by $845 billion. That’s a 29% rise. Not bad considering we’re in the midst of an unprecedented economic contraction. (americansfortaxfairness.org)

The demonstrations spread from Jakarta, the capital, to other cities, thousands of participants, many of them high school students, were arrested. Police blocked the streets in the capital leading to the Parliament building and the presidential palace, after thousands of university students and workers announced plans to hold mass rallies there.

“Similar rallies were also held in Bandung, the capital of West Java province, where clashes between rock-throwing students and riot police broke out since Tuesday, when police tried to disperse the protesters. More than 1,000 students were arrested.”

The United States Seventh Fleet was in the southernmost point of the southernmost island of the Philippines, was ordered ‘on alert.’ (Indonesian) General Nasution who had a mission in Washington. The United States was directly involved in the day-to-day events.

In 1965, Time magazine reported that the elimination of communism in Indonesia was “the West’s best news for years in Asia.” (Shirinri, “Memories of Massacre,” Jacobin magazine, June 19, 2015)

Since then, U.S. businesses have become the biggest foreign investors in Indonesia. The super-rich in the U.S. are growing even richer from an estimated $36 billion invested in Indonesia from 2013 to 2017, mostly in extractive industries like oil and gas, according to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

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“During October 1965 two representatives of the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation, close associates of mine, were in Djakarta [Indonesia] attending a conference [where] few had any doubt about what was taking place around them. The United States Seventh Fleet was in Javanese waters. The largest base in the area, febrilely constructed by the United States a few months earlier on the southernmost point of the southernmost

After 55 years of repression

Indonesian workers, youth take to streets

By Deirdre Griswold

Thousands of workers and students marched and rallied in Indonesia on Oct. 7 to protest a new antilabor law.

“Labor rights activists, workers and students are protesting Indonesia’s new labor law they say will undermine pay, benefits, as well as the environment. The law is part of the government’s efforts to court foreign investors in a bid to drive economic growth,” reported the Christian Science Monitor on Oct. 7.

“In sickness and in health,” to borrow from the “poo maan” of the bunch. Number 15, Dan Gilbert, real estate financier and owner of the company’s infection rate is 1,449 per 100,000 workers. That’s close to the company’s infection rate is 1,449 per 100,000 workers. That’s close to 33,952, the population rate’ in the U.S.,” CNBC reported. “If Amazon’s figures are accurate, the company’s infection rate is 1,449 per 100,000 workers. That’s close to Michigan’s statewide rate of 1,457 per 100,000. Only 12 states have rates below Michigan. And about 20% of Amazon’s warehouses are in Michigan and the 12 states with the lowest infection numbers. So Amazon claims its safety measures are limiting infection rates. But how safe are the working conditions in communities where rates are fairly low? Not very, according to Amazon workers in Shakopee, Minn. By June 30, 45 had tested positive, and the infection rate at the warehouse was 17 times that of Scott County.

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Rich get richer, poor get poorer — and sicker

By Deirdre Griswold

“Rich get richer, poor get poorer — and sicker.” The old cliché is still true — obscenely true. In six months, March to September — when the working class was clobbered by COVID, mass unemployment and a rise in violent supremacy — the rich got richer. Specifically, the collective wealth of this country’s 643 billionaires expanded by $845 billion. That’s a 29% rise. Not bad considering we’re in the midst of an unprecedented economic contraction. (americansfortaxfairness.org)

The demonstrations spread from Jakarta, the capital, to other cities, thousands of participants, many of them high school students, were arrested. Police blocked the streets in the capital leading to the Parliament building and the presidential palace, after thousands of university students and workers announced plans to hold mass rallies there.

“Similar rallies were also held in Bandung, the capital of West Java province, where clashes between rock-throwing students and riot police broke out since Tuesday, when police tried to disperse the protesters. More than 1,000 students were arrested.”

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There can be no doubt that, with so much in profits at stake, the policy makers for U.S. imperialism are already plotting to stifle any resurgence of Indonesia’s progressive movements. The movement here must be alerted to the need for solidarity with our Indonesian brothers and sisters.

Deirdre Griswold’s “The Silent Slaughter” and “Indonesia 1965: The Second Greatest Crime of the Century” are available in free download at workers.org/books.
A blow to neo-Nazi organizations – particularly in Europe, but also throughout the world – was dealt in Athens, Greece, on Oct. 7. After 400 court sessions, over 100 witnesses and five years of prosecution, the fascist Golden Dawn political party was convicted of being run as a criminal enterprise.

The parliamentary leadership of Golden Dawn was convicted of directing a criminal conspiracy, and its cadre were convicted of “being members of a gang.” Golden Dawn was founded in 1981 by Nikos Michaloliakos, a former Greek commando with neo-Nazi sympathies.

The public prosecutor supervising the case recommended acquittal for all but one party member, citing a lack of evidence. (Guardian. Oct. 7) But the three judges hearing the case disagreed – 68 of its members were convicted of being members of a gang, with the rest convicted of accessory charges. Syriza, the left party, showed popular support for these convictions.

Trade unions, particularly PAME (the All-Workers Militant Front founded by Communist Party of Greece trade unionists), progressive political parties and student groups brought out more than 20,000 people to celebrate the verdict in front of the Palace of Justice in Athens, Greece. Golden Dawn, where they held a moment of silence for victims of Golden Dawn and demanded “exemplary punishments” and maximum sentences for members of this fascist party. (Greek Communist Party Statement, Oct. 8)

Marches against Golden Dawn were held in Thessaloniki, Agrinio, Artia, Volos, Ioannina, Zakynthos, Igoumenitsa, Heraklion, Ikaria, Katerini, Kozani, Cephalonia, Karditsa, Larissa, Patras, Lefkada, Kalamata, Xanthi, Kastoria, Thessaloniki. Videos of the marches showed careful attention to pandemic hygiene.

- Answer to fascist threat? Working class struggle!

The public prosecutor states, “Not just some rhetoric; or a nice speech. In a crisis, are you ready to get down? Are you ready to put in the time, make the sacrifices?”

“Golden Dawn engaged in street violence from the beginning, but the financial crisis, when the European bourgeois imposed harsh austerity, gave it a big electoral boost. It presented itself as an opponent of the crisis, just as it is a fascist party. Golden Dawn is an organization built on the hatred for the working class and divide it. The organization built itself to other right-wing, fascist parties in Europe and the U.S.

Golden Dawn aimed attacks at LGBTQ+ people, members of PAME and immigrants. Group members were found guilty of attacking a Pakistani fruit worker, Soazid Lukman, in Athens in 2013. Abooud Elbarak, an Egyptian fisherman working in Athens in a joint Egypt-Greece project to develop aquaculture technology, was left for dead after a Golden Dawn attack on his boat, but he survived to testify at the trial, even the Greek Prime Minister, Katerina Sakellaropoulou, whose role is mainly ceremonial, supported the judgment.

Now a number of other groups in Greece are competing for the mantle of fascist party. But all of them will have to confront the masses of anti-fascist Greek workers, who are organized and in the streets. (Continued from page 1)

From the point of view of the bourgeoisie, they’ll say a fascist is someone who wants to negate bourgeois democracy and be a tyrant, an authoritarian leader, consider as heresy and issue edicts, and so forth.

What Marxists understand is that fascism does not come from some ideology. It’s not born in the heads of people, neither the ultrareactionary nor the police state part of it. Fascism is a desperate, extreme response to a huge crisis in the capitalist system. And the bourgeoisie argues among itself: “How are we going to save our system?” Some will say, “Well, this is so bad that the only way we can save the system is to mobilize some social base.”

- Latin America: Greece in the context of austerity

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Por Kathy Durkin

¡Ganaron! La histórica huelga de 10 días de los enfermeros de la Universidad de Illinois en Chicago, Peoria y Rockford. Después de trabajar sin contrato durante más de un año, los enfermeros estaban harto! Además, como amenaza, los patrones trajeron despidos de los trabajadores de otros estados antes de la huelga.

Esta acción laboral demostró la determinación y unidad de los trabajadores del centro médico: trabajadores de mantenimiento, cocineros, técnicos y administrativos, terapeutas ocupacionales y otros profesionales. Presionaron a los jefes de UI-Chicago para que se rindieran.

Los contratos negados, tentativos y de varios años aumentan salarios sustanciales para todos los trabajadores, incluido un salario mínimo de $15 en Chicago para aquellos en la escala de salario más bajo, medidas de seguridad para lidiar con COVID-19, personal adecuado y protección contra la subcontratación de la dirección del sindicato empleados, informó el comité de negociación del sindicato el 24 de septiembre.

El presidente de SEIU Local 73, Dian Palmer, dijo que el acuerdo “es una victoria para todos los trabajadores de Illinois y muestra lo que es posible cuando los trabajadores se unen y exigen que los empleadores nos respeten; respeto para la salud, respeto para los trabajadores de la salud de Illinois y muestra lo que es posible cuando los trabajadores sindicalizados se unen a luchar por nuestra salud y el bienestar de los demás.”

"Nunca se rindieron", enfatizó Palmer. "Estaban todos los días al amanecer exigiendo justicia para los trabajadores esenciales. UIC les pagó, pero su salario y beneficios no reflejaban el valor y la importancia de su trabajo. UIC ahora entenderá que significa ser ‘esencial’ (seiu.org, 24 de septiembre).

"¿Somos ruidosas y orgullosoas?"

Alicia Uwumarogie, fisioterapeuta y representante del comité de negociación de SEIU, dijo: “Dejamos victoriosos los piquetes en tantas áreas! Hemos ganado la confianza y la fuerza para asumir la gestión. Hemos demostrado nuestro poder colectivo mediante la ejecución de esta huelga. Nuestros miembros estarán orgullosos los piquetes en tantas áreas! Hemos ganado una huelga unida y fuerte para ganar pas mujeres se organizan!

Muchas campañas de organización sindical y acicio- nes laborales han sido lideradas por mujeres este año en desafío a la administración Trump, que está en con- tra del trabajo y a favor de las empresas. Las personas designadas por Trump en el Departamento de Trabajo y la Junta Nacional de Relaciones Laborales, así como la Corte Suprema, han atacado y debilitado los derechos de los sindicatos y los trabajadores. En julio, en una votación histórica y aplastante, los pro- vendedores de cuidado infantil en California votaron a favor de sindicalizarse, una victoria sorprendente para el movi- miento laboral estadounidense. Votaron para establecer y ser representados por Child Care Providers United, una colaboración entre United Domestic Workers of America/ American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 3930 y SEIU Locals 99 y 521.

Esta fuerza laboral está compuesta principalmente por mujeres de origen indígena y latinx, que se ven más afectados por el racismo y el terror policial. (workers.org)

El veredicto indignante de Breonna Taylor es otro recordatorio claro y azotan que este país no valora las vidas de los negros ni las considera merecedoras de protección. Esto, además, se ha convertido en un verdadero asesinato racista. (dailorablockkivives.org)

La huelga general debe convertirse en un arma para acabar con el racismo y el terror policial. El Cierre frente al Racismo debe construirse dentro del movimiento laboral, pero lo que es más importante, entre aquellos de nosotros que no somos trabajadores. El hecho es que la mayoría de los millones de perso- nas que han marchado en las calles contra el raci- mos laboral estadounidense. Votaron para establecer y ser representados por Child Care Providers United, una colaboración entre United Domestic Workers of America/ American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 3930 y SEIU Locals 99 y 521.


Una Asamblea de Trabajadores
CONTRA EL RACISMO

Fue principalmente la amenaza de una huelga de maestros en marzo que obligó al alcalde de Nueva York a cerrar las escuelas en el comienzo de la pandemia. Cuando el gobierno no proporcionó guías de protección personal (PPE, por sus siglas en inglés) para los trabajadores de los hospitales, miles de enfermeras y enfermeros fueron llamadas a tomar medidas punitivas y contra la flexibilidad de las enfermeras de UIC. Los enfermeros de la UIC se desafían a los jefes y protestan.

La Asociación de Enfermeras de Illinois informa que se llaman al servicio cuando el servicio tentativo, otorgando pago por riesgo de pandemia, contratando más enfermeras y proporcionando más PPE. La unidad de negociación de 1,400 personas votará el 28 de septiembre si aprueba el contrato, el mismo día que se vota el contrato del Local 73, (Chicago Sun-Times, 24 de septiembre)

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La clase obrera no puede callar. ¿Cómo nos movilizamos para acabar con el racismo? Si están en contra del racismo, ven a la Asamblea de Trabajadores del 18 de octubre, afuera y con distancia social, para ayudarnos a construir un movimiento para la huelga contra el racismo. ¡Las Vidas Negras No Pueden Esperar!

Algo importante está sucediendo en el movimiento sindical. Muchos han llegado a la conclusión de que no es suficiente para los sindicatos simplemente emitir declaraciones denunciando asesinatos policiales. Más de 36 sindicatos locales, regionales y nacio- nales, han declarado que el movimiento sindical debe organizar paros laborales y huelgas generales contra el racismo y el terror policial.

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El mundo se dio cuenta cuando los atletas pararon de trabajar después del troteo policial de Jacob Blake. Nos recordaron que el 90% de nosotros somos traba- jadores y que podemos mover a la sociedad con el poder que tenemos para retener nuestro trabajo.

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Los sindicatos Teamsters and Electrical Workers (IBEW) honraron las líneas de piqué de SEIU Local 73 y se unieron a los huérfanos en solidaridad, al igual que los miembros indi- viduales del sindicato. Estos valientes trabajadores honraron que incluso en la era anti-laborista de Trump, una fuerza de huelga unida y fuerte puede ganar.

Las enfermeras del Mission Hospital en Asheville, N.C., votaron para favor de sindicalización en una elección de la NLRB el 16 de septiembre, en lo que National Nurses United denominó la ‘mayor victoria sindical de hospita- les en años desde 1975.”

Y las enfermeras registradas en el Hospital Alameda, el Hospital San Leandro y Hospital San Joaquin en California planean una huelga de cinco días para el 7 de octubre para garantizar protección contra la subcontratación y la seguridad de los pacientes y proporcione suficiente per- sonal y PPE durante la pandemia, informa el sitio web de la NNU. La Asociación de Enfermeras de California dijo el 26 de septiembre que la corporación ha negado de mala fe y ha tomado medidas punitivas.

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