On the evening of May 14, a fascist carrying a rifle entered a supermarket in the predominantly Black neighborhood of Masten Park on Buffalo’s East Side and opened fire. While most official statements have more or less vaguely alluded to “racial motivations,” the shooter’s intentions were quite explicitly outlined in a manifesto, in which he wrote of his adherence to white-supremacist “great replacement” ideology.

The “great replacement” is an idea in fascist ideology that white people are being systematically outreproduced by minority groups. It is an idea that finds expression in far-right politics everywhere, from the chant of “Jews will not replace us” shouted by neo-Nazis in Charlottesville, Virginia, in 2017 to Tucker Carlson’s nightly show on Fox News. It is an idea of fascist ideology, turned into action in the genocide of the peoples supposedly doing the “replacing”—including all people of color—and that were the target of this attack.

The shooter chose the location deliberately: the only supermarket in a neighborhood which is overwhelmingly Black. The technology he set up to livestream his attack reveals his racism. When the shooter points his gun at a passerby and notices that they are white, he says “Sorry” and continues on his way. All but two of the 13 killed and injured were Black.

Governor Kathy Hochul, while correctly describing this terrible act as one of “white-supremacy terrorism,” missed the mark in attempting to lay the blame on “social media.” The shooter socialized with his fellow white supremacists on Discord and livestreamed his attack on Twitch. But these media are not what caused the ideology; they are merely a means of communication and ideas.

The prime cause of this attack is white-supremacist ideology and the tradition of horrific violence, which it instigates and which it upholds. It is inextricably bound up with the very fabric of the white-supremacist, capitalist United States. The violence will be removed only by the destruction of that fabric.

Conditions in Buffalo
Beyond the loss of loved ones by families and neighbors and the trauma inflicted on those forced to bear witness to this atrocity, the attack has wider ramifications for the community on which it

Continued on page 8
Guarantee basic human needs. The wealth workers create should remain in their hands, not be stolen in the form of capital. The capitalist system produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should be earned by people’s movements. The super-rich and their entourages benefit from the exploitation of workers, and this exploitation leads to repression, attacks on reproductive health and access to health care, and a lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

Black detainees targeted at Georgia detention center

By Dianne Mathiowetz
Atlanta

May 15 — Workers World reported on an April 16 solidarity demonstration that took place across the street from the exercise yard at Folkston ICE Detention Center, operated in Georgia by the for-profit GEO group. (workers.org, April 22)

By chance, a number of detainees were outside, just as the 50 or so immigrant rights activists marched up with their banners and signs calling for the closure of Folkston. Several detainees went to the fence of the exercise yard with fists up in welcome. For 90 minutes, they chanted and exchanged information with their supporters.

Detention officials have singled out three of the detainees for punishment for having engaged with the demonstrators. Day Roberts, who suffers from asthma, Garsumo Dorley, who has PTSD, and a third Black man who remains anonymous. Each was given 32 days in solitary confinement. Garsumo, who asked to speak with his psychiatrist when the “extraction team” came to physically and brutally remove him from his cell, was given an additional 22 days for a total of 54 days.

The men spend 20 out of 24 hours alone in a windowless, concrete cell designed to make them want to read or look at a bright fluorescent light is on from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. every day. A heavy metal door reenforces the oppressive solitude. For only one hour are they individually taken to a metal cage in the exercise yard and, usually, in the hot south Georgia sun, until it is time to go back to their cells. Garsumo, in particular, has been threatened by the guards and is so fearful that he is afraid to eat the food, worried about what they might have done to it.

The Coalition to Shut ICE Down in Georgia has launched a letter-writing campaign to gain prisoners immediate release from solitary confinement, a form of torture. Additional information can be found at bit.ly/StopFolkstonAbuse.

Support Workers World

If you appreciate our coverage, it’s time to join the Workers World Supporter Program or renew your membership. The program was established 45 years ago so readers could help WW publish anti-racist, working-class truth and build campaigns needed to fight for revolutionary change leading to socialism.

Since the early 1990s, the fund has helped sponsor the workers.org website. Through what is the only soil-to-soil campaign needed to fight for revolutionary change leading to socialism, an ever-greater profits. The world and the planet itself in the neverending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the neverending 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 joblessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

The U.S. is the wealthiest country in the world, yet one 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 seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college. Black, Brown and Indigenous youth seem to college. Black, Brown and Indigenous youth are saddled with seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college.

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

The ruthlessness ruling class today seeks to wipe out decades of gains and benefits won by hard-fought struggles by people’s movements. The super-rich and their political representatives have intensified their attacks on the multinational, multigender and multigenerational working class. It is time to point the blame at — and challenge — the capitalist system.

WWF fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should remain in their hands, not be stolen in the form of capital. The wealth workers create should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.

Since 1939, Workers World Party has been out in the streets defending the workers and oppressed here and worldwide. If you’re interested in Marxism, socialism and fighting for a socialist future, please contact a WWP branch near you. ()

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Workers take first bite out of the Apple in Georgia

By Dianne Mathiowetz

Atlanta

According to union organizers at the Cumberland Mall, Apple store, the National Labor Relations Board has set June 13 for their election vote. The sales, technical, creative and operations specialist workers made their location the first Apple retail store in the U.S. to file to unionize.

More than 70% of the 109 workers in all departments at that location signed cards as of the April date of their filing with the NLRB. And the number continues to grow.

Likewise at Starbucks, customer support for the union drive has been plentiful and appreciated. Anyone entering the store is able to see the bright red wristbands most workers wore, signifying their intention to vote union. News of other Apple stores unionizing includes stores in Towson, Maryland, and the Grand Central location in New York City.

Apple is a $3 trillion company, and its head, Tim Cook, gets a $106 million salary. It is reported that Apple has now hired Little Mendelson, the same union-busting firm that Amazon uses to intimidate workers and threaten workers against unionizing.

No matter! Atlanta Apple workers are confident they will win.

Community rallies for school bus struggles

By Sara Catalinotto

New York

The rally “Express Yourself about School Bus Struggles” took place at Union Square in New York City the afternoon of May 15. School bus drivers, unions, educators, parents, caregivers and attendants, children and community members gathered to express support for a School Bus Bill of Rights that would guarantee riders’ civil rights, workers’ job rights and everyone’s safety.

Children and youth told their own stories in art, music and dance and through spoken words. The rally was sponsored by Parents to Improve School Transportation (PIST) and Comité Timón.

Nurses’ union marches in Oregon

By Danny O’Brien

Oregon City, Oregon

Nurses from the Oregon Nurses Association (ONA) working at Providence Oregon hospitals marched May 11 from Providence Willamette Falls Community Center to the Clackamas Courthouse, where they held a picket and gave testimony at a hearing at the courthouse. The Providence network in Oregon operates hospitals, health plans, physicians, clinics, home health services and affiliated health services.

ONA members were building community consciousness and warning Providence Oregon of an imminent statewide strike, should the corporation not meet their demands and warning Providence Oregon of an imminent statewide strike, should the corporation not meet their demands and warning Providence Oregon of an imminent statewide strike, should the corporation not meet their demands and warning Providence Oregon of an imminent statewide strike, should the corporation not meet their demands and warning Providence Oregon of an imminent statewide strike, should the corporation not meet their demands and warning Providence Oregon of an imminent statewide strike, should the corporation not meet their demands.

Portland

Starbucks workers rewriting history

By Lyn Neeley

Portland, Oregon

May 14 — A fiery passionate crowd of 70 Starbucks workers and supporters protested at Portland’s East Beach Starbucks store, because the manager there fired Matt, a shift supervisor, for trying to unionize.

Ian, a Starbucks worker from Eugene, traveled two hours to the protest. Seven out of eight Eugene Starbucks stores were recently successful in voting in a union. Ian said there is an 80% national turnover rate of Starbucks employees and that 80% of Starbucks workers have only worked there for one year.

Alex Riccio, a national Starbucks Workers United organizer, traveled from Philadelphia to support Oregon Starbucks workers trying to unionize. Riccio, a longtime union organizer, said he was motivated to come because there are more Starbucks stores unionizing on the West Coast than anywhere else in the country.

Riccio said that in all his years of organizing, he’s never seen such momentum coming from workers: “This monumental worker-led movement is actively rewriting history.” He noted: “Today there are 250 Starbucks stores across the country that have filed for unionization. … you don’t need a piece of paper from the government to say we are a union. Workers at Starbucks are organizing are already a union.”

Quentin spoke at the protest—he was one of the first Starbucks workers in Portland to get fired for union organizing. He announced that on May 17, four Portland Starbucks stores will be voting to unionize. Quentin said: “I was treated very badly just because I was trying to improve working conditions by organizing a union.”

Protesters talked to customers approaching the store, turning them away during the demonstration. One woman said she was going to start boycotting Starbucks, that what they are doing to employees is terrible and that Starbucks workers are treated very badly just because they are trying to improve working conditions by organizing a union.

Clarence Thomas — known as the “real” Clarence Thomas, as opposed to the right-wing SCOTUS justice — a retired member of the militant International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) Local 10, was the main speaker at a meeting and book signing for a new exciting, new book, “Mobilizing in Our Own Name.” The May 11 meeting at the People’s Forum in New York City was part of an East Coast tour to promote the book. The book chronicles the historic organizing that built the Million Worker March in 2004, of which Thomas was a co-founder.

“IWW local 10, along with other radical Black unions and political activists, launched an independent, rank-and-file grassroots movement to challenge the Democrats and to support a progressive platform of demands during the 2004 presidential election. Some of those demands included the right to health care, education, jobs with a living wage, an end to racism, etc.”

Thomas explained that the AFL-CIO leadership, then led by John Sweeney, tried to pressure the MWM to support the pro-capitalist, pro-war Democratic presidential nominee, John Kerry. The pressure failed.

As Martha Grevatt noted in an April 19 Workers World review, “Mobilizing in Our Own Name” is not a typical anthology, limited to 10 or 20 essays by a range of mainstream authors. Instead Thomas has assembled 300-plus pages of articles, leaflets, letters, statements, poems and photographs. Many of the articles are from the pages of Workers World newspaper.

“Local 10’s sharp divergence from "business unionism" is a thread running throughout the book. In a 2005 statement released after a group of major unions left the AFL-CIO to form Change to Win, MMM identified ‘central questions of concern to the rank and file, including ‘how to transform and make the existing top-down structure [of] business unionism democratic.’”

The important lessons coming out of the MWM, which brought out over 10,000 people for a rally at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 17, 2004, were discussed at the Forum for today’s huge wave of union organizing led by mainly Starbucks and Amazon’s young workers.

Speakers at the book signing included regional MMM organizers, such as Sharon Black, Larry Holmes, Johnnie Stevens, Brenda Stokely and Gloria Verdui, who edited the book. A young Black worker, Shaquille Williams, a mutual aid activist, spoke on how inspired he was to hear about the MWM ground-breaking movement.

Miranda Bachman, from Youth Against War & Racism, chaired the meeting.

Go to MillionWorkerMarch.com to order the book.
Southern workers gather to build Workers Assembly movement

This article was originally published May 5 by the Southern Workers Assembly (go to southworkers.org for more on SWA organizing.)

Under the slogan “Build the Workers Assembly Movement! Organize the South!” nearly 80 workers from eight Southern states gathered in Durham, North Carolina, for a Southern Workers Assembly Organizing School over the weekend of April 29 to May 1. Workers came to the School from Atlanta; New Orleans, Louisiana; Charlotte, Raleigh, Durham, Asheville and western North Carolina; northern Kentucky; and elsewhere.

Over the last year, the network of areas building Workers Assemblies across the South has spread to include nine different cities, the development of several industry-based councils—including Amazon, health care and education workers—and interest in developing assembles in additional locations as well.

The gathering in Durham was an effort to consolidate this growth and draw lessons from these experiences to inform the methodology of building Workers Assemblies to organize the unorganized, to develop worker cadre and to collectively chart a course for our work going forward.

Workers who participated in the SWA School came from a wide range of different sectors, including strong participation from Amazon workers, domestic, health care, teachers, warehouse, manufacturing, meatpacking and service industry workers. A major emphasis of the School was building Black worker leadership.

The School was rooted in an assessment of the current political period of the growing self-organization and activity across various sectors of the working class and the growing danger of right-wing reaction, as well as the role that Workers Assemblies in the U.S. South must play in relation to these and other developments.

In his opening orientation, Ajamu Dillahunt, member of the Southern Workers Assembly Coordinating Committee and a leadership council member from North Carolina, noted: “We have to take advantage of this moment. As the Black Panther Party said in the 1960s, we have to ‘Seize the Time’ and build a rank and file-led social movement that organizes workplace committees connected to each through Workers Assemblies in multiple Southern cities.”

A Southern Workers political program

A main focus of the meeting was engaging the rank-and-file base of the assembles in a discussion of a draft political program that could be the basis of broadening and collective action in the months ahead. This program would help workers see their workplace fights within a broader social movement struggle for power and justice.

In breakout groups, workers discussed their priorities for workplace action, wages, benefits, housing, education, racism, gender oppression, labor rights, the environment, immigration, war and voting rights, in order to contribute toward the development of such a program. There was a high level of unity around expanding labor union rights, including ending right-to-work, including growing membership, collective bargaining and making union busting and captive audience meetings illegal.

From there, workers discussed plans to develop a unifying campaign that the various assembles can implement to engage co-workers and leader other large workforces, to organize and lay out immediate next steps based on discussions throughout the weekend.

One particularly valuable lesson in the School was the establishment of new brigades and industry councils that could be the basis of a beloved co-worker. We not only won back our right to collectively bargain but won our union election with a 99% ‘yes’ vote. And we did all this by revamping our union’s workplace organization, sharing our experiences and organizing from one another in the struggle. We’re stronger when we’re united in our workplaces and communities. Together we will win!”

In the weeks ahead, workers who participated in the SWA School and the local Workers Assemblies will continue discussion to finalize the Southern Workers Program and a plan for action for the remainder of 2022.

A particularly exciting outcome from the School was the establishment of new relationships with areas interested in building local Workers Assemblies. There was a strong delegation of educator activists from Richmond, Virginia, who had recently won the first-ever local government union certification election for collective bargaining in their state. Members of the Richmond Education Association and the Virginia Caucus of Rank-and-File Educators (VCORE) shared lessons about building rank-and-file worker engagement in the fight for the school board to recognize their union.

“We not only won back our right to collectively bargain but won our union election with a 99% ‘yes’ vote. And we did all this by revamping our union’s workplace organization, sharing our experiences and organizing from one another in the struggle. We’re stronger when we’re united in our workplaces and communities. Together we will win!”

The gathering in Durham was an effort to consolidate this growth, and draw lessons from these experiences to inform the methodology of building Workers Assemblies to organize the unorganized, to develop worker cadre and to collectively chart a course for our work going forward.

PHOTO: SWA

Southern Workers Assembly School, April 29–May 1, Durham, North Carolina.

Southern workers gather to build Workers Assembly movement

This article was originally published May 5 by the Southern Workers Assembly (go to southworkers.org for more on SWA organizing.)

Under the slogan “Build the Workers Assembly Movement! Organize the South!” nearly 80 workers from eight Southern states gathered in Durham, North Carolina, for a Southern Workers Assembly Organizing School over the weekend of April 29 to May 1. Workers came to the School from Atlanta; New Orleans, Louisiana; Charlotte, Raleigh, Durham, Asheville and western North Carolina; northern Kentucky; and elsewhere.

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The gathering in Durham was an effort to consolidate this growth and draw lessons from these experiences to inform the methodology of building Workers Assemblies to organize the unorganized, to develop worker cadre and to collectively chart a course for our work going forward.

PHOTO: SWA

The gathering in Durham was an effort to consolidate this growth, and draw lessons from these experiences to inform the methodology of building Workers Assemblies to organize the unorganized, to develop worker cadre and to collectively chart a course for our work going forward.
We all remember that they never called Dr. Martin Luther King peaceful when he was still alive. They always called him radical. They always called him antagonistic. But all of a sudden now we have corporations using quotes of his to promote or market things. It’s stuff like that left a bad taste in my mouth when we decided to file for a union. And that’s exactly why we filed on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day in Memphis.

WW: What’s currently happening with your situation?
LM: We have had the National Labor Relations Board officially file against Starbucks to give us our jobs back because [their termination] was officially deemed illegal. Right now, we’ve had a lot of people have to get other part-time jobs, just so that they are still able to keep food on the table because we did lose our jobs. The mentality of those of us who are fired hasn’t even dipped. Despite all that, we’re still just as strong as ever.

Honestly, if we are not stronger, like each and every day we have these pushes where we’re just—it just makes us angry. And I feel like if you check out like Nikki’s social media, she’s one of our biggest fighters through this and has really shown how much as Howard Schultz wants to break us into pieces, we’re stronger together because we really are a family. We get on each other’s nerves like a family. But at the end of the day, we hug out our situation, and it’s all good. I want it to be better. (?)

Beto Sanchez points up at Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz’s NYC residence on May Day.
Tens of thousands tell SCOTUS
‘We will fight back!’

By Kathy Durkin

“We won’t go back!” was chanted by tens of thousands of protesters May 14 in 380 actions across the U.S. Participants in the “Bans Off Our Bodies” demonstrations denounced the attacks on the right to abortion, now facing an overturn by the right-wing majority on the U.S. Supreme Court. The court legalized this right in its 1973 decision in the Roe v. Wade case.

For almost 50 years, reactionaries have tried to overturn this historic ruling, won by a militant action-oriented mass movement, despite a then-majority of Republican-appointed justices. Conservative legislators have since implemented many obstacles to abortion seekers, despite the fact that the majority of U.S. residents support the Roe decision.

However, the goal has always been to get a majority of SCOTUS justices to overturn the court’s precedent ruling, and to outlaw abortions altogether. Former President Donald Trump obliged the right wingers and their big donors by nominating three members of the anti-abortion Federalist Society to sit on the top court.

Seizing the moment, reactionary state legislators proposed outrageous abortion bans, even punishing anyone who helps pregnant women get abortions. On Sept. 1, 2021, a six-week abortion ban with a bounty hunter scheme was implemented in Texas. Other state legislatures have enacted copycat laws, with no exceptions for rape or incest victims, including children!

Meanwhile, Mississippi officials took the case of Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization to SCOTUS. On Dec. 1, 2021, the state’s lawyers argued for overturning the Roe decision, while thousands of people protested loudly outside.

A majority-right wing court will soon decide the legality of abortions. If this cabal rules for Dobbs, they will usurp the rights of millions of women and other people who can become pregnant. They will lose rights to bodily autonomy, decision-making about medical care and whether or when to have children. But no matter what the laws prohibit, abortions won’t stop.

In early May, an opinion written by Justice Samuel Alito and signed by four other conservative justices was leaked. If this becomes the final decision, it ends the federal right to abortion and revives “states’ rights” to regulate or ban the procedure. If the SCOTUS majority agrees with Alito, half of the states will then ban abortions. Other legal rights could be endangered.

This “leaked opinion” set off emergency protests countrywide. Initiators of the May 14 protests fast-tracked the date for a national day of demonstrations. These groups include Women’s March, Planned Parenthood Action Fund, UltraViolet, MoveOn, the American Civil Liberties Union and the National Abortion Rights Action League.

Then on May 11, the Senate voted 53–49 against the Women’s Health Protection Act, which would codify legal abortions. Fury at reactionary senators and SCOTUS justices grew and so did mobilizing for action.

A war on people of color, low-income people

Sixteen states and Washington, D.C., have passed legislation protecting abortion rights if Roe is overturned. Some states are even allocating funds to help people travel to their states for abortions.

People who have resources can afford to go to states or countries where the procedure is legal. But people with low incomes — disproportionately Black, Latinx, Indigenous, migrants, disabled and other marginalized people — will be left with few, if any options, some dangerous. Already, Texas residents are appearing at border states hospitals with infections stemming from self-abortions. Over half of abortions now occur by using medication, although reaction- ary politicians are trying to limit or outlaw those pills. Opponents are scheming how to stop abortion seekers from traveling to abortion-permitting states. Some proposed bans criminalize abortion patients, not only providers. Proposal of a national abortion ban is being floated in right-wing political circles.

Voting won’t stop the right wing in its zealous quest. What is needed to halt this assault on a fundamental human and medical right is a militant united struggle — with local and national actions — marches, rallies, picket lines, boycotts, job and school walkouts — and all types of creative actions together with allies.

This is an emergency! It was created by the far right in the capitalist class. In social large sign behind the table read: “Down with Racism and Patriarchy: Fight for Socialism,” drawing many people to the table. Hundreds of copies of a WW commentary, “We Won’t Go Back!” were received with interest by those in the crowd.

Rallying in Syracuse, New York, a crowd of 300 women, men and gender-defiant people of all ages gathered near the local Planned Parenthood Health Center. Organized by Women’s March Syracuse and other groups, speakers included representatives from the New York Immigration Coalition, the state Queer Youth Assembly and members of the local Black community.

Passing cars honked to support the pro-abortion-access signs—a dramatic contrast to anti-abortion protesters nearby, who were repeatedly cursed and yelled at by passing drivers. The PP clinic here was the first freestanding abortion clinic nationwide in 1970, one day after the procedure became legal in New York State.

In Seneca Falls, New York, historic site of the first Women’s Rights Convention in 1848, over 100 people demonstrated May 13. Loud, militant chants included “My body, my choice!”

There was a big rally and march in Buffalo, New York, organized by local activists. The overwhelmingly young crowd roared over and over again, “We won’t back down; we won’t go back!”

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Addictive drug use and reproductive justice

By Princess Harmony

There was a particular phrase current in the U.S. during the 1980s and 90s: “crack baby.” A crack baby was the worst child a person could give birth to, as they were born hooked on crack cocaine and would be at a greater risk of having mental and physical disabilities and increased criminality as they grew up. They were called “a biological underclass” and “lost kids.”

Terrifying, right? What could be done about such a problem?

Well, nothing. Why? Because there was never such a thing as a “crack baby.” Yes, babies can get exposed to “crack” in the womb, but surely! Doesn’t it impact their lives.

What does impact these children is poverty and the harm it creates. While cocaine is not good for a fetus (or anyone), and it does cause the fetus to be smaller, studies have found these children reach “normal” size in childhood and adulthood.

commentary

An over 20-year-long study that tracked the development of so-called crack babies found that crack cocaine did not, in fact, stunt or otherwise harm the children in a permanent way. (NPR, July 31, 2013)

The study found that legal drugs, such as alcohol and tobacco, were more harmful to fetuses and children than crack cocaine. Even the founding mythmaker of “crack babies,” Dr. Ira Chasnoff, acknowledged that so-called “crack babies” were not stunted and that their development was, indeed, normal. (National Drug Strategy Network NewsBriefs, September–October 1997)

There have been other studies that have shown statistically insignificent differences in IQ between babies exposed to crack cocaine and those who are not. But since the concept of an intelligent quotient is a product of eugenics and racism, it’s not worth noting that difference, regardless. (Business Insider, July 23, 2013; Anti-Racism Daily, June 24, 2021)

Doctors and sociologists have claimed that people exposed to cocaine at birth will be irredeemably impacted. But the fact has become clear that it is poverty that creates the issues claimed to be the result of crack cocaine. During their childhood, their homes and neighborhoods were inspected. As they grew older, they were asked about violence they had seen or grown up with. When they had seen or lived near violence, their rates of mental illness rose.

Researchers did scans on both exposed and nonexposed children and found that there was no significant difference in attention span. All the different researchers could not find any major differences between the crack-exposed and the non-exposed. This led them to their conclusions about poverty as the primary cause. (Christian Science Monitor, July 23, 2013)

As a result of this research, Dr. Hallam Hurt, who was the chair of neonatology at Albert Einstein Medical Center and later worked at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, was able to say, “Poverty is a more powerful influence on the outcome of inner-city children than gestational exposure to cocaine.” (Children’s Hospital of Pennsylvania, Oct. 21, 2013)

The racist, anti-poor “War on Drugs”

What can be done about poverty? One answer is to seize the wealth of the rich and distribute it to people in need. That’s one idea!

But the capitalist-driven government of the United States is not interested in a War on Poverty. Its representatives seek only a War on Drugs. And the War on Drugs is truly a war on Black, Brown and poor white people.

The “War on Drugs” officially began June 1971, when President Richard Nixon declared drug abuse to be “public enemy number one” and increased federal funding for drug-control agencies and drug-treatment efforts. The reason? Not the long-term impact of crack cocaine on our society, but to crack down on Black and Brown people.

Continued on page 10

Tens of thousands tell SCOTUS: ‘We will fight back!’

Continued from page 6

Downtown, a WWP member was among the speakers. Marchers ended on the federal courthouse steps to hammer home their nonnegotiable demand: “No abortion ban!”

Following a short rally at Philadelphia’s City Hall, a multina- tional, multigenerational group of 1,500 enthusiastic people marched around the building and down Market Street behind the banner, “Women’s rights are human rights.” Rally chairperson Sam Rice stated: “Access to abortion on demand, without apology, is liberation.”

Marty Harrison, a Temple University Hospital nurse, declared, “As long as profit drives the health care industry, Roe is not enough. We need free health care on demand.” Maya Amor, a Black Latinx and queer student who led a reproductive justice school walkout May 13, said she turned 18 only to find out “that as a Black and Brown woman I have no say in my own body.”

While her legal right to reproductive freedom was happening, when they built the reproductive justice school walkout May 13, said she turned 18 only to find out “that as a Black and Brown woman I have no say in my own body.”


“Women’s rights are human rights,” said the speaker. More than 300 people crowded around the Supreme Court block when they built the reproductive justice school walkout May 13, said she turned 18 only to find out “that as a Black and Brown woman I have no say in my own body.”

In the small town of Frisco, Texas, north of Dallas, 200 people rallied against the probable overturn of abortion rights by SCOTUS. From youth to great grandparents, the multinational and multigender crowd heard from local speakers, including many people of color who are social justice activists. Alex Colwell, one of two WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

woman, I didn’t have the rights to my own organs.” The fighting mood of the crowd was strong. The time calls for more walkouts and work stoppages to drive home the power the women and gender-op pressed people hold in their hands.

At a Washington, D.C., rally, Monica Simpson, executive director of SisterSong, a women of color reproductive justice collective, told the crowd: “Anti-abortion legislation isn’t pro-life; it is pro-white women. The power the women and gender-op pressed people hold in their hands. “The power the women and gender-op pressed people hold in their hands.

“Women’s rights are human rights,” said the speaker. More than 300 people crowded around the Supreme Court block, chanting “Abortion is a human right” and “We will fight back,” while wearing T-shirts with the motto: “Keep abortion safe and legal.”

In the small town of Frisco, Texas, north of Dallas, 200 people rallied against the probable overturn of abortion rights by SCOTUS. From youth to great grandparents, the multinational and multigender crowd heard from local speakers, including many people of color who are social justice activists. Alex Colwell, one of two

Reproductive justice, abortion rights impact many other areas of our life including racial justice and health care.” (SisterSong Facebook)

Doctors and sociologists have claimed that people exposed to cocaine at birth will be irredeemably impacted. But the fact has become clear that it is poverty that creates the issues claimed to be the result of crack cocaine. During their childhood, their homes and neighborhoods were inspected. As they grew older, they were asked about violence they had seen or grown up with. When they had seen or lived near violence, their rates of mental illness rose.

Researchers did scans on both exposed and nonexposed children and found that there was no significant difference in attention span. All the different researchers could not find any major differences between the crack-exposed and the nonexposed. This led them to their conclusions about poverty as the primary cause. (Christian Science Monitor, July 23, 2013)

As a result of this research, Dr. Hallam Hurt, who was the chair of neonatology at Albert Einstein Medical Center and later worked at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, was able to say, “Poverty is a more powerful influence on the outcome of inner-city children than gestational exposure to cocaine.” (Children’s Hospital of Pennsylvania, Oct. 21, 2013)

The racist, anti-poor “War on Drugs”

What can be done about poverty? One answer is to seize the wealth of the rich and distribute it to people in need. That’s one idea!

But the capitalist-driven government of the United States is not interested in a War on Poverty. Its representatives seek only a War on Drugs. And the War on Drugs is truly a war on Black, Brown and poor white people.

The “War on Drugs” officially began June 1971, when President Richard Nixon declared drug abuse to be “public enemy number one” and increased federal funding for drug-control agencies and drug-treatment efforts. The reason? Not the long-term impact of crack cocaine on our society, but to crack down on Black and Brown people.

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Smash white supremacy!

Continued from page 1

was perpetrated. One of these is: Where will their food come from now? The East Side of Buffalo, site of the attack and of generations of racist redlining, ghettoization and deliberate neglect, is a food desert. The Tops supermarket where the attack occurred is the only one in its neighborhood. While Tops has vowed to reopen its store, no one knows how long that will take.

A quarter of the children in Buffalo suffer from malnutrition—predominantly poor and Black children. A local charity, Buffalo Community Fidges, began a collection of food donations for distribution to the neighborhood in the early morning of May 15, but they had to stop collecting around midafternoon due to a lack of storage for all the donations. This effort, while laudable, cannot duplicate the efficiency of a supermarket in the distribution of food to an entire community nor should it have to.

When cops arrived, they arrested the white shooter without firing a single shot or roughing him up. Very out of character for a police department that two months ago opened fire on a car driven by a disabled, partially paralyzed man, engaging in a dangerous high speed chase—because they found his tinted car windows “suspicious.” But that’s the way cops arrest white-supremacist killers, like Dylann Roof after he massacred nine Black churchgoers as they sat at prayer in church. There is always the contrast with how cops murder Black people while arresting them for “crime”—like George Floyd for simply trying to buy cigarettes or Eric Garner for selling them.

In the memory of those we have lost, death to fascism.

Buffalo 1981

Organizing against racist murder

By Sam Marcy

On May 14, a white supremacist in military gear launched an attack on people in a predominantly Black neighborhood in Buffalo, New York, killing 10 and wounding three. For a militant anti-fascist answer to such attacks, here is a statement from Sam Marcy, the late chairperson of Workers World Party — a communist party founded in Buffalo. The excerpt is reprinted from “The Klan & the Government: Foes or Allies?”

The Nazi Party announced it would demonstrate in Buffalo, New York, on January 15, 1981, Martin Luther King’s birthday. This came at a time when a string of shocking racist murders of Black men had occurred in this same city. A coalition of labor, progressive and community groups immediately called for a counterdemonstration. It was only then that the mayor of Buffalo banned all demonstrations. Two thousand people demonstrated anyway against two Nazis heavily guarded by police.

Lessons of Buffalo

The Buffalo experience has shown in microcosm what the bourgeoisie is capable of doing, when faced with a fascist threat. When the mayor of Buffalo was finally forced to take cognizance of the Nazi/KKK demonstration, he and the capitalist establishment, with the complete cooperation of (if not in conspiracy with) the capitalist media, moved to ban the anti-fascist demonstration, under cover of banning both the right and the left.

This is a classic example of how a terrorized capitalist city administration reacts when challenged by a neo-Nazi/KKK threat. First, they try to do nothing. Then they get their liberal friends and luminaries to ridicule the neo-Nazi menace and say that it doesn’t exist. And then when the menace shows determination to demonstrate in the heart of the city, they advise the workers and the oppressed to boycott it, ignore it in the face of racist murders which have yet to be solved.

When all this fails, and when a counterdemonstration against the KKK and Nazis promises of encompassing a broad coalition of civil rights, progressive and working-class organizations to effectively confront the KKK and Nazi thugs, then (and only then) does the capitalist city administration assume its posture of “fighting” against the Nazis. But how? By presumably banning both demonstrations, but in reality aiming to ban only the anti-fascist demonstration.

What was truly important about the Buffalo experience was that a militant working-class struggle, did not alone account for the victory of the anti-fascist progressive coalition in Buffalo. It was also careful assessment of the political relationship of forces in the area and in the country. It was good, efficient organization, free from any dogmatic approach to the phenomenon of fascist violence, free from sectarianism. It was reliance on the mass of the workers and progressives, and attempts to achieve the broadest possible alliance with all elements willing, ready and able to put up a vigorous struggle.

Buffalo was a microcosm of what the ruling class can and will do in the face of a fascist menace. It is also a microcosm of what can be done by the working-class movement to achieve victory in the face of what appear to be overwhelming odds.

Nakba Day in Portland

By Danny O’Brien

Portland, Oregon

On May 14-15 Portland activists commemorated the Nakba—the day in 1948 that Israeli settlers and governmental forces brutally displaced Palestinians from their homeland. Nakba is Arabic for “catastrophe.”

On May 14, members of the Portland State University Students United for Palestinian Equal Rights (SUPER), International League of People’s Struggle (ILPS) and Workers World Party gathered on campus, under shelter from rain, to make signs for the Nakba. Along with sign making, SUPER members offered teach-ins of the history of the Nakba and told stories of their visits and their familiy’s visits to Palestine.

On Nakba Day, May 15, members of SUPER, ILPS, WWP, the Willamette Action Collective, and POPs (People Organizing for Philippine Solidarity) assembled at the World Trade Center building on the Willamette River waterfront. They then marched through the streets of downtown Portland, chanting “Free Palestine” and rallied at City Hall for a round of speeches, including from a person who had known Shireen Abu Aklah, the Palestinian Al Jazeera journalist recently killed by Israeli soldiers. Abu Aklah was deeply remembered and given tribute at the demonstration.

Following the rally, the groups continued marching to the Portland State University Park Blocks, for more speeches. A raffle raised money for SUPER, in collaboration with numerous generous Palestinian and Middle Eastern businesses across the city.
Israeli military murders journalist

Continued from page 1

attacked her family’s home in occupied East Jerusalem, confiscating Palestinian flags and preventing the playing of patriotic songs. (tinyurl.com/zp8mvjdp)

Israel has yet to be held accountable for every one of these crimes.

Shireen Abu Akleh was a role model for many women journalists and beloved throughout the Arab world for her bravery that she showed during her more than 25 years as a journalist exposing Israel’s brutal military occupation of Palestine and ethnic-cleansing campaigns. Because of her fearless work covering the second Intifada, she has become immortalized as a symbol of Palestinian resistance. Thousands of mourners gathered in Jerusalem to pay their final respects during her funeral.

During the funeral procession May 13, as Abu Akleh’s casket was being carried to a Greek Catholic Church for prayers, militarized Israeli police shocked the world by launching an unprovoked assault on pallbearers and mourners. The pallbearers carrying Abu Akleh’s casket were punched, kicked and beaten with batons, causing them to nearly drop her casket. European Union officials decried the “unnecessary” and “disproportionate” use of force, while the Biden administration refused to condemn what was a blatant and unprovoked attack on Abu Akleh’s funeral, saying, “We regret the intrusion and unprovoked attack on Abu Akleh’s funeral, saying, “We regret the intrusion into what should have been a peaceful procession.”

As a journalist, Shireen Abu Akleh spent her adult life exposing Israeli brutality, died while exposing Israeli brutality and was buried amid Israeli brutality. This latest round of crimes against humanity committed by apartheid Israel demonstrates that nation’s utter disregard for press freedom, freedom of speech and assembly and all the other so-called hallmarks of democracy. There should be no equivocations that Shireen Abu Akleh’s murder and the assault on mourners at her funeral by Israeli occupation forces constitute a war crime. Condemnation by world leaders and organizations is not enough, nor are calls for investigations.

No investigation by Israel or the West will provide justice to the Sea of Galilee. The thousands of Palestinians murdered by the Zionist occupation. The apartheid regime is a racist instrument of Western imperialism. The regime’s utter disregard for press freedom, freedom of speech and assembly and all the other so-called hallmarks of democracy.

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Zionists kill Palestinians with impunity; the complicity of the West signals it will never abandon Zionism. Ending the gross inequalities that Israel enforced and their land and ultimately to liberate Palestine by any means necessary. Armed resistance forces that people of their kind have achieved an absolute right. Standing in solidarity with Palestine means defending their right to armed resistance and supporting their struggle to overthrow Zionist colonialism.

Workers World Party remains steadfast in our support of the armed resistance for the liberation of Palestine.

‘From Shireen to Jenin, Justice for Palestine!’

By Betsy Piette

A “Philadelphia for Palestine” rally on May 14 drew hundreds of activists to Center City Philadelphia May 15. Many carried signs featuring pictures of Palestinian-American journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, murdered by Israeli soldiers May 11 while covering their funeral procession in Jerusalem.

As the march approached the intersection at 15th Street, it was joined by several carloads and two sound trucks of protesters, many carrying large Palestinian flags. They had been unable to reach the starting location due to traffic snarls. The momentum as dozens more demonstrators joined the march was palpable. Suddenly the march, which had occupied two traffic lanes, expanded to occupy sidewalks on both sides of the lanes. The high level of enthusiasm continued as the caravan turned onto South Broad Street, stopping for a brief street rally. As the march circled City Hall, dozens more people leaped over low fences to join the street event.

The march concluded at City Hall with a rally that continued to occupy the streets, blocking traffic for another hour. Internationally renowned Palestinian author Susan Abu-Lughod was the first to address the crowd. She described Palestine, prior to the Nakba, as a place where “people of all religions lived together. It was multiethnic for over thousands of years, indicating people from every society.”

“Palestine welcomed people from all over the world — Iraqis, Greeks and others — added to the rich tapestry of Peoples.” Where we witnessed what it meant to be Palestinian, what it meant to live in a place where we were not taken for granted, where we were welcomed. This is our Nakba and why generation after generation we have not stopped fighting, even as they are still forcing us out of our homes.

“The video of when Israeli soldiers attacked the mourners at Shireen Abu Akleh’s funeral is very instructive,” said Palestinian activist, author and professor at the University of California-Berkeley, campus.

“The Nakba came from supporting organizations such as the Palestinian Youth Movement, Arab Resource and Organizing Center, Middle East Children’s Alliance, U.S. Palestinian Community Network, Arab Resource and Organizing Center, and the Palestinian liberation forces. They were the only people who had the strength to counter the beating, another stepped up to hold the coffin.

“The Nakba of Israelis are. We will never give in or give up. We are the people of the land. We never left there. Our ancestors are buried there. From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free.”

Nakba is 74 years of resistance

By Judy Greenspan

May 14 — Fueled by recent attacks on the Palestinian people, today’s commemoration of Nakba 74 was a day to remember the hundreds of protesters took over Valencia Street in the Mission neighborhood to “honor Shireen Abu Akleh and rise up for Palestine.”

As people gathered for an opening rally, they were handed signs demanding justice for Abu Akleh, an activist and Al Jazeera reporter cherished and loved by her people. She was assassinated by the Israeli government in Palestine May 11, while on the job. Thronging on the Israeli raid on Jenin refugee camp. And on May 13, Israeli Defense Forces attacked Abu Akleh’s funeral procession in Jerusalem.

The Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions movement has issued a statement that in April of this year alone, the Israeli government killed 23 Palestinians was bombed Gaza. Shortly before the Nakba anniversary marking the Israeli government’s 1948 expulsion of the Palestinian people from their homeland, the German city of Berlin announced a ban on all out- door Nakba commemorations, includ- ing a memorial for Palestinian children.

The U.S. continues to back Israel and its Zionist attacks on the Palestinian people.

After a a April 10 rally, as the demonstration surged up Mission Street through the heart of the Latinx community, many people waved and shouted their support of the protest. Chants of “From the River to the Sea, Palestine Will Be Free!” echoed loudly. Palestinians unfurled and carried a large Palestinian flag at imperialism in the region. Then a flag to be gained by begging the West to hold it to account.

“Palestine welcomed people from all over the world — Iraqis, Greeks and others — added to the rich tapestry of Peoples.” Where we witnessed what it meant to be Palestinian, what it meant to live in a place where we were not taken for granted, where we were welcomed. This is our Nakba and why generation after generation we have not stopped fighting, even as they are still forcing us out of our homes.

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street poles and stood proudly over the march with their flags flying.
Addictive drug use and reproductive justice

Continued from page 7

fetuses and children and predictions being made when those babies and children hadn’t even begun to grow up. Instead this crackdown in law enforcement came from the need of capitalism to abuse and control workers who were the poorest, the most vulnerable—and the most likely to rebel. Simultaneous with the intensification of this war on the people came the rise of the prison-industrial complex and the push to incarcerate people for profit. The “War on Drugs,” declared to be a war on drugs that had fueled more and more incarceration of Black, Brown and Indigenous people, including women and femmes. The myth was pushed that crack cocaine dissolves the material bond between mothers and children. Under that cover, state governments seized children and scattered them into the broken foster care system.

The racism of this war is evident in this fact: A person using crack cocaine and a person using powder cocaine were treated significantly differently by the legal system. A white man who used powdered cocaine wouldn’t be sentenced to a correctional institution, unless he held 500 grams. A Black woman who used crack cocaine would be given a five-year mandatory sentence if she held 5 grams of that.

The “War on Drugs” continued for decades, causing thousands of poor people of color to suffer and languish in prisons. Under President Barack Obama, there was some relief through the Fair Sentencing Act, which decreased the disparity between crack and powder cocaine possession. This, however, did not do anything for those whose lives were already taken (both metaphorically and literally) by the prison-industrial complex. The “War on Drugs” through the crack-cocaine epidemic and reproductive health is whether or not drug users should be sterilized—yes, sterilized.

Pregnant people of all nationalities demonized

The crack epidemic was one of several drug epidemics in which pregnant people or people with young children were stigmatized and marginalized. The crystal methamphetamine epidemic—one in which primarily affected white people although Black and Brown people also use them—uniquely impacted women and other people who could get pregnant.

Just like with the “crack baby” myth, there came the “meth baby” and the “Oxytots.” The “meth baby” idea has yet to be proven; it seems that infants born to parents who use or abuse meth are not born addicted to it. The major factor in whether or not “meth babies” are healthy is whether or not the parents give them proper care and treatment after birth.

Fox News gave the name “Oxytots” to the latest generation of infants born to parents who use drugs. While it is true that infants born to opioid-addicted parents can and do experience withdrawal from that drug, the babies are not born “addicted.” They are born dependent.

The difference between addicted and dependent babies

Addiction is the set of behaviors and mindsets that people have in order to fuel their dependency. Dependency is simply the mental or physical need of a drug. Babies cannot be born addicted, nor do all babies born dependent on opioids grow up to abuse drugs.

Addicted parents are maligned as having failed to do the right thing for their dependent infants. Indeed, mothers particularly were blasted as abusers for failing to stop their addiction despite the medical fact that addiction can’t just be stopped on a dime.

In California, Chelsea Becker—a crystal meth addict—gave birth to a milllborn baby, Zachariah. Becker had prepared for Zachariah’s birth by buying all the needed baby supplies. She wanted and loved her baby. But when she started to bleed and was taken to the hospital, she delivered a stillborn baby. The hospital reported the death of Zachariah to the coroner. The coroner found that he had methamphetamine in his system. Becker was then arrested and charged with homicide.

The judge in the case dismissed the charge, because there was no proof Becker knew that meth could cause stillbirth. (Los Angeles Times, Nov. 26, 2019; New York Times, May 20, 2021) The law used to punish Becker was intended to protect women in domestic violence situations whose fetus died as the result of a woman being assaulted, not to punish mothers for miscarriages, stillbirths or abortions.

But similar laws have been used during the crack, meth and opioid epidemics to punish women and others who could get pregnant for being addicts. The portrait constructed of a drug addict or a substance abuser is someone who is not capable of loving or taking care of their children. Media worsens the stereotype, portraying addicts as the most selfish beings in the world, only caring for their own fix and not caring about the world around—or inside—their bodies.

The major question surrounding people assigned female at birth who use or abuse drugs is this: Can they be good parents? Do they deserve to have children? The answer is yes to both. While some might need aid from family, friends or social services, they can be good parents and love their children like anyone else.

Sterilization proposed for people using drugs

One last problem related to the question of the drug epidemic and reproductive health is whether or not drug users should be sterilized—yes, sterilized.

In 1997, an organization called Children Requiring a Caring Community (CRACK)—now named “Project Prevention”—paid people of all genders to get long-term birth control and sterilization. Comparing drug addicts to animals, the founder—Barbara Harris—called the children of drug addicts “litter.” (Committee on Women, Population and the Environment, July 13, 2006, tinyurl.com/y5nv37d9)

Harris says that animals are spayed or neutered and that the same should happen to drug-addicted women. The organization hands out $900 after long-term birth control or sterilization is administered. This form of “free-market” Eugenics cannot be allowed to stand.

People assigned female at birth who use drugs have the right to get an abortion without complaint. They should have the right to carry their baby and give birth. They should be free of predatory organizations that seek to practice eugenics on them. They deserve to have children without fear of prosecution.

To protect abortion rights for everyone, we must protect all forms of reproductive justice for the most oppressed and vulnerable. This means addictions too.
COVID-19, global warming, war can starve the world’s poorest

By G. Dunkel

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, two-thirds of the families in the 70 poorest countries, the ones that the U.N. classifies as low-or medium-income, had their incomes drop so drastically that adults reported that they skipped eating so they could save food. Sometimes the adult fasts lasted for a day or more. (UNICEF-World Bank, March 9)

People living in the richest countries of the world, on the average, have had their savings increase during the same period, due to assistance from the governments like cash unemployment benefits or payroll protection plans.

The world’s richest countries are generating boom that have benefited and are benefiting from imperialism and neocolonialism, and the ones that are the poorest are the ones most oppressed by imperialism and neocolonialism.

According to the World Bank, between 119 and 124 million additional people entered extreme poverty in 2021, which means they live on less than $1.90 a day.

Sixty percent of the 70 low-income countries are now at risk of default, which has been made more likely given the rapid rises in the prices of fuel, fertilizer, transport, energy and food—and especially wheat, a key grain—due to the conflict in Ukraine. Hunger has produced rising popular anger with millions of people coming out into the streets all over the world.

Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka is an island of 22 million off the southern coast of India. Until three years ago, in the summer of 2019, it was extolled as “a jewel of investment.” Then when COVID-19 hit, Sri Lanka began its swift decline into the investment hell that led to its default in April.

Some of the bourgeois news sources covering Sri Lanka blame the incompetent and corrupt leadership but ignore similar financial and economic problems afflicting other countries in the area, such as Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and the Maldives.

After a week of furious demonstrations in Sri Lanka, which involved physical attacks on government officials and their houses, the country’s president appointed Ranil Wickremesinghe as prime minister May 12.

This is the sixth time Wickremesinghe, who is in the opposition, has been prime minister, so his appointment is not a complete break with past gov-

The New York Times
ernments. In his inaugural inter-
view with the BBC May 13 — Sri Lanka is a former British col-

ernment — he pledged to make every effort to ensure families get three meals a day.

The price of food has tripled in the past two months; fuel to run cars and electric generators and to cook rice is hard to find, as is medicine.

Sri Lanka had so much debt that between 2015 and 2019, 90% of its new borrowing was used to pay the interest on loans that were due at the end of 2014. Borrowing to pay interest is unsustainable. (Le Monde, May 9)

Pakistan

Pakistan presents a scenario very close to Sri Lanka’s. It is heavily dependent on wheat and other major imports due to its war and not much economic activity; its cur-

The Nation

rency is losing value while inflation is increasing, and its foreign reserves are diminishing rapidly. Its public debt has grown by 73% from September 2018 to February 2022, which is unsustainable. (Le Monde, May 9)

After a week of political turmoil in the middle of April, Pakistan’s parliament ousted Prime Minister Imran Khan and selected Shehbaz Sharif, who was in the opposition, as its new prime minister. Sharif is negotiating a major loan with the International Monetary Fund. As a condition of the loan, the IMF would require Pakistan’s government to remove subsidies on petroleum products, thus increasing the costs for energy and goods for Pakistan’s population.

India, China and the global economy

India is currently experiencing a heat wave in which temperatures soar above 110 F. While the win-
ter wheat harvest in southern and central India has been completed, it is not clear how this heat wave will affect crops in northern India. How the heat affects the harvest depends on when the kernels are formed.

India has a large stock of wheat in its reserves and was expected to be able to use it to stockpile to replace the wheat normally exported from Ukraine and Russia. But to preserve its own food security, it suddenly announced it was almost totally limiting its exports.

While China does not export wheat, it grows a lot for its own use. The effects of global warming on China’s wheat crop will make it cheaper on the world market. These extra purchases could lead to an increase in the cost of wheat, leaving countries whose economies are weak unable to buy sufficient wheat.

The U.S. Federal Reserve is planning to impose interest rate hikes aimed at controlling inflation in the U.S. But this will tend to draw funds from lesser developed countries, since investors could then be attracted to the higher interest rates in the U.S.

Interest rate hikes tend to make the U.S. dollar stronger, which makes loans denominated in dollars harder for bor-

The Daily Beast
rowers to repay. (\)

French elections in the face of the imperialist offensive

By Georges Gastaud

Gastaud is political director of Communist Initiative, the new force in the French elections in the face of the imperialist offensive, available to U.S. readers.

Gastaud dedicated his editorial to 96-year-old Léon Landini, president of the PCRF, author of an undocumented Italian anti-fascist and member of the former FTP-MOI (a Partisan fighting force constituted of emigrant workers who fought Nazi occupiers in WWII). Landini was decorated by France and the USSR for acts of Resistance.

In translation: Philippe Gendreau, edited by WW

I am writing this without knowing the outcome of the presidential election or the level of West-Est tension that will have been reached by the time this editorial is published. But since the confrontation between Moscow and the EU-NATO pushing for escalation in Ukraine. This degree of uncertainty stems less from the pushing for escalation in Ukraine. This degree of uncertainty stems less from the

The Federalist

torial is published, the confrontation edited by WW
ernment and the aggressive

Italian anti-fascist and member of the

the European Union and the aggressive

his editorial, which provides an analysis

the Pole of Communist Revival (PRCF), a
ternationalist organization in France. Workers World is making his editorial, which provides an analysis of the French regime and its relation to the European Union and the aggressive nature of U.S.-NATO-EU-OE offensive, available to U.S. readers.

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The legitimization of the majority of human beings (who inhabit Asia, Africa and Latin America) is the new dawn of communism from the dollar, the Euro-mark — and the U.S. Army.

Large communist parties, or at least strong “red” traditions, carry the weight of the world’s hope of a new generation of socialism-communi-

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French elections in the face of the imperialist offensive

By Georges Gastaud

Gastaud is political director of Communist Initiative, the new force in the French elections in the face of the imperialist offensive, available to U.S. readers. (Le Monde, May 9)

According to the World Bank, between 119 and 124 million additional people entered extreme poverty in 2021, which means they live on less than $1.90 a day.

Sixty percent of the 70 low-income countries are now at risk of default, which has been made more likely given the rapid rises in the prices of fuel, fertilizer, transport, energy and food—and especially wheat, a key grain—due to the conflict in Ukraine. Hunger has produced rising popular anger with millions of people coming out into the streets all over the world.

Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka is an island of 22 million off the southern coast of India. Until three years ago, in the summer of 2019, it was extolled as “a jewel of investment.” Then when COVID-19 hit, Sri Lanka began its swift decline into the investment hell that led to its default in April.

Some of the bourgeois news sources covering Sri Lanka blame the incompetence and corruption of its political leadership but ignore similar financial and economic problems afflicting other countries in the area, such as Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and the Maldives.

After a week of furious demonstrations in Sri Lanka, which involved physical attacks on government officials and their houses, the country’s president appointed Ranil Wickremesinghe as prime minister May 12.

The legitimization of the majority of human beings (who inhabit Asia, Africa and Latin America) is the new dawn of communism from the dollar, the Euro-mark — and the U.S. Army.

Large communist parties, or at least strong “red” traditions, carry the weight of the world’s hope of a new generation of socialism-communi-

India, China and the global economy

India is currently experiencing a heat wave in which temperatures soar above 110 F. While the winter wheat harvest in southern and central India has been completed, it is not clear how this heat wave will affect crops in northern India. How the heat affects the harvest depends on when the kernels are formed.

India has a large stock of wheat in its reserves and was expected to be able to use it to stockpile to replace the wheat normally exported from Ukraine and Russia. But to preserve its own food security, it suddenly announced it was almost totally limiting its exports.

While China does not export wheat, it grows a lot for its own use. The effects of global warming on China’s wheat crop will make it cheaper on the world market. These extra purchases could lead to an increase in the cost of wheat, leaving countries whose economies are weak unable to buy sufficient wheat.

The U.S. Federal Reserve is planning to impose interest rate hikes aimed at controlling inflation in the U.S. But this will tend to draw funds from lesser developed countries, since investors could then be attracted to the higher interest rates in the U.S.

Interest rate hikes tend to make the U.S. dollar stronger, which makes loans denominated in dollars harder for bor-

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Cómomoisión de clases impulsa crisis climáticas

La fractura de la tierra, la ruina de los manantiales y acuíferos naturales, las inundaciones interiores, el deshielo y el aumento del nivel del mar son todos “regalos” de la mala gestión colonial de la tierra.

Por Mirinda Crissman

Publicado originalmente en Workers World/Mundo Obrero, el 30 de septiembre del 2020, este artículo es aún más oportuno después del Día de la Tierra de 2022. La guerra por delegación de Estados Unidos en Ucrania – y la continua crisis de COVID-19 – están siendo utilizadas por la administración de Biden para excavar el retroceso de los promesas ambientales de la campaña de 2020.

Después de prometer que Estados Unidos sería neutral en cuanto a emisiones de carbono para 2050 y de esquivar las tierras federales de la perforación, Biden ha substanciado grandes franjas de aguas federales en el Golfo de México a empresas petroleras que buscan beneficios, ya que el petróleo ruso está somete- tido a sanciones por parte de Estados Unidos. Los problemas de la cadena de suministro mundial durante la pandemia – en particular la sobreproducción de combustibles fósiles – han provocado un clima extremo. Los incendios forestales y los huracanes son cada vez más frecuentes y extremos. Los desplazados se cuentan por decenas de millones. Los migrantes desplazados se enfrentan a nivel mundial.

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La justicia indígena es la justicia climática y ‘Mujeres somos fuertes’ en la protesta por la crisis climática 2021.

El movimiento juvenil ‘Friday For Future’ en Madrid, España, el 15 de marzo de 2019.