

# Democracy or racism?

10¢

By Charles Denby, Editor

There is much interest in our shop concerning the Bobby Seale case in Chicago, and in the trial of those who are being accused of causing the riot in Chicago during the National Democratic Convention. Every worker says that the trial is unfair and inhuman. After the riot, many reporters and newscasters said the blame had to be put squarely on the Chicago police force and Mayor Daley, but there has been no public trial of them.

While workers were discussing this they turned to the question of what and who is the government anyway? One workers said, "You know, they tell us the people in any country are the government. But that's a lot of B.S. The government in any country is that one person who is at the head of that state, and those few that are part of his clique, and help to formulate the policies of that government. When President Johnson was in the White House he was the government. Every other person was secondary or less. Those individuals who were appointed to federal jobs were there as puppets of the head of state. It has gotten to the point today that wherever the President stops in this country, that is the second White House. That is where any and all important decisions are made."

### "WHO SAYS PEOPLE ARE GOVERNMENT"

Then the talk returned to Bobby Seale and the other seven on trial in Chicago. One worker asked, "What is all the talk about everyone having democratic rights and freedom? And everyone of age being able to vote? Look man, I don't care who you vote for and how many votes a candidate gets, the first thing you learn is that the winner is obligated to carry out the policies of the government. Sure, he or she can make some changes to benefit some poor and working people, but as a whole, the basic and most inhuman things they do not attempt to change. That includes State and City officials both. They won't let workers and common people vote on taxes that they deduct from your pay. Who would vote to pay taxes while the rich ones, who should be paying most of it, don't pay anything? Who says the people are the government?"

"What I am saying," he went on, "is that Seale and those others are being tried by a federal judge and his attitude and action towards them is as racist and resentful as anyone has ever seen."

Some people are saying that this judge is something different, that he is not really like federal judges are supposed to be. But the fact is that this judge shows exactly what we have in the U.S., the racism from the top to the bottom of our society. The real difference is that this judge doesn't hide his racism like some judges try to do.

The discussion then turned to the black athletes who refused to play football for some of the leading white colleges in the country. One worker said, "Man, it really is hard to get white society to accept us blacks on a full and free human basis. They have to do or say something to let us know we are black, and most of the younger blacks today are not going to accept this racism, no matter where it comes from. It is hurting college football sports, but the white American has to realize that we blacks have been hurt all our lives. We always have to be better than the whites to compete, not just as good. Being just as good never got us anywhere. We have to be better to be recognized as just as good."

### BLACK RIGHTS MEAN WHITE WOMAN RIGHTS

Talk went on to the freedom of every individual, the complete freedom of youth, blacks, and women. One

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# NEWS LETTERS

*'The Root of Mankind Is Man'*

VOL. 14—No. 10

Printed in 100 Percent  
Union Shop

December, 1969

## U.S. ELECTIONS REVEAL BOTH ANTI-WAR FEELINGS, RACISM

By Molly Jackson

The electoral victory of John Lindsay in New York was such a drastic reversal of his "underdog" status only a few months before, that it was clearly not the simple election of one politician over another. Lindsay himself called it "a message that the people of New York City want the war to end." By riding the tide of the deep anti-war feelings that had been evidenced by demonstrations like those of the Oct. 15 Moratorium, Lindsay had managed to break up the racist white middle-class vote and prove that Vietnam is the number one issue in the country, even on a local level.

Racism had flared up openly in New York during the teachers' strike of a year ago, at which time a poll showed fewer than two out of ten voters thought Lindsay was doing even a "fair" job. Just three months before the election, Lindsay was soundly defeated in his party's primary election by a reactionary Republican who didn't have a chance of becoming mayor. But the Democratic candidate, Procaccino, made his campaign a single issue, "Law and Order," while Lindsay, running on the Liberal Party ticket, spoke up against the war. He went from 14 percent behind Procaccino, to seven percent ahead in the election. He carried only two of the five boroughs, yet defeated Procaccino by 160,000 votes.

### ANTI-WAR OVERCOMES RACISM

It was the combined vote of the black and Puerto Rican poor, together with large numbers of middle-class whites who swung to Lindsay, that elected him. The anti-war sentiment of the middle-class had proved more important to it than its racism. Even the President understood that the election meant the rejection of Administration policies. While Nixon congratulated other Republicans who won office, he refused to even mention Lindsay's name.

At the same time, the Lindsay election killed the idea that only a Democrat or a Republican can win a major election. Minority groups as well as others broke with their traditional political ties. Lindsay won his highest percentage of votes in black areas, a sharp reversal of the 1965 race, when those areas went to his Democratic opponent.

The fusion that elected him may well have changed traditional New York politics forever. There are already indications that it will force him to be more responsive to the people during this term in office. His housing commissioner, who presided over the worsening of an already terrible housing situation, resigned the day after the election, supposedly as a result of a deal made with the liberal Reform Democrats who supported Lindsay.

No one is under any illusions about which class Lindsay represents. The three million dollars he spent on the campaign speaks for itself, as does his own record in office, which shows, underneath the glamour and purported friendship with non-white groups, a failure to meet the city's desperate needs. What the election does show is that Lindsay was smart enough to respond to the swelling movement against the war and that this is the over-riding issue in every facet of American life.

### RACISM'S NEW TURNS

The other major factor that the elections revealed was how deep-seated is the white racism that took some new turns this year. There were some encouraging signs in the South earlier in the year when Medgar Evers became the first black mayor in Mississippi since Reconstruction, and a black mayor was elected in Chapel Hill, N.C., where whites are in the majority. Atlanta voters rejected both racism and its hand-maiden, anti-

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## Largest anti-war protests in history answer Nixon

There must have been a million people marching here today. The buses never stopped coming. People were still pouring in at 4 p.m. when it was all over.

The Washington Police Chief said his "modest estimate" was 300,000, but they told us at the rally that the Associated Press and networks estimated over a million. It was in the 20s and the wind was bitter, but the march line never ended. At the rally you couldn't move. We were packed solid.

Our Michigan delegation was one of the biggest of all. At least 25,000. And though there were a lot of students, there were plenty of adults, too. There were bus loads of Detroit GIs and Veterans Against the War, ADC Welfare Mothers, and members of the Detroit Federation of Teachers.

It was one of the most moving experiences of my life when Pete Seegers sang "Give Peace a Chance" and everyone—thousands and thousands—stood up and gave the peace sign and sang it so loud Nixon HAD to hear it.

The best speech of all was Coretta King's. She said this hideous war has alienated a whole generation of young people—and that this is the most moral generation that has ever lived. —White Mother, Detroit

Everyone is giving a different estimate of the numbers who marched in San Francisco today. We can't say how many there were, but it was certainly the largest ever held in the West.

The numbers alone don't give a full idea of how many it represented. The banners are one indication of the depth and breadth. The variety was enormous.

There were banners of the ILGWU, and the Labor Assembly for Peace. Others said "GIs for Peace" and "Reservists for Peace." There were countless campus groups, and dozens of small organizations carrying banners like: "Physicians for Social Responsibility", "Union for Radical Political Economy", "Third World Groups", "Anti-Imperialist Front", and on and on.

The marchers were mainly young, but there were lots of families marching together. The route was six miles long and the spirit was good the whole way, with most of the bystanders applauding us. —Instructor, San Francisco

Nothing shows the isolation of the self-appointed New Left "leaders of the revolution" better than their stupid adventures in Washington. They almost gave Nixon the opportunity he wanted to crack everybody's head. —Hospital Worker, Detroit

The greatest moment for me came when a busload of soldiers rode by and every single GI on our side of the bus gave us the peace sign through the window. —U. of M. Student, Ann Arbor

The workers at the Ford Windsor plant walked out on Friday and shut down the plant in support of the peace marchers. They were led by a woman worker. Reader, Windsor

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be stopped—P. 4  
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## WAY OF THE WORLD

by Ethel Dunbar

### Don't feel sorry for us

I was at a meeting recently where there were white college girls and black working women talking together about "Women's Liberation." One of the older white women said that she understood that the black people were saying and feeling, and that James Baldwin was right when he said that the worst thing in this country is to be born black. But Baldwin didn't mean it the way white people read it.

A lot of white people want you to think more of them because the top of their skin is white. Nobody has to feel sorry for us because we're black. Black people don't hate themselves because they're born black. They never have. White people just don't know how black people think.

#### EVERYTHING GREW

I was born on a farm in Alabama. None of our family had ever been slaves. My father owned his farm, and he raised everything you could possibly raise on a farm. And white men around there hated my father's guts, because anything my father planted, he made out good on it.

There were four white families in this area. The rest were all our family. The relatives would come to help my father. One of the white men wanted my father to send them to help work his place, but my father just said no, why should he? Just because they were white? The white man went around and told all the other white folks that my father was a biggity-n-r.

Another one of the white men had a gin, and he wanted to make my father bring his cotton to him to gin. But my father refused again. My grandfather had his own gin, but it was old and what he couldn't gin for us, papa would just take to some other town to gin.

The white folks hated my father so much they didn't want him to even come to their store. My father didn't care. He went to some other place to go to the store.

#### WHITE THREATS FAILED

My father was the only man around down there who planted wheat and could make it grow. The four whites got together and warned him not to take it to the town nearby to have it threshed and made into flour. They told him what they would do to him if he carried it over there. They wanted him to sell it to them so they could make a profit on it themselves.

There was another town a little further away, and my father took it there. Then he told the white men that if they wanted some when it was all finished, he'd sell them some barrels. And since he was the only one who could ever raise the wheat down there, they had to buy it from him.

Oh, how they hated him. They threatened to poison his products. But they never did a thing. Because there were too many of us. My father was surrounded by his relatives, and they would have had to answer to all of them. My great-grandfather had 42 children, and each one of them but two had eight. Our family was big all right. And we never felt bad because we were born black. Why should we?

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### No More 'Take It or Leave It'

## First GE strike in 23 years sets stage for '70 battles

For the first time in 23 years, GE workers across the nation in 280 General Electric plants went out on strike on Oct. 26. Of the 180,000 production workers at GE, about 150,000 are represented by 13 separate unions, the largest of which are the International Union of Electrical Workers and the United Electrical Workers.

Much of the power of the corporation over the workers stems from the fragmentation of the unions. Their factional bickering guaranteed victory for the national united policy of the giant corporation at the expense of the workers, whose wages and working conditions are among the worst in American industry as a result.

## Olin strikers fight to defend living wages

New Haven, Conn.—"I've been working for this company since 1940. I've lost over \$2,000 in this strike that I can never get back, but if we don't fight on there won't be a union any more, and if we lose, it will hurt every worker in the state."

The worker speaking was on picket duty in front of Olin-Mathieson's New Haven Winchester plant where members of IAM Local 609 have been on strike for nearly four months. (See Oct. NEWS & LETTERS). Speaking of Olin's military contracts, he added: "The company has piled up millions in blood money. But let me ask you, who needed this war in Vietnam? We can't win and we had no business there in the first place. We have plenty of troubles here at home. It's disgusting."

#### COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROWING

Olin has not budged an inch after well over 100 days of striking, but local unionists, students, and community residents are beginning to move in support of the strike. On Oct. 20 members of several other IAM locals showed up for mass picketing and injected new militancy into the line.

Company-paid (\$6.25 an hour) New Haven cops were on hand to harass the pickets, and there were several arrests. The workers were so angry they moved on to block another entrance, and plant windows got broken along the way.

The next day a fair-sized group of students showed up from Wesleyan U. and New Haven. (Wesleyan students had come out the week before with money they had raised on campus for the strikers and had been harassed by the cops, so they came back in force.) Again there were arrests.

#### STATE THEIR CASE

The supporters tell "Why we are here:"  
"We are student, teacher, housewife, we are mothers black and white, and Connecticut community residents. We have come here today to support the striking Olin workers in their three-month-old struggle for job security and a living wage. We join their fight against a company that has nakedly insulted the trade union movement and the community by its greed and stubbornness.

"We feel that if Olin is able to trample on its employees, defeat the union, and lower wages in this crucial struggle, the whole community—black and white, worker and student—will suffer. More unemployment, lower wages, discrimination, and fewer rights and weaker union protection will hurt everyone in Connecticut.

"Many of us have marched and rallied in the cause of Civil Rights and Peace in the past. Today, we join the workers' struggle at Olin because we realize that our ideals—real freedom, equality, and peace—are those of the working people of America; they can only be won when we have united with them to smash the arrogant power of huge corporations like Olin. These corporations exploit their employees while they use their huge profits to control the police and politicians that rule us, the schools that indoctrinate us, the newspapers that misinform us and the military that oppresses us."

The same week a dinner was held for the strikers by the Fair Haven Betterment Association, and other groups, like New Haven AIM (American Independent Movement), News & Letters and SDS have joined the picket-lines and publicized the strike.

#### OUTLOOK IS DIM

Despite this support, the strikers are far from victory. Although 3,000 workers are out, picketing has been only token as many have had to take other jobs or gotten discouraged. Olin's salaried "white-collar" workers enter and leave freely under the guard of company-paid cops, and many are new "employees" who are actually scabs working on production. The union officials seem to have done little to organize militancy, hold meetings, or encourage outside support, though they have not rejected it.

As one black worker put it: "We can't win this way. Look at those cops. Look at those cars and trucks going in and out. Who knows what's in them? What's this business of letting salaried employees in? Look at G.E. When they strike, no one gets in or out . . ."

The worker's bitterness was shared by several others standing around, who nodded in agreement.

#### RARE UNION UNITY

This year, however, the unions formed a united front against GE and its hated negotiating policy called "Boulwarism", named after past GE President Boulware who initiated the practice of making a "take-it or leave-it" one time offer and refusing to budge from it. GE's offer now is a 20c an hour increase for one year. They demand the right to reopen wage talks for the second and third years of a three-year contract. Until this year, the workers have been taking it. But now, GE workers seem determined to break that policy of the nation's fourth largest corporation, which last year made huge after-tax profits of nearly \$360 million.

It is an important strike not only for the GE workers, but for the entire American working class, because the Nixon administration has made perfectly clear that it will support GE management in its effort to crush the workers and their unions. And if GE wins this one, the more than three million union workers who will be involved in contract negotiations next year can look for the same corporation tactics to destroy their unions as well.

But the rank-and-file is saying much, and has much more to say, to both Nixon and the corporations, as the following report of GE strike picket action clearly shows.

New York, N.Y.—At a G.E. building on 50th and Lexington here I met ten pickets—seven were women, two of them black. Five had come in from Allentown. They said they had been told to expect a six to eight-week strike. They were all rank-and-filers.

One felt that since they were told in advance to expect six to eight weeks, there might be some "deal" already cooked up. They were all happy that UE and IBEW and IUE had got together. That was the most important thing to them.

#### EXCUSE FOR LAYOFF

One man felt that G. E. wanted the strike as an excuse to lay-off, close down unprofitable U.S. plants and move them to Japan. None of them cared much about Nixon backing G. E. In one of the picket's words: "Sometimes you have to lose a little to gain a little."

The women cared most about equal pay for equal work. G. E. pays by a bonus-quota system. Women often get smaller bonuses, which are hard to prove because the pay checks are lumped together.

At Allentown there is a huge plant, with about 1,000 workers, both UE and IUE. All the pickets at that plant were white women. They found it hard to believe that I had met G. E. workers from Allentown in New York and that this was why I had come to their picket line. I think they were suspicious, and one woman hinted that if there were Allentowners in New York, they must be from some Negotiating Committee.

#### 'OUT ON THEIR EARS'

The workers in Pennsylvania seemed to feel out of touch with national events, but one woman commented on the Schenectady situation that if the white collar workers in Pennsylvania at her plant tried to take over union jobs, they'd be "out on their ears so fast . . ." I didn't doubt it.

## WORKER'S JOURNAL

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worker said he thought that if the white women in this country, and especially those in the South, had played a more leading role in the Civil Rights movement, there would have been much greater gains for every one's freedom. Another agreed and said, "I've spent most of my life in the South. The Southern white woman is the blindest person in this society. They don't seem to understand that they are denied their freedom too, and that whatever rights they have come when they were united with the blacks."

We talked about the woman suffrage movement back in the 1800's, when women did not have voting rights, and the famous black Abolitionist Frederick Douglass was the only man who would agree to chair one of their meetings. The Abolitionists understood that the rights of the women and the freedom of the slaves were tied together.

It has only been since blacks gained their voting rights in the South a few years ago, that white women have been given their right to serve on juries down there. Everyone strongly believed that if the white women in the South joined with the blacks in an all-out struggle for their complete freedom, they would be a powerful force to win freedom for all.

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# Boyle or Yablonski? Miners lose with either one

Morgantown, W. Va. — The coal miners in America will elect their next president on Dec. 9, when they will vote for either the current president, "Tony" Boyle, or his opponent, Joseph Yablonski.

Both Boyle and Yablonski have been calling each other names, and the rank-and-file miners who know both of these men say that each one is telling the truth about the other. Yablonski claims that Boyle is a dictator, doesn't care about the miners, has a banker's mentality (a reference to the Washington, D.C. bank owned by the United Mine Workers' union controlled by Boyle), and is concerned with just wages as seen

in Boyle's promise to get miners \$50 a day, whereas miners also want safe working conditions.

## OPPORTUNIST YABLONSKI

While these charges are undoubtedly true, what is equally true is that Yablonski has been an executive committee member of the UMW for many years and has supported all of the policies he now criticizes in Boyle. Yablonski, a UMW District 5 official in southwestern Pennsylvania, is known very well there by the rank-and-file miners as the one sent in to try to force miners back to work when they struck to better their conditions.

He was often booed out — if not thrown out — of meeting halls when he went against the men. He didn't talk then like he talks now about the great concerns of the rank-and-file miners. The cold fact is that the miners were forced to go on strike because Yablonski, as their District union leader, did not care enough about them and their grievances to fight for them.

Yablonski might be able to go into mining areas in West Virginia, Kentucky, Illinois, Virginia and Ohio where he is not known by the rank-and-file and convince them that he has always been for them. But even this is doubtful, because rank-and-file miners know district officers too well as the ones who are always selling them out when they have to fight for important issues.

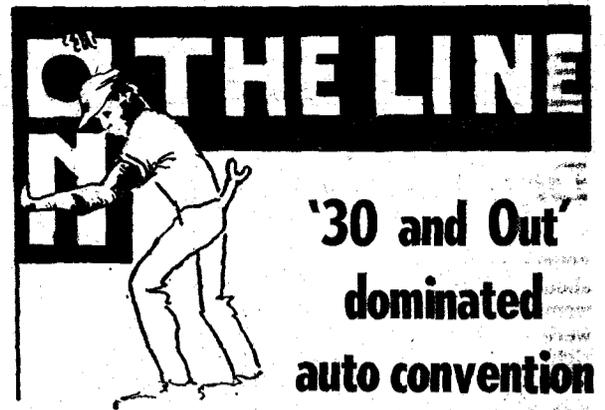
## BETRAYER BOYLE

Boyle is certainly right when he calls Yablonski an opportunist, but Boyle has betrayed the miners so often that he certainly knows he is in danger of being defeated by even an opportunist like Yablonski.

At the last UMW convention, the rank-and-file miners wanted the UMW leadership to approve a contract provision on safety in the mines that the miners could enforce. Instead, Boyle threw out what they wanted, and instead turned to the federal government for safety legislation. Very soon afterward, 78 miners were killed in the Farmington, W. Va. mine explosion. And Boyle had the gall to insult the miners by saying that coal miners had to expect to be killed if they worked in the mines. A federal mine safety bill will be passed, but because of those 78 dead miners, and not Boyle.

Boyle again, last summer, actually opposed the West Virginia miners who went on wildcat strike, closed every mine in the state, to get black lung legislation passed which recognized black lung as an industry disease. The rank-and-file determination and unity was so strong that they whipped the opposition of Boyle, the coal operators and their reactionary political representatives in the state legislature.

Unfortunately, the nation's coal miners have a choice between Tweedledee and Tweedledum, and the rank-and-file can't win no matter which one of the two wins the office, because neither one knows how to listen to the rank-and-file.



By John Allison

The UAW Special Convention convened in Detroit's Cobo Hall on Saturday, Nov. 8. The first order of business was a recommendation to raise the strike assistance benefit \$10 a month across the board (it had been \$20 a week for unmarried workers and \$30 for workers with a family), and to include the American Motors workers immediately in the new benefit because they are now on strike. The second was to approve a \$5 million fund to help striking GE workers. Both were passed.

When the International Union sent the convention call to the local unions, it stated the convention would be held for two days. However, we held a one-day convention — and only four hours at that: from 10 a.m. to 12, then a two-hour lunch break, and then meeting from 2 to 4 p.m., when the convention was adjourned.

## REUTHER AVOIDED PICKETS

Reuther knew that the plans for picketing the convention had been set for Sunday morning, and he made sure it was all over by that time.

The TV coverage the next day showed the pickets, and there were two main groups: one demanding retirement after 30 years in the plant under the slogan "30 and Out", and the other a black group of delegates from all over the country protesting racist policies in the union and in the plants. But the Detroit TV report gave the false impression that the group of 100 black pickets were from DRUM in Detroit, alone.

But from the time the gavel went down, "30 and Out" was the key to the convention. Old timers were saying we have had enough because of the inhuman conditions in the auto shops. We fight now for pensions the way we fought to organize the auto industry, because the automated assembly lines mean speedup, lost fingers and mangled hands from repeating presses.

Blacks are screaming for more and better jobs in the face of unemployment, and the rising cost of living has the workers in a strait jacket — with the horror facing them of being pensioned off without enough money to keep up.

## TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE

Some of the skilled tradesmen have even come around to the position where they want blacks, but it's too little and too late. You can't have instant skilled workers. Before, when something could have really been done, Walter Reuther didn't dare touch the skilled workers. He could speak out against discrimination everywhere — in Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina — everywhere except where he really had the power to do something, and that was in his own union.

Now there is talk of solving this problem through "normal channels." Only the fact is that there are no normal channels for that. No black college graduate is going to be knocking at the skilled trades door when he can make out better some place else. That leaves the hard core for the factory jobs, and they are not going to be given the opportunity to knock on that skilled trade door.

In the meantime, the old timers are saying, "Enough! Enough! I want out!" And so I'll end this with "30 and Out."

## Strike against forced overtime

New York, N.Y.—Over 33,000 workers from Local 1101 CWA (Communication Workers of America) went out on strike last week. The main issues are higher pay and an elimination of the 15-hours-a-week forced overtime provision in the contract.

The big chant was "To Hell with Ma Bell" and "We'll take 40, keep the 15".

Many workers are young blacks and whites—Man Power trainees and graduates. One young black worker said, "The 15 hours overtime is only the sharp edge of the knife Ma Bell uses to sweat more and more hours from us." And another added, "They didn't tell us this in the Manpower Center."

About 250 workers picketed Bell's main office in the downtown business district of Brooklyn. A call had gone out the night before to students to help. Only two or three showed up. We tried to mass in front of the doors to close the building but two buses of Tactical Police drove up and we were forced behind police barricades. We gave the scabs and clerical workers a rough time anyhow.

Eggs were thrown and several hit cops. They arrested the workers involved for "assault on a police officer." Later some panel trucks in the Bell parking lot were overturned.

The action is led by shop stewards who seemingly are in control of the Local and run the wildcat in the name of the membership. Most of the workers are young and don't seem to know their union well. The stewards gave one "politico" some trouble for trying to pass out leaflets for the Nov. 15 peace demonstration in Washington. Youth culture and peace talk—especially among the younger workers—was big.

Later, the stewards checked identification cards on the line for "instigators." I don't know if "instigators" meant student activists or company finks. I had no ID and don't belong to Local 1101, but the men vouched for me because I had been marching with them for four hours.



## Ford Rouge

Detroit, Mich.—We're having quite a problem in the assembly plant. Since model change we're having trouble getting the union to get adjustments on different jobs. When you have a standard you feel is unfair and you can't keep it up and still do quality work, you put in a complaint. The contract is supposed to protect the worker from harassment until he has an established standard on his job. But the company completely ignores that and you get written up for poor work.

When you do get a grievance in, by the time it's processed, it's time for another model change, and you can't win the grievance because the company will say you've been doing the job for four or five months. These grievances don't ever go before an umpire. They have stacks of grievances piled up by now.

—Production Worker

## Fleetwood

Detroit, Mich.—The company has just increased the line speed at Fleetwood. The new speed is 60 an hour, instead of 56 that we used to work. They aren't taking any work off the jobs, either. You still do the same work, just more of it. This is what we get as the settlement of all our grievances.

A couple months ago we took a strike vote because there were hundreds of unsettled grievances—taking men off jobs and not replacing them, speedup, and unfair firings. The union never called the strike. They said everything had been settled.

Well, it isn't. All the jobs they changed around during negotiations have been changed back again. Now they have added more speedup.

On the fourth floor, the retainer job is a good example of this. There used to be six men on this job. First the company had broken it down to five, then to three. The workers filed a grievance on it, and it was negotiated after the strike vote.

Well, now the union has settled for five men instead of the regular crew of six. This is exactly what the company wanted in the first place. This is in addition to the line being faster.

Lately many men are quitting at Fleetwood and new workers are being hired. They put these new men on the roughest jobs. Sometimes they come in and work for a day and walk out, it's so bad. Lately they have been having trouble getting anyone to stay for 90 days.

Now Reuther says he wants more money for a strike fund. What I want to know is—if they won't authorize any strikes, why do they need a bigger strike fund?

—Fleetwood Worker

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# EDITORIAL Repression can't stop anti-war movement

The mass outpouring in Washington, D.C. on Nov. 15 was the country's answer to President Nixon's Nov. 3 speech to the nation on his Vietnam war policy. He made it clear that he stands with the most right-wing elements in the Congress and the Pentagon for a program of continued American destruction of the land and people of South Vietnam, barely clothed in the completely unconvincing rhetoric of "Vietnamization" of the war. Contrary to the suggestions of many Congressional doves, no cease fire and no massive troop withdrawals were announced; only appeals for "patience and support." The Nixon troop withdrawal plan would leave 250,000 men in Vietnam on a continuing basis.

Nixon pointed to the U.S.A. as the new battle ground in the war, and to repression as his new strategy. The very next day after the speech, Assistant Attorney General Richard Kleindienst opened up on the planned Nov. 15 Washington demonstrations, calling them "Communist-inspired" or actually "Communist-led."

The Pentagon issued news bulletins announcing that over 30,000 troops would be on alert to stop the "expected violence," in a blatant attempt to frighten protestors away from Washington.

While himself maintaining a discreet silence, Nixon ordered Vice President Agnew to do his speechmaking for him. Agnew responded with this gem: "We can afford to separate them (the decadent young) from our society—with no more regrets than we should feel over discarding rotten apples from a barrel." In speech after speech, Agnew and other Nixon spokesmen have resorted to a McCarthyism that is reminiscent of the worst days of the fifties. It is not Nixon's self-created "Great Silent Majority" that they are exhorting to action, but the right-wing and racist elements who backed Goldwater in 1964 and Wallace in 1968.

Just before the Nov. 15 demonstrations were to begin, Nixon's other voice, Agnew, tried to raise a lynch spirit against the TV networks for their criticism of Nixon, which was far worse than the spectre of McCarthyism, since he was but one Senator without the power of the state and the military that Nixon-Agnew wield.

## VIETNAM'S TWO TYRANTS

Agnew's comments on the war and its opposition were matched only by those of South Vietnam's fascist Vice President Ky, who again "leaked" Nixon's speech one

day early, and admitted that Nixon was "talking just to placate the American public."

How this sawdust Caesar and his partner General Thieu can command so much power that the tail actually seems to wag the dog is a question many are asking. They represent, in Vietnam, nothing but a tiny clique of corrupt military officers and merchants who are universally hated by their own masses. Even the Catholics, long said to be their only supporters, last month demonstrated against their inflationary policies.

Yet Nixon's administration is so wedded to their regime that he assures the failure of his own Paris peace talks.

Thieu and Ky can get away with this fantastic arrangement only because they offer what Nixon desperately wants no matter how he tries to deny it—a base in Asia. From Thailand's King Phumiphol to Korea's Chung Hee Park, there is not one Asian puppet that can make even a show of stability on his own. All exist solely on American backing, opposed by their own people. The new "Nixon Doctrine" of do-it-yourself security is just so much talk as long as these hand-picked rulers command no popular support.

Four years ago, when President Johnson poured hundreds of thousands of American troops into Vietnam to support his puppets, he hoped to use it as a base against China. President Nixon is faced with the results of this strategy: not only a bottomless pit of war in Vietnam, but a developing revolutionary opposition at home. Yet such is the crisis of American capitalism that Nixon clings desperately to even such obvious fakers as Thieu and Ky.

French capitalism betrayed a similar irrational policy during its war against Algerian independence. For seven years, a small group of French colons (landowners in Algeria) and neo-fascist generals, bled the economy of France dry and watched mass opposition grow at home in their attempt to hold on to their colonial privileges. Even the "Socialist" premier Guy Mollet danced to this tune.

## deGAULLE SAVED FRENCH CAPITALISM

It took a DeGaulle to see that the very preservation of French capitalism depended on an end to the war. Even then, these fascist elements nearly succeeded in reasserting their policy in the infamous "night of the generals" attempted coup in 1961.

In France of 1961-62, when the Evian peace talks dragged on and on, mass demonstrations and strikes broke out in France itself. Over half a million marched through the streets of Paris. In the USA of 1969, millions participated in the October and November Moratoriums and revolt reached deep into the U.S. army.

Nixon, however, is no deGaulle. DeGaulle's stature commanded an esteem among the French people which Nixon can never gain of the American people. Yet deGaulle's visions of impossible French grandeur were limited by the relatively weak economic power of France. In contrast Nixon's illusions of grandeur can be catastrophic for the entire world, because his economic base is the most powerful one in the world. Moreover, Nixon's policy is such a relic of the terrible Eisenhower-Dulles period of encirclement and foreign bases that he considers his foothold in Asia more important than the growing crisis at home. This is why he has resorted to the mailed fist of repression and the awful stench of Joe McCarthyism to quell anti-war sentiment.

## WAR OPPOSITION WON'T BE SCARED

The challenge has been thrown down to the anti-war movement. Already some of the capitalist dissenters—Senator Mansfield for one—have retreated before this attack; Senator Fulbright has announced another postponement of his Vietnam hearings. But it is a tribute to the political power of the movement that Agnew and Kleindienst have failed to scare off the majority of even the bourgeois critics. Senator Eugene McCarthy has hinted that the failure of both Democratic and Republican parties may produce an independent party in 1972.

Even as Kleindienst denounced the planned Washington March, students at M.I.T. in Boston resumed their demonstrations against war research in the face of police gas and clubs. G.I.'s demonstrated against the war at Fort Dix in New Jersey and Fort Hood in Texas.

The period ahead will be a test of the strength and depth of the anti-war movement. Never before in American history has an anti-war movement grown during a war as this one has, but never before has one been faced with such awesome responsibilities. In the success of the struggle against the war to find links to all the freedom forces and to a total philosophy of freedom, lies the key not only to the self-determination of Vietnam, but to the needed American revolution which could transform the entire world.

## THE ELECTIONS

The elections revealed the split between youth and age in this country. It seems obvious the youth are less racist and conservative than their elders, and are feared by them.

In Detroit, a mock vote in the public schools elected Austin. A poll in Detroit showed age to have the most dramatic effect on voting: in the youngest age group, 21-29 years, the poll showed 72 percent for Austin, and the percentages fell right down the line to 31 per cent in the age group over 60.

The fear of youth's rebellion can be seen in the defeat of amendments which would have lowered the voting age to 18 in New Jersey and Ohio.

Observer  
Detroit

Lindsay had two things going for him—the Mets and the Peace Parades.

Janitor  
New York

Marchi didn't get in because even white people don't buy "Law and Order" today. That's the same reason Wallace will never get in, either. "Law and Order" is all against poor people. You never hear Nixon or Wallace or any of the "Law and Order" people talking about organized crime. That's rich people's crime.

Black Worker  
New York

Some of my intellectual friends don't seem to like Ethel Dunbar's column. But I really dig it. I especially liked the way

she wrote about the elections in the Nov. issue. When she talked about the country "heading toward fascism" and in the very next sentence said it was the rich white man who is trying to destroy the poor and "make this like a Communist country," it showed the "working class way of knowing" to me.

Activist  
New York

## WOMENS' LIBERATION

I am active in a Women's Liberation group composed mainly of white college women. I enjoyed the Women's Liberation page in your last issue very much. I thought the article from the woman in New York was especially good. The two articles by workers were really interesting to me because I like hearing what workers are saying.

Reader  
Detroit

The meeting you held in Detroit on "Women's Liberation Speaks in Many Voices" was certainly well-named. There aren't too many meetings where you have young white college women and black (and brown) working women all together in the same room, much less talking to each other. I hope it isn't the last time you try it.

I would like to say something about the way the college women changed the set-up so instead of sitting facing the chairman, we were all sitting around in a sort of circle. I think they wanted it that way so they wouldn't have to ask for the floor when they wanted to talk. They just wanted to keep interrupt-



ing each other; If we have another meeting, I think we should see that nobody speaks a second time until everybody who wants to, has a chance to speak once, first.

Black Participant  
Detroit

There is always a debate going on about women in the shop. Women say that when you hire someone to do housework you pay them. They equate the work with money. But when a wife does the housework, that's supposed to be her "duty." This becomes a critical question.

The question of young children comes up. If a woman worker has children she has to pay somebody to take care of her kids. How do you equate this with money?

Then there is the argument about Welfare mothers. It could be possible that having children is work. It could be possible that feeding them is work.

The question may be what kind of work man—that is, men and women—should be doing, and what kind of money should be equated with work, or what kind of work should be equated with money.

There are thousands of kinds of things that have to be done in this life that we don't think of in terms of work, or of money.

Auto Worker  
Detroit

Your Women's Liberation page was certainly different from any I've seen in other radical papers. It was a powerful point that the Welfare Rights mothers are also the voices of women's liberation. I would have liked to see an article by one of those women on that page.

White Mother  
Detroit

(Editor's Note: See Page 7 this issue.)

## REPRESSION IN CANADA

Somewhere between 60,000 to 80,000 demonstrators, about half of them students and the other half from all walks

of life, marched peacefully in front of the Quebec provincial legislature on Oct. 31 to protest the imminent passage of Bill 63, concerning language rights in the province. Typically, the U.S. newspapers failed to report on this development.

It is already difficult for French-Canadians to find decent employment, and their province is an economically unstable area. Bill 63 jeopardizes the very existence of French Canada. According to the bill — misleadingly entitled "Law to Promote the French Language"—all parents, in any school may choose English as the language of instruction for their children. If a few parents demand it, any school, even French-language ones, must give a course in English.

As "that's where the money is", almost all immigrants learn English upon arriving in Quebec. This steadily decreases the proportion of French-speaking Quebecers, and makes French even more "optional" on the job. (Of course, it always has tourist value.)

In a sense, if this linguistic question is not resolved, little progress can be made. It is only when the French Canadian society as a whole is free from the threat of extermination that Quebecers will really be able to "clean house" on their own profiteers.

Student  
Montreal

Recently a 20-year old Metis laborer in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, was tried by a jury that included not a single Indian or Metis. (The Metis are "mixed" descendants of early French settlers and Indian women.) The entire jury was white.

His lawyer claimed that "This accused person is entitled to be tried by his peers. At least a few should be from the same race, religion, or creed as the accused."

Serge Kujawa, Saskatchewan's chief public prosecutor, said the main qualification for jury duty was that jurors are "reasonable men and women"

## News & Letters

Vol. 14 No. 10

December, 1969

News & Letters is published every month except during the summer months when issues appear June-July, August-September, by News & Letters, 415 Brainard, Detroit, Mich. 48201. Telephone: 833-1989. Subscription: \$1 for 12 copies; single copy 10c; for bulk order of ten or more—6c each.

Raya Dunayevskaya, Chairman National Editorial Board

Charles Denby ..... Editor      O. Domanski ..... Managing Editor

Second Class Postage Paid at Detroit, Michigan

# TWO WORLDS

By Raya Dunayevskaya  
Author of *Marxism and Freedom*

1970—the 100th anniversary of Lenin's birth—is sure to see a new facet of the Sino-Soviet conflict as the two state-capitalist giants calling themselves Communist vie with each other to grasp the revolutionary mantle of Lenin in order to cover up the reality of their respective exploitative systems. In this they will be aided not only by "Western" (private capitalist) ideologists who have always maintained that Stalinism flowed "logically" from Leninism, but also by some who, like Paul Mattick, consider themselves Marxists but have made a veritable profession of anti-Leninism.

The saddest aspect of the new outpouring of anti-Leninism is that some young revolutionaries show themselves to be not so new in their thought the moment they need to move from activity to philosophy. Thus, Daniel Cohn-Bendit, the freshest face and most spirited voice of the near-revolution in France, May, 1968, has found nothing newer to say in his *Obsolete Communism*, than the fact that he is a "plagiarist . . . of revolutionary theory and practice," (1) which turns out, in the main to be that of *Socialisme ou Barbarie* (Pierre Chaulieu), Paul Cardan, etc. Since these departures from Marxism and restatements of *The Meaning of Socialism* (2) are being played up as "the left-wing alternative" to totalitarian Communism, it becomes important to take issue with these detractors of Lenin. In this footnote I will limit myself to Cardan, but it is only because what he says here is representative of all.

## THE ALLEGATION

"For some strange reason," writes Cardan, "Marxists have always seen the achievement of working class power solely in terms of the conquest of political power. Real power, namely power over production in day-to-day life, was always ignored." This vitiation of Marx's philosophy of liberation is but prelude to the hammer and tongs approach to Lenin who, Cardan claims, was "relentlessly repeating from 1917 until his death that production should be organized from above along 'state-capitalist lines.'" (Emphasis added.)

I know of no greater lie, but, for the time being, we will let it stand in order to call attention to the founda-

# Footnote on the detractors of Lenin

tion for the diatribe. As proof of the slanderous statement, Cardan quotes from one of Lenin's speeches, "The Immediate Tasks of the Soviet Government" (3) and then only those passages which relate to the possibility of utilizing the "Taylor system."

Never mind that the Taylor system was never introduced in Lenin's lifetime. Never mind that the "single" will was not a reference to foreman or managers of production. (The point of contention in that first year of revolution when the discussion revolved around "single" vs. "collective" referred to parallelism in organizations since the first national trade union organization arose only after the revolution, just when factory committees and Soviets likewise laid sole claim to running production.) Never mind the objective situation, the backwardness of the economy, four years of imperialist war, civil war and countless counter-revolutionary attacks which were still going on as the new workers' state was struggling for its very existence. That speech was made when the state was but four months old. The references to "single will" and "iron discipline" are sufficient basis for Cardan to conclude: "We believe these conceptions, this subjective factor, played an enormous role in the degeneration of the Russian Revolution . . . we can see today the relationship between the views he held and the later reality of Stalinism."

Cardan is standing everything on its head. No "subjective" factor could ever have produced an objective situation—the new stage of capitalism. State-capitalism first arose during the world Depression, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, assumed its most mature form in Russia during the Five Year Plans and Stalin's most notorious Moscow Frame-up Trials. (4)

Were we to acquiesce to anything so idiotic that a single article could sum up a period covering the greatest proletarian revolution in history, would it not be incumbent upon the analyst at least to consider that article in its entirety? That speech consisted of more, a great deal more than the passages single out for quotation.

## LENIN'S OWN VOICE

The speech set forth the principal task of the proletariat to be "the positive or creative work of setting up an extremely intricate and subtle system of new organizational relationships extending to the planned pro-

duction and distribution of the goods required for the existence of tens of millions of people. Such a revolution can be carried out only if the majority of the population, and primarily the majority of the toilers, display independent historical creative spirit . . . By creating a new Soviet type of state, which gives the opportunity to all the toilers and the masses of the oppressed to take an active part in the independent building of a new society, we solved only a small part of this difficult problem." (5)

Far from the Taylor system (which Lenin most certainly did not understand) being the ruling conception, proletarian democracy was the guiding line which permeated Lenin's speech. This is what the Soviets meant to Lenin. This is why he put the whole stress on the fact that the soviet form of organization is justified because "for the first time a start is thus made in teaching the whole of the population in the art of administration, and in their beginning to administer." And he warns against "a petty-bourgeois tendency to transform the members of the soviets into 'members of parliament,' or into bureaucrats. This must be combatted by drawing all the members of the soviets into the practical work of administration . . . Our aim is to draw the whole of the poor into the practical work of administration . . . our aim is to insure that every toiler . . . shall perform state duties." (6)

## BEFORE AND AFTER REVOLUTION

The four-months old workers' state was in "a period of waiting for new outbreaks of the revolution, which is maturing in the West at a painfully slow pace." And Lenin was holding fast to the new universal, that he had elaborated on the eve of revolution in *State and Revolution*, that unless the bourgeois state was so thoroughly smashed that production was run by the whole population "TO A MAN"; and the state without bureaucracy, without a standing army, without police, was administered by the whole population "TO A MAN," there would be no socialist society. Three months after gaining power, Lenin repeated: (7)

"We wanted the workers themselves to draw up, from below, the new principles of economic conditions."

Indeed Lenin was willing to let a single distinction  
(Continued on Page 7)

# Views

(white?) and that the selection of citizens for duty be done "fairly". He said that pursuing the strict equality argument to its extreme could mean that a "hunchback accused of a crime be tried by a jury of hunchbacks."

Sheriff Deakes, who worked with a district court judge to select city residents for potential jury duty, said that choosing was done "without any thought as to race, creed or religion whatsoever."

This is one example of what Canadians mean when they deny the existence of local racial discrimination and blame black agitation in Nova Scotia or Indian "Red Power" movements in the West on the Black Panthers.

Substitute the word "black" for "Metis" and you find a typical example of American "blind-justice", Canadian-style. The trial of Frederick Moses McCallum, who had the misfortune to be born Metis in Canada, is typical here.

Reader  
Winnipeg, Canada

## ANTI-WAR PROTESTS

Nowhere in the world are the people fighting harder against the war plans of those in power than in America. Resistance of every possible kind has been embarked upon by a large and growing number of people. The British workers have a glorious record of struggle, but never in our history did we fight against war with the same consistency as that shown by many thousands of Americans demanding an end to the Vietnam war.

Yet, so deep-rooted is anti-American feeling in Britain that little is said about the militancy of the ordinary people of America. Much of this hostility to everything American is due to the belief that the weapons of war possessed by Russia are really designed to maintain peace.

Opposition to war, from the Marxist standpoint, is tied up with the principle of international solidarity. The struggle against war extends far beyond the

Vietnam war. Here in Britain, we should be fighting against our involvement in NATO. We should be opposing the supply of arms to the Middle East and to Nigeria.

The American people are well in front of us. The Russian people, for obvious reasons, are not yet able to demonstrate against their Government's war plans, but that will come in time. The fight against war must be worldwide, and not directed against any single country.

Marxist-Humanist  
Scotland

To me the Moratorium did not reveal revolutionary consciousness, but just the first step of getting away from "my country, right or wrong". The question is what are the possibilities of the continuing development of the movement. The black people's attitude seemed to be that it was Whitey's thing. Their point of view is that war is just one more example of how the system operates.

Activist  
New York

Peter Mallory's analysis of the Vietnam moratorium was excellent. It was the only one I saw anywhere which dealt with the forces of revolution both as theory and as fact.

Reader  
San Francisco

Please send me a bundle of 50 copies of your November issue and 50 sub blanks. Keep up the excellent work. Venceremos!

Student Activist  
Texas

## REUTHER IN CONN.

The strike of Colt Arms workers in nearby Hartford, Conn., reported in last month's *News & Letters*, ended after a week when Walter Reuther of the UAW International refused to sanction the local's strike vote.

The walkout had begun as a wildcat

## WHAT IS NEWS & LETTERS? A unique combination of workers and intellectuals.

**ORGANIZATION** — We are an organization of Marxist Humanists—blacks and whites who are seeking to change our conditions of life in the shops, the schools, the society as a whole. To do this we feel that all of us—workers in the factories, students in the universities and high schools—must come together and talk about how we can end speed up and racism in the plants, miseducation in the school; how we can build different human relations, by abolishing the division between mental and manual labor.

**PAPER**—This is the only paper of its kind, anywhere, edited by a black worker, Charles Denby, who works in an auto plant. The only paper written by working people, youth and black people fighting for freedom, in the U.S.A. and in other countries.

The only paper that features a regular column, "Two Worlds," by Raya Dunayevskaya, chairman of the National Editorial Board, and author of *Marxism and Freedom*.

We invite you to write for the paper, and to join our organization.

over company violations of the contract in one plant, voted to all five, and was immediately voted as a strike by a majority of UAW Local 376 when strikers were threatened with firing.

After Reuther forced the local to capitulate to management, three strikers were fired for no other cause than that they had been arrested by the local police in a picket-line scuffle. Once again we see Reuther, the International, the cops and management together on their side of the class line.

Observer  
Conn.

## ANTIPHONAL MISERERES

In answer to an Antiphonal Misery in your November issue:

Mourn in misery  
For the majesty of poetry  
In today's world  
A world of automation  
Bigotry and War  
To name but three  
Of the more pressing  
Problems facing those who  
Want to change the world—  
Want to change the  
Abuse and Misuse of  
People by governments  
People by people  
Nature by both—

The men in the factories need change  
But so do the women

But so do the students  
But so do the children—  
Men are being killed by machines—  
Of War, Of Production  
Children, Students  
Both being channeled by the  
Government  
To become a cog in a Machine  
Women are oppressed  
By governments  
By People  
By society and tradition  
And all must change—

And changes will come about  
Not through endless lines  
Of Poetic Gibberish  
But through hard work  
And simple terms of Communication  
Complex terms may reach a few  
A few of the intelligentsia—  
Is not enough—  
Mourn for the words that say only  
Help—  
And point to no solution

Wilson Buckholtz  
Detroit

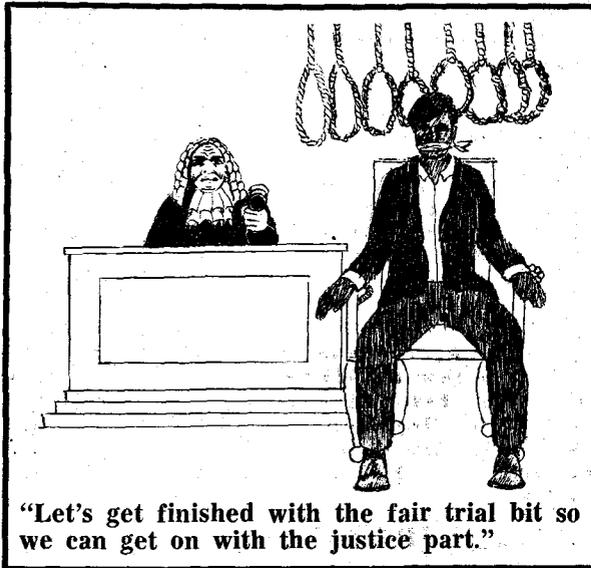
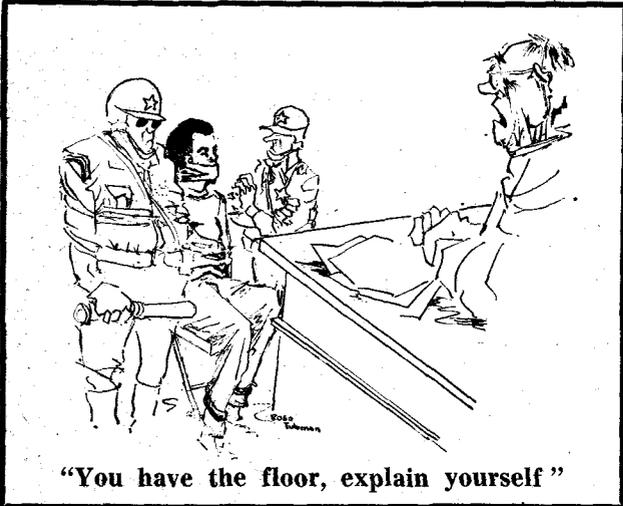
Congratulations are due to any workers' paper that allows space for poetry that is not narrowly politically and linguistically limited to monosyllables. I do hope you will have more of such visionary poems as Morgan Gibson's "Machinery's Antiphonal Misereres."

Journalist  
Canada



# YOUTH

## Two More Views on American Justice, 1969



## Chicago trial: conspiracy against the eight

Los Angeles, Cal.—The conspiracy against the eight has put away its first victim without waiting for “the American system of justice,” the jury, to reach a decision. Bobby Seale, Black Panther leader, after spending three days in court shackled with leg irons and handcuffs, gagged with muslin and tape, was charged, tried and convicted—all by Judge Julius Hoffman—of 16 counts of criminal contempt and sentenced to a total of four years in prison.

Seale's crime? Trying to defend himself. Seale had demanded the right to be his own attorney since the lawyer he wished to represent him was ill. The demand came after presiding Judge Hoffman had refused to postpone the trial to allow Seale's attorney to participate. As the trial proceeded he tried to cross examine police agents who had given testimony against him. But each time he tried, the judge ordered him to sit down and shut up. This he refused to do.

### SEALE SENTENCED

Seale called Hoffman a racist and a fascist pig for denying him these rights. The judge retaliated by ordering the medieval practice of gag and shackles. For three days this barbarism continued. The disgust at such a procedure was so great that it was ended.

The next time Seale rose to defend himself the judge declared a mistrial for Seale, spent more than an hour reading his fabricated criminal contempt charges, calling Seale's attempt to provide for his own defense an attack on the American judiciary system, and sentenced him 16 times over to three months sentences—four years in all.

The judiciary system is most certainly under attack. But the attack on its already false appearance of impartiality begins with the actions of Judge Hoffman and stretches from Attorney General of the U.S. Mitchell and his boss to Chicago Mayor Daley and the numerous undercover cops who acted as provocateurs during the Democratic Convention.

Taking a vulgar conglomeration of edited film strips from TV cameras, wiretap of phone conversations, the work of police undercover agents whose job was not to find out what was occurring but instead to provoke incidents, and a judge who does the prosecutor's work

## Student vs. Administration

Los Angeles, Calif.—Recently at University High School a black student was harassed by the school administration. The student went through one of the change lines and found that he was given too little money back.

When he protested to the finance office he was ignored. He then went to the vice principal. But the first thing the vice principal demanded was to see the student's identification. Next, he found that the student was going to University High from out of the district by permit. He informed the student that it was very easy to get rid of students who were on permit, and that he should stay out of the change line for a month.

A leaflet was put out in support of this student, calling the action racist. Some students asked how this incident was racist since they themselves had been short changed in the change lines.

The explanation was that the vice principal would not have done the same thing to a white student. This combined with the fact that black people are only one percent of the student body, makes it very easy to harass black students when they complain or protest anything.

This incident may seem small, but this type of treatment of black students, and in fact all students, by administrators is occurring all too often.

—H.S. Student, LA

for him, the government is seeking to put the eight behind bars for ten years.

The eight are not just any eight. They range from pacifist and yippie to black revolutionary and have been activists in the twin movements which are at present challenging the “American way of life”—the black movement and the anti-Vietnam war movement.

The attack against the eight is an attack against these movements. It is the government's hope to stem the growth of the anti-war movement not by ending the war, but by jailing the activists.

Trials of Dr. Spock and others was one step, the Conspiracy trial is another. The inclusion of Black Panther Bobby Seale as one of the defendants is another step towards the attempted decimation of the Black Panther Party, one of the forces in the black liberation movement. With Seale in prison the majority of the Panther leadership is either in jail or in exile.

### SYSTEM ON TRIAL

Those on trial have decided that they will not play according to the government's rules. Seale's actions in trying to defend himself are witnessed far beyond the confines of the courtroom and will not be lost by criminal contempt jailings. The anti-war activists, though they have to be in the courtroom every day, are at the same time engaged in building the anti-war actions of the coming months. The trial itself may well help to build those actions.

It is not the eight, nor the anti-war movement, nor the black liberation movement which are on trial. It is rather the system which has been trying to gag and shackle the freedom struggle in this country.

## Review of 'Easy Rider'

“Easy Rider” is a heavy movie. It should be seen by everyone. A product of our turbulent times, it is the story of two young men, whom many youngsters can identify with, who embark upon a carefree journey that ends in their death.

Wyatt (Peter Fonda) and Billy (Dennis Hopper) are off-spring or victims (if you like) of our so-called free, affluent society. They make a fast easy buck—an essential prerequisite for achieving the American dream—by buying cocaine in Mexico and selling it to a dealer in L.A. They then take off on two gleaming motorcycles travelling through the southwest to reach New Orleans for the Mardi Gras.

### LIFE STYLE

Shortly thereafter their lives are ended abruptly, wastefully, by men governed by an ignorant mentality who are intolerant to the lifestyle chosen by others and who fear what this lifestyle represents—a kind of freedom that they secretly long for but cannot possess because the American way of life condemns and denies them such freedom.

“Easy Rider” may not be a revolutionary film if one would like to see it made so that it inspires people to pick up the guns and go make revolution. But “Easy Rider” is a film that can speak to masses of people in this country—especially young people. It doesn't make you want to emulate Wyatt and Bill, but you identify strongly and realize the meaninglessness and emptiness that permeated their lives, our lives, the lives of millions of people who toil daily for others, in our society.

Wyatt and Billy at least momentarily “liberated” themselves from the bonds that keep us in place throughout our lives. Were they successful? Did they find what they were seeking? What they thought they wanted?

### WE BLEW IT

Wyatt himself gives us the answer towards the end of the movie when he turns to Billy and says, “We blew it Billy, we blew it.” However, people can and do identify with the movie, and if they do, they unconsciously agree that there is something wrong with our society and revolutionary change is needed if we are to survive without plunging into chaos and ceaseless violence.

## DOING AND THINKING

### Rock 'n Revolution

by David Payne

Back in the late 1950's, when most leftist groups were bemoaning the “silent generation,” and accusing Elvis Presley and Buddy Holly of being puppets of capitalism's plot to destroy the minds of America's teenagers, News and Letters pointed out revolutionary potential among the youth and used rock 'n roll concerts as examples of constructive energy. This alone would seem to justify rock 'n roll raps in this paper.

Another reason would be to counterbalance the somewhat incredible cultural coverage given the left by PL and the Guardian whose slightly updated support for socialist realism seems to be totally without artistic or political merit. Also, rock or the primary cultural expression of the youth culture, has a place in the revolution, a place that has so far been treated patronizingly or uncritically. Finally, rock 'n roll is fun, good for you and cleans your ears out.

### ROCK 'N ROLL DUALITY

Since its raunchy beginnings in the 50s out of pure black funk, electrified blues and the music of poor white Southern referred to as “country,” rock 'n roll has been burdened with a frightening duality. It has expressed the frustrations and aspirations of the youth of monster America. It has also always been controlled by the corporate masters of mass media and been responsible, as Frank Zappa puts it, for “diverting anxious energy into . . . fantasy.”

After the renaissance in pop music created in the middle sixties by the Beatles and their cohorts, the contradiction in rock became even more apparent. More kids may have been turned on to ideas of political change and personal liberation by people like Dylan, Country Joe, and the Stones than by any radical political theorists.

### RECORD COMPANIES CONTROL

Rock has been intimately associated with the move toward peace, sexual freedom, and the use of drugs—with a whole new life style. Still, the profiteers and media men are with us. The music we hear, even on “underground” radio stations, is still what the record companies program us with.

These same corporations try to lull us into believing that the revolution is in our heads, that “do your own thing” is the answer, that the stoned passivity of Woodstock should supersede the political fury of summer '68 in Chicago.

The members of the rock groups themselves are usually not very consistent in their political outlook either. Most live lives as superstars, so isolated from the people and their struggle, that they see no contradiction between munching on grapes and later going on stage to sing about revolution, as Jefferson Airplane did at Woodstock. Elitism and cynical manipulation of the public seems to be the life style of most rock bands and singers and certainly the much publicized “groupies” are hard to reconcile with the left's idea of women's liberation.

### THE MOTHERS

Certain bands, among them the Mothers and the MC5, have made attempts to resolve this contradiction. While Frank Zappa, head Mother, has had a bad time accepting the sincerity of the political left, his scaldingly funny remarks about the American dream mark him as a cultural guerrilla.

Zappa once said that he would “pass out Molotov cocktails in the theatre lobby if it would help.” Since he thinks it wouldn't, what he tries to do is infiltrate the machine and make it work for him. His music doesn't lull, it tries to make you think.

The trouble with Zappa is that once he denies the individualistic drug-centered life style, he then turns around to denounce the left and Marxism, the only viable alternative to it. This leaves him in a cul-de-sac, unable to communicate with his audience.

### THE MC5

The MC5 are unintellectual and more involved with the political revolution. They are not fantastic musicians; their great strength is rather the level to which they are together with themselves and their audiences, especially in Detroit and Ann Arbor. The Five are an expression of street culture carried to the point of political and cultural armed struggle.

Coming from workingclass backgrounds, the raw power of their sound represents a sort of vicious energy which many more sophisticated groups can't tap. Recently, they have dropped their connections with the White Panthers and the Michigan freak left community—it remains to be seen what will happen now.

The middle class white kids who buy most records are not really programmed for this sort of thing. The record companies prefer for them to dig sexy lead singers and apolitical fantasy. Perhaps this is the reason Zappa has disbanded the Mothers and that the MC5 want a new image as just a rock band.

However these artists have been guides into the path rock must take if it is to help. In the words of Chuck Berry, “Deliver us from the days of old.”

Only 15c

AMERICAN YOUTH REVOLT:

1960 - 1969

by Eugene Walker

Order from: News & Letters, 415 Brainard St., Detroit, Mich. 48201

## GI coffee house harassed

Brandenburg, Ky. — Nine young people have been jailed here because of their involvement with a controversial GI coffee house near Fort Knox, Ky.

Five of them were arrested Oct. 30 for maintaining a "common public nuisance" and "failure to comply with sanitary regulations." Their bond was set at \$1,000 for the nuisance charge, and \$500 for the sanitary violation.

The next day four others were cited for contempt, because they refused to answer questions about the coffee house put to them by the Meade County Grand Jury. Circuit Court Judge Murray Beard ordered them kept in jail until they purge themselves of contempt by answering the questions.

A series of court actions have harassed the organizers of the coffee house ever since they opened it in September. It has also been firebombed twice, and there have been other threats of violence.

The coffee house is sponsored by the same group of people who publish FTA at Fort Knox — one of the first two underground GI newspapers. One of their recent actions was to call for a nationwide sick call for GIs, to coincide with the Nov. 13 Moratorium actions. Both GIs from the base and civilian supporters from Louisville are involved in the coffee house.

A statement written by an anonymous GI and issued through FTA, says GIs raised the money for the coffee-house, "found a place, and fixed it up. Some of them traveled around the country to recruit civilian staff."

The coffeehouse, the statement said, is designed to provide a place where GIs can gather and talk freely — something they say they can't do on the base.

## TWO WORLDS

(Continued from Page 5)

sum up the difference between the Second International that had betrayed the workers and the new, Third International. That single distinction was that genuine Marxists "reduce everything to the conditions of labor." (3)

Lenin was concerned about how "shy" the workers still were. They had not "yet become accustomed to the idea that they are the ruling class now." He lashed out at "lackadaisicalness, slovenliness, untidiness, nervous haste," of the "educated" which was due, he said, "to the abnormal separation of mental from manual labor." He urged upon these intellectuals to begin listening to these shy workers: "every attempt to adhere to stereotyped forms and to impose uniformity from above gave a great example of how to combine initiative, independence, freedom of action, and vigour from below with voluntary centralism free from stereotyped forms . . . there is a great deal of talent among the people—it is merely suppressed. It must be given an opportunity to express itself. It, and it alone, with the support of the masses can save Russia and can save the cause of socialism." (9)

Nor was he talking only against "petty-bourgeois intellectuals." He was talking about Bolsheviks, his co-leaders now that they had state power; his appeal was to the initiative of the masses from below. The famous trade union debate of 1920-21 discloses how desperately he worked toward this one truth, how he differed even on the question of designating Russia as a workers' state. His contention was that a precise description would show instead that the designation of "workers' state" was an "abstraction" while the reality was that it was a workers and peasants' state "with bureaucratic distortions." In arguing against Trotsky's administrative mentality, Lenin insisted that the only assurance there is for the workers protecting that state is through giving them the freedom to protect themselves from the state:

"The entirely organized proletariat must protect itself and must utilize the workers' organizations for the purpose of protecting the workers from their own state." (10)

This was not just a visionary concept of a Marxist who has no state power. This was the demand of a Bolshevik who had state-power, a demand that his co-leaders, his Party, recognize that the workers' state can justify its existence only when the workers maintain their own non-state organizations to protect them from their own state. There is a veritable conspiracy between the Communists and the detractors of Lenin to portray Lenin's concept of the Party as if Lenin had never changed his position from 1903 to his death. Since space does not allow me here to deal with the question of "vanguardism", which I totally oppose, I must refer readers to Marxism and Freedom, Chapter XI, "Forms of Organization: the Relationship of the Spontaneous Self-Organization of the Proletariat to the 'Vanguard Party'".

(1) *Obsolete Communism, The Left-Wing Alternative* by Cohn-Bendit, p. 18 (McGraw-Hill, N.Y.)

(2) *Solidarity Pamphlet No. 6* (London)

(3) *Selected Works*, Vol. VII, pp. 332, 342, 345

(4) For a full analysis of state-capitalism, see *MARXISM AND FREEDOM*, Chapter 13, "Russian State-Capitalism vs. Workers' Revolt."

Lenin was warning of the possible return to capitalism throughout the last two years of his life. Especially important on state-capitalism is his speech to the 11th Congress of the Party, *Selected Works*, Vol. IX, 322-371.

(5) *Vol. VII*, pp. 315-316. (6) *Ibid.*, p. 345-347. (7) *Ibid.*, p. 227.

(8) *Vol. IX*, p. 440. (9) *Ibid.*, pp. 419, 420, 422.

(10) *Ibid.*, p. 9.

## 'If you're on ADC, everyday is an emergency'

Detroit, Mich.—Several hundred ADC mothers here have kept their children out of school since September because they don't have the proper clothes to wear. They are asking for a school allowance of \$75 per child. They have been given \$11 per child.

They have staged sits-ins and demonstrations in their attempts to have the allotment increased, and have been supported by religious, labor and civil rights groups. But Gov. Milliken has insisted that, although he sympathizes with their situation, the state is unable to help them.

One of the mothers who has 12 children and has been threatened with a 90-day jail sentence and/or a \$50 fine if her children do not return to school at once, tells her story below:

When you're on ADC, every day is an emergency situation.

There's a pressure on us all the time. They tell us we have to send our children to school. But when we send them, they send them back home. One of my daughters has been keeping up with her lessons from the girl next door. She's in seventh grade. Their class was supposed to have a test and she knew she could pass it.

### 'THE BEST SHE HAD'

She put on some long wool pants and a heavy blouse and went to school to take the test. In an hour she was back home. When I called the school they told me I could send her when she was properly dressed. I had sent her in the best she had.

All this is having a tremendous effect on my children. They feel they are going to get behind and they worry what they will say when they ever do get back to school. My 15 and 16 year olds say they would rather get married than go back to school now. My 15-year-old went to jail on her own during one of our demonstrations. I've had six of my children go to jail with me. They know what we're fighting for, but they don't feel that they belong to their own group at school any more.

Gov. Milliken knows that any money that is allocated from the state level will be matched from Washington, but the politicians complain that the state would be taking

too much responsibility. The truth is that it is the responsibility of the whole society. The ones who are really getting hurt are the children. They're being passed around like hot potatoes from the state to the county and back again.

It doesn't make sense. If a mother abandons her child and the child is placed in a foster home, the foster mother gets \$300 a year for clothing allowance. But if a mother wants to raise her children herself, she is expected to do it on \$11 a year.

Gov. Milliken said that the \$11 we got for clothes this fall will be followed by another \$11 in spring IF the welfare roles stay the same. But things are getting worse every day. The welfare rolls will get bigger and bigger, not smaller. They make it impossible for us to get off welfare.

### GETS HATE MAIL

Even since the first time I spoke out at a demonstration and one of the reporters printed our addresses in the papers, I have been getting all kinds of hate mail. I've been called unprintable names. One person asked where was Eichmann now that they needed him. Another said I should be shot and my children should be gassed. Another said all the ADC mothers must be healthy because they looked like "fat pigs."

They must not know that the main thing about an ADC diet is that you have to live on starches and bread. ADC mothers healthy? One year the Welfare Rights Organization did a survey to see how many mothers could sell a pint of blood. Out of 20 mothers, one passed the medical exam.

Welfare is supposed to be a temporary thing. But I see my children falling into the same category I am in. I'm not worried about myself. I'm worried about the youngsters who will have to take over tomorrow. I know they have to get an education to get out of the rut we are in, but I sometimes worry that if I scuffle and get them an education in this society the way it is now, they might grow up and forget to be human beings.

For more information on the Detroit Metropolitan Welfare Rights Organization write or call: DWRO 2631 Woodward Ave., Detroit, Mich. 48201. Phone: (313) 964-5360. Your help will be welcomed.

## Strikes continue as Italian crisis deepens

Milan, Italy—The foreign press undoubtedly sees the situation in Italy as being similar to that of France, May, 1968. This is an error although there are similarities. In France the workers, students and, in fact, almost the entire society, were fighting against the authoritarian deGaulist regime that did not manage to resolve the economic and social problems of the country. In Italy the workers and peasants, as well as many other elements of the society, are fighting against a government that has not functioned at all for at least six months — if not for a year — and thus has not been capable of making the minimum social and economic reforms that are absolutely necessary for an industrial society to go ahead.

After the elections, about a year ago, the government never had real majority support. A part of the Christian Democratic Party would like the CP (Communist Party) to either support or enter the government. This is because they hope that the CP will keep the workers under control.

### WILDCAT IS NOW ITALIAN TOO

The metallurgical and chemical workers have been striking continuously since the end of the vacations in August, and they are angry. I have only to look out of my window to see the metallurgical workers of the CGE (the Italian branch of General Electric) to understand this. The English word "wildcat" has become a part of the Italian vocabulary. In fact, the workers go out on strike and the union leaders come running after them hoping to keep the situation under control.

One day the chemical workers went on strike, with who knows how many others. The newspapers calculated that around 100,000 marched to the Piazza del Duomo, and I believe it since I was there. All traffic was held up — street cars and buses included. Then, the unions called for a general strike a few days later and only about 50,000 workers showed up.

The strikes are endless. For two days in the last week of October, Milan was almost completely without water. One does not know if one can make an appointment on the other side of town either because the bus and taxi drivers might be on strike or because one might encounter strikers marching through the streets.

However, the workers are not limiting themselves to marches. At Torino some 150 workers entered in one of the Fiat automobile factories and destroyed a part of the equipment of the assembly line. The unions are desperately trying to keep the situation under control.

The CISL (the Catholic union) is recommending the occupation of the factories — something that the CGIL (the Communist-Socialist union) does not accept. This is simply competition among the unions to get workers' support.

The CP is doing all it can to take advantage of the situation. They are trying to show that most of the workers are with them, that they are for law and order, so that if the government would make some social reforms and perhaps let them into the government.

In addition, the number of workers denounced by management, above all by the Fiat automobile factory, and then arrested, I have not managed to count. However, if the same thing happens to them as to the construction workers a few years ago, they will end up in jail for at least 18 months, have desperate families and very little possibility of finding work after they get out.

### WHITE COLLAR STRIKES

Every political party, along with the unions that support them, is trying to take advantage of this situation. However, almost none of these groups — even most of the so-called "New Left" — seems to be aware of the changes that are taking place. For example, the "white collar workers" are beginning to go out on strike. Sometimes it is due to the fact that the workers enter the office and say: "Either you come out with us, or else."

On the other hand, one finds cases in which these white collar workers, who do not work near the factory and have never belonged to a union, organize themselves and walk out for an hour or so. In fact, there was an enormous strike in front of the IBM and there were probably more white collar workers than manual workers.

Also the students seem to have a closer contact with the workers, especially at Torino. At Milan a meeting of half a day was held in which workers and students met; there were more workers than students and the workers were the principal speakers.

The situation and the forms of struggle are different in each city. One must not forget that the entire struggle began in the South where agricultural workers even sat on the train tracks, stopping trains for hours to show their protest.

By now, the strikes of the agricultural workers in the middle zones of Italy (Reggio-Emilia) are perhaps more militant than those at Milan. At the same time, the strikes at Torino and Genova have shown a working class militancy that goes far beyond the usual strike.

I find it impossible to make predictions. One can only say that the class struggle is going ahead.

—M.C.

A nation-wide anti-war boycott this holiday season has been launched to protest the commercial exploitation of "peace on earth, good will toward men" while war is being made overseas.

The true kind of giving which boycotters are encouraging is the donation of money or material to organizations that will use it to further the cause of peace and good will, and giving to those who are hungry, ill, poorly clothed, or who are the victims of war.



HAVE YOU PUT  
N&L ON YOUR  
GIFT LIST?

## WORLD IN REVOLUTION

By Eugene Walker

### Labor in the West

## Italy: workers on a general strike

"We construction workers build these new apartments but we never make enough money ourselves to live in what you might call a decent place." The Italian striker who spoke of these conditions in his industry was joined by millions of other Italian workers this October and November.

In Italy, 45 major labor contracts involving over three and a half million workers in metal, chemical, petroleum, textile and other industries are up this fall. Over the past few weeks well over three million Italian workers have joined in strikes, some for an hour, some for a day, some for four days, some locally, some regionally, some nationally. Virtually everything has been closed down at one time or another—newspapers, post offices, automobile factories, chemical plants, cement works, steel mills, brick kilns and bus service.

The short strikes, first by one group of workers, then by another, is the way that the Italian workers are conducting a general strike. The unions have no strike fund. Each group of workers in a particular industry walk-out for one or two days and then return in order to have money to live on while another group goes out.

In addition to industry-wide strikes, whole cities go on general strike. In the city of Bergamo, marching workers staging a city-wide strike against the high cost of living, occupied a bank, a factory and a newspaper office.

In Rome, militants in automobiles appear daily in the streets and go to the Chamber of Deputies to wave placards complaining about high rents and low wages.

The strikes, while directed against the govern-

ment and private corporations, also point out the division between the union officials and the rank and file workers. In the northern cities labor militants have argued that the traditional unions are immobilized, bureaucratized pawns of the establishment. Many of the strikes have been wildcats in opposition to the union.

If the union leadership is now coming to the front in some strikes, part of the reason may be their fear of a militant takeover of the strikes. There is also some feeling that union leadership is not really fighting but is waiting for the workers to become exhausted by the strikes and then the negotiators will be free to make compromises.

With much of the union leadership reluctant participants at best, it is the workers by themselves who are carrying the fight against the government and private industry.

### Labor in the East

## Czechoslovakia, Russia attack 'low productivity'

The Czechoslovak government has threatened to abolish the five-day work week which was introduced in 1962. Premier Cernik and Communist Party Chief Husak have been urging their countrymen to work harder and have deplored the "slackness" in many industrial plants. The government threatens to reinstitute Saturday work in 1970 unless productivity rises sharply before then.

In opposition, workers' meetings to discuss grievances have been scheduled in Prague, Pilsen, Ostrava and Brno. Worker committees are organizing these factory meetings without authorization from local Communist party organs or central trade union officials.

Several locals of the 900,000-member Metal Workers Union have been agitating for work stoppage to

protest the purge of union chairman Vlastimil Toman for being "anti-socialist" in the eyes of the government.

Meanwhile Soviet occupation soldiers are "helping with work" by going into factories and farming co-operatives. In truth it is an effort to prevent "production slumps" and sabotage.

Within Russia itself the Communist Party's Central Committee has taken steps to stop what they term as low productivity and labor shortage. The Central Committee has announced that factory wage funds, out of which wages and amenities for the workers are provided, have been freed to be used as local plant managers see fit.

What this means is that factory managers can get rid of "unproductive" workers and pay material

incentives to those willing to work faster and harder. Some plants have already cut the work force and increased productivity by such means. There is a labor shortage in Russia and it is hoped that by cutting down on the number of workers in a factory, more workers will be available to go to other factories.

At present many factories have to hire 50 to 60 per cent of the labor force each year as workers change their jobs because of dissatisfaction with wages and working conditions. For certain jobs where wages are especially low and the jobs unpleasant, workers cannot be found. Increasing the supply of labor by lowering the number of workers in each factory will force workers to take these jobs. Capitalism by any other name is still capitalism.

### Freedom Notes

**JAPAN**—In some 800 places throughout Japan there were demonstrations on Oct. 21—International Anti-War day. The demonstrations in which close to one million participated, came on the heels of the massive Oct. 15 Moratorium in the U.S. and were considered the beginning of the general offensive against any renewal of the Japan-U.S. mutual security treaty which allows U.S. bases in Japan and provides for the U.S. to defend Japan.

Some 80,000 massed at an anti-war rally in Tokyo's Yoyogi Park. Guerrilla battles between police and students took place around Tokyo's major railroad station. Police boxes were attacked and the offices of the state-operated Japanese broadcasting corporation were occupied. Government offices, schools and many businesses were closed for the day.

**SANTO DOMINGO**—Police at U. of Santo Domingo prevented a march by students to the center of the city. Students wanted to commemorate the anniversary of a clash eight years ago in which the police killed several students. The demonstration came at the beginning of the presidential campaign which has already witnessed gunfire and mass arrests.

**BURUNDI**—The Bahutu people are the vast majority in this land, but the government is dominated by the Matusi. The Bahutu are currently trying to overcome Watusi domination. A previous revolt in 1965 was put down. In neighboring Ruanda, the Bahutu were serfs to the Watusi until 1960 when they overthrew them.

**CEYLON**—The minister of education and cultural affairs has moved to drop co-education and

set up separate schools for boys and girls. It is absurd to give too much freedom to young people who cannot appreciate the value of such freedom, he commented, adding, "Mixed education has ruined Ceylonese youth."

**FRANCE**—Former Gaullist Prime Minister Couve de Murville was defeated in a parliamentary election by Michel Rocard, a young leader of the left Unified Socialist Party and an activist in the events of May 1968.

**RUSSIA**—Dissent is evidently viewed as a severe mental disease in the Soviet Union. Yuri Maltev, a member of a group of Soviet dissenters called the Initial Group for the Defense of Civil Rights in the USSR, has been detained and committed to a mental hospital. He is the fifth of 15 in the group who have been confined.

# U. S. elections reveal both anti-war feelings and racism

(Continued from Page 1)

Semitism, by electing a black vice mayor and a Jewish mayor, two firsts for that city.

In the Northern cities, Richard Austin "almost" won in Detroit, and Carl Stokes did squeak to victory again in Cleveland. Yet the fact remains that the highest number of white voters Stokes could win was 25 percent. Three-quarters of the white voters voted for the extreme "Law and Order" candidate. In Detroit, Austin could not win more than 18 percent of the white vote, even with the endorsements of everyone from the UAW to "Soapy" Williams.

It was the first time a black man ever ran for mayor in this fifth largest city in the U.S. Both candidates were considered "moderates," and no one accused his opponent, Sheriff Gribbs, of "racism." Though he made crime his main issue, he avoided the "extreme" right-wing appearance of the losing candidates in Pittsburgh and Buffalo. The black candidate refused to take any controversial stands—except to come out against the war, which Gribbs refused to do. A record number of voters went to the polls, and Gribbs won by a mere 7,000 votes.

#### WHOSE VOTE LOST?

Two days before the election, the polls showed the candidates neck and neck, though immediately after the primary—when a third, openly reactionary candidate was soundly defeated—Austin was thought to have no chance of winning at all. As the working class city heard Gribbs sound increasingly like a police hatchetman and saw the traditionally anti-labor money of the city going into his campaign, the picture changed.

One poll showed clearly which groups favored Austin: blacks, unskilled labor, union members, women, the young, those with incomes under \$7,000. Yet Austin lost the election.

The hypocrites in the UAW leadership are blaming Austin's defeat on the failure of some of the blacks—who had trouble getting excited about Austin—to vote. One auto worker had this to say:

"Reuther is playing his old game of blaming apathy

for his candidate's defeat. At a special UAW convention held right after the election, the reactionary whites gave him hell for spending a lot of money on Austin and losing, and his only response was to blame the small number of blacks who voted for Gribbs. He didn't say a word about the great majority of whites who did.

"The truth is that although the UAW endorsed Austin in name, it did almost nothing to support him. The white leadership in the locals not only failed to campaign actively for Austin at the plants, which they do when they want a candidate to win, but didn't even bother to put Austin literature in the union halls unless they were pressured by black members. What Reuther refuses to admit is that Austin lost because white labor was not behind him."

#### "LAW AND ORDER"

Surprisingly, at the same time that Detroit refused to elect a black mayor, it changed its City Council from a conservative to a liberal-dominated one. Three blacks and three white liberals were elected to the nine-member body, which had previously been five-to-four conservative. It was as if the white voters had said they were too racist to vote for the better man for mayor, but wanted to put in a Council that would make sure the city did not go too far to the right.

In Cleveland, Mayor Stokes won re-election by a higher percentage of the white vote than in his first election two years ago—yet it was still only 25 percent. At the same time, the drop in black registration by 10,000 this year reflects his failure to improve the city during his first term in office. The fact that his opponent was an out and out reactionary surely helped Stokes in that working-class city. It appears that where "law and order" candidates were blatantly right-wing, such as in New York, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Buffalo, enough white voters overcame their racism to defeat them. But where "law and order" took slightly more modified and sophisticated forms, such as in Detroit, it succeeded.

That is what shows how deep the white racism is in this country. In the coming year the black revolt is sure to grow and force white America to face itself as Nixon plans to give the country growing unemployment, increasing inflation, and a relentlessly continuing war, all at once.

Nixon's attacks on the opposition to all his policies now include the unprecedented attempt to muzzle even the TV networks. But with every attempt to stifle it, the opposition grows louder. The latest demonstration in Washington, D.C. was the largest protest in history in the nation's capital. Those who had not been able to register their protest at the ballot box Nov. 3, those who had chosen not to vote, and those who weren't old enough to cast a ballot—all voted with their feet in the streets of Washington and San Francisco, on Nov. 15. It is clear that it is there, in the streets, where the real battles ahead will take place.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP

The Nixon administration is trying to crush the massive anti-war movement in the U.S. But his greatest enemy is the working class of America. This is what he will try to crush above all.

A major step is his support of the giant GE corporation against the GE workers. The GE strike is just the beginning of the workers' battles to come in the year ahead.

Agnew's speech is just the beginning of the administration's attempt to crush freedom of the press.

The pages of News & Letters must be kept open for workers to speak for themselves. We can't continue without your help. Send your contribution to:

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