

THE WORKER

For the Milwaukee Area and Wisconsin

OCTOBER 1977 VOL. 2 NO. 1

Seccion en Espanol 25¢

Unemployed Build Battle

Union Jobs at Union Wages! Defend Unemployment Insurance!

Police Violence on Northwest Side

Cops Beat Roger Lyons to Death

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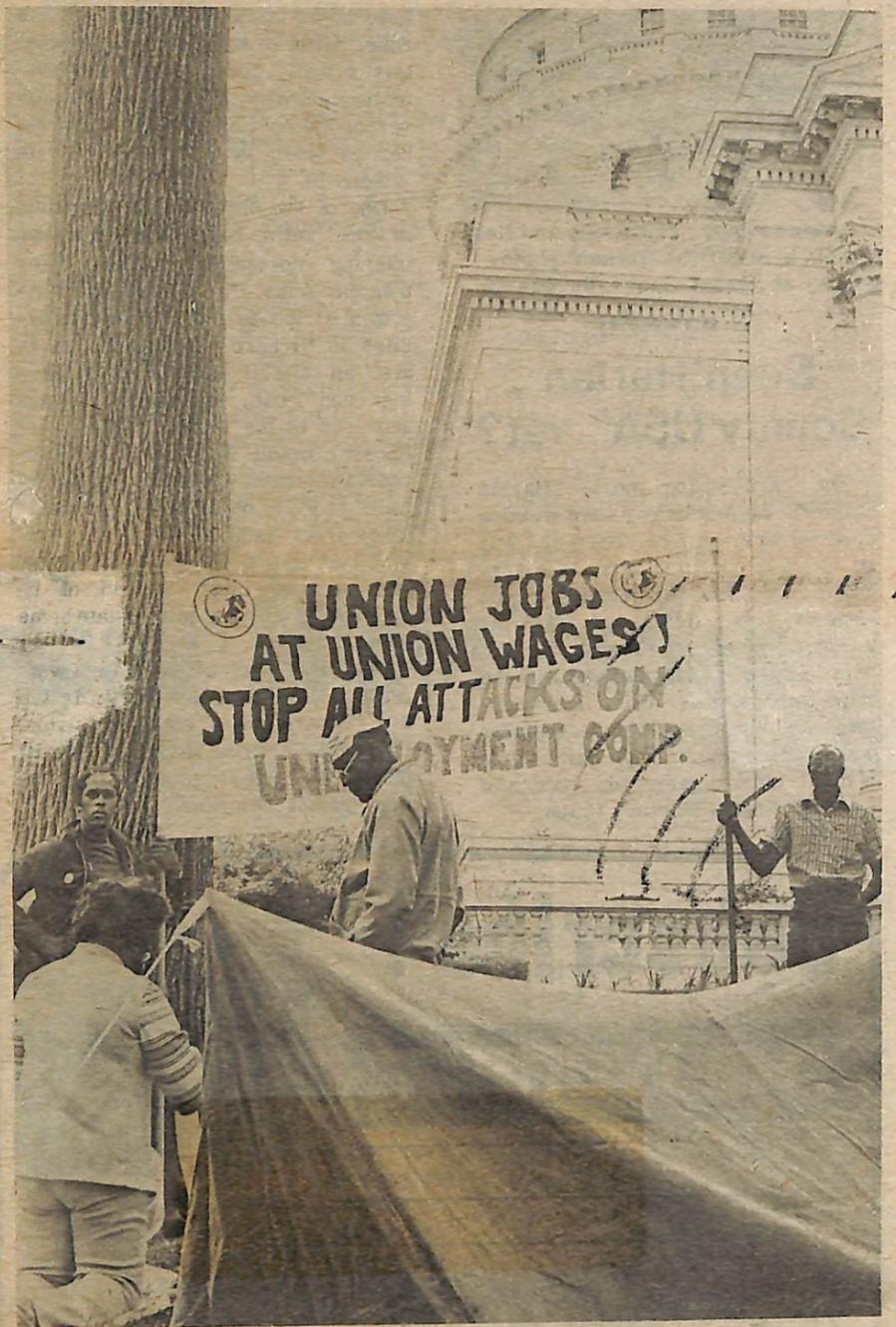
Strikes in Milwaukee

Rank & File Say No to Bargaining Committees

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What's Brewing in Beer City

Iran Envoy Hit

On October 7 one hundred and fifty demonstrators showed up to denounce ambassador Zahedi from Iran. The envoy from the dictatorial Shah of Iran had been brought to Milwaukee by the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee's Institute of World Affairs.

The protesters had good reason to disrupt his dinner reception and inflict several hundred dollars of damage on his car. The Shah is a U.S. financed ruler whose secret police have tortured, executed, and jailed thousands of patriotic Iranians.

Iranian students made up the bulk of the crowd as it marched outside T.V. 6, the Milwaukee Journal, and the Pfister Hotel. The media wanted to get the Shah's story and the university wanted to spread it.

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Undercover cops Robin Reilly and Hattie Nichols harass "The Worker" photographer at the anti-Nazi rally Sept 24.

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Seen "Harlan County USA" Yet?

The hard-hitting movie "Harlan County"—an Academy Award winning documentary, will be shown at UWM on October 21st and 22nd. The film boldly goes into the center of the Kentucky coal fields and takes an uncompromising stand with the miners in their struggle against the mine owners, their allies in government and the cops. The movie also details the miners' fight for control of their union against top leaders of the United Mine Workers Union.

Texas Farmworker To Speak

On October 24th, Texas farmworkers leader Antonio Orendain will speak at 805 S. 5th, Room 208. The benefit luncheon from 11:30 to 1 pm of rice, beans, beef stew and tortillas will be \$2 a plate. It will be a good chance to build workers' solidarity and learn about the struggle in south Texas. Read article on page 10.

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New Vet Affairs Head Axes Benefits

Wisconsin veteran benefits programs are under attack. In covering the developments in the veterans programs, the media has focused on the firing of John Moses, former head of the state programs, and his court battle to keep his job. But what was actually going on was a systematic campaign by both former Governor Lucey and Governor Schreiber to slash vet's benefits here in Wisconsin.

One of the biggest state programs is the vet's home loan program, offering mortgages at lower rates than the banks. One of Lucey's hatchetmen on the Board of Veterans Affairs is Richard Carboneau. He is also an official of 1st Federal Savings and Loan, the biggest savings and loan in the state. Obviously 1st Federal would like the 17,000 Wisconsin veterans who have gotten state loans at 6% to be forced to get mortgages from them at 9%. First Federal has also been accused of charging veterans 1.5% instead of 1% origination fees for getting state home loans.

The new head of the state's vets programs is Michael Early. In his 6 1/2 years as a state legislator, Early was a floor leader on several pieces of Lucey-supported legislation against veterans.



Nazis Trashed Again

On September 24, the Nazis in Milwaukee took lumps when they showed their pimply faces on the southside for the second time this summer. Instead of the support they were expecting for their hate and racism by holding an "anti-busing" rally, they were met by a picket line demonstration of three hundred.

Over the past several years the Nazis have received small tastes of people's outrage. They've been confronted by students at Bay View High School, by Polish war veterans on Mitchell Street, and by angry people downtown. The September 24 and August 27 picket lines of hundreds

against the Nazis put it plain and simple: the hard working people of Milwaukee will not stand for these shiftless, no-good trash.

At both rallies 200 cops had to show up to make sure not one hair was harmed on their little boys' heads. They were protecting these scum because the Nazis say things the rich would love to but don't dare to. The working people of Milwaukee don't want to hear this racist nonsense. Workers know they have a lot to gain through unity and nothing to gain with the rich man's divide and conquer schemes. ■

■■■■■■■

and headaches are also common, especially on the job.

The downtown post office was built with no planning for effects on workers there. There is NO ventilation in the building—despite the fact that enclosed gas pumps and traffic ramps are the source of poisonous carbon monoxide.

Over the years, several attempts have been made to change this situation. A rank and file group pressed for hearings and injunctions with few results. OSHA will not inspect the building because a special Congressional order is needed for a federal government agency to investigate another.

Congressman Reuss doesn't use any of the excuses of government agencies—he has just refused to do anything. Lately, he has said he would push for an investigation but nothing has come of it.

Judge Reynolds rejected a lawsuit against conditions in the post office as "frivolous."

The government won't do anything on their own because they're the ones who built it. Only by postal workers organizing themselves and gaining support will the government give them ventilation and healthy working conditions. ■



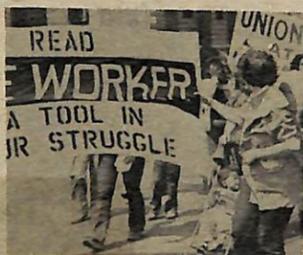
GEORGE SHOULD APPLY TURTLE WAX BEFORE FACING THE NATION.

Pollution at the Post Office

Since the new post office was built in 1968 on W. St. Paul, workers there have been hit with a wide range of health problems. Heart attacks are at an all-time high. Many people who work there have difficulty breathing, severe chest pains and unending lung infections. Severe nervous problems

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WORKER FORUM

Why Unemployment?

Why are there still so many out of work?

Are we headed for another crash?

How serious are the politicians in trying to dismantle the unemployment insurance system?

What are the top union leaders doing?

How does the system plan to use

the unemployed against the rest of the working class?

What about their line that foreign born workers and imports are the cause of job loss?

What's the road forward?

Hear a straight-forward, scientific explanation of this key question for the working class.

WORKERS CENTER
4409 W. NORTH AVE
Nov. 13 3:30

THE WORKER

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

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

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

To contact us or for more information, write:

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Big Steel Layoffs: Imports to Blame?

Within a few months, 20,000 steel workers will be out of a job. Workers are pouring out of the mills and into the unemployment lines faster than molten steel. Every day it seems there are new announcements of layoffs or even whole steel plants shutting down.

This kind of whole sale disruption and destruction of so many workers' lives has a deep effect on other workers as well. They can't help feeling their own precarious future is even less secure. But there's another reason why the layoffs in steel are becoming a big issue. Along with spewing out unemployment, the steel companies are dishing out poison as well—their claim that it's foreign

imports that are responsible for this problem, and that the solution is for steel workers and other workers faced with a similar situation to join with the companies in getting these imports stopped.

The course that the companies are preaching—along with their favorites in union leadership—is the road to hell for steel workers. The barriers against foreign imports the steel companies are asking for wouldn't help save American jobs at all. Worse, by accepting the companies' claim that they have a common interest with the employers in "protecting American industry," steel workers would be giving up in advance on the only real choice they have to

defend their jobs—by fighting the companies.

Many times the companies claim that the reason they can't compete with foreign steel is because these foreign companies are selling their steel in the U.S. at below cost, "dumping" it, so that they can drive the American mills out of business and take over the market. But an editor of the steel industry paper admitted—in what he thought was an off the record remark—that this claim is just nonsense for public consumption.

The European and Japanese steel industry can sell steel more cheaply because it was largely rebuilt after World War 2, partly with loans which made some American financiers richer than ever. In the U.S., there's been only one new mill built since WW2 and some big mills are from before WW1.

This has led to a vicious cycle: the U.S. steel companies, because they are technologically outdated, haven't been very profitable. Without profits, they haven't had the money to rebuild and expand—which means that they've become increasingly obsolete. Especially today, with an economic crisis gripping all the capitalist countries and the big slack in steel consumption because of that crisis, the American capitalists are very reluctant to put their money into steel. There's an increasingly cut-throat competition between steel companies to sell their products both internationally and within the various countries.

European and Japanese steel is cheaper because it takes less man per ton to make it—293 workers per ton in Japan, vs. 479 in the U.S.

Look Who's Not Buying American

Youngstown Sheet & Tube laid off 5000 workers, blaming among other things the heavy competition from Japanese steel imports. Shedding big tears in agreement, other steel companies as well as the top leadership of the United Steelworkers of America chimed in. It's a song they've been singing for years—"Blame the Foreign Devils."

But wait a minute! The notes of their sad song had barely died down when it was revealed that Youngstown Sheet & Tube had just bought a shipment of Japanese steel to use in some mill expansion. They knew the embar-

assment this could cause so they went to great trouble to paint over everything on the shipping crates that said "Made in Japan."

Buy American? Sure, it's fine for the companies to say in order to get the people of the U.S. all stirred up against foreigners who are "stealing American jobs." Yet, if steel cylinders, or widgets, or chrome-plated whatevers, are cheaper Made in Japan, then Japan is where the capitalists will buy them. Get where the getting is the best—that's a law of capitalism and lawbreakers go bankrupt.



WORKERS AT YOUNGSTOWN SHEET AND TUBE ARE AMONG THE THOUSANDS OF STEEL WORKERS LAYED OFF.

Further more, in Japan, for instance, steel workers get paid less and face more difficult conditions. In order to compete better with these companies, U.S. steel employers would have to do the same: expand the use of modern steel processes which require fewer workers, grind down steel workers in terms of speedup and wages. How can any worker afford this kind of competition?

In fact, as Business Week points out, in order for the U.S. steel industry to beef itself up, the bigger capitalists would have to swallow up the medium-sized companies, a few big mills would replace many smaller mills, and so on—a program for wholesale elimination of steel jobs and strengthening the power of the companies that those still working would have to face.

The interests of the steel companies and other big capitalists are somewhat opposed on the question of imports. If U.S. steel companies get their way and foreign imports are restricted, U.S. steel companies will raise their prices. But if steel prices were to go up, this would mean higher prices for all manufactured goods and for everything else made in the U.S., which would make other U.S. goods that much less competitive on the world market, and also cut into profits of other capitalists.

Carter, who as President is responsible to the whole capitalist ruling class, has been resisting the steel companies demands for exactly this reason. At the same time, since steel mills are tied in to the same handful of financial monopolies that owns everything else in this country, the government certainly isn't going to let them go broke.

The recent history of the steel industry shows what is robbing these jobs—the capitalist profit system. In the last 20 years, even though total steel production has soared, about 100,000 steel jobs have been lost. Imports had nothing to do with that. It was all a question of profits—he who gets the most work out of "his" workers while keeping the least possible number of workers on the payroll gets the most profits. As Karl Marx, who first analyzed capitalism scientifically a hundred years ago

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

Workers Demand Jobs

Zenith Slashes U.S. Production

"They treat us like dirt," she said. "They work us like dogs and then just throw us out in the street, all for one thing, their profits."

The middle-age Black woman was speaking into the TV cameras as dozens of her fellow workers stood around her, grim faced and angry. They worked at Zenith's Austin Ave. plant in Chicago. They had just gotten the news that day that Zenith was laying off 5600 of its U.S. workers, over 2000 in Chicago alone.

This was the company which for years has run commercials proclaiming how proud it was of its American workers, implying that unlike other electronics companies they would not think of manufacturing their

color TVs overseas. Of course they never said in these ads that for almost a decade virtually all of their black and white TVs and 90% of their radios have been made elsewhere.

Worldwide Zenith employs 35,000 people. Up until now, about 20,000 of those jobs have been in the U.S. Zenith Board Chairman John Nevin said the company was very sorry, they had done everything they could to avoid the layoffs. It was a matter of competition. The company was moving production to Taiwan and Mexico where costs are less. The capitalists' media jumped in right away with a slant no worker could have come up with. CBS national radio news reported that Zenith was laying

off 5600 workers in order to protect the jobs of the remaining 15,000.

All of this was so much hogwash, except the competition. The electrical companies, like all the capitalists, are locked in cutthroat competition for profits. They tell their workers that it is in their best interests to support their own capitalists, because if they do well, then the workers will do well. But Zenith continues to roll in the bucks and 5600 more workers are in the street. Zenith's profits have been growing for three straight years.

They try to blame it on imports on foreign workers, who receive a fraction of what U.S. workers get. As if workers in Taiwan kill themselves for these sweatshop wages voluntarily. In Taiwan, unions and strikes are outlawed. Any job actions over wages and working conditions are brutally repressed by the police and military. This is the great "democracy" that has become a haven for U.S. capitalists. Is it any wonder that production costs are cheaper there? Maybe if U.S. workers would agree to work for 14 cents an hour, support laws banning unions and strikes, patriotic companies like Zenith and the rest would be able to keep jobs in the U.S. like they say they really want to do!

Zenith workers are trying to mobilize against the layoffs. In Chicago the Electrical section of the National United Workers Organization is organizing Zenith workers around the demand, "To hell with the companies' profits, we demand our jobs! Stop the layoffs!"



ZENITH WORKERS MARCHED IN PHILADELPHIA ON JULY 4, 1976, SAYING "WE'VE CARRIED THE RICH FOR 200 YEARS!" NOW ZENITH WORKERS ARE FIGHTING FOR THEIR JOBS IN FACE OF A LAYOFF OF 5600.

Thousands Rise Up in Outrage

African Freedom Fighter Murdered

Steve Biko was a founder of the South African Students Organization and a leader of what was known as the "black consciousness movement." He had played an important role in giving direction to the rebellions in Soweto. He was murdered in prison by South African police on September 12.

Police announced that he had died as the result of an eight day hunger strike. South African Justice Minister Kruger told a snickering audience at the Congress of the white ruling National Party that "Biko's death leaves me cold." According to press reports the crowd tittered with laughter when Kruger said that "it was his democratic right to starve himself to death if he wanted."

This story of how Steve Biko died is such a transparent lie, such a blatant attempt to cover up yet another murder of a leader of the liberation struggle of South Africa's black majority, that the authorities have had to change their tune in the face of mass protest. Now Kruger has announced an investigation of the death and promised that "heads will roll" if there is any evidence of police wrongdoing.

These murderers have little to fear from a government investigation. Steve Biko was the 20th political prisoner to be murdered in South African jails in the last 18 months. There have been close to 50 known and documented cases of prison murders in the last 15 years. These arrogant South African racists simply deny them, attributing the deaths to suicide, claims that victims leaped from windows, hanged themselves



THE MURDER OF STEVE BIKO SPARKED A NEW STORM OF PROTESTS THROUGHOUT SOUTH AFRICA. BIKO'S WIDOW, NSIKI (ABOVE), AND SUPPORTERS AT HIS FUNERAL.

in their cells or died by slipping on a bar of soap, falling down stairs or choking on food.

But the South African ruling class and their racist storm troopers have much to fear from the masses of Azanian people, the 18 million blacks who are forced into virtual slavery by the white ruling class of the

country.

Biko's murder has unleashed new outrage and organized struggle against the bloody South African regime, both within that country and throughout the world. Tens of thousands of people demonstrated in Soweto, attacking police and burning government buildings. Giant memorials were held for Biko. The Vor-

ster government tried to crush this massive protest with more repression. In Soweto and other black areas, police fired into crowds coming from memorial services. Thousands of students were arrested and jailed. At least four more blacks have been murdered in the wake of Steve Biko's death.

In a move of disgusting hypocrisy and opportunism, the U.S. government sent its official representative in South Africa to Steve Biko's funeral and Andy Young and other spokesmen for the Carter administration have mourned his death. But if it were not for economic and political support from the United States and other imperialist countries, the racist apartheid regime of South Africa would not be able to continue its reign of repression and terror. The South African military is armed with Western weapons, it receives direct aid from Israel, which is nothing more than indirect U.S. aid. U.S. corporations have billions of dollars of investment, from gold mines to auto plants. The thrust of the "new" U.S. policy in southern Africa has been to try to buy time for the white minority rule in South Africa by maneuvering for "acceptable" black rule in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) and Namibia (Southwest Africa.).

Farcical protests and praising of Steve Biko do not erase the fact that the U.S. ruling class stands as guilty as its clients of the racist South African regime for Steve Biko's murder and countless other crimes against the people of Azania. ■

\$9 Million in Holdings

UW Invests in Apartheid

Last spring students at the University of Wisconsin in Madison took on the Board of Regents about the University's investments in southern Africa. Together with students from Maryland to California they built a powerful movement challenging the university's right to profit from apartheid. Even Bronson LaFollette, Wisconsin's Attorney General, was forced to admit the University's holdings were illegal. At the same time in southern Africa the liberation forces were making significant advances as the Kissinger-Young plan for majority rule was going up in smoke. Under fire from all sides, the Regents were forced to drop the holdings. But the very next day, the Regents had second thoughts about this decision and reversed themselves. Why this sudden turn about? What's at stake in dropping the holdings?

The Regents said the loss of money from dropping these holdings would endanger scholarships or research fellowships for UW students. But this is the same university that tried to cut back the minority admissions program, including financial aid, here in Milwaukee last year. So they're not concerned with financing students' education. They're concerned with maintaining a good profit off these investments, like any other business. As businessmen and politicians, they're not about to give up a good thing.

The University of Wisconsin has more than just a few nickels and dimes invested in southern Africa.

It has \$9,000,000. in corporations there. Investments in southern Africa have an average return of 19.5% on the dollar. There's big money to be made in apartheid. Racism, whether it's making Blacks and whites fight over jobs in this country or maintaining apartheid in southern Africa, means superprofits for the bosses like the Regents.

It's no surprise that the Regents are against the struggle of the African people standing up to apartheid. Take a look who's on the Board of Regents: Bertram McNamara, regent from Milwaukee, is head of District 32 of the United Steelworkers. He controls millions of dollars in union funds and uses every trick in the book to try to sabotage the steelworkers' fight against the bosses. He also spent 2 years in India working for the Agency for International Development, a notorious CIA front; Ody Fish is a longtime Republican heavyweight, serving as its party chairman in Wisconsin from 1965-1970; Barbara Thompson, Superintendent of Public Education, is the infamous Hortonville teachers' strikebreaker; Michael Gerrod hitched his star to Lucey and rose to be Democratic party chairman. Both Fish and Gerrod as well as other regents have personal investments in corporations doing business in southern Africa.

But the heat of the student movement in Madison has put the Regents on the hot spot. And it's not only in Madison that regents are under fire. At Maryland, Amhurst, Stanford and

California students are staging sit-ins, taking over chancellors' offices and facing massive arrests to protest their university's investments in southern Africa. In the face of all these uprisings, UW Regents have a

special duty to members of their class across the country not to let the movement in Wisconsin gain much headway. Any victory against university holdings could ignite the struggle against apartheid onto other campuses and cities. It could unite masses of Black and white students and the reservoir of support in the Black communities into a single fist to strike a real blow against apartheid. This is what's at stake in dropping the holdings. ■

UW INVESTMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

COMPANY	SHARES	VALUE
Abbott Labs	7,500	\$312,225
Bucyrus Erie	10,000	\$251,300
Exxon	15,000	\$774,450
Ford	9,000	\$499,500
General Electric	20,000	\$1,077,600
General Foods	8,000	\$253,090
General Motors	10,000	\$683,800
Getty Oil	1,000	\$180,500
Goodyear	15,000	\$292,500
Ingersoll-Rand	5,000	\$370,000
IBM	3,500	\$905,625
Johns-Manville	12,000	\$412,560
Mobile	10,000	\$662,500
Pepsico	7,000	\$489,860
Phillips Petroleum	7,500	\$399,376
RCA	20,000	\$580,500
Union Carbide	6,000	\$328,500
US Steel	4,000	\$182,520
Xerox	6,000	\$273,000

Move The Gym! 3000 Rally At Kent State

Ever since May 4, 1970, when four Kent State students were gunned down by National Guardsmen for protesting the invasion of Cambodia and the war in Vietnam, Kent State University has symbolized a spirit of resistance and struggle against the crimes of the U.S. ruling class. And ever since, the authorities have tried to bury what Kent State represents. When KSU announced plans to completely bury the site of the murders under a new gymnasium, they caught a lot of struggle from a growing student movement.

Since early last summer, KSU has repeatedly been shaken by demonstrations, rallies and a 62 day occupation of "the hill." Despite court injunctions, mass arrests and harassment, the May 4th Coalition fought and stalled off for most of the summer the administration's attempts to begin construction of the gym. With the opening of school, a demonstration of several hundred introduced the new students to the issue and put the new school president, Brage Golding, on notice that if he went ahead with the project, "what goes up must come down." The May 4th Coalition called for a national rally on September 24 to demand relocation of the gym.

The KSU administration responded with a massive intimidation campaign to try and neutralize the widespread and growing "Move the Gym" sentiment on campus. The trustees had imported the new president Golding,

hoping his experience could help crush the resistance to the gym site. During the '60s, he had been in Brazil working for the Aid for International Development (a notorious CIA front) helping the dictatorship there set up a police apparatus. Later at San Diego State, he took charge of wiping out the ethnic studies course and arming the campus cops.

Golding rushed construction crews onto the site and began excavation under the protection of scores of riot-equipped police. As a "compromise" Golding proposed naming the gym after all the "victims" of May 4, 1970—including not only the four killed, but the National Guardsmen who shot them and Governor Rhodes who ordered them onto the campuses! At the same time it was announced that anyone violating the court injunction permitting construction would be immediately suspended for one year. Arrest and grand jury warrants were sworn out against May 4th Coalition leaders. They also declared that the September 24 demonstration would not be permitted.

They might as well have issued edicts to the winds. On September 24, students from Kent State and campuses all over the country gathered at Kent to oppose construction of the gym in the most significant student demonstration in years. The movement the ruling class wanted to bury was proving to be more than a memory on campuses around the



STUDENTS TEAR DOWN THE FENCE AT THE SITE OF THE 1970 KENT STATE MURDERS. 3000 STUDENTS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY MASSES ON SEPTEMBER 24 TO OPPOSE ATTEMPTS TO CONSTRUCT A GYM ON THE SITE.

country. The Revolutionary Student Brigade, members of which are active in the May 4th Coalition at Kent, organized to bring people to Kent. 300 people at the University of Texas rallied to demand the gym be moved. 80 students at Purdue heard a leader from Kent speak and 21 signed up on the spot to be there on the 24th. 85 students at Amherst in Massachusetts were mobilized to travel over 500 miles to the demonstration. Similar developments took place around the country.

The "forbidden demonstration" began with a rally of 3000. Bolstered by this powerful show of outside support a thousand Kent students defied the administration's intimidation campaign to take part. Al Canfora, one of the students shot by guardsmen in 1970, traced the history of the battle at Kent and said that the demonstration was the highest level of this struggle in seven years, because of its size, because of its nationwide character and because the

face of the ruling class was more clearly exposed than ever.

A member of the Revolutionary Student Brigade spoke on some of the political lessons of the struggle, pointing out how the battle today is against the same capitalist system it was on May 4, 1970 and that the spirit of Kent and Jackson States today means turning attacks like the gym into blows against that system. (2 students were also killed in May 1970 by Mississippi state police at all-Black Jackson State for protesting the oppression of Black people and the invasion of Cambodia.) Large numbers at the rally expressed interest in the Brigade's call for a convention to be held at Kent State to build for a national communist youth and student organization.

After the rally, the march headed straight for the hill. The fence was smashed down like so much balsa wood and chicken wire and half

CON'T ON PAGE 13

Fight Against Union Busting 5 Unions Strike Madison Newspapers

Two hundred workers at Madison Newspapers Inc.—the publishers of Madison's two daily papers—went out on strike Saturday, Sept. 3 in their battle against an all-out union busting campaign. The printers, pressmen, mailers, reporters and copy editors are digging in for a long battle. They are represented by five unions. They are massing on the picket lines in the early morning and early afternoon to confront the scabs, and asking the community to boycott the papers that management-imported scabs are putting out.

The strike has been brewing for a year since Midwest newspaper, TV and radio conglomerate Lee Enterprises (half owner of MNI) moved MNI into a new, highly automated plant. Claiming that skilled printers were unnecessary because of automation, MNI fired over 50 printers—38 on one night. They're hiring permanent part time workers at minimum wage to fill a lot of jobs that printers used to do. They cut the remaining printers and pressmen's wages by one third claiming they don't have to work as hard now and proposed that employees find their own health insurance. MNI has refused to bargain seriously with any of the unions. Their last proposal was tiny wage increases, no strike clauses, and reclassification of a number of workers to label them "supervisory personnel" to keep them out of the unions.

The unions responded to MNI's attacks with Madison Newspaper Unity Committee—an agreement between all five that if one went out they all would.

The experiences at other newspapers nationwide—like the Washington Post strike—showed the workers that only a unified strike could win.

The International Typographers Union and Wisconsin State Journal Employees Association called the strike Saturday morning and the other three walked out in support. The director of MNI walked through the plant giving everyone a choice of either staying on and bargaining individually with MNI, or leaving. Four of the unions went out solidly and most of the remaining union walked out, too. Ma-

agement put out a reduced version of the paper, several hours late.

To continue production MNI has brought in at least ten skilled scabs from as far away as Montana. That, combined with fourteen hour days by the management has kept the scab paper coming out regularly. The MNI and Lee Chain is being advised by the notorious union busting lawyer Madison's Joe Melli.

MNI also hired a dozen Pinkertons to guard the plant, inside and out, against sabotage. But the workers are taking the scabs and the

scab paper head on. Spirited picketlines have dented at least one scab's car and forced MNI to house the scabs in the plant itself.

The Newspaper Unity Committee has put out a call for a boycott of the scab papers—and the response is 35-50 cancellations an hour through the newspaper's switchboard.

In fact the tremendous response has jammed the Madison city council into considering action against MNI for violating a little used ordinance that prohibits the employment, recruitment and furnishing of professional strikebreakers to replace employees involved in a "labor dispute." Mayor Soglin, obviously responding to the wave of sympathy and support for the strikers in Madison, even sent the building inspector to see if there were cots inside the plant. But the speculation about a possible ordinance violation has done nothing to hinder scab production.

Trying to scare workers back onto the job, MNI sent out letters warning that strikers will be replaced permanently if they don't report to work this week. The scab papers have been full of lies that make it seem like the workers provoked the strike. The papers have also carried ads for permanent replacements.

MNI workers know the battle against Lee Enterprises is going to be long and hard. But the union busting offensive in the printing industry leaves them no other choice. The Worker joins all those workers and others in Madison and around the state in saying "Victory at MNI!"



MANAGEMENT IMPORTED SCABS, FROM AS FAR AWAY AS MONTANA, FACE SPIRITED PICKET LINES DURING MADISON NEWSPAPERS STRIKE.

Milwaukee Cops Kill Again Police Beat Cyclist to Death

On Friday Sept. 30, Roger Lyons was beaten to death by the Milwaukee police outside a tavern on the North west side. The attack was typical of the violent abuse of citizens at the hands of so-called law enforcement officials.

Friday night, Lyons and a couple of his buddies in the Outlaws stop at the Bus Stop to see some friends. Lyons downs a few and feels pretty good. A scuffle breaks out in the back of the bar. Everyone jumps up. The bartender calls the cops. The fight ends as fast as it started. The bartender sets up another round.

Half an hour later five of six Milwaukee cops fly in. "Who do you want us to arrest?"

"Nobody. Fight's over." The bartender pours a drink for Lyons, who is leaning on a bar stool.

"Everybody out. That's it for tonight."

A few people start to leave. Lyons picks up his drink to down it. A cop yells, "Hey! You! Get movin'." He knocks the drink out of Lyons hands, grabs him by the hair and pulls him to the floor. More cops pile on, swinging their clubs viciously. Each cop wants to get in his licks. Sgt. Collins, who led the attack, gets his cuffs on Lyons. He is still kicking as they pull him out.

When they get outside, they throw Lyons on the ground and start kicking him. They bust his head open. Mike Goodman walks out of the tavern when the cops tell everyone to get out. He sees them beating on his buddy, and shouts at the cops. They grab him by his broken arm and beat him too.

Some more of Lyons' friends try to go outside to see what's going on. Now, the doors are blocked. "Nobody's going anywhere."

A cop opens his handcuffs, using the sharp edge to gash Lyons' arm. By now, Lyons had stopped kicking. If anyone had checked, they probably would have found he had stopped breathing too.

They throw Lyons and Goodman into the wagon. Goodman starts banging on the walls screaming, "You killed him! He's dead!"

They drive up to the district station. Officer Fred Tice pulls Goodman out and books him for loitering. The Sargeant finally decides to take Lyons to the hospital. When they get there, more than half an hour after leaving the Bus Stop, Lyons is dead on arrival.

After the beating, Rick Poulson, a lawyer who moonlights tapping beer at the Bus Stop, asked the cops, "What did he do?"

"Nothing. But his friends raped a girl and burned down a tavern."

"Did he do it?"

"No."

The cops thought they could get by with the beating, because Lyons was an Outlaw. That doesn't change the fact that Lyons was murdered in cold blood.

It didn't take long for the cops to try covering their action. The officer on duty at the district cop shop said, "Lyons was acting goofy when they brought him in, so we

sent him to the hospital." Some act for a man who had been dead at least ten minutes.

County medical examiner Chesley Erwin and his deputy Warren Hill were next to get in on the act. They let out the word that Lyons was overweight and that he died of a heart attack. Considering that Lyons' body was covered with bruises and gashes, that his brain was swollen from the beating to his head, and that a pool of blood was on the sidewalk outside of the Bus Stop, Hill's story was more than a little suspicious. Even more so because people remember his phony reports on the deaths of other cop victims—Starch and Pendleton, Jerry Brookshire and Charles Daley.

The story is always the same—the cops were just doing their duty. Like the two Texas cops who picked up Campos Torres, beat him, pushed him off a 16 foot embankment into the water, and let him drown. They

just got off with suspended sentences and a \$1.00 fine.

To add a little icing to the cake, 300 Milwaukee cops came to Lyons funeral looking for more trouble. They parked their wagons around the cemetery, clearly daring Lyons' friends to try something. They harassed the mourners—grabbing them, searching them, even picking one guy up by the legs and shaking him. Twenty members of the Outlaws were arrested during or after the funeral.

The cops are given license by the rich man to beat back and shoot down anyone who stands up to their rule. No matter where they show up—running scabs through picket lines, beating people on the streets, breaking into peoples homes—the message is the same: stay in line or we'll put you down.

Mass outrage can back them down. When thousands of people stood up in defense of Jerry Brookshire, the cops were forced to cool it. We've got to see some cops charged and convicted of murder one. We've got to keep building the fight against police repression. ■



300 BIKERS ATTEND FUNERAL OF MURDERED BUDDY, ROGER LYONS

AIW Raises Dues, Talks Merger

The Allied Industrial Workers (AIW) convention at Bal Harbour, Florida has come and gone. Nothing was accomplished but chatter about the merger with the Molders Union and a dues increase. The 375 delegates had their "Sun and Fun" with a daily \$25 "food allowance." A lot of money was posted at the dog and horse races. After the convention was over some of the delegates planned to go on to the Bahamas.

The convention was a sham. D'Ambrosio, Reinhold and their henchmen in the International leadership put on a good show for delegates from all over the country. The rank and file was forgotten except in a few lofty phrases and a minor concession to raise the strike benefits from \$25 to \$30 a week. But take away the "Sun and Fun" image and you can see that the International leaders are in a bind.

Their bureaucracy is becoming more and more expensive with inflation. Membership in the AIW has dropped since 1974 by 15% mainly due to layoffs. The report of the Secretary-Treasurer in the September AIW newspaper says "....long before the 1979 convention the union can be expected to be running a substantial deficit unless action is taken to

increase income." So the leadership is turning to the Molders Union and the rank and file to get the income. They also need the members of the Molders' Union to enlarge the International and give themselves more of a lever to gain power and privilege in the AFL-CIO.

The Molder's leadership is in the same bind. The president of the union, Studenroth, came in from Union headquarters in Cincinnati to say he looks forward to the "marriage" of the two unions.

In his "state of the union" address, D'Ambrosio told the delegates that merger is the only hope for the AIW bureaucracy's aspirations to expand its financial base. He said this is so because "there are few large industrial plants that have not been organized." He neglected to point out that 3 out of 4 workers are not in unions.

Merger has become the trend in the AFL-CIO. The number of unions affiliated with the AFL-CIO has declined from 130 to 106 in recent years. Would-be "labor statesmen" just take in more members through merger to build up their empires. Workers already in the unions are looked upon as capital with dues

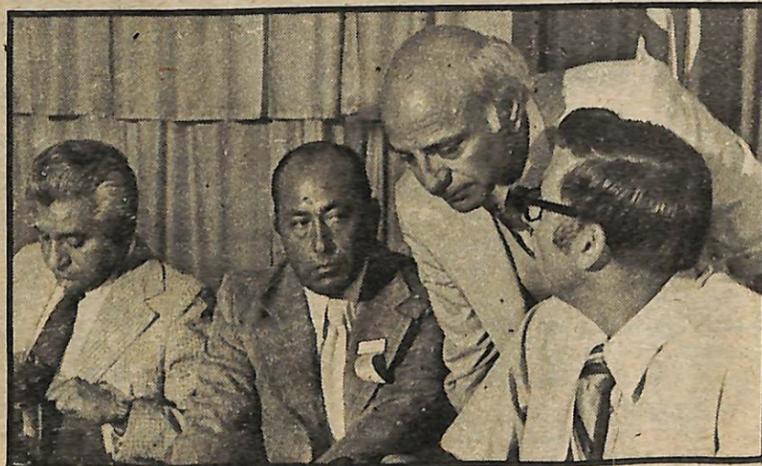
money. Unorganized workers are simply forgotten about.

Even in organizing drives begun by the International the rank and file are not mobilized to take matters into their hands. This summer when workers at Pfister and Vogel Tannery were conducting an organizing drive all the AIW did was send in union cards and organizers. There was no solidarity at all built between the rank and file throughout the AIW. The P&V workers were left alone

and the organizing drive failed.

D'Ambrosio and Co. have taken the side of the bosses. They run the union like the bosses, they wine and dine in Florida like the bosses, and every inch of the way they sabotage the struggle of the rank and file, too.

Building the unity and struggle of the thousands of union members is not where these union leaders are coming from. Merger right now is not the direction for the rank and file. A merger of the AIW and Molders would put more power into the hands of the leaders—power to raise dues and push through sellout contracts. Instead, it's up to the rank and file to build their own unity and struggle. ■



AIW HACKS PLAN DUES HIKE AND MERGER WITH MOLDERS UNION.

Demand For Jobs Taken To State Capitol

Defend Unemployment Insurance!

The banner across the front of the State Capitol building in Madison made the message clear: "STOP ALL ATTACKS ON OUR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE" and "UNION JOBS AT UNION WAGES!" The state senators, the representatives, the army of bureaucrats who fill the massive state buildings, even the Governor stood up and took notice.

Around that banner 15 unemployed workers from Milwaukee, members of the Unemployed Workers Organizing Committee and the National United Worker's Organization, pitched tents and stayed overnight. This action laid the demands of the unemployed on the steps of the Capitol where they could not be ignored.

Several Senators and Representatives, from areas in Milwaukee's Inner City and East Side where unemployment is like a powder keg, are putting forward a bill to extend the unemployment benefits for 13 weeks.

But they said it would take 4-5 months just to write it. The Secretary of Labor, Industry and Human Relations wouldn't even endorse this bill, saying he would favor it "if we could afford it" and "if it was feasible" which is all just bureaucratic double-talk for "Get Lost".

When Governor Marty Schreiber approached the Tent City, he shook hands all around like it was a campaign stop, then launched into a few sob stories about his hard life back when he was unemployed. But the workers cut him short. "We've got carloads of sympathy—we need jobs." Schreiber said what's needed is to make the present job programs really work, not to extend the benefits.

But make these programs work for who? These slave-labor job programs are working for the rich capitalists and killing us. We need benefits to live on until we can get jobs, so we can't be forced to take the

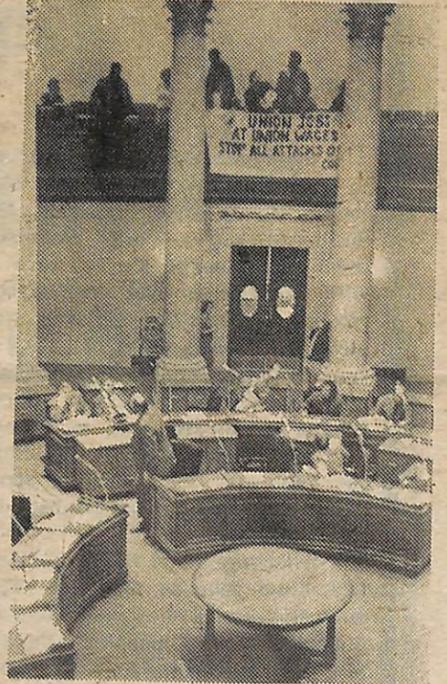
first thing that comes along, maybe at half what we used to make.

Later that morning, the Senate was due to open its final meeting of this session. The senators who "couldn't afford" to pay unemployment insurance were going to give themselves a \$2000 raise! The unemployed decided to pay these parasites a visit.

As soon as the roll call was over, a member of UWOC stood to speak from the gallery. "You pass yourself off as public servants, while these minimum wage jobs programs are turning us into public slaves. We won't starve slowly on these crummy jobs, and we won't starve outright with no benefits, either!" Cops were called as half the Senators headed for the doors; the chairman was forced to adjourn the meeting.

Similar confrontations and demonstrations are taking place throughout

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WORKERS GO INTO STATE SENATE CHAMBER TO DEMAND JOBS AND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS.

Struggle For Equality Goes On!

Bakke Decision Hits Gains of 60s

This month the U.S. Supreme Court decides on the case of would-be medical student Allan Bakke. Bakke's suit against the University of California at Davis (UCD) charges that UCD passed him over, a "higher qualified" white, in favor of "less qualified" Blacks who were admitted to UCD under an affirmative admissions program. Bakke contends that this is "reverse discrimination." (Bakke was also turned down by 13 other medical schools but UCD got hit with court action because of its affirmative action program.)

Bakke's suit was upheld by the California Supreme Court in September 1976 and goes hand in hand with other lawsuits and court decisions hacking away at the rights of minorities.

The Bakke suit and other court actions are only the tip of the iceberg. These legal attacks are taking place in the context of a general assault on the gains of the civil rights and Black liberation movements during the '50s and '60s. Out of these movements many concessions were won from the ruling class to-

wards more equal opportunity in hiring and education.

This enabled more young people from minorities to go to universities, enabled more workers to bid into better jobs or get into apprentice programs.

Even as these gains were won, the ruling class began trying to take them back. As a result of struggle over 4900 places were added to medical schools. Yet this was turned around somewhat as the schools went ahead and filled 77% of the new places with whites, instead of with more minorities who had been shut out for "so long. Overall, however, while these gains did not wipe out discrimination, nor could they, they were a big step forward. Now many of these programs are gone or severely cut back.

In a surprise move by the U.S. Justice Department in mid-September the Carter administration filed a "friend of the court" brief basically upholding the principle of affirmative action, though it came out against "rigid, exclusionary quotas" as a formula for determining minority participation (which could be used

to knock down some affirmative action programs). Carter, in coming out on the side of affirmative action, is blowing smoke in order to let the courts take the heat for shafting Blacks and other minorities. And he is also trying to repay some of his political debts to Black bourgeois forces who aided in his election.

The biggest arguments outright reactionaries raise against affirmative action have to do with it "going too far" and it discriminates against whites in order to make up for past discrimination against minorities.

Right now the ratio of doctors to population in the U.S. is 1/700 (which is worse than many Western European countries). Among Blacks it's one Black doctor/3800 Black people; Native Americans 1/20,000; and Chicano 1/30,333. This is "going too far"? Among Blacks the ratio has hovered around 1/4000 since the 1930s! If the rate of increase in Chicano medical students in California kept increasing at the same rate it has over the last decade it would take 38 years for Chicanos to hit the 1/700 ratio.

These statistics show that even with the current affirmative action programs that discrimination is hardly a thing of the past. It is today, it is a fact of life as long as capitalism exists. And, of course, this discrimination and inequality is not limited to medical schools or doctor/population ratios. Blacks, Chicanos, Mexicans, Puerto Ricans and other minorities still get hit with the worst in housing and schools, have more of the lower paying, lousy working condition jobs, more unemployment, suffer from the highest crime rates, etc. etc. Past discrimination? Hogwash!

What does affirmative action in medical schools mean? Statistics show that more doctors from the minorities return to the communities they came from to set up practice. The more Black doctors there are, the more doctors working in the Black community, and this is very necessary. Black communities and poor areas are generally low on dedicated doctors and high on quick buck artists with scalpels.

There needs to be more affirma-

tive action, not less. It is vitally necessary for these programs to exist, so that minorities can make some headway against the present-day inequality in society.

The capitalists are responsible for the history of segregation, discrimination and oppression of minority nationalities. They are the only ones who have profited and the struggle for affirmative action must be directed towards the goal of making the ruling class pay.

The ruling class and their media spokesmen use affirmative action, and that many students don't make it into medical school, to stir up divisions between Black and white. A real problem is that there are too few spots in medical schools. Dozens apply for every place. But the American Medical Association (AMA) fights to keep the number of med school places low so that there are less doctors so that what doctors there are can charge higher fees. And the steep tuition, \$10-12,000 a year, is a giant road block for students from families with a poor or moderate income.

As for the children of the rich, getting into med school is no sweat. In a trial involving the Chicago Medical School in 1974 it was revealed that the family and friends of 77 of the 91 entering freshmen in 1973 had donated a per student average of \$50,000 to the school. In short, they bought their way in.

The Bakke case is important. The decision of the Supreme Court will have a far-ranging effect. Already progressive forces around the country are battling against the Bakke suit by explaining the issues to the people and organizing demonstrations. The Medical Committee for Human Rights (MCHR), an organization of progressive doctors and other health professionals, and the Revolutionary Student Brigade are among them.

The gains of the Black liberation struggle and other minority struggles were paid for in sweat and blood. The people will not give them up lightly and the struggle around the Bakke case is bound to be just one battle in a struggle to defend past victories and go forward. ■



THE GAINS OF THE BLACK LIBERATION, AND OTHER MINORITY STRUGGLES WILL NOT BE TAKEN AWAY WITHOUT A FIGHT.

IN '77 CONTRACT FIGHTS

RANK AND FILE

What Are We Up Against?

In the month of September workers in the Milwaukee area "took it to the streets." Singer Controls, A.O. Smith, Milwaukee Forge, Harnischfeger and George Meyer were hit with walkouts. In every one of these strikes except George Meyer, workers went out in opposition to the recommendation of the bargaining committee. At American Motors, Briggs and Stratton and in the production workers' local at A.O. Smith the rank and file put up a strong "NO!" vote to their bargaining committees' sellouts.

The strong stand of the rank and file came because they are saying no to the attack the bosses are waging on working peoples' standard of living and working conditions. Workers are tired of being driven down. To keep from being crushed any further, they are beginning to stand up despite all the odds.

Prices have increased 44% in the last five years. Layoffs, speed-up, automation, and plant closings have brought unemployment to a steady 6-7%. More and more workers see that the top labor leaders are paid

front men for the companies. They've seen too many grievances thrown out, too many motions ruled out of order, and too many contracts sold out. At the same time the top leaders are in Washington making political trade-offs—like giving up on the minimum wage, unemployment extensions and jobs legislation.

Many younger workers still carry a spirit of rebellion from the stormy 60s. Older workers look around and see everything they worked for eaten up by inflation, rising taxes and worsening conditions in the cities. Any hopes for a 1950s style prosperity have been dashed.

In contract battles and union struggles workers have seen top officials hedge, half step, deceive and sell out. In several factories the newly formed National United Workers Organization (NUWO) tried to give a voice and organization to the growing resentment of the rank and file. At Smith, Singer, Briggs and AMC, wherever the UWO members tried to unite the people by popularizing the main demands, the resistance of the rank and file has been strengthened. The companies

through their news media responded with a frantic series of cries about outsiders. They know that the UWO and the idea of a rank and file fighting in its own interest is growing in their factories. The capitalists want to turn the clock back to the days when their sellout artists in union office were not as exposed.

Speedup after speedup...layoff after layoff...sell out after sell out. Why are things rougher than ever in contract struggles and why are union leaders more and more trying to keep the rank and file chained?

The companies are desperately trying to ride through the present period of partial recovery from the recession of '75 and '76. Even more than other post war recessions, this recovery is very fragile. No one knows when the economy will slide again into a slow-down and when unemployment will jump dramatically. No one is more concerned about this than the companies.

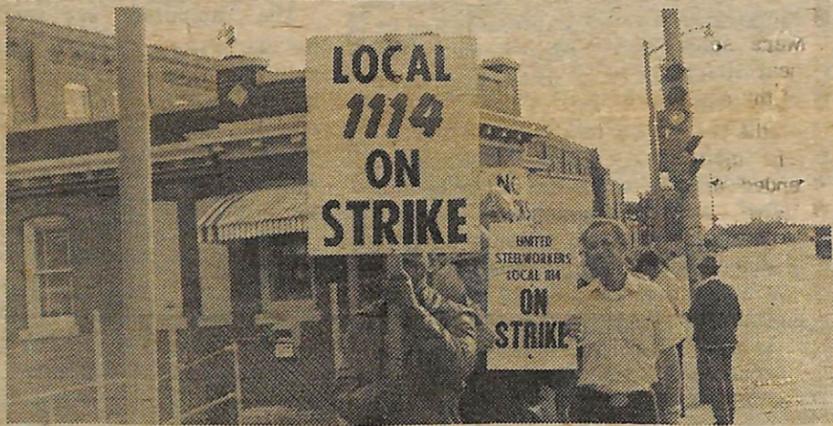
The top union officials have betrayed the rank and file who won industrial unions in the 30s and 40s. Now they style themselves as businessmen

with their long cars, their expense accounts, a number of secretaries and luncheons with the company bargainers. They see the financial success of the companies as the basis of their own careers. If the boss says he can't pay any more, these officials have great sympathy. They only put up a fight to win enough to keep control of the rank and file. They are no longer even worthy of the name labor.

The whole recovery for the companies is based on increased profits out of the workers' backs. The gross national product continues to rise, yet unemployment hovers at the same figure. In other words fewer workers are putting out more. For example, American Motors "restructured Wisconsin operations", a polite term for speed up and the layoff of over 2000.

The crisis of the U.S. companies cannot be separated from the worldwide intensification of capitalist competition. To keep up, every company is in a rush to bring in more modern production techniques. This takes money. American companies are already

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WORKERS AT HARNISCHFEGER STRUCK THE MACHINERY BUILDER FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 20 YEARS LAST MONTH. IN A DISPLAY OF RANK AND FILE POWER, WORKERS WALKED OUT AFTER THE BARGAINING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED ACCEPTING THE CONTRACT.

CRAFT STRIKE
BROKEN AT SMITH

The contract expiration date for local 19806 (5000 production workers, The International Association of Machinists, (IAM), electricians union, steamfitters union, carpenters union, and technical engineers at A.O. Smith was midnight July 31st. The production workers and skilled tradesmen were determined to get more in the '77 contract and stand up to the abuses coming down in the plant. But A.O. Smith had a different idea. They wanted to use as many of the top officials of these unions as possible to ram through sell-out contract. Their strategy was to take advantage of the fact that there are seven different unions under one factory's roof to split up the unity of 7000 strong.

The two week strike of the 600 member machinists union was not successful. This was largely due to the fact that production was barely affected because the other unions did not stay out and honor the strike.

When the machinists walked out,

the top officials and executive board of 19806 distributed literature making it clear that the 5000 production workers would get no backing from their union officials if they honored the picket lines; they even went so far as to say that anyone who stayed out would be fired, a damn lie!

The result was that the majority of the production workers and other skilled workers felt that they had no choice but to cross the picket lines, although hundreds stayed out for several days or supported the strike "from the inside."

The craft unions and local 19806 did not negotiate together this year like they had always done before 1974. This was a result of the election of president of 19806 Paul Blackman and his machine in 1973. Instead of trying to unite the combined strength of the skilled and unskilled, Blackman and other top officers attacked the skilled tradesmen, accus-

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Rank & File Unity Grows

Singer Workers
Get More Than
"Final Offer"

Twelve hundred Singer Controls workers opened their mail after one week of strike to find their last check and a sharply worded letter from the company personnel manager. He said, "I am shocked that you rejected the offer. That was the company's final offer." The company tried to give the impression they were stockpiled with heating and air conditioning parts to the ceiling and that it might be a long time before the strikers would see the inside of the plant again.

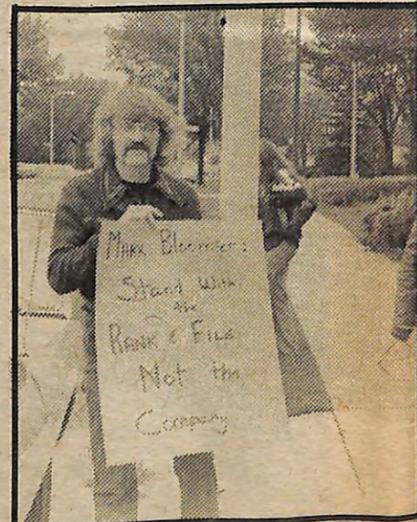
Five weeks later the men and women of AIW Local 806 were back on the job. They had forced Singer to add to the "final offer". Even though the extras were small, the Singer workers had backed the other side down and won a victory.

This strike which shut Singer Controls' plants on 32nd and Wright and 124th and Capitol was marked by rank and file activity. From a movement to refuse overtime in the weeks before the contract expiration to angry outbursts in union meetings, the Singer workers put the company and their lackies in union leadership on notice. The rank and file would not be bullied by lies and threats. The workers remembered too well the strike of two years ago when they had been sold out and forced back after only one week on the picket line for 2¢. This time the workers shut down a better offer of 9%, 8%

and 8% at a time when the companies are on the offensive to take away.

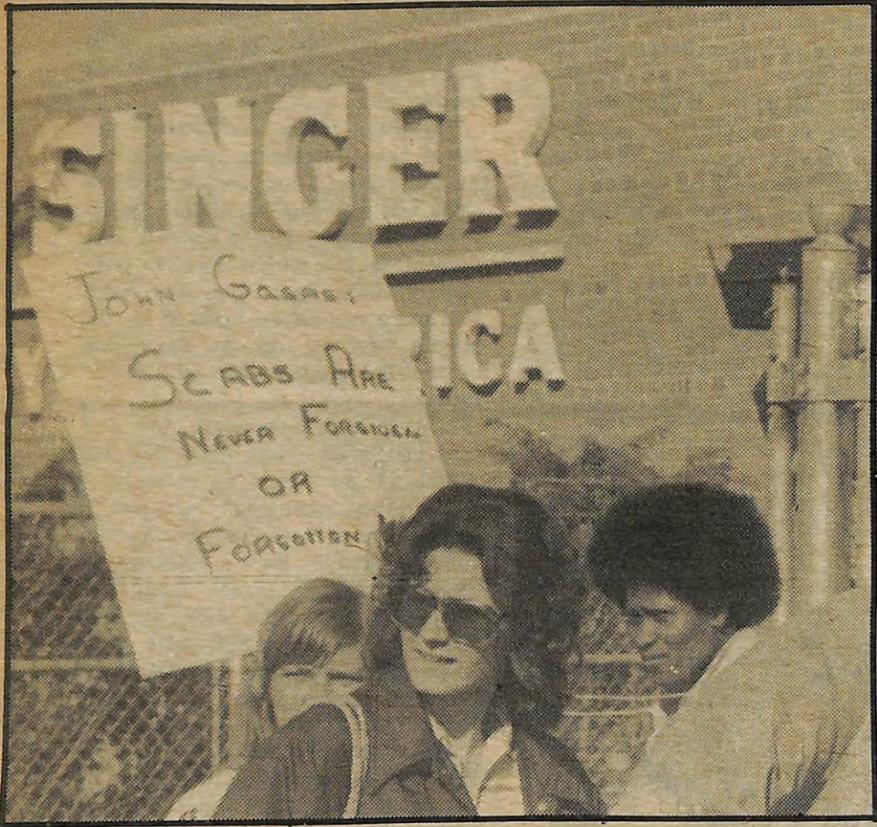
Three and a half weeks into the strike, the union bargaining committee pushed for a re-vote on the original offer. They had obviously taken their cue from the steelworkers' top leadership at Harnischfeger who succeeded in getting the P&H strikers back to work with this tactic.

The top union leaders were still smarting from the rank and file's rejection of the first offer—which they had recommended. Marc Bloomer, a full time sellout from the



THE SINGER RANK AND FILE COMMITTEE'S SELLOUT. FROM RANK AND FILE TOOK MATTER

FILE GETS ORGANIZED



THE SINGER STRIKERS WOULD NOT WALK BACK INTO THE PLANT WITH THEIR HEADS DOWN. THEY STRUCK FOR FIVE WEEKS AND LET THE COMPANY KNOW THEY'RE TIRED OF BEING PUSHED DOWN AND SHOVED AROUND.

AIW International office, and the rest of the bargaining committee had been in session with company negotiators. In the words of one striker, "They were apologizing for not being able to sell the contract and promising to try harder the next time around." But they failed.

The level of rank and file organization in this strike was key in keeping the fight alive. A committee of the National United Workers Organization made up of Singer workers helped pull the rank and file together. Strike bulletins every few days, agitation for a strike headquarters, a visit by a delegation of strikers to square the Journal and Sentinel about their biased coverage of the strike, and confrontations with the top leaders—all these gave this strike more backbone than Bloomier and the company had "bargained for".

When it came time to vote on the original offer, tension was in the air. The top union leaders set about on an all-out campaign to slander the UWO members as outsiders and "com-mies." From the beginning of the strike, Bloomier ran to the press claiming the walkout was the work of outsiders and saying he couldn't understand why the offer had been rejected. (Maybe it was because he doesn't have to live on Singer's wages

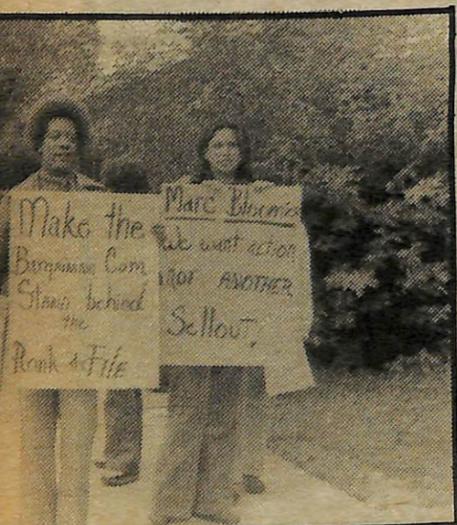
or work on their machines.) The anti-UWO slander was laced with scare tactics and rumors about orders and jobs lost.

But the rank and file would not give up. They would not walk back into that plant with their heads down. They would not give the foremen and management a chance to laugh at them. Amidst a stormy meeting, a militant worker was lashing out at the thought of going back in for the same offer. At that moment a banner was hung over the balcony at the Eagles ballroom meeting. The banner declared the workers' determination to keep fighting.

The following week, the company played its last card. They began trying to get out production on the Fox line at the 124th St. plant. They put all office personnel from both plants to work. The strikers answered with a mass picket of 40 people. And they leafleted nearby plants to gain support from other workers.

That was it. An offer was made. It wasn't much more than the original offer—only 2¢ a year, a little holiday pay, some insurance payments and a slight improvement of the cost of living language. A new vote was set up. The rank and file was running low on money and many saw that the union leadership would try to sabotage any attempts to fight for more. They accepted.

As Local 806 members came into the meeting, it was pretty clear the mood was for going back to work. But the company had to come up with some concessions to the workers' organization and struggle. Not only did Singer lose money while the machinery sat idle, but now they have to deal with a rank and file that has seen its own strength. In fact it was the insult engineered by the company two years ago that laid the basis for this strike. Singer had to keep the wages low but they couldn't add any more to the resentment the workers feel. When they went back to work, Singer workers brought with them a determination to keep fighting for themselves and not let any bought-and-paid-for company men in the union stand in their way. ■



RANK REJECTED THE BARGAINING THE BEGINNING OF THE STRIKE THE S INTO THEIR OWN HANDS.

Despite Sellout Fighting Spirit Grows at AMC

The new AMC '78 models were set to roll off the assembly lines in Kenosha. The company was desperate to get them to the showrooms with no interruptions. The workers had been chained to a one year contract extension that froze all benefits and held the wage increase below 3%. Bitterness in the shop was high. Each worker had lost \$1158 in wages and benefits compared to what the Ford, Chrysler, and GM workers got in their sellout '76 contract. The rank and file was looking to catch up and to hit back at the brutal job conditions. Even UAW president Fraser was forced to talk about winning parity with the Big 3.

But when the last bargainer's brief case was snapped shut, the workers were sold out and told to grin and bear it for another year. The terms of the new contract were almost as bad as the one year extension of last time. The members of Locals 72 and 75 ended up with only 3% plus cost of living. There were no benefits except a \$25 increase on the pension. There was no increase in the SUB fund which has been eaten up by massive layoffs.

The union leadership played its usual role of helping the company. They made use of the heavy layoffs to push for the sell out contract. They posted notices of the ratification meeting at the Lakefront plant at a time when it was shut down for a week. When it came time to vote, the 1100 men and women from this plant had not even seen the offer.

In spite of all this, the rank and file kept organizing and putting up resistance. At a union meeting a month before the expiration a whole lot of workers including several stewards wore tee-shirts lettered "No Contract, No Work September 16". The members battled twice on the union floor before they succeeded in passing a "No Contract, No Work" resolution.

Overall there was a different spirit in this contract fight. The workers had seen in their own experience how wrong it was to sacrifice for the sake of the company. After the company had threatened bankruptcy and won the extension, AMC shifted back into the profit column and kept on ripping off in a million and one ways.

The troubled "little 4th" car maker stepped up the attacks on the workers. In the past few years they have cut back their Wisconsin workforce from 15,000 to 8,300. Workers who were called back from layoffs are now paying out \$30 a week to reimburse the SUB fund for so-called over-payments from Trade Re-Adjustment benefits. Overtime combined with layoffs in machining departments has

sparked widespread resistance. The company even fired a militant chief steward in an attempt to curb any fight back. The workers hit back with a strike vote over the grievance and won his recall. Foremen blatantly work assembly line jobs and threaten retaliation for those who file grievances. When a high seniority worker collapsed from a sped up job assignment, his foreman said, "I've been carrying him for six months." The week before the contract ended, the company announced that it would not pay the 11¢ cost of living adjustment coming due. Hundreds of workers wore "No Contract, No Work" buttons in the plant.

All this abuse, combined with the uncertain future of working at AMC created a bitter mood that many times broke through the International's chains of defeatism, misleadership and sell out. At the contract meeting, rank and file workers waited in long lines at the microphones to speak their bitterness at the insulting offer and slave-like working conditions. A United Workers Organization member proposed a motion on the floor that the union call for a No vote on the contract. The union president Ralph Daum ruled the motion out of order. The motion was amended to a recommendation and called for a vote. When the president again tried to change the subject a UWO member took the mike and called for a vote. The top officials pulled the plug and the meeting ended in anger. The UWO held a meeting as the room emptied out and planned to build for a strong "No" vote the next day.

The rank and file resistance, led by UWO banners and bullhorns at the plant gates was not strong enough to turn back the sellout. The union misleadership and the lack of work combined with the slight wage increase were enough to prevent a strike.

2900 votes yes and 1100 voted no at the Kenosha plant. This was a much higher rejection than the vote to accept at the Milwaukee Body plant and the yes vote in Brampton, Ontario. The bitterness of the rank and file in Kenosha was welded into a significant force partly due to the activity and agitation of the United Workers Organization and other activists. The company's attacks aren't about to stop and neither will the workers' resistance. The week following the contract acceptance a steward started a recall petition against one of the board members and got 200 signatures the first night in one department.

There's a growing movement that AMC will have to deal with every day when the contract comes up again one year from now. ■

Still No Land for Palestinians

Israel's New "Peace Plan"

"Reasonable? You call this reasonable?" he said almost choking with rage.

"They came in and stole my home. They drove me and my family out. They have waged war against us and our neighbors for 25 years. They denied that we ever lived there. My wife and children have been forced to live in shanties and tents. Now they say that they want peace, that they are willing to negotiate. Negotiate what? Their right to my home!"

This was the reaction of Palestinians in the Middle East and those in exile around the world to the announcement of Israel's "new" position on the proposed Geneva Middle East peace talks which the U.S. has been attempting to get started.

According to spokesmen for the Carter administration, the basis for a Middle East settlement is UN resolution 242. This proposal, which was also backed by the Soviet Union, says the Arab states would recognize the government of Israel and its right to exist on the homeland of the Palestinian people in return for Israel's return of occupied territories taken from Egypt, Syria, and Jordan in the wars of 1967 and 1973.

The resolution makes no mention of the rights of the Palestinian people, either the two million who have been driven from Palestine, or the over one million who continue to live inside the boundaries of the state of Israel, deprived of their civil and political rights. It refers only to the "refugee problem."

Israel refuses to accept the participation of the Palestinian Liberation Organization, the political and military organization of the Palestinian people which has led the struggle against Zionist occupation of their homeland, in any settlement talks. Israeli Prime Minister Begin says that Palestinians can only participate in the Geneva talks as members

of the Jordanian delegation, and only those Palestinians can participate who are known to have no connection to the PLO.

Meanwhile, Israel continues its aggression against the Palestinians. For years they have been giving aid to fascist forces in Lebanon, the main base area of the Palestinians, in order to drive them from that

country. In late September Israeli tanks and guns rolled into southern Lebanon in an unsuccessful attempt to crush the PLO forces. The government of Manahem Begin, following the policy of the previous administration, has stepped up its plans to settle thousands of Israelis on the West Bank of the Jordan River, an area taken from Jordan in the



MANY PALESTINIANS HAVE LIVED IN REFUGEE CAMPS EVER SINCE ISRAEL CONQUERED THEIR HOMELAND IN 1949.

'67 war and populated mainly by Palestinians. They are being driven from their homes and farms to make way for new Zionist settlements. Zionist agriculture Minister Sharon says that Israel plans to settle 2 million Israelis in the West Bank in coming years. Begin says that this is not occupied territory, it is "liberated territory, part of Israel's Biblical boundaries."

The Palestinians and some Arab states have flatly rejected the latest Zionist "negotiation position" as a sham and a cheap trick. And Israel itself is saying that no overall settlement in the Middle East is possible. In this regard they are right. For there can be no "peace" in the Middle East as long as the rights of the Palestinians are not vindicated.

The two superpowers, the U.S. and the Soviet Union, while they both speak of the "need to establish a Palestinian homeland" continue to be a central force in the turmoil in the Middle East. Without U.S. propping it up, Israel could not last long. Since the 1967 war both the US and the USSR have found that maintaining the situation of "no war, no peace" has served their interests.

Now, the U.S. rulers, having made headway in recent years in their rivalry in the Middle East with the USSR, dream of engineering a "settlement" that will guarantee the existence of the Zionist state, shackle the Palestinian struggle and ace out their Soviet competitors in the process. While backing Israel to the hilt, the U.S. has made some noises about bringing the PLO into the negotiations—if they accept UN resolution 242. For their part, the Soviets, to a certain extent cut out by the U.S. for influence with Arab governments, is now making new efforts to firm up ties and support with Israel.

The situation remains volatile and a new major war could easily break out. One thing is certain, the Palestinians will not cease struggling to regain their homeland. ■

Texas Farmworkers March on D.C.

On September 5th a contingent of Texas farmworkers marched into Washington, D.C. They had come 1480 miles on foot. They marched 20 miles a day for 82 days as part of their fight to build a union in the melon and vegetable fields of the Rio Grande Valley. Down in Texas the shot guns of the growers, the clubs of the Texas Rangers and anti-labor federal laws are used to hold the farmworkers down. The march to Washington was part of the farmworkers' efforts to break the chains on their struggle.

Since 1966, Texas farmworkers have been trying to build a union and get a contract with the south Texas growers. 500 campesinos struck the melon growers in the area around Star City back in '66. They were fighting to get better than the field wages of \$3 a day and to have some strength on the job. In this strike they were beaten by the combined efforts of the Texas Rangers and the Bureau of Immigration which brought in scabs from Mexico.

Time and again the Texas farmworkers tried to stop the harvest and get a contract—in '67, '72, and '75. In 1975 a grower fired on a group of strikers, wounding eleven. But every time the strength of the growers, backed up by different arms of the government, broke the strike.

Over the years the Texas farm-

workers saw the need to build strong unity on both sides of the border. They set up a radio show called "Voice of the Farmworker" beaming the message as far south as Guadalupe. They took the position that there are no illegals and that every worker no matter what nationality would be part of the union.

The Texas farmworkers are taking their cause to the people. Their march on Washington took them through the cities and fields of the south. They exchanged solidarity with Black Louisiana sugar cane workers, wildcatting coal miners, and the J.P. Stevens workers who also are fighting to get organized. The march was a protest against all the legal handcuffs on their struggle. The first labor laws guaranteeing the right to organize specifically excluded agricultural workers. And Section 14B of the Taft-Hartley Act protects the "right to scab."

The farmworkers had come on foot to Washington to tell Carter and other federal big shots they better damn well take these chains off the field workers and all workers attempts to get organized.

Where was Carter? Where was the peanut grower president? He was meeting with a group of Latin American dictators and holding a reception in the Rose Garden for National Hispanic week.

When the Texas farmworkers resume their fight to organize the fields they'll have broader support from workers across the country and that's

what counts. It's the unity of Mexican and Mexican-American workers and the strength of all working people that is going to bring a union to the fields of Texas. ■



Photo by La Guardia

TEXAS FARMWORKERS CONVERGE ON THE CAPITOL AFTER MARCHING 1480 MILES TO WASHINGTON D.C. AS PART OF THEIR STRUGGLE TO BUILD A UNION IN THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY.

Miners Wildcat Ends

The ten week old miners wildcat against cutbacks in medical benefits ended in the first week of September. Centered in southern West Virginia and eastern Kentucky, the strike at its peak involved more than 85,000 miners throughout the Appalachian coalfields. Even though the miners went back to work without winning their major demand—full restoration of medical benefits—the coal companies were dealt a major blow.

The cutbacks would have resulted in miners having to pay up to \$500

on medical care, taking back a victory of hard fought battles decades earlier. These cuts were stabbing into the hearts of coalfield families hurting not only active miners but wives and children, widows, retirees and disabled miners. As benefits are tied to coal production, it was a blackmail scheme pure and simple on the part of the coal bosses. Stop the wildcat movement, they said, or watch your families suffer.

The strike was one of the most united and tenacious in recent years

and often violent. After having been carefully and systematically smashed by district and international officials of the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA), it refused to die. Instead, in spite of all obstacles, it spread and even forced for the first time the district "machinery" of the UMWA's largest districts, 17 and 29, to sanction an "illegal work stoppage." This was, in fact, one of the strike's victories.

Even though the Bituminous Coal Operators Association (BCOA) could

not be forced into full restoration of cuts, they did agree the second week of September to reallocate some funds into the medical program which takes some of the sting out of the original cutbacks. This was a back pedal from the BCOA's "ironclad" position at the beginning of the strike. The BCOA was also unable, at least for now, to go through with their threats to slash pension benefits.

Another gain was made in that the companies were never once able to resort to one of their favorite strike-breaking tools, the courts. Judges refused to issue injunctions because they knew full well that the miners would ignore their power. This is a testimony to the powerful struggles of '75 and '76 which were, in part, directed at the courts and their use of injunctions to attack the miners wildcat movement.

On top of these victories, real gains were made in furthering the organization and unity of the rank and file. These steps forward must be consolidated in the months ahead as part of preparing for the upcoming contract fight in December.

The contract battle this year will prove to be a sharp one. The rank and file will be coming off the advances of the hard fought wildcat while the top union leadership will be more anxious than ever to prove that they can "control" their men. The companies, too, are preparing. They are stockpiling coal in case of a long strike, hoping to be able to wait the miners out and hand them a major defeat. The National United Workers Organization, seeing the miners contract fight as a battle important to the whole working class, has called on all workers to support the miners cause.

This summer the miners fought bravely and they fought well. The eyes of the country will again be on the miners as they prepare for their next major battle. ■



MINERS HAVE STOOD STRONG AGAINST INCREASING ATTACKS FROM COAL COMPANY OPERATORS AND UNION BOSS ARNOLD MILLER.

Harassment at Milwaukee Road

REHIRE ROGER PRYOR

On January 26, 1977, Roger Pryor, a machinist on the Milwaukee Road for 15 years, was fired. His firing followed a long series of harassment by Milwaukee Road management, who said he was "no good...a smart guy"—management language for a worker who fights for himself and his fellow workers.

Pryor, father of two children, has been out of work since January. He's gone to 50-75 places for jobs and can't be hired.

Despite the firing and all the hassles, Roger Pryor is continuing his fight to get his job back. He is throwing all the foremen's talk of "getting him" and all the times he and other Black workers were called "Dirty niggers!" by these racists in white shirts back where it belongs, in their arrogant faces.

Milwaukee Road management has been on his back since 1963. Then as a machinist trainee, he refused to wash a foreman's personal car.

When told he "had" to wash Foreman Rogers' car he did so—with alkaline soap. Rogers then told him to wash off the soap which Pryor did—with a high powered steam hose used to clean locomotives.

Rogers was involved when Pryor was suspended in 1974. At that time he refused to operate a boom crane without adequate lighting in the old Dieselhouse. A week before, a man had been killed and another seriously injured while working in there without lighting.

That suspension was overturned and Pryor given back pay. Another machinist testified he would operate the crane two days later only after floodlights were installed.

Then in December 1976 Pryor was ordered to fill a locomotive water tank. Pryor found there was a leak in the tank and told his foreman Arlan Tesch. Tesch said to fill it because the train had to get out on the tracks. So, in sub-zero weather, Pryor filled the tank taking an hour for what is normally a 20 minute job.

Tesch and an engineer were in the engine cab, while Pryor was on the locomotive. Pryor's name tag was on the engine throttle, the warning that he was working on the locomotive. The locomotive began moving and Pryor headed for the locker room, disgusted and cold. Tesch then ordered him to take the hose in. Pryor said he would after he was warmed up. Tesch shoved Pryor and he slipped on the ice. Tesch sent for the railroad police and Pryor was escorted to his car under armed guard and fired—after Tesch had shoved him and almost killed him on the locomotive just minutes earlier.

Roger Pryor went to OSHA to show working conditions in the Dieselhouse were unbearable. OSHA did nothing more than write up one violation. Pryor has gone to the Equal Rights Division in his fight to get his job back. But the Division takes a year before any action is taken and then it's up to a few bureaucrats to deter-

Company Doc to Blame

I-H Fires Worker

Earnest Mitchell was fired on May 31. He was accused of doing what a whole lot of people at International Harvester have been tempted to do. They say he punched the company doctor for treating him like a dog instead of a man.

Mitchell was talking to the nurse when "The doctor came up, shaking his finger up in my face, saying 'If you were sick, why didn't you see your damn doctor over the weekend?' My head was aching and I had trouble breathing...Before I knew what had happened, I had pushed him away. They fired me on the spot."

More than 100 fellow International Harvester workers have signed a petition against how this doctor acts. They were guys of all races and nationalities. This is just the tip of the iceberg of how people feel about this company man. In fact, one man backed him into the wall just before Mitchell was fired.

A probationary man got his face mangled from ear to nose by a broken grinding wheel. This so-called doctor wanted the man to come in to do light

duty work even though the man could only eat through a tube. When he refused to come in, he was fired.

On top of the abuse and insults this "doctor" dishes out to everyone, he adds discrimination for the minorities. "What kind of doctor do you people go see anyway?" he said to one Black worker when the man asked for time off for an operation.

This slave-driving company doctor will go to any length to keep people on the job and acts like he's never heard of health and safety. He, not Mitchell, should have been fired.

When Mitchell and members of the United Workers Organization were at the International Harvester gates collecting names on a petition a lot of guys made comments like "That doctor's been asking for it for years" and "Hey, Mitchell, that doctor's still in there, you didn't do a good enough job on him." Almost everyone at the gate signed a petition supporting Mitchell's fight for his job. One guy didn't sign because his whole arm was bandaged from an accident at work. Rehire Mitchell! ■

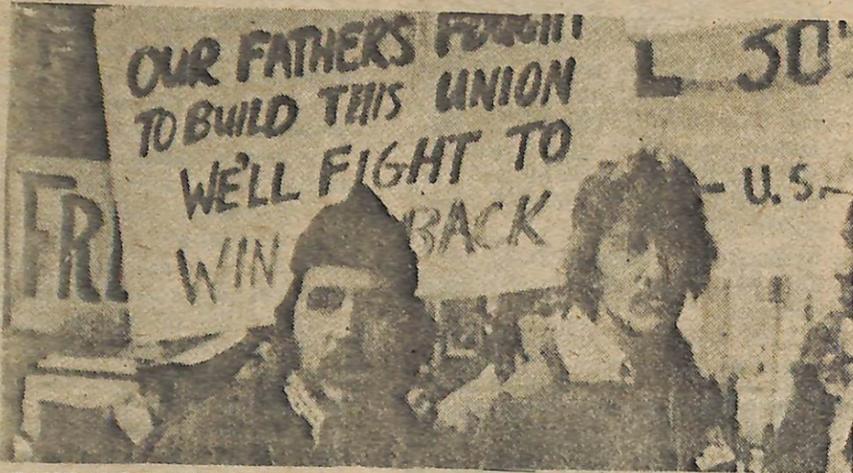
mine what will happen in the case. The power of workers is in their unity—and only by acting together can things be turned around.

Roger Pryor was fired from the Milwaukee Road for standing up for himself and others. Work on the Railroads is rough, dangerous work. The Milwaukee Road's new Dieselhouse has inadequate ventilation for diesel

exhaust. Engine repair pits #1-6 are generally full of oil and water. There is irregular inspection of the drop table ram that lowers the engine and wheels to be repaired. Men have to work long hours and long work weeks.

Roger Pryor was fired for fighting conditions like these. We say, rehire him! ■

Can Contract Heats Up



RANK AND FILE RESISTANCE IS ON THE RISE IN THE STEEL INDUSTRY

The national can contract, already extended for 8 months, expires Nov. 1. Can company workers across the country, including American Can and Continental Can here in Milwaukee, are organizing to fight the forced overtime, speedup and layoffs that are an everyday part of the bosses' drive to keep their profits up.

In the last 10 years, competition in the can industry has become sharper and sharper. Alternative packaging—aluminum, plastic and glass—has cut into steel can production. Some companies, like Schlitz and Miller breweries, are making their own cans. The can bosses, desperate to keep ahead of the competition, are pulling

out all the stops to keep wages and benefits down in this year's contract.

Workers are fighting mad about rumored company proposals to move to a 6 days on, 2 days off or 7 days on, 1 day off work week. Forced overtime and speedup on the lines are also big issues. The United Steelworkers of America (USWA) big shots who are negotiating with the bosses refuse to let the rank and file know how the talks are progressing. The rank and file does not even have the right to vote on the contract. At last month's union meeting at American Can in Milwaukee, the union asked for strike authorization. "How can we authorize a strike?" asked one worker, "when they won't even tell us what's in the contract."

A big question among can workers is a new process where cans are made of two pieces not three. This new procedure eliminates jobs and speeds up the lines. At the Continental Can plant in Milwaukee, for example, 40 lithographers who previously stamped can labels have been eliminated, one who had 40 years of seniority. Countless other production workers have also seen their jobs permanently eliminated, while those still on the job are forced to work harder, faster and longer than before.

In view of the sharp company attacks, can company workers can't afford to sit back and let the steel union hacks sell them out. The 8 month extension that the USWA officials negotiated is one ace added to the bosses' hand. November is the beginning of the slow season for can workers. The companies are starting their annual layoffs now, and this puts the workers in a weaker position. The extension also gave the companies a chance to check out the price of

steel and other costs. Then they can better estimate how little to offer the workers. The delay also put the can contract after the steel, aluminum and copper contracts. USWA president McBride hoped his sellout in basic steel, where workers are crippled with no right to vote and no right to strike, would set a pattern for the other contracts.

One thing McBride didn't count on in rigging the game for the bosses was the unity of the rank and file. On July 1st, 25,000 workers shut down the copper industry. And on August 1, in spite of the no-strike deal, iron ore miners in Northern Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota walked off their jobs. The iron miners could bring the steel mills to a halt if no iron is delivered before the winter freeze. McBride has been forced to support the iron miners, as they refused to be driven down by the bosses and sold out by the hacks.

Can company workers across the country have watched these developments closely. For the first time, the rank and file are uniting nationally to build a powerful contract fight. The STEELWORKER, steel section of the National United Workers Organization (NUWO) has printed a leaflet that is being distributed at can plants across the country demanding:

NO JOB COMBINATIONS!
NO PRODUCTIVITY CLAUSES!
NO COMPULSORY OVERTIME!
UNLIMITED SUPPLEMENTAL BENEFITS!
PAID SICK DAYS, IMPROVED VACATION SCHEDULE, AN END TO ABSENTEE CONTROL!
RETURN CONTRACT EXPIRATION DATE TO ORIGINAL TIME, NO MORE EXTENSION DEALS! ■

Drop the Charges FREE RAY MENDOZA



RAY MENDOZA WAS PICKED UP AFTER MILW. COPS PULLED A DRAGNET OF HARASSMENT AND INTIMIDATION THROUGH THE LATIN COMMUNITY.

The conviction of Ray Mendoza has been overturned. This court ruling has been a long time coming. The man has already spent 3 years in a Waupun cell hall with two consecutive life sentences riding on his back. Now this 23 year old Chicano who dared defend himself against a police beating will have to wait for another trial. He should be given his freedom and all charges should be dropped!

Mendoza found himself under attack by two drunk off-duty cops on the night of July 10, 1974. He was picked up on a double murder charge the following morning as hundreds of Milwaukee cops pulled a dragnet of harassment and intimidation through the Latin community, barging into homes and places of business. His case was marked by confusion as contradictory evidence came from civilians and cops.

People throughout Milwaukee saw that Mendoza was up against a legal lynch job. Blacks on the north side had seen the same thing happen to Ben Sanders a year earlier. They had seen the same reign of terror the night Sanders was arrested. In

every working class neighborhood cops were getting a well-deserved reputation as bullies who club-or shoot-first and ask questions later.

Hundreds showed their support for Mendoza in one way or another. The high point of protest in his favor was a march of 300 spearheaded by Chicano and Puerto Rican youth. A Ray Mendoza Defense Committee built support door to door in neighborhoods, in Milwaukee factories, in fund-raising activities, and picket lines at the trial. Many people linked the case to the widespread discrimination against Latins.

In this atmosphere, Judge Hugh O'Connell began flexing his judicial muscles trying to engineer guilty verdicts with the least possible embarrassment for the system and the cops. In an unprecedented legal move, O'Connell transferred the trial from Milwaukee to Sparta Wisconsin with neither the prosecution or the defense requesting the change of venue. In Sparta, Mendoza was 200 miles to the west of his base of support in Milwaukee.

O'Connell's other reversible error was his failure to instruct the

jury on a possible verdict of manslaughter based on self defense. Much of the testimony of the case points to the fact that Mendoza was beaten by the cops. But the judge was eagerly waiting for a chance to hand down two life sentences. He obviously felt anything less would have supported the anti-cop-repression sentiments of most people who were closely watching the case. It was a very political

trial and O'Connell was out to "stick it" to Mendoza and the broad movement that grew up in his defense.

This movement is responsible for Ray getting a new trial. Without the backing of thousands who saw the case for the injustice it was, Ray would still be "stepping off" that double life sentence. Support is again needed. And Mendoza should be set free. ■



A MARCH OF 300 PEOPLE SPEARHEADED BY CHICANO AND PUERTO RICAN YOUTH WAS A HIGH POINT OF SUPPORT FOR RAY MENDOZA.

UWOC...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

the country exposing the attacks of the ruling class around unemployment. These are only the opening shots of a campaign initiated by UWOC and supported by the National United Workers Organization (NUWO) which voted to take up the campaign at its founding convention.

There is no question that the whole system of unemployment insurance is under fierce attack by the capitalist class. The beginning of October means the end of unemployment benefits for millions of workers across the country. This month Carter's "employment" bill slashes the remaining 13 week federal extension on benefits. In just a few months unemployment

compensation has been cut from a maximum of 65 weeks to only 39 weeks.

Carter's bill, which cut the first 13 week federal extension in March, is only part of the overall attack on the unemployment compensation system. Secretary of Labor Ray Marshall is already talking about cutting benefits in all states to just 16 weeks.

But this attack is a one-two punch. Along with attacks on unemployment compensation Carter and his rich backers have launched an attack on the wages of employed workers. Big business and politicians all over the country are watching the "pay for work" program in Milwaukee with interest. This program has resulted in laid-off county workers, who are union members, being replaced by people who are former welfare recipients in the program making \$2 an

hour. While all this was going on Milwaukee County continued to eliminate 500 union jobs.

Carter's "workfare" proposal is a similar plan designed to replace union scale workers with welfare recipients forced to take the same jobs at minimum wage. This plan, which goes hand in hand with efforts to cut unemployment benefits to the bone, would have a dramatic effect in depressing the level of wages for all workers and weaken the ability of the workers to fight.

The fact that the National United Workers Organization is taking up the campaign together with UWOC is very important. The threat of unemployment hangs over every worker's head and the NUWO's participation will enable employed workers to join in the battle in an organized way,

adding great strength to the campaign.

Future plans call for a series of local and regional demonstrations on October 29. Workers from Milwaukee, Chicago, St. Louis and Gary will march on the Zenith Corporation (which just laid off 5000) and the Chamber of Commerce in Chicago. All of this will build towards actions, including employed and unemployed workers in Washington, D.C. in mid-January when Carter is scheduled to make the annual "State of the Union" address to Congress.

While Carter is running his line, militant demonstrations in the streets of Washington will put the lie to his sweet talk, bringing the campaign of the unemployed to a peak, and building strength, unity and organization for future actions. ■

Smith...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

ing them of taking a "free ride" reaping the benefits of what 19806 had won over the years. They accused the skilled tradesmen of manipulating the production workers, declaring "We're through having the tail wag the dog."

As anti-union as this kind of action and talking was it did hit a raw nerve for many of the production workers. There are only a token number of Blacks and Latinos in the skilled trades while over 50% of A. O. Smith employees are Black. This is a result of discrimination by the company but there is a tendency among some skilled tradesmen to look down on the production workers as nothing but hungry fools who will

take whatever the company dishes out.

The split up in negotiations and divisions between the workers had serious results. 19806 was the first to get sold out. Although a big vote no movement was built against the company's lousy offer, Blackman and his gang crammed it through. They even stood by the voting machines handing out vote yes literature with the official union masthead. They were harassing the production workers (while being paid by the company as full time union officers.)

4 days after 19806 accepted the skilled trades had their ratification meetings on similar contract offers. The skilled tradesmen used their heads, standing up to those of their officials who tried to sell them the contract and 3 out of 4 unions voted to reject! They were especially mad because their wages had gone far behind other skilled tradesmen (19th

in the area) since the last contract.

But this unity among the skilled was broken when the company's faithful servants who head the electricians and steamfitters unions left the IAM alone on the picket lines on the night of the deadline. They even had the nerve to set up another vote on the exact same contract rejected one week before in two days notice! They got it accepted!

But the machinists took a proud stand for all A. O. Smith workers when they walked out. After walking the picket lines for two weeks, having little effect the machinists felt they had no choice but to accept what was pretty much the same offer.

The biggest crime is the disunity caused by the "union leaders" who pointed to the machinists as the enemy rather than the company. They attacked the machinists for trying to get more than the "great" contract

that 43% of the production workers voted to reject! Playing on the differences between the skilled and unskilled helped the company defeat the strike.

The need for greater unity between skilled and unskilled is shown clearly by the contract fight of '77 and a step that must be taken to forge together the strength of the 7000 workers. At the minimum joint negotiations should be reinstated. At the same time workers in this city should never forget the strike-breaking role of the pro-company top union officers.

The talk in the shop now is focused on kicking out pro-company officials come election time. Despite the setbacks the growing movement of the workers at A. O. Smith like throughout the country tells us that Blackman's gang and the pro-company officials in the skilled trades unions days are definitely numbered.

Kent...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

the demonstrators marched onto the hill. The school had not dared to call up the massive police presence of the week before, knowing full well that the people would never tolerate them shedding blood at Kent State again. However, they did have a couple dozen cops guarding the construction machinery. As the march surged towards them, the police forgot about guarding anything but their hides and hightailed out a back entrance. The demonstrators put up a big sign with the statement of the coalition, reiterated that no gym would be built on the hill and marched back out, laying waste to hundreds of yards of fence as they went.

This demonstration was a victory in many ways. In the teeth of all the administration's attacks and the commencement of construction, it showed that Kent students still opposed the gym being built on the hill and were not afraid to stand up and say so. The widespread support from other campuses proved that the authorities' whole offensive, far from burying the memory of the killings at Kent, was reviving interest in and knowledge of Kent, Jackson and the whole May storm of 1970.

In the wake of the demonstration and another wave of attacks, retaliation by state and school authorities, they slapped demonstrators with felony charges for wearing masks. More students are coming forward to defend the memory—and the example—of Kent and Jackson that the authorities are trying so hard to bury. ■

Acero...

PASE A LA PAGINA 14

ganancias. Como explicó Carlos Marx, quien fue el primero a analizar el capitalismo desde el punto de vista de la clase obrera hace cien años, las guerras comerciales entre los capitalistas—o sea, las guerras para las máximas ganancias—son ganadas más por despedir a los trabajadores que por reclutarlos.

Los intereses de las compañías de acero y los de los otros capitalistas están opuestos en cuanto a la cuestión de importaciones. Si las compañías de acero logran lo que quisieran y las importaciones son restringidas, entonces subirán los precios. Pero si suben el precio de acero, subirán los precios de todos productos fabricados en EEUU, lo que rebajarían las ganancias de los otros capitalistas y harían sus productos menos competitivos en el mercado mundial.

Es por esto que Carter, quien como Presidente es responsable a toda la clase capitalista dominante, ha estado

resistiendo las demandas de las compañías de acero. A la vez, pues que las fundiciones son ligadas al mismo punado de financieros monopolistas que son dueños de todo en este país, claro que el gobierno no va a dejar que esas compañías caigan en la banarrota.

La crisis en la industria de acero es parte de la crisis económica en general en todos los países capitalistas y la posición crecientemente débil en que se encuentran los capitalistas de EEUU. Mientras los patrones tratan de usar esta crisis para ganar a los trabajadores a su lado, en esta situación sube aún más a la superficie el hecho de que los intereses de los trabajadores y los de los patrones son antagonísticos.

Los trabajadores de acero quien a diario enfrentan las compañías de acero y tienen que luchar contra ellas no pueden dejar que su lucha sea paralizada por los esfuerzos de sus oficiales de unión a atarles a la compana patronal contra los importaciones. ■

Steel...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

once wrote, trade wars between the capitalists over profits are more often won by discharging the army of labor than by enlisting it.

This crisis in the steel industry is a reflection on the overall economic crisis facing the capitalist countries and the increasingly tough position the U.S. capitalist ruling class finds itself in. While the employers try to use this crisis to pull the workers over to their side, in fact this crisis brings even more sharply to the surface the antagonistic interests between the workers and the employing class. Steel workers, who daily face and must struggle against the steel monopolies, cannot allow their struggle to be paralyzed by allowing their union officials to tie them to the owner's anti imports campaign. ■

Strikes...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

so strung out trying to maintain a worldwide empire and paying for previous rounds of modernization that they don't have the capital to meet the pressing needs of modernization and expansion. They're trying to keep up with German and Japanese steel, auto and electronics—all industries that are new since World War 2. Maximum profit is the capitalists' only law. To get it they have to come down harder and harder on the workers.

The strikes of September in Milwaukee are notice to the companies that workers will not stand to be driven further and further down. The top union leaders have also been given notice that the rank and file will organize themselves. Gains were made in each strike not necessarily on the bargaining table, but on the bricks and shop floors, where workers gained a sense of unity and see that the way forward is to fight the bosses. ■

Bakke...

PASE A LA PAGINA 15

que han ganado de estas cosas, y la lucha por la acción afirmativa debe tener la orientación de que es la clase dominante que tiene que pagar.

La clase dominante y sus portavoces de la TV y la prensa tratan de aprovecharse de la existencia de la acción afirmativa y la falta de puestos en las escuelas médicas para fomentar divisiones entre los blancos y negros. La falta de puestos sí es un verdadero problema. Pero la Asociación Médica Americana (AMA) pugna para mantener bajo el número de estudiantes médicos para que los médicos puedan cobrar más debido a la escasez de médicos. Y pocas familias de la clase obrera pueden pagar \$12,000 por año para enviar su hijo a una escuela de medicina.

Pues, para los hijos de los ricos, es mucho más fácil hacerse medico delete, instead

es mucho más fácil hacerse medico. Pueden comprar un puesto. En la Universidad de Chicago en 1974, los familiares y amigos de 77 de los 91 estudiantes del primer año había donado a la escuela un promedio de \$50,000 por cada estudiante.

El caso Bakke es importante. La decisión de la Corte Suprema tendrá un efecto bien significativo. A través del país las fuerzas progresistas están informando a la gente sobre este caso y organizando manifestaciones. Entre ellas son El Comité Médico por Derechos Humanos (MCHR) y la Brigada Revolucionaria Estudiantil.

Los avances logrados por la lucha del pueblo negro y otras minorías han sido pagados con sangre y sudor. La lucha para defenderlos es una batalla para defender las victorias del pasado y mover hacia adelante. ■

Subscribe

Desempleo en Acero: ¿Importaciones Acusadas de Causar?

Dentro de pocos meses, 20,000 trabajadores de acero estarán sin trabajo. Parece que cada día hay un nuevo anuncio del cierre de una fundición o más despidos.

Esta destrucción de las vidas de tantos trabajadores afecta profundamente a otros trabajadores quienes ya tienen miedo ante la amenaza de perder su propio trabajo. Pero lo que también afecta al resto de la clase obrera es el hecho de que, además de botando trabajadores a las calles, las compañías de acero está vomitando veneno--su argumento que son las importaciones de acero lo que tiene la culpa por el desempleo en la industria, y que la solución es que los trabajadores de acero y otros trabajadores enfrentados con una situación semejante tienen que unirse con las compañías para poner alto a las importaciones.

El camino recomendado por las compañías--uña y carne con sus representantes en el liderato de uniones es el camino a la perdición para los trabajadores de acero. Las restricciones contra importaciones que quisieran las compañías no salvarían ningunos trabajos americanos. Aun peor, al aceptar la propaganda de las compañías según la cual los trabajadores tienen un interés en común con los patrones en "la protección de la industria americana," esos entregarían la única verdadera oportunidad que tienen para defender sus trabajos--la lucha contra las compañías.

Muchas veces las compañías dicen que no pueden competir contra las compañías de acero extranjeros porque estos venden sus productos en EEUU bajo su precio de producción para así quebrar las fundiciones americanas y apoderarse del mercado. Pero según muchos estudios de los otros capitalistas (menos que los dueños de acero), esto es pura propaganda para engañar al público. Claro que los capitalistas europeos y japoneses son capaces de las mismas prácticas de negocio mortales como sus rivales de EEUU, sin em-

bargo, según los hechos, en este momento el problema no tiene nada que ver con prácticas "injustas."

La industria de acero europea y japonesa puede vender sus productos más barato que sus rivales de EEUU porque las fundiciones de estos países fueron reconstruidas después de la Segunda Guerra Mundial, en parte con inversiones de los financieros americanos que así se enriquecieron. En EEUU, se ha construido solamente una sola fundición desde 1945, y algunas fueron construidas antes de la Primera Guerra Mundial.

Porque son anticuadas en términos de su tecnología, las compañías de acero de EEUU no han sido comparativamente gananciosas. Y porque no han sacado bastante ganancias, no han invertido en la reconstrucción y ex-

pansión de sus plantas. Especialmente hoy en día, con una crisis económica barriendo todos los países capitalistas, y debido a esta una baja en el consumo de acero, los capitalistas no tienen ganas de invertir su dinero en el acero. Y también debido a esta crisis, compañías de acero a través del mundo están haciendo menos acero que hace unos años, con fundiciones cerradas a medias, hay una competición aún más mortal entre las varias compañías, ambos dentro de sus propios países y a nivel internacional.

El acero europeo y japonés es más barato porque emplean menos hombres por cada tonelada--en japon, por ejemplo, son necesarios 293 trabajadores por una tonelada de acero, mientras, que en EEUU, son necesarios 479. Además, siguiendo con el ejemplo de Japón, los trabajadores de acero japoneses ganan lo mitad de lo que ganan los trabajadores americanos. Para mejor competir con esas compañías, los patrones de acero americanos tendrían

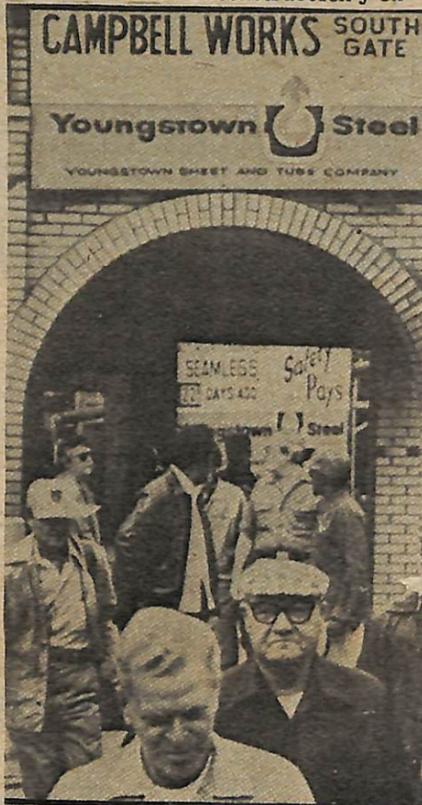
que hacer lo mismo--expandir el uso de procesos modernos que requieren menos trabajadores, y empujar más hacia abajo a los trabajadores en términos de sueldos y aseguramiento.

Como pueden competir de esta forma los trabajadores de cualquier país?

De hecho, como señaló la revista Business Week, para hacerse más competitiva frente a Europa y Japón, las compañías de EEUU más grandes tendrían que tragar las otras compañías, unas fundiciones grandes reemplazarían muchas fundiciones menores, y así--o sea, un programa para eliminar a un tremendo número de trabajos en acero mientras haciendo aún más fuertes las compañías que los todavía trabajando tendrían que confrontar.

La historia reciente de la industria de acero muestra lo que está robando estos trabajos--el sistema de ganancias capitalista. Se han perdido 100,000 trabajos en la industria desde hace 20 años, aunque la producción de acero ha subido muchísimo. Esto no ha tendido nada que ver con las importaciones. Solo tiene que ver con las ganancias--él que pueda sacar lo más trabajo de sus empleados mientras pagando al número más reducido de trabajadores es el ganador en la carrera para

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Presidente de Texas Farm Workers Antonio Orendain Lunes, 24 de octubre

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Libertad Africana Luchador Asesinado

Steve Biko fue uno de los fundadores de la Organización de Estudiantes Sudafricanos y un líder de lo que se llama "El Movimiento de Conciencia Negra." Tomo parte en el liderato de los rebeliones en Soweto. Mientras estaba encarcelado, la policía sudafricana le asesinó el 12 de septiembre.

La policía anunció que su muerte había resultado de una huelga de hambre de ocho días. El Ministro de Justicia sudafricano señaló ante el Congreso del partido blanco gobernante, el Partido Nacionalista, que no sentía la muerte de Biko de ninguna manera. Según la prensa, los oyentes sonrieron cuando les dijo que "Biko tenía el derecho democrático a morir de hambre si así lo quería."

Este relato de la manera en que Biko murió es pura mentira para tapar uno de los sinnúmeros asesinatos de los líderes de la lucha

por la liberación de la mayoría negra de Azania (Sudafrica). De hecho, debido a las protestas populares, las autoridades han tendido que mudar de tono. Ahora el Ministro de Justicia ha anunciado "una investigación" de la muerte de Biko. Ha prometido que "alguien van a pagar" si hay evidencia de algo ilegal por parte de la policía.

Estos asesinos tienen poco motivo

de temor frente a una investigación lanzada por el gobierno. Con la muerte de Biko, ya 20 presos políticos han muerto en las cárceles sudafricanas en 18 meses. En los últimos 18 años pasados, han sido documentados mas o menos 50 casos de presos asesinados en prisión. Estos racistas arrogantes siempre dicen que los presos se suicidaron saltando de una ventana, ahorcándose a si mismos en sus células, deslizándose en una pieza de jabón, cayendo en una escalera, o ahogándose con su propia comida.

Pero la clase dominante sudafricana y sus policías fascistas tienen

mucho motivo de temer a las masas del pueblo, los 18 millones de negros que son esclavizados por la clase dominante blanca del país.

El asesinato de Biko ha provocado una nueva ola de coraje y lucha contra el sangriento régimen sudafricano, ambos dentro del país y a través del mundo. Muchos miles de gente han marchado en Soweto, atacando a policías y quemando edificios de gobierno. Celebraron memoraciones masivas. El gobierno trató de aplastar esta tremenda protesta con más represión. En Soweto y otros barrios negros, la policía dis-

paro a la gente de regreso de los servicios conmemorativos. Arrestaron y encarcelaron a dieces de miles de estudiantes. Al menos cuatro más negros fueron asesinados a continuación de la muerte de Biko.

En una movida hipócrita, disgustante y oportunista, el gobierno de EEUU envió su representante oficial al funeral de Biko. Andrew Young y otros portavoces del gobierno de Carter han lamentado la muerte de Biko. Pero sin la ayuda económica y política de los EEUU y otros países imperialistas, el régimen racista sudafricano no podrían seguir. Su ejército tiene armas occidentales y recibe mucha ayuda de Israel, lo que no es nada más que ayuda indirecta de EEUU. Corporaciones americanas tienen billones de dólares invertidos en Sudafrica, incluso minas de oro, plantas de auto, etc. Con la "nueva" política de EEUU en Sudafrica, están tratando de ganar tiempo para el mando blanco minitorio, llevando a cabo todo tipo de maniobra para lograr un gobierno negro "aceptable" en los países próximos de Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) y Namibia (Africa Sudoeste).

Las protestas farsantes y elogios falsos para Steve Biko no pueden cambiar el hecho de que, al igual que sus socios del régimen sudafricano, la clase dominante de EEUU tiene la culpa del asesinato de Biko y los otros crímenes sin números contra el pueblo de Azania. ■



La viuda de Biko, Nsiki (Arriba) y simpatizantes durante su entierro.

¡ Mueve el Gimnasio ! 3000 Se Reunen en Kent State

Desde el 4 de mayo 1970, cuando soldados de la Guardia Nacional mataron a balazos a cuatro estudiantes en una protesta en la Universidad de Kent contra la guerra en Vietnam y la invasión de Camboya, esta universidad ha simbolizado el espíritu de resistencia y lucha contra los crímenes de la clase dominante de EEUU. Y desde entonces las autoridades han tratado de acabar con lo que el nombre Kent State simboliza, del mismo modo que han tratado de proclamar la muerte del tipo de rebelión estudiantil que barrió el país en los 1960 y '70. El año pasado, por la primera vez desde 1971, las autoridades de Kent rechazaron a cancelar las clases para conmemorar el aniversario de los asesinatos, y también rechazaron llamar cuatro edificios por los estudiantes muertos. Pero cuando la administración anunció sus planes para enterrar el sitio de los asesinatos bajo un nuevo gimnasio, empezaron a recibir una educación sobre lo que está pasando con el rebelión estudiantil.

Desde el principio del verano pasado, la administración ha sido estrimado repetidamente por manifestaciones, protestas y una toma del sitio (el cerro donde los estudiantes murieron) que duró 62 días. A pesar de mandatos de corte, arrestos en masa y hostigamiento, la Coalición 4 de Mayo, compuesta de estudiantes activos y graduados de Kent y sus apoyantes, detuvo por casi todo el verano los esfuerzos de la administración a empezar la construcción del gimnasio.

Cuando la Coalición llevó a cabo una protesta de cientos de estudiantes el primer día del semestre y llamó para una manifestación masiva el 24 de septiembre, la administración respondió con una campaña masiva de intimidación, incluso arrestos, amenazas de suspensiones, etc., para aplastar esta resistencia. Nombraron a un nuevo presidente, un hombre cuya experiencia incluía ayudar a establecer el aparato policiaco de la dictadura gorila de Brazil y la represión contra el movimiento estudiantil en de la Universidad de Estado de San Diego.

Pero sus esfuerzos resultaron frustrados. El 24 de septiembre estudiantes de Kent y de todas partes del país se unieron para oponer la construcción del gimnasio. La Brigada Revolucionaria Estudiantil, con miembros activos en la Coalición 4 de Mayo, se juntó con otros estudiantes para organizar este apoyo. En la Universidad de Tejas, 300 gente manifestó contra el gimnasio. En Perdue, 80 estudiantes vinaron para escuchar a un estudiante de Kent y en seguida 21 decidieron a venir a Kent el 24. De Amherst en Massachusetts, 85 estudiantes viajaron más de 500 millas.

La protesta empezó con una manifestación de 3000 estudiantes, incluso a un mil estudiantes de Kent que desafiaron los ordenes de la administración y sus amenazas a suspenderlos. Después de un serie de discursos sobre la significación de esta protesta, los estudiantes marcharon por la universidad, parando frente



3000 estudiantes universitarios a través del país, incluyendo muchos de KSU, se reunieron el 24 de septiembre para oponerse al proyecto de construir un gimnasio el lugar.

a cada de los cuatro edificios que los estudiantes habían llamados por los mártires, escribiendo sus nombres en las murallas con la consigna, "Nunca Olvidaremos Ni Perdonemos."

Entonces la marcha se dirigió derecho al cerro. Rompieron la cerca y la mitad de los manifestantes marcharon hacia el cumbre. Los policías guardando la maquinaria de construcción se ahuyentaron.

Como señaló uno de los estudiantes heridos en 1970 en su discurso a la protesta, esta manifestación marcó el nivel más alto de la lucha es-

tudiantil en años recientes, por el número de estudiantes que tomaron parte, por el apoyo y la participación a través del país, y porque la clase dominante fue puesta al desnudo más que nunca.

Frente a los ataques de la administración y el comienzo de la construcción del gimnasio, la manifestación mostró que los estudiantes de Kent y de otras universidades todavía están opuestos a los esfuerzos a enterrar la memoria de lo que pasó el 4 de mayo 1970, y no temen a levantarse contra estos. ■

Corte Suprema Decidirá sobre Acción Afirmativa Adelantos de Grupos Minoritarios bajo Ataque

En octubre la Corte Suprema va a decidir el caso de Alan Bakke, un hombre que puso cargos contra la Universidad de California en Davis (UCD), acusándole de haber pasado por alto a él, un blanco "más calificado," para admitir a un negro "menos calificado" a su escuela médica bajo el programa universitario de admisiones afirmativas. Según Bakke, esto es "discriminación inversa." Bakke fue negado admisión

por 13 otras escuelas, pero puso cargos contra la UCD por su programa de acción afirmativa.

El pliego de Bakke fue apoyado por la Corte Suprema de California en septiembre 1976, va uña y carne con otros pliegos y decisiones de corte contra los derechos de la minorías.

Estos ataques legales están tomando lugar dentro del contexto de un asalto en general contra los avances ganados por los movimientos por

derechos civiles y la liberación negra de los 1950 y '60. Estos movimientos ganaron muchas concesiones de la clase dominante para oportunidades más iguales en el empleo y la educación. Así más jóvenes minoritarios pudieron entrar en las universidades y más trabajadores minoritarios pudieron conseguir mejores trabajos o programas de aprendizaje.

Pero al ser ganado estos avances, la clase dominante estaba tratando de recobrar lo que habían perdido. Debido a la lucha, se añadieron más de 4900 puestos en las escuelas médicas. Pero a la vez, las escuelas llenaron el 77 por ciento de estos puestos nuevos con blancos, en vez de gente minoritaria que han sido mantenidos fuera por tantos años. Aunque estos programas no han acabado con la discriminación--ni podrían--fueron un paso grande adelante. Ahora muchos de estos programas están siendo eliminados y rebajados.

En septiembre, el Departamento de Justicia bajo la dirección de la administración de Carter apoyó el principio de acción afirmativa, aunque se opuso a "las cuotas estrictas" como el método para determinar la participación minoritaria, una posición que podría ser empleada para acabar con algunos de los programas de acción afirmativa. Así que Carter está tratando de echar la culpa a las cortes por los ataques contra negros y otras minorías. También está pagando sus deudas políticas a las fuerzas burguesas que les ayudaron en la elección.

El argumento de los reaccionarios abiertos contra la acción afirmativa es que ya es "excesiva" y que dis-

crimina contra los blancos para vencer la discriminación del pasado contra las minorías.

Ahora hay un médico por cada 700 personas en EEUU--una proporción bajo la de muchos países de Europa Occidental. Entre el pueblo negro, la proporción es un médico por cada 3800 gente. Entre los indios, es uno por 20,000, y entre los chicanos, uno por cada 30,333. Entonces como se puede decir que la acción afirmativa ya ha sido "excesiva"?

Entre los negros esta proporción ha cambiado muy poco desde los 1930! Y si la tasa de aumento del número de estudiantes médicos chicanos en el estado de California sigue siendo lo que ha sido en esta década, será 38 años más antes de que la proporción de médicos chicanos alcanzara lo que es ahora para la población en general.

Estas estadísticas demuestran que aún con la acción afirmativa actual todavía hay bastante discriminación. Y claro que esta discriminación existe no sólo en las escuelas de medicina. Los negros, chicanos, mexicanos, puertorriqueños y otras minorías tienen lo peor de la vivienda y la educación, los peores trabajos, más desempleo, sufren más del crimen, etc. Claro que la discriminación no es algo "del pasado."

Son necesarios más programas de acción afirmativa, y no menos. Son cruciales para que la gente minoritaria puedan avanzar contra la discriminación de hoy en día.

Los capitalistas tienen la culpa de la historia de segregación, discriminación y la opresión de nacionalidades minoritarias. Son ellos los únicos

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Los adelantos de la liberación negra y otros grupos minoritarios no serán eliminados sin una lucha.

EL OBRERO

Para el Area de Milwaukee y Wisconsin

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¡Abajo Con Las Deportaciones! ¡Abajo Con La Amnistia Falsa De Carter!



OFICIALES DE INMIGRACION, LA ODIADA MIGRA, DETIENEN UNA FAMILIA EN LOS CAMPOS DE CALIFORNIA. MILLONES DE MEXICANOS HAN SIDO FORZADOS A CRUZAR LA FRONTERA PARA ESCAPAR LA POBREZA Y EL DESEMPLEO EN SU PAIS, QUE ESTA DOMINADO POR LOS E.U.

Recientemente el Presidente Carter ha declarado que va a "bregar con el problema de trabajadores extranjeros." Como su primer medida, ha anunciado un "plan de amnistia" dejando a hacerse residentes legales a los pueden demostrar que han estado en EEUU continuamente desde el 1970. Pero hasta según el Departamento de Inmigración mismo muy poca gente—probablemente mas o menos 50,000—pueden probar que han estado aquí sin salir ni una

vez por siete años. Bajo el proyecto de Carter, otros trabajadores sin papeles que hayan estado en EEUU menos que siete años pero pueden probar su presencia en EEUU antes del 1 de enero también pueden permanecer en este país, pero no serán permitidos a hacerse residentes permanentes ni ciudadanos, ni llevar a sus familias aquí, ni recibir servicios sociales tales como seguridad social, beneficios de desempleo, welfare, etc. Este proyecto es "amnistia"

sólo para los patrones y es una bofetada dura a esos trabajadores.

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

la Migra hasta viene al hospital del condado buscando a los sin papeles que atreven a pedir cuidado medico.

Carter, los caudillos del AFL-CIO y la prensa y TV han estado tratando de fomentar una ola de histeria tocante a como son los "ilegales" que tienen la culpa del desempleo entre los trabajadores americanos. También es mentira. Claro que algunos obreros americanos se ponen hartos cuando no pueden conseguir trabajo en una planta donde hay obreros inmigrantes. Pero el gobierno les ha dejado a los dueños a llevar inmigrantes ambos con y sin documentos porque saben que sin tales trabajadores muchas plantas no pudieron sacar ninguna ganancia—y sin ser gananciosas cerrarían. A cierto grado van a seguir trayendo trabajadores desde el extranjero, como por ejemplo los trabajadores agricolas mexicanos en Texas—eso es lo que quiere decir el gobierno cuando dicen que cualquiera represión severa en la frontera con Mexico tendrá que ser acompañada por un programa tal como los braceros para "casos especiales"—o sea el trabajo bien mal pagado y trabajo agrario temporario. Hoy en día el gobierno está planificando llevar a cabo semejante represión porque actualmente tantos trabajadores nativos andan desesperados para encontrar cualquier trabajo y por eso a muchos dueños ahora no les son necesarios los obreros sin papeles. Los programas del gobierno tales como la nueva ley de desempleo la que exige que los que hayan recibido 39 semanas de beneficios tienen que aceptar cualquier trabajo que se les ofrezca, también son otra forma de forzar a los trabajadores nativos a aceptar estos trabajos en vez de esperar algo mejor. Ahora en Oregon, después de una ola masiva de deportaciones al comienzo de la cosecha de cereza, las autoridades han empezado a transportar madres de welfare a los huertos.

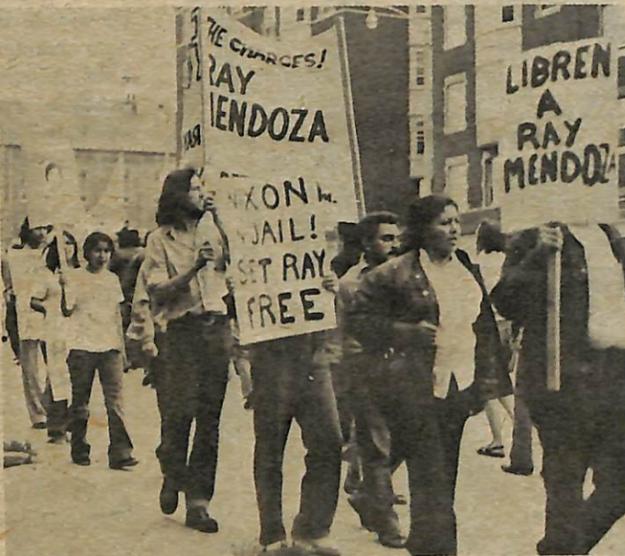
Lo importante del proyecto de inmigración de Carter y toda la histeria tocante a la "invasión silenciosa de Mexico" en la prensa es que son nomás que un esfuerzo para echar la culpa a los trabajadores nacidos en el extranjero por lo que han hecho los capitalistas grandes y su gobierno. Por supuesto los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

LIBREN A RAY MENDOZA



Ray Mendoza ha sido concedido un nuevo juicio. El hombre ha estado esperando en la cárcel por 3 años, encarando dos cadenas perpetuas consecutivas. Ahora este chicano de 23 años que osó defenderse contra un ataque por la policía recibirá un nuevo juicio. Todavía le quedan pendientes los cargos de asesinato o homicidio involuntario. Se deberían suspender los cargos y darle la libertad.

Mendoza se rebeló contra la brutalidad de la policía y discriminación que forman parte de la vida cotidiana de la comunidad latina. Logró el apoyo y la simpatía de miles a través del estado que también han presenciado la violencia por parte de la policía. Manifestaciones, colectas y líneas de piquetes durante el juicio causó que el juez, la policía y el sistema se pusieran a la defensiva. Reaccionaron con un linchamiento legal y la doble sentencia de cadena perpetua. Ahora el poder del pueblo



ha logrado una victoria en el caso de Mendoza. El pueblo de todas las nacionalidades debe continuar apoyando a Ray Mendoza en su lucha.

Libertad para Ray Mendoza!
Lucha contra la represión de la policía! ■