

Workers' Power

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N.Y. Transit Workers Say:

YOU CAN BEAT CITY HALL!



Rank and file New York city workers announce the May 18th public employees demonstrations. At the speakers stand are Henry Lewis, of the Coalition of Concerned Transit Workers (left), and Joe Carnegie, a retired transit worker.

A QUARTER MILLION city workers can beat city hall.

That's what New York's 32,000 transit workers are showing another 225,000 public employees.

For over three years, the bankers and city politicians have been chipping away at jobs, wages, and working conditions in New York. City workers were told there was no choice: accept the cuts, or the city will go bankrupt.

It was a preview of what was to come for public employees in

many other cities around the country.

Meanwhile, the bankers were extracting the last penny. While workers' contracts were violated with impunity, never was it suggested that the banks sacrifice their profits or power for the common good.

Now New York's transit workers are fighting back. Yet another "take-away" contract was negotiated April 1, but subway motormen, bus drivers, and other members of the Transport

Workers Union are mobilizing to vote it down. Members of a smaller union, the Amalgamated Transit Union, have already rejected it by a 5-1 margin.

All New York city workers realize that the transit contract was designed to set a pattern for other city contracts which expire June 30. It is not surprising, therefore, that transit workers are getting tremendous support from other city workers.

This year, for the first time, the united interests of all public employees have found expression in a demonstration planned May 18th by the Coalition of Concerned Transit Workers.

If this new unity leads to united rank and file action on June 30, New York City's workers will be on the way out of the woods. And they will have set an example for workers in other cities—such as Cleveland's teachers—who are being blackmailed by bureaucrats and bankers.



Chicago union women march for ERA p.5

Teamsters Put The Bite On 'Piranha'



DOWN IN SAN MARCOS, Texas, Teamsters have been fighting a scab operation in a most original way.

A Hollywood film company (the makers of Star Wars, in fact) has come to the central Texas lake country to film water scenes for the movie "Piranha."

The company has a contract with the Teamsters in California, but chose not to hire Teamsters in Texas, supposedly because it's a "low budget" film. Quite a few movies have been made in Texas recently because Texas is a "Right to Work" state. That assures lower wages.

The business agent for IBT Local 657 in San Antonio, George Hardeman, asked for half the crew to be union members. The company said no. So Texas Teamsters went into action.

They got a directional microphone and waited for the words "Roll 'em!" They'd let the film get going for a couple of minutes, then unleash a barrage of flashing lights, homemade bombs, firecrackers, and cherry bombs.

In scenes that were supposed to be quiet they used portable alrhorns. One bystander said, "It sounded like there were diesel trucks all over the place." Forced the company to waste a lot of film and time.

As one Teamster told this reporter, "You got to get 'em in the butt pocket. Yep, that hip pocket they pay the money out of. That's all they understand."

Toni Hawk

More on New York's public employees—pp. 6-7.

Who Will Benefit From Moro's Assassination?

by Dan Posen

Former Italian Prime Minister Aldo Moro, the leader of the ruling Christian Democratic Party, was killed by the Red Brigades organization, which calls itself "revolutionary communist."

But the results of the kidnapping and killing of Moro are the exact opposite of anything revolutionary.

The entire Italian political spectrum has shifted to the right.

Moro's own Christian Democratic Party colleagues and government leaders refused to engage in any negotiations or deals for Moro's release, even when Moro's family begged them to.

The government even appears to have won substantial popular and working class support for its hard line stand against any deal with the Red Brigades. Hundreds of thousands of people, including large numbers of union members, are demonstrating for law and order.

HARD LINE

The hardest line of all was taken by the official Communist Party. Only days before his kidnapping, Moro had worked out the deal that brought the Communist Party into a Parliamentary coalition with the Christian Democrats.

The Communists threatened to withdraw from the coalition, causing the government to collapse, if the Christian Democratic Party tried to bargain for the life of its political leaders.

Aldo Moro's 30 years of faithful service to the Italian ruling class, the big-business Christian Democratic Party and the state, weren't enough to induce them to make any compromise to save his life.

This is why Moro's widow and children are so bitter.

But Moro's own colleagues, the Christian Democratic leaders, managed to make even Moro's death a final service to the interests of the Italian capitalist state.

By allowing Moro to be killed, they have created a martyr and national hero.

The image and legend of the dead Aldo Moro will help clean up the image and whitewash the record of the Christian Democratic Party. Moro had the reputation as the cleanest politician in Europe's most corrupt, dishonest political party.

His death will also create a period of some popular support for



Enrico Berlinguer, head of Italy's Communist Party. The Communists have called for repressive measures against left-wing unionists.

repressive measures against the left, even though Italian revolutionary socialists condemned the Red Brigades and the kidnapping.

The Communist Party can be expected to fully support any repressive measures against the left, in the name of "wiping out terrorism."

Inside industrial unions which it controls, the Communist Party is already moving—in the words of a Communist union leader Lucio Lama—to "oust all extremist elements from the labor movement."

This means, any worker who opposes the existing Italian capita-

list state, is subject to being purged with union leadership approval.

The Communist Party's support for the right, however, may do it little good if and when the Italian state turns toward really severe repression.

The day after Moro's body was found, the New York Times wrote: "Diplomats with close knowledge of the Italian capital said privately that for a generation the governing Christian Democrats had been preparing to deal with an expected coup by the Italian Communist Party, and had been severely handicapped and disorganized in trying to deal with extremists now that the Communists supported the government."

In other words, the plans of Italy's rulers for sweeping action to wipe out the Communist Party and crush the entire union movement are still on the books.

This is exactly what the terrorist, mislabelled "revolutionary" Red Brigades are counting on.

The Brigades have no interest in organizing a mass workers' movement for socialism

They believe that, somehow, workers will be radicalized by a wave of repression.

In this repression the best ally of the ruling class, intentionally or otherwise, are the Red Brigades. If the Brigades had never existed, the Italian ruling class would probably have had to invent them. □



Aldo Moro, in a communiqué from the terrorist Red Brigades two weeks before he was assassinated. Whose interests do the Brigades really serve?

If you want to heal the sick, get born rich...

by Marilyn Danton

Just the other day a friend of mine told me that he had wanted to be a doctor when he graduated from high school. His family didn't have the money, so he didn't go to med school.

And, since his family wasn't in the \$75,000 a year and above income bracket, it's understandable.

In order to be assured of a place in medical school today your family might have to put up \$100,000 to \$250,000, or be a relative or associate of a big wig.

It is an investment in the future. A doctor makes a median salary of \$40,000 (for surgeons it's \$69,000). In 30 years of practicing, that comes to \$1,200,000—not a bad return on \$100,000 investment.

Yet, health care, unlike other expensive commodities in this society is a necessity for everyone, not just the wealthy.

INCREASE IN DOCTORS

Today the number of doctors is increasing. It has risen from one doctor for every 640 people in 1966 to one for every 513 people in 1976, a 24% increase over ten years. At this rate there will be one for every 450 people by 1985.

But, in spite of the increasing number of doctors and the sky-

rocketing costs of health care and doctors' fees, the U.S. ranks 15th in infant mortality rate and 21st in life expectancy for males.

Part of the answer to this apparent contradiction is that while the number of doctors is increasing, only some sections of the population are benefiting.

According to the New York Times, virtually all medical authorities agree that the areas already well supplied with doctors—rich urban and suburban areas—got more while those lacking in doctors—rural communities and poor urban neighborhoods remain under-served.

The Federal Council on Wage and Price Stability further pointed out that the increase in doctors in these areas has not lowered prices, but in fact has raised them.

"It has been suggested that physicians practicing in these over supplied areas can, to a certain extent, induce demand for their services and raise their fees.

"Thus, additional physicians and hospital costs may be generated in already high medical care utilization areas," according to a recent report on doctors' fees by the council.

In other words more doctors means even more doctors and higher fees for the wealthy who can pay, but little except rising costs for everyone else.

In an apparently unrelated event, the Supreme Court is currently deliberating whether or not Allan Bakke, a white man, was a victim of "reverse discrimination" when he was refused admittance to a University of California medical school that held out 16 of 100 openings in an affirmative action program for minorities.

But there is a relationship. Today the ratio of white doctors to the white population is one for every 500, while for Blacks it is one for 4000, and Latinos, one for 30,000. It is primarily the Black and Latino communities—poor urban neighborhoods—that lack doctors and adequate health facilities.

Yet, while the wealthy or associates of prestigious people can buy their way into medical school so they can end up in a wealthy suburb and add to increasing doctors' fees, minority admissions programs that would increase the number of minority doctors and help to redistribute doctors to those areas where they are most needed are under attack because they supposedly discriminate against white men.

Bakke may have been a victim of discrimination, but if so, it had to do with his lack of pull or money, not his race or sex. Former University of California

student George Sutherland, after making an extensive study of the school's admission policies, argues that one of the reasons the university presented a very weak case in defense of their affirmative action program was to cover up shakey admissions practices.

According to Sutherland, U.C. "didn't want their admissions records subpoenaed because that would show that numerous non-minority applicants were admitted" who did not qualify under the admission standards.

The case of Ramona Mrak, daughter-in-law of the school's chancellor, Emil Mrak, is a good example. After she'd been turned down, Chancellor Mrak complained to the Dean of Admissions. The next year Ramona Mrak was admitted. Generally 12 out of 100 openings to the medical school are reserved for persons with money or friends in high places.

So the next time you hear someone talk about reverse discrimination against white men, or unqualified minority doctors, ask them about the wealthy who only need money to become a doctor and make upwards of \$40,000 a year.

Today my friend is an auto worker. With overtime he makes \$17,000 a year—\$23,000 less than if he'd become a doctor. That's what he gets for not being born rich. □

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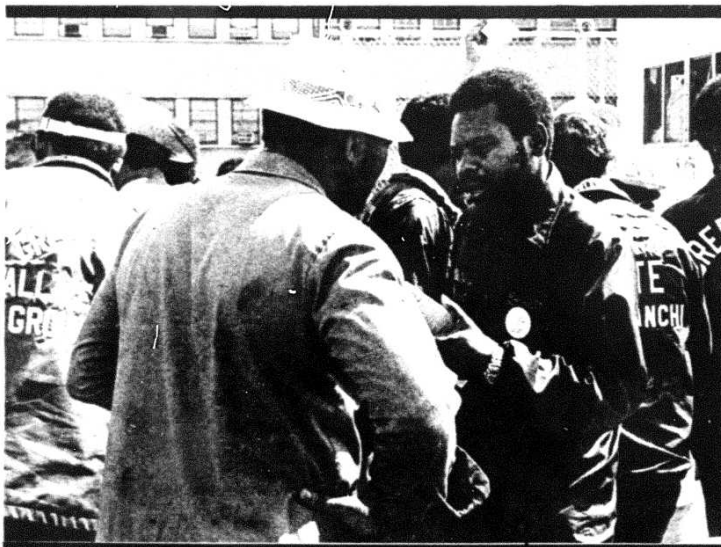
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Workers choosing new leadership in UAW

Elections this year in the UAW are serious business. New, militant caucuses are winning support from many workers. The next few weeks will test the extent of that support.

by Mark Levitan

ELECTION TIME is here. In hundreds of UAW locals, elections will be held in the next few weeks for local officers, stewards, and committeemen.

The earliest returns show that many local incumbents may be kicked out.

In the United Auto Workers (UAW), the membership does not have the right to vote for their regional or international officers. They do have that right for their local officers.

The result is that the ranks get to the people they can reach. More than ever, local officers are paying a double price. Once for the failure of the international leadership to back up their locals, and again for their own short-comings.

CLEVELAND, NEW JERSEY

In the Cleveland area, there have been two upsets. At Local 1005 (Chevy Parma), Larry Moran, running for President, finished first in the first ballot. Moran has never held union office before. A former president, Bill Brake, came in second. The current president, John Havens, came in third. Moran will face Brake in the run-off.

At Local 1250 (Ford Motor Company in Brook Park, Ohio), former President Wayne Medders was defeated by a former vice president, Thurman Payne. Medders and Payne held office together until they were defeated by a slate headed by current President John Kilo. Kilo did not run this year.

In Clark, New Jersey, the "Hand in Hand" caucus at Local 735 (GM's Hyatt plant), took one executive board-at-large position. Four caucus members, one for sergeant-at-arms and three for trustee, are in run-offs.

Jimmy Zarrello, a leader of the caucus, was re-elected as chairman of the shop committee by nearly a two-to-one majority. The run-offs and the election for committeemen will take place on May 19.

STAY TUNED

In the next month, elections will be held at Locals 47, 51, 140, 212, 235, 372, 869, and others. In many of these locals there are rank and file candidates and slates.

Their success could mark an important step in creating an alternative to the UAW's current one party system.

Workers' Power will be reporting and analyzing these results. Stay tuned.

Two Teamsters file suit on mishandling of pension fund

by Jim Woodward

TWO TEAMSTERS, members of the Teamsters for a Democratic Union (TDU) reform group, have filed suit in a Chicago federal court, for removal of the current trustees of the Central States Health and Welfare Fund, and their replacement through a democratic membership election.

Some of the defendants named in the suit are Teamster President Frank Fitzsimmons, Ohio Teamster leader William Presser, former fund administrator Daniel Shannon, former Attorney General Richard Kleindienst, and the Old Security Life Insurance Co.

The significance of the suit, though, is not its star-studded line-up of defendants.

Rather, according to TDU national secretary Ken Paff, it is "especially important because it is the first and only action aimed at putting control of the Funds in the hands of the rank and file members, as well as recovering some of our lost moneys."

MISSING FUNDS

The basis for the suit is an insurance contract awarded to Old Security in 1976. The company got this contract after Kleindienst spoke to Fitzsimmons about it. For his services, Kleindienst was paid \$250,000.

Three months after Old Security got the contract, the Health and Welfare Fund filed suit against the company, charging that \$7 million in premiums had disappeared.

The new suit contends, however, that the current Fund trustees have not done all they could to recover the missing money.

For instance, the trustees who OKed the Old Security deal, including Fitzsimmons, were forced to resign shortly afterwards.

The suit says the present trustees have failed to sue the

former trustees to recover this money.

It also charges that trustees have continued to utilize companies under the control of Allen Dorfman, convicted of taking a \$56,000 kickback in connection with a pension fund loan.

Dorfman reportedly was tied in to the Old Security deal. He is also under investigation in other cases involving misuse of Teamster funds.

DUMP DORFMAN

In addition to asking for election of new trustees, the class action lawsuit asks for a judgement against the defendants for the \$7 million that is missing, and an injunction prohibiting the fund from doing any further business with Dorfman-connected companies.

The two Teamsters who brought the suit are Claude Carpenter, of Local 75 in Green Bay, Wisconsin, and James Adcock, Sr., of Norwalk, Ohio, a member of Local 299.

Carpenter was recently elected trustee of his local as part of a TDU slate.

Their suit comes at a time of increasing legal difficulties and internal maneuverings for the top Teamster officials.

Just last month Daniel Shannon was fired as executive director of both the Teamsters central states welfare fund and its pension fund.

It is widely believed that Teamster Vice President Roy Williams

was behind this move, and intended it as a way of strengthening his position in the high-level fighting over who will succeed Frank Fitzsimmons as union president.

At the same time, Fitzsimmons is under grand jury investigation to determine whether he lied under oath in Senate testimony regarding the Old Security deal.

The grand jury probes could lead to an indictment against the Teamster president, and his resignation from office.

Production, imports up in steel industry

The first quarter of this year revealed some interesting reports from the steel industry.

First: production was running at just about tops.

According to the American Iron and Steel Institute, the industry was operating at 90% of capacity. Since part of steel plant capacity must stay out of production to permit repairs, 90% means top level production.

Inland Steel, in fact, was booked for cold-rolled sheet orders through June and found itself turning regular customers away.

Second: imports, too, for the same period were at an all-time high.

Imported steel ran 1.5 million tons in January, 2.2 millions tons in February, and 1.98 in March. That's 5.8 million tons for the quarter—compared to 3.3 for the same period a year earlier.

The high imports are due, in part, to an effort to beat "reference pricing" deadlines to limit low-

priced imports that took full effect in February. But the high imports continued on through March. They are due to exactly the same thing as high domestic production — economic recovery.

Third: during the same first three months of this year, five states passed "Buy America" legislation for state or local contractors.

Behind the legislation to ensure use of American capitalists' goods (vs. those of Japanese ones) has been Bethlehem Steel.

Bethlehem was joined last year by U.S. Steel and other major steel corporations in enormous "Buy America" campaigns pushing for protectionist measures. They claimed that foreign steel is to blame for high unemployment among steelworkers and for lowered domestic production.

STEEL STATES

But their claim became rather transparent with the combination

of record level domestic production and record level imports — simultaneously — early this year.

Nevertheless, legislators in half a dozen states have chosen to believe, or pretend to believe—the corporate import hoax.

Although the steel companies themselves know that the actual amount of imported steel poses no real threat to them, they also know that they would have a free monopoly-pricing hand if all lower-priced imported steel could be eliminated from the market.

Three of the five states that voted to curb imports—Pennsylvania, Indiana and Ohio—are steel states. Maryland, which appears ready to follow suit, contains the large Sparrows Point works and intends to limit its protectionist legislation to steel.

The other states were Minnesota and West Virginia, where steel magnates have more than a little at stake in their large iron ore and coal industries.

H-BLOCK'S SECRET TORTURE

THE ARTICLE AT RIGHT, "AGONY OF H-BLOCK," is reprinted from the newspaper of the Irish Republican movement, An Phoblacht, published in Dublin Ireland.

It is an account by prisoners at the Long Kesh and Crumlin Road (Belfast) prisons in northern Ireland.

They have been jailed by the British occupation government of northern Ireland. Said An Phoblacht:

"For almost 1000 years, England has tried to subjugate Ireland. It has been a long history of death, famine, violence and bloodshed. In every generation, a minority of Irish men and women heroically have resisted English rule. Over the past decade alone resistance to this alien rule has exacted sacrifices in life and liberty unprecedented in this century.

"There is a growing demand for a British withdrawal from our country. England is meeting that demand by intensifying her torture of Irish prisoners-of-war."

Because these prisoners are in jail for resisting the British occupation of their country, they refuse to wear prison uniforms or do prison work assigned to criminals. But the British government does not recognize them as political prisoners. These men are given no clothing to wear in their cells, where they are confined.

These conditions have never been mentioned or protested by the Carter Administration, which claims to support "the universal principles of human rights throughout the world."

An Phoblacht adds:

"The European Commission for Human Rights found the British Government guilty of torture in the Six Counties of north-east Ulster. Amnesty International called for an inquiry into prison and police conduct in the remaining 26 Counties of Ireland...Some 40 cases of torture in English prisons have been laid before the European Court in Strasbourg."

Israel, friend of apartheid

South African interests will invest \$50 million in Israel over the next three years. At the same time, Israel will get a \$40 million line of credit for purchases from South Africa.

The arrangements for increased Israel-South African economic ties were made by Israeli Finance Minister Simcha Erlich in a recent visit to the apartheid state of South Africa.

The new measures will lower Israel's balance of trade deficit with South Africa.

South Africa benefits by creating joint ventures with Israeli businessmen and by making industrial investments or processing South African raw materials (especially South African diamonds).

BRIDGE

During his visit to South Africa, Erlich told an audience of South African businessmen that Israel can act as a "bridge" for South Africa into the Common Market and the U.S.

By exporting goods to Israel for re-export to other countries, South African exporters are able to avoid the extensive boycott on South African products.

Trade between Israel and South Africa now amounts to \$90 million a year.

Israel's friendly relations with South Africa are proof that the Israeli government is lying when it claims to represent the interests of the Jewish people, past or present.

When South African Prime Minister John Vorster visited Israel, he was an honored guest at the Israeli memorial to the six million Jews murdered by Nazism in Europe.

During World War II, Vorster himself was an active, outspoken sympathizer of the Nazi cause and was even jailed for pro-Nazi activities. Israel's current ally, South Africa, is the only country in the world whose current government leaders were openly favorable to Hitlerism.

BEHIND SOUTH AFRICA'S MURDER RAID



South Africa's massive air raid into Angola left over 500 people dead, according to the Angolan government.

Most of those killed were civilian refugees from Namibia, the territory illegally occupied by South Africa.

South Africa claimed its forces hit military camps of SWAPO, the Namibian national liberation movement.

The raid came one week after South Africa announced it would accept a U.S.-backed proposal for supposedly free elections and an independent Namibia.

SWAPO says it will not accept the plan until the elections are guaranteed to be supervised by the United Nations, not South African troops.

SWAPO also says South Africa must be forced to leave Walvis Bay, the deep water port which is critical to the future of any independent Namibia.

The raid into Angola received international publicity. Yet for years, the western media have ignored South African atrocities inside Namibia itself.

To take one example among hundreds, an account from the northern Namibian village of Ogonko, reported in SWAPO's magazine, Namibia Today:

"During the last week of March [1977] the army shot dead about 15

women who were picking fruit at Ogonko. The South African army took the bodies to the Oshakati mortuary.

"The relatives wondered why these people did not return home. They received word that the army had shot them, so some went to Oshakati to find out what had happened.

"Some of the relatives were subjected to electric shocks and they had to pay 5 Rand for each body. They were interrogated about aiding 'terrorists'. The people who refused to pay were not allowed to take the bodies."

The Western powers, led by the United States, were quick to verbally denounce South Africa's raid. But the timing of the raid makes clear where South Africa, and the Western powers themselves, really stand on the future of Namibia.

South Africa has not given up its aim of creating a Namibian puppet state under South African domination. The South African government has made it clear that with or without a deal, they will continue their war to wipe out or weaken SWAPO.

The Western powers and a number of independent African states are putting intense pressure on SWAPO to give up its demands for United Nations supervision, and to accept the U.S.-backed proposal

as it stands. South Africa's raid into Angola shows what the continued presence of South African troops in Namibia would mean.

Even while the United Nations was condemning the raid, without doing anything about it, South African officials were promising there will be more raids in the future.

A meaningless United Nations resolution against the raid was rushed through by agreement of the Western powers and various African states. They wanted to get the issue out of the way before this week's scheduled talks between SWAPO and Western government representatives at the U.N.

But SWAPO responded by calling off the talks and calling its representatives home. The response of the Western powers, especially the United States, made clear that they won't stand in South Africa's way.

The weaker SWAPO is, the easier the U.S. believes it can be pushed into line.

Neither South Africa nor the liberation fighters have any reason to take U.S. anti-apartheid rhetoric, or the vague threat of sanctions sometime in the future, seriously.

U.S. attacks on the white regime are purely verbal. All the real pressure is directed against SWAPO.

THROUGH your columns, the Republican prisoners-of-war in H-Blocks 3 and 5, Long Kesh, and B-Wing, Crumlin Road Gaol, wish to highlight the torture and inhuman treatment that has been practised on us over the last 16 months in the form of institutionalised violence. There are now more than 200 Republican prisoners-of-war on the "blanket" protest for political status. We are kept in total solitary confinement, never being allowed to leave our cells. We do not receive any form of fresh air or exercise whatsoever. Most of us have had no form of exercise for over a year.

After several months of this, we are physically shattered. Every man suffers from some sort of medical complaint. We become exhausted at the slightest physical exertion.

The food we receive here is inadequate and usually inedible, because it is cold, ill-prepared or simply disgusting.

We do not receive any food parcels, therefore we are dependent upon what the prison authorities serve us. When the food is bad (it usually is) we go without! In our circumstances this is a very serious loss.

Always cold

In the mornings at 7.45 we stand naked and wash ourselves in a small basin of water. We find it very hard to keep warm with just a blanket round us.

We are subjected to continual harassment by the prison authorities, who try to break our spirit. We get frequent cell searches, during which we are told to take off the blanket.

We are made to stand naked in front of several prison officers who scrutinise our bodies. Recently, men have been forcefuly held over a chair or table while a prison officer or medical officer inspected private parts of their bodies.

Many men are regularly sent to the punishment cells, either on a framed charge or over a very, very petty thing. The cells in the punishment block are like ice boxes. There is no heating in them.

The screws who run the punishment block hand out beatings to prisoners without thought of mercy. Men are kept in these cells from three to 30 days, depending on the alleged crime.

Most degrading

The most disgusting and degrading aspect of the punishment block, apart from the beatings, is the toilet "facilities".

There is a chamber pot in each cell, supposed to be emptied at least twice daily. If you are a "blanket man", a bucket is brought to your door and you must empty the filthy

contents into it.

Receiving a bucket often depends on the screw on duty. Often, men do not have a chance of emptying their pots for days. This means that the filthy contents of the pot eventually flow over the floor, remaining there for days.

Treatment and conditions in the punishment block are so bad that men have been forced to embark on hunger strikes in an attempt to stop the beatings or just to get their chamber pots emptied.

Men also are paraded naked before the prison governor in the punishment block. Everything that happens in these cells is geared to break the spirit of the Republican POWs.

Strip searches

Very few of us take the monthly visit (which must be granted) but those who do are subjected to the indignity of four strip searches before returning to their cells.

The things that I have mentioned are only a few of the tortures and suffering inflicted upon us by the Crown. We make no apology for our protest; it is a voluntary protest.

Every man has refused to wear prison garb or do prison work. We are Republican POWs, not common criminals. Therefore, we shall continue to resist any attempt to criminalise us in any form or manner.

Political status

It is quite clear to us that the real criminal is the Crown, a foreign power that keeps 200 men and women incarcerated in such terrible conditions in H-Blocks where we are tortured daily to force us to wear a criminal uniform.

All we ask is that we, the Republican POWs status to which we are entitled as prisoners-

of-war. We wish to make it clear that our resolve and determination is as strong as it ever has been and that we shall continue to resist each and every oppressive measure that is brought to bear upon us.

'Black Summit': New Strategy?

by Larry Smith

"Some of our friends of a few years ago are changing and remaining silent on the issues," said Larry Washington, Detroit leader of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), during last weekend's NAACP-sponsored "Black Summit Conference" in Chicago.

A thousand people, including 600 delegates, attended the summit, to develop a new strategy for facing the many problems the Black community has to endure.

One reason for the summit was the growing rivalry between the NAACP and the Urban League, which half-heartedly broke with the

Carter Administration last September and staged its own "Black Summit Conference" the following winter.

The Urban League leader, Vernon Jordan, is rumored to be one of the candidates to become head of the Ford Foundation.

The NAACP summit is an attempt by that organization to retain its position as being in the forefront of the struggle for Black rights.

The conference was also a clear continuation of growing dissatisfaction with the Democratic Administration, as symbolized by Jimmy Carter.

The most important reason for

the NAACP summit is the growing crisis in the Black community, and the failure of the past and present strategy of the Black leadership, including the NAACP's, to come to grips with that crisis.

There is a depression in the Black community. Neither the strategy of the Black leadership nor their supposed allies, liberals, Democrats and Carter has changed that fact.

The growing racist movement is organizing to roll back the gains that Black people made through struggle in the 50's, 60's and early 70's.

Attacks against busing and affirmative action are indicators of

things to come.

As far as the so-called allies are concerned, Larry Washington understated the case. But similar sentiments were expressed by others.

NOT CENTRAL?

Benjamin Hooks, Executive Director of the NAACP, called Carter "a creation of the media" and inept.

How far out of touch the Carter Administration is, was symbolized by Eleanor Holmes Norton, head of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

She told the summit conference

that the Bakke case and quotas are "not central to the future of affirmative action." The Bakke case is the most important case before the U.S. Supreme Court in almost 30 years.

Without quotas affirmative action suits do not have any teeth, and are almost as worthless as the campaign promises Carter made to the Black community during the last election.

To the credit of the people at the conference, Eleanor Holmes Norton's remarks drew great criticism.

Ben Hooks told those gathered at the summit, "Americans must awaken to the realization that this system cannot survive with millions of its people who do not believe in it."

"Millions of people feel that the system is corrupt, that it does not pay off for them, does not pay adequate wages for their hard labor, does not provide decent housing for its citizens, does not insure the health and efficient education of its population."

This fact of life has been true for the Black community since the creation of the system itself. His statement is interesting, however, because it took place in a "Black Summit Conference" to develop strategies and tactics.

Hooks' statement is therefore an introduction to that new strategy:

NEW ALLIANCES

Some indication of the new strategy can be gathered from what took place there and in the recent past.

The NAACP and the AFL-CIO formally announced the launching of a voter-registration drive in the Black community of 14 states, to register some of the eight million unregistered potential Black voters.

How that vote is to be used was shadowed by the chairmen of both the Republican and Democratic parties attending the summit conference.

Bill Brock, chairman of the Republican Party, promised his party will no longer write off Black people "as captives of the opposition (party)."

Then he laid out the Republican tax-credit and business incentive program that they claim will create millions of jobs and increased economic opportunity for the Black community.

John White, chairman of the Democratic Party, brought out the tarnished record of his organization and a plea, "Don't leave your old friend!"

The door seems open for some of the Black leadership to seek new allies, outside the tradition of relying on one political party.

But all this has meant so far was seen last winter, when the NAACP Energy Conference allied itself with the oil industry.

What Hooks and company failed to deal with the weekend of their "Black Summit Conference" was how to revitalize the mass movements of Black people that got us this far.

Because he sees a solution only in the context of the racist system itself, he failed to act upon something else that he said in Chicago:

"I would suggest to you that there aren't enough jails, there aren't enough police, national guardsmen, or for that matter, armed forces, to save democracy when the people reject the system."

It's not really democracy Hooks is trying to "save," but capitalism—the system which Black people are less and less able to believe in.

WOMEN MARCH FOR EQUAL RIGHTS

by Val Dixon

CHICAGO — Four thousand women marched here on April 29 for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. The march stopped traffic as it paraded through downtown Chicago, and Saturday shoppers cheered in support.

"ERA, YES!" was the slogan that this large crowd of both men and women held in common.

Women's organizations from all over the midwest attended, including: Women's League of Peace and Freedom, National Organization for Women, women's health clinics, women's student groups, female trade unionists, and a Japanese-American women's group.



Trade union organizations were especially prominent. UAW District 4 sent a large contingent. From Gary, 50 women steelworkers wearing their hardhats marched behind a banner reading: "Equal Pay For Equal Work, District 31 Women's Caucus."

At a rally following the march, labor leaders, state officials, and leaders of the women's movement all urged passage of the amendment. With some states trying to reverse earlier votes for the ERA, ratification in Illinois is considered key in obtaining the final three states necessary for passage.

AROUND THE COUNTRY

In Atlanta, Georgia 500 people gathered for an ERA rally on April 7. And in New

York, 50 women picketed the New York Times after that paper ran an editorial against extension of the March, 1979 deadline for ratification.

Rallies are planned for Mother's Day in Newark, New Jersey; Louisville, Kentucky; New Orleans; and Philadelphia. "Give Mom Equal Rights for Mother's Day" will be the theme of the rally in Newark.

The National Organization for Women has called a national demonstration for the Equal Rights Amendment in Washington, D.C. on July 9. Tens of thousands of women are expected to attend.

The day will commemorate the death of Alice Paul one year ago. Paul is the author of the Equal Rights Amendment. □

Local 1010 Pushes OSHA Action

by Craig Fleming
U.S.W.A. Local 1010

EAST CHICAGO, Indiana—Coke plant workers and representatives from United Steel Workers Local 1010 at Inland Steel met with lawyers from the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) on May 5 to get ready for an upcoming health inspection of Inland's coke batteries.

It was the first time OSHA had ever met with employees of a plant

before the inspection started.

Local 1010 demanded full participation in the inspection. Department meetings were set up where battery workers could find out their rights and tell OSHA what problems to look for.

Many violations of the coke oven health and safety standards were brought out.

Test results from air samples showed coke emissions of 200 times the federal standard. Out of 54 workers tested, [by the company in the recent past], 53 were over-

exposed to these cancer-causing fumes.

Others told of dirty locker rooms, exposed wiring, leaking oven doors, and incomplete medical exams.

The date of the OSHA inspection has not been revealed to avoid tipping off the company.

LEADING THE WAY

Local 1010 has led the way in demanding a healthy and safe workplace for steel workers. Late

last month, the local held a workshop on foundry hazards for Inland's foundry workers.

Experts from the Chicago Area Committee for Occupational Safety and Health and 1010's safety committee talked about what had to be done and how to organize to win.

One worker said, "I'm glad to see this union cares about its membership. If we use the contract and make OSHA enforce their own standards, we can force Inland to clean up their foundry mess now." □

"WE ARE CALLING on all union members who work in New York to come out and show support for transit workers and for yourselves, and to let the city administration and union bosses know we are not going to take it lying down any more."

"We have the support of many people in other city unions. The reason we asked them to help us was that we realize this contract for the transit workers was the fore-

runner for what other municipal workers were to receive."

That's what New York subway motorman Henry Lewis, of the Coalition of Concerned Transit Workers, said in announcing a rank and file city workers' demonstration called for May 18.

The transit workers are spearheading a movement that may turn around the banks' and city administration's attack on public employees.

Since late 1974, when New York City teetered on the edge of bankruptcy, transit workers and other city employees have been sold a bill of goods by city politicians and their union leaders.

They were told the only way the city could survive was by holding down wages, eliminating jobs, jacking up productivity, and cutting corners right and left. City workers' standard of living dropped, year by year.

Union leaders not only refused to fight back, they squandered the union pension funds in buying the high-risk New York City bonds the bankers refused to touch. That kept the city afloat, but endangered the retirement of thousands and thousands of city employees.

City workers were not happy, but there was little resistance to this course of action.

But finally, with no end in

sight to the concessions, the transit workers rebelled. When their union leadership negotiated a new "takeaway" contract on April 1, a rank and file rejection movement mushroomed.

Heavy pressure, organized by the Concerned Transit Workers, forced the Transport Workers Union (TWU) leadership to cancel the first mail ballot on the proposed contract.

A second vote, without the

misleading language used in the first ballot ("I reject and vote to strike") is underway.

ISSUES

A rejection by the transit workers, which is a strong possibility, would wreck the city administration's strategy of forcing even worse contracts on other city unions, in order to get federal aid. These contracts are currently being negotiated.

New York City Exclusive by Mike Urquhart, Steve Zeluck, and Steve Burghardt.

THE DESTRUCTION OF NEW YORK CITY DOESN'T HAVE TO BE

NEW YORK CITY—Public employees and all New York City residents are being shafted once again.

Services are being cut, again. Real wages of city workers are being cut, again.

The excuse is the same one given by any employer—"There's no money."

Unfortunately, in the case of the cities, many workers and the public at-large have come to accept the "no money" line as true. It's not.

To start with, there is no doubt that most big cities, especially the older ones in the northeast—New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Boston, Cleveland—are in economic trouble.

That trouble comes from several sources. But the main one is the fact that corporations have been leaving the cities.

They are going to places where wages, electric power and rents are cheaper, and where profits are higher.

From the point of view of the capitalist owners, this makes good

sense. After all, they're in business to make profits.

But from the point of view of the working people in the cities who were the source of those profits, it is a disaster.

New York has lost 600,000 jobs in 10 years. Other big cities are doing just as badly. And when the city loses jobs, it loses income, taxes,

and everything falls apart.

The situation is further complicated by the banks. While the city is growing, the banks are making money.

BANKS PROFIT

When the city is in trouble, the banks profit by financing the run-away shops and industries, thus helping to kill the city.

Further, the banks have for decades, through control of the city politicians, gotten the cities to borrow money and waste it.

So, for example, New York City bought the bankrupt subways (once private enterprises) by borrowing hundreds of millions from the banks.

The owners and banks got rich. The city got a decrepit, run-down transportation system.

In short, the capitalists run away, leaving behind a city they have used and exploited, and also leaving behind the citizens and work force to take the rap for the capitalists' search for higher profits.

What can be done? Is cutting city workers' wages the answer, or even part of the answer?

Obviously, what needs to be done is to restore the economy of the city. This means two things: prevent the flight of industry, and rebuild the run-down city—its hundred-year-old water system, its antique transport system, its ineffi-

HOW?

How to do this? Where's the money? There are four ways:

- A moratorium on interest payments to banks: In the case of New York City that means saving \$1.2 billion.

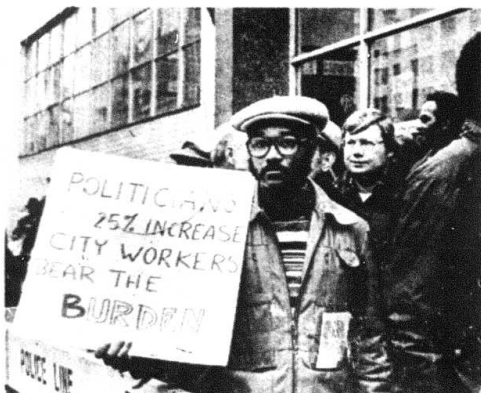
That sum would give every worker a full cost of living increase, and create 50,000 new jobs to rebuild the city.

Is it fair to withhold the interest? The real question is, which is more fair: to violate the right of workers to a decent life? Or to violate a "contract" which pays banks money for which they have done no constructive work at all?

- Stop cutting the corporate property tax: Astonishing as it may seem, the city actually cut corporate and bank real estate taxes last year, making them more profitable. (But it didn't stop companies from leaving).

At the same time, the city imposed wage cuts on public employees by refusing to honor even the miserable union contracts it had signed the year before.

- Tax run-away corporations: The federal government has the power to tax the wealth of the



On April 11, transit workers demonstrated at union headquarters to protest the inadequate contract. Transit workers are refusing to pay for New York's crisis by accepting a lousy contract. The issues in this contract are: wages, cost of living, and the introduction of part-time workers.



It's Organization, Not Intentions, That Count

ALL TOO OFTEN, seemingly good men and women get elected to trade union leadership and then sell out. Look at the examples:

- John Lawe, President of Transport Workers Union Local 100 in New York, begins his career as a dedicated trade unionist.

He ends up allowing racism to flourish: for years in his union, as Blacks and Puerto Ricans (the union's majority) are denied real representation.

He also promotes the 1978 sell-out contract as a victory for the men and women of TWU 100. Why?

- Vic Gotbaum, head of District Council 37-AFSCME, calls himself a socialist and a member of the Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee inside the Democratic Party.

This "socialist" trade union leader lives quite a life as a worker: after living in Scarsdale for 10

years, he moves to a posh East Side co-op (probably for better access to all the fancy City Clubs, where he speaks now and then).

In his talks, he chides transit workers for getting too much. He certainly expects his members to get even less—indeed, in the middle of talks he took off for a little trip to South America for two weeks.

To top it all off, he's willing to continue mortgaging public employee pensions to the banks—to the tune of \$3.3 billion. Why?

- Arnold Miller, the President of the United Mine Workers and a former miner, was elected to office as a vehement anti-bureaucrat.

He made promises to democratize the unions and to fight for strong safety provisions in the miners' contract.

In the past three years he has allowed the operators to take away the union's health care system, sold out older members' demands

for equal pensions, backed down on local union's right to strike, and contradicting his earlier positions, is seen riding to negotiations in a chauffeured limousine. Why?

THE ANSWERS

There is obviously something going on beyond what these apparently nice, well-meaning leaders are—something that unites all of them.

What unites them is their political conceptions of how to fight. Like any other trade unionist, they faced two choices.

They could help promote the organized interests of their own membership at all times, regardless of this or that legal expectation placed on them by the demands of collective bargaining agreements.

Or they could stake their interests to the system at large, accept a role as mediator, try to get a little for their members in return for a

more productive, stable work force.

The first choice demands ongoing rank and file organization inside an increasingly democratic union. Unfortunately, the three labor leaders mentioned above all made the second choice.

The UMW's Miller is the best example. Coming to power on the strength of a well-developed rank and file organization (Miners for Democracy), Miller promised a lot.

However, in assuming that the need for rank and file organization was over, he (along with others) dismantled the MFD.

ROAD TO DISASTER

The results were that without a strong, organized response pushing on Miller from below, he soon found himself under the unyielding (and highly organized) influence of his fellow partners in collective bargaining agreements—management.

Soon, the "system's" needs (which were really only the organized expression of management's demands) began to look more and more reasonable.

Like Lawe and Gotbaum, Miller soon found sweet reason in the argument that we can only have a well-running, productive system if workers will work harder and more hazardously for less pay.

That's the argument in the mines, New York City, and elsewhere in every contract now being negotiated.

Miller, by accepting the system's arguments on how to fight, soon found he was fighting against the interests of his membership—just like Lawe and Gotbaum.

FUTURE LEADERS

Future leaders of every union, from transit to the mines, will be faced with the same set of problems on how to fight.

A leader can only be as strong as the organization behind him or her. A union can only be democratic when it is structured to let the voice of its members be heard. There is no other way.

As more and more demands are made on all workers to accept less pay for more and more work, the pressure for union leaders to accommodate will only increase.

So will the demand by workers for our real needs to be met. Rank and file organization, given our numbers, can be strong enough to match any employers' group, be it the Bituminous Coal Operators or the Emergency Financial Control Board of New York City.

For future leaders, the lesson of Lawe and Gotbaum and Miller, all good men who have sold out their members, is clear.

Either face defeat, or be a part and help develop a consistently strong rank and file—one with the power to fight and win. □

At a press conference last week, Henry Lewis explained why the proposed contract is unacceptable, and replied to red-baiting charges by the TWU leadership.

In addition to noise, health and safety grievances, Lewis said:

"The other parts of the contract we find unacceptable are three points: the 6% wage increase (over two years), the \$250 cost of living bonus which

is only one half what we are owed, and the introduction of part-time workers.

"The members do not want a strike; they want a decent contract...."

"The members did vote to strike if the contract could not be settled. This does not mean that there has to be a strike."

A leaflet issued under the signatures of TWU International president Matthew Guinan

and local president John Lawe, says the Concerned Transit Workers are "malcontents, disappointed office-seekers, Communist Labor Party supporters, and other radicals who thrive on chaos, confusion and disunity."

In response, Lewis said: **"I wouldn't care if you put your britches on backwards. That's all right with me. I'm down here dying. I don't care what you are. I haven't asked and I'm not going to ask.**

"I know that we are being choked and we are dying and we accept the help from anyone who wants to help us... We simply have permanent interests, and that interest is we must feed our families.

"We cannot allow bureaucratic bosses, whether they come out of the union or the city administration, to cause us to reach a point of economic depravity, which is where they are trying to take us." □

NEW YORK CITY: THIS WAY!

country. Instead it subsidizes corporations, to the tune of \$30 billion last year.

The government can and should penalize, tax, and even ban the run-away shop if jobs are in danger of being lost.

• **Ban corporate abandonment of the city:** Corporations could be barred from leaving or cutting jobs,

under threat that the city and state would take over the factory to save the jobs.

Would this be legal? All strikes were illegal for many years. But it was only by striking despite the law that workers won the right to strike. The same applies to the right to a job.

But are the four constructive

proposals set out above practical? The answer is "no," if we continue to depend on the politicians. Threatening not to vote for them "next time" is a dead end. It just means replacing a Beame with a Koch.

But we can win, and save the city, if working people organize and mobilize as the transit workers

have begun to do. It will take massive direct action mobilizations of the rank and file of labor and of all citizens, to put such proposals into effect.

And in the long run, we will have to go farther. We will have to take steps to build a political party of, by, and for the working people—a labor party. □

'We're dying down here'

"YOU WILL NEVER find a motorman or conductor that doesn't have a hearing problem. Nor will you be able to do a thorough check of our lungs and not find that black lung is in all of us," charged Henry Lewis, a leader of the Coalition of Concerned Transit Workers.

Health and working conditions are issues mounting in importance as transit workers organize to defeat the proposed contract.

At a press conference held on May 4, Lewis claimed that the Metropolitan Transit Authority has suppressed reports showing that conditions in the transit system are condemning thousands of workers to a slow death.

He also said that the proposed contract does not address the serious health problems that transit workers face.

The comments quoted here were made by Lewis at the press conference.

"We intend to—we are going to—vote down this contract," Lewis said. The leaders of the Transport Workers Union (TWU) do not at any time address themselves to the problems where they have seen 6000 people condemned to death—a slow death—working in an atmosphere where metallic dust is 14 times higher than federal standards.

"In 1966 and 1971, a report was made that the MTA and TWU suppressed. The 1971 report was done by a Professor Shiner for the MTA.

"With regard to the noise problem, the noise decibel level is three times higher than the SST. We work in that six hours a day.

"You know what that will do? It brings about kidney disease, it brings about heart attacks, it brings about brain damage, it brings about high blood pressure. That's what it will do.

"On the 6th Avenue IND line during October of 1965 tests



Henry Lewis, a leader of the Coalition of Concerned Transit Workers. "We intend to—we are going to—vote down this contract."



showed an average concentration of 658 micrograins or particles of metallic dust per cubic meter of air, nine times the federal standard. The samples went as high as 1040 micrograins, fourteen times the federal standard."

NO ACTION

"Eighteen months ago we asked the TWU to improve the crew room facilities, to minimize the dust

coming into places where we have to eat. They told us at the time there was nothing they could do about it.

"We went to Martin Bellamy, a vice president of the TWU. He said there was nothing we could do about it.

"We pressed it thoroughly and this is what they came up with in the new tentative agreement: 'The rapid transit department will consult with the union on a program to

rehabilitate the crew room facilities. Which means they aren't going to do a damn thing.

"In the meantime people are losing their lives. We see people actually physically dying. I've watched 20 men drop dead during the last eight years I've been on the job. Most of our guys go out with heart attacks, high blood pressure, and cancer. That's how most guys die on this job, before they even get off it." □

Noise Is Hazardous To Your Health

THE DISASTROUS EFFECTS of noise on the body have been documented in the book "Work Is Dangerous To Your Health." Here is a short excerpt:

"When the body is subjected to noise... many biological changes take place as the body seeks to defend itself against the source of the stress.

"The blood vessels constrict in all organs except the muscles and the brain. This constriction is especially noticeable in the intestines.

"There is an increased output of adrenaline, which in turn increases the pulse rate, blood pressure, and the rate of breathing. The adrenaline also releases into the bloodstream other chemicals that supply the muscles with energy.

"The blood-clotting ability of the body is also increased. Extra fats may be released into the bloodstream, and the combination of these events may predispose a person to heart attack.

"The rate of movement of the intestines changes, and generally the body's response to stress requires much more energy than normal bodily functions."

—"Work Is Dangerous To Your Health" by Jeanne M. Stellman and Susan Daum. Published by Vintage.

Speaking Out

What We Think

For the Rank and File Movement, What's Ahead?

"Power goes to two poles—to those who've got the money and to those who've got the people."

— Saul Alinsky, agitator, 1966

Several hundred auto workers attended a rally-beer bust last week near Detroit, sponsored by the Trenton Democratic Caucus, a newly-formed rank and file political group within the United Auto Workers.

The group, which is running candidates for union office, is an offshoot of the Trenton Defense Committee—formed last summer by workers in the Trenton Engine Plant to aid seven fellow workers who were fired and charged with contempt of court as a result of a wildcat strike.

The people at the meeting see themselves as the beginning of a new union movement. They sense the great potential of their collective power, and the idea of using it excites them. They're bound and determined not only to change their local and improve working conditions in the plant, but to change the entire union.

Also last week—Chrysler reported losses of \$120 million for the first three months of this year. Chrysler executives predict that overall, in 1978, the company will make little, if any profit.

With even capitalist economists talking about another recession next year, Chrysler workers have got to wonder about the future of their jobs.

The health of Chrysler depends, in part, on the weakness of workers' organizations in the plants.

The harsh reality of the capitalist system, in a recession, is that companies, in attempting to maintain profit levels, must make large scale attacks on workers' living standards and shop floor organization.

The efforts of workers like those in the Trenton Democratic Caucus—and growing numbers of rank and file groups around the country—run headlong into this attack.

On the other hand, union leaders who, by and large, support this economic system often come to the capitalists' rescue. For example, they refuse to enforce contracts, break wildcat strikes, and run PR campaigns for poor contracts.

Doug Fraser, United Auto Workers President, in a speech recently before the National Press Club, said that the UAW would moderate its 1979 contract demands if auto companies would restrict car price increases.

When workers accepted lowered standards of living in order to preserve the system, what good does it do them?

The majority of people are the losers, who are forced to work at lower-paid, more difficult, dangerous jobs. The winners are the handful of wealthy stockholders who, in return for no labor, collect handsome profits.

But why worry about preserving this system? Workers like those at the Trenton Engine Plant will be forced to choose, sometime down the road, between protecting a system riddled with poverty, racism, unemployment, imperialism, sexism, recessions and depressions—or creating a new society run by all for the benefit of all.

During the Great Depression workers organized a mass industrial union movement, the CIO. At the same time, tens of thousands joined revolutionary groups. Their aim was to cure the problems of capitalism once and for all.

The Second World War saved the capitalists. And a period of prosperity since the war has lulled many workers into political apathy.

But if the Trenton Democratic Caucus is any indication, workers will not take the next recession lying down.

The workers at the rally-beer bust take their politics very seriously. For many, their fight to change their local will become the fight to change the whole UAW, and, eventually, the world.

Fighting Words

Now the boss works for the capitalist. Under socialism, he will work for you. You will elect him and if he isn't satisfactory, you will fire him and get another.

—A. W. Rickes, Labor organizer, 1914

As I See It

A Tribute To Dalou Asahi

by Toni Hawk

He had been in solitary confinement in New York State's Attica prison for more than 48 months. Over four years. He had studied martial arts as a teenager in New York before his first prison term. While he was in solitary he practiced exercises and meditations to increase his internal energy, known as "chi" in Kung Fu. Throwing Dalou Asahi into solitary was like throwing Br'er Rabbit into the briar patch—solitary gave him time and space to get stronger.

Strong he was. I met him when he was on a speaking tour on behalf of Attica Brothers' defense. He gave a rousing speech about Attica after the Firestone film on Attica was shown.

ROLE OF PRISONS

He spoke about the role of prisons in class society, about the farce of rehabilitation, about exploitation of prisoners' labor, about death in prison, about George Jackson's murder. ("Look at my Afro. It's a lot bigger than his was. Could you hide a gun in MY hair? Can you believe the racist jive they put out!")

After he spoke, people came up and said things like, "I liked your energy." Kind of an odd thing for a political

person to say, but his energy was visible—strong, gentle, fierce, funny.

Later at a party for people involved in building the Attica film, I had a chance to talk to Dalou. He was an unusual revolutionary for three years ago. Didn't fit the stereotype at all. He was a vegetarian, he had learned all he could about martial arts, especially Kung Fu, he was learning acupuncture, he was an expert on herbs, he was interested in all aspects of Eastern healing, he knew many meditation techniques. He was calm, confident, intense. He passed on what he knew with great enthusiasm. He taught me meditation techniques, most of which he had developed at Attica.

He was limber and strong and also recommended doing a lot of yoga and stretching exercises. He said the best time to stretch was in the morning because it was harder, the body was stiffer.

The name his mama gave him was Maliano Gonzalez. His mama was Puerto Rican. He said that in prison they wouldn't let him write to her in Spanish. He shrugged his shoulders. And seethed.

He seethed with energy. He said he was cleansing himself and preparing himself for the struggle. He said he no longer used drugs of any kind: "Not because they'd bust me for possession, because they could plant something on me if they wanted to. No, I don't want to be unaware, fucked-up,

off-guard. Not even for a minute."

He had allowed himself a little celebration when he got out of prison, however. It led to his last name. He was called Dalou in prison. The last name he went by, Asahi, came when he'd gotten out and was in a bar drinking Japanese beer—Asahi beer. Hey, that was a beautiful word.

He wrote me with references to books on herbs and acupuncture. He wrote to lots of people. His partner on the tour, Jack Bloom, said he never failed to write when he said he would. He addressed me as "Comarada." Spanish for "comrade."

His stationery, printed to raise money for prisoners, said, "In here it's all right. The real criminals are outside, running the country."

I was never to see him again.

In a better society Dalou Asahi might have been a great, inspiring teacher. Here he was caught up in fighting for survival from early youth on. Like young black and brown (and white) working class people in every American city, his chances of growing old and well-fed were slim. Racist oppression and economic exploitation are the only expectations that are generally fulfilled.

He was articulate, compassionate, passionately committed to the struggle. A few weeks ago the New York police caught him. Dalou Asahi had prepared himself to fight and he went out fighting. Short of making the revolution, every revolutionary would at least like to go out struggling.

Sadly and angrily, we add one more to the immortal list: Fred Hampton, George Jackson, Rosa Luxemburg, Joe Hill, Malcolm X, Steve Biko, etc., etc., too many etc's.

Eugen Levine said to the court just before he was sentenced to be shot for his role in the Munich Soviet in 1919 that revolutionaries "are all dead men on leave... I do not know if you will extend my leave or whether I shall have to join Karl Leibknecht and Rosa Luxemburg. In any case I await your verdict with composure and inner serenity. For I know that, whatever your verdict, events cannot be stopped... sooner or later, other judges will sit in this hall and then those will be punished for high treason who have transgressed against the dictatorship of the proletariat."

Dalou was an example of composure and inner serenity. I hope that this article conveys a sense of him, so that those who never had the good fortune of meeting him might strengthen themselves and the struggle through him.

Goodbye, Dalou. We salute you, Comarada.

[Readers who would like to learn three meditation exercises which the author learned from Dalou, can write: Toni Hawk, c/o I.S., P.O. Box 8492, Austin, Texas 78712.]

Where We Stand

Workers' Power is the weekly newspaper of the International Socialists. The I.S. and its members work to build a movement for a socialist society: a society controlled democratically by mass organizations of all working people.

Because workers create all the wealth, a new society can be built only when they collectively take control of that wealth and plan how it is produced and distributed. The present system cannot become socialist through reform.

The existing structures of government—the military, police, courts and legislatures—protect the interests of employers against workers.

The working class needs its own kind of state, based on councils of delegates elected at the rank and file level.

The rank and file of the unions must be organized to defend unions from employer attacks, to organize the unorganized, to make the union effective. Today's union leaders

rarely even begin to do this. The rank and file must organize to return the unions to the workers.

The struggle for socialism is worldwide. We oppose everything which turns workers from one country against workers of other countries, including racism and protectionism.

We are against the American government's imperialist foreign policies, including its support of racist minority regimes in southern Africa.

We demand complete independence for Puerto Rico. We support all genuine national liberation movements.

The so-called "socialist" or "communist" states have nothing to do with socialism. They are controlled by a privileged ruling class of bureaucrats and must be overthrown by the workers of those countries.

Black and Latin people are oppressed national minorities in the U.S. They have the right to self-determination—to decide their

own future. We support the struggle for Black Liberation and the self-organization of Black people. We also fight for the unity of Black and white workers in a common struggle against this system.

We support women's liberation and full economic, political, and social equality for women. We demand outlawing all forms of discrimination against gay people.

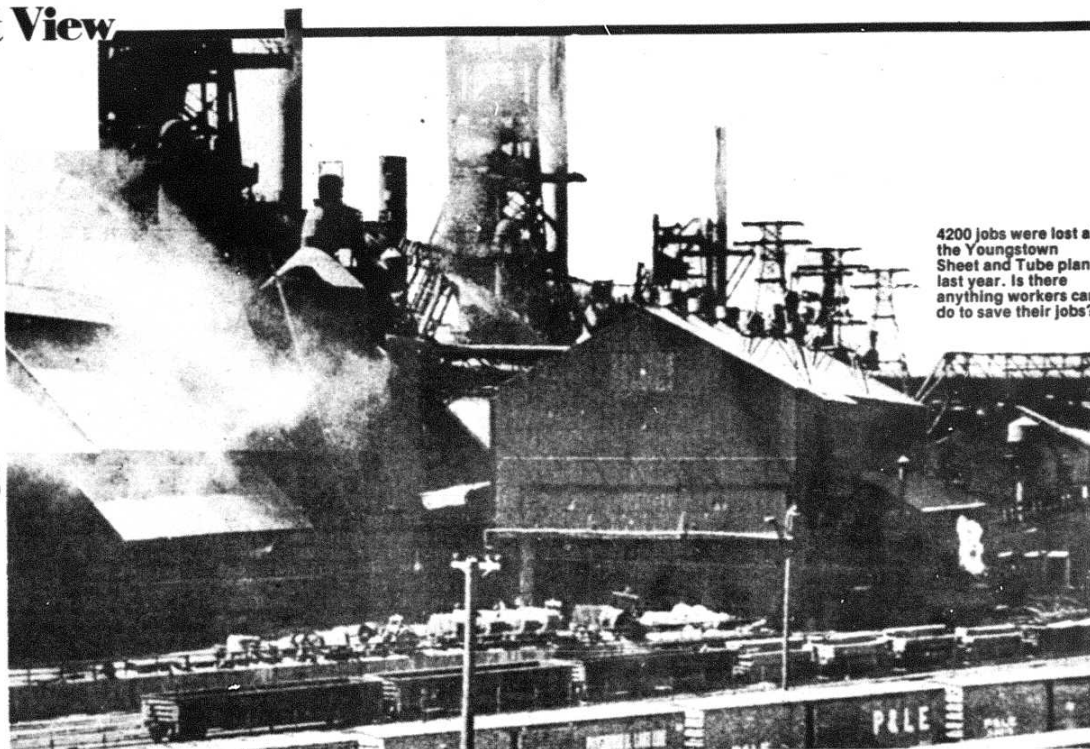
Socialism and liberation can be achieved only by the action of a mass workers' movement. The most militant sections of workers today must be organized to lay the foundations for a revolutionary socialist workers' party.

This is why the International Socialists exists—to create that party. We are open to all those who accept our main principles, and who accept the responsibility of working as a member to achieve them.

Join with us to build a movement to end exploitation and oppression and to create a socialist world.

The Socialist View

As the Plants Close Down



4200 jobs were lost at the Youngstown Sheet and Tube plant last year. Is there anything workers can do to save their jobs?

...How Can Jobs Be Saved?

by Dennis Stovall and Sandy Boyer

The massive steel mill closure which occurred recently in Youngstown, Ohio, raises questions which are very serious for all workers.

When Lykes Corp. closed their Youngstown Sheet and Tube plant last year they wiped out 4200 jobs in one fell swoop, which promised the community only more devastation to follow.

Because of the scale of the decision it could not be ignored by the evening news, though it's an everyday happening on a smaller scale.

While the cries of outrage still made the headlines, people began

to rally and organize to do something. Anything. But basically they were on their own.

As the current capitalist crisis intensifies hundreds of thousands and even millions of workers will find themselves in the same situation as the Youngstown Sheet and Tube workers.

In the wake of the tragedy caused by the company's unilateral decision to close the plant, some people in the Youngstown community have pushed the idea of having the workers, or the community, buy the mill and run it as a non-profit cooperative.

Many feel this is the only

practical way to solve their problem. They feel they have to do it themselves because neither the government or anyone else is going to do anything for them.

The problem is that this idea of running a factory or mill that the capitalists have already run into the ground as a co-op isn't really practical—at least when it comes to saving the workers' jobs and wages.

Take the Youngstown Sheet and Tube mill for example. The mill was closed because it was old and inefficient and less profitable than newer mills. It was cheaper to move production to Lykes' Indiana Harbor works than to spend the \$500-\$700 million it would take to modernize the Youngstown plant.

If the workers and the community buy the Youngstown plant they will have to raise the \$500-\$700 million to modernize, in addition to whatever they have to pay Lykes for the plant itself. If they don't modernize they will quickly go out of business since they won't be able to compete with the newer more efficient mills.

It's unlikely they'll even be able to find banks that will lend them the money they need. The bankers will probably come to the same conclusion Lykes did—that it's not a good capitalist investment no matter how many jobs are going to be lost. And the federal government has said it won't provide the money.

But even if they do get the loans, they will be forced to cut out many jobs, enforce speed-up, perhaps cut wages as well. The community proposing to buy the mill estimates that it could only re-hire 2000 workers—about half.

That is what the banks—and the modernization of an operation that was run into the ground—will demand.

Only this time it will be not a boss, but steelworkers themselves imposing the cuts and the produc-

tivity standards on each other.

The Youngstown situation shows the problems with turning a capitalist enterprise that's no longer profitable into a cooperative. The only way to survive in competition with the big business monopolies that dominate our economy is by the workers driving down their own wages and conditions and even cutting out their jobs, or the jobs of their friends.

NATIONALIZE

At best co-ops can be a temporary stop-gap to gain time to fight for a real solution—the government taking over the enterprise and keeping everyone on the job.

Only the government can continue to run a company or a plant at a loss for the sake of saving the workers' jobs or, as in Youngstown, for the sake of saving a whole city.

Of course, since the government is controlled by the same capitalist monopolies that close down plants in the first place only a powerful workers' movement can force it to nationalize for the sake of saving jobs.

The capitalists are always very reluctant to go along with any plan for nationalization. They're afraid that other workers will decide that their company should be nationalized next. Or even that all the companies should be nationalized.

The movement to force the government to save people's jobs can't be successful if it's just the people from the plant that's closing down. It's got to involve all their union brothers and sisters and all the workers who know their job may be next.

Socialists believe this movement will have to fight for more than just a government take-over.

As socialists, we say it's ridiculous to pay a capitalist an enormous price for a plant or company he's just succeeded in running out of

business. Since he was going to junk it anyway we think he shouldn't be paid anything at all.

When the government gives a capitalist huge "compensation" for nationalizing his company it's the workers as taxpayers who have to pay. And the enormous debt from paying off the capitalist makes it harder to keep going with no loss of jobs.

A good example of that is what happened when New York bought its subways. The private companies that built them couldn't make a profit any more and threatened to close them down. So the city sold millions of dollars worth of bonds to buy the subways.

Now, over 50 years later, the city is still paying the interest on these bonds to the banks and millionaires (including the Rockefellers) who bought them. That is one of the reasons the city is broke and the subway fare keeps going up.

WORKERS' CONTROL

The other thing we fight for is to have nationalized enterprises run democratically by their workers.

Partly this is just common sense. The workers in the plant know more about how to run it than any bureaucrat in Washington.

But workers' control also is the only way to guarantee that the enterprise will actually be run for the benefit of the workers after the government takes it over.

Otherwise, Washington or the local managers can decide that it would be more "efficient" to cut out jobs, force unsafe working conditions, or freeze or cut wages. After all, that's what's happening to government workers today.

It's true we don't have the strength or the organization to win these things today. But we have to begin building the movement that can win them. And we have to understand what we're fighting for and why. □

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, send this form to: INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, Michigan 48203.

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\$35 dresses for kids, from Chile, police state

...Y LOS UNICOS PRIVILEGIADOS, LOS NIÑOS



A mural in Chile (left), from before the current dictatorship took over proclaimed, "And the only privileged ones will be the children." This was the society Chilean workers were trying to create. Today, the murals are gone, and the only privileged ones are the rich.



These dresses, handmade by impoverished Chilean women, sell for \$35 in the U.S.

by Marilyn Danton

IF YOU HAVE A DAUGHTER between the ages of two and four and have \$35 you can buy her a hand-smocked or hand-embroidered dress sewn by unemployed Chilean women.

"Carmen and I taught the women," said Maria Teresa Elton De Cruz. She and another wealthy Chilean woman organized women in Conchali, an industrial suburb or Santiago, Chile, and trained them in sewing, the New York Times reported.

"It's truly non-profit," she said. "Any money we make by selling the clothes is used to help us grow and add more workers."

De Cruz didn't say how much the women are paid, but they don't make \$35 per dress.

And, you can bet that De Cruz and her friend didn't get to New York, where they're marketing the dresses at Saks Fifth Avenue, from Chile on their own steam.

In Chile today, unemployment is over 25% and wages are much lower than in this country.

The craftsmen can't afford any of their handiwork for their own daughters. But then, working women in this country couldn't afford such a dress for their daughters either.

If these "well-to-do" women really wanted to help the poor and unemployed Chilean women, they could join the growing movement to rid Chile of the brutal dictatorship that took over in 1973 with CIA assistance.

This regime is responsible for the murder and imprisonment of thousands of Chilean workers, as well as for the low wages and lack of rights.

But, from their point of view, as well as that of other "well-to-do" in Chile, that would be going too far. That's why wealthy Chileans supported this regime in the first place. □

Labor Notes

by Jim Woodward

The **United Farm Workers** union won an important court battle when a three-judge federal court ruled, unanimously, that **Arizona's farm labor law** is unconstitutional. The law was so restrictive it made union organizing, strikes, and boycotts virtually impossible. The law outlawed bargaining on such issues as mechanization, the use of hazardous chemicals, hiring halls, seniority systems, and grievance procedures. Union officials attempting to bargain on those "management rights" issues could be jailed for one year. Another clause imposed an automatic 10-day "cooling off" period in the event of strikes—effectively gutting the right to strike in the highly seasonal agriculture business. The court system should be commended for acting courageously in throwing out this repressive law...and for taking only six years to do it.

it's a damn shame that we have to ask for the ERA.



The Department of Labor has cancelled four meetings in Kentucky scheduled to explain the new Black Lung Reform Act. The meetings were cancelled because the **Kentucky Black Lung Association** said it would picket them. The Black Lung Association says Labor Secretary Ray Marshall has broken his promise to consult the group in writing up guidelines for the new black lung program. **Bill Worthington**, national Black Lung Association president, objects to the Labor Department's plan for seven regional administrators, which could lead to different Black Lung policies in different areas.

Teamsters Local 30 in western Pennsylvania has voted to send bus-loads of union members to Washington to picket the **Eastern Conference of Teamsters** headquarters. The action will protest the Eastern Conference's policy of allowing freight companies to impose productivity standards against the wishes of the employees.

The **Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)** is suing **Chrysler** to force the company to pay supplemental unemployment benefits (SUB) to women workers who are forced off the job when they become pregnant. Chrysler, and the other auto companies, routinely force pregnant women to take maternity leave while they are still able to work because the UAW contract requires only six weeks of sick pay for maternity. A 1973 court order requires Michigan to grant unemployment compensation to pregnant women forced on leave while still able to work. If the EEOC suit extends this policy to SUB pay, it may cost the companies enough that they will allow pregnant women to work as long as they are able.

Last year the Labor Department spent over \$35 million to train unemployed young people from minority groups for **apprenticeships in the construction trades**. But a recent Congressional report says there are few jobs available afterwards. A survey of 90 people who completed the training found that only 59 had ever been placed in jobs. Seventeen of those had later become unemployed, and many of the rest were in jobs unrelated to their training.

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.

U.S. poisons Mexican weed; tests available

THE LATEST household word to appear on the scene is paraquat. This obscure pesticide has contaminated tons of Mexican marijuana.

Since dope dealers have no more scruples than any other capitalists, marijuana sprayed with paraquat is promptly harvested, bricked, and sold.

Smoking grass sprayed with paraquat causes severe lung damage.

As little as one-tenth of an ounce of paraquat can kill humans who

swallow it. Lesser amounts can cause scarring of the lungs, which can lead to an irreversible condition called pulmonary fibrosis. The herbicide can also cause lung hemorrhaging and vomiting.

Now millions of marijuana users are breathing it in everytime they light up.

Paraquat was developed by the U.S. Air Force while it was engaged in defolitating Vietnam. The U.S. government sent it to Mexico for the stated purpose of

killing opium poppies, the basic source of heroin.

The Mexican government has also been using paraquat to kill marijuana fields.

The growers maintain their own private armies to protect the fields, so they can only be attacked from the air. The U.S. government generously supplied blue and white helicopters to carry out the task, at a cost of \$21 million to taxpayers. Once again we see the government spreading dangerous chemicals around in a completely irresponsible manner.

Dr. Peter Bourne, White House special assistant for health issues, lamely defended the spraying program: "Those concerned," he said, "are trying to imply that marijuana without paraquat is totally safe, and we still have no evidence of that either."

TESTING

Several testing stations have been established across the country where suspect weed can be anonymously sent for chemical analysis.

One is Pharm-Chem Research Foundation, 1844 Bay Road, Palo Alto, California 94303, phone (415) 322-9951. Send a small sample and \$5.00 and any five-digit number for identification. In two to three weeks, call in for the results. □

Suburb ousts officials who favor low-income housing

DETROIT — Three more city commissioners of a nearby suburb were recently recalled from office because they supported a proposal to build subsidized housing for the elderly and low income families in wealthy Birmingham.

The three commissioners were recalled from office in a May 8 special election. Three other city commissioners were defeated April 3, the day the proposal they supported was voted down.

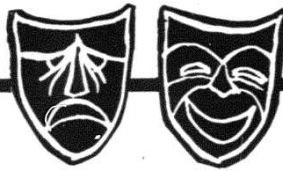
Recall leader Nancy Elby called the victory a "tribute to the system. It's a great victory for democracy. It shows that when officials put their will above the will

of the people, the people will respond."

Yes, it's a tribute to the system—not of democracy, but of racism and scare tactics used in the campaign to defeat the proposal.

Mrs. Dropiewski, a supporter of low-income housing in Birmingham summed it up like this: "The real losers are the elderly and the poor people of the city."

While the elderly search for decent, inexpensive housing elsewhere, Birmingham residents will continue to enjoy their \$80,000 homes uncontaminated by Black and white working people from Detroit seven miles away. □



The Turning point

One woman comes to terms with her choice

by Jenny Singer

THE TURNING POINT is about one woman's choice between a career and a family. It is one of the best-done movies I have seen in a long time.

"The Turning Point"

Starring Anne Bancroft, Shirley MacLaine, Mikhail Baryshnikov, and Leslie Browne.

Twentieth Century Fox, a Herbert Ross film.

The natural response to the choice between career and family is—you should be able to have both! Millions of women have both families and jobs (whether most of those jobs are 'careers' is another question—I have never thought of humping the assembly line as a 'career' myself).

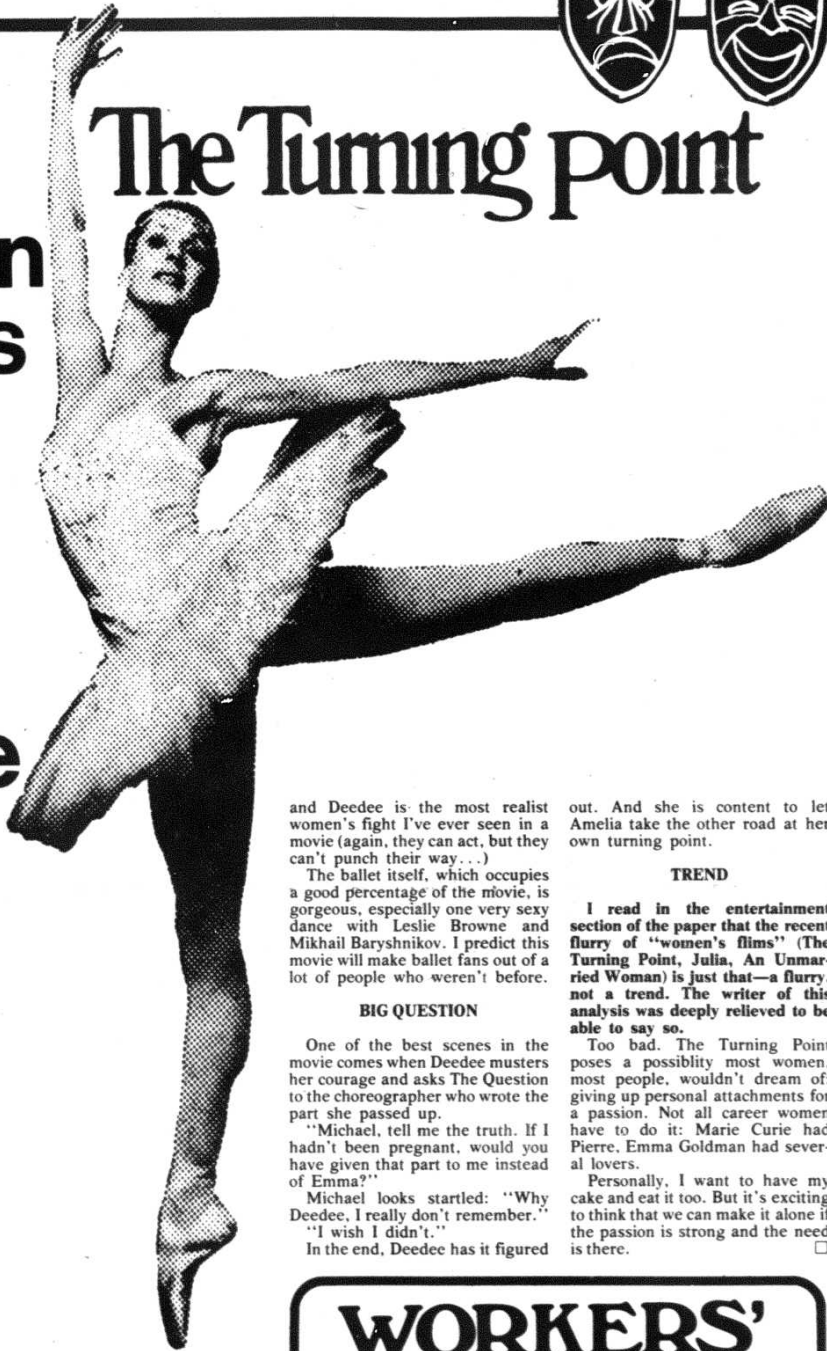
But *The Turning Point* doesn't allow you to have your cake and eat it too. The career in question is ballet. The movie makes perfectly clear that you cannot be a disciplined, good ballet dancer and still have time and energy for a husband, much less any more of a family.

CHOICE

This choice was taken by Emma, played by Anne Bancroft. Now in her late 30's, she says, "Every minute that I'm not on that stage, I'm preparing to be and wishing that I was."

The main character is Deedee (Shirley MacLaine), who was Emma's best friend 18 years before. Deedee and Emma were both rehearsing for an important part in a new ballet. Deedee got pregnant. Emma got the part.

Now, 18 years later, the ballet company of which Emma is one of the stars comes to Oklahoma City, where Deedee and her husband run



and Deedee is the most realist women's fight I've ever seen in a movie (again, they can act, but they can't punch their way...)

The ballet itself, which occupies a good percentage of the movie, is gorgeous, especially one very sexy dance with Leslie Browne and Mikhail Baryshnikov. I predict this movie will make ballet fans out of a lot of people who weren't before.

BIG QUESTION

One of the best scenes in the movie comes when Deedee musters her courage and asks The Question to the choreographer who wrote the part she passed up.

"Michael, tell me the truth. If I hadn't been pregnant, would you have given that part to me instead of Emma?"

Michael looks startled: "Why Deedee, I really don't remember." "I wish I didn't."

In the end, Deedee has it figured

out. And she is content to let Amelia take the other road at her own turning point.

TREND

I read in the entertainment section of the paper that the recent flurry of "women's films" (*The Turning Point*, *Julia*, *An Unmarried Woman*) is just that—a flurry, not a trend. The writer of this analysis was deeply relieved to be able to say so.

Too bad. *The Turning Point* poses a possibility most women, most people, wouldn't dream of: giving up personal attachments for a passion. Not all career women have to do it: Marie Curie had Pierre, Emma Goldman had several lovers.

Personally, I want to have my cake and eat it too. But it's exciting to think that we can make it alone if the passion is strong and the need is there.

FRANCE: WOMEN BRING RAPISTS TO JUSTICE

For the first time in French legal history, three men were tried in high court for the felony of rape.

In the rare instances that rape has been tried in criminal court before, the charges have been reduced to assault and battery, a misdemeanor.

One of the men was convicted of rape, the other two of attempted rape. Although rape is a felony in France, the plaintiff must prove penetration followed by ejaculation. Penetration alone does not constitute rape, nor do other sexual abuses.

FOR ALL WOMEN

The conviction is a victory for French feminists, who held demonstrations throughout the two-day trial.

"This is no longer the trial of two young women, but of all women," complained the lawyer for defendant Guy Roger, who got four years.

The accused men admitted the facts of the case, but claimed that since the women ultimately yielded, they were consenting.

However, testimony revealed that the two women fought off their assailants with a hammer. They also testified that they are lesbians, thus nullifying the defense's principal argument—that the women "implied consent."

The conviction is expected to set a precedent in France, making it easier for women to defend themselves against rape.

E. Clarke

ENGLAND: QUEEN'S SERVANT COMMITS SUICIDE

THE QUEEN OF ENGLAND is the richest woman in the world. Certainly, she is also one of the most useless, accomplishing virtually no work in her whole life.

Last week, a 59-year-old woman who worked in the laundry room in Buckingham Palace committed suicide. The press reported that she was depressed about approaching retirement. Perhaps she felt that she would be useless...

Elissa Clarke

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a ballet school for aspiring tots. Deedee's daughter, Amelia, also a dancer, is asked to join the company.

Deedee sees that her daughter will be faced with the same choice between her art and her personal life that she was forced to make herself.

Deedee wrestles with the big question of her life, unanswered all these years—did she leave dancing and raise three kids with the man she loves because she wanted to, or because she knew she wasn't good enough to make it?

ACTRESSES

MacLaine's and Bancroft's performances are superb, particularly MacLaine's. Leslie Browne (Amelia) is a magnificent dancer, but she cannot act her way out of a paper bag. Some rather embarrassing starry-eyed moments result.

The fight scene between Emma

Women Demand: PASS THE LABOR LAW REFORM BILL NOW!



DETROIT—About 300 people rallied in downtown Detroit on May 7 to demonstrate for the Labor Law Act of 1978. The legislation would facilitate union organizing.

The Labor Law Reform Act has already been passed by the House, and will reach the floor of the Senate on May 15. Senator Don Riegler (D-MI) told the crowd that he expects the bill will be met with a filibuster in the Senate.

The rally was originally the idea of women from the United Auto Workers Region I Women's Council. In organizing their first demonstration, the women planned a lively rally with music, dancing and picketing, as well as speeches.

A wide variety of speakers addressed the crowd, including UAW officials, leaders of the women's movement, politicians, as well as women workers who will be

affected by the legislation.

Ilene Juregon, a worker at Detroit Plastics (a division of the Essex Corporation), told the crowd, "If anyone wants to know what it means to be unorganized, I know." Although the UAW organized Detroit Plastics over a year ago, they still do not have a contract. "Our company refuses to bargain," explained a worker from another Detroit Plastics plant.

The Labor Law Reform Act would provide higher penalties for companies who refuse to bargain in good faith.

WILDCAT STRIKES

Many of the signs carried by the demonstrators referred to passage of the act "without crippling amendments."

These signs referred to an

amendment to the bill which would allow penalties for wildcat strikers. In other words, workers could go to jail for striking without sanction by the union.

Although the UAW leadership supports this amendment, the rank and file women who organized the

demonstration wanted to make sure that their opposition to this section of the bill came across loud and clear.

The women from Region I were joined in sponsoring the rally by the Four Regional Women's Council, the Michigan State AFL-

CIO, the Coalition of Labor Union Women, the National Organization for Women, the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, and Wayne State University Staff Association and others.

E. Clarke

Workers' Power

Jewish People, Yes - Zionism, Racism No!

by Mike Urquhart and Bard Black

LARGE PROTEST demonstrations in Chicago and New York greeted Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin's week-long visit to the United States.

The demonstrators attacked Israel's policy of destroying the Palestinian people and its recent invasion and bombing of Lebanon. Israel intends to continue the occupation of southern Lebanon until the Palestinian movement throughout Lebanon is wiped out.

In New York, over 500 people took part in a counter-demonstration to the annual Salute to Israel parade, which Begin attended. They marched under a banner reading, "Salute to Israel Parade Is A Salute to Racism, Colonialism and Repression."

The demonstration was organized by the Palestine Action Coalition, and endorsed by over 25 organizations. The Coalition is continuing to organize, and plans other activities next weekend in Brooklyn's Arab community.

In Chicago, about 700 demonstrators chanting "Down With Begin" and "Long Live Palestine" greeted the Prime Minister when he received an award at Northwestern University on May 3.

These actions follow a massive protest in Begin's own country. In

Tel Aviv two weeks ago, 40,000 Israelis demonstrated against Begin's policies, including the recent cluster bombing of southern Lebanon, killing thousands of men, women, and children.

DOCTOR OF LAW

The occasion for the Chicago demonstration was a dinner for Begin given by Northwestern Uni-

Free Sami Esmail!

A public educational forum on the Sami Esmail trial and Palestinian prisoners in Israel. Saturday, June 3—7:00 pm Holy Trinity Family Center 1229 Labrosse, Detroit, MI. (Near Michigan and 6th)

Sponsor: Detroit branch, Committee to Defend the Human Rights of Sami Esmail.

For further information call (313) 843-8879 or 285-7935

versity's Board of Trustees, which bestowed an honorary Doctor of Law degree on him.

This decision aroused a significant opposition from the University's faculty, staff, and students. The school newspaper came out against the decision in an editorial,

and a majority of the students rejected the university's action in a referendum vote April 12th.

The demonstration was organized by the Ad Hoc Committee on the Middle East, made up of the Organization of African Students, the Arab Students Association, the Black Students Association (F.M.O.), a Group of Concerned Iranian Students, and a Group of Concerned Indian Students.

About 125 pro-Israeli demonstrators showed up as well.

A leaflet published by the Ad Hoc Committee on the Middle East summed up the group's reasons for demonstrating:

"We strongly condemn all of the atrocities committed against the Jewish people and we share with the Jewish community their commitment to fight Nazism, fascism and racism," it said. "But in doing so we cannot simply brush under the carpet the Palestinian people as non-existing entities.

"The wrongs done against the Jewish people can not and should not be corrected by other wrongs done against the Palestinian people or any other people for that matter.

"If there is a lesson to be learned from the Holocaust, it is that fascism in whatever form it takes and under whomever's leadership it is, can not be the solution for our social problems."



A real spirit of international solidarity was present among the 500 people who marched in New York, Sunday, May 7. A special point of the activity was linking the liberation struggles in Palestine and southern Africa.

"Zionism, Apartheid, Same Enemy, Same Fight!" they shouted, pointing to the similarity between the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and South Africa's recent invasion of Angola. The demonstrators rallied first at the South Africa Airways building and then continued on to the offices of the Zionist Organization of America.

As they marched, they chanted, "Zionism Must Go—Victory to the PLO" and "Begin, Sedat, Carter: NO!—Yes to the PLO."

The demonstration included one banner demanding freedom for Sami Esmail, an American citizen of Palestinian descent, is awaiting sentencing in Israel for his pro-Palestinian activities at Michigan State University.