PRICES SOARING
40% A YEAR

BY THE EDITORS

The announcement by the Department of Labor that the wholesale price index rose a full 3.1 percent in January confirms what millions of working people and their families already know to be a reality.

The report on the rate of inflation and the predictions of price increases in the next six months mean that the living standard of the working class is being systematically driven back by this government.

The figures released this week are, by the government's own admission, the worst set of monthly economic statistics in over 25 years.

Food and fuel costs were the main, but not the only factors in the 3.1 percent jump.

In the past three months, the wholesale price index has risen at an annual rate of 23.5 percent.

Industrial raw materials rose 2.3 percent, 17 percent over the year before; farm products and processed foods were up 30 percent for the same period; and fuel was 76 percent higher.

HIGHEST

A 60 pound bushel of wheat on the Chicago Commodity Exchange is now over $6, the highest price in history.

Economists predict that beef will rise another 10 percent by spring and pork, 15 or 20 percent.

While food prices rise at astronomical rates, workers in every city are being hit with huge increases for electricity service, rents, and public transport.

Encouraged by official support by the Nixon government, every corporation is scrambling to boost prices as high as possible.

George Meany responded to the Labor Department figures by declaring that "the living standards of American workers are being continuously undermined. Workers must be free to bring their wages in line with the cost of living.''

Workers must force the union leaders to translate these words into action. Every union must now defy Nixon and demand immediate wage increases to compensate for the inflation.

RESIGN

United strike action and demonstrations must be organized in every part of the country to carry this out and the labor movement must raise the demand that Nixon resign and that a new election be held.

The unions must now prepare general strike action to force Nixon out and organize a labor party pledged to socialist policies to defend the interests of the working class.

While the Cost of Living Council rejects every demand for wage increases above 7 percent, Ford and Chrysler confidently declare that they will ask the Council for additional price increases for their 1974 models.

John Dunlop, director of the Cost of Living Council stated last Wednesday: "I do not believe it is clear that anyone knows how to constrain inflation.''

The announcement of these increases was coupled with the news that industrial production had fallen 0.8 percent in January.

These figures mean that the very lives of workers are at stake, that the most basic conditions are threatened with destruction.

With prices rising at 3 percent a month, auto workers were only granted a wage increase of 3 percent a year.

TROOPERS

Truckers who went on strike for a lowering of the fuel prices were treated like criminals and met with armed state troopers and the National Guard.

Dunlop's attempt to picture (Continued On Page 12)

Perspectives for the American Revolution: final part of the Central Committee Resolution.

Big Three Auto Corporations Lay Off Another 28,000 Men

BY DAVID NORTH

DETOUR. Feb. 18—General Motors, Ford, and Chrysler have ordered plant shutdowns for this week that will throw another 28,000 auto workers into the streets.

The latest shutdowns are the first blows in a new round of layoffs that will hit about 50,000 workers by the first week of March.

According to the most up to date projections of the Big Three companies, the slowdown in production will mean a rise in permanent layoffs to a figure of 80,000.

GM plants in Pontiac, Michigan, Fairfax, Kansas, and Southgate, California, are closed this week, putting 14,000 off work.

Ford shutdowns this week will affect 8650 auto workers, including 28,000 from the Brook Park plant near Cleveland. The number of indefinite layoffs will rise this week to 12,275. Within

(Continued On Page 12)

Building The Bulletin

After one week of the February subscription drive for 5000 Bulletin subscriptions, the branches sold a total of 1417 subscriptions.

With three weeks left in the drive, we must get 900 per week to make our goal.

Every branch must campaign for new subscriptions as well as renewals.

The trailblazers have just begun their drive in East Flatbush, Brooklyn. A report from them will appear next week.

Two hundred Young Socialist subscriptions have been sold towards the goal of 500. Only a few branches have begun drives for YS subs. Every branch must begin sub campaigns immediately as they build for the unemployment marches.
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In The Weekend Edition

Perspectives for the American Revolution: final part of the Central Committee Resolution.
Solzhenitsyn Expulsion Deepens Stalinist Crisis

The expulsion of Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn is a daunting indictment of the weak and criss-crossed Soviet bureaucracy that fears the working class. The Soviet leadership has felt the need to continue to imprison the monopoly lie that Leninism represents the overwhelming majority of the true inheritors of the 1917 October Revolution. It is a desperate measure to perpetrate the lie that Leninism represents the overwhelming majority of the true inheritors of the 1917 October Revolution.

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What We Think

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Fascists Linked To 1969 Milan Blasts

BY MELODY FARROW

Pietro Valpreda, the anarchist accused of the December 1969 bombing in Milan, Italy, will finally come to trial next month. The trial will shed light on the truth about Soviet history in the period of the 1930s and 1940s. He mercilessly attacked the government's efforts to depoliticize the SOED.

His statements about the nature of Stalinism that it was not a product of Leninism, is the inevitable result of the Soviet bureaucracy's conscious distortion of history and of the true role of Leon Trotsky.

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Phnom Penh

The southern section of Phnom Penh, known as Phnom Penh, was attacked last week by the largest artillery attack ever. The Batang Rouge, the Cambodian liberation forces, launched a full-scale offensive against Phnom Penh.

Operation, just a few miles south of the capital, the Khmer Rouge bombarded Deurn Kor with 100 military personnel that they had captured from government troops in earlier battles.

The shells killed 150 people and levelled several offices.

In article after article, he denounces as a Chartist, a fascist, an anti-Semite. None yet are the American Stalinists able to refute any part of the mass of historical facts about the Trotskyites and fascism. In the Soviet Union and the Western states it is the Kremlin bureaucracy which trades the working class of every country for political and economic deals with the most fascist and barbaric regimes.

We defend Solzhenitsyn despite his differences with Marxism because he struggled against the bureaucratic lie that Leninism represents the overwhelming majority of the true inheritors of the 1917 October Revolution.

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Brandt Backs Down On Wage Offer

BY A REPORTER

The West German government of Willy Brandt has been forced to back down and offer an 11 percent wage increase to the striking public service workers.

The decision was made at a cabinet meeting Wednesday after more than 40,000 public employees joined the strike on Thursday and postal workers went out the next day.

Over 200,000 members of the two million member union, which represents the strike to demand a 15 percent increase.

Chile Seeking More Credit

Chile’s military junta is seeking a new “recovery” program on a major effort to attract foreign investors.

With the unions and all opposition parties banned, all democratic rights are nullified, and the slightest criticism met with brutal repression, the junta is seeking to lure investors with the promise of enormous profits to be extracted from the working class.

The generals are willing to give up the return of the nationalized copper mines to private ownership as well as a number of other industries seized by the Arrieta regime.

The International Monetary Fund, impressed with the policies of the regime, has already provided a standby credit of $500 million and an additional Special Drawing Rights credit of $100 million.

A delegation from the World Bank was received in Santiago in February to study conditions for granting new loans.

Under the junta, inflation has gone wild. Many commodities have risen by 200 percent since the coup. Santiago bus fares have doubled. The living conditions of the peasants and workers have been ruthlessly driven down.

These policies are intended to deliver Chile to the world bankers that the working class can now be subjected to exploitation by foreign capital.

Conditions are now so stark that a group of Chilean workers has actually stopped the coup denounced the junta for its “reactionary policies” and the World Bank has financed the junta in the hope of raising the very ability of the working class to continue to produce.
Nixon Rejects Cooperation Over Tapes

BY MELOD Y. FARROW
Special Prosecutor, Leon Jaworski, has informed Senator James Eastland, Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, of Nixon's refusal to cooperate with his investigation into the Watergate break-in and related issues.

Jaworski's letter, outlining Nixon's refusal to hand over additional tape recordings and documents in the last stage before the material is subpoenaed. Nixon's special counsel. James D. St. Clair, has rejected Jaworski's compromise proposal that if an additional 26 tapes are supplied by the White House, no further requests would be made.

The additional tapes Jaworski seeks include recordings relating to the Watergate break-in and cover up and contributions by the milk industry to Nixon's election campaign.

Jaworski is planning on handing down indictments some time after February 25.

Arabs Continue Boycott

BY A REPORTER
The Alqiers meeting of the leaders of Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Syria, and Algeria to discuss the question of the Arab oil boycott.

The Arab heads of state decided to postpone indefinitely a meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting States which was to convene in Tripoli on Thursday.

The Tripoli conference was to discuss lifting the oil embargo on the US. This was strongly opposed by Libya, Algeria, and Syria while Iraq announced that it intended to boycott the meeting because of its disagreement with the agenda. Libya will receive support from Iraq, recently nationalized three American oil companies and Syria, which is still engaged in armed conflict with Israel in the Golan Heights. Failure to do so would threaten the world with a vicious cycle of competition, autarchy, rivalry, and depression, such as led to the collapse of world thirties.

“Of course when everything is going well, approaches are friendly and completely elegant, but when everything is going badly, everyone tries to save his own hide. I see nothing against that. Except that we don't all have the same hide.”

Michel Jobert
French Foreign Minister

Europe And America 1974

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Henry Kissinger

It is reported that Egypt, which has negotiated a disengagement with Israel in the Sinai Peninsula, and Saudi Arabia were in favor of making concessions to the US. The split would have created a imbroglio at the Tripoli meeting.

At the same time, Kuwait announced that it is considering a sharp cut in oil production in order to preserve its oil resources.

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Haitians Denounce Deportation

BY A REPORTER
NEW YORK—A demonstration of over 200 Haitians took place in front of the State Department Office here on February 14, to demand asylum for the 400 Haitians being held in prison in Miami.

They carried placards stating: "Haitian jails belong to US jails. We want our freedom." "Haiti is heaven for tourists and hell for Haitians." "US, stop supporting the fascist government of Haiti." and "Deportation means death: asylum for the Haitians." The brutal dictatorship of Jean-Claude Duvalier in Haiti has created such a reign of terror among the workers and peasants there, that hundreds of Haitians have fled to the US.

Many of these refugees risked their lives by sailing on rafts or small boats. The US government which backs Duvalier, has jailed the refugees and has announced that they will be deported.

The Duvalier regime murders or imprisons its political opponents and their families. A young woman who has been living in the US for eight years stated: "It is in the US Constitution to give asylum because we are against the government in Haiti. Why shouldn't the US give asylum to the Haitians like they do to the Cubans?"

"Because the US supports the fascist government in Haiti. That is why the tourist has heaven in Haiti and the Haitian has hell." said a Haitian man who gave the Bulletin his name.

APPROVAL

"In order to have employment in Haiti, you have to give your approval to fascism and dictatorship." "The people in jail will definitely be killed if they are sent back to Haiti. One by one they will kill their families."

An older Haitian man told the Bulletin: "The 400 coming here by boat are all in prison. They will definitely kill them if they are sent back. They would much rather stay in US jails."

"We want support of the progressive movement in the US. All the good changes that they say are taking place in Haiti are only changes in the newspapers, but not for the Haitians. In Haiti, they will put you in jail if you ask for a job."

"There is no employment in Haiti. The only industry is the one owned by the US and Duvalier."

"If you want food you have to go get it yourself."

Washington DC Cuts TB Funds

BY SHIH DANO
WASHINGTON, D.C.—The District of Columbia has the fourth highest rate of tuberculosis among any large US city.

The national incident rate of TB in 1978 was 15.8 cases per 100,000 population. In 1979, the rate was 42 cases per 100,000—more than three times the national average.

This shows a 16 percent increase in the number of new cases in Washington.

TB is a disease of the poor. It afflicts its victims living in crowded conditions whose nutritional state and general resistance to disease is poor. Children are especially susceptible. In spite of these facts, which prove that TB is an increasingly serious problem, in DC the Department of Human Resources has cut back on TB control funds.

TB screenings have been conducted in DC public schools since 1971. Although 1.5 percent of the children tested reacted positively and should have been treated for active TB, only 410 children were treated.

Two years ago, the Department of Human Resources closed the 10th Street and O Street Northwest Hemophilia Clinic, thus reducing the city's control services by one-third.

The TB control staff has been reduced from 160 people in 1979 to 27. The two remaining clinics handle between 50 and 75 cases a day. Each has only one full-time doctor.

The two remaining clinics cannot handle such a large number of active cases, let alone provide the preventive and educational services necessary to eliminate TB.

In 1969, 110,000 chest X-rays were taken. This year, the number was reduced to 30,000 due to staff shortages and lack of funds.

There have been drastic cuts in the TB control office's budget over the last five years. In 1970, HEW funds for TB control were cut 24 percent. In December 1972, HEW stopped funding TB as a specific category.

This year's budget is expected to allow even less.

400 Workers Strike NEA To Defend Job Security

BY C. WOODS
WASHINGTON, DC—More than 400 employees of the National Education Association are entering the second week of a strike in a dispute over job security, retrogressive employment conditions, and affirmative action failure after filing unfair labor practices charges with the National Labor Relations Board.

Members of the NEA Staff Organization, Communications Workers of America, AFL-CIO Local 2380, voted overwhelmingly in May to authorize a secret ballot to walk out after rejecting a management proposal described by union officials as "Phase Three in NEA's efforts to break the union."

Local 2380 filed charges with the NLRB against NEA, charging them with "a blatant attempt to coerce employees" by offering economic benefits to members who "repealulate their union leaders."

"This is an undignified and thoroughly discredited union-busting technique, an effort to drive a wedge between the union leaders and the rank and file," said David L. Graham, president of Local 2380.

Graham added that the NEA contract proposal was "repellent with retrogression," aimed at depriving employees of the many rights and benefits won as a result of a bitter two-week strike in June, 1971.

That strike, described by Graham as "Phase One of the NEA antionion campaign," was followed by "Phase Two—a massive reduction in work force when stonned the one of the union bargaining unit by one-third and caused any number of lengthy, costly arbitrations."

"NEA in this latest round of contract talks has treated its staff worse than most school boards treat teachers," said Graham. "I pointed out that NEA management's proposals contained 44 retrogressions."

"At the end of the week the workers come at a time when teachers and youth in Baltimore are fighting for the very same rights, benefits, and salary increases."

In fact, Dale Robinson, NEA negotiator, and president of NEA and NEA two years ago and now its member of a special bargaining unit for field professionals, is acting in negotiating the Baltimore teachers' contract.

NEA has broken off contract talks with NEA by declaring that job security, reclassification, and salary schedules are non negotiable items.

NEA considers the latest NEA offer "a slap in the face" and is prepared to stay out as long as it takes.

Teachers Union Silent On Latest Pay Offer

BY LARRY SYMONS
BALTIMORE, Feb. 17—As the teachers strike enters its third week, negotiators for the city's teachers last night may have reached a decision on whether to accept the city's latest contract offer.

Leaders of the Public School Teachers Association (PSTA) refused to say whether or not the decision involved acceptance of the city's offer.

No new bargaining sessions are scheduled, however, indicating possible acceptance. The offer, which will be presented to teachers at a Civic Center rally on Tuesday, is a complete submittal providing little more than the city's original offer which provoked the strike.

The increases in the offer give the teachers a chance to raise this year and only a 5.5 percent hike for next year including fringe benefits. At a rally of 400 teachers on Friday, PSTA leader Karl Boone spoke on a similar contract offer, saying: "We could not and will not urge you to accept this information."

This statement was met with loud applause and cheers, showing the teachers were not going to accept this type of offer on Tuesday. Boone also warned of coming fines and arrests, and said: "It is time, folks, to take off the gloves. It is open warfare.

Boone's only program for winning the PSTA's demands, however, was to leaflet the shopping centers, again lobby the city government, and "to go to church Sunday."

This shows an open refusal to fight for active labor support of the strike, at a time when the city officials are threatening to enforce the injunction beginning this week.

Now the PSTA is considering a proposal which does not even approach the teachers' original demand of 11 percent for the second year. Teachers must reject any offer presented on Tuesday which does not maintain their wages against inflation.

The Baltimore Labor Council AFL-CIO meets on Thursday. The demand must be made to the Council to call a general strike to defend the teachers and their demands.
Confrontation At Stella Wright

BY MITCH PATTERSON

On April 7 of this year, the Stella Wright Housing Project in Newark, New Jersey will be closed down by the city’s Housing Authority.

All the public services including gas, heat, water, steam and electricity will be cut off.

More than 1000 families currently living in Stella Wright will be affected by this shutdown. The announcement that the project will be closed marks the final blow against the tenants of Stella Wright after the Housing Authority had allowed the projects to rot for years.

Stella Wright tenants have been forced to live under subhuman conditions since the massive buildings were first erected in 1960.

Estimates show that the cost for building a project of this size and making it livable for its occupants is between $30 million and $40 million.

Funds

Even though the Newark Housing Authority had been allocated the necessary funds from the federal government in the late 1960s to build Stella Wright, they constructed the project with a total capital outlay of only $18 million.

The buildings were therefore constructed with the shoddiest materials, guaranteed to fall apart in a few years. Hot water pipes which extend from the first to the thirteenth floor run directly through the living rooms of each apartment.

Tenants have been appealing to the Housing Authority for years to at least surround these pipes with asbestos because their children were continuously being scalded by the hot pipes.

The continual breakdown of the elevators in the project, and the refusal of the Housing Authority to repair them for sometimes months at a time, has caused many injuries.

Mercedes, now 74 years old, fell down a flight of stairs in 1970 while attempting to get to her home on the tenth floor. The right side of her body is permanently paralyzed.

Even the little money that was spent by the Housing Authority on the maintenance and upkeep of Stella Wright was cut back after 1967.

REBELLED

At this time, thousands of Black youth throughout Newark rebelled. Hundreds of youth from the Stella Wright Project took part in this upheaval against unemployment, poor housing, and discrimination.

The Housing Authority used this as an excuse to cut services even further. Electricity was turned off periodically for no apparent reason. Hot water was made unavailable to the tenants for days at a time.

Garbage collection was delayed for weeks which created conditions for rats and cockroaches to infest the project.

Benjamin Woodson, a tenant at Stella Wright for eight years, told the Bulletin: “My kids wake up screaming at night because of the rats. The rats have bitten my children before.”

The tenants launched their fight against these conditions on April 1, 1970. They began a rent strike which was to become the longest strike of its kind in the history of the United States.

The rent strike was led by a group of militant tenants who made up the Stella Wright Tenants Organization. The strike, now in its fourth year, has been supported by almost all the tenants.

This action, however, has not been enough to change the conditions in the project. From 1970 until today, the Housing Authority has refused to spend one penny on the maintenance of the buildings. Instead, they have announced its closure.

The Housing Authority has promised the 275 families who have been paying their rent that they will be relocated into other projects.

SCUDDER HOMES

According to members of the Tenants Organization, these families will be moved to the Scudder Homes or the Christopher Columbus Homes. Both of these projects, only a few blocks from Stella Wright, are in the same or worse condition, and are scheduled to be shut down in the near future.

As Toby Henry said: “They will be moved from one hell to another.” Henry is the leader of the rent strike and the chairman of the Tenants Organization.

“The Housing Authority laughed when we told them that if conditions did not change, we would not pay the rent. As you can see, they are not laughing anymore.”

WORSENED

“Conditions have worsened since the strike began. The money is there. That is not the question.”

“Nixon has refused to turn over $225 million for public housing just like he refused to turn over the Watergate tapes.”

“The Housing Authority has drained this place dry. They cannot make a profit off of us anymore. That is why they are trying to close Stella Wright.”

“Everything that they say they are going to take away on April 7, has already been taken away. We had the energy crisis in the projects back in the 1960s before it became fashionable. We have gone for days without light before.”

“We are not going to be pushed. We will take any action that is necessary to keep this place open.”

“People are going to band together all over to fight it out now. They will attach the system and rip it apart.”

“We have to tear this system down and put one back that can serve the working people.”

STAY

Henry stated that the majority of the tenants were going to stay in the projects no matter what the Housing Authority did.

He said that the Tenants Organization was going to begin negotiations with the Public Service companies and arrange a separate contract with them so that the tenants could manage their own project.

“They are going to have a good time trying to get us out of here,” declared Thomas Chatman. Chatman is 49 years old and has been living at Stella Wright since the first day they were open. He is also on the Tenants Organization.

“We want to run this place ourselves,” he said. “If that takes a different kind of system, fine. We will make a different kind of system.”

“If they cut our lights off, we will have them back on in three hours. I do not want the young ones to find out what a potbelled stove is.”

TUB

One tenant told the Bulletin that he had purchased a large tub that he put in the living room. “I take my baths in that thing,” he said, “because the windows are broken out of the bathroom and you cannot get hot water anyway.”

“I boil the water on the stove to make it hot and then pour it into the tub.”

When asked about the rent strike, a young woman named Barbara said: “I used to pay my rent. But then I was robbed and my house was destroyed.”

“The Housing Authority said that they would find me a new place to live. That was a long time ago. So I am not paying my rent.”

“I live in fear around here. If I had another place to go, I would not care if they burned this place down.”

“You can do what you want. But where can we go? It turns into animal against animal because of these conditions.”

By Mitch Patterson
The Coming British Revolution

Nowhere is this crisis of capitalism more explicitly on view in Britain. The oldest country in the world is now being driven to the forefront of revolution on two continents.

The old British capitalism is finished. The unprecedented financial crisis now destroys any pretense to offset its industrial decline with its trade and financial center. It is not a matter of further decline but an entirely new situation in which the Heath antiseptic laws are aimed not simply at cutting wages but at the destruction of the unions and of the basic rights won in 200 years of struggle. Inflation, which is being used by the government to whip up middle class hysteria and drive down workers' living standards, is now provoking an enormous movement in the working class.

This signals the breakup of the entire period of negotiation and compromise and the preparations for a massive political confrontation with the government. Sections of the ruling class now prepare for withdrawal, an eventuality is shown down with the unions and the imposition of a Powell-type police state regime. It is under these conditions that the revisionists and Stalinites seek to bring about an historic defeat for the working class by refusing to fight for the defeat of the Tory government and its replacement with a labor government.

It is under these conditions that the Socialist Labour League. British section of the International Committee of the Fourth International has been conducting its struggle in the trade union movement to create a mass revolutionary party. It has fought in every battle of British workers for an understanding of the need to fight the Tory Government out, and for a Labour Government pledged to socialist policies, constructing the revolutionary alternative in the process. This campaign had led to the founding of the Revolutionary Party, which is a major step forward for the whole international movement.

In the next period, the American working class will battle for its own political party under the leadership of the Fourth International.

These events in England and in Europe as a whole must play a central part in the education of the youth of America. The Workers League must turn continuously to the developments in Britain to be prepared for the daily tasks ahead.

The American Economy Today

The onset of the recession in the US, in a sharp downturn turn in production and in retail sales had already started in the summer of 1974 prior to the energy crisis. That this crisis has had such a devastating impact on the trade unions and a tremendous fall in the stock market, can only be understood by viewing it in the context of the already developing capitalist crisis. The oil shock is not an actual shortage in oil in the earth. Nor is it a simple trick by the oil companies to drive up prices. What it involves is the failure of capitalism as a system of social relations of production to be able to develop any more the productive forces of society. The most basic productive force wrested from nature through production, oil, is not being utilized to the extent that it could be because the entire productive and circulation process was completed years before it was enough for the oil companies to get its price. They instead based company decisions on immediate profit making with existing facilities refining the most profitable products.

Over the past year, following the stagnation of the dollar, the United States was able to build up a significant favorable balance of trade and of payments. This was accomplished in an artificial way because the currency devaluation actually prices American goods in European markets below their cost of production. Someone had to pay the difference. The American worker is being forced to pay that difference in the form of what is now called inflation, which is actually reducing his living standards.

This change has been accompanied by a massive movement of speculative capital, largely in the form of dollar holdings abroad, into the country. This capital drove for a period the stock market and the commodity markets to unheard of heights. At the same time as unfavorable trade and payments balances were announced in other countries, such as England and Japan, the dollar began to float higher as against other currencies threatening to topple the American trade advantage.

This expresses the insoluble character of the capitalist crisis. At one stage American payments and trade deficits were the immediate cause of a monetary crisis and in the next American payments and trade surpluses became the immediate cause of a new monetary crisis. This is because as we have explained, of the disequilibrium which exists in the relation of the dollar to gold.

In the most recent period gold, which had been falling in price, is now on the rise. Speculative capital is being forced out of the stock market as the market falls hundreds of points. Great uneasiness exists in the bloated commodity markets as there is the danger that the slowdown in production can lead to surpluses in certain commodities accompanied by a crash in these markets as well.

Therefore, the conditions are being created for widespread failings and bankruptcies. Equity Funding is only a beginning. Lockhead, for instance, has only survived to this point because of massive international aid. Now, with the impact of the oil crisis on the airlines, the Federal Government could well collapse beyond the ability of the government to hold it together. It is known that most of the brokerage firms have been hit by the end of the edge of collapse because of the slowdown in the market before the oil crisis. Many insurance companies have large stock holdings that are being affected. Banks are once again raising interest rates to protect themselves. This action in turn can bankrupt other firms.

We now face a situation where unemployment threatens to rise to 8 percent or beyond during 1974. The impact of unemployment will be devastating on the youth as well as touching all industries and threatening a whole section of the labor movement, including older workers.

At the same time inflation will continue its uncontrolled and uncontrollable movement upward. In fact, the energy crisis is being used as an excuse to remove any kind of restraint on prices. Inflation is as likely an event an international phenomenon which cannot be contained in a single nation. It is rooted in the relation of the dollar to gold.

It is this insoluble economic crisis which stands behind the political crisis of the American government. It requires this government to seek to drive down the working class into open struggle against the capitalists and their government. The recent wage settlements in trucking, electrical, rubber and auto industries are impossible to live with. They are already producing tremendous unrest and upheavals within the unions.

Now the drive for profits through greater productivity will be stepped up in every plant. At the same time each worker will see the danger of unemployment. He will fight to hold on to his standard of living, his job, and human conditions of work. Conditions are already present for massive struggles of American workers at the same time as civil war conditions in Europe.
Lessons From History

The American working class enters this next major period of the cycle in a powerful way shaped by its capitalism's history in the United States. It is critical to understand the history in order to bring the American working class to confront all the problems which will arise in the struggle to develop a new political leadership in the working class.

Thinking is determined, not directly but by the specific process, by the conditions under which the American working class was born and by the forces which have helped to shape it. In this way we can learn from the experiences of the past.

For a long period there has been a great deal of activity among American workers in the creation of their own independent political party. However, insufficient and divided industrial activity did develop. This advanced technique has had the fundamental effect of creating two main conditions for the American working class: a close identity with industry and a hostility toward the changes which sought to separate them. In the United States and that it was in this way that American workers organized their interest in business enterprises.

Thinking does not reflect material conditions in an automatic way. It proceeds rather through conscious struggle. In the next section we will present a number of examples of how American workers have been encouraged by the capitalists, will bring forward a powerful theoretical defense of the movement among masses of the workers and in this way reflect the advance of the technique.

The American worker has continuously striven over two hundred years to construct an independent political party. Each time he has been derailed by the role of the bourgeoisie who sought to encapsulate anything for the working class but bitterly opposed the working class when it acted for the benefit of radical candidates and their tendencies to seek to utilize the working class for pressure within the capitalist reform.

For a whole period, which came to an end by the turn of the century, there was an objective condition for such radicalism in the expanding character of capitalism geographically and industrially. Radicalism persists in the period incapable of carrying out a progressive role of any sort. It can only serve to enfeeble the disintegration of the working class. The struggle to break the American labor movement and its methods of thinking will be a continuous struggle against radicalism as expressed within the working class. It is the task of the bureaucracy and revisionism to nurture that radicalism.

In the period before the Civil War the very weakness of the central state, the tradi-
This is the amended perspectives on the coming of revolution as summarized by the Central Committee of the Workers League.

The Coming British Revolution

Nowhere is this crisis of capitalism more sharply expressed than in Britain. The oldest commonwealth in the world is now being driven to the forefront of revolutionary developments in Europe.

The old British capitalism is finished. The British crisis can now be seen as a prelude to the even more revolutionary and terrifying process of a world crisis of the entire capitalist world, in which even the traditional strongholds of British capitalism are now being threatened. In this context, the British crisis is a harbinger of the world crisis.

ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVES

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The central task facing the workers of the world is to organize and arm themselves for the final battle for freedom. The workers must be prepared to fight for the destruction of the capitalist system and the establishment of a socialist society.

The Fight For The Labor Party

The Labor Party is a symptom of the crisis of capitalism. It is a creature of the capitalist system and represents the interests of the capitalist class. The Labor Party is a tool of the bourgeoisie and its policies are directed towards the maintenance of capitalist oppression and exploitation. The workers must not be fooled by the empty promises of the Labor Party and must reject its call for reform. The only solution to the workers' problems is revolution and the establishment of a socialist society.
The Exorcist. Directed by William Friedkin. Original novel, screenplay, and produced by: William Peter Blatty. The film that is destined to top the box-office record set by the Godfather; the film that has caused some people to faint; vomit, claim to be possessed, and enter priesthood; and the film that has created controversy throughout religious circles—this is The Exorcist. Technically, the film was little short of brilliant. All the old tricks by the directors and special-effects people in the horror classics have been refined to perfection in The Exorcist.

Heads that rotate 360 degrees, beds that float in air, and the manifestation of the devil in the bodies of children are all frighteningly believable than trash. It is a disgusting, de-generate film padded off as having great significance and value. It stands alone in all movie history for its sickness and perversion.

Friedkin and Blatty, director and author-producer respectively, put together a film that attempts to turn the hands of time backward.

Mysticism

To them, reality can be described or changed only through the occult, mysticism, witchcraft, and religion. That is the theme of the movie and that is what has become so appealing to sections of the middle class in this country.

It is precisely at the time in history when the greatest understanding of the material world is required, in fact, in order to change it, that films like The Exorcist appear. Its intention is to show that man cannot influence or change the world because the world itself is controlled by gods and devils. If evil is to be combated, then one must turn to spiritual or occult methods in the church.

This is clearly demonstrated in the film when medical science is shown to be bankrupt and the doctors themselves advise that Regan be taken to a witch doctor.

The reports of people entering priesthood or declaring that they have been overtaken by the devil after seeing the film are most likely true.

Escape

The film offers to the middle class a way to escape the capitalist crisis. The crisis in this society is now bringing on massive unemployment, skyrocketing prices, and a tremendous movement in the working class to defend themselves against these attacks, throws sections of the middle class into a hysterical frenzy.

Instead of confronting the necessary task of constructing a revolutionary leadership and overthrowing this decadent system, these people insist on returning to the reactionary methods of the past.

The Exorcist is released when the occult, spiritual sects, and witchcraft are becoming popular in the middle class.

Blatty and Friedkin are both very religious men. Blatty was schooled at Georgetown University, the Catholic school in Washington DC. Part of The Exorcist was actually filmed at this location.

The only controversy within the Catholic Church is over the question of the vulgarity of the film. There is no disagreement over the theme of the film.

The purpose of making this film was not only for the enormous profits that would be realized. All the technology of present day cinematography is used to present the church, mysticism, and the occult as realistic to try to convince people of the existence of super natural forces that dominate men.

That is why the church, the press, and all the media are promoting this film so vehemently.

The Setting is Critical In Braddock

BY DAVID NORTH

BRADDOCK, Pa.

—Lying beneath the shadow of the Edgar Thomson works of United States Steel are several rows of black buildings that date back to the turn of the century.

From about a hundred yards away they appear to be abandoned warehouses or the barracks of a detention camp.

But actually, these columns of black blackened by the dust of the steel mill are the homes of hundreds of workers and youth in Braddock.

Located on Willows Street, these buildings have been standing for so long as anyone in Braddock can remember. Annie Quahles, who pays the landlord $60 each month to live there, estimates that the barracks are at least 80 years old.

"I don't know how old they are," she says, "but I know they should have been torn down a long time ago.

The buildings are infested with rats, roaches, and water bugs.

RAT

"You might find this hard to believe," Annie said, "but while I was sleeping one night, a rat ran right across my face. It is enough to give you a heart attack when something like that happens."

Germantown had to take her baby son to the doctor because he had insect bites on his ears and arms. Another son is in the hospital because he became ill due to dampness and lack of heating in the apartment.

Almost all the youth who live on Willows Street are unable to find jobs. They are forced to stay in the barracks.

Hearing that a job in Braddock, Kevin Smith decided to sign up last fall for a program sponsored by the Job Corps.

KILLED

"I was sent up to Idaho. In the Job Corps, we were mistrusted. There was a riot after this Black youth got killed. They said he died of a heart attack. We all wanted to go home because no one could believe that.

"But they would not give us tickets to get back from Idaho, so there was a riot. The Job Corps people accused me of inciting it, and I was one of the six people put in jail. They said I was dangerous and a gangster."

"I was in jail for about a week and lost a lot of weight. Then they put me on a special bus back here.

"John Marshall, 18 years old, said, he was dissatisfied with the unemployment situation."

"I took my physical to get into the Quepene works and they were supposed to call me, but they never did.

"There is going to be a riot here soon. We always have one in the spring."

Tony declared that Braddock youth are not going to put up with unemployment.

"We are already at the extreme of not knowing how you are going to survive from day to day."

"They have got a manpower office here, but it is no good. I have been there eight times. They have no respect for you here.

"The guy at the office told me I could have a job painting flag poles, but I told him I cannot stand heights."

After reading the Young Socialist, Kevin and Tony asked me to come down to the pool hall to show the newspaper to other youth.

"The situation is critical," declared Gem Ford as he looked through the Young Socialist. "I think it's getting to where there are going to be lives lost."

"First of all, there are a lot of people who use to have, but do not have now, and they are going to go out to get it back. People are not going to wait much longer. It is going to be a revolutionary thing."

"People are going to move out and take what they need. But whatever we are going to do, we better do it in a hurry."

National Auto Conference Of The Trade Union Alliance For A Labor Party DAYTON MARCH 31 noon

Mall Motor Inn 21 So. Jefferson (Carillon Room)

“That the UAW International follow the lead of truckers in the fight against inflation and unemployment by calling together the representatives of the motor movement for the purpose of forcing Nixon out through national strike action and the building of a labor party as an alternative to Nixon.”

This motion, put forward by the Trade Union Alliance for a Labor Party, passed in Local 1112, Lordstown.
How FBI Spied On AIM

BY A REPORTER
FEDERAL COURT, St. Paul, Minn.—Proof that FBI undercover agents infiltrated the American Indian Movement (AIM) dominated the Wounded Knee trial last week in federal court.

This case was revealed as prosecution witnesses were cross-examined by defense attorneys.

Stanley Keel, FBI agent and a government witness, admitted under cross-examination by William Rumbler and Douglas Hall that and Charles Stephen- son had used assumed names, had false identification, had falsely claimed sympathy for AIM, etc.

The accusation that he was spying on young people was ruled out of order by Judge Nichols, who was afraid it might influence the jury which con- tained five people under 21.

Lying as well as spying was proven in the cross-examination as repeated contradictions be- tween Keel's direct testimony and a previous written report was shown.

WRONG

The report was written two days after the events he was spying on, yet today Keel claims his report was wrong and his tes- timony correct. These conten- dions are on such vital points as:

“...he talked to Vernon Belle- court, or to Clyde Bellecourt, or to Lyle Bellecourt,...”

“...he or didn’t actually see weapons...”

Also revealed in the trial was that Keel’s main evidence came from Red Blanket, a mentally ill alcoholic, after getting him drunk.

But only was Keel’s tes- timony shot full of holes, but the defense began to establish their case that they were protesting the reservation dictatorship of tribal chairman Richard Wilson.

In addition, they claim the 1968 treaty with the Ogala Sioux was violated when 300 to 300 federal marshalls went to Wounded Knee last spring.

According to tribal consti- tution, only the tribal council can hire or fire the marshalls.

Last spring, the marshalls came in at the request of Wilson alone, on an order signed by the tribal judge, Theodore Tibbet.

The request was not in the court files last August, and only appeared this January when Ivy Going, clerk of the tribal court, was summoned to appear in St. Paul.

Bomb Rips Home Of Truckers Leader

BY PETER KELLY
DETOUR—The home of William "Red" Anderson, a leader of independent truckers, was bombed on February 12.

The bomb ripped a four foot hole in the foundation and shattered the windows.

Anderson has received extensive publicity as a local leader of the nationwide strike against fuel prices. Recently, he has emerged as spokesman for about 1200 striking independent truckers.

Anderson said the bombing was designed not to kill, but to frighten.

"I think it is some sort of message. If so, I do not under- stand, I have not gotten the message."
Just Out!

We have just received a new shipment of books from England, which are available in the USA exclusively from Labor Publications, Inc.

From N.E.P. to Socialism
By E. A. Preobrazhensky
Available for the first time in English, this book was written by one of the leading Soviet economists of the 1930s who joined the Left Opposition and was murdered on Stalin’s orders. Preobrazhensky’s views on planned industrialization in a backward country are contained in the book, which remains banned in the Soviet Union. Of great interest to all those concerned with Marxist theory.

$3.00

Revolution Betrayed
By Leon Trotsky
A totally new edition with a new introduction. Trotsky’s most fundamental assessment of the origins of Stalinism and the class nature of the Soviet state.

$2.95

Now Back in Stock
History of the Russian Revolution
By Karl Marx
Translated by Martin Nicolaus. The first English translation of the complete work. These manuscripts were written from 1857-1858 and reveal Marx’s fundamental economic and philosophical perspectives for the writing of Capital.

$4.25

Rohr-BART War Over Safety

BY A REPORTER
OAKLAND—The Bay Area Rapid Transit system (BART) Board of Directors has voted to continue their embargo, refusing to pay any money to Rohr Industries or accept delivery of new cars because of continual breakdowns in the cars.

Rohr, which is the subcontractor for building the cars, has announced that the one-year warranty has expired on 27 of the cars, even though only eight have passed the final acceptance test for service.

Rohr management has washed its hands of any responsibility for the electric cars, which move at eighty miles an hour in San Francisco and the East Bay.

“We have three cars failures a day, and the contract allows us six,” Rohr executive L.A. Kraus said, maintaining that their performance was twice as good as required.

BRAKE
Brake shoes on the cars now wear out every two or three weeks and must be replaced.

“There are no specifications for the life of the brake shoes,” Krauss said.

BART directors are now discussing filing a lawsuit against Rohr. They have gone along for years with late deliveries, guilty design, and gross neglect of safety, not only in the cars, but in every aspect of the system. They are moving against Rohr now because it has gotten deeply involved in the Bay Area’s deep financial crisis. They are seeking to solve this by refusing to pay the subcontractors and suing them instead for damages.

Another motion to refuse payment to Westinghouse, which built the automatic train controls which do not work, and Parsons-Brinckerhoff-Tudor-Bichel, the engineering company that designed BART, was also defeated.

This conflict with the subcontractors is the last step before BART makes the working class pay for the crisis through higher fares and mass layoffs.

Sears Leaders Push Deadend Protests

BY MARTY MORAN
SAN FRANCISCO—“We are human, we are not animals. We are not out here because we want to be, but because we have to be,” said Ann, who has been striking Sears Geary Street store in San Francisco for six months.

“My husband is only working for a $1.25 an hour in San Leandro. He has to pay so much for gasoline to get to work. It is hard. Sometimes you want to give up but you cannot give up. We went on strike for health benefits. Now we have lost that and we have been out six months just for a little raise. They offered us 80 cents on dinner money for people working nights, that is all. Nobody is going back, nobody is breaking down.”

“You go back to your union,” said another older woman, “and you tell them it is not big husky guys who have been out six months, but us, the little old ladies. On $25 a week, and a lot of us are the sole support of a family.”

“Trocantin is currently holding the latest in a series of hearings on the conditions of the VA hospitals. He has held such hearings for the past four years, and here has been little change in the conditions.

Veterans Occupy Office To Protest Hospital Care

BY DENNIS BREHEIM
LOS ANGELES—Fifteen Vietnam veterans have been occupying the Westwood office of Democratic Senator Alan Cranston to protest the unbearable conditions in Veterans Administration Hospitals.

A spokesman for the group which includes members of the American Veterans Movement (AVM) said they are trying to protest the national disgrace of all VA hospitals in this country.

Six of the fifteen are paralyzed, confined to wheelchairs. Guy is in a wheelchair and when we come home we are real prisoners of war.”

Max Inglish, a wheelchair confined veteran said: “The government can afford to send us to places like Vietnam to fire, yet they cannot afford to see that we are adequately cared for.”

“The protest centers on the VA hospital in Long Beach. The Long Beach hospital is the biggest of all 170 facilities. The 1600 beds are far from adequate for the number of patients. This year the facility will treat 250,000 out patients.

Major complaint by the veterans are the large size of the hospital, the long and bureaucratic diagnostic procedures, and the widespread use of drugs by patients.

The solution of the hospital administration is to bring more police in.

Cranston is currently holding the latest in a series of hearings on the conditions at the VA hospitals. He has held such hearings for the past four years, and here has been little change in the conditions.

“We cannot make it; but we are doing it. We are the crusaders now.”

The strikers remain determined to win, despite the endless series of futile protests organized by retail clerks union leader Walter Johnson.

Rallies, marches, protest vigils, and now a one hour sit-in have not budged the BART on dollar company, which is out to break Local 1106.

One striker said: “It has not worked. We have to do something else.”

Johnson is now relying completely on the radicals, especially the Socialist Workers Party, to mobilize people for protest actions. As the one hour sit-in last Saturday, no advance publicity was even put out to rally other trade unionists.

One striker said: “They do not even tell us anymore. At the sit-in, they just marched in with two hundred people. We were surprised.”

The completely reactionary nature of these protests is shown by the fact that the Sears strikers were kept outside picketing while the sit-in was conducted exclusively by union officials and their radical allies.

A rally of over 1000 workers two weeks ago demonstrated that mass labor support can be won for the strike. There must be a break with the substitution of middle class protest for the independent mobilization of the working class.

The San Francisco labor movement must be mobilized to stop the flow of goods into Sears and shut it down.

The Sears strike can only be won by linking it with the whole movement of the working class through a political fight to force Nixon out.
**editorial**

**Saxbe's SLA Witch-Hunt**

By BARRY GREY

The National Labor Relations Board has declared null and void all terms in the contract of West Coast longshoremen which guarantee them jurisdiction over all containers. The ruling states: "Any and all paragraphs which limit, restrain, restrict, tax, or prohibit handling containers by non-ILWW members are void and unenforceable."

This ruling at a stroke rips up the contract won by the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union with the Pacific Maritime Association. It outlawed three central clauses in the contract:

- **Shipping companies to have containers stowed and unstowed at the waterfront by longshoremen.**
- **Giving longshoremen the right to refuse to move containers that were not stowed or unstowed by ILWW members.**
- **Requiring a tax of one dollar a ton on containers handled by members of other unions.**

**TRUCKING**

The NLRB ruled in favor of the Teamsters and trucking companies. The Teamsters now have legal jurisdiction over container work done away from the docks. This ruling upholds a ruling made months ago by an NLRB judge in Los Angeles. Harry Bridges, ILWW president, refused to carry out strike action against Nixon in order to defeat the ruling. Instead, he went before the NLRB in Washington together with the PMA to plead for a reversal.

The NLRB ruling will mean the loss of hundreds of union members' jobs and millions of dollars of revenue from the tax on non-ILWW containers. At the same time, the ruling is deliberately aimed at precipitating an all-out jurisdictional war between the ILWW and the Teamsters over a rapidly dwindling number of jobs.

Bridges' policy of cooperation with the PMA and procrastination before the government now threatens the existence of the ILWW. The ranks must demand a break with this policy now.

The government has broken the contract. There must be an immediate strike and this strike must be aimed at convening a Congress of Labor to kick Nixon out and build a labor party pledged to nationalize the docks and trucking. This is the only program to unite the dockers and Teamsters and defend the jobs of both.

**Social Workers Back YS March**

SAN FRANCISCO—Social Workers Local 535 here voted to endorse the Young Socialists' statewide march against unemployment on March 15 and to send a union delegation.

In the discussion preceding the vote, a supporter of the Communist Party spoke against the march, saying he would support it if it were not the Young Socialists, but some "bad coalition." He also objected to the union linking itself ideologically to any party.

A resolution for the union to call out its membership to participate in the Young Socialists' lobby at the next board of education meeting against the Nazis on February 25 was defeated by one vote.

The CP supporter not only voted against both resolutions, but after the YS left the meeting, he tried to introduce a change in the union by-laws which would hinder the YS being able to speak before the union and win support again.

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**Longshore Contract**

BY BARRY GREY

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**Container facilities at the Los Angeles Harbor are some of the most modern in the world.**

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Lucha obrera
lucia rivera
La Economía De Puerto Rico

El gobernador de Puerto Rico, Hernandez Colón ha regresado a la isla luego de varios días de discusiones con el movimiento obrero. Los trabajadores han expresado su malestar con los altos costos del hogar.

Cerca de una docena de los 300 trabajadores han podido desembolsar sus productos y muchos de estos que transportan comestibles frescos, han visto sus cargas dañarse. Cualquier comercio que sea independiente o uniónizado que haya tratado de romper la huelga se ha enfrentado con las coaliciones de los oficiales del gobierno. Los pocos camiones que han podido pasar han tenido que ser escoltados por la policía.

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Los maestros han continuado en huelga a pesar de los arrestos que ha llevado a cabo la policía y de los ataques físicos a los que a diario se enfrentan. El apoyo a la huelga de maestros se ha incrementado durante la semana de protestas. En la isla, el conflicto ha sido resuelto con la mediación de un delegado del gobierno.

Hernandez Colón ha llamado a los maestros a regresar a sus clases y el gobierno anuncia que ofrece una solución al conflicto.

BY LOUIS MILLER

Chillicothe, O-
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two weeks, the number of inde-
finites layoffs will rise to 14,075.
Chrysler has shut down its huge Jefferson assembly plant which employs 4000 workers.

With all three auto companies showing a major decline in
profits during the last quarter of
1973, the layoffs are being de-
creased in about 20 days.
Next Monday, GM will temporarily lay off 26,000 workers and Ford will lay off
another 13,500.

The losses, which are rapidly assuming depression proportions, has revealed the inner weakness of the Wood-
lock leadership.

The UAW President has proposed no action to stop the
 layoffs. Instead, Woodlock has
directed the leaders of UAW locals throughout the
 country to cut off any discussions
by union negotiators on how to
fight the layoffs.

A Sunday's union meeting of
workers employed at the Delco-
Morain plant in Dayton, Local
996 President Elmer Parish
 refused to answer unemployee
 auto workers who demanded
to know why it takes five to seven weeks to receive unemployment
benefits.

However, he was forced to reveal that the Supplementary
 Unemployment Benefits fund for the
GM division is only 25 per
cent of what it should be
funded. At the present level of
 layoffs, this means that the
SUB fund will run out in a few
months.

A supporter of the Trade Union
Alliance for a Labor Party put
forward a resolution demanding
that the UAW should take
immediate action to stop the
 layoffs by calling a Congress of Labor Parties to build a labor
party and mobilize the entire working class to force cuts in
 layoffs.

When it became clear that a
majority of those at the meeting
supported the call for a resolu-
tion, Parish ruled it out of order
and refused to permit a vote.

"You cannot keep the mem-
bership from voting on this
 resolution," declared
to worker Carl Williams.

Close to 1000 workers have
already been laid off at Delco-
Morain, and it is reported that the entire plant will be tem-
porarily closed within several
weeks.

Nationwide strike action must be
prepared by the UAW to stop
layoffs and bring all those un
employed back into the
plants.

The entire labor movement must
work to stop the UAW from
starting this struggle by linking the
fight against layoffs to an all-
out political campaign to force
Nixon out and to construct a
labor party pledged to socialist
policies as the alternative to this
government.

WOODOCK

Woodlock's policy to evade this fight against Nixon by granting local strike authori-
ties the right to lay off workers
which he knows cannot stop layoffs.

Nixon's strategy of unemploy-
ment and inflation can be
dealt with only by breaking the
UAW strike and the political mobili-
 zation of the entire working class
to force his resignations.

The National Auto Conference of the TULAP in Dayton on March 31 at the Mall Motor Inn
will be a decisive step forward in the organization of the strug-
 gles of auto workers for this
purpose. Join the national leadership against Woodlock in the
UAW.

We call all auto workers to join
the TULAP and attend this
 vital conference.

PRICES

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the inflation as some kind of inevitable plague is a fraud. It is the deliberate policy of Nixon to allow
the corporations a free rein to preserve their rate of profit by returning workers to conditions worse than the 1930s.

The rate of inflation will far
 surpass any other period of
history because the dollar no
longer has any fixed value, be-
cause the contradiction between the productive forces of
capitalism and the control of
these forces by private profit has reached the absolute breaking point.

The fight against this inflation is a key battle in the
downing of the UAW and Woodlock. To
be defended without the...
Flintkote Workers Refuse Wage Cut

BY LOUIS MILLER CHILLCOTE, O-hio—Members of Local 566 of United Rubber Workers walked out in a wildcat strike of the local Flintkote Flooring plant Friday morning, although the union contract does not end until Tuesday.

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