

the rank and file in action

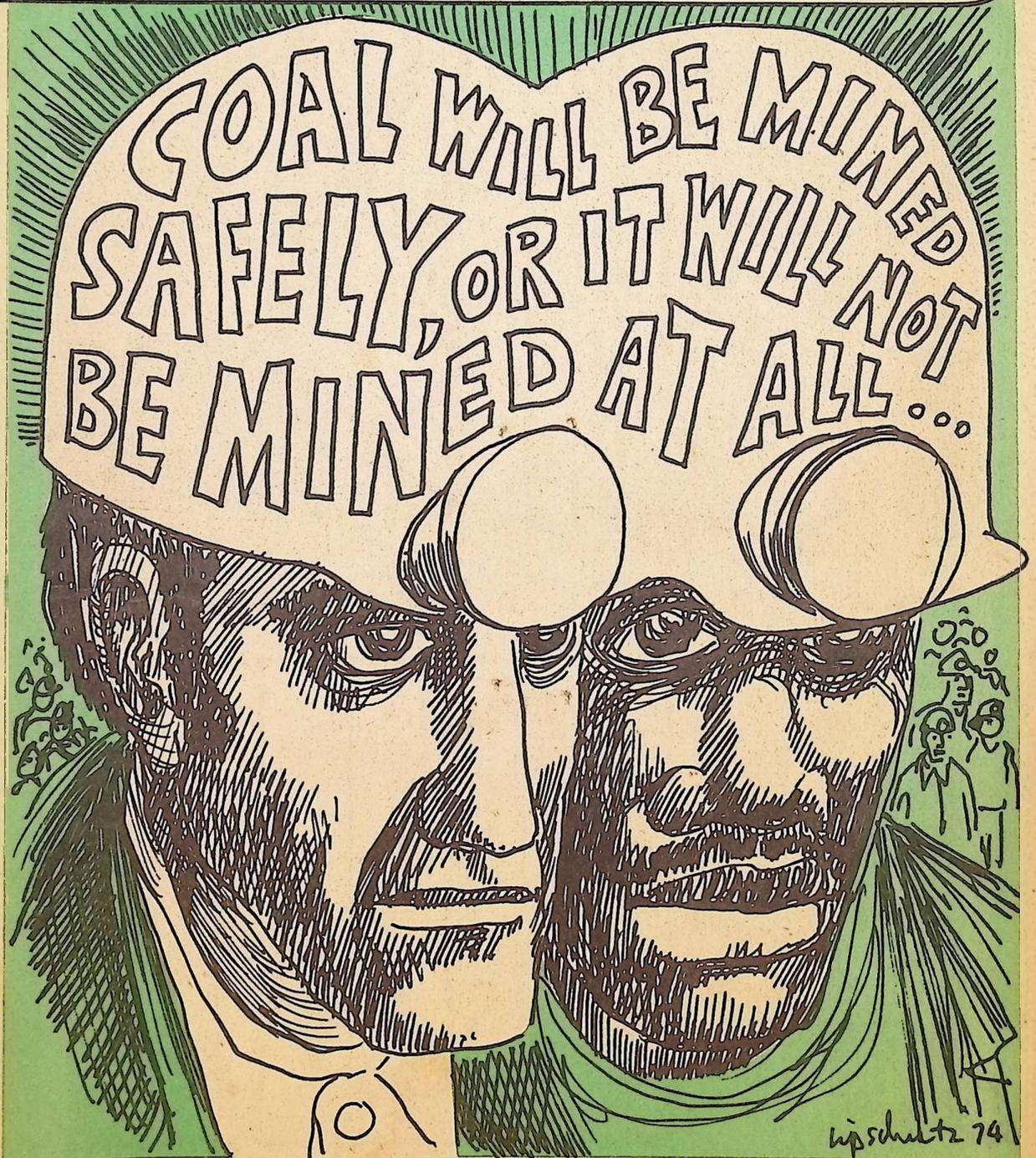
# Labor today

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Volume 13, No.11

412

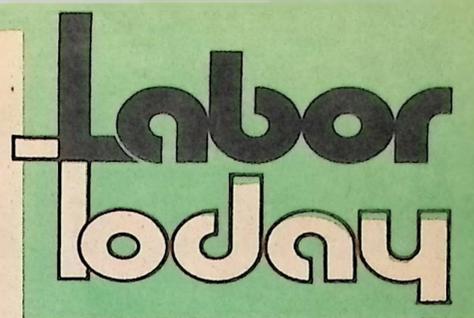
Dec. 1974



Lipschutz '74

"THE MEN GOTTA BE SATISFIED"

# The MINERS' FIGHT IS OUR FIGHT TOO!



by LABOR TODAY STAFF

As LABOR TODAY goes to press, a tentative settlement of the coal strike seems to have been reached. For the settlement to become final, under the new UMWA constitution, it must first be approved by the UMWA Collective Bargaining Council (roughly the International Executive Board), the presidents of over 800 Local Unions, and finally over 120,000 rank and file members in referendum. This process is expected to take about ten days to complete.

"We can't accept anything the men won't be satisfied with," said UMWA District 5 President Lou Antal, who mirrored the caution with which the settlement is being viewed. This is the first time the rank and file have ever been allowed to vote on the contract and no one is taking bets on how the vote will go.

In announcing the settlement, UMWA President Arnold Miller expressed confidence that the contract would satisfy the membership.

"It's a very good contract," he told reporters

Miller reported substantial gains in safety and health procedures.

LABOR TODAY will attempt a fuller report next issue.

When Arnold Miller took office as President of the United Mine Workers, he said, "Coal will be mined safely or it will not be mined at all."

At 12:01 a.m., November 12, with contract talks snarled, coal was not being mined at all as miners walked off their jobs in the time-honored UMWA tradition of "no contract, no work."

At the root of the strike which everyone hoped to avoid is the refusal of the coal operators to deal fairly with Mine Worker proposals for safety, health, better wage and fringes. The coal bosses forced the strike upon the miners, not because they

couldn't afford to pay for the miners' requests (coal profits are up 81%) but because, some feel, the coal bosses have decided to "teach 'em a lesson."

Less than two weeks before the contract was to expire, and on the verge of the point at which a stoppage could be avoided, the bosses vetoed Mine Worker proposals for a sick pay allowance, a cost-of-living clause, broader health and medical benefits and the right of miners to strike at local mines over safety.

The Mine Workers have proposed to reduce so-called "wildcat" strikes by as much as 50% by introducing a contract provision requiring a vote of over 50% of the miners to support a walkout. Right now, such walkouts are "illegal" but occur frequently and sporadically. The UMWA traditions provide

(continued on page 6)

## AS MINES ARE SHUT DOWN

# Miners' spirits high

by LABOR TODAY STAFF

As the national coal agreement expired November 12, miners walked off their jobs resigned to at least a two-week strike. The new UMWA constitution, which provides for membership ratification of any new agreement, contains a ratification procedure that requires at least 10 days to activate.

For months, the UMWA leadership, through the UMWA JOURNAL has kept the miners informed about the upcoming negotiations and has urged miners to stockpile for a possible strike. (The JOURNAL even ran a contest on best ways to save up for such a contingency!) Moreover, the JOURNAL has carried detailed information about the profits of the coal industry and the economic health of the nation.

All this has been in marked contrast to the old regime under Tony Boyle, which made little attempt to persuade or inform.

Down at Waltonville, Illinois, miners at Orient Mine #3, began to whoop when they approached the lift cage that would take them out of the mine. They were the last group to leave before the strike started and they didn't figure they'd be back for a while. Some didn't think they've be back this year.

"If we don't get a good contract this year, we'll never get one," said one young miner. "Hell, I don't care if it lasts three or four weeks. I don't care if it lasts three or four months, if that's what it takes."

The threat of a long and costly walkout is taken pretty much in hand by miners. A West Virginia miner said, "every three years a coal miner's kids have to do without Christmas. That's the way it is and there ain't a miner around that don't know it."

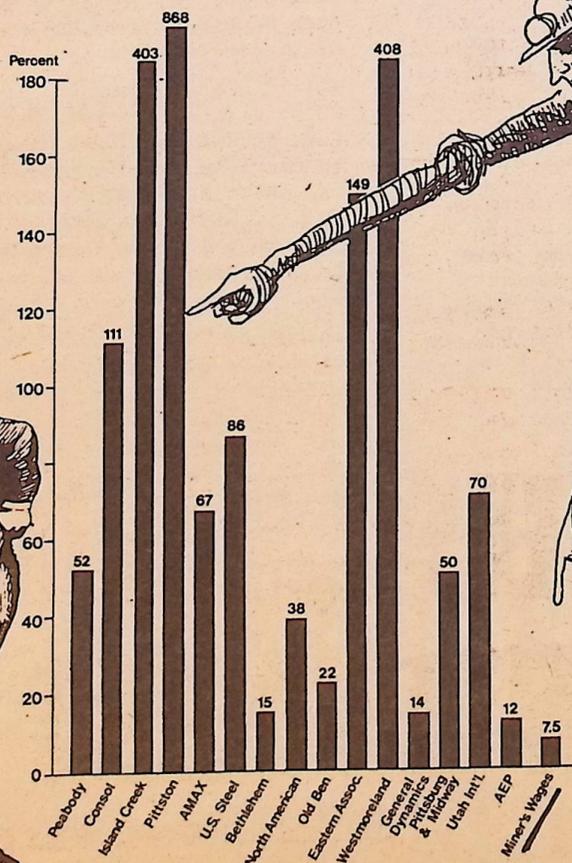
A young miner in West Virginia's Kanawha Valley has only been on the job a few months. "We've been getting ready for a long time now," he said. "Back in August somebody asked me what am I going to do during the

(continued on page 6)

Details on the settlement were not available at press time, but UMWA sources say the contract is worth about 40 percent over the next three years, with 15 percent in across the board increases. A cost-of-living adjustment was won for the first time that will provide up to eight percent in the second and third year of the agreement. Substantial gains were registered in pensions with miners currently on pension being raised from their present \$150 a month to \$250 by the end of the contract. Newly retiring miners will receive a sliding scale pension that goes up to \$390.

### Coal Profits vs. Miner's Wages

First Half 1974 vs. 1973



UMWA Research Department



# Workers say 'NO inflation,' rebuff Nixon policies

by JIM WILLIAMS, Co-Editor  
LABOR TODAY

The November Congressional elections produced an over-whelming Democratic majority, falling just short of the "veto-proof" Congress (if such a thing was ever possible) that the AFL-CIO had projected.

Labor-backed candidates swept Republican strongholds to the point where newsmen began to speculate as to whether the Republican Party would ever rise again from the ruins. (The same kinds of speculations were made in the days of the Roosevelt New Deal, when Republicans were regarded by some as an endangered species.)

The elections brought new additions of minority and women officials to Congress and to numerous state legislatures and gubernatorial posts. All 16 members of the Congressional Black Caucus won easy re-election and Harold Ford (D) was added from Memphis, defeating conservative Republican Dan Kuykendall.

However, despite these gains, trade union leaders and rank and filers have not expressed complete satisfaction with the results.

One disturbing factor is the low voter turn-out, the lowest since 1946 which produced the "do-nothing" Congress Harry Truman often lambasted. The low turn-out is seen by some trade unionists as an indication of the failure of the Democratic Party to attract support or enthusiasm for its programs. Some go further and say the low turn-out indicates that people may be willing to support a new political party if it speaks to their needs.

Yet, the over-riding factor is that when people did get out and vote, they voted in a solid bloc against the Nixon economic policies that are being continued by President Ford.

The opposition to the growing economic crisis thus emerged as the common denominator in the elections, as voters expressed their dissatisfaction with skyrocketing inflation, deepening unemployment and declining living standards.

In the West Virginia legislative races, Dan Burleson, a United Mineworkers'

activist, won election to the House of Delegates as an independent write-in candidate, narrowly defeating a Democratic machine candidate. Three UMWA members now sit in the West Virginia House, and Robert Nelson, director of the Mineworkers' legislative program, won re-election to the West Virginia state Senate despite a vigorous campaign by the coal operators to brand Nelson as a "tool of special interests." Other union members also won election to the West Virginia House of Delegates, confirming a trend in the labor movement there to run trade unionists for office instead of relying upon the Democratic machine to supply candidates.

AFL-CIO President George Meany declared that he was "disillusioned" with the election results and rapped suggestions that the Democrats have a mandate for change. He singled out Senator Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.) for advocating mandatory wage and price controls. Meany, in a news conference, said that labor was "not getting a great deal of support for the bread and butter issues" from existing Democratic majorities in both houses of Congress. He reiterated that "the American economy is close to disaster."

Meany's approach to the elections left many unanswered questions. While he has attacked those leading Democrats who are advocating wage and price controls (at Presidential discretion!), Meany's own past performance has been poor.

In 1970, Meany declared himself against wage and price controls, but quickly served on a Presidential Board to enforce such controls when President Nixon imposed them. Does Meany really mean it this time, or is he again bluffing?

Progressive trade unionists indicate that the '74 elections will be productive only if the rank and file keep the heat on. If this Congress does not produce price-roll backs, measures to end inflation and unemployment, then the Democratic majority could evaporate as unionists seek to cast their votes elsewhere.

The National Coordinating Committee for Trade Union Action and Democracy (TUAD) at its "Emergency Conference on Inflation" in September called for a massive grassroots trade union lobbying effort to enact programs to deal with the crisis in everyday living. The fight for a progressive new Congress will have to start on the floors of thousands of local unions and percolate up until Congress cannot ignore its pressure.



Stayskal in the Chicago Tribune

## Women, minorities gain

Women continue to increase their influence in politics -- just as they are doing in other areas of life, based upon surveys of the election results. Blacks and other minority groups also scored new breakthroughs.

Congresswoman Ella Grasso was elected governor of Connecticut, becoming the first woman ever elected governor of any state who did not succeed a husband in the office. Mary Ann Krupsak was elected lieutenant governor of New York.

Six women were elected to the U.S. House of Representatives -- Democrats Martha Keys of Kansas, Helen Meyner of New Jersey, Marilyn Lord of Tennessee and Gladys Spellman of Maryland, and Republicans Millicent Fenwick of New Jersey and Virginia Smith of Nebraska.

According to figures compiled by the National Women's Political Caucus, voters elected some 750 women to state

legislatures, a dramatic increase over the 450 now serving in these bodies.

Blacks won two lieutenant governorships for the first time since the Civil War era. The victors are Mervyn Dymally in California and George Brown in Colorado. Both have served in their respective state Senates.

All 16 black incumbents in the U.S. House were re-elected. Democrat Harold Ford became the first black to be elected to Congress from Tennessee. Even so, he was only one of three winners in his family. His older brother, John, won a seat in the state Senate and his younger brother, Emmitt, was elected to the state House.

The Joint Center for Political Studies at Howard University here reported widespread gains for blacks in Southern legislatures -- including 13 in Alabama, six in Georgia and ten in South Carolina. North Carolina will have two blacks in the state Senate for the first time.

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# Politics-as-usual-doesn't pay, workers must seek office

by WILL PARRY, President  
Washington-Alaska Conference  
Assoc. of Western Pulp & Paper Workers  
Seattle, Washington

Arnold Miller of the United Mine Workers speaks of the "two branches of the Money Party." As full time lobbyist for my union in the Washington State Legislature, I've been watching the two branches operate, day by day, for two solid years. And I'm beginning to see far more clearly what Brother Miller was talking about. Let me share with you some of that experience. Then let me offer some tentative conclusions based on that experience--conclusions that you can test for yourselves, to see if they square with the experience you have acquired trying to make the two-party system produce something for the working people in your areas.

During the past two years, the specific conditions in Washington state have been unusually favorable for labor. If ever political work along the established lines, within the two-party structure, was going to be productive, it should have been in 1973 and 1974 in Washington state.

Washington's political history has a strongly progressive flavor, dating back to the election of Populist Governor John Rogers at the turn of the century. It has never been ridden with entrenched, corrupt political machines of the kind symbolized by the Daley machine in Chicago. We have a strong state labor movement--Washington ranks second in percentage of work force organized.

We have a United Labor Lobby that's been functioning for 15 years. It includes the AFL-CIO State Labor Council, the Teamsters, Longshoremen and the Pulp & Paper Workers. The ULL maintains a staff of full time lobbyists who, by and large, are capable and dedicated people.



We have a relatively enlightened and advanced labor leadership. For example, a few years ago it had the vision and the organizing ability to enact, by initiative of the people, a 12% ceiling on retail credit interest rates. (Significantly, that important victory was won outside the two-party structure, by labor's independent political leadership and action.)

During the 1973 and 1974 sessions, both houses of the legislature were under the

leadership and control of strong working majorities of the Democratic Party--leaders blessed with COPE endorsements and carrying good past voting records.

And finally, this relatively strong, united, and enlightened labor movement laid before this legislature, captained by labor's friends, a very modest program of proposed reforms and improvements.

What happened to this program?

⊙ *Industrial insurance*: Some minor improvements were made, but labor's priority bill--cost-of-living protection for injured workers--was dumped.

⊙ *Unemployment compensation*: No improvement in the program.

⊙ *State Labor Relations Act*: The State Labor Council's priority legislative goal. Here the legislature really spat in labor's face. Thirteen COPE-endorsed Democrats joined with a solid Republican bloc to defeat the bill in the House.

⊙ *State employees* were given \$40 a month the first year, nothing the second for cost-of-living adjustment.

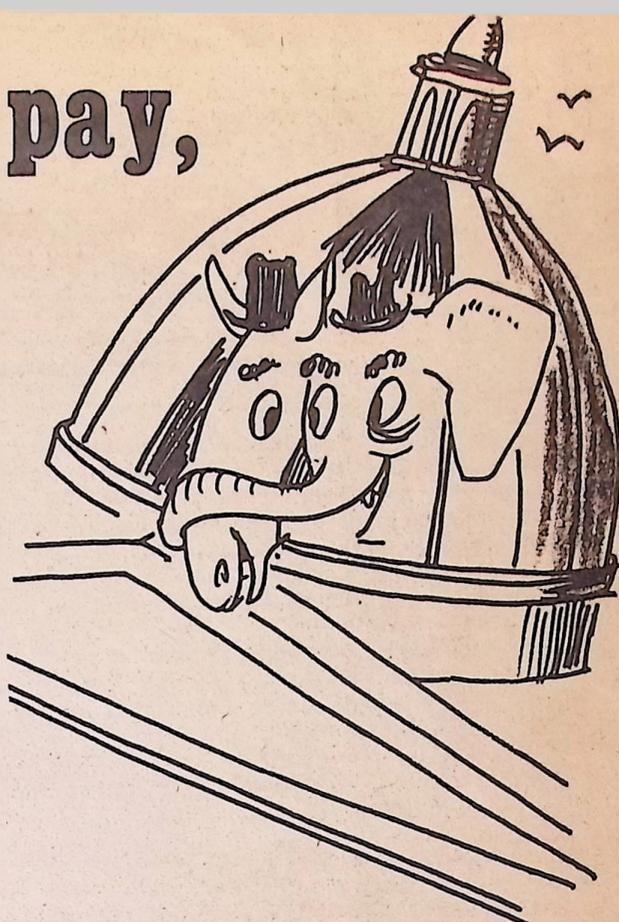
⊙ *Washington Industrial Safety & Health Act* passed. This was the only labor bill to get full Republican and Democratic support. It is a strong state safety and health act. But it is a doubtful victory for labor, since it turns Occupational Health and Safety Act enforcement over to the state and helps escalate the undermining of labor's hard-won program.

⊙ *On taxes*, this Democrat-controlled legislature made the state's very regressive tax system worse. Association of Washington Businessmen's priority lobbying objective of 20 years was achieved: phase-out of inventory tax. One quarter-billion dollars in tax relief for business over the next decade, with Boeing the main beneficiary. Weyco and the timber interests got away with a multi-million dollar rip-off rate on timber taxes. Then--to make things appear evenhanded--the legislature repealed the sales tax on drugs and returnable bottles! Tax "relief" on the scale of \$2 per person per year.

For our union it was especially frustrating. I spent the 40-day 1974 special session lobbying one bill--an industrial insurance bill that would have done much to safeguard the rights of some 80,000 mainly industrial workers.

We had the "support" of leaders in both houses. The bill actually passed both houses in slightly different forms. But key Democrats delayed the bill behind the scenes so that we ran out of time trying to get one house to concur in the other's amendments--and the bill died.

Everybody knows the Republican Party is the captive of the big employers. But illusions persist about the Democrats. Brothers and sisters, it was the Democrats who cut our throats in Washington state. It was the Democrats who decided the priorities and wrote the record. It was the Democrats who stacked the key Rules Committees with members of their own party



indifferent to labor's welfare. It was the Democrats who put weaklings on the key Labor Committees.

How can we persist in having illusions about what can be done with the Democratic Party? Take just one example--Henry Jackson. Jackson is important because we may very well be confronted with Ford vs. Jackson for President in 1976. What a choice!

*Brothers and sisters*: this is a conference to take on inflation.

To take on inflation is to take on Jackson. And vice versa: to take on Jackson is to take on inflation.

Jackson's rip-snorting campaign speeches against inflation are nothing but hot air. Look: the Pentagon and related agencies spend \$100 billion a year without producing anything people can buy and use. That's a prime cause of inflation. And nobody is more closely identified with that inflationary \$100 billion a year than Henry M. Jackson.

And he's not satisfied with \$100 billion a year. He's leading the attack on detente, trying to lay the basis for squandering still more on arms!

Jackson also joins the Democratic liberals in moving toward a new wage freeze. Even COPE gave him a bad vote a few months ago when he voted to hand "standby" controls to Nixon. And that vote was after labor had been through the wringer of Phase I, Phase II, and III.

And remember how Jackson launched a noisy Committee hearing into gas prices last winter? Nothing in the way of action came out of that sound and fury. And now we learn that Amerada Hess Oil Company gave \$250,000 each to Nixon and Jackson in the 1972 presidential campaign. It's obvious this "champion of labor" wants to ride oil company contributions into the White House in 1976.

Jackson's answer to our economic problems is simple--he spelled it out a couple of months ago: name an economic czar. Make him a dictator over wages and prices. And who was Jackson's choice for the job?

(continued on page 6)

# November actions spa

by WILLIAM APPELHANS, Chairman  
Illinois TUAD

Across the nation, from New York to San Francisco, from over 30 cities, trade unionists and other persons demonstrated against rising prices and unemployment.

The November 16 demonstrations occurred following a national call in September by a group of labor, civil rights, peace and community leaders and was endorsed by the Emergency Conference on Inflation called by the National Coordinating Committee for Trade Union Action and Democracy.

While inflation and unemployment were the central concerns that united the diverse groupings into a national movement, local concerns also surfaced.

Here in Chicago, the demonstration took on a proposed electric rate increase by Common-

wealth Edison. Commonwealth Edison is seeking an increase of over 15 percent, about \$3.50 per household. The increase is being fought by several community groups including Chicago Acts Against Inflation, with which Illinois TUAD is working.

Food prices have also been a big concern. Community groups have leafleted and conducted petition drives at local supermarkets demanding that Congress act to roll back food prices to 1971 levels and freeze them. These actions have been very successful, providing an enthusiastic response from angered shoppers. (When was the last time you saw people line up to sign a petition?)

Trade unionists have been key to the development of this fight against the crisis in everyday living. Among the labor backers of the fight were James Harris, president, National Education Association; Lou Antal, president, District 5, United Mine Workers; Larry Gurley, chairperson, California Black Caucus, California Federation of Teachers; Helen Lyles, vice-president, Local 1199P Hospital Workers; David Selden, former



president, American Federation of Teachers; Lasker Smith, chairman, Auto Workers Action Caucus; Agnes Willis, executive board, Coalition of Black Trade Unionists; George Edwards, chairman, National Steel Workers Rank and File Committee; Don Jones, president, AFGE Local 1395; Earl Stout, international vice-president, AFSCME; Ernest DeMaio, general vice-president, United Electrical Workers; Jack Spiegel, Lake States Director, United Shoe Workers; and others.

The convenors of the November 16 demonstration have decided to have a follow-up conference in Chicago in December. For more information contact Jane Benedict c/o Metropolitan Council on Housing, 24 West 30th Street, NYC, NY 10001, (phone: 212/282-1964, ask for Murray Rosenberg).

We think the fight against inflation must be an on-going fight. Segregation was not ended by one sit-in. The war in Vietnam was not stopped by one demonstration. The fight against inflation is a long, tough fight—but it is one we will have to win, or go under.



*In over 30 cities across the nation, workers and consumers turned out to hit the skyrocketing cost of living and the growing unemployment rate.*

## We're Fed Up to **HERE!**

With the price of milk and sugar and gas and heating oil. With utility rate hikes. With the tax load on us and the tax loopholes for the big operators. With talk of a new wage freeze after the November elections. With shrinking pension and welfare checks. With plant shutdowns and mass layoffs. With interest rates that make buying a home an impossible dream. With 82 billion tax dollars for the military while thousands of Americans are reduced to dogfood diets.

## And We're Not Alone

People all over the country are mad about prices. People are disgusted with a President we never elected who fights inflation with WIN buttons . . . and with a Congress that sits on its duff while the Consumer Price Index goes out of sight.

## We Say, "Roll 'Em Back!"

If the big food chains can jack up prices day after day, they can roll prices back. We say, "Peel off the stickers and cut prices now!"

And we support the AFL-CIO State Labor Council's convention resolution calling on Congress to ROLL PRICES BACK to August, 1971 levels . . . before Nixon's phoney "controls" took effect.

## Make Congress Act Now!

It takes MILLIONS OF ANGRY PEOPLE SPEAKING OUT to make Congress act to stop inflation . . . to roll back prices . . . to create jobs so people can earn a decent living.

Demonstrations will be held in Seattle and cities across the country on November 16th, demanding that CONGRESS ACT NOW!

Join us on that date in a

# MARCH and RALLY To STOP INFLATION SATURDAY, NOV. 16

12 noon - Demonstration at U. S. Courthouse, 5th & Madison.  
1 P.M. - March from U. S. Courthouse to Westlake Mall.  
2 P.M. - Rally and Speaking Program at Westlake Mall.

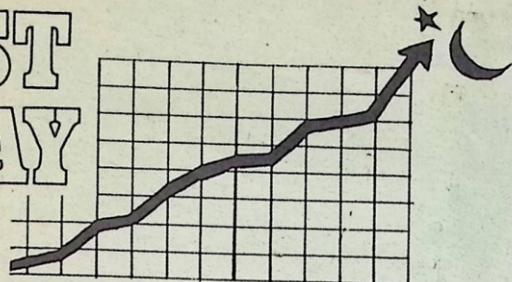
**COMMITTEE TO STOP INFLATION**



# ark anti-inflation drive

President Ford You Can't Wait Till 1976

**PROTEST  
RUNAWAY  
PRICES**



**Join the Crowd  
AT BRYANT PARK  
SAT. NOV. 16**

**CHICAGO Sun-Times**  
 Tuesday, October 1, 1974  
 \$1.00  
 100 Pages 18 Cents

## EDISON ASKS 15.6% TWO-STAGE RATE HIKE

We're fed up with being ripped-off!  
 Commonwealth Edison Electric Company wants to raise our electric rates 15 percent! That means at least an extra \$3.50 a month.

**We say: No!**

**ROLL BACK PRICES**

	BREAD	HAM	BUTTER	EGGS	MILK
1970	27¢	59¢	49¢	78¢	
1973	37¢	87¢	65¢	89¢	
1974	50¢	97¢	79¢	1.29	

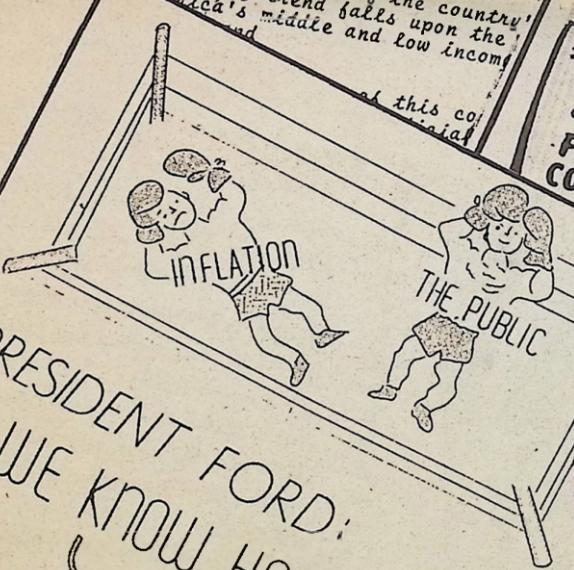
**City of Gary**  
 Executive Order  
**Proclamation**  
 By the Honorable Richard Gordon Hatcher, Mayor

WHEREAS, All Americans, citizens and public officials alike, are concerned with the nation's economy, ever-spiralling prices and rising unemployment; and

WHEREAS, The greatest burden of the country's inflationary trend falls upon the nation's middle and low income families;

WHEREAS, This proclamation is hereby proclaimed.

**Roll back prices! Make congress act! Jobs for all!**  
**PROTEST SAT. NOV. 16th**  
 RALLY CENTER 1pm.



**PRESIDENT FORD:  
 WE KNOW HOW TO  
 FIGHT INFLATION**

SLASH THE HUNDRED BILLION DOLLAR MILITARY BUDGET  
 TO '69 LEVELS (WHEN NIXON TOOK OFFICE AND ITT, THE MILK TRUST)  
 TO KEEP RAISING PRICES, THE START OF TODAY'S INFLATION)  
 AND FREEZE PROFITS OF BIG BUSINESS.  
 FOR PRICES BY WEARING A  
 THE REAL "INFLATION FIGHTERS" ... BUTTON!

CIRCULATE OUR Petition  
 WRITE TO: CONGRESS DEMANDING A PAGE ROLLBACK  
 UP TO THE PEOPLE  
 DATE: RALLY AND INFORMATION  
 Support Nov 16th



strike. I got two checks of maybe \$300 apiece coming next Friday and the Friday after than for work I've done these last two weeks. Then, I guess I'll just go on food stamps. Everybody else is getting them, I don't see why the miners can't."

There is even a bit of gaiety among miners who look forward to being out of the pits, even for a while. Many of them are home oiling their rifles--not for an impending guerilla war with the operators, but to observe the hunting season which has just opened. There is much talk of squirrel, rabbits, quail, grouse and turkey--all of which are in season now. Many will seek to supply their larders with fresh game in order to weather the strike.

Miller, himself an avid hunter (Miller is an "avid" hunter like a junkie is an "avid" user of heroin) will likely join them if talks between the operators and Mine Workers break down.

The miners have no substantial strike funds. Their ability to endure a sustained strike will depend in part upon the solidarity of their union brothers and sisters across the country.

### Women gain (cont. from p. 2)

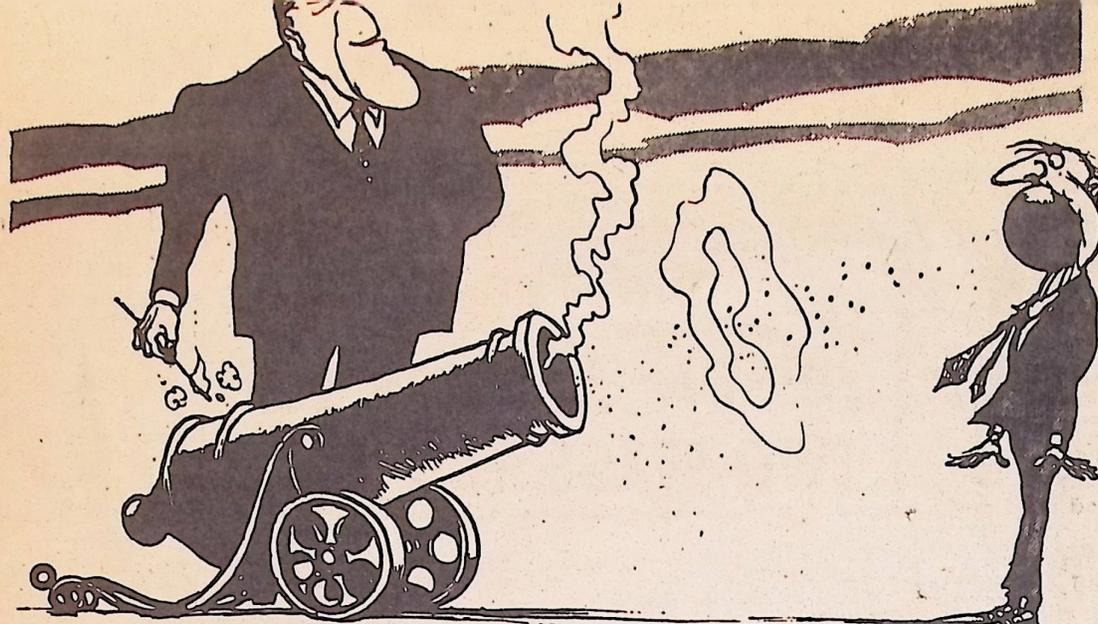
Leaders of other minority groups, who also strive for a greater role in American life, chalked up victories, too.

Spanish-Americans Raul Castro and Jerry Apodaca won the governorships of Arizona and New Mexico respectively. Castro is a former U.S. envoy to Bolivia, and Apodaca has been a state Senator for eight years. Both are Democrats.

In Hawaii, Democrats George Ariyoshi and Nelson Doi won the governor and lieutenant governor posts. Both are of Japanese extraction. Democrat Norman Mineta, former mayor of San Jose, Calif., became the first Japanese-American outside of Hawaii to win a seat in Congress.

.....  
"That man over there say that a woman needs to be helped into carriages, and lifted over ditches, and to have the best place everywhere. Nobody ever helped me into carriages, or over mud puddles, or gives me a best place... And ain't I a woman? Look at me. Look at my arm! I have plowed and planted and gathered into barns, and no man could head me... And ain't I a woman? I could as much and eat as much as a man when I could get it, and bear the lash as well... And ain't I a woman? I have borne thirteen children and seen them most all sold off into slavery. And when I cried out with a mother's grief, none but Jesus heard... And ain't I a woman?"  
Sojourner Truth: Speech before the Woman's Rights Convention at Akron, Ohio in 1851.  
Photo and quote reprinted from *What Have Women Done?*, a photo history of working women in the United States, available for \$1.50 from:  
United Front Press  
P.O. Box 40099  
San Francisco, CA 94140  
.....

Oliphant, Denver Post



"Now, bite on the bullet—that'll stop you wasting all your money on food!"

### Miners' fight is our fight (cont. from p. 1)

that a few miners can shut down an entire mine by walking out.

While the UMWA proposal would tend to limit certain kinds of strikes, the coal bosses regard it as a major threat to "management prerogatives" and reject it out of hand. A UMWA staffer criticized the industry's stand as "crazy as hell." "I think they're out of their minds. The risk they're running is three more years of rotten labor relations."

In early October, UMWA President Miller said "the BCOA (Bituminous Coal Operators Association) strategy is to manipulate a strike situation and then demand government interference in order to undermine the bargaining power of the UMWA."

Writing in the October issue of the UNITED MINE WORKERS JOURNAL, editor Don Stillman says that "some believe the coal operators think a short strike could help them by

forcing coal prices up even higher and providing them with the opportunity to blame the miners for those price increases once greater public awareness is created by a strike. They say that BCOA negotiators may refrain from serious bargaining until a strike has occurred."

What seems to emerge from the coming mine struggles is that the coal operators (which consist of the major oil companies, steel and railroad companies and banks) intend to use the strike and resulting contract to drive up coal prices, perhaps break or temper the new, militant UMWA and perhaps solve the inflationary crisis by stepping up layoffs in industries which use coal.

Already in many cities, rank and filers and others have established groups to support the miners. LABOR TODAY and TUAD are working to assist local groups wishing to support the miners and they have urged rank and filers to "get involved."

### 'Politics-as-usual' doesn't pay (cont. from p. 3)

David Rockefeller of the Chase Manhattan Bank.

Any party really concerned with workers would tell Jackson to get lost. The Democrats are likely to try to make him President!

So here we are in this box labelled "Democratic" on the one side and "Republican" on the other. And the question is: How to get labor free of this, and moving toward the genuine power base it needs in Congress and the state capitols.

Look: every other labor movement in the world has got a labor party that speaks for it. But we aren't at that point in this country. And those of us who work in the labor movement and don't just stand on the sidelines shouting advice to the labor movement, know that we're not at that point. But some of us, and I'm not speaking for my union on this, think we've got to start moving in that direction.

We've got to build a meaningful power base. You can't enact a political program in this country without a political power base;

rooted in the communities; based in the precincts, districts and states. You can't do it. No shortcuts. Based on our experience in the Washington state legislature, trying to take over the Democrats is a pretty futile operation. I'm talking about the leadership. And the most corrupt of them float to the top. That's the way the system works. We need some fresh approaches on this thing.

Brother DeMaio says a new party, and I agree. Our experience suggests it's the only answer.

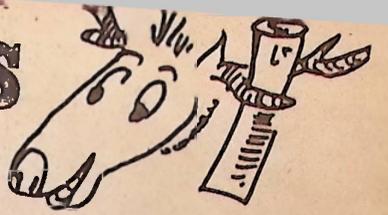
The more immediate question is; transitional forms of independent political action, moving toward and laying the basis for, a new party of labor and the people.

I think the starting point is with the best sons and daughters of our movement, the labor movement, being advanced to run for office. On the union's program, not the Democratic Party's program. What the hell is that program? Whatever the individual Democrat wants to make it, right? Let's get men and women to run on our program. Sure, they can run as Democrats. That's the way the Black people are doing it. They're electing Blacks on a program that's responsive to the needs of their Black people. They've got a substantial, meaningful, gummy power base in the Congress of the United States and the mighty labor movement hasn't got it. And we need one. And we've got to move that way.



# Let LT solve your gift problems

by DOUG WAGNER  
Circulation Manager, LABOR TODAY



The holiday season is fast approaching. Pretty soon we're going to be stuck with the chore of holiday shopping. What better way of shopping for your friends and loved ones than to send them a sub to LABOR TODAY? Or, a special book/sub offer!

Here's what you do. Send us the name(s) and address(es) of the folks you wish to send LABOR TODAY to. We will enter their names on our rolls and send them a card saying you have bought them a sub (and maybe a book) to LABOR TODAY.

For an extra added incentive, we will sell you five gift subs for \$10. That's \$2 a whack. Not bad in times like these. Just to make things more interesting, we've added some new books to those available from LABOR TODAY. Check them out.

Good shopping! And remember, this way you can keep away the shopping headaches and build the rank and file movement.



LABOR TODAY ASSOCIATES  
343 S. Dearborn, Rm. 600  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Dear LABOR TODAY,

Enclosed is \$10.00. Also the names and addresses of five friends. Please send them introductory subs to LABOR TODAY. Also mail them a card saying I am sending them this little consideration.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Union \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

(the name you want on the card)

Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ subs.

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Union \_\_\_\_\_

## HOLIDAY SUB-PLUS-BOOK OFFER

LABOR TODAY'S PACKAGE OFFER: New or renewal sub to LABOR TODAY plus...YOUR CHOICE of ten amazing books...stories of yesterday's rank and file struggles written for the rank and file of today...at reduced rates, including LT yearly sub.

- LABOR RADICAL by Len DeCaux, an epoch-making account of how the CIO happened to develop into a gigantic if transient political and economic force throughout the country, and how it happened to get killed, and by whom. \$6.00
- UNDER THE COVERS WITH THE CIA or AN ANALYSIS OF AFL-CIO'S ROLE IN LATIN AMERICA by Fred Hirsch, Local 393. Plumbers and Steamfitters \$3.50
- BLACK WORKER IN THE DEEP SOUTH by Hosea Hudson, a steel worker's story of the struggle to build the union in the south. \$3.75
- LABOR'S UNTOLD STORY by Richard O. Boyer and Herbert Morais; the adventure story of the battles, betrayals and victories of U.S. working men and women. \$4.50
- WALLS AND BARS by Eugene Debs, the great labor leader's indictment of the prison system in the U.S., with a new introduction by Patrick E. Gorman, International Secretary Treasurer, Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen. \$5.00
- THEM AND US by James J. Matles, General Secretary of the United Electrical Workers (UE) and James Higgins. Excellent account of rank and file organizing in the electrical manufacturing industry in the pre-CIO period, the rise of UE-CIO, the split in the labor movement and the current challenges facing labor. \$5.00
- THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MOTHER JONES, her own story of a life devoted to helping organize working people. Her vivid description of the miners' struggles makes this a labor classic. \$5.00
- A STAR TO STEER BY by Capt. Hugh Mulzac. Mulzac's fascinating story of the fight against racism in the maritime industry and how he became the first Black man to become a ship's captain. \$3.50
- AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISM by William Z. Foster. Controversial, yet penetrating articles on the U.S. labor movement during the 20's and 30's by the leader of the 1919 steel strike. \$4.50
- THE PULLMAN STRIKE by W. H. Carradine. An eye-witness account of the tumultous strike that made Eugene V. Debs a household word in the struggle for a better life by Chicago's workers. \$5.00

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Please send a sub and the following book

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ to:

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

UNION \_\_\_\_\_

Send a card signed:

(the name you wish on the card)

YOUR NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

UNION \_\_\_\_\_

For more subs use separate paper



Biggest upset since the Mineworkers

# Rank & file rebuffs Abel Sadlowski defeats Evett

by LABOR TODAY Staff

Steelworkers' reformer Edward Sadlowski easily defeated Abel-backed Sam Evett by nearly 2 to 1 in an election for director of Steelworkers' District 31. According to unofficial returns, Sadlowski had 39,637 votes to Evett's 20,158 in a Labor Department conducted election November 12 to 14. The vote was reportedly 3 to 1 in basic steel locals.

District 31 is the largest district in the Steelworkers' Union, consisting of over 120,000 members in the Chicago-Gary area.

Sadlowski's victory is viewed as a sharp rebuff to the policies of USWA President I.W. Abel. During his campaign, Sadlowski voiced dissatisfaction with the Experimental Negotiating Agreement, the terms of the recent contract settlement, and undemocratic procedures within the union. For his part, Abel dispatched USWA staffers from around the country to bolster Evett's sagging campaign. Staffers loyal to Abel also armtwisted other USWA staffers and officials to get them

ED  
SADLOWSKI

to contribute to Evett's campaign.

Sadlowski told reporters that the vote indicates the rank and file was telling Abel that "we want our union back."

The election was a rerun of one held in February, 1973 which was found to have been fraudulently conducted by Mr. Evett's supporters. The Labor Department ruled that Sadlowski would have won had it not been for the violations that took place.

USWA rank and filers, particularly the District 31 branch of the National Steelworkers' Rank and File Committee, worked tirelessly for Sadlowski. They stressed issues in the campaign, including ENA, the recent contract and the failure of Evett's administration to deal with racism. They also distributed over 15,000 copies of LABOR TODAY containing an interview with Sadlowski.



## Steel militant fired

by LABOR TODAY Staff

Juan Chacon, President of United Steel Workers' Local 890 and a co-chairman of the National Steelworkers' Rank and File Committee, along with Israel Romero, financial secretary of L. 890 have been fired by Kennecott Copper Company for strike activity.

Seven other workers were suspended for one day while one more was suspended for five days.

The firings occurred after the workers

struck June 30, following the expiration of the contract. While the USWA is taking Chacon's and the other workers case to arbitration, expressions of rank and file support are seen as necessary to the struggle for reinstatement of these militant leaders. Expressions of support can be sent to: Juan Chacon, President, USWA L. 890, Bayard, N.M.

Chacon, many will recall, was the militant rank and filer who co-starred in the movie, Salt of the Earth.