

Strike-Breaker Nixon

Nixon's call-out of the armed forces — the Army, the Navy, the Marines, and the National Guard—to break the postal strike, was done under the pretense of ensuring "the survival of a government based on law."

Which law justified his tying the bill for a wage-rise to the retrogressive step of turning the U.S. post office into a private corporation? Which law justified the government's keeping a postal worker's starting wage at \$6,176, while Congress has just raised its own salary 41% from \$30,000 to \$42,500, and the President's salary 100%?

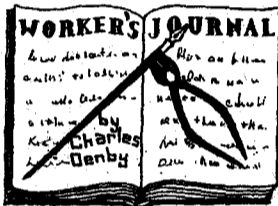
The bravery of the postal workers in defying the no-strike stranglehold of federal workers, was coupled with the defiant voting-down of their own leadership. The two most significant posters in New York read: "Rat-emacher must go" and "Dump the Rat—We have no national leader."

The reliance on their own power alone has created an entirely new force of opposition to the Administration. Already the workers in other industries have announced they will not give up their wage demands, "not unless there is a curb on profits and I don't expect to live long enough to see that."

By their self-activity and proletarian attitudes the postal workers have established a new vantage point for every fundamental question facing the nation—from profits and wages to the Vietnam War and black-white solidarity.

(See Reports, p.2, and "Two Worlds," p.5)

Workers discuss women's liberation



By Charles Denby, Editor

Any local or national question that continues to be part of the news on TV always becomes part of the discussion among workers in the auto shops. For several weeks the question of Women's Liberation has appeared on national TV news.

Being a black male, living in a racist society, and having been taught from childhood about male supremacy over women, and after reading and listening to many different points of view in these discussions, I am beginning to have a growing concern over the question.

PREJUDICES SET BY WHITE CAPITALIST SOCIETY

I have always felt I was for women's liberation. But I am beginning to think that it was from a narrow point of view, because white capitalist society had already set the pattern for prejudiced thinking and action toward women for all of us. This has been coming out most clearly to me from listening to workers discussing it in the shop—especially the younger white workers.

Two of these workers have recently separated from their wives, after only four or five years of marriage. They argue that women have too much freedom now, and that the courts of law were designed to protect women against men. (They are angry over what they will have to pay in alimony.)

The black workers do not seem quite as reactionary in their discussions. Some say that women should have started this movement many long years ago. One brought in an article, written by a white woman in the Deep South, in which she stated how long the white women have been denied any of their freedoms in the South, and how free the white men have always been. It is common knowledge how much sexual freedom the white man has had with black women, how many families have been raised from such unions, and how neither the black man nor the white woman has been supposed to say one word about it.

The white man yells the loudest against race-mixing, but it is not his race-mixing he is talking about. He is only against admitting that. In her article, this white Southern woman said that white women would have acted the same as white men if they had not been put in straight jackets by society. The black workers seemed glad to see that women, especially white women, are finally beginning to "tell it like it is."

WORKERS CONCERNED ABOUT MOVEMENT

When you listen to women explaining their opposition to the abortion laws, and demanding their repeal, it would be hard for any man not to agree with them. The laws which concern women the most were written by men without women having any say about them. But some workers do not understand many of the things they have heard about the Women's Liberation Movement.

One worker said that when one group of women was asked about love and marriage, they said, they didn't know what love is, or whether there was any need for marriage. These workers were willing to admit that there might not be a need for the kinds of marriage

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WOMEN'S LIBERATION MOVEMENT AROUSES NEW FORCES ON JOB AND ANTI-WAR FRONTS

by Molly Jackson

The Women's Liberation Movement is sweeping the country, and shows itself every day in demonstrations, strikes and meetings of women. The attack on discrimination against women cuts across class and racial lines and extends from personal relationships to the most monstrous institutional ones, from the job market to the war in Vietnam.

The anti-war movement has thousands of women activists. What is new is that many women are now spurning their traditional menial labor roles in peace groups, preferring to work through an independent movement of women. Starting with the Jeanette Rankin Brigade in Washington two years ago, (she was the only member of Congress to vote against the United States' entry into World War I), Women's Liberation groups have had their own contingents in anti-war demonstrations all over the country. This new expression of Women's Liberation is a far cry from earlier days in the anti-war movement when women formed "mothers" groups or prostituted themselves with the slogan, "Girls say yes to men who say no," in order to find their own place in the movement.

HUNDREDS OF GROUPS

Hundreds of Women's Liberation groups have sprung up in the last two or three years, and many have begun to form area-wide groups for mass activities. Women's Liberation groups across the country are active in the areas of child care centers, the socialization and channeling process of education, and the media's use of women as sex objects. Recent campaigns have opposed the nomination of Judge Carswell, who is a "sexist" as well as a racist, to the Supreme Court.

Recent demonstrations in Michigan for repeal of the abortion laws (see picture, p. 8) are typical of what is going on in nearly every state as women demand the fundamental right to control their own bodies. An estimated 10,000 women die each year from unsafe, illegal abortions, and many more are forced to bear unwanted children.

A few states have already reformed their laws, but Women's Liberation groups demand that all laws on abortion be repealed completely. In addition, many groups say the simple operation must be made free so that the poor will not be deprived of the right in fact by profiteering doctors.

Women are also protesting the fact that the government has allowed birth control pills to be sold for years without adequately testing them for harmful side-effects. Women's Liberation in Washington disrupted the Senate hearings on the pills because no women were asked to testify and because they feel the government is willing to sacrifice the health of women to the profits of the drug industry.

NIXON OPPOSES ALL FREEDOM

The ruling class is aware of the potential of Women's Liberation to be a mass revolutionary movement. Earlier in the year it looked as if the administration was going to play up women's problems in the hope of diverting attention from its "benign neglect" of blacks. What it failed to realize is that half the black people are women, and that the whites in Women's Liberation closely support and identify with the black struggle.

By now the government appears to be trying to suppress both movements. Nixon is being denounced by the big-shot women in his own party for not fulfilling his promises to appoint women to high government posts, and by the task force on women's rights he himself appointed for not releasing their report!

More important, the administration's racist and sexist position is blatantly exposed by the Moynihan

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(See "Two Worlds" and Editorial, pp.4-5)

Repression at Roosevelt H.S.

Los Angeles, Calif.—During lunch period on Thursday, March 5, Jorge Rodriguez, head of UMAS (United Mexican-American Students) at Roosevelt High, was speaking at our free speech area. Supposedly because he said, "I don't give a damn" (an "obscenity"), but actually because of the way he was attacking the rotten quality of education at Roosevelt, the administration tried to close the free speech area.

Jorge kept talking, and 40 or 50 of us stayed past lunch to listen to him. Mr. Siegel, so-called "assistant principal" threatened us with suspension and arrest if we didn't disperse. We didn't disperse. Five cops came on campus and declared our gathering an "unlawful assembly." But no one was arrested because of a "question of jurisdiction" that Siegel mentioned.

STUDENTS SUSPENDED

The administration offered to negotiate with us, and 20 students volunteered to talk to Mr. Holguin, the boys' vice principal, about our grievances. We were promised that we wouldn't be suspended. That night Jorge and others were called by the school and told they were suspended.

Friday morning we all came to school anyway. Before third period we rallied near the school auditorium to raise our demands, which included getting the cops

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WAY OF THE WORLD

by Ethel Dunbar

Nixon's Southern ways

I wasn't surprised at what happened at Lamar, S.C. That is the crazy way Southern white people have acted before. They have always acted as though having their children go to school with black children would turn them black. Who in his right mind would march on school children with clubs and ax handles?

I wasn't surprised that it happened this year again, because that is what Nixon and Agnew have been trying to make happen again. Anybody would be a fool not to see that Nixon is glad to have Agnew there to carry out the Southern ways that Nixon wants him to. He has Agnew say all the things that Nixon doesn't want to say himself, so he can pretend to be up above all this.

NORTH AND SOUTH ALIKE

Nixon and Agnew didn't make the whites prejudiced. They were that way since the country began. But Agnew has been saying everything Nixon could think of to keep the prejudiced whites carrying on their "Southern way of life." Nixon doesn't want to "bring us together." He wants us to keep fighting each other until the black and the poor people are beat back where they were before the civil rights movement started.

Just look at what is happening right here in Michigan. There is trouble going on in all the schools—and it is because the older white people have been telling their children that they should not go to school with black children.

Back in the '30s and the '40s black and white children went to school together in the North, and it didn't seem to make any difference to anyone. But by now the North has become more and more like the South. They don't try to hide their hatred any more.

MOYNIHAN'S TALES

Just look at what Moynihan has been telling Nixon. He tries to make it seem as though the reason there is so much Negro poverty is because Negro women are having illegitimate children. He doesn't mention that plenty of white women have illegitimate children.

The difference is that the white people don't keep their babies the way the black people do. They carry them to a home to be adopted.

The real reason there is so much Negro poverty is because black people have never had a chance in this country to get out of their poverty. Who is to blame for the fact that the rate of unemployment for blacks is twice that for whites? Even Moynihan admitted that for black teenagers "it is at the appalling rate of 4.4 percent."

Moynihan talked about how much Negro progress we have seen. Well, we have come a long way from where we used to be. They never wanted to give Negroes the same wages they give the white workers. But the blacks have been fighting so hard, they have been forced to.

All Moynihan means by "benign neglect" is that blacks should quit fighting for any more than what they have already got. But we have to keep on fighting, because if we don't, we won't even keep what we have already won. Nixon and Agnew don't mean to neglect us. They mean to push us right back to where we were before.

From the postal workers' picket lines

From New York—If there was ever a rank and file strike, this is it. Even where the local leadership is sounding militant, the workers are saying they deserve Oscars for best-acting.

The opposition to the troops is so unanimous that even the most conservative are damning it. Nobody is buying any of Nixon's excuses. White workers from Canarsie said, "If he's so worried about getting mail to the troops in Vietnam he should bring them all home now, and they won't have to wait for any mail at all."

It is not only wages that the workers are talking about. They are concerned about their conditions, the overtime on holidays they are forced to work, and most of all about the right to be treated as labor and the right to strike.

As for Rademacher's statement that SDS provoked the walkout, they said simply, "We don't need SDS to tell us what we already know."

From Boston—Workers here are saying that they should have done

this years ago. The first night the strike was at least 80% effective, and the women were the most militant pickets on the line.

Several workers said they had "learned something from the students—you have to demonstrate for what you believe."

Almost every worker seemed to have two jobs to make ends meet. Some have welfare supplements.

From Los Angeles—The most impressive thing here is how spontaneous the walkout is. The signs are all home-made, with lots of great slogans.

The strike is by no means total, as in the other cities, but the workers seem pretty unanimous in their hostility to calling out the troops. "Nixon knows the army can't deliver any mail. The call-up is just to try to scare us," is the way one summed it up. "All that crying about the welfare checks being stopped is phoney," said another. "We're sorry for any welfare people who will have a bad time of it, but all Nixon really is worried

about is the income tax checks and the bad time the banks may have."

From Detroit—Some of the workers didn't trust their union officials' assurances that pickets weren't needed Monday morning, and showed up at 5 a.m. at the main post office. Sure enough, people were inside sorting mail, and the mail trucks began to roll up. The drivers accepted the few workers there as a good enough picket line for them, and refused to go through. As more workers arrived they were asked to join the line or go home. By 7 a.m. over 500 workers were gathered outside.

The picket signs, all handmade, told their own stories: One said, "Promises, promises . . ." Another, which was carried by a black man who said discrimination against women is rampant, said "Equal facilities for women." One large sign condemned Nixon, Congress, and their own bureaucrats and said that they are the ones responsible for inflation, and if they would end the war, there would be enough for everybody.

Discussion article

Israeli left probes solution to Mid-East crisis

(Editor's Note: The following article was received from an Israeli socialist in response to our lead article in the March issue, "World Power Plans of U.S. and Russia Keep Middle East Crisis at Boiling Point.")

Israel—Your conclusion that "the only solution to the current planned madness in the Middle East is for the masses to take matters out of the hands of the Big Powers, to take their own destinies in their own hands and set matters right in their own countries . . ." is, no doubt, the basic and far-reaching solution to the present tragedy.

However, strange and paradoxical as it may sound, those forces and groups in Israel—who oppose the annexation of the territories held presently by Israel; who support the right for self-determination of the Palestinian Arabs; who seek a just solution for the Arab refugees now; who condemn the policy of regional punishment in the territories; and who reject the inflexible, rigid official formula of the Israeli government—view favorably the American proposals expounded by Secretary of State Rogers, as a possible basis for a peace arrangement between Israel and the Arab states.

THE DECLARATIONS of Fatah and other terrorist movements, hailed by the New Left, Trotskyists and Stalinists, concerning the de-Zionisation of Israel and her replacement by a multi-national, multi-religious, secular Palestine, where Arabs and Jews, Moslems and Christians will live in peace and harmony, is just another way of destroying the state of Israel and depriving the Jews of national independence. The fact that Yasser Arafat, the head of Fatah, stems from the arch-reactionary Moslem Brotherhood; that all Arab states, reactionary and "revolutionary" alike, inscribed in their official constitutions the Moslem religion as the official state religion; that various Arab rulers are conducting a course of annihilation against the numerous ethnic and religious minorities (Kurds in Iraq, Copts in Egypt, Black Africans in South Sudan—black American militants, please note!—etc.), all these facts instill a well-founded fear in the hearts and minds of the Israelis as to what awaits them in the proposed "de-Zionised

secular, multi-national and multi-religious Palestine."

Furthermore, the unholy alliance between the Arab terrorist movements, and the various neo-Nazis and plain anti-Semites the world over, expose most strikingly the true nature of these movements and add fuel to the fires of our own hawks and chauvinists.

THE ANTI-ANNEXATIONIST critics of the present Israeli government, both outside of most of the government parties and even inside some of them, plus a considerable body of intellectuals and university professors and lecturers, are organized within the Movement of Peace and Security.

The ideologists of this movement see a grave danger in the continuation of the present situation, not only that it might lead to further escalation of the military situation and eventually to full scale war. They also see the danger in the creation of a state and psychology of siege, resulting in an attitude of "the whole world is against us," intolerance to internal dissenting views and opinions, and the strengthening and growth of religious mythical chauvinism and militarization of Israeli society, resulting from our occupational rule over more than a million Arabs. All this may result in endangering gravely the democratic structure of the state and the socialist-collectivist values and institutions created by the Israeli labor movement.

IN SPITE of the outward move to the right in Israel, contrary to the hawkish pronouncements and sometime actions of certain ministers, I believe in the inherent, strong and genuine strivings for peace permeating the majority of Israelis. The forces of peace and socialism in Israel will continue their unflinching struggle, hoping that eventually they will find similar voices and forces from beyond the blood-stained borders.

The tasks of socialists the world over is, without relinquishing their rightful criticism of official Israeli policy, to stand by the unquestionable right of Israel to exist and to influence genuine Arab socialists in this direction, so that the Israeli and Arab masses can start on a new road.

—N.S.

Repression hits Chicano students at Roosevelt H.S.

(Continued from Page 1)

off campus, open campus, better food, and a voice for the students in what goes on at school.

Siegel refused to talk to us, saying he "refused to deal with a mob." There were 300 of us, and when Siegel told us 15 minutes later that we were all suspended, we all cheered.

MORE STUDENTS JOIN

When Siegel tried to shut the press out, we moved forward to the Eleanor Roosevelt lawn, the old free speech area, so that the community would know what was happening. Other students in the buildings joined us. The cops declared our assembly illegal and threatened to attack.

About nine girls linked arms to stop the cops from breaking them up, but the cops pulled them apart. Roosevelt's coconut administrators (brown on the outside but white on the inside) had 37 of us busted. The cops were as brutal as usual, pulling girls' hair and twisting their arms.

STUDENTS DEMAND TIME

Saturday at 12:30 a commission met to discuss what had happened at Roosevelt. It was disgusting. Mr. Sullivan, a school superintendent, tried to run the meeting. He accused us of "disrupting the academic process." Some teachers had the guts to get up and speak on our behalf, for which they'll probably be fired or transferred. There were about 100 people there altogether, including teachers, students, and parents. One lady who spoke was furious at cops being called on campus.

Then Sullivan started taking up the time allotted to the students with a long speech. We booed and shouted, demanding our time. Sullivan finally shut up when a parent got up and told him to sit down. By 3:30 the administrators were tired of "listening to the students" and announced they were leaving.

Monday, March 9, between 200 and 300 of us picketed outside the school. Our signs demanded amnesty for all who had been arrested, attacked police brutality, and announced that "Hitler is alive and living at Roosevelt High." The students still in school couldn't join us for a very simple reason: all the gates had three or four locks on them and were guarded by teachers, cops, and nars. So we cut a hole in the mesh fence and went on campus anyway.

Tuesday and Wednesday there was more picketing, more arrests, and more beatings. Despite the arrests, the movement is still going strong.

WHY IT HAPPENED

What happened at Roosevelt is very understandable if you know anything about the quality of education it offers. It isn't education, it's indoctrination. Roosevelt is known as "Burrito High." Of the 3,200 students, at least 80 percent are Chicano. The school produces graduates who can hardly read or write. There aren't enough desks or equipment or teachers. The system of tracking forces 75 percent of the students into an industrial arts major. There is just no way to get college preparatory classes at Roosevelt. White students will never be bussed to Roosevelt; their parents wouldn't put up with the kind of education they'd get here.

The school is very restrictive. Most of the restrictions that the radical students who graduated in January got rid of last semester have been brought back this semester by Siegel and his coconut Chicano puppet, principal Perez. Last semester Siegel and the way the school operates were denounced in the class graduation speech. Now the administration has limited what students can say in the free speech area to the point we can't say anything at all.

Classroom doors are locked as soon as the tardy bell rings at the beginning of a period. Students left out in the hall are caught in "sweeps" by the teachers' patrol and taken to the cafeteria to fill out tardy slips. The bathrooms are almost always locked, and the buildings are locked during lunch to keep the students out, even if it's raining. And this is in a school that's a fire hazard!

If the education Roosevelt offers us is so good, why do they try to force it down our throats?

—Three Roosevelt High School Students

California warehousemen set '70 contract demands

San Francisco, Cal.—Warehousemen's Local 6 of the International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union voted in the first session of its annual convention here on March 7 to increase its wage demands from the 50c-50c-50c an hour spread over three years recommended by the officers to the \$1-\$1-\$1 proposed by the rank-and-file opposition. It was clearly stated by the officers and understood by all the delegates that winning anything near that three dollars in the negotiations beginning two months from now will come only after strike, and probably long strike action.

Adopted unanimously was a demand for a cost-of-living clause, the first time northern California warehousemen have demanded cost-of-living. The adoption of the three dollar demand as well as cost-of-living resulted from rank-and-file disgust with the results of the last contract signed after a three-weeks strike in 1967. By that contract, northern California warehousemen gained the largest wage increase—7½%—in the 30-year history of their organization. What thereafter happened to that increase?

First, the government, deciding it wasn't spending enough on armaments, adopted the 10% surcharge tax. Everyone who eats knows what happened to food prices, as well as the prices of everything else. Instead of going up, or even remaining the same, real wages went down. The warehousemen are showing their anger.

In northern California, warehousemen are organized in either one of two international unions: the I.L.W.U., with about 10,000 warehousemen; and the Teamsters, with about 15,000 warehousemen. The strike victory three years ago resulted from the first alliance between the I.L.W.U. and the Teamster warehousemen, which is still in effect. The Teamster warehousemen have already adopted three dollars plus cost-of-living as their wage demand.

Now a joint committee of the Teamster and I.L.W.U. warehouse locals will work out an agreement on all

demands for all northern California warehousemen. In Local 6, those demands will be referred to the second session of the convention to be convened for final approval.

So far, the rank-and-file delegates have shown their absolute disgust for the settlement reached three years ago, the best wage settlement northern California warehousemen ever achieved, which eventually resulted in a loss in real wages.

Fruehauf strikers hold firm

Detroit, Mich.—The strike at Fruehauf (see last two issues of News & Letters) has entered its fifth month. The strikers, predominantly women, have won some battles but no end is in sight.

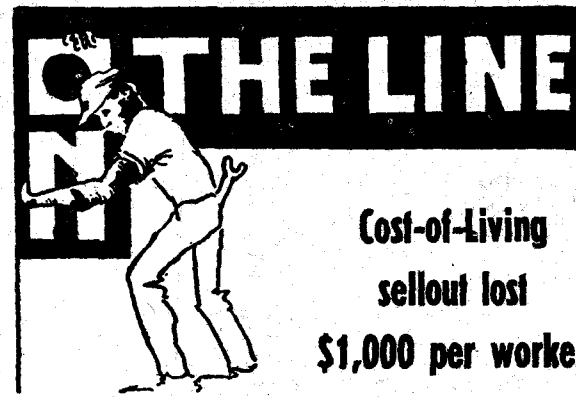
The workers finally have the support of the Teamsters, who have agreed not to cross the picket lines. But the company is still refusing to negotiate seriously.

The company's latest move to try to get an injunction against mass picketing was turned down.

There is much feeling that the UAW is not doing all that it could for the strike. Recently the union took away the larger of the two union halls. All the strikers had left was a room about 15 feet square, not big enough for them to meet in or be able to relax and talk together.

When they complained they were told that, "We're not running a resort here," and that the people who were "really" picketing didn't want the larger room. This was said to women and men who had been on the line at 7:30 a.m. every week day for the last four months in one of the coldest winters in ten years. That night the workers had their own meeting. They called up Solidarity House, and in two days they had their hall back.

The biggest complaint about the union is its failure to bring in more support from the other UAW locals. The strikers know that the union they are members of and fighting for could support them much better if it wanted to. The Fruehauf strikers have a double battle on their hands.



By John Allison

What was a secret is now public knowledge. Every UAW member knows now that the cost of living has gone up at an alarming rate since the last contract was signed. We realize now we were sold down the river to the tune of a thousand dollars per worker on the cost of living alone.

There were other gains we lost, because the skilled division and the young workers did not believe we were heading for a recession. Overtime was plentiful during that set of contract negotiations. Just think — a thousand dollars in each wage earner's pay check would start the auto shops working six days a week.

The cold facts are that high prices and low wages equal lay offs, short work-weeks, and long lines at the unemployment offices.

Chrysler is closing up the Highland Park plant. These workers are like soldiers from a war. They must start life all over again after giving Chrysler the best years of their lives. Ford is closing up a plant in the state of Texas, leaving these workers to start living like gypsies—either moving when Ford moves, or staying behind and suffering.

Chrysler's programs for the hard core went the way of all flesh when President Nixon's government funds stopped rolling in. Not only were they out of work, but seniority workers began to feel the sting of unemployment too. For the first time since retirement was negotiated in the auto factories, retirees are creating jobs for younger workers, by taking early retirement.

Some six months ago, there was a labor shortage in some trades. Now a skilled tradesman can in short order drop from a tradesman to a snow shoveler. That's how it is under this age of Automation, Capitalism and Agnew-Nixonism.

Flint hospital workers win 3-day strike

Flint, Mich.—"They backed down," said the Genesee Memorial Hospital worker.

"Back to the picket line" was the cry of the angry strikers as they poured from their union hall on Chevrolet Ave. at noon Saturday, Feb. 28. Local 79, Hospital Employees Service Union, A.F.L.-C.I.O., had massed to hear about the "back-down" by the County Administrators on the proposed contract. Friday night they agreed —now Saturday morning, no dice!

Back in October, 1969, the health industry workers at the County Hospitals, Genesee Memorial and Walter Winchesteer, had opened negotiations for a new contract. Because these hospital workers don't have the power of the capitalists of Flint, they worked past the New Year's expiration til Feb. 26 without a contract.

AT GENESEE MEMORIAL

At that moment of truth, about 150 of the 300 workers hit the picket line. Strike! Team members from house-keeping, maintenance, secretarial and nursing devised the tactic of concentrating at Genesee Memorial, the larger of the two county hospitals.

A few of the women "cornered" the assistant administrator in the Genesee Memorial lobby and "told him off." They said, "You don't manage this place, some one else tells you what to do." He called the police.

Another woman striker—they were about 75% strong—said that "a local hospital administrator had taken a \$10,000 bribe, but we can't get a few nickels raise." So she said, "We gotta vote her out."

Line talk was about the sly phasing out of Winchesteer Hospital resulting in the loss of some jobs. These strikers had noticed the transfer of patients from Winchesteer to other facilities in Flint, and the furniture sent from there to Genesee Memorial.

Almost 100 strikers answered a call to the County Court House at 2 p.m. Saturday to hear a ruling by a county judge. After sitting around a while, one woman striker jumped up and said, "Let's get back to the picket line where we belong." Nothing came of their wait, so they did break back to Genesee Memorial.

These workers know about the caste money differential system; more than one complained about the R.N.'s staying in. The L.P.N.'s have their own contract.

The strike lasted three days and won the workers many of their demands.

FROM THE AUTO SHOPS

Fleetwood

Detroit, Mich.—The women in Dept. 10 (Cut and Sew) at Fleetwood are still being taken off their jobs and being placed into the worst jobs in the plant. The union has held a few meetings about it. Kelly and Garrison, the Local 15 leadership, have even taken a strike vote. But they refused to set a date for a strike.

All they do is pass out leaflets. Every day at work they are there with another piece of paper, but they refuse to do anything. We are all sick of them.

Two weeks ago, one woman I know was bumped from her job in cut and sew. She was allowed to bump in another department, but the only job she could take was in this horrible zig zag spring department. Women have never done this before at Fleetwood.

After two weeks on this job, this woman's hands are so swollen that one hand is the size of two. They have to hold these heavy guns in one hand and pick up sharp metal clamps with the other in order to rivet the seat springs to the frame. Between the springs, the gun and the clamps, her hands are aching all the time.

The rest of Dept. 10 is supposed to be taken down and shipped to Ohio next week. Then all the women will be placed in this kind of job, because the company is giving women the worst jobs they can find.

Everybody is angry and frustrated. We don't know where to start to fight it, or exactly what to do. It seems to me that nothing will be done unless we force them to call a strike. We can't wait to changeover to see if things get better. These jobs are killing us now.

Even going on sick leave doesn't help. The company has a policy of holding up people's checks until they come back from sick leave. I almost wish I'd get sick enough to go to the hospital; then I wouldn't have to kill myself on this job and the company would have to send my checks.

I think that it's time we all stopped talking about how bad things are at Fleetwood and started doing something about it. The only way things are going to change is if we do it ourselves.

—Dept. 10 Worker

Ford Rouge

Detroit, Mich.—The election for convention delegates in the Dearborn Assembly Plant is over, and the old group backed by Walter Dorst is in again. Everyone is saying that they got in-by fraud, trickery and the white racist vote.

The election was held during a week when the plant was down. The union knew this and planned it that way, but they didn't tell the membership until

the week before the election. So, many members did not come down to vote since it required a special trip. The opposition candidates didn't get much chance to campaign. Only 631 voted out of 3,500.

When the balloting was over, at 5 p.m., they were supposed to start counting ballots. But instead the election committee suddenly wanted to lock them up in the office and count them the next morning at 9 a.m. They said that it would take too long to count them. But the frame building counted their ballots in less than two hours. A lot of people are wondering: what happened to the ballots when they were locked up?

The candidates who ran against the machine put out a good program. They called for full reparations for the cost of living (cola) money we lost; making work standards a big issue in negotiations; early retirement after 30 years with full benefits; and making racism a strikeable issue. These demands were for all workers, not just black workers.

But racist whites, who could not stand to see a black militant win, teamed up with Del Hood, the chairman of the assembly building, to make sure they didn't get in.

When Del Hood was running for office, to be the first COLORED chairman of our building, he said he would stop the practice of all HHD (Hot, Heavy and Dirty) jobs going to black workers. He was all for black militancy. Now he calls his caucus his "white mafia." This is true. All the old white crooks are on his side.

Now he says "I'm through with black power forever." This election for convention delegates proves it, because he went and solicited the "white only" vote. Many black workers and some white ones have now seen what white racists and uncle toms will do to block workers from fighting for their rights. It is not over yet.

—Black Production Worker

THE ACTIVIST, a student journal of radical opinion and analysis, featuring articles on:

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- Marxism and the Black Movement
- Women's Liberation
- The Evolution of the New Left

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EDITORIAL**Nixon tries to turn the whole world backward**

New life is being breathed into the "domino theory" by reports of long and near total U.S. involvement in Laos. Every day brings grim new disclosures of the incredibly barbaric death and destruction the U.S. has rained on that hapless nation. Saturation bombing missions have virtually turned that country's three million people into a population of displaced, starving and helpless refugees, and the countryside into a bomb-pocked, defoliated wasteland.

Vice President Agnew's trip to Southeast Asia did nothing less than set the opening stage for what Nixon had sent him out to establish: a new basis for continued and expanding U.S. influence in Southeast Asia. Far from bowing to the genuine anti-war feelings of the majority of Americans whose bitter opposition to the Vietnam War removed the former occupant from the White House, Nixon is trying to resurrect the foreign policy brinksmanship of Eisenhower-Dulles. "Communist containment" and its Asian corollary of the "domino theory" ride again: if one Southeast Asian country falls, all will fall: Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, Burma, Cambodia, India . . . and beyond these, Australia, the Philippines, and then, of course, America.

BARBARISM IN LAOS

Only the CIA and Nixon know the full extent of U.S. involvement in Laos—but the CIA is accountable to no one, and Nixon reveals only what he chooses or is forced to. However, enough has been learned to confirm that even the wildest earlier claims of U.S. involvement are far short of the reality.

War horror in Laos takes no back seat to the barbarism in Vietnam. The intensity of the U.S. air and naval forces bombing in Laos is greater than that unleashed against North Vietnam, and that was greater than the concentrated bombing of Europe during World War II.

This war against the Laotian people has been carried on secretly by the Nixon administration. It requires total loss of reason to accept the Nixon administration's position that the U.S. is not involved in a war in Laos simply because massive American land armies are not criss-crossing that nation. The fact is that there are already thousands of U.S. troops in Laos—both secret

and open—and bombing raids number over 500 daily. It takes a long experience for a people to become accustomed to war, but as the *New York Times* reports of the inhabitants of the large town of Paske in South Laos, "war is so much a fact of life that no one shows signs of worry."

NIXON USURPS CONGRESS

The most ominous disclosure to come out of the deep U.S. involvement in Laos, however, came not from news out of that small nation, but from a speech cleared by the Nixon administration and delivered by Senator Mathias of Maryland. In that speech, Mathias said that Nixon is prepared to accept repeal of the Tonkin Gulf resolution passed by Congress in 1965 which authorized U.S. intervention in Vietnam. However, this was tied to the condition that there be a complete reconsideration of the basis for the U.S. to be in Asia—dating back to the Korean War.

But his most stunning statement was that the U.S. is already so deeply committed in both Vietnam and Laos that the executive branch of the government (Nixon) has in fact usurped the authority of Congress to decide U.S. involvement in foreign nations.

The sudden coup and swing to the right in Cambodia has also changed the Southeast Asian situation to a large degree, raising the false hope consistently pursued by every recent occupant of the White House that it is possible to achieve a military victory in Vietnam. A recently silent military is now loudly proclaiming that military victory is assured if the Ho Chi Minh trail supply route from North Vietnam through Laos is destroyed, along with North Vietnamese troops in formerly neutral and now rightist Cambodia.

WORLD POWER IS AIM

It is more than that, however. It is nothing short of a declaration by Nixon that he intends to stop at nothing in his drive for world domination. Those who scoff at Nixon and his seemingly obvious tactics should not delude themselves. World power is a total obsession of this man, the most thoroughly reactionary head of the most powerful nation on earth. Far from merely moving

to turn back the clock in the U.S., Nixon is seeking to turn the world back to the time of uncontested world supremacy held by the U.S. following World War II.

The ambitions of this would-be Napoleon in the White House are one thing: their achievement is something else again. And nothing short of a total and complete reversal of the forces in motion for freedom in America is necessary for this turn backward to succeed.

This totalitarian threat is very real and very ominous for the future of not only America but also for the world. It will not be easy, however, for the very great aspirations for peace and freedom of the workers, the black Americans in clear revolt, the youth, and most recently the Women's Liberation movement, to be stopped and thrown back by Nixon's policies. These forces are in forward motion and represent the wave of freedom's future. They must meet to join forces and overcome the reactionary course being charted by Nixon and his administration lackeys.

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Raya Dunayevskaya, Chairman
National Editorial Board

Charles Denby Editor
O. Domanski Managing Editor

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NIXON'S ECOLOGY TACTIC

The liberals are caving in under the Nixon attacks on human rights. They took the same side as the Government on the Chicago Trial—that both sides were disruptive and both sides at fault. Liberals in the media made no comment on the political issues, and just reported the "conduct" of both sides.

The media are now bombarding us about ecology, but I question their intent. Many people have been concerned about garbage and smoke for a long time. We just didn't call it ecology. I think the new emphasis on environment is just a tactic by the Nixon Administration to get the student movement to forget about the Vietnam war and black liberation. And it seems to be working. Look at those students who spent all that money to bury a car while the black students were telling them to give the money to defend the Panthers.

If people think the big corporations are going to lower their profits to correct pollution they can forget it. Charles Denby's column was right. Only a revolution will save the environment.

Woman Worker
New York

DOCTORS AND SOCIETY

I am involved in all kinds of inner city health programs. The only reason drug abuse is not one of them is because that is a popular subject, so other physicians around town are active in those programs. But most of the doctors don't even believe there are people in the city who do not have enough to eat.

Physician
Virginia

With doctor's fees and hospital charges out of the reach of countless workers, something drastic needs to be done. In other days, the poor relied on the corner drug store for health advice. Sometimes it was good for most ill, but of course the rich do better.

Rather than die, for all doctors care, the poor should institute "health advisers." These could be students of medicine on a serious scale and able to advise on most sickness. If such advisers felt the case was beyond them, they could send the patient to a regular doctor.

Such a program would be opposed by the government and the medical profession—but the poor are going to die from ill health without a struggle. Why should they bow to pay huge fees to money-bleeding doctors?

Reader
Chicago

Man is always seeking solutions to his problems. Medical fees are too much for the poor, and America is still too heartless to put in the European type of free medicine.

The burning of that bank in California scared the doctors at our hospital more than anything else that has happened recently. It sure shows how mixed up our values become under capitalism when the destruction of property moved so called "humanitarians" more than the killing in Vietnam!

Hospital Worker
New York

THE SENSELESS TERRORISTS

The UAW has just renounced SDS—and it is clear that the Administration is now going to be going out for their scalps but good. The trouble is that they might well be using the opportunity to go out after everybody's scalps—the terrorists have handed the Administration their opportunity on a silver platter.

Journalist
Michigan

The bombings by the extreme right wing are not new. They are disgusting and frightening, but it is the senseless bombings and smashing that come from the so-called Left that are, far more disgusting and frightening, to me. It all sounds very Stalinist. They have become part of the complete degeneracy of this insane society. This is "counter-revolution within the revolution" so far as I am concerned.

Working Woman
New York

The terrorists in the days before the Russian Revolution—whom Lenin denounced—at least chose as targets some hated general or brutal police commander or tyrannical aristocrat. The terrorists who are running amok among the left today wind up either killing some innocent bystander, or themselves.

Reader's

It made me sick to my stomach to realize that if the buildings here in New York had not been evacuated in time it would have been the poor janitors and cleaning ladies who would have had their heads blown off. What a horrible "new society" these white petty bourgeois madmen would bring us.

Disgusted
New York

MARXIST - HUMANISM

I am very impressed with the information and news printed in *N&L*—especially Raya Dunayevskaya's column, "Two Worlds." I thought her article entitled "African Revolutions at the Crossroads" was really relevant and timely. Currently, as a student of Marxism, I find this type of discussion a relief from the capitalist white-washed everyday journalism.

Black Student Journalist
East Lansing, Mich.

It was good to see *N&L* take up the question of the Middle East within a world context. It is really disheartening to see the way most of the Left acts. How can any truly international socialist take sides among the big state powers, and become so involved in being against American imperialism that they refuse to pay any attention to Russian imperialism?

Supporter
Los Angeles

I enjoy *N&L* very much. It doesn't get too overloaded with revolutionary rhetoric and propaganda. Seems to tell a lot of truth about working people and conditions as they are. Enclosed find my renewal for another year and another dollar to help keep *N&L* going to the libraries.

Reader
Kalamazoo, Mich.

I am very glad I have come to know your organization. It is good somewhere a voice calls to remind us of the human condition—which is what the whole movement is all about anyway. I hope the additional money I enclose will help.

New Reader
Florida

WOMEN'S LIBERATION

We sold out all our copies of "We Speak in Many Voices" at the rally in Berkeley around International Women's Day, and could have used 50 more. The rally was non-exclusionary, with many speakers of various political points of view. After the main speakers, the mike was declared open for one and all.

The only disruption was by a woman-hating campus crusader who shouted epithets at the assembled women during one of the speeches. A little-old-white-haired-lady (me) and a big blonde woman escorted the disrupter from the park. Many of the women joined in to encircle him. Several black brothers, with literature on the stop-the-extradition of Bobby Seale rally for the next day, volunteered their muscle if we needed it. It was reassuring to have them volunteer, but the women knew we could handle things ourselves. The good humor of the day was maintained.

At the San Francisco rally there was considerable friction stemming from differences within the anti-war movement . . . The subtle male chauvinism within the SWP hasn't helped, as some of their men refer to their own female comrades as being "nuts on the woman question," and deny even the need for women's caucuses within their own organizations and spheres of influence.

Activist
Berkeley

ED. NOTE: See ad, page 7

TWO WORLDS

By Raya Dunayevskaya
Author of Marxism and Freedom

The U.S. President's strike-breaking order to U.S. troops to take the jobs away from U.S. postal workers brings to a militaristic gallop the totalitarianism that is permeating U.S. life.

The creeping, and not-so-creeping, totalitarianism that now pervades every facet of American life discloses, day in and day out, not only the abysmal degeneracy of American capitalism "in general"—that is to say, in its exploitative, imperialist, police state nature—but also, and especially, in that of the intellectual sloth. It takes no time at all for the thin veneer of democracy to turn into instant racism.

INSTANT RACISM

Thus, no sooner did the American Gestapo-type police, in the dark of the night, with shot guns blazing and tear gas making it impossible for humans to escape, raid the Black Panthers headquarters in Chicago, killing and wounding its sleeping occupants, than the intellectual-in-residence at the White House, Patrick Moynihan, fired off a Memo to the President about the "extraordinary progress" of the Negro in these United States of America!

He played informer also on a petty level—Mr. Moynihan's "erudition" extends to reading the minutiae of society columnists—thus making it possible for him to inform the Commander-in-Chief of the mightiest army in the world that Mrs. Leonard Bernstein had held a party to raise money for the defense of the Black Panthers. The society gossip was part and parcel of the diatribe against New Yorkers who might consider black revolutionaries "culture heroes" instead of "fire-setting" haters of whites: "Hatred—revenge—against whites is now an acceptable excuse for doing what might have been done anyway."

Daniel Patrick Moynihan, it may be objected, is not characteristic of the liberal intellectual breed. After all, he betrayed his "liberal" Democratic Party colleagues by accepting so high a post with a conservative Republican President that he now has Cabinet rank. O.K., let's

take some Democratic Party liberals who are not on Nixon's payroll, and who even opposed Democrats of Mayor Daley's ilk. Take Senator Ribicoff.

Just last year, at the Democratic Convention, Sen. Ribicoff braved Mayor Daley's anti-Semitic remarks and helped expose the Gestapo-type Chicago police who conspired, and staged the riots for which the anti-Vietnam war protesters have been railroaded to jail. This year, the same Ribicoff found no better way "to expose Northern hypocrisy" on school desegregation than to team up with that Bourbon racist senator from Mississippi, Stennis, to so "amend" the already-watered down HEW Bill that it nullifies school desegregation!

THE INTELLECTUAL CLIMATE FOR RACISM

Moreover, this is not an exception to, but is on a par with, very nearly the whole "educated world" who have chosen this moment when Southern white mobs overturn school buses, endangering the lives of black school children, to declare that it is "indeed" time for some "benign neglect" of Negroes, time "to return to quality education."** Nor can we forget that the climate for overturned buses and threatened black school children was created by the President himself coming out against busing of children to integrate schools.

The "intellectual climate" created by those who have partaken of "quality education" can be gleaned both from the organic racism of white middle-class America, and its white-hot hatred of any revolutionary youth, white, black, red or yellow. Thus, when asked to comment on the uncultured Agnew's diatribe about "kooks and demagogues and social misfits who ought to be brought in with butterfly nets," the cultured Moynihan had the gall to reply: "I think the reference was to Harvard students and I have ambiguous and complex and evasive views on them."

What is neither "ambiguous," nor "complex," much less "evasive" is the type of horse trading which, in the first place, permitted the lawless "riot" amendment to be tacked on to LBJ's "Great Society" Civil Rights Bill. What is neither "ambiguous," nor "complex," much less "evasive" is the intellectual climate oozing out of the Moynihans which now emboldens juries, Northern as well as Southern, to pronounce police murderers

Totalitarianism: U.S. Style

"innocent" so long as the crimes committed are against blacks. (The latest of such acts of injustice is the Flint, Mich., jury's setting free the infamous Algiers Motel murderers of black youth.)

What is neither "ambiguous," nor "complex," much less "evasive" is Nixon's Southern strategy which reverses everything and anything that is left of civil rights gains in order to enable him to transform creeping totalitarianism into galloping totalitarianism.

THE NIXON BRAND OF TV

Recently we have been witnessing on our TV sets a whole series of interviews in Vietnam which are intended to prove that the GIs had been "provoked" to act as barbarians at My Lai and many other places where they committed unspeakable atrocities. The "proof" consists of the fact that booby traps were laid for Americans not only by the Vietcong "but also by women and children." The reporters do not venture to make so simple a comment as saying that, very obviously, the Americans have barged in on a civil war. Instead, they save their comments for the time Vietnamese who witnessed those atrocities are interviewed. And then the comments made leave the viewers with the impression that, if the Vietnamese are not tall tellers of tall tales, they certainly do not understand the "provocations."

What has become all too clear since Agnew has cowed the TV networks into submission, and they no longer dare give "instant editorializing" (that is to say, any serious criticism), is that it is not only the President's phony TV ventures that go unchallenged. We are also being brainwashed on the Vietnam war, including its most infamous crimes, the gory killing of civilians, of women and of children.

As for Nixon's unpaid-for, elaborately staged, prime-timed—prime-timed to follow comedy hours having the highest nation-wide audiences like "Laugh-In"—TV performances, they go totally unchallenged. No one challenges even so Show Biz a put-on as when Nixon, with a flourish of the pen, but with "low profile," vetoes the limited social security act, the \$19.4 billion HEW Bill, all under the guise of "fighting inflation." As con-

(Continued on Page 7)

Views

TWO APPEALS

Selden Osborne — longtime pacifist activist — was recently arrested in the offices of The Resistance and GI Help by the S.F. police. He was falsely charged with "drug peddling," held for 69 hours and released without any court appearance or explanation. All charges against him were subsequently dismissed, but not before they were reported in the local press, and broadcast over numerous radio and TV stations.

The harassment Selden Osborne suffered demonstrates the threats all of us face. He wants to carry the struggle against the misuse of police power into the courts, and obtain a permanent injunction against "en route" procedure, as well as damages for false arrest and libel, and thus help to regain civilian control over police.

Because he lacks the financial resources to do it on his own, a Selden Osborne Legal Expense Fund Committee has been formed to raise money for the suit. Checks should be made payable to "Selden Osborne" with a notation on the check that it is for his "Legal Expense Fund," and can be sent to:

Legal Expense Fund Committee
2126 Balboa St.
San Francisco, Cal. 94121

Jerry Pogue and 97 women and children followers were sentenced at Prichard, suburb of Mobile, Alabama. Reverend Ned Milner, one white religious leader of Mobile, who said he "was sick and tired of being a white man" received the maximum fine and 60 days as did activist Pogue.

Pogue's 97 women and children followers were arrested during "equal distribution of wealth" and "fair employment practice" marches and charged with inciting to riot to parading without a permit.

Fines of more than \$10,000 plus 160 days were leveled by the judge and

mayor. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the decisions and the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear the case.

An appeal for desperately needed funds has been issued asking everyone to contribute at:

Box 2551, Mobile, Alabama, or
Box 95, General Delivery,
Magazine, Ala.

FROM ABROAD

There was a serious disturbance at a Rangers-Celtic football match last Saturday. This is a frequent happening and is the same in character as the religious division in Northern Ireland. Many religious people want to end religious segregation in the schools. Some leading Catholics want to end this but the clergymen say it is a Humanist plot.

I raised the matter at the Glasgow Trades Council two months ago, but the CP leaders made sure that I was defeated. Some of the CP rank and filers are annoyed at what happened. The trouble last Saturday will bring the lesson home.

The Rangers club does not employ Catholics as players. They wear blue jerseys and fly the Union Jack. The Celtics wear green and white jerseys and fly the flag of the Irish Republic.

It starts with the children. This has hindered the development of the working class movement. For opportunist reasons the various parties avoid the issue. The Catholics have their own separate schools, but there is a shortage of Catholic teachers with the result that many Catholic parents are sending their children to the state schools. Some Catholic children only attend school for one and a half hours a day. But the heels are dug in.

Correspondent
Glasgow

The situation in Italy remains basically the same although the extreme right's active entrance on the scene has made it more dramatic. In fact, fascist groups are growing like mushrooms, but

there is no possibility of their creating a mass party as in the days of Mussolini.

You've probably heard about the bomb that exploded in Milan and killed 15 people. It is just one of the many events that by now have become common. By now, the idea that there may be a coup d'etat has become so common that one hears people talking about it in the grocery stores; but I am much less pessimistic.

As long as the workers continue their struggle and the students also continue to strike and demonstrate, the few responsible people in the government must realize that a coup would probably lead to partisan warfare.

In fact, the metallurgical workers have finally gotten a contract signed, and it is probably the best they've ever had. Also the contract signed a couple of days ago for the transport workers in Milan seems to be a relatively good one.

There has been a whole series of political trials recently and, except for the first one in which the editor of a leftist newspaper called *Potere Operaio* got 17 months for a couple of articles published, the sentences have been relatively light.

This is a situation in which the workers, almost by themselves, have at least managed to stave off the worst for the time being.

Correspondent
Italy

RICH AND POOR

The gap between the rich and poor here is extreme. The high rise apartment buildings, which obstruct the view and the use of the ocean and the bays for the poor, rent at ridiculously high prices. The high priced apartments and hotels are forbidden not only to the poor, but even the middle class.

The poor, white or black, have their ghettos, infested with roaches, but with no lights or plumbing, and when the temperature goes down to 50 and it gets windy, no heat. As usual, our government, which can speak out of both sides of the mouth, and build castles in the air, cannot put up houses for the poor on the ground. They just give promises, promises.

Our government is "for the people, by the people and of the people" but unless the people rise up and assert their rights, there is no government, just idle words written into the constitution.

Traveler
Miami

Nixon's fighting inflation all right—with our lives. Why don't the big companies have to fight inflation, instead of us, who barely get by anyway? It's the war that's causing all this.

Fruehauf Striker
Detroit

WHAT IS NEWS & LETTERS? A unique combination of workers and intellectuals.

ORGANIZATION—We are an organization of Marxist Humanists—blacks and whites who are seeking to change our conditions of life in the shops, the schools, the society as a whole. To do this we feel that all of us—workers in the factories, students in the universities and high schools—must come together and talk about how we can end speed up and racism in the plants, miseducation in the school; how we can build different human relations, by abolishing the division between mental and manual labor.

PAPER—This is the only paper of its kind, anywhere, edited by a black worker, Charles Denby, who works in an auto plant. The only paper written by working people, youth and black people fighting for freedom, in the U.S.A. and in other countries.

The only paper that features a regular column, "Two Worlds," by Raya Dunayevskaya, chairman of the National Editorial Board, and author of *Marxism and Freedom*.

We invite you to write for the paper, and to join our organization.



YOUTH

Santa Barbara youth revolt hits landlords, banks

Santa Barbara, Cal.—The University of California at Santa Barbara has been traditionally considered to be a "party school," with an almost completely white, middle-class student body. Yet on Feb. 24-28, Isla Vista, the student community adjacent to the university, exploded in one of the most militant actions in the history of the U.S. student movement.

It began when a group of residents tried to prevent police from arresting a black man. This resulted in the burning of a cop car, about \$15,000 worth of property damage and the arrest of several "known" radicals.

POLICE SPARK EXPLOSION

The next day was marked by the appearance of William Kunstler, attorney for the Chicago Eight, to speak on campus. Although the straight press has presented this as a major reason for the rioting, Kunstler actually gave a very careful, moderate speech. However, as students left the rally, an apparently peaceful student was grabbed and brutally beaten by several cops.

That evening windows of local realty companies were smashed and the local branch of the Bank of America, famous for exorbitant rates on student loans, was destroyed by fire. After demonstrators effectively controlled the center of Isla Vista, several charges were made by 150 to 200 police. Outnumbered by the people, they had no choice but to flee before the rock-throwing crowd. Later that night the police returned and busted anyone who happened to be on the streets.

Thursday a dusk to dawn curfew was imposed on Isla Vista. At school the next day, as one student put it, "about 3000 people said they had participated and had big smiles on their faces, and about 10,000 others supported them but were afraid of violence. No one supported the pigs." That night saw more heavy street fighting in which students were run over by police cars and retaliated with firebombs. The streets were finally cleared late at night by a liberal application of CN blister gas.

On Friday several hundred National Guards and outside police moved into the streets at curfew time.

BACKGROUND TO THE RAGE

Perhaps the first radicalizing experience for the Santa Barbara students was the oil that spilled onto the Channel beaches in February of 1969. The black crud came down, the Secretary of the Interior refused to stop the drilling, and the middle-class citizens of Santa Barbara and the students of Isla Vista began to see their own powerlessness in the face of capitalists' profits.

About a month before the street fighting began, despite a petition signed by over 7000 students requesting an open hearing, Bill Allen, a professor of anthropology, was summarily denied tenure for "unprofessional conduct." Most observers felt that the real reason for the firing was his teaching about U.S. imperialism in Latin America.

The ghetto-like conditions in Isla Vista were a large contributor to the blowup. The real estate companies were hit by rocks, and there was a good reason for this. Isla Vista is a town of 15,000, almost 75 percent of them students, housed in cheap-jack apartments, fully equipped with unfair long-term leasing, faulty plumbing, and fleas. The area gets almost no kind of service, has had a history of police harassment, and is not self-governing.

Occupy M.I.T. offices

Boston, Mass.—The news on the trial here is a pleasant surprise. In mid-January, at the end of a series of student disciplinary hearings used to punish political dissent against M.I.T.-Pentagon projects, M.I.T.'s support of G.E. recruiters during the strike and M.I.T.'s computerizing of data on world-wide revolutionary struggles (including those here in Cambridge and in Roxbury), about 100 people occupied the offices of the M.I.T. President and Chairman of the Corporation.

The occupation lasted almost two days. M.I.T. brought trespassing charges against 27 people, one count for each of the two days. A number of those charged had only the loosest connection with the occupation (some even had advised occupiers to leave while still in strength of numbers), but most were representatives of various radical groups on campus as well as vocal critics of M.I.T.'s continuing commitments to war research and exploitation of its own employees. That was why they were indicted.

It didn't work. The judge was, surprisingly, an honest liberal, and he made a deal with the defense lawyers to grant a kind of probation, and liberty without fines, to all but two of the 27. (The last were charged with disruption of classrooms as well as trespassing; their chances look fairly good, too.) M.I.T. will still impose separate discipline on everyone it can, and the court is hoping for "good" behavior, but that won't work either, because the struggle will go on. Our spirits are up.

The incidents of the week of rage ended in 68 arrests, one trashed bank, at least \$235,000 worth of property damage, and what one observer called "the most militant activity in the history of the white student movement." But to gauge its significance and where we go from here is really difficult.

While the targets of the street action made it explicitly anti-capitalist and anti-imperialist, there was much anti-working class sentiment among people on the streets, and the media has tried very hard to push to the workers the idea that Santa Barbara was a senseless outrage perpetrated by spoiled rich kids.

Whatever else comes out of Isla Vista—and people were talking about everything from a citywide rent strike to burning the ROTC building—the students will have to go beyond frustration and anger if they are to bridge this gap and really help make the needed American revolution.

—David Payne

God and his son have invaded my high school

Detroit, Mich.—Opium is threatening the people again, and it's starting to addict many youth who are in search of something different from what we live in now. This is not regular opium, though, but the "opium of the masses," religion. God and his son have invaded my high school, and it doesn't look like they're going to leave.

Many young people today, especially high school youth and younger, are in revolt. It takes all forms, from dope to culture to political involvement. Many youth, though, are hung-up in their fight against this society and see no way out. Some of these people have taken to religion, in a hope that there'll be pie in the sky when we die. They believe the only way to get happiness is to believe in God and his son.

HOPE FOR A BETTER LIFE

Throughout history people have led boring, dull, drab, oppressed lives, with no hope at all of it getting any better. It was only natural that they hoped their lives would be better later, sometime later. Thus the idea of a heaven after earth was developed, and people had something to look forward to.

The ruling class soon snatched up this idea and added a hell to the heaven. They told the people, "Now look here, folks. If you all are good boys and girls and you listen to your leaders and obey all the rules, you will go to heaven. But if you get naughty and disobey us, God will send you to hell!"

Whether there really is a God or not and whether Jesus, a great revolutionary and humanist, was his son, isn't the real issue. What really matters is the struggle between oppressed and oppressor, and it is our job as revolutionaries to make sure that the people win out, and all oppressors are overthrown.

RELIGION'S OTHER HALF

The young people who are saying they have found happiness with God are forgetting the other half of religion, that it is not only a hope for people but also a tool for the ruling class to keep the people down. The capitalists would like nothing better than for all the potential revolutionaries to freak out on Jesus.

The main contradiction in the society we live in isn't between good and evil, or God and Devil, but between oppressed and oppressors, or workers and capitalists. If we devote our energies to changing the society for betterment of all people, then we will have a heaven here on earth, whether there will be one afterwards or not.

"Dunayevskaya's book goes beyond the previous interpretations. It shows not only that Marxian economics and politics are throughout philosophy, but that the latter is from the beginning economics and politics."—From Herbert Marcuse's Preface to Marxism and Freedom.

MARXISM AND FREEDOM

by Raya Dunayevskaya

(preface by Herbert Marcuse)

415 Brainard Street
ONLY \$1.98 Detroit, Mich. 48201
from NEWS & LETTERS

DOING AND THINKING

Nixon vs. U.S. youth

By Bernard Wendall

Los Angeles, Cal.—The Nixon Administration has played a very deceptive game in relation to American youth, a game that has consisted largely of trying to co-opt and de-fuse issues raised by youth in general while at the same time ignoring the needs and aspirations of black youth.

Thus, Nixon has pretended to desecrate the war and make the draft "fair," and has promised to take action to stop the destruction of the environment. At the same time he has practically destroyed the few government organizations left over from the "war on poverty" that helped black youth, and has tried to allow southern schools to delay desegregation even longer.

"VIETNAMIZATION" AND DRAFT LOTTERY

The war in Vietnam continues, yet Nixon has tried to make American youth believe that peace is practically here. But the truth is, Vietnamization will only work with 200,000 or so American "support" troops for many years to come.

The draft lottery is a total farce. Its system of deferments, in practice, is no different from the old system. Before the year is out number 365 may well be called. Black and brown youth without the deferment, unable to afford appeal lawyers, will still be going first.

Without the youth supplied by the draft, America's puppet government in Saigon and its puppet army would collapse. Nixon's "new system" will no more basically change what is occurring than his dismissal of General Hershey as head of the Selective Service System.

"ECOLOGY ACTION" AND APPALACHIA

It is the youth who first made ecology something more than a word used only by a few conservationists. Ecology is potentially a very radical and very radicalizing issue, for it is the capitalist class and none other, which perpetuates pollution and profits from it. This is what some youth were beginning to speak about.

Nixon has now quickly moved to de-fuse this issue by being deceptive. While he makes pompous speeches about ecology, strip-mining is laying Appalachia waste on a scale greater than ever before because of a new coal boom. Federal laws either contain enormous loopholes or are simply not enforced.

Nixon has almost wrecked such organizations as the Job Corps and the Office of Economic Opportunity, which provided at least some help to black youth. As America enters a recession, unemployment among black teenagers is soaring. Nixon's program of "combatting inflation" is clearly meant to be carried through at the expense of workers in general and black people in particular. Ghetto youth have been especially hard-hit by Nixon's program of "missiles before butter."

Nixon has gone out of his way to help the South to continue to deny a decent education to black youth by trying to delay school desegregation once again.

Nixon's intentions are very clear: to divide, confuse, and hopefully destroy the revolutionary movement of this country's youth against the war, against racism, and against the destruction of the planet's ability to support life.

We all must conspire to survive Nixon's new law

Nixonagnew has recently taken another step toward becoming the czar of the U.S. of Amerika. The pigs' feat is to circumvent the already repressive "probable cause" requirement for making arrests for federal crimes.

Nixonagnew and his half (assed)-brother Mitchell have proposed a law to allow their oinklings from all over to force virtually anyone at anytime to take a series of identification tests, which include fingerprinting and blood tests, palm and foot prints, measurements, urine and saliva samples, handwriting samples, voice samples, photographs and lineups. They could do this without making an arrest. In short, they want to do everything except build a life-size plastic model of the person (that will no doubt come with the next tax increase).

What this all means in terms of everyday existence is that if a federal marshal (and eventually any hick cop) sees a kid with long hair trucking on down the line, and can get a federal magistrate to sign a note stating that long hair is reasonable grounds to assume that the "suspect" may be in possession of the deadly canibus or any other of the endless list of "dangerous drugs", that kid can be semi-busted, searched and tagged like a homing pigeon; and subsequently would be watched day and night until one time when he forgets to say "mother may I" and whammo—he's had it.

The same sort of surveillance-for-law-and-order's sake will run rampant in black communities, chicano districts, university areas, poor white areas, in the "permissive" suburbs—in everywhere that is more than very slightly to the left of right.

As the words say in song by Steppenwolf—"America, where are you now? Don't you care about your sons and daughters, don't you know, we need you now, we can't fight alone against the monster—"

We must conspire—to survive . . .

Mike Williams

Strikes, clashes bring U. of Wisconsin to standstill

Madison, Wis.—There is a distinct possibility that the U. of Wisconsin will be shut down for an indefinite amount of time this spring. This is to say, the entire university will be unable to function.

The reasons are numerous, but they all fall under the heading of the Teaching Assistant Association (TAA). The teaching assistants, graduate students who are assigned to teach for their stipends, formed the TAA last year in order to bargain as a united labor force to achieve a reduction in the inequities of the university structure as it stands.

They do 60 percent of the actual teaching, yet they have no voice as to curriculum. Money and working conditions are unequal. They are employed on an oral basis for one semester at a time, with no knowledge as to their status the following semester. Salaries range from approximately \$3800 in the best departments to \$1800 in the worst, per semester.

STRIKE VOTE DUE

A strike vote is due soon; dissension from within will make the vote close. Bargaining was in process from last spring until this January. The university cut off the proceedings at that point stating that the TAA had brought the issues to a total impasse. So now the community is faced with a strike, one that may possibly shut down the entire school, not due to the TAA alone, but the possibility of sympathy strikes from the university maintenance union and the local teamsters.

The students, too, have been involved in their own actions in past weeks.

Twice in February at the Madison campus of the U. of Wisconsin, students have been involved in major political confrontations with the university police, Madison police, and Dane County police. Personal and property damages have been great throughout the melees.

The first student mass action occurred Thursday, February 12. A united front was formed to include all leftist and moderate groups to confront General Electric, who was bringing recruiters onto the campus. The general slogan of the front indicated the great diversity of political groups involved: "Warmakers, Strikebreakers—G.E. off campus."

FIRST CONFRONTATION

Estimations of the size of the group varied from 1,000-4,500. As a personal estimate, I would say at least 3,000. The original idea was the presentation of petitions and physical numbers to the recruiters to "ask" them to leave the campus. However, this was made quite impossible due to the presence of hundreds of police. Fights ensued, as did the throwing of rocks, ice, and bottles at the police and the building.

The reasons for confronting General Electric are obvious. General Electric has, this year, a \$1.6 billion war contract; this is not for light bulbs. The university refuses to take a stand on the war. G.E. had also been involved in a 15 week strike with its rank and file workers.

However, numerous other businesses besides G.E. were involved in the trashing which ensued. Banks, controlled by reactionary Regents were hit; and, most importantly, numerous mod clothing stores were hit. This deserves special explanation. These stores, owned by young "hip" capitalists are no better than the rest, perhaps worse, because they push smack, heroin, and strychnine. They abuse us and kill us for their own economic gain. They are no better than G.E. or the complacent university, and they shall all die.

Feb. 19, violence, trashing, and police confrontation took place again on the UW campus. Over 2000 people attended a rally at the UW union, where the speakers emphasized that the Chicago Conspiracy Trial (which was still going on) had not occurred in an isolated vacuum. This was American justice exemplified. The speakers told of their courtroom experiences. They were only echoes and reinforcements to what the majority of listeners already felt.

TWO WORLDS

(Continued from Page 5)

trusted to the Vietnam war speeches (when some commentators braved the presidential seal to call attention to the ongoing, dirty, imperialist war), the despicable outlawing of any aid to the poor, whether it be for food or education, was not subject to any instant, or any other kind of criticism.

That totalitarian power phenomenon called the American presidency now has also full uninterrupted access to TV any time Nixon so wishes. And the audience is something De Gaulle couldn't conjure up in his staged press conferences. When the Russian or Chinese or Cuban heads of state take to the mass media, it is called brainwashing. When it is done in the U.S. in good "show biz" manner, it passes for "direct contact with the people." By whatever name, it smells to high heaven of totalitarianism.

GALLOPING TOTALITARIANISM

Presently being rushed through Congress is the most authoritarian bill ever enacted in the US. The infamous 1798 Alien and Anti-Sedition Act, to which the present mis-named Anti-Crime Bill is being compared, pales by comparison. Not only will Americans be deprived of every constitutional right from the First Amendment guaranteeing free speech through the Fifth Amendment protecting the accused against self-incrimination. But we will also be subjected to no-knock on the door, violation of any privacy—and this is being done by a nuclear power, under automated, electronic device structures that would yesterday have been inconceivable to imagine in the wildest nightmares. All this is being palmed off as necessary ways of "fighting crime."

This isn't creeping totalitarianism. It is galloping at full speed ahead toward a police state. Already the police are reading the signs right. You needn't be black, or a youth with long hair. You just have to be stopped for no matter what minor traffic violation, have the cops spot a book by Marx or on Marxism, and you will be sure to be "interrogated" in a way SS was most proficient in doing.

Outlawing a state of mind has already become the latest of the outrages which passes for justice in the U.S. At the present moment Judge Murtagh in New York is vying with that relic from feudal times—Judge Hoffman of Chicago—for the unbridled misuse of contempt of court sentences for any state of mind—be it even just a laugh displaying "sarcasm" for the sanctimonious kangaroo courts, or holding up a sign "power to the people." Instantly you are cited for contempt of court and carted off to jail.

FEAR OF REVOLUTION VS. PATH TO LIBERATION

Let's take a second look at the state of mind of our intellectuals—and I don't mean the Moynihans, or the Cold War warriors of the McCarthyite 1950's, but the "non-violent," "moral," including some "radical" middle-class intellectuals, cut to the heart by the fear of a genuine social upheaval. Each one has his favorite story

WORKER'S JOURNAL

(Continued from Page 1)

that exist today, and that there is much truth in the charge that men have looked upon women basically as a sex object. But they felt that in every species there is male and female, and a natural feeling between the two opposite sexes, that has nothing to do with anything white capitalist society has done.

One worker said that he felt there are many different movements within the women's movement, with different points of view. He mentioned a group at Atlantic City who threw away their high heels and some of their underclothing. He wondered if they were trying to say that winning their freedom would change their life as a woman? "When blacks were marching and demonstrating for their freedom," he said, "I never felt they were saying they wanted to change from being black." Many of the workers just weren't sure what the women were saying.

WILLING TO LISTEN AND LEARN

While the discussion was going on, I remembered a few years ago our union came in with a new contract for the members to ratify, without passing it out in advance for the membership to read and study. One black worker there had read a copy. When the President came to the paragraph in the contract on women, he read part of it which said it was agreed that women would get a 15 minute break in the morning, and a 15 minute break in the afternoon, just as in the previous contract. That was when the black worker took the floor. He pointed out that it was the shortest paragraph in the entire contract and that the President had evaded reading it in its entirety because what it said was that women would get 15 minutes morning and afternoon, when and where it least interfered with production.

The women in that meeting screamed out loud at the shock that their union leaders could negotiate such an agreement about women workers. The majority of the women in our local were white, and after the meeting many of them came up to the black worker to say how happy they were that he had exposed the bureaucrats on the matter of women workers.

I know that there are many things that most of us men do not know about Women's Liberation—but remembering this, and thinking about all the shop discussions that are going on now about the question, I know that there are some men who are willing to listen and who will try to learn.

about the hyperboles of the Black Panthers who decry the use of "pigs, led by J. Edgar Hog." Each one has the latest bit of gossip about the "anarchy and violence" of the New Left who "lack all sense of history." Whereupon "history" is ticked off in books, essays, endless articles detailing the facts of Nazi concentration camps or Stalin's forced labor camps.*** All of which is true enough, but none answers: What about today? What about USA—imperialism, racism, "creeping" totalitarianism?

Fascism will surely have a new form here, though the Nisei who experienced U.S. concentration camps during World War II will beg to differ also on this. Totalitarianism, creeping or galloping, certainly betokens a police state even if it can still permit itself the luxury of a Madison Avenue or Show Biz approach. George Wallace surely also has a point when he jokes about not needing to run in 1972 because "Nixon will do the job for us." And the most open of all is the VFW national commander, Raymond A. Gallagher, who said: "I hate to see this country develop into some sort of police state, but to have security for our people, it may be necessary." How much that sounds like the American military in Vietnam who declared that "in order to save Hue we had to destroy it."

To put it differently, all that either the claims of the intellectuals or the George Wallace's or VFW commanders amount to is that the U.S. may very well be the first country where fascism will get in by the ballot box. The only thing that will guarantee that this does not happen is, precisely, the fact that the black, the youth, and labor, too, as they feel the brunt of degenerate state-capitalism, will prefer the road to revolution rather than the abyss to polished totalitarianism.

The wildcatting of the U.S. postal workers has added an entirely new dimension to the struggle against a government which has kept federal workers in a totalitarian vise. At the same time that they are breaking the no-strike stranglehold of the commander-in-chief, they are wild-cating against their own trade-union leadership. They have forced all the philistines who have accepted the white backlash as a "fact" to confront the power of black-white labor solidarity. No matter how the present strike is resolved, there is not a single strata of the American population that can any longer be taken for granted as non-revolutionary.

*The Moynihan memo was written as far back as January 16th and was only published when the New York Times got hold of text, and published it March 1.

**The Sub-Committee on Education which is now processing the bills on education in Congress is headed by Edith Green.

***See "Totalitarianism Reconsidered" by Leonard Schapiro in Survey, Autumn 1969.

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WORLD IN REVOLUTION

By Eugene Walker

Isla Vista: a spontaneous outburst

The revolt of thousands of students at the University of California at Santa Barbara was neither planned by activists to coincide with the appearance of the Chicago "Conspiracy's" defense counsel William Kunstler on campus, nor instigated by his speech about the trial.

Rather the revolt was both spontaneous in its beginning and conscious of its targets as it continued. The momentary spark that set white, predominantly middle class, college youth in motion was much the same as in the black ghetto—police harassment.

The day prior to Kunstler's speech two youth in the student "ghetto" of Isla Vista had been arrested. The students had resisted the arrest and a brief fight with onlookers involved had taken place. Immediately after the Kunstler rally police arrested, beat and dragged off a student in full view of hundreds of students. That night the revolt was on.

(See on-the-spot report, P. 6)

CHICAGO TRIAL WAS LINK

The revolt took place under the atmosphere of what has been happening in the Chicago "Conspiracy" trial with its long sentences for contempt and convictions for "rioting" in Chicago. But those who seek to link directly the revolt in Santa Barbara with the seven men and their lawyers in Chicago miss the point. We are all part of this "conspiracy."

What the trial in Chicago did was link us together closer than ever. Thousands upon thousands of students who had been carrying on struggles on college campuses and high schools watched what was happening in Chicago. They saw the trial not as the trial of seven, but the trial of all of them. The refusal of the court to allow the defendants to raise the issue of racism and the Vietnam War was the same refusal students had run into on their own campuses in dealing with ROTC, war research on campus, meaningful black studies, or the firing of professors for their ideas.

Seven thousands students, one half of the entire student body at Santa Barbara, had a few weeks earlier protested the firing of a popular anthropology teacher. They had demanded an open hearing on his firing. The University had refused to consider their request.

When the contempt sentences came down in Chicago and again when the guilty verdicts were delivered, the students who had experienced the protests of the latter half of the sixties saw the government coming down on all of them, not just the seven. Enough! was their answer. And in city upon city it was to the streets: New York, Seattle,

Boston, Los Angeles, Berkeley and many others.

Defendant Rennie Davis caught it in his speech before being sentenced, "My jury will be in the streets all over this country and it will keep voting for the five years you are going to put me away."

REPRESSION AND RESISTANCE

Far from destroying the movement, the government's repression is producing resistance. Out of the government's contradictions of talking of freedom while suppressing dissent is coming a freedom movement gaining in strength.

While Judge Julius Hoffman no doubt made many legal errors within the bourgeois system of justice, it was not this so much as the growing public demand to free the defendants on bail, the students

Soviet anti-Semitism

In the Soviet Union, 37 prominent intellectuals including two Nobel Prize winners, added their names to the growing anti-Israel campaign raging around the bombing of a metalworks near Cairo on Feb. 12. Deplorable as this incident was, acts by Arab terrorists are no less deplorable.

The Soviet press failed to reflect any anger over the destruction of a Swiss airliner and the death of the entire crew and passengers, all innocent bystanders in the Arab-Israeli conflict. The machine-gunning of a tourist bus, killing innocent travelers, bombing crowded supermarkets, and countless other inhuman acts of Arab terrorism pass unnoticed in the Soviet press.

There can be no doubt that Israel has and is turning further to the right as the conflict continues. There is even less doubt that the big powers are playing an even more dangerous game, with the oil of the Middle East as the prize. In the U.S. the game involves playing around with how many planes Israel will be permitted to purchase. In the Soviet Union the campaign seldom fails to show its anti-Semitic features.

March 2 was publicized as "Worldwide day of protest against Israel aggression," yet by order, no mass rallies or public meetings were held as they have been in the past to protest Mao's aggression against the Soviet Union. The feeling was that any public meetings against Israel and Zionism could get out of hand and turn into an open anti-semitic campaign where the Jews of the Soviet Union could suffer the same fate as the millions who died under Hitler and Stalin in their anti-semitic campaigns.

in the streets, which made the appeals court grant bail to the defendants and their lawyers.

But even as this was being done other sectors of the ruling class are trying to push down still harder. "Conspiracy" lawyer Kunstler was prevented from speaking at several colleges across the country, including such schools as UCLA and University of Illinois, supposed bastions of free inquiry. The chief of police of Los Angeles tried to go into court to prevent him from speaking anywhere in the city of Los Angeles. A small Unitarian church was brave enough to allow him to speak on their grounds.

An atmosphere of terror and of a police state is what the authorities seem to want to create. In Los Angeles rallies concerning "the Conspiracy" have faced tactical alerts of the police, many undercover police agents and police helicopters circling each rally.

Against this is Santa Barbara, whose significance should not be underestimated. It is no longer limited to the "radical schools," Berkeley, Columbia. It is no longer the black students together with a few white militants. It is now everywhere on every campus. Santa Barbara was supposed to be a "party" school famous for lying on the beach. The movement is now there and on a new higher level.

It extends onto state campuses in reactionary counties such as Calif. State College at Fullerton in Orange County where students moved against the disciplining of several of their fellow students by the college.

The "conspiracy" is the striving to obtain one's freedom, for the freeing of this society. It requires no secret plot; it is brought about by our racist, class-divided society. Chicago and the trial tried to destroy this "conspiracy." Instead the movement is growing stronger. Chicago brought more people together; it reinforced the fight on individual campuses, began the process of linking the fight nationwide.

Being on almost every campus is a good beginning. But it is only a beginning. How will this movement on the campus link up with the movement in the black community? Black Panthers are on trial in many parts of the country. It was the white participation in the black movement which first allowed white youth to free themselves from the silence and McCarthyism of the 1950s. This was the origin of their own movement. Black and youth must be relinked in new ways, not the least of which relates to the underlying Marxist philosophy of liberation.

Women's Liberation Movement arouses new forces on jobs and anti-war fronts

(Continued from Page 1)

memo on blacks. This showcase liberal of Nixon's Administration dares to say, "The problem of female-headed families does not get better; it gets worse," and, "Increasingly, the problem of Negro poverty is the problem of the female-headed family." Thus he makes women, and not society, the cause of poverty!

WOMEN FIGHT FOR RIGHTS

The idea of Women's Liberation—that women have the right to be whole human beings—is a part of many women's groups that do not have that name. The Welfare Rights Organization is constantly battling for a decent standard of living and dignity for women and children on welfare.

One recipient described the impossibility of getting adequate health care for her children and the illegal refusal of her welfare department to allow her to attend college, and added: "The day before I went on welfare I was a self-respecting person; the day after, I started to wonder if I was really a lazy tramp like they say."

Welfare Rights groups have joined with Women's Liberation groups in such actions as the demonstration in support of jailed Black Panther women in New Haven, Conn., and the International Women's Day rally in San Francisco.

The most dramatic fights for women's rights have occurred recently in the areas of labor. Self-organization, unionization strikes, women's caucuses and wildcats have swept industries employing women: in the hospitals from Charleston S.C., to Flint, Mich., in clerical jobs from Columbia University in N.Y. to Fruehauf in Detroit, in service work in Las Vegas, in industrial production at G.E. and G.M., and in nearly all the professions.

You have only to look at the statistics to see why. Women presently make up 37 per cent of the labor force and are mostly in jobs which are associated with their traditional family role, such as assisting men, cooking, serving, and sewing, cleaning, caring for and teaching children. For these largely uninteresting jobs they are paid less than men, including men holding the same jobs, and are discriminated against in hiring and promotion.

EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK

The average income for women is about half that for men, and for black women it is even lower. Yet



Demonstrations in Michigan for repeal of abortion laws—
"Free Our Sisters, Free Ourselves!"

the vast majority of women who work do so because they must wholly or partially support themselves or their families.

About 23 per cent of all women workers hold clerical jobs, which are low-paying and almost totally non-unionized. But women are beginning to overcome the isolation of many such jobs and to organize. It is the fear of this happening on a large scale that is making Fruehauf hold out on a contract in the over four-month-old strike by clerical workers there; the company feels it must break the union as an example. The Women's Liberation Coalition of Michigan has been picketing with the strikers.

The U.S. has a long history of women's movements. International Women's Day, which until this year was celebrated only outside the United States, was started here in 1857. It grew out of a strike of garment workers in New York City.

Today's movement is different from those of the past. The newspapers and commentators picture Women's Liberation as a bunch of man-hating, bra-burning nuts who don't know what to do with themselves because of the "sexual revolution." As a result of

their attempts to define and misrepresent us, Women's Liberation must spend much time explaining what we are not.

WHAT DO WE WANT?

We do not want to "break up the family," but to free women from their roles as slaves in it and to benefit children by having men share in the housework and child-care. Our activities do not center around burning bras; such actions are only symbolic of our revolt against being uniform sexual objects and easy-mark consumers for capitalism to use. It is our minds that we want to free, and the very real oppression of the job and home and government that our activities are aimed at.

We are not interested in new sexual relationships, but in new human ones, and we know that these can only come about by throwing off thousands of years of class and caste society and creating a completely new kind of society.

Many women in the movement were and are active in the black liberation, student, and anti-war movements, and have realized that a new kind of society cannot be created unless every person fights to free her or himself. Women are no longer willing to wait until after the revolution to attack women's problems. The failure to grapple with their own male-chauvinism has contributed to the break-up of several new left groups.

Many more women are joining the new movement who have never been active in a political organization before, but who have caught the idea of freedom in the air. It is they who will determine whether Women's Liberation becomes a mass movement that can join with others to transform America. It is clear that Women's Liberation, far from being a diversion from that struggle, adds a new dimension to it. Women's Liberation is an independent, not a separatist, movement.

Women's Liberation opposes all imperialism and the other forms of oppression of capitalist society in addition to the oppression of women. The movement is saying that there must be a total break with ALL the values of class society in order for women—and men—to be free. This is what makes it so new. What is needed now is to develop a theory of liberation to meet women's new activities, and form a mass movement that can link up with others to destroy the existing society and create a free one.