

ON THE MOVE

DC Area Workers Paper

FIGHT LAY OFFS.....

WE WON'T SCAB

AND WE WON'T STARVE

In December the nation's unemployment rate skyrocketed to 7.1%, up from 6.5% the month before. Following this new came a report from the White House that unemployment is expected to rise to 8% (7.5 million people out of work) before "the recession is over."

The Bureau of Labor Statistics said the number of workers unemployed rose 560,000 in December, to 6.54 million. This is the highest number unemployed since 1940. According to the Bureau, this figure "has risen 2.1 million in the last year and more than 1 million in the last 2 months."

THE PEOPLES REACTION

"I've been working for 33 years and believe me I know how this system works. I've seen the big depression and plenty of hard times and the working people have never gotten anything without fighting for it. And sure as hell we're going to have to fight again this time," said one worker.

That's the mood these days as people see the system messing up more and more before their eyes. From sugar at a dollar a pound, to the threat of 1/2 times as much social security tax coming out of our checks, to increases in union dues for union

leaders who don't fight, its coming down hard. With all of the layoffs and threats of more on the horizon the system is in a recession and headed for depression.

But as one older worker said, "I've worked hard all my life. I'm not about to give it up now."

People are fighting mad. For example, 3,000 people showed up in Atlanta for 240 public service jobs. When they realized what a hoax Ford's "public jobs" program was, they tore apart the hiring hall.

Thousands came to Washington January 15 to demand jobs in the demonstration called by the reformist Jesse Jackson. Smaller demonstrations were held the same day in other cities across the country.

But it takes more than anger to change the situation. It takes organization and an understanding of how the system works.

ORGANIZE TO FIGHT

It takes organization like the Unemployed Workers Organizing Committee, which is circulating a petition around the country, on which they already have over 75,000 names, demanding JOBS OR INCOME NOW! UWOC is made up of unemployed workers who say "We won't scab and we won't starve!" UWOC

also takes on campaigns to build boycotts to protest high prices like sugar and meat. Or campaigns to prevent utilities and buses from raising their rates.

The UWOC national campaign has two main demands: Jobs Now--From Industry or Government and End Lay-offs--Enough income for all periods that we are unemployed--when the company is closed down through lockout, wildcat strikes, authorized strikes and runaway shops.

UWOC was formed by unemployed workers, some of whom were members of the Revolutionary Union (a national communist group), in the San Francisco Bay Area in mid-1969. It is now an organization which has chapters in many cities.

In California, UWOC led the fight for a 13-week extension for unemployment benefits which was recently won. And last month in Trenton, N.J., UWOC members and strikers from a local plant forced their way into the local unemployment office and demanded that the strikers be put on the unemployment rolls.

In the Bay Area and more recently in Tacoma, Washington, UWOC organized campaigns against proposed rate hikes in the cost of electricity and demanded that the rates be cut.

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Ruchell Magee

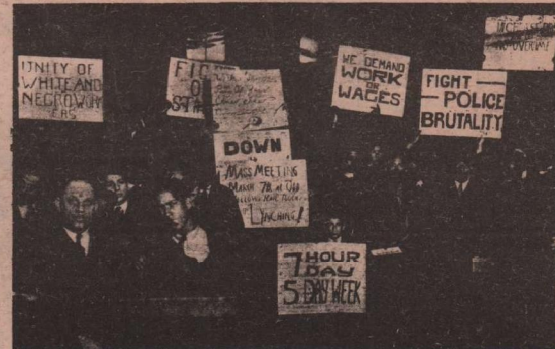
must be freed!

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**Irish fight
'divide & rule'**

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**History of unemployed
organizing**

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IT'S RIGHT TO REBEL! FREE RUCHELL MAGEE!

A demonstration in support of Ruchell Magee will be held at the Supreme Court here in D.C. February 8.

The Magee case goes back to 1963, when Ruchell was convicted of robbing ten dollars from a pimp in Los Angeles following an argument. Ruchell has been fighting ever since to win his freedom, but has been consistently sabotaged by court-appointed attorneys and denied even the most elementary democratic rights by the courts.

It was seven years of imprisonment and futile attempts to receive justice that led Ruchell to attempt to escape in August 1970, when Jonathan Jackson burst into the Marin County Courthouse where Magee was testifying and took the judge, the district attorney and a few others hostage.

San Quentin guards and Marin County police riddled the van they were escaping in with bullets, killing Jackson, another San Quentin prisoner, James McClain, and the judge. Ruchell was critically wounded.

Shortly afterward, Angela Davis, member of the phony "Communist" Party, USA, was charged with murder, since the guns used in the escape attempt were registered in her name. After a trial which received nationwide publicity, Davis was acquitted. Ruchell, on the other hand, has languished in prison.

RIGHT TO ESCAPE

The issues involved in Ruchell's case are revolutionary. They have been formulated best by Ruchell himself, who posed the question-- does a slave have the right to escape?

For revolutionaries and all exploited and oppressed people, there can be only one answer. Ruchell's attempt to win his freedom through armed action is in the heroic tradition of Nat Turner's slave rebellion, armed resistance in Nazi concentration camps and the heroic rebellion at Attica.

The capitalist press has tried to portray Ruchell as crazy and a "moron with an IQ of 75" to obscure the clear-cut question at stake. But it would be insane for a person in Ruchell's position not to do everything to fight back against the barbaric oppression he is being subjected to. In fact, what the press refers to as "incoherent diatribes" in court by Ruchell are actually his exposures of the capitalist system.

The judge and the district attorney in the case are trying to take advantage of a guilty plea entered by Ruchell (on advice of his court-appointed attorneys). Ruchell had quickly tried to reverse the plea back to innocent.

Knowing that the people can prevent them from getting a conviction (his first trial ended in a



Ruchell Magee

hung jury), the state is trying to railroad Ruchell back to San Quentin without a trial. But now his attempt to overturn his guilty plea is before the Supreme Court which will rule in the case sometime later in February or in the Spring.

DEMAND RUCHELL'S FREEDOM

The February 8 demonstration in D.C. will be held around the demand "It is right to rebel, free Ruchell Magee," and will include a picket line and rally at the Supreme Court.

The Revolutionary Student Brigade, Vietnam Veterans Against the War/Winter Soldier Organization, Revolutionary Union and On The Move newspaper are currently organizing for the demonstration. Other groups and individuals are invited to participate and a city-wide coalition in D.C. will probably be formed. For more information contact any of the above groups.

Busing march misses target

Over 10,000 people marched in Boston Dec. 14 to oppose "racism" in that city whose schools are under court-ordered busing.

The march had two aspects to it. The positive was that it united thousands of people who wanted to fight against national oppression. The negative aspect was that the leadership of it directed its fire against white workers rather than the ruling class which is responsible for national oppression.

Among those who marched were revolutionary organizations, tenant unions, trade unions and community groups as well as various opportunist leeches and representatives of monopoly capital who played a big

role in misdirecting the fire of the march.

PIECE OF THE PIE

Black State Senator William Owens, main organizer of the affair, proclaimed at the rally following the march that the way to "stop racism" is that "Black people must have a piece of the power pie in this country." The whole tone and direction of the day was to carry out the line of the "liberal" monopoly capitalists that Black people should fight white workers to redivide the pie and get a few more crumbs.

This line was echoed by some who claim to speak in the name of

the working class. For example, the leading organization in the "Fred Hampton Contingent" to the march, refused to drop their slogan "oppose the white boycott" (which brands all whites involved in it the enemy) and replace it with "oppose the racist-led boycott." The contingent, which drew several hundred people, did involve a number of honest revolutionaries and did raise some correct demands.

Another contingent which drew several hundred people was the "Unite to Fight" contingent that united around two main demands: "Fight the Ruling Class Divide and Rule Attacks" and "Fight for Decent and Equal Education." In addition some of the groups raised the following additional demands 1) Stop the School Committee's Policies of Racism, Discrimination and Segregation 2) Oppose the current Boston Busing Plan 3) Stop attacks on oppressed nationalities and 4) Fight all police attacks.

This contingent later led a march to the State Department of Education where an effigy of Louise Day Hicks was burned. Then this march went onto the headquarters of the Boston School Committee. In this way the point was made that both open reactionaries ("conservatives") like Hicks and the so-called "liberals" (represented by the State Department of Education, Judge Garrity and the like) represent the same ruling class, and are twin heads on the same monster.



"Unite to Fight" Contingent in Boston march against racism.

Carter & Artis fight frame-up

The racist frame-up murder case which put Rubin (Hurricane) Carter and John Artis in prison in 1967, has been exposed through the confessions of Arthur Bradley and Alfred Bello, the two white men who were witnesses in the original trial.

In 1966, when the murder incident took place, the town of Paterson, N.J., was caught up in high racial tensions. Paterson Blacks were building a militant civil rights movement against discrimination and police brutality. Carter, who had been active in the movement, was well-known in the community for his strong public stands against police repression.

Carter and Artis were detained and questioned by police the night of the incident. All the people present at the bar where the three white people were killed, and the only survivor of the shooting stated that Carter and Artis were not the killers. But the local politicians who wanted to suppress the Blacks' movement, sensationalized the case into racial hysteria. Papers printed rumors that the killings were part "of an initiation rite into a Black terrorist group."

FRAME-UP EXPOSED

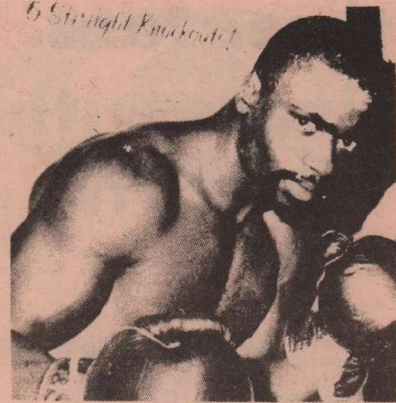
Later on, Carter and Artis were arrested, and through the frame-up tes-

timony of Bello and Bradley, were condemned and sentenced to life-imprisonment by an all-white jury. Bello and Bradley have since stated that their testimony was bought by police in exchange for light sentences in their own burglary cases.

Carter has since been active in prison struggles since he began serving time. His picture hangs in many inmates' cells in New Jersey. His activism in prison has gotten him into more trouble with the prison authorities. One night in May of '74 he was transported at gunpoint from his cell at Rahway State Prison to the state's maximum security prison in Trenton. There he was confined to a cell for 22 hours a day. It was after one month under these conditions that a federal court order moved him back to "normal confinement."

THE REAL CRIME: THE SYSTEM

Upon recent statements of Bello and Bradley, Carter's lawyer made an appeal to reopen the case. Judge Samuel Lerner, who presided over the trial, has chosen not to believe Bello and Bradley this time. As a result, at least for the time being, Carter and Artis remain in prison for murders they never committed. Carter's "crime" has been his opposition to the national oppression of the Blacks in this system.



Hurricane Carter in fighting days

But the exposure of the frame-up, once again, exposes the nature of the system. It shows how oppression is always stepped up when the people raise their struggle. The only way to stop such attacks by the ruling class is to organize and to fight back more fiercely. Support Carter and Artis and end police repression and national oppression!

Workers strike Maryland race tracks

A five day strike by workers at the Maryland race tracks ended Jan. 5 when 400 members of the Independent Association of Race Track Employees ratified management's contract offer.

The 600 people who take race track admissions, punch mutual tickets, man the starting gates and tend jockeys' tack did win some gains. They won a \$2.50 a day pay increase, a new medical plan and are now entitled to 3 days of funeral leave instead of one in case of the death of an in-law.

OVERALL CONTRACT STINKS

But they still don't have any paid sick leave or paid vacation time; the medical plan is inadequate and

the pay raise doesn't amount to a whole lot.

The members knew this when they voted for the contract, but many feared for loss of their jobs if they continued the strike any longer (most members are in their fifties).

The main problem in the strike developed over how to fight the tracks' preparations for the use of scabs. Over 700 people showed up to apply for jobs after management spread the word that they wanted scabs.

Instead of taking the strike broadly to the rest of the working class (who make up the majority of those who go to the tracks) and taking steps to educate the scabs and taking resolute steps to stop those who

persisted, the union leadership caved in and spread defeatism among the workers.

The tracks didn't end up taking any losses either. They went to the Maryland Racing Commission who promptly rewarded them three more exactas to be added daily.

The new lineup will feature the daily double, exactas on races two through eight and the triple on the ninth. Thus win, place and show betting will be rendered obsolete in Maryland, a result the tracks eagerly sought because of evidence that the patrons wager more liberally on exotica and the extra one percent the tracks reap on the take from multiple wagering.

Cutbacks hit military personell

The capitalist economy is suffering from a recession that official statistics say has turned 6.5 million Americans out on the streets to scavenge for jobs. As the system serves the capitalists and not the people, it's no wonder that the young inexperienced workers are the hardest hit. Many young people are going into the armed forces these days in hopes of getting good training, good pay, benefits and security.

First, there's the irony of joining the very same forces that have enabled the U.S. imperialists to ride roughshod on those they choose to oppress abroad, as well as being held in reserve at home to back up the 'Reserves' during civil disorders and strikes--actions against the very same people who are now joining--minorities and the working class people.

Then there's the realization of just how much the recruiter has distorted the life and benefits of the enlisted man or woman. While the growth in 'defense spending' has slowed somewhat, the service bristles more and more each year with bigger and better equipment. The

Pentagon, however, has been robbing Peter (the Enlistees) more and more to pay Paul (the demands of the imperialist war machine). Health care programs in the service, for instance, have been cut back steadily to help reduce military spending. The armed services have experienced a doctor shortage since Vietnam, and if a service family cannot get adequate treatment on base, they must go to a civilian facility at their own expense.

In the past, the military has been there with programs of financial services for the enlisted personnel (CHAMPUS), now this program has been felt to wither away. The commissary (non-profit food outlet) is being cut back. Retirement benefits are also being ripped-off. The promises given 20 years ago don't apply any more in many cases. Air transportation privileges for retired servicemen and their families is no longer provided. Other career personnel are told that for the retirement benefits they would have received after 20 years service, now they must have 26 years service in for the same benefits.

Throughout our lives we are constantly told that we are defending our country by joining the service. Yet the enlisted personnel are understanding the role of the military is that of defending (and carrying out) the policies, maintaining the position, and protecting the interests of the monopoly capitalists. Sure the American people had to unite to destroy German fascism in the 40's, and rightfully so. But Korea, Vietnam and the rising Middle East problem has (are) proven that the government sends Americans to fight the battles that only serve the ruling class. Workers here are sent to fight two types of wars. One is to fight the workers sent by other imperialist governments in a fight over how to divide up the world and the other is to suppress the peoples of the world in their revolutionary struggles. In the course of throwing the imperialist system out a military force that serves the interests of the people and not the ruling class will inevitably be built.

Metrobus threatens drivers with pay cuts

by a Metrobus Driver

The Metro management is now declaring openly that they intend to cut bus drivers' pay when the next contract comes up April 30, 1976.

In statements made to the Star-News (12-27-74), Jackson Graham, General Manager of Metro, said that wages paid to the 3,700 drivers, mechanics and other Metrobus workers were the main reason that Metrobus is running a deficit.

He said he intends to cut the drivers pay for the time they are not actually operating the buses. Examples he gave were the 10 minute report time (to fill out manifest, get transfers & scrip, warm up bus, etc.), layovers (3-10 minute breaks for drivers at the end of the line), meal trips and travel time to and from the garage and street relief points.

Graham specifically blamed the full cost-of-living escalator clause and said he hopes to put a "cap" on that next contract.

MORE ATTACKS AROUND THE CORNER

We have a lot to learn from the Muni-Bart transportation system in the San Francisco Bay Area. This is the system that Metro is modeled after.

Now that the system there is nearly complete, the big businesses which control that transportation system have unleashed a series of attacks on bus drivers and riders.

The drivers there went on strike last year and won some gains like us. The Chamber of Commerce then launched a campaign to deprive city workers (including bus drivers and subway operators) of the right to strike and attempted to cut their pay. They attempted to make their proposal law by placing it on the ballot during the last elections.

With the addition of the subway system, the city "fathers" are now planning to cut runs and layoff drivers. In addition many more



San Francisco bus drivers and other workers rally to fight transit cuts in 1972.

unsafe buses are being put on the streets.

Some of this already sounds familiar here at Metro and you can best believe that the rest will soon.

ORGANIZE TO FIGHT

But the drivers at Muni did not take this lying down. Nearly 3 years ago drivers formed a rank-and-file caucus, Concerned Muni Drivers, to take up the fight against company attacks and to fight to make their union, The Transport Workers Union, fight. The caucus has also supported other workers' struggles and taken up issues facing all people in the U.S.

Largely through their efforts, the Chamber of Commerce's proposal to cut pay and take away the right to strike was defeated. They did this by mobilizing drivers and riders in mass actions against the plan and by handing out thousands of leaflets to riders exposing the plan as an attack on all working people. And to a limited degree they forced the union to actively oppose the plan. As a result the people of the Bay Area voted down the plan.

Two years ago they successfully mobilized drivers and riders against a plan to cut runs and they're doing it again today. And they're carrying out actions to get unsafe buses and trolleys off the streets.

They have learned the lesson that they can't rely on their union leaders to carry out these fights, that only through mobilizing the rank and file could they defeat the bosses' attacks and register gains.

LOCAL 689 OFFICIALS EXPOSED

Certainly we learned these same lessons last Spring when reform president of ATU # 689, George Davis, sabotaged the strike, and it was only through our continuing the strike after his betrayal that we won the gains we did in the last contract.

At a union meeting January 7,

begin operating along a 4.6 mile segment this fall. They are also proposing that only riders who make daily round trips will be able to get free transfers between Metrobus and Metrorail.

WE WON'T PAY FOR THEIR CRISIS

Metro's proposal cannot be taken out of context with the general crisis in the U.S. Metro's only interests as loyal servants of the bankers and big businesses in D.C. is to make sure people get to work.

With unemployment rising,

Davis was asked by one of the rank-and-file what the union leadership was going to do about the threatened pay cuts.

His response was first to state that the management wasn't actually threatening paycuts; that it was a particular reporter who was "out to get us." He also said we shouldn't believe everything we read.

Then he said his hands were tied because some drivers don't actually go back to the garage when they finish their runs and get relieved on the street. Instead of backing up the membership he echoed management's "justifications!"

At the end of his 10 minute speech, he did say that he wouldn't sign a contract that cut our pay from the time we reported in to the time we punched out, but hinted that he could accept cuts in layovers, report time, travel time and meal trips. He also said that if necessary, the union would take out newspaper ads explaining their position, but didn't think this was important enough.

THE ROAD AHEAD

A big fight is ahead. Our wages, jobs and safety are all being threatened by Metro as the big financial interests are all demanding that Metro's deficit be cut down.

To win this fight we need to learn from the Muni drivers that organization and reliance on the rank-and-file drivers and the riders (mostly other workers) is the key to victory.

Defeat the attempt of the Board of Trade, Chamber of Commerce & Metro to divide drivers from riders!

No Fare Increases!
No Pay Cuts, layoffs or unsafe equipment!

Organize to Fight!

(The information in this article on the Muni/Bart system is taken from Draggin' The Line, monthly newspaper of Concerned Muni Drivers)

Say no to proposed bus fare hike!

The Metro staff proposed a basic rush-hour bus fare of 50 cents, with increases in the suburban areas as well on January 9.

The 50 cent basic fare--an increase of 25 percent--would be supplemented by extra-zone fares of 25 cents each--also up 25 percent or more between 6 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. and between 3 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., according to the proposal. The maximum fare under a revised suburban zone system would be \$1.50 instead of the current \$1.40.

In addition, the staff suggested increasing the planned fare for Metrorail, which is supposed to

Metro figures what the hell, these people won't be riding anyway so why not raise fares for those continuing to work. They figure the higher fares won't cause people to stop riding because those whom it might well be laid off anyway.

Once again Metro, like the whole capitalist class, is demanding that working people pay for their crisis. But it won't cut it.

Metro must hold public hearings--possibly in early March--before the new fares can be approved. Pack the hearings and demand:
NO FARE INCREASES! WE WON'T PAY FOR THEIR CRISIS!

Safety issue at Western Electric

by a Western Electric Worker

At Western Electric, Local 2395, union officials spend most of their time defending the company at the workers' expense. At union meetings whenever someone brings up a grievance that isn't in the contract they are told by union leadership, "We can't do anything for you, it's not in the contract."

The last WE article in On The Move told of workers on night shift being exposed to high concentrations of ammonia fumes. Since then a representative of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration has been in to see the working conditions.

He found a substandard level of ventilation, which was hardly enough to move out the ammonia fumes. The company told him the ventilation system wasn't working then so he was to come back on night shift when it was fixed.

The following day someone from OSHA came and took a sample of the wax stripper only to find no ammonia in their sample. Union officials were told that this was because the cleaning people poured out straight ammonia. The OSHA people haven't returned and the company and the union told workers that OSHA decided everything was alright.

UNION MEETINGS

As all this adds up, people hear others ask if they're going to attend a union meeting. The answer is usually, "Why should I? The union doesn't do anything for us!"

Well, this answer is just what the company wants to hear people say.

It perpetuates disunity of the workers and therefore there aren't enough people to have power at the union meetings to bring in any changes.

If the workers went to union meetings in strong force then when the union leadership cries "no" to something workers want, the workers would be strong in number and have the unity to accomplish what they needed done either with or without the union leadership.

A good example was workers' unity in organizing to get rid of



the ammonia used in work areas. Even though workers' other grievances on safety have been ignored, their unity over a common grievance forced the company to take action and stop the cleaning people from using so much ammonia.

WSSC plan means layoffs

COVER FOR FIRING WORKERS

Montgomery and Prince Georges County have offered a plan to dismantle the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission that could throw a significant number of workers there on the street.

The two county governments are saying that they wish to run their own sewer systems independently within two years in order to end the growth policies that WSSC encouraged because it is "too closely aligned with the developers."

It is certainly true that WSSC does not serve the interests of the people of either county--but neither do the county governments. The counties have had the power all along to stop any "unwanted growth" through zoning laws and other means--but didn't because they too serve the interests of the capitalists.

The whole plan is a cover for getting rid of many workers and introducing speed-up on the rest. A letter was given to each of WSSC's 2,000 workers Dec. 29 telling them that efforts would be made to preserve most of their jobs--clearly indicating that layoffs are coming.

WSSC workers have fought attacks in the past. Five years ago they fought a militant strike, which despite sabotage by the union leadership and the mistakes of some revolutionaries working there at the time, that put WSSC on warning that they couldn't get away with anything they wanted without a fight. And last year there was a sick-out over worker's grievances.

P.O. TIGHTENS SCREWS ON WORKERS

Recent reports have exposed the Post Office management's games for keeping up production. This has led to the firing of some supervisors in San Francisco and letters of warning sent out to some supervisors here in D.C. One might think that ends the story but it does not. The burden for increased production is now falling on the workers.

In an effort to increase production, increased discipline and speed-ups are being instituted at least in the main post office building. In the department which handles registered mail the workers are being pushed to increase production.

Where before, the workers were encouraged to do accurate and thorough work, now the only concern is for getting the mail out. The result, harsh discipline and super-

vision.

TIGHTER SUPERVISION

Tighter supervision is felt throughout the Post Office. Although the machines have not been speeded up in general, the supervisors still selectively increase the 60 pieces of mail per minute which is the usual, but now slow, pace of the machine. These very expensive machines continue to be used, not so much to save labor (which they probably do not) but to control labor.

Another form the speed-up (through closer supervision) has taken is physically reorganizing the workplace so that workers can not even talk to one another. The cases for sorting the mail were

lined up in a straight row. Now, in some sections, each worker's case has been sectioned off by forming wings, isolating the workers from each other.

In the face of this increased discipline, one could expect an increased number of grievances to be filed. Hopefully, the APWU is prepared to go all the way. And even more important, one could hope the union could prevent unfair and unsafe speed-ups.

Recently, two women within the space of one hour were the victims of accidents in which their legs were crushed by "trucks" used to move the mails to dispatch points.

These accidents were caused by the congested areas inside the post office in the already small aisles.



What we've got...



What we need!

OTM editorial**WE TAKE SIDES**

On The Move, now in its fifth issue, has reached a level of organizational and editorial development that the need of writing a staff editorial has grown in importance. The staff of OTM wishes in its first editorial to explain and define the need for a paper like OTM, its role and its purpose.

First, what can we offer that the bourgeois press cannot offer? Well, what do bourgeois papers like the Post, the Star, the Sun and the News American have to offer? What stands does the Post, the most 'progressive' of these papers, take on issues concerning working people? Six months ago the bourgeois press reported the widespread use of dog food eaten by the poor of Washington. If these people were eating dog food then, what could they possibly be eating now? Where is the liberal Post now, when things are much worse than before? Hasn't it turned its back on the demeaning situation of the people, and returned to offering recipes for duck, or reporting how so-and-so loved the caviar at such-and-such an embassy party?

Sure the bourgeois press from time to time exposes the rotten housing conditions of the Washington area---but when does it do this? It is when these conditions become so bad that in order to maintain their credibility these papers have to say something about the massive housing problems facing 100,000 people of Washington. But does the bourgeois press ever seek to expose the root causes of all these problems? The super-exploitation of the poor---at wages that force them to eat dog food---and still pay the rent to their landlords. Does the Post ever explain that a constant reserve of unemployed workers results in suppressing the wage levels of all the workers, which serves the ruling-class and their schemes of keeping the people down so that they can easily be ripped off.

What stands have the bourgeois press taken towards the workers? When the retail clerks of the area supermarkets went on strike, didn't the Post carry want ads for strikebreakers and run full page ads from the food companies? As the race track employees were out on strike, didn't the Post report that the track managers were going to hire a whole new staff instead of even bargaining with the workers, and even where the new applicants were showing up?! When a Metro construction worker is killed or injured on the job, does the bourgeois press explain how it happened, or why it was allowed to happen? Why does the Post or the Star for

that matter take these stands? Well, who controls these newspapers? Post-Newsweek, the overall corporation of the Post, is one of the top 500 corporations in the country. And as corporations, these profit-seeking businesses depend upon the advertising of other corporations for their revenues. And how have any of these corporations treated their employees during a strike?

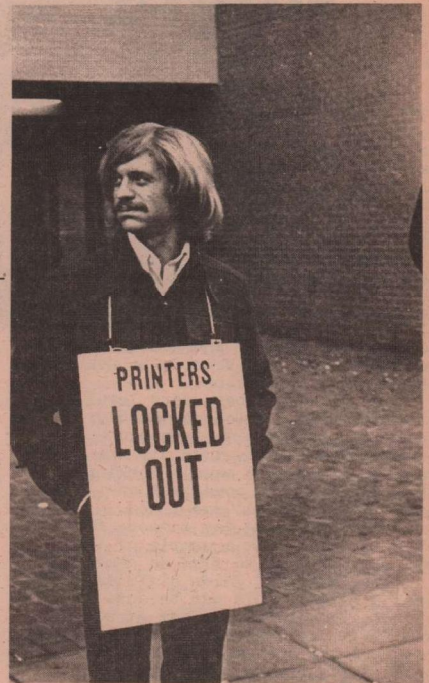
Not only do they seek the same goal---profits, but these large corporations are interconnected. Nicholas deB. Katzenbach, a former attorney general, is on the Board of Directors of the Post---he is also the General Controller and a Director of the IBM Corporation! Anjay Miller is on the Board of the Post, he's also on the Board of Directors of the Ford Motor Company!

The bourgeois press (corporations) serves the interests of the bourgeoisie---the corporation owners. It seeks to maintain things generally as they are---the status quo. And who benefits most from the status quo---the ruling class! The bourgeois press has values, goals and political outlooks which reflect its own interests.

This, in essence is the class question. This system of exploitation---the capitalist system--- is the cause of poverty, and its results---the eating of dog food. It results in wars because the system must always be growing, capturing new markets, cheap sources of raw materials and labor. This, in turn, leads to conflicts with other imperialist countries who are forced to follow the same policies.

On The Move will not pass by the question of exploitation and its effects, as does the bourgeois press. They take the side of the bourgeoisie---we take the side of, and actively take part in, the struggle of the workers! On The Move will expose the truths and the lies about the system and the ruling class. When a government program is implemented, who does it really serve? When a judge makes a ruling or when the national guard is called in to break up a strike---who does it really serve?

On The Move will write on women, national oppression and discrimination. We will expose and explain U.S. foreign policy, police repression at home, and the institutions that serve the ruling class. We will raise the struggles of the workers and the oppressed peoples all over the world against their oppressors in order to help move their struggle forward to victory---the final end of all exploitation. The enemy is the capitalist system and the diehard capitalist class that clings to it and



seeks to maintain it.

Having said that the status quo serves the system and the ruling class, change---in favor of the workers and oppressed peoples all over the world---works against the capitalists. On The Move aims at moving these forward. We believe that change is natural and inevitable, and in the case of workers and oppressed people, fighting for these changes in order to serve the working class and oppressed people is our common goal.

The U.S. economy is already reeling from the blows of the liberation struggles against imperialism. These examples of progressive change have shifted more and more of the burden of maintaining the ruling classes' high standard of living on to the American workers. In attempting to maintain their position, the capitalists are already speaking of another war to head off their 'strangulation.' But as the workers are becoming more and more conscious of the contradictions that have always existed in the system, the ruling class is given fewer and fewer outlets in their search for profits. There is only one real solution to all this---get rid of them!

As the liberation struggles continue to grow abroad, the workers' liberation struggle is gaining momentum here in the U.S. This is where On The Move comes in. Its purpose is to build a revolutionary mass workers' movement against imperialism---the highest stage of capitalism. The workers and oppressed people here must organize and fight their exploitation and oppression now! Among the staff of On The Move there are communists: those workers who work towards the overthrow of the ruling class, a government controlled by the workers, and the eventual abolition of classes altogether. While other staff members do not have a particular program like this, we as a democratic group, see this type of newspaper as important and necessary at this time, and the death of monopoly capitalism as a common goal.

What is On The Move?

ON THE MOVE is a new newspaper in the DC area. Unlike the Post or the Star---we will not print what the businessmen, bankers, landlords or politicians want to hear. We are a paper by a for working people. The staff of ON THE MOVE is made up of workers, housewives, vets and students. Some of us belong to the Revolutionary Union, a national communist organization. Communists have always been active in the working class struggle---building unions, leading strikes, fighting racism. But they also believe that our problems will not end until workers, who keep this country going with our labor, overthrow the large capitalists and build a government controlled by the working class.

All of us, communists and non-

communists, unite and fight around these points:

- * Full employment, a living wage and decent benefits.
- * Decent housing, food, medical care and education.
- * Defense of our democratic rights (to organize, to freedom of speech, to vote) against growing attacks by the corporations, government and police.
- * Full social, economic and political equality for Blacks and other minority nationalities.
- * Real equality for women in all aspects of life.
- * An end to U.S. interference in the internal affairs of other countries.

The few on top try to divide us: men from women, Black from white, skilled from non-skilled and native from foreign born. But we all have a common enemy---the system of imperialism where working and oppressed people are ripped off by big corporations and banks.

We must begin to link our struggles each with the other and with those of our brothers and sisters around the world.

We need you. You can help by reporting struggles on-the-job and in the community, distributing the paper, building support for strikes and demonstrations. We need your comments, suggestions and criticisms.

WRITE: ON THE MOVE, P.O. Box 4256
Takoma Park, Md. 20012

SYSTEM IS WOMEN'S REAL ENEMY

Are the men who women live with daily really the oppressors? No! As a working mother I was faced with the problem of good daycare for my child. I found that none of the day care centers opened in the morning as early as I had to be on the job.

The ones I thought were any good were at least half of each of my monthly salary. Therefore I am forced to work on night shift. My family is all together only on weekends. My husband didn't cause this problem and doesn't want it to go on.

As of 1972 there were 4.4 million working mothers with 5.6 million children under 6. The estimated number of licensed day care slots is only 905,000.

Although most women in our society face certain problems in common (effects of male chauvinism), working class and especially minority nationality women must deal with much stronger oppression.

The crumbling economy is forcing more women to seek work to keep their standard of living. Women get the lowest paying dead end jobs. More women are clerks (office work) and service workers than anything else. On the average we earn 3/5 of what a man does even when both work year round.

KEPT OUT OF JOBS UNTIL NEEDED

We're kept out of lots of jobs until we're needed and then like in World War II, women were told to work in factories and take the jobs usually reserved for men. It was our "patriotic duty." But as soon as the men came back the campaign started to "feminize" women, in other words, kick women out of jobs we proved we could perform because the capitalist system couldn't provide jobs for everyone. The last hired, first fired rule goes for women too in this system.

Today some men resent women working because they say we take their jobs. Unemployment is not the fault of women who have the economic need to support their family.

Men and women must realize that the system we have, the capitalist system, takes our jobs away and cannot provide full employment of its population. This system must be done away with to end the exploitation of all people.

SOURCE OF THE DIVISION

Wang Chin-tsai's part in building socialism

PEKING (LNS) -- Wang Chin-tsai began working in Peking's Number One Transister Equipment Factory in 1964, soon after the birth of her second child. Today she heads a workshop that tests and adjusts diffusion furnaces made in the neighborhood factory, furnaces which she helped design and produce eight years ago.

The factory itself was started by housewives in 1958. The women set up a workshop in a shed and began by building and repairing unsophisticated machinery. As production expanded, the factory grew and is now housed in

There goes a big cave man hitting some scraggly-haired woman over the head with his club and dragging her off to his cave to be his slave. That was not the way it was!

Women were not only free, but held a highly respected position among ancient societies. Family name was passed down to the children through the mother. Also in early communal society separate families like we have today did not exist.

People at first only produced enough for their own needs and shared all that was produced. In time cattle breeding, agriculture and handicrafts enabled humans to produce more than was necessary to live on.

This extra wealth brought about a revolution in the family. The division of labor in the family had been that the man got the food and owned the implements necessary for this. The woman owned the household goods and both kept what was theirs in case of separation.

Men acquired the extra wealth produced because according to custom his labor outside the home produced it. So women's work in the home, once thought highly of, lost its importance.

More and more labor power was needed outside the home. Slaves gained in war became the workers. This division of labor outside the home brought about the first great division of society into classes--masters and slaves.

All the surplus of work and the slaves fell to the men. From that time when private property accumulated to men from their work, women's work in the home became secondary.

Possessions were then inherited through the male to his children. Here is where the monogamous, one man, one woman marriage of today comes from. If a woman wanted her children to receive the man's inheritance, monogamy was essential. But men could indulge as they pleased without fear of loss. Private property owned by the male made necessary division into single family units so his children could inherit his possessions.

WHAT ABOUT TODAY?

Today men's earning of wages outside the home is thought to be



superior even though housework involves a lot of labor. True emancipation of women and our equality with men is possible only as we participate more in social production and are not restricted to housework which is isolated.

Modern large scale industry sets up the conditions for women to participate in production in large numbers. More than 33 million women are in the labor force and we constitute 2/5 of all workers.

Women working and the large scale cooperative handling of child care, laundry and possibly cooking is not enough.

Private ownership of production (factories, etc.) prevents the possibilities for full equality. The wealth of this country must be turned into social property owned by the working people who produce the wealth. The basis for women's oppression, private ownership, must be overturned to create the conditions for our final liberation and equality.

--Two working women

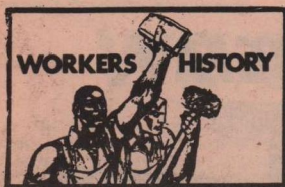
several buildings. It now produces glass-covered work tables and electrocardiograph machines as well as the diffusion furnaces that Wang Chin-tsai works on.

Workers' children, including Wang Chin-tsai's youngest, are cared for in the factory's nursery. Half of the day-care costs are paid by the factory; the remainder, including the cost of 3 meals a day, comes to only 9 yuan -- roughly eight per cent of a family's income.

Wang Chin-tsai's two younger children both attended the nursery

starting when they were 8 weeks old, at the end of her paid maternity leave.

Nearly 70 per cent of the factory's 360 workers are women (as are six of the nine members of the factory's revolutionary committee). Wang Chin-tsai's situation is not unusual in China. China Features reports that in many cities the majority of women under 45 now work in government offices, modern state-owned factories, service trades or neighborhood factories like the one in which Wang Chin-tsai works.



The American people have always resisted bearing the burden of cyclical unemployment. There have been two different kinds of responses. The employed fought to resist wage cuts, layoffs and speed-ups and have fought for union recognition to win these demands, and have fought in defense of those workers who could not find jobs--the unemployed.

The unemployed have fought too, to secure relief, to stop evictions, to secure food, and at least in the 1930s, to support their employed brothers and sisters during strikes. This piece will only explore the resistance of the unemployed.

EARLY DEPRESSIONS

From the early depressions of 1873 and 1893 arose the early organizations of the unemployed. According to Labor's Untold Story, there were demonstrations and riots in many cities in 1873. In N.Y. the demonstrators carried signs which read "The Unemployed Demand Work, Not Charity" and in Chicago they demanded \$700,000 of relief money left over from the Chicago Fire relief be used to help the unemployed.

During the '93 depression, the famous march of 500 led by

Unemployed organizations

Direct action got r

General Jacob S. Coxey, a Populist, arrived in Washington, D.C. on Mayday, 1894. The demonstrators came to demand that Congress provide jobs through public works projects, but before they could reach the Capitol, they were arrested and dispersed by police.

THE GREAT DEPRESSION

With the Great Depression came the largest organizations of unemployed that this country has seen. The first nationwide protest against unemployment was called by the Communist Party (when it was still the leading revolutionary force in the U.S.) and the Trade Union Unity League. In response to rising unemployment (3-4 million at the time), 100,000 demonstrators gathered in Detroit, 50,000 in Chicago, 50,000 in Pittsburgh, 110,000 in New York and in all, 1,250,000 across the country.

The National Unemployed Council, the most important organization until the CIO was formed, was organized in Chicago on July 4, 1930; it soon had branches in 46 states as well as in almost every town and city of the nation. By 1932, the Council, led by the Communist Party and other progressive forces, had a membership over

300,000 strong.

The need for the Unemployed Councils was great. President Hoover had refused to give federal funds for relief. And as State and Local revenues fell (and as they continued to pay their interest obligations to the banks), local relief was sharply curtailed or cut off.

The Councils demanded relief programs, public works and unemployment insurance and where individuals were denied relief, they would march down to the relief office, often as many as 5000, to demand action. And they got it.

DIRECT ACTION GOT RESULTS

The Council's weapon was its democratic force of numbers, and a force they were. Most impressive was their direct action to prevent evictions.

The police would come and remove all the belongings of a family to the street. By this time the local council would have mobilized a sizable crowd of people. They would pick up all the furniture and move it back into the house or apartment.

These were not occasional incidents. According to Labor's Untold Story, "During the eight

JOBS OR INCOME

--continued from page 1.

If you're interested in helping form a UWOC in the D.C. area contact On The Move, and we'll put you in touch with other people.

EMPLOYED ORGANIZE

Workers in plants around the country are beginning to take up the demand that their unions establish unemployment committees, administered by the rank and file. This is taking place in the auto plants in Detroit as well as in other cities.

As *Unity*, a newsletter at Dodge Truck put it, "Not to be the Dodge Truck chapter of the Salvation Army,

but an organization capable of helping lead the fight against speed-up, forced overtime, red tape, evictions, etc." and to join in building the working class fight for jobs or income.

The struggle for jobs or income is a fight for our class survival and a fight against their whole capitalist system which has to throw people out of work. Jobs or Income is a demand of the whole working class. We aren't going down with a sinking ship. It's time to get together and move on up.

DON'T SCAB, FIGHT! JOBS OR INCOME NOW!

Crisis of

The economic crisis which has been plaguing the nation for more than a year hits the working class the hardest. The massive and rising unemployment which officially stands at 7.1 percent now, and the continuous increase in prices has resulted in the deterioration of our living standards.

Most of us workers have to make a choice among the basic necessities of life such as food, shelter, clothing, heating, and electricity.

Of course working class people have always been exploited in a capitalist economy and their wages kept down as low as possible.

But since World War II the deficit financing of the U.S. government and the expansion of the credit system, while boosting the economy and the profits, has created an illusion of relative prosperity. In reality the capitalists were mortgaging their future crisis for their current prosperity.

Now that this massive public and private debt has brought about a running inflation, the monopoly capitalists and their government are telling us to tighten our belts. They realize that this inflation will ruin their ability to compete with other capitalists as well as leave their system exposed to the American people.

But the inflation and the "bite the bullet" program of the ruling class made it impossible for us to buy back the things that we had produced (our wages could not keep up with the prices of goods) so that a recession has now set in.

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Results

months ending June 30, 1932, some 185,794 families in New York City were served with dispossess notices. But 77,000 of these families were moved back into their premises by the people of the Unemployed Councils."

Further, the Councils applied their weapons of publicity and pressure to head off or combat discrimination between black and white and between native and foreign born, particularly in matters of relief. The councils also fought against the capitalists dividing the unemployed and the employed. For the first time there was no scabbing during a depression as the bosses would try to use the great army of unemployed to break strikes. But more often than not, the unemployed joined the picket lines behind the banner of the Unemployed Council.

The National Unemployed Councils were very important organizations in defense of economic survival during the early years of the Depression. Not only did they serve people's immediate needs, but many reforms were won in the course of struggling--such as government relief.

But they were defensive organizations of the unemployed, and as such were limited in their goals and what they could accomplish. But



During the Depression in the '30s employed and unemployed often united to fight the bosses. Shown here are auto workers armed with car parts during a strike at Chrysler.

they set the scenery for the next important stage of the workers struggle during the Depression--

the organization of the unskilled industrial workers into the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Drives US towards imperialist war

Now Ford has offered token help for unemployment (170,000 public jobs for over 6 million unemployed) and is offering tax cuts for the capitalists in order to encourage investment and step up production. But this will only lead to more inflation--no policy of this sort can extricate themselves from this crisis.

WHAT DOES THIS LEAD US TO?

The main trend in the world today is revolution and the struggle of the peoples of the world for national liberation. The liberation of Guinea-Bissau and Mozambique from Portuguese colonialism and U.S. imperialism are recent examples.

The uprisings of the peoples of the world and the demands of the Third World countries for control of their own resources have afflicted serious blows on the expansionary drive of the imperialist nations such as the U.S.

Under these conditions, the competition among the imperialist countries, especially the two superpowers, for domination of the world market and resources, which is essential to the capitalists survival, becomes more severe.

Looking back at history makes it clear that at times of economic crisis, capitalist countries of the world have had to resort to war. Meanwhile the revolutionary movements around the world, taking advantage of the weakening position of the capitalists and the contradictions among them, have succeeded in achieving victory.

The Soviet Union won its soc-

ialist revolution during the first world war, the second world war resulted in the victory of several socialist revolutions such as the Chinese, and the independence of large numbers of colonies around the world.

On the other hand, in some cases, the economic and political weaknesses of a system may lead to a conflict among the ruling class and one section may impose fascism. This happened in the case of Germany where the fascists won the political power in an attempt to "save" Germany from going towards a socialist revolution.

US THREATENS WAR

Now the ruling class in this country is already talking about the possibility of war in the Middle East as well as re-intervention in Vietnam. Secretary Kissinger in an interview on Dec. 31 made it clear that the use of military action by the U.S. in the Middle East is quite possible.

This again shows that the U.S. ruling class faced with the severe inflation and recession at home and rising struggles of the Third World countries for control of their resources as well as increased competition from the Soviet Union, finds out that it cannot solve its problems without involvement in war (and even this is only a temporary solution).

While the imperialist countries are preparing themselves for another war, the peoples of the world, with the working class at the forefront, are building up their revolutionary movements to

resist and prevent such imperialist wars and turn them into victories for the people.

The American people have always resisted imperialist wars (like Vietnam) and deterioration of their living standards during depressions (like in the 30s), through raising their revolutionary struggle.

Of course, at times of unrest and opposition by the people different sections of the ruling class seek domination and the whole ruling class seeks repression of the people. In these types of situations, one section of the ruling class may move toward fascism. Even under our so-called democracy, we have seen increased repression--which has in turn led to increased resistance such as during the 1960s with the shootings of students at Kent State and Jackson State and the violent repression of the members of the Black Panther Party and other revolutionary and anti-war organizations.

But the American people in building and raising their anti-imperialist movement, with the working class in the forefront, will be able to turn the situation to their favor by overthrowing the rule of the monopoly capitalist class and preventing the upsurge of fascism.

At the same time, the advance of the revolutionary struggles of the people all over the world for independence from imperialist domination, will further weaken the power of the U.S. ruling class and will inspire the movement of the American working class and its allies.



Boston busing

Fight divide & rule schemes

by the Revolutionary Union

The big struggle in Boston over the busing of school children is a good example of the ruling class's divide and rule schemes and what we must do to strengthen our unity.

First of all, the Black, Latino and white working class schools are lousy--just like they are in working class communities everywhere in this country. For example, South Boston, the area that black kids are bused to, has the lowest percentage of people in Boston who graduate and then go on to higher education.

To find decent schools with modern facilities, adequate number of teachers, etc., you have to go to the schools where the capitalists send their own kids. And these may as well have a big sign saying: "Working people keep out!"

BLACK SCHOOLS THE WORST

Black schools are even worse than the white working class schools. At predominantly black Jeremiah Burke High School, for example, things are so bad that students at one point had to organize to demand toilet paper and hand soap in the bathrooms.

And now, with a deepening economic crisis, the ruling class is increasingly cutting back in social services such as education. In the last several years, often using talk about "local control," (i.e. local schools should use local funds) as a cover, federal funding of education has been cut back significantly, including programs for "educational enrichment," remedial math and reading bi-lingual education, physical education, libraries, construction, etc.

It was in this context that the ruling class drew up the Boston busing plan for the purpose of pitting the various nationalities against each other for the shrinking educational crumbs (the plan was drawn up by HEA, ordered into effect by a federal judge).

When the plan went into effect last fall, School Committeeman John Kerrigan and City Councilwoman Louise Day Hicks led groups of several hundred white people to attack Black children and seized leadership of a boycott of the schools (which originally included large numbers of black people). People within the various nationalities had different reasons for boycotting. Some kept their children home because the plan didn't do anything to improve education, some for racist reasons, and

What is the RU?

The RU is a national communist organization that actively participates in and builds the many struggles of workers and other oppressed people today. Beyond this, the RU sees the liberation of the people lying in the overthrow of the imperialists by the working class, the replacement of capitalism and all exploitation with socialism, under the rule of the working class. To accomplish this task, the working class must have its own communist party to lead our struggles.

some because they feared for the safety of their children.

NATIONAL OPPRESSION INTENSIFIED

Instead of protecting the black children from attack, the Boston cops intensified repression of the black community (ransacking a day care center at Columbia Point, indiscriminately beating up black people) and to a lesser degree the white working class communities.

The combination of more rapidly deteriorating schools and greater police repression is part of what Marxists call national oppression.

For centuries the Black people of this country have been ruthlessly exploited and oppressed. First brought here as slaves to serve the rich, after the Civil War black people were denied the rights they had fought for and won.

They remained chained to the land in the "Black Belt" South, where they developed into a separate nation, mostly made up of sharecroppers and tenant farmers; dirt poor themselves, but producing plenty of profits for the big banks and landlords.

Today, the Black people remain an oppressed nation, only now most of them are workers in the big cities--spread out throughout the country, and at the same time forced to be concentrated in ghettos. Now most of them are part of the lowest paid, "last hired, first fired" section of the working class, and therefore continue to be a source of super-profits for the ruling class.

THE BUSING QUESTION

The national question--the struggle against the oppression of the minority nationalities, and the relation of this struggle to proletarian revolution, is at the heart

of the United Front Against Imperialism that must be built to overthrow the monopoly capitalists and their system--source of all oppression and exploitation in this country. This UFAI is the strategy to replace the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie with the dictatorship of the working class.

It is the duty of communists, when dealing with all aspects of the national question, to analyze the contradictions in a scientific way and to develop a line which will point the way forward towards ending national oppression, forging greater unity in the working class, developing people's understanding of who their friends and enemies are, and building the struggle to overthrow the ruling class.

Using the method of Marxism-Leninism (dialectical materialism), we must begin with a concrete analysis of concrete conditions.

It would be incorrect (idealistic and subjective) to say, as some so-called Marxists have, that because busing is progressive as a general rule, that busing is okay in every particular case.

In general busing is good because it integrates the children of different nationalities so that they can learn from one another and thus develop greater unity of the different nationalities and of the working class.

We oppose this particular Boston busing plan because concretely

it doesn't really do anything to improve education for either Black or white students--or to really do anything about discrimination and miserable conditions in the schools in the Black and Latin communities. In fact the busing plan is an attack on Black and other minority nationalities.

FUNDAMENTAL CONTRADICTION

The fundamental contradiction (the one which defines the essence of the revolutionary struggle) in the U.S., as a capitalist country is between the capitalist ruling class and the proletariat.

This contradiction is intensifying as the current economic crisis worsens. To keep the working class distracted and divided the monopoly capitalists (imperialists) will try to heighten the contradictions among the people and also intensify national oppression.

This is precisely what is happening in Boston. The ruling class wants the white and black workers to fight over the constantly shrinking educational crumbs! The ruling class wants white workers to blame Black and Latin peoples for their deteriorating standards of living! Yes, and the imperialists delight in having black people (especially workers) blame white workers for police repression and lousy schools!

How should communists deal with this? To point out to the workers of all nationalities who the main enemy is. This is why the RU strongly disagrees with the October League (OL); Socialist Workers Party (SWP), Youth Against War and Fascism (YAWF), Progressive Labor Party (PL) and others, when they say that the only or main issue involved is racism. This means treating a contradiction among the people as the primary thing, while hardly even mentioning what in fact is the primary contradiction--the conflict between the people and the ruling class.

But doesn't racism (white chauvinism) exist among the workers in South Boston? Of course it does. Racism is created and seized upon by reactionary bourgeois politicians like Hicks and Kerrigan, who are in the leadership of the anti-busing movement in order to maintain their own profits and protect their own hides by getting different sections of the working class to fight among themselves.

DIVIDE THE ONE INTO TWO

What should be the position of Marxist-Leninists be, then, on the "White Boycott"? It should not be the OL's line of denouncing the boycott as totally racist and fascist. Why do we say this?

Lets look at the boycott from a dialectical perspective. The boycott has two aspects as does the opposition to busing in general among the people of the white South Boston community.

One of these aspects is racism. The other is the legitimate reluctance of the white parents to participate in a busing plan that does nothing to improve education for their children. These two aspects are in contradiction because while better schools are in the interest

of white workers, RACISM IS NOT!

Of course only one aspect of a contradiction can be dominant at any one time. And if the chauvinist line of Hicks and Kerrigan went unchallenged in the white community, the racist aspect would remain dominant. But it is being challenged by the RU and other progressive groups and individuals.

Some people may object that the situation isn't favorable for getting the white workers to see that white chauvinism is self-defeating. Let's see what Mao Tse-Tung, Chairman of the Chinese Communist Party, says about this kind of problem:

"At certain times in the revolutionary struggle, the difficulties outweigh the favorable conditions and so constitute the principal aspect of the contradiction and the favorable conditions constitute the secondary aspect. But through their efforts the revolutionaries can overcome the difficulties step by step and open up a favorable new situation; thus a difficult situation yields place to a favorable one."

The RU believes that Mao's point is at the heart of a correct line on the boycott. Oppose the boycott as it is (led by reactionaries), unite with the progressive aspect of the white opposition to busing and struggle to turn a bad thing into a good thing by uniting workers of all nationalities in the fight for quality education for all nationalities, and expose the role of the ruling class in the crisis as well as the racist leadership of the boycott.

The fact that racism is not the only reason for the opposition to the busing plan among whites in South Boston is revealed by an incident that happened Oct. 7. At that time a Haitian worker was being beaten by a crowd in South

Boston when white workers living in the area who were active in the boycott came to his aid. When the tactical cops came they arrested two of the Haitian man's defenders and charged them with violating the Haitian's civil rights!

STATE NOT PEOPLE'S FRIEND

Many of these same people who say the only aspect worth talking about in the boycott is racism, also call for federal troops to be sent into Boston to "stem the fascist tide" or "break up the fascist gangs" in order to "protect Black people."

Isn't it wonderful. The same federal troops who were sent to smash the Black rebellions in the cities during the 1960s are now going to "protect Black people." Rubbish! And these people have the nerve to call themselves communists. We would also point out that if what's behind this line is an attempt to raise Black people's consciousness about the role of the state then it is equally bankrupt. Marxists never manipulate the masses into situations to teach them lessons. Communists would never have any credibility if they did such things!

BUSING PLAN: DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS?

What about the line that says we should support the busing plan because of the right of Black people to be free to go to any school they want? Black people do have the right to go to any school they want but, if you look at the concrete conditions around the busing plan it is clear that in fact it doesn't help Black children attend the

school or their choice.

Can Black children from Roxbury go to schools in the Boston suburbs? No, the Supreme Court ruled in July that there can be no cross-jurisdictional busing. Can Black children who wish to remain in the Roxbury schools do so? No--the busing plan moves them to South Boston whether they want to go or not.

In fact, where has it been shown that the masses of Black people in Boston desire busing? As far as we can tell the only significant support for the busing plan among Black people in Boston has been to support the plan in opposition to Hicks and Kerrigan's racist reaction to the busing plan (Hicks and Kerrigan have been trying to categorically deny the right of Black people to go to white schools and have led attacks on black children).

What has happened is exactly what the ruling class wished--the setting of Black against white through this busing plan. Again our so-called communists tail right after the ruling class instead of patiently going among the people and explaining the reactionary role of the busing plan and of bourgeois representatives like Hicks, Kerrigan and Kennedy. And they have failed to go among the masses and build unity by building a struggle for quality education for all children directing their fire against the ruling class.

And why is it that these groups support the forcible assimilation of national minorities by the imperialists and never mention the destruction of national culture and language by the imperialists (Many bi-lingual programs have been eliminated by the busing plan). In fact the whole definition of an integrated school under the busing plan is racist. Schools defined as segregated are those with more than 50% black enrollment. In other

words all white schools are considered integrated and all-black schools are to be destroyed under the plan.

NO TO PHONY "EQUALITY"

Some people say that the busing plan in Boston, at least creates equality between the Black and White students being bused. But what is meant here by "equality?" That Blacks and Whites can redivide "equally" the shrinking educational pie? This is a defeatist--not a revolutionary position. We want the whole pie and plan to take it from the bourgeoisie who stole it from us in the first place. And since we're the ones who bake the pie anyway, we're also planning to make it bigger so that it can feed all the people.

Black people want, and the working class as a whole demands, the ending of oppression--not "equal," "democratic" sharing in oppression.

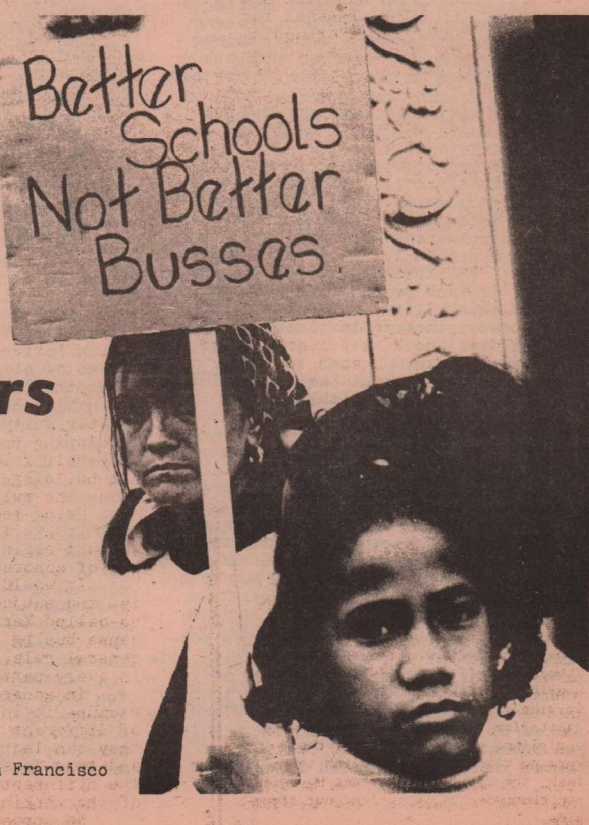
THE WAY FORWARD

The way to build the unity of the multi-national working class and the oppressed nationalities in the Boston busing controversy is to fight the ruling class's divide and conquer schemes and to fight for decent and equal education.

Within this fight it is essential that a struggle be built against the Boston school committees policies of racism, discrimination and segregation. And it is crucial to fight all attacks on the oppressed nationalities in Boston and to organize and support self-defense in the face of attacks on these minority nationalities.

In addition the Busing plan must be exposed as part of the ruling class's divide and conquer schemes and must be opposed. And it is necessary to fight attacks by the state (through the army, police, etc.) on all the people.

**All
Workers
Unite**



Busing struggle in San Francisco two years ago.

What's behind conflict?

IRISH FIGHT IMPERIALIST OPPRESSION

The bombs exploding in Ulster on January 16th marked the end of the IRA's tolerance of what they termed the "meaningless" peace gestures Britain has been trying to pan off during the cease fire.

Trying to play on the sympathy of the masses by trying to make themselves appear all-merciful, Britain ordered the release of a handful of political prisoners, pledged a gradual release of the total 1,639 prisoners, and promised a reduction in troops in Northern Ireland.

These 'concessions' are are meaningless for a number of reasons. First, 538 of the political prisoners, both Catholics and Protestants, are being held without charges or trials--in a blatant form of repression. Also the number of prisoners actually released was so small, the IRA called it an "in-sult."

Secondly, while British troops began withdrawing from Northern Ireland, more Ulster police were being trained the same oppressive tactics that the troops imposed on the people of Northern Ireland. The British army did not cease its action against the IRA and arrested Kevin Mallon, a leader of the IRA's provisional wing.

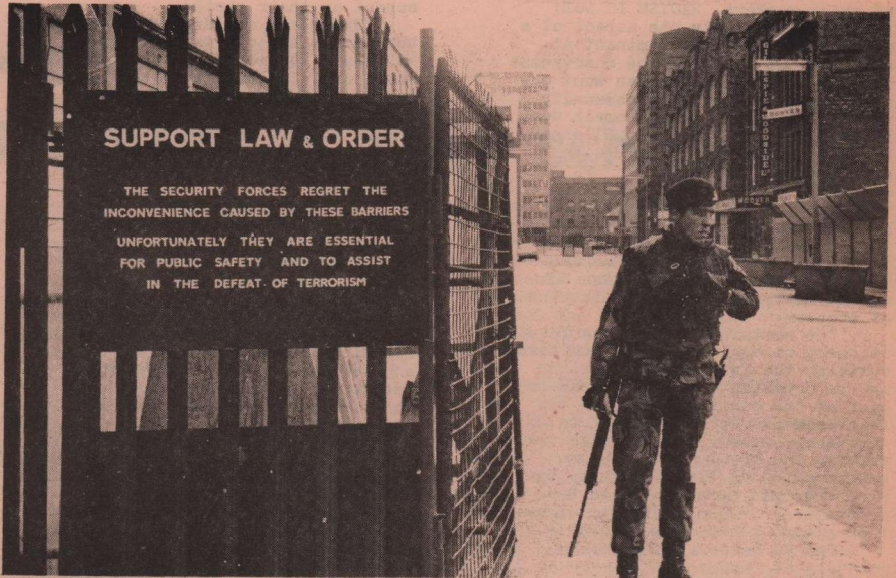
Most importantly, however, is that no amount of British 'concessions' will ever bring peace to Northern Ireland. The tension in Northern Ireland stems from the oppression and exploitation of the N. Ireland people by the foreign imperialists. The IRA, fighting to liberate the N. Ireland people from the oppression of imperialism, will not declare peace until imperialism is crushed in Northern Ireland.

BRITISH INITIATES IMPERIALIST OPPRESSION IN NORTHERN IRELAND

In 1920, responding to the fear of an Irish rebellion, Britain partitioned Ireland into six northern industrial counties and 26 southern agricultural counties.

Not only did the partitioning temporarily cool down the Irish resistance by dividing the people, it also crippled the entire Irish economy, forcing both parts into depending on Britain.

The Republic of Ireland (the 26 southern counties) lost 29% of its population, 40% of its taxable capacity, its largest city (Belfast), and most of its industrial area. No longer able to rely on its own industry, Southern Ireland was forced to depend on Britain for metals and industrial products. To pay for these, Ireland was forced to exchange



British imperialists continue to occupy Northern Ireland with troops. They have suffered heavy casualties since they re-occupied the north after the 1969 civil rights movement exploded into rebellion against British rule.

cattle at a deflated value and allow foreign investors to eat up its resources.

Foreign capital now controls 54 of the 66 Irish insurance companies and 21 of the 33 Irish banks. Between 1960 and 1970 British industrial investments in the Republic of Ireland (south) almost equaled that of Ireland, while the U.S. investment more than doubled Britain's. Ireland's own capitalists, too weak to develop its own gas and mineral resources, are selling them to British and American 'developers.'

The six counties of Northern Ireland are under even more control by the foreign capitalists. Partitioned off as a colony, Northern Ireland is allowed to trade with Britain. Again, Northern Ireland, no longer able to rely on the resources from the southern counties, was forced into buying fuel, raw materials and food from Britain.

Because Britain sold these goods at inflated prices, Irish industry crumbled and widespread unemployment resulted. This condition of abundant labor and weak domestic capitalism cleared the way for the foreign imperialists.

Between 1966 and 1972, out of the 245 new firms which created 100,000 jobs, half of these jobs were created by 17 giant corporations--8 of the 17 are American, six are British, one German, one Dutch and the other one is French. Though the British have the most invested in Northern Ireland, the U.S. has invested more in the last ten years than any other nation.

Not only did Britain initiate the economic exploitation of Ireland, but by colonizing Northern Ireland, Britain forced the people of Northern Ireland to pay the same taxes as the British people. This is a burden for the people of Northern Ireland who make only 75% of the British per capita income.

In return for their taxes, the British government allocates only a minimum amount of money for new jobs and housing. About 200,000 new housing units and 400,000 new jobs are needed now to meet the needs of the Northern Ireland people.

Escaping responsibility for this for this tremendous rip-off, the British and the Northern Ireland governments divided the Irish people against each other by giving the Protestants a few more of the limited advantages than the

Catholics.

Protestants are allowed a disproportionate number of government jobs and more access to housing than the Catholics are. Counties with a majority of Protestants are more likely to be industrially developed than the Catholic counties. County Tyrone, with a majority of Catholics, has over twice the amount of unemployment as County Antrim, a predominantly Protestant county. This is because the government deliberately planted new industry in Co. Antrim while leaving Co. Tyrone undeveloped.

The Catholics of Northern Ireland have been and still are forced to accept a second class citizen status by the British and Northern Ireland governments. Like the U.S. Blacks, they are and have been the last hired and the first fired.

Meanwhile, the Protestants of Northern Ireland are deceived into believing that the Catholics are a threat to their jobs and their welfare. When Catholics resisted their second class citizen status through peaceful civil rights demonstrations, Protestant extremist groups were mobilized, with the help of some police, to violently suppress them.

The media, the politicians, and even a Presbyterian minister, Ian Paisley, have been feeding protestant religious chauvinism and fear. For example, in a recent TV interview Chief Constable Buck said the police had studied the Irish question and were able to "understand the mentality of the people they are up against."

Though it is obvious that the conflict in Northern Ireland is due to imperialist exploitation, the London Times and the Washington Post repeatedly label it a "sectarian conflict." Ruling class newspapers such as these would rather the people believe that they are at fault and that it is natural for Protestants and Catholics to hate each other.

These attempts to confuse and divide the people will never bring peace in Ireland. The British government can appear as being meriful for only so long, and the press can lie about the nature of the conflict for only so long too, until the true situation is clear and the people unite to crush imperialism.

Puerto Rican water workers

Unity defeats courts, national guard

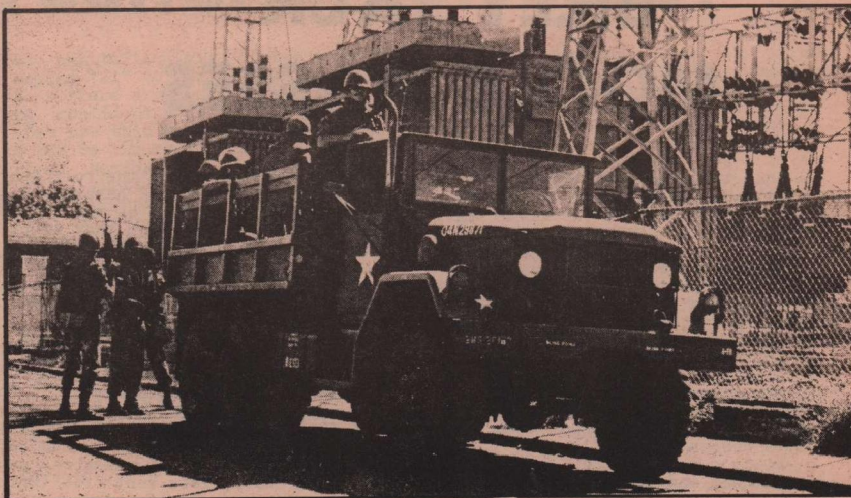
On Dec. 10th, 1974 the 40-day long strike of the water workers of Puerto Rico ended in victory. 3,000 water workers went on strike Oct. 29 to win demands for a 30% wage increase, more fringe benefits, increased safety standards, and most importantly ---the right to strike.

Under Puerto Rican colonial law, public employees are forbidden to strike, and the government can impose compulsory arbitration. 'Public' employees include the 150,000 government workers and those who work for government 'agencies.' Transportation, water and ports are among these. These agencies make up 28% of all Puerto Rican workers, and the recognition of their union would practically double the 25% unionized rate in Puerto Rico.

PAPIER-MACHE COURTS

On November 4th, just a few days after the strike began, eleven of the water workers' union leaders were arrested and sentenced to 30 days in jail for violating the court injunction prohibiting the strike. The workers then refused to participate in any negotiations while their leaders were in jail, and further more, a general strike was threatened by the Puerto Rican labor movement.

The United Labor Movement (MOU), among others, pledged to carry out the threatened one day general strike and said that a longer strike was a possibility. The MOU was organized in 1970 with the objective of unifying the Puerto Rican labor movement and fighting for the rights of Puerto Rican workers. Since the U.S. implemented 'Operation Bootstrap' (a plan to rapidly industrialize Puerto Rico) about 15 years ago, the U.S. industries that came into Puerto Rico brought in U.S. international unions to represent their workers. As they were introduced alongside the new industries, these unions have been unable to fight the intensifying colonial exploitation that Operation Bootstrap represents. In the past 15 years the number of U.S. unions organized in Puerto Rico has increased by 58% while the number of Puerto Rican



unions has decreased by 33%. Since its birth, the MOU has grown to represent 27,000 Puerto Rican workers.

On November 8, the judge backed down and released the union leaders, giving them five days to negotiate an end to the strike or face imprisonment once again. When the deadline ran out without a settlement Gov. Colon showed who really held all the power and chose to pardon the eleven rather than face the prospect of a general strike.

NATIONAL GUARD CALLED OUT

On Nov. 27, the colonial governor threatened to call out the National Guard if acts of sabotage against the water installations didn't stop and if the negotiations to end the strike didn't progress satisfactorily. Sabotage of the government-owned water works had kept various towns without water for short periods of time during November. On Nov. 26, the whole city of San Juan was without water for

a day.

When the talks broke down once again, the colonial government responded by calling out 1,000 National (Colonial) Guardsmen. This was the second time since Jan. 1973 that the Guard was mobilized during a strike! Colon denied that the Guard were being used as strike-breakers, but Hector Rene Lugo, president of the Aqueducts and Sewers Authority (AAA) union verified that the Guardsmen were indeed performing various water purification tasks at the AAA plants in Puerto Nuevo and La Plata.

A series of ten bomb blasts in four different Puerto Rican cities Dec. 1 was the excuse the governor gave for calling up an additional 1,000 Guardsmen. Colon also cancelled all police leaves and put the police force on alert.

The bombs demolished the ITT World Communications technical center in San Juan, several U.S. Army Reserve vehicles in Ponce

and blew out pipes carrying water to the Commonwealth Oil Refining Co., and the Union Carbide Oil Refinery in the coast town of Penuelas as well as several other U.S. businesses.

WORKERS' DEMANDS MET

Overcoming phony laws prohibiting strikes, exposing the paper-mache injunctions of the courts and the attempts by the colonial government, the front for U.S. business interests, to intimidate the workers with 2,000 national guardsmen, the 3,000 water workers made the government settle on their terms.

First, the government was forced to settle with the organized "public" employees, opening the way for doubling Puerto Rican labor organizing. Secondly, the strike proved the power of the Puerto Rican workers to organize and fight their own struggles instead of relying on the impotent, sellout American unions brought in by the companies.

And thirdly, the workers won a 30% wage increase over three years. And last but not least, the workers showed everyone what happens when the workers unite and fight back, and what the bosses really are--paper tigers!

January 25

Uphold Vietnam agreements

The Vietnam Veterans Against the War/Winter Soldier Organization is holding a demonstration January 25 around two demands: Implement the Paris Peace Agreements on Vietnam and End all Aid to their puppets Thieu of South Vietnam and Lon Nol of Cambodia.

For the last two years since the agreement was signed the U.S. has backed Thieu in his flagrant violations of the terms of the agreement.

For example Thieu was supposed to release all political prisoners yet tens of thousands remain in jail. Thieu conducted numerous offensive actions against PRG zones during the past two years.

And now that the National Liberation Front (so-called VC) have countered with limited attacks against the Thieu regime, the U.S. is threatening to re-enter the war directly.

In addition the U.S. has continued to prop up the Lon Nol regime in Cambodia which holds

only Phnom Penh and a few other towns.

END US PARTICIPATION

The American people fought long and hard during a massive anti-Vietnam war movement to end U.S. participation in aggression against the Indochinese people. Yet U.S. aid never ceased and now they are threatening to step up aid and possibly directly intervene.

In this light, it is extremely important that we must stop the U.S. ruling class from doing this.

The demonstration sponsored by VVAW/WSO will begin at Kalorama Park (19th & Columbia Road NW) at 11 a.m. and then march to Sheridan Circle near the Saigon Embassy.

The demonstration has been endorsed by the African Liberation Support Committee, Iranian Student Association, On the Move newspaper, Revolutionary Union, Revolutionary Student Brigade and others.

Movie review

BILLY JACK MOCKS MASSES



When the final box office receipts are tallied, the Trial of Billy Jack will, like its predecessor Billy Jack, be up there with the money-makers of all time.

The appeal of the film is in its ability to depict some of the problems of the failing U.S. system and its effects on large numbers of students and young people.

In the first film (Billy Jack), we met Billy as a Vietnam war vet who returns to live on an Indian reservation in the southwest, and becomes the protector of a "Freedom School" run by Jean, a dedicated pacifist.

Billy's role in the flick is to protect Jean and the school from the town's "rednecks," who through their chronic backwardness, their hate for the Indians, the "wonderful freedom school" and the beautiful people who run it.

In the end of the film, Billy--using karate--kicks to death the son of a dogfood magnate (who kills wild horses to make a profit) and is persuaded by Jean to give himself up to the cops in a deal which brings government funding to the school.

The Trial of Billy Jack opens with Billy's release from four years of prison; moves on to show the trials and tribulations involved in the Freedom School's attempt to use militant Naderism to save America; treats us to a lot of hogwash about Billy's struggle with his inner-self; goes on to show a Kent State type massacre at the school; and finally insults us with a sickening scene in the end where Billy and all the beautiful people lick their wounds and sing Beatle John Lennon's "All we are asking is give peace a chance." (As if the ruling class ever gives anything to people who beg them for it--much less peace!)

Let's look in more detail at the positive and the negative aspects of the film. There is a good scene of a Mylai-like massacre which brings home to the audience the genocidal nature of the Vietnam war. Other scenes show

fascist-like tactics of the ruling class ---like 'bugging' and FBI harassment as well as showing to some extent the oppression and exploitation that American Indians face in this country today.

True, a lot, if not most, Americans already know these things but its to the film's credit that it emphasizes these facts.

Aside from these few redeeming features the movie contains a whole lot of unadulterated crap!! The movie reeks with the basic bourgeois sum-up of the reasons for their system's failures--- **IT'S THE PEOPLE'S FAULT!** Billy Jack is the mouthpiece for this jive when he, commenting on the Mylai massacre, says that "all the officers went free" (which is correct), and, the American people aren't so hot for "making Calley a national hero."

What Billy's one-sided thinking keeps him from understanding is that the "my country right or wrong"-type of chauvinism, still kind of strong in some places and with some people in this country, is not in the people's interest. In fact it is a point of view pushed by the bosses to divide the American workers from the workers and oppressed peoples of other countries. What Billy's message seems to be is that working people aren't worth learning from and trying to struggle with to change things.

In fact, one of the worst lies pushed by the film is that the working class (especially the white workers) are hopelessly corrupt and are to blame for the problems of oppressed people and their hip white "radical" allies. In one scene, an Indian wiseman is teaching Billy about the three levels of understanding of how to deal with violence. The highest level of understanding is some kind of mystical sympathy for the person who attacks you. And would you believe that the lowest level of reaction to aggression (self-defense) is symbolized by a worker who dares to fight back when Billy hits him. Of course the worker is white, drinking beer, watching TV and is made to look

like a big stupid bear.

MORE CYNICISM

Billy reveals his cynicism and contempt for the people when he blabs something about how disillusioned he became when the American people voted for "mealy-mouthed Nixon" and still went along with him after Watergate. Strange isn't it, that nothing is mentioned of the strong movement that was building among the workers and other people to kick Nixon out!! But not really so strange when we realize that the film is really aimed at discouraging revolution as the answer to our problems.

BRUTE FORCE vs LOVE

But if cynicism isn't our cup of tea, the flick offers other system-serving alternatives. Nader-style reformism (expose the "bad" businessmen and rely on public opinion to elect the "good guys" and pass good laws), and there's the suicidal social pacifism of the Freedom School. In fact, when Jean isn't using her Freedom School kids and their radio station to expose evil, she's giving Billy a lecture on why turning the other cheek is better than hating your enemy.

If you look close its clear that Billy and Jean aren't that far apart. Both lines, the me-first cynicism and the pacifistic reformism, do nothing to help the people see that their main enemy is the monopoly capitalist system. Furthermore, they keep us from seeing that we need a revolution in this country to change things and that it's the PEOPLE THEMSELVES who will make it --with the working class in the lead.

Films like the Trial of Billy Jack are an indication that the masses of people in this country are becoming more politically aware, which is forcing the ruling class to try and find new tricks to mislead the people with. In the end the people will see through these lies and SEIZE THE TIME.

Freedman's doctors win some gains in strike

The interns and resident doctor's of Howard University's Freedman's Hospital went on strike Nov. 25th when negotiations on a new contract broke down after three months. Out of the 25 unresolved issues, 11 of them were concerned with better facilities for patient care, while the other issues were for increases in pay and benefits.

During the course of the strike, those fighting for these improvements were fired from their positions by the hospital administrators. Proving the effectiveness of their unity, all the workers were 'rehired' at the end of the strike. While the workers did not gain increases in pay and benefits, they did force the hospital to buy more electrocardiographs which were badly needed.

WHO CONTROLS THE HOSPITALS?

While some of the demands of the

strikers were not won, the confrontation went a long way in exposing who controls the hospitals and health care in general in the U.S.

During the strike the hospital officials argued that the approval of the hospital by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals proved the efficiency of patient care at Freedman's. This is not necessarily so. The approval of hospitals is mainly one of the tools used by the American Medical Association to implement its monopoly power over the medical industry.

Hospitals are only allowed to have intern and resident training if they are approved by the AMA. The interns and resident doctors are a must if any hospital wants to stay in business, because they are the only cheap source of skilled labor for hospitals. This economic factor forces the hospitals to

follow the rules of the AMA in pricing. On the other hand, the interns and resident doctors are only accepted at hospitals if they belong to their local chapter of the AMA.

Through this mechanism, the AMA has complete power over the hospitals and the interns and resident doctors. That's why the residents and interns are forced to accept wages which are very low relative to the prices the patients pay for the services. This huge difference adds to the profits of the owners of the hospitals. On the other hand, it is frustrating for the new doctors to accept the lousy conditions of the hospitals in which they are forced to work. They are there to help the patients by all possible means, but the hospitals do not provide all the necessary equipment and services for the care to be effective.

Not what they often appear

What's behind editorial cartoons?

We often see editorial cartoons describing the president, the economic crisis, or the workers being caught in the economic squeeze. But if we look closer, we can see the real messages of these cartoons and who they really serve.

The first group of cartoons shows the oppressed workers and the unity necessary to overcome this oppression. The first one in about "Imperialism," and shows the fat, heavy imperialist system hitting heavily upon the workers shoulders. They are straining hard to support him while he holds his switch ready. "Imperialism," here, is shown to be bigger than the workers and definitely in command. Does this reflect why so many Third World countries have thrown out the imperialists?

The next cartoon shows the pyramid of authority within the capitalist system, and its theme is 'constraint.' The big capitalist is on top again, supported by his servants--the bosses. Next is the army, the defenders of the which demands that the workers use constraint and bite the bullet. Next are the police, in full riot gear, the enforcers of the laws that the capitalists put down. The 'people' are finally shown on the bottom, on their hands and knees 'constraining themselves' in their role of passively supporting those who hold them down. Unlike the first cartoon, the people do voice their dissent, only the amount of dissent is no larger than any of the 'yes' votes. The workers here are still constraining themselves despite the fact that they are in greater numbers and that it is they who are the basis for everything else.

The third cartoon is from an Italian newspaper, showing the policeman, the bishop, the banker, and the oil executive

(monopoly capitalist) all joining together in saying "Si" to the system. This time the workers are shown together, standing confidently and all shouting "NO!" See how this cartoon shows the workers beside the ruling class and not under them. Notice that women are represented too. Their answer to the ruling class is strong and clear, shown in large bold letters.

The last cartoon in this series has no title, yet it speaks for itself. The confident capitalist is ignoring the lone, but determined worker who stands up against him. Joined by two other workers, the ruling class member begins to glance at the growing resistance. The final picture shows what is the result of the unity within the ranks of the workers. The message here is plain and simple: unite the many to defeat the few.

WHO HAS THE REAL POWER?

On the topic of inflation and recession, we have two cartoons with similar messages. One of them is by Fred Wright of Union Cartoons, and the other is from AFL-CIO News. All of Wright's cartoons show the capitalists as being larger and stronger than the worker. Wright shows the worker as always being alone, never united in his class and with his allies. The worker is shown to be passively receiving every blow the capitalist deals out. This cartoon is defeatist in attitude. It shows the capitalist as having the real strength, and it does not take into account the growing resistance and consciousness of the workers.

The AFL-CIO cartoon makes the worker look like some scatter-brained idiot being choked by forces larger and more

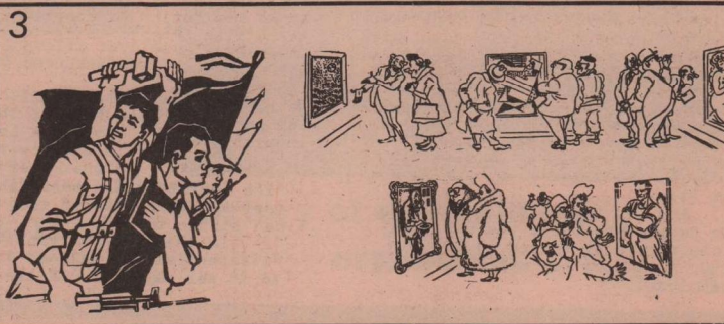
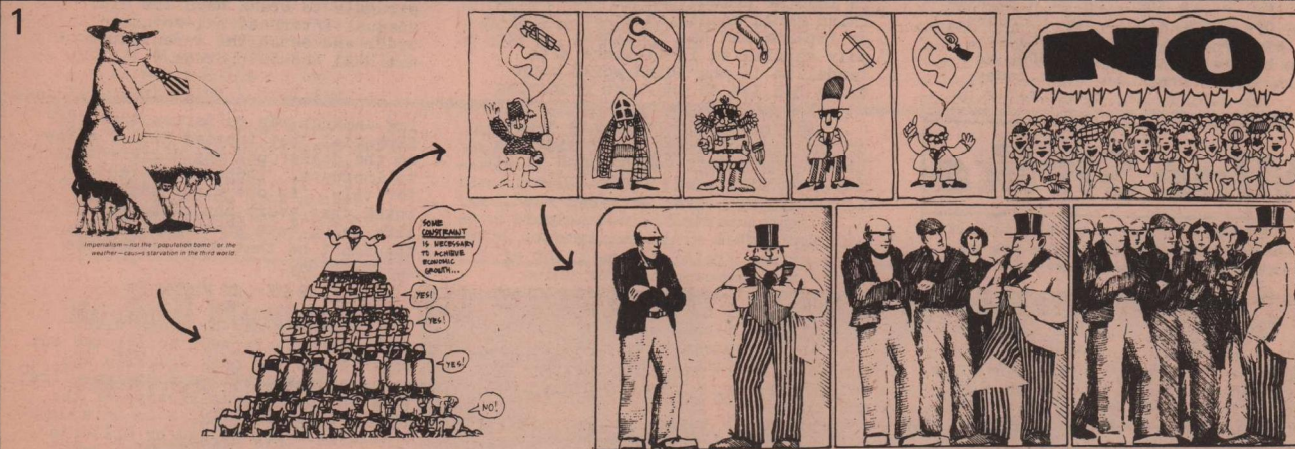
powerful than himself. Does this picture show the AFL-CIO's real feeling about the workers---as helpless flunkies who must depend on the union for leadership and for their defense? Yes it does!

Needless to say, we rarely see cartoons where the workers are equal to the capitalists, let alone more powerful as they really are. What example would represent a cartoon with real support for the power and potential of the workers? There are few sources of such pictures, especially in editorial form. (Does that explain who the editors are?)

Here is a drawing of the symbol of the Philippines New Peoples Army, which lives up to the workers power and strength. The three people represent the soldiers, the industrial workers and the farm workers united together. Notice the strong builds of the people and their faces, unlike those in the unemployment cartoons, full of character and determination. There is no passivity here! They are shown moving forward towards their liberation and towards what is rightfully theirs, control over what they produce. While they are going forward they are calling on others to join them and to follow their lead.

Why aren't the workers ever shown to be unified, strong and more powerful than the ruling class? Who would that serve, those in control of the press--the ruling class? NO! Why don't even the union cartoons show the workers this way? Is it because the union leaders want to say that the workers are helpless without them? YES!

This last cartoon shows why we seldom see such cartoons, because the people in this cartoon are those who control the press, both the bourgeois press and the union press.



World food conference

From Nov. 5-16, some 1,000 delegates from countries all over the world attended the World Food Conference held in Rome.

As they discussed questions such as the current food crisis, distribution of the world's food resources and the causes for world hunger, over 10,000 people died from starvation. At least 1/2 billion people are suffering from some form of hunger today.

The superpowers, the U.S. and the Soviet Union, blame the hunger in the world on the people of the Third World countries themselves. The U.S. delegates at the food conference attacked overpopulation, bad weather, and the rising oil prices as the cause of the current food crisis.

Many of the Third World countries rejected these reasons and pointed to the history of imperialism (monopoly capitalism) as the cause of the food crisis.

OVERPOPULATION NOT CAUSE OF HUNGER

A delegate from the Peoples Republic of China described the history of famine and agricultural backwardness suffered by the Chinese people under "the oppression of the three big mountains--imperialism, feudalism, and bureaucratic capitalism."

Before the 1949 revolution, China was known as a "land of famine." China was dominated by a handful of rich countries who made great super-profits from China's natural resources and from super-exploitation of labor.

In 1949, the Chinese people under the leadership of the Communist Party defeated the imperialists and their feudal allies and established a society run by and for the working people. Since then, China's population has grown with a 60% increase, but at the same time food production has risen more than 100%, and there is no hunger in China today.

The U.S. ruling class tells us

there are "too many people for too little food." But the problem is not one of scarcity of food but control of food by the exploiting classes.

For example, the Washington Post revealed that the U.S. government has food stored in bomb shelters throughout the U.S. (some of it is below Dupont Circle). Much of this food has not spoiled, but the U.S. has no plans to use it and it is expected to rot within five years.

FOOD AS BLACKMAIL

The U.S. delegates at the food conference tried to split the Third World countries by laying the blame for the food crisis on the rising costs of fertilizers and by arguing that oil-exporting countries should provide most of the financing for proposed food stockpiling.

The food crisis cannot be blamed on the oil-producing countries because food and fertilizer prices were rising before the price of oil started rising and are continuing at a much higher rate than the price of oil.

And the Third World countries, far from blaming the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) for the high prices of fertilizers, look to OPEC as a model and see their control of oil prices as a major blow against imperialism.

The U.S. ruling class clearly attempted to use food to blackmail OPEC. As U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Earl Buttz, said, "food is a weapon. It is now one of the principal tools in our negotiating kit."

REAL CAUSE OF HUNGER & POVERTY

The U.S. has gained a monopoly in food as production of food in the Third World countries under the grip of imperialism has declined. Monopoly capitalism in alliance with feudalism in the third world countries has led to one-crop economies

Miller partly built his "one of the miners" image by raising the health and safety demands and he did get some gains, an issue Boyle would not have even bothered with.

Improvements include helpers on complicated mining equipment, more safety training, the right of entry to inspect mines for union safety commission inspectors and a provision which prevents coal operators from firing members of local health and safety committees for carrying out their official duties.

NO RIGHT TO STRIKE IN CONTRACT

Wildcat strikes are at the heart of struggle between the companies and the rank and file. And Miller's failure to win a right to strike clause over grievances is at the heart of the weakness of the contract.

The contract streamlines the grievance procedure, but this is not the issue. At issue is giving the rank and file the power to correct abuses. As one miner explained, "The operators are more likely to meet the grievance if they know we can strike them."

In the 1971 contract the wage differential was allowed to increase to \$8 per day. One of the negotiat-

in these countries.

But, the prices of the basic food grains which they have to import have risen much faster than those of the agricultural goods which they export. The price of grain has been driven up by the superpowers from \$1.75 a bushel in 1960 to \$4.50 today.

Ethiopia (once known as the breadbasket of Africa) is one of many examples of a country which under the grip of imperialism has become an exporter of crops like coffee and boleke (a type of soybean) while the people are starving. At the height of famine in Ethiopia (in the last two years many people have died from the famine), a record crop of boleke was exported.

US AND USSR COMPETE IN EXPLOITATION

While the Third World countries, including China, stressed self-reliance, both the U.S. and the Soviet Union tried to put across their so-called aid programs as a contribution to agricultural development. As a matter of fact, the Soviet Union under its "international division of labor" is competing with the U.S. in exploiting the Third World. Everyone remembers that in 1973 the Soviet Union bought wheat from the U.S. at bargain prices. They later resold this wheat to the Third World countries at ridiculous prices reaping a handsome profit.

The delegates of the Third World countries hailed the "irreversible trend" of the struggle against imperialism and the superpowers and demanded a "new economic world order."

A Chinese delegate summed up the solution to the food crisis very well when he said, "We consider that the world food problem is an important part of the current political and economic struggle and that solution of the food problem must be closely linked with the Third World's struggle against colonialism, imperialism, and big-power hegemonism and with the struggle to break down the old, unequal international economic order and establish a new international economic order."

Mine Strike

The mine workers have ratified a new contract by 56%. How are we to interpret this settlement?

THE CONTRACT

There is widespread feeling among the miners that Miller gave up too soon even though the contract made some gains. The 18% wage increase over three years only goes part of the way in recovering real wage losses. Moreover, the newly won cost-of-living escalator will not protect the miners if the rate of inflation exceeds 8%.

Pensions were raised substantially from the ridiculous \$150 per month, but only for miner who retire in or after 1976. Pensions are still based on length of service and age of retirement, rather than "20 years and out with the same pension for everyone" as demanded by the rank and file.

And for the 80,000 pensioners, the people who built the UMW, pensions were only raised to \$225 or \$250, no matter how many years in the mines.

ing demands was to narrow that differential, but instead Miller allowed the dollar per day differential to increase. There is no reason for this. As one miner says, "I think that every man risks his life going into that mine, there shouldn't be that much difference in their pay."

THE REFORM MOVEMENT

Whatever may be wrong with the contract, it must be pointed out that it was the rank and file who voted approval of the contract--first time in the 84 year history of the UMWNA. Unfortunately, even this democratic gain was marred by Miller's speed-up of the ratification process by eliminating the scheduled delegate conference, a conference that would not have helped passage.

One older working miner who now will try to wait to retire until 1977 if he lives that long said: "I'm not sure Miller has completely sold us out, but I have a lot of suspicions. I think its time for a new rank-and-file miners organization. A 'Dump Miller' movement among the rank-and-file will at least keep Miller on his toes, even if it is not successful until the next election."