

THE WORKER

For the Milwaukee Area and Wisconsin

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UNEMPLOYED FIGHT BENEFIT CUTS



UNEMPLOYED INTERRUPT BIG SHOTS DINNER AT MARC PLAZA TO DEMAND JOBS AND NO CUTS IN UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS.

When the government took away the 13 week extension for two months, the unemployed workers took matters into their own hands. On February 2, they disrupted a government and business conference on unemployment and crime, and on the 16th they literally put job service director Brooks up against the wall. Both times angry workers were demanding no cuts in unemployed benefits--and building the fight for jobs.

With places like Allen Bradley and American Motors having people on long term, maybe permanent, layoff, workers can not stand for only 52 weeks of benefits. Across the country, over one million people have already run out of their benefits after 65 weeks.

To cover this cutback the ruling class facts and figures men came up with statistics to "prove" that unemployment has actually declined in Wisconsin and 19 other states. The many people who have run out of benefits or were never eligible due to firings, the many who weren't eligible be-

cause they didn't work long enough and those who have given up looking for work altogether are not included in their "facts."

In fact, unemployment actually went up during this period. Even using these kind of figures, unemployment jumped over 6% again for February. So the extension was reinstated.

At the February demonstration, sponsored by the Unemployed Workers Organizing Committee (UWOC), the workers marched right into a dinner in the Marc Plaza Hotel called by Governor Lucey. Business and government leaders from around the state were holding a conference on unemployment and crime. While these capitalists and bureaucrats swallow their lobster and steak and talk about hard times, kids go hungry and people are out of work.

The conference organizers tried to shut the unemployed out by sliding panel doors shut and cutting off the picket line from the rest of the hall, but workers pushed on through. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 13**

BUSING, MAGNET PLAN - BOTH ATTACKS

"What's going to happen to our kids?" workers of all nationalities are asking. The school board, Judge Reynolds and the bosses they work for are batting our kids back and forth. The federal government says it wants integration, and that's the issue. School head McMurrin says he wants integration plus quality education. In fact, both their plans will cause more divisions between the nationalities and cover the cutbacks on education. No matter who's plan gets through, our kids will be the losers.

To sell the busing plan, McMurrin's come up with a gimmick he calls the magnet school plan, "a voluntary busing program"--"one big school with 158 campuses." It is supposed to be a cure all to eliminate segregation, inequality and poor education in the grade schools, junior highs and high schools. But McMurrin's plan is neither voluntary, nor equal, nor better education. In fact, it widens the differences between the schools and sets up a strong tracking system throughout the schools.

Under the plan, schools will specialize in certain courses. If students want a course that their school doesn't offer, they will have to bus to another school. Each school is paired with another. So Bay View is paired with North Division, South with Custer, and so on. The idea behind the pairing of the schools seems to be the farther apart they are the better.

Whether they call it voluntary busing or not, if you have to bus to get a better education, that's forced busing.

TRACKING, NO QUALITY

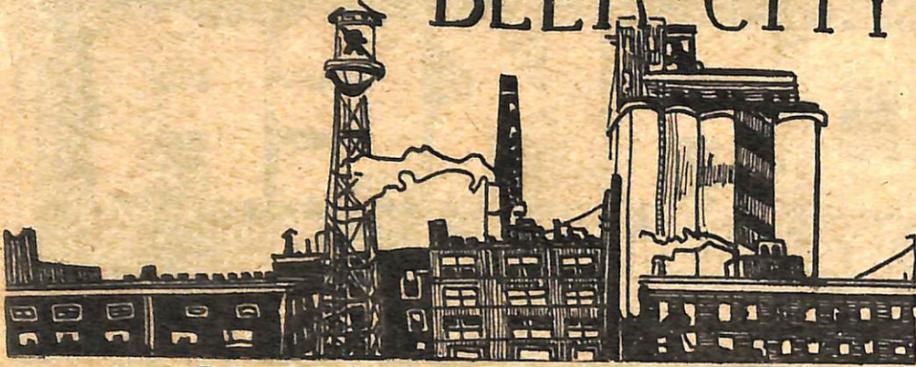
The plan still doesn't make the schools equal since more advanced courses will still be given at the larger schools and the basic courses will be given at inner city schools. For example, according to McMurrin's plan James Madison will offer 48 courses, including advanced composition, Physics Two, Swimming, and American

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



COMMITTEE TO FIGHT THE ATTACKS ON OUR SCHOOLS (CFA) ORGANIZED DETROIT WORKERS AGAINST THE BUSING PLAN.

WHAT'S BREWING IN BEER CITY



BRIGGS WORKERS SAY SAFETY FIRST

Briggs and Stratton is always telling the workers to "think safety." There are reminders about safety on the checks and outside the locker rooms. And Matt, the well-known company safety inspector, constantly tells people to wear safety glasses or get a disciplinary warning. But when workers in Department 394 Heat Treat did something about unsafe conditions, the company sang a different tune.

On a machine that sands cylinders, the chips flew out into people's faces and necks. Recently, a few workers started using an air hose from a nearby machine to blow the chips aside. As soon as Matt got the word, he flew back to the department screaming about the cost of the compressed air to the company. And we always thought that "air is free".

He was told by the workers that the machine was unsafe. He said it was perfectly safe and ordered the set-up man to plug up the air hose. But Matt never works on the machines. HOW WOULD HE KNOW WHICH MACHINES ARE SAFE?

The operator decided her eyes were more important than Briggs' production. She put out two and a half hours worth of work in eight hours. Other people who sometimes do that job decided to put out the same amount until something was done about the machine.

The grievance representative came over and said the operator had to do the job. But if she got hurt, she could sue the company. What kind of solution is that? We want safety not some money from the company after we've

lost an eye. This guy, who is paid by the union for not working, may think you can put a price on a human eye, but you can't.

That afternoon, as the woman took her time and the cylinders stacked up unsanded, Matt came back and put up a safety shield.

The company is full of ideas for the workers at Briggs to think about safety. They say to avoid horseplay. Are we supposed to "avoid" the baskets that are piled sky high? Or the aisles that are so crowded that the forklifts can't get through. How can we "avoid" the machines that repeat?

With all their talk about what we should do about safety, the company's only concern is for production and profits. Department 394 isn't the only place where unsafe conditions exist. We'll get safe conditions when we fight for them.

A woman at Briggs was talking to some friends in her department before she left to go in the hospital for surgery. The company had been working them all so hard that one friend told her, "We won't need to send you a get well card, you'll have to send us one."

DONT FORGET THE MAY DAY KICKOFF DINNER MAR. 13

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.

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THE STRONGER GETS THE MASSES

The working man is tired of taking the losses
No longer will we be run down by the bosses.
We workers are finally taking the lead
So we can meet our daily needs.

This is a fight to stop oppression
We can surely see there will be depression.
Our woman and children have joined in
And with unity we will surely win.

The bosses have put the meatcutters on the street
And try to send unemployed to cut scab meat.
With people like the unemployed workers committee
They will get no help here, not even pity.

Its not a battle of a race
Its a fight of a class.
Brothers and Sisters we must unite
That's the only way we will win this fight

We built it with blood, sweat, & tears.
We realize that the end surely nears,
For each day that passes,
The stronger gets the masses.

BY A STRIKING MEATCUTTER

GOOD BYE BOB



Bob Heller, known by meatcutters at Wisconsin Packing as the most obnoxious supervisor in the whole packing industry, has received his walking papers. His constant bullying of the workers helped make Wisconsin Packing one of the biggest houses in Milwaukee in just 15 years. With the strike on Heller's job was to get production out of the scabs. Looks like his best wasn't good enough for Floyd Segal, head of the company. It all goes to show it's a cut-throat system. Big Bob Heller won't be missed!

EDITORIAL: CHANNEL 12 ATTACKS MEATCUTTERS STRIKE

On Tuesday, February 24, channel 12's "Thirty Minutes" program ran a news analysis of the year old meatcutters strike. Ron Scott, the commentator, claimed that the station would not take sides, but that was not the case.

In light of all the contracts coming up in 1976, this show aroused a lot of interest. Why had the strike lasted so long? What were the real issues? Can a strike succeed in hard times? Should the meatcutters have accepted the companies wage cutting offer?

"Thirty Minutes" proved to be no different than the rest of the media and press in answering these questions. Scab herding lawyer Patrick Brigden said the same thing he has said over and over again on TV: the strike was the workers fault. The company has always been reasonable.

After several flashes of a smiling Pat Brigden and Bond, the union president, Scott got to the real meat of the program. If wages had not been cut, the packing industry would have had to go under. Then there would be no market for Wisconsin's old dairy cows. This was nothing but a cheap attempt to divide meatcutters from Wisconsin's small dairy farmers.

It was surprising that TV 12 didn't

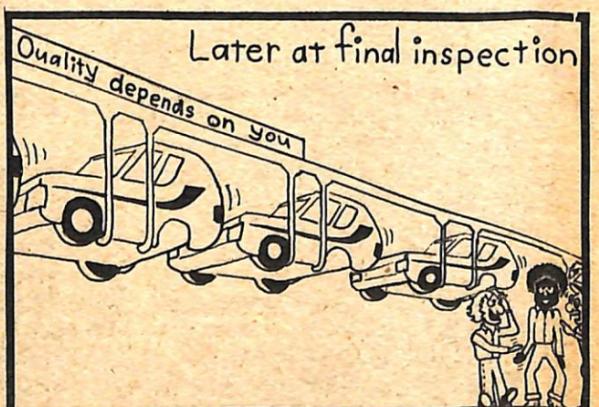
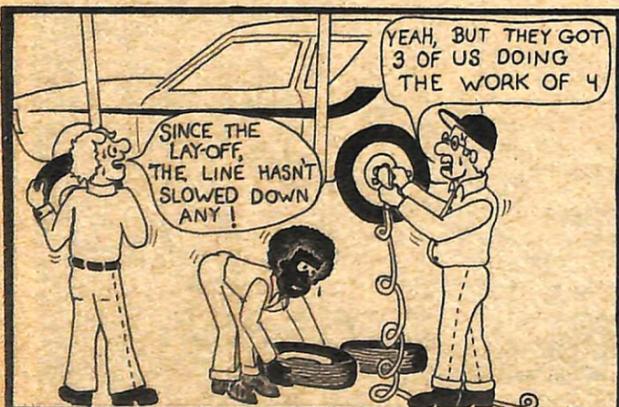
blame the strikers for high beef prices. The media had done this early in the strike. But now beef prices are down compared to other meat, and they could not put out that nonsense.

Not that they are above nonsense. In fact the final half of the show would have been pure nonsense if it had not been so cold and calculated in trying to confuse the issues of the strike and insult the workers.

The final segment of the program in almost Dick Tracy enthusiasm, was a so-called expose of the "infiltration" of the strike by The Worker, the local paper of the Revolutionary Communist Party (RCP), and by the Unemployed Workers Organizing Committee (UWOC). Scott implied that the length of the strike, the mass mobilizations, and its violence were a result of the "left wing" or "outside agitators."

The length and bitterness of the strike is a result of the Meatpackers Association attacks: plans to cut wages for some jobs by as much as \$1.50 an hour; the firing of over 240 strikers; and the use of the bosses' hired guns, the police, to escort scabs into the plants and brutalize strikers on the picket lines.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



MEATCUTTERS DINNER BUILDS UNITY

Almost 13 months on the picket line, scabs crossing the lines every day, over 100 arrests; injunction stacked on top of injunctions, 240 strikers fired, numerous attacks from the cops, courts and National Labor Relations Board--none of this has killed the bitter determination of the striking meatcutters. Many had known for a long time this would be no easy battle. Some were veterans of past strikes. Many had begun preparing months in advance for a tough strike.

With this fighting spirit, meatcutters, their families, and many other workers joined in a Meatcutters Solidarity Dinner on Feb. 14. After taking care of everything from fried chicken, to enchiladas and corn beef and cabbage, the crowd warmed up to an inspiring program of music and speeches. As the lessons of the militant strike were driven home, the crowd rose to its feet several times clapping and shouting approval. When the high point was reached at the end of the evening the message of working class unity was ringing wall to wall.

When two steelworkers told of their strike against Wyman-Gordon down in Chicago, the crowd made it clear it was with them. An American Motors worker from "Auto Workers United to Fight in '76" spoke. "We learned from your strike. With our contract coming up we are organizing nationwide. Earlier we leafleted the AMC plant in Toledo. We are organizing our strength, which is 750,000 auto workers."

In the crowd were many workers who

face contracts later this year. For them the meatcutters had a special message, "If they bring in scabs, bust heads. Our power is in our numbers, our unity and action. When the strike started, the streets were filled with strikers ready and able to use the muscle we got lugging and boning the chucks and ribs of this nation. Ready to use that muscle defending our jobs. But the union officials advised that the fighting should be left to the lawyers in the court room. Battle after battle was lost in the court room."

These union leaders and their court room strategy were a chain on the strike from the beginning. A speaker at the dinner said, "They sit in their big leather chairs, in their plush offices, just like corporation heads. They hob nob with the bosses. They are mainly interested in collecting dues, just like the Meatpackers Assn. is mainly interested in bleeding more profits out of us. And like the saying goes, if it looks like a duck, and it walks like a duck, then damn it, it's a duck!"

Strikers built this dinner as a way to bring greater solidarity behind the strike. Over the past year, thousands of workers have marched, contributed money, boycotted, and spread word of the fight. In June over 1000 people came out for a massive rally--the biggest local expression of workers unity in over 30 years.

Most recently meatcutters, strikers from another company, Hein Werner, members of the Unemployed Workers



PART OF THE CROWD AT MEATCUTTERS' SOLIDARITY DINNER.



WORKING CLASS UNITY-WORKERS FROM GP&F PICKET WITH MEATCUTTERS

Organizing Committee, and other workers united to hit a banquet of the Personnel/Industrial Relations Society of Wisconsin. The main speaker was Patrick Brigden, the union busting attorney of the Meatpackers and Hein Werner. He was speaking on how to break strikes to some of Wisconsin's top corporate executives, many of whom have labor contracts expiring later this year. Chanting "Hell No! Union Busting's Got To Go!" they echoed their point into the ruling class dinner and out to the local working class on the ten o'clock news.

As the strike passed the one year mark, the National Labor Relations Board struck a serious blow at the meatcutters' struggle. They dismissed all the union's unfair labor practice charges against the Association. This decision cleared the way for a new union representation election and the possible decertification of Local 248. After initiating the injunctions that protects the scabs, and asking the Local 248 be held in contempt; now the Labor

Board will be supervising an election in which the scabs will be eligible to vote and the over 200 fired strikers will have their votes challenged and possibly rejected. The promises of the union leadership, that victory lay in relying on the legal system, were once again proven to be bankrupt. More and more strikers clearly see that they have only their own unity and the solidarity of the rest of the working class to rely on.

As one of the speakers at the Solidarity dinner said, "Even if we have to go back in and re-organize our strength, I don't think we really lost. This strike has given us something the bosses can never take away--unity and pride as workers. Men and women who are proud that we work with our hands. Proud of the fact that we have created the wealth of this country."

"Being a meatcutter isn't a job, it's a battle cry. And let me tell you--someday, somebody is going to pay for what they've done to us." ■

'76 ELECTIONS NOTHING BUT A SHAM

When the political hacks come marching into town for the April primary, the TV, radio and newspapers will report their every action and word. And when they're gone, they leave behind a pile of false promises and a few matchbooks.

All this commotion is designed to make us think we really have a choice. It's taking place when the capitalist system is in its worst crisis since the thirties. And none of the election promises can touch unemployment, already massive and long term, prices that tower over wages, and the daily attacks that come down at work.

Because things are so bad, all the politicians are pretending to speak to the problems of the people. Each politician would like us to believe that he will bring us out of the crisis.

This year is a little different in one respect. The politicians are getting worried. They see that no one wants to hear their "vote-for-me-I'll-get-you-free" talk. Newspapers are full of stories about voter apathy and the "lack of any popular movement behind any candidates."

Most people could care less about the politicians and their promises. It's no

secret why. With a choice between the Democrats--whichever one it will be--and the Republicans, workers will come up short either way.

The Democrats and the Republicans make a big deal about their "differences". But their only differences are how to increase the profits of the ruling class. And no matter how you cut it, it will be at our expense.

Ford's record is clear enough. He's vetoed a number of bills creating government jobs. He says jobs must come from private businesses. So he proposes big tax breaks for the companies, \$6.2 billion in 1977 alone. The government would pay \$10 out of every \$100 invested in new machinery. And that's our tax money!

But they don't give a damn about creating new jobs. New machinery will be used to get even more work out of fewer and fewer workers. The result will be an increase, not a decrease, in unemployment.

Ford's also proposing direct attacks on unemployed workers. Job training funds would be cut 25%. Unemployment benefits would be chopped down from 65 to 39 weeks. All this is to save

the government money and force the unemployed into minimum wage jobs, if they can find them.

The union hacks are busy telling us that all the problems come from Nixon and Ford and to "vote Democratic." But the Democrats are more of the same.

The Democratic Congress has already given big business a 7% cut in taxes. And all their talk about jobs is just cheap talk to win our votes.

Their proposals call for a handful of government jobs. The last bill was for 500,000 jobs. What are the other nine and a half million unemployed supposed to do?

In fact, under similar programs last year, the jobs were not "created" at all. In New York, public service workers were laid off from their regular jobs and offered new jobs--at lower pay!

Many public jobs are only part-time and most are for minimum wage. We want union jobs at union wages.

The one thing no one talks about cutting is the military budget. Ford plans a 9% increase and the Democrats are also talking about an increase. As

the US starts to gear up for war, the military budget is sacred to all the politicians.

When you get beyond the surface, the programs of both the Democrats and the Republicans boil down to one thing--increased efforts to exploit the working class and intensified preparations for war. And that's what the capitalist class has to offer.

But they tell us, "It's a free country, vote for your choice." But the elections are just a sideshow for a whole system that's stacked against us. When did we vote for unemployment and inflation? When did we vote to send troops and money to Vietnam or Angola? When did we vote for the right of the bosses to profit from our labor? These things didn't come about by voting and they won't go away by voting.

There's one choice that won't be on the ballots. That's building the struggle of the working class, fighting for the things we need and building the fight against the whole capitalist system. That's the only way forward and that's the nightmare every politician and boss keeps waking up with. ■

HEIN WERNER STRIKERS REJECT COMPANY OFFER 10-1

Hein Werner strikers rejected the company's "final offer" 10 to 1 in late February, maintaining the unity and determination they went out with last fall. In the past month, the company has hired 50 scabs as "permanent employees". The company also went to their loyal friend, the court, and obtained a court order. The injunction orders an end to any "stopping and harassing of trucks and non-striking employees". After these new attacks, the company was confident the workers would fold. But the workers aren't through fighting.

Workers originally went out demanding an end to the piecework system. After years of rate cutting, they wanted decent daywork rates. Since then, they've modified their demands, trying to win a better piecework system. In their "final offer", the bosses wanted to take money away from some workers and give a little to other workers. The top 40% of the pieceworkers would have lost money, from 50¢ to \$1. The bottom 60% would have gotten a small increase. But the guys rejected this divide and conquer scheme and threw the offer in the company's face.

In the end of January, Hein Werner began hiring scabs. For two weeks, the scabs remained small. For every scab added to the payroll, the workers convinced another not to come back. Strikers followed scabs home and a number of workers came down to bol-

ster the picket lines at the end of the day.

Two workers were assaulted by some scabs with pipes and chains. After this, the company went to the court for the injunction. They'll use any excuse—even the violence of their own goons—to try and handcuff the strikers.

Strikers are now limited to 4 pickets at each driveway and 2 to the walk in entrances. One of their most powerful weapons, a mass picket line, is now banned by the court. All this is done in the name of fairness. The courts say "you have the right to strike and the scabs have the right to scab". But no matter how you cut it, this "equality and fairness" comes up only one way, on the side of the company.

One striker remarked how all this is coming at election time. While all the politicians are running around making promises about jobs and everything else, in practice, the government is doing everything they can to defeat the fight of the Hein Werner workers for their jobs.

This fall, Kraft strikers in Pennsylvania also faced injunctions. They had to defy two separate court orders in order to win their strike. The first forbid any mass picketing. The workers picketed anyway. The second forbid them to be within a mile of the plant. A militant march went to the plant and chased the scabs away. The strikers made sacrifices--some were arrested,



AFTER SIX MONTHS ON STRIKE, HEIN WERNER WORKERS ARE STILL DETERMINED TO WIN

some even lost their jobs--but they won the strike.

The workers at Hein Werner expected this strike. Many had saved up money. The company had stalled on bargaining before the contract expired. The guys have been through a lot, 6 months is a long time. But through it all, the

workers have kept their unity and determination high. Many workers are saying they don't care if Hein Werner shuts down or if they never go back, they're not going to work under the company's terms. Hein Werner will need a lot more than a few scabs and the courts to beat these determined workers. ■

SOVIET IMPERIALISTS BEAT OUT U.S. RIVALS IN ANGOLA

For centuries the Angolan people were kept under the heel of Portuguese colonialism, kept in poverty and misery and driven like slaves to enrich their exploiters. Angola's vast resources, including large oil and diamond deposits, have never gone to improve life for the people, but have always been ripped off to benefit foreign powers. Like people anywhere, the Angolan people resisted this exploitation and oppression, and in the last twelve years waged a heroic armed struggle, which helped topple the Portuguese government and won independence. Yet today, less than a year after the departure of the Portuguese, Angola is once again occupied by foreign troops, this time thousands of Cuban soldiers under the order of Soviet "advisors."

This crime of occupying Angola was done in the name of "supporting national liberation" by the Soviet Union which calls itself "revolutionary" and

"communist." But "liberation" imposed on a country by the troops, tanks, and guns of foreign aggressors is not liberation at all, but naked imperialist aggression. And for this reason, genuine revolutionaries and communists throughout the world, including the Revolutionary Communist Party of this country and the People's Republic of China have denounced Soviet aggression as well as that of the US, for exactly what it is.

SUPERPOWERS BEHIND ANGOLA WAR

During the long struggle against Portugal three different organizations, each based mainly in a different part of the country and on a different tribal grouping, fought for independence. But as soon as it was obvious that Portugal was going to be booted out, both the US and the USSR hovered over Angola like vultures hoping to seize Angola's rich resources for themselves. Both superpowers took advan-

tage of weaknesses and exploiting classes within these groups that were fighting for independence. Each poured millions of dollars of military equipment into the organizations most under its influence, provoking a civil war which as things developed became more

and more a war between the US and USSR themselves, with Angolans and soldiers from other countries doing the fighting and dying.

The Soviets ordered Cuba, long under the thumb of the USSR, to send over

CONT. ON PAGE 13

B-E Workers Hit Harassment

The myth that Bucyrus Erie or any other company is "depression proof" is breaking apart for the guys at the giant South Milwaukee crane plant. Every day brings new attacks, like job eliminations, rate cutting, and increased harassment.

Many jobs have been eliminated, especially in the foundry and machine shop. A job that used to be rated for two "A" welders is now rated for an "A" and a "B" welder. Since the "B" welder can not do set-up, nobody makes any money.

Every day also brings a growing determination on the part of the workers not to let Bucyrus Erie grind them into the dirt. The rate cutting has been met by scattered slowdowns and rate grievances. Some welders slowed down a job for six months to protest a ridiculously low rate. Arc air burners have begun to file rate grievances to hit the lousy rates.

The harassment has brought on incidents like twelve workers hitting the locker room five minutes early to protest no hot-water. When they were all given final written warnings their answer was to all file grievances demanding that the write ups get thrown out.

Bucyrus Erie, like every capitalist company, is constantly trying to maxi-

mize its profits--and since all the profits come from the labor of the workers, the bosses constantly try to make them more productive, in other words, speed them up. Even a year ago, write ups for absenteeism were almost unheard of, because Bucyrus Erie always had a lot of problems finding anybody to work there since it has always been a lousy place to work. But now, with millions looking for work, the company is starting a crackdown and has fired workers with up to ten years seniority for absenteeism.

However, the workers in the shop have an answer for Bucyrus Erie--a fighting rank and file. Recently, some people got together and started a newsletter--the Unity Bulletin. The plan is to use this newsletter to build and link up all the various fights of the workers and build a fighting rank and file organization.

The guys don't see it as starting their own union. In fact, part of their program is to make their union, Steelworkers local 1343, a union that mobilizes the workers to fight. With the contract coming up September 1, things are heating up pretty fast and the workers are saying this time the heat is going to be on the bosses. ■



TEN THOUSAND CUBAN TROOPS UNDER SOVIET 'ADVISORS' HELPED TO CONQUER ANGOLA FOR THE RUSSIAN IMPERIALISTS.

STEELWORKERS CONTRACT UP MAY 1st MAKE REXNORD PAY!

Steelworkers at the Rexnord plant in West Milwaukee are beginning to prepare for their upcoming contract. Without a doubt, the company will be trying to take away past gains and make new attacks. But the guys in the shop are ready to take a stand, to protect their past gains and force even more out of the company.

A couple of months ago, union president Gilker spoke about not expecting too much this year because of the economy. And the newspapers are full of talk about how "labor" should be reasonable and compromise.

But the workers at Rexnord can't afford to compromise. For the 200 unemployed, this B.S. of living on \$100 unemployment benefits while Rexnord profits from the work we do has got to stop. Rexnord workers need jobs. But while they're laid off, they need income. They want SUB pay, where the company adds to the unemployment benefits to reach 95% of your take home pay.

In the past year, Rexnord has laid off guys and increased harassment, trying to get more work out of those left in the plant. In one section of the plant, Rexnord instituted a plan, the point system, to "control absenteeism and tardiness". The rank and file organized and after a long struggle forced the company to back down. But now the company is reviving the plan again. Workers beat the point system once and they can beat it again. They're determined to keep all harassment schemes out of the contract.

Workers at Rexnord are looking for money too. In 1974, they fought hard to get a cost of living clause, now paying 80¢ an hour. The company better keep their hands off that! But the guys are still behind inflation. And with the slow work, the pieceworkers have lost money.

The union bargaining committee is only proposing an annual 3-5% wage increase. They reason that workers can't ask for more than the so-called

"national productivity increase". But the workers are demanding a decent increase no matter how fast or slow they work, not the 15¢ the union officials are talking about.

The International and the local sell-outs look at the contract as a compromise. The company gives up a little, the workers give up a little and everyone is supposed to be happy.

But the contract is not a truce. It doesn't represent an end to the fighting in the constant war between workers and the big bosses. But by organizing their strength and fighting for every possible gain in the contract, workers will be in a better position to carry out the struggle beyond the contract.

A rank and file committee has begun to organize their strength to get a decent contract. By building struggle and organization throughout the plant and keeping things in the hands of the rank and file, workers can win a victory.

The union bargaining committee has come up with a "shopping list" of demands. In the same breath, they say "we can't win very much", then they say "we're going for everything". It's an attempt to confuse the membership and take away any focus for the contract struggle.

Workers have a million demands to make. But we don't live in Disneyland and under this system, we can't win the whole "shopping list". The officials are refusing to name what the most important demands are, because then the workers would make them fight for those demands.

Recently, the Steelworkers International proposed a master agreement for all the Rexnord locals. There would be one national contract for Rexnord. This is part of a drive by the International at some 160 companies.

The idea of unity between the plants is nothing new. Workers would like to see a nationwide fight against Rexnord.



REXNORD WORKERS ARE READY TO DEFEND PAST GAINS AND FORCE EVEN MORE FROM THE COMPANY

But in the hands of the International, it will be a nationwide sellout.

It's hard enough keeping track of local officials when they're negotiating on the contract. Imagine what it would be like keeping tabs on the International across the country! At this time, a national contract would weaken the power of the rank and file, putting the contract more into the hands of the union bureaucrats. The proposed master agreement would be a step backwards for the workers at Rexnord. Rank and file workers must control the bargaining, not the union hacks.

The union officials have always tried to run the contract fight. These sell-outs would be happy if the only thing workers did was show up to approve their bargaining.

But Rexnord workers can't win that way. A few officials, even if they were good ones, can't beat the company. It's the actions of the rank and file that can.

150 workers came to the February union meeting to make sure the bargaining committee fights for their demands. A rank and file committee has had a number of meetings. They plan to put out a leaflet summing up the major demands--against layoffs and harassment and to win a decent wage increase and plantwide seniority. They want to organize the fighting spirit that the union officials are afraid of.

Despite the company and the defeatist line of the union sellouts, workers will be fighting harder than ever to make Rexnord pay. ■

CALL FOR REGIONAL CONFERENCE

LET'S GET THEM OFF OUR BACKS! BUILD THE JULY 4th MARCH!

On the weekend of Feb. 14 and 15, the Vietnam Veterans Against the War held a successful National Steering Committee meeting in Chicago. Present were invited observers from other organizations, including the Unemployed Workers Organizing Committee, the Revolutionary Communist Party, and the Revolutionary Student Brigade. This opportunity was used for all four organizations to get together and form the July 4 Coalition. Initial plans were made for regional conferences to build for a July 4 demonstration in Philadelphia. The following call for these conferences was issued.

As we all know, the bosses and the politicians are having a big Bicentennial celebration and want everybody to come out July 4 to celebrate the first 200 years of life in this country.

The owning class and their politicians all have a thousand things to say why we working people should go. They page through the history books (the ones they wrote) and say how great things have been, how Washington defeated the British, how Lincoln freed the slaves, how Roosevelt gave us unemployment benefits and unions and

"economic security", and on and on. They point to all that's been built in this country-- the buildings, cars, railways, planes, bridges-- and claim that it's been the Rockefellers and the Fords who've created the wealth of this country.

And then they take a look at the

country now and say "Of course unemployment is high, and everything is falling apart, but at least you are free." Constantly the "common interests" we have in the system is drummed out as they call on us "to rekindle the spirit of '76, make sacrifices, bite the bullet and produce more

so we can all get out of the present crisis."

Fellow workers, to all this we say No, No, a thousand times No! Everything right and decent that has ever been done in this country has been done by us, the working people who, in fact, make up the real backbone and the great majority of society. Yes, we working people fought the battles and sacrificed our lives to both defeat the British and end slavery. It has been our hard work and labor that has built up all the wealth in this country. And if we accomplished all this in the past, forced to do it under the conditions of their crazy dog eat dog set up, just imagine what we workers could accomplish now if we were free of that.

But we were robbed of the fruits of our labor by that class of parasites that runs the government and all of society for their profits and luxury. And even the gains of our struggle, like our unions, they try to turn against us. What is this "common interest" between us and the owners? For 200 years our hard work and all it has produced, has carried a small handful of bosses and enabled them to live CONT. ON PAGE 11



YOUNG PEOPLE DEMONSTRATE IN DETROIT FOR JOBS AND A RECREATION CENTER. WITH NO FUTURE UNDER THIS SYSTEM, YOUNG PEOPLE WILL BE AMONG THOSE AT THE PHILADELPHIA DEMONSTRATION ON JULY 4

TWO WARRIORS MURDERED JUSTICE FOR THE MENOMINEE!

John Waubanscum and Arlin Pamanet, two members of the Menominee Warrior Society, were murdered on February 3rd by Menominee County Sheriff, Kenneth Fish. Even a report by the State Justice Department confirms that both John and Arlin were shot in the back and that neither had taken any shots at Fish. According to friends of the slain warriors, Pamanet was left to bleed to death.

The official report, intended by Governor Lucey to clamp a lid on the anger and outrage of the people, freed Sheriff Fish of any wrongdoing in the killings. It called the murders self defense. The Menominee people see Fish for the thug he is and are demanding he be removed from office. Hundreds of people marched in Madison for several days in support of the Menominee people--demanding that Fish be kicked out and all charges be dropped against four other defendants for the takeover of the monastery last winter.

The murders and the official seal of approval are part of a pattern of fierce repression of the Menominee struggle. One of the dead men, Waubanscum, was one of five members of the Menominee Warrior Society facing charges with maximum jail time totalling over 90 years. The other four go to trial April 1 for their part in the Warrior Society takeover of the Alexian Brothers monastery one year ago.

The Warriors were challenging centuries of oppression when they took over that unused mansion on New Years Eve, 1975. With guns in hand, they were hitting back at the theft of their land, the poverty forced on them and the way

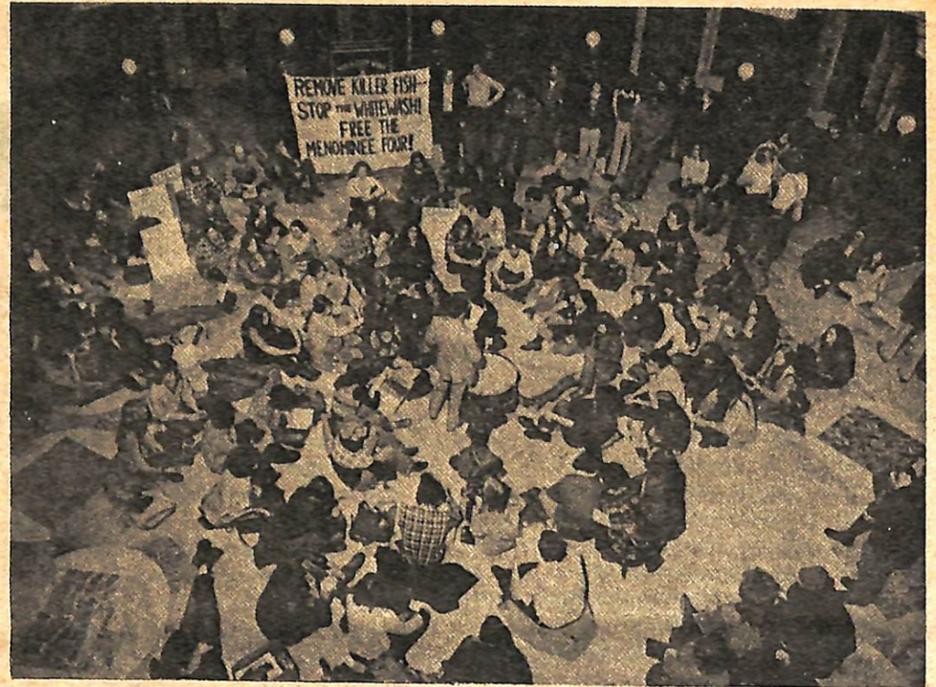
the capitalists have trampled on their people. They were fighting for better health care and education on the reservation. The Warriors were standing up to the present tribal leadership that works hand in hand with the banks and government to keep the Indian people down. Most of all, the Warriors were saying, "We refuse to live like this anymore".

Now John and Arlin are dead, killed in the name of a system that could not allow its power challenged. Two voices that raised the cry for freedom as an example to the Menominee and all struggling people, are silenced.

These killings were only the most recent cases of police repression on the Menominee reservation. Several months ago, an Indian youth, Leslie Gugaon, was beaten to within an inch of his life by one of Fish's deputies. Fish himself has a reputation for drunkenness and brutality--once firing his gun wildly in the direction of a crowd outside a bar in Neopit.

Fish was chosen by Governor Lucey and state officials because he promised to deal with the Warriors. Since the takeover, state and federal money has expanded the police force from less than 10 to over 60 deputies, plus FBI advisors. And when the Federal government takes charge on the reservation when it returns to tribal status, Fish will be kept on as sheriff.

The atmosphere on the reservation is one of heavy repression, just like on the Pine Ridge Sioux Reservation, the site of the 1973 Wounded Knee takeover. There, literally dozens of Indians have



PEOPLE HELD SEVERAL DEMONSTRATIONS IN THE CAPITAL LAST MONTH TO DEMAND THAT SHERIFF FISH BE REMOVED AND TO SUPPORT THE MENOMINEE FOUR.

been killed by thugs on the local police force or federal marshalls.

The aim of all this vicious repression is to kill a movement--a fight that is growing for the rights of Indian people. The lumber, banking, tourist, ranching and energy interests along with the capitalist system as a whole is trying to keep Indian people down.

The struggle is bound to grow. The people will not forget the blood spilled by the two Warriors. They will keep on demanding, Remove Fish from Office and Free the Menominee Warriors!

PST WORKERS SMASH NEW BY-LAW

The workers at Pressed Steel Tank smashed two proposed pro-company by-law changes at the February union meeting of Steelworkers Local 1569. If the changes had passed, they would have eliminated several stewards and cut down the size of the grievance committee.

At the meeting the lines were clearly drawn when the first speaker got up and said, "We need more and better representatives, not less." After that speaker after speaker took the floor to speak out against this latest sellout. By the time the misleaders in the union leadership got up to talk in favor, the outcome was clear. The vote was something like 50 to 2.

Most of the executive board supported the by-law and had their front men on the committee propose the changes. But when the sellouts saw the unanimous amount of NO votes, they let their front men fall through thin ice by not even voting for their own proposal.

The workers are tired of sellout policies. They are still bitter about being tricked into voting for a lousy pension clause after last summer's ten week strike.

By this defeat PST and its friends in the union leadership have gone as far as they can go in dismantling the union and turning it into their own personal collection agency.

Just last year the local was broken in two when the government claimed PST was a monopoly and ordered one of the two plants sold. This cut the local membership by one third. The order set the stage for the 1569 local leaders to say not as many union positions were needed.

The rest of the working class faces the same kind of attacks. At American Motors the company is trying to do the same kind of thing by trying to cut down on the number of stewards.

And at one Steelworker local in Baltimore, some union mis-leaders went so far as to try to eliminate all rank and file union members who are laid off more than one year. This was defeated and so will all the rest of these attacks.

The small clique that runs the union thought they could pile up some points with the company--by weakening the union. But the Pressed Steel workers know an attack when they see one. They face stepped up harassment and speedup.

The workers will fight to protect any weapon they can use against the company. That's why they defeated the by-laws.

POLICE REPRESSION & CORRUPTION: ALL PART OF THE SYSTEM

What? Corruption in the police force? Haven't Police Chief Breier and a lot of other local politicians always "talked up" Milwaukee's "clean" police force, free from payoffs, bribery, gangster ties, repression of citizens? What's all this exposure about that's recently been hitting the fan?

Detectives getting drunk on the job, on free drinks traded for "protection services"; the River Queen, a downtown bar, being used by gun-toting, drinking, brawling and generally degenerate cops as an after hours club; alcoholism in all the ranks; sheriffs on the take, dealing in stolen guns and drugs.

And then there's the whole area of kickbacks. A detective recently was exposed for his tie with Milwaukee's organized crime. The detective gave Max Adonis, a figure in the Sally Papia trial, a picture of a rival drug dealer, who later turned up dead in Colorado.

The Journal and Sentinel have been making a big deal out of the "pity the poor cop" routine. The stories they've been running have been loaded with the alcoholism issue, blaming Breier as the world's worst police chief who has no concern for his men.

But the corruption is not because of dishonest cops. It's not because of alcohol. And it's not because of one bad police chief.

The system we live under is a class system. And the ruling class needs an "army" of police to maintain and regulate its business of exploiting the rest of us.

The job of the police is to protect the boss, his profits, and his system. On the picket line, they're there to do what the boss wants. They escort scabs across the lines, and, if necessary, make arrests and bust heads.

Because the rich man wants to hold all workers down, the cops job is to



COPS "DO THEIR JOB" ON THE PICKET LINE AT PECK PACKING. BRUTALITY, CORRUPTION, AND REPRESSION ARE ALL PART OF THE ROLE POLICE PLAY AS DEFENDERS OF THE SYSTEM.

divide whites from Blacks and other minorities. When this means racist comments, they do it. When it means harassment and searches, that's their job. And when it means terrorizing people or even shooting down 16 year old kids, the police are ready for the assignment.

Because they perform so well for the boss, there's a thousand little privileges they can grab as rewards. One of the most obvious privilege they have is that they hardly work at all--which is why they have so much time on their hands to visit saloons or sit in George Webb's during "working hours".

And, of course, when they figure out how to buy into a little bit of organized crime, the ruling class looks the other way--unless the cops get exposed

or go too far.

Despite all the claims by cops that they are really just workers or that they're union men, too, they are not a part of the working class. In fact, they are kept apart from the people by their role as arrogant enforcers for the rich.

The only way to do away with corrupt and repressive police is to do away with the system which needs this blue army to hold it together. No one can reform the police department. But we can build our strength in the fight against its repression.

And we can overthrow this system, because "the working class is freedom bound. Ain't nobody going to hold us down." ■

May Day is the international holiday the working class. The day when the workers of the world marshal their strength for the struggle ahead.

May Day first began in this country when workers took to the streets and shut down entire cities on May 1st demanding the 8 hour day. Four workers were shot down in Bay View as Milwaukee area workers joined the nation-wide movement.

Today in the US, the lines of struggle are becoming sharper and more fierce ... the working class against the ruling class. Every day we can see them more clearly.

The meatpackers union busting, wage cutting attacks on the meatcutters, 178,000 jobs in auto eliminated in the last 2 years with one fifth of Milwaukee's AMC workers on extended lay-offs, real wages taking a nose dive as inflation soars. In the shops we face job combinations, rate cuts, lay-offs and speedup. With contracts covering over 4 million workers coming up this year, the stage is set for more attacks and sharper struggle.

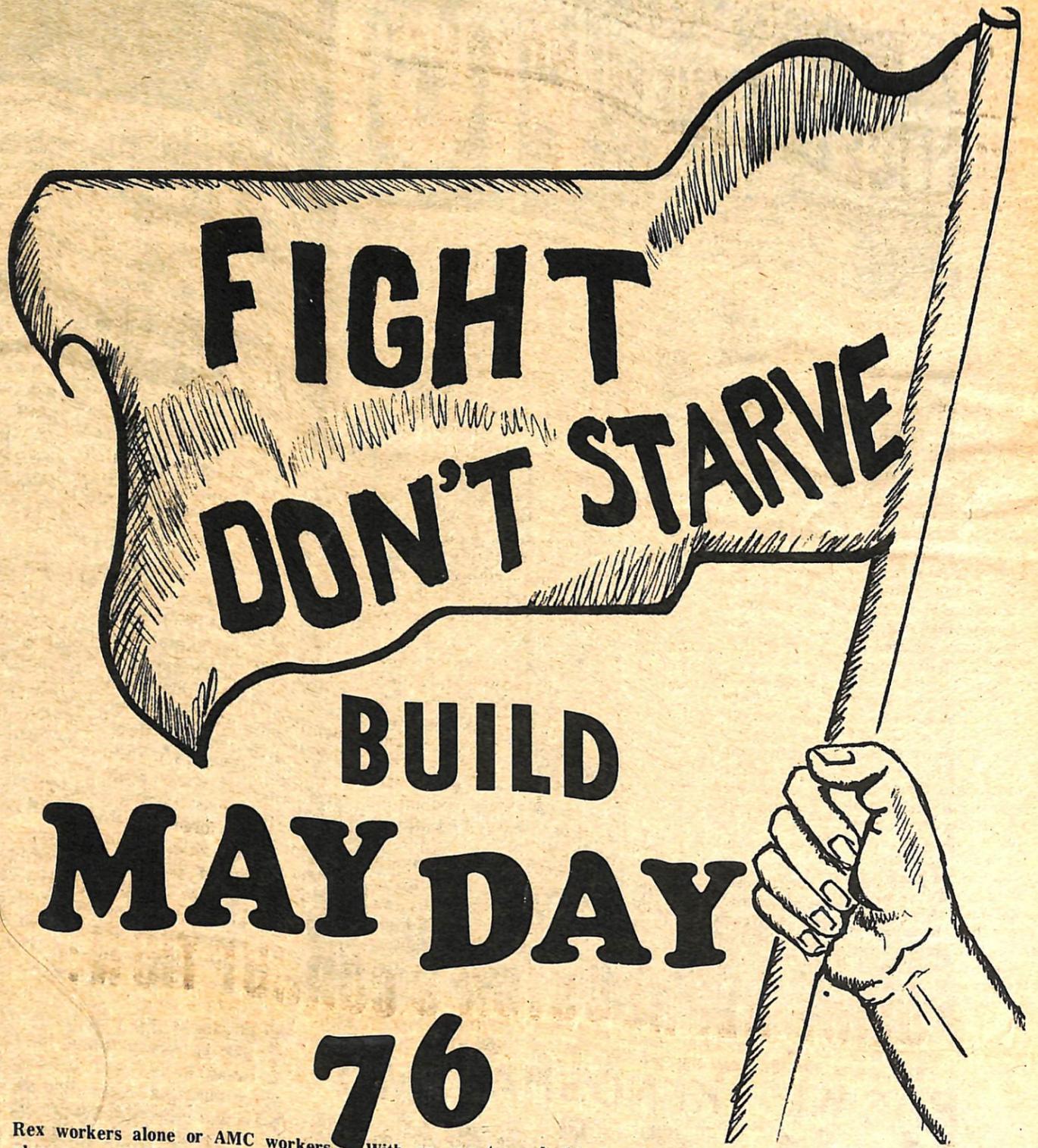
Unemployment benefits are under constant threat of being cut. Our schools and neighborhoods have continued to fall apart. And we are always under the threat of being cannon fodder for yet another war.

All of this has been met with increasing resistance. There have been countless battles, all the way from grievances and slowdowns in departments to the year long meatcutters strike, the mighty wildcat of 80,000 coal miners last summer. In many of these battles we've faced not only the companies ruthless drive for profits but the union misleaders and traitors who try to chain our struggle in.

There have been growing actions for jobs or income, for quality and equal education, and against police terror. There has been struggle against all forms of exploitation and oppression.

In all of these battles we have built our movement against the rich class of capitalists that live by stealing the fruits of our labor. Whether in small fights, like the Heil workers who walked out when a brother was given a layoff for refusing overtime, or big ones, like the one thousand workers who rallied with the meatcutters in June, we have begun to flex our muscle. Thousands are raising their battle cry: **FIGHT, DON'T STARVE!**

In these battles of the workers, as they're forced to struggle against their own union leaders, as they realize that



Rex workers alone or AMC workers alone cannot effectively fight unemployment, they begin to see the need to organize themselves as a class. The working class needs to organize the fight against the entire system of the ruling class. We have no other choice.

With an eye toward this kind of organization, a dinner and program will be held at Solski's Hall, 801 E. Clarke Street, on Saturday, March 13. At this dinner we will begin to develop our goals for this year's May Day and build a broad May Day committee that

will make it happen. For this May Day to be a powerful demonstration of working class unity we must begin our planning early.

COME TO THE DINNER. ALL OUT FOR MAY DAY!

SATURDAY MARCH 13 th

SOLSKI'S HALL

Dinner 6p m

Program 7:15

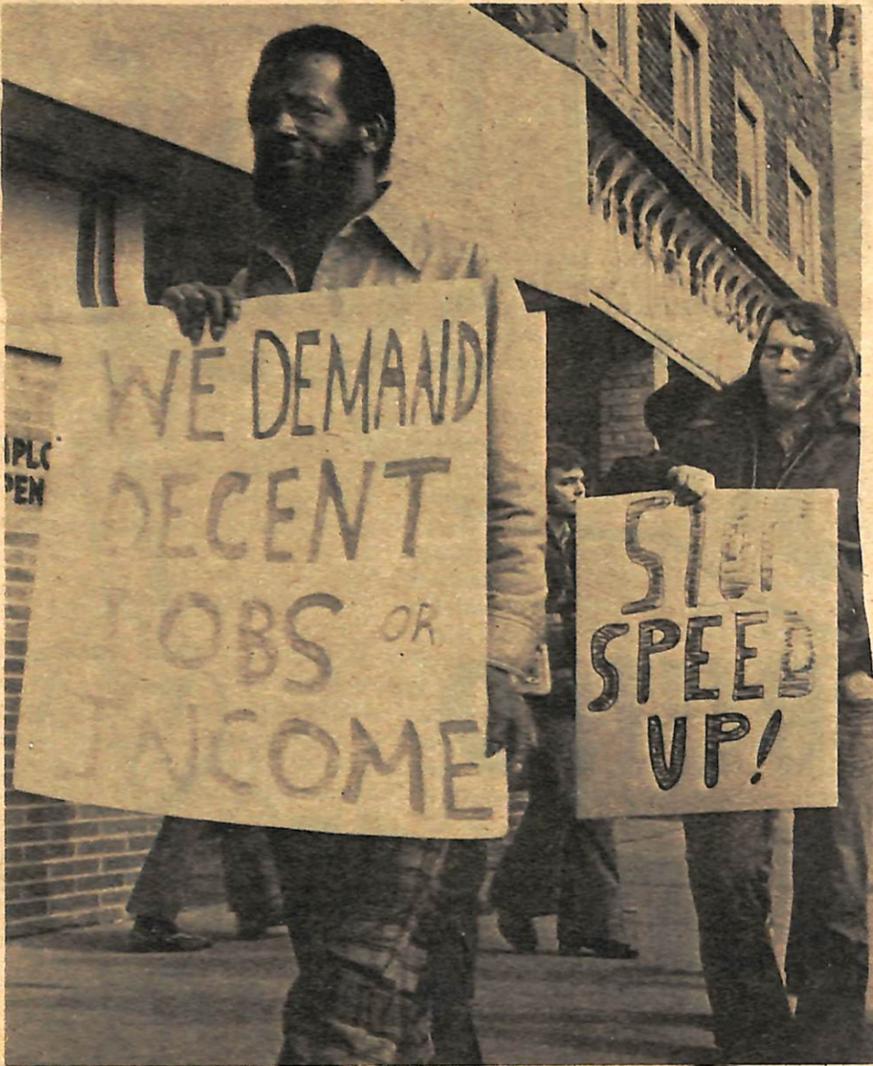
801 East Clark

EMPLOYED \$2

UNEMPLOYED \$1

**WORKERS UNITE TO LEAD
THE FIGHT AGAINST ALL OPPRESSION
DOWN WITH THE SYSTEM OF
WAGE SLAVERY!**

FIGHT FOR



FIGHTING TIMES, A GROUP OF RANK & FILE AMC WORKERS, & UWOC DEMANDED UNEMPLOYMENT OFFICE COME ACROSS WITH CHECKS.

RACINE - KENOSHA AMC Unity & Action Wins Checks

The Unemployment office in Racine was rocked by a demonstration of angry autoworkers and members of the Unemployed Workers Organizing Committee (UWOC) on February 24. The picket line swelled and spirits grew as two carloads of laid off American Motors workers from Milwaukee arrived.

Members of Fighting Times, a rank and file workers organization from AMC, called for the picket line to demand that one brother who was laid off for two months start receiving his checks.

The demands of the autoworkers did not stop at demanding unemployment

checks. The unemployed and employed were uniting to fight for jobs!

From AMC's attempt to move the carpet department down south to the killing speedup on the lines, autoworkers are sick and tired of being sick and tired. As one brother from AMC said, "We will not live like slaves to this rich man's system."

When we marched into the Unemployment office we were in no mood to hear some lazy, do-nothing bureaucrat tell us "I'm just doing my job." We were there to get Ken's checks, and we shot back at him, "Yeah, and your job is taking money out of our pockets for the man."

We workers make this country run, from producing the steel, rubber and glass to building every single car that rolls off AMC's assembly line. But when they don't need us for a few weeks, things get so bad that one brother didn't even have money to buy oil to heat his house.

Now we read in the paper that auto production will jump from 8.5 million cars in 1975 to 10 million in 1976. At Ford this will mean cutting costs by \$1 billion. At the same time, increased production--speedup--will not mean the recall of one laid off worker. In fact, there are 178,000 fewer autoworkers today than in 1973.

Fighting Times is beginning to build the fight in the shop against speedup, job eliminations, and harassment. On the street we are taking up the battle of the unemployed to survive. There was no way we would leave the unemployment office until we got an answer on Ken's checks. The first answer we got to our just demands was the arrival of twenty Racine cops. It was decided to re-form our picket line out front while four representatives from Fighting Times and UWOC stayed inside to negotiate. When Ken returned from the Director's office we received a definite commitment that his checks would be located--a victory!

Sure enough, that night he received three phone calls telling him his forms had been located and his checks would be sent in seven days.

This was a workers day, they didn't tell us what to do, we told them. As a worker from AMC in Milwaukee said, "This system has been coming down on us our whole damn lives. If we don't fight back against it, it will swallow us up and spit us out. Hard times are Fighting times!"

Inland Workers Hit Firing

Workers anger at Inland spilled out at their last union meeting. It all came out over one man's firing. The foreman, who gave him the axe, is so bad that only the month before nearly the entire department signed a petition against the way he was stepping on everyone's seniority.

Just before the firing he was riding the transferees harder than usual. He finally provoked a big argument with one of the men. "Back off!" the man yelled. "I won't take anymore of your b.s.!"

The general foreman came up and told the worker, Mack Brooks, to go on home and forget the whole thing. He came back to work on Monday to find he was fired.

To top it off, the company got the foreman to try and charge Mack with assault and battery. But they had to drop it to disorderly for lack of a witness. Since then, the company has called workers into the office nearly every day to drum up a witness to the disorderly charge.

This firing was the straw that broke the camel's back for many Inland workers. Over the past two years, they've faced huge layoffs, many lasting over six months. Along with this the company stepped up harassment and cut rates on many jobs.

In addition, this firing was part of Inland's discrimination. There have been six firings in the last six months, all have been Black workers.

"This is the company's way of getting rid of a man who won't kiss the company's a--!" shouted one man at the union meeting.

"It's part of the layoffs going on all over," yelled another, and "We have got to draw the line here." The clincher came when the union "leaders" vowed to "fight all the way." For them this meant taking it through the grievance procedure.

"Sure you will," said Mack. "Just like you always do. You'll sit in a meeting and laugh and smile in the company's face. That's what you mean by 'fighting'!"

We don't need union leaders who sit and drink coffee and have friendly debates with the company. We don't

Worker Out a

In late February, workers at the Heil plant on S. 29th St. walked out after a fellow worker received a three day layoff for refusing overtime. When the company told one trucker to work overtime, he refused. Many fellow workers at the plant are on layoff and he wasn't going to take their jobs. The other guys backed him up saying, "If you got the work, call the people back to do it!"

For two hours, workers stood around talking about the layoff. The company came around and told them, "If you aren't going to work, leave the premises". So that's exactly what they did. Some of the 2nd shift workers continued the walkout when they heard the news.

When the men returned to work the next day, the company didn't even make one threat of discipline about the walkout. The truckers case is now in grievance procedure, but the company knows what their answer should be. The workers at Heil have already given their answer loud and clear.

At Heil, the workers anger boiled over into the walkout. They had their



INLAND WORKERS & MEMBERS OF THE UNEMPLOYED WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE DEMONSTRATED DURING A GRIEVANCE MEETING

need a bargaining committee that's just a training ground for future foremen. The foreman who fired Mack was himself on the bargaining committee at one time.

We don't need officials who call off a six week strike like these guys

EVERY JOB!

Walk Heil

backs up against the wall. They did the only thing they could—fight back. Heil has been shipping more and more jobs out of the city down South. 400 jobs making garbage trucks have been sent to Culman, Alabama. For the older workers, the threat of losing pension money is real.

Times are hard. Jobs are being lost. Each year, 1000 jobs are lost from Milwaukee due to runaway shops. At Cutler Hammer, so many jobs have been lost that 15 years seniority is near the bottom of the list. Practically every shop in the city has workers on layoff.

Heil workers put up a fight for one man with a three day layoff. It was one injustice that represented the whole pattern of attacks. They've taught us all a lesson. Whether it's a job combination or job elimination, layoffs out of seniority, or harassment to fire someone instead of paying unemployment benefits, in these small fights we can hit back and see our power. Linking together these small fights, unemployed and employed joining together, we have to build a class wide struggle for jobs. *Backpay for Jim! Fight for every job!* ■



MILWAUKEE AMC WORKERS JOINED KENOSHA AMC WORKERS & OTHERS TO HELP BUILD THE FIGHT FOR JOBS.

MILWAUKEE AMC Workers Fight to Save Carpet Dept.

"Do you have a man programmed to pick up these repairs?", a general foreman asked a supervisor. PROGRAMMED!!! This is the way the company looks at us, and "programming" is a common word in management terminology. But in this case those repairs were going down the line exactly because two workers were refusing to go along with their "program".

American Motors looks at us like a bunch of robots that they can keep cranking faster and faster, throwing our jobs out the door, and working us till we fall over.

The most important fight has been around the 60 jobs in the carpet dept., 602, that the company is planning to move down south late this month. At

the same time they cry they have to save \$500,000 by moving to a low wage, non-union area, they announced record sales of \$615 million for the last quarter of '75.

There has been increasing anger over AMC's plan to dump 60 workers out on the street. Like one worker brought up, "Today we're down to 2000 who produce the same number of cars 5000 used to. AM has already moved out the upholstery. If carpet goes--anything could be next!" Right now more than one-fifth of the shop is on extended lay-off and 460 have already run out of SUB benefits.

A good number of workers, including a group of women from the carpet dept., turned out in a near blizzard to

cause the workers said, "No way!". Often they stopped work until the man was back on the line.

To make sure the union at Inland didn't keep this battle behind closed doors, the Angry Boilermakers, a fighting rank and file organization, proposed that the union hold a picket line in front of the plant during the grievance meeting, as well as have the union lawyer defend the man in court.

"Out of order!" pronounced the union president with a clack of his gavel. All hell broke loose as the rank and file ruled the president "out of order." They held things up but weren't able to turn this sell-out around. Still, halfway through the next order of business, a worker stood up and called

the business out of order. The meeting was slowed down some more.

When we're hit with b.s. like this president was putting down, we've got to break through it anyway possible. Our jobs are on the line. And parliamentary procedure won't get it because no matter how many rules we can quote, we don't have the gavel. Our only power is in our unity and action. This can back every sell-out down.

The Angry Boilermakers went ahead with the picket line. They also went to the Unemployed Workers Organizing Committee for support. The fight for every job and for benefits in these times of layoffs, speedup and firings is what's made UWOC into a fighting workers organization.

the Febuary union meeting looking for a way to fight to save the carpet dept.

The company had announced their plans to the Executive Board a couple of months ago, but up until now they had not taken much of a stand. With a large number of people at the meeting looking for a plan, the union president was forced to make the commitment that the Local would call on the International to negotiate the situation and that the executive board was "willing to take the action necessary to stop the run-away."

Nobody is holding their breath waiting for the Int'l to come save the day. The main conversation centered around the possibility of a strike vote. These are hard times for auto workers--like for most workers. Here at the body plant, people only worked 1 week in Feb. But at the same time more and more are coming to the conclusion that we can't keep backing up from the companies' attacks or we will find ourselves in a corner with nothing to show for it.

So the position of some of the active workers is that Local 75 should call for a strike vote to show AMC that people are united behind the fight to save 60 jobs. As one brother pointed out, "A strike vote is like a club in our hand. Let them know that if they keep messing with us we'll hit em when they need us and we can do some damage. Like this August when they need to fill the showrooms!"

Another important fight against eliminations and to save jobs took place on the 5th floor. One morning the stewards went up and down the lines telling everyone that there was going to be a union meeting in the lunchroom at 12:00 break. In that area the repairmen have been refusing all overtime as long as their fellow workers jobs were being eliminated.

In this case AMC was trying to eliminate a large number of repairmen's jobs, maybe 60%, by combining 3 separate categories of repairmen--door, metal, and welding, into a single classification. To add insult to injury, the posting called on people to turn their bid slip to the supervisor, instead of the steward. This was another attack. The union has always handled the seniority system.

So when everyone crammed into the lunchroom for the meeting the word was--"Nobody bids on this combined repair job and there's no way we start letting the company handle the seniority around here."

The lunchroom meeting was a good step in building the unity necessary to fight the constant attacks coming down from AMC. We can not afford to give up a single inch!

STOP THE SPEED-UP! FIGHT FOR EVERY JOB! FIGHT TO SAVE THE CARPET DEPARTMENT! ■

UWOC came to back up the Inland workers in front of the company offices with chants of "Rehire Mack Brooks, Now! Now!" and "They speed us up, they kick us out the door. We're not going to take it anymore!" Company guards, executives and their watchdogs, the West Milwaukee police, looked on.

The hell raised at the union meeting and the chanting picket line made the union officials fight the firing harder than they ever would otherwise. The company changed its reason for the firing--it dropped from physical "abuse to a foreman" to "misconduct." Inland is still "considering" its decision. Meanwhile, the workers are building up the fight to "Rehire Mack Brooks!" ■



THE UNEMPLOYED WORKERS MARCHED OUTSIDE THE PLANT DEMANDING INLAND REHIRE A MAN.

at Inland did--just when it started to hurt the company.

We need a fighting union, the kind like they had at American Motors in the old days when the workers fought for conditions inside the shop. It was next to impossible to fire a man be-

The Stronger the Role Of Women - The Stronger Will Be Our Movement

International Women's Day is a holiday when the working class stands up and declares, "The stronger the role of women, the stronger our movement will be."

A DAY FOR THE WORKING CLASS

Look back in history to March 8, 1857. Women textile workers marched out of the mills, demonstrating for better wages and conditions. Fifty years later they marched again, adding the demand to end child labor. Joined by suffragettes and socialists, they called for the vote for women.

Some of the marchers were trampled by police on horses and were arrested. March 8th became International Women's Day in honor of these and other struggles of women around the world.

A DAY OF STRUGGLE

Today in the worst crisis since the Great Depression, there are more women taking jobs, becoming slaves to a small paycheck. At the same time they are slaves to the job of running the house and trying to budget the family income. The capitalists draw women into the work force when they need more production like during a war when the men aren't around, or when they have to drive down wages in a crisis like the present.

And more women are out there struggling, in the midst of the working class fight against this wage slavery. They are shattering the myths and traditions that the capitalists push.

Who says "Women's work" is easy work, so they deserve less pay? Ask the women at Blue Star knitting mill who must sew 96 undershirts an hour just to make minimum wage. Ask the women at Oster who work under the pressure of a constantly moving assembly line with the boss breathing down their backs. Ask the women who cook and scrub floors at the Holiday Inn, and then go home to do more of

the same.

Who says women just work for a little spending money so they can afford to work for low wages? Tell that to the women who work at Allen Bradley or Singer who push to get out those extra pieces every hour for the piece-work bonus. Tell that to many hospital, domestic and electronics workers who have to add food stamps to their small pay checks to keep food on the table.

And who says women are too weak to stand up to the bosses? Ask the women who struck against Willie Farah in the southwest for nearly 2 years to win a union. Women stood up boldly in spite of centuries of tradition that said they could not. They organized themselves and brought forward leaders from their ranks. They came to see they were fighting in the interests of the whole working class. This gave them the strength to persist until victory.

The capitalists use these lies to drive down the wages and conditions of all workers and to keep up divisions in the working class. The striking meatcutters saw through this when the bosses tried to pay many women a cheaper wage called the allied rate. "It is cold back there where my wife worked in the patty room, and I don't mean just a little cold. And they want to pay those women less."

The bosses also try to use women as a force to hold back the workers struggle. But a few months ago wives of steelworkers striking the McNeil co. in Akron Ohio answered a company "send your husband back-to-work" letter with an angry picket line.

In the last few years the bosses have come up with a new cover for their attacks called the Equal Rights Amendment. This bill, while it promises equality, is designed to eliminate protective legislation for women.

Betty Ford and many feminists are pushing the Equal Rights Amendment. In California it was used to rob women workers of their legal right to overtime pay after working a 40 hour week.



THE MASTERLOCK STRIKE OF 1974. WOMEN PLAYED A STRONG ROLE, STANDING UP TO POLICE AND SCABS

Has Betty Ford or her friends ever worked in a factory for an extra 8 hours on a Saturday for straight pay? No! They stand with the same class of bosses and politicians that will do anything to get more out of us for less.

The family where husband and wife stand together to fight this system is a strength for the working class. But with bills hard to pay and under a system that offers no future for our children, families are being weakened. The divorce rate is about 30%. The capitalists make use of this mess they have created and push husband and wife to blame each other for hard times. More and more songs on the radio are about the "pleasures" of cheating.

But as the working class, we can see

a bright future for ourselves. As we fight to break the capitalists' chains around us, we can see that by building a new society the working class, women and men, will be liberated. Under socialism the working class will run society. There will be no reason to keep women in an inferior position. Every person will be needed to build socialism. Women will be more free to play a full and equal role in production and political life. Men and women will stand together with mutual respect and equality to build a society free of exploitation and oppression.

Around the world March 8th will be celebrated by women and men who will be saying loud and clear, "The stronger the role of women, the stronger our movement will be." ■

CHINESE THROW FAT IN FIRE - INVITE NIXON TO PEKING

Citizen Richard Nixon went to China on the fourth anniversary of his first visit. That earlier visit had been a complete turnabout by Nixon, who earlier had made himself a political career by being a well known red baiter and witch hunter of those responsible for "losing China to the communists." That about face, going to China hat in hand happened for only one reason. Nixon, at that time the chief representative of the US ruling class, had been forced to recognize the weakened position of the US rulers in the world, due mainly to the struggle of the world's people against it and secondly, the growth of their new capitalist rivals in the Soviet Union.

The first Nixon visit produced some results. Open US threats against China were toned down. The US officially recognized that Taiwan, which it occupies, is part of China. And for the people of this country, many doors were opened to information about China and the life of the people under socialism.

Since the first visit, the US has done little to improve matters more. The capitalist class apparently decided to cool off its relation with China a bit.

Instead it has seen it more in its interest to play the "detente" game with the Soviet Union. So when Gerald Ford now the chief man for the ruling class, visited China late last year, he just went through the motions and had a pretty "ho-hum" trip.

So now the Chinese have made their response. Saying in effect, "OK, if that's the way you're going to play the game, we'll throw a little fat on the fire!" In order to embarrass the US ruling class and light a fire under it, the Chinese invited Nixon to China. There they wined and dined him and through all this used his visit to make the point "perfectly clear" to the US ruling class that all its stalling and backtracking on its earlier commitments just won't do.

POLITICAL JERK

Nixon, of course, was the ruling class' chief scapegoat for the Watergate mess and has acquired a reputation as the biggest political jerk in years--and the competition is pretty stiff. His resignation with his tail between his legs grew out of the outrage

and anger of millions of Americans. The exposure of Nixon's crimes led to further exposures of other politicians' crimes, all leading to today where politicians, pimps and purse snatchers are all about equally popular. The ruling class tried to keep the spotlight confined to Nixon, but ended up turning up the lights on a whole ugly show. And it was this exposure, more than Nixon's departure to the beach at San Clemente and his replacement in the White House by a bum of equal stature, that was the real victory when Nixon was dumped from office. Through all this the working class movement was strengthened, and the face of our enemy became clearer.

The Chinese, too, know well who Nixon is. In their dealings with heads of capitalist governments--even negotiating with Chiang Kai-shek, a gangster and flunky for foreign imperialists, who ruled China for years--they have had to set down good food in front of human garbage many times. To the Chinese leaders and people, Nixon is not all that much different from Jerry Ford. It's six of one and half dozen of another. Both sat or sit in the Oval Office, head-

ing up the government of one of the two superpowers, who talk "detente" while they prepare for world war, who talk of "prosperity" while they ruthlessly exploit millions.

The Chinese are doing all they can to help the struggle on the world scale. And today, for them, this includes giving special emphasis to placing all sorts of obstacles in front of the new capitalist rulers of the Soviet Union who are even more on the offensive these days than the US, and who pose a special military threat to China. This even includes making use of the contradiction that exists between the US rulers and the Soviets to help in this.

If inviting a low life like Nixon to China can throw some turmoil into the US ruling class and put the heat on it for a useful goal, so much the better. Obviously, none of this changes the fact that our struggle in this country just as it was in the Watergate affair, is directly against these ruling exploiters and can only have the goal of throwing them off our backs once and for all.

Bringing the Bum to Peking has worked so far. The commentators are commenting, the analysts are analyzing, the politicians are fuming. The Wall Street Journal called Nixon's visit a "rebuke" to the US government and a "diabolically clever ploy for making their point." Aides to Ford called it an "embarrassment" to the President. Let 'em stew! And let's turn up the heat! ■

PAUL ROBESON 1898-1976 Used His Art as Weapon for Freedom

ADAPTED FROM THE WORKER FOR THE NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY AREA



PAUL ROBESON SINGING WITH CALIFORNIA SHIPYARD WORKERS, 1942

Robeson walked hundreds of picket lines in this country, and immersed himself in the struggle of the workers and the oppressed nationalities for equality and for revolution. When the House Unamerican Activities Committee investigated his political affiliations they suggested that he go to Russia if he thought communism was so good. He replied, "My father was a slave, and my people died to build this country, and I am going to stay and have a piece of it just like you."

HE GAVE HIS HEART TO THE PEOPLE

Paul Robeson lived to see the tide of revolution sweeping over all of Africa and freeing one-fourth of the world's people in China where, as he said "The overlords have gone, and forever."

Sadly, these years also saw the tide of counter-revolution in the USSR, taking the land which once called to him and to all the oppressed and exploited people of the world. This land where the working class was building a life free of exploitation and discrimination was reconquered by a gang of capitalists and turned once again into a place where the working man is a slave to his boss.

But "Big Paul" who all his life had seen the peoples of the world overcome great setbacks and obstacles and fight on to victory, never deserted the words he wrote to "Old Man River",

"...But I keep laughing instead of crying
I must keep fighting until I'm dying..."

His booming voice and his message of the pride and struggle of all man can still be heard. ■

Today's Music "Give The People What They Want"

There are a number of songs on the soul, rock and country charts today that have an anti-system tone to them. The O'Jays have a song called "Unity" that talks about how people have always been kept divided and "now's the time to come together." Another of their hits, "The Rich Get Richer" talks against the handful of people who control everything. The Isley Brothers voice the feelings of a lot of people when they shout, "We got to fight the powers that be." "Convoy" swept the nation with its "thousand screaming trucks" defying "Smokey the bear", the national guard, and the 55 mile an hour speed limit.

These songs can be a big lift when you're up against hard times and you want to hear somebody say how you feel, especially when it's backed up by some nice harmonizing or a finger-popping beat. Some workers on the Pacer line in Kenosha were listening to Stevie Wonder's "You Ain't Done Nothin'" and everybody wanted to talk about how well it describes the do-nothing union officials.

The millionaires who run the record companies and radio stations hate like hell to even hear songs that put the system down. But these songs are what people like to hear and buy. And these capitalists with dollar signs ringing up in their eyes will do anything to make a buck.

They recruit songwriters and musicians from the streets. These artists know the talk and sounds that people dig, but the up and coming artists are driven by a desire to get ahead-- and to do it they have to please the fat cat music executives. The O'Jays wrote their songs to the "brothers on the block." But let's face it, the O'Jays are no longer on the block and they never want to go back.

Some of the artists recognize how rotten the system is and they may want to do something about it. But until they "get all the way down" with the masses of workers-- in their struggles, they can never really understand how to beat the system.

For example, Bob Dylan's song, "Hurricane" supports the Rubin "Hurricane" Carter defense campaign. The song goes through a step by step proof of his innocence. It blasts the cops, the D.A., and a racist, twisted system of justice. But the song never says how Hurricane Carter can be freed. It never puts out a plan of action to the masses-- the only force that can spring the Hurricane.

The record companies make millions by taking bits and pieces of the people's aspirations for freedom and teasing us with just a taste. We need a whole lot more than a taste. ■

building toward a powerful rally and action in Philly on July 4th. A rally that will further develop the unity and common struggle of the working class throughout the country so we can continue to move forward our movement and struggle against the bloodsuckers that rule over us.

Fellow workers, these demands are just demands, our fight is a just fight.

We are the only ones who can push things forward, and we are determined to break through.

We've carried the Rich for 200 years. Let's Get Them Off Our Backs! Come to the Regional Conference! ■

JULY 4TH MARCH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

in riches and luxury, while this constant drive for profit has held back our labor from being used to meet the needs of millions. Nothing has ever been handed to us by them, everything we ever got we had to fight for, even in so-called "good times."

Fellow workers, we have worked and struggled hard for 200 years and what is our lot? Increasing crisis, in which want and misery lie heavily on our shoulders, unemployment is our constant companion, and once again the threat of war, yes even world war, hangs menacingly over our head. Now in this 200th year, the bosses and politicians are hoping they can cool off our anger and struggle against these conditions by trying to play off our genuine feelings of pride in our hard work and its accomplishments. This is what's really the point of their Bicentennial blitz and the calls for us to come to a July 4th festival in Philadelphia to celebrate life under this

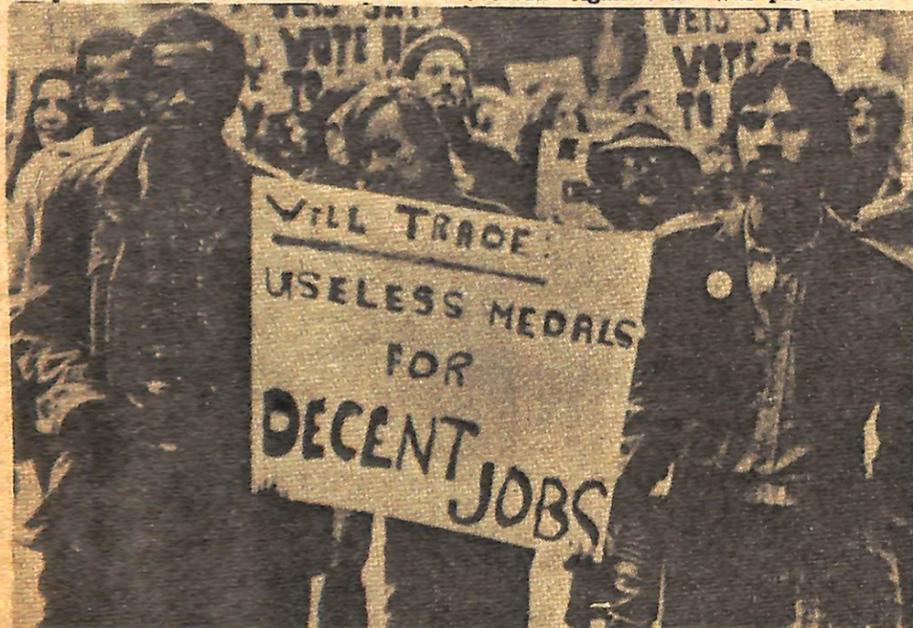
system which enables them to live like kings.

We will be in Philly on July 4th, but not to celebrate this system that keeps us locked in their chains of profits. For on this day of their glorious celebration, the so-called high and mighty will be confronted by those they rob and rule. Thousands of workers employed and unemployed, veterans, youth, students and many others will be coming together to unite their struggles against the common enemy. Coming out of the different struggles we wage every day throughout the country-- in the factories, unemployment centers and communities-- to unite around the slogan and banner that truly reflects the sentiments of the American people toward the bosses and politicians, "We've carried the rich for 200 years. Let's get them off our backs!"

It is in this spirit that the Vietnam Veterans Against the War put out the

original call for a nation-wide march and rally on July 4th in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The Unemployed Workers Organizing Committee has since endorsed the rally, along with many other fighting workers' organizations. Now a July 4th coalition has formed, made up of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War, Unemployed Workers Organizing Committee, Revolutionary Communist Party, Revolutionary Student Brigade and others-- to build for a rally and demonstration that will unite thousands of people from all parts of the country to take on the rulers on their supposed day of glory and celebration. The two key demands to be raised at the rally are "Jobs or Income Now!" and "We Won't Fight in a Rich Man's War!"

As an important first step in building for the rally the Coalition is calling regional conferences in Philadelphia and Cincinnati. Conferences that will unite workers from many cities, industries and different battle-fronts. Coming out of the many battles we wage day after day, we can discuss and sum up how to build a powerful July 4th rally that will bring out thousands of working people and truly reflect the hatred and anger of the millions of American people for these rotten rulers. These will be working conferences organized mainly into workshops to come up with concrete plans for building struggle among unemployed workers, veterans and youth-- summing up our experiences in building these battles and how we can build for the rally as part of continuing to move these struggles forward. Throughout the discussions, workshops and the entire conference we'll seek to forge the unity necessary to go back to develop further the battles in the factories, mines, and unemployment centers throughout the country while



FROM THE BATTLE LINES TO THE UNEMPLOYMENT LINES. VETS WILL BE IN PHILLY TO SAY "GET OFF OUR BACKS!"

A-B Workers Face Job Losses

Workers at Allen Bradley and throughout Milwaukee's electronic industry have seen thousands of jobs lost as companies moved operations out of town. Allen Bradley's most important moves are being made to underdeveloped countries like Mexico and Brazil. In 1974, they opened an electronic components plant in Juarez, Mexico to employ up to 400 workers.

When Allen Bradley made plans to move some jobs out of town, they told workers not to worry. They said business was good and the moves would not affect any jobs. But business has not been good and 1200 Allen Bradley workers have been laid off. Some have been out of work nearly a year and are getting near the end of their benefits.

To the bigshots at Allen Bradley, it's a question of dollars and cents in the constant competition of capitalism. President Rader of Allen Bradley put his concerns straight out, "it is a matter of survival...we announced that we were considering a location outside the US...due to high costs of labor and taxes. Many of our competitors had already moved outside the US." Rader and his like care nothing about our jobs or about the Mexican workers who have to live on less than a dollar an hour.

To workers at Allen Bradley, the loss of jobs is a major concern for those on layoff as well as those still in the shop. Allen Bradley has started to call back workers with around

4 years seniority. But many others may never get their jobs back.

Workers coming back from layoff are not guaranteed their old jobs back. Some came back to lower paying jobs. The company often disregards seniority in transferring in and out of a department. And overall, Allen Bradley workers are having to push a lot harder for less money. One worker put it this way, "Allen Bradley used to be one of the best paying shops in the city, and it just isn't any more".

Workers at Allen Bradley have the same choice as workers everywhere.

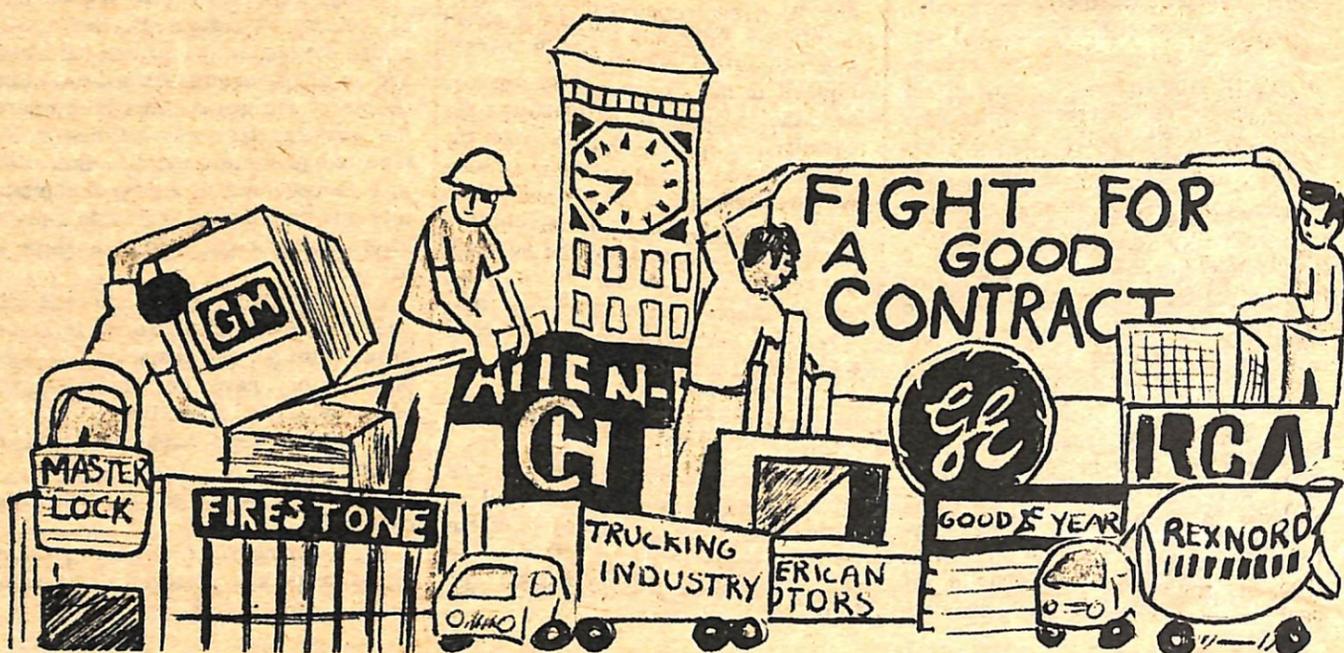
To organize themselves to fight the company and to build the class wide fight for jobs.

Many Allen Bradley workers have dropped out of the union, UE Local 1111. It is an open shop and many have gotten discouraged at the union's doing nothing attitude. For example, workers in one department called the union because they wanted to fight the company's plan to eliminate 5 jobs. The union's attitude was that it was just 5 crummy jobs anyway and they did nothing.

The only way to fight seniority violations, job combinations or harassment

on the shop floor is to build organization of the rank and file to fight in its own interest. This summer, Allen Bradley has a contract coming up. This will be an opportunity to go after a substantial wage increase and SUR pay for those laid off.

Allen Bradley has made all kinds of plans--move jobs to the Far East, establish a network throughout Europe and business will boom. But Allen Bradley has forgotten one thing. Workers have never sat by and watched their jobs disappear, their unemployment benefits run out and their wages shrink. ■



GE WORKERS PREPARE FOR CONTRACT

Electronics workers are looking to the General Electric contract, which expires June 27, as a pace setter for the industry. Many GE workers who remember the strikes and sellouts in 1969 and 1973 are determined that the rank and file will have more to say this time around. It's time to really give GE a fight that will win some gains.

The 200,000 GE and Westinghouse workers nationwide have been hit with layoffs, speedup, job eliminations and a 13¢ cut in real wages over the last three years. Rank and file workers are starting to get organized to make their demands heard loud and clear.

At the big GE plant in Philadelphia a group of workers passed out a leaflet summing up their demands this way:

- 1) More money - it's time to catch up!
- 2) Cost of living with no cap - to keep up!
- 3) Supplementary unemployment benefits - no one asked to get laid off and no one can support a family on unemployment for long!
- 4) Contract language to protect jobs - no more job combinations or subcontracting that will mean more layoffs and no more bumping to jobs with less pay!

5) 30 and out with an increase in pension!

The GE workers are also demanding that the union make strike preparations now, and that there be no black out by the union during negotiations, as there was in 1973.

Bargaining for the GE and Westinghouse contracts is being coordinated nationally by a coalition of 13 unions. The unions have shown that they were not interested in fighting for a good contract. "Grass roots meetings" were held last month. They were supposed to give the workers a chance to speak their minds. But the unions didn't build the meetings or give the rank and file any voice

in them. A worker at the New England meeting spoke out, "The Christmas party got more coverage than the grass roots meeting!"

GE officials and the union leaders are running the same line--"Times are hard for the companies. If the workers demand too much it could blow the whole thing and leave them without jobs." But to the workers there is only one way to go into this contract battle--ready to fight all the way.

When you give in a little the companies try to take a lot. And the only limit to what they take is the extent of the fight of the rank and file. ■

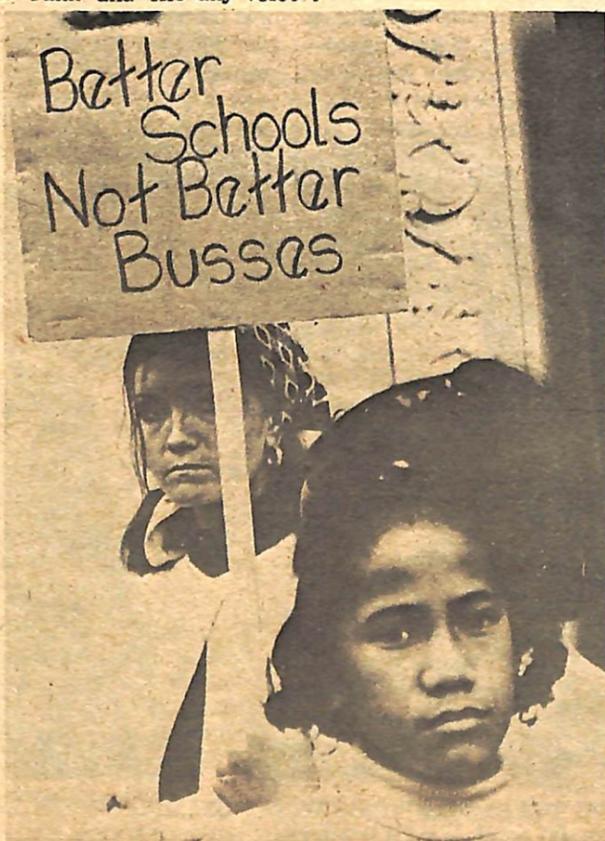
STRUGGLE BUILDS VS. DETROIT BUSING PLAN COMMITTEE WILL BE FORMED HERE

In January, the Detroit busing plan started. Over 26,000 kids were bused with 30,000 more reassigned. Several schools are to be shut down altogether. All school construction has been halted. Funds for a new school on the east side of Detroit were cut off and the new "school" stands as an empty shell. This is how busing is supposed to "bring better education to the children of Detroit."

When the plan started the ruling class turned the schools into armed camps with police cars, helicopters and local mini stations to receive the "racist mobs." But there were none. The working class of Detroit takes credit for the fact there was not violence directed at each other or any children during the first 10 days of the busing plan.

From the beginning, the struggle against busing has been marked by a strong desire for unity on the part of the workers. The Committee to Fight the Attacks on our Schools (CFAS) was organized by workers of all nationalities, to unite the people to fight the busing plan. CFAS organized a petition drive, jammed school board meetings, held several picket lines, and organized neighborhood meetings against the busing plan. In southwest Detroit, a mainly white and Latino neighborhood, CFAS led a one day boycott of classes which was 95% effective.

In Milwaukee, a workers committee is being formed to fight against the busing plans and for quality and equal education. For more information, call 445-5816. ■



ANGOLA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

ten thousand soldiers riding in on Soviet tanks and planes to prop up the MPLA. The US, for its part, brought in thousands of troops from the hated white settler regime in South Africa to boost UNITA and the FNLA. The US actively recruited mercenaries from all over the world. In this country they took advantage of the high unemployment rate among vets, saying in effect, "We've got another war for you-- this time with higher pay."

The People's Republic of China and its Communist Party had given military assistance to all three organizations as long as they were fighting the Portuguese, but when Portugal was defeated China ceased supplying arms to any of the groups, and called on the superpowers to keep their bloody hands off Angola so that the Angolan people would be able to settle their own problems free of foreign interference.

THEY CALL IT ANTI-IMPERIALISM

Both the US and the Soviets tried to dress up their aggression in Angola under the cover of "opposing imperialism" and protecting the Angolan people from foreign domination. But the Angolan people, like the people of any country, don't want to pick between international gangsters for protection from a rival gang.

The US ruling class is making a big to-do about Angola, hiding behind fine words about opposing Soviet imperialism and allowing the Angolan people "freedom of choice." Strange words indeed from the people who brought us the Vietnam War, sending millions of young men to fight and die to keep the country enslaved. Strange words from the power who bankrolled Portugal's war to keep Angola as a colony.

Sure there was a lot of noise from some of the Democrats about not interfering in Angola, as if they hadn't known about it all along. All this talk basically boiled down to not wanting to back a loser. But now that the Soviets have cleaned up they are all singing the same tune: The Soviets may have caught us with our pants down this time, but next time we're going to put up a fight.

SOVIET INTENTIONS

Now that their military aid and their Cuban troops have conquered the country and put the MPLA in power, the Soviets have every intention of turning Angola into a neo-colony, just as our own ruling class dominates and bleeds many countries throughout the world. For the US ruling class the Soviet victory is a big blow endangering their billion dollar investments which it is likely to lose to its Soviet rivals as well as providing the Soviets with a potential base from which to attack and threaten other countries in southern Africa which are plundered by US business interests.

But even though the US has taken it on the chin, they will never give up their goal of regaining control in Angola and already they are scurrying about trying to pick up some of the pieces. Gulf Oil and Boeing are negotiating with the MPLA and troops from the US backed South African regime still hold a slice of southern Angola.

WAR DANGER INCREASES

The fight between the ruling classes of the US and USSR, the two biggest international gangsters, is heating up. Their rivalry will lead to more Angolas where the US and the Soviets battle for domination of someone else's country, and where they use the common people and soldiers of countries under their control to fight their battles for them. And the danger of all out world war between the superpowers increases daily.

The rulers of this country are stepping up their efforts to line up the American people behind them. They tell the workers to "protect the national interest", which means wars to protect the profits of the big monopolies and banks against their Soviet competitors and genuine liberation struggles.

During the Vietnam War, large numbers of people saw the "enemy" was simply the common people of Vietnam. The war was to protect the profits of the capitalists.

Now with an imperialist rival, the Soviet Union, as the biggest immediate threat to US corporate profits, the US ruling class is hoping its flag waving will get over better with the people.

In the Soviet Union, workers are being told the same thing by their exploiters. They are told they must line up behind their masters to fight US imperialism.

The ruling classes of both superpowers try desperately to hide one thing. They each oppose the imperialism of their rival only to dominate the world themselves.

The working class in this country has every reason to be disgusted by the Soviet crime in Angola. But the Angolan people would be just as bad off if South African troops and mercenaries backed by millions in US military equipment had won the war for US imperialism.

The Angolan people waged a long and bitter struggle against the Portuguese backed up by the US. They will not sit back while one imperialist overlord tries to replace another. The Angolan people are sure to continue the struggle until they win complete liberation. ■

EDITORIAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

With contracts coming up throughout the area, the message of Channel 12's "exposure" was clear: don't fight the attacks that the bosses are making on the working class. Sit back and take it. And if you do go on strike, do it the "right way." Don't mobilize the strength of the working class, for this is the road to anarchy.

UWOC and The Worker plead guilty to channel 12's charges. Both the unemployed organization and the paper helped to mobilize workers throughout the area in support of the strike. UWOC joined with meatcutters in mass demonstrations that forced the Unemployment Compensation office to quit sending the unemployed to scab. For the mass solidarity rally in October, The Worker distributed ten thousand supplements calling on workers to join the rally. Members of the RCP, along with other active workers, helped build the buck a month clubs around the city. We are guilty of each of these "offenses", and we'll do it again!

At all times, members of the RCP and The Worker have tried to unite the greatest possible number of workers behind the strike. We have pointed out that the system of monopoly capitalism and its drive for profit is the cause of this bitter battle. And that the working class will face many more such battles until this system is eliminated and replaced by the rule of the working class.

Channel 12's expose and charge of "infiltration" was nothing but a dirty trick to weaken the growing struggle and unity of the working class. It was pro-company propaganda, a red-baiting tactic no different from those which helped to weaken the workers' movement in the 1950's.

Most strikers viewed the show as a joke-- more of the same from a news media that is part and parcel of this exploiting system.

Attempts to confuse the struggle will only go so far, because, as one meatcutter said, "The people aren't a bunch of dummies. They know what's happening." ■

BUSING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Ethnic Literature. At Rufus King only 22 courses will be offered, including Language Skills Laboratory, Myth and Folklore, Personal Typing and the GED program.

A city wide program with certain courses only being offered in certain places is really a larger, more sophisticated tracking system. It will keep working class students, Black and white, in the lower track.

A COVER FOR CUTBACKS

McMurrin goes on to say that the plan doesn't take anything away from the schools and won't cost more money. Under the name of specialities, the school board won't have to put money into upgrading the schools. With most of the schools having so little already, they don't have to take anything away from them to be bad. It won't cost more money because instead of putting more money into the school system, students will be shuffled around from over crowded schools to less crowded schools.

PLANS DIVIDE BLACK AND WHITE

Out of one side of their mouths, the bosses are saying to Blacks, "don't let whites keep your children from getting a better education, or they try to make it look like whites opposed to busing are all a bunch of hysterical racists, saying, "it's not the buses they object to, it's you." And from the other side the bosses tell whites, "The Blacks are trying to steal what's yours."

But the owning class has never given us quality education. In the name of integration they're trying to drive us further apart. In the name of equality, they're trying to give us equal misery. Their message is clear--if you don't like our plan, cut each other's throat.

The rich class is trying to cover up that they are the cause of inequality--and segregation. Its bosses, like at Rexnord, use departmental seniority to keep the foundry mostly Black and the skilled departments mostly white. It's their banks and insurance companies, like 1st Wisconsin, that "red line" whole neighborhoods to make sure the south side stays white, and the north side stays Black. It's their real estate companies that live by block-busting and discrimination. They own the housing and services of the inner city that are in total decay.

WE NEED BETTER SCHOOLS

They try to play up the real differences between the schools. Everyone knows that the inner city schools are the worst of a bad lot. They already bus hundreds of Black kids for overcrowding instead of building new schools.

But the fight of the working class is to make all the schools better, not equally lousy. There are differences in the city's schools, but compare them with any of the private prep schools that the rich send their kids to with the money they stole from our sweat.

No, the deteriorating conditions in our schools aren't the fault of the people, Black or white. And we're not going to swallow their busing plan, no matter what they call it.

We won't fight each other. It's the bosses who are behind these divide and conquer schemes and it's them we have to fight.

OPPOSE ALL DIVIDE AND CONQUER SCHEMES! FIGHT FOR QUALITY EDUCATION! ■

DO NOT FORGET ABOUT THE
MAY DAY KICK OFF DINNER
MARCH 13 6 PM SOLSKI'S HALL

UWOC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

angry workers were not about to be denied. They had come not to beg for scraps from the tables of the rich, but to demand what is rightfully theirs. As the unemployed marched around the tables chanting "Jobs or Income, Right Now!" and "They say cut back, we say fight back!" the head of the conference had a sudden change of heart, and ran over to the marchers offering them an opportunity to speak.

Two weeks later, UWOC again took action. A picket line in front of the downtown unemployment office swelled to over 40, including striking meatcutters who have been out of work for 13 months. When the crowd marched inside to see Mr. Brooks, a security cop and a Milwaukee Red Squad cop told the workers that Brooks wasn't in, and blocked the way. But the marchers rolled over them. Brooks was discovered downstairs, and pinned against the wall before he could escape. Forty workers jammed him with questions he couldn't answer, while another hundred watched.

"If unemployment has gone down, why are the Job Service and Welfare offices more crowded than ever? What are we supposed to do when our money runs out?" Brooks could only mumble something about how it wasn't his fault. When Brooks tried to slip out the workers followed him and blocked his path. At this point state security cops sprayed mace, hitting several unemployed workers, and called for city reinforcements.

CAPITALISTS ATTACK--WORKERS FIGHT BACK

Eight months ago, Arthur Burns, head of the Federal Reserve Board, proposed that all unemployment compensation be cut to 13 weeks, to force the unemployed workers to "price themselves back into the job market." The federal extension has been reinstated, but it could be gone again next month.

Sharp attacks are coming down on the unemployed in many parts of the country. In Georgia a state bill would cut 20,000 off benefits and start forced labor at \$2.30 an hour if you're out of work more than three months. In the state of Washington a similar bill would cut off 12,000. Nationally the picture is the same. Ford just vetoed a multi-million dollar jobs bill, and both Ford and congress are planning big cuts in the food stamp program. Ford's plan would cut off 20% of the people now receiving stamps.

The capitalists thirst for profits can never be quenched. And they can only get more profits out of our sweat and blood. All of these attacks, like the union busting and speedup aimed at the employed workers, are attempts to drive the wages of the working class down into the dirt, putting more into the pockets of the bosses.

THE FIGHT FOR JOBS!

The February actions in Milwaukee were only a small part of the growing nationwide working class battle for Jobs or Income. In Atlanta and Seattle, UWOC is organizing demonstrations against the attacks. In Ohio and New York, state wide Jobs Convoys to state capitals are planned. The 30 UWOC chapters across the country are gearing up to collect 250,000 signatures on their Jobs or Income petitions for the national demonstration in Philadelphia July 4.

The scattered skirmishes of the unemployed in the fight for Jobs or Income are beginning to be brought together by UWOC into a powerful nationwide movement, in unbreakable alliance with the employed workers. In Unity and Action is our strength and power! Call UWOC at 447-1736. ■

PORQUE SE INVITO NIXON A PEKIN

El ciudadano Richard Nixon fue a la China en el cuatro aniversario de su primera visita. Esa primera visita marcó una vuelta completa por parte de Nixon, pues que había cobrado fama anteriormente por ser anticomunista, el destacado cazador de "los culpables por perder la China a los comunistas." Esa vuelta precipitada de irse a la China con tanta humildad, tuvo lugar por una sola razón: como el representante principal de la clase dominante de EE. UU. en aquel tiempo, Nixon había sido forzado a tomar en cuenta la posición debilitada de los gobernantes de EE. UU. en el mundo actual, debido a la lucha de los pueblos del mundo en contra de ellos, y también debido a la creciente fuerza de sus nuevos rivales capitalista en la Unión Soviética.

Esa primera visita de Nixon dió

EL TITERE NIXON



EL TITERE NIXON Y MAO TSE TUNG

por resultado unos cambios importantes. Las abiertas amenazas de EE. UU. en contra de China fueron reducidas. El gobierno de EE. UU. oficialmente reconoció que el territorio de Taiwan, el cual está bajo ocupación de EE. UU., es parte de China. Y como resultado de esa visita la gente de Estados Unidos podían conocer mucho más sobre la China y la vida de la gente de allá bajo el socialismo.

Pero desde aquel punto el gobierno de EE. UU. ha hecho muy poco para mejorar las relaciones con la China. Aparentemente la clase capitalista de este país decidió a enfriar estas relaciones hasta cierto grado. En cambio, han escogido como más en su propio interés el jugar a "detente" con la Unión Soviética. Por eso, cuando el actual jefe máximo por parte de la clase dominante, Gerry Ford, fue a la China a fines del año pasado la visita fue sin contenido y de poca consecuencia.

Ahora los chinos han dado su respuesta. Han dicho en efecto, "si quieren ustedes jugar a las naipes, nosotros también sabemos como jugar." Para desconcertar a la clase dominante de EE. UU. y mejorar su propia posición, la China invitó a Nixon. Así uso la visita para hacerlo claro a la clase dominante de EE. UU. que no sirve lo poco EE. UU. ha hecho para cumplir sus compromisos anteriores.

La clase dominante echó la culpa por lo Watergate a Nixon y le hizo la víctima propiciatoria. Es político mas odiado desde años--y claro que hay muchísima competición. El coraje de millones de americanos le forzó a renunciar abatidamente. La revelación de los crímenes de Nixon llevó a más revelaciones sobre los crímenes de otros políticos, hasta hoy en día cuando la gente ve a los políticos como igualitos a ladrones. La clase dominante trataba de limitar el foco de las revelaciones a Nixon solito, pero sin embargo toda la fea escena salió a la luz. Más que la salida de Nixon a la playa de San Clemente y su substitucion por un titere igual, esa revelación fue la verdadera victoria cuando Nixon fue botado de

Si invitar a un pendejo como Nixon a la China puede poner a la clase dominante de EE. UU. en un alboroto y apretarles para conseguir una buena de cambiar nuestra lucha, el blanco de tiro de la cual es la clase de explotadores dominante, como era durante de lo Watergate, con el objetivo de deshacerse de ellos una vez por todas.

Actualmente la táctica de invitar a

Nixon ha tenido éxito. Los comentaristas se van haciendo comentarios, y los politiqueros se van echando humo. El diario de comercio Wall Street Journal dijo que la invitación de Nixon representa una "bofetada" al gobierno de EE. UU. y "una jugada diabólicamente ingeniosa para indicar su punto". Ayudantes al presidente lo llamaron "una turbación al presidente." Ahora vamos a apretarles más!

EL PRIMO DE MAYO

VIENE DE LA PAGINA 1

del Concejo Internacional; como en las grandes luchas, tal como en la que mil obreros manifestaron junto a los carniceros en junio, hemos empezado a mostrar nuestros musculos. Miles están proclamando el grito de guerra, "Luche, no pase hambre!"

El Primero de Mayo empezó en este país cuando los obreros se lanzaron a la calle y paralizaron ciudades enteras el uno de mayo pidiendo un día de trabajo de 8 horas. Cuatro obreros fueron heridos en Bay View cuando los trabajadores de Milwaukee se unieron al movimiento nacional. Aun después de haber ganado la limitación de 8 horas al día, obreros a través del mundo entero han seguido celebrando al Día de Mayo para revisar el resultado de las luchas del año cursado y organizar la campaña para el año venidero; un día en que unimos los distintos esfuerzos y declaramos desafiadamente que no nos convertiremos en esclavos de su sistema de sueldos-- ¡Abajo con su sistema de esclavituda sueldo!

Para que el Primero de Mayo de este año tengamos una potente mani-

ANGOLA

VIENE DE LA PAGINA 2

de ellos. Como obreros, nuestra experiencia diaria con la clase de duenos ha hecho claro que todo que hagan ellos tiene un solo propósito: enriquecerse de nuestro trabajo y proteger su sistema de explotación. Como vamos a creer que los mismos personas que gastan cada momento de sus vidas pensando de como sacar mas ganancias de nosotros en este país quieran "librar" a la gente de otros países y protegerla del imperialismo?

El crimen de los soviéticos en An-

CARNICEROS

VIENE DE LA PAGINA 1

comida para así unificar más la solidaridad de la huelga. En el pasado muchos obreros han marchado, contribuido dinero, apoyado los boicott y en fin apoyado la huelga en miles de otras formas. En Julio del año pasado más de mil personas vinieron a una marcha -- que ha sido unas de las manifestaciones más grandes que ha habido en apoyo de una huelga obrera en los últimos treinta años.

Recientemente los cortadores, los obreros de la Hein Werner, y miembros del Comité de Trabajadores Desempleados se reunieron para piquetear el hombre que iba dar el discurso principal en un banquete patrocinado por el Personnel/Industrial Relations Society. Este hombre, el señor Patrick Bridgen es nada menos que el abogado defensor de las maniobras que hacen estas compañías en emplear a los rompuhuelgas y los guía en sus intentos de romper y destruir las aspiraciones obreras. A esta manifestación antiobrero se levantaron a grito los manifestantes, con cantos de protesta que se oyeron dentro del banquete y por la noche a la diez en TV.

su puesto. Mediante este proceso el movimiento de la clase obrera desarrolló su fuerza y entendimiento de la naturaleza del enemigo.

Los chinos también conocen muy bien a Nixon. Muchas veces les han tocado tratar con los jefes de gobiernos capitalistas, incluso el mismo Chiang-Kai-Shek, el gangster y lacayo de los imperialistas foráneos quienes se apoderaban de China por muchos años. Muchas veces han tenido que dar de comer a sus enemigos. A los líderes y el pueblo chinos Nixon no es distinta de Ford. Son igualitos. Los dos o son o han sido ocupantes de la Casa Blanca, encabezando el gobierno de una de las dos superpotencias, hablando de "detente" mientras se preparan para la guerra y de la "prosperidad" mientras explotan ferozmente a millones.

Los chinos están haciendo todo a su alcance para ayudar el desarrollo de la lucha a escala mundial. Hoy en día, esto les hace necesario a ellos hacer caso de como echar obstaculos de todos tipos ante la nueva clase dominante de la Unión Soviética quienes ahora están en la ofensiva aún más que los EE. UU., más amenazando a la China militarmente. Hacer esto incluye hasta usar la contradicción existente entre los gobernantes de los EE. UU. y la URSS.

VENGAN AL BANQUETE INAUGURAL DEL PRIMERO DE MAYO!

EL 13 DE MARZO
6:00 PM
MUSICA DISCURSOS COMIDA
EMPLEO \$2
DESEMPLEO \$1

SOLSKI'S HALL 801 E. CLARK

LUCHE, NO PASE HAMBRE

festación de la solidaridad de la clase obrera, tendremos que empezar a hacer planes desde temprano. El banquete del Primero de Mayo y el programa planeado para el 13 de marzo es el primer paso de este propósito.

En este programa y banquete empezaremos a desarrollar nuestras metas para el Primero de Mayo de este año y nombraremos un comité para que se encargue de que estas metas sean logradas. ¡Vengan al banquete! Participemos todos en el Primero de Mayo!

gola le da asco a la clase obrera de EE. UU. Pero al pueblo de Angola sería igual se los tropas sudafricanos y mercenarios respaldados por la fuerza militar de EE. UU. hubiera ganado la guerra por el imperialismo de EE. UU.

El pueblo angolano luchaba duramente por muchos años en contra del colonialismo portugués respaldado por los EE. UU. No va a aceptar que un nuevo patrón imperialista reemplace al otro. Es cierto que el pueblo de Angola seguirá su lucha hasta cumplan la liberación total.

Al aproximarse un año de la huelga, la National Labor Relations Board le ha proporcionado un golpe fuerte a la lucha de los obreros. Han hecho casa omiso a todas las acusaciones de practica arbitraria e injusta de parte de la Asociación lo cual ha permitido el descredito de la local 248 y la posible elección de otra representación en la unión. Ahora habrá una nueva elección supervisada por el Labor Board en la que se permitira votar a todos los rompuhuelgas y se les negara el voto a más de doscientos de los huelguistas.

Las promesas del liderato de la unión exortando la dependencia en las cortes ha provado ser una vez más un método arcaico y obsoleto. Es encaminarse por una calle sin salida. La victoria de los huelguistas se encuentra en la unidad y el apoyo de toda la clase obrera.

Como dijo uno de los participantes del Banquete de Solidaridad, "Aunque tengamos que volver a reorganizar nuestras fuerzas, esta huelga no ha sido una derrota. Todo lo contrario nos ha proporcionado con algo que nunca nos podra guitar los patrones y eso es orgullo y unidad como obreros. Ser un cortador de carne no es solo un trabajo, sino un grito de guerra. ¡Algún dia alguien nos va a tener que pagar por lo que nos han hecho!"

Los Sovietas Imperialistas Le Ganan a Sus Rivales en Angola

Desde siglos el pueblo de Angola ha sido aplastado por el colonialismo portugués, condenado a la pobreza y desgracia, forzado a trabajar brutalmente para enriquecer a sus explotadores. Los grandes recursos del país, incluso el petróleo y diamantes, nunca han sido usados para mejorar las condiciones del pueblo. Al contrario, han sido robados para el beneficio de potencias extranjeras.

Semejante a los pueblos de todas partes, el pueblo angolano ha resistido esa explotación y opresión. Ya hace doce años empezó una lucha armada heroica, que al fin derrotó al gobierno portugués el año pasado y ganó la independencia. Sin embargo, menos que un año después de la salida de los portugueses otra vez Angola ha vuelto a ser ocupado por tropas extranjeras--ahora los millares de tropas cubanas bajo ordenes de sus "consejeros" soviéticos.

Ese crimen de ocupar Angola se hizo bajo el nombre de "ayuda a la liberación nacional" por la Unión Soviética, que se llama "revolucionaria" y "comunista". Pero tal "liberación" impuesta por las tropas, los tanques y

cañones de un invasor extranjero, no tiene nada que ver con la verdadera liberación. Es la agresión imperialista y nada más. Por eso, los revolucionarios y comunistas genuinos del mundo, incluso el Partido Comunista Revolucionario de este país y la República Popular de China, han denunciado la agresión soviética, tal como la agresión de Estados Unidos.

HISTORIA DEL CONFLICTO

La lucha prolongada contra Portugal para la independencia era llevada por tres grupos distintos, cada uno con su base en su propia parte del país y su propio tribu. Pero apenas se hizo claro que Portugal iba a perder la guerra, los EE. UU. y la URSS se metieron para coger lo que pudieran para si mismos. Ambas superpotencias tomaron ventaja de las debilidades y clases explotadores dentro de esos tres grupos independentistas. Cada una prestaba millones de dólares en materiales militares a las organizaciones más bajo su influencia. De ahí surgió la guerra civil, la que llegó a ser una guerra entre las super-

potencias, con soldados de Angola y otros países peleando y muriendo.

Los soviéticos ordenaron a Cuba pues ésta ha estado bajo la dominación de la URSS desde hace mucho tiempo, que se abastecieran 10,000 soldados cubanos para manejar los tanques y aviones soviéticos y respaldar al MPLA. Los EE.UU., por su parte, trajo a millares de tropas del régimen odiado de colonizadores blancos, la Sudáfrica para respaldar a la UNITA y el FNLA. El gobierno de EE.UU. reclutaban a mercenarios a través del mundo. Aquí en este país, aprovechaban del alto desempleo de los veteranos, diciendo en efecto, "Ya tenemos otra guerra para ustedes -- esta vez con sueldos más altos."

La República Popular de China y su Partido Comunista han prestado ayuda a los tres grupos mientras peleaban contra Portugal. Pero cuando se venció a Portugal, la China terminó su abastecimiento de armas a cada de los tres, llamando a las superpotencias que no metieran las manos sangrientas en Angola para que el pueblo angolano pudieran resolver sus propios problemas libre del entremetimiento for-

áneo.

Ambas superpotencias, los EE.UU. y la URSS, tratan de disfrazar su agresión en Angola con el pretexto de "oponer el imperialismo" y "proteger" al pueblo angolano de la dominación foránea. Pero igualmente al cualquier otro pueblo, el pueblo angolano no quiere escoger entre gangsteres internacionales para ganar la protección de una ganga contra la otra rival.

La clase dominante de EE.UU. está haciendo un gran bullicio tocante a Angola, escondiendo sus intenciones de otras de palabras muy buenas sobre cómo quieren oponerse al imperialismo soviético y permitir "la libertad de escoger" al pueblo angolano. Son palabras muy extrañas de la clase de gente que nos llevó la guerra en Vietnam, mandando a millones a jóvenes a pelear y morir para esclavizar a ese país. Palabras muy extrañas de la potencia que pagó los gastos de Portugal en la guerra para mantener Angola como colonia.

Cierto que unos que los Demócratas estaban haciendo una gran conmoción respecto a como EE.UU. no debiera entrometerse en Angola -- como si esos no sabían desde el principio lo que era pasando. Al fondo, todo su habladería no quería decir más que los EE.UU. no debiera respaldar la facción que iba a perder. Pero ahora que los soviéticos han cumplido su victoria en Angola los politiqueros americanos están todos cantando el mismo son: hemos perdido esta batalla, pero seremos listos para la próxima.

LA VICTORIA SOVIÉTICA

Ahora que su ayuda militar y sus tropas cubanas han conquistado el país y montado el MPLA en el poder los soviéticos tienen la intención de volver Angola en una neo-colonia, semejante a lo que ha hecho nuestro propio clase dominante para dominar y chupar el sangre de muchos países del mundo. La victoria soviética es un grand golpe a la clase dominante de EE.UU., pues que pone en peligro las inversiones de billiones de dólares que probablemente va a "perder" a sus rivales soviéticos. Además, esa victoria provee a los soviéticos un base potencial para usar para atacar y amenazar otros países en África del sur, los que ahora están robados por corporaciones americanas.

Pero aunque los EE.UU. ha llevado una pérdida nunca van a dejar de querer recobrar el control de Angola otra vez. Ya están tratando de rescatar lo que puedan. La compañía de petróleo Gulf y la Boeing están en negociaciones con el MPLA. Tropas sud-africanas respaldados por EE.UU. todavía mantienen un rincón sureño de Angola.

RIÑA ENTRE LAS SUPERPOTENCIAS

Ya se caliente la riña entre las clases dominantes de los EE.UU. y la URSS, los dos bandidos internacionales principales. Su riña les llevará a más Angolas donde EE.UU. y la Unión Soviética pelearán entre sí mismos para la dominación de la patria de otro pueblo, y donde usaran la gente ordinaria y los soldados de los países bajo su control para llevar a cabo sus batallas. El peligro de una guerra total entre las superpotencias crece cada día.

Como obreros en este país, no tenemos ningún interés en juntarnos con nuestros propios explotadores en agresión militar y guerras para proteger los intereses de nuestros patronos en contra de sus rivales soviéticos. No debemos de pelear para que nuestra clase dominante pueda ganar la oportunidad de empobrecer y chupar el sangre de la gente obrera de otros países. Nuestra lucha es en contr-

PASE DE LA PAGINA 3



10,000 SOLDADOS CUBANOS EN ANGOLA

Ya No Aguantamos Mas! Soportemos La Demostracion Del 4 de Julio

El Obrero recibió la siguiente informe de la jefatura nacional del Comité Organizador de Obreros Desempleados (UWOC):

El comité Organizador de Obreros Desempleados (UWOC), con organización de lucha en 30 ciudades mayores a través del país, hoy día declaró que nos juntamos con Los Veteranos de Vietnam Contra La Guerra para hacer esta llamada: JUNTATE A NOSOTROS EL 4 DE JULIO EN FILIDELFIA en una manifestación para hacer saber nuestros verdaderos sentimientos y intenciones.

A este momento ningún cantidad de habladería puede tapan la profunda crisis y las condiciones de nuestras vidas hoy en día. Todo la fanfarronada tocante al Bicentenario tiene el propósito de hacernos creer que todo ya bien y los que supuestamente nos representan están tomando en cuenta lo que necesitamos. Eso es muy lejos de la verdad. Nunca han hecho así. Nos dicen puras mentiras: "Somos toda de la misma familia"--"No hay ningún diferencia entre los dominantes y los dominados, los patronos y los

obreros." Que sentido tiene eso? Pues, a nosotros sin trabajo esa "diferencia" que supuestamente no existe es lo que nos ha quitado de lo que necesitamos para vivir. No se puede tapan a esa realidad.

Aunque nosotros los obreros han construido todo que existe en este país, ya enfrentamos una vida de pobreza y hambre. Enfrentamos a condiciones de trabajo tan peligrosas que muchos no van a sobrevivirlas. ¿Que tenemos para celebrar? ¿Como amos a proclamar, "Dos cientos años de la grandeza"? Ciertamente, ayudamos en aplastar y ahuyentar a los británicos-- esto lo hicieron nuestros antepasados quienes eran también gente obrera. Ciertamente, queremos vivir segun la consigna, todos por uno y uno por todos. Esto es nuestra meta.

Pero hemos aprendido mucho desde el principio. Todo lo que hemos ganado resultado de nuestro sacrificio, sangre, sudor y trabajo, de la unidad y acción de nuestra clase obrera que es nuestro fuerza y poder. Dos cientos años de nuestra producción. Ahora después de cinco a 35 años de trabajo

nos dicen: "¿Piensas tu que se debe un trabajo a ti? Piensas que a ti se debe ingreso?" ¿Y cuales trabajos nos ofrecen? El sueldo mínimo o menos--y sólo para unos pocos. O quizás un uniforme militar--un trabajo que ahora se promueve mucho en las líneas de desempleo, pues que dicen que es el único trabajo obtenible hoy en día. Para mantener este modo de vida y proteger su riqueza, quieren que vayamos a la guerra. Sabemos quien hace sacrificios en sus guerras, y claro que no es ellos. Juntos con los Veteranos de Vietnam Contra la Guerra, obreros desempleados a través del país están diciendo "NO VAMOS A PELEAR EN OTRA GUERRA POR LOS RICOS."

Los capitulos del UWOC a través del país están organizando para la manifestación del 4 de julio en Filidelfia. Cientos de miles de firmes en nuestra petición expresaran nuestras demandas inmediatas. Vamos a bregar con la fuente de nuestra miseria. Dícenos: TRABAJOS O INGRESO! HEMOS CARCADO A LOS RICOS POR 200 ANOS--YA NO ACUANTAMOS MAS!

EL OBRERO

Para el Area de Milwaukee y Wisconsin

marzo 1976

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LA HUELGA DE LOS CARNICEROS: 13 MESES



EN SOLIDARIDAD CON LOS CARNICEROS HUELGUISTAS

Después de casi 13 meses en la línea de piquete, nada ha podido matar la determinación de los cortadores de carne de Milwaukee, ni los rompehuelgas, ni los cientos de arrestos, ni los 240 huelguistas despedidos, ni los ataques policíacos o la National Labor Board. Nada, compañero, nada!

Fue con este espíritu combativo que se reunieron los cortadores de carne con sus familias y otros trabajadores para una cena de Solidaridad el día 14 de febrero. Después de deleitarse con la comida, que incluyó, pollo frito, enchiladas, y corn beef. Los trabajadores se divertieron con un programa que incluía música y discursos. Durante los discursos hubo muchas ocasiones en que los trabajadores se levantaron dando aplausos y gritos mostrando así su aprobación. Y ya para el final de la noche el mensaje de la unidad de la clase obrera era estremecedora.

Cuando dos obreros de hierro se levantaron a contar su historia de la huelga que tuvieron en contra de Wyman-Gordon en Chicago toda la audiencia los aplaudió. Al igual, un trabajador de la American Motors dijo que el veía con gran importancia la huelga de los cortadores de carne, ya que daba ejemplo a la unidad de la clase obrera.

El y otros compañeros acaban de llegar de Toledo en donde se pasaron repatiendo volantes que recibieron mucho apoyo.

En la audiencia habían muchos obreros que tendrán que negociar su contrato el año entrante y para ellos los huelguistas tenían un mensaje especial. "Si traen rompehuelgas partélenles las caras. Que nuestro poder consiste en la unidad, y la acción. Cuando empezó la huelga las calles estaban llenas de obreros listos y dispuesto en usar sus músculos agobiados para defender sus trabajos. Pero dejándose llevar por los oficiales de la unión llevaron su pelea a las cortes."

Estos líderes de la unión han sido una espina desde el comienzo. Uno de los discursantes dijo sobre esto "Esos oficiales de la unión lo único que hacen es sentarse muy cómodos en sus oficinas. Se parecen más a ejecutivos de corporaciones. Lo único que les interesa es cobrar nuestro dinero. Es poca la diferencia entre los patronos y estos oficiales de la unión. Como dice el refrán "Si se parece a un pato y camina como un pato y habla como un pato pues caramba entonces es un pato!"

Los huelguistas patrocinaron esta
PASE A LA PAGINA 3

Vengan al banquete inaugural del Primero de Mayo

El Primero de Mayo el día de celebración internacional en honor a la clase obrera, el día que se ha señalado para agrupar nuestras fuerzas y prepararnos para las luchas vinideras. El sábado, 13 de Marzo, se ofrecerá un banquete y un programa en Solski's Hall, 801 E. Clarke, para presentar los planes para el Primero de Mayo de este año. Obreros de todas las industrias, tanto empleados como desempleados, se reunirán para que el Primero de Mayo de este año sea el punto de partida de la unión de todas nuestras fuerzas y un verdadero paso hacia adelante en nuestra lucha por la libertad.

A pesar de las promesas piadosas hechas por los politiqueros y comerciantes durante este año electoral, las cosas han ido de mal en peor. Están tratando de resolver sus crisis a costa nuestra, poniendo por tierra nuestro nivel de vida, nuestras condiciones de trabajo, y nuestras propias vidas. El valor de nuestros sueldos han estado declinando en proporción directa al ascenso de la inflación. Miles de obreros han sido despedidos. En los talleres hemos tenido que soportar combinaciones de empleos, reducciones de pagos, agresiones contra los sindicatos y aceleraciones de producción criminales. Con el vencimiento este año, de contratos cubriendo a más de cuatro millones de

obreros, podemos anticipar otra ola de ataques viciosos. Nuestras escuelas y nuestros barrios continúan desmoronándose. Y se nos amenaza constantemente con la posibilidad de convertirnos nuevamente en pasto de cañón para otra futura guerra.

Todo esto ha sido confrontado con creciente resistencia. Ha habido un sinnúmero de batallas, desde quejas y reducción de esfuerzo en los distintos departamentos a la huelga de más de un año por parte de los carniceros y las manifestaciones de 80,000 mineros del carbón el verano pasado. En muchas de estas luchas hemos tenido que lidiar no sólo con el afán desalmado de sacar ganancias, sino con el falso y traidor liderato de las uniones que quieren atar cadenas a nuestro esfuerzo.

Han aumentado las actividades dirigidas hacia la creación de empleos o sueldos, mejoramiento de la calidad e igualdad de oportunidad en la educación, y contra la represión policial. Ha existido una lucha contra toda forma de explotación y opresión.

En todas estas batallas hemos establecido un movimiento contra la clase privilegiada de capitalistas que vive robando los frutos de nuestra labor. Tanto en las luchas pequeñas, como en la de los obreros de la AMC que piden que obreros de producción sean enviados a la reunión contractual
PASE A LA PAGINA 3

