

PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE



"The Communist's ideal should not be a trade-union secretary, but a tribune of the people, able to react to every manifestation of tyranny and oppression." Lenin

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WHY NATIONALIZE ENERGY?

In Vol. 2, No. 4 of the People's Tribune the CLP called for the nationalization of the energy industries and particularly the oil monopolies. In this article we will further explain this position.

It is common knowledge that crude oil, natural gas and its by-products have become absolutely essential to the livelihood of the masses of people and the industries of this country and the entire world. The international oil cartel headed by the Rockefeller family has put itself into a position to gouge every man, woman and child for its own profit. The events of the past two years have proven that they will ruthlessly use this power.

Ever since the imposition of the phoney oil crisis in the fall of 1973, and the resulting 200-300% jump in profits for the oil companies, everyone has seen the need for some type of control over oil supplies. Solutions range from Ford's plan to jack up prices, guaranteeing even higher profits to Rockefeller, to Senator Stevenson's (Dem.-Ill.) plan for a federal company to prospect for new oil in the U.S., to Senator Jackson's (Dem.-

Wash.) bill to tax "obscene profits" of the oil companies. What all of these measures have in common is their attempt to deceive people into thinking they are doing something about the problem while protecting the superprofits of the imperialist oil cartel.

Standing in the wings behind these sham proposals are the oil companies and the banks which control them. They are steadily crying that because of the high risks involved, oil investors need an even higher rate of profit.

One thing is for sure, everyone sees the necessity of regulating the energy industries. This tendency toward government regulation and nationalization of particularly vital industries is an objective process. It is brought about by the sheer size and capital requirements of the vast oil and energy companies. These companies no longer can be run effectively by individual capitalists or even the big banks, but necessarily must in some form come under the control of the state.

"The modern state, whatever its form, is an essentially capitalist machine; it is the state of

the capitalists, the ideal collective body of all capitalists. The more productive forces it takes over as its property, the more it becomes the real collective body of all the capitalists, the more citizens it exploits. The workers remain wage-earners, proletarians. The capitalist relationship is not abolished; it is rather pushed to an extreme. But at this extreme it is transformed into its opposite. State ownership of the productive forces is not the solution of the conflict, but it contains within itself the formal means, the key to the solution." (Engels, Anti-Duhring, Page 304, International Publishers)

The question before us is how best to struggle for the interests of the working class within this framework?

The CLP's answer is that we must start by exposing the phoney programs of the capitalist parties and their labor lackies such as George Meany, whose plans for nationalization of the energy industries will leave intact the superprofits of

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NEW ORLEANS

TRANSIT STRIKE INTENSIFIES

The transit strike in New Orleans is now entering its second month. The bourgeoisie and NOPSI (New Orleans Public Service) have tried their best to squeeze out every ounce of support the drivers have enjoyed from the masses of people in the city. The bourgeoisie through its news media daily takes positions that are favorable to NOPSI and against the striking drivers. They even admitted that if the drivers were given the \$5.54 an hour, bargaining for the rest of the working class would follow suit. Nowhere have they reported that the drivers offered to drive the buses with no wages if NOPSI would charge no fares. The only letters to the editor that the daily press will publish are fascist attacks against the transit drivers.

In January a group was formed called Citizens Coalition to get the Buses Rolling Again. This group is headed by the NAACP and the Urban League. It has held fast to a position of "neutrality", a position opposed by much of its membership. To feebly search for a middle course in a struggle between the bourgeoisie and the proletariat, is in essence to take the side of the bourgeoisie. This group has attempted to divide the class by making statements like "the drivers are not concerned about the hardships of the community." This underhanded trick was exposed by a member

of a Senior Citizens group at a City Council meeting where he said "yes, we have suffered but we will suffer longer if it means the drivers will win the strike." The class conscious proletariat looks upon the banner of the bourgeoisie with hatred and contempt. We have our own tried and tested banner to march under.

At the same city council meeting where the sell-outs were preaching impartiality, many workers expressed positions of class solidarity. Communications Workers of America, Transit Drivers of A.T.U., Senior Citizens groups, students from Southern University of New Orleans, Delgado Junior College, The Committee of Unemployed Local P 11-01 Sugar Workers and many community organizations all expressed their militant solidarity for the striking transit drivers.

In their determined fight the transit drivers must not only contend with NOPSI but also the drag of the

"left." There have been two demonstrations in support of the striking drivers. At each demonstration the majority of speakers were O.L., C.P.U.S.A., B.W.C. and other "left" elements, with only a handful of workers. One demonstration was even held at 2:00 in the afternoon on a weekday. These opportunists have tried to gain control of the strike by giving the transit drivers only "material" support without giving any real, correct political leadership. But despite these age-old tactics, the control of the strike is daily being taken over by the striking drivers.

The struggle to unionize the transit workers in New Orleans has a glorious history. During the 1920's NOPSI brought in strike-breakers from Alabama to drive the idle streetcars. The striking drivers planted bombs on the streetcars, to cripple NOPSI's attempts to break the strike. At the previously mentioned city council meeting a Negro driver exposed the class-splitting tactics of NOPSI. NOPSI was faced with a Civil Rights suit by the Negro workers in which they contended that only the Anglo-American minority workers were receiving promotions. Rather than pay a Consent Decree NOPSI exchanged the seniority status of the Anglo-American minority and Negro workers thus widening the split in the working

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PERU

MANIFESTO

AGAINST THE REACTIONARY ANTIDEMOCRATIC OFFENSIVE

PART 1

(The following is a translation of a leaflet from Vanguardia Revolucionaria in Peru, representing one of many analyses of the recent events which have taken place there.)

Revolutionary Vanguard, a political organization of the proletariat fighting for national liberation, popular democracy and socialism, addresses itself to the working class, peasantry, all oppressed and exploited people and all progressive Peruvians in presenting this position on the serious situation facing our country and people.

A reactionary offensive is taking place. The rank and file of the National Guard were used as spark and cannon fodder in this reactionary offensive.

Justly demanding wage increases, democracy in the department and the right to organize and file union grievances, the police also protested the enormous power of General Ibañez who had mistreated a policeman. Their democratic and economic demands stemmed from the exploitation and oppression of the policemen in spite of their own repressive function.

Nevertheless this movement was instigated and co-opted by imperialist agents, the large intermediary bourgeoisie and the landlords as part of a reactionary offensive aimed at gaining greater influence in the Armed Forces, overthrowing the present national bourgeois government and attacking the people. The guards and soldiers who parti-

icipated in the strike and ensuing resistance, acted as blind tools of the APRA, of the Belaundist forces and of the CIA. Because of their terrible economic situation and their dislike for a general very close to Velasco, they were easy prey for the seditious fascist forces.

IMPERIALISM AND REACTION ARE THE MAIN CAUSES OF BACKWARDNESS, MISERY AND OPPRESSION

As we know, the backwardness and poverty of our imperialist-dominated country are intensified by the worldwide capitalist crisis that is shifted onto our backs at the terrible cost of high prices, plant closings, unemployment, shortages, etc. This is possible because the present Military Government, representative of the national bourgeois interests, weakens but doesn't eliminate this fundamental imperialist domination. The imperialists have the economic and political power to shift their crisis on our shoulders precisely because the national bourgeois reformist government colludes with the enemies of the people.

The current Reaction has intensified economic problems and tried to co-opt the just struggles of the people and use them to overthrow the government and install a regime which defends the Yankee monopoly interests, the large intermediary bourgeoisie, the landlords, and destroys all popular movements.

We can learn from the experience of Chile that the reactionary forces in

a democratic guise offered solutions to the peoples problems, but after Allende was overthrown they repressed all political organizations and trade unions, prohibited grievances and strikes, froze wages and raised the cost of living to benefit the monopolies, condemning the people to an even worse life.

APRA AND THE "GOLPISTA" OFFICIALS:
SPEARHEAD OF THE REACTION

When the Army struck at the core of the National Guard's strike movement in Lima, the striking guards and soldiers were repressed, but those using the movement for reactionary ends were not punished. This shows the cowardice of the National Guard officials who created the conditions for the movement, instigated it, and two hours before the armed confrontations, fled, revealing their treacherous reactionary position.

In spite of the just demands of many involved, the National Guards' strike has objectively become part of a reactionary offensive to regain control of the Government. Since the ousting of Vargas Caballero and the expropriation of the daily press this offensive has been carried out through the false nationalist and constitutionalist poses of the School of Law in Lima, the School of Popular Action, APRA, and the recent criminal assaults. In effect, all these terrorist actions have consolidated the reactionary forces within the Armed Forces.

The current Reaction, co-opted the just struggle of the rank and file National Guard to spark a reactionary political movement under its guidance, creating a chaotic situation which increases distrust among vast sectors of the Armed forces, especially the Army, against the reformist government in order to overthrow it. Thus far they have successfully aggravated the friction between the people and the government. They have isolated the government as a whole and the radical reformists in particular, consolidating the reactionaries and deepening the rift in the Armed Forces.

(Cont. on page 4)

UAW RALLY

MARCH ON MAY DAY!

On February 5, over 9,000 rank and file UAW members went to Washington for the UAW's "Emergency Unemployment Mobilization" rally. It was a rarity that so many rank and filers were at any kind of UAW convention, but the fact that the rally was called at all by the UAW leadership shows what the workers can do when we stick together. The UAW International would like to take the credit for the rally, but we, the rank and file were the power behind the call and at the rally itself. The representatives from the International and politicians from the Democratic Party were paraded before the rank and file and made many promises. The motion of these politicians was to woo the workers and calm them down.

Fellow workers, friends and comrades, it is our task to fight to insure that these promises do not remain empty campaign rhetoric!

The UAW leadership is mobilizing for a March on Washington this Spring or early summer--this time calling for the participation of 250,000 workers. The Communist Labor Party is calling on every comrade, fellow worker, trade

unionist, community worker, to struggle for this march to be held on May Day, the International Workingman's Holiday.

Why May 1?

Because this day has tremendous significance for the international proletariat. It symbolizes the great struggles of the proletariat for the 8 hour day. Since 1886, the first May Day, the international proletariat loves and celebrates this day. Yet here, in the USNA, where May Day originated, it is not celebrated. The bourgeoisie has done a good job of hiding the militant significance of May Day from the working class.

As we approach May 1, 1975, we see that the bourgeoisie is doing everything possible to beat back the working class economically by lowering its living standards and politically by paving the way for fascism. Was this not the real message of the show the UAW leadership staged for us in D.C.--that we must support the Democrats as the solution to the economic crisis, knowing full well that means war for the working class

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Comrades and Friends,

The Communist Labor Party also publishes the Western Worker, which addresses itself to the special needs and demands of the class struggle in the West and the Southwest. We urge you to support the Western Worker. For further information, please write to:

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CHICAGO

UNEMPLOYMENT MOVEMENT GAINS MOMENTUM

Although scattered amongst various different industries, unemployment in Chicago is steadily rising. In response to this, the employed and unemployed workers have already begun to wage a struggle against the rising unemployment which has resulted from the overproduction crisis.

As early as October 1974, 1,000 workers marched in downtown Chicago, to demand jobs under the CETA program. Again, on Jan. 15, over 1,000 workers turned out to join other demonstrators across the country to protest the rising unemployment rate.

Employed workers have also begun to demand jobs for the unemployed. On January 22, a coalition of employed and unemployed workers, called together by United Trade Unionists, brought nearly 250 people to Springfield to demand that Governor Walker's administration provide 250,000 jobs for unemployed workers in Illinois, and increase the Unemployment Compensation to equal their take-home pay.

In Chicago there are currently over 200,000 unemployed (which does not include the number receiving public aid and those no longer looking for work through the State Employment Department). When applications for the CETA program were being accepted, thousands of unemployed workers lined the stairs from the first to 11th floors in Chicago's City Hall.

All 987 CETA jobs have been filled; many of these were given to the police and fire departments. It is clear that those 987 jobs were but a token to try to pacify angry, unemployed workers. How could 987 jobs begin to deal with unemployment when on the West side, for example, (which is mainly Negro national minority) the unemployment rate is up to 50%!

These statistics testify to the

fact that Negro and other national minority workers are the hardest hit by this current crisis because of their unskilled and semi-skilled position in the working class. But the workers will not stand by idly. History has proven this, for it was in Chicago that the National Unemployed Council was founded on July 4, 1930.

The Unemployed Councils led the struggles for unemployment compensation and social security at the expense of the military budget, for food and public works jobs, and against evictions.

What was the Unemployed Council? A body composed of unemployed committees, which were formed at the unemployment centers, on bread lines, in neighborhoods, in shops and unions. Without this council the unemployed workers would have had no voice nor strength to conduct the battle for relief in the form of unemployment compensation and jobs. The Council united both the employed and unemployed in a struggle against the hardships and miseries which the working class suffered in the 1930's.

Today the situation facing the working class in Chicago and throughout the country is rapidly deteriorating into a crisis like that of the 1930's. We must begin now to organize for battle.

A number of groups have begun work around unemployment activities. PUSH, Spanish Action Coalition, and Midwest Community Council have been active in sponsoring the demonstrations which took place last year and on January 15. The Unemployed Workers Committee, a community-based organization, has been organizing unemployed workers around a petition to pressure Mayor Daley and the City Council to fully implement the CETA program; their demand is for a "productive job for every able bodied worker"; the Committee's primary work has been on the South Side of Chicago, but recently has expanded to both the near North and West sides. The UWC is putting

forward a call for the formation of a city-wide unemployed council. MAHA (Metropolitan Area Housing Alliance), a coalition of community organizations, is also beginning to organize around this call.

A number of unions, including the UAW Local 551 at Ford's Torrance plant and Local 558 in Chicago Heights, have been forced by militant workers to reactivate their Community Services Committees, to provide information for members on how to obtain unemployment benefits, food stamps, etc.

At its Jan. 25 Chicago chapter meeting, CLUW announced its national program on unemployment, and it put forward a number of demands for activity, including a march of trade union women on March 8, International Women's Day, which took place between 12:00 and 1:00 p.m. at the Federal Building. This program was the result of the activity of the honest rank and file women who pushed CLUW to adopt such a program on the unemployment crisis.

We must begin to build an organization such as the unemployed workers had in the 1930's; we must begin to build city-wide unemployment councils all over this country.

All over Chicago and other cities, unemployed and employed workers must begin to raise the call for a city-wide unemployment council; we must take this call to our unions, women's organizations, community and mass organizations, block clubs, servicemen's organizations, and we must rally all progressive forces to organize around this call. Such an organization is the only way to unite the employed and unemployed in order to pressure the city, state and federal governments and the bank and factory owners they represent to respond to our demands for jobs. Such an organization is the only way to unite all democratic and progressive forces against the developing fascist offensive of Ford and Rockefeller who propose war and deportations of "undocumented" workers as a solution to unemployment.

Let the voices of all workers fill the country with this call:

**JOBS, NOT WAR!
STOP DEPORTATIONS - OPEN BORDERS!
BUILD AN UNEMPLOYMENT COUNCIL!**

ENERGY

(Cont. from p. 1)

the oil industries by using our tax money to finance them. We must organize the workers to demand the nationalization of the energy industries with the working class, through trade unions, consumer organizations and other mass organizations having a direct voice in running these industries. We must demand that the government immediately end all secret dealings of these companies so that the public knows what prices are actually paid by the companies for foreign oil as well as the actual number of wells and known reserves in the USNA.

The trend toward nationalization of all vital industry and communication is inevitable in advanced capitalist society. It is our job as Communists and a party of the proletariat to use the struggle for nationalization to organize and develop the political struggle of the workers and laboring people.

Some question is and will be raised as to whether this position is in fact helping the development of fascism. Fascism is a political state form of rule of the imperialists and nationalization of industry represents a stage in the development of the productive forces.

"For it is only when the means of production or communication have actually outgrown management by share companies, and therefore their transfer to the state has become inevitable from an economic standpoint - it is only then that this transfer to the state, even when carried out by the state of today, represents an economic advance, the attainment of another preliminary step towards the taking over of all productive forces by society itself." (Engels, Ibid, page 303, note) Nationalization is not synonymous with fascism. For instance, in Nazi Germany in 1933, the fascists took power first and then began to pass laws to nationalize the industries. They didn't first nationalize and through nationalization bring about fascism. Fascism is a particular state form, a state form that corresponds to the era of imperialism, where the monopolies are daily striving for domination. Today we can see that Spain and Brazil are but a few well known examples of fascist governments who didn't nationalize industry. Britain and Sweden are examples of countries with nationalized industry which are not fascist states. The point is that nationalization can come about by a reactionary bureaucratic top-down manner or we can fight to organ-

ze the workers and masses of people to bring about nationalization in the most favorable circumstances to the working class.

Nationalization is a reform. It will not in any way change the capitalist relations or solve the capitalist crisis. Nationalization does not mean socialism. For socialism necessarily means the proletariat holding state power. But the struggle for nationalization will allow the CLP to raise in a concrete manner the question of state power. It will allow us to lay the economic problems which we face at the feet of the government; to lay bare the contradictions of the capitalist state. The germ that lies within the question of nationalization is the realization that capitalism can no longer meet society's needs and that only the proletariat in the name of society is capable of providing a solution to the problems we face.

**NATIONALIZE
THE ENERGY
INDUSTRIES!**

PERU

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The reactionaries in the Armed Forces were used as cannon fodder against the rank and file National Guard, injuring and killing many. However, the Reaction has not been able to turn this situation into a coup d'etat.

APRA's active participation is obvious. They have been mobilizing street nuclei of provocateurs and APrista students, who form part of the reactionary offensive.

We are positive that more serious events will take place; that there will be a growth of reactionary terrorist activity and intensified provocation from the CIA, APRA and AP Belaundista throughout different mass groups. This must be combatted.

CONCILIATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE REACTIONARY OFFENSIVE

The Reactionary offensive can only be defeated by the united action of all revolutionary, progressive and democratic forces.

Within the national bourgeois reformist government there is a strong right tendency toward conciliation with the Yankee imperialists and their reactionary allies, with APRA in particular. This tendency controls the Government's labor policy and strengthens their repressive economic policy against the people by facilitating plant closings, reduction of personnel and ridiculously high salaries to control popular and syndicalist organizations. Proof of this is the Declaration of Amnesty given to the feeble Miraflores lawyers, Sala Orosco's eulogies to the APrista CTP leaders, and MLR, the joint MLR and APRA assault on the Marcona Syndicate, Richter Prada and Ultima Hora's anti-communist campaign, the hardened policy against labor, etc. It is obvious that the National Guards' movement was developed by agents within the Department of the Interior, by the right wing of the Government, since none of the rank and file's demands were answered. Pedro Richter Prada, General and Secretary of the Interior is responsible for this.

Although the radical elements of the

government stubbornly refuses to enter into agreements with the reactionary forces on important matters, and have been against APRA and the agents of imperialism, confronted with the reactionaries they have shown their vacillatory nature. By implementing the right wing's policy, they are isolating themselves.

The national bourgeois government's reaction to the strike reveals their conciliatory policy with the reactionaries. Instead of stripping the reactionary offensive and answering the just demands of the rank and file, isolating the pro-imperialist leadership, the Government sent the Army to repress the rank and file, driving it into the hands of the reactionaries, without touching the CIA agents, APRA or the reactionaries in the Auxiliary Armed Forces. In their communiques they ignore the responsibility of all reactionary forces.

To combat this mounting Reaction, the people cannot depend on the bourgeois reformist government.

(To be continued next issue)

**JOSEPH STALIN
1879 - 1953**

"Joseph Vissarionovich Stalin, greatest genius of the present age, great teacher of the world Communist movement, comrade-in-arms of the immortal Lenin, has departed from the world.

"The death of Comrade Stalin has aroused unparalleled and profound grief among the working people of the whole world; it has stirred the hearts of upright people throughout the world. This demonstrates that Comrade Stalin's cause and his ideas have gripped the hearts of the broad masses of the people throughout the world and have become an invincible force, a force that will guide those peoples who are already victorious from one fresh victory to another and lead all who are still groaning under the oppression of the old, vicious capitalist world to strike courageously at the people's enemies.

" . . . Comrade Stalin carried out a comprehensive and epoch-making deve-

lopment of Marxist-Leninist theory and advanced Marxism to a new stage of development. Comrade Stalin creatively developed Lenin's theory concerning the law of the uneven development of capitalism and Lenin's theory that



Socialism can first be victorious in one country; Comrade Stalin creatively contributed the theory of the general crisis of the capitalist system; he contributed the theory of the economic laws of modern capitalism and of

Socialism; he contributed the theory of the revolution in the colonial and semi-colonial countries. Comrade Stalin also creatively developed Lenin's theory of the building of the Party. All these creative theories of Comrade Stalin further united the workers throughout the world, further united the oppressed classes and oppressed people throughout the world, and thereby enabled the struggle for the emancipation and well-being of the world's working class and all oppressed people, and the victories in this struggle, to attain unprecedented proportions.

" . . . Let all imperialist aggressors and warmongers tremble before our great friendship!

" . . . Long live the teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin!

" The glorious name of the great Stalin is immortal!"

From The Greatest Friendship, a tribute written on the occasion of Stalin's death on March 5, 1953, (Daily News Release, Hsinhua Agency, March 10, 1953, pp. 1-2), by Mao Tsetung.

NEW ORLEANS

Cont. from page 1

class. This sordid history was brought to light by this Negro worker who spoke with true working class internationalism when he concluded our struggle is not a color struggle but a class struggle.

The workers in the Negro Nation must see the struggle of the transit drivers as their own. If the transit drivers are successful in their strike for a decent living the entire working class in the Negro Nation will advance.

The New Orleans transit drivers in 1971 were among the highest paid in the South. But as the national composition shifted from a majority of Anglo-American minority to Negro workers they fell among the lowest paid. This speaks to the growing intensification of oppression and exploitation of the Negro People. In order for this strike and all just struggles of the Negro working class to be successful, the Anglo-American proletariat must rally its full support behind the struggles of the Negro People, not only for higher wages, but for national liberation.

UAW RALLY

Cont. from page 2

and more profit for the bourgeoisie? They are lowering our living standards because they are in an economic crisis and they are preparing for fascism to make us fight a war intended to get them out of that crisis.

But we, the working class, cannot let them do these things to us. We must go back to Washington fighting to make the UAW leadership and Democratic politicians implement the program they have outlined for us and we have some additional demands we must take with us to D.C. We need full employment and we do not want jobs in the trenches fighting our fellow workers across the seas. We call for an end to the deportation of our fellow undocumented foreign born workers and demand open borders. We demand that the attacks on the Negro people must stop; thus we support bus-ing and demand the nationalization of education. As a class we cannot tolerate attacks by the bourgeoisie on any sector of our class, attacks designed to weaken and divide us. And we demand the na-

tionalization of the energy industries.

What better day to take these demands to D.C. than May Day? The significance of 250,000 workers marching in D.C. on May Day cannot be ignored by the bourgeoisie, while we will gain the unity and fighting spirit we need in the struggle for jobs. Step by step we are gaining the understanding as a class that we must take the initiative in the struggle for jobs in order to take control of the management of society.

MARCH ON MAY DAY!