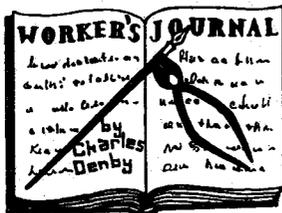


ON THE INSIDE

Ways to combat 'Pax Americana'
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A tale of two foremen

By Charles Denby, Editor

A worker I know worked for the UAW-endorsed candidates during the primary election here in Michigan. Workers pulled out of the shops were paid \$40 a day and instructed to stay at the polls at all times, because in the past many would report to the polls, work an hour or two, then disappear.

One UAW-supported candidate came by checking, and did not see one worker from the shop as he pulled up. When the worker appeared, the candidate exchanged harsh words with him. After the candidate left, the worker said, "Those bastards never change. I came out because it's easier than in the shop on production, but I got sick as soon as I saw his name on the slate. He is a foreman at the Chrysler plant where I work."

UAW BACKS FOREMAN

The other men all asked when the UAW started asking workers to support a foreman, and how he got on the slate. The worker said, "By just saying he is a Democrat." He went on to say that they were very short-handed at the polls because many workers didn't feel that coming out of the shop to get anyone elected made any difference in their lives.

One young worker, 28 years old, would ask people to vote for his independent candidate, then add: "Please don't forget to vote for Judge Crockett on the UAW slate." He explained why he was risking getting in trouble if the independent heard him. He had a prison record, and his candidate promised to help get him a job if elected.

This man had gotten a job in a small steel mill as a computer operator. There was a foreman over the labor gang that the workers called Jesse James, because he was always firing, and sometimes hitting and kicking workers. The man was 24, and had worked there 18 months, when Jesse James told his boss he was short help, and borrowed him for the day. This man, 155 pounds, refused a job loading steel that even 200-pounders couldn't lift, and said he wasn't hired as a laborer.

FOREMAN SHOTS WORKER

The foreman yelled, "N—r, you have not tried. You are going to do some work today." When the worker walked away, he was shot by Jesse James. Jesse was still pulling the trigger but the gun was not firing as the worker crawled to him and stabbed him in the chest.

His mother had to spend every dime they had for
(Continued on Page 7)

British workers' strike fights slave labor law

By Harry McShane

Glasgow, Scotland—There is no sign of the militancy of the workers getting less. The dockers are on strike and emergency powers have been passed by Parliament. Hundreds of ships are held up.

The dockers are preventing unregistered dockers from doing the work. There have been clashes with police, and, at this time, 11 policemen have been injured. This has happened in Lincolnshire.

HEATH BLUNDERS INTO CRISIS

From the beginning, it has been clear that Prime Minister Edward Heath knows nothing about workers. He is vicious. He has difficulty in concealing his hatred for workers who oppose him. He is unable to understand what is happening. Because of his lack of understanding he has blundered into a very serious crisis.

The arrest of the five dockers which sparked the nationwide sympathy strikes shows this clearly. The men could have been arrested under other acts, but the government wanted to impose the hated Industrial Relations Act. The men were charged with contempt of the Industrial Relations Court.

Government spokesmen were trying to prove that the law is more sacred to them than the Ten Commandments. They were making the point that the strikers were acting without the consent of the unions.

RANK-AND-FILE LEAD

That is what is so good about all this. It is the rank-and-file who are setting the pace. It is an unprecedented situation. The government is now in a worse position than before (see Editorial, page 4).

Vic Feather, general secretary of the Trade Union Council, has declared that the trade unions do not accept the Act as law. Daly of the Miners Union and

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Conventions show political system must be uprooted, not revitalized

By Robert Ellery

As the merciless bombing of North and South Vietnam continued, Nixon's forces met at Miami Beach the week of Aug. 21 in mock deliberation to proclaim their intention of maintaining and extending their mad design on the nation and



—LNS

Florida farmworkers march at Dem. Convention

the world. The only breath of life at Miami that week came from the protesters—especially the Vietnam veterans, the youth and senior citizens who had joined together to make their voices heard.

The treatment meted out to the demonstrators — from the deliberate initial silence about them in the media, to the quick gassing of them later by the police — was as callous as the convention itself was predictable.

More refreshing but barely more surprising was the July 10 Democratic Party convention once George McGovern began to zip through the convention, aided by the manipulative expertise of the old Kennedy-camp political technician Frank Mankiewicz. But it was live, vital forces, looking for a new human society, that had propelled McGovern as far as the convention—the tireless effort of thousands of youth and unpaid campaign workers, attracted principally by what they felt was an uncompromising pledge to immediately end the Indo-China War.

UPROOTING, NOT REVITALIZATION

The overwhelming majority of the delegates had never before attended a National Democratic Party Convention; 38 percent were women, 15 percent Black, 27 percent youth. There was a sprinkling of teenage delegates, Chicanos and Indians. They presented a vastly different image from past conventions. But as the convention unwound, that difference proved to be in appearance, not substance. Before the convention was even over, McGovern was explaining that his call for immediate troop withdrawal from Indo China didn't include Thailand where he would maintain troops to assure the release of POW's.

Nothing more clearly demonstrates that what is needed is not "revitalization" of the old, but a total uprooting of the system.

POPULISM VS. RACISM

Take Wallace-ism. It is racism. And Nixonism is Wallaceism armed and globally oriented.

There are those who are afraid they will slip their mooring to recognize divisions in the working-class, who refuse to see that racism is there and will have to be fought. Those that have contended Wallace's appeal is that of a "populist" cannot distinguish between populism and fascist demagoguery. And those liberal labor leaders like Leonard Woodcock of the UAW who balked at exposing Wallace for what he was during the Michigan primary, give support to the myth and legitimacy to the man.

The truth is that the populist movement, which reached its height in the mid-1890's, challenged Northern capital and the Southern plantocracy and brought together poor farmers and laborers, Blacks and whites fighting racism along the way.

Indeed one of the central concerns of the Southern white populists was to win Black support and members. The National Colored Farmers' Alliance alone numbered one and one-quarter million and acted in concert with other organizations to achieve populist ends.

Tom Watson, white Georgian leader of the Peoples Party, wrote in 1892 that "the accident of color can make no difference in the interest of farmers, croppers and laborers," and further speaking to both races, he said, "You are kept apart that you may be separately fleeced of your earnings."

That was a movement seeking to uproot the old society.

(Continued on Page 3)

Monroe Mercy Hospital**Women workers in long and bitter strike**

Monroe, Mich.—More than 130 hospital workers at Monroe Mercy Hospital here are struggling in the fourth month of a strike for humane working conditions, wages and benefits.

Mainly women, both Black and white, the strikers have been negotiating with hospital management for their first contract since February, 1970. They gave up working without a contract in disgust on May 1, 1972, and have maintained a 24-hour picket line at the hospital ever since, to show their determination to fight for the right to be treated like human beings.

NO FRINGE BENEFITS

Members of Service Employees Local No. 79, AFL-CIO, the women work as licensed practical nurses, nurses aides, housekeeping, dietary, kitchen, and maintenance employees—the hospital jobs that traditionally get all of the dirty work and none of the benefits.

The workers get no sick days; no paid hospitalization (even though they work for a hospital), and a starting salary barely at the minimum wage level. Many of the women strikers are the sole support of their families.

A mass demonstration at the hospital in mid-July brought more than 500 union members who came by car and chartered bus from across the state to show the hospital that the strikers mean business.

Since then hospital representatives have stopped negotiating and are trying to get a court injunction against strikers to limit or even stop picketing. It seems that Monroe capitalists are all one big, happy family, as the judge scheduled to hear the injunction case is the brother of a member of the hospital board of directors.

The hospital is owned by a Monroe family which owns and controls a substantial number of other businesses in that city, and previously moved one of its plants to Georgia after the workers unionized.

The union, in turn, has filed an unfair labor practice against the hospital in an effort to resume negotiations. But it looks like a decision won't be handed down for another month.

Meanwhile, strikers on the picket lines endure harassment and obscenities from police, citizens, and other hospital employees, as well as hospital administrators.

If you have a story, or want to contact News & Letters Women's Liberation Committees in Connecticut, Detroit, Los Angeles or New York, write to the addresses in the box below.

ERA—Extend protection to men

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has delivered a stunning blow to the state protective laws for women. Following passage of the Equal Rights Amendment, the EEOC moved quickly to rush into print its April 5th guidelines.

An EEOC speaker at the June meeting of Union Women's Alliance to Gain Equality (Union WAGE), took the position that the April 5th guidelines are a great step forward for women, that all protective laws are now extended to men.

In fact, the guidelines extend only two protective laws, the minimum wage and premium pay (time and a half overtime after 40 hours), and then make a distinction between them and sex-oriented laws, such as rest and meal times and physical facilities.

On these sex-oriented laws, section III of the guidelines says that if the employer can prove that business necessity precludes providing these benefits to both men and women, then the state law is in conflict with and superceded by Title VII and the employer shall not provide them to either sex. What does business necessity mean? Profits? If the first two laws were extended to men, all protective laws should have been extended.

The feminist movement can be an important element in this struggle, particularly because only 12 per cent of women workers nationally are organized into unions and are in a very weak position to fight the destruction of the protective laws.

The EEOC has demonstrated by the distinction made between these laws that they have capitulated to the business interests and stabbed working women in the heart. They are part of the current anti-labor attack by business and its government, exemplified by the wage-freeze. They are in fact not one bit concerned with the rights of working women and are acting to deny those rights and increase our oppression and exploitation.

Union WAGE, an organization of female trade union feminists fighting for equal rights for women and women's liberation, has opened a scathing attack on the EEOC. They are appealing to working women to fight for state laws extending the protective laws to men and against the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment until the passage of such laws.

—Joan Jordan
San Francisco State College Women's Caucus
Union W.A.G.E.

The workers are finding problems not only with management, but also with their own union officials. Donations were received from union members across the country in an effort to give the workers some income during the lean strike days. After one check, they were told by union officials that they would get no more since the rest of the money was being used for other expenses.

Hospital "dismissal" of the workers after they went on strike made it possible for some strikers to get unemployment compensation. One practical nurse said that her unemployment checks plus some alimony and the money saved on babysitting, gives her more money than she received when she was working.

The long, hard struggle; the sometimes vicious harassment, and the obvious double-dealing of both union and management, have caused some workers to take a long hard look at their situation. One woman commented, "After all of this is over, I'm not sure I want to work for them any more."

**Devlin calls for Irish workers unity**

"If it hadn't been for the fact that I had an essentially Christian background, poverty would have made me bitter rather than socialist, and what I knew of politics would have made me mad Republican." Bernadette Devlin explains in her book, *The Price of My Soul*, that in more ways than one, religion plays a part in the direction of the present struggle in Northern Ireland.

Religion is used to divide the working class in Northern Ireland in much the same way that race is used in the United States. The well-to-do Protestants and Catholics play on the fears and prejudices of the workers to keep them separated and to maintain their own positions.

On the other hand, many Catholic leaders have injected anti-Protestant strains into the civil rights movement, all to re-inforce the Protestant fears and allow the real class issue to be pushed into the background. With this kind of situation you had "Catholic slum landlords marching virtuously beside the tenants they exploited, Catholic employers marching in protest against the Protestants they excluded from their factories." And now a civil war threatens that will solve none of their problems.

Writing briefly of the early Irish rebellions and the eventual partition of North and South Ireland, she explains how easy it is for many Catholics to blame all of their problems on partition. At one time Bernadette also believed a united Ireland was the solution, until she realized that that would "merely alter the boundaries of injustice" because there is just as much poverty in the south of Ireland.

Her political ideas evolved from radical Republicanism to socialism. No theories other than socialism gave her satisfying answers: terrorism had the risk of hurting innocent people and it wouldn't solve their major problems; liberal ideas have too much legitimacy to the system; and Communists were elitist and too far removed from the daily lives of the workers to understand their problems.

Bernadette Devlin learns a lesson when the student organization, People's Democracy, joins the Civil Rights Association, and that is: you should unite with others for a common purpose, but never at the risk of your own ideas as to where you are going. The development of the student organization was stifled because the CRA just wanted Catholic control of Catholic areas. Uniting people is the most important task because, "only if it's an all Ireland working-class revolution are there enough of us to overthrow the powers that be."

The Women's Liberation movement should learn from this lesson so it won't become compartmentalized or transformed into a "single-issue for middle-class-women-only" movement.

—Debbie Brown, Los Angeles

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WAY OF THE WORLD**Sickening mess of U.S. politics**

By Ethel Dunbar

National politics in this country is in such a mess that if it weren't for trying to get Nixon out people probably wouldn't vote in the November election. I was talking with a white woman when all hell broke loose over the discovery of Senator Eagleton's mental treatment. She said that Nixon should have been treated as a mental patient, and Vice-President Agnew spent time in a mental hospital, and the American public knows George Wallace acts like he is unbalanced but there is no big issue about them because the press and news media play it down.

I have just read where the four men who broke into the Democratic National Committee office were paid \$114,000 from the Republican special security funds. The publicity on this, however, has been on the quiet side.

Then you have some so-called labor leaders, like Fitzsimmons of the Teamsters, attacking McGovern. This is because he is indebted to Nixon for releasing Hoffa from prison. Nixon won't even let Hoffa's son be tried for mishandling union funds but thinks that workers will be dumb enough to follow his advice.

George Meany has a long record of being anti-Black and a hawk on the war. He and Nixon are in the same boat so it is no surprise to me that he is not for McGovern, since he said he would end the war 90 days after he is elected.

Nixon has never done anything to help working people. He is a racist and he is trying to sell every American worker down the Republican misery river.

L.A. Black longshoremen renew fight for full seniority

Los Angeles, Cal. — Prior to World War II there weren't any Blacks on the waterfront. Near the end of the war was when the lily-white situation ended. The plan was to get rid of all Blacks when the war terminated.

We decided to organize for the purpose of remaining there. It wasn't easy. They coined a phrase after we began to offer resistance: "We can't share the starvation and misery." We heard it so much it made us sick. After they voted us out, we hired an attorney to try to get back.

We won an out of court settlement in which the union and the PMA (Pacific Maritime Association) agreed to bring us back. We had the understanding that when we were re-registered we would not lose any seniority. The union tried to live up to this. When it came to promotions they counted the time that we were out of the union, which was approximately three years. But PMA granted vacations without counting that time. This was most important for retirement. Some of the fellows found they didn't have enough seniority without the early years.

So we started the fight all over again. We took our grievance all the way to the coast arbitrator, who ruled against us. The majority of the people who were hurt were Black workers, but the arbitrator didn't look at this. The case is now in federal court.

Some white workers gave us good support in the deregistration fight. These workers realized what the motivation for deregistration was and by supporting us they were fighting against this discrimination. Within the deregistered group there were whites, and naturally they were very close to us. A lot of them are still with us in the fight to get back our seniority through the courts.

Entry of Blacks into the union has been delayed because of the sponsorship program based on the seniority in the industry. Prior to sponsorship guys came in by working at the docks. By sponsorship Blacks were kept out as long as possible. The union may deny it, but the history will show that Blacks were not allowed to sponsor until they were in 8 or 9 years.

Seniority is a principle in unions, but it has been prostituted. They used to distribute ship gangs on a rotating list, first come, first served. But when a Black guy who could drive winches moved close to the number one spot, the union passed a rule that ship gangs would be handed out on a seniority basis. So that shot him way back.

Since Blacks have been in the industry for a long time they have now watered seniority down. If today seniority alone prevailed for determining promotion, there would be many more Blacks in skilled and supervisory positions.

—Black longshoreman, LA

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W.Va. coal miners wildcat after mine disaster

Morgantown, W. Va.—So great was the anger of the northern Western Virginia's coal miners over the death of nine miners who were killed because of violation of federal and state safety laws at nearby Blacksville #1 mine on Saturday, July 22, that union officials tried to keep them from exploding into a general safety strike by declaring an official 24 hour "mourning period" for the following Tuesday, July 25.

The nine miners, working behind a continuous mining machine being moved from one section of the mine to another, were trapped when a part of the continuous miner struck an overhead electric cable, sparking a sudden fire. Caught downwind of the fire, which should have never been permitted because safety laws specify that no machinery is to be moved while miners are in the same air channel, the trapped men could not escape.

Frantic rescue efforts failed; the fire raged out of control, and on Tuesday morning July 25, the nine men were entombed when Consolidation Coal Company officials ordered the mine sealed.

In the four years since Blacksville No. 1, one of Consol's newest mines, was opened in 1968, it has been cited for a total of 485 safety law violations, 19 of them so severe that mine inspectors ordered the mine closed until the violations were corrected.

The coal miners at No. 1 also probably have the lowest average age of any coal mine in the nation. Many of the miners are Vietnam veterans, and have a history of militant action marked by wildcat strikes. More wildcat strikes against unsafe conditions and company abuse have flared at Blacksville No. 1 than any other mine in the nation.

With this record of callous unconcern by Consolidation Coal Company for the lives and welfare of the men and their families, it is not difficult to understand why the mine has such a record of strikes. It literally is a matter of life and death for the miners, as was all too clearly demonstrated by the killer fire which snuffed out the lives of the nine miners.

The senselessness of the death of the nine men, adding another tragedy to the endless coal mine tragedies which daily stalk West Virginia's mines, embittered coal miners in surrounding areas. Feeding the flames of anger was the fact that this same unsafe and illegal practice had been followed in many other area mines.

The miners responded by conducting a widespread wildcat strike instead of simply observing the official

mourning period. Many mines throughout West Virginia, Pennsylvania and other coal states staged sympathy walkouts demanding enforcement of state and federal safety laws.

Even as they struck the mines, the miners knew that enforcement of the safety laws is not possible with the limited state and federal coal mine inspectors. The miners know from their continuing, daily experiences with death and danger that the mines will never be made safe until they have the power to enforce safety in their own hands.

Goodwill workers win rights

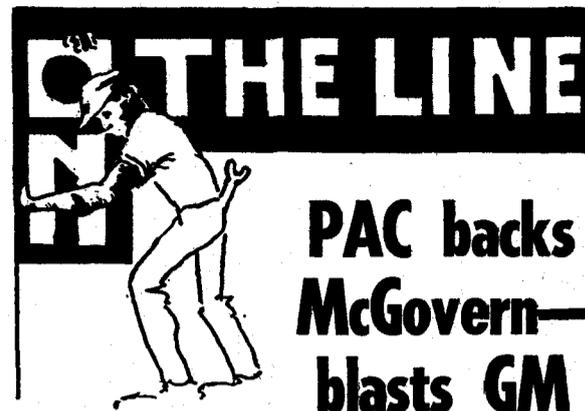
Minneapolis, Minn.—Workers at Goodwill Industries, after three days of job-actions and strike, have won the right to organize at their Minneapolis plant, the largest and most profitable Goodwill in the country. Many "handicapped" persons work for Goodwill, but to the shock of outsiders many other workers are not. Workers there say their primary handicap is working for Goodwill. Yet beginning pay for some workers is 35 cents an hour. Top pay is \$1.75 an hour. There was a company union called the "Workers' Committee."

Workers at Minneapolis Goodwill first tried organizing within the "Workers' Committee." At one meeting, resolutions calling for reforms of Minneapolis Goodwill and workers' control of production passed unanimously. These resolutions were reaffirmed at subsequent meetings. By way of retaliation, management suppressed the "Workers' Committee."

Workers then approached several official unions, asking them to "legitimize" the organizing that was going on among Goodwill workers. None of them wanted to tarnish their public image by organizing "handicapped" workers, so Goodwill workers proceeded on their own.

They organized a two-day sick call. Over 60 per cent of the workers participated, phoning in sick each morning. Management dismissed it as a bluff. On the third day, Goodwill workers called a full-scale strike. Minneapolis Goodwill was completely shut down. Truck drivers and other laborers respected the picket lines.

To save itself from public scandal, management capitulated the same day. The workers won various demands, most importantly recognition of their own negotiating committee, and the right to freely organize within the Minneapolis Goodwill plant.



PAC backs McGovern—blasts GM

by John Allison

The UAW summoned all Political Action Committee Board members and officers to Cobo Hall. The reason for this conference was to hear reports given by Doug Fraser, Jack Edwards and Leonard Woodcock on what was best for Labor.

The Pay Board was attacked. Second in order of attack was the Labor Board. The Supreme Court received the last blast. The UAW leadership led by Mazey is very unhappy with the Court's ruling on the question of retirees.

NIXON COURT DIRTY WORK

Auto management had pressed a court case to separate the negotiations concerning retiree benefits from the bargaining of the traditional contract for the plant workers. They waited until Nixon's packed court was set up, then moved the case up for decision. As expected, the Nixon court supported auto management.

This is clearly a device to further try and divide labor solidarity. The companies hope that the rank-and-file workers won't be so eager to strike for retiree benefits once they get their contract signed.

The UAW leadership blames President Nixon for all of these problems and many more. With this we were given the choice of voting for Nixon, McGovern or take Meany's "no choice." The rank-and-file members beyond the shadow of any doubt have endorsed McGovern.

SISTER BLASTS GM

But the high moments of the conference were when one sister rose and raised the question of the strikes in GM over production standards. She pointed out that the Lordstown and Norwood, Ohio, strikes were signs of what was going on in all GM plants, and in all auto plants for that matter.

Every auto worker knows that as soon as management gives a dime raise, they speedup production to get back their dime and a pound of flesh besides.

All the king's horses and all the king's men do not seem to be able to stop GM from making more and more money with less and less men. She asked for a full report. The local unions present all pledged support and eager willingness to take on GM again.

FROM THE AUTO SHOPS

GM Southgate

Los Angeles, Cal.—Labor Relations was created when the union members were organized and the union was strong. In those days, when foremen created trouble the workers would either sit down on the job until the problem was taken care of, or they just went home until top management took care of the problem and the foremen. In order to keep production going management came up with the idea of Labor Relations to settle disputes in the plant. In the early days of Labor Relations the workers stuck together as one. The foremen had to watch their steps, for if they got out of line they were likely to get hauled up to Labor Relations and disciplined.

But today the union has lost its strength, has lost any say-so over production. And Labor Relations has gotten stronger as the union has gotten weaker. Now their duty is to back the foreman to the hilt, right or wrong. They even help them in making up their lies.

The particular men who work in Labor Relations can be nice guys or they can be sadists. It makes little difference how they carry out their duties. But we were a little disturbed to see in the June issue of the Assembler an article attacking a Japanese Labor Relations man by using old stereotypes against Oriental people. These are the type of actions that the company has used for a long time to make sure we workers—Black, Brown, Yellow and White—never get together. It is called divide and rule.

Each section should discuss the election of a shop steward for every foreman, and act upon it. Then when Labor Relations tries to put one of us on Tweedy Blvd., they will have to put the whole section on Tweedy and get no production. See how many brothers get a DLO (Disciplinary Lay Off) then.

—Southgate GM Workers Committee

Fleetwood

Detroit, Mich.—We are just back from model change here at Fleetwood, and so far most jobs aren't changed. But I am waiting for management to add that extra screw on one job and that extra bolt on the next until somewhere down the line they will eliminate a man. When the foremen start bunching together and shaking their heads we will be at war again, because management will be trying to get rid of people.

One thing I did notice, when I was walking up on the fourth floor, is that the foreman Sheldon Dalton isn't

there anymore. The story about him in News and Letters (April, 1972) was so widely read in the plant that he took it as a slap on the back. He would go up to white foremen and point out his name in the paper. He didn't see the funny grins those white boys flashed when he walked away. The company used him like any other house n-r and now that they're through with him he's gone.

Since Nixon has been in office GM has been riding all over the UAW as well as the rank-and-file. Now if anything comes up, the foreman tells you what you will have to do and how to do it. He has no fear of the committeeman because the union has no power. As things stand today the UAW is not a serious labor organization; it is more of a political party.

There was a lot of talk that the Democrats were thinking of nominating Woodcock for Vice-President. The idea of "putting labor in the White House" is so strong that I am sure they would have won, but those with the money said "no." As things stand now the election could go to the one who finds the biggest scandal.

—Production worker, Fleetwood

Chrysler Mack

Detroit, Mich.—Many workers are dying in this plant because of the rat race in production. We are supposed to have a contractual agreement between the company and the union that when a worker dies in the plant, the insurance we carry pays double indemnity. If your insurance is \$10,000, and you die in the plant, your beneficiary should be paid \$20,000. I do not know of one beneficiary who has been paid the double indemnity, although I have known many workers to pass away in this plant.

When a worker tries to check it out with the union, they tell him that there is no way to prove that the deceased passed away in the plant. The first aid always rushes the patient to the ambulance in order to get him to the hospital as quickly as possible, even if workers can see that he is dead.

The death report always reads: "Dead on arrival." So the company says there is no proof of where the death occurred. They say he died in the ambulance. But Mack workers as well as the company and the union leaders know that we have seen workers carried out who were already dead.

After the company works a human being to death, then they cheat the family out of the money. It is sickening. Workers must see that this never happens again.

—Chrysler Mack worker

P.O. union leaders play politics; workers get shaft

New York, N.Y.—Branch 36 went to the annual convention of the National Association of Letter Carriers to throw out President Rademacher, but they came back with less than nothing. This was no surprise to us. For weeks they've been telling us how bad Rademacher is, as if we weren't working under his 1971 contract and didn't know! We aren't stupid.

While they have been busy with our time and dues trying to take over the national presidency, management has been giving us everything from increased work loads to suspensions. Our local president claims to have predicted many of the changes that the USPS introduced, but what has he done to fight them? He rode to power on the backs of the courageous letter carriers who were fed up and walked out in 1970, against the directives of the union leaders who were in office THEN. But he was on the other side of the platform last summer when the new contract came up and all postal workers wanted to strike. We thought that voting 'yes' meant strike but instead we were told that 'yes' meant we had handed the decision over to them.

One by one the local leaders got up and told us that all their commitments of support across the country had backed down. Of course, we had no commitments in 1970 except to ourselves. It was the only way to make our voices heard when seven men were ratifying a contract for 700,000 postal workers.

It's true that Rademacher is one of the worst sell-outs in union history, but what will we do when our new contract comes up in 1973 and he's still in office? Wait until the next convention in 1976 to try and get a 'good guy' in? What about all the grievances that have piled up while our local was out playing politics? You don't settle station grievances in Washington anyway!

Our local leadership came to office because they promised to listen to what we are thinking. Maybe they've had the mail bag off too long.

—Letter Carrier, GPO

EDITORIAL British strikers bring Tories to heel; U.S. worker revolt spreads

With stunning swiftness in the third week of July, what began as a strike of Britain's 40,000 dock workers for higher wages and job security suddenly exploded into a chain of events which brought Britain to the brink of a general strike, gained international working class support and forced the Tory government of Prime Minister Edward Heath to its knees (See p.1 article).

Behind this massive revolt of the British workers was their total opposition to the Industrial Relations Act passed last August. This anti-labor legislation aimed at eliminating wildcat strikes, and provided for fines against unions whose members engaged in wildcats.

EARLY PROTESTS

British workers, knowing that this law was designed to shackle and destroy their power and their unions, pleaded for national action against this threat. Instead of heeding this outcry against this vicious slave labor law, British Labor Party leaders instead scheduled debates on—British entry into the European Common Market; and the labor bureaucrats merely published a few pamphlets and held a few rallies against the Act.

The workers, however, were not about to give up what they had won in bitter struggles against the capitalist class: the right to strike. Nor would they permit any handful of politicians in Parliament to legislate that right away from them.

Although the Act was passed, the revolt of the workers against this legislation can be seen in this figure: in the first six months of 1972 under the Industrial Relations Act, British wildcat strikes and walkouts resulted in nearly 16 million lost work days. This is not only more than was lost in all of 1971, it is more than any year since the British General Strike of 1926! In addition, the Tory government had fined unions to the tune of some \$200,000 under the Act because of wildcat strikes.

So the scene was set, and was triggered by the arrest of five dockers who were picketing against scabs working on containerized ship cargoes. With the arrests, sympathy strikes swept the country. Instead of a strike of 40,000 dock workers, the Heath Tory government faced some 200,000 striking workers who demanded release of the prisoners and set a general strike for Monday, July

24, to back up their demand.

WORKERS TAKE LEAD

In their spontaneous action, the workers took over the leadership of the battle. This single but most profound fact is what both struck terror into the capitalist class and its Heath government, and sent them scurrying like scared rats to find a legal pretext to quickly free the imprisoned five.

But even more important was the support given by workers in other nations, and especially dock workers, who refused to handle British shipping in their own ports. These included workers in France, Italy, Scandinavian countries as well as Canadian and U.S. longshoremen.

The Heath government averted, at least temporarily, the general strike by freeing the five dock workers. But the dock strike continued in force and produced emergency government measures which are serving to further unite labor in its opposition to the Tory government.

U.S. WORKERS ON MOVE, TOO

On this side of the Atlantic, new battle lines are being drawn between the demand for greater productivity by Nixon's management administration and the revolt of the working class. Under Nixon's New Economic Policy launched a year ago, corporations are reaping record profits while unemployment grows and the speed-up of workers intensifies.

Although 1972 is reported to be a low rate strike year, in the first six months there were at least 2500 strikes—most of them erupting over unbearable conditions of work.

Certainly the GM workers in Lordstown and Norwood, Ohio, reflect that revolt. At Lordstown, the workers successfully resisted the company speed-up of over 100 cars per hour. This plant, the most automated, with the most efficient management team GM could get together, was set up in rural mid-America, employed mostly young men with little or no labor history to permit GM free sway in the speed-up. Any worker could have told GM what Lordstown proved: that inhuman production breeds human revolt. The same scene is being played in the Norwood speed-up strike, where the workers have been out for four months.

This same revolt was also being expressed among the coal miners, especially in northern West Virginia in the aftermath of a mine fire which claimed the lives of nine miners at the Blacksville #1 mine of Consolidated Coal Co. A rash of wildcat strikes broke out in protest over the killing of these miners because mine safety laws were violated by the company.

It appears that Consol tried to take a page out of GM's speed-up book. Most of the Blacksville #1 miners are young, and the company tried the same tactics of speed-up that GM is famous for. But the opposition of these young men followed the same course as those of the auto workers (see article, P.3).

This revolt of workers in all industrial countries in this age of state capitalism is expressed everywhere. And that is what underscores the importance of the international working class support the British strikers were able to inspire. It is crucial that these links grow strong to combat the moves that governments everywhere are undertaking to try to squeeze more and more production out of their workers.

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Raya Dunayevskaya, Chairman
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THE ELECTIONS

Eagleton's ambitions made him stupid enough not to reveal his mental history to McGovern. But as far as mental conditions go, it ought to be easy to show that Nixon is a far more serious "mental case." I don't think people call him "the mad bomber" for a joke.

Secretary
Detroit

* * *

You could see some of the new delegates at the Democratic Convention gradually becoming disenchanted with the Democratic version of participatory democracy as the TV spectacular progressed. I was reminded of some of the UAW conventions I've seen. At first, the illusion that anything could happen, and then the realization that the manipulators are still in control.

Worker
Detroit

* * *

The same stupid radicals who refuse to recognize that there is racism in the working class and that Wallaceism isn't populism, also don't recognize the difference within the ruling class — that McGovern doesn't equal Wallace or Nixon.

Technician
New York

* * *

As soon as Nixon chose Agnew, those spineless Republican "liberals" Rockefeller and Javits, fell right in line. Rockefeller fell all over himself for the honor of nominating Nixon. And Javits — who was busy opposing Agnew up to then, as if he wasn't just Nixon's "Charlie McCarthy" — stuffed his foot in his mouth as soon as he found out the boss wasn't going with Connally or some other dummy.

Disgusted
New York

* * *

I stayed up all night just to watch Daley's defeat at the Democratic Convention.

Chicago '68 Veteran
Connecticut

* * *

I hope your election campaign is not getting you down. It's rather sad to think that "democracy" has been reduced to the level of selling soap, when one thinks of the history of the American Revolution, and the radical spirit of that time.

Hyde Park Socialist
London

PORTUGUESE COLONIES

LSM Information Center is a political organization staffed completely by volunteer labor. The funds received from our publications go into support work for the liberation movements in the Portuguese colonies, either in the form of material support (clothing, medicine, foods) or to produce literature on the struggles in southern Africa and supply quantities of these to the Movements for their own use.

We are constantly trying to increase our distribution in order to inform more North Americans of the criminal oppression practiced by the imperialist powers in the Portuguese colonies as well as increase the support we give the liberation movements.

Please inform your readers that they can write for a free summer publications list or send \$2 for a sample packet of our publications to:

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Richmond, B.C., Canada

"VANGUARD PARTYISM"

As a member of I.S., I would like to deal with the "criticism" in the last issue of our rank-and-file Chicago conference . . .

The key to your misunderstanding is that, despite all your protestations to the contrary, your method is not a dialectical one. That is, the "unity" of opposites you speak of takes into consideration only one thing—the movement of the masses now and where their heads, their consciousness is now; but you do not even try to answer the question; how does mass consciousness get from here to there, i.e. to revolutionary socialist consciousness?

Your writer derides "a lot of program" . . . The program is a program for the working class. It attempts to bring the most highly advanced layers of the working class from the here to the there of socialist consciousness . . .

To deal with capitalism, you need a solution—and a method of getting there. That method is the transitional method, comrades, the program of transitional ("consciousness-raising," if you wish) demands . . .

Greg Alden
New York

* * *

I haven't read Blood in My Eye yet, so I feel funny criticizing George Jack-

Reader's

RED CARPETS

Everyone is dispirited by the Nixon junkets, and the red carpets that haven't been rolled out like that since Ribbentrop! Everyone is dispirited, but unlike you people they are unable to draw the logical inferences from that. Five bucks is enclosed to help you along.

Instructor
Massachusetts

WORKERS ON THE MOVE

Seattle longshoremen have really been moving — in order not to move. The company is threatening to move from Seattle to Tacoma. The reason? Two steady men (described in the last issue of N&L) were put on, and the dockers slowed down. If the Tacoma longshoremen are like their fellow-workers in Seattle, the company may have to threaten to move to Portland.

Reader
Oregon

* * *

In June, a total of 2000 workers at three different workplaces in Minnesota owned by the Hanna Mining Company, and controlled by the U.S. Steel Corp., walked off their jobs to protest unsafe and unhealthy work-conditions in the Hanna operations. Four men had recently been killed and two crippled for life because of accidents in the mines. At the end of a month and a half there was no end of the wildcat in sight.

In June there was also a work stoppage on the docks in Duluth. Longshoremen and other port workers gathered at a big meeting to protest the unhealthy and unsafe working conditions created by rats. The dock workers had been talking to management about this problem for 15 years.

About the same time, 15,000 construction workers in Minnesota went on strike because of speedup, and attempts to lower standards to what they were in the twenties. The Contractors retaliated with

son, because I have liked him so much. But his idea of consciousness, as discussed in Elliot Douglass's column last issue frightens me. If the opposite of consciousness is indifference, blindness, blankness, that just lays the groundwork for elitism when someone disagrees with you. I thought consciousness was born of class society, or any society where there is "lordship and bondage" to whatever degree or by whatever name. In this society you are either "seething" or "moving," certainly not "blank."

Perhaps it is just that I hate words like "indifference, blankness, collective, progressive," because you lay your mind open to "backwardness of masses" and a need for elitism. These are not philosophical words to me. They are words that are always used by the counter-revolution within the revolution.

Angela Terrano
New York

* * *

The "Hiroshima Day" demonstration in New York on August 5 was just another indication of how lame the organized left is. Except for the leaflets that were knee-deep in Duffy Square, there was no mention of the nuclear massacre whatsoever. The non-event was mainly a carbon copy of the May 13 march from the same place to the same destination, Central Park, where the same type of Trotskyite cheerleaders spewed the same bird-brained nonsense: "Out Now! Vote SWP in November!"

The only difference between the marches was the reduction in numbers of people who came from 10,000 to 100.

The Trots are being utterly hysterical about their contention that McGovern has fooled every anti-war American away from their NPAC-fronted rallies. I think the fact that nobody bothered to come was because anybody with any intelligence had long ago discerned the stagnation in thought and action of the "vanguard" parties.

Disgusted leftist
New York

TWO WORLDS

(Editor's Note: Below are brief excerpts from three sections of the draft Perspectives Report for the coming convention of News & Letters Committees. The full report can be ordered from N&L for 35c plus 15c postage.)

The Vietnam War and Global Summitry

The carnage Nixon has ordered in Vietnam, in the South as well as the North, has resulted in the kind of "mistake" only a mad nuclear world can visit on the innocents—napalming children! No surrealist painting of wildly imagined horrors could have matched the unspeakable human tragedy as mothers and fathers were running with their naked burned children in their arms.

At the very moment when, thereby, we were witnessing the transformation of My Lais into a veritable "way of life", the "patriotic" American way of life, the madman who had ordered ceaseless bombing displayed the further unspeakable hypocrisy by declaring his flying about the world with a head full of blueprints for global realignment, a foundation for nothing short of "a generation of peace!" A press that can report such absolute opposites as if there were a grain of truth in the forked-tongue talk of peace, and that the atrocity in Vietnam is only one more example—and not an uncommon one—that "war is hell", is, in actuality, offering proof that we have, indeed, reached the end of "civilization"! And when such a President can be welcomed both in Peking and Moscow, the one-world rottenness smells to high heaven.

AN END must be put to this not-so-creeping barbarism! The attempt to close all doors to revolutionaries and call the No Exit sign "peaceful co-existence" cannot change the stark truth: Betrayal by any other name still equals counter-revolution . . .

Racism, State-Capitalism—and Global Summitry

Nixon, the great believer in, planner and practitioner of the shock treatment, brought 1971 to an end with, on the one hand, the finalization of the trip to Peking without the consultation either with Congress or with his international allies, and, on the other hand, announcing Emperor-like, a 90-day freeze of wages and prices, espe-

cially wages. At the same time he suddenly not only slapped a surcharge on exports from his closest private capitalistic allies—Japan and West Germany—but, as world trader temporarily turned isolationist, also broadly hinted that all alliances are up for grabs because he now had a vision of a new World Order. Having thus shaken up the whole world, Nixon carried out what was uppermost in his spurious vision at home: having found in racism a way to keep labor divided, he proceeded, at one and the same time, to keep labor in harness, and to initiate still another counter-revolution against every aspect of the Black Revolution.

The "Negro Question" has ever been the touchstone of American civilization that exposed the hollowness of its democracy—from the very moment of its birth, with the Declaration of Independence that rested on Black slavery, down to the latest Nixon moves to turn the clock of history back on even so elementary a question as education. What is new in the state-capitalist age is that Nixon, having found in racism a way to break up the total opposition of the working class against his "New Economic Policy", is aiming to take control of the very mode of life of all.

THE NEO-FASCIST aspects surfaced with Wallace,

Ways to Combat 'PAX Americana'

by Raya Dunayevskaya

- I. The Vietnam War and Global Summitry
- II. Racism, State-Capitalism — and Global Summitry
- III. The Almost-Revolution and the Almost-Dialectic
- IV. Our Tasks

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whose demagoguery created a "mass base" for racism...

Whether or not Wallace can continue now that he is physically incapacitated to be the leader of racist counter-revolution; whether or not racism will help elect Nixon; and whether or not the liberals can "reduce" it into a "local" issue, the point is that racism, having always been the Great Divide, has, with state-capitalism, become Nixon's "unique" contribution. Neo-fascism surely has a new face. Nixon has made it as respectable as "lovable" Archie Bunker has made bigotry the "in" thing.

We would forget at our peril that Nazism wasn't the only form of fascism nor Quisling the only form of collaborationism; that it was ingrained in "Western civilization" at its highest cultural level, France. Just how ingrained it was can be seen in the film, "The Sorrow and The Pity" (which is still forbidden in France). Most important of all, it is in our day appearing in all sorts of new "little ways" like anti-busing. When Nixon rolls the clock of history backward on "education", we must not forget that question relates not alone to the 1954 Supreme Court decision, but all the way back to the period of the post-Civil War President Johnson who first violated the victory of the Civil War. Nixon's brand of state-capitalism is not only inseparable from his Pax Americana globalism, but also from the neo-fascist elements in Wallaceism, armed with state-power . . .

The Almost-Revolution and the Almost-Dialectic

By the time of the almost-revolution in France, May 1968, the New Left seemed to learn from it that theory cannot after all be left to be picked up "en route". So overpowering, however, was the New Left's illusions about Mao's so-called Cultural Revolution, as if that were the realization of Marx's theory of the permanent revolution, that none set down to work out a new relation of theory to practice, the dialectic of thought, rooted in the new spontaneous outbursts.

Instead, the dialectic of revolution itself was reduced, at best, to "strategy" as if that were the equiv-

(Continued on Page 7)

Views

a generalized lockout—affecting 175,000 workers. There isn't a town in Northeastern Minnesota without a picket line of some type of construction-worker.

Observer
Minnesota

The 175,000 workers of the international monopoly Dunlop-Pirelli (tires and rubber products) have taken one more step towards the practice of workers' solidarity across the borders.

In a recent conference in Geneva, representatives of workers from Dunlop-Pirelli (DP) plants in 20 countries decided to strike in the future in support of company workers in other areas of the world. For example, they might strike in England or France in relation to conflicts in Spain or South Africa, where workers have little or no possibility to strike.

This action was the workers' angry response to the recent fusion of the two big monsters, Dunlop and Pirelli, whose "rationalization" caused the firing of thousands of workers. D-P workers in Italy and England simultaneously went on a demonstration-strike in protest against the firings. The strike was named "Eurostrike."

Worker
Denmark

Fifty-three employees of Howard Johnson's at Belleville, Mich., were picketing because they were locked out for about two weeks last month. The motel's franchise had been returned to the parent company, and non-union labor hired instead. Because of the Burns Decision of the Supreme Court, when a business is sold the new owner need no longer abide by previous labor agreements. Many workers were women, 50 years and older, with 10-12 years seniority.

A couple of days after a front-page story in a Detroit paper, the picket line was no longer visible from the freeway.

So maybe public anger is stronger than Nixon's court.

Observer
Detroit

RACISM

Nothing was more revealing and revolting than the lynching in effigy of Judge Roth in a lily-white suburb of Detroit, after a mock-trial—in which Irene McCabe and her racist Naggers were the jury! After these racists surprisingly found him "guilty", they administered "justice" immediately — strung up the effigy, dumped it in a wooden box, and tossed it in the river! It was so like the old-time Southern lynchings that I felt physically sickened when I saw it on the TV newscast.

White Mother
Detroit

Fred Walters, a 57-year-old Mississippi woodcutter, has been elected president of the Gulfoast Pulpwood Association the organization that startled the country last fall with its successful strike against the South's giant paper industry.

Walter's election, as part of an interracial group of new officers including three blacks and three whites, came as a climax to a severe internal struggle that has shaken the Association since the strike. The new GPA leaders say the issues are democratic control of the organization and racism.

It was the high degree of unity between black and white woodcutters that many people believe was the key to the woodcutters' historic victory in their strike last fall. About 4000 woodcutters took part in that strike. Woodcutters work under conditions similar to sharecropping, and the 1971 strike was the first time they had achieved the organized strength to improve their situation.

The GPA is now engaged in a program of expansion, with plans being made for establishing cooperatives to supply woodcutters with tools and supplies, and the organization of new local chapters in both Mississippi and Ala-

bama. Help would be appreciated.

GPA
P.O. Box 754
Laurel, Miss.

ANGELA DAVIS

Your editorial on Angela Davis and Communism really hit the mark. I recently read where Czech intellectuals who are being thrown into kangaroo courts for exercising the most basic rights of free speech have written to her expressing joy in her acquittal and requesting that she speak out against the repression they are undergoing. So far, I have heard of nothing that she has said about this Stalinist persecution.

Worker-student
Wisconsin

Angela Davis disappointed me when I read in Time Magazine that she had refused to support the Czech liberals. Few people have a true knowledge of both worlds, and have the courage to fight for the oppressed in both, as you do.

Refugee from Mao's
"Cultural Revolution"
Hong Kong

When I saw that the new issue of Ms. had an article by Kate Millett on Angela Davis, I was excited to think that Women's Liberation was finally coming to recognize that it needs to link up with the Black struggle. But the subtitle included the words " . . . a personal quest . . ." and my disappointment grew as page after page of Millett's tiresome prose left me feeling cheated. I learned a great deal about Millett's neurotic mentality, whereas Angela Davis remained unreal: a "Joan" (of Arc).

Nowhere is there mention, let alone analysis or critique, of Davis' political philosophy, that of the Communist Party. If so superficial a treatment comes from a "leader" of WL, it's time we "ordinary" women stopped being so shy—we couldn't be much worse and are likely to think a lot clearer!

Working Mother
Detroit

ITALIAN SCENE

The Italian government has really changed to the right, but we will have to wait until September or October to see what it can do. They have made an incredible budget that will put it in debt for who knows how long, in order to

"help the growth of industry and employment."

The government's ideas on social legislation is really "special." They have in mind doing away with the divorce law and making prostitution legal. (Italy was the last country in Europe to outlaw prostitution around 10 years ago.) They are planning to enforce a law to make Latin compulsory in the elementary schools. In other words, their idea of social reforms means going back to what existed some 100 or more years ago.

In the meantime, the Catholic, Socialist and Communist-Socialist unions have united and are planning big attacks against the government. Certainly the British workers are giving an example of how one can fight.

Correspondent
Milan, Italy

UNITED FARM WORKERS

For the ten thousand farm workers who pick the lettuce that we put into our salads, lettuce has become the symbol of oppression. In August 1970, they walked off their jobs in California. The issues are not so complex. All they want is the opportunity to live a decent life with dignity. Last year farm workers averaged only 135 days of work and an annual income of less than \$1,600.

All they are asking is that you not eat or buy any more head lettuce until they have won their rights. For more information, please contact:

United Farm Workers
3419 Michigan Ave.
Detroit, Mich. 48216

SMUGGLED FROM POLAND

That beautiful article from Poland you printed last issue is a vindication not only of Marxist-Humanism but of Marx himself.

What American worker would not immediately relate to those conditions of labor the Polish workers face? And doesn't the "Party" sound remarkably like the union leaders here!

Working Woman
New York

Editor's Note: We were limited by space to printing only a very few brief excerpts from the workers' document smuggled out of Poland. See ad Page 8, for our full pamphlet on "Shipyard Workers Revolt Against Communist Party Leaders."



YOUTH

Malagasy students and workers strike

Tananarive, Malagasy Republic — In April, 500 students of the School of Medicine and Pharmacy in Tananarive struck to demand the same rights as those enjoyed by university students. The strike developed into a mighty storm of popular wrath that has swept Madagascar and even toppled the government of the day.

To teach the recalcitrant students a lesson, the Malagasy authorities closed down the school and disbanded the medical students' union. Late in April, 5,000 students of Tananarive University and 60,000 high school pupils struck in solidarity with the medical students. Thus almost the entire student body of the Malagasy capital joined forces to demand educational reforms and

a revision of the Franco-Malagasy agreements that are infringing on the country's national sovereignty.

WORKERS' SUPPORT GIVEN

Support for the students came from the opposition party—the Congress Party of Madagascar Independence—and the big progressive Trade Union Federation of Madagascar Workers. Factory and office workers of most of the capital's enterprises walked out. The government tried to suppress the general strike by repression and terror. At least 30 people were killed and several hundred wounded in numerous clashes between the strikers and the security forces.

The broad anti-government movement spread from the capital to the provinces. Unappeased by the resignation of the Minister of Culture, who is responsible also for education, the strikers demanded the resignation of President Philibert Tsiranana. The masses called for radical reform, economic, social and political. The government having virtually lost control of the country, the President handed over power to the Chief of the General Staff, General Gabriel Ramanantsoa, with instructions to form a new government.

WANT GUARANTEE OF DEMOCRACY

On May 19 an agreement was reached to end the strike and the government promised to meet the following six demands advanced by the 500 trade union delegates representing the people: guarantee of democratic liberties; an assurance that the military regime would be temporary; a National Congress or Constituent Assembly which would include workers and students and would define the new regime and draw up a new Constitution; libefation of all political prisoners; abrogation of the decree on house arrests; and payment of salaries of all workers for the period of the strike.

from THE NATION,
The Gambia, Africa

VIETNAM SKYJACKER'S APPEAL

'To wake the conscience . . .'

The death of Nguyen Thai Binh was no shock to us, the antiwar Vietnamese students in the U.S. We know that the barbaric Thieu regime is planning the systematic elimination of each one of us with the complicity of the U.S. administration.

On Feb. 10 Binh was arrested in New York City along with other Vietnamese students for occupying the South Vietnamese consulate. A week later the Immigration and Naturalization Service summoned him for questioning about the occupation and his activities at the University of Washington (from which he graduated with honors in June).

Hounded by the immigration authorities, Binh would have been subject to deportation if he had tried to stay in the U.S. To go back to South Vietnam would mean torture by Thieu's secret police. To serve Thieu would be to bring shame to the Vietnamese people. He made his choice. "Returning to Vietnam to stand in the line of the Vietnamese people in the struggle for national liberation, I go to Hanoi," he wrote to President Nixon on July 1.

"I direct Pan Am 841 to Hanoi . . . I promise myself I shall not hurt any innocent person . . . I know my voice for peace cannot be heard, cannot defeat the roared sound of B-52, of the U.S. bombings unless I take this dramatic action . . . My only bomb is my human heart which can explode to call for love, faith, and hope, to wake up the conscience of the Vietnamese's enemies."

Nguyen Thai Binh kept his promise. He did not hurt anyone, not even Captain Gene Vaughn, the pilot. Vaughn, with the help of three so-called "passengers" put him under control, then ordered him to be shot. Then he threw his body off the plane in a racist passion.

I, for one, bow to brother Nguyen Thai Binh with heartfelt respect and love.

—Nguyen Trieu Phu
Member of Vietnamese Resource Center,
Cambridge

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Quebec demo protests police slaughter of youth

Montreal, Quebec—A 16-year-old youth was gunned down in Ste-Therese on Friday night July 28 as he fled police. Within an hour, over 1000 people demonstrated in the streets and sacked the home of the killer-cop, and the demonstrating continued for two days until the mayor read the Riot Act. The town has been virtually occupied by the Provincial police for more than a week now.

As expected, the "official" version was that it was an accident, but witnesses are unanimous in saying that it was deliberate. At the time of the shooting, there were two policemen chasing the youth and one had gotten to within 7 feet of him. Then the other cop opened up. The only thing that the police could think of to say was "Why weren't you upset when one of our guys got killed last year?"

The mayor and the town fathers are now busily trying to justify themselves by stories like "the use of the revolver is up to the officers' discretion" and about how they are "looking into the matter," and they'll probably try (and succeed) to get their man off the hook. The killer-cop, who himself is only 21 years old, already had a record of violence against the citizens of the town, firing on speeding motorists and threatening people. At one point last year, he had to be disarmed forcefully by his fellow policemen after he picked a fight with a local bike club.

People here, young and old alike, are determined to put an end to this kind of cruelty.

—C. Bruneau

To all our readers —

An Urgent SOS!

We have refused to increase the price of our subscriptions and pamphlets, despite the soaring increases in our organizational cost-of-living. But the constant increases in printed matter postal rates—now four cents for every ounce!—make it necessary for us to ask that all orders be accompanied by a minimum of 15 cents for postage. More, if you can afford it, and your order is large. Thanks!

Hiroshima Day protest in S.F.

San Francisco, Cal.—Three hundred Chinese, Japanese, Filipinos, Koreans, Vietnamese, Chicanos, Blacks and Whites came together to commemorate the 27th anniversary of the U.S. attack on Hiroshima, but the focus was on present-day realities.

"We must see the dropping of the atom bomb on the Japanese people not as an isolated event but rather as one more act in the history of United States aggression against Asian and Third World people," a young Asian speaker told a solemn crowd gathered at the Peace Pagoda of San Francisco's Cultural Center.

"In 1945, the United States dropped the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki to test the effects of the most modern weapons of war," said a young Vietnamese woman, representing the Union of Vietnamese in the United States. "Today it is we, Vietnamese, who are the testing ground."

Risking the loss of her visa in order to speak out against the U.S. war policies, the Vietnamese student denounced the use of herbicides, defoliants and anti-personnel weapons developed especially for the war in Vietnam. She condemned the partial destruction of Vietnam's 2,000-year-old dike system which keeps the Red River from flooding the 10 million inhabitants of the Tonkin Plain, "the rice bowl" of Vietnam.

A middle-aged organizer of the United Farm Workers delivered a heated denunciation of U.S. military use of the Philippines. A Japanese minister recalled the "beautiful mushroom cloud in the sky and the bitter hell beneath." Afterwards, demonstrators snakedanced through the streets of San Francisco's wealthy Pacific Heights neighborhood to reach the Presidio Army Base.

At the Presidio, representatives passed through a barbed-wire gate to present a list of demands to the base commander. They included: 1) an end to the genocide of Asian people; 2) acceptance of the seven-point peace plan of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam, and 3) the dismantling of the Western Medical Institute of Research, a facility seemingly involved in research of biological warfare techniques.

Demonstrators were turned away by waiting military police and denied access to the base commander's office.

—LNS

"The 1916 Irish revolution gave a signal to the world that man's struggle for freedom was not alone an ideological, but a material force. It raised a flame that would continue to burn until independence was finally won. Lenin hailed the rebellion and accepted it as the real test of his thesis on self-determination . . ." — *Marxism and Freedom*, p. 164

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Black, Brown and Red—workers fight for construction jobs



Members of UCWA arrested at Seattle job site.

Seattle, Wash.—The United Construction Workers Association, a group made up of Black, Chicano, Native American and Asian construction workers in Seattle, has been fighting to get a court order enforced against trade union discrimination. They have occupied construction sites, forcing them to close, and have staged a three-day camp-in on the grounds of Seattle's federal courthouse.

Two years ago, a federal court order had established employment and training quotas for members of minority groups in the construction trades. The UCWA has been fighting ever since to get the order enforced. A government-appointed committee set up to investigate the enforcement of the order claimed that current economic conditions made compliance with it inconvenient. UCWA responded by closing job sites, and was served with two restraining orders and a number of arrests.

In what looks like at least a temporary victory for the UCWA, a U.S. district court judge signed an order late in July giving the group the right to oversee the dispatching of minority apprentices to construction jobs. However, Tyree Scott, UCWA director, has indicated that the organization will continue their struggle to achieve racial balance in the white construction trade unions. The executive secretary of the Seattle Building Trades Council has encouraged union members to break up further actions by the UCWA, telling them that by resisting the actions they would be "protecting their jobs."

—LNS

WORKER'S JOURNAL

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a lawyer. The lawyer was absolutely sure he would get off on probation because of his clean record, although Jesse James had died. But Judge Murphy without a jury sentenced him to 5-15 years in Jackson Prison.

This worker said, "Prison is a society of its own, with no relation to the outside world. Those Black inmates at Jackson Prison control the inside of that prison, man they make those white prisoners dance to their music. Sometimes I felt sorry for those white inmates until I thought about Jesse James, and why I was there—then I got bitter and didn't care what happened to them. Mister, this society messes up poor and working people's minds.

"You have much better legal minds there than you have outside. Some have just taken up law since they were sent up, and study every day for 10, 15 or more years. After you are there for a while, you can have your case retried by the prisoners. They have judges, juries, prosecutors, defense attorneys, all impartial. They only ask you to tell the truth about what you were charged with, and what happened at your outside trial.

"When I had my trial up there, the jury freed me. The lawyer said I was there on a bum rap, and filed a brief with Judge Crockett, asking that I be granted a new trial. Judge Crockett granted a new trial a month later. I would have had to wait a year or more for a trial date, so I withdrew my request in return for early parole.

JUDGE CROCKETT

"Now I do believe that if it were not for Judge Crockett I would still be there. But those 2½ years out of my life seem like 10 years. Listening to inmates tell of their trial judges, practically everyone sentenced by Judge Crockett thinks it was fair, and some say they got a break. Everyone who was tried before this Black Judge Davenport say they would have rather been tried in some Southern court by a racist white judge. They say he is worse than those white judges.

"Since I got out, I have been hired a dozen times until they find I have a prison record—then they say we cannot use you. I sure do not want any more of prison, but I have seen many come back after they are freed, and they will say I just could not make it out there. You have to have something to live off. This will be the first ten dollars I have made since being out."

The foreman the UAW supported lost. The young worker's candidate got elected. I feel if the candidate does not help him get a job, he may end up as a criminal. Then society will have to bear the blame.

Dock hard hats not safe

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal.—By government decree a few months ago longshoremen and ship clerks were issued plastic hard hats which they are required to wear on the job. Now we learn that the union signed a pact with the employers making wearing these things a "condition of employment."

The hard hats are hardly a safety measure. The companies had to pay out what they thought was too much money for head injuries of the hold men, so they got the government to solve their financial burden by decreeing that everybody in the industry has to wear a hard hat.

The objections are numerous (and we pay to replace those that blow into the bay): They are awkward and uncomfortable. Some brothers complain of headaches from them. There are some jobs, like handling coffee, where they are especially bad. The coffee is in sacks that weigh from 130 to 190 pounds. When loading these sacks on lift boards in the wings of a hatch, the head impediments are a constant annoyance and hindrance.

A few weeks ago at Pier 32 the company superintendent insisted that a longshoreman wear a hat although he had a doctor's slip saying he shouldn't wear anything on his head. He was fired. The five gangs working the ship walked off in the middle of the shift to support the man.

The clerks are covered by this rule, too, though the only conceivable danger from a falling object in the super cargo shacks is if someone dropped his pencil on another guy's head. Nonetheless, on Pier 50, one of the superintendents fired a clerk in the middle of a shift because he wasn't wearing his hat.

None of us questions the need for some kind of head protection in certain situations, but we should work out this procedure among ourselves. In the 30's seamen defeated government legislation providing for a "Fink Book" that would have enabled the ship operators to spot and get rid of active unionists, by simply refusing to take that Fink Book. The talk here is of getting rid of the hats the same way.

TWO WORLDS

(Continued from Page 5)

alent of Marx's philosophy of liberation, and, most often, to "tactics" as if it had been merely a question of which corner to turn at to reach the battlefield, to erect "the barricades." The almost-dialectic, like the almost-revolution, left thought in as unfinished a state as were the aborted revolutions. Thus, the shock waves set off in 1971 by Mao's invitation to Nixon failed to disturb even so theoretical a Communist Party breakaway as Italy's *II Manifesto*. Instead, it maintained that "because" "we in the West" had not "made the revolution", we "forced" that "world revolutionary Mao" to embark on the "tactic."

IF WE ARE not to continue with endless almost-revolutions that only allow the counter-revolution to succeed, we must put an end both to the empiricism and the degradation of dialectics to "culture." If ever the intellectual wished a serious revolutionary role, one that is not elitist, but indispensable because without the philosophy of liberation the revolution itself is aborted, this is the time for uniting with the proletariat, for self-discipline, for starting where the workers are . . .

The advantages we do have are that there is an anti-Vietnam war movement; there is a continuous Black mass revolt, both in the factories and out; and that among intellectuals, too, there is a hunger for philosophy so that even the questioning "what is my role?" has been raised not in an elitist, vanguard party to lead sense, but as a question of how to unite with labor.

There is very little time in a nuclear world, but we do have a little time provided we hurry, provided we do not dilly-dally, provide we under no circumstances whatever allow any division to creep in between philosophy and revolution. There can be no successful social revolution without a philosophy of liberation, a Marxist-Humanist perspective . . .

BLACK-RED VIEW

Courts turn backward

By John Alan

An elderly Black woman, who devoted so much of her time and energy and funds to the Free Angela Committee — despite her open opposition and criticism of the Communist Party's lack of concern for the real needs of Black people in the U.S. — was crying with joy when she called me to tell the news of Angela's acquittal. It was truly Jubilee Day in San Jose.

We celebrated with Angela, and also with the overturn of the contempt convictions of the Chicago 7, and Bobby Seale, the release of the Berrigans, the dropped charges against Huey Newton after three trials with hung juries, and the news that perjury charges against David Hilliard, chief of staff of the Black Panthers, will be dismissed unless the government agrees to disclose the voluminous electronic eavesdropping operation it used involving Hilliard.

THINGS TO COME?

As former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark pointed out, "The conspiracy law is inherently unjust," juries don't like it and sense its injustice, and a prosecutor who has a substantive case doesn't need it.

What is frightening is the political climate of power-wielders Nixon and the Supreme Court, right-wing Reagan, demagogue-racist Wallace, and the capitulationist Congress, which warn of possible things yet to come.

In February the California State Supreme Court ruled to abolish the death penalty (it was because of this the courts had to free Angela on bail—which was \$100,000) whereupon State Attorney E. J. Younger, with the support of Reagan, initiated a petition to restore the death penalty. Prison guards, police, prosecutors, with their families and henchmen have already gathered over one million signatures for this.

More recently, Reagan vetoed a bill to broaden the base of selection of Grand Juries — usually selected from names submitted by Superior Court Judges, generally white middle class males.

GIANT STEPS BACKWARD

The Nixon Supreme Court held that unanimous jury verdicts were not required for decisions in State criminal courts, and approved a conviction based on majority vote. This means conviction even where there is doubt of guilt or belief of innocence in as many as five jurors.

The Supreme Court ruled, 5-4, that the "right to counsel" doctrine would no longer apply to suspects at lineups, and these may be confronted with witnesses without having defense lawyers present.

The Congressional act giving the government authority to "pry" into anyone's bank account — called the Bank Secrecy Act (!) — demands banks keep filmed records of all their transactions and this information must be made available to various governmental departments. This invasion of privacy would mean that all organizations' contributors (lists which legally are immune from government scrutiny) would now be ascertained through checking the bank deposits or individuals' checks, etc., with an exception to be made for the bank's "established customers" such as large corporations.

The Nixon Court also ruled that such racist clubs as the Moose may continue to refuse to accept as members, or even serve as guests, any one they choose to exclude, as in the case of refusing service to Black Democratic Leader of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, K. L. Irvis, and they may still keep their license to sell alcohol. This decision, says National Urban League Director V. Jordan, "reinforces the web of institutionalized racism," and Irvis pointed out, "It's the first of the backward decisions you'll have to expect in the next ten years."

Indeed, it will be only the might and wrath of the organized oppressed in this country who can change the course of the real conspirators — the power structure of the U.S. capitalist class.

Miss. poultry workers strike

FOREST, Miss.—More than 60 workers who walked off their jobs at Poultry Packers Inc. on May 10, have won their strike here. The company gave in to demands of the newly formed Mississippi Poultry Workers Union for increased pay, and pay for breakdown time.

Before the strike, workers were not paid while the production line was being repaired, but they were required to stay on the job without pay. The strike started during a breakdown.

At first the strike only involved Black workers. However during the course of the strike, white workers began to talk to the union and to attend union meetings.

Although only about 60 workers were involved at Forest, this strike may represent the beginning of a large movement of working people in the Deep South. Thousands of people work in the chicken processing plants in Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia. Almost all of the plants are small, pay low wages, and have atrocious working conditions.

The next step for the Mississippi Poultry Workers Union will be to seek recognition as bargaining agent for the workers at Poultry Packers. An election supervised by the National Labor Relations Board is expected soon.

By Eugene Walker

Provos' terrorist bombings and the fall of Free Derry

After nearly a year of citizen rule—the block committees, the food co-ops, the people's courts—all were silenced on July 31 when British tanks and armor-plated bulldozers smashed through the barricades of Free Derry. Free Derry, born in the aftermath of the infamous internment raids of August 9, 1971 on the slogan "Man your barricade, don't let them take any more!" is now occupied by nearly 2,000 British troops day and night.

Troops ripped down barricades erected by a community united and single-minded, and often manned by small children. They tore up a few of the thousands of political posters of every group

which plaster the walls of Derry. (No one could get them all in even six months.)

But the fact is that the ground for the destruction of Free Derry was laid, not by the British troops, but by the Provisional Alliance's terrorist, anti-people bombing campaign. In one day of insanity which culminated their work—Friday, July 21—the Provos set off more than 20 bombs in Belfast, killing 15 and wounding 130. The dead and wounded were nearly all civilians. Not one bomb was directed against a military target. The resulting mood of disgust and revulsion among anti-Unionist people in Ulster allowed the British army to come in.

So great, however, is the hatred of an occupying army, that by the end of the first week of the troops'

presence, mass demonstrations had already broken out calling for their removal. On Aug. 9, the first anniversary of internment, there were demonstrations in cities and towns across Ulster. At dawn, women went to the streets, banging on pots and rattling cans, the warning of approaching British troops developed since internment. Crowds demonstrated outside army posts in Derry and Belfast.

Not even the Provisionals can kill the revolt of the Irish people against that gang of diehard Tories who have ruled Ulster for 50 years. But the hopes for unity of Catholic and Protestant workers, raised by the events of the civil rights movement and the housing action committees, have been dealt a bad blow by religious sectarian terrorists.

Czechoslovakia

Czechoslovakia—The permanence of the counter-revolution since the 1968 Russian invasion has its latest manifestation in the political trials that are now in progress throughout the country. The groups who have been tried and who are coming to trial are intellectuals accused of conspiracy to overthrow the regime, sometimes in conjunction with Czech emigres. Acts such as leaflet distributions last November which called upon people to boycott elections are cited.

These Stalinist tactics of frame-up trials are the newest effort to stop expression of free opinion that "Prague, Spring '68" brought forth. The fact that it has taken four years before such show trials could be organized points to the depth of resistance. The ideas of Spring '68 are by no means at an end.

Egypt

Egypt—The recent breakdown in relations between Egypt and Russia has to be seen within the context of the Nixon-Brezhnev summitry. While the main attention of the summit has been the relationship between a Vietnam settlement and big trade deals with Russia, the summit agreement also produced a joint statement on the Middle East. A breakthrough dictated by the big powers which would guarantee both of them a permanent role in the Middle East is what is sought. What role the immediate combatants in the Middle East will have on any agreement is open to question. What is cer-

tain is that the summitry has demonstrated that Russia and the U.S. both wish to have determining roles in the Middle East, even if at the expense of their respective "allies."

It is this which the Egyptians have found unacceptable. They have been pressuring Russia for many months to give them advanced weapons and have, especially since the summit, had pressure put upon themselves by Russia as their only arms supplier who now wants temporary accommodation with the U.S. for its own big power reasons.

This latest refusal to give Egypt weapons ended in a partial breakdown of relations with Russia. After removing the military advisers, Egypt has now turned toward Libya with its oil and money.

Greece

Greece—The military dictatorship has been in power for over five years. Recent opposition activities have included students on strike in Thessalonika and Athens, students marching in Athens and a petition signed by almost 1,000 prominent Greeks which appealed for the release of all political prisoners. The U.S. government which at the least looked with approval on the junta, and may have helped engineer its coming to power, is at present sending \$70 million worth of arms and has decided to make Athens the home port for the Sixth Fleet. The so-called socialist countries who make up 20 per cent of Greece's trade have not put any economic pressure on the junta. And worse, the Communist leadership during the Greek Civil War did not lead

WORLD IN VIEW

Chile

Chile—In the rural areas there has been a process of accelerated class struggle since Allende has come to power. In these 20 months there have been over 2,000 farm incidents. The peasantry, through peasant unions, have been moving to enforce the Agrarian Reform Law instituted but not practiced under the Frei government. That law abolishes the latifundia—large estates of land. Farms of more than 170 acres have now been taken over.

Allende has not passed new agrarian legislation at present. The only new form in the rural sector has been the formation of peasants' councils. Since January of 1971 nearly 200 have been formed. The real question is what is their role in determining what happens in rural areas. The election of Allende has encouraged the peasants' enthusiasm for change. The spontaneous land seizures are the proof. The councils could give the peasants a voice in framing policy or could be used to muzzle their thoughts.

At present more than 30 percent of the peasants are small landholders with insufficient land to meet their needs—let alone produce for the rest of country. A new form involving co-operatives or communes will have to come forth. But whether it is a state plan from above imposed through the councils or whether it is through the peasantry and their own forms for expression is yet to be determined.

Conventions show political system must be uprooted, not revitalized

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TECHNOLOGY VS. LIFE

Take the ever-present, barbaric war in Indo-China. Since April Hanoi has been charging that the U.S. has been destroying the two-century-old system of dikes that extends some 2,500 miles and protects north-central North Viet Nam from being inundated by the Red River. To UN Security General Kurt Waldheim's appeal to stop the bombing, Nixon cold-bloodedly replied that if the U.S. wanted to bomb dikes "we could take them out, the significant part of them, in a week." To make sure that none misunderstood his power, he added: "We are not using the great power that could finish off North Viet Nam in an afternoon."

On Aug. 8, the Pentagon revealed that in the three months prior, 16,000 bombing missions had been flown against North Viet Nam, wreaking a hell and havoc that moved ex-Attorney General Ramsey Clark to say from Hanoi via Swedish television:

"If the American people knew what we have done with bombs and technology against life, against children, women and men they would end the war, the bombings and withdraw our troops and never again try to solve problems with violence."

The truth is, however, that the overwhelming majority of the American people are against the war, yet it goes on and on.

The fact is that there is no ready conventional way to stay the tyrannical hand of the President in power. The system of checks and balances we learned about in school is inoperative. The Supreme Court rules busing—and Nixon rules no busing. Congress votes against escalation of the war—and Nixon bombs, bombs, bombs. Unemployment and inflation choke the American people—and Nixon, by fiat, freezes wages while corporate profits soar.

HOW TO STOP THE MADNESS?

Instead of George Meany initiating the attack on the Nixon Administration that froze workers' wages, he plans to sit the election out. The Teamster leadership, led by Frank Fitzsimmons, are unashamedly paying off Nixon for his presidential pardon of Jimmy Hoffa, and Nixon is buying.

The Black political leadership is in disarray, despite agreement among Black leaders and intellectuals earlier

in the year that Blacks stood to gain the most if they stood together.

McGovern's opposition to Nixon is extremely cautious. He is reworking his tax plan. He promises a job for everyone who wants to work. In general, he promises all the good things he thinks liberal capitalism has to offer. His campaign rhetoric doesn't begin to answer the deep philosophic questions that are daily explored in the factories and on the streets, where, for instance, the right of some men to set work norms for the great majority of men is questioned. Where the kind of work that marks mass production—dull, repetitive, physically strenuous, frequently health hazardous—is rejected, not only in thought, but by acts of sabotage and growing absenteeism in disregard of firing threats and job scarcity.

Across the country, growing numbers of women dissatisfied with tokenism in their struggle for equal rights with men, have caused re-examination of all laws, traditions and customs that threaten their freedom, driving politicians, theologians and scientists to attempt to re-define life itself.

Clearly, the hand of the mad bomber, Nixon, who achieved his present position with the collusion of both Chinese and Russian state capitalism, must be stayed. Neither McGovern nor the Democratic Party provide the fundamental answers to these pressing national and international crises. It will take nothing short of the direct intervention of the proletariat, the unemployed (many of whom are no longer a statistic as far as the government is concerned), the Blacks, the women and youth who are unfettered by allegiance to any state-capitalism.

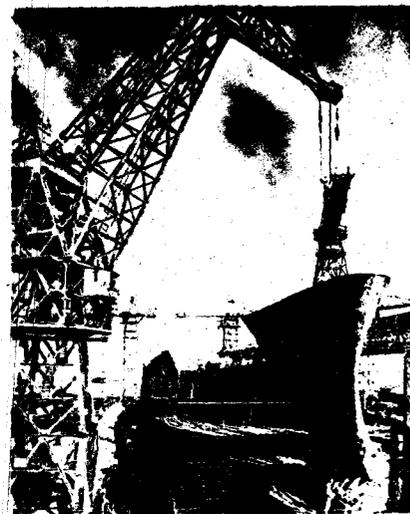
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