

**BROWN AND SHARPE:
16 MONTHS ON STRIKE**

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Malcolm X on Black History
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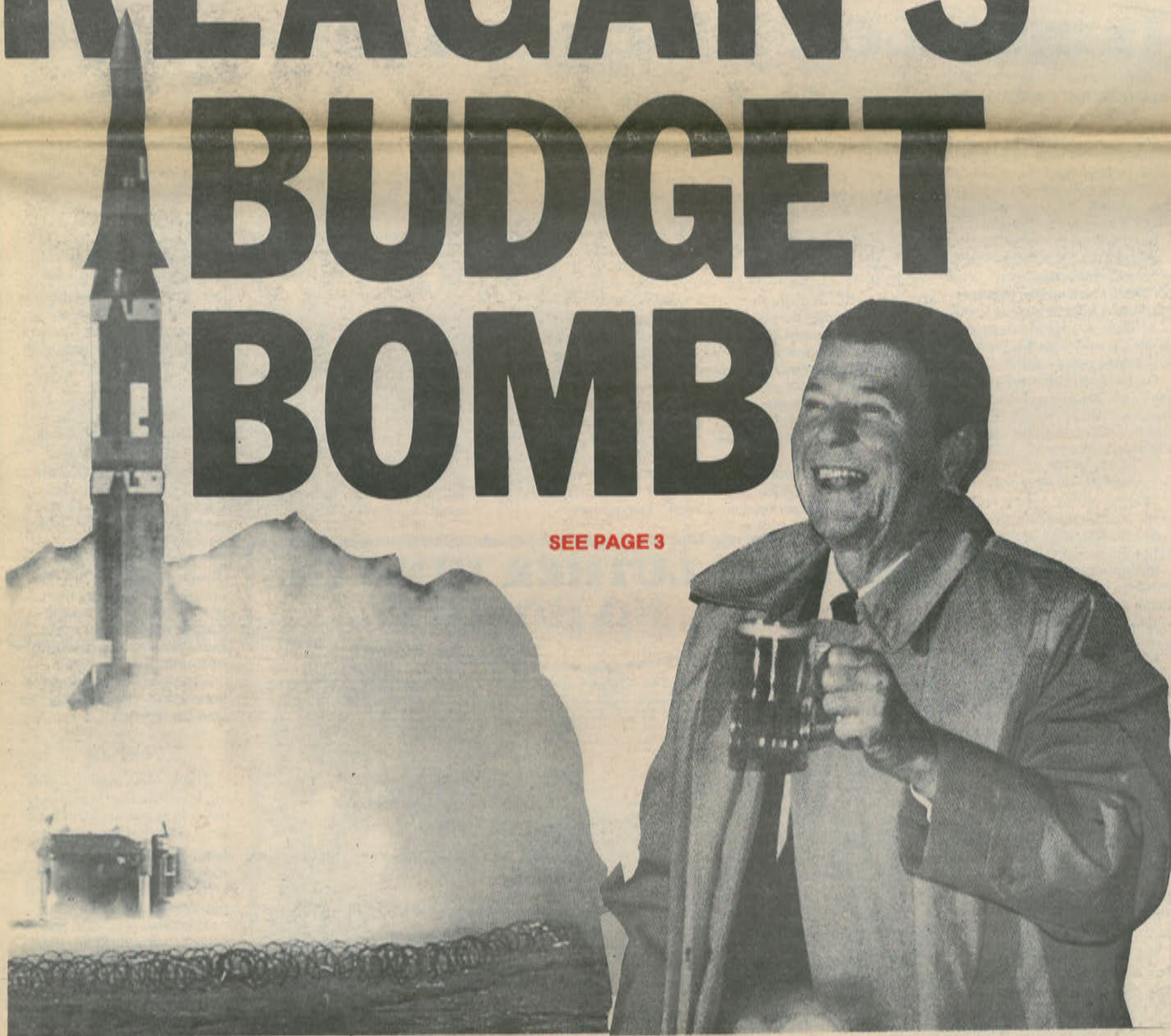
NUMBER 70



FEBRUARY 1983

REAGAN'S BUDGET BOMB

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IN REAGAN'S AMERICA

Unemployment: a health hazard

John is a 39 year old auto worker whose wife is pregnant with their third child.

Halfway through the pregnancy John was permanently laid off.

He had been working at the plant for twenty years and had been making good money.

Now the plant was closing down and moving to Texas.

TROUBLE

Although he was a hard worker and a good worker he was now out of work.

When he found out he was out of work he began having headaches and trouble sleeping. He came to see me and I told him his blood pressure was up.

"No wonder, with a new baby coming and no job," he replied.

Doctor Dena Magoulias explains how unemployment is becoming one of the country's biggest health hazards



John was right. Unemployment affects your health in many ways. The stress of losing one's job can cause a person's blood pressure to rise, their

sugar to go up, and cholesterol to rise.

With time, this can lead to heart disease, stomach ulcers, diabetes, and higher rate of infection.

The stress of unemployment can cause people to resort to drinking alcohol, which can cause problems such as liver cirrhosis.

Unemployment can lead to depression and suicide.

Admissions to mental hospitals increase and the suicide rate is thirty times higher in the unemployed.

It can lead to more family problems and cause a man to abuse his wife and children. Unemployment can also affect health by leading to poor nutrition and housing. 50% of people on welfare are poorly nourished.

Infant mortality rate, the number of infants dying shortly after birth, is increasing as the unemployment rate increases, and this is largely due to poor nutrition and prenatal care of pregnant women.

To sum up, according to Mr. Harvey Brenner, a professor at Johns Hopkins University, a 1.4% increase unemployment, sustained over a six year period between 1970 and 1976, resulted in 20,240 deaths from heart and kidney disease, 495 deaths from cirrhosis of the liver, 920 suicides, 648 homicides, 4,227 first admissions to state mental hospitals, and 3,340 admissions to state prisons.

Unemployment has substantial physical and emotional effects on a person's life.

With all these increases in health problems, one would need to see a doctor more often. However, once a person is unemployed they lose their health insurance and therefore cannot afford to go to the doctor.

Fewer than 30% of unemployed workers have any health insurance at all, and those that do have to spend one fourth of their unemployment benefits to continue their former coverage.

RESPOND

But how does the government respond? With cutbacks in medicaid, making it difficult for the unemployed worker to be eligible. With no insurance the unemployed often ignore health problems until it is too late instead of going early to prevent serious problems from developing.

One of the major reasons unemployment affects your health is because of the stress it arouses.

Many illnesses are related to stress.

The first step to control stress is to stop blaming yourself for being laid off.

It's not your fault that a capitalist economy doesn't provide enough jobs—the system is at fault.

In John's case a board of directors in New York City simply decided that the plant should move south because they could make more money by exploiting non-unionized workers.

They didn't care that the community they left behind was devastated.

CONTROL

The second step in fighting the effects of unemployment is to gain control over your situation by fighting back—in the form of demonstrations, sit-ins, and strikes organized to protest plant closings.

The third step is to join others in the fight against capitalism—because only when workers band together to form a socialist society will unemployment and its stresses be ended. □

James Lee: Black, no job and desperate

CLEVELAND, OH—January 18, 1983, a young man is on the telephone with his aunt.

Through his sobs she can make out bits and pieces of what he is saying.

There's the recent death of his mother and something about a scrap with the police.

She tries to calm her nephew, but his cries just grow more hysterical.

Suddenly she hears an explosion. The line goes dead.

Ten minutes later an emergency medical squad pulls up to the emergency room.

On their stretcher lies an 18 year old Black male with a gunshot wound to his right temple. His brains are splattered on his shirt.

SURVIVAL

This is a real story, not some plot for a movie or TV series, but the story of a losing fight for survival.

It's one story in the many of someone hard to make it, but facing so many obstacles for so long, that the time came to give up.

James Lee had literally reached the end of his rope.

Since leaving school, James Lee had been looking for work.

Any work would have satisfied him—just something to fill the empty days and his empty pockets.

But with an unemployment rate of over 50% for Black youth, his chances were nil.

Then, almost one year ago exactly, Lee's mother died.

She was a young woman, her children still in school.

But her untimely death wasn't that unusual either.

Not only do Blacks suffer from higher rates of hypertension and cancer than whites, life expectancy for Blacks is seven years shorter.

BY FAITH SIMON

James Lee was having an especially bad day on January 18.

Early in the day he'd had an argument with his girlfriend.

Later, driving down the street, he saw her and did a u-turn to catch up with her.

They had some words on the street, nothing much to it.

But unfortunately, the incident was witnessed by the cops who were quick to pounce on Lee.

James Lee had never been in trouble with the police but he had seen and heard about

what can happen when Black kids meet up with cops.

It's not hard to imagine what he might have been thinking as he held the citation in his hand—jail or maybe something worse?

James Lee went home.

In silence he walked past his sisters and went upstairs to the bedroom to make a phone call.

James Lee, like an ever increasing number of Black Americans was desperate.

A recent Labor Department study of unemployed Black workers found an alarming rate of "psychological distress" among them.

Respondents to the interviewers frequently blamed themselves for not being able to find work and that they felt their "lives were not very useful."

CONNECTION

Recently, a Harvard psychiatrist, Dr. Alvin Poussaint, stated, "There is a connection between high unemployment and the incidence of mental illness, homicide, and suicide, especially among Blacks . . ."

He found that the suicide rate among Blacks, once far below that of whites, had gone up, along with unemployment. □

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR: STILL NO HOLIDAY



Marching for Martin Luther King, Jr., in Oakland, California

THE HUMAN PRICE OF REAGAN'S BUDGET

At the end of January, Ronald Reagan gave one of his better performances—well above a B rating.

In fact, the audience loved him. Three standing ovations. Twenty six applauses in 45 minutes. Only once were there a few scattered boos from disgruntled Democrats.

What was this bi-partisan celebration all about?

It was the annual state of the union message, and, according to Reagan, things are looking up, "America is on the mend."

Inflation, taxation, interest rates, government spending and regulation are "coming under control". The long awaited "recovery" has begun.

Reagan did, however, acknowledge in passing that "our success" has a human price.

"For too many of our fellow

citizens—farmers, steelworkers and autoworkers, lumbermen, Black teenagers and working mothers, this is a painful period.

"We must all do everything in our power to bring their ordeal to an end."

Pretty words, but the experience of 1982 reveals the brutal consequences of his policies, and the crisis of the system he represents.

17,000 new farm foreclosures. 117,000 additional auto and steel workers thrown out on the street. 55,000 newly unemployed Black teenagers.

Ten times that number of Black adults forced into the unemployment lines of America's inner cities in one year alone.

For women workers, the unemployment rate rose from 6.7% to 9.2% in 1982, while

Socialist Worker

WHAT WE THINK



Vice-president Bush and Democrat Tip O'Neil listen to Reagan—all smiles

the gap between men and women's wages continues to increase, with female earnings now below 50% of the average male's wage.

So despite Reagan's sermon, workers in the Allentowns of America are increasingly facing a grim reality of poverty.

Average weekly earnings, adjusted for inflation, are down over 4.2% in 1982. 28 million people now live below the official poverty line.

Unemployment has reached 12 million, its highest level since the end of the depression of the thirties.

In fact, over half the work force has experienced unemployment, reduced work time, or wage cuts in 1982.

CHARITY

Reagan's speech was not all self-congratulation and hypocrisy. He did announce a four point package of new charitable contributions to corporate America.

The size of the Federal Budget is to be frozen, so corporate tax and interest rates can be lowered.

He even suggested that corporate taxes be eliminated altogether in follow up comments to the press.

The budget itself will continue to be reshaped away from America's inner cities and toward the Pentagon.

Spending on social programs will be reduced three percent in 1984.

PENTAGON

The \$6 billion "cut" in military spending is actually a subtraction from an earlier proposal for a \$36 billion increase.

So Reagan's double-speak means that the Pentagon's budget will get a 9 percent increase, topping \$236 billion in 1984.

A "standby" tax to go in effect in late 1985 would raise the price of gas 12¢ a gallon and personal income tax 5%.

In short Reagan offers the working class falling living

standards, rising unemployment and war.

Unless we act.

The day after his address, Reagan travelled to Boston's Roxbury community to push the idea of high tech free enterprise zones in the ghetto.

This time the audience wasn't enthusiastic—it was militant. 2,000 counterdemonstrators greeted Reagan with fists raised, chanting pro-working class and anti-war slogans.

It is this type of direct activity that has the potential to reverse Reagan's plan to further cut social spending while preparing for war.

It should be remembered that programs such as medicaid, food stamps, child nutrition, welfare, unemployment compensation and student loans were created in response to the mass demonstrations and rebellions of the Black, women's and student movements of the sixties.

CLASS

Today, we need a new working class movement capable of defending these programs and reversing the defeats of the seventies. We need a movement that can fight in the workplaces and unions—as well as the streets.

We also need a new socialist current that can look to the long term solutions to the problems of poverty and war proposed by the world capitalist system in crisis.

BY BEN BLAKE



U.S. "CERTIFIES" EL SALVADOR

On January 21, the Reagan administration "certified" that the regime in El Salvador had "made progress" on human rights.

No one else seems to think so. Amnesty International reports that since 1979, 30,000

civilians have been killed in El Salvador, the majority of whom—24,000—had nothing to do with the fighting, but were killed anyway by the military.

The "certification" is, of course, just a rubber stamp for

the fact that military aid is being stepped up—mainly because the military in El Salvador is not able to win the war.

It lost another major battle at the end of January when rebels took the southeastern town of Berlin.

CONTROL

With this victory, guerilla forces now control more than one-third of the rich agricultural province of Usulután.

"Certification" has also led to new protests in this country—protests which must be supported and built.

FIGHTING WORDS

I don't mean to say that we advocate violence; but we won't tell our members to allow themselves to be shot down and beaten up like cattle. Violence as a general rule is forced on us.

—Vincent St. John, I. W. W., 1911

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CHICAGO PROTESTS \$1,000 DINNER FOR REAGAN

CHICAGO, IL—The man wearing the Reagan mask walked through a crowd of angry demonstrators in Chicago's Grant Park. A middle-aged Hispanic man stepped from the crowd, shouting "Reagan, please give me a job!"

Across the street from the park, in the luxurious Conrad Hilton Hotel International Ballroom, the real Ronald Reagan addressed a \$1,000-a-plate black tie Republican

BY LANCE SELFA

fundraiser for Illinois Senator Charles Percy.

The guest list included 12 Republican senators and Illinois Governor James Thompson.

GROUPS

About 400 demonstrators from unions, community organizations, disarmament

groups and Third World solidarity organizations marched and chanted in the cold night air January 19.

ANGRY

Now and then, protestors broke toward police barricades, booing and jeering dinner guests who stepped from limosines that pulled in front of the hotel.

Palsteen Daviston, an activist from the South Austin Community Coalition Council,

a group from a poor West Side neighborhood, explained why the crowd was angry.

"We don't have any jobs. With the state of the economy we don't have any income," she said.

Forty-five Austin residents came to protest Reagan's "milking the community" to pay for military "attack programs," Daviston added.

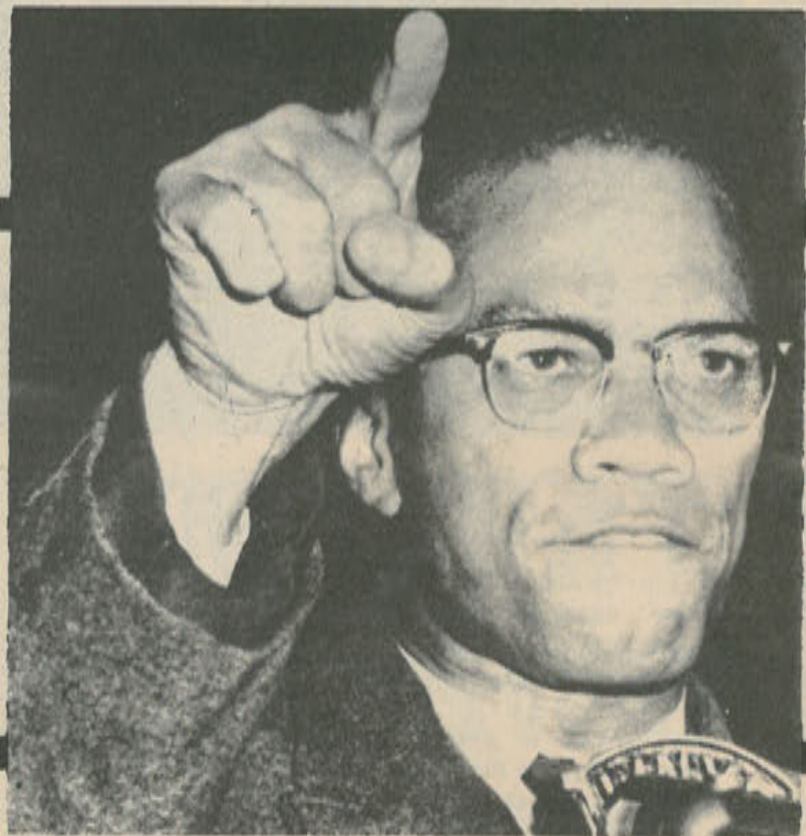
Unemployed machinists and steelworkers carried signs calling for jobs. And demon-

stration organizers, the Illinois Coalition Against Reagan Economics, set up a Depression-like soup line to warm protestors.

MESSAGE

This and other anti-Reagan demonstrations across the country had a simple message, according to Daviston.

While Reagan and his right-wing allies fork out \$1,000 for dinner, she said, "people are starving right here." □



BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY: BLACK POLITICS IN AMERICA

STOP THE POLICE WAR ON BLACK AMERICA

Malcolm X

Police in Memphis, Tennessee, are under fire after a bloody siege which left seven Black men dead, five of whom died from gunshot wounds to the head.

Reminiscent of the 1969 ambush slaying of Black Panther Fred Hampton in Chicago, six of the seven were killed in a single nine foot by eleven foot bedroom.

More than eighty rounds were fired by police, who carried guns with lights mounted on them so they could clearly aim for the head.

CALL

The siege began when police received an anonymous phone call about a purse snatching in a Black working class neighborhood in North Memphis.

No suspects were found, so they left. A second phone call prompted police to visit the small house.

When two policemen entered the house, several men allegedly jumped them and shots were exchanged.

More cops called in and a short gun battle took place. Three police escaped, and one, Robert Hester, was captured.

A special police outfit, the Tactical Apprehension Containment Team, was called in after 30 hours and police stormed the house guns blazing.

All seven Blacks were killed.

The captured top had been beaten to death.

Police have been trying to justify the use of excessive violence, by repeating that the seven men were part of a freaky religious cult.

RETHA HILL ON THE MEMPHIS KILLINGS

Evidence against the alleged crazed cultists included the fact that they read the Bible, had the Islamic symbol of the half moon and star painted on the back door, did not eat pork (along with hundreds of millions of Moslems worldwide) and refused to drink water.

The most damning evidence is that the seven men believed police to be agents of the devil.

Police apparently learned this last bit of information minutes before the tactical squad stormed the house. Through listening devices police overheard Lindberg Sanders, an unemployed construction worker, dubbed by the media as the leader, "My daddy's dead, my brother's dead, and the devil's dead."

Police have further disclosed that Sanders had been treated for a major psychotic disorder at a psychiatric hospital, and suffered from the delusion that the world was scheduled to end a week before the siege.

Despite lengthy explanations at a two and a half hour press conference, police have failed to convince Memphis's Black community that they went in with other intentions than the expressed desire to kill and to take no prisoners.

BOMB

First, they threw a concussion bomb in the house—a weapon constructed so the air-wave shock of the explosion would leave the men unconscious.

Second, five of the men were shot in the head, and six were found in the same room.

Then, considering that the men had only two guns and most of the bullets had been expended in the first shoot out, the cops could have concluded that they had only a few bullets left.

All evidence points to the fact that police entered the home and shot the men who were unconscious or half unconscious in the head.

The incident in Memphis is part of a recent rash of killings in which Black men have been shot point blank by police.

Police brutality in Philadelphia



The death of Neville Johnson in Overtown, Miami, is the most noted example.

However, Johnson was the last of four Black men shot by police in the month of December in Miami.

The fifth was seventeen year old Alonso Singleton, who was shot eight times, including five bullets in the back by police during the rebellion which followed Johnson's death.

SUSPICIOUS

In Detroit, within 39 hours, two Black men, including a former mental patient who was holed up by police in a garage, was shot and killed.

In Cleveland, Milwaukee,

Los Angeles and New York City, Blacks have been killed under suspicious circumstances.

When it comes to Black men, police do not hesitate to use excessive force before other methods of apprehension.

It's no real wonder that Sanders believed the cops to be devils, considering their ruthless and bloody history of dealing with the Black community.

For people who say the Blacks deserve what they deserve for pulling or having a gun, it would do them well to remember that police have always claimed that murdered Blacks have pulled guns or knives on them.

In the early 1970's civilian review boards repeatedly discovered that police often used the tactic of placing weapons in the victim's hands.

In Memphis, the seven men had two guns and two hunting knives in their weapons cache.

Only one weapon was found on the scene that had apparently been in recent use.

Police have traditionally been the enemy of Black people, especially in the cities, where they take the place of night riders and other terrorists. They shoot first and make excuses later.

VOICE

It's high time we end the police war on Black America.

Our united voice of protest must be complemented with the spirit of rebellion.

Black and white must rally to meet the police, our common enemy, for then it'll become on less step from Overtown to overthrow. □

TEACHER STRIKES SETTLED

Two teacher's strikes in Ohio were settled in January but one, in Hartville, continues, as suburban locals are drawn into disputes to defend benefits and wages.

Pennsylvania's longest teacher's strike, in the small town of California, ended on January 18th in partial victory. The 74-day strike won 76 teachers a contract with provisions stipulating no layoffs in the first two years, and pay raises of \$1,600-\$1,800.

WORK

Ohio's Willoughby-Eastlake district strike ended January 26 when teachers won guarantees of no layoffs, no reprisals against strikers, and pay increases of approximately 6.8%.

The contract raises base pay from \$13,310 a year to \$14,200.

Members of the Willoughby-Eastlake Teachers Association, on strike since January 10 picketed the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company to protest the utility's policy of encouraging employees to serve on school boards. These employees invariably maintain anti-union positions.

The 500 AFT members in Cleveland Heights settled January 16 after the board restored certain benefits and offered wage increases of 9½-8½-5 over three years.

SHOP

The board refused to grant an agency shop, and trouble is expected by the third year of the contract.

Negotiations in the Lake local district of Hartville remain stalled.

About 140 teachers have been on strike since January 3. Dozens of teachers have been arrested on the picket lines for ignoring a judge's injunction that limited the number of strikers allowed to picket.

Schools have remained open despite student walkouts protesting substitute teachers.

High school junior Brian Lucas said "we walked out because we think the teachers are right." □

Harold Washington: a good liberal

BY ALAN MAASS

Just who is this guy? Is he a mortal or what? Has he walked on water yet or does that come after the election?

With this prayer, Rev. John Porter introduced U.S. representative Harold Washington who went on to announce his candidacy for the mayorship of Chicago.

START

Kind of a strange way to start a political campaign, but this kind of messianic fervor is hardly unusual in Washington's case.

Washington's candidacy has met with tremendous support, especially within Chicago's Black community.

The level of Washington's grass roots organization and community support makes this campaign the strongest challenge to the regular Democratic machine in 30 years.

The liberal "movement" behind Washington's campaign is comprised mainly of Blacks who have been continually denied proportional representation in the city government, despite the fact that they comprise 40 percent of the city's population.

The candidacy also takes place in the context of the disintegration of the left in Chicago and the absence of any kind of mass movement in the Black community that is independent of electoral politics.

Washington is in perfect position to take advantage of this reform "movement."

LOYAL

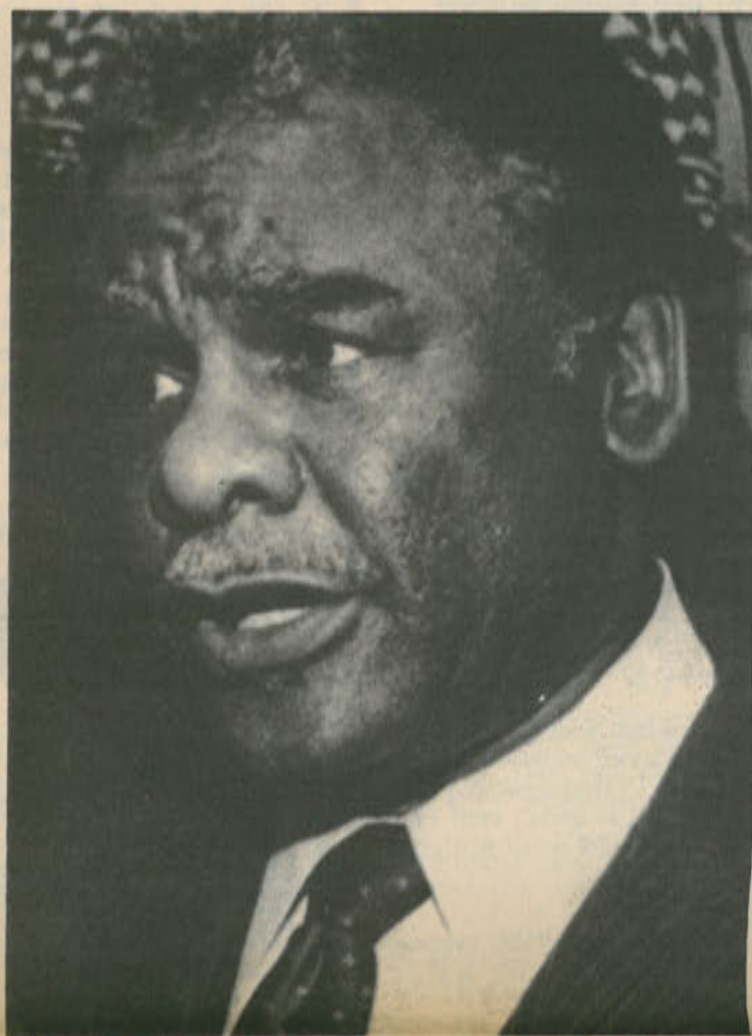
His record in congress is the picture-perfect portrait of the good Democratic liberal who formed the loyal opposition to Reagan's cutbacks and military bloat—while voting the party line on partisan issues.

Washington calls himself a Democratic independent, a somewhat misleading label.

While he is independent of the Chicago Democratic machine, he is closely tied with the national Democratic Party.

And the Democratic Party is no friend to the Blacks and workers that the Washington campaign claims to represent.

"Let us pray
We thank You for
this man, we thank
You for what he
represents, we
thank You for
these who have
gathered from far
and near around
the country and
around the city to
dedicate and con-
secrate this our
new king, one who
can bring justice,
equality, mercy
and the good life
for all the people of
this great city."



Harold Washington

Despite their rhetoric, the Democratic Party remains firmly on the side of the capitalist.

After all, it was Jimmy Carter who was talking about supply-side economics, who drew up plans to break unions of government workers, who increased the military budget and planned to cut taxes long before Ronald Reagan got into office.

And it was a Democratic House of Representatives that passed Reagan's budgets for the past two years.

The "movement" behind Washington is bound to run into the electoral dead-end.

Any activism surrounding this campaign is electoral activism—the Black "movement" behind Washington will end at the ballot box.

Just like the anti-war candidates of the '60s and the candidates championed by women's organizations, like NOW, Washington, if elected,

will be completely unaccountable to the "movement" that put him in office.

Just ask the people who headed up the same sort of populist-style campaign four years ago—the election that put Chicago's current mayor, Jane Byrne, in office.

Ever since, Byrne has been catering to the interests of Chicago's corporations and banking elite, attacking strikes of the city's teachers, firemen and transit workers.

To step up expenditures for revitalizing the city's downtown business district, Byrne cut back services for the poor, for instance, mass transit.

In particular, Byrne has done everything possible to incur the lasting hatred of the city's Blacks who provided her with the margin of victory in 1979 by defecting en masse from the machine candidate. Byrne has made a point of passing over qualified Blacks in line for leadership roles

on the city's school board, public housing authority and the police department in favor of her own choices.

What has Jane Byrne done for women in Chicago? She has attacked their unions and cut back on social services to working class women, making things worse than four years ago.

CHANGE

Likewise, electing Harold Washington will do nothing to change the situation of Chicago's Blacks and workers for the better.

He will work for the Democratic Party who will in turn work for the corporations and banking elite.

The last thing we need now is a movement that puts more liberal politicians in office.

We must rebuild the Black liberation movement of the 60's—a movement that fights for liberation on the streets, not through the ballot box. □

UNEMPLOYED COUNCILS MEET

by BRIAN ERWAY

PITTSBURGH, PA—In many cities throughout the U.S. unemployed councils are springing up to organize the unemployed.

They generally fight for local demands of their members for health care provisos and against evictions, mortgage foreclosures and utility shut offs.

Some have even successfully prevented factory closures.

On January 22, representatives from nearly thirty unemployed councils around the country met in Pittsburgh and formed the National Unemployed Network.

ENERGY

Although it appears that too much energy may be diverted to lobbying, the network represents a real gain for devel-

oping activities.

Unemployed councils offer real potential as fighting organizations of workers who are fed up with this whole system.

Socialists should be involved helping to draw the political conclusions. For more information, contact NUN, 600 Walnut Street, McKeesport, PA 15132. □

Missile Madness
by Pete Binns
\$1.50 from Hera Press

BY PETE BINNS
Missile Madness
THE NEW WEAPONS SYSTEMS & HOW THEY THREATEN YOUR LIFE
Missile Madness
NOTICE: WORKERS PARTY (MPP)

Graffiti

by KENT WORCESTER

Real, existing socialism . . .

Switzerland is reknown a country where discrete investors can leave their money without fear of exposure.

But last year, when Swiss law changed to loosen the secrecy, an unusual institution stepped in to provide westerners with a safe place for their money.

It does not matter what your name is, and we do not look at your passport," the advertising campaign says.

"The National Savings Bank of Budapest, Hungary offers complete confidentiality and a 13.5% interest on one year deposits.

So far, over 2,000 westerners have deposited more than \$30 million . . .

The lord is merciful . . .

Falwell on welfare recipients: "That crowd ought to be left to starve until they decide that a job is a good deal."

Plenty of exercise . . .

People magazine, in its review of 1982, asked president Reagan if "you ever look down from the upper floors of the White House, across to Lafayette Park where a soup kitchen is set up for the city's hungry and homeless? Have you noticed these people?"

Reagan: "I didn't know that was going on. But I'll make a point of looking now that you've told me."

"You see, the living quarters are on the opposite side of the White House so there is very little occasion to go and look out. The one room I do use is the exercise room."

Atomic cafe . . .

The Los Angeles Civil Defense office decided just last year to put all of the survival food of their civil defense shelters of the 1960s to good use.

They gave tons of survival food, in the form of crackers, to relief organizations throughout the world.

Unfortunately, this simple solution failed to convince the Food and Drug Administration, who feared that 20 year old crackers might not be the best thing for the malnourished of the world.

But after an investigation the FDA determined that the crackers "were not hazardous nor very palatable."

They still have some food value, said the FDA.

Los Angeles city officials had gained the attention of the FDA prior to this when it was revealed that L.A. officials were sending refugees expired medicine from the city's store-rooms.

GOVERNMENT ATTACKS AID TO STUDENTS

BY PETER COGAN

depend on Federal aid to afford a college education.

Although some private schools have announced plans to provide private aid those affected, the majority of students will have little choice—register or drop out of school.

This law, along with the selective prosecution of outspoken non registrants is intended to force compliance with the draft registration law.

Over 1 million men have not registered for the draft.

Non registration is a felony carrying a five year sentence and \$10,000 fine.

REPORT

Under new Selective Service procedures, once a draft law is passed young men would receive letters requiring them to report for induction seven days later.

The Reagan administration recently announced regulations which will cut off Federal education loans and grants to students who refuse to register for the draft.

The regulations are to implement a law passed by Congress this September as part of the Military Selective Service Act.

Due to take effect in July, 1983, the law will affect some 2 million male students in colleges and universities.

SIGN

Students would be required to sign a form certifying that they have registered, and provide proof, when applying for Federal aid.

An estimated \$8.5 billion in student aid would be affected including programs such as—guaranteed student loans, direct student loans, supplemental grants, and work study programs.

The law will fall hardest on lower income students who

There would be little time to make other plans.

Also being proposed in Congress are plans for mandatory "national service" for all youth.

Under this proposal every person would be required to serve one year in the military or working on government projects—under penalty of imprisonment.

Already the ranks of the military are being filled by the so-called poverty draft—youth people forced by economic circumstances to take the only job available—in the military.

Now, as Federal aid for education is being cut students will be forced to register in order to receive the aid still available.

In the event the U.S. decides to intervene abroad, in El Salvador, the Middle East, Southern Africa or elsewhere, the government wants to be able to expand the military rapidly. Registration is part of this.



We in the U.S. must fight to build a movement opposing U.S. intervention.

The fact that over 1 million have refused to register is a positive sign that the lessons of Vietnam haven't been forgotten.

No Registration! No Draft! No War!

TALKING ABOUT SOCIALISM

Shouldn't a worker give a fair day's work for a fair day's pay?

Inequality is perpetual under capitalism

by BILL ROBERTS

The biblical quote, "To him that hath shall be given.

"From him that hath not shall be taken even that which he hath," is a good summary of the capitalist system.

Inequality is a perpetual state of things under capitalism.

No matter what laws are passed guaranteeing equal rights (laws that must be fought for, over and over again), there continues to exist a fundamental and growing inequality.

OWNERSHIP

This inequality is based on the ownership of property and means of production—factories, machinery, distribution systems, and so on.

We are told that the Constitution and all the laws that flow from it protects the dollar in the pocket of the poor person—just as much as the dollar in the pocket of the millionaire.

In fact, a million dollars guarantees a million times more the protection for the millionaire.

To survive, the poor person must work for the millionaire, who controls the means of production.

In other words, he must sell his labor power.

The labor market says the capitalist economy requires the owner to pay a "fair day's wage" and requires the worker to give a "fair day's work."

But what about the profit produced? This is a reward to the capitalists, say the economists, for allowing his factory

to be put to use. But it's more than a reward.

Supposedly a factory costs \$100 million to set up.

After all operating expenses—wages, material, machinery replacement—the company gets a ten percent net reward—profit.

And suppose this 10 percent "reward" is maintained for ten years.

After that time the original investment will have been paid back.

But the reward does not stop.

In fact the owner is twice as well off. He has his original investment back, plus the ac-

cumulated profits.

In addition he continues to be rewarded. The worker, in the meantime, must sacrifice his energy, his health and time each day for ten years.

If he is lucky he has some credits towards a retirement income that will not be adequate and perhaps some small savings—mostly invested in a house—if he is average.

The worker is no closer to owning his own factory than the day he started to work.

POVERTY

Even if he had reduced his consumption to poverty level in order to save, the worker would have lost ground to the millionaire.

The "fair day's work for a

fair day's pay" has multiplied the capital of the factory owner, while leaving the worker with no capital and no choice but to go on working for roughly the same wage.

INCREASE

The "equal rights" of the capitalist and worker have increased inequality.

This anomaly was one of Marx's great discoveries.

There is no mechanism or law that forces the capitalist to pay his workers the full value of their work.

The worker is paid just enough to get him to put all his efforts at the disposal of the capitalist each day.

From the capitalist's point of view giving the worker enough to keep him fit for work and to raise his children as the next generation of workers is the "fair day's pay" for labor power.

But the amount of wealth needed to keep workers fit for a day is considerably less than the amount he can produce.

This extra Marx called "surplus value," and it goes into the pocket of the capitalist. The control of this "extra" wealth is what perpetuates and expands the fundamental inequality on a world scale.

CLOSE

No individual worker can begin to close the gap on this inequality.

Only a collective effort can turn this system over and replace it with one of democratic sharing of the wealth produced.



The workers must sacrifice his energy and his health and if he is lucky he will have some savings

Quebec's public workers challenge wage controls

A Special report from Workers' Action, paper of Canada's International Socialists

BY DAVID McNALLY

Workers in Canada's French-speaking province, Quebec, have responded to an government attack on their wages and working conditions with a massive strike.

In the last week of January, 200,000 government workers were on strike—teachers, clerks, office workers, hospital, day care and health

workers, the biggest strike in Quebec in a decade.

The strike was organized by the Common Front, an alliance of three public sector unions—the Quebec Teachers Federation, the Confederation of National Trade Unions and the Quebec Federation of Labor.

RESPONSE

The strike is in response to the government's new law, Law 105, which slashes \$406 million in wages from the province's 335,000 workers.

The cuts amount to as much as 20% wage cuts for some Quebec workers.

The government in power in Quebec is the Parti Quebecois, the middle class nationalist party, first elected in 1976 on the promise of promoting the interests of Canada's French-speaking minority.

The Parti Quebecois was elected with strong working class support. Since 1976, however, it has become seriously alienated from the organized labor movement.

And no wonder. Today, the Parti Quebecois' solution to the economic woes of French Canada is in the tradition of Ronald Reagan and Britain's Margaret Thatcher.

Cuts in state expenditures are combined with attacks on working class organizations—while government leaders sit back and wait for the world economic crisis to resolve itself.

Prime Minister Rene Levesque responded to the Common Front strike by threatening "draconian measures" to squash the workers' movement.

PRISON

Just to make the point, five transit workers, leaders of a wildcat strike last year, were sent to prison just as the Common Front strike began.

Under government legislation, unions now face daily fines of up to \$8,000 a day, and individual strikers \$80 a day.

The walkout began on Wednesday, January 25, and by the end of the week 130,000 teachers and government workers were on strike.

On Saturday, January 29, 35,000 Common Front strikers demonstrated in the capital city, Quebec City.

By Monday, January 31, there were nearly 200,000 workers on strike, despite an agreement reached by the government with 16,000

nurses, not represented by the Common Front.

The economic crisis has had its effect on Canadian workers, long known for their willingness to take on the picket lines.

This strike, however, coming as it does in the wake of the strike of Canadian Chrysler workers, could open up a new phase in the struggle.

It marks the first direct challenge to wage controls, now covering half a million Canadian government workers, and, along with the Chrysler strike, it shows that Canadian workers are fed up with concessions.

POWER

It is also a reminder of the power of Quebec's working class.

In 1972, the first Common Front strike took place.

It became the largest and longest general strike in North American history.

It lasted three weeks, during which time workers occupied dozens of factories and hospitals, took over several Quebec towns, and organized the strike with the help of radio and television stations—taken over by the strikers and operated under workers' control!

DEPO-PROVERA: A THREAT TO WOMEN'S LIVES

Last month in Washington, three women stood before a roomfull of reporters and told their personal horror stories of deformed children, cervical cancer, and sterility.

These women have something in common.

CHANGED

Each had been prescribed Depo-Provera for contraceptive use—an experimental synthetic hormone. And each of their lives have changed because of it.

The three women who spoke out are not alone.

Depo-Provera has been taken by more than eleven million women in 80 countries since its introduction in the sixties by the Upjohn Co.

In the U.S. alone, the National Women's Health Network has a registry of over 200 users whose problems range from sterility to loss of sexual desire, to breast tumors.

But according to Upjohn research manager Gordon Duncan, none of these problems are serious enough "to preclude its use as a contraceptive."

The results of early tests of Depo on animals must have slipped by Mr. Duncan.

Studies using beagles and rhesus monkeys over a 17 year period both showed alarming cancer rates.

In 1978, Upjohn's own scientists concluded that the cancer was "likely related to treatment with Depo-Provera."

The FDA has twice rejected the use of Depo-Provera for birth control, but in 1972 approved it for use as a pain reliever in certain types of inoperable cancer.

That makes Depo a legally marketed drug for use by physicians as they see fit.

WORLD

So, despite animal studies demonstrating the danger of the drug, despite actual case histories of ruined lives, and despite an unscientific study of 11,000 Black women in Atlanta, where no attempt for follow up was even made, the drug is being distributed. Not just in the U.S., but widely, all over the world.

BY FAITH SIMON



Belita Cowan, Women's Health Network

But that's not quite good enough for Upjohn Co., who last month requested and were granted a special hearing by the FDA.

They are pressing hard to lift the ban and expand their markets.

The company's expectation is that 4 million more women would use the drug if it were approved for use in the U.S.

Because an unapproved drug cannot be exported from the U.S., Upjohn now uses a Belgium plant to supply a limited overseas market.

What Upjohn is really after is distribution through AID (the U.S. Agency for International Development), the major supplier of contraceptives to underdeveloped countries.

BAN

Upjohn needs FDA approval open the door to massive exportation—a financial bonanza for the company.

The board of inquiry on Depo-Provera will take its time before deciding whether the drug is hazardous to women's health.

But for the hundreds of women suffering the effects of the drug, the verdict is already out.

The National Women's Health Network is leading the fight for a ban on the drug's use as a contraceptive and intend to sue Upjohn, seeking compensation for Depo-Provera victims.

Women who have been given the drug should contact the National Women's Health Network at: 224 Seventh St. SE, Washington, D.C. 20003.

"SOCIALIST" MITTERAND BACKS U.S. MISSILE POLICY

French socialist president Francois Mitterand's speech to the German parliament last month put him firmly behind the U.S. nuclear arms build up.

Describing France as a "loyal partner" in the western alliance, he attacked the Russian military build up.

As long as that existed, U.S. medium range missiles had to be deployed in Europe.

COMFORT

His speech was aimed at giving help and comfort to the German Christian Democrats in their uphill struggle to win German public opinion to the missiles.

Other western powers are increasingly worried that popular feeling will help the German socialist party (SPD)—who are coming out against the missiles in the forthcoming election.

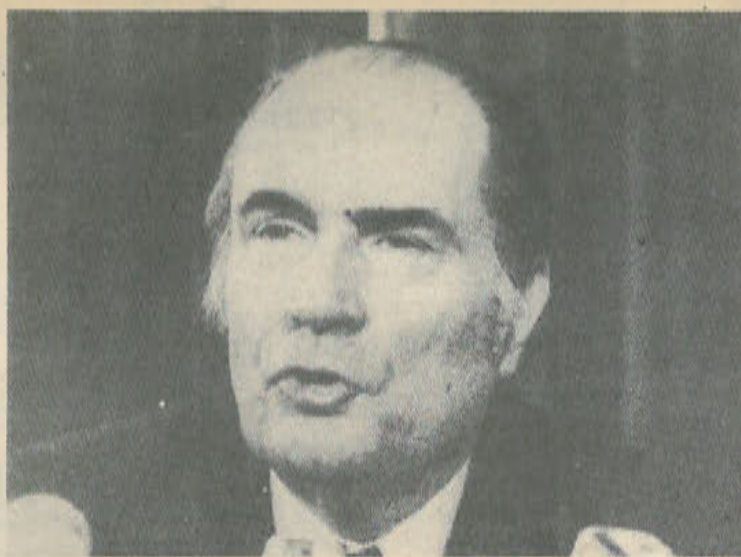
Mitterand is also playing the nationalist card. He hopes to win support from those in France who want an independent French nuclear deterrent.

This is why he doesn't want French nuclear weapons taken into account when the U.S. and USSR meet in Geneva to discuss weapons reduction.

In this he is backed by the Christian Democrats but opposed by the SPD.

CHEERED

Mitterand was cheered by the Christian Democrats after his speech, who afterwards claimed it contrasted with the 'wishful thinking' of the SPD.



Francois Mitterand

Despite his left talk before he was elected, he is now trying to pander to conservative opinion in France as his government turns increasingly to attacking workers.

Whereas the German socialists know there are still a lot of votes to be gained from campaigning against nuclear weapons.

Solidarnosc available from Hera Press, \$4.95

BROWN HOW

Sharon Smith
Brown and Sh
Island, now th
progress in th

The strike of 1,600 machinists began at the Brown and Sharpe Manufacturing Company in Rhode Island on October 18, 1981—and it started off with a bang.

More than three quarters of the North Kingstown police force, accompanied by state police, showed up to greet the strikers on the first day of picketing.

In the clash that followed, two strikers were injured and six arrested as the police escorted management through the picket line.

By March 22, 1982, the conflict had escalated to the point where, at their second mass support rally in four weeks, 1,500 strikers and their supporters battled more than 100 state and local police, who charged them with clubs and pepper gas.

CLEAR

If one thing was clear in March, 1982, it was this: the Brown and Sharpe workers were willing to fight, and fight hard, for their contract.

But now, ten months later, and 16 months into the strike the union has no plans for future mass pickets or rallies.

The last rally, held at the state house on the anniversary of the strike in October, drew only 400.

While a handful of pickets can be found at the plant gates at any time, maintaining the 24-hour picket lines, most of the momentum from earlier in the strike is gone.

The International union reps have packed up and left town.

The International Association of Machinists (IAM) is to be congratulated for single-handedly deflating much of the momentum from the longest current labor dispute in the U.S.

After the two successful support rallies and mass pickets held last spring at Brown and Sharpe, it seemed that, after six months, the union was finally embarking on a clear-cut strategy to win support and fight the company.

The strike was beginning to get the nationwide attention it deserved.

But late last spring the union leadership decided to do an about face in strategy.

In June—ironically, the same month that the R.I. AFL-CIO began calling on its own rank and file to join the picket line at Brown and Sharpe—the IAM embarked on a new course designed to scale down the spirit of solidarity and mass activity at the plant gate.

The Machinists union hired "Corporate Campaign Inc." to shape a new direction for the strike.

Ray Rogers, head of the organizing firm, is best known for the three year corporate campaign against the J.P. Stevens southern textile company for the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union.

The corporate campaign which Rogers has developed is basically a public pressure campaign, aimed at using the intricate links in political and corporate networks to squeeze a settlement out of the company.

In this case, since Donald Roach is both president of Brown and Sharpe and a board member of R.I. Hospital Trust National Bank, which in turn holds 17.5% of Brown and Sharpe stock in trust—a bank account withdrawal campaign was devised to get the bank to put pressure on Brown and Sharpe to settle.



BROWN AND SHARPE: HOW NOT TO WIN

Reports on the strike at Brown and Sharpe in Cranston, Rhode Island, the longest major strike in the U.S.

Meanwhile, since R.I. senator John Chafee is a cousin of Henry Sharpe, chairman of the Brown and Sharpe board, letters were directed at him to put pressure on Henry Sharpe to settle. And so on.

Ray Rogers and the "Corporate Campaign" made some big claims at the beginning of the campaign, claims like "There's no doubt in my mind that Mr. Roach will be off the board (of Hospital Trust) if this thing isn't settled really soon."

POLITICIANS

Union activists dove full-force into the campaign, as they set up "informational pickets" outside bank offices and leafletted individuals and unions to withdraw their money from Hospital Trust. Even after Rogers was let go and the union took over the campaign, union members spent much of the fall canvassing door to door to collect signatures of support to local politicians.

When the campaign finally petered out this fall, it could boast that a grand total of \$40 million—including \$28 million from the Providence Employees Pension Fund—had been pulled out of Hospital Trust Bank. And 40,000 signatures of support had been collected by the strikers for the State Congressional Delegation.

But nothing had changed at the bargaining table.

Worse still, the whole focus of the strike had been shifted away from the plant gates—since the corporate campaign began in June, not one mass

rally has been held at the plant.

When the campaign failed to produce tangible results, the strike was left directionless.

Over the last couple of months, the biggest battles over the strike have been fought at the court bench.

The union sued the state—and won—in December, the right for strikers to collect state welfare benefits. And the National Labor Relations Board in Washington has now overturned the regional board, and ruled that Brown and Sharpe Manufacturing has not been bargaining in good faith.

This latest ruling should at least prevent the company from holding a union decertification election in the near future, although they've definitely got union-busting on their minds.

To even the most skeptical observer it is now obvious that Brown and Sharpe is out to bust the union.

To achieve this would be no small feat, as District 64 of the IAM contains within it by far the largest machinists local in the state of Rhode Island.

BRINK

Despite Brown & Sharpe's whimpering before the public eye that the strike could force the company to completely close down its Rhode Island operations (they closed their small North Providence plant of 115 workers this fall), their's is hardly the picture of a firm on the brink of bankruptcy.

The 1970's was a boom decade for Brown and Sharpe, the 149 year old family business—as the company transformed itself into "Brown and Sharpe, the multinational corporation." By 1980, sales had nearly quadrupled over the 1972 level, and one half the firm's net income came from its overseas subsidiaries.

RECESSION

Brown and Sharpe, like the rest of the metalworking industry, has been hit hard by the recession. In 1981, sales were down by 9.7%, and 1982 projections look even bleaker. But Brown and Sharpe is not a small struggling business, battling for survival. It's a relatively stable multinational corporation, prepared to weather the storm to get rid of a union which has struck three times in six years. With the economic downturn in sight and layoffs inevitable, the timing was perfect for union-busting.

So the company forced the strike on a union which had already accepted 85% of its demands, by injecting a last minute seniority clause and demanding 100% agreement. Since the strike, they've raised the stakes to include separate contract expiration dates for the machinist, clerical and maintenance locals at the plant, and the right to assign non-union supervisors to union jobs for up to 20% of their time.

At the moment, it looks as if Brown and Sharpe has the upper hand in this strike. But it doesn't have to end this way. And it certainly didn't have to come to this.

EFFORT

Now, 15 months into the strike, the largest machinist local in Rhode Island is threatened not only with defeat but with destruction. The IAM, with all its apparatus, has failed to make a concerted effort

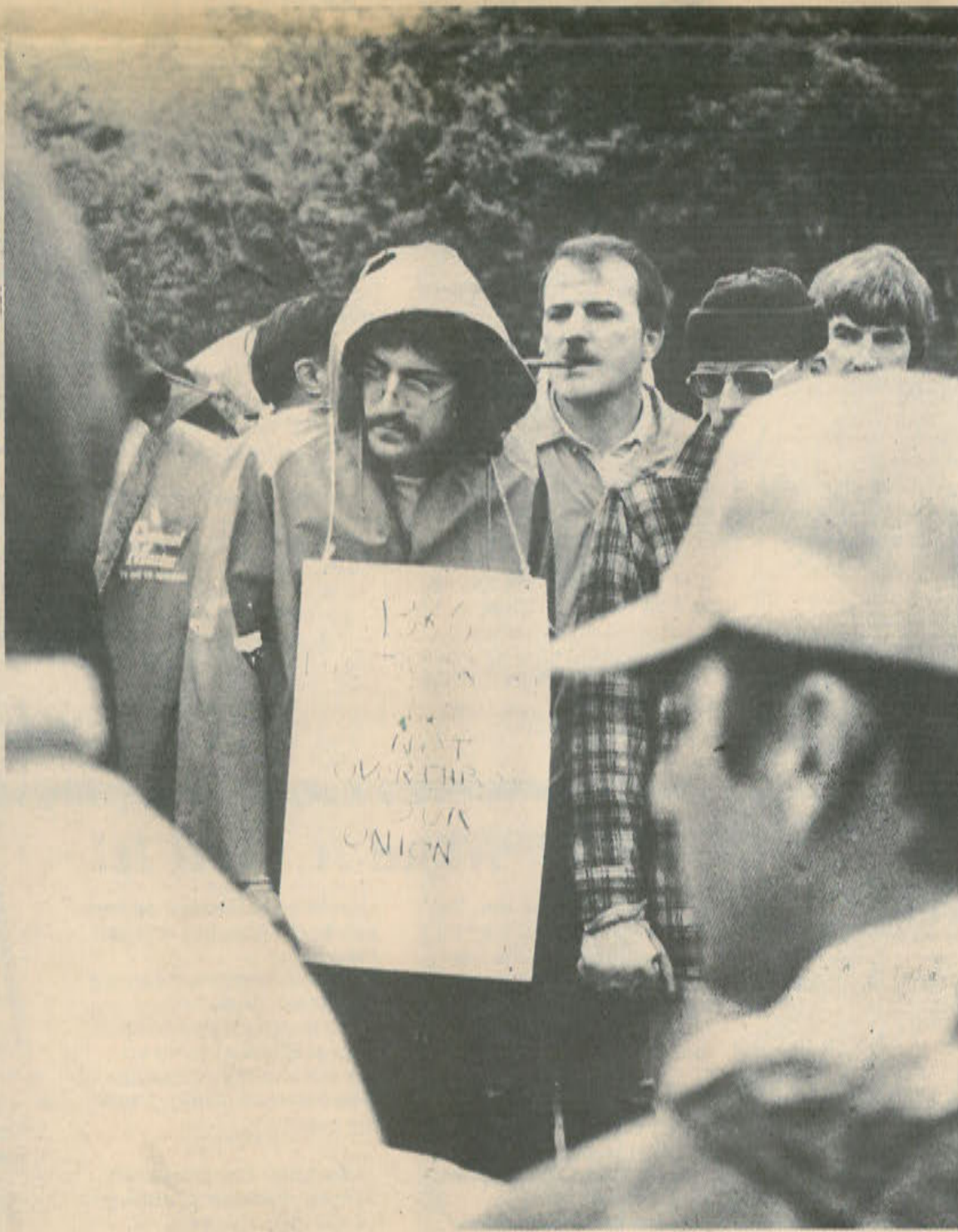
to mobilize its own membership to support the strike where it's going to make a difference—on the picket lines. In fact, their strategy discouraged such activity—it dead-ended in the courts.

CHANCE

William Winpisinger, IAM International president, a self-acclaimed "socialist", has yet to set foot in Rhode Island to support the strike where he has stated "labor history is being written."

The only chance that the rank and file at Brown and Sharpe have now is to take the fight into their own hands, to bring the battle back to the picket line, and bring back the mass rallies which shook Rhode Island last March. If there's one lesson from the Brown and Sharpe strike it is this: it's only solidarity and rank and file action that can begin to turn the American labor movement around. □

Machinists president William Winpisinger



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rally has been held at the plant.

When the union failed to produce a settlement, the strike was less.

Over the months, the union fought the state welfare board in Washington, D.C., and overturned the board's decision to rule against the strikers.

The union and won—in part for state welfare. The National Board in Washington, D.C., overturned the board's decision and ruled in favor of the strikers.

This latest development is at least a partial victory for the strikers, although they have not yet won their minds.

To even the odds, an observer it is clear that the Brown and Sharpe strike has not yet been won.

To achieve a small feat, as the IAM contains the largest membership in the state of Rhode Island.

Despite the B and S strike, the company's operations (the small North Kingstown plant) is hardly a firm on the verge of bankruptcy.

Machinists president William Winpisinger



**COVER
ALL
THE
ISSUES**

The right wing attack on women

Dear Socialist Worker,

The right-wing attack on women includes far more than restrictions on reproductive rights.

Why don't you cover the whole range of attacks—from those on lesbians, to the increase in violence against women, to the shutting down of homes for battered women?

Susan Lawrence,
Atlanta, GA



HEALTH AND SAFETY NOTES

BY MATT FILSINGER

Emergency

For the first time in the history of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, a court has ordered OSHA to establish an emergency temporary standard for a chemical.

The American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) and Ralph Nader's Public Citizen Health Research filed suit to demand that OSHA enact an emergency standard for ethylene oxide (EtO). EtO is widely used as a sterilizer in hospitals, and is also a fumigant and an ingredient in some pesticides.

100,000 workers in America are exposed to EtO. Scientific studies of humans and laboratory animals show that exposure to ethylene oxide at the current allowable level yields a significant risk of contracting abdominal cancer, leukemia, and chromosomal (genetic) damage.

Thorne Auchter, the head of OSHA, has promised that the agency will appeal this decision—probably delaying action for years.

★★★★

A real Thorne!

The American Public Health Association (APHA) has called for the removal of Auchter as the head of OSHA. Auchter's experience prior to being at OSHA was as the vice president of his daddy's construction company in Florida.

The APHA has also called on OSHA to adopt a number of pending standards including ones on asbestos, nickel, cadmium, silica, and anesthetic gases. They've also called for a strengthening of OSHA's inspection program.

Since Reagan and Auchter took office OSHA has not passed any new standards for a cancer-causing agent.

★★★★

R2D2 at Work

The first case of a robot killing a human worker has occurred. It happened in a Japanese factory. It appears that if a robot can't take your job, it might take more drastic measures. □

Letters

Write to Letters, Socialist Worker
P.O. Box 18037 Cleveland OH 44118

Dear Socialist Worker,

I am a Black woman experiencing oppression daily—even more so now since Reaganomics.

Even before Reagan as I worked as a bricklayer's helper at U.S. Steelworks in Homestead, PA, sexist attitudes were directed at me.

Moving to Boston, my family and I hoped we would find a good-paying job.

I lost my mortgage clerk job because of a racist supervisor.

My husband had his job snatched away just to put us on welfare.

The caseworker from the D.P.A. doesn't give any concern to our situation (You would think he—the caseworker—was supporting us out of his own salary!)

Enough is enough!

Martin L. King and Malcolm fought in different ways, but for the same reasons, total freedom for all Blacks in this country, for the oppressed of the world!—I want to do my part, these men laid down their lives so that I and others like me can live in freedom.

My choice is to work through socialism.

Darlene Thompson,
Boston, MA

Dear Socialist Worker,

It takes more than rock throwing to bring down the capitalist system.

I think you should stop cheer leading, and spend a little of your time thinking about a political program capable of taking on this system—and winning.

The left has been tailing the Black movement in the streets for far too long.

What is needed is to win Black militants to a united party of Black and white workers, prepared to fight together on a common program for socialism—the only road to Black liberation.

Jim Jefferson,
Louisville, KY

Dear Socialist Worker,

I have been receiving your paper for a while and find it extremely interesting and a fresh alternative to other international affairs literature.

Carol Goddard,
Richmond, IN



Dear Socialist Worker,

I think you are unrealistic—to say the least—about the elected trade union leaders of this country.

You seem to think they are all Teamster goons or cowards. And that all they have to do is wave a magic wand and the giant multinational corporations will fall over and give into their demands.

Obviously, it's not quite so easy.

One problem is that the rank and file workers are just as unwilling to fightback as the leaders you denounce.

It this wasn't true, we would have wildcat strikes by the thousands.

More importantly, you ignore

the fact that the best of the trade union leaders are more and more taking an active role in progressive movements from the freeze, to the

fight for jobs, to opposition to the Reagan war in Central America.

Bill Olson,
St. Louis, MS

It is because we do not realize in this place in time what we are talking about?

It is time to see that justice and humanity is needed in this world.

What is right? What is wrong? It is easy as black and white . . . So what do you say?

Because of the violence and crimes, we the people are in the penalties of our own situations.

Until we get our message across and speak out loud we will not be heard from the heart.

So let the bell ring from within.

—Lee C. Thompson
Boston, MA

Buy It, Read It, Sell It!

The same week that Ronald Reagan announced he was cutting back the food stamps program even farther, 80,000 hungry people lined up in Detroit alone for handouts.

There are now free food distributions in nearly every city—from government cheese handouts, to distributions by churches and unions.

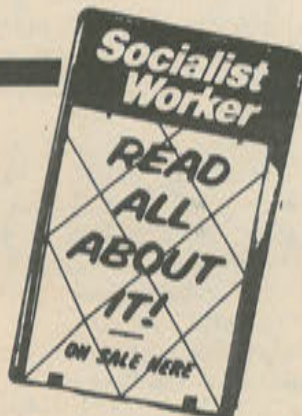
Socialist Worker sellers

should go to these lines and talk to the people—and sell the paper.

John Anderson of Detroit says it can be done.

He suggests that branches prepare a leaflet on the crisis and the socialist alternative to go along with the paper.

Socialist Worker sellers should also take advantage of the mild weather.



And don't forget to send in your reports and suggestions. Winter is coming to an end but the world economic crisis isn't.

AHMED SHAWKI

A PAGE FROM WORKING CLASS HISTORY

"no power greater"

by BARBARA WINSLOW



MALCOLM X ON BLACK HISTORY

Most Afro-Americans who go to other meetings are usually interested in things local—Harlem, that's it; or Mississippi, that's it—national.

But seldom do you find them taking a keen interest in things going on worldwide, because they don't know what part they play in things going on worldwide.

BROAD

But those of us who come here, come here because we not only see the importance of having an understanding of things international, and where our people, the Afro-Americans in this country, fit into that scheme of things, where things international are concerned.

We came out because our scope is broad, our scope is international rather than national, and our interests are international, rather than national.

Our interests worldwide, rather than just limited just to things American, or things New York, or things Mississippi.

And this is very important. You can get into a conversation with a person, and in five minutes tell whether or not that person's scope is broad or whether that person's scope is narrow, whether that person is interested in things going on in his block where he lives or interested in things going on all over the world.

Now persons who are narrow-minded, because their knowledge is limited, think they're affected only by things happening on their block.

But when you find a person who has a knowledge of things of the world today, he realizes that what happens in South Vietnam can affect him if he's living on St. Nicholas Avenue, or what's happening in the Congo affected his situation on 8th Avenue or 7th Avenue or Lenox Avenue.

INTERNATIONAL

The person who realizes the effect that things all over the world have right on his block, on his salary, on his reception or lack of reception into society, immediately becomes

The struggle by Black people to learn their history has always been a feature of the Black liberation struggle.

The following is from a speech by Malcolm X on Afro-American history, given on January 24, 1965, at the Audubon ballroom in Harlem.

The purpose of the talk was to retrace Afro-American history from slavery to the present day.

Other lectures were to discuss present tactics used to keep Black people oppressed.

On February 21st, he was scheduled to continue this discussion. It never took place.

Malcolm was gunned down as he started to speak.

Malcolm's words are 18 years old today, but the message is as timely and as dynamic as ever.

interested in things international.

But if a person's scope is so limited that he thinks things that affect him are only those things that take place across the street or downtown, then he's only interested in things across the street or downtown.

So, one of our greatest desires here at Organization of Afro-American Unity meetings is to try and broaden the scope and even the reading habits of most of our people, who need their scope broadened and their reading habits also broadened today . . .

ROOTS

Just as a tree without roots is dead, a people without history or culture also becomes a dead people.

And when you look at us, those of us who are called Negro, we're called that because we are like a dead people. We have nothing to identify ourselves as part of the human family.

You know, you take a tree, you can tell what kind of tree it is by looking at the leaves. If the leaves are gone, you can look at the bark and tell what kind it is.

But when you find a tree with the leaves gone and the bark gone, everything gone, you call that a what?—a stump; and you can't identify

a stump as easily as you can identify a tree.

And this is the position that you and I are in here in America.

Formerly we could be identified by the names we wore when we came here. When we were first brought here, we had different names. When we were first brought here, we had a different language.

And these names and this language identified the culture that we were brought from, the land that we were brought from.

In identifying that, we were able to point towards what we had produced, our net worth. But once our names were taken and our language was destroyed and our identity was cut off with no history, we became like a stump, something dead, a twig over here in the Western hemisphere.

Anybody could step on us, trample upon us or burn us, and there would be nothing that we could do about it . . .

RACISM

I'm not speaking racism, I'm not condemning all white people. I'm just saying that in the past the white world was in power, and it was.

This is history, this is fact. They called it European history, or colonialism. They ruled all the dark world.



Now when they were in power and had everything going their way, they didn't call that racism, they called it colonialism. And they were happy too when they could stand up and tell how much power they had.

Britain used to brag about the sun never set on her empire. Her empire was so vast, you know, that the sun would never set on it, she bragged.

I heard Churchill say it, and Macmillan, and some of those others who sat over there telling everybody else what to do.

But now the shoe is on the other foot. There is no nation today that can brag about its power being unlimited, or that

it can take unilateral action in any area of the earth that they desire.

No white nation can do this. But just 20 years ago they could do it.

20 years ago the United States could do it, 20 years ago England could do it, France could do it, even little old runt Belgium could do it, and Holland could do it.

But they can't do it now. Because the base of power is shifting.

And this is what you and I have to understand, really, in order to understand what's happening in Georgia, in Alabama, in Mississippi and in New York City.



WHERE WE STAND

• Workers' Control

Workers create all the wealth under capitalism. A socialist society can only be built when workers collectively seize control of that wealth and democratically plan its production and distribution according to human needs instead of profit.

The working class is the key to the fight for socialism. Freedom and liberation will only be achieved through the struggles of workers themselves, organizing and fighting for real workers' power.

• Revolution Not Reform

The capitalist system cannot be patched up or reformed as some union leaders and liberal politicians say. Capitalism is based on the exploitation of workers. No reforms can do away with this exploitation. The only way workers can come to control society and create a system based on freedom and a decent life for all is by overthrowing capitalism and replacing it with revolutionary, democratic socialism.

• A Workers' Government

The present state apparatus (federal and state governments, the courts, army and police) was developed to maintain the capitalist system. This apparatus cannot be taken over as it stands and converted to serve workers. The working class needs an entirely different kind of state based upon mass democratic councils of workers' delegates.

Supporting the present state apparatus is a vast network of propaganda — newspapers, radio, television, movies, the education system. Workers are bombarded daily from all directions with capitalism's point of view. The working class needs its own sources of information. To help meet this need, we are dedicated to building a newspaper that the working class can trust and use in the fight against the present system.

• Fight Oppression

Capitalism divides the working class — pitting men against women, whites against blacks. Capitalism fosters and uses these divisions to block the unity necessary for its destruction. As capitalism moves into crisis, oppressed groups — blacks, women, latins, Native Americans, gays, youth — suffer most. We support the struggles of these oppressed groups.

We fight for women's liberation, supporting equal pay for all women. We fight for free abortion and an end to forced sterilization. There should be free quality child care for all who need it. We fight for equal hiring opportunities for women and an end to sexual harassment. Discrimination and harassment of sexual minorities must be fought.

We support the independent organization and struggles of oppressed people to strengthen the working class struggle for socialism.

• Black Liberation

Our support for the struggle against racism is unconditional, and we oppose any attempt to subordinate this fight. We fight racism in all its forms, from institutionalized "legal" racism to the activities of groups such as the Nazis and the Ku Klux Klan.

We fight segregation in the schools and in housing, we support affirmative action, and we oppose racist firings and harassment. We support armed self-defense in the face of racist attacks. We support independent self-organization and the right of self-determination of the black community. We demand freedom for all political prisoners.

• Rank and File Organization

The unions today are largely business machines that long ago stopped truly fighting for the interests of the working class. Business union leaders act either as brakes on workers' struggles, or as cops, delivering workers into the hands of the bosses. We fight in the unions to put an end to this.

To make the unions fight for workers' interests, workers must organize their power on the shop floor. This can only happen if the rank and file organize themselves independently of the union bureaucrats. We work to build rank and file organizations in unions and companies wherever we are employed.

• Internationalism

The working class has no nation. Capitalism is international, so the struggle for socialism must be world-wide. A socialist revolution cannot survive in isolation.

We champion workers' struggles in all countries, from Poland to Puerto Rico, from Palestine to El Salvador. We support all genuine national liberation struggles. We call for victory of the black freedom fighters in South Africa and Namibia. We oppose all forms of imperialism and oppose sending U.S. troops anywhere in the world to impose U.S. interests.

Russia, China, Cuba and Eastern Europe are not socialist countries. They are state capitalist and part of one world capitalist system. We support the struggles of workers in these countries against the bureaucratic ruling class.

• Revolutionary Party

The activity of the ISO is directed at taking the initial steps toward building a revolutionary party in a working class fragmented and cut off from socialist ideas. Revolutionaries must be involved in the daily struggles of workers and oppressed groups at the workplace, in the unions and in the communities. We build every struggle that strengthens the self-confidence, organization and socialist consciousness of workers and the oppressed.

As the working class movement gathers strength, the need for revolutionary leadership becomes crucial. We are part of the long process of building a democratic revolutionary party rooted in the working class. Those who agree with our stand and are prepared to help us build toward revolutionary socialism are urged to join us now.

International Socialist Organization

For more information about the International Socialist Organization (ISO), please write to Box 18037, Cleveland, Ohio 44118.

ISO NEWS

What's ON

BALTIMORE
Educational Series on **Marxism and the Party**. 2 parts. February 4 & 18.

Black History Month: Barri Brown on Malcolm X. Call 235-4620 for details.

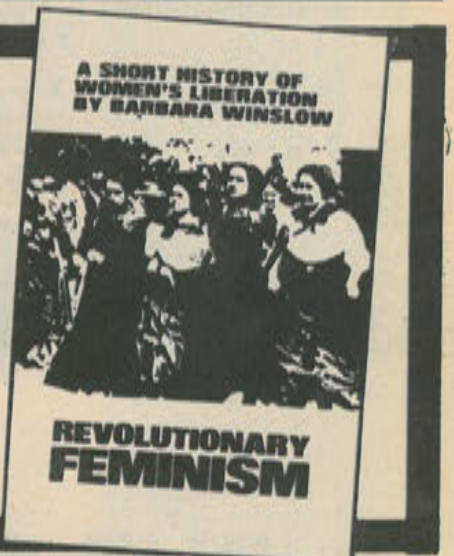
BLOOMINGTON
Ahmed Shawki on **The Middle East and the Struggle for Palestine**. February 12, 7:00 p.m.

BOSTON
Boston Day School. Saturday, February 5, 1:30-10:00 p.m. Barri Brown on **Black Liberation**. Anne Griffiths on **Revolutionary Feminism**. Neil Smith on **Marxism and the Economic Crisis**. Cal Winslow on **Socialist Perspectives**. \$2.00 dinner and party, child care available. Call 427-7087 for details.

CHICAGO
Day School. February 12. Al Maass on **Why the Working Class**. Glenn Perusek on **State Capitalism**. Faith Simon on **Socialist Perspectives for the Eighties**. 2:00-10:00 p.m. Call 288-7572 for details.

CINCINNATI
Day School, February 5. Dan Petty on **The Working Class and the Economic Crisis**. Sharon Smith on **Roots of Oppression: A Marxist Analysis**. Christina Bergmark on **The Theory of State Capitalism**. Celia Petty on **The Need for a Revolutionary Party**. U. of C. 1:00-10:00 p.m. Dinner and Party. Call 871-1371 for details.

Revolutionary Feminism by Barbara Winslow
\$2.00 from Hera Press. Box 18037 Cleveland, Ohio 44118



Duncan Hallas on **Marxism: 100 Years After Marx**. TUC, U. of C., February 26, 8:00 p.m.

CLEVELAND
Black History Month Forum: Barri Brown on **Malcolm X**. 7:30 p.m.

Marx: 100 Years. 7:30 p.m. February 25. Call 371-7648 or 371-2370 for details.

DETROIT
Black History Month Forum. Joyce Williams on **Ida B. Wells**. 7:00 p.m.

Day School, February 19. 2:00-10:00 pm. John Anderson on **Revolutionary Traditions**. Frank Runninghorse on **Why We Need a Revolutionary Party**, and **What is Marxism**. Call 527-2180 for more information.

KENT
Retha Hill on **Black Nationalism and Socialism**. February 3, 12:00 p.m. Oscar Ritchie, Noon.

Duncan Hallas on **Karl Marx: 100 Years**. February 24, 12:00 Noon. Call 673-1710 for details.

MUNCIE
Ahmed Shawki on **The Crisis in Middle East**. Ball State University Student Center.

Duncan Hallas on **Karl Marx: 100 Years**. Ball State University Student Center. Call 282-1582 for details.

NEW YORK
Barri Brown on **Malcolm X**. February 25, 8:00 p.m. Call 316-0569 for details.

SAN FRANCISCO
Duncan Hallas on **Marx: 100 Years Later—Are His Ideas Still Relevant?** February 12, 8:00 p.m. Call 285-1908 for details.

SEATTLE
Duncan Hallas on **Karl Marx—100 Years**. February 11th, 7:30 p.m. Meeting Place in the Market, Elliot Bay Room. Call 722-4133 or 725-9717 for details.



"The philosophers have merely interpreted the world. The point is to change it."

— Karl Marx

If you want to help us change the world and build socialism, join us. There are ISO members and branches in the following cities:

- Baltimore, MD
- Fort Wayne, IN
- Northampton, MA
- Bloomington, IN
- Indianapolis, IN
- Philadelphia, PA
- Boston, MA
- Kent, OH
- Portland, OR
- Charleston, WV
- Los Angeles, CA
- Rochester, NY
- Chicago, IL
- Madison, WI
- San Francisco, CA
- Cincinnati, OH
- Minneapolis, MN
- Seattle, WA
- Cleveland, OH
- Muncie, IN
- Toledo, OH
- Detroit, MI
- New York, NY
- Washington, DC

ISO National Office, P.O. Box 18037, Cleveland, OH 44118

The world economy in crisis

OF BREAD AND GUNS

When it comes to the important questions of prosperity or poverty, economists have contradictory answers—if they have answers at all.

As Nigel Harris puts it: "Whenever there are vital issues, the 'black holes' of non-explanation appear, and accounts disintegrate into guesses."

This book, *Of Bread and Guns*, goes straight into the black hole, however.

It is not like ordinary books on economics, designed to either confuse the reader or tell the reader about how to prosper in the 1980s.

Nigel Harris has written a book on the most vital economic question of all—the condition and fate of the world economy. Nothing less.

Without skipping on the intricacies of debt, the growth of certain lesser developed countries (LDCs), the rivalry between East and West and so on, Harris has put together an understandable account of the grave mess that the bankers and industrialists have created and that the world's population finds itself saddled with.

SLUMP

The first point to make is that we will soon be in a full decade of economic stagnation.

The number of unemployed in the U.S. brings back images from the depression of the 1930s—and unemployment in Europe has risen every year since 1973.

There have been small upturns—one is predicted later this year for the U.S. and Canada—but they are short and centered on specific regions and industries.

There is no prospect that the prosperity and full employment of the 1950s will return. And while in this country the recession has focused largely on basic industries in the midwest, the extended nature of the downturn has even forced layoffs in the computer industry.

These years have demonstrated what Marxists have said all along—that prosperity is not the "natural" state of the economy.

Capitalism is a series of boom and busts. Politicians search in vain for a way to sustain investment once profit rates are low.

Unemployment, famine in the peripheral areas, financial panic, gold speculation: these aren't new features. They are the result of a system based on production for profit, not human need.

WORLD

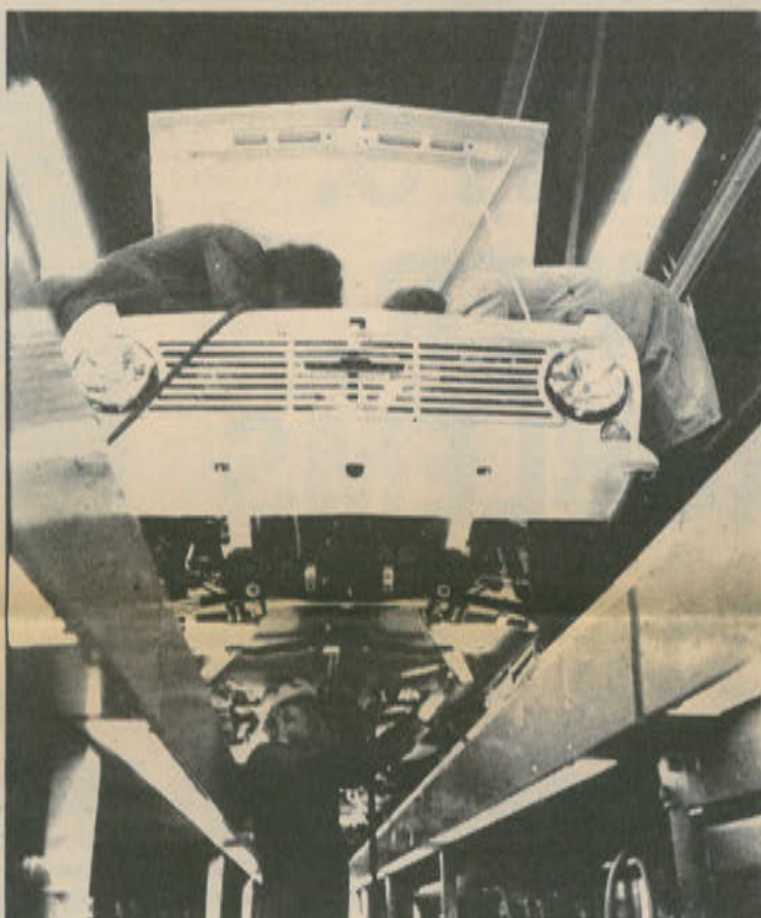
What is new, that is, what is special about this particular period of slump, is the "globalization" of the crisis.

What this means is that we are not in the middle of an economic downturn here that is

Kent Worcester reviews the new book by Nigel Harris, available from Hera Press for \$7.95



Nigel Harris



distinct from the fiscal crisis in Mexico or the meat shortages in Poland.

Every layoff in Michigan reverberates in Poland. More spectacularly, every default on a banker's debt by a lesser developed country threatens to bring the entire financial world on its knees.

The massive growth of the system after World War Two brought industry into thousands of the world's villages.

Peasants from Thailand to Brazil became workers. Some of this newly created working class went to other countries to work—legally or illegally.

At the same time as a world working class was brought into being, an international system of production was being created as well.

In order to compete, industrialists found themselves in charge of multinationals, companies larger than most states and only accidentally tied to any particular political boundary.

It became harder to determine just whose capital was whose.

In the automobile industry, U.S. firms bought portions of

Japanese firms but protested over imports. Ford has recently introduced a "world car"—parts of which are assembled in Europe, others in Southeast Asia.

Ford is only a U.S. company only because the state and federal governments have offered favorable conditions for staying in this country—tax breaks, public purchases, etc.

SHIFT

Should these conditions change, Ford wouldn't hesitate to shift its headquarters elsewhere, just as it has moved part of its production.

It is on the basis of achieving the best return on investment that Ford and other companies make their decisions.

And this process has resulted in a world market, a world economy, and now a world crisis.

National solutions can only be partial, even temporary. No national economy can sustain itself entirely on its own domestic market and no na-

tional economy can produce satisfactory profit rates in every sector.

The growth of individual states has been stunning. Only a week ago Reagan proposed a federal budget of \$848.5 billion for 1984.

SPENDING

The last forty years have seen a massive increase in state spending of all kinds.

But Nigel Harris points out three changes that are not so often noticed about national governments.

Firstly, the distinction between public and private spending is being eroded. State spending can be used to prop ailing companies, to takeover important but unprofitable industries that are central to the economy as a whole, or even compete directly (as the Eastern bloc countries do) as just another participant in the market.

Secondly, states are large only within their own political arenas.

Harris writes: "The state controls neither the world market nor that part of it

which lies within its national boundaries."

The U.S. federal government wields some disproportionate power in the world economy due to its large purchases and wealthy domestic market.

In general the world economy fits the laissez-faire model. No one firm or state determines the prices and profits of the whole.

The third point is that since the states find themselves surrogates of restless capital, their political role becomes all the more important.

Many governments resort to protectionism—barriers on imports of commodities and labor—to protect their national economy.

Protectionism, however, doesn't work. Aside from dividing the world's workers along national lines, it merely forces other countries to retaliate in kind.

The result is a restriction on the conditions that produce an upturn, since capital's ability to get the optimal profit is thwarted.

BEST

Many readers will find that the most interesting chapters are those on the "socialist" countries, the arms economy, and the alternatives being proposed by orthodox economists.

But before these chapters Harris has to spell out the generalities of the world economy—the depth of the slump, the "globalization", and the changing character of the national state.

In presenting an exhaustive picture of the world economy he necessarily throws out a dizzying amount of economic and statistical material.

BENEFIT

The political clarity of the later chapters is built upon the detailed work of the earlier chapters.

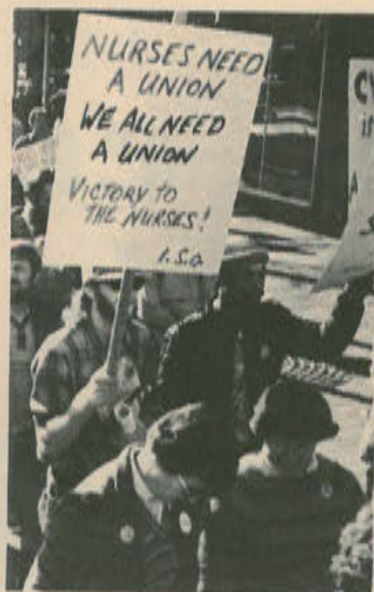
So the reader must spend time with these in order to fully benefit from the awesome overview that this book has.

Take notes on it, read it with a friend, ask a lot of questions of anyone at hand.

Of Bread and Guns is the best book on its subject available from the left. It is worth the effort. □



STRIKING MARYLAND NURSES NEED SUPPORT



BY CURTIS PRICE & ED NITSCH

LA PLATA, MD—February marks the fourth month that nurses at Physicians Memorial Hospital in La Plata, Maryland have been on strike for better working conditions and to preserve their union. One November 3rd, 60 nurses went out on strike, when the hospital tried to take back benefits won under the previous contract period.

The administration wanted to cut back employee leave time and pay for nurses working in intensive care in the emergency room—where jobs are especially stressful and demand special skills. In addition, the administration wanted to take back a dues check off for the union, which had been awarded in previous arbitration. As a final insult, the hospital only offered a flat 6% salary increase.

LEVELS

Nurses are fed up with the administration which has tried to cut costs by reducing staffing levels—forcing nurses to work double shifts on short notice. Nurses with children cannot plan child care.

The hospital responded to the strike by harassing the union. One member was coerced into resigning from the union.

A supervisor wrote and delivered the employee's resignation to the union mailbox.

A non-union employee was put on indefinite suspension for walking the picket line with her mother who is on strike.

The administration claims they cannot afford the union's pay demands, yet they have the money to fly in scab agency nurses from places as far away as Maine.

In December the nurses offered to submit unresolved issues to arbitration. The hospital refused and the NLRB has issued a complaint against them for failure to bargain in good faith and other illegal activities. A hearing has been scheduled for March.

MORALE

In the meantime, morale on the picket lines remains high. Several Washington area unions and much of the community support the nurses.

But much more support is needed to help the nurses win their strike.

Donations and solidarity messages should be sent to Physicians Memorial Hospital Staff Nurses Association, P.O. 594, Waldorf, MD 20601.

Victory to the PMH nurses!

STEEL CONTRACT

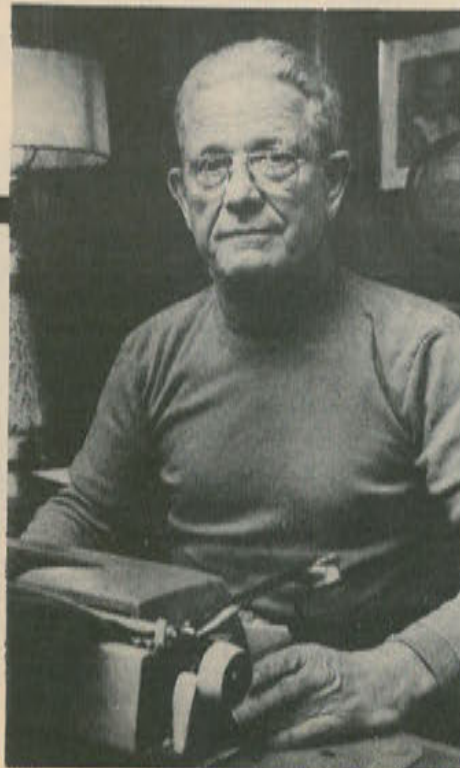
PITTSBURGH, PA—Workers at Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel have given in to the steel industry's demands for concessions—allowing givebacks amounting to \$2.85 per worker per hour.

Wheeling-Pittsburgh workers are members of the United Steel Workers, but they bargain separately from the other major steel producers.

HELP

The new contract at Wheeling-Pittsburgh is expected to help the other big companies in their demand that the Big Eight contract contain major concessions—something local union presidents have resisted until this time.

TALKIN' UNION BY JOHN ANDERSON



John Anderson is a lifelong militant and socialist. He was formerly president of UAW Local 15 in Detroit.

DEMOCRATS: NO ANSWER TO PROBLEMS

Roosevelt won a landslide victory in 1932. He had a decisive majority in both houses of congress. He could have passed into law any program he presented to congress.

Since then, the Democratic Party has had control of both houses of congress for 44 of the last 50 years. It must be held chiefly responsible for the failure of our domestic as well as our foreign policy.

ANSWER

There are those in the labor movement and the Democratic Party who point to the New Deal as providing answers to today's problems. To those of us who went through that depression and helped build the UAW, we know the falsity of such ideas.

The depression of the 30's lasted until early 1941, 8 years after FDR's inauguration on March 3, 1933. He was to make it clear that his purpose was not to make a revolution but to save capitalism. He blocked a bill passed by both houses of congress for a 30-hour work week with 40 hours pay. World War II was Roosevelt's answer to the depression of the 30's.

FDR was forced to offer several stop-gap measures to prevent mass starvation and a growing threat of rioting. He was concerned with the growing support for the Townsend Plan and for the programs of the Socialist and Communist Parties. FDR gave his reluctant support to an inadequate Social Security law. Because of pressure from the labor movement he signed into law Section 7 (a) of the National Industrial Recovery Act. This was supposed to give the workers the right to join a union of their own choosing.

The employers refused to recognize the constitutionality of the law. They refused to obey it. In less than a year after its passage I was fired for union

activity from the Briggs Manufacturing Company, the Murray Body Company, the Cadillac Motor Company, the Hudson Motor Company and from Budd Wheel. To be hired I had to go under an assumed name. To have appealed to the government would have been an act of futility.

When, in March 1934, FDR declared company unions in compliance with Section 7 (a) of the NIRA, the federal UAW-AFL locals in GM plants lost their membership. He was in opposition to all strikes. When federal mediators failed to settle a dispute, he gave his approval for the use of national guard troops to break the strike. They were used against the sitdown strikers in Flint in 1937.

National guardsmen were used to break the steelworkers strike in May and June 1937. When John L. Lewis appealed to him for support after the Chicago police had shot and killed ten pickets at the Republic Steel company plant on May 30, 1937, FDR gave him the following answer—"A plague on both your houses."

TROOPS

He used federal troops to break the strike against the North American Aviation workers in Long Beach, California, on June 9, 1941. They were organized in UAW Local 887.

During his first term in office he made it the responsibility of the federal government to see that people didn't starve. A family on welfare was given \$25.00 per month. People dependent on the federal government lived below the poverty level.

The Social Security act was passed because they wanted the older workers to retire to give their jobs to younger people. The beneficiaries were supposed to supplement their income with their savings. Today Social Security beneficiaries make up a large propor-

tion of those living near or below the poverty level.

Our Social Security benefits rank seventh among the industrial nations. The others also have a national health insurance plan. Instead of being jointly paid for by the worker and the employer the entire cost is paid for by the worker and the consuming public. The employers' share is written off as a cost of doing business.

Those of us who retired before 1967 paid less than \$2,000 into Social Security. We now receive several times that in benefits for one year. Many workers today pay upwards of \$2,000 in one year, yet have no assurance of how much they will receive when they retire.

The New Deal legislation passed during his first term gave FDR the necessary support to get him elected in 1936, '40 and '44. Instead of supporting his liberal vice-president Henry Wallace in 1944 he threw his support to a conservative Southerner, Harry S. Truman, who was to become one of the most anti-labor presidents in American history.

SAME

When FDR came to office he spoke of America as having "one-third of the nation ill-housed, ill-fed and ill-clothed." Today we find the nation having the same problems. If we are to solve these problems we must give the workers a voice in government. The special interests now govern America through the Democratic and Republican Parties. The workers can solve their problems only by organizing their own party. □



CHICAGO FORGE WORKERS FIGHT CONCESSIONS

CHICAGO, IL—On the mid-south side of Chicago sits the Jernberg Forging Plant, the most efficient and productive plant of its kind in the world.

The immediate vicinity, with its rusting piles of scrap and brick alleys, evokes images of the industrial revolution.

BARREL

Outside Jernberg Forge, striking workers warm themselves around an oil barrel fire.

Their signs read "This plant is on strike", "Unfair to employees", "United Steel Workers of America, Local 2154."

The plant has been idle since the strike began November 18.

A 24 hour a day picket has

REPORT BY STEVEN LESLIE

Initially, the disagreement with management was over wage concessions, a cut back in benefits, and a decrease in vacation days.

The strikers now charge that the company has always intended to break their union.

Trucks have come to take out finished forgings, and with police on hand they have been able to cross the picket lines.

One morning the trucks showed up, accompanied by a large number of squad cars. Some of the cops covered the plant entrance, while others blocked the approaching streets.

No one was allowed to enter the area while three trucks were loaded at the dock.

Strikers were stopped and threatened with arrest at both the picket line and in the surrounding area if they interfered with shipping.

CLEAR

Some picketers tried to convince the truck drivers to not cross their lines. They were told they would be arrested.

Other strikers blocking the trucks passage were forced to leave. By mid-afternoon the trucks were full and pulled out.

The Jernberg Company is family run, as a subsidiary of the giant conglomerate, U.S. Industries.

The company has been prepared for this strike. Conditions at the plant have never been good, now they became worse.

Chuck Richie, the strike coordinator, said "They want a non-union shop so they can expand and increase their share of the forging business. Then they can just gobble up the market."

No negotiations are presently being held. One meeting was held with the workers and the company made additional demands.

One striker commented, "The company won't talk till they get what they want—right off the top."

For now it appears the picketing will continue until at least mid-March or April when the slow season ends and the company needs them again.

HARDSHIPS

The strikers are in good spirits and ready to fight on despite the hardships.

Jesse Hilton, a Black maintenance worker, expressed their feeling, "I'm not going to be a slave. I've got a skill and I want to work."

"I don't want anyone's sympathy. I want my pay. No one is going back that way. They can kill me first."

Framers stronger after sixty days on strike

by DAVID SIDDLER

BERKELEY, CA—No strike pay! No unemployment checks! No income!

But the seven strikers at Framers Workshop in Berkeley have only gotten stronger after sixty days of a bitter fight.

They have two unbeatable weapons which have powered their struggle.

One is their determination to see justice. They were fired by callous and arrogant employers, when they formed an employees association to ensure a decent return for their skilled work.

The other is the solidarity of local workers and students.

Supporters have helped maintain a very successful seven day a week picket.

DOWN

Business is down to a pathetic dribble of selfish scabs. Three hundred workers and students packed the Starry Plough Pub in Berkeley for a rip-roaring benefit dance.

Striker Morris Friedlander described it as "the most memorable night of my life."

The supporters braved a ferocious Pacific Storm and helped pay the strikers rent.

The strikers have joined Machinists Local 115 to get the benefit of union solidarity.

As Morris put it "the union



has not been able to provide much financial support but physical and legal support has been indispensable."

It's the picket line that will win their strike and that has been getting stronger.

Labor and socialist songs often thunder down Telegraph Avenue attracting many students.

As striker Linda Spackman said: "This strike has started to open up the minds of hundreds of Berkeley students."

Anti-nuclear activists have openly supported laborers for the first time.

Especially noteworthy are the students of Barrington

Hall Coop for strengthening the line.

They're going to hold a fundraiser there on February 18th.

CONFIDENT

Strikers are increasingly confident. As Morris Friedlander remarked, "This strike can and will be won, but only with ever increasing support from workers and students, not only in Berkeley but throughout the country."

Financial support is badly needed. Send to FWEA, c/o Morris Friedlander, 2745 Stewart Street, No. 10, Berkeley, CA 94705. □

TRUCKERS SHUT DOWN

CAMBRIDGE, OH—The strike of independent truckers has taken many tractor trailers off the nation's highways.

Estimates in the first week were that more than 50% of the independents had parked their rigs.

The press has concentrated on the violence accompanying the strike, but the real point is that Reagan's gas tax will drive many thousands of truckers out of business.

The truckers are desperate, and that is why there is violence.

The question is can the truckers win? This is the third national strike of independents in ten years—and earlier strikes have been losers.

The problem is that while there is potential support for the truckers stand against Reagan's reactionary gas tax, many of their other demands go against the interests of workers.

The truckers also demand, for example, upping the highways speed-limit, and doing away with regulations on the size of trucks and what and how much they can haul.

POSSIBLE

Still the truckers are showing that it is possible to fight Reagan.

What they need to do now is appeal to the unemployed, to workers facing pay cuts and high gas bills for support.

This will get them a lot farther than guerilla tactics and playing cat and mouse with the state police.

They should also consider blockading the highways as they did in 1973. That would something to the economy, and it would provide a rallying point for support. □



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Socialist Worker

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST ORGANIZATION

CHOICE: WE MUST DO MORE

January 22, the tenth anniversary of the legalization of abortion, was marked by demonstrations, rallies, teach-ins, guerilla theater, and concerts all across the country.

In Seattle, Washington, 500 people rallied for abortion rights.

This was the largest pro-choice demonstration since abortion was legalized in Washington in a statewide referendum in 1970.

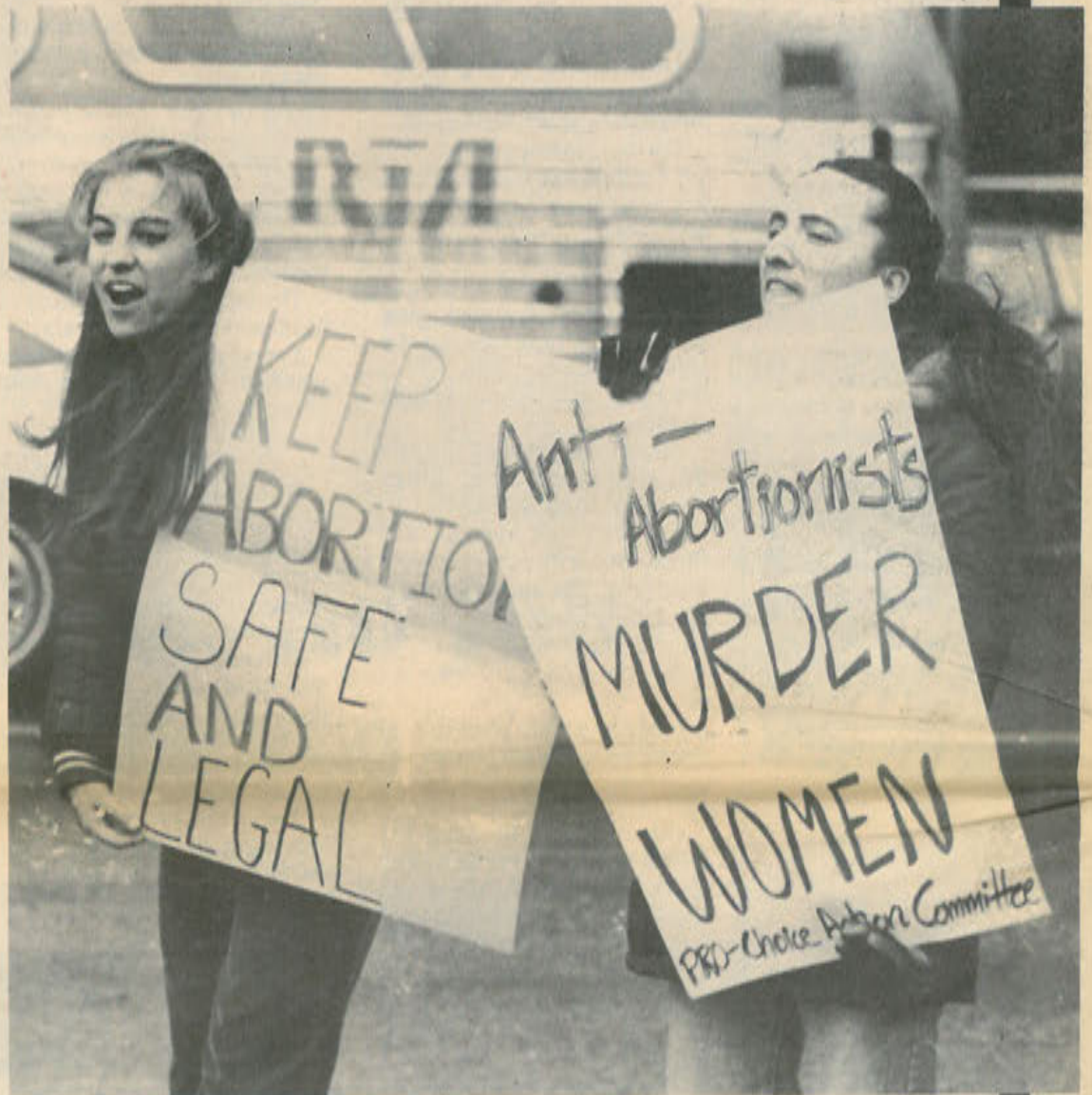
In Boston, 500 people heard Rhonda Copelon, lawyer-activist from the Center for Constitutional Rights, speak at a rally.

BY BARBARA WINSLOW

Other rallies and meetings were held in Buffalo, Iowa, Madison, Wisconsin, Baltimore, Los Angeles, Sacramento, and San Francisco.

In New York, members of CARASA (Committee for Abortion Rights and Against Sterilization Abuse) organized a car caravan and plastered the city with pro-choice stickers.

A meeting that night drew 300 people. In Milwaukee, a teach-in attracted 100 people.



Pro-choice pickets in Cleveland

In Chicago, the Northwestern University pro-choice group and Women Organized for Reproductive Choice picketed an anti-abortion meeting.

In Cleveland the Pro-Choice Action Committee (PCAC) organized a noon time demonstration against two rival anti-abortion factions.

One group, called Catholic Men for Christ the King, had its members sprinkle PCAC with "holy" water, while others flashed the cross at the pro-choice demonstrators as if they were vampires. Teenagers and college students made up the bulk of the afternoon reproductive rights demonstrators.

In the evening, 200 rallied against the major anti-abortion meeting.

Later 400 people attended a concert sponsored by PCAC, featuring Kristin Lems.

In Cincinnati, a hundred people attended a dramatic presentation of the struggle for abortion rights.

HIGHLIGHT

The highlight of the play was a debate between Emma Goldman and Margaret Sanger about women's freedom.

Anti-abortion activities were evident as well, but they were far smaller this year than last.

John Wilke, the president of the "Right-to-Life" organization promised that 100,000 would rally in Washington D.C. Fewer than 26,000 showed.

Even though the anti-abortion forces seem demoralized and plagued by faction fighting, we must redouble our efforts this year.

Howard Baker has promised that anti-abortion legislation will reach the Senate floor this spring.

The "Squeal Act" is now in effect. The Supreme court will rule on a number of restrictive anti-abortion cases. And anti-abortionists have stepped up violence against the clinics.

WORK

This is why we must continue our work—defending clinics, demanding the restoration of Medicaid funding, opposing anti-teenage laws which restrict rights to contraception and abortion.

In other words we must educate, agitate and organize to make abortion available to all women. □

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Rising costs are making it more difficult for us to keep our price down to 25¢ per issue.

But it has never been more important than now to have a socialist paper that working people and the unemployed can afford to buy and read.

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