

# WORKERS' Power

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# THIS WOMAN FOUGHT FOR HER RIGHTS

**"We're waiting for the Bakke decision. Affirmative action is going to take a real hard blow if the state decision is not overturned."**

Delfina Lozoya, a Chicana cannery worker from California, knows what the Bakke suit against affirmative action means.

**"We'll be set back—not 50 years, but a hundred years."**

"Up until 1968 women cannery workers had no type of jobs except the very back-breaking work with very little pay.

"One of the girls worked as a seasonal employee for 25 years and retired. She got a pension of \$18 a month."

## Will Supreme Court take them away?



Delfina Lozoya, cannery worker.

Delfina Lozoya told Workers' Power how she and nine other minority workers won an affirmative action consent decree in 1974.

It took years of struggle, harassment and a \$10 million class action lawsuit to win a fair seniority system in the cannery.

Affirmative action made that victory possible. This month, the United States Supreme Court may take it away from them.

### RIGHTS AT STAKE

Alan Bakke sued the University of California at Davis Medical School because he claimed an affirmative action admissions program for minority students violated his rights as a white man.

The State of California courts ruled in his favor, and now the U.S. Supreme Court must decide the appeal.

The issue in the Bakke case isn't just the right of minority students to go to medical school, important as that is.

But for Delfina Lozoya, for every working woman in this country, for every Black and Latino worker in this country, twenty years of battles for integration and equality and human

rights are at stake.

**A Supreme Court decision in Bakke's favor could unleash the greatest rollback of Black and women's rights this country has seen since the end of World War II.**

That's why you should be at the demonstrations October 3

and 8 demanding the Supreme Court uphold affirmative action and overturn the Bakke decision.

For information on the October demonstrations and two full pages of coverage on the affirmative action struggle, see pages 6-7. □



## Second Annual Convention of the Teamsters for a Democratic Union.

Harry Patrick, Secretary-Treasurer of the United Mine Workers, shares his experiences as a union dissident with Teamsters.

See pp. 4-5.

# Gas Cut Off— City in Peril

by Paul Broz

People in Crystal City, Texas, the "spinach capital of the world," are without hot water, hot food, and heat in their homes.

9:20am, Friday, September 23, the flow of natural gas into the city was cut off.

It took the combined efforts of 18 judges in six state and federal courts, state utility officials, the Texas Railroad Commission, armed guards, the press, and LoVaca Gathering Company to shut off the gas to this small southwest Texas town.

LoVaca had contracts with Crystal City to supply gas at a rate of no more than 36 cents per thousand cubic feet. In 1973, during the "energy crisis," they broke the contract and raised rates to near \$2.00. Crystal City officials refused to pay. Most of the town's 8,000

residents are poor Chicano cannery workers and migrant laborers.

For the past four years the battle was fought out in the courts. Recently, they ruled in the company's favor, and the gas was turned off. LoVaca is claiming \$800,000 in back payments.

Crystal City residents have elected members of La Raza Unida (People United) party to official positions in the city and county.

We talked to Ricardo Espinoza, who teaches history at the local high school. He says that La Raza Unida "believes in helping the poor, and seeking better educational programs for our students—emphasizing bi-lingual and bi-cultural education."

Many residents believe that their city is being victimized because of their support of La Raza Unida. "The local newspapers and the newspapers in San Antonio—the only comments they carried were those that placed the blame on the city officials," said Espinoza.

State and local Democratic Party officials refused to help Crystal City. It is widely believed that they intend to try to use this issue to destroy La Raza Unida.

According to Espinoza, "We're not the only city that hasn't paid, and yet the fight is with Crystal City."

Next week we hope to bring you extensive coverage of what's going on in Crystal City—including essays from high school students on how they view the situation. □

# IT STINKS More Natural Gas From The Senate



by Karen Kaye

IT'S GETTING DARK EARLY. There's a chill in the air—winter's freeze is on the way.

And with it come the heat bills again: are you ready for an increase of up to \$150?

Many people have spent their summer installing insulation and collecting storm windows, buying blankets and knitting sweaters (and paying off last winter's bills to the local gas company).

It's all part of waging "the moral equivalent of war" against the energy shortage, as President Carter asked us to do. But once the storm windows are up and insulation's in, there's little more one can do except put on the sweater and watch the fuel bill climb.

And what have government and business done about the energy problem? Carter did say that all sections of society had to sacrifice to overcome this energy crisis.

Even the bulkiest sweater can't insulate the public from remembering, that as it turned out, the energy companies purposely created last winter's fuel shortages to extort higher prices for their product.

## SENATE

What government has done is this: Carter's energy program breezed through the House of Representatives. It has been stuck in the Senate ever since, where it now faces 503 amendments.

Why the delay on solving the big emergency? Why the haggling at the top while ordinary people dutifully insulate and scrimp to pay the bills?

Because sooner or later the government had to face up to the fuel industry's blackmail.

Oil companies still want those higher prices, and if they don't get them they can hold back the fuel again. After all, they own it.

But current federal laws regulate the price of natural gas sold interstate.

While this didn't prevent Exxon, for example, from making \$2.6 billion in profits last year, the oil and gas companies want natural gas prices deregulated so they can charge whatever they want.

Its companies like Exxon and Mobil that control most of the natural gas. And apparently control most of the Senate, which favors deregulation.

## PRICES TO RISE

Carter looks good by threatening to veto any bill containing deregulation. But even his proposal will allow gas prices to rise at least 20%.

And Carter, he hasn't complained much about how the Senate is junking the rest of his energy program: utility rate reform, tax on gas guzzlers, rebates to consumers from a tax on domestic oil and taxes on business use of oil and gas.

These proposals were just sweeteners to make the public swallow the higher fuel prices we get under either Carter's regulated gas price hike, or the Senate's deregulation.

The President estimated gas bills would go up \$150 with deregulation. And with the threat of deregulation growing, Carter's stance for a regulated price hike is now supposed to be sweet enough.

But this doesn't change the fact that most Americans will be hard pressed to pay higher gas bills.

Especially with unemployment so high and wage increases so low. On top of what we've shelled out for insulation.

## SWITCH TO TEA

But what can the consumer do? You can't switch to tea like people did to protest coffee prices.

Why isn't anyone in government standing up for all of us who need heat we can afford? Why aren't they pointing out that the fuel giants made huge profits last year?

We're not represented in government. Democrats and Republicans alike are there to take care of Business.

Regulation or deregulation—either way, working people pay, oil companies profit.

The socialist answer is: nationalize the fuel industry and run it for the purpose of providing affordable fuel.

Everyone needs fuel. Few of us need wealthy oil executives. □

# A small town rural country Georgia...

by Woody Grimshaw

A telephone operator friend of mine at the White House accidentally overheard some conversation the other day that bears repeating.

Seems that Jimmy Carter's aides have been calling around frantically, attempting to locate a replacement for Bert Lance. One conversation went something like this:



Grimshaw

**Aide.** Hello, is this Byron Beaglebottom of the Mudd National Bank of Georgia?

**Beaglebottom.** Speaking.

**Aide.** I'm calling on behalf of the President of the United States.

We have a job opening in the position of Budget Director, and your name was being tossed around as a possible candidate.

People speak very highly of you.

**Beagle.** Glad to hear it.

**Aide.** If you don't mind, I'd like to ask you a few questions of a personal nature.

**Beagle.** Shoot.

**Aide.** How's your checking account?

**Beagle.** What do you mean?

**Aide.** Any overdrafts, for example, that might be misconstrued as loans?

**Beagle.** Well, my wife once wrote a check that bounced. She had to come down the same day and deposit \$2.00 to cover it.

**Aide.** Isn't the Mudd National Bank a small town rural country Georgia bank?

**Beagle.** About as small town as they get.

**Aide.** And doesn't it have a liberal overdraft policy?

**Beagle.** Not that I know of.

**Aide.** That's good to hear.

What about a company plane?

**Beagle.** We've got one of those. I'm on it every day.

**Aide.** Ever take any trips in it that might be misconstrued as personal or political, for which you didn't reimburse the bank?

**Beagle.** Nope. Never took any trips at all.

**Aide.** None at all?

**Beagle.** Not a one.

**Aide.** Well, Mr. Beaglebottom, this sounds good. Just one more question.

**Beagle.** Shoot.

**Aide.** Is there anything in your past that might eventually embarrass the President if they came out after your appointment?

Any shady loans, loans without collateral? Ever handled any Teamster pension money? Ever been implicated in any embezzlement schemes? Anything like that?

**Beagle.** Not so far as I recollect. I got a ticket once for running a stop sign. Just didn't see it.

Other than that, my record's clean.

**Aide.** This sounds very, very good, Mr. Beaglebottom.

You know, I've got a list as long as your arm of small town rural country Georgia bankers I've talked to. And you're the first one to pass the test.

**Beagle.** Oh, I'm not a banker.

**Aide.** You're not?

**Beagle.** No, I'm the janitor. □

# SOUTH AFRICA STEVE BIKO WAS MURDERED - AND HE WILL BE AVENGED!

by Dan Posen

**FIFTEEN THOUSAND Black South Africans came to Kingwilliamstown to bury Steve Biko.**

Biko, who led the organizing of the Black Consciousness movement in South Africa ten years ago, died while in detention in Pretoria.

The South African government is trying to cover up the circumstances of his death, claiming it was caused by an eight-day hunger strike.

**But at Steve Biko's funeral every speaker, including the most moderate Black political and religious**

**figures, stated openly that the police murdered him.**

## POLICE

The police observed Steven Biko's funeral in a different way. They blocked convoys of buses

carrying mourners from every part of South Africa.

In Soweto, they pulled people off buses and clubbed them. Dr. Nthato Motlana treated over 30 victims, including many with fractured skulls.

A number of young Black

**"Blacks are tired of standing at the sidelines to witness a game that they should be playing. They want to do things for themselves, and all by themselves."**

-Steve Biko



## "There are lots of ways they can kill you. . ."

Majakathata Mokoena is a student activist from Soweto who is now living in exile in Britain. He spoke with the revolutionary socialist newspaper, Socialist Worker, in London about Steve Biko's death.

"Steve Biko was one of the greatest and bravest of our leaders. Steve Biko is dead. But the movement to avenge his death gets stronger every day.

"His spirit is spreading all the time. The racists can't get away with what they used to. Every killing, every eviction meets fiercer resistance than before.

"It was the Black Consciousness movement which taught us to rejoice at the victories of our brothers and sisters in Angola and Mozambique, and inspired the rising in Soweto last year.

"That's why they killed Steve. . ."

"There are lots of ways they can kill you in those prisons. They have all sorts of inhuman tortures which they carry out on Black resistance fighters, sometimes for information—sometimes just for punishment. "The torturers get excited, and often go too far. "They can beat you to death with karate chops. They can electrocute

you to death with their electric shock 'treatment'.

"You can die in the 'invisible chair'. You sit on a stick against the wall until the bones in your body begin to break.

"I don't know which torture they used on Steve. We can't have his body to find out.

"But I know he was murdered, and so does every Black person in South Africa. . ."

"The people who rule our country are savages, and worse.

"That's right. But they're not just savages. They're watchdogs for their employers.

"Without their employers, they wouldn't have any teeth. And their employers are here, here and in the other capitals of Europe and America where rich people invest in my people's slavery.

"We want them out. We want their money and their investments out. Because these are what keep the racists alive and confident.

"If you can get that money out, you can leave the South African racists to us."



Exiled Soweto student demonstrates "invisible chair" torture.

women, the doctor reported, were also raped by police.

**At earlier funeral meetings for Biko in Soweto, police broke into a church with dogs.**

But this time, the South African police state went too far.

## ELECTIONS

The political shock and international outrage over Steve Biko's murder is one reason why the South African regime is holding elections in two months.

Prime Minister John Vorster has called for a huge mandate from white voters, less than 20% of the population.

Only whites can vote in South Africa. The 80% African majority have no vote, or any other political rights, in their own country.

The government is calling on the white minority to vote to preserve its own privilege—and it will.

**Vorster will get the results he wants in this election. But that result means nothing to the Black majority.**

They have already cast their votes, in their nationwide demonstration of rage over the murder of Steve Biko.

Their verdict is that the struggle for liberation continues—and that Steve Biko will be avenged. □

**A movement is growing to stop American university and union investments in South Africa. See page 9 for details.**

# Recall Campaign Grows In Mine Union

by Jim Woodward

The effort to remove United Mine Workers President Arnold Miller is "right on schedule," according to Bill Bryant, a West Virginia coal miner.

Bryant is the leader of Miners for Recall, a Cabin Creek, W. Va.-based group.

Although Miller was re-elected only a few months ago, the recall effort has gathered steam because of the way Miller handled the cuts in health care.

Miller not only refused to stand up to the coal operators on this question—he also sent out a group of union organizers, popularly called a goon squad, to try to break the strike.

In a telephone interview, Bryant told Workers' Power that his group is "expanding. We're not giving out figures, but we expect to reach the 5% in early November."

The first goal of the recall effort is the signatures of 5% of all the union members.

If that is successful, official recall petitions will be sent to all locals

from union headquarters. Thirty percent of the union's 277,000 members must sign these petitions within 30 days in order for the recall to proceed.

## CONTRACT

The current UMW contract expires December 6. Bryant explained the timetable involved: "There's no way we can stop his [Miller's] leading the negotiations.

"But we figure, if he knows he's going to have to come through, he knows he'll have to do better. It's

sort of similar to holding a club over his head."

Bryant said he doesn't expect the actual recall-could come until some time in the spring.

Another miner, David "Blue" Lamm of Cabin Creek, W. Va., said that the International Executive Board had already spread the word "that they're going to challenge every signature on the petitions.

"Recall, if you look at the way it's done, it's next to impossible to recall anybody," Lamm told Workers' Power.

"But there is some fundamental

questions that have to be answered to the membership, and I think that the recall can create a pressure that might force them to deal with some of them."

Lamm said organizing new members in to the union is the most important issue now, since the UMW's share of coal mined in the U.S. has slipped to only 48%.

"If this contract's a bad contract and we can't organize with it, you're talking about almost a destruction of the union," he said.

## NATIONAL MEETING

After the 5% figure is reached, the next step for the recall movement, according to Bryant, will be a national meeting to coordinate and map out plans.

He added that Miners for Recall plans to remain a permanent caucus in the union. "In our opinion this will be a way the rank and file can voice themselves. We can exert pressure," he said.

They may experience some difficulty along the way, though, because of the composition of the

group. Supporters of both Harry Patrick and Lee Roy Patterson, the two candidates Miller defeated in June, are involved in the group.

This means, to some extent, differing philosophies on union democracy, organizing, and other issues.

Bryant said that because of the group's single purpose, Miners for Recall is "not backing any candidates," nor are they getting into specific issues related to the upcoming contract fight.

**Another group of miners will also be getting together soon to talk about the future of the union. Many of those who supported Harry Patrick's campaign for the union presidency are planning a meeting.**

"A lot of people that were pushing for that meeting want to use it to formalize some type of loose coalition between people in different areas," Lamm said.

Relating this development to the rank and file group that threw out the old corrupt union leadership in 1972, he continued, "I think that it could be something like almost a MFD kind of thing in its very beginning stages. □

## Patrick: No Pay for Goons

UMW Secretary-Treasurer Harry Patrick is refusing to pay the expenses of a "goon squad" organized by union President Arnold Miller late this summer.

Towards the end of this summer's wildcat strikes over the health care cuts, Miller organized and sent a group of his supporters into West Virginia to end the strike.

A confrontation followed during which shots were traded between the Miller group and

picketers. No one was injured.

The incident stirred new anger at the Miller administration and, if anything, prolonged the strike.

Subsequently Miller ordered Patrick to pay lost wages and expenses for 53 persons. They submitted bills of \$300-\$400 each.

"There's no way that's going to be paid while I'm Secretary-Treasurer," Patrick said.

# 'A LEADERSHIP FOR

## Teamsters for a Democratic Union holds second convention

Story: Gay Semel Photos: Jim Woodward-

"I've been full circle. Coal miner for 18 years, International officer for the last five. They can't kid me any more about what goes on and how fat labor leaders get. Because it's the truth. They get fat, they dress in three-piece suits... and they drive Cadillacs on your money. And what I'm saying here tonight is not going to win friends and influence enemies for me. But I'm telling the truth... I know beyond any shadow of a doubt, that the rank and file is not being represented by the labor leaders in this country."

The speaker was Harry Patrick, Secretary-Treasurer of the United Mine Workers of America. His audience was the several hundred Teamster delegates to the second national convention of Teamsters for a Democratic Union (TDU).

They knew he spoke the truth. The Teamsters had come to Cleveland to do something about the leadership of their union.

### FORMED TO FIGHT

Doug Allan of Los Angeles Local 208 and a member of the TDU national steering committee, put it this way:

"A year ago TDU was formed, and what was it formed for? It was



Harry Patrick (left). He was introduced by Al Ferdnace.

formed to join the rank and file together to fight the International Brotherhood of Teamsters' leadership, and all their racketeering and crookedness."

For two days they sat through long sessions of a tightly-filled agenda. They had business to conduct. And they had come a long way—many from as far as California. And they were serious—real serious.

Mel Packer, a TDU steering committee member from Pittsburgh's Local 249, explained one reason why:

"About three weeks ago, about midnight one night, while I was thinking about this convention, I got a phone call from a driver with seven kids. He's been in the union something like 16 years.

"He called up from a motel room, one and a half hours away from his house. He was being bedded down there and they were going to push him on in the morning. And he was wondering when the hell it's going to end.

"He was in some ways crying when he talked to me. I was too. Because I can see that happening all across the country.

The delegates knew the road ahead would not be easy. Some had been fighting for years. They had seen other rank and file organizations they had helped build fall apart because of mistaken strategies or the fear of goons in back alleys.

### LEARNING FROM THE PAST

But they were still fighting—because they had no choice—and they were learning from the mistakes of the past.

Doug Allan talked about one such experience.

"I belonged to an organization some time ago that you probably heard of called TURF—Teamsters United Rank and File," he said. "What we had done in TURF, we had put our faith in a few leaders that would lead us to where we wanted to go.

"We found out that that would not work. TDU has given us the opportunity to form together for you and I to change the IBT. TDU cannot do it—a name cannot do it—a leader cannot do it—it takes you and I, the rank and file to do it."

They were learning from their own past. They also wanted to



learn from the successes and the failures of others.

They invited Harry Patrick to speak. Patrick was elected Secretary-Treasurer of the UMW on the Miners for Democracy (MFD) reform slate which threw out the corrupt Tony Boyle regime.

The MFD victory was an inspiration to rank and file union members throughout the country. But since then, Miller has proved to be a weak and ineffective leader, and has repeatedly sold out the membership.

Though he was unsuccessful, Patrick ran against Miller in June's UMW elections because he still

believes in the goals of the MFD.

In many ways Patrick's addressing the TDU convention—a convention of rank and file union oppositionists—was an historic event. Trade union officials do not look kindly on one of their own leaving the fold.

Patrick knew this. He came anyway.

"I went through the same thing that you are going through right now, and I know what a struggle, what a fight it is. And I thought long and hard about this when I was first contacted about coming and speaking.

"And I was also pressured not to come here. There was some jokes passed back and forth, by the way, like I would probably become part of I-66, the highway! Or... some structural steel development someplace.

"But, I thought that I would be selling out everything that I ever believed in and everything that I ever fought for in my life if I did not come here and speak to you people."

"When we formed the MFD we worried them to death and they done all kinds of crazy things."

"As you go along in your fight to reform your union, you'll find out that just by meeting you'll drive them crazy and they'll do all kinds of crazy things."

### TRAIN LEADERSHIP

Patrick talked about the need to develop and train a rank and file leadership.

"Because of the old union leaders' desire to control their unions, they never really have trained people to take a leadership role in the union.

"And that's very smart from a dictator's point of view. Because the point is to keep the troops stupid, and then you don't have to worry about them. As you go along, develop that leadership so that when you get ready, you'll have somebody to take over that knows what they're doing."

The TDU is already grappling with that problem.

Danny Kablack of Pittsburgh Local 250, and a TDU steering committee member, explained how:

"Building TDU means that we've got to develop a leadership for the future. We can't knock people out

## TDU - WHERE IT'S GOING NEXT

The 350 rank and file delegates who registered for last week's Teamsters for a Democratic Union convention set themselves several tasks. They wanted to assess TDU's first year, make plans and develop campaigns for the coming year, and broaden the group and its leadership.

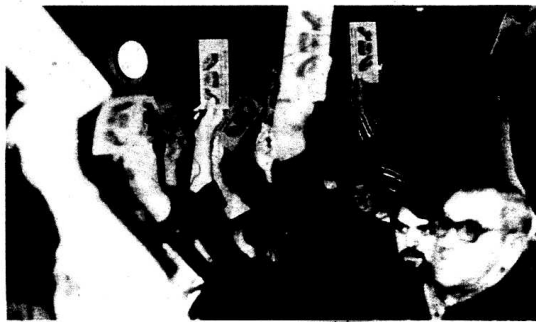
**THE FIRST YEAR.** There was general agreement that TDU's biggest accomplishment during its first year was firmly establishing itself as a national Teamster opposition group that is here to stay. TDU has sunk roots deep enough to ensure that it will not be a "here today, gone tomorrow" experience.

Doug Allan, a steering committee member from Los Angeles, spoke on this point. "Here we are a year later," he said. "We have got a solid foundation that we can build on. TDU has done the one important thing that I had hoped for, and that is, we have a group of rank and file people that can stand together."

**THE COMING YEAR.** "During TDU's first year," said one delegate, "we saw lots of people join TDU in isolated areas, locals, different jurisdictions. During the coming year we're going to see more and more people joining as whole shops, whole groups of people coming in, stewards, committee, everything."

This process has already begun in several cities. The convention decided to undertake several campaigns, as well as getting involved in contract fights, building toward the 1979 Master Freight Agreement.

These are the campaigns being



planned:

• **The Right to Vote.** Currently, International Teamster officials are elected at conventions by delegates loyal to the union machine. At last year's convention, only one delegate, a TDU member, voted against Frank Fitzsimmons, even though Fitz is probably the most disliked top union official in the history of the American labor movement.

TDU wants to change this, so that International officials are elected by membership referendum, as is the practice in the mine workers and steelworkers unions. The Right to Vote campaign will include stickers, literature, meetings, picket lines, and possibly a lawsuit.

"We aim to create the kind of pressure that will force many local officers to take a stand on this issue," says a TDU resolution.

• **Pensions.** The convention decided to initiate a petition drive to President Carter and Secretary of Labor Ray Marshall. It will demand they use their power to remove the six pension fund trustees who gave convicted labor racketeer Allen Dorfman a \$6 million contract with the Teamsters Health and Welfare Fund. TDU is calling for election of rank and file trustees to replace them.

• Other proposals adopted were a **Teamster Bill of Rights** and a resolution on the **grievance procedure.**

• Special meetings were held of Teamsters in various jurisdictions, such as **Road Drivers, Grocery Carhauleders, and United Parcel.** Some of these groups will develop campaigns around their own particular issues.

**BROADENING TDU.** Many of the convention delegates repre-

sented new elements in TDU. These included: the leadership of Local 213 in Vancouver, the largest Teamsters local in Canada; grocery workers from St. Louis; UPS workers from Chicago; significantly more road drivers than before; and a good representation from the west coast.

The new TDU steering committee incorporates many of these new groupings. Among the new members are: Jim Blomfield, representing the Vancouver Teamsters; Phyllis Carpenter, representing a large group of Schneider drivers in Green Bay, Wisconsin; and Danny Charlton, leader of the Concerned Drivers Club in Local 710, Chicago.

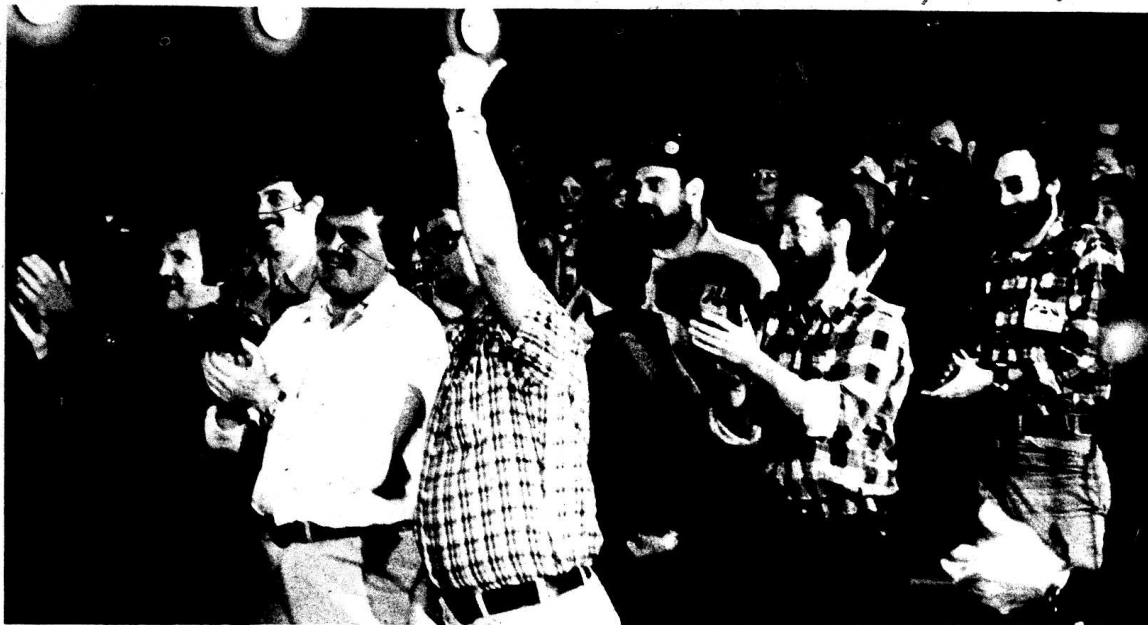
### OTHER BUSINESS.

• **Harry Patrick,** Secretary-Treasurer of the United Mine Workers of America, was unanimously voted an honorary member of TDU.

• The delegates also unanimously supported the struggle of the Vancouver Teamsters against harassment from the union leadership. Local 213 Secretary-Treasurer **Jack Vlahovic** was thrown out of office, fined over \$10,000, and barred for life from holding any Teamster job in kangaroo court proceedings. The Local 213 membership is defending the union officers to prevent Vlahovic's removal.

TDU printed petitions supporting Vlahovic which the delegates took as they left the convention. The petitions demanded that IBT President Frank Fitzsimmons reverse the decision of the Joint Council 36 trial board.

# THE FUTURE'



of office and expect that office to just stay there. We're going to have to develop people to fill these offices.

"We're going to turn our sympathizers into members...we're going to turn our members into activists, people who can slow down the work pace, and who can spread this organization more and more into new shops..."

"We're going to take our activists and turn them into organizers...we're going to take those organizers and turn them into leaders, people who can hold office to represent the people who are down here at these meetings."

## RED-BAITING

Another important lesson Patrick discussed was the way red-baiting is used and why.

"I was red-baited unmercifully during my campaign. And in Appalachia that works very well. Every time I walked up to a bathhouse, everyone waited for the clouds to open up and the red planes to come down and bomb them all out of existence."

"So, I've gotten used to that, and I guarantee you, every one of you sitting here tonight, had better get used to it because you're going to go through the same thing."

## WIVES

Patrick talked about the importance of involving wives.

"I look out here and I see a lot of women out here. I know these women stand behind their husbands and they believe in the trade union movement as much as their husbands do and that's what is important."

"I don't know how many of you have seen a movie called Harlan County, USA. I was there. I lived through that whole experience; it was incredible. Without the women in that strike we would a never won it."

## RANK & FILE ORGANIZATION

One of the most important lessons Patrick took to the convention was the need to maintain rank and file organization, even after winning office.

"One of the tragedies of the movement within the mine workers

was that we didn't have foresight enough to understand that disbanding—and it was never really disbanded, it was simply just let go... There was no attempt to organize the 68,000 or 70,000 who voted for the MFD ticket.

"You have to continue to organize the same people who put you in office, and they have to be a constant watchdog to make it work."

"As I say I've come full circle... It's very easy to get tuned into that kind of life of sitting behind a desk, your feet up on it and wearing three-piece suits and driving big automobiles."

It is this understanding that in many ways marks the strength of the TDU and was the theme of the convention.

Over and over again delegates

discussed running for office, but maintaining rank and file organization. The convention clearly understood that no "leaders" could solve the problems of rank and file Teamsters—only their organized strength could do that.

Danny Kablack put it best: "We've run candidates in local elections, and we'll run a lot more, especially in Detroit. TDU candidates are not just the conventional reformers, not the people you've heard before—the smiling would-be bureaucrats—"vote for me and I'll set you free, just make me your next V.P."

"We're running people who are pledged to principles. Sure the people who were in there before had principles too: self-advancement, personalized power, a relative in every office, keep the family

in the local.

"We have principles of a different kind, principles we mean to stick to, that we mean to push. And if our people stop living up to their principles, they're not our people any more and you can throw them the hell out."



Would you believe what this man says? Here's what Jackie Presser had to say when interviewed by Workers' Power reporter Gay Semel:

WP: Excuse me Mr. Presser. Could you tell me why you are demonstrating today?

Presser: We're not demonstrating. We're marching to show our solidarity.

WP: Oh, With what?

Presser: We're marching to show the public we support the Teamsters Union.

WP: Why did you pick this day and this place?

Presser: Why not today?... We live here.

WP: Do you regularly march around college campuses to demonstrate to the public your solidarity?

Presser: We've done it before.

WP: When?

Presser: Last year at Kent State.

WP: You mean to tell me that the fact that you marched around Kent State last year and Cleveland State this year has nothing to do with the fact that that is when the TDU has held its conventions?

Presser: TDU?... I never heard of them.



Jackie Presser, International Teamster Vice President and one of the highest paid union officials in the country, descended to the streets of Cleveland September 24. With about 300 retirees, union officials, and other Teamsters from all over Ohio, he set up a picket line around the TDU convention site.

The protesters carried signs such as, "Dad, Mom, Kids—Teamster Unity" and "Best Buy in U.S. is Teamster Membership." Most were under orders not to talk to reporters. But one retired couple was willing to speak to Workers' Power. When asked why they were demonstrating against TDU, they quite genuinely replied that they didn't realize they were there demonstrating against anyone at all.

This is the second time in a year that Presser has appeared on a picket line, noted TDU. Last year he took a group to Kent State University to picket TDU's founding convention.

TDU members interpreted Presser's demonstration as a sign they are doing something right.

# AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

by Marilyn Danton

Allan Bakke is a 37-year-old white male civil engineer with a salary to match.

Bakke is charging that he has been victimized by "reverse discrimination"—held back solely because he is a white male. He is taking his case to the Supreme Court.

Bakke was denied admission to the University of California Davis Medical School.

The school has a special admissions program that sets aside up to 16 class openings out of 100 for disadvantaged students.

Bakke is not alone in his "reverse discrimination" claim. Many people believe that "affirmative action" programs such as this one deny white men an "equal opportunity" to get ahead.

Where did affirmative action programs come from? Have they really gone too far? Is it really a handicap to be born white and male in America?

## A VICTORY FOR EQUALITY

Affirmative action was one of the victories of the Black liberation movement. Affirmative action says that this society creates obstacles for women, Blacks and other minorities, obstacles that begin with birth.

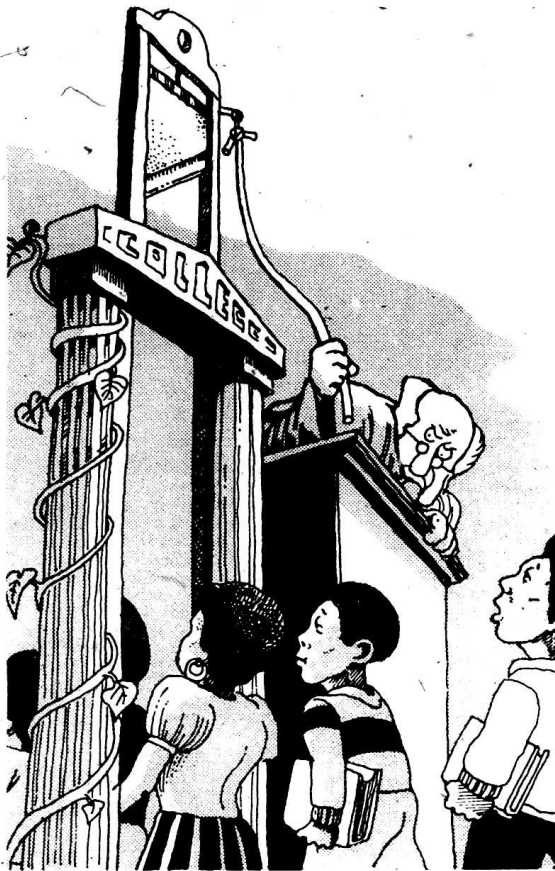
All sorts of education, training, and individual encouragement is determined by each person's race and sex. Whites and men simply get more breaks.

Affirmative action recognizes that obstacles exist, and sets out special programs and policies to compensate for the discrimination that has been suffered.

Special recruitment programs. Improved on-the-job training instead of special hiring requirements. Re-writing entrance or employment exams so that a Spanish-speaking or Black person is not at an automatic disadvantage. Adjusting unnecessary physical requirements so that women can apply for good jobs.

All of these are examples of affirmative action. It took a hard and militant battle by the Black and women's movement to win affirmative action, to knock down unfair practices that kept them locked into inferior, back-breaking and poorly paid jobs.

But, says Bakke's supporters, affirmative action did its job. There



is no serious racism and discrimination anymore.

White men, they say, are now being denied the best jobs and college admissions. Blacks, Latins and women are getting far ahead.

This is nonsense. Racial discrimination is still as American as mom and apple pie. White people still get the best jobs with the best pay.

Discrimination in jobs begins with whether you get one at all. Black unemployment is more than twice as high as white unemployment.

This is not because Blacks don't want to work. It's because the

industries and corporations are fleeing the central cities as fast as they can.

And it's because racism prevents Blacks from getting jobs as easily as whites. In fact, the Bureau of Labor statistics says that today it is twice as easy for a white to get a job as it is for a Black.

Affirmative action has improved the situation by a couple of percentage points. But there is still a long way to go.

Racial minorities, including Blacks, Latins, Native Americans, and Asians, are about 35% of the population.

Yet after almost eight years of affirmative action they still hold 39% of the lowest paying jobs and only 7-8% of the best paying jobs. Check out the table.

Yes, from time to time, a company or city will refuse to hire white men until it has first hired a certain percentage of women and minorities.

This is to make up for decades of refusing to hire anyone but a white man, and it is the exception rather than the rule.

Think about it. If one Black person actually got a job for every white male who today believes that "his" job has been taken away by a minority, Black unemployment would be practically zero. Instead of 14.5%.

The median income of a Black family is 60% that of a white family, unchanged for 20 years. Far from taking privileges away from white people, Black and Latins and other minorities have been losing ground in the last five years.

Why then does the average white working person look around and see his or her own living and working conditions are getting much worse, if they are not getting better for Black people? Somebody must be benefiting.

Affirmative action was first won in the late sixties when the economy was booming. The federal government judged the strength of the Black and women's movements and decided that it could afford affirmative action.

There was enough money in the system to improve conditions for both Black and white workers.

But by the end of 1975 America had suffered the worst depression since the 30's. Black people in particular have never recovered from it.

Today the economy is in terrible shape. The job market is getting smaller and smaller in comparison to the work force, which keeps growing. As the economic crisis deepens this will get even worse.

Black and white workers are competing for fewer jobs. It is no wonder that every job available—especially the better paying ones—has many applicants.

## NEED UNITY

If a whole group of people can be separated out because of race or sex and labelled "not qualified", then there's fewer people to compete against.

If Blacks and women workers'

### Occupation

**Professional & Technicians**  
**Skilled craft workers**  
**Vehicle drivers**  
**Laborers**  
**Domestic**

**"We don't need unqualified doctors."**

Right. No one wants unqualified doctors. But, we're talking about admission to medical school, not graduation. Anyone who completes four years there and a year as an intern and graduates is as qualified as anyone else.

A recent study done by the Association of American Medical Colleges showed that Blacks who'd successfully completed the first two years of medical school started out with lower scores on entrance tests than many whites who'd flunked out in the same first two years.

The real problem is that there are not enough openings to begin with. Medical school admissions are kept artificially low by organizations like the American Medical Association. Then when doctors begin to practice they can charge outrageous fees.

But with the present low number, few whites gain admission to medical school—and almost no Blacks and women. Even when the number of openings increases Black and women are still excluded.

The Black liberation and student movements forced the increase of literally thousands of new openings in medical schools across the country a few years ago. Seventy-seven percent of the new openings, created solely to spur minority admissions, went to white students.

## QUOTAS VS. GOALS

A lot of people maintain that they are for affirmative action programs with goals, but not those with quotas. What makes the difference?

Quotas specify that a set number of minority people will be hired—say two Blacks for every one white—until the racial proportion of the work force reflects the racial proportion in the surrounding community.

This means that whites are excluded from competing from

some of the jobs available. In this case two out of every three. It is an "exclusionary quota."

Goals, on the other hand, do not specify hard hiring figures. They simply state that the goal is to reach the desired proportion within a certain period—say 5 years. To achieve the goal, the employer may promise to seek minority applications, through advertisements or setting up recruiting stations in minority communities, or some other method.

# TIION: WHAT'S AT STAKE?

**"Why should I support affirmative action? I'm cutting my own throat. I didn't discriminate. Why should I have to pay a debt?"**

You are cutting your own throat as long as you keep believing that some Black or some woman has taken your job away—when it's clear that there simply are not enough jobs. And no industry or corporation seems particularly hot to provide any.

Certainly the bosses should pay. Not you. Not some Latino worker who needs a job just as badly as you do.

But as long as there isn't a force out there in the field, capable of demanding jobs, and demanding better treatment for all workers, then Black people and women and all the other disadvantaged people are going to be the first ones to get the axe.

If white working people stopped thinking that every fight against discrimination is a plot to take something away from them, we could begin to put some real pressure on the companies and the government.

Minority people are going to fight. Racism is too serious a problem not to fight.

There is no reason why minorities, more than others, should continue to see their children deformed from malnutrition, bitten by rats, poorly educated, and unemployed after their school years.

The question is whether you are going to be part of their problem or part of their solution.

**"You're a hypocrite. You're supposed to be against discrimination, but you don't care if white men are being discriminated against."**

The white men who now complain about discrimination and say they are opposed to all of it, have reaped the benefits of racist and sexist practices for years. Whether they personally have been racists or not. They are the hypocrites.

It is dishonest to say, "We'll stop discriminating now and everybody will have an equal chance at all jobs." That will end the problem," and expect equality to be the result.

Say an employer needs an apprentice electrician and interviews two men.

One young man was educated in a well-financed suburban school, and worked summers for his uncle's contracting firm. Another young man was from the ghetto, and educated in a destroyed school system. Then the employer decides on the basis of qualification.

Racism and sexism are still a daily part of our society. Minorities and women need special programs and compensatory education if they are to get a real chance—not a pretend one.

People who oppose special programs because they "discriminate against white men" are content to maintain inequality in our society.

too few jobs on a racial or sexual basis.

Look at the recent closing of Youngstown Sheet and Tube. Last week 5000 jobs were eliminated.

The owners of the steel mill said they couldn't afford to keep the mill running. They were not getting enough profits.

It's not Blacks or Latins or women who take away jobs from white men. The employers cut their payrolls, and refuse to create new jobs.

To turn this situation around we have to fight back. But we simply cannot do that if we are all tied up over race and sex. Black and white workers, male and female workers have to fight together to win more jobs out of the employers.

But why should Black workers want to unite with white workers who cry "foul" or "reverse discrimination" every time a Black worker gets a better job?

**LOOKING BACKWARD . . .**

As long as there is so much mistrust what's to stop employers from using unemployed women, Blacks and other minorities from scabbing against white workers?

If you think it can't happen you're wrong. Look at the South today.

During the 30's, when the last major union drives took place, the South was much more racist than the north. As a result the bosses could use the divided work force to keep unions out.

Today businesses are still "running away" to the South, where wages are lower and working conditions are worse for both Black and white workers.

**. . . AND FORWARD**

Affirmative action is about fighting racism. Blacks and other minorities fight discrimination in order to survive.

They will continue to fight. The question is, will they fight alone? Or will white workers join in their fight against discrimination and for more jobs?

That's what defeating the Bakke case is all about—creating the brother and sisterhood we need to build the movement of working people that can win full employment and a better life for all of us.

and busting wages left and right. And hiding out the threat of replacing everyone with Blacks and women if there were any complaints.

The more difficult but necessary task is to get more jobs. Then we would not be forced to compete for

right to a job were not legally protected it would mean more jobs for white men now. But in the long run, they would lose too.

The employers would go for the throat, smashing work standards

Minorities	1964	1973
	6%	8%
	6%	7%
	13%	15%
	27%	20%
	49%	39%

**"Minorities, just want an easy break—something they don't have to work for."**

Hundreds of years of racist practice have frozen minorities out of good jobs and good educations. Those practices continue to this day.

Many industries and unions (like the construction unions) admit only the sons and other male (white) relatives of their present members.

Other industries or skilled trades programs have educational requirements for jobs that minorities can't fill as easily as white people because of poor educational opportunities.

Professional schools have unofficial quotas for the privileged. A certain number of positions are reserved for the children of alumni and politicians.

In Chicago 2000 Blacks applied for 300 available jobs. In Detroit 5000 people, mostly Black, showed up at 5 am for rumored jobs in an auto plant. Thousands of people came to apply for non-existent jobs in the South Bronx and Harlem.

Black and brown people—just like anyone else—are not interested in something for nothing. They are interested in the chance to work at a better job and to get a better life for their families.

**INTERVIEW**

**"The male Anglos always got the choice jobs. . ."**

Delfina Lozoya has been a northern California cannery worker for 18 years. She and other Chicana cannery workers were having a tough time making it because of discrimination—both racial and sexual—practiced by the company.

In 1974 she and nine other minority workers won an affirmative action consent decree.

Workers' Power interviewed Lozoya after she spoke to the recent Teamsters for a Democratic Union convention. She is the Chairperson of the Cannery Workers Committee of Hayward, California.



Hayward, California is a very small town, but we do have two good sized Hunt-Wesson canneries.

"Up until 1968 women cannery workers were just women cannery workers. We had no type of jobs except the very back-breaking work with very little pay.

"In the cannery industry to become an employee with all the fringe benefits, vacations, pension you have to become a "regular" employee. Otherwise you are a seasonal worker where the most you ever work is 600 to 650 hours a year.

"We did a little research in 1968 and found that if you were a male Anglo you attained regular status in three years. If you were a Mexican-American male in eight to ten years.

"If you were a Chicana—a Mexican-American female—it took anywhere from 22 to 25 years. If we lived that long.

"One of the girls worked there as a seasonal employee for 25 years and retired. She got a pension of a grand total of \$18 a month.

"A regular employee, depending on how many years of service, will get anywhere from \$300 to \$400.

"That's not nearly enough, but it's a lot better than \$18 a month."

**IT WAS ROUGH**

The women had to work hard to stop other workers from resenting and resisting their fight. The company spread around a lot of bad feelings, and the union wasn't much help.

The male Anglos always got the choice jobs. They worked more hours, attained their regular status. They just wouldn't let the women work the jobs that weren't seasonal.

"It made it a little rough. Let me tell you, it was rough. Our worst enemies were our own fellow workers. The company would say to a man, 'we can't give you this job because the federal government tells us we have to comply with affirmative action.'

"And we were not there to take

their jobs. We had been working there a lot longer than they had. We had every right to expect higher paying jobs.

"The Teamster lawyers were trying to ram an agreement down our throats. We felt the consent decree could be better written, with less loopholes, better goals. We intervened and we won our appeal in court.

"But the biggest thing that we won, something that we had been striving for a long, long time, was a fair seniority system.

"If you went by a fair seniority system in the cannery industry, you wouldn't need affirmative action. Every job would be awarded by seniority.

"And it's working out. It's hard because everyone is hurt when a seniority system is changed—no matter how bad a system it was to begin with."

"Good faith. They have never showed good faith. I mean, if we waited for them to show good faith, we'd be waiting a long time.

"It's never worked before, without quotas. Why should it work now?"

"If the Bakke decision is upheld then we'll be set back, not fifty years, but a hundred years. And we'll really have a hard row to hoe then.

"But we're not going to let it get us down."

**Demonstrate Against Bakke**

DETROIT October 3. Kennedy Square, 12 noon. Rally and march to Federal Building.

OAKLAND October 8. Assemble at Sanborn Park, E. 16th & Fruitdale, Oakland, 11:00 am, for march and rally.

NEW YORK, LOS ANGELES & CHICAGO. October 8. See your Workers' Power seller for details.

**BAKKE DECISION**

Lozoya is from northern California where the Bakke suit against affirmative action began. She and the Cannery Workers Committee know from experience how difficult it will be if Bakke wins in court.

"We're waiting for the Bakke decision. Affirmative action is going to take a real hard blow if the state decision is not overturned.

"I don't think quotas is a solution to the problem. But you can't have affirmative action without quotas.

"How can you better a situation of past discrimination when we know that the male Anglo is going to be the first one hired?"



# GET U.S. INVESTMENTS OUT OF SOUTH AFRICA!

## Students Demand: Don't Let Our Schools Pay For Apartheid

LOS ANGELES—The regents of the University of California voted 11-6 not to sell the University's \$503 million worth of stocks in companies doing business in racist South Africa.

The vote on the controversial resolution came after months of

demonstrations and sit-ins by students throughout the state.

The organization which has led the protests, the Campuses United Against Apartheid (CUAA), has demanded the immediate sale of all stocks in companies and banks with South African investments.

But the Regents voted instead to set up a committee to discuss "how social responsibility should affect university investments."

The CUAA has pledged to keep the pressure on the Regents until they reverse this decision.

### PROFIT MOTIVE

Owsley Hammond, Treasurer of the University, argued that the only factor determining which stocks the university buys should be the need to "get as much money as possible from the investments."

The Regents took their final vote after hearing the recommendation of the "investments committee." The gentlemen who sit on this committee told the full board that selling the stocks "would be unwise from the point of view of sound financial management."

The vote on the investments committee was 7-2.

Here's who voted for selling the stocks:

**John F. Henning:** Head of the state AFL-CIO. His appointment to the Regents last year was considered a concession to organized labor. In the debate, he called South Africa "one of the most despicable societies in the world."

**Stanley Scheinbaum:** A liberal lawyer and member of the American Civil Liberties Union.

GM  
OUT OF  
SOUTH  
AFRICA



And here's who voted against selling the stocks:

**William A. Wilson:** Chairman of the investments committee. Mr. Wilson describes himself as "active in the management of personal investments, real estate, ranching and farming in southern California, as well as having cattle interests in the United States and Mexico."

**Wilton Vincent:** Also an officer of San Vincente Investors, a Los Angeles firm with holdings in the U.S. colony of Puerto Rico.

**Edward W. Carter:** An officer of the Carter Hawley Hale Stores, Inc., which owns the Broadway, the Emporium, Capwell's, and Weinstein department stores as well as extensive holdings in Northern Ireland, England, Scotland, and Denmark.

He even finds time to be a director of Western Bancorporation, which has loans outstanding to the South African government through the United California Bank.

**William French Smith:** Member of the board of the Jorgensen Steel Company, the Pacific Lighting Corporation and Pacific Telephone.

**Dean A. Watkins:** President of Watkins Johnson Co., manufacturers of electronic warfare devices.

**DeWitt Higgs:** An attorney whose firm's clients include Allstate Insurance, the Fireman's Fund, and the trust department of the Bank of California.

**Robert O. Reynolds:** Director of the Golden West Baseball Co. (the California Angels) and a vice president of the Los Angeles Rams.

### QUALIFIED

Treasurer Hammond says that these "individual Regents are well equipped to decide what represents the best overall interests of the University."

Are they really so well equipped? At least three members of the investments committee are directly tied to companies with direct

investment in South Africa! And most of the rest are charter members of the select club that manages the affairs of American multinational corporations.

And the men who invest in South African exploitation are the same who decide what the university teaches its students at home. □

## Labor Notes

by Jim Woodward



The Rank and File Coalition, a group at UAW Local 47 in Detroit, reports the local's seven delegates charged the union over \$11,000 for attending the national auto workers' convention in May. Most of that money went for lost time pay, which is intended to reimburse a union representative for wages lost while away from work on union business. At a time when Local 47 was nearly bankrupt, steward Joe Skirsson claimed \$1313.19 for one week's lost wages. At that rate he would be making \$65,000 a year, while two other delegates would be earning \$50,000 and \$45,000.

Congress has approved a black lung reform bill, but in such a watered-down version that it is practically useless. Disabled miners will still have extraordinary difficulty receiving any benefits. But some are benefitting handsomely from black lung. Kelsey E. Friend, a Kentucky lawyer and politician, bragged recently about the \$1.2 million made in 1972 from black lung claims fees. "Now there must be 70 lawyers specializing in black lung, all making good money," he says.

The Blue Diamond Coal Company is trying to suppress a government report on the Scotia mine explosions last year which killed 26 men. So far, Blue Diamond's law firm, headed by former Kentucky Governor Bert Combs, has persuaded a federal judge to seal the report indefinitely. Blue Diamond, the parent company of Scotia, also owns the Justus mine in Stearns, Ky., where miners have been on strike for over a year demanding a safety clause in their contract.

Fred R. Field Jr., a top officer of the International Longshoremen's Association, is on trial in New York for taking \$124,000 in bribes from the United Brands Co. (formerly United Fruit). In exchange, Field is reported to have promised to keep the company's bananas moving through the 1968 and 1971 dock strikes, and to guarantee there would be no wildcat strikes against the company during the life of the 1974 contract. According to a United Brands official, cash for the payoffs arrived in banana boats from the company's office in Panama.

Remember the pesticide, DBCP, which was recently discovered to cause sterility in the men who handled it? In all seriousness, the National Peach Council has suggested that use of the chemical should be continued. "While involuntary sterility caused by a manufactured chemical may be bad, it is not necessarily so," says Peach Executive Secretary Robert Phillips. "After all, there are many people now paying to have themselves sterilized... If possible sterility is the main problem couldn't workers who were old enough that they no longer wanted to have children accept such positions voluntarily? Or could workers be advised of the situation, and some might volunteer for such work posts as an alternative to planned surgery for a vasectomy or tubal ligation, or as a means of getting around religious bans on birth control when they want no more children?"

What's happening where you work? Send items for this column to Workers' Power, Labor Notes, 14131 Woodward Avenue, Highland Park, Michigan 48203. Or phone 313 869-5964

## AROUND THE COUNTRY

The University of California isn't the only campus where things are popping around the South Africa issue. Since this spring more than 700 students have been arrested across the nation in protests against university involvement with companies doing business in South Africa.

Here are some other recent developments:

Demonstrations, sit-ins, and petition campaigns have been organized at the University of California, Stanford, Hampshire College, the University of Maryland, the University of Massachusetts, the University of Wisconsin, the University of Connecticut, the University of Illinois, Macalester College, and the University of Oregon.

Some of these protests have already been successful.

At Hampshire College, the board of trustees voted this summer to sell the university's entire stock portfolio after students occupied an administration building. The University of Massachusetts followed suit in September after a student petition drive.

The University of Wisconsin is now preparing a plan for divestiture of its stocks in companies doing business in South Africa.

Stanford and the University of Maryland are now considering similar plans. □

## IN THE UNIONS

If you're a union member, you can get involved by investigating where your union invests its pension or welfare funds.

If any money is invested in companies or banks doing business in racist South Africa (and it probably is) you and your co-workers can put pressure on the union to sell the stocks immediately.

The Furrriers Joint Council has announced that it is withdrawing \$10 million in pension funds from the Manufacturers Hanover Bank, because of that bank's loans to the South African government.

The United Auto Workers (UAW) Executive Board has voted to support a campaign to end bank loans to South Africa, expressing the intention to withdraw UAW deposits from all banks engaged in such loans.

The convention of United Radio, Electric and Machine Workers of America (UE) confirmed an executive decision to withdraw a \$4 million payroll account from Chase Manhattan Bank.

These actions are a boost to the Committee to Oppose Bank Loans to South Africa, coordinated by the American Committee on Africa (ACOA) in New York. Union support for the campaign is getting under way.

Your union can do the same. □



# Rich Men Kill Abortion Rights For Poor Women

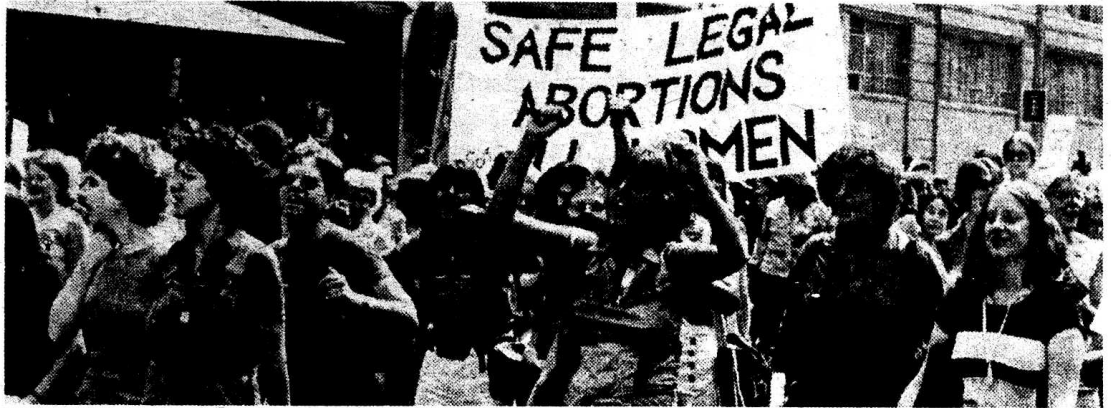
by Elissa Clarke

For three months the Senate and the House have been haggling over just how much they will limit the right of poor women to get abortions.

The Senators were parading as big liberals because they wanted to prohibit the use of federal funds for abortions except in cases of rape, incest, or "when medically necessary." The House wanted to prohibit the use of federal funds for all abortions, unless the mother's life was in danger.

**The Senate caved in this week.** Senators walked out of the conference on Sept. 12 and refused to discuss the anti-abortion amendment again until the House voted on their proposal. So the House voted on Sept. 20—252 to 164—to reject the Senate's wording on rape, incest and "medically necessary." Senate leaders immediately announced that they would compromise their position.

Either way, the right of poor women to get abortions has been ended.



Women have to ask what right Congress has to deny Medicaid funds for abortion.

Abortion was declared legal by a Supreme Court ruling in 1973. The ruling was a victory for the

women's liberation movement—and it was won after a long battle which engaged millions of women in marches and demonstrations.

But the Supreme Court decision did not convince the ruling class that abortion was 'right.' They have always been against abortion, because they are against the right of women to control their bodies and determine their destinies.

**The offensive against women's right to abortion has never let up.**

When Jimmy Carter campaigned for president he said he was personally against abortion but he would not act on his personal opinion. It was only after he was elected that he came out and said that he was against the use of federal money for abortion.

In 1976 Congress passed a ban against the use of federal funds for abortion. It was called the Hyde Amendment. But a New York federal court passed an injunction against the Hyde Amendment, and it was never implemented.

Then the Supreme Court ruled that states are not required to allot Medicaid funds for abortion. The Court instructed the New York

judge to review his position in the light of this ruling. The injunction was lifted.

**Now the Hyde Amendment will be passed again. And poor women will begin to die again from illegal abortions—and you might as well say they were murdered by Congress because that will be the effect of the Hyde Amendment.**

Do you think that statement is unfair? Perhaps you feel that Congress has a right to say what Medicaid funds can be used for and what they cannot. But the practical result will be one law for poor women and one law for other women. For women who have insurance coverage or can afford to pay \$200 or more, there will be safe, legal abortions performed in sterile conditions by a competent doctor.

**For poor women there will be no choice. They will be forced to bear children whether they want to or not. Whether they can afford to or not.**

Or they will seek out illegal abortions. The abortions will be performed by nurses or doctors whose licenses have been revoked

—people out to make a buck. They will be performed in dirty motel rooms or vacant apartments. And if something goes wrong, the woman will be left to die.

Congress is not going to pass the Hyde Amendment because they want to save Medicaid funds or because they think poor women will be able to exercise their right to abortion by saving up the money or finding free clinics. Or because they think that this will force women to be "careful" and avoid unwanted pregnancies.

**No! They will pass this amendment because they are against abortion. They don't care whether it is legal or not. They want to fight against the right—and they are off to a good start.**

The question is what are we going to do about it.

In the 1960's women fought for the right to abortion. In the streets. With countless demonstrations and marches. Now in the face of an attack, we will win only if we fight in the same way. We can win. We don't have to settle for less than the right to a legal, safe abortion for every woman who needs one. □

## SETTLING FOR LOOPHOLES—A SURE WAY TO LOSE

The National Organization for Women (NOW) and the National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL) both came out in support of the Senate version of the Hyde Amendment which would prohibit the use of federal money for abortion except in cases of rape, incest or "when medically necessary."

The argued that women had to accept the better of the two alternatives.

**This is a stab in the back to all women!**

In the August issue of Do It NOW, Arlie Scott (NOW Vice-President) wrote that the Senate anti-abortion bill is "the least offensive of the alternatives."

**Least offensive! Will that soothe the poor women, Black women, young women who will be denied abortions because they cannot pay? The women who will die in back alleys and cheap motels at the hands of money-hungry butchers?**

NOW is supposed to be the leading organization in the country for women's liberation—but they are willing to bargain and compromise the lives of our sisters.

### WHAT IF...

If the Senate version of the Hyde Amendment had won, what would it mean? NOW and other groups hailed the wording "when medically necessary" as an important loophole that would allow poor women to get Medicaid abortions.

But is it enough? Let's look at what this would mean for a pregnant woman who needed an abortion and could not get one unless Medicaid would cover it.

She would be 6-8 weeks pregnant before she was sure. Then she would have to go about finding some doctor who would sign a statement saying that an abortion was "necessary" in her

case. Perhaps if she had some disease which might harm the fetus she could secure such a statement—like multiple sclerosis or venereal disease. Or if she was addicted to drugs. Or if she could get a psychiatrist to say that she should not bear a child at this time.

Getting such statements takes time—and perhaps money. The weeks go by. If the application is rejected, the woman could then be 10-12 weeks pregnant. And by that time she is in her second trimester (12 weeks) an abortion becomes a much more serious and risky operation.

More likely she would bear the child. Or seek an illegal abortion. Or try to abort herself.

### DEFEAT

So what favor has NOW and NARAL done us by coming out in support of this wording? What they have done is to inform Congress that they are willing to compromise on the right to abortion.

**And so the largest women's organization in the country leads us to defeat. They gave the green light, and now the ruling class can go ahead with its offensive against abortion.**

But there is another way. In the 60's when women were fighting for the right to abortion we did not limit ourselves to the 'alternatives' presented by Congress, the Supreme Court, or the Democratic Party. Instead we organized and demonstrated for what we needed: the right to abortion. That is why we won!

Now in the face of an attack, we will win only if we fight in the same way. Not if we are willing to trade off the rights of poor sisters for the rights of those not so poor.

NOW and NARAL show the way to lose. But we can win. The women's movement of the 60's is the proof. □

## Working Women Gain Ground In Battle For Maternity Benefit Law

Last year working women suffered a severe defeat when the Supreme Court ruled that employers are not required to offer maternity benefits in their health insurance plans.

But the Court's attack on working women is being turned around. The Senate approved legislation last week that would require employers to extend the same disability benefits to pregnancy and childbirth that they offer for other medical disabilities.

**The Supreme Court ruled in 1976 that exclusion of maternity benefits was not sex discrimination! They argued that pregnancy was excluded as a specific condition—no matter that it's only women who get pregnant.**

### NO GUARANTEE

But this bill does not guarantee working women coverage for pregnancy. It falls far short. It only says that employers who offer medical plans cannot exclude pregnancy—it does not say that medical plans have to be offered.

Nor does this bill guarantee adequate benefits. Most medical plans limit the number of weeks a woman can collect benefits. For example, members of the United Auto Workers get six weeks. But a woman may be off much longer due to complications before or after childbirth.



The Supreme Court ruling on maternity benefits arose from a decision on the General Electric Co.'s medical plan. The plan excluded pregnancy, but covered other conditions that are either voluntary or pertaining to only one sex, such as hair transplants and vasectomies. The class action suit was brought by women working at G.E.

The Court's ruling on the G.E. case outraged all women. A coalition, the Coalition to End Discrimination Against Pregnant Workers, was formed immediately to fight the decision.

The reaction of women across the country made the politicians think twice. But don't think that Congress will look out for our rights. A majority in Congress is working very hard to take away women's right to abortion. Look at how an anti-abortion amendment to the maternity legislation fared:

Senator Thomas Eagleton (liberal George McGovern's first running mate in the 1972 Presidential race) proposed an amendment that would exclude coverage of abortions from medical plans except to save the mother's life.

The amendment failed, just barely, 44-41.

The maternity legislation now goes to the House, where it is also expected to pass. □

# THE SOUTH BRONX

Out of the decay, the broken bodies and crushed spirits. . .



## a new society on top of the ruins of racist and capitalist America.

by Larry Smith

The South Bronx is one of the most depressed areas of a depression-near America.

There, the incredible but ever so real problems of urban decay have reached all time lows.

The South Bronx is an area where housing, education, and jobs are non-existent.

It is filled with drugs, crime, broken bodies and crushed spirits.

### OPEN OFFICE

There on Saturday, September 24 the International Socialists opened a community center, "The

Freedom Spot", near the corner of

179th Street and Prospect Avenue. The center was built with the sweat and ingenuity of I.S. members, living in and outside the community, and people we had worked with in the South Bronx Liberation Committee (SBLC).

Over 40 people attended the meeting to open the center. More came to "check us out" during the evening.

Members of the I.S. and the SBLC spoke about the problems of the South Bronx, the struggle in Southern Africa, the I.S. and the working class struggle, and the uses of the center.

The Freedom Spot is to become an educational and organizing tool for the people of the community.

There, community people can meet to discuss their problems and gain an understanding of the system that feeds off of their suffering.

The Freedom Spot is where the anger of the community can be organized to change their lives and surroundings.

### SOCIETY OF PLENTY

The people of the South Bronx live and die in the rubble and other waste of a vicious society and

system. The South Bronx exists in a society of plenty.

The plenty is the super profits of that rich, the ruling class, squeeze from us, the South Bronxes and the working class, of this nation.

The South Bronxes of America are growing in number and area.

The Freedom Spot is in the Bronx because a new society will be built on top of the ruins of racist and capitalist America.

This society will be built by people from the South Bronx and other working class people. It will be based upon need not profit. □

# Where We Stand

## WE OPPOSE

•**CAPITALIST EXPLOITATION**  
We live under the capitalist system. The wealth produced by working people is stolen from us by private employers. They prosper from our labor.

•**CAPITALIST CONTROL**  
Capitalists use their profits only to make more profits. When they need fewer workers, they create unemployment. When they need more money, they speed up work, downgrade safety conditions, and raise prices. The capitalist system spends little on health care, a clean environment, or social services, because these things make no profit.

•**OPPRESSION**  
Capitalism needs inequality. Because it needs profits, it can't provide enough for all. So it gives some groups of people worse jobs and lower pay, and labels them inferior. In particular, capitalism locks black people into the bottom of society, and spreads racist ideas to keep them there. Capitalism keeps women responsible for taking care of the work force when it is not at work, including children, who are too young to work. Women who work for wages have two jobs.

•**CAPITALIST GOVERNMENT**  
The government serves the capitalist class. Its only purpose is to protect the private profit system. It protects its interests abroad through economic control of other countries, spying and wars.

•**BUREAUCRATIC COMMUNISM**  
Russia, China and other countries with economies like theirs are also oppressive class societies, run by a privileged ruling class of bureaucrats. They are not socialist and must be overthrown by the working class of those countries.

## WE SUPPORT

•**THE RANK AND FILE MOVEMENT**  
The unions protect workers from their employers. But today's unions are run by privileged officials who sell out because they support the capitalist system. They want labor peace, not labor power. We support the struggle for rank and file control of the unions.

•**LIBERATION FROM OPPRESSION**  
Black people are an oppressed national minority in the United States. They have the right to self-determination—to decide their own future. The struggle of every oppressed group for equality is a just struggle—Blacks, women, gays, Latinos, American Indians. We are for the independent organization of oppressed peoples to fight for their freedom. Support from the entire working class movement will make the struggles of both—the oppressed and the working class movement—stronger.

•**SOCIALISM**  
Society should be run by the working class. The wealth produced by those who work should go to fill people's needs, not to private gain.

•**WORKERS' REVOLUTION**  
But the capitalist class will not give up their rule and profits voluntarily. Socialism can be created only when the working class seizes control of the factories and makes their own government. The working class will rule democratically because it can own society's wealth only together.

•**INTERNATIONALISM**  
The struggle for socialism is world-wide. We support every fight of the working class against exploitation, and every struggle by nations fighting for independence from foreign rulers. We support every struggle for freedom—from the people of southern Africa against racism and western colonialism, to the struggle against bureaucratic rule and Russian imperialism in Eastern Europe. We demand complete independence for Puerto Rico from U.S. colonial rule.

•**REVOLUTIONARY PARTY**  
The most class conscious members of the working class have the responsibility to lead the struggle toward socialist revolution. To do this they must build an organization to put their consciousness into action and make their leadership effective.

•**INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS**  
The I.S. is an organization of revolutionary socialist workers. We are open to all who accept our basic principles and are willing to work as a member to achieve them. Join with us to build the I.S. into a revolutionary party, to build the movement to end exploitation and oppression and to create a socialist world.

**Workers' Power**  
313-869-5964

# WEST COAST WORKERS' CONFERENCE

## JOIN US!

If you agree with the views expressed in this paper and  would like more information, or  would like to join the International Socialists, then send this form to: **INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, MI 48203.**

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# VIEW FROM THE BLEACHERS

THE WORKERS' POWER CAVALCADE OF SPORTS THE WORKERS' POWER CAVALCADE OF SPORTS THE WORKERS

## NETWORKS MOLD FOOTBALL...

### TO FIT TV'S SCHEDULE

by Dan Posen

It was the beginning of another pro football season. My team, the Chicago Bears, were at home against their midwest arch-rivals the Detroit Lions.

In Chicago, where I happened to be that weekend, the game was on home TV.

Not many years ago I would have been glued to the set, absolutely paralyzed, and nothing short of the house burning down or possibly World War III would have moved me.

This year, though, I was all too happy to go to the White Sox doubleheader and forget about the football opener altogether.

Why do I mention this? Well, I don't think my own tastes in sports have changed, at least not that much.

What's happened is that American pro football, once a legitimately great game with as fine a tradition as any sport for half a century, has been ruined in less than ten years.

Of course, rising profits and skyrocketing television revenues for the National Football League would seem to indicate most people don't agree with me.

But I know for a fact I'm not the only ex-football fanatic around. I've met quite a few.

For us, pro football consists mainly of memories, memories of seasons which started in sunny late September and ended the Sunday before New Year.

It's memories of magnificent NFL championship games, played in whatever weather the elements served up in New York or Chicago or Baltimore or Green Bay.

Most of all, those games were played before home town crowds who actually cared which team won.

Football means memories of:

- Alan Ameche scoring for the Colts to beat the Giants in overtime and mud in 1958.

- The Giants and the Bears battling in Chicago in 1963—Y.A. Tittle's passing against the Bears' defense and the cold.

- Bart Starr sneaking in from one yard to beat Dallas in the 13-below-zero classic in Green Bay.

The football players that day were frozen, hulking titans. But they were human titans.

And in those years they played a human game, whether it was in sunny Dallas or frozen Minnesota.

You will never see championship games of that quality again.

The National Football League championship game today is called,



with staggering idiocy, the 'Super Bowl'.

It is the dullest, most antiseptic and plastic — and most lucrative — sports event of the entire year.

It is played in a pre-arranged city, in guaranteed sunshine, before a capacity crowd most of whom have no rooting interest in either team.

The starting time is dictated by network television. The time outs are dictated by network television. The post-game celebration is staged, choreographed and directed by network television. The whole spectacle is invariably stretched out to an incredible three-and-a-half hours, at least.

The kick-off of the first Super Bowl occurred during a television commercial — and the network made them start the game over!

The Super Bowl symbolizes what the entire pro football season has become.

Football is no longer played for the fans. In the stadium, you sit through television time-outs while the game stops.

As for the players — even before the first regular season game, there's a list of players a yard long who have been injured in pre-season and are out for the year.

The game is now surrounded by a media-mystique of senseless violence and brutality that puts to shame ice hockey at its worst.

Coaches like George Allen and the legendary Vince Lombardi are media super-heroes because of their frankly fascist mentality.

Close to half the games are now played on all-purpose astro turf

which rips knees and elbows to shreds, splinters shinbones, and causes brain concussions.

The games are over-scouted and pre-programmed to the point where nearly every team plays the exact same predictable, conservative style.

Television and owner greed are overwhelmingly responsible for the apparently endless degeneration of pro football.

From 1964 on, when the networks first began plowing really big money into the game, they have progressively taken the sport over and wrecked it.

The key to their strategy has been to over-produce the sport, to make it a larger than life spectacle, to make every game a kind of mega-event.

So now, the television image creates the players, not the other way around.

The instant replay is bigger than the real play, and the biggest super-star of all isn't O.J. but Howard Cosell.

And the game itself is dull, dull, dull, dull.

#### THEIR GAME

True, the owners and the networks today have their game, the game they stole from the people, and their profits.

I am more and more convinced, however, that the pro football profit boom of the 1970's is going to turn into collapse sometime in the 1980's.

Meanwhile the owners have their game, and as far as this ex-fan is concerned they can keep it. □

## Jailed Because She Fought Off A Rapist

Desdie Woods got 22 years for defending herself against an armed rapist. So much for justice.

It is an incredible story: In June, 1975, Desdie Woods and a friend, Cheryl Todd — both Black — hitchhiked from Atlanta, Ga. to Reidsville prison in southern Georgia. They were going to see Todd's brother. But they never made it.

It was a terribly hot day; Todd had taken medication for her blood pressure. The combination caused her to faint as they approached the prison.

State police accused Todd of drunkenness. The women were assaulted and thrown in jail. It took them three days to get out. When they were released, they decided to turn right around and go home.

But they never made it home either.

They were given a ride by Ronnie Horne. Horne was armed. He drove the women to a deserted place and threatened to rape them. This was too much for Cheryl Todd. She screamed hysterically and fled.

Horne was enraged that one of his victims got away. He picked up his gun. Woods fought for the weapon. She got it and shot Horne twice in the head.

Desdie Woods found her friend, and reassured her that they were safe. They took money from the dead man to get home.

Desdie Woods and Cheryl Todd were arrested and charged with murder and armed robbery. The case was tried in a small rural town in south central Georgia. The jury of six black women, five white women and one white man was hopelessly deadlocked. But the judge ordered them to reach a verdict.

The jury returned to deliberations and settled on a 'compromise' verdict — one that put Desdie Woods behind bars for 22 years. Instead of being convicted of first degree murder, she was convicted of armed robbery and manslaughter. Todd was convicted of theft and sentenced to five years.

#### SELF-DEFENSE

The issue in this case is whether a woman has the right to defend herself against rape. Two other famous rape cases have confirmed this right: Joan Little and Inez Garcia. In the case of Desdie Woods, the rapist was armed, but Woods was still convicted. In the eyes of the law, she had no right to defend herself.

Desdie Woods has been treated viciously in prison. She has been drugged, beaten, and confined naked in an isolation cell. She said that she was so painfully cold in the cell that she would have killed herself if she had the means.

A strong defense movement is trying to free Desdie Woods. Five hundred demonstrated in her support in Atlanta on September 4th.

Woods is optimistic. She says, 'Tell the people victory is ours. Desdie Woods is strong! strong! strong!' □

E. Clarke

#### FACT AND FICTION

FICTION: Widows are financially protected in the event of their husband's death by Social Security.

FACT: A woman gets her husband's benefits only if she is 60 years old, and has been married for 20 years.

FICTION: Divorced women receive alimony.

FACT: Only 14% of all divorced women are awarded alimony. And only half of those collect.

FICTION: Divorced mothers collect child-support payments.

FACT: Only 44% of divorced mothers are awarded child support. Less than half of those collect regularly! □

## WORKERS' POWER

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# Phila: Police Brutality Must Go!

"MAYOR RIZZO, can you hear? Our demands are very clear. Police brutality—hell no. Killer cops have got to go."

That's what 150 people shouted as they marched around City Hall on September 24 after a one-mile walk down Broad Street.

The march and the follow-up rally at City Hall were organized to protest the numerous cases of police brutality which have blighted Philadelphia during the last year.

Although Philly cops have never been overly concerned about protecting the constitutional rights of the public, in recent months there has been an alarming increase in unprovoked police beatings and shootings.

## SHOT IN FACE

On July 2, Jose Rejes was shot in the face at close range by a cop while standing defenseless in his doorway.

The nine policemen involved in this incident are still on active duty even after they all took the Fifth Amendment during a grand jury hearing on the killing.

Within weeks of the Rejes murder, William Crandle, a Black man, was beaten unconscious after an alleged traffic violation.

He was later charged by the police with assaulting a police officer and obstructing justice.

The police force, which is 82% white, has intensified their harassment of the Black and Puerto Rican communities.

Racist Mayor Frank Rizzo backs them up all the way.

But there have also been incidents of brutality in white working class neighborhoods.

Various community and political groups came together in the September 24th Coalition to organize the rally.

The Coalition's main goal is to push for an independently elected Civilian Review Board which would investigate unjustified police attacks.

Many speakers at the rally emphasized the need for a unified response to stop police illegality.

The fact that Black and Puerto Rican community groups cooperated in setting up the rally indicates that the first important step has been taken.

# Workers' Power

## Steel Imports

# A SMOKESCREEN FOR JOB CUTS

by Steve Lantier

Steelworkers throughout the United States are worried about their jobs.

As more layoffs are announced each week, as the impact of Youngstown, Lackawanna, and Johnstown spreads, people are demanding that something be done.

But the politicians and—with some important exceptions—the Union are demanding the wrong solution.

Congressmen from steel-making areas have formed the "Ingot Coalition." City and county officials from these areas are part of the "Steel Cities Coalition."

These groups are pushing for import controls on foreign steel, which means higher steel prices for the American companies. They are also demanding that steel corporations be granted special tax breaks.

This program is supposed to save jobs. But the coalitions are peddling a losing strategy: a strategy that would not save jobs even if it did become law, a strategy that puts up a smokescreen to prevent a real fight for jobs.

### DISAPPEARING JOBS

Imports are not the real cause of job loss in the steel industry. American companies produce as much steel as they used to—only they do it with far fewer people.

If not one single ton of foreign steel entered the United States, there would still be some 75,000 less jobs than there were a decade ago.

Where have these jobs gone? They have disappeared in job combinations. They have been sacrificed to technology. They have been cut out by attrition. Eliminated by time studies.

Those are the real problems that threaten jobs in steel. Those are the hard questions that the International union, the public officials, and the rank and file must answer—not how to best protect the companies.

### A SERIOUS ALTERNATIVE

But so far, the Director of Steelworkers District 31 (Chicago-Gary), Jim Balanoff, has been the only major union official to offer a real solution.

Balanoff, who won the directorship of the Union's largest district on the Steelworkers Fight Back ticket, led by Ed Sadloski, has opposed import controls.

### A FIGHTING UNION—NOT AN ALIBI

At the upcoming District 31 Conference, a resolution on jobs that actually deals with the problem will be presented. The resolution was sent by Local 1010, Inland Steel, the largest local in the Union.

This resolution calls on the International Union to cease its support for import controls. Instead, it calls for the Federal government to roll back steel prices, and to take the necessary steps to assure that the steel companies don't blackmail the American people by then refusing to produce steel.

And it calls on the Union to fight for a program to re-build the decaying cities of America, a program which would increase employment among steelworkers—and throughout the country.

This is a program that begins to deal with the real problems of steelworkers: jobs are the question, not imports. People should be the Union's concern, not profits.

### THE UNION'S RECORD

But the United Steelworkers of America has played along with the companies for so long that the Union leaders seem to have forgotten their job is to fight for their members, rather than the industry's profits.

When the companies said a few years ago that American steel productivity was too low, the union co-operated in setting up productivity committees. In other words, the union co-operated in telling steelworkers to work themselves out of a job.

When the companies said that every three years the threat of a strike caused hedge buying and an increase in imported steel, the union agreed to a no-strike agreement, the ENA. The ENA was supposed to eliminate periodic layoffs and lower the demand for imports.

Now layoffs and permanent closings have reached crisis levels. The companies and the union leaders are saying it is because imports are increasing. But they still defend the ENA!

### WHAT IMPORT CONTROLS WOULD DO

Today, they demand tariffs and import quotas. This strategy is just as much a loser as the others: tariffs would only allow American steel companies to fix higher prices. The steel producers would

sell the same amount of steel—probably with fewer workers—and make more profit from it.

Tariffs would raise the domestic price of cars, appliances and many other consumer goods. In other words, tariffs would raise the cost of living for all workers—including steelworkers.

Tariffs would certainly lead to retaliation by foreign countries, leading to a lowering of all foreign trade, and quite possibly to a world depression. This is what happened in 1929, when the U.S. imposed a high tariff, and every other country followed suit.

And because of this last consideration, tariffs will not be enacted. The businessmen and their paid politicians who run this country don't want tariffs, even if the steel bosses do. They are not interested in saving steelmakers profits if the

cost is risking every other American big business.

And finally the Union's strategy is a mistake because it is a diversion—a smokescreen and an alibi to avoid a real fight for jobs.

The propaganda campaign that the companies are running used the old Hitler technique: if you repeat a Big Lie often enough, people will believe it. The Union, with the important exception of Balanoff, Sadloski, and their allies, is helping them.

But steelworkers need a fighting union, not an alibi.

[Next week, Workers' Power will present a double-page feature on the crisis in the steel industry. We will go into all the arguments about imports and jobs, in an effort to counter the companies' Big Lie. We believe the facts are on our side.]

To keep mills like this one open, American steelworkers need a fighting union, not an alibi.

