

# THE WORKER

For the Milwaukee Area and Wisconsin

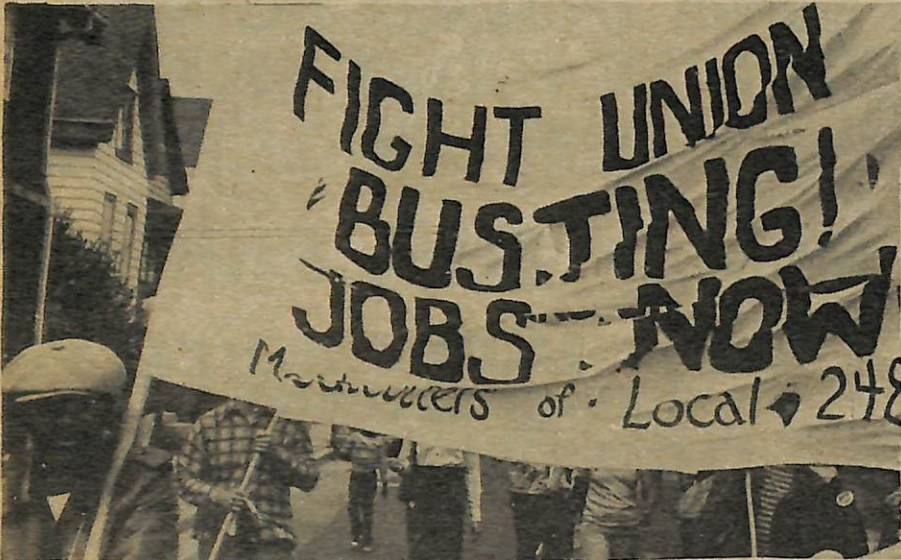
MAY 1977

VOL. 2 NO. 8

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Workers To Picket Anti-Union Conference

## Fight Union Busting!



MEATCUTTERS HAVE SHOWN THE IMPORTANCE OF FIGHTING UNION BUSTING.

"It seems as if they're trying to bust our union."

These are the words of a Dayton Power and Light worker in Ohio, on strike against an all out company attack on the union, but they could easily be echoed

by thousands of workers across the country who've fought similar attacks on their unions in the past year. In addition, thousands of union shops have been lost to runaway shops. In the South and Southwest especially, millions of

workers are mounting the fight to unionize.

For the working class, battles to organize and defend our unions are the order of the day more and more as the class of owners increasingly seeks to stop and break the unions as part of their many attacks to keep their profits up. That's why the Coordinating Committee of the Organizing Committee for a National Workers' Organization has decided to organize a counterattack on an outrageous series of top businessmen's "Strategies for Preserving Non-Union Status."

What this bland title describes is a cram course in how to run a scab shop and keep it that way. The 3 day meetings, to be held in cities across the country, are sponsored by an outfit called Advanced Management Research, which is charging \$550 a head to attend. Leeches, vampires and parasites are welcome, that is, management and supervisors.

Some of the biggest monopolies in the country are taking part to pool their knowledge to stop organizing drives and break unions. Advanced Management

Research's clients include AT&T, Anacosta, Atlantic Richfield, Dupont, Eastman Kodak, Ford, GM, Mobil, Motorola, Singer, Teledyne and Westinghouse--as well as the US Army and Navy. Their main instructor is Dr. Charles Hughes, a doctor of "scabology", who helped the huge Texas Instruments company keep its plants in the Southwest nonunion and at starvation wages for years.

These professional unionbusters from Advanced Management Research would like to hide the purpose of their lecture series behind a curtain of secrecy. But this seminar shouldn't be allowed to take place without being confronted everywhere it goes by the wrath of the working class. Its appearance translates into an effort to drive the working class back to the conditions of 100 years ago.

This union busting roadshow appeared in Cincinnati, Ohio, April 13. A number of groups, including the Organizing Committee for a National Workers Organization held a spirited demonstration out front. This demonstration was built by taking the question to the plants, including some of the big nonunion shops

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March On The White House May 28th

## African Liberation Day

Southern Africa is engulfed in flames of struggle as the people battle for liberation, for the control of their own destinies. On May 28, African Liberation Day, large numbers of people in this country will march on the White House in solidarity with the southern African peoples. The demonstration will state straight out the growing sentiments of the people in the U.S. in support of the liberation forces in Zimbabwe (which its white settler rulers call Rhodesia) who have freed large sections of their country, and the workers and students of Soweto and towns all across Azania (South Africa)

who have braved police machine guns, mass arrests, torture and secret execution to demand an end to the nightmare of passbooks, reservations and a life of near-slavery.

This demonstration will do more than just show support for the liberation struggles--it will give them concrete material aid by exposing and hitting at the rulers of this country which is up to its neck in the robbery and oppression of the peoples of southern Africa. For years now the U.S. government has not uttered a peep about the crimes of the white minority governments in southern Africa. Big corporations quietly raked in the profits from the \$1,600,000,000 they have invested in southern African mines, factories and plantations. About three quarters of the cars manufactured in South Africa, for example, are made by the "Big Three"--GM, Ford, Chrysler who pay their African workers the going wage of 53¢ an hour.

The fact that black South African workers are forbidden by law to unionize or strike helps explain the enthusiasm of the 375 American corporations with big in-

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THE FIGHT TO STOP SALES OF THE KRUGERRAND AT PLACES LIKE THE M & I BANK IS PART OF BUILDING SUPPORT FOR THE STRUGGLE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

who had to pay a quarter of their income for heating bills this winter must be really relieved to know that their energy was artificially cheap! It's getting to be a luxury, and an expensive one, to stay warm.

When all the wool is sheared away from Carter's seemingly reasonable energy proposals, what they really are planning stands naked and ugly. People are going to be hit by big price increases for many of the basic necessities of life. Families that are struggling to keep their heads above water economically are going to have to dig deeper to pay for the gasoline they need to get to work and the fuel they need to heat their homes.

Carter complained about only one  
CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

## Carter's Energy War On The People

They blame it on the Arabs, they blame nature, they blame the "greedy consumer." The verses change, but the chorus always remains the same: the people have to pay, pay, pay. Carter has painted a picture of horrible catastrophe that confronts the American people because, he claims, we are running out of oil and natural gas which account for 75% of the energy used in the U.S. But he holds out a salvation,

and like all the answers the government and the big corporations put forward to the crises that are constantly arising, it means sacrifice and more sacrifice. We are going to have to do with less and pay more.

"We are only cheating ourselves if we make energy artificially cheap and use more than we can really afford." Artificially cheap?!? The millions of people throughout the Midwest and East

### Inside:

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Teachers  
Strike  
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# DEAR GABBY



DEAR GABBY: I'm a local judge and I was recently attacked physically by an enraged defendant. I'm afraid the dignity of the judiciary is at stake. What should I do?

GABBY SAYS: Dignity my eye. Your life is obviously in danger. Apply for federal funds and get a bigger gavel.

DEAR GABBY: I own a foundry in West Allis. We are refusing to allow Occupational Health and Safety inspectors into the plant without a search warrant. What should we do if they get a court order?

GABBY SAYS: Don't worry. Let them wander all over the plant. If they don't get wiped out by a swinging boom, they'll be dead from inhaling dust before they can file their report.

DEAR GABBY: I bought an Oldsmobile, expecting it to have a Rocket 88 engine in it, but it had a Chevy engine instead. How can I get an Oldsmobile engine?

GABBY SAYS: Order one from Ford.

DEAR GABBY: I am unemployed. After President Carter announced his concern for human rights, I thought maybe he could help me. Do you think the President would get me a job?

GABBY SAYS: It depends, how much experience do you have shelling peanuts?

DEAR GABBY: I'm a hooker that got busted on the Avenue. I was found guilty and given 30 days. My customer was also arrested. He was let go by a judge who says customers of a prostitute should not be punished. How can we hookers get any justice?

GABBY SAYS: Put the word out to the girls on the Avenue. And catch the judge with his pants down.

DEAR GABBY: I'm the chief negotiator for the Milwaukee School Board. I just bought a home in Milwaukee's exclusive Lake Drive area for \$142,000. Do you think my wife should take a job to help pay for the upkeep?

GABBY SAYS: If you don't do a better job of breaking the teacher's union, you'll for sure have to put her to work.

DEAR GABBY: I'm an ex-president of the United States. My years as the nation's chief executive officer were quite a strain on me. Now I have a bad leg and when people ask me questions I don't have the same old zip. I've been puttering around my garden to keep active. Do you have any suggestions?

GABBY SAYS: Watch out for an early Frost. ■

**Picket the Union  
Busting Conference  
Chicago June 1  
Call UWO 445-5816**

## Pack Maria Rivera's Trial



On May 18, Maria Rivera goes before Judge Manian. She faces up to two years on a felony charge of battery to a police officer. The charges result from an incident last August when Det. Dennis Peters and another cop beat her. After she filed charges against the Milwaukee Police Dept. at the Police and Fire Commission, the battery charges were made against her. The District Attorney, cops and judge are out to punish her for fighting police repression.

The struggle to get the charges dropped can go a long way in ending police repression and brutality.

THE WORKER calls on everyone to pack the courtroom when Maria goes on trial. Be there: Judge Manian's Court

**Safety Building  
May 18 8:30am**

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**THE WORKER**



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## THE WORKER

This paper exists to build the struggle of the working class against the capitalist system of exploitation and oppression. It puts forward the political line of the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA on the major questions and struggles facing the workers.

The Worker for the Milwaukee Area and Wisconsin is one of many such papers across the country. The staffs of these papers are made up of members and supporters of the RCP, USA.

We want to be in touch with all the struggles of our class. We need and welcome your letters, articles, and any kind of contribution or criticism.

To contact us or for more information, CALL 445-5816 OR WRITE:

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Milwaukee, WI, 53208

## WAUPUN CENSORING GOES ON

In mid-April the state prison at Waupun conducted a week long lock/shake down of the institution. The men were confined to their cells and guards made a tier by tier search of the joint.

Sketchy reports indicate that several prisoners had personal property seized as contraband. Back issues of THE WORKER, which were admitted by court order were also seized from at least one inmate.

It looks like all the token reforms won following the sign shop takeover in July are now beginning to fade away. On the pretext of searching for weapons, the warden and his staff are trying to jack up the level of repression. It's all these jokers can do because the system ain't about to provide any real rehabilitation or change the factors that cause crime. Punishment is the only way they can contain the men and regulate crime.

THE WORKER would like letters from prisoners whose copies of the paper have been taken. Our federal suit is still open and we don't like being stepped on. ■

## WORKERS' BOOKS



4405 W. NORTH AVENUE

OPEN:  
TUESDAY AND THURSDAY 4PM-8PM  
WEDNESDAY 10AM-2PM  
SATURDAY 11AM-4:30 PM

Workers' Books is open, providing newspapers, posters, records and other tools important to building the struggle against the owning class. We carry books on the history and struggle of the U.S. working class, the struggle of Black, Chicano and Native American people and books and pamphlets on the international situation as well as Marxist literature.

# Chief Steward Fired -AMC Strike Vote

On Wednesday May 4, Kenosha AMC workers voted 97% to authorize a strike over unresolved grievances. The strike vote was a powerful show that thousands of AMC workers are sick and tired of the company constantly speeding up and eliminating jobs and trampling on anyone who got in their way. Recently AMC has been attacking hard and heavy in the motor and machining areas of the plant. The recent strike vote grew out of a battle against job eliminations and the firing of a chief steward in Dept. 817, piston machining.

In early April AMC threw out the entire third shift in 817 and also eliminated 4 jobs on 1st and 2nd shift. Then they tried to force the rest of the men to work 10 hours on Saturday and Sunday. 49 out of 50 men in that dept. turned down the overtime sticking up for their union brothers' jobs. The men in 817 told their chief steward Charles Underwood to go into work that weekend so as to protect himself from being fired for leading the group in refusing overtime. Brother Underwood went in and worked all day Saturday and Sunday, along with 13 foreman and supervisors. At 5:20 on Sunday Underwood reported that one of

the machines he was setting up had broken down. His supervisor told him to fix it, but Underwood had not taken his break yet so he took his break and punched out at 5:30. The next morning his foreman told him that he had sabotaged the machine and he was fired on April 7.

In his 18 years as a chief steward Charles Underwood has never had a man discharged. At one time there were almost 500 people working in 817, but the company has chopped this up little by little fearing the unity and power that dept. had. When Underwood was fired the men in his dept. were furious and ready to walk out. It would not have been the first time that a walkout started in that area. Rather than see the rank and file move ahead of them and take matters into their own hands the Executive Board and Int'l Rep unanimously endorsed a strike vote. Hundreds of supporters showed up at the April union meeting to unanimously call for a strike vote meeting.

AMC claims that brother Underwood sabotaged a machine by stuffing a rag into it. The part he is supposed to have broken costs \$9.37 and takes a few

minutes to replace. The company has no proof, only the word of a union hating supervisor, that Underwood did it.

Charles Underwood was fired because he and department 817 are symbols of resistance to AMC's ruthless drive to reap profits at the workers' expense.

The \$5 million profit that AMC turned in the first 3 months of 77 came from what Business Week called "a severe cost reduction program in auto operations". This cost cutting means jobs being eliminated right and left and has led to Kenosha having a 14.6% unemployment rate, highest in Wisconsin. IE (company time study men) stalk the plant like vultures constantly looking for ways to get more work from fewer people.

The motor and machining departments have been a special target of AMC's costcutting in the past few months. Most of the assembly departments have long been speeded up to the max. Traditionally, it has been harder for the company to speed up the high seniority machinists and operators. Now they are engaging in an all out offensive in that area while not letting up at all in other parts of the plant.

This company attack on the jobs has produced a lot of resistance. In Dept. 812 the men sat down when their chief steward was fired for refusing to go back to work when he was on union, business. Within a half hour the company backed down and the discharge was dropped. The refusals of overtime by 817 was another act of resistance that severely hurt the company's plans. Anyone that walks through that department must now have a pass, and the company has placed guards around the department on weekends.

The May strike vote meeting was the largest in recent history in Kenosha. AMC had their flunkies counting cars in the parking lot at the union hall because they are scared as hell of the people's united action.

While the Big 3 can pour billions into retooling, AMC has stayed with the same basic models since the early '70's. Only by cracking the whip and trying to break the back of the union can they hope to compete and stay in the black. Just as sure as AMC must attack, the workers will resist. ■

## UWOC Hits Unemployment Cuts 'Carterville' Enrages Rich, Workers Rally Support

On Thursday, April 21, 35 unemployed workers and members of the Unemployed Workers Organizing Committee (UWOC) from New York and northern New Jersey erected a tent city, Carterville, No. 2. They defended it against police attack to express the sentiments of the unemployed against being crushed into the dirt and their determination to fight the "solutions" Carter, Congress and the rich have for unemployment.

Carterville #1 was put up March 25 right across from the White House two days after Congress passed Carter's unemployment bill which cut 13 weeks off federal unemployment benefits and contained a forced labor or no benefits provision designed to push wages down.

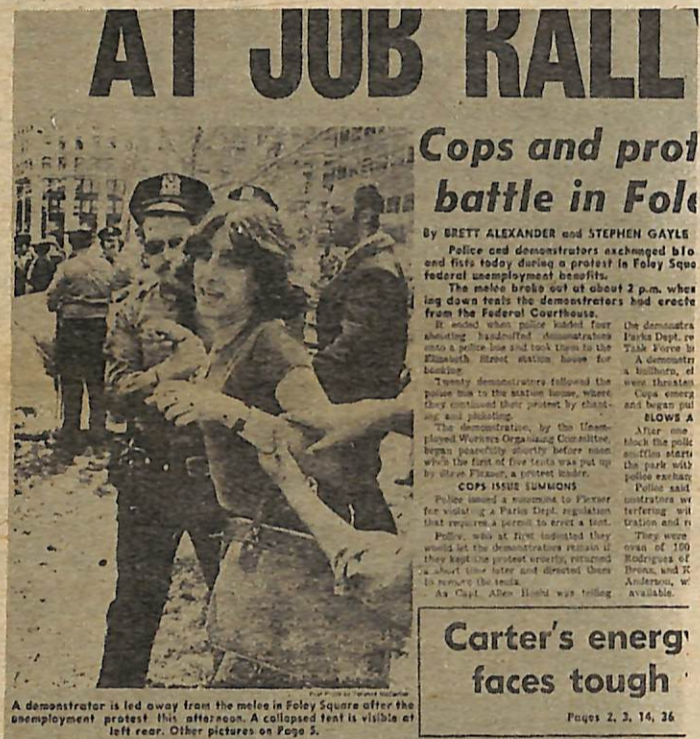
These Cartervilles, like the Hoovervilles of the early 30's--shantytowns filled with workers who had been thrown out of jobs, house and home--represent what the capitalists and their politicians have in store for workers.

Soon after Carter put his name to the bill, New York, Illinois and other states announced state bills which would cut back even further on unemployment and welfare benefits and force recip-

ients into low wage jobs. The state bill in New York would force welfare recipients to work three days a week for their welfare checks at jobs formerly held by city workers, now laid off.

Carterville No. 2 came out of the strong sentiment in UWOC chapters and among the unemployed to continue to build the fight against this slave-wage, union busting legislation. Workers agreed that although they weren't able to kill the Carter bill, the past three months of struggle has gotten the unemployed a lot better organized and in a stronger position to fight these attacks.

Over the past months, the struggle has taught them a lot about how the capitalists plan to deal with unemployment--by pushing them into the dirt and using the unemployed as a weapon to slash the wages and worsen working conditions for those still working. At 12:30 when the first tent went up at Carterville No. 2, two huge banners made clear the direction of the fight, "Down with Slave Wage Jobs-Fight for Union Jobs at Union Pay!" and "Their Solution to Unemployment, Cartervilles-- Our Solution, Fight, Don't Starve!"



A demonstrator is led away from the tents in Foley Square after the unemployment protest this afternoon. A collapsed tent is visible at left rear. Other pictures on Page 5.

### AT JOB RALL Cops and prof battle in Fole

By BRETT ALEXANDER and STEPHEN GAYLE  
Police and demonstrators exchanged blows and fists today during a protest in Foley Square federal unemployment benefits.  
The melee broke out at about 2 p.m. when law down tents the demonstrators had erected from the Federal Courthouse.  
It ended when police pulled four shouting, handcuffed demonstrators into a police line and took them to the Elizabeth Street station house for a hearing.  
Twenty demonstrators followed the police to the station house, where they continued their protest by shouting and picketing.  
The demonstration, by the Unemployed Workers Organizing Committee, began peacefully shortly before noon with the first of five tents was put up by Steve Fraser, a protest leader.  
COPS ISSUE WARNINGS  
Police issued a warning to Fraser for violating a Paris Dept. regulation that requires a permit to erect a tent. Police, who at first indicated they would let the demonstrators remain if they kept the protest strictly nonviolent, about five later and directed them to remove the tents.  
As Capt. Allen Hight was talking, the demonstrators blocked the police and began shouting and waving signs. They were joined by about 100 demonstrators of various backgrounds.  
Police said demonstrators were interfering with traffic and that they were in violation of a city ordinance.  
A demonstrator was taken to the station house for a hearing.

**Carter's energy faces tough**  
Pages 2, 3, 14, 26

UNEMPLOYED MADE FRONT PAGE NEWS WHEN THEY SET UP A TENT CITY DEMANDING "UNION JOBS AT UNION WAGES".

Carterville No. 2 was pitched right in the heart of New York's Wall Street area in a park surrounded by federal buildings and courthouses. Hundreds of office workers on their lunch breaks were drawn to the tent city, and soon unemployed workers who had heard the news began showing up. One older worker who showed up at the park said he had been on the soup line right in the same

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## Rank & File to Hit UAW Convention

On May 15th Leonard Woodcock and Douglas Fraser will be holding a party, known as the UAW Convention, in Los Angeles. Their handpicked guest list includes the best yes-men the UAW has. Across the country, top local union hacks look to convention time like the 4th of July--lots of well organized fireworks and a nice picnic. The UAW rank and file aren't invited. But they'll be there.

Rank and file UAW members will be demonstrating at the L.A. convention because they're getting the shaft. In struggles across the country auto workers have faced the attacks of the bosses and the UAW international.

Douglas Fraser, heir to Woodcock's

throne and head of the UAW Chrysler division, recently showed his true colors in a wildcat at Chrysler's Electrical Parts plant in Indianapolis(local 1226). During the eleven day wildcat, the longest in Chrysler history, the company fired 23 elected union officials and suspended 44 other workers. Fraser went to Indy and succeeded in jamming a sellout settlement down on the wildcat.

When the dust had settled, the rank and file responded by sending all but one of the fired officers to the convention. Workers in the area began describing Fraser as a "strikebreaker" and "union buster". He's the guy who's

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UAW Local 1364 workers at the GM Fremont California Assembly Plant have got the right to scream. Triggered by an assault on a worker by a foreman, a plant-wide week long wildcat took up some long standing grievances. They faced up to GM and also hit the UAW International hacks who called the strike illegal, by voting 100% to stay on strike. The 5,000 workers who wildcatted beat back General Motors by building their own strength and unity. The UAW Convention will be hearing from these workers who are going in a convoy to confront Woodcock face to face.

# MAY DAY '77 - Fighting For A New Day

May Day '77. Holton Street, Milwaukee. Hard working men and women of all ages and nationalities held their banners high and rang out the demands of a workers' movement on the rise. Their unity, spirit, and determination told the meaning of the historic day. One marcher expressed the sentiment, "We're fighting for ourselves, for our kids, and for a new day."

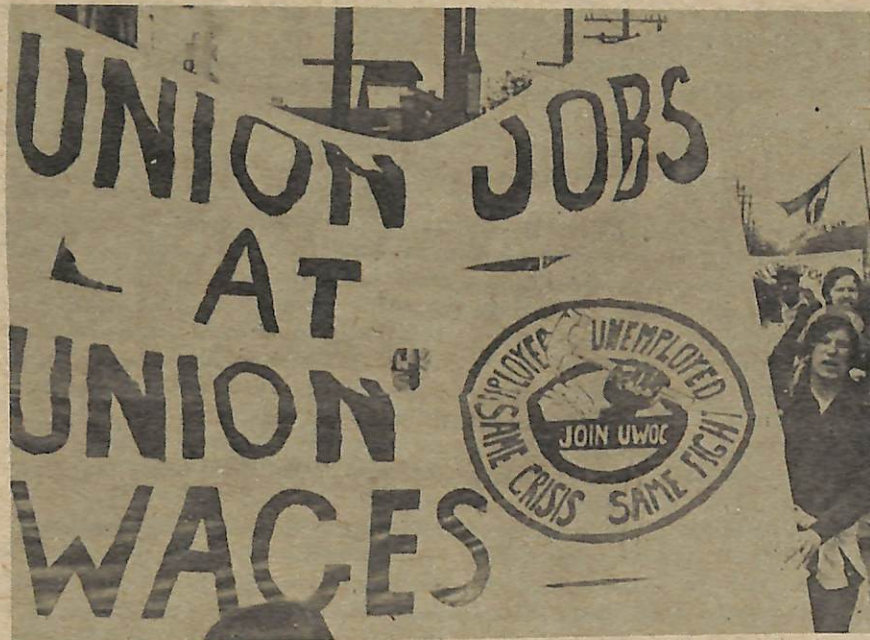
The marchers formed up in contingents on North Richards St. beneath the shell of the American Motors body plant. The heavy AMC layoffs, part of an offensive against workers' living and working conditions, carried a special importance for the autoworkers whose contingent led the march. The older guys, their best years grabbed up by AMC, now stand little chance of getting hired anywhere else. The younger workers are just trying to get their start in life. Their kids are growing up in a town where jobs and opportunity have become a thing of the past. All this helped give rise to the marchers' repeated cry, "Fight, Don't Starve!"

As the march crossed the tracks on Townsend and turned out onto Holton St. memories of past May Days came up in the minds of marchers and residents alike. The more the people came out onto their porches and sidewalks, the louder the marchers yelled out the fighting slogans of May Day. Many felt proud to be a part of reviving this meaningful working class holiday.

The tradition of taking to the streets on May First began in the nationwide strike for the 8 hour day in 1886. It was born in the blood of workers, the Haymarket martyrs of Chicago and the five who fell dead from National Guard bullets at the Bayview Rolling Mills here in Milwaukee. This holiday of struggle spread all over the world and became an annual high point of international working class solidarity. But in this country, the owning class succeeded in killing off the tradition in the 1950's.

But with all their money, they couldn't kill the fight for freedom. Just like the green of spring after a rough winter, the aspirations of oppressed people are coming out everywhere and beginning to grow once again.

The workers striding down Holton St. were taking back their holiday, saying "No" to Nixon's Law Day, "No" to Carter's Loyalty Day, and "A day off



WORKERS FROM THE AUTO, STEEL, ELECTRICAL AND PACKING INDUSTRIES OF MILWAUKEE, KENOSHA & RACINE MARCHED WITH OTHERS ON MAY DAY.

forged an area-wide United Workers Organization, the third of its kind in the country. Its purpose is to unite workers from all industries to hit back at the attacks coming down, both on the job and throughout society. It was this organization that spread the fight against cuts in unemployment extensions and that joined in building May Day. Now the area wide UWO is "all out" to build for the founding conference of the national workers organization to be held on Labor Day weekend in Chicago.

Falling in behind the industrial contingents were several groups united to fight some of the key demands of the workers movement. They were living proof of the May Day slogan, "Workers Unite to Lead the Fight Against All Oppression".

THE WORKER with its own banner led a contingent that made the special demand "Free Quil". Quil Chevalier's aunt delivered a statement of solidarity at the rally following the march.

Members of the Committee to Fight the Attacks on our Schools held high a banner which said, "Quality and Equal Education --- We Won't Fight Over Crumbs". The whole march took up chants against the divide and conquer busing plan and "Workers Unite! Support

### Don't Fight Their Wars"

Unlike last year there were no grand-standing statements by city officials, like Chief Brier's bluff that he would stop the rally. Nor were there any provocations like the time police charged into the march two years ago. This year's march was escorted by members of the Mighty Rams and the Cobra motorcycle clubs and only a few policemen were on hand, trying to intimidate people.

The march ended at Solski's Polish Falcon Hall. Speeches, songs, and high spirits brought May Day '77 to a close. Mike Rosen of the Revolutionary Communist Party pointed the way forward: "Today we are celebrating with millions of our class around the world. In

rebuilding May Day, we are standing up and breaking one link in the chain of oppression, beginning to feel what it's like to be free, and what it's like to break all the links of oppression and end wage slavery once and for all.

"In the future, what we don't accomplish will be accomplished by our kids and their kids after them. Whenever it is, the sooner the better, the less suffering the better, whenever it is, we will for the first time stand together and live not as slaves, but cooperatively and consciously. For the first time, we will live as real human beings want to live, demand to live and should live. The world is ours if we dare to take it. Long live the spirit of May Day!" ■



CHANTS OF "FIGHT DON'T STARVE" RANG OUT ON HOLTON STREET.

## Lucey Hands Over Top Job Schreiber - A Friend of Labor?

Local boy makes good. Marty Schreiber has finally gotten his wish—a position in state government better than the second rate Lieutenant Governorship. And he's getting it the easy way, Pat Lucey is handing the Governorship of Wisconsin to him on a silver platter. It's something that Marty has always wanted.

Martin Schreiber is the son of a former long-time Milwaukee Alderman. He started his political career as a State Assemblyman at the age of 23. Ever since then he's aimed big, making friends along the way with the likes of state AFL-CIO honcho John Schmidt.

For 6 years Marty has been stuck in the position of Lt. Governor. He's mostly known now as a champion of nursing home residents, exposing a few of the many nursing home abuses here and there, but mostly publicizing the Schreiber name. His nursing home campaigns have also saved the state money by closing a number of smaller homes, eliminating state aid to those homes, and shifting the burden of care for the elderly onto the families of working people. By eliminating competition, Marty's exposures have also strengthened the position of the big health care corporations that operate most of the larger homes.

He was so successful that John Schmidt, promoting Marty as a friend of labor, was pushing Schreiber to challenge Lucey in the next election. Schmidt, by the way, built up Pat Lucey (a millionaire real estate man) as a friend of labor when he was elected. But ever since Gov. Lucey exposed his anti-labor backbone, the leader of the state AFL-CIO has cooled his friendship with Lucey. Now the big labor honchos are lining

up behind Schreiber. They say he's from the city where most workers live, opposes some of Lucey's anti-labor measures, has a good family life, and even looks boyish, like Jimmy Carter. The labor big shots say he's a friend of labor.

Is he? Schreiber is about to inherit the present Lucey budget. Nothing in it will change under Schreiber. One of the ways Lucey showed that he was a friend of labor was by instituting the machinery and equipment allowance. The M&E allowance is a tax break bonus for business. It exempts all machinery and equipment from local taxes. It was supposed to save jobs by keeping industry in the cities and state. Well, the number of runaway shops keeps increasing, profits have increased because of the M&E allowance, and the property taxes that workers pay have gone up to make up for the lost M&E taxes. So, Lucey did working people a real big favor. With friends like that, who needs enemies?

Both Lucey and Schreiber have agreed that nothing in the budget, including the M&E allowance, will be tampered with by Schreiber. So Marty Schreiber, representative of the cities and friend of labor that he is, won't even raise an eyebrow at one of the biggest blows we've faced.

Another of John Schmidt's pet peeves is the Park West freeway. Lucey opposed building it, Schreiber supports it. John Schmidt likes it because, he says, it will create jobs and help ease unemployment. But every construction worker knows a freeway job won't last long. It's hardly a solution to the long-term

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BLACK, WHITE, YOUNG, AND OLD. WORKERS MARCHED TO RECLAIM THEIR HOLIDAY.

on Labor Day is fine, but it ain't May Day."

Behind the autoworkers came meat-cutters, veterans of the bitter 15 month strike. These men were marching against the system that attacked them so hard, broke their union, and left many without jobs.

Then came steelworkers, electrical workers, a big contingent of unemployed, and many others. One of the causes these workers carried that day was the current struggle to link up workers' groups coast to coast and build a nationwide organization. Last fall these Milwaukee, Racine and Kenosha workers

the Teacher's Strike!"

A contingent in support of African liberation took the stand of the working class on the main hot spot in world politics. Their banners, signs and even T shirts proclaimed, "US Out of Southern Africa! Superpowers Hands Off!" At the rally, an Ethiopian student expressed the growing international solidarity in the fight for freedom.

The final group of marchers were veterans, many dressed in their fatigues. They had come to make one of the central points of this year's May Day. As the drums of war beat louder these days, the vets' banner read, "Fight the Rich,

# Teachers Stop Board's Attack!

Photo by Philip Walker, Bugle-American



THE MILITANCY OF THE TEACHERS WAS THE MAIN REASON THEY WON

After almost a month on strike, Milwaukee teachers pushed back a major attack on their contract and their union. Teachers, teachers' aides, accountants, and substitute teachers stuck together and met the school board's attacks head on. They won a three year contract, basically the same as their last one, with some added fringe benefits. Most people in Milwaukee supported the strike and kept their kids out of school.

The MTEA fought to defend their hard-won gains of the last 13 years. The teachers were up against the Milwaukee School Board's determined efforts to weaken or outright bust their union. The board hired Gordon Harrison—notorious for his strike-breaking efforts—as chief

negotiator. The teachers built on the lessons of the successful teachers' strike in Racine and their own experience 2 years ago. They knew that unity and strength were their key to victory.

Throughout the struggle, the teachers' response was large-scale and militant. When the Board stalled negotiations, the teachers picketed School Board head Evelyn Pfeiffer's house. When teachers were busted in mass picket lines at schools, more teachers turned out to join in. When the Milwaukee Journal kept running misleading pro-Board, anti-union articles, over 500 teachers marched in front of the Journal office May 4 demanding an end to the slanted coverage. The last big attack came April 26 when the

Board started pushing for a 30 day "cooling off" period, trying to get the teachers back to work without a contract. The teachers' response? They turned out, over 1,000 strong, to picket in front of the central School Board office, the second such action in two weeks. The Board wanted the teachers to buckle under, but they gained strength and momentum as the strike went on. Even the Board's hedging around Gronouski's compromise met with an angry determined response from the teachers to keep on fighting.

The unity and action of the teachers forced the Board to back down from their stone anti-union stand and give in to the teachers' main demands. The teachers won seniority and class size provisions. They won 17 in-service makeup days over the next 3 years. They won a no-recrimination clause for the 12 teachers busted during the strike. And they won a retroactive 4% raise for 1977, a 4.5% raise for 1978, and a 5% raise for 1979. But they didn't get a cost-of-living allowance. Another weakness is that details about the transfer procedures are vague, which the Board can use to its advantage. But overall the contract is a victory.

The School Board tried to use "staff integration" as a cover to abolish the seniority system and move teachers around however it wanted to. But behind all its pious talk about concern for equality, the Board's main concern was to strip the MTEA of its strength and still keep Blacks worst off educationally and on the job. (See cutbacks article this page.) But not everybody saw through this.

Some Black teachers in the MTEA formed a Black Teachers' Caucus shortly before the strike, because the MTEA leaders weren't taking a stand against discrimination in the school system. This caucus turned totally against the union refusing to honor the strike and they urged Black parents to send their kids to school. They were missing the fact that the main attack all teachers are up against right now is the School Board's attempts to weaken the contract. By spreading confusion in the Black com-

munity and attacking the union, the Black Caucus was siding with the Board whether they realized it or not.

Many parents got fed up with both the teachers and the Board because they didn't settle sooner and get the kids back in school. During any strike, people have to sacrifice and in this one the kids got affected too. But the students can learn a good lesson from the fighting example of their teachers—anything we get from this system, we have to fight for—whether it's a decent contract, decent schools, or a school lunch program. If the School Board was really all that concerned about the kids' education, they would have given the teachers a contract much sooner—negotiations had been going on, off and on, since last summer and teachers had worked without a contract since Jan. 1. If the Board was really that concerned, they wouldn't be trying to close 13 schools; they wouldn't have tried to axe the bi-lingual programs; they wouldn't have tried to stop the building of new North and South Division High Schools.

The teachers were right to fight the Board's attacks, and deserved the support of all working people and others. The same forces trying to attack the teachers and their union are the same forces working people face every day, on the job and in the community. The struggle here in Milwaukee between the teachers and the School Board isn't isolated. It's part of a growing wave of attacks on teachers, union busting attempts, and cutbacks against all social services, all across the country. And people are getting more organized to fight these attacks. From Racine to Cincinnati to Kansas City, teachers are going out for what they need. These attacks are coming down because of the way this system runs—if something isn't profitable or useful enough, it gets the axe—whether it's unemployment benefits, welfare, food stamps or education.

Playing up Gronouski's so-called great compromise, or the efforts of the School Board, can't hide the fact that the School Board lost this round with the teachers. The strength and unity of the teachers and support from the people of Milwaukee turned back this attack. ■

## Same "Divide & Conquer" Plan Parents Protest School Closings

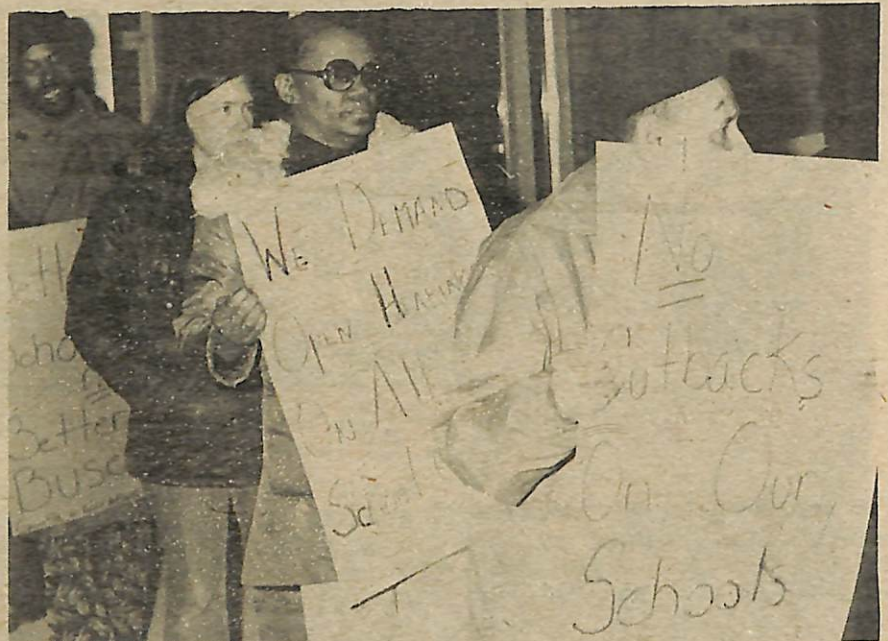
In April the Milwaukee School Board approved plans to shut down 17 schools and annexes to neighborhood children in the next two years. Thirteen will be shut totally, instead of spending the money to fix them up or build new ones, and 4 will be opened as speciality schools. McMurrin, Gronouski and the Board have used the desegregation order as an excuse for the shutdowns, as they try and pit Blacks, Latins and whites against each other.

The school closings follow a pattern of attacks on education which fall most heavily on Blacks in the inner city. For example, Elm Street School now housing 488 students and Walnut Street School now housing 331 are both being shut down and the students assigned to 27th Street School. Once 27th Street School is crammed full, hundreds will be forced to bus out even further.

But the attacks effect schools throughout the city that are becoming more crowded as they receive the bused students. At Parkview, on the Northwest side, 416 attended last year. This year the number jumped to 462, about 140 being bused from the Auer Ave. district. A 6th grade class had 27 students last

year. This year the teacher had 34 students.

Several hundred parents came to a public hearing and many spoke out bitterly against McMurrin's plan. McMurrin's tactics were clear—to carry the divide and conquer scheme further to turn neighborhood parents against parents of retarded students and neighborhood parents against speciality school parents. The school board's tactics were to make each closing a separate battle. Fairview was a source of disagreement because neighborhood parents wanted it kept open as a neighborhood school, and parents of retarded students wanted their children transferred out of the decrepit trailers they're in now, into Fairview. Fairview is presently divided between the two. A representative of the Committee to Fight the Attacks on our Schools (CFAS) pointed the way forward when she said, "Parents from across the city must stand together to fight for better schools for all children. The Fairview children need their neighborhood school and the retarded children need a new building. The school board should provide both." The CFAS and parents from Fairview had joined together to circulate a petition which



MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE TO FIGHT THE ATTACKS ON OUR SCHOOLS PICKETING THE SCHOOL BOARD

they presented at the hearing. The petition said that while schools slated for shutting were in terrible condition, they should be fixed or replaced and not just shut down.

Parents from the Montessori program mobilized for the meeting also. McMurrin's plan called for this program to take over the Siefert school and kick the neighborhood children out. The Montessori parents responded by saying, "Give us a building that will not displace other children, we don't want to fight with other parents."

Figures were presented by one speaker which explained clearly why McMurrin was pushing this plan, and why the school board changed it only slightly

even though so many parents spoke out against it—each elementary school closing would save about \$128,000 and each junior high about \$524,000.

Milwaukee parents are paying higher and higher property taxes while businesses are getting tax breaks. This money should be going to improve schools across the city. School closings and busing are no answer to crummy schools, whether the burden falls mainly on Blacks or is divided equally among Blacks and whites. Our only choice is to stand up united, Black, Latin, white, parents with special interests and neighborhood parents to fight for the good education all kids need. ■

# Unity In Job Security Fight A-C Strikers Go Back

Workers at Allis-Chalmers are now back at work after a six week strike that forced A-C to drop attacks on the sell-out John Deere settlement. But Allis-Chalmers workers got no gains on job security. The walk out on March 3 was forced through by the rank and file in the course of a two month mass refusal of overtime, 1000 jamming a union meeting, and hundreds of stickers going upon the walls that said, "MARCH 3rd--NO CONTRACT-NO WORK!"

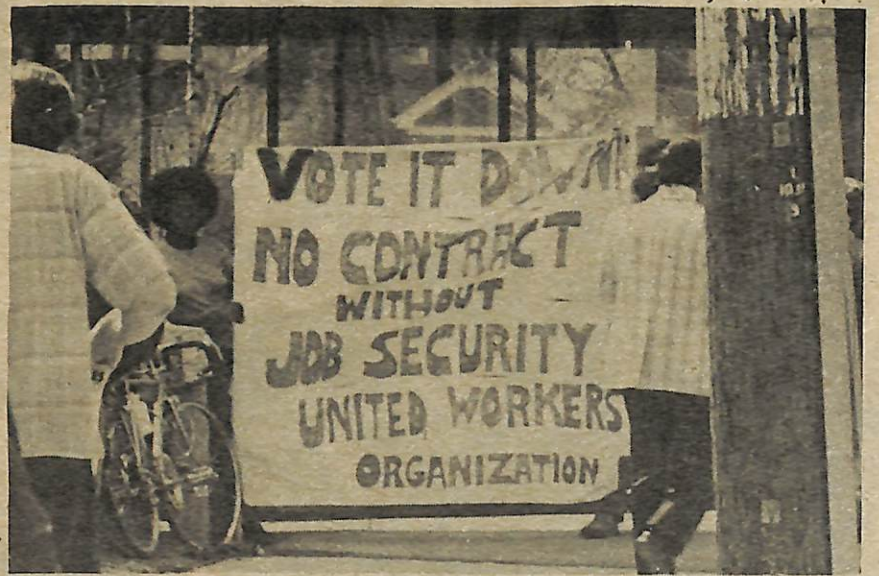
The showdown with the company has been building for a long time. Machinists see a box of 20 to 30 different set-up pieces for job runs, and know that they will only run about 5 of them since the others have been shipped out to non-union subcontractors. Workers who were running 1 machine 5-10 years ago are now running 3 and 4. Workers who were once running machines in the big shop are now pushing brooms. Workers in Motor Generator saw some of their jobs moved to Norwood, Ohio, a few months ago and wonder how long the rest will be around. And the list of job eliminations goes on...

When the Allis-Chalmers workers hit the bricks they were up against heavy odds. As the weeks dragged on, the local leadership sabotaged any attempts to form mass pickets, and subcontractors freely crossed the picket lines.

The company was also on the attack. They publicly stated that they wouldn't follow the John Deere sell out pattern so they could remain "competitive." In addition, the company floated out plans to divide the electrical and tractor divisions into possible separate contracts and locals.

Still, A-C workers stayed out for six weeks and said the company's plans to get an edge on the competition wouldn't be taken out of their hides.

The UAW International made its moves in the sixth week of the strike. With less than 24 hour notice they rushed to set up a ratification meeting after announcing tentative agreement on local issues. Region 10 director, Ray Majerus, got on the TV news and said workers at A-C had won a great victory in winning what Deere workers got, and that they even won their demand for job



UNITED WORKERS ORGANIZATION AT A-C OUTSIDE CONTRACT MEETING

security.

But at the meeting dozens lined up at the mikes to demand that job security be spelled out. Pinned to the wall, the local president admitted nothing had been won over that key demand. Although 35% voted NO, most felt with such a no-good bunch of sell-out hacks running the show that nothing more could be won. The sell-out was so pre-planned that the company phoned people at home to work overtime on the weekend while the ratification meeting was in progress.

Back in the shop anger and resentment over the sellout continues to rage. It took six weeks of sacrifice to force A-C to come up with the lousy Deere settlement. And now the company is laughing all the way to the bank, while their profits doubled last year. Many of the workers are wondering if their jobs will be around to retire on and older workers feel they're still chained to their jobs after 30 years, since little was won to make 30 and OUT a reality.

One thing is for sure: The issue of job security has become a fighting demand for thousands at Allis-Chalmers. After waging the battle on the picket lines, the fight has moved back onto the shop floor. In the tractor shop, foundry, and machine shop A-C workers have no intentions of letting the company throw them out on the streets one by one.

# Steel Sellout Sparks Resistance



STEELWORKERS MARCH ON UNION HEADQUARTERS IN PITTSBURGH: "CONTRACT STIKKS!"

On April 22nd over 150 steelworkers from plants like Youngstown in Cleveland; U.S. Steel Southworks in Chicago; and Bethlehem converged on Steel City, Pittsburgh, to confront union hacks about a sellout contract that they negotiated. At the head of the march was a giant banner that read "Make the Contract a Battle."

The rank and file were giving the top USWA officials warning that this sellout is going to meet a lot of resistance. One of the demonstration's demands was that the International gives strike authorization to every local that asks for it. The International was forced to admit a five man delegation inside--something they did only because they knew that the action reflected the feelings of thousands of steel workers across the country.

To steelworkers, the union's description of the new contract as "a step towards lifetime job security" is an empty promise. The contract will mean more job insecurity for steel workers because it doesn't do a thing about the job combi-

nations, speedup, and harassment that have enabled the steel companies to eliminate thousands of jobs every year.

The whole "lifetime job security" claim comes down to one main provision--that workers with over 20 years seniority will get SUB pay for two years instead of the one year they now get. The trick is that after the first year they have to accept any "suitable employment" the company offers them, whether it's another classification or another part of the country.

The rest of the contract is one setback after another--a measly 3% wage hike; a reduction in fringe benefits, and a union promise to hand over even more concessions to the companies after more negotiations. The contract extends the no-strike agreement to cover the next contract.

The new McBride regime has taken up where Abel left off--selling out the rank and file and helping the companies in controlling the men and women in the mills.

The April 22 Pittsburgh demonstration shows that the rank and file will not sit

by as they're stripped of wages, benefits and jobs. Called by The Steelworker, a national rank and file newsletter, the action was endorsed by some USWA locals and other steelworkers' organizations.

The workers in two Pennsylvania locals overrode their local presidents and voted to denounce the contract and endorse the demonstration, and tore Abel's picture off the wall.

In addition to the demonstration, steelworkers are exposing the sellout contract through mock elections and balloting in several locals.

This is the first time in many years that the rank and file has been able to put up a fight around the sellouts they've regularly had to face. Although the national contract has been signed, the battle around the contract is just beginning. The companies and their union henchmen are finding out that just because the contract has been signed, it doesn't mean the workers will resign themselves to being sold out, but will still fight back.

# SCHLITZ CAN ON STRIKE

On May 1, the over 200 workers at Schlitz Can in Oak Creek went on strike and were joined by workers in 3 other Steelworker locals around the country. With picket lines 7 days a week, 24 hours a day, the workers have set up camp at the gates. They are on the bricks to get a decent wage increase and a better cost of living. The strikers are setting the pace for the upcoming national can contract, covering workers here in Milwaukee at Continental Can and American Can.

Last fall, Schlitz offered the members of USWA Local 7996 a \$1.50 wage increase, in exchange, Schlitz wanted the contract to come up in October, the beginning of the slow season for the giant Milwaukee brewer. The men and women in Oak Creek and in the other 3 plants saw through this trade off and said, "Forget it!"

The early settlement had been pushed hard by the Steelworkers district director McNamara. Since that offer was rejected McNamara has stayed away from negotiations. No one on the picket line has missed him.

This time around the company only offered a 90¢ raise and wouldn't meet demands for better vacation and pension plans. The strikers want a big wage increase to at least reach the level of a Texas Schlitz Can plant with a Teamster local.

The strike comes at a time of increasing difficulties for Schlitz, ranging from disclosures of illegal payoffs to distributors, slipping sales, and reports that Schlitz beer doesn't hold its head. Strikers estimate that the company's supply of cans will run out in three weeks. At this point other can companies have refused to do short term orders for Schlitz, but even if Schlitz is able to find the cans it will be at a higher price than usual.

Schlitz is on the defensive about this strike, they have made the outrageous claim that the strike is illegal--that the union didn't give them proper notice of the strike deadline. While Schlitz is taking the union to court and reportedly plans to "fire" all "illegal" strikers, the men and women at Schlitz Can are holding firm.

# Quil is Free! Jury Throws Out 9 Felonies



QUIL: POLITICAL PRISONER

QUIL IS FREE

## Briggs Layoffs, Workers Demand No Seniority Loss

Seven-hundred Briggs and Stratton workers were hit with a layoff April 29th. Many are being thrown out the door for their 3rd or 4th "annual" layoff. Along with the layoffs comes a loss of seniority.

If a Briggs worker is laid off longer than half of their seniority, then it is up to the company whether to call them back. Those called back start like new employees. One man in his 40's got hired at Briggs in '74 after the plant he had worked at for 20 years ran away. Since then he has lost his job three times and now has only 8 months seniority to show for his 3 years at Briggs. At this rate, many people will never have enough time to retire with a decent pension or even have enough service to get a 2 week vacation. And the company pockets all the money they save on wages, benefits and pensions. In nine months last year, Briggs made \$25.8 million in profits, \$4 million more than the previous year.

This layoff policy weakens the strength

and unity of the workers to fight the company's attacks. As one worker laid off in '75 and not called back was told by the personnel dept., "Anyone who has filed a grievance, gotten a warning, had a bad attendance record or raised hell in anyway is notelegible for rehire."

With the contract expiring in August '77 NO LOSS OF SENIORITY DURING LAYOFFS is becoming a battle cry.

The union leadership is proposing a clause that says no loss of seniority during layoffs up to a year, but that adds no seniority during a layoff. This would allow the company to take back with one hand what they give with the other. Men and women at Briggs are fed up with the layoffs and seniority policy and want no part of a compromise. Briggs workers should not have to pay for the instability of the company and the anarchistic workings of the capitalist economy. Workers are starting to mobilize for this fight and are making their demand to the company and union clear—NO LOSS OF SENIORITY DURING LAYOFFS! ■

When the jury came back it was all smiles. Quil's supporters had been playing cards in the courthouse hallway. They waited anxiously to hear the fate of a brother. When the verdicts were read, they couldn't believe their ears. Not guilty on all nine counts! Hoopings, cheers, smiles and even tears were the peoples' response. Their struggle had won a tremendous victory. The jury had rejected the state's attempts to railroad Quil, and thrown out nine felonies that totaled a maximum of 92 years.

The state of Wisconsin had gone all out to take a big piece of Quil's life in reprisal for the bold Menominee Warriors abbey takeover two years ago. It didn't matter to them that Quil was not in the abbey caretaker's cottage when the alleged acts of "armed robbery, burglary and false imprisonment" occurred. They commissioned Special Prosecutor Donald Zuidmulder to work for two years rigging up a case against Quil. Zuidmulder convinced the witnesses they had seen Quil in the abbey caretakers' cottage. He brought up every sensationalist point he could to enflame the jury. And he pieced together a jumble of irrelevant and misleading facts—all to put Quil away, like he put away two other Warriors, Mike Sturdevant and John Perote, a year ago.

The prosecutors produced enlarged photographs of bullet holes in the ceiling from the caretakers and their guest on how frightened they were when the young Menominees took over the abbey. But he could never clearly identify Quil. One witness claimed that she talked to Quil for about 45 minutes. And yet she didn't notice if the man she spoke with had two front teeth missing like Quil does. Other witnesses confused Quil with two other Menominee men. And none of the witnesses even mentioned Quil in any earlier testimony.

The defense produced a whole string of witnesses who had been with Quil in the Rainbow Bar at the time of the takeover.

Jeanette Chevalier, the defendant's mother, summed up the victory, "The support we had was the decisive factor in Quil's acquittal." She was talking

about the several days of packed courtrooms, the many fund raising benefits, the witnesses who took off work to attend the trial, the supporters who drove up from Milwaukee and Madison, the 25 Phillips high school students who wore FREE QUIL buttons in the courtroom, the thousands of people across the state and country, Indian and non-Indian alike, who were watching Quil's case, and the jury itself.

The people sided with Quil because what he did was right. The Warriors intended to hurt no one and no one was hurt throughout the abbey takeover. The stand they took became a turning point in the Menominee peoples' long struggle for their rights as a tribe. It marked the beginning of the end for Ada Deer, the sellout that the rich bankers and the government had chosen to lead the Menominees back into tribal status.

People supported Quil because he took a very strong stand. He was singled out as one of the five defendants. When his court-appointed lawyer told him to plead guilty and that there would be no defense, Quil jumped bail. If he hadn't, he'd be in jail today. He lived protected by his people on the reservation. He knew the only thing he was guilty of was risking his life for his people. One of this co-defendants, John Waubanesum, gave his life in this cause.

Against all the support for Quil, the state tried to win their case by moving it to Phillips of Price County far from Quil's base of support on the reservations and in the cities. But their schemes failed. The support from the local high school students and the response of the jurors shows that people everywhere can relate to the just struggle of the Menominees.

In a telephone interview Quil wished to express his thanks to all those who followed his case in the pages of the Worker, those who actively built the struggle and the benefits, and those who made the trip to Phillips. Now he's free on \$500 bail. Chances are good the bail jumping and federal assault charges will be dropped. If they aren't the people will rebuild Quil's fight. ■

## Big Victory in Leach Trial, Major Charges Dropped

On Tuesday, April 5, the trial of Ashby Leach came to a close. It was a bad day for the Chessie Railroad System (C&O). Ashby Leach, the Vietnam veteran who had seized their offices eight months earlier demanding that Chessie honor the GI Bill for all vets at Chessie, was found innocent of 13 counts of kidnapping and convicted on the lesser charges. He was sentenced to from three to fifteen years, but he remains free on bail and an appeal has been filed. He will probably be retried in 6-9 months. His supporters plan to keep up the campaign until he is fully vindicated.

The courts presented the case as the "People of Ohio vs. Ashby Leach," but in the months of building support for Ashby the tables were turned. It became "Ashby Leach and the People vs. Chessie and the Fat Cats."

The whole case was conducted to try to railroad Ashby Leach off to jail,

hopefully as quietly as possible. At first they pressured Ashby to plead "insanity" and tried to brand him as a "crazy" in the press, responsible for virtually every act of hostage-taking in the country.

But Ashby, the Ashby Leach Support Committee and the Vietnam Veterans Against the War were not about to let this go down. At the trial and in taking out the word of the case to the people of Cleveland, they kept hammering the point home that Ashby and hundreds of thousands of other vets were used as cannon fodder in a rich man's war against Vietnam; all the while companies like Chessie were making millions off that. The guys who made it home can't even get the GI Bill. Do you have to be a lunatic to hate and fight this outrageous situation?

This type of approach put Chessie and the authorities on the defensive. Chessie sent spies to trail Ashby and the VVAW. During the trial they even

sent out a memorandum saying that if the truth got out about their treatment of vets it would be "the kiss of death" to their well-cultivated public image. The company even tried to coach witnesses in how to testify.

Because Ashby and his supporters took the offensive, the prosecution was reduced to arguing that Ashby should be locked up in jail because it's the law—no one in the prosecution could argue that the U.S. war in Vietnam was right or that Chessie had the right to deny benefits to vets. All they could say was that he broke the law and tried to run the fastest trial in town. The defense was forbidden to call witnesses to testify about Chessie's refusal to pay the GI Bill or to call Cyrus Eaton (owner of Chessie) to the stand. But the trial pointed out clearly just who this law serves—not everyone equally, but the rich and powerful whose property rights it protects.

In the course of the trial and the

work done in advance of it, thousands of veterans and workers, especially in the Cleveland area, came to see Ashby as a symbol of resistance to injustice. The fact that he was acquitted of the most serious charges shows that the jurors also were sympathetic to his cause, despite all the phony legality pitted against him. As one juror put it, "We felt he got the shaft. I support him 100%. I think his cause is just. I almost feel that some official from Chessie should be put on the stand and go on trial."

There is no doubt that it was the struggle of the people, as well as Ashby's own courageous stand, that kept him from being sent up for life to some hell hole for the "criminally insane". The victory—by no means a complete victory—but a victory nonetheless, was won. It shows what can happen when the cause is just and the people rally their strength. The fight will continue. ■



IT WAS THE STRUGGLE OF THE PEOPLE, LIKE THE VETS ABOVE, THAT KEPT LEACH FROM GETTING A LIFE SENTENCE.

# African Liberation Day - MARCH ON MAY 28TH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

vestments in the country for the apartheid system just as it is now. As one Union Carbide director put it, "Majority rule would be bad for South Africa and bad for business."

The U.S. government has long provided economic and military assistance to Rhodesia and South Africa to keep the governments there on top of the people. And they have used their influence and control over those governments to use them to defend the interests of the Almighty Dollar on the African continent, as for example, when the U.S. backed up the sending of South African troops into Angola.

### US GOV'T - FRIEND OF AFRICA?

Now, all of a sudden, the U.S. government has had a change of tune. Jimmy Carter and his personally chosen Black front man, Andrew Young, are talking a mile a minute about the evils of the apartheid system in South Africa, the need for more rights for the Africans and even "majority rule."

What's behind all these dramatic headlines and statements? The white minority governments the U.S. has always backed have never been shakier and the struggle of the African people has never been stronger, more organized, more widespread, and more focused at the enemy. Ian Smith in Rhodesia and Vorster in South Africa are looking more like a losing hand every day.

In the meantime the chief rival of the U.S. capitalists for control of the world, the equally capitalist ruling

for the U.S. capitalists the same way Smith and Vorster run white minority governments now. And all the while the U.S. rulers try various political and diplomatic maneuvers to bolster their interests, they continue to prop up the white minority regimes, especially the bulwark of white supremacy, South Africa

### WE FIGHT THE SAME ENEMY

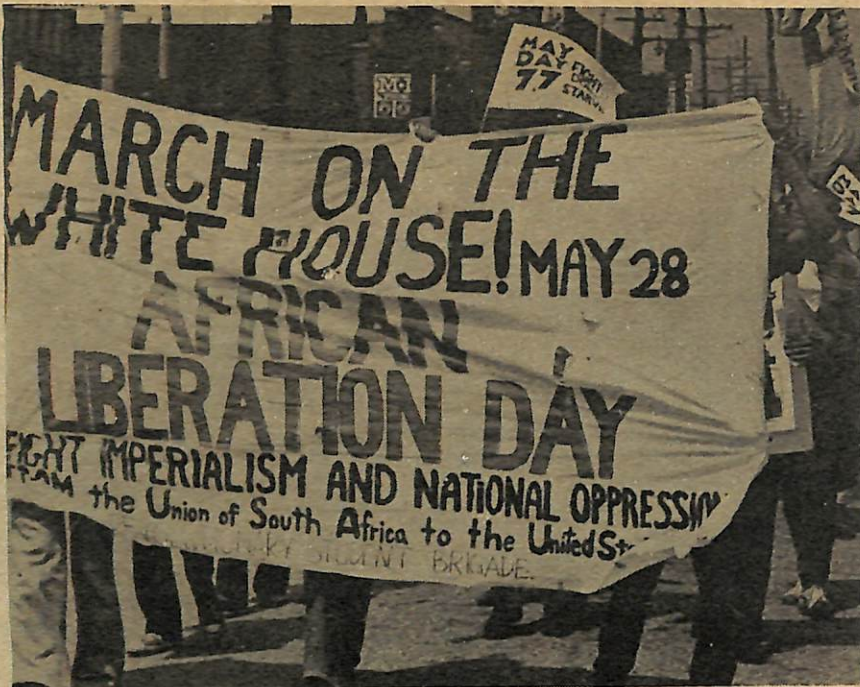
In trying to sell the idea that the U.S. is a friend of African liberation and die-hard enemy of discrimination and national oppression, Carter, Young and Co. have a big problem. Too many people in this country know first hand that after 400 years, discrimination and the oppression of Black people and other minorities are part and parcel of the American system. There has been talk aplenty year after year, but Black unemployment is still twice the national average while, for those working, the average paycheck is lower, prices and the crime rate in Black communities is higher while social services are poorer and disappearing fast. And the rich love it—they can squeeze little more out of poorer paid minority workers and they try and keep the people divided along race and national lines and fighting among themselves.

Black people and people of all nationalities in this country have a proud history of fighting against national oppression, as they did in the civil rights movement of the 1960's and of fighting against imperialist plunder and aggression, like the Vietnam war, abroad.

The enemy the South African people are aiming their blows at is the same



THE STRUGGLE OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PEOPLE AGAINST TURNING THEIR COUNTRY UPSIDE DOWN.



PEOPLE WILL GATHER FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY TO MARCH ON AFRICAN LIBERATION DAY.

class of the Soviet Union who, while trying to pose as "friends" of the liberation struggle are actually backstabbers trying to elbow their way in and take the place of the U.S. as the main plunderer of southern Africa. With empty promises and a wallet full of rubles the USSR hopes to be able to make liberation forces economically and politically dependent on it and use them to ice the U.S. as the Soviets did with the MPLA in Angola.

These challenges, from the southern African people and the Soviet rulers, are responsible for the "new look" in American policy. Carter and the government are trying to arrange some "compromise" that will keep the situation in the countries of Southern Africa as it is now, with a few reforms and a few more black faces in the government as long as it doesn't interfere with imperialist profits from the apartheid system. African misleaders in the liberation struggle who can be trusted to run a "free, independent" black government

enemy the masses of American people face. The owners of the same banks and corporations—Chase Manhattan, GM, IBM Merrill-Lynch etc.—that make millions drag us into wars we have no stake in, force us into unemployment, attack us daily on the job and in our communities and try to drive us into the ground to squeeze that much more profit out of our sweat and labor. The victory of the African people will be our own victory and every step in their struggle will be an advance in ours.

### MARCH ON THE WHITE HOUSE

Since 1972, African Liberation Day has been an important holiday for Black people and others who support the struggle of the African people to be free of imperialist domination. This year the rising flames of struggle in Africa and the desperate maneuvers of the ruling class make the building of a strong A.L.D. demonstration a task of great importance.

To take this task up, an African Liberation Day coalition has been formed by a number of individuals and groups (which have been active in the Black struggle in

this country and in the overall fight against U.S. imperialism) Some, like many chapters of the African Liberation Support Committee and the Revolutionary Student Brigade, have already held conferences and educational meetings to raise the question of southern Africa and held demonstrations supporting the people of Southern Africa's struggle and hitting at corporations, colleges and the government for their role in supporting the apartheid system.

This kind of activity will be growing in intensity all this month as the African Liberation Day Coalition moves the campaign for ALD into full gear, building on the general theme of "Fight Imperialism and National Oppression from the USA (Union of South Africa) to the USA (United States of America)!" The campaign will culminate May 28 in the mass demonstration and rally to be addressed by representatives of African liberation groups. Students and young people from the ghettos and other communities will be marching together as the Soweto contingent in honor of the heroism of the South African youth who triggered the current wave of struggles. Workers contingents from different industries will march under their own banners.

The whole demonstration will march on the White House to point the finger of blame and to proclaim loudly to the capitalist class Carter works for and to the whole world that the American people stand with their brothers and sisters in Africa and raise these slogans:

**Victory to the People of Southern Africa!**

**Down With White Minority Rule!**

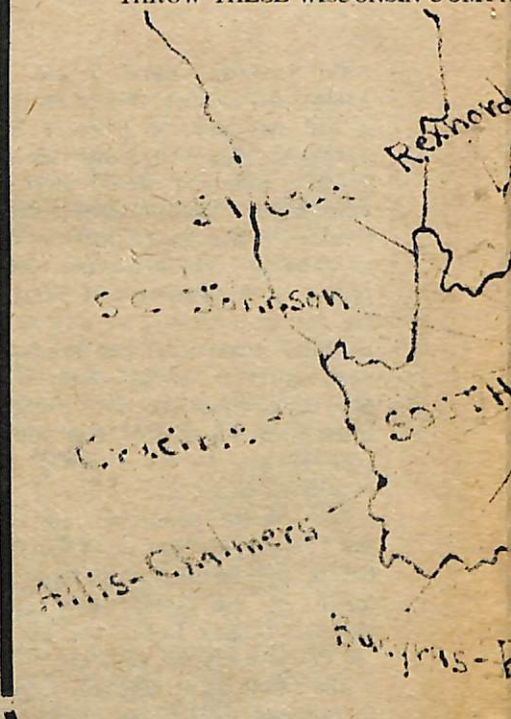
**US Out Of Southern Africa, Superpowers Hands Off!**

FOR RIDES OR MORE INFORMATION CALL 873-4243

## Wisconsin Profit In S...

Many Milwaukee area companies have investments in South Africa. Rexnord and Bucyrus-Erie supply mining equipment for the vast mines that are a mainstay of the apartheid regime's economy. Allis-Chalmers built and services a nuclear reactor for the South African government. A.O. Smith manufactures petroleum product meters in South Africa and F. Perry Wilson, a member of its board of directors, is an officer of Union Carbide Company which has mines throughout South Africa. Crucible's parent company, Howmet, is owned by the European company, Pechiney-Ugine-Kuhlmann, which operates mines all over the African continent. Cutler-Hammer and S.C. Johnson, a Racine company, employ thousands of

THE RISING STRUGGLE OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PEOPLE TO THROW THESE WISCONSIN COMPANIES OUT OF AFRICA.





# March On The White House

## Superpowers Rival for Control Struggle Mounts In Ethiopia

The cold blooded murders of hundreds of militant workers, peasants, students and teachers has followed a shift in power in the African country of Ethiopia. A coup in February by Colonel Mengistu wiped out his rivals and swung the country more towards the Soviet Union, in the U.S.-USSR rivalry over the continent of Africa.

The rule of the new strong man, Mengistu, is intended to keep Ethiopia as a semi-feudal, semi-colonial country, much like it was under the dictator, Haile Salassie, when the country was basically controlled by U.S. imperialists. But now there is a scramble to control the "Horn of Africa" which includes Ethiopia. The area is a strategic location for both the U.S. and the U.S.S.R.. Ethiopia is at the mouth of the Red Sea and is important to communications and transportation between Europe, Asia and Africa.

The plans of the U.S. imperialists and the new czars of the Soviet Union do not include independence for the Ethiopian people. But the people of Ethiopia and Eritrea are waging a revolutionary struggle against the old regime and foreign domination. Eritrea is the part of Ethiopia which lies along the Red Sea whose people have long resisted the domination of the Ethiopian government.

The struggle of the Ethiopian and Eritrean peoples has been met with brutal repression. Near Addis Ababa, the capi-

tal city, the bodies of one hundred students between the ages of 13 and 20 were found thrown in a ditch. The small village of Jarri was the scene of another mass execution—57 bodies were found, all shot and their faces burned beyond recognition. In Addis Ababa, residents were ordered to stay indoors for 72 hours while the Zionist trained security forces carried out a house-to-house search for arms and revolutionaries. Many of those arrested were executed or tortured.

In an effort to cover up whose interests they serve, and the terror being carried on, the junta has proclaimed itself "revolutionary". They say they are trying to build socialism in Ethiopia. The new strong man is cultivating ties with the Soviet rulers, another gang of so-called socialists. In fact they are selling the country out to the new czars in Moscow.

The military junta rode to power in February, 1973, on a revolution by workers, peasants, soldiers and students. Since then the people of Ethiopia and Eritrea have begun to see through the revolutionary rhetoric of the junta. Their struggle has once again surged forward on a higher level than before, despite the repression.

On May Day, 1976, massive demonstrations were held in all the major cities of Ethiopia denouncing the junta's continued rule. In September of 1976 a strike opposing the junta's labor laws and for higher wages paralyzed the capi-

tal city. In the countryside, peasants have taken over land, and they are beginning to arm themselves to deal with the landlord's system.

As the people of Ethiopia fight the repression and terror of the junta, they see that their struggle is a long one. The junta is playing one superpower against the other and is being paid off by political and military aid. Now the role of the Soviet imperialists is the stronger—200 Cuban advisors have been sent into the country to train the Ethiopian army in counter-insurgency.

Last month the Ethiopian government ordered all Americans out of the country. As the U.S. imperialists' influence in the country declines, they have sent G. McMuthrie Godley as Ambassador to Ethiopia. Godley is a notorious butcher known for his role in aiding right wing forces in Lebanon in 1974-76, the U.S. puppets in Laos in 1969-73, and the anti-Lumumba forces in the Congo in the early '60s. They see the strategic importance of the area and will maneuver for it in some new way— even though it means pushing the US-USSR conflict closer to open hostilities.

No matter how much the superpowers put their hands into Africa, the people of the continent will fight on for freedom. THE PEOPLE OF AFRICA ARE BOUND TO WIN!!!



WHITE MINORITY RULE IS

## Industries South Africa

workers in their south African plants. Manpower, which pays minimum wages to workers in the U.S., pays even lower wages to its South African employees.

These companies are part of a system that exploits workers all over the world. They are a common enemy of all workers. They will use anything they can to make a profit, especially racism. In the U.S. this means not hiring or advancing Black and minority workers, or where they are hired, working them especially hard. In South Africa, it means taking advantage of the slave-labor conditions where Black workers earn a few cents a day, to reap super-profits. The workers of both countries have a common struggle against these blood-suckers and their rotten system.

WITH AFRICAN PEOPLE THREATENS TO



## Campaign Builds Against the Gold Coin Krugerrand Sales Bolster South African Government

Chants of "American People, Taking a Stand--M&I Stop Selling the Krugerrand" rang out downtown as members of the African Liberation Support Committee (ALSC) took their campaign right into the heart of Milwaukee's financial district. The ALSC's efforts to build support for the struggle of the South African people and against the racist apartheid regime in South Africa has gained widespread and enthusiastic support, especially in Milwaukee's Black community. Student groups, churches, the Black press and others have united with the campaign and endorsed the African Liberation Day rally on May 28, in Washington D.C.

In recent weeks the focus of the ALSC's activities in Milwaukee has been the Marshall & Ilsley Bank, which sells the Krugerrand, South Africa's gold coin. The Krugerrand is one solid ounce of gold, which sells to collectors for almost \$170 each. M&I, like other U.S. banks, has joined in a multi-million dollar effort to bolster South Africa's economy—which is shaken by strikes and demonstrations in the all-Black township of Soweto and other areas of the country.

50 people picketed the M&I Bank on 21st and Wisconsin where the sidewalk had been spray painted with the slogans, "No U.S. Support to Racist South Africa—Stop Selling the Krugerrand."

The ALSC followed this up by meeting with a Vice-President of M&I to demand that the bank stop selling the racist gold coin. With reporters from several papers present the bank officer refused to even discuss his bank's policies.

One woman asked "What do you think about the fact that by selling this coin you're helping to hold down millions of



IN MILWAUKEE THE AFRICAN LIBERATION SUPPORT COMMITTEE DEMANDED THAT M&I STOP SELLING THE SOUTH AFRICAN KRUGERRAND.

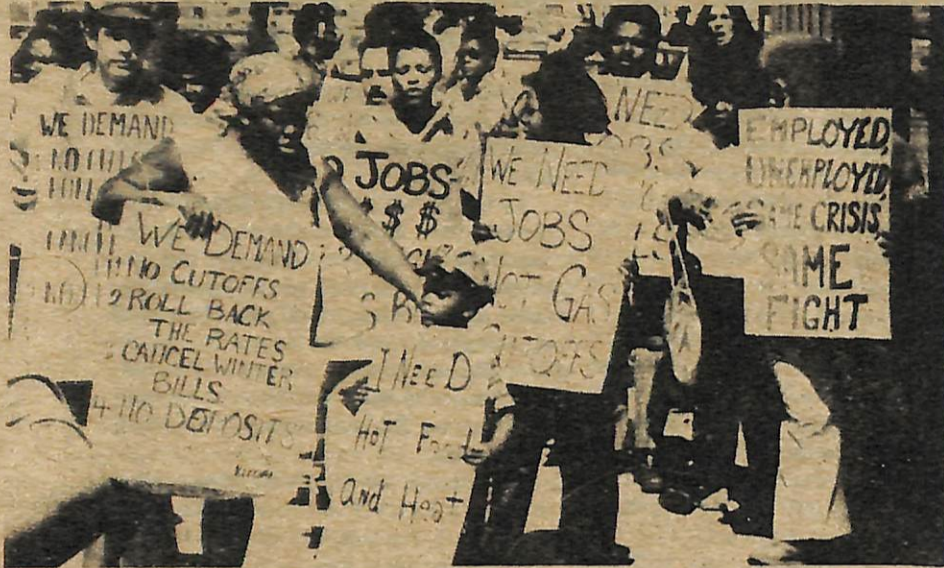
Black people fighting for their freedom?" He answered "We have no comment on that." Getting no satisfaction from this capitalist the ALSC members then talked to the bank's customers about the bank's support for South Africa's policies. Showing what side they're really on, the bank then called police but ALSC members left before they arrived, vowing they'd be back.

Marshall & Ilsley controls the financing that a big section of Wis. industry relies on. For example, Ralph Kraut, one of M&I's directors, is chairman of Gidding and Lewis—a union busting company which recently broke a strike by almost 700 machinists in Fond du Lac. Another director, Burleigh Jacobs, is chairman of Grede Foundries, a notorious non-union shop which directly benefits from discrimination against its Black

and Latino workers. James Wright, also an M&I director, sits on the board of Wis. Gas Company, which just got a rate increase after cutting off service to hundreds of families who couldn't afford the already high rates.

As the date for African Liberation Day draws nearer, the African Liberation Support Committee is shifting into high gear to build for the rally in Washington, D.C. The committee is planning slide shows and a fundraiser is scheduled for Friday May 20th, at the Downstairs, 2647 N. 3rd Street, to raise money to take people to Washington, D.C. The ALSC will continue its campaign to drive the U.S. out of South Africa and support the struggle of the South African people against the racist apartheid regime.

# Cleveland Gas Shutoff People Counterattack Carter's "Energy War"



CLEVELAND EMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYED FIGHT GAS CO. SHUTOFFS

Last month Jimmy Carter declared that his energy program was "the moral equivalent of war." But the real content of this "get tough" approach was made clear in a recent example.

On April 1, the East Ohio Gas Co. sent out 40,000 gas cutoff notices to customers in the Cleveland area. Talk about war! This was a declaration of war on 40,000 people on layoff, welfare, disability, or working in penny-pinching sweatshops, unable to pay their sky-high bills.

However the people in Cleveland's Sowinski Park neighborhood proved that there are two sides to a war, and that Carter's energy program is going to be met by the angry struggle of the American people. As soon as the cutoff notices went out the Cleveland chapter of the Unemployed Workers Organizing Committee (UWOC) put out a leaflet calling on people to resist "by any means necessary." Telephone trees were organized, patrols of bicyclers were deployed and even a small pack of dogs was mobilized to catch the gas company by surprise and run them out of the neighborhood when they came to cut off the gas. These activities were backed up by door to door leafletting, a neighborhood meeting, and a small march, to inform and involve as many people as possible. At the same time UWOC leafletted gas company workers calling on them to unite with, not be used against, the unemployed who could not pay these monstrous bills.

For a few days East Ohio didn't show up. But on Friday, April 15, gas men accompanied by police tried to cut a Sowinski Park woman's gas off. She

locked her basement and refused to open it for them. She called the UWOC "Cutoff Hotline" and then told the gas men and cops to take off. They did, but moved on to cut off several people who weren't at home at the time.

By the time they got to the home of Emily Campbell, 15 people were waiting for them. Emily and several friends and neighbors sat down around her gas valve, which is out by the sidewalk, and told the cops they wouldn't budge. As the cops and gas company supervisors argued with her, members of UWOC trooped up and down the street calling people out to join the fight.

In almost no time a big crowd gathered. The police tried to remove Mrs. Campbell, but only succeeded in tearing half her clothing off. This act enraged the crowd and the police wisely backed off. By now there were over 60 people shouting, waving signs and chanting, "No gas cutoff, roll back the rates!" A dozen cops formed ranks and pushed forward, clubbing men, women and even five year old boys. Finally, the police and gas company gave up trying to cut off Emily Campbell's gas and beat a hasty retreat out of the area. There were no more cutoffs that day.

The struggle in Sowinski Park was all over the news, and people throughout the city were talking about it excitedly. The whole thing was a big blow not only to East Ohio Gas, but to the system in which a small handful of moneybags can legally justify denying people a basic necessity of life in the name of profits. The ruling class was not slow to react.

On the morning of Monday, April 18,

East Ohio Gas came back to the Campbells, accompanied by the police department's "tac squad"! While the sidewalk was dug up so the company could cut the gas off in such a way that it couldn't be put back on, the cops arrested Emily Campbell for "inciting to violence," held her children at gunpoint and threatened to shoot passersby. As soon as the cutoff was finished, the "tac squad" retreated, leaving the area under the nervous eyes of large numbers of police.

That same night, as Carter spoke to the nation about energy and the need for sacrifices, a demonstration at the city council ripped the mad dog attack on the Campbells by Ohio Gas' hired guns in uniform, and raised the demands of the people against the cutoffs and for lower gas rates and the cancellation of the winter bills.

This battle, which is far from over, not only shows with razor sharpness the real essence of the capitalists' new "energy programs" but foreshadows the kind of resistance it must meet from the American people. ■

## Carter WHAT REBATE?

Jimmy Carter, friend of the little guy, recently proposed a \$50 tax rebate for working people. Not too much was said about Carter's \$3-\$4 billion in tax breaks for businesses that went along with the \$50 rebate.

Now Carter has decided that since the economy is in such great shape, we don't need the 50 bucks. So that gets cut. What about the billions in tax breaks for large corporations? They stay. They stay to help stimulate an economy that's already 'great.'

As usual, the bosses get the cake. But this time we don't even get the crumbs. Jimmy Carter, friend of the little guy. Thanks a lot. ■

## Union Organizers Framed



MASSACHUSETTS UNION ORGANIZERS ALEX MARKLEY AND TONY SUERES WITH THEIR ATTORNEY

The case of Alex Markley of the United Electrical Workers and Tony Sueres of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers came to be an issue among workers in the New England area.

Markley had been staff organizer in charge of a successful eight week strike at Worthington Compressor in Holyoke, Massachusetts. Nearly eight months after the strike he and Sueres were arrested by the Treasury Department. The evidence against them was that an undercover agent who'd snuck into the strike lines had been given four toilet paper tubes filled with black powder to "blow up" scab trucks. When the so-called "destructive devices" were ignited at the trial, they failed to even blow up the paper they were wrapped in.

The truth of the matter is that throughout the strike the company drove scab trucks across picket lines and scab

trucks pulled guns and even beat a picketer. The agent had, in fact, time and again begged Markley to help him "fix" the trucks.

The frameup of the two on charges of "conspiracy to damage vehicles" and "transporting destructive devices" was clearly seen through by workers as an attempt to discourage the organizing and strikes that have taken place in the New England electronics industry. Many unions passed resolutions demanding charges against the two be dropped. Two mass demonstrations of hundreds of people in support of the two took place before the trial.

On April 14, Markley was sentenced to a year and a half and Sueres a year in jail. They faced up to 30 years. Today, both men are free on bail pending appeal and the struggle to overturn the charges and expose the frameup is continuing. ■

# 1000 Atlanta City Workers Fired



ATLANTA SANITATION WORKERS SAY MAYOR JACKSON'S WORD IS GARBAGE

On March 28, Atlanta city workers went on strike for a 50¢ an hour raise, better working conditions and other demands. The workers, mostly Black, are fighting Black political leaders who are out to prove that they can "run" Atlanta for the big capitalists. Mayor Maynard Jackson, on April 1st, just seven years after leading a march supporting striking city workers, fired more than 1000 strikers. Another Atlanta politician, Martin Luther King Sr., said in a press conference sponsored by the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, "Fire the hell out of the strikers." His statement was made on April 4th, the ninth anniversary of the assassination of his son who was participating in a strike of city workers in Memphis, Tennessee at the time of his murder.

These Black politicians used the struggle of the Black masses as a battering ram to gain positions and careers for themselves. Now they are moving to

smash the struggles to maintain their positions.

Jackson openly tried to pit the unemployed against the strikers. When he announced openings for the strikers jobs, 1000 showed up to apply. The Unemployed Workers Organizing Committee of Atlanta picketed the personnel office.

The city workers themselves, despite union leaders who have sabotaged the struggle, have fought hard. They have organized mass picketings, attempts to block driveways at the water works, confrontations with Jackson including a sit-in in his office, and gotten several members arrested.

The strike is in a difficult position. There are 300 scabs and over half the workers have gone back. But as we go to press a large core of strikers backed by growing support from workers in the city continue to fight. ■



## Textile Rallies: Shuck & a Jive "Buy American" Won't Save Jobs

On April 13, thousands of garment and textile workers were marshalled into the streets by the leaders of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union and the International Ladies Garment Workers Union in a one day work stoppage against foreign imports. The leaders want Jimmy Carter to push laws to curb imports.

The line behind the campaign goes like this, "Foreign workers work for less than American workers. Foreign companies and US companies with plants overseas can produce the same goods for less. These products price American made goods out of the market. Therefore we have to get rid of products from overseas. If more American-made products are sold and American businesses do well, American workers will have jobs."

Plain and simple this line is pure bull. Restrictions on imports will not give Americans more jobs. The few that might be saved in one round of import restrictions would be wiped away by the companies' drive to automate, locate elsewhere in the US, and also, speed up. As international competition becomes more fierce US goods will be excluded

in other countries. Workers of all countries will still be pitted against each other--all told, they have to work for less to undersell the products of other countries. All this pitting of worker against worker puts us off the track of what has to be our real struggle, against the companies, their profit system, and the union hacks who sell us out.

The height of hypocrisy is the US industries who moan about cheap foreign imports. Most of them have subsidiaries and suppliers in other countries. They plunder less developed countries for cheap raw materials. Many manufacture components and semi-finished goods abroad and then package them in the US and call them American-made. Right across the border in Mexico, you can find electronics sweat shops set up under dummy names, while these same companies are crying about foreign competition. Their call for tariffs and quotas does not arise out of any objection to overseas production, but rather to overseas production carried out by foreign capitalists. The purpose of these tariffs is to limit and restrict them.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

## Local 3059

# Fight In Ohio Steel Plant Still On

50 workers marched through Alliance, Ohio in a militant demonstration April 16, to protest Babcock and Wilcox's firing of nine union members, including the local president. The march was headed by the fired men and their families, followed by other B&W workers, and several workers from other shops.

Last month there had been a successful strike which had forced the company to settle some of a mountain of



NO REPRISALS! SAY FIRED BABCOCK AND WILCOX WORKERS REHIRE THE NINE!

grievances. In total violation of an agreement against reprisals, the company fired the nine about a week after the strike.

Now B&W is trying to impose a reign of terror in the plant. It has become a disciplinary violation for some to talk on the job. Police started hanging around outside the plant after two attempts to shut the plant down again. The April 16th march and demonstration was a way to let the company know they couldn't get away with the firings. They made the defense of Local 3059 a question for all workers.

Local 3059 became a symbol of resistance last winter when the United Steelworkers International put the local in receivership. The local and its membership had put up more fight against company attacks than the sell-out top "leaders" of the USWA could stand to see. A campaign to "Free Local 3059" started by members of 3059 and other locals, including a demonstration outside USWA headquarters in Pittsburgh, forced the hacks to let the local loose. REHIRE THE NINE!

## Job Security at Stake

# MILWAUKEE COUNTY WORKERS REJECT CONTRACT

The bargaining committee for AFSCME District Council 48 recommended a lousy contract with the county to the 6,000 union members, but the rank and file wasn't buying. County workers rejected it in a close vote April 16.

Jobs with the county used to be considered a sure thing--relatively safe from layoffs, except the seasonal jobs. But today county workers are under attack. Hundreds of jobs have been eliminated through attrition and dozens have been laid off outright in cost-cutting drives by the County Board. Some jobs are being contracted out to non-union companies, some are being eliminated in straight speed-up. At the Children's Home, Children's Court and County Hospital, mandatory overtime is common, sometimes up to 16 hours as those still on the job are forced to do the work of those laid off.

Many county jobs are being taken over by County Project workers. Under the cover of putting welfare people to work, this Project has created a slave-labor force who have to take the \$2.00 an hour, 32 hours a week jobs. People take these jobs or face the threat of

getting their measly welfare cut off. The Project has been expanded to 1200 this year with more clerks, maintenance men in county buildings, groundskeepers, etc.--all jobs that should be union jobs paying union wages.

The union leadership pushed a contract which did nothing at all about the attacks on job security. And they pushed a wage increase that was a mere 4% a year. Carter has predicted 6.7% inflation this year, and if it keeps up at its present rate it will actually be over 10%. So agreeing to the County offer would be cutting your own throat with a big wage cut--something that already happened to the county workers over the last contract.

The no vote was a blow against the slave labor County Project and against attacks on the union. And it went against the lie that you can't fight during hard times when so many are out of work. The county workers took the stand that they had no choice but to fight.

The no vote forced the union bargaining committee back to the table. They've got to bring back something better. Negotiations continue and the contract fight goes on.

## Rank & File Organize Philly Transit Strike



UNITY AND ORGANIZATION PAID OFF FOR PHILLY TRANSPORT WORKERS

Since March 24, 5,000 members of the Transport Workers Union in Philadelphia have been striking the Southeast Pennsylvania Transportation Authority for a decent contract. For over a month they have stood strong to the attacks and efforts of SEPTA, Mayor Rizzo, Governor Shapp and union officials to force them into a rotten contract.

In May 1976, SEPTA laid off 345 workers, sped up the remaining workers by cutting schedule time and rest periods, while cutting services to the community. When union leaders didn't make any kind of fight against layoffs and other attacks, the rank and file organized themselves. They formed the Committee for a Decent Contract (CDC) under the slogan, "Contract '77--Time to Take a Stand." The Committee set itself to the task of organizing the rank and file depot by depot to vote down any sellout contract, force the union to build the strike and carry the strike through if the union leadership didn't.

The organizing paid off. From the very beginning the strike has remained in the hands of the rank and file. Caravans and demonstrations have been organized. A march and rally at City Hall demanded that Mayor Rizzo negotiate. The SEPTA strike is an example of the growing rank and file activity in the country.

## Film Captures Spirit of Miners "Harlan Co. USA"

Eastern Kentucky miners and their families are the stars of an academy award winning movie that played for only one week in one Milwaukee theatre last month. "Harlan County, USA" centers around the 13 month strike that brought the United Mineworkers union into the Brookside mine in Harlan, Kentucky in 1973.

The reason this excellent documentary film had to be produced on a shoestring budget and was not picked up by any of the major movie house chains, is because it told the truth about the struggle of working people. It showed the miners' struggle from the sweat and coal dust clinging to the faces of miners coming home from work, to the rugged determination of strikers and their wives as they kept tight a minehead picket line against barreling scab cars and gun wielding thugs.

The film maker could never have captured the spirit of these people, who for sure can tell their friends from their enemies, unless she and her crew had lived as one with them. The film crew went to the coal fields expecting to stay for six months and stayed for almost 3 years. They were there when the miners' wives went to other mines to collect money and when men wearing their miners' helmets drove to New York and picketed Wall Street. They were there when widows recalled how their men died in the Farmington, West Virginia explosion and when scabs attacked the picket line with axe handles. They filmed the scab mine foreman

brandishing a .45 automatic out his truck window and photographed the brains of a striker strewn on a dirt road after he was shot gunned in the face by a scab. The murderer was never charged with a crime even though there were many witnesses to the murder.

The nearness of the film crew to the miners and their struggle gave the film makers a deep understanding of the real aspirations of the workers in the coalfields.

A real strength of this film is that it didn't fall for the "reform" candidates under the leadership of Arnold Miller and Miners For Democracy. They caught Miller on film trying to "cool out" a disgusted miner after the 1974 national coal sellout contract.

By going from the Black Lung clinics that men retire to after the mines, to the shacks where miners live, to the contract balloting, to the thick of the struggle, the film makers were able to show the real aspirations of the miners and the working class--not to be pushed around by the bosses and not to be used by anyone--including self-proclaimed saviors.

And the film ends with struggle--the struggle against the no-strike clause in the 1974 contract that erupted into wildcats of 60,000 miners in the summer of 1975 and 120,000 miners in the summer of 1976.

The film's realistic portrayal of the miners' fight includes footage of their history of struggle. The Eastern Kentucky area was known as "Bloody Harlan" because of the fierce strike battles



RANK AND FILE MINERS PICKETED ON WALL ST. IN NEW YORK CITY.

of the 30's. The film interviews old-timers who are glad to share their memories of those historic fights and it shows newsreels of national guardsmen marching up to clear strikers away from mineheads. The fierceness of the struggle can be seen in footage of men, women and children running between houses to escape tear gas and bullets.

The film is interwoven with hillballads by native musicians that recount past struggles, warn the young of the dangers of the mines, and unite people around a common culture and cause.

The Hollywood big shots wish this film was never made, and it's a tribute to the miners' struggle that it was.

The documentary goes beyond the

Brookside strike, showing the Black Lung campaign, and the Yablonski challenge to Tony Boyle, which led to Yablonski's murder and the conviction of Boyle. It also showed the Miller campaign, the strike and sellout of '74, and the wildcats of '75 and '76 for the right to strike. One weakness is a failure to show the actual development of an organized rank and file opposition--the Miners' Committee to Defend the Right to Strike, the group which gave leadership to the wildcats.

The display of spirit and militancy of these wildcats ends the film--telling the viewer that the struggle of the miners cannot be put down. ■

## Energy War... CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

person riding in a car while the public transportation systems deteriorate. For decades the auto companies and other big capitalists have consciously worked to block the development of adequate public transport. In a great many cities it is absolutely impossible to get to work without a car.

Who is responsible for the shoddy homes that are built without decent insulation, and deteriorating apartment buildings and flats in all the major cities where people frequently have to stuff newspapers in the windows to keep out the cold winter air? It is the builders and slumlords who scrimp and cut costs in pursuit of higher profits. Now it is the masses of people who will once again have to pay, this time to insulate their homes, or pay higher rents to cover apartment building insulation. The option is to be socked with even more outrageous utility bills.

But! These will be equal sacrifices. "Every region, every class, every interest group" will bear the burden equally, said Carter. Right there is the tipoff that this business is as phony as a three dollar bill. When in the whole history of this country have the capitalists and the workers, the rich and the poor had to make equal sacrifices? It is the same old song heard from Nixon with his wage and price controls, the same promise we get every time they are preparing to stick it to us even harder. What the capitalists and their politicians call equal is the fat cat making \$200,000 a year paying the same dollar a gallon for gas as the worker trying to raise a family on \$600 a month--or less.

The shortage of oil and natural gas is a shuck. Notice that Carter said that if consumption keeps going up at the same rate "we could use up all the proven reserves of oil in the entire world by the end of the next decade." What are these proven reserves? They are the oil and gas reserves that the companies have drilled into, measured, and are "reasonably certain" they can sell at a profit. And not any old profit. The oil companies (according to their own figures) are making a 12% return

on their investments and are demanding 20%. And that gets at the real nature of this energy crisis. It is a profits crisis for the capitalists, not a shortage of energy resources.

There are still huge reserves of oil and natural gas in the ground in the U.S., but it is not profitable enough for the capitalists to explore and drill for it. In fact geologists from around the world meeting recently under the auspices of the UN have estimated that there are up to 100 years of oil and natural gas supplies left in the earth. And they estimate that the U.S. alone has upwards of a 50 year supply. Carter based his estimates on a report by the CIA. They got their figures from the oil companies. Who could be more reliable?

All the truth behind the so-called energy crisis comes down to this: one big indictment of this system which will not and cannot produce anything, no matter how needed, unless there is a profit to be made by some capitalist.

A lot of Carter's energy plan is pure phoney. This is the case with the big hoopla about reconversion to coal. In the current economic crisis, with little capital investment going on, there is no way they can spend the massive sum that would be required for conversion and new rail transport.

The auto proposals are also phoney. Buyers would get a rebate for almost any car, including most big cars. This clearly has nothing to do with saving gas. And while this may sound nice for car buyers, it will be paid for by high gas taxes. What it amounts to is a tax on consumers to subsidize the sales of the auto companies.

Carter's energy proposals have come under some attack from others who, like Carter, are representatives and spokesmen for big business and all of whom disagree with each other over energy prices and regulations, what industries should get the biggest breaks, etc. But they all agree that the people must be fleeced, and most are united at trying to use enforced "conservation" to hit at the ability of the Oil and Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)

to influence the price for their oil, which used to be looted for pennies a barrel.

The energy plan is being billed by Carter as the "moral equivalent of war." What makes it "moral" is still unknown, but it certainly has a lot in common with war. As in all wars waged by the rulers of this country, the people are called upon to pay the price to protect the profits of the corporations,

while the high and mighty sit back, grow rich and make pious proclamations about everybody pulling together and making "equal sacrifices." But the American people cannot and need not lay down and submit to this latest attack and be ground down even further. If Carter and the capitalist class insist on declaring an energy war, they will find that this war, like others, will pit two opposing armies in the field. ■

## COVERUP ATTEMPTED Sprague Kills Worker

On March 16, Debbie Schmit, 20 years old, was murdered by Sprague Electric's neglect. While working in a back room over a degreasing tank filled with trichlorethylene, a highly toxic chemical, a 105 pound overhead rack used for trays with electronic capacitors and other parts fell on the back of her head. She was found dead, pinned over the tank by the rack in the Grafton factory.

The safety clip to hold the bar had broken loose months ago and had never been replaced. The foreman who came to her aid brought out an oxygen tank to try and revive her. The oxygen tank was empty.

Workers there say, "She worked back there all by herself and tucked away... a bad place for anyone working around all those strong fumes."

"It was funny to think that just a few hours before she had been talking with us about what a crummy job she had."

"We found her later, about 9:30 that night. It was awfully quiet back where she worked, so we decided to check up on her. Her body was pinned to the degreasing tank. It was really a gruesome sight. Her face was so badly distorted it was hard to figure out if it was really Debbie. We went for help and someone got the foreman over the P.A. system."

The first two weeks, the company had a hard time explaining the accident. After testing the metal bar that fell on Debbie, they claimed it would hold and came up with the conclusion that she must have committed suicide. They tried

every way they could to cover themselves and later they said she died of a heart attack from breathing the fumes from the tank.

In a non-union shop at \$2.95 an hour, one woman described the place, "looking like a dungeon, where girls go home dusted with purple chemical powder on their faces and the lights barely glow because the dust is so thick."

"The only time Sprague gets safety conscious is when the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) comes for a visit. Last time they painted all the machines and tables and cleaned the lights and tried to put on a real show."

All news of this tragedy has been suppressed. After hearing about one report on a radio station at 7:30 in the morning, that was the last of it. One worker said she had contacted Channel 6 and other news sources, but nothing came of it. Only the Ozaukee Press put out anything about it. A WORKER seller was told to leave the premises and told "stop talking to the wrong people" after talking to workers during shift change about what really happened.

It's clear Sprague wants to hush up the whole thing, but workers there won't find it easy to forget. Some workers refused to go back in and a whole new crew had to be brought in on her line. Whether it was the metal rack that fell on her, the dangerous chemical fumes in the tank, or the empty oxygen tank, one thing shows through clear: Sprague killed Debbie. ■

Alabama - Accused of Stealing 63¢

# Black Worker Does 8 Years in Prison

Following is an interview with a Black worker who spent 8 years in Alabama prisons after being framed up for stealing 63¢. He is now living and working in Milwaukee.

It all started May 15, 1968 in Fayette Alabama. I was arrested by two police officers and they told me, "See, you robbed a lady of 63¢." I was 18 at the time. I was taken to the County Jail. This police officer put his foot in the small of my back and started kicking me. I asked what was going on. And then talk, talk, talk. Some beatings and more beatings. And they forced me to sign a confession.

After that my attorney who was state appointed and the district attorney told me, "If you don't plead guilty for a 25 year sentence, you'll be given life in prison or the electric chair." I was really frightened and I figured it would be best to accept the 25 years. At least there was a possibility I could live through the 25 years.

At the time I was young and confused, but I figured that they had got on my case because there was this interracial relationship between me and my girl. I guess it was their way to get rid of me. It was a prejudice thing, and I was kind of marked. Friends said to me I shouldn't see this girl because it may cause trouble and this was it.

At the preliminary hearing the lady they said I had robbed told them she had no idea about this robbery of 63 cents. At the trial it was the same story. No one said I did anything except the police. That's the way it went, and I was given the 25 years.

After I was convicted I was sent to a maximum security prison. It was a special institution for the hardened criminals. After the first 30 days you could get visits. I stayed there a year and got

3 or 4 visits. It was 800 miles from where I lived and my parents they were very old. Then I was transferred to Atmore State Prison Farm and this is one you can't believe.

The institution was designed for 800 men. When I arrived they had 1200. This was way down south in Alabama where all the farming takes place, the cane cutting. And it was the field gang, working all day. They had squad guards with 12 gauge shot guns, high powered rifles and all this. Inside we were sleeping about 7 or 8 inches apart in a big room.

We ate just vegetables thrown into a steam pot. If you got any seasoning you had to steal it or buy it. It was just like they were feeding hogs. We had a little piece of meat once a week, that was on Sundays, and you could see through it.

I got these law books and I started trying to find some way out. The appointed council I had during my trial was the same guy who was the judge at my preliminary hearing, and he was supposed to be my defense. I fought it but nothing happened. I filed two or three hundred writs but I never got any results. So I started taking the other way out, and started running every chance I got.

I tried very hard to do my time and get out. I didn't want to be running. But it got to a point where it was just unbearable. The state started crying about being broke, having no funds to buy food, clothing and all this. They even sent letters out to families saying they could send food to the institution for us. All the prisoners were doing all this farming. We were doing crops like cucumbers, soy bean, corn and cane. We knew by watching TV that this stuff was really going for a profit. We farmed acres and acres. So where was

all this going to?

I had been in prison over 5 years when I escaped and came here to Wisconsin. When I got here I was working different jobs, as a punch press operator and then at Johnston's Cookies. I came home from work one morning and me and Georgia, my girl, were painting in the kitchen. Suddenly we hear these FBI agents. They took me downtown and we went through the fingerprints and all that. I was given a bond and got out. I stayed out on bond 60 days. We were trying to contact Governor Lucey to get the right to stay here. Nothing ever happened. He never answered any of my requests or gave me any kind of hearing or any chance to present myself. We had a petition and several hundred people had signed it. But he just expedited me back to Alabama—back to prison.

When I went back I expected to get beaten for running, but nothing really happened. As a matter of fact, it was a little better. I guess they figured if they made it too bad on me I would just run again.

I stayed in prison 2 more years. Then in November of '76 they finally let me out because the federal government had a suit against the Alabama prisons for being too overcrowded. So after 8 years in prison and on the run, because of a phony charge of stealing 63¢, I finally got out. ■



# Lucey...

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unemployment that many workers face. The damage has already been done to the working people in the neighborhood. Our houses have been torn down long ago, and the 3 miles of land along North Ave. has been vacant for almost ten years. If Schmidt and Schreiber think that building a freeway will help us forgive them for the mess they've already made of our neighborhood, they are wrong. If they think they can be our friend by giving us a few short term jobs to cover for the much bigger payoff to the bosses who really profit from freeways, they're wrong again.

City boy Schreiber should also know well that two of Wisconsin's largest cities, Racine and Milwaukee, have had major teachers' strikes. The attacks the teachers face don't come only from the school board. The state Department of Public Instruction has been used to intimidate teachers. The DPI has been used both through the state budget and through the offices of the governor as a convenient tool by the governor and the big shots he represents in beating back the gains teachers make. When push comes to shove, you can bet Schreiber will use the DPI just as governors in the past have done. This new tool for the bosses—cutbacks in and control of education through the state budget and the DPI—will be used more and more as the crunch comes.

Is Schreiber a friend of labor? Hardly. While riding to public office on the backs of working people, Schreiber doesn't stand with our class. How could he? The governorship is an office used by the bosses. It's an office of the rich, through a web of influence and power. Public officials are inseparably tied to and serve the corporations that got the M&E allowance, want the freeway built, who try to beat back the gains working people make.

The governor will never be a friend of labor. ■

# "Carterville"...

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park in the 30's. He made a strong statement in support of the action, saying he knew what was going down with the economy and that they had to fight like hell during the 30's and he was glad to see that people were rising up again in the 70's.

But this vivid exposure of their rotten programs, a tent city of the unemployed smack in the heart of their sacred financial district, was too much for the rich. Waiting until 2:15, when most of the office workers had gone back to work, a police captain arrogantly informed the workers they would have to take their tents down or they would be ripped down. They had been afraid to make their move when there was so much support around. The workers asked for time to have a meeting among themselves.

But after a few minutes the captain forced his way in, insisting on giving his side of the story. When he started talking the usual nonsense about you can protest, but you can't pitch tents without a permit, he was hit with a barrage of angry arguments from the unemployed. They had tried to get a permit, but it had been denied to them.

Then without warning, a busload of tactical cops emptied out into the park. The cops went on a rampage, kicking down tents and pushing workers aside. Before it was over, four people were arrested and three cops were injured. As soon as the arrested brothers were taken away, people standing around the park expressed their outrage at the unprovoked attack, offered to be witnesses and donated bail money.

50 workers marched to the jailhouse and threw up a picket line. One older worker had been a bystander at the park and became outraged at the attack and

he joined the march. He shouted at the cops, "I supported you when you were picketing at Yankee Stadium. That's the last time I'll ever stand up for you guys. You're nothing but a bunch of scabs!"

That evening, the tent city attack was all over the news, on every TV station, in every newspaper with front page headlines on one major daily. The city was electrified that people had taken a stand to take things into their own hands.

The phones were buzzing at the UWOC office as people called in to express their solidarity and outrage that the police would attack workers fighting for such a just cause.

While the rulers of this country with President Carter at the lead squawk about human rights, when workers stand up for the right to survive, they try to snuff out the struggle. But their attack in the park and everything else they throw in the way will fail to stop workers from fighting back, and has only served to firm people's resolve to build the fight bigger.

The Carter bill went into effect May 1st and on that day unemployed workers joined employed workers in celebrating May Day. The week before, flatbed trucks with a tent on the back labeled Carterville and a banner reading "Our Demand: Union Jobs at Union Wages! March on May Day" went around New York and to unemployment centers.

Announcements over the bull horn on the trucks laid out the lessons of Carterville—"We've gotten a good taste of the ruler's solution to unemployment. We were the ones out there in the park who were fighting them. But we're saying, we won't follow the rich down the road of impoverishment and endless sacrifices for their fortunes. We are paving our own road, the road of struggle against them to be able to live like human beings are capable of living." ■

# Textile Rallies...

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They have nothing to do with stopping the loss of jobs at home or with stopping the intensification of exploitation abroad.

When the U.S. capitalists can eliminate competition both overseas and in this country, they will use this monopoly to raise prices, adding to the burden on the workers. A few years back, the chairman of Zenith called for a restriction on Japanese color TV sets while many of their own components were produced overseas. He said that if they were able to keep out foreign competition, it wouldn't necessarily create more jobs, but it would "improve the companies' profit structure" and allow Zenith to make "justified and necessary price increases."

### HELP THE COMPANIES: A TRAP

US workers have had a great deal of experience with "help the company" nonsense. For years the rubber companies told workers that unless they accepted changes in work rules, and wage reduction, they'd go out of business. So when the union hacks forced the workers to go along with this plan, the company shut down plants in Akron anyway. They used their profits to build highly automated plants down south.

These experiences have taught workers a bitter lesson: co-operationalways goes against the guy on the bottom. What's good for the company is not good for us. What's good for us is to stand up and fight. That's why we saw militant strikes waged by rubber workers last year.

Our strength lies with our ability to forge close links with workers everywhere. During the rubber strike, workers in Europe refused overtime in solidarity. During the Farah strike, workers

in Hong Kong and Belgium refused to touch material shipped from the struck El Paso plant. By the "Buy America" argument, these same Farah workers are supposed to throw in the towel and join with Willie Farah who viciously fought their union drive. We workers have common interests with workers everywhere and every victory belongs to all of us.

What's going to happen if all this "Buy America" junk gets over? It leads Japanese and French and Russian bosses to tighten up their import policies and cry "Buy Japanese" "Buy French" and so on. It leads to a trade war. And from there its only a short jump to a real war. Then the bosses say if you want your jobs, kill a foreign worker. We have no interest in their rich man's war.

At the bottom of all this is what the capitalists call "unfair competition" But that's what capitalism is all about. It's dog-eat-dog and ruthless. At the heart of it is the competition to see who can push their workers the harder and the faster—who can rip off the largest share of the profit.

The competition is everywhere. It doesn't have to cross international boundaries. Big auto companies go at it all the time. Some like American Motors may even go out of business. Should the stand of the American Motors worker be to boycott Ford and Chevy and buy a Gremlin? Is it our job to loyally fight for our company, make them richer and stronger--so they can exploit us more effectively? Do we say "To Hell with everyone else!" And "Right on for the boss?"

No this is a dead end. It never got workers anything but a boot in the rear. We have to unite all workers to organize against them and their attacks. That's our strength! ■

# Liberacion Africana...

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control del mundo, la clase dominante igualmente capitalista de la Unión Soviética, se esta presentando a si mismo como el "amigo" de la lucha por la liberación mientras dándole cuchillos en la espalda y tratando de reemplazar a EEUU como el saqueador principal de Africa del sur. Con promesas falsas y un bolsillo lleno de dinero, la URSS espera hacer las fuerzas de liberación dependientes en ella política y economicamente y usarlas para echar fuera a EEUU, como hizo con el MPLA en Angola.

Estos retos de los pueblos de Africa del sur los dominantes sovieticos, son lo que ha causado la "nueva apriencia" de la política americana hacia Africa del sur. Carter y el gobierno están tratando de arreglar algún tipo de "compromiso" que pueda mantener la situación en Africa del sur sin cambios fundamentales con sólo unas pocas reformas y unos negros en el gobierno, con tal de que no haga daño a las ganancias imperialistas del sistema de apartheid. A la vez, dándose cuenta de que este plan quizás no tendrá éxito, EEUU también está buscando a algunos falsos "líderes" negros dentro el movimiento por liberación que puedan manejar un gobierno negro "libre y independiente" a favor de los capitalistas de EEUU del mismo modo que Smith y Vorster ya lo hacen. Al mismo tiempo que los gobernantes de EEUU llevan a cabo variadas maniobras políticas y diplomáticas para guardar sus intereses, siguen apoyando a los regímenes blancos minoritarios, sobre todo a Sudafrica, el baluarte de la supremacía blanca.

Tratando de promulgar la mentira de que EEUU el amigo de la liberación

africana y el enemigo de la discriminación y la opresión nacional, Carter, Young y Cia. enfrentan un problema muy grande. Demasiada gente en este país sabe de primera mano que después de 400 años la discriminación y la opresión del pueblo negro y otras minorías son parte básica del sistema americano. Han habido bastante promesas año tras año, pero el desempleo entre los negros es dos veces más alto que el promedio nacional, y los que tengan trabajo ganan menos y pagan más. En las comunidades negras son peores el crimen, y los servicios sociales y estos se van desapareciendo rapidito. Así les gusta a los ricos--pueden exprimir un poco más de los obreros minoritarios mal pagados y tratar de mantener a la gente dividida por raza y nacionalidad y peleando entre si mismos.

El pueblo negro y la gente trabajadora de todas nacionalidades en EEUU tienen una historia orgullosa de lucha contra la opresión nacional en este país, como en el movimiento por derechos civiles en los 1960's, y contra el saqueo y agresión imperialista en el exterior, como la guerra en Vietnam.

El enemigo que está sufriendo los golpes de la lucha de los pueblos africanos es el mismo enemigo enfrentado por el pueblos americano. Los dueños de los bancos y corporaciones--Chas Manhattan, GM, IBM, Merrill-Lynch, etc.--que ganan millones con el sistema de apartheid son los mismos que nos arrestran a sus guerras, nos echan a la calle desempleados, nos atacan cada día en el trabajo y en las comunidades, y tratan de empujarnos al suelo para exprimir más ganancias de nuestro sudor y sangre. La victoria de los pueblos

africanos contra estos parásitos será también nuestra victoria, y cada paso que tomemos para avanzar esa victoria también ayudará a avanzar la nuestra.

## MARCHA A LA CASA BLANCA

Desde 1971, el Día de Liberación Africana ha sido un día muy importante para el pueblo negro y otros que apoyan las luchas de los pueblos africanos contra la dominación imperialista. Este año, la oleada de lucha en Africa y las maniobras desesperadas de la clase dominante de EEUU hacen la organización de una demostración fuerte en ese día una tarea de importancia transcendental.

Para cumplir esta tarea, se ha formado una Coalición para el Día de Liberación Africana por un número de individuos y grupos que han sido activos en la lucha negra en este país y en la lucha contra el imperialismo de EEUU. Algunos, como los mucho capifulos del Comité de Apoyo a la Liberación Africana y la Brigada Revolucionarie Estudiantil, ya han tenido conferencias y mitines educativos para bregar con la cuestión de Africa del sur y demostraciones para apoyar a la lucha af-

ricana y dar golpes a las corporaciones, universidades y el gobierno por su apoyo al sistema de apartheid.

Este tipo de actividad va creciendo por todo el mes de mayo bajo el liderato de la Coalición para el Día de Liberación Africana y la tema de "Luchar contra el Imperialismo y la Opresión Nacional desde la USA(Unión de Sudafrica) a la USA(Estados Unidos)." La campaña culminará el 28 de mayo con la manifestación masiva y un mitin donde hablarán representantes de grupos de liberación africanos. Estudiantes y otros jóvenes de los ghettos y otras comunidades marcharán juntos en el Contingente de Soweto para honrar a los jóvenes sudafricanos que saltaron la oleada de lucha actual. Contingentes de trzbajadores de las varias industrias marcharán bajo sus propias banderas.

Marcharan a la Casa Blanca para echar la culpa a la clase capitalista y su serviente el Presidente Carter y proclamar a ellos y al mundo entero que la gente americana está por sus hermanos y hermanas en Africa. Marcharan bajo tres consignas:

Victoria a los Pueblos de Africa del Sur!  
Abajo con los Gobiernos Blancos Minoritarios!  
EEUU Fuera de Africa del Sur, Superpotencias Manos Fuera! ■

# La Conferencia...

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entregar estos derechos a la clase obrera sin una pelea dura. Recientemente el Congreso y Carter han rechazado a aprobar el programa legislativo de la AFL-CIO, dejando a esos burócratas a llorar que no han sido "recompensados" por sus servicios a sus socios ricos. Las manifestaciones llevadas a cabo por el Comité Organizador señalará una via adelante muy distinta del callejón sin salida ofrecido por esos traidores.

Esos seminarios son una forma mascarada y "de calidad" de los montones de ataques soltados por los patrones y

su gobierno para pisar al suelo a la gente obrera. También, los seminarios son un ejemplo destacado de porque es necesario a la clase obrera tener una organización nacional de trabajadores para enfocar la fuerza de los obreros a través del país contra tales ataques. El Comité Organizer para una Organización Nacional de Trabajadores ha decidido a emprender una campaña contra esos semanarios a lo largo del país, una campaña que dará una prueba en la práctica del potencial tremendo que tendrá esta organización, aún antes de la convención fundadora el Día de Labor en Chicago. ■

## Fired Meatcutter Says

# "I Stood Up"



the NLRB. We are starting a petition to rally more support. Most of my fellow workers signed it. But the NLRB said the firing was not necessarily due to union activities. But that was not a set back because I already knew how the NLRB works from my experience in the meatcutters strike. I knew my case would be a repeat of the same injustice. The support of my fellow workers that I have is the only way one worker can win. I am receiving unemployment benefits only because of the strength of my cause and the support of the working class. The more we get organized and unite workers in and out of the packing houses to fight back all attacks and rebuild our union, the sooner will come our victory. I want to thank The Worker and all my working class brothers and sisters for the support I have received. Thanks,

The law of the working class is - we who struggle until the end will win in the end.  
Billy Anderson ■

On March 11, I, Billy Anderson was fired from Peck Meatpacking Corporation because I reported that I have back problems. But the real reason I was fired is because I stood up for my rights and did not let them push me around. After striking for fifteen long months, the bosses used the defeat to make it look like they're all-powerful. But what the strike really showed and what scared the bosses was the growing unity and fighting determination not to be ground down. My getting fired was just typical of the crap the packing-house owners think they can pull. But I will fight for my job in every way that I can. I have filed a charge with

# Bosses Conference...

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

in town, to the unemployment centers and to several strike lines where workers are engaged in life and death fights, to save their unions.

This type of demonstration will be repeated in one city after another where the scab seminars are to be held. This management scab-herding rodeo will be in Chicago on June 1st.

AFL-CIO Leaders Dead End Strategy

Where possible, the Organizing Committee is going to make this an issue in the unions. Some top union officials sometimes talk about the need to stop union busting and organizing the unorganized. But when something like this seminar comes along, they don't mobi-

# UAW CONvention...

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going to head up the UAW after Woodcock leaves.

Other Chrysler workers have been fighting a company that says they're hard put for profits. Workers at Chrysler's Sterling Stamping Plant(local 1264) went on strike April 22nd over local issues. In line with the sellout national auto contract, the UAW and Chrysler extended the local negotiations deadlines twice. But local 1264 didn't go in for a second deadline extension. And when the international negotiated a so-called settlement, the rank and file voted it down by 72%.

Local contract fights at GM's Ohio Crankshaft in Cleveland, at Delco-Moraine in Dayton, Chrysler Trenton Chemical, Fisher Body Livonia Trim Plant, Dearborn Stamping, and the Ford Rouge Complex have all spelled trouble for the UAW hacks in trying to keep the rank and file under their thumb.

The hacks are going to have a harder and harder time keeping auto-workers quiet. Auto Workers United to Fight has been taking up rank and file struggles across the country and will be taking them into the L.A. convention. In over 20 major plants, AWUF has stood for breaking the UAW international's pro-company dictatorship. Giving locals the right to strike, getting the right to contract ratification and doing away with receiverships are all part of getting rid of pro-company hacks like Fraser and Woodcock and making the union a fighting organization. AWUF also stands for fighting for jobs and an end to dividing skilled and production workers. AWUF ran candidates for the convention on this platform and will picket the L.A. convention to build a movement of the rank and file--a movement that can shake the grip of hacks like Fraser and take on the attacks from the auto giants. ■

lize the rank and file to slam these strikebreakers against the wall. Instead they want workers to waste time waiting for the AFL-CIO lobby in Washington to get Section 14b of the Taft Hartley Act(open shop clause) and the "right to work" laws in the South repealed. Such a repeal would be a major advance for the working class. But the rulers of this country are about as likely to hand over these rights without a fight as a leopard is to change its spots.

Right now, the bulk of the AFL-CIO legislative program is being shot down by Carter and Congress, leaving these hacks whining about not being rewarded for their faithful services to their wealthy "colleagues". These demonstrations will point a different way forward than the dead-end treachery of the AFL-CIO

officials.

These seminars are just a more disguised and high-class form of the million and one ways that the employers and their government are trying to crush down the working class. They are also a strong example of why the working class needs a national workers organization, to be able to focus the power of workers from coast to coast on such attacks.

The Organizing Committee for a National Workers Organizaion has decided to wage a campaign against these seminars across the country. This campaign will give an indication in practice of the tremendous potential this organization will have, even before the actual founding convention of the organization which will take place on Labor Day weekend in Chicago. ■

# El Primero De Mayo '77

Primero de Mayo de 1977. Trabajadores y trabajadoras de todas las edades hizaron las banderas en alto y proclamaron las demandas del creciente movimiento obrero. Su unidad, espíritu y determinación simbolizaron el sentido de ese día histórico. Un manifestante expresó ese sentido, diciendo: "Luchamos por nosotros mismos, nuestros hijos, y un nuevo día."

Los manifestantes formaron contingentes en la calle North Richards, en frente de la planta de American Motors. La gran cantidad de obreros cesantes, parte de una ofensiva contra las condiciones de trabajo y de vida de los obreros, tenía un significado muy especial para aquellos trabajadores automovilísticos cuyo contingente dirigió el desfile. Los más viejos, cuyos mejores años fueron consumidos por AMC, tienen ahora muy poca oportunidad de ser empleados en ningún otro lugar. Y los obreros más jóvenes apenas están empezando a establecerse. Sus hijos están creciendo en un pueblo donde la oportunidad de trabajar se ha convertido en algo del pasado. Todo esto contribuyó al continuo grito por parte de los manifestantes, "Lucha, no pases hambre!"

Al cruzar las vías de tren en Townsend y doblar en la Avenida Holton,

trabajo de 8 horas en el año 1886. Estaba en la sangre de los obreros, los mártires de Haymarket en Chicago y los cinco que cayeron muertos por las balas de la Guardia Nacional en el Bayview Rolling Mills aquí en Milwaukee. Este día de lucha se extendió por todo el mundo y se convirtió en el punto culminante del año en lo que se refiere a la solidaridad de la clase obrera internacional. Pero en este país, la burguesía logró acabar con esta tradición en la década de los cincuenta.

Pero con todo su dinero no pudieron acabar con la lucha por la libertad. Tal como el florecer de las plantas tras un duro invierno, las aspiraciones del pueblo oprimido están brotando por todos los lados y comenzando a crecer nuevamente.

Los obreros desfilando por la Calle Holton estaban reclamando su día de fiesta diciendo "No" al Día de Ley de Nixon. "No" al Día de Lealtad de Carter, y "Está bien tener el día libre durante el Primero de Mayo, pero no es mi Día."

Tras los obrero del automóvil venían los carniceros, veteranos de una amarga huelga de 15 meses. Estos obreros estaban manifestando contra el sistema que los atacó tan fuertemente, desbarató



OBRREROS DE INDUSTRIAS MUCHAS MANIFESTARON EN EL EN EL PRIMERO DE MAYO



LOS DESEMPLEADOS EN LA MANIFESTACION DEL PRIMERO DE MAYO DEMANDARON TRABAJO O INGRESOS AHORA

hizo recordar manifestaciones anteriores del Primero de Mayo tanto a los manifestantes como a los residentes. Cuanto más personas se asomaban a los porches y aceras, más alto gritaban los obreros sus lemas de lucha del Primero de Mayo. Muchos estaban orgullosos de formar parte del resurgimiento de esta importante celebración en honor a la clase obrera.

La tradición de manifestar en las calles el Primero de Mayo comenzó con la huelga mundial a favor de un día de

su unión, y dejó a muchos sin trabajo.

Luego venían los obreros metalúrgicos, electricistas, un gran contingente de desempleados, y muchos más. Una de las causas que inspiraban a los obreros ese día es la lucha actual por unir a los obreros de mar a mar y crear una organización nacional. El otoño pasado obreros de Milwaukee, Racine y Kenosha forjaron en esta zona la Organización de Obreros Unidos (OOU), la tercera organización de este tipo en el país. Su propósito es unir a los obreros

de todas las industrias para luchar contra los ataques sufridos tanto en el trabajo como a través de toda la sociedad. Esta fue la organización que organizó la lucha contra reducciones de beneficios de desempleo y se unió a la restitución del Primero de Mayo. Ahora la OOU está dedicándose a la organización de una conferencia de fundar la Organización Nacional de Trabajadores durante el fin de semana del Día del Obrero en Chicago.

Tras el contingente industrial había varios grupos unidos en la lucha por las demandas del movimiento obrero. EL OBRERO tenía su propio cartel y dirigió un contingente que pedía muy especialmente la "Libertad para Quil." La tía de Quil Chevalier hizo un discurso a favor de la solidaridad durante la manifestación después del desfile.

Miembros del Comité para Luchar en Defensa de Nuestras Escuelas hizaron muy alto un cartel que decía, "Calidad e Igualdad de Educación. No lucharemos por migajas." Todos los que desfilaban gritaban en coro críticas contra el plan de transportar estudiantes, y "Obreros Unanse por la Victoria de la Huelga de los Maestros."

Un contingente que apoyaba la liberación de Africa mencionó la posición de la clase obrera en ese foco crítico en la política mundial. Sus carteles y aún sus camisetas llevaban avisos pidiendo, "U.S. fuera de Sur Africa—Ambas potencias, manos afuera!" En la manifestación después del desfile un estudiante de Etiopía habló sobre la creciente solidaridad internacional por la libertad.

El último grupo de manifestantes estaba compuesto de veteranos, muchos vestidos de uniforme. Venían a enfocar

un punto central en Primero de Mayo de este año. A medida que el son de los tambores de guerra suenan más y más fuerte, su cartel decía, "Lucha contra los ricos—No peleen en sus guerras!"

Contrario al año pasado, este año no hubo ninguna amenaza, como la hecha por el Jefe Breier que prometió desbaratar la manifestación. Y tampoco hubo ninguna provocación como cuando embistieron contra el público hace un par de años. Este año el desfile se hizo bajo la escolta de los miembros de los clubes motociclistas Mighty Rams y Cobra, y sólo un grupo pequeño de policías se presentó en un intento de intimidar a la gente.

La manifestación se terminó en el Solski's Polish Falcon Hall en medio de discursos, canciones y alegría. Así se terminó el Primero de Mayo de 1977. Mike Rosen, del Partido Comunista Revolucionario indicó el camino a seguir, "Hoy estamos celebrando junto a millones de nuestra clase a través de todo el mundo. Al reiniciar el Primero de Mayo nos estamos imponiendo y rompiendo uno de los eslabones de la cadena de opresión y la esclavitud del sueldo de una vez por todas. En el futuro lo que nosotros no logremos será alcanzado por nuestros hijos y sus hijos que les sigan. Cuando sea, lo antes mejor, cuanto menos se sufra mejor, llegará el día en que por primera vez estaremos unidos y viviremos no como esclavos, sino cooperativamente y conscientemente. Por primera vez viviremos verdaderamente como quieren, mandan y deberían vivir los seres humanos. El mundo es nuestro si nos atrevemos a apoderarnos de él."

Viva el espíritu del Primero de Mayo!

## Venguen A La Juicio De Maria Rivera

El 18 de mayo María Rivera va ante el Juez Manian. Encara hasta dos años de cárcel bajo la acusación del delito de haber asaltado a un oficial de la policía. Los cargos son el resultado de un incidente que ocurrió en agosto cuando el Detective Dennis Peters y otro oficial la golpearon. Después de formular cargos contra el Departamento de la Policía de Milwaukee ante la Comisión de Policías y Bomberos, la acusación de asalto fue formulada contra ella. El fiscal, la policía y el juez están decididos a castigarla por luchar contra la represión de la policía.

La lucha a favor de la suspensión de los cargos, puede contribuir mucho hacia acabar con la represión y brutalidad de la policía.

EL OBRERO acude a todos para que se presenten en la corte el día en que María sea enjuiciada. ■



MARIA RIVERA

Acabar Con la Represión de la Policia!

8:30 am El 18 de Mayo  
821 State St.  
Corte de Manian

# EL OBRERO

Para el Area de Milwaukee y Wisconsin

MAYO

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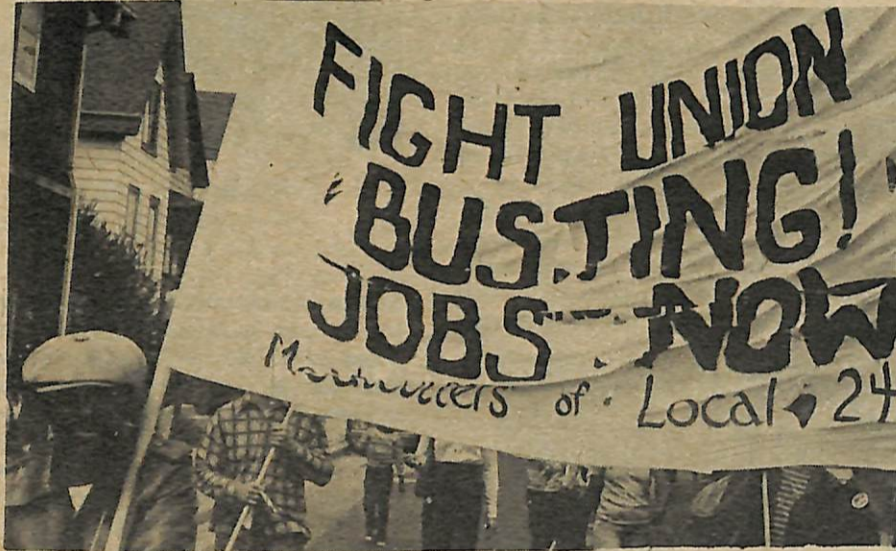
## Obreros Piquetean Conferencia Rompeunión

"Están tratando de quebrar nuestra unión."

Las palabras son de un huelguista de Dayton Power and Light (luz y fuerza) en Ohio, defendiendo su unión contra un ataque total de la compañía, pero podrían ser repetidas por miles de obreros a través del país que también han tenido que defender sus uniones contra tales ataques en el año pasado. Además, miles de fábricas sindicalizadas han huido para escapar la unionización. Sobre todo en el Sur y el Sudoeste, millones de obreros enfrentan una batalla para organizarse en uniones.

Para la clase obrera, tenemos que organizarnos y defender nuestras uniones más que nunca, pues que la clase patronal busca más que siempre quebrar las uniones como parte de sus muchos ataques contra nuestro nivel de vida y condiciones de trabajo. Por esto el Comité Coordinador del Comité Organizador para Una Organización Nacional de Trabajadores ha decidido a organizar un contraataque contra un ultrajoso serie de encuentros de altos negociantes llamado "Estrategias para Mantener Afuera a las Uniones."

Lo que describe este título es un curso en como manejar una planta de esquirolo. Estos encuentros de tres días cada uno que están siendo celebrado a través del país son auspiciados por una compañía que se llama Advanced Management Re-



CARCINEROS HAN MOSTRADO LA IMPORTANCIA DE RESISTIR ATRESIONES CONTRA UNIONES.

search, que cobra \$550 por cada asistente. Son bienvenidos todos sanguijuelas, vampiros y parásitos--o sea, directores y supervisores.

Algunos de los monopolios mas grandes del país están tomando parte para compartir su conocimiento de como aplastar las compañías de unionización y quebrar uniones. Entre otros se encuentran, AT&T, Anaconda, Atlantic Richfield, Dupont, Eastman Kodak, Ford, GM, Mobil, Motorola, Singer, Teledyne

y Westinghouse--y tambien el Ejército y la Marina de EEUU. Su maestro principal es el Doctor Charles Hughes ("doctor" de esquirolo-ogia), quien ayudo a la Texas Instruments Company a mantener sus plantas grandes en el Sudoeste nosindicalizadas y pagando sueldos de hambre por años.

Los rompeuniones profesionales de Advanced Management Research quisiera tapar el proposito de sus lecturas detrás de una cortina de secreto. Pero

tal cosa no debe ser permitida a tomar lugar sin ser confrontada por el coraje de la clase obrera. Al fondo, estos seminarios tan cortés y urbanos son un intento a empujar a la clase obrera atrás hacia las condiciones de ya hace cien años.

Cuando la escuela de esquirolo viajante vino a Cincinnati, Ohio el 13 de abril, un número de organizaciones incluso el Comité Organizador para una Organización Nacional de Trabajadores tuvieron una protesta militante frente a la entrada. Para organizar la demostración, se llevó la cuestión a las plantas, incluso a algunas de las fábricas grandes no-unionizadas en Cincinnati, a los centros de desempleo y a varias líneas de huelga donde los obreros están en plena batalla de muerte o vida para salvar sus uniones. Este tipo de manifestación será repetido en ciudad tras ciudad donde se celebran los seminarios.

Donde es posible el Comité Organizador hará los seminarios un issue en las uniones. Algunos altos oficiales de unión a veces hablan de las necesidad de parar a los rompeuniones y organizar a los no-organizados. Pero cuando surgo algo como estos seminarios de esquirolo, no movilizan a los obreros de base para tomar acción contra los rompehuelgas. Al contrario, quisieran que los obreros gastaran su tiempo esperando para que el Congreso les ayuden anulando Sección 14B de la ley Taft Hartley (la cual tiene que ver con los "talleres francos") y las leyes pro-"derecho a trabajar" en el Sur. Este cosa sería un paso adelante bien importante para la clase obrera. Pero la clase dominante nunca va a

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## Marcha a la Casa Blanca El Día de Liberación Africana

Toda Africa del sur está ardiendo con las luchas de los pueblos por la liberación y el control de su propio destino. El 28 de mayo, el Día de Liberación Africana, habrá una Marcha a la Casa Blanca en solidaridad con los pueblos de Africa del sur. Esta manifestación dará a saber el creciente sentimiento de la gente en este país en favor de las fuerzas de liberación en Zimbabwe (un país que sus colonizadores blancos gobernantes llaman Rhodesia) que ya han libertado una parte grande de su país, los combatientes de Namibia (Sudeste Africa) que han estremecido la dominación sudafricana de us país, y los trabajadores y estudiantes de Soweto y otras ciudades en todas partes de Azania (Sudafrica) que han desafiado a las ametralladas policíacas, arrestos masivos, torturas y ejecuciones secretas, demandando el fin de pesadilla de libretas, reservaciones y casi esclavización.

Esta demostración hará más que mostrar solidaridad con las luchas por liberación negra--tambien les dará apoyo concreto desenmascarando y golpeando a los gobernantes de este país que están metidos hasta el cuello en el robo y la opresión de los pueblos de Africa del sur. Por años el gobierno de EEUU nunca ha protestado los crímenes de los gobiernos blancos minoritarios en Africa del sur. Las corporaciones grandes han acumulado



las ganancias a las calladas de los \$1.6 billones que han invertido en las minas, fábricas y plantaciones de Africa del sur. Por ejemplo, tres cuatros de

todos carros hechos en Sudafrica son de GM, Ford, y Chrysler, las cuales pagan a los trabajadores africanos 53¢ por hora.

El hecho de que los trabajadores negros sudafricanos están prohibidos bajo la ley a organizarse en uniones o irse en huelga explica el entusiasmo de las 375 compañías americanas con inversiones mayores en Sudafrica por el sistema de apartheid. Como apuntó un director de Union Carbide, "un gobierno mayoritario en Sudafrica sería mal para el negocio."

EL GOBIERNO DE EEUU ¿AMIGO DE AFRICA?

El gobierno de EEUU desde hace mucho ha proveido asistencia económica y militar a Rhodesia y Sudafrica para mantener esos gobiernos frente a la resistencia popular. Y también han aprovechado de su influencia y control sobre esos gobiernos para defender los intereses del Todopoderoso Dolar en el continente de Africa, como, por ejemplo, cuando EEUU respaldó la incursión de tropas sudafricanas en Angola.

Ahora, de repente, parece que el gobierno de EEUU ha cambiado de mente. Jimmy Carter y su portavoz negro personal Andrew Young ahora hablan de los malos del sistema de apartheid, la necesidad de más derechos para los africanos y hasta "un gobierno mayoritario."

Que está detrás de todos estas declaraciones dramáticas? Los gobiernos blancos minoritarios que EEUU siempre ha respaldado ahora están más débiles que nunca y la lucha africana está más organizada, más amplia, y más enfocada en el enemigo que nunca. Claro está que los gobiernos de Ian Smith en Rhodesia y Vorster en Sudafrica están en más peligro que nunca.

Mientras tanto, los principales rivales a los capitalistas de EEUU para el

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