

# NORKERS' ACTION!

The Workers Action Movement is organized

around a 3 point program:

1. 30 HOURS WORK FOR 40 HOURS PAY!

2. SUPPORT FOR WORKERS STRIKES
BY ALL OTHER WORKING PEOPLE!

3. DEMOCRATIC UNIONS - THROUGH BUILDING RANK AND FILE COMMITTEES FOR POWER IN THE UNIONS!

## **ACTION MOVE**

.... so long as there is one worker who seeks employment and cannot find it, the hours of labor are too long.

The WORKERS' ACTION MOVEMENT calls upon all working people—of all nationalities; women and men; young and old; organized and unorganized; those who have jobs and those who don't-to attend our 2nd annual international convention.

Workers from across the U.S. and Canada, as well as some other countries, will come to build the moven ent for a shorter work day. Scores of organizations of all kind are expected to endorse "30 for 40," and many of those will co-sponsor the convention.

The convention will be focused around two main points:

1) The fight to win 30 for 40 in all union contracts. WAM believes that the 30 for 40 drive can rebuild and reinvigorate the trade union movement-making it strong enough not only to win shorter hours with no loss in pay-but making the labor movement strong enough so that workers can win all the other things we need. A labor movement organized around 30 for 40 will be strong enough to beat back the bosses plans for speed-up, layoffs, wage-cuts. We will also be in a stronger position to stop the bosses drive to use sex and national and racial prejudice to get workers fighting each other instead of them.

2) The fight to win 30 for 40 as a law. Right now the laws generally call for overtime pay after 40 hours per week (or 8 hours per day). WAM is committed to fight for overtime pay after 6 hours (with a big pay boost). The fight to change the law can involve all people—not just members of trade unions.

We are planning dozens of workshops where workers from different areas and industries will discuss every aspect of the struggle we are waging. The decisions we make together at the convention will determine the future course of the "30 for 40" movement in the unions and in state and federal laws. We have every reason to believe that our convention will become a landmark in the fight for a shorter work day.

We have chosen to meet on the weekend of April 28th and 29th, before May Day, in order to recall the historic fight for the 8 hour day. In the last century, amidst an international fight for the 8 hour day, the A.F. of L. (then known as the Federation of Organized Trades) set May 1, 1884 as a deadline. Bl oody battles throughout the 1880's led to world wide demonstrations May 1, 1890. From then on, May Day has symbolized international workers' solidarity, and it all started with the fight for the shorter work day.

Today, the WORKERS' ACTION MOVEMENT is leading the fight for the shorter work day. We have (cont'd on next page)

## REGISTER NOW FOR THE INTERNATIONAL WAM 30 for 40 CONVENT

WHEN: April 28th and 29th, 1973 WHERE: New York - San Francisco - Toronto

(see registration information and form on back)

### WAM 30/40 Convention (cont'd from previous page)

collected over 100,000 signatures on our 30 for 40 petition to the union leadership. Some of the unions which have already adopted in principle or directly the shorter work day demand are: American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO; Washington State AFL-CIO; Communications Workers of America, Local 9490, San Francisco; Local 1010 United Steelworkers and other steel locals; Minnesota State AFSCME; Local 420, UAW, etc. In addition the NATIONAL AFRO-AMERICAN LABOR COUNCIL has adopted 30 for 40 as part of its program

We hope (after the great Lordstown and Norwood, Ohio strikes against speed-up and the evidence that Lordstown workers favor 30 for 40) that WAM actions at the upcoming UAW convention will bring us one big step closer to uniting the entire labor movement around "30 for 40."

In San Francisco, the drive for a "30 for 40" law has been initiated by the newly founded "Coalition for a Shorter Work Week."

There is every indication that "30 for 40" is catching on all over and will soon become the major demand of all workers.

Our May Day convention will draw together the energy, experience, and enthusiasm of thousands of militant workers into a movement that cannot be stopped. REGISTER NOW! BUILD THE INTERNATIONAL WAM 30 FOR 40 CONVENTION!

V	Clip and fill out, and return to WORKERS' ACTION MOVEMENT, 222 W. 37 St., Room 1503, NYC 10018, or call (212) 594-4582.
	NAMETEL
	ADDRESS
	UNION & LOCAL
	□ I would like someone to contact me about the program and activities of the WORKERS' ACTION MOVEMENT.
	☐ I would like to circulate the 30 for 40 petition.
	☐ I would like to contribute \$ to support WAM.
	□ I would like a subscription to the WAM

## WAM Proposes Amendment for 30 for 40

Proposed Amendment to the United States Code to establish the Thirty Hour Work Week with Forty Hours Pay, and to bring all workers in the United States and its possessions under the coverage of the maximum hours provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act, Chapter 8.

PREAMBLE: Millions of working people are unemployed. Employed workers face tremendous speed-up, being forced to do the work of 2 or 3. Black, Latin and women workers are hardest hit, earning the lowest wages, and being the first to be laid-off. Unemployed and low-paid workers are forced to live on inadequate welfare checks. In flated food prices, rents, and transportation costs keep workers struggling to catch up with the cost of living. Government wage controls are en-

(cont'd on next page)



May Day, the holiday commemorating the historic fight for the short er work week, was celebrated in Wash. D.C. Buffalo, Houston, Los Angeles, Toronto and Seattle in 1972.

## Join the 30 for 40 Petition Drive!

INTERNATIONAL PETITION FOR 30 HOURS WORK FOR 40 HOURS PAY

TO: George Meany, President, AFL-CIO

International President

#### Local President

Economic conditions which affect employed and unemployed, union members and nonunion members, cause us to take the following

We, the undersigned, believe the time has come for a shorter work week. We want 30 hours work for 40 hours pay. This would reduce wear and tear on workers, create more jobs, protect job security, and better the way of life for all working people.

Therefore, we demand that the local, the international, and the AFL-CIO make 30 hours work for 40 hours pay the number one demand

in future contract negotiations.

NAME ......UNION & LOCAL ADDRESS

#### 30/40 Amendment

(cont'd from previous page)

forced, while prices sky-rocket.

Meanwhile the bosses and rulers of the United States multiply their profits made from

work done by their employees.

Thirty hours work with forty hours pay would go a long way to promote full employment. It would immediately create 33 percent more jobs, and guarantee a 33 percent hourly wage increase to workers. Corporation profits are so high, that the extra costs could be paid by the employers without passing on the additional cost in the form of higher prices.

This law is necessary to begin to put an end to racist unemployment, increased speed-

up on the job, and the deterioration of serv-

ices for workers.

#### THE LAW

a. No employer shall employ any of his employees for a workweek longer than thirty (30) hours; or a workday longer than six (6) hours, unless the employee is paid for his overtime work at the rate of one-and-onehalf times the regular rate.

b. Every employer must pay his employees for thirty hours at least what was paid for

forty hours.

#### To Contact WAM ...

Montreal
Toronto
416-533-7758
Vancouver, Brit. Col
Validod of, 21th Col. 1717 (1117)
Buffalo, N.Y
716-893-5368
New York City
212-563-8048
212-545-3472
212-624-6550
New Jersey 201-375-7209
201-3/5-7209 201-483-7487
Washington D.C301-773-7406
Boston, Mass
Boston, Mass
Philadelphia, Pa. 215-843-1995
Detroit, Mich
313-868-3051
Chicago, Ill
312-583-1592
312-486-3168
Cleveland, Ohio
Cleveland, Onio
Minnesota 612-529-0038
612-786-9620
Atlanta, Ga
Atlanta, Ga
Houston, Texas
San Diego, Calif
San Francisco, Calif
The state of the s
Seattle, Wash
Los Angeles, Calif
213-383-3338
Pittsburg, Pa
Della Martina della dell

(The above shall be an amendment to 29 U.S.C. 207, and shall be sub-sections "a and b." In addition sub-sections "a,b,c,e and g" in the current law shall be taken out. Also, 29 U.S.C. 213 shall be amended by taking out everything, in sub-section "a" after paragraph 1, and by taking out sub-sections "b, c,d,e and f." Also 29 U.S.C. 214 shall be taken out entirely. The purpose of taking out all of the above is to remove from the law all clauses excluding various groups of workers. clauses excluding various groups of workers from coverage by the maximum hours provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act. For example, under today's laws, agricultural workers, taxi drivers, many categories of service workers, and all workers in U.S. possessions such as Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands are not covered—and are forced to work overtime without compensation) tion.)

### **Build the WAM 30 for 40 Convention!**

#### **REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

- 1. Fees The registration fee for the WAM convention is \$5.00. If you are not a member of WAM we invite you to join now. Membership is \$2.50, Only WAM members may vote at the convention. Registrants who do not belong to WAM will be welcome to participate as observers. Please send a check or money order for registration and WAM membership fees.
- 2. Transportation If you do not live in one of the convention cities (N.Y., San Francisco, or Toronto) transportation will be arranged through your local chapter.
- 3. Housing If you do not live in one of the convention cities (N.Y., San Francisco, or Toronto) please fill out the housing questionnaire on the registration form. The respective convention committees will arrange housing for you in the homes of WAM members and friends.
- 4. Information on Rules, Procedures and Agenda, etc. will be mailed to all registrants. For further information you may call your local WAM chapter or write to the Convention Committees in N.Y., San Francisco and Toronto.

For N.Y. Convention, send registration form and fee to WAM, 222 W. 37th St., Rm. 1503, New York, N.Y. 10018.

For San Francisco Convention, send registration form and fee to WAM, c/o Jim Smith, 1335 Laguna No. 6, San Francisco, Calif. 94117.

For Toronto Convemtion, send registration form and fee to WAM, P.O. Box 1183, Station Q, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

#### **CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM**

NAME
last first
no. and street city state or province zip country
PHONE
PLEASE CHECK APPROPRIATE BOXES
☐ I want to register for the WAM convention. Registration fee \$5.00.
☐ I want to become a member of WAM. Year's membership fee \$2.50.
☐ I want to collect signatures on the WAM 30 for 40 petition. Please send petitions.
☐ I would like to receive the WAM newsletter. \$1.00 for one year.
☐ I would like to become active on one of the committees to build the convention.
I belong to or know of organizations which I believe would be interested in endorsing 30 for 40 and co-sponsoring the convention. Please list organization:
□ I would like to fight for 30 for 40 in my union.
☐ I would like to take part in campaigns to pass 30 for 40 laws.
☐ I would like to help start a WAM chapter in my city.
I would like to register other workers for the convention. Please send more forms.
HOUSING QUESTIONNAIRE  (Please fill out only if you do not live in N.Y., San Francisco or Toronto)
I will arrange my own housing accommodations. If so, please indicate your address so that we may contact you if necessary during the convention weekend.
addressphonephone
☐ I would like the convention committee to arrange housing accommodations for me in the homes of WAM members and friends. Please answer the following:  I am male ☐ female ☐ . I am coming to the convention alone ☐ with husband, wife, friends, etc. ☐ Please indicate so that we can find the most suitable accommodations. You will receive the name and address (and directions) of the person with members are represented by the convention.