

THE WORKER

For the Milwaukee Area and Wisconsin

AUGUST 1977 VOL. 2 NO. 11

Seccion en Espanol 25¢

**ARE YOU TIRED OF BEING PUSHED
AROUND, DRIVEN DOWN, & SOLD OUT ?**

LET'S GET ORGANIZED!



National Workers Organization

**Founding Convention -
Labor Day Weekend, Chicago**

The working class stands on the verge of an historical advance. We now have within our grasp the possibility of making a leap forward. We can step onto a new stage in our battle with the bosses. The formation of a National Workers Organization is now only a few short weeks away!

Are you tired of being stepped on and pushed around? Have you ever tried to organize your fellow workers to fight back? Have you ever dreamed of changing the world?

If you answer yes to any of these questions, you owe it to yourself and your fellow workers to come to Chicago on Labor Day weekend and to bring as many other workers as possible. If you think organizing and struggling against the owners is important you must decide now to register and plan to be there. If you have something to say about the working class rising to its feet with its head held high, throwing off the forces that hold it down, you have a responsibility to be at the Pick Congress Hotel in Chicago on September 3rd and 4th.

The importance of as many workers as possible signing up to come to this convention grows with each passing day. The eyes of our fellow workers as well as our enemy's eyes will be on this convention. It will be an important test of strength, the first national mobilization of our new organization, concentrating in one place at one time the worker activists from around the country.

And all indications are that it will be successful.

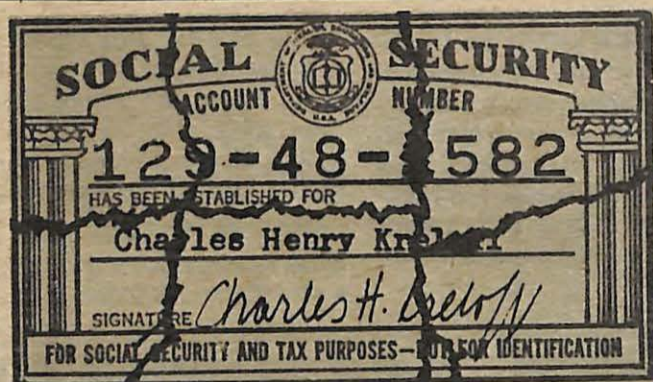
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Strike Up North**
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New Cut in Unemployment Benefits



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No Social Security
til Age 68**

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Run the Nazis Out!
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WHAT'S BREWING IN BEER CITY



TIRED OF WAGE SLAVERY

Foreman: Your attendance record is atrocious. What is this a one man effort to bring in the 4 day week?

Worker: I can't make it on three.

JERK OF THE MONTH

John Oster layed off 30 probationary employees as of Monday August 1, claiming lack of work. By Wednesday, they had all received telegrams saying they were fired. Then on Friday Oster rehired them all back without their seniority.

TREATING WORKERS LIKE CATTLE

Menasha police are using cattle prods on the Banta strikers' picket line. The men have blocked the scabs but the cops didn't hesitate to deliver 120 volts. "It can knock you on your rear and make you black and blue" Workers aren't cattle. But the Menasha cops are pigs.

UNION BUSTING CONTINUES IN PACKING

Meatcutters used to say "Our strike is just the beginning. If they break the union, it won't stop here." Those words are coming true. Not only has Wisconsin Packing gone out of business to keep the union out. The strike at Iowa Beef the largest packing company in the world is in its seventh month. Swift, formerly the largest, has announced it can't compete paying union wages and that they are closing down all but specialty meat products and one plant in the South. Also Hormel has presented the meatcutters local in Austin Minnesota a list of 3 demands--an eight year no-strike clause, Withdraw all unresolved grievances, and abolish the incentive system. They threaten to move out if the 2000 member local doesn't buckle under. Meatcutters have to draw the line against this b.s. That will be the subject of discussion at the meatcutters meeting during the national workers organization's convention.



DEAR GABBY: I'm the leader of a Nazi group in Chicago. Recently the press exposed the fact that my father is Jewish. My followers are beginning to doubt my sincerity. What should I do?

GABBY SAYS: When you're at the headquarters never turn your back on them.

DEAR GABBY: I'm a U.S. congressman with a problem. My political opponents are threatening to expose the fact that I have a secretary on my staff who has no office skills and is really a paid escort and playmate. How can I save my career?
GABBY SAYS: Send him to typing school.

DEAR GABBY: I'm a foreman at A. O. Smith. Whenever my little scooter is parked in the way of a fork lift they ram it. I'd hate for the company to have to hire more mechanics to keep fixing my scooter. What should I do?

GABBY SAYS: Disguise your scooter as a crate-they'll never touch it.

DEAR GABBY: I'm the president of a union. I've tried everything--free beer, giving out baseball tickets, we even tried showing skin flicks--but nobody comes to union meetings. What should I do to increase attendance?

GABBY SAYS: Have you ever tried using the phrase "We're going to take a stand"?

WAUPUN No Charges Against The Three!

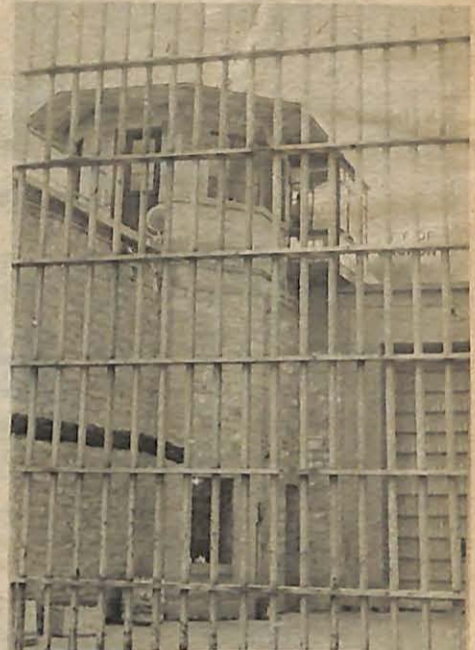
Three Wisconsin State Prison inmates face possible charges stemming from an incident May 16 on the rec field. What happened? That was the day that a guard tried to take a man to the hole for taking a short cut to his seat in the dining hall. They couldn't take him. The men at tables around him got mad and stood up when the guards came toward the man. Later when they tried to take him from the dormitory, prisoners again stood up. They even refused to go to work that afternoon in protest.

That evening the men were on the rec field. Two other guys got into a fight. It was nothing serious. The two were friends. The guards came to take both of them to the hole for fighting. They took one man. But the other, Billy Wells, went into the midst of the other prisoners on the field. Nobody likes the way guards send men to the hole for small infractions. They don't like the way men are treated there. The inmates again stood together. In fact the guards were unable to take the prisoner to the hole. A pushing and shoving incident resulted and at least one guard was knocked down.

As the men headed back to their cells, some guards attacked Billy Wells. Other inmates came to his aid. One of the guards involved was a Sergeant Brooks. He was known for brutalizing inmates in the solitary building until the warden was forced to transfer him. Because the prisoners stuck together against guard brutality, the prison

authorities have filed complaints with the Dodge County DA against 3 men. The DA has been investigating the complaints against Billy Wells, Doug Fellenz, and Jerry (J.J.) Holland. Assault on a prison guard carries a maximum of ten years.

All three of the inmates involved have spent the majority of their adult lives behind bars. Wells did a ten year stretch in the 60's. He was bypassed for parole all the way up to his mandatory release date.

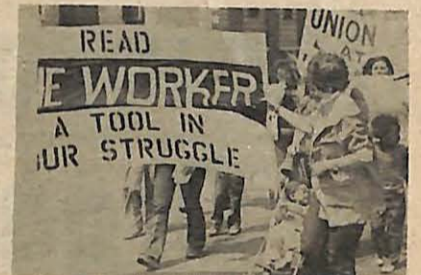


He was a bitter man when he hit the streets. He came back with new time and a new crime. Fellenz went to jail when he was 18 years old on a second degree murder charge. That was ten years ago. Like Wells he refuses to be broken down. He refuses to go along with a penal system that sees rehabilitation as following

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THE WORKER



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Prairie Fire In Concert "SENSATIONAL" SONGS of STRUGGLE



Armstrongs \$1.50
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8:00 p.m. August 27th

THE WORKER

This paper exists to build the struggle of the working class against the capitalist system of exploitation and oppression. It puts forward the political line of the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA on the major questions and struggles facing the workers.

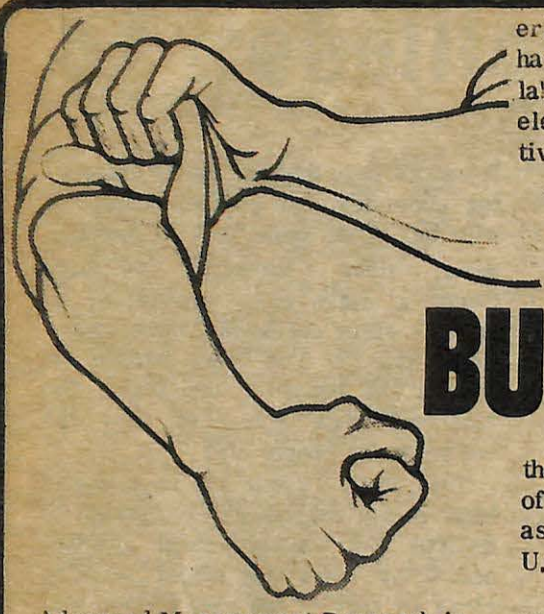
The Worker for the Milwaukee Area and Wisconsin is one of many such papers across the country. The staffs of these papers are made up of members and supporters of the RCP, USA.

We want to be in touch with all the struggles of our class. We need and welcome your letters, articles, and any kind of contribution or criticism.

To contact us or for more information, write:

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4409 W. North Ave
Milwaukee, WI 53208



erty, pick out employees likely to have pro-union sentiments, use the labor board to delay certification elections and uphold firings of activists.

AMR has a lot of sponsors as

10a.m., Aug. 18th, Marc Plaza

BUST THE UNION BUSTERS!

they go around the country. Backer of these jerks include such outfits as Singer, Teledyne, AT&T, and the U.S. Army.

The rich have never accepted our unions in the first place. Now they are trying to take back what workers fought and died for. This scab roadshow has got to be torn up! In New York City workers hit AMR hard. While a picket line was held in front of the hotel where AMR was holding their seminar a group of workers marched into the conference rooms, and dumped tables and water on the executives. One meathead at the conference thought he'd be tough and asked one of the workers, "Where do you work?" The answer was "Bethlehem Steel. Where do you work?" Not one fatcat answered.

AMR was also disrupted in Rochester, N.Y. and Seattle, Washington. In San Francisco 200 picketed the hotel where AMR was being held. When they moved into the hotel AMR's "security men" began macing and beating people. Cops were called in and arrested four workers.

The actions against AMR everywhere they have gone has made AMR's union busting such an issue that "60 Minutes", the TV documentary, news, picked up on it. The Organizing Committee to Build a National Workers Organization in San Francisco took out the union busting conference and their action against it so widely that the San Francisco Labor Council was forced to pass a resolution against AMR. Many locals around the country have passed resolutions against AMR, for example steelworkers 1327 at Rexnord.

The picketline at the Marc Plaza will put AMR and the rich on notice that we don't want these scab conferences in Milwaukee or anywhere else. These conferences are an attack on all working people. They

smashed union and hopes of the meatcutters and the Giddings and Lewis machinists. Workers will remember Koss and Thurner Heat Treat busting the union drives by the workers at those plants.

Advanced Management Research is coming to Milwaukee. Executives in three piece suits will pay \$550 a head to learn how to bust unions. The real purpose of AMR concealed behind phrases like, "preserving non-union status" and "making unions unnecessary" is to attack working peoples standard of living and to destroy organization.

AMR has gone around the country with their travelling scab show. And in every city they have gone the Organizing Committee to Build a National Workers Organization has taken action against them. Their stop in Milwaukee at the Marc Plaza August 17-19 will be just blocks from the valley where the meatcutters' union was busted a little over a year ago. The union busters will be only an hours' drive from Fon du Lac where the Giddings and Lewis workers union was busted six months ago. The United Workers Organization is calling for a picketline at the Marc Plaza on August 18, saying, "Bust Up the Union Busters!"

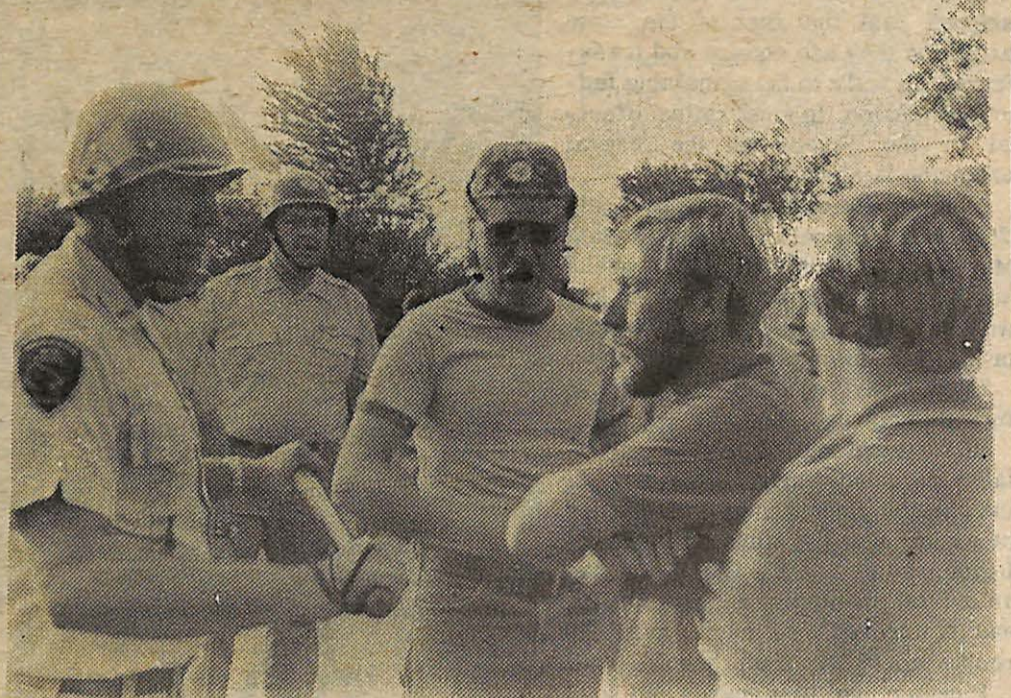
The seminar image, the legal research and the polite discussions at these scab conferences are a disguised form of the reality of union busting—the hard end of a billy club and food off our dinner tables.

AMR is one thrust by the rich as they attempt to push back working people's standard of living, organization—and strength. The purpose of AMR is to instruct management to keep organizers off company prop-

are a club aimed at the millions of workers still unorganized. AMR is an attack on organized workers who are trying to get the control of the unions back into the hands of the rank and file.

When the UWO throws that picket line up at the Marc Plaza on August 18, workers will remember the

The August 18 picketline is a call to all workers to fight union busting and all other ways the rich attack us. It's a call for the rank and file to organize itself and build a mighty movement to do battle against the bosses who push us down and shove us around. ■



PICKET LINES AT GEORGE BANTA IN MENASHA HAVE BEEN THE SCENE OF SHARP CONFRONTATIONS. IT'S A FIGHT AGAINST UNION BUSTING.

DOWN WITH THE TRAVELING AMR SCAB SHOW

Auto Companies Kill Three In Heat Wave

Wanted for murder: Henry Ford and GM President Estes! These two billionaires are guilty of the cold-blooded murder of three auto workers in the Detroit area in the middle of July.

If there is any doubt about this conclusion check out these facts.

As everyone knows a tremendous heatwave hit the Midwest and East Coast last month. Temperatures soared over a hundred in many places. In Detroit's auto plants, where work is always back-breaking, it became unbearable. Live ovens with temperatures going close to 140 degrees in some departments.

What was the response of these corporate owners? Did they slow the lines down? Did they let people sick with heat exhaustion go home? Did they even take a more lenient attitude towards workers not coming to work?

Exactly the opposite. This was the time when they really cracked the whip. This was a time for them to hand out disciplines like they were going out of style. Heat passes suddenly became almost impossible to get. And when people walked off the job as a last resort, these company bosses knew nothing but how to harass and fire.

The result—three deaths in Detroit. Case 1: James Wilferd, an old-

er worker at the Ford Stamping plant. Mr. Wilferd keeled over on the line, heat exhaustion bringing on a heart attack. The plant ambulance was called but its battery

went dead! Wilferd had to be carried on a stretcher down to medical. He was dead on arrival.

Case 2: Grant Schneider, age 20. On July 6 he put in 8 hours

in Ford's Specialty Foundry at the Rouge. The temperature inside was 140 degrees. Schneider had complained about feeling sick but he knew the nurse would just give him the runaround so he didn't go to medical. After work he was found dead in his car—his body temperature was 108.

Case 3: Gertie Bienick, age 56, a worker at GM's Livonia Trim plant. Twice on July 15 medical refused her a heat pass to go home after she complained of being sick. The next day she died of a heat stroke.

These three deaths are just the tip of the iceberg. Hundreds have fainted and fallen to the concrete floor from the heat.

Can there be any doubt that the responsibility for these death lies with the men at the top and their system of profit? To them the workers are nothing more than the extension of their machines to be worked until they drop. The highest value in their society is the bottom line in their profit column.

The heat wave saw thousands of workers lay down their tools and walk off the job. The companies' response? They fired 29 workers at a Chrysler plant.

But in the long run these conditions can only be reversed when the working class rises up, strings up murderers like Henry Ford and GM Chairman Estes, and builds society not ruled by profit. ■

AOS Works Past Contract

On July 31, the contract expired for 6,000 A. O. Smith workers in several different unions. So far the company hasn't met any of the major demands. These include a cost of living on pensions; a wage increase; more days off; and an end to the rate cuts and job eliminations. The company has made 16 proposals for takeaways. As we go to press the old contract is being extended on a day to day basis even though strike authorization was voted 5 to 1 by Smith workers.

A. O. Smith has been spending millions of dollars over the frame lines for the new '78 cars, putting in automatic lines which are eliminating jobs and building a new roadway inside the plant. The auto industry is in a temporary upswing and A. O. Smith has been raking in record profits. They want to maintain those profits by giving nothing to hard working men whose labor produces the auto

frames.

While profits are up jobs aren't. Department 1738 lost jobs when the lines were automated. In the auto industry as a whole there are 100,000 fewer jobs today than in '73.

A. O. Smith workers have been facing a record number of firings and suspensions. They have seen inflation cut into their earnings. In '74 they responded by showing their united muscle and walking out.

Once again it is time to fight back. A.O. Smith needs '78 frames. The company is offering only 32¢, 22¢, and 22¢, half on the rates. There is no C.O.L. on the pension. The Smith workers will almost definitely vote this down. The union leaders are trying to keep the initiative in this battle out of the hands of the rank and file.

The Smith workers have no choice but to draw the line and fight. Either a decent contract or get shut down.

Carter Attacks Jobless State U.C. Benefits Slashed

At the end of July, 218,000 unemployed workers in 37 states got the word—13 more weeks are now cut off the unemployment benefits, the first or "state" extension, which in most cases extended the benefits from 26 to 39 weeks. The extension was wiped out in every Midwest state but Michigan and in the entire South. In Wisconsin many people get 34 weeks and then a 5 week extension. This has been cut.

In most cases a letter was sent out—"Your next check is your last." Unemployed in a few states were skipped past the rest of the state extension they had coming and transferred directly to the remaining federal extension. In most states affected by the recent cut the federal extension is already gone.

In these states there are now only 26 weeks of benefits where just last March there were up to 65. 26 weeks and then turn to a slave-wage job, welfare, move in with the relatives, or it's out into the street altogether.

Unemployed workers started to fight this outrage right away.

In Washington D.C., UWOC circulated an open letter to the head of the unemployment center. It demanded he explain how the situation in Washington, which is 80% Black and has an official unemployment rate of 9.4%, had "improved" so much that 2000 people could get their benefits cut!

Picketers got past guards and went into the unemployment center where in front of reporters from every TV station and newspaper in the city they denounced the cuts and demanded to see the head of the office. He refused to come out and cowered in his upstairs office behind police lines.

The action spread the word of the cuts across the city and many more people took up the national UWOC petition and started planning the next action.

In Gary, unemployed workers busted up a fat cat dinner which was

giving an award to US Steel for all they've done to provide jobs. Some US Steel workers were there too, to tell the true story of layoffs, job combinations and speed-up. The group gave a speech denouncing the cuts and demanding Union Jobs at Union Wages!

In Columbus, Ohio UWOC led 30 unemployed from Cleveland and Cincinnati in a march on the state capital July 29. A federal judge signed an injunction preventing UWOC

on the benefit cuts and jobs.

The excuse for this latest attack on the unemployed was that the "insured" unemployment rate in the U.S. dropped below 4.5%. This triggers the cut-off in every state where the "insured" rate drops below 5%. A state with an insured rate over 5% has the option of cutting the extension, but states in the Northeast and others like California and Michigan didn't cut it, fearing the reaction of the millions of unemployed

It counts only those actually collecting unemployment compensation. So with thousands being cut off benefits daily, either through red tape, Carter's slave-wage provision, or various state cut-backs, here comes the Catch-22. The more people get thrown off benefits, the lower the "insured" rate goes, so they can cut yet more people off!

This most recent cut is a major blow in the capitalists' campaign to destroy the unemployment system, and drive down the whole working class by forcing the unemployed into minimum wage jobs in government programs of private industry, even trying to force people to scab just to survive.

Just a few months ago, Ray Marshall, the Secretary of Labor, announced the goal of cutting benefits everywhere to 26 weeks, period. And already the government has moved ruthlessly to do just that. The 13 states and Puerto Rico, which still get the state extensions can't count on it for long. And the few states still getting the remaining federal extension are due to lose it Oct. 31, when it runs out across the country.

As part of the fight against the broadside offensive being launched nation-wide against the unemployed, UWOC is launching co-ordinated actions across the country in August against this latest brutal attack.

A new national petition has been started in 30 cities around the cuts and for Union Jobs at Union Wages. Regional actions are planned for October and a nation-wide rally in Washington at the New Year.

The rulers of this country won't be satisfied until we are driven into the dirt. We can't be satisfied until we get JOBS or enough INCOME to cover the cost-of-living until we can get jobs!

HIT BACK AT THE CUT BACK!

STOP ALL ATTACKS ON OUR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE!

UNION JOBS AT UNION WAGES!

RESTORE ALL OUR BENEFITS NOW!



UNEMPLOYED MARCHED AGAINST THE NEWEST CUTS IN UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS IN CITIES AROUND THE COUNTRY.

from entering any building connected with the unemployment system in Columbus!

Fifteen unemployed in Milwaukee met with State Sen. Monroe Swan. They jammed him into saying he would "support an effort" to extend the benefits with state funds. He was forced to agree to help organize a public meeting of the unemployed with Milwaukee-area state politicians

in those states.

But the official unemployment rate went up just before the cuts hit—so how did this insured rate go down? First of all, even the official rate published in the press each month leaves out millions of unemployed. If you're not out looking for work that isn't there, for example, you don't count.

The "insured" rate is even crazier.

64 Year Old Machinist Fights For His Benefits

15 members of the Unemployed Workers Organizing Committee (UWOC) marched into the downtown unemployment office last month to demand that Ed Potyrala get the last two weeks of his unemployment compensation.

Like others receiving the federal extension, Ed had to get applications signed for six different jobs every week he applied for compensation. After 11 weeks and after applying for 66 jobs, he was told that he no longer qualified, because he got all six of the week's applications signed in one day. Like thousands of other workers, Ed joined the growing list of those denied the benefits that they earned through years of labor and sweat.

When they denied his benefits the big shots at the unemployment office did not care that Ed, who is 64, put in 47 years as a machinist at Kearney and Trecker. They didn't care that he and his wife, who has a terminal lung disease, needed the money so they could move to Arizona where

she might live longer. Their only concern was to find an excuse to stop his checks. These flunkies were joining other state and federal officials in making what has become an all out attack on the system of unemployment compensation.

But Ed and his wife, and the other members of UWOC, drew the line with this attack. They marched right into the unemployment office and confronted Brooks, the director, in front of dozens of angry people waiting in line to apply for compensation or look for jobs. Brooks first claimed there was nothing he could do. But when he saw they weren't about to leave he agreed to talk to Ed and his wife and to set up a new hearing to reconsider their unemployment claim. When one UWOC member started explaining to the other people in the office what was going on, Brooks showed his true face by calling security guards. But this rat could not silence the UWOC members who went outside the office and leafletted and rapped to everyone going in or out of the building.



ED POTYRALA, HIS WIFE AND MEMBERS OF THE UNEMPLOYED WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE CONFRONTED UNEMPLOYMENT DIRECTOR BROOKS.

When they came out of their meeting with Brooks, Ed and his wife were smiling. "When we were alone they wouldn't even talk to us over the

phone. But now that we all came down here together they had to agree to a meeting. I hope this will help everybody down here." ■

First Steel Strike In 18 Years 18,000 Walk Off Iron Range

18,000 iron ore miners are on strike in Minnesota and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. This is the first strike in the steel industry since 1959. The strike is a strong challenge to the company unionism of the Steelworkers International who have chained steelworkers to a no-strike contract. The militant strike on the "Iron Range" has been years in the making.

One striker at the US Steel mine in Mountain Iron, Minnesota said, "Our members are prepared. We are going to bring pumpkins to the picket line in Halloween and a tinsel tree for Christmas. We are going to show them they cannot push us around."

The central demand of the strikers is the 65-85¢ difference in pay between the miners and the basic steelworkers in the rest of the country. The other demands that brought the workers out of the mines are safety and thousands of unresolved grievances. One mine with 500 men has over a thousand unresolved grievances.

The strike has been labeled as a "test of the no-strike Experimental Negotiating Agreement" by company officials and the top union hacks. The ENA sold out the steelworkers right to strike over national contracts in basic steel. The determination of the miners on the range has backed USWA President McBride into a corner. 32 locals authorized strikes over local issues after the

national contract this spring. In almost all of these the International was successful in pushing through settlements. But the iron ore miners are throwing up a challenge to the steel companies and their buddies in union office that they don't intend to be sold out.

Steelworkers on the range voted 10-1 against I. W. Abel's hand-picked successor, Lloyd McBride, in the union elections last winter. And the local presidents were among the large number who voted against the national basic steel contract this spring.

The steel companies have been running from one court to another trying to declare the strike illegal. They claim the strike is not over local issues, that the pay differential was negotiated in the national contract. To the miners of the Iron Range, national or local contract, the time has come to let the steel companies know that the miners will have a few things their way.

The mines along the Mesabi Range have been the scene of a lot of struggle in the last few years. A wildcat at one of the biggest mines shut it down for 9 days in July, 1975. The wildcat hit this US Steel mine when the company violated seniority in transferring one millwright. Since that wildcat workers have been preparing for the strike.

The iron and copper mines on the

Range boomed two generations ago. Miners poured into the area from Europe. After the second World War the copper companies closed many mines and moved to South America where they could get ore

cheaper. Iron mines closed because the high grade ore was depleted. Towns along the Iron Range and the Copper Country of Michigan were left as ghost towns. The only mines left had skeleton crews and even these miners went from long layoff to long layoff.

With the development of taconite milling--taking low-grade ore and pelletizing it, work picked up in the area.

CON'T. ON PAGE 16



Stop the Sale of South African Gold

Chanting "M&I Sells African Gold, But the Fight For Freedom Can't Be Sold," over 60 people demonstrated in front of the M&I Bank. They were protesting the sale of the Krugerrand, a gold coin from South Africa.

The demonstration was part of a mounting campaign launched nationwide by the African Liberation Support Committee to stop the sales of the South African coin. With South Africa rocked by anti-apartheid demonstrations and protest, the white minority regime is desperately trying to prop up its gangster rule, and stabilize its economy.

The South African Chamber of Mines is spending \$4 million this year in the U.S. alone, in an advertising drive to sell the Krugerrand. This is a drop in the bucket given that sales from the Krugerrand have so far provided South Africa with 21% of the revenue needed for imports.

An ALSC delegation confronted M&I bank official Fritz Ruf about the bank's refusal to stop the Krugerrand sales.

He refused to comment, but M&I is beginning to feel the heat. Already a number of individuals have withdrawn their money in protest. St. George Episcopal Church on 12th and Center is one of the institutions that has withdrawn its account.

Already over a thousand people have signed petitions protesting the apartheid system in South Africa and demanding an end to the sale of the gold coin. For Fritz Ruf, the big bankers and money interest he represents, the heat will only get hotter.

For Fritz and his friends the Krugerrand is just another gold coin they can sell for \$156 a piece. But for black South Africans who mine it, the one ounce gold coin bears the full weight of a system of slavery, degradation, and oppression. We stand with the freedom fighters of South Africa.

VICTORY TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA! STOP THE SALE OF THE KRUGERRAND! ■



Trichlorethylene Vapors Fill Plant Masterlock Risks Workers Safety

On July 8th second shift workers walked past the guard house into Masterlock like any other day. But several people going into the basement noticed a funny smell and fumes in the air. By first break the fumes were getting heavier especially by the coffee machines. One girl asked a foreman couldn't he do anything about it since the smell and fumes were making her feel sick. All he had to say was "This isn't my department."

The fumes were coming from the degreasing tank which is filled with trichlorethylene (trichlor). Trichlor, a chemical used for cleaning oil off parts, comes in drums with a clear warning "Warning! Vapor ventilation. Avoid prolonged or repeated breathing of vapor. Avoid prolonged or repeated contact with skin."



TRICHLOROETHYLENE

Warning! Vapor harmful. Use only with adequate ventilation. Avoid prolonged or repeated breathing of vapor. Avoid prolonged or repeated contact with skin. Do not take internally. This material or its vapor in contact with flames or hot glowing surfaces may form corrosive acid fumes.

THIS CHEMICAL, COMMONLY USED IN DEGREASING OILY PARTS, WILL COMBINE WITH A PERSON'S RED BLOOD CELLS AND PREVENT OXYGEN FROM CIRCULATING. IT SENT 23 MASTERLOCK WORKERS TO THE HOSPITAL IN JULY.

By 6:30 the vapor had covered almost the whole floor and people could hardly see. Many of the women in the hand press department were gagging and their eyes burning. They tried getting away from the vapor by going into the foreman's air conditioned office or by standing near the door. But this didn't help. Still there was no word from the company men. Otto, the supervisor was standing by the degreaser, but he didn't tell the workers anything.

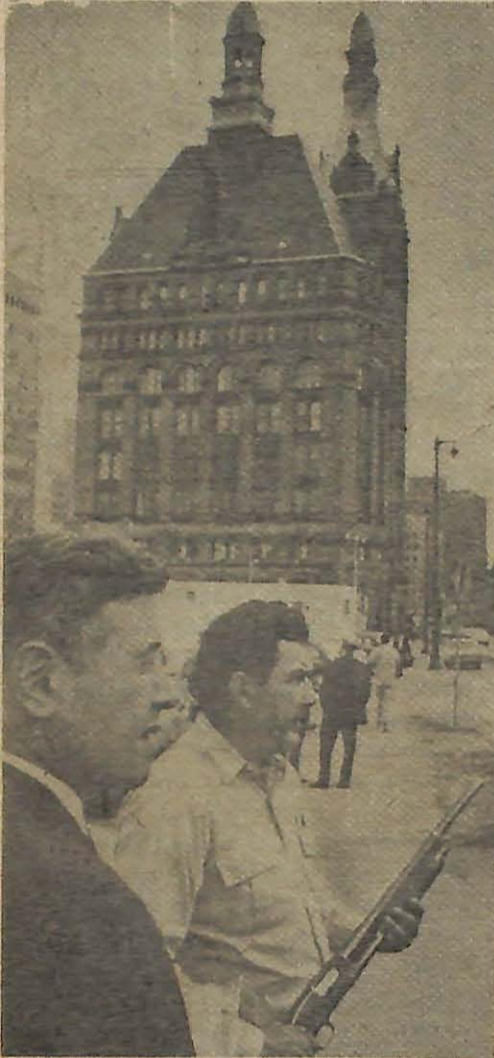
All of the hand press went to the nurse on the next floor up and she gave them oxygen. But the smell was already seeping in there too. Finally some instructions came from the bosses to go to the lunch room on the third floor. Soon the whole building was filling up with the vapor. And the degreasing tank caught on fire. Only then was the build-

CON'T ON PAGE 16

A High Tide of Resistance 1967 - Milwaukee's Black Rebellion

July 30, 1967. On a hot and humid Sunday night an explosion went off in Milwaukee's inner core. It was the same chain reaction that had hit Detroit and Newark earlier that week. It would hit over 114 U.S. cities before the year was over.

Several hundred youth were at a dance at St. Francis on 4th and Lloyd. In those days the young Black people did the Funky Broadway to 45s like "I'm a Soul Man" by Sam and Dave, "Give It Up and Turn It Loose" by James Brown, "Shotgun" by Junior



MAYOR MAIER, A COP, A SHOTGUN THE SYSTEM WAS THREATENED

Walker and the All Stars, and "Respect" by Aretha Franklin. Black pride was beginning to grow. That was the year the Lincoln Comets powered by Freddie Brown, Clarence Sherrad, and Ellis Turrentine won their second consecutive state basketball title.

Black people were becoming a strong force in the city. There were over 100,000 Blacks living in Milwaukee, almost double the 1960 population. But despite the war spending and jobs of those days, unemployment for Blacks was still twice as high as for whites. On the job Blacks were held on the bottom. They found it almost impossible to find homes outside inner city. The only "equal opportunity" for Blacks was a one-way ticket to Vietnam. Mohammad Ali had just refused induction in Houston, Texas saying "The real enemy of my people is right here."

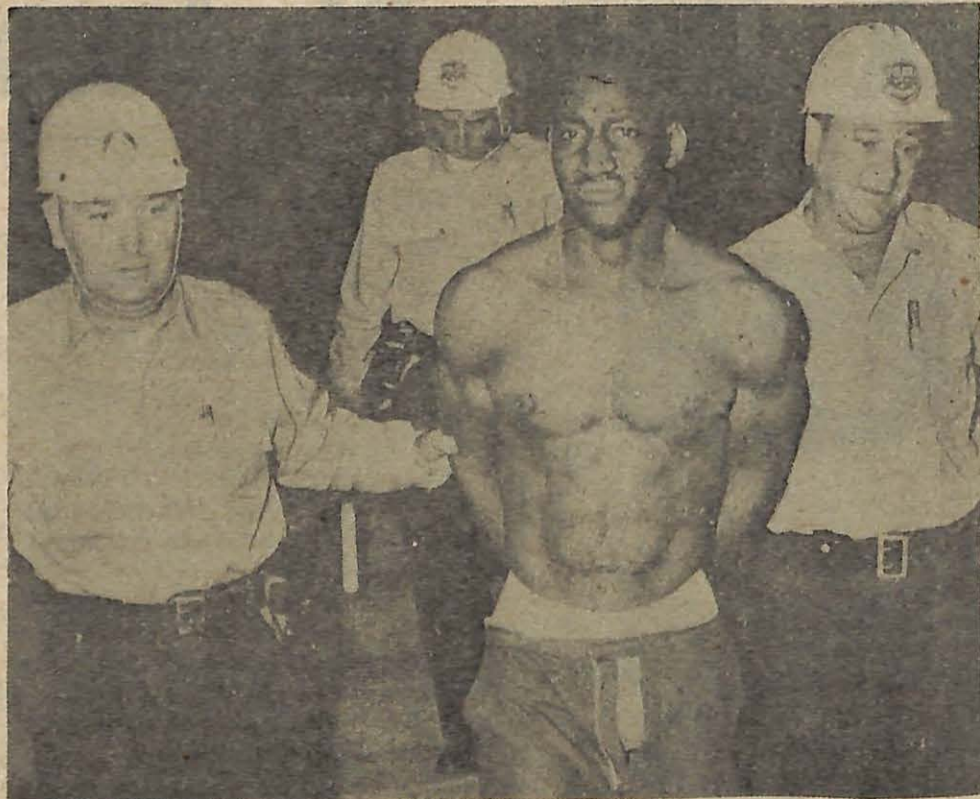
A couple of months earlier on May 6, a Black Rufus King student had been beaten by cops following a dance at St. Francis in front of a large crowd. Every week a new case of police brutality made it into the pages of the Milwaukee Star. The lunch counter sit-ins, the marches in Selma and Birmingham, the police dogs, and the fire hoses were all fresh in people's minds. Seventy Blacks had been killed by police and National Guards in Detroit and Newark during the past week. The rebellions sweeping the North made everybody wonder when and where it would break out in Milwau-

kee.

Then it started. Groups of youth moved into the streets. The rock-throwing crowd moved against outnumbered cops. The rebellion was on. Word of it spread like wildfire. As the crowd moved down 3rd Street breaking windows at Brills, Gimbels, the banks and a lot of smaller businesses. They were expressing their rage at 400 years of oppression as a people. It wasn't time to make the distinction between the monopoly class and small businessman who is not the real enemy. Thousands of Blacks were lashing out in a disorganized and spontaneous way against the system that says "If you're Black, get back! The rebellion was a high tide of resistance. It gave inspiration and hope to a whole generation of American people. It put the rich on notice. People wouldn't stand to be treated as second class citizens and modern day slaves.

Towards the end of the night of rioting, a shooting incident happened at 2nd and Center. The Black man involved, John Ora Tucker, age 51, was made a scape goat for the whole night of rebellion. At about 2:10 am a white man who was angry about the disturbance, pulled up in front of the Tucker home. He had been drinking. He made racial threats to the Tucker family sitting on their front porch. According to the Tuckers and their neighbors, he fired a shot from a pellet gun, hitting a 23 year old woman, Hanna Jackson.

John Tucker went into his home and got a shot gun. Just as he came back outside, a car full of plain clothes Milwaukee detectives also pulled up in front of the Tucker home. One of them - Kenneth Hagopian - jumped out of his car and fired his service revolver. Tucker, thinking the second car was also a bunch of night riding terrorists, fired on Hagopian, blowing away half of his face. Dozens of cops converged on the home at 130 W. Center, surrounding it and riddling it with bullets. They pumped tear gas into the building and set it on fire. Alice Ann Mosley, a 77 year old white woman was in her rear apartment. Her charred body was found in the morning with a bullet between her eyes. Three officers tried to enter by the side door. They met with a shot gun blast which killed one of them and blinded



COPS ARREST A YOUNG BLACK ONE OF HUNDREDS THAT WOULD FILL THE JAILS



THE DEFIANCE OF THE BLACK STRUGGLE INSPIRED A WHOLE GENERATION

An Attack on Blacks & Whites Blacks Oppose Busing Plan

350 Blacks rallied at a School Board committee meeting hearing July 27, to show their anger and disgust with the second year busing plan. The overwhelming sentiment was that busing has replaced building new schools and improving education in the inner city, that it is a continuation of discrimination against Blacks and that something has to change fast.

Speaker after speaker condemned the School Board for closing 13 schools mostly in the inner city, and "volunteering" these students for busing. The demand was raised "no school closings unless money is allocated to build a replacement school."

When the busing plans were first announced in '76 thousands of whites

protested. They packed neighborhood and School Board meeting to say they didn't want their children standing on bus stops to go to schools far away from their homes. The School Board and news media claimed that Blacks, on the other hand, were all for the busing since few attended those meetings. Now in the second phase of busing Black parents and students are protesting. They have seen all the promises of equality and better education turn to lies.

Last year over 7000 Blacks were bused and about 1000 whites. This year again the bulk of the students bused will be Black. A busing plan that was supposed to eliminate discrimination is being used to tighten the chains of discrimination and op-

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another. It was never established who fired the blast.

Tucker was acquitted of this charge by a Milwaukee jury even though the District Attorney's office and the police department went all out to rail road him to jail on first degree murder. They finally convicted him on nine counts of conduct irregardless of life. He was to spend the next nine years and eleven months of his life in jail. His only crime was self defense. Hagopian, the cop who aggravated the whole incident, was made a hero and is now third in command of

the Milwaukee police force.

On the streets that night hundreds of Blacks had been arrested. Within hours Mayor Maier called in the National Guard and placed a 24 hour curfew on the whole city. Claiming the riot was the work of outsiders, he had all approaches to the city blocked off. For the next few days people could not even venture out of their homes, except to buy food during certain hours.

Sporadic fighting continued for the next few nights. On the third of August an eighteen year old White-water student named Clifford McKissick was killed. He was shot in the back of the neck by Milwaukee police officer Ralph Schroeder. The police claimed McKissick and three others were rioting and planning to firebomb a paint store. Five hundred people from the inner city turned out at his funeral to mourn and honor this young man who had given his life in the struggle.

The days of rebellion marked a turning point for the whole community. Throughout the inner city people had a feeling of pride that Blacks would not be held on the bottom. The Afro, blue jeans, and the Commando sweat shirt became the style. The NAACP youth council Commandos accelerated their campaign for open housing, marching with Father Geoppi on over 100 consecutive nights. Sometimes they picketed in front of alderman's homes. Other times they marched into the suburbs or onto the south side. One night while they were on a march, someone burned down the

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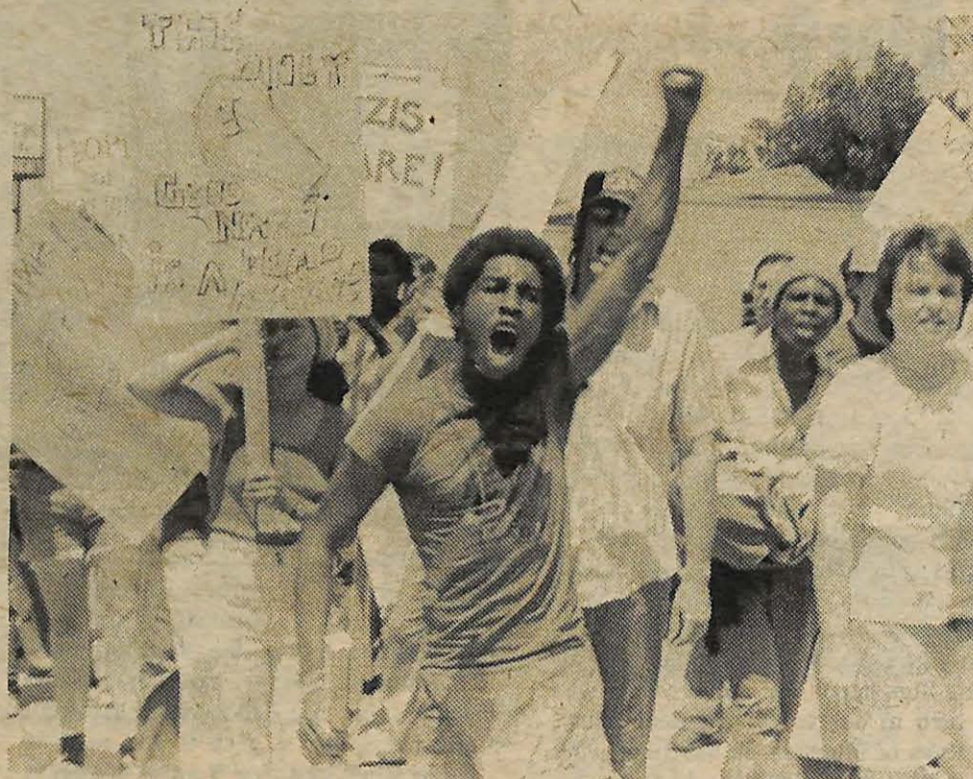
Rallies at Humboldt & Jackson Park Drive the Nazis Out of Town!

Who are the Nazis? Who are these misfits that wear the brown shirts and swastika? They're a bunch of perverts who try to stir up hatred and confusion between Blacks and whites and who openly push anti-Black, anti-Jewish, Hitler-type slurs.

These self-proclaimed descendants of the 3rd Reich are calling for rallies on August 27 in Humboldt Park and September 24 in Jackson Park. They are calling these rallies in white south side neighborhoods against Blacks and integration. The honest working people of Milwaukee ought to meet these attacks head on and run the Nazis into the lake.

The Nazis work in many ways. They always key in on controversial potentially divisive issues, like busing and changing neighborhoods. In 1974 they focused most of their activities at local high schools, especially Washington and Bay View, trying to stir up trouble between Blacks and whites over the busing plan. They got beat up several times by students at the schools. In 1975 they continued activities at the high schools and started picketing School Board meetings about desegregation plans.

In 1976 Arthur Jones ran for mayor, and lost, overwhelmingly. No one would print his campaign literature with the swastika on it--except the Milwaukee Journal. He's said things like "We believe in the inequality of all living things...this idea about equality is pure nonsense." In 1977 the Nazis ran two candidates for School Board, who also lost.



150 WORKERS, VETS AND YOUTH MARCHED ON THE NAZI NATIONAL CONVENT ON IN CHICAGO JULY 4TH

Tony Schmidt lives at 3748 N. 40th Street. Fred Prohaska lives at 1620 N. Farwell. Neil T. Sinclair lives at 1035 S. 30th St. Dale, Sheldon and Jeffrey Enders live at 3047 and 3049 W. Lisbon Avenue.

Wherever there's controversy, you will find the Nazis trying to stir things up and make some gains. According to Tony Schmidt, founder of the Nazi chapter in Milwaukee, his party will come to power in 10 to 15 years. "Everything is playing our way. A depression would really help. But we have a problem here that they didn't have in Germany. The racial tension. That's our depression." In other words they thrive on the misery of the people. They plan on being in the White House by 1988.

They blame Blacks and other minorities for the problems we face today. They know people don't like busing because it does hardly anything to improve the quality of education and because it causes a lot of hassles--long bus rides, older neighborhood schools getting closed, etc. So they try to get Blacks, Latins and whites blaming each other for the lousy schools, fighting over the few crumbs the bosses throw out for education.

They also try to blame Jews for the problems of the rich man's system. Although some Jews--like Henry Kissinger and Bernie Peck-- have made it big, for every one of them there's thousands of middle class and working class Jews who're up against the same enemy as the rest of the American people.

2 years ago 65 uniformed Nazis marched in front of the Jewish Community Center shouting "6 million more" (referring to the 6 million Jews slaughtered by Hitler's Nazis). They've vandalized synagogues and painted swastikas on them, especially during Jewish holidays. In January this year there was a fire started at Congregation Beth Yehudah near 54th and Center and in May a window got busted at Congregation Agudas Achim at 58th and Burleigh. Several times Nazi linked individuals have been caught doing these things.

The people ruling this country also use the Nazis, the Ku Klux Klan and similar groups to confuse people about communists and socialists. The Nazis call themselves the National Socialist White Peoples Party. But they all want people to organize according to nationality, not as workers. They hate anyone who tries to unite the working class to fight in its own interests, around day-to-day issues

as well as building for a better future.

The first people to be murdered or imprisoned by Hitler's Nazis were the communists and militant trade union leaders. They were the Nazis enemy because they actively organized resistance against the Nazis and the owning class they represented.

The Nazis don't want equality, they don't want working people in control. What they want is fascism; they're fighting so that the capitalists can rule without even the mask of democracy they use today.

The Nazis haven't really made it to the big time. Although the bosses haven't come out and openly backed them, they'll still publicize what the Nazis do if it'll help further their

interests. When the Nazis first stepped up their activities in 1974, they got widespread publicity, including half hour TV interviews and 4 hours on a radio call-in show, besides a lot of newspaper coverage.

So who backs these low-life scum? Industrialists like Max Babb of Allis-Chalmers and Henry Harnischfeger secretly backed the American Nazi Party. More recently the owners of Allen-Bradley and Gréde foundry have poured money into the racist John Birch society.

So what can we do to stop the Nazis and their kind? Organize and go toe-to-toe with them till they're smashed. They were forced to back down from their plans to march in Skokie, Ill.--a predominantly Jewish suburb of Chicago with almost 7,000 survivors and/or relatives of Nazi concentration camps-- because so many people had organized to demonstrate against them if they showed up! 2 years ago they were forced to close their display at the state fair when Jewish groups set up a booth exposing and attacking their lies, and got a lot of support from fair-goers. Over 300 workers and youth, called together by the Organizing Committee for a National Workers Organization, busted up a KKK rally in Columbus, Ohio called against busing and integration.

An ad-hoc coalition of groups has called for counter-demonstrations against the Nazis on August 27th and September 24 at the parks. This is the only way we can stop the Nazis. Not by ignoring them and hoping they'll go away, or by relying on some aldermen and city councilmen to nail them on some legal technicality, but by organizing ourselves and taking actions against them. ■



TONY SCHMIDT, 3748 N. 40TH ST. MILWAUKEE NAZI LEADER

They are seen most often on Wisconsin Avenue or Mitchell Street, by the Gimbels stores, on Saturday afternoons, handing out their crap. They've physically attacked people who've stood up to them. For example last October they attacked a group of counter-demonstrators on 10th and Mitchell and also hit shoppers going by who refused their literature. They use "free speech" as license to do what they please. The cops do nothing to stop them, and often protect them. In Chicago the cops guarded the Nazis from being stomped by a demonstration of workers and others from Milwaukee and Chicago.

Where do these Nazis live? Arthur Jones lives at 3014 N. 32nd Street; the place he was staying at in December, 1975 got firebombed.

After 7 Month Extension Contract Up at AMC

On September 16th the contract for 9,000 AMC workers in Milwaukee and Kenosha will be up. The present contract is actually an extension of the previous 3 year agreement and comes two years before the Big 3 auto contracts.

The last contract was extended from September to March last year as the top UAW officials tried to help the company through its hard times. A planned wage freeze was stopped because the rank and file would not stand for it. The economic agreement that was finally reached put AMC workers 1 1/2 an hour behind other autoworkers. Over \$300 in retroactive pay stayed in AMC's pocket and AMC gave no increases in SUB funding or pensions.

The UAW International pushed for the extension supposedly hoping that AMC would be in better financial shape in September. If anything the company is in worse shape than last year, fewer men are working as car sales have not picked up for AMC. Last year AMC got over on wages, pensions and sub funds, this year they will be trying to further attack the working conditions of the men and women who build the cars.

The new AMC president, Meyers, has said that AMC cannot compete with the Big 3 as long as AMC workers have a better working agreement. He specified three issues: voluntary overtime, right to strike over grievances and the 1-35 steward ratio, all of which AMC

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RANK AND FILE ORGANIZATIONS AT AMC AND THROUGHOUT THE INDUSTRY HAVE PULLED TOGETHER TO FIGHT THE BOSSES ATTACKS.

BUGLE AMERICAN PHOTO BY DAN GAWRONSKI

YOUTH FIGHT FOR JOBS

Wall Street, Watch Out

Put yourself in the position of millions of youth fresh out of school. You finally made it. You stuck it out for four years in the crowded boring classrooms, tried to get what education you could, maybe picked up a few skills in shop and got your high school diploma. Whatever you decide to do, whether it's continuing on to college or a trade school, a little traveling before you settle down, or starting in rightaway toward building your future, you're going to need a job. What are your chances? According to the Department of Labor, the majority of youth now 18 - 21 shouldn't expect to get a regular job before 1980.

Young people with big hopes and dreams of the life they would like to create are running smackup against the realities of life in America, 1977. Just out of high school with little experience and few skills, youth face a 20% unemployment rate overall, as high as 40% for Blacks and other minorities and higher in most cities. The only jobs generally open to youth pay minimum wage, or less, with

little chance of advancement, unless you want to call moving from the grill to the deep fryer in a McDonald's advancement.

Unemployment is the main problem facing youth today, and is a big cause of widespread anger, frustration and demoralization among millions of youth. It's a club over their heads forcing them into sub-minimum wage jobs slinging burgers or washing cars, and is linked up to many other problems that youth face - crime, drugs, police harassment. Trapped in rotting neighborhoods and cities with nothing to do, or scratching to survive at \$2 an hour hoping to be the one in a hundred to make it out, their high hopes for tomorrow quickly turn to despair and, among many, to lives of idleness or hustling to get by - any way possible. And the situation is bound to get worse. Their own parents are having a hard time finding permanent decent paying jobs.

In the face of this situation, youth groups around the country are taking a stand against the way they are forced to waste their time and lives away.



NEW YORK - TEENAGERS WAITED ALL NIGHT TO SIGN UP FOR FEDERAL SUMMER JOBS. 500,000 ARE ELIGIBLE FOR 58,810 OPENINGS.

Youth groups in many cities and The Young Red, a national communist newsletter led by the Revolutionary Communist Party, are mobilizing youth from the East coast, Midwest and the South to take to the streets demanding Jobs For Youth. On August 18 - 19, hundreds of youth from around the country will be marching on Wall Street, New York, demanding "Decent Jobs at Decent Wages," "Jobs From Government or Industry," and "Raise the Minimum Wage - Make It Cover All Jobs Youth Work."

Focusing the anger and frustration that millions of youth feel about unemployment at the real cause of the problem - the headquarters of the big banks and corporations -- they will be saying to other youth that

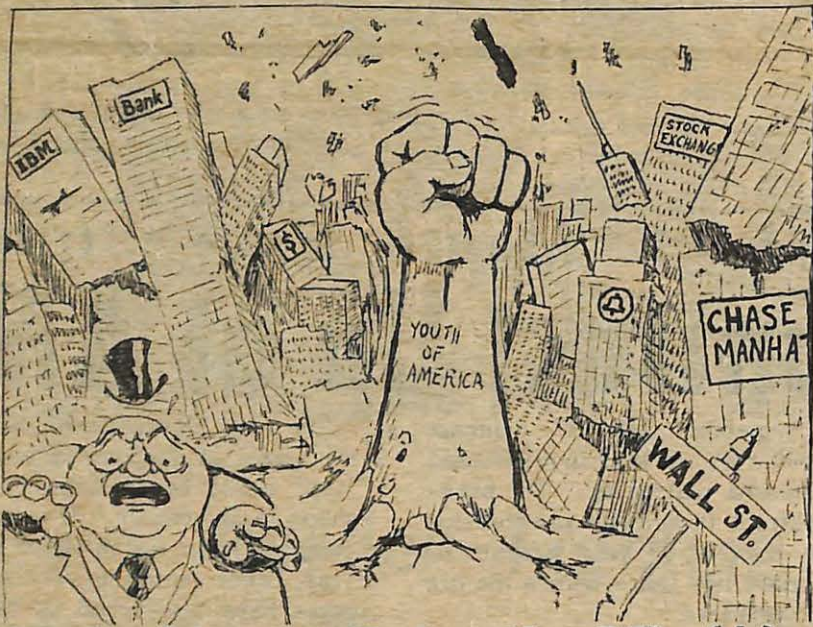
it's right to stand up to and fight the rich for the way they've forced working people to live.

Revolutionary minded youth in these groups and members of The Young Red plan to build off the Wall Street actions toward the founding convention of a national communist youth organization in October. This communist youth organization once formed will not only lead youth in the struggle for jobs and on other battle fronts, but will give young people a way to fight for a whole new society where the problems of unemployment and the other ills of capitalism will be a thing of the past.

For local information call Youth In Action in Milwaukee at 445-5816.

Hit the Rich in Their Home

MARCH ON WALL ST.! AUG. 18-19 JOIN US!



Jobs for Youth! Raise the Min. Wage!

Letter to The Worker

Jobs Program - A Sick Joke

Youth need decent jobs programs - but like this letter from a member of Milwaukee Youth In Action shows, a lot of the government job camps programs are a joke. This letter explains why.

Dear Worker,

About three months ago, I volunteered to go into the Jobs Corps Service. Like a lot of other kids my age, I didn't have a job or anything to do. I had heard about all the good education and training that you could get, so I checked it out. After hearing all these great promises, I remember thinking to myself, "Wow the government is really thinking about the youth after all."

Later, I went to the screener (he's the guy who signs you up) and filled out all the forms. He told me that I could sign myself in because I was over 18, so I signed up. Of

course what the guy didn't tell me was that I was old enough to sign in, but not to get out. That was a whole other question! At that point though, I was just happy to be in, hearing about all the job possibilities, and having something worthwhile to do.

Months later, I left Milwaukee for this small town in Indiana, about 50 miles outside any city. It didn't take long to see what I had gotten into. They jammed us into the dorms, and about all they gave us was a choice of pets - rats or cockroaches. The food had all the taste of 2 year old puppy chow, and it got to the point where everybody had to run off to the city just to get something decent to eat. That was pretty hard considering they gave you only \$5 the first week, and then \$15 every other week, but for some decent food we found a way.

Minimum Wage Too High - Says Who?

"High minimum wage hard on youth." This was the title of a nationally syndicated column written by some jerk called Louis Rukeyser which appeared in the June 12 Seattle Times. Our dear friend Louis has a few choice words of what he calls "advice" for teenagers looking for jobs.

Why can't you find a job? Well, it's not because of a "general failure of our economic system," and the solution is not "to picket and protest and demand radical changes in the way our society operates." Oh no! The problem is a minimum wage of the outlandishly high rate of \$2.30

an hour. The solution? You guessed it. Louis advises "that you demand to work for less money." (Yes, he actually said that in so many words.)

Write your congressman, says Louis. Demand that they lower the minimum wage, or better yet abolish the minimum wage altogether. "These congressmen," says Louis, "think you're pretty stupid." He suggests that teenagers demand a lower minimum wage to show them how smart they are. As long as we're at it, Mr. Rukeyser, why don't we just demand to work for nothing. After all, slaves in the South didn't have much of an unemployment problem.

Most of the people at Job Corps were Blacks from the cities, which wasn't surprising considering Blacks have the highest unemployment rate around. For the government, Job Corps wasn't anything but a way to clear people off the streets - to put us in some rinky-dink place out in the sticks, so we can't cause any trouble (for them!) For the people there - it was mainly a way to hang on, have something to do.

The training you were supposed to get was a joke. You'd probably get more in Sing Sing Prison. The only training they gave us was how to be a good cleaning lady. Or how to become a lesbian - they were all over the place. It's the same kind of garbage that Carter and his friends are talking about now when they mention starting CCC's (job camps for youth). Use unemployed youth for real cheap pay, use us to take away the

jobs of older workers, get us under government control and meanwhile - huge profits for them.

How long are we gonna stand for this bull? Not long! After about a month, I didn't want to take any more of this Jobs Corps, so I told them I was leaving. They wouldn't let me ("I had a legal contract") so I had to have my parents come down and spring me. Since I got back, my Jobs Corps screener has been on my case all the time to go back. He doesn't get his commission unless you serve at least 6 months. just like we were a bunch of cattle to make money off of. It's almost like the Army. Anyway I told him off!

While I was only in Jobs Corps for a month, I learned a lot off it. The whole setup is one big insult to youth - treating us like dogs just so they don't have to give us some de-

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Merger Spells Attacks

AC Demands Union Split

Allis Chalmers has announced its plans to split up local 248 into electrical and tractor divisions. The multi-national giant threw out a proposal to the union calling for different seniority rights, bargaining committee, pension rights, transfer rights, and SUB fund beginning January first. That's the day the merger between Allis-Chalmers' electrical division and Siemens of West Germany takes effect. As David Scott, the AC president, signs on the dotted line with Siemens, he thinks he can break up the gains thousands of AC workers fought for over the years. He will be threatening the jobs of 350 men and women in the Hawley Shop in West Allis. These workers have already heard rumors that the Hawley shop will move out-like the switchgear division did before it.

But the workers at Allis-Chalmers will not allow the company to get away with this attack. From the discussion at the August local 248 membership meeting, it was clear that the workers want to take whatever action is necessary. AC workers have seen the combined bargaining unit shrink from 30,000 nationwide years ago to the present 4,000 in the AC joint council. Aside from automation and layoff, one of the main ways they have broken down the unity of AC workers in different cities has been to separate different divisions through merger. The Siemens merger will take 550 men and women into different bargaining units besides the 350 in West Allis.

The electrical products division

has been one of AC's strong points. Though the division is only 13% of AC's total sales, it is one of the fastest growing parts of the AC octopus. Contracts in the Mideast and Africa will be big money makers for the electrical products division. But compared to the industry giants like G.E. and Westinghouse, AC is a small fry. In order to stay with dog-eat-dog competition, Allis Chalmers had to round out its technology. AC makes bits and pieces of electrical systems. Siemens makes and designs complete systems. They are #1 in patent applications in Germany. 40% of their products didn't exist 5 years ago.

Besides technology, AC needs to cut costs to keep up with the competition. One of the main ways they are doing this is by building new plants in the non-union areas in the South.

In 1976 alone, the electrical division built 5 new plants in places like North Carolina, Texas, and Mississippi. To build these new plants, AC needs more than the \$220 million they had in the bank at the end of 1976. Siemens is providing the extra bucks by buying in with cash.

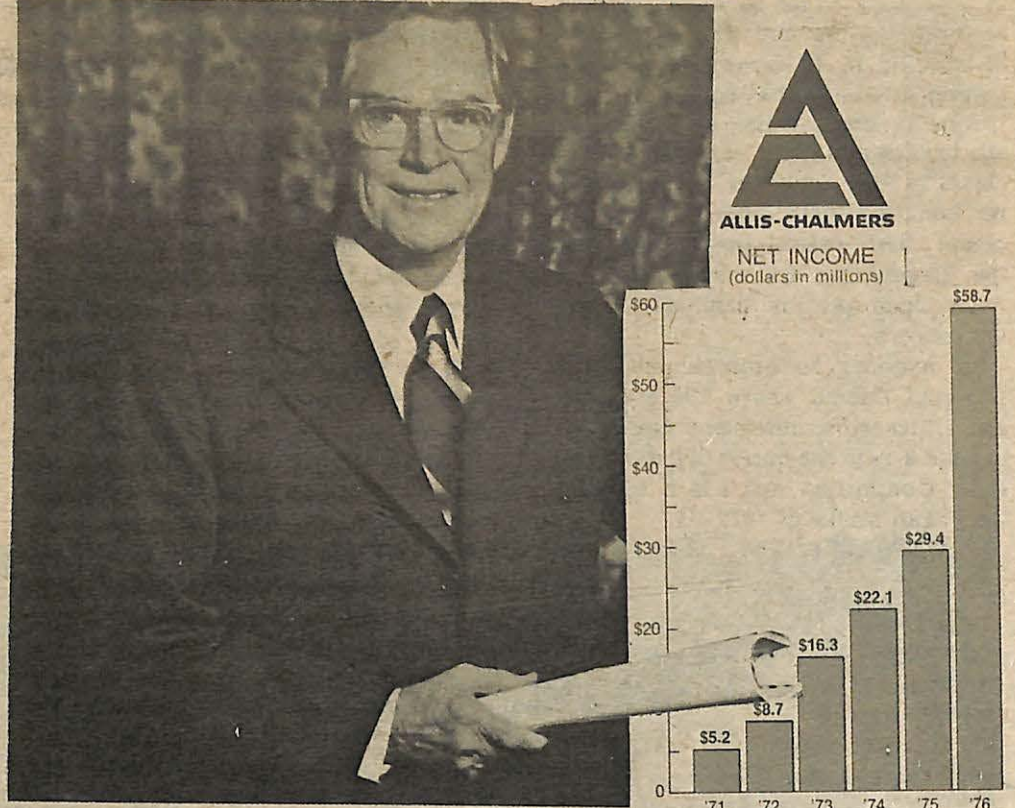
They are also bringing their profit producing methods. 20,000 Siemens workers in Europe are still on layoff from the early 70's recession. The Siemens merger is the most recent time when AC has been forced by competition to expand by combining with a foreign monopoly. In 1974 they merged their construction machinery division with Fiat of Italy. Speed-up and runaways to the South go hand in hand with Allis Chalmers

moves to combine with Siemens.

A similar profit crunch in the 60s meant speed up on the tractor lines in West Allis. Fed up AC workers wildcatted in June of 1969. Of course AC got the UAW hacks to do their work getting everybody back to the lines. The AC workers had to strike against takeaway bargaining in '74 and '77. In the '77 contract AC tried to push for two separate contracts.

From the 40 year men who wea-

thered an 11 month union busting strike in 1947 to the young guys who cheer whenever a tractor falls off the track, the Allis Chalmers workers have taken too much B.S. from David Scott, his fellow stockholders and other financial backers. Out of their hectic scramble to make AC profitable in competition with such outfits as John Deere, G.E., Westinghouse and International Harvester, comes the latest move-bringing in foreign capital to get over the hump--and all it means for AC workers is speedup and runaway. It's clear that this profit-seeking system will never give workers any breaks or any peace. Allis Chalmers workers can testify to that. ■



PROFITS: THE ONLY THING ALLIS CHALMERS PRESIDENT DAVID SCOTT CARES ABOUT.

400 Cops Evict Elderly in San Francisco

3000 Fight Evictions at I-Hotel

The attack came at 3:00 in the morning on August 4th. The San Francisco ruling class mounted a full scale military operation to evict the 95 retired Chinese and Filipino workers of the International Hotel and throw out the community center offices within it. 400 police and sheriffs' deputies, led by mounted storm troopers and complete with riot gear, hook and ladder trucks and power saws carried out their assault. They cornered off several blocks of the Chinatown area, to

prevent new reinforcements for the defenders of the hotel.

They were met by 3,000 militant, angry, and determined supporters, who had rallied almost as soon as the word of the impending eviction attempt got out. Time after time the mounted police charged into the tightly packed lines of people who had formed a human barcade to defend the hotel. Using the hook and ladder trucks, they climbed to the roof and cut through with their power tools. At the rear of the building they battered the walls and doors to break through

to the basement that housed the aging community center. They met with resistance from the people every inch of the way. And it was clear that the cops had been given a policy of no arrests, just free reign to beat and brutalize as they carried out their assault. Finally, they were able to split the masses of defenders and drive their way into the building.

Once inside, Sheriff Hongisto, the sweet sounding scum who for months had proclaimed his sympathy for the tenants, led the charge, personally smashing down the doors of each of the Chinese and Filipino tenants with a sledge hammer. Then the dog, peered in and said, "Good morning," and the tenants were then forced into the street. It took them 3 1/2 hours to finally clear the hotel.

Before August 4th, the capitalists' had tried everything short of massive military force to win this battle. Court orders, slander, and vicious attacks in their newspapers, police spying, and harassment, and assault, phoney promises to provide alternative housing, each attack has been met in counter attack by the tenants and their supporters. Far from being able to isolate and discredit the struggle to defend the I - Hotel, it had become a symbol of the people's resistance to being driven into the ground, to being thrown out of their homes to make way for the capitalists profits. Throughout Chinatown and other areas of the city, the example of the I-Hotel had sparked rent strikes and refusals to be evicted.

The capitalists were enraged at this bold defiance of their sacred right to private property. Their right to make

profits at the expense and misery of the masses of people. Even in New York City, the New York Times editorialized that their buddies in San Francisco were letting things get out of hand and that an end had to be put to the I-Hotel struggle immediately.

But every move they made, was turned around and used to broaden support for the strike for low cost housing and community centers. In addition, the politicians had recently been hamstrung by a squabble among themselves, a ballot initiative that would have required the mayor and sheriff to stand for re-election immediately. None of them wanted to stick their necks out and try to move on the hotel during the campaign. But as soon as the campaign was over, the mayor gave the go ahead for the eviction, then high-tailed it out of town for a Hawaiian vacation. The San Francisco Chronicle editorialized that now the time had come and even suggested the day when the eviction attack should be mounted.

As we go to press, the Workers Committee to Defend the I-Hotel, Tenants Association, and other supporters including the Bay Area United Workers Organization, are mapping out plans to carry on the mass struggle. The night after the eviction, 500 gathered in a Chinatown auditorium to discuss the situation. After the meeting 100's of angry, determined people poured out and set up a picket line in front of the I-Hotel chanting, "I-Hotel Means Fight Back, Reopen The I-Hotel." In New York City, supporters of this struggle are carrying out a number of actions, including a picket of the New York Times. Through open military force, owners of the I-Hotel managed to win one round, but by their actions, they have exposed themselves more, and the battle is far from over. ■



DEMONSTRATORS FIGHT STORM TROOPERS IN BATTLE AT I-HOTEL

COME TO CHICAGO - BUILD THE NA

All Out for the Founding Convention

The work of the convention and the National Workers Organization is spreading from coast to coast. Tens of thousands of posters blare out the call. The national speaking tour has already rolled through the East, the South and parts of the Midwest and is now heading into the West, meeting enthusiastic gatherings all over.

The response from active fighters is testimony to the necessity of such an organization and the possibility of building it. It shows that the formation of a National Workers Organization is the key link at this moment to advancing the struggle of the class. In New York City, 350 workers, not counting their kids, attended the picnic that raised over \$1000 for the Organizing Committee, one of many such picnics held all across the country.

Or consider, for example, the fields of North Dakota where 150 Mexican and Chicano farmworkers came out to hear a representative of the Organizing Committee and see a film on the Farah strike of 1972-74.

potential strength of the organization. In many cities the organizing committee has been able to link up with and help give leadership to sharp struggles of the workers breaking out especially some hard fought strikes.

The St. Louis Organizing Committee is playing a major role in the Hussmann strike, organizing active workers to lead a struggle which saw 1100 workers vote down unanimously an attempt by the Steelworkers International to force through another sellout. In Chicago the Organizing Committee has linked up with and helped strengthen a very important wildcat of 2700 workers at Brach Candy who united despite differences of language and nationality to hold off the combined force of company, cops and traitorous union officials.

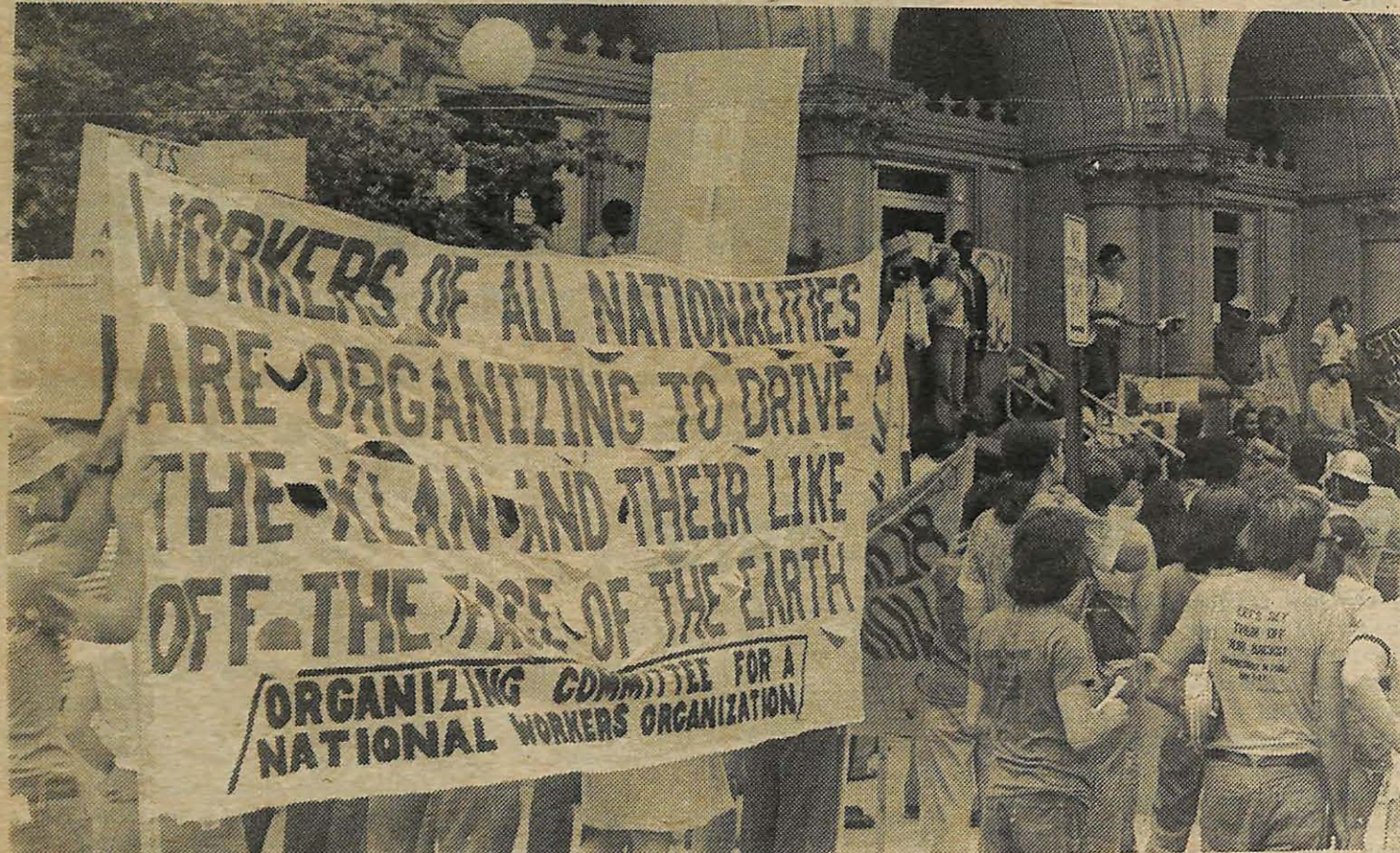
The gains in these struggles represent an important part of what will be the function of the national workers organization. It will enable organization of the rank and file to spread from those industries and plants where it already exists to other sections of the worker-

can exchange their experience in struggle and deepen their understanding of the battles the class is involved in. And this will strengthen the struggle in every industry represented.

But most important, the convention will enable the National Workers Organization to begin in a big way to make the decisions and arrive at concrete plans; to carry out its main method of leading struggle, the single spark method of concentrating the forces of the working class on key battles to build them into campaigns of the working class.

Concentrating the strength of the working class nationwide on key battles, while continuing to build and strengthen the rank and file organization in every possible shop and factory in the country-this is what the National Workers Organization will make possible. And the key to making this leap forward will be the convention in Chicago this Labor Day weekend.

The decisions that await the assembled workers at the Pick Congress



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE TO BUILD A NATIONAL WORKERS ORGANIZATION RALLIED AGAINST KLAN IN OHIO.

Or the San Francisco Bay Area where 250 enthusiastic workers turned out for the speaking tour and 150 came out on a work day to the Organizing Committee's call to "Bust Up the Union Busters" and picket those who train management in scabherding.

Of course the capitalist enemy has tried to keep the work of the National Workers Organization from getting out. But already in building struggle the Organizing Committee has shown that this organization cannot be kept from public view. One of the high points of the New York picnic was the unveiling of two six feet high plywood replicas of the organizing committee's symbol-row upon row of workers holding high one common fist. In the next few weeks "floats" will be driven on flatbed trucks around the city, especially for plant gate rallies.

In Columbus, Ohio the Organizing Committee took the lead in clobbering the Ku Klux Klan when they tried to spew their venom at a rally, and then proceeded to trounce them again in a debate on the airwaves.

The period of work leading to the convention has not only won more and more fighters to the cause but has given a vivid demonstration of the

creasing the strength and power of forces of the workers overall.

Still, the number of workers present at the founding convention will be small relative to the broadest number of workers presently engaged in struggle. The question presents itself to the active workers, why should I come to the convention, what will it accomplish?

The convention itself will represent a real step forward in building the struggle of the class. A thousand plus workers taking time out from battles big and small to forge together a program which will speak to the needs of tens of millions of workers, and the convention will focus on key battles that can become rallying points of struggle for hundreds of thousands of workers.

Although the forces at the convention will be relatively small, experience shows that small forces can lead big battles and grow in numbers, strength and influence. The National Workers Organization will strengthen the backbone of the organized resistance of the working class, helping to put the struggle of the working class on the center stage in this country.

The convention will bring together workers from various industries who

Hotel are vital and tough questions. It is essential that every class conscious worker be there, to bring the greatest wealth of experience to bear in deciding what battles to concentrate on. A large and decisive turnout is key to forging the unity that will enable the newborn organization to translate the decisions arrived at in Chicago into broad scale and hard hitting campaigns of the working class.

Final arrangements have been made with the hotel and registration forms are available from the local Organizing Committees. A national office has been set up in the Chicago Loop. Many areas are now turning their attention to transportation.

The National Workers Organization can be a qualitative leap forward for the working class. But it can only be this if active fighters everywhere make it happen. The time is short. Let's pull out all the stops and make this convention a shot heard around the country. ■

All Out For Labor Day Weekend!

On to Chicago!



Convention

The founding convention for the national workers organization will be held September 3rd and 4th at the Pick Congress Hotel, 520 S. Michigan Blvd., Chicago, Illinois. Workers from across the country will come together to determine the actual program of the new organization. They will discuss and vote on what battles to take up now and what the organization's stand and policies are on the big questions of the day. They will also determine the organization's structure and leadership.

The following is the agenda planned for the convention.

Saturday, September 3:

11:00AM-12 Noon: Registration

12 Noon -2:15PM: Short opening speeches by workers groups and a veteran fighter. Opening speeches by the national coordinating committee.

2:15-4:15PM: Workshops by industry. These will sum up the struggles in the industries and make plans for further advances. Tentatively there will be workshops in auto, steel, mining, electrical, food, meat-packing, garment, textile, farm workers, docks, shipyards, rubber, hospital, post office/UPS, petroleum, construction, office and service, and defense.



NATIONAL WORKERS ORGANIZATION

STRIKING MINER SPEAKS IN MILW.

"Let's Get Organized"

On July 17, Eric, a coal miner and member of the Miners' Right to Strike Committee came to Milwaukee, to speak at the Workers Center. His speech was sponsored by the Organizing Committee to Build a National Workers Organization.

He spoke a lot about the struggle of the coal miners and how the Miners Right to Strike Committee was formed out of that struggle. He went on to show that out of those struggles miners began to see the need for an organization to unite workers of all industries across the nation.

Below are excerpts from his speech:

I bring you greetings from the fighting coal miners of West Virginia. As I left West Virginia there were 35,000 brothers out on strike—a wildcat strike. Now there are 70,000. And what sparked that wildcat off was a very serious attack on the part of the rich of this country. They cut our health benefits to the bone. Thousands of people were going to get less and less medical care, especially the older pensioners who need it the most. And above all hundreds of men and women are going to die. They don't have enough money to get into the hospital.

By cutting the health benefits the

When the vacations ended in mid-July the strike came back stronger than ever in six states—Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky, Virginia, Pennsylvania and Tennessee.

This strike is shaking the hell out of them coal bosses. They thought they had us miners on the long end of a short pier. They weren't counting on our determination and organization.

For generations our fathers and grandfathers and their families fought these rich coal companies. Out of those struggles and sacrifice we built organization and we won victories.

And we're sacrificing today and we're winning victories today. In 1974 the gas companies tried to ration gasoline in West Virginia. Miners were left to sleep in bathhouses because they had no gas to return home. We weren't going to be treated that way and 23,000 miners struck.

There was sacrifice—270 state police, armed to the teeth, roamed around the mines. Seven miners were put in jail. One brother at the foot of my mine, Jerry Jenks, was riddled with seven bullets. We won that strike and that gas just poured into West Virginia. You'd have thought we were in Arabia, gasoline just poured in.

A lot of our organization came out of the 1974 contract struggle. We were up front strong. We organized car caravans. We got trucks and signs on the sides and like the preachers we put speakers on top. We went to where people were and said: "If this contract isn't right, we won't sign it."

We raised struggle everywhere we could and the right to strike became a national issue. And when that contract came out with a no-strike clause in it and when that contract was shoved down our throats, more and more men said, "Hey, we really do need an organization."

Coal miners said, no matter what the contract says on it, we won't live like dogs! The struggle came to a head in 1975. When marshalls with injunctions began taking people to jail for striking, miners said, "That's enough!" At one mine the entire third shift walked off—16 brothers and one righteous sister—and into jail. The mines spread out on strike and 17 were turned loose the next day. The strike grew to 80,000 in a month.

The picket movement in the coalfields is a tremendous upsurge. The strike movement is a tremendous show of unity and what our class is capable of. But it's one step, something we have to grow beyond. Every

Agenda

4:15-6:00PM: Dinner

6:00-8:00PM: Workshops on the stand and program of the national workers organization on the big questions in society. Tentatively these will be:

- The unions
 - Discrimination and inequality
 - The development and threat of fascist groups and political defense
 - Women workers
 - Unemployment
 - The threat of war
 - Organization of the unorganized
- 9:00-12:00: Song groups including Prairie Fire, and other cultural presentations

Sunday, September 4th

10:00-12:00 noon: Assembly to discuss workshop reports and vote on resolutions

1:30-3:30: Sum-up speeches and statements of support from other organizations

4:00 Victory party

Registration for the convention and transportation is being arranged by local organizing committees. For more information call 445-5816 locally or contact the national offices of the Organizing Committee at 343 S. Dearborn, Room 1405, Chicago, Ill. 60604 or call 312-663-4310.



COAL MINERS ARE NOW WILDCATting AGAINST HEALTH BENEFIT CUTS, LIKE THEY DID, ABOVE, IN 1975 & 76 FOR THE RIGHT TO STRIKE OVER GRIEVANCES.

coal operators tried to blackmail coal miners. It's like this: our health benefits come from a royalty on each ton of coal we mine. There have been a lot of strikes in the coalfields lately. In fact three times more so far this year than the same length of time last year. So what the coal operators are saying is: stop fighting against injunctions, the lousy grievance procedure, lack of safety and everything else, or we'll let you and your people die.

But we won't die and we won't stop fighting. And we won't whistle while we work like the Seven Dwarves.

The day after the cuts were announced the women's committee of the Miners' Right to Strike Committee set up a picket line at the union's health care center in West Virginia. The men started coming out of the mines in southern West Virginia, then eastern Kentucky. The strike subsided in West Virginia but spread to Pennsylvania. It died there and began again in West Virginia.

After that victory we built an organization, the Miners Committee to Defend the Right to Strike. We did this because our union the United Mine Workers Union wasn't the way it used to be. The rank and file had become less and less powerful in our union. We didn't wait for people to get 100% organized in one area, in one local. What we did was get together the active fighters from 17 locals.

We got together, summed up our mistakes, pointed out successes and made plans to get that power back into the hands of the rank and file.

So when an attack came down the locals got together. One Local would come out on strike, and send out pickets to shut down the others. There'd be meetings so we could cuss and fuss among ourselves, and things would stay shut down until we won. Sometimes we lost, but mainly won.

time the rich attack us we can't sit back and say, "Lucky we survived that one." We've got to come back and counterattack. Use that counterattack to strengthen our ranks, deepen our unity.

I came up here to talk on the National Workers Organization.

We've got to say loud and clear that if we want to build the struggle of our class we've got to unite workers all over the country. It's a new idea in many ways and people are interested. So I bring you more than greetings from the coalfields. I bring you the commitment of the Miners Right to Strike Committee to build the National Workers Organization.

It's time for us to do more than just greet each other. Let's fight against these rich together, shoulder to shoulder, regardless of our industry. Let's go to Chicago on Labor Day Weekend. Let's build the national workers organization.

NWO SPEAKING TOUR

Dave Clark, a steelworker from the Fairless Works outside of Trenton New Jersey was part of a Midwest speaking tour that stopped in Milwaukee on July 30. He spoke at a workers dinner about the rank and file movement in the steel plants and about all workers in all industries getting organized for the Labor Day convention. Clark, a member of the steering committee of the national workers organization, stressed that every working class person should make plans to attend and be part of the organization that can be a fighting force nationwide.

SIGN UP FOR CHICAGO

US STEPS UP ARMS RACE NEUTRON BOMB: WEAPON OF DESTRUCTION

In the last month the U.S. government made two major decisions about its so-called defense spending. These decisions are surrounded by rhetoric from President Carter about how he's living up to his campaign promises to cut arms spending and seek arms limitations. Neither is the case. Both decisions are an escalation of the arms race between the U.S. rulers and their counterparts in the Soviet Union and they are certain to be a big obstacle in the SALT "disarmament" talks.

The first decision was to cancel the B-1 project and instead to go ahead with production and deployment

of the new generation of cruise missiles. While the B-1 was an excellent manned bomber there was a lot of debate around whether or not manned bombers, in their traditional role of flying in over the target and dropping bombs, was of much value anymore.

In the end it was decided to continue use of the B-52 fleet already on hand, spending a few billion to recondition them and equipping them with air-launched cruise missiles to make them more effective. The main reason the B-1 was axed was its astronomical cost at a time when the imperialists must carefully count every dollar in order to get the



CARTER TALKS ABOUT CUTTING ARMS SPENDING - BUT ACTION SPEAKS LOUDER THAN WORDS.

nuke, if the blast missed the Soviets they could drive right through the radiation.

At the same time it is more effective against Soviet armor, it will do less damage to nearby buildings--especially the capitalists' factories--and since its radiation is supposed to last only two days, compared to two weeks with "dirtier" bombs, it will allow NATO troops to occupy the target area quickly.

What this does is to make the use of tactical nuclear weapons more likely. In fact, the U.S. is already beginning to set up new procedures to make their use easier. Up till now, permission to use tactical nukes had to come from a high command level and often, during maneuvers, took as much as 24 hours to get, time enough to ponder the implications of the decision. Now, the U.S. is setting up tactical nuke "free fire zones" where officers of much lower rank can give the go-ahead and within a few hours begin nuclear exchanges, if only on a small scale. The "cleaner" more effective neutron warhead is fitted perfectly for "free fire zones."

The big question is once tactical nuclear weapons are used, does this pull out all the stops? Will the two superpowers escalate to strategic, intercontinental weapons, weapons that can kill tens of millions as well as destroy cities?

While the use of tactical sized nuclear weapons does not necessarily lead to intercontinental rocket exchanges, and while even a strategic nuclear exchange, although it would be a colossal crime, would not mean "the end of the world" the U.S. decision to deploy neutron weapons is a dangerous one and doesn't make Americans, or the people of the rest of the world, any safer.

The addition of the cruise missile and the neutron warhead to the U.S. imperialists' arsenal is sure to force the Soviet New Czars to respond with new developments of their own. The ruling classes are not crazy men. They are cold and calculating, adding up the dollars spent and the destruction to be caused against the biggest prize of a third world war--control of the great productive capacity of Europe and the wealth that can be squeezed out of the labor of the workers there.

This is the meaning behind all the talk of "national defense," "arms limitations" and "permanent structure of world peace." The two superpowers are preparing for war and our ruling class has just upped the ante.

most destruction for every dollar.

The cruise missile, with its superior terrain guidance radar system, is an incredibly accurate weapon and is a big threat to the Soviets, for which they presently have no defense. U.S. deployment is sure to force the Soviets to come up with some new offensive weapon to improve their own strike capability.

The second decision, which stirred up much controversy, was to give President Carter the authority to go ahead with production of neutron nuclear warheads for tactical use. These weapons are different from the 7000 tactical weapons already deployed in Europe. Their blast effect is much smaller, estimated at 10%, but their radiation is much more intense sentencing those near the target area to a horrible death.

President Carter has stated that the neutron warhead is "cleaner" used on military targets it will overall do less damage to civilians and buildings. This is at least partially true. But the President went on to say that these qualities make using nuclear warheads safer. Not only is this a lie, but it is a very dangerous lie.

The neutron warhead is intended for use on Warsaw Pact armored formations. While the radiation from the weapon doesn't last long, it is so intense it overcomes the NBC (nuclear, biological, chemical) protection on Soviet-made tanks and armored personnel carriers. With the old style

Strikers Face Charges STATE ATTACKS PUBLIC STRIKES

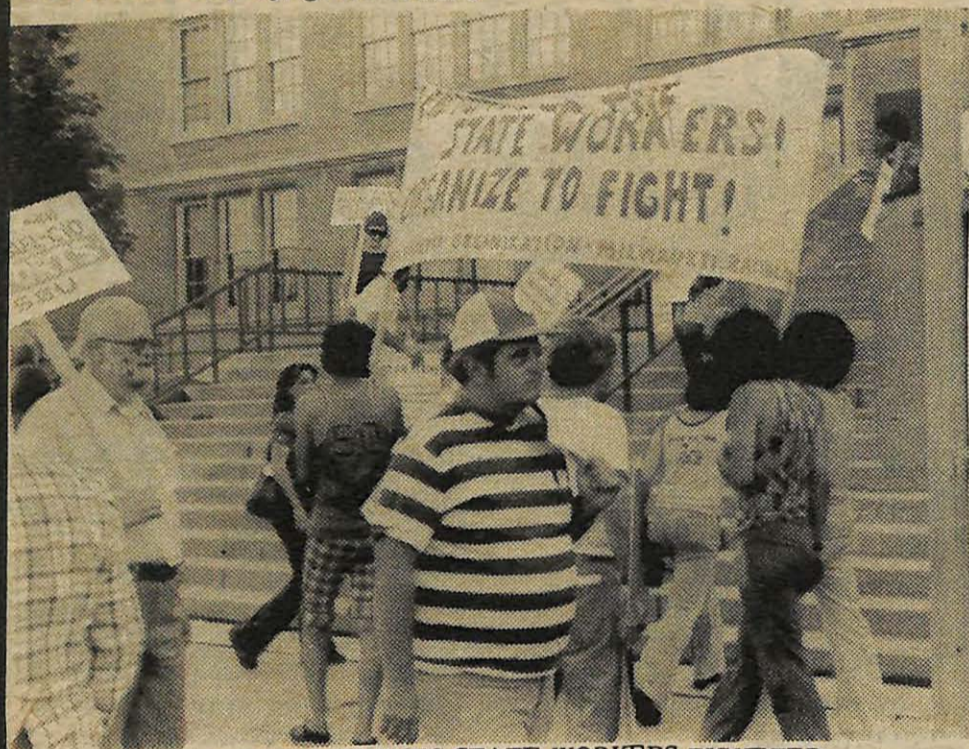
As soon as the state workers were back on the job, Governor Schreiber and Attorney General La Follette broke their agreement of no recriminations. The state is pushing charges against workers who struck at the state mental hospitals. These court actions are part of a campaign against strikes by public employees. Schreiber is also pushing stronger legislation against the right to strike.

At his first formal press conference as governor, Schreiber cried crocodile tears about how much money the strikers lost, saying strikes don't

make any sense. Behind his tears were the threats. He called for new laws with greater penalties for public employees strikes. He suggested as an example a law in Iowa allowing decertification of striking unions for 2 years. Another suggestion was elimination of the union dues checkoff system.

Since then, Schreiber and La Follette have been playing hot potato with the contempt charges, tossing the blame for prosecution back and forth.

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LAST MONTH STRIKING STATE WORKERS PICKETED SCHREIBER'S SPEECH AT WASHINGTON HIGH.

FREE SKYHORSE AND MOHAWK! Far-Fetched Frameup of Indian Activists

Paul Skyhorse and Richard Mohawk are two Native American men who've been held in California jails for nearly three years and are presently being tried in Los Angeles for the murder of a cabdriver. This murder took place at the American Indian Movement (AIM) camp 13 in Box Canyon, California.

On October 10, 1974, three individuals took a taxi for a 27 mile ride through Los Angeles ending up at the AIM camp where the driver was beaten and stabbed to death. The three were arrested with blood all over each of them within hours of the crime. A blood stained knife was found on one of them. The fingerprints of another were found on the

dead driver's possessions, and when given a lie detector test and asked if he stabbed the driver, the polygraph indicated that he was lying when he said, "No." It doesn't take Perry Mason to unravel this case. The 3 individuals were all indicted and are undergoing trial for murder. Right?

Not quite. Marvin Redshirt, his wife Holly Broussard and Marcie Eaglestaff, the three individuals in the cab, were at first indicted and Redshirt and Broussard were charged with murder. Then the charges against the three were dropped or reduced. They swore that the killers were Skyhorse and Mohawk and agreed to give "eyewitness" testimony against them.

The blood stained knife found on

Broussard was conveniently lost by police. Redshirt, who had flunked the lie detector test, is now receiving a scholarship to college, a part time job on a U.S. Navy Base and lives rent free in an apartment owned by a former high ranking military officer--who just happens to be the father of Holly Broussard.

Why are Paul Skyhorse and Richard Mohawk being framed? Because they were fighters for the rights of Native Americans. Their only "crime" was that they were full time organizers for AIM, long a prime target of both the FBI and CIA. The FBI has targeted the American Indian Movement for destruction and since

Wounded Knee hundreds of Indian organizers have been similarly framed, imprisoned and some killed. In this case it was learned that the National Security Director for AIM, Douglas Durham, the very man who established AIM Camp 13, is an ex-policeman, and was a full-time FBI operative.

During the trial itself, the "case" and methods of the government and their system of "justice" is hanging out more and more. Durham, the FBI informer, testified during a pre-trial motion that he was an Indian (a lie) a psychologist (a lie) and from Iowa (also a lie). Despite knowing these lies, the prosecutor has refused to

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Carter Threatens No Social Security 'til Age 68

The Carter administration is kicking around plans to raise the social security age to 68. Word of this outrageous plan is very likely a trial balloon designed to soften up public opinion for takeaways from the social security plan. Commerce Secretary Juanita Kreps claims to be concerned with the problems of old people. She exposed her real concern when she explained, "If you were to extend work life to 68 and not start Social Security benefits until age 68, you would reduce enormously the Social Security burden."

Who is she worried about reducing the burden for? The millions of workers who have paid money out of every single paycheck so they could retire at 65 with benefits? Or their children who take the old folks in when social security isn't enough to live on? No! What she really means is shifting the burden of a floundering social security system onto the backs of working people.

Like the rest of the rotten system the social security system is on the verge of bankruptcy. Carter's solution-work us longer, pay us less. Maybe he and his mother Lillian wouldn't mind wining and dining in the White House until he reaches 68. But for people who work for a living it means 3 years longer until that well earned day when you can walk out of the plant and never come back. The average life span of an American today is 70.6. That gives the average worker only 5.6 years to enjoy retirement. And they want to cut out 3 of those years!

Older workers have poured 30 or 40 of their best years into the factories of this country, making millions for the bosses. What do they have to show for it—a room in an old age home? In 1975 the maximum an individual could collect on social security after retirement was \$3792 a year. Some people supplement this with a pension, like the workers at Gallun Tannery. After working 30 years their pension is \$30 a month. 30 and out in a contract, it's a

UNIONS ATTACKED Workers Unite at Madison Newspapers

All five unions at Madison Newspapers, Inc., in a strong display of unity, have authorized strikes against the Capital Times and the Wisconsin State Journal. The workers are building momentum for a mid-August showdown with the money hungry union busters that run both Madison



joke because few can afford to retire on it. Raising the age for social security to 68 would make it an even worse joke.

The average American is betting more than \$100,000 of his earnings that Social Security will support him in his old age. Each year the odds grow longer, as the funds from which benefits are paid shrink. In the last 5 years social security taxes have increased 121%. But there is only enough money in the treasury now to pay benefits for 9 months. Putting off payments until workers reach 68 is the government's way of putting off the date that social security goes bankrupt.

But working people didn't create the inflation or high unemployment rate that are causing the fund to dry up. Back in the 30's our parents fought to win guaranteed retirement benefits. No matter how they balance their budget, older workers need these benefits at 65, not a day later.

Some people would like to see the laws change so they can work past

Oh, Social Security \$\$ is running out? Make people work until they're 68.

Juanita, if you want to work that long, go ahead. BUT LEAVE US OUT OF IT!



65. Either they can't afford to lose their paycheck or they want to stay productive a few years more. But Carter and Kreps are trying to use this sentiment as a way to slide in legislation that would hike the social security age up.

This past year we have seen Carter's so-called working man's administration attack unemployment comp-

ensation, the minimum wage and now threaten social security. If Juanita Kreps, who likes to take credit for this plan, wants to work until 68, 70 or 100 well go ahead. But leave the rest of us out of it. If Carter thinks he can get over with this because old people are too tired to fight, he better think again! ■

2100 VOTED NO Company, Hacks Push Through Briggs Contract

On July 30, Briggs and Stratton workers approved a 3 year contract by a vote of 2800 to 2100. The contract was not the best they could have gotten. The wage increases were 7.5%, 6.5%, and 6.5% for the three years. The pension increase was so slight that thirty-and-out remains a joke and the monthly pension is unliveable. One personal day was given the first year and two for the second and third years.

In order to get the personal days,

the bargaining committee traded off a clause on holiday pay. Now Briggs workers will have to work the day before and the day after to collect holiday pay. The company went after this because the day before shutdown 2500 left work early or didn't come in.

The workers were looking for big improvements. On the machining, die casting, and assembly lines, they have discussed the quarterly profit

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Union members have been forced into "supervisory" positions, and then told to do the work of union members on layoff.

Banking on these attacks to back the workers down, the company is also telling the workers they must pay. Offers to the various unions range from a 1¢ per hour pay raise to a 20% cut. They are "offering" to take away health benefits, the seniority system, the right to strike and job security.

Lee Enterprises, a Des Moines, Iowa media conglomerate operates the Madison papers. Lee also owns 14 other newspapers and dozens of T.V. and radio stations around the country. Not one has a union left except Madison newspapers. They are now trying to wipe the slate clean.

The company plans to rake in profits, cut the work force and break the union. The plan is centered at M.N.I.'s new high security automated suburban plant. By shifting the workload from the composing room and pressroom to automated areas like the non-union advertising department, the company has been able to squeeze more work out of fewer workers.

The Madison newspaper workers know that the company is prepared for a strike. Sunday "strike schools" have been held for months by MNI management to train non-union per-

sonnel to run the presses. MNI is also making plans to print elsewhere in the event of sabotage. During the 1 1/2 year long strike at the Washington Post, the company sent the paper to be printed at presses as far away as Miami when striking pressmen wrecked the presses.

The workers are getting ready, too. Uniting all five unions to support the strike was a major advance. In other cities, the companies have been able to scare and bribe writers into crossing the lines. In Madison, the company attacks have come down on all the unions, and reporters, photographers, artists and librarians will be on the line with the pressmen and printers.

The newspaper workers are also taking the case to the community, urging people to cancel subscriptions and advertising. Thousands of workers in Madison got a taste of the rich man's attacks in the state employees strike last month. Newspaper workers hope to unite other workers to fight the union busters.

Here in Milwaukee, pressmen at the Milwaukee Journal have been working without a contract for 2 years. Faced with the threat of more layoffs and cutbacks, the pressmen are looking for a way to save their jobs and their union. A victory in Madison would pave the way for a counter-attack at the Milwaukee Journal. ■



THOUSANDS MARCH IN SOLIDARITY WITH WASHINGTON POST STRIKERS

Jackie Robinson How Blacks Broke Into Big Leagues

The 1977 baseball All Star Game had its moments of excitement as the National League won its 13th out of the last 14 games. One of the high points was the tribute to Jackie Robinson, the first Black to play in the majors since the 1880s.

Jackie was signed onto the Dodger organization by then president Branch Rickey in 1945, joining their Montreal farm club in 1945. He led the old International League in hitting that year and was brought up to play first base for the Dodgers the next season. Robinson broke the color barrier which had banned Blacks from the big leagues and by the end of the season the Cleveland Indians signed Larry Doby, a superb center fielder and power hitter who became the first Black in the American League. But it was not until 1959, when the Boston Red Sox signed Pumpsie Green that all of the teams were integrated.

A great deal of credit has been given to Branch Rickey for integrating baseball. Although front office heads of several other ball clubs had indicated a willingness to hire Blacks during the war and in the

post-war years, they had backed down under pressure and the refusal of club owners to go along. Like Rickey, who took a progressive stand on the issue, they were not just motivated by conscience or justice for Black ball players. It was good business. Millions of dollars worth of baseball talent was playing in the Negro leagues. Black stars like Satchel Paige, Josh Gibson and Buck Lenard were recognized to be as good as any of the top players who powered the major league teams. Robinson was the National League Rookie of the year in 1947 and in 1949 Sporting News named him the league's Most Valuable Player, with a .342 batting average, 16 home runs and 124 RBI's. With Robinson the Dodgers became a championship team.

In fact, there were several players, then in their prime in the Negro Leagues who were as good or better than Robinson when he joined the Dodgers. But Rickey was very careful in selecting the first Black player, operating on the theory that he would have to be the most talented of the talented and have impeccable

CON'T ON PAGE 17



In Memory of 4 Martyrs Students Take Action at Kent State

The student movement is not dead! The memory of Kent State lives on! This bothers the hell out of the rich who run this country. They don't want anyone to remember how they went to war with tiny Vietnam, bombing and burning for the sake of profit. They want to forget the past when students along with many others rose up in protest. They want to erase May 4th, 1970 when 4 student protesters were shot dead by National Guardsmen at Kent State University. That same week two Black students were shot and killed in a similar protest at Jackson State University in Mississippi.

The big shots want to bury the memory of Kent State by building a gymnasium on the site of the murders.

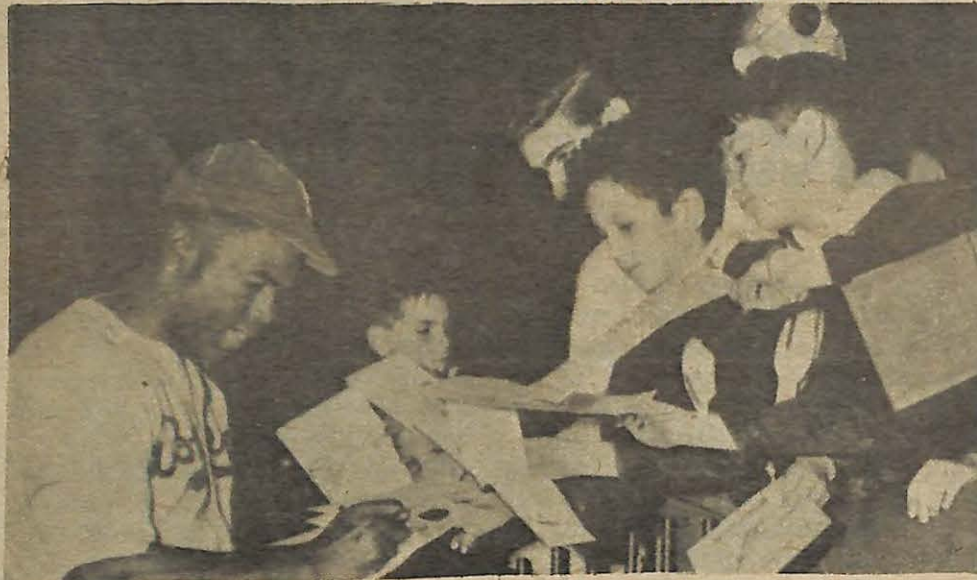
Kent State students wouldn't stand for it! They put out a call nationwide for supporters to rally at Kent. They built a coalition which included the parents of one of the dead students, a former National Guardsman who was at Kent, and the Revolutionary Student Brigade. The May 4th Coalition set up a tent city on the spot of the murders. Students came from around the country. Rallies of up to 2000 denounced the university's attempts to bury the memory of the

anti-war movement and its martyrs. In the spring the school administration had refused to cancel classes for the annual commemoration, and they refused to re-name four buildings after the dead students.

Police arrested one hundred and ninety four for violating an injunction against the tent city. They erected a six foot fence around the contested site. This made national news and sparked even more support from around the country. On July 10, a twenty car caravan from Cleveland's National Workers Organization joined a demonstration on the campus.

Meanwhile the courts were deliberating. In a surprise attack, cops picked up 27 students who had participated in the mass rallies. Bail was set for \$2000 each with the court refusing to allow 10% bond. Support continued to build.

The latest word is that the struggle has paid off. A Cleveland judge issued a temporary restraining order that at least for a time will stop the bulldozers. Whether the gym is built or not, the students at Kent will keep up the tradition of struggle. Long live the memory and the cause of the Kent martyrs! ■



JACKIE ROBINSON SIGNS AUTOGRAPHS FOR FANS IN ATLANTA IN THE EARLY 1950'S.

Heavy Border Fighting Super Powers Behind Egypt - Libya Clash

During the last part of July, the Arab countries Egypt and Libya fought a series of border engagements. They began with small-scale Libyan actions against Egyptian forces along the border. At first Egypt replied in kind but soon they escalated and struck back with much larger forces than Libya had committed. Before the fighting ended, Egypt had pulled two divisions off the Sinai front and had launched major air strikes at a number of Libyan airbases and radar installations.

After four days of heavy fighting the Egyptians called a halt, settling the issue for the time being.

At one time the two countries had talked of merging into a single Arab Republic and both were firm in their opposition to Israel. Since then, however, big differences have grown up, to a large extent stirred up by the U.S. and Soviet Union as part of each of their efforts to become the dominant superpower

in the oil-rich Middle East.

After the 1973 October War the Soviet Union, which had been backing Egypt, began cutting down on further military aid to Arab "frontline" state and began demanding more cash payment and bigger political concessions in return. Egypt angrily rejected this Soviet interference in their affairs and kicked the Soviets out. Afterwards, Egypt began moving closer to the U.S. and its allies in search of new arms suppliers as well as diplomatic leverage to use in negotiating with Israel for the return of occupied lands.

All this was a big upset for the New Czars' plans to become kingpins in the area. The Soviet Union began looking for new clients to back. By selling arms to Libya they have gained a foothold there, stirring up Libyan ruling circles to attack Egypt for "selling out the Palestinian struggle" and instigating



LIBYAN SOLDIERS, EGGED ON BY THE SOVIET UNION, FOUGHT A FOUR DAY WAR ON THE EGYPTIAN BORDER.

plots against the Egyptian government.

The border clashes are part of increased tensions between the two countries and within the Arab world as a whole. The fault for this lies at the doorsteps of the two superpowers, whose interference in the area stirs up contradictions and attempts to bring one or another coun-

try under their heel. As long as the U.S. and the Soviet Union continue to scramble for domination in the Middle East their meddling aids Zionist Israel, weakens the struggle of the Arab countries to regain the Israeli-occupied territories and sabotages the struggle of the Palestinian people. ■

NY Blackout Kindles Angry Outbursts

9:30 pm. It was a sweltering 95 in New York City. The air was thick with heat. The fat cats, politicians and columnists crow about peoples' ability to "cope", but anger and frustration run close to the surface in this decaying center of finance where public services have been ravaged by the ruthless budget cuts of the city rulers. And in the ghettos, where unemployment reaches 50% and higher, despair runs deep.

9:35 pm. Ten million people in the nation's largest city are plunged into total darkness. The city is completely without electrical power.

9:45 pm. All hell breaks loose. Subways have stopped running in the tunnels. Elevators have stopped between floors. Traffic lights cease functioning. Hospitals are black. Radio and TV stations no longer transmit. Refrigerators, water pumps in the high rises, fans and air conditioners are dead. And in Harlem, Brooklyn, the Bronx and Queens, hundreds of thousands of people move into the streets. Over a thousand stores are looted. Flames from arsoned buildings soon lick the darkened sky.

gency generators returned power to the radio and TV Mayor Beame and the politicians began pointing the finger of blame at Con Ed, the city's giant utility company, for the power failure. They were careful to do so in a way that pointed the finger away from themselves and their bosses. But what happened with Con Ed's blackout is the same damn thing that the capitalists do everyday, sucking the last drop of profit from the misery of the people. Trapping millions in crisis after crisis as their system rots and decays.

The facts? The blackout was initiated by lightning which hit power lines in six different places. The real cause was the fact that Con Ed, the most profitable utility company in the country, refused to temporarily shut down enough power to avoid an overload of the system and prevent a complete blowout. Con Ed draws a much higher percentage of power than most utilities from outside sources because this is cheaper than increasing its own generating capacity. When other utilities in the surrounding area saw an overload of their own lines, they cut off from

The police were turned out in force, arresting over 3500 people in huge sweeps. In the course of the arrests no regard was paid to presumed innocence or people's rights. In many instances the police were vicious, grabbing and clubbing anyone in sight. But they were forced to refrain from shooting into the crowds and more widespread brutality out of fear that it would spark an even more massive uprising. Dozens of prisoners were jammed into pens designed to hold no more than 10. The infamous Tombs, a detention center in Manhattan, condemned and shut down last year, was reopened and filled. Many were held without bail for days, with little food or medical care--during the worst heat wave in New York history. One man died in jail from these conditions.

Only after demonstrations and pressure by several different groups, including the New York City Association of Legal Aid Lawyers, and a youth group, Youth In Action, were the arraignments and releases sped up.

Many people in the Black and Puerto Rican neighborhoods and throughout the city were scared by the violence. People were righteously outraged at the muggings and assaults that occurred in the first hours of the blackout and the arson of stores in the communities that threatened the homes and lives of thousands. But most did make a distinction between that and the looting, which though it hit many small shopkeepers, has to be seen in an entirely different light.

In essence it was a revolt against the "order" enforced by the capitalist system that chains masses of people in lives of impoverishment and misery. During hours of looting, people took what they needed and couldn't have under the "normal workings" of this system, and gave expression to their hatred for their increasingly impossible conditions.

It is a fact that this spontaneous revolt wiped out many small businesses. And this was wrong. But precisely because it was spontaneous, unorganized and undirected it is not surprising that the people's anger was not directed in a political and conscious way against the real enemies, the few parasites who sit on the top and keep millions on the bottom.

It is even less surprising that the capitalist system's sacred right of private property was so swiftly disregarded by hundreds of thousands of people. What does it mean for the people in the ghettos of Bedford-Stuyvesant, Harlem, and the South Bronx?

Here the conditions of life that every day in a thousand ways drive people of all nationalities in all parts of the country to rebel, to stand up and fight, are only magnified. Unemployment for youth is between 40% and 65%. Parents are forced to deprive their children of most things. The advertisements and schools tell them they should have and which are necessities of life in the U.S. Large sections of the Bronx and other areas looked like bombed out cities; after a war, as old and dilapidated buildings crumble and slumlords refuse repair. Thousands of buildings lay abandoned, havens for junkies and criminals and death traps for children. People are plagued by narcotics, crime and all kinds of misery from which there appears to be no escape.

And if conditions of life in New York City are in a more advanced

stage of decay and the anger and frustration of the people in its ghettos more explosive, it is not basically different from many other cities.

As a kind of "handwriting on the wall" it scared the daylighters out of the rich rulers. When the blackout shut off power, all normal stability and order that enforces all of this seemed very much up in the air. When that order broke down, people struck out to take those things which are denied to them when things are in firm control. Large sections of people are outraged at how they live and given the opportunity, revolted.

What the press is calling a "collapse of moral values" is a reflection of the fact that large sections of people cannot tolerate living in the



DURING BLACKOUT MANY PEOPLE TOOK WHAT THEY NEEDED AND COULDN'T HAVE DURING "NORMAL" CONDITIONS.

For the next 25 hours the "normal" functioning of this crisis ridden city breaks down. Millions of people who daily are forced to bear the burden of the system's crisis, and struggle against it to survive, are thrown on their own to get through this newest disaster.

All over the city thousands come out to help however possible. Some go into busy intersections with flashlights and whistles to direct the snarled traffic. Neighborhood and community groups organize teams to carry food, water and other supplies up stairs to the elderly and handicapped. Others help people trapped in elevators. Everywhere people are concerned with the health and safety of their friends, family and fellow New Yorkers.

City workers, who have been the main target of the ax-swingers in the budget crisis, were key in maintaining any vital services. Hospital workers and medical staff worked overtime to make sure that care was available for all. Firemen braved the upheaval in many neighborhoods to battle fires. Transit workers held trains in the stations when they noticed the power was starting to go, and they led people to safety from trains stalled between stations. Bus drivers weaved their way through the chaotic streets with overflow loads of people desperately trying to make it home.

It was the efforts of these thousands of people, unprepared and unorganized, that helped hundreds of thousands of others to make it through.

What happened? As soon as emer-

the New York system to avert an overload of their own lines, increasing the Con Ed load. Con Ed gambled that the system could take the overload, gambled with people's lives in order not to lose precious revenue by a temporary shutdown of some parts of the city.

But the real question of what happened has been riveted on the massive flare-up of looting in the largely Black and Puerto Rican ghettos. The media quickly started calling it "the night of terror." And for millions of working people around the country who heard the stories of the muggings and arson and saw the pictures of the looting, what happened was shocking. Judgments against the people were often harsh, colored not a little by the constant propaganda the capitalists and their media run out about the poor, welfare recipients and minorities in general.

"Look at what 'these people' do" was the message blared on the cover of Time magazine and in hundreds of other reports of the upheaval. From Jimmy Carter and Andrew Young to the New York Times the spokesmen for the people who run this country were quick to concede that the massive poverty of large sections of the people had something to do with the looting. They were even quicker to come down hard on the looters and demand harsh punishment. But behind their nice liberal words about poverty they relied on the sentiments they promote far and wide that "sure these people are poor, but most of them would rather loot than work anyway."



THIS MAN DIRECTING TRAFFIC CAME OUT LIKE THOUSANDS OF NEW YORKERS TO HELP WHERE THEY COULD.

old way, under the old rules. The 25 hours of the New York City blackout brought out more openly that the old order's ability to meet people's needs and provide any order at all is beginning to show sharp cracks.

These unorganized outbreaks of people's hatred and rebellion, which in cases like the looting in New York are often joined in by criminal elements, cannot bring this order down, or lay the basis for building a society based on a whole new setup, where the organization of society is determined by the interests of the working class and the vast majority of people.

But it shows, and the high and mighty saw, the tremendously powerful force of the masses of people in action against them. If thousands of people barehanded can tear through quarter inch steel gates and window barricades like they were cellophane in the midst of the looting, imagine the force and power the people organized in their millions and led by a politically conscious leadership will bring to bear against those who have robbed and enslaved them. ■

AMC...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

workers fought for and won in the past.

The UAW International has promised that it will again be "responsible" and try to save the company. This is nothing but an open door to welcome in more company attacks. AMC right now does not have the capital to invest in bringing out new models to compete with the Big 3. For example the Gremlin which was introduced in 1970 will come out as a 1978 with basically the same body style. A new hood and new tail-lights are no match for the completely new models Ford, GM and Chrysler will be putting out.

Once again rank and file AMC workers and the organization and struggle they can build around this contract will be the only defense against a sellout. Last year a complete wage freeze was stopped because

Masterlock...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

ing evacuated.

Once everyone was outside, a deaf and dumb girl was spotted on the fire escape on the fourth floor. None of the supervisors, including her own foreman, had made sure she was told to leave.

The fire department was called in and put out the fire. Several people overheard a fireman say, "Another half hour and there could have been a serious explosion." All the steel parts in the basement, floor panels, lock parts, machinery were orange with rust from the trichlor vapor.

23 people were taken to the hospital who were sick from the Trichlor. Some were throwing up, others had a hard time breathing because of chest pains, some had eye irritations and dizziness.

Once the commotion was over and people had time to think, one thing stood out very clear. Masterlock had left about 200 second shift workers in a building filling up with a dangerous chemical vapor, with a faulty degreasing tank which caught fire and threatened to explode. They risked the safety and even the lives of these workers so they could keep getting their locks out. Their lousy locks, their God almighty profit came way before the safety of the men and women who make their profit.

30 workers signed a letter circulated by the United Workers Organization at Masterlock demanding some explanation from the company. The question they asked was simply, "We're glad no one was badly hurt or killed, but the question remains: how can you justify risking our lives?"

Iron Strike...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Younger men came into the mines in the late 60's and 70's. The unity of the older workers, with years of bitterness and struggle against the steel companies, and the young workers, fighting for a future is one thing the steel companies won't forget.

The steel companies have been crying a lot about how bad business is. They are trying to blame the layoffs, job combinations and speed up on foreign imports of steel. They are also pushing for higher prices and profits to finance new machinery and equipment. They are telling steelworkers they must cooperate, by working harder and faster, to keep US Steel competitive. Whether it's paying iron miners 65¢ less or massive layoffs and speed up in the mills, the companies want steelworkers to bear the burden for their problems. But their problems ain't our problems and steelworkers are

the people wouldn't stand for it. Chief Steward Charley Underwood was rehired because hundreds came out to vote strike for his job. This contract will again be a hell of a battle.

The fight against an extension, against takeaways and for economic parity with the Big 3 is again up to the 9,000 AMC workers who must live with this contract. Workers who went through the contract struggles and wildcats of the 60's are getting ready for another battle, and the lines are drawn.

This contract battle is bigger than just AMC. Workers all over the state will be watching to see what happens at AMC the state's biggest employer. They'll be watching to see how AMC workers, known for their militant history, respond to this attack.

Hard times anywhere bring calls to sacrifice from the bosses and top union leaders. But it wasn't sacrifice that got workers anywhere in the past. It was their struggle and refusal to be pushed around.

The letter was sent to Direct Line, a company "communication" network for its employees. Many individuals sent in their own letters. The company had no answer.

But according to OSHA this was an isolated incident and the company didn't violate any rules. But the air in the basement is always filled with chemical vapors. Two weeks after this incident workers in Department 3D wore face masks. They wanted the company to know the smell was bothering them again. No matter how much OSHA tries to cover for Masterlock, working people know that it is no isolated incident when a company risks their lives to make a bigger buck. Recently an auto-worker at a GM plant in Detroit died from a heart attack caused by breathing in Trichlor.

At Briggs and Stratton in '75 the company had to evacuate one department because of a serious gas leak. But they left hundreds working a few feet away in another department and just warned them to stop smoking. In New York many people were killed last year in an explosion in a gum factory. There too the company kept people in the building working even though there were danger signals in advance of the explosion.

To the capitalists who own Masterlock, B&S, Sprague Electric and GM working people are just part of their machinery, their operating expenses. Push them to get the most out of them until they break down. But the harder they push, the more resistance they will meet. Like the letter signed by the Masterlock workers says, "We want some answer -- not excuses."

fighting these attacks.

The Japanese steel is much more efficient. The oldest blast furnace at one of Japan's big companies was built in 1962. In contrast at Inland Steel, the first new furnace since World War II is now being built.

The miners on the Iron Range are striking a hard blow at the steel companies, the ENA and the sellout leaders of the USWA. The strike may be long with the companies claiming months of iron ore in reserve. The strategy of the International union will probably be to leave the strikers isolated and alone, all as proof that it doesn't pay to strike.

But the militant stand of the miners is winning respect from steelworkers and other working people. They will have the support of workers around the country. Victory to the Iron Ore Strikers! ■

Busing...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

pression of Blacks. There are fewer schools now in the inner city. Money is being pumped only into inner city schools that are trying to attract white students, like the 4th Street specialty for the gifted and talented, and the new North Division. More Black children are being told to wait on the street corner in the dead of winter to catch a bus even though there is a neighborhood school nearby.

When the School Board changed the quotas for inner city schools, limiting them to 25% Black this was a further attack. Thousands more Blacks will have to bus out as a result. Parents and students will be able to have little community participation in the schools in the Black neighborhoods.

According to McMurrin, who didn't dare show his face at this hearing, the busing quotas have been filled by many Blacks "volunteering". The facts paint a different story. 3675 of these "volunteers" are being forced to bus because their schools are closing; 2333 because their schools are changing to specialty schools; 1926 more because Fulton, Roosevelt, and Rufus are closed to them; and others to lessen overcrowding.

Blacks for Two Way Busing called the meeting to present their alternative plan. One man summed up the way most people felt this way: "The Two Way Busing plan is an attempt to salvage an unsalvageable situation. No one here tonight wants the busing but most feel there is no choice. The busing plan is a divide and conquer scheme pitting poor Blacks on the north side against poor whites on the south side. It has not im-

proved education for anyone."

The School Board, city officials and courts have turned the real demands of Black people for equality and better education into an attack. As one speaker pointed out, "Their real interest is to hold down the money they spend on schools. Right away they will save over half a million dollars by shutting down Wells."

But the busing plan is more than just an attack on Blacks. It's an attack on whites who are being forced to bus or who are seeing their neighborhood schools becoming more crowded. It's an attack on the Latin students who are being shipped to schools with no bi-lingual programs, and on retarded students whose special needs are being pitted against the demands of parents for neighborhood schools. All students are being hit because education is not improving. The halls are still full of aides, while the large classes are short of teachers. The specialty schools reach only a few, and displace neighborhood children from the inner city where they are mainly located.

From one side of the city to the other students have a common interest—to see all the schools improved, not torn down; to integrate the schools wherever possible; to break down barriers that keep them segregated; and to build unity. When the schools open this fall and the buses start up, many parents may keep their children home. Many may just send them to neighborhood schools despite their assignments. We must unite parents to fight the busing plan, and demand quality and equal education for all students. ■

State Workers...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Since the contract includes the non-recrimination clause, no one wants to admit they are pushing the charges. But the courts are continuing with contempt charges against 1400 workers at 2 state hospitals. Former strikers could be forced to pay \$10 a day for every day they were out.

The state has tried to weasel out of the agreement by claiming it was tentative. Union leaders left its members open for this attack by taking them back to work a month before they even voted on the contract.

Throughout the strike, the state and the media bombarded the strikers with a propaganda attack. They accused the hospital workers of heartlessly abandoning mentally ill patients. How is it that all of a sudden the state has become so concerned about these patients when for years they have kept those same hospitals understaffed to save money? During the strike the hospitals hired back old employees some who had been fired for child abuse. And they refused an offer from the union to provide help for emergencies.

The state accused the office workers of hurting the unemployed by disrupting payment of the checks. That takes some nerve when 3 weeks later a 13 week state extension was cut out altogether, cutting off unemployed benefits for many.

Youth...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

cent jobs that we can be proud of. And as things are getting worse—they realize even more that we can cause the rich dogs in this country a ton of trouble if we want. Not by ourselves, but when we get together—Blacks, whites, everybody—in our thousands and millions. They realize this, so they try to set up programs like Jobs Corps, the army, etc. to do

two things. Put us working for them and their starving profit machine, and try to keep us from fighting back against them. But we're not about to take this forever, no matter what they want. And in the meantime, we're gonna fight them every inch of the way—incluing their raggedy job programs like Jobs Corps. ■

—a member of Milwaukee Youth In Action

'67 Rebellion...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

protest headquarters, Freedom House. On September 10th 4000 people marched for open housing in a mighty display of solidarity.

The gains of 1967 were many. The rich man was desperate to cool out the flames of struggle. He had to give up millions in poverty programs. He had to hire Blacks into jobs where they had been excluded. Harassment and even police brutality eased up for a time. Scholarships, advancement into executive positions, and small business loans created an enlarged Black middle class overnight. The rapidly expanding Black middle class became a voice of compromise and moderation.



JULY 30, 1967: BLACK REBELLION BROUGHT VICIOUS REPRESSION

Along with the concessions came the vicious repression at the hands of the judges, parole boards, and the arming of the police forces. In the years following the riots, Blacks were to see the rich man's terror in systematic national coordinated raids on the Black Pan-

Waupun...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

orders, not questioning authority, and never standing up and thinking for yourself. All three of these guys have seen the parole board pass them over time and again because they were too proud to beg for their release. Now if charges are issued and the men are railroaded through court, they could be facing even more time. That's not justice.

Repression behind the walls has only been beaten back when the men have stood together and fought for their rights. In fact because of the May 16 incident, regimentation in the chow hall and a few other aspects of prison life have been eased somewhat. The new warden projects the image of a reformer. But credit for the victories against harassment belongs solely to the men.

The prison administration is actually more than tripling prison capacity in the state--as they prepare to serve the rich man's system in the 70's and 80's. Unemployment will be high throughout these years because the economy is stagnating. In 1972 the parole rate was 22%. In 1975 it had fallen to 10%. The sentences are getting longer. They need the prisons to warehouse hundreds of people who either become criminals or just end up in jail in these hard times.

Most of the people who commit crimes need real rehabilitation and they need opportunities in society when they get released. A lot of guys are learning we aren't going to get any prison reform, or change in society unless we fight for them.

If these three men are prosecuted, prisoners, their friends and relatives, and a lot of working people will stand behind them. Unity and action is strength and power. No charges against Wells, Fellenz, and Holland!

ther Party and in the wave of arrests and beatings following the Ben Sanders incident of 1974.

As he bought off some leaders of the struggle, built up the middle class, and repressed the militants, the rich man was preparing to take back the gains of the peoples' sacrifice, struggle and bloodshed.

Today, ten years later Blacks still only make 57% of the median income of whites. Milwaukee is even more segregated than it was then. Inner city schools are so bad that test scores and reading levels are lower than in the 60's. And unemployment is still twice the white rate.

What do the set backs mean? Was the struggle of the 60's worthless?

Are we supposed to say the heroism of those days was foolishness? Is it no use to struggle?

Hell no! The Black struggle of the 60's rocked the system at its foundations. It made gains in pride, inspiration, and experience that the rich man can never snatch back. But because the movement was mainly for a piece of the pie within the system it could only go so far. The majority of Black people face discrimination and exploitation on the jobs as workers. It will take working men and women with hard struggling attitudes, discipline, and true concern for the people to lead the struggle through to its conclusion.

Black workers along with a growing number of workers of all nationalities are playing a role in battles for better education, in fights against police brutality, and in solidarity movements with African liberation.

This goes hand in hand with a growing discontent and struggle attitude in the working class as a whole. The chances are better than ever before for the workers movement and the Black struggle to merge and become a dynamic force driving forward the struggle of all American people against the system that breeds oppression. The inspiration and lessons of the 1967 days were a big step down the road to our freedom.

Mohawk & Skyhorse...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

file perjury charges. Also a crucial defense witness has disappeared. The prosecutor says this man is dead and to prove it, submitted a death certificate showing the date of death is April 23, 1976. However on the death certificate are the seals and the filing dates: both April 14, 1976.. nine days earlier than the "death"!

Each and every prosecution witness has been discredited, contradicted other testimony and/or admitted lying about the case on the witness stand. Redshirt and Broussard both admitted lying about the case under cross examination.

Carmel Fish, the most recent prosecution witness, revealed the forces behind all these false statements. Carmel had arrived at the camp

Briggs...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

reports---always going up. They know B&S is a monopoly in the small engine business. They have seen the company expand, hire, and buy up property. They know it's their sweat and hard work that built up Briggs.

The company was aware of the depth of the workers' resentment. They had seen local 232 members unite to shut down the plant and walk the lines in 1974. They offered just enough to get the ratification vote.

This past year a new union president, Len Wegner, was elected. He ran as though once he got elected things would really change. But like most union politicians, his words turned out to be a lot of hot air. He and the bargaining committee pushed hard to avoid a strike at all costs. They did everything to take the initiative out of the hands of the rank and file. No open meetings were held for workers to express their contract demands. People were left in the dark about negotiations

till the last minute. The final proposal was handed out at the door of the ratification meeting giving people little chance to study and understand it before voting.

Twenty one hundred Briggs workers knew the offer was not enough. Several denounced it from an open microphone. They were willing to go through a long strike if need be. The big no vote was mass expression of resentment at a company that rakes millions and then has the nerve to say its workers are overpaid.

Workers got stuck with a weak contract this time. But this doesn't mean they're going to take a beating for the next three years. There's a lot of unity among the workers in condemning the sell out contract and rotten union leadership. And this unity will carry over into fights around rates, harassment, and other daily grievances in the plant. And the people are already talking about fighting it out in the contract battle in 1980.

Jackie Robinson...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

credentials. Robinson had been an all star athlete at UCLA and a lieutenant in the Army during the war. Rickey also wanted a player who had his best playing years ahead of him.

None of these factors alone, however, account for why it was that baseball was integrated in 1947. A key reason, left out of almost all the stories of Jackie Robinson, is the fact that a conscious mass political campaign was waged by the working class, led by the old Communist Party. As far back as 1937 the Party had decided to take up this campaign. In 1943 the owner of the Cleveland Indians had written to the sport's editor of the Party's paper, the New York Daily Worker, agreeing to give a tryout to three Black ball players, but soon he backed down.

After the war, the Party focused on the Brooklyn Dodgers as the most likely successful target. New York City was a center of working class struggle and organization and the Party was strong there. There was a fairly high degree of organization in the Black community of New York with whom the Party had good ties. Adam Clayton Powell had been elected the first Black congressman since the Civil War and in several New York boroughs Blacks as well as Communists had been elected to political office. A huge petition campaign was launched, gathering thousands of signatures at Ebbets Field and other ball parks demanding that the exclusion of Blacks from major league baseball be ended. This campaign had a big effect in mobilizing popular

sentiment. In addition, delegations of fans and elected officials from Brooklyn and Harlem went to see Rickey and the Dodger ownership, calling on them to take immediate action. It was the popular support developed by this campaign, even more than the decisions of Branch Rickey that were responsible for Jackie Robinson donning a Dodger uniform. When Jackie Robinson made his first appearance he was greeted by a standing ovation in Ebbets Field.

It's true that baseball, like other professional sports, is one area in U.S. society where Blacks have a better chance of "making it." But to say that Blacks and other minority players still don't suffer from subtle and often quite open forms of discrimination is untrue.

The success of a handful of Black professional athletes only came about through struggle over many years just to break down the barriers that excluded them. And this very success is in sharp contrast to the widespread and systematic discrimination against Blacks that continues right down to this very day in almost every area. Jackie Robinson was a great baseball player. He underwent a lot of abuse to integrate the majors, and withstood it well. He was not a leader of the Black people's struggle, but he did become a symbol of the growing struggle of the masses of Black people in the early post-war years against segregation and discrimination, a struggle that eventually burst forth into the mighty Civil Rights and Black Liberation movements of the 50s and 60s.

shortly after the killing and told police that she saw Redshirt and Eaglestaff standing over the body. Over a year later, with sentencing for leaving a work program hanging over her head, and under repeated pressure by a prosecution investigator, she gave him a statement that she had seen Skyhorse at the scene of the crime.

Immediately after she was sentenced, she retracted this statement. On the stand, the prosecutor tried to force her to say she changed her statement because she feared the defendants and AIM. No, she replied, she did not fear them. She said she feared the police and thought the judge would add another year to her sentence if she did not say what

the investigator wanted.

The case against Paul Skyhorse and Richard Mohawk was going so badly that the prosecutor tried to get it called off. But the judge, who has been leaning over backwards for the prosecution, said no. He declared that this would "demean" California's system of "justice."

Support for Skyhorse and Mohawk is growing and they will most likely eventually be cleared of the charges. Meanwhile they have already spent nearly three years of their lives in jail for a crime they clearly did not commit. The real crimes of this "justice", of this frameup, while exposed in the course of this trial, have yet to be tried and punished.

Plan de Amnistia . . .

CONTINUA DE PAGINA 19

con y sin documentos porque saben que sin tales trabajadores muchas plantas no pudieran sacar ninguna ganancia--y sin ser gananciosas cerrarían. A cierto grado van a seguir trayendo trabajadores desde el extranjero, como por ejemplo los trabajadores agrícolas mexicanos en Texas--eso es lo que quiere decir el gobierno cuando dicen que cualquiera represión severa en la frontera con Mexico tendrá que ser acompañada por un programa tal como los braceros para "casos especiales"--o sea el trabajo bien mal pagado y trabajo agrario temporario. Hoy en día el gobierno está planificando llevar a cabo semejante represión porque actualmente tantos trabajadores nativos andan desesperados para encontrar cualquier trabajo y por eso a muchos dueños ahora no les son necesarios los obreros sin papeles. Los programas del gobierno tales como la nueva ley de desempleo la que exige que los que hayan recibido 39 semanas de beneficios tienen que aceptar cualquier trabajo que se les ofrezca, también son otra forma de forzar a los trabajadores nativos a aceptar estos tra-

bajos en vez de esperar algo mejor. Ahora en Oregon, después de una ola masiva de deportaciones al comienzo de la cosecha de cereza, las autoridades han empezado a transportar madres de welfare a los huertos.

Lo importante del proyecto de inmigración de Carter y toda la histeria tocante a la "invasión silenciosa de Mexico" en la prensa es que son nomás que un esfuerzo para echar la culpa a los trabajadores nacidos en el extranjero por lo que han hecho los capitalistas grandes y su gobierno. Por supuesto los que han tenido que dejar a sus familias y patria buscando trabajo no tienen la culpa por la situación actual en este país. Los problemas tales como el desempleo vienen del hecho de que los trabajadores solo pueden encontrar trabajo mientras su labor enriquezca a algun patron rico. La clase obrera tiene que echar la culpa a los que son verdaderamente culpables, y unir todos nuestros hermanos trabajadores de todas nacionalidades contra los altos y poderosos capitalistas cuyos esfuerzos a culpar a los trabajadores extranjeros son nomás que parte de sus esfuerzos para pisotear a todos trabajadores. ■



Todos A Chicago .

CONTINUA DE PAGINA 20

huelguistas rechazaron los esfuerzos del liderato de la USWA a venderles a ellos. En Chicago, el Comité Organizador se ha ligado y ha ayudado a fortalecer un comité de huelga en la compañía Brach. En Latrobe, Pennsylvania, el Comité Organizador ha ayudado a los miembros de la UAW a ganar su huelga, y algunos de los huelguistas están tomando parte en la campaña para construir la organización nacional de trabajadores.

Estas luchas representan una parte importante de lo que será el propósito de esta organización. Hará posible que la organización de base de los trabajadores extienda de esas industrias y plantas donde ya existe a otras secciones de los trabajadores, aumentando la fuerza de los trabajadores en general.

Sin embargo, el número de trabajadores presentes en la convención será relativamente pequeño en comparación con los números más amplios de trabajadores actualmente envueltos en lucha. Así la cuestión se presenta a los trabajadores activos de porqué deben venir a la convención, y que es lo que la convención va a lograr.

Aunque sí las fuerzas en la convención serán relativamente pocas, ya la experiencia ha mostrado que fuerzas pequeñas pueden dirigir batallas grandes, y crecer en números, en fuerza y en influencia. La organización nacional de trabajadores dará firmeza a la resistencia organizada de la clase obrera, ayudando a traer la lucha obrera al centro del escenario en EEUU.

La convención juntará a trabajadores de varias industrias quienes

pueden cambiar sus experiencias en lucha y profundizar su entendimiento de las batallas en las cuales está metida la clase obrera. Este aspecto de la conferencia fortalecerá la lucha en toda industria representada. Pero más importante, por medio de la convención la organización nacional de trabajadores podrá empezar de manera grande a hacer las decisiones y los planes concretos para llevar a cabo lo que es su método principal de dirigir la lucha, o sea el método de una sola chispa de concentrar las fuerzas de la clase obrera en las batallas claves y desarrollarlas a estas en campañas de toda la clase obrera.

Enfocar la fuerza de la clase obrera al nivel nacional en batallas claves, mientras seguir desarrollando al máximo la organización de base en cada planta y factoría posible - esto es lo que la organización nacional de trabajadores hará posible. Y la clave para cumplir este salto adelante cualitativo es la convención en Chicago el fin de semana del Día de Labor.

Las decisiones que los trabajadores reunidos en el Hotel Pick Congress tendrán que hacer son cruciales y duras. Es esencial que cada trabajador consciente de clase esté allí, para acumular lo más experiencia y decidir cuales son las batallas claves en las cuales hay que enfocarse. Y es sumamente importante que haya un buen número de trabajadores presentes para forjar la unidad que capacitará la nueva organización a convertir las decisiones hechas en Chicago en campañas amplias y fuertes de la clase obrera que con cruciales para avanzar la lucha de la clase obrera. ■

Fallo Electrico . . .

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erto grado influenciados por la propaganda constante de los capitalistas y sus medios de comunicaciones contra los pobres, los de welfare y las minorías en general.

La policía arrestó a más de 3500 personas en redadas masivas. No hicieron caso a la "inocencia presuntiva" de la gente ni a sus derechos. En algunos vecindarios golpearon y arrastraron a todo el mundo en la calle. Pero se vieron forzados a no echar balas al gentío y ni lanzar brutalidad más amplia por miedo de causar una rebelión aún más amplia.

Docenas de presos desbordaron celdas e diseñadas para sólo diez. La cárcel infamosa "Los Tombs" ya condenada y cerrada el año pasado fue abierto de nuevo y llanado. Se les mantuvo preso a mucha gente por días sin dejarles salir bajo fianza, con poca comida y cuidado medico durante la peore ola de calor en la historia de Nueva York. Un joven murió bajo estas condiciones.

Se le asustó a mucha gente en los barrios negros y puertorriqueños y a través de la ciudad por la violencia. Los robos y asaltos que ocurrieron al empezar el apagón le dieron coraje a la gente, también como los incendios en las comunidades amenazando a los hogares de miles de familias. Pero por lo más la gente se distinguió entre esos crímenes y el saqueo, pues que no obstante el hecho de que el saqueo dañó a muchos propietarios de tiendas pequeñas, hay que entenderlo como algo distinto.

Al fondo fue una rebelión contra el "orden" enforzado por el sistema capitalista bajo el cual masas de gente están encadenadas a vidas de miseria y pobreza. Durante las horas del saqueo, la gente tomó lo que necesitaba y nunca podría conseguir jamás cuando el sistema funciona a lo "normal." También expresó su coraje frente a condiciones de vida que cada día se hacen más y mas imposibles.

Es cierto que esta revuelta espontanea quebró a muchos negocios pequeños, lo que es malo. Pero precisamente porque fue espontanea y sin organización ni liderato no es algo sorprendente que el coraje popular no fue dirigido en una manera consciente y política contra los verdaderos enemigos, los pocos chupasangres que

viven e por encima de todos manteniéndolos abajo.

Es aún menos sorprendente que cientos de miles de gente no hicieron caso a los sagrados derechos de propiedad del sistema capitalista. En los ghettos de Bedford-Styvesant, Harlem y el Bronx, las condiciones de vida que cada día empujan a la gente de todas nacionalidades a través del país a rebelarse están magnificadas aún más.

Y si las condiciones de vida en Nueva York están en una etapa de decadencia más avanzada y el coraje y frustración de la gente en sus ghettos están más explosivos, claro que la situación no es basicamente distinta en otras ciudades.

Como un tipo de "escritura en la pared" lo que paso en Nueva York echo miedo a los ricos dominantes. Cuando el apagón cerró la electricidad, la estabilidad y el orden estaban inciertos. Al descomponerse este orden, la gente tomó lo que les es negado cuando los que mandan en este país están en control. Capas bien amplias del pueblo tienen coraje en cuanto a como son forzados a vivir, y al presentarse la oportunidad, se rebelaron. Lo que la prensa está llamado "un desplome de la moralidad" es en realidad una reflexión del hecho de que capas amplias del pueblo ya no pueden aguantar más la vida bajo las reglas viejas.

Las 25 horas del apagon en Nueva York hizo destacar que ya esta empezando a fracasar la capacidad del viejo orden a satisfacer las necesidades del pueblo y proveer cualquier orden verdadero a la gente.

Los rompamientos desorganizados del coraje y rebeldía popular, los cuales muchas veces envuelven a elementos criminales como fue el caso en el saqueo en Nueva York, no pueden derrocar al viejo orden, ni sentar la base para una sociedad basada en un nuevo orden donde la sociedad es organizada conforme a los intereses de la clase obrera y la aplastante mayoría del pueblo.

Pero muestran lo que si los ricos y poderosos vieron--la tremenda potencia de la fuerza de las masas en acción contra ellos. Si miles de gente pueden romper las puertas de acero con sus manos nomás si dificultad en medio de saqueo, entonces fijate la fuerza que tendrá el pueblo organizado en sus millones bajo liderato político consciente contra los que nos han robado y esclavizado. ■

Beneficios

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octubre cuando se expire a través de país.

Como parte de la lucha contra la ofensiva masiva que pega a los desempleados por todas partes UWOC esta planeando acciones coordinadas a travez del país en agosto en contra este ataque brutal.

Los gobernantes de este país no serán satisfechos hasta que estamos empujados en la tierra. No vamos a ser satisfechos hasta que recibimos TRABAJOS o bastantes INGRESOS para cubrir la costa de vivir hasta que podemos encontrar trabajos! ■

REGISTRAR para Convencion

Para registrar para la convención y conseguir un cuarto en el hotel, póngase en contacto con el Comité Organizador - 4409 W. North Ave. Telefono 445-5816. ¡Todos a Chicago el fin de semana del Día de Labor! ¡Adelante a Chicago!

OBRERO

Este periodico existe para organizar la lucha de la clase obrera en contra del sistema capitalista de explotación y opresión. Pone en alto la posición política del Partido Comunista Revolucionario de Estados Unidos de America en los asuntos y luchas mayores que enfrentan los obreros.

El Obrero de Milwaukee es uno de los muchos periodicos como este a través del país. El personal de estos periodicos esta compuesto de miembros y simpatizantes del Partido Comunista Revolucionario (PCR).

Nosotros queremos estar en contacto con todas las luchas de nuestra clase. Necesitamos y damos la bienvenida a sus cartas, artículos y cualquier tipo de contribución o crítica.

Para ponerse en contacto con nosotros o para información, escriba a:

RCP, USA El Obrero
Box 3486 4409 W. North Ave.
Chicago, IL 60664 Milw. Wi. 53208

Ilegales Todavía Ilegales Plan de Amnistía de Carter una Burla

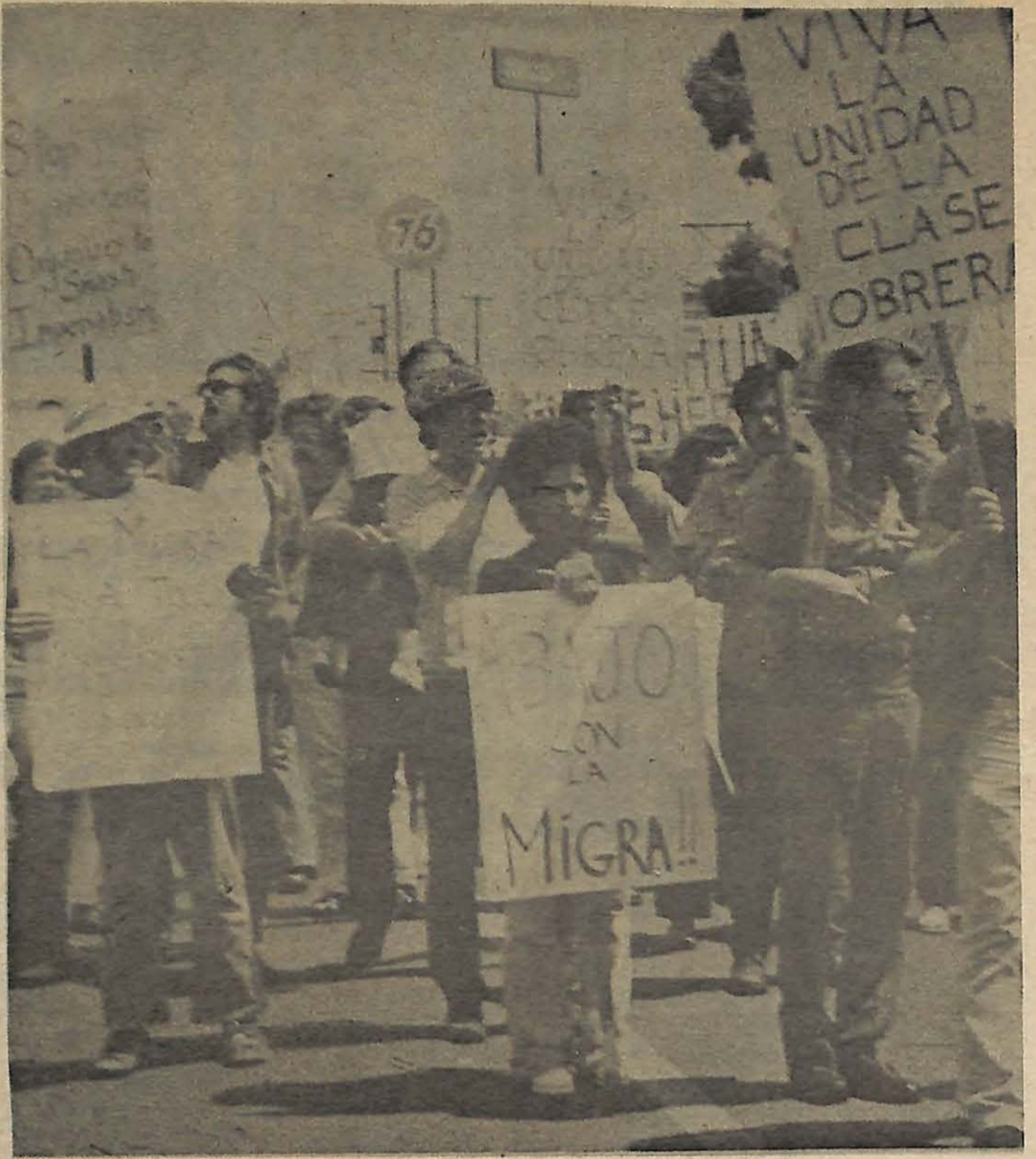
Es una escena muy común en las fabricas de textil y de zapatos de Nueva Inglaterra, en las plantas de comestibles de Chicago y en los campos de California. Muchas veces la Migra viene a fines de la semana, antes de que los trabajadores reciban sus cheques. Muchas veces son los dueños mismos los que llaman a la Migra. Quizas es el fin de la cosecha, o van a dar layoff, o se cumple el contrato. O quizas los patrones tienen miedo del sentir de desafío de los trabajadores. Por lo general la Migra viene por la mañana al momento de "break". Así todo el mundo está presente y no se daña la producción. Rodean la planta y entran como gangsters. Inspeccionan la identificación de todos en las líneas y buscan por todas partes, arrastrando a la gente. Al anochecer, hombres y mujeres quienes habían venido a trabajar por la mañana al igual que todos los días, a veces por años, ya se encuentran en un camión siendo deportados a un mil millas.

Pero hay otro aspecto al trabajo de la Migra. En los campos de cantalupo y de cebolla en Texas donde la temperatura sube a 100 grados y uno tiene que doblarse la espalda, la paga corriente es \$2.83 la hora. Las casuchas proveidas por los rancheros son pésimas. Por supuesto muy poca gente que puedan conseguir mejor trabajo quieren venir allí para trabajo temporaneo. Otra vez, viene la Migra. Con el permiso especial del Presidente Carter, la Migra está transportando a 800 trabajadores mexicanos cada día para trabajar en los campos--por \$2.30 la hora. Cada noche la Migra los trae otra vez a Mexico para que los rancheros no tengan a proveerles ni un sitio para dormir. En los huertos cítricos de Florida, la Migra están trayendo trabajadores de Jamaica para la cosecha. Ellos vienen bajo contrato, viviendo en campamentos destartalados con guardias de la

compañía como si fueran la propiedad privada de los dueños. Después de la cosecha, se les despachan otra vez.

Así son los "ilegales" y otros trabajadores extranjeros para el gobierno y los patrones. Llevan a estos trabajadores para hacer ricos al patronato cuando los patrones tienen trabajo para hacer, y los botan a ellos cuando ya no pueden trabajarlos ganaciosamente. Desde hace años, el gobierno y la Migra han pasado por alto del hecho de que muchos dueños envían agentes a Mexico y Latino America para reclutar para sus factorías. El propósito de negarle a ellos el derecho a inmigración legal no es mantenerlos afuera del país, pues que muchas industrias enteras se quebrarían sin ellos. El propósito es mantenerlos bajo la amenaza constante de deportación, para que muchos tengan que trabajar por menos y todos tengan miedo cada día acerca de su futuro. Según el ex-Director de Inmigración Chapman, hay dos millones "ilegales" trabajando en EEUU y la mitad de ellos ganan menos que el sueldo mínimo legal. Aún cuando los patrones se ven forzados a pagarles más, les es muy util tener la amenaza de deportación para usar cuando sea necesaria.

Recientemente el Presidente Carter ha declarado que va a "bregar con el problema de trabajadores extranjeros." Como su primer medida, ha anunciado un "plan de amnistía" dejando a hacerse residentes legales a los pueden demostrar que han estado en EEUU continuamente desde el 1970. Pero hasta según el Departamento de Inmigración mismo muy poca gente--probablemente mas o menos 50,000--pueden probar que han estado aquí sin salir ni una vez por siete años. Bajo el proyecto de Carter, otros trabajadores sin papeles que hayan estado en EEUU menos que siete años pero pueden probar su presencia en EEUU antes del



OBREROS MANIFIESTAN EN ENCONTRA DE LA MIGRA.

1 de enero también pueden permanecer en este país, pero no serán permitidos a hacerse residentes permanentes ni ciudadanos, ni llevar a sus familias aquí, ni recibir servicios sociales tales como seguridad social, beneficios de desempleo, welfare, etc. Este proyecto es "amnistía" sólo para los patrones y es una bofetada dura a esos trabajadores.

Los diarios y la TV están hablando de como los trabajadores sin documentos roban a los contribuyentes, pero es mentira. De hecho, semejante a todos trabajadores, se les sacan los impuestos, etc., de su cheque aunque muchas veces no pueden conseguir ningunos beneficios. En California, la Migra inspecciona los

nombres de los que piden beneficios de desempleo. En los Angeles la Migra hasta viene al hospital del condado buscando a los sin papeles que atreven a pedir cuidado medico.

Carter, los caudillos del AFL-CIO y la prensa y TV han estado tratando de fomentar una ola de histeria tocante a como son los "ilegales" que tienen la culpa del desempleo entre los trabajadores americanos. También es mentira. Claro que algunos obreros americanos se ponen hartos cuando no pueden conseguir trabajo en una planta donde hay obreros inmigrantes. Pero el gobierno les ha dejado a los dueños a llevar inmigrantes ambos

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Fallo Electrico En New York Prento Disturbios

La temperatura estaba subiendo a 95 grados en Nueva York. El coraje y frustración están al punto de estallar. Los ricos, los politiqueros y los periodistas dicen que esta ciudad, la capital financiera de EEUU, puede bregar con cualquiera situación. Pero los cortes del presupuesto por parte de los gobernantes de la ciudad han eliminado muchísimos servicios púb-

licos. En los barrios minoritarios, donde el desempleo alcanza a 50% o más, hay mucha desesperación.

A las 9:35 de la noche, esta ciudad de diez millones de gente de repente cayó en oscuridad total, sin electricidad. Dentro de minutos, hubo puro caos. Los trenes pararon bajo la tierra. Los ascensores pararon entre pisos. Las luces de tra-

fico dejaron de funcionar. Se apagaron las luces en los hospitales. Se interrumpieron las emisoras del radio y de la TV. Las neveras, las bombas de agua en los edificios altos, los abánicos y los acondicionadores de aire todos se hicieron silenciosos. En Harlem, Brooklyn, el Bronx y Queens, cientos de miles de gente salieron a las calles. Más de un mil tiendas están saqueadas. Dentro de poco, se vieron las llamas de los edificios encendidos.

Durante las próximas 25 horas, el funcionamiento "normal" de esta ciudad de crisis constante dejó de funcionar totalmente. Los millones de gente que a diario están forzados a llevar el peso del crisis del sistema, luchando para sobrevivir, ya se encontraron sin asistencia frente a este nuevo desastre.

Por todas partes de la ciudad la gente salió de sus departamentos para ayudarle el uno al otro. Algunos usaron linternas para dirigir al tráfico. Grupos de vecinos y comunales organizaron equipos para subir las escaleras llevando comida, agua y otros abastecimientos para los ancianos y los desventajados. Otros ayudaron a los atrapados en los ascensores. Por toda la ciudad la gente estaba preocupada por la salud y la seguridad de sus familias, amigos y prójimos.

Los empleados municipales que han

sido las victimas principales de los cortes del presupuesto desde el comienzo del crisis financiero mantuvieron muchos servicios cruciales. Los trabajadores en los hospitales y los médicos trabajaron tiempo extra para proveer cuidado de emergencia. A pesar de los disturbios en muchos vecindarios, los bomberos lucharon contra fuegos. Los trabajadores de tránsito mantuvieron los trenes en las estaciones cuando se dieron cuenta de que iban perdiendo fuerza, y guiaron de los tuneles a mucha gente atrapada en trenes entre las estaciones. Manejaron sus guagas llenas de gente desesperados para regresar a casa por las calles oscuras.

Los esfuerzos de estos miles de gente, sin preparación ni organización, ayudaron a cientos de miles más a pasar el apagón sin peligro.

La cuestión principal respecto al apagón tiene que ver con la ola de sacamiento que tomó lugar por lo mas en los barrios negros y puertorriqueños. Los comentaristas lo llamaron "la noche de los animales" y "la noche del terror." Y claro que era algo chocante a los millones de gente obrera a través del país el escuchar las cuentas del robo y los incendios y el ver el saqueo en la TV. Los sentimientos contra los pilladores fueron fuertes, a ci-

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DURANTE EL FALLO ELECTRICO LA GENTE SE APODERO DE LO QUE NO DISPINIAN NORMALMENTE.

EL OBRERO

Para el Area de Milwaukee y Wisconsin

AGOSTO 1977

VOL. 2 NO. 11

25¢

Fundar una Organización Nacional de Obreros Todos A Chicago El 3 y 4 de Septiembre

La clase obrera está al punto de un avance histórico. Ahora tienen dentro de su alcance en el futuro inmediato la posibilidad de hacer un salto adelante cualitativo. Puede entrar en un nuevo escenario en su batalla contra el opresor, donde tendrá más libertad para darle a la clase dominante la justicia que merece. La formación de una organización nacional de trabajadores ya tomará lugar dentro de unas pocas semanas.

¿Está Ud. harto de ser pisoteado y empujado? ¿Ha tratado una vez de organizar a sus compañeros de trabajo para luchar? ¿Ha soñado de cambiar el mundo?

Si la respuesta a alguna de estas cuestiones es sí, entonces Ud. tiene el deber a sus hermanos trabajadores y a sí mismo a venir a Chicago el fin de semana del Día de Labor, y a traer lo más otros obreros

posibles consigo. Si le importa la cuestión de organizarse y luchar contra los patrones, debe decidir a registrarse ahorita. Si tiene algo a decir acerca de levantarse la clase obrera con su cabeza en alto y botar a las fuerzas que ahora la mantienen abajo, entonces tiene que venir al Hotel Pick Congress en Chicago para dar a saber sus opiniones, y para ayudar a hacer las decisiones necesarias en cuanto a que hacer.

Este es el mensaje básico que el Comité Organizador para una Organización Nacional de Trabajadores está llevando a miles de trabajadores a través del país en las semanas cruciales antes de la convención fundadora.

Miles de pasquines con la llamada para la convención han aparecido en las paredes por todas partes del país. Representantes del Comité Organiz-

ador han recorrido los cuatro regiones para tomar parte en actos en ciudad tras ciudad. Entre los muchos picnics que han habido para colectar dinero para la convención, se destaca el ejemplo de Nueva York, donde 350 trabajadores (además de montones de niños) asistieron, colectando más de \$1000. En los campos de North Dakota, 150 obreros campesinos mexicanos y chicanos vinieron a escuchar a un representante del Comité Organizador y ver una película sobre la huelga de Farah.

En muchas ciudades el Comité Organizador se ha ligado con luchas agudas de los trabajadores y las ha apoyado. En St. Louis el Comité Organizador ha desempeñado un papel importante en la huelga de Hussman, organizando a los obreros activos a dirigir una lucha en la cual 1100

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CONTINGENTE DE LA O.N.de.T. EN PARADA DEL DÍA PUERTORRIQUEÑO.

Beneficios De Desempleo Estatal Reducido



DESEMPLEADOS DE OHIO MARCHAN ENCONTRA CORTES EN DINERO DE EXTENSION EL 29 EL JULIO.

Al fin de julio fueron informados 218,000 trabajadores desempleados en 37 estados- 13 semanas más ahora son cortadas del tiempo de recibir los beneficios de desempleo. Esto eliminó la primera extensión-a del "estado" cual en lo más casos extendió los beneficios de 26 a 39 semanas. La extensión fue eliminada en cada estado del medio oeste excepto en Michigan y en el sur entero.

En más casos fue mandado una carta "su proxima cheque va ser la ultima." En unos pocos estados los desempleados todavía fueron eligi-

bles para recibir el resto de la extensión federal, pero en lo más estados afectados por el corteciente, la extensión federal también había sido eliminado.

En estos estados hay solamente 26 semanas de beneficios cuando en marzo fueron tan muchos como 65. 26 semanas y entonces se tiene que tomar un trabajo a paga de esclavo o ir a welfare o ir a vivir con los parientes o ser en las calles.

Los trabajadores desempleados empezaron pelear este ultraje inmediatamente.

En Washington, D.C. UWOC empezó a organizar así como fueron mandados las noticias. Una carta abierta fue circulada dirigida al jefe del centro de desempleo, demandando que saliera y explicara como la situación en Washington, que está 80% negro y tiene un nivel oficial de 9.4% de desempleo había mejorado bastante a echar remover a 2000 personas de beneficios.

Una línea de piquete esturvo fuera del centro. Los guardias trataron de mantenerla afuera, pero a despecho de ellos entraron los piqueteros.

La muchedumbre creció a 100 personas. Un hablador tras otro denunció a los cortes y demandó que el jefe de la oficina apareciera. Todo los periodicos y las emisoras de TV de Washington fueron allí pero el jefe se escondió en su oficina arriba de tras de líneas de policías.

Finalmente 25 personas subieron pero nunca apareció el.

Esta acción informó a mucha gente en la ciudad de los cortes y mucha más gente tomó la petición nacional de UWOC y empezaron planear la proxima acción.

Y ahora hemos oído que acciones están planeado para Gary Ind. y en Columbus, Ohio para todo el estado.

La excusa para este ultimo ataque contra los sin trabajos fue que el nivel de desempleo "asegurado" en los eu cayó bajo 4.5%. Esto comienza el corte en cada estado donde el nivel "asegurado" cae bajo 5%. Un estado con un nivel "asegurado", cae 5% tiene la opción de cortar la extensión, pero estados en el nordeste y otros como California y Michigan no los cortaron, temido de la reacción de los millones sin trabajos en estos

estados.

Pero el nivel oficial de desempleo acabó de subir antes que pegaron los cortes--así como bajo el nivel asegurado. En primer lugar, aun el nivel oficial publicado en los periodicos cada mes omite millones de desempleados. Si no se busca a trabajos que no existen, por ejemplo, no estas "desempleados."

El nivel "asegurado" está aun más loco. Cuenta solamente ellos quienes actualmente colectan los beneficios de desempleo. Así siendo cortado millares de beneficios diarios, o por formalismo o por la provisión de Carter de trabajar a paga de esclavo o por cortes varios de los estados, viene el "Catch 22". Lo mas personas quienes están echados de beneficios el más bajo el nivel "asegurado", así pueden cortar aun más personas!

Esto corte más reciente es una golpe mayor en la campana por los capitalistas para destruir el sistema de desempleo, y empujar abajo la clase trabajadora entera por forzar los desempleados a trabajos de sueldos mínimos en programas del gobierno o industria, aun tratando de forzar a la gente ser rompegueguistas si quieren sobrevivir.

Hace unos pocos meses anunció Ray Marshall, el Secretario de Labor, que tuvo una meta de cortar los beneficios en todas partes a 26 semanas

Ya ha movido el gobierno despiadadamente a hacer exactamente eso. Los 13 estados y Puerto Rico, cuales todavía reciben las extensiones de estado ya no pueden contar con ellas. Y los pocos estados cuales reciben la extensión federal que todavía queda están debido a perderla el 31 de

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