

VIETNAM nlf extends war into cities

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NYC SANITATION

TROOP THREAT REVEALS BOSSES PLANS



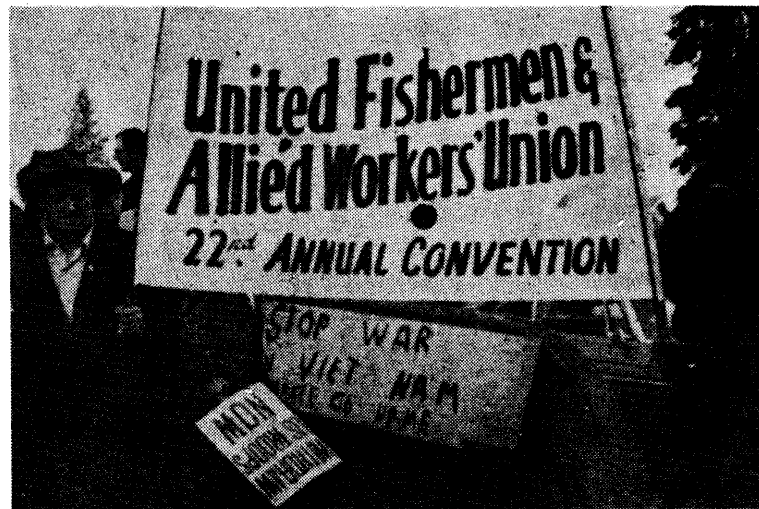
DELURY PRAYS AS WORKERS DEMAND 'NO CONTRACT, NO WORK.'

The New York Sanitationmen's strike is now settled--at least for the time being. But the dangers to all labor exposed during the strike persist.

As far as Mayor Lindsay was concerned--a man elected with strong labor support--there was only one issue in this strike: his campaign to break city labor. He broke the SSEU in a long strike. He broke the UFT after a short strike when its leaders sold out for a contract which gave teachers and students virtually nothing. He broke the TWU when its leaders followed the UFT leadership's course but without even attempting a strike and hiding from the mem-

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CANADIAN FISHERMEN DEFY BOSSES COURT'S INJUNCTION

Canada- Bosses Put New Squeeze on Labor

WORKERS FIGHT WORLD OVER

toss the fakers out!

All over the country the rank and file militants in the unions are making quite clear exactly what they think of their trade union leaderships. Just take a look at this last year in New York City. It started off in January when Mrs. Mage, president of the SSEU, was almost lynched by the rank and file when she called off a strike. She had to be escorted to a car by newspaper reporters. Then in the Spring apartment house workers threw chairs at the leadership when the leadership held off calling a strike.

This December Harry Van Arsdale of the taxi union and head of the City Labor Council needed a police escort to get out of a taxi workers meeting and avoid calling a strike. It was a tumultuous meeting of garage workers that forced the leadership of that union to bring in a better settlement this month. The almost lynching of John DeLury of the Sanitationmen forced the leadership to call the present strike.

The bosses are taking on the unions seeking to maintain their profits through attacking working conditions and holding down wage raises. The workers want to fight back but the trade union leaders don't want to fight. They are tied in with the bosses. They know how to beg for crumbs but they don't know how to fight. Their concern is with their privileges and the dues which make these privileges possible not with risking their necks to lead the workers in struggle.

So the workers are learning they must fight the leadership in order to fight back against the bosses, but pressure tactics on the leadership are not enough— even throwing chairs does not do the trick. Sometimes unionists can force a strike this way but to win a strike requires real leadership from beginning to end— leadership with a program, leadership which is part of the ranks, under the control of the ranks.

Trade unionists have got to take up the struggle to build caucuses in the unions whose aim it is to replace the false leaders of labor with new militants with a fighting program that can win. The Trade Unionists for a Labor Party has been formed to work out a program of struggle in each union and to build caucuses in each union dedicated to carrying out this program in the interests of and under the control of the rank and file.

Tossing chairs is not enough. We must toss out the fakers and toss them out for good. Join with us in this struggle.

VIETNAM nlf extends war into cities

by Tim Wohlforth

As we go to press Saigon is in its second week of siege, the NLF flag flies over Hue, and the Vietcong controls portions of every major city in South Vietnam. At the same time NLF and North Vietnamese troops have overrun a Special Forces camp near Khesang and jittery American military sources are predicting an expansion of the NLF offensive throughout the countryside and within the cities.

Despite statements that the NLF has been routed and it is all a great U.S. victory the truth is sinking in that from now on in the war in Vietnam will be fought in the cities as well as the countryside and that there is not a square foot of safe territory in Vietnam for American troops.

losing

The result of all this has been to change the very character of the war. This will have serious worldwide repercussions. U.S. troops are strained to their utmost and clearly the U.S. is on the defensive. It is busy moving troops from the countryside to defend the cities and then back again to defend the countryside. As one French observer noted, the beginning of the end for France in Vietnam was when they had to fight in the cities as well as the countryside. From then on in France was definitely losing the war militarily and the ground was prepared for its decisive defeat at Dienbienphu. So it is now with the United States.

This military situation reveals the underlying political character of the war. The ability of the Vietcong to launch this offensive in the city stems from the support it has gained among the city masses—in particular the working class of Vietnam. It shows the bankruptcy of the Saigon government to represent in any sense the interests of the working people of Vietnam. It illustrates the deep hostility to the United States among the Vietnamese masses who view American troops as a foreign invader supporting a military regime which tramples upon every interest of the working class.

bomb

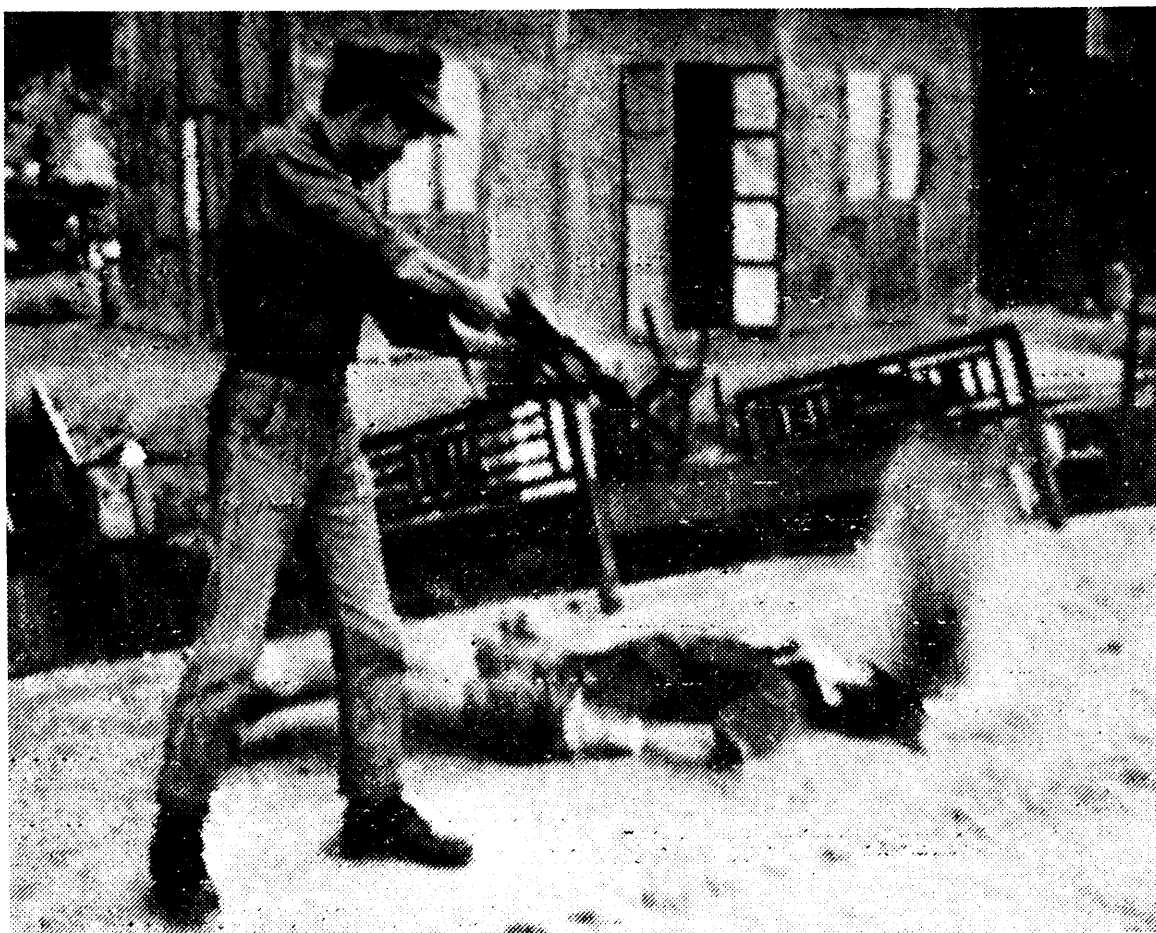
This political character is made even clearer by the military response of the U.S. and South Vietnamese armies. Faced with entrenched guerrilla troops supported by the population they have been forced to bombs, tanks and artillery levelling to the ground whole sections of major population centers and creating a new army of maimed homeless refugees.

Thus the 'defenders' of South Vietnam have become its destroyers. It is no longer a matter of bombing Hanoi. Today they are bombing Saigon, Hue and other South Vietnamese cities. This illus-

calculating the risks involved in an invasion of North Vietnam as they feel only a counter blow of this magnitude can reverse what they know privately but cannot admit publicly is a tide of events lead-

situation worsens. Any extension of the war can only lead to an even greater deterioration in the balance of payments.

This will compel Johnson to take on the American working



SOUTH VIETNAMESE SOLDIER BRUTALLY SHOTS A WOUNDED NLF FIGHTER IN THE HEAD

trates so clearly that the United States is presently at war against Vietnam South and North and conversely that the South and North Vietnamese are one people with a single purpose—liberation from a foreign oppressor.

Vietcong suspects are shot with impunity, even by top ranking South Vietnamese officers and in front of cameramen. The stench of dead bodies lingers over the cities. A hospital is under artillery fire. Stakes stand in the Saigon market place awaiting new victims. Marines proudly declare their willingness to level whole city blocks killing countless civilians to protect the life of a single Marine. But why not? Is not the whole population of Vietnam the real enemy of American troops? Clearly the way to save the lives of all marines would be to have them return to Paris Island, Georgia.

danger

The dangers in this situation are very great and it is absolutely essential that every worker be aware of them. The United States is no second rate power like France. For the United States rulers to admit defeat and leave Vietnam would threaten their rule all over the globe. So they are under great pressure to push on taking the world closer and closer to world war.

Right now the Pentagon is

ing to their complete military defeat. Right now, we state that invasion plans and maps sit on the desks of the generals in Arlington, Virginia.

But the risk is great. Will China intervene if the United States enters North Vietnam? And if China does, surely China can beat the United States even more decisively in a land war than the North Vietnamese and the NLF are presently doing. If China enters the war the United States will have to extend the war to China itself and bomb the major cities of China. How will the Soviet Union react? Can the Pentagon officials count on the treacherous leaders of the USSR to stand idly by why the United States bombards China? Certainly they know this is what the USSR would like to do but can the USSR run such a risk which so gravely effects its own defenses. And will the workers and peasants of the Soviet Union and the East European lands do nothing about such treachery?

attack

The U.S. rulers face another kind of problem. Their own economic system is in deep crisis. Emergency measures have had to be taken to defend the dollar from collapse as the balance of payments

class in a frontal attack aimed at lowering the standard of living of the workers to protect profits and save the dollar. This means a war against the unions. This means anti-strike legislation. And so Johnson carries out a genocidal war against the Vietnamese workers and peasants and prepares a war against the American workers.

lie

This is why its a filthy lie when Johnson and the rest of them say that the Vietnamese people are the enemies of the American workers. This is why American workers must support the Vietnamese people and favor victory for the NLF. This is why we say this war is not our war. It is the war of Johnson and the large corporations he represents.

criminal

We say it is criminal that thousands of American men are dying for nothing in Vietnam. We do not favor this. We say its criminal that thousands of Vietnamese are dying as well. We do not favor this. The criminals responsible are Johnson and the corporations he represents. Rather than fighting the Vietnamese people we should be fighting these criminals.

u.s. destroys what it 'defends'

SANITATION- THE LESSONS

(Continued from Page 1)

bership behind a mail ballot. He would have broken the Sanitation union the same way if the ranks had not intervened and forced the leadership into a strike.

So the issue of the strike became the issue of power--the power of the state representing the bosses and the monied interests against the power of the working class represented by the million and a half organized workers in New York City. The money question only symbolized this power question for this had been reduced in the last days of the strike to a matter of \$25 per man per year. The other issues of the strike--primarily the deterioration of working conditions with growing safety hazards and an intense speed-up in the department remain unresolved.

Lindsay was determined to break the strike and use the National Guard to do it. City labor countered with the threat of a general strike realizing the use of troops against any section of labor could mean the end of free labor in the United States.

Rockefeller intervened with one purpose in mind--to prevent a real showdown between capital and labor in an election year when he is the favored unannounced presidential candidate of the Republican party. He expressed the fears of the bosses of such a head-on conflict when he spoke of the danger of 'fighting in the streets' if troops were called in.

So he sought to compromise the strike issues by giving the Sanitationmen a wage settlement above what they had been offered before the strike but without giving them anything on working conditions. He was able to postpone for a while a head-on conflict which sooner or later will come.

Rockefeller is no friend of labor. Let us get that straight. He signed the infamous anti-strike Taylor Law under which Sanitation union head DeLury was sent to jail. Rockefeller is one of the biggest capitalists in the United States and he is as interested in breaking the labor movement as Lindsay. He differs only in tactics, only in timing. He hopes to compromise with the labor bureaucrats for a little longer, to hold off an armed struggle with American workers for a little longer. That is all!

What Lindsay threatens now, Rockefeller, Johnson and the rest of the political representatives of the bosses will do later. Remember that the Democratic members of the City Council supported Lindsay in his call for the National Guard.

Last summer, when the Federal government mobilized the National Guard and U.S. troops against the Negro masses we warned the American labor movement that the unions would be



rebel ranks force strike

by Fred Calhoun

NEW YORK--It was a wonderful sight to watch: three-quarters of the membership of the Uniformed Sanitationmen's Association gathering at City Hall in the early dawn on February 2 to fight for their rights. They had been working without a contract since June 30. Since then, they had seen conditions on the job deteriorate as less money was spent for maintenance of equipment, resulting in many serious injuries, and they had heard of Lindsay's plans to reduce the work force. All the while, union head John DeLury had been conducting secret negotiations with the sanitation department. DeLury had been forced the week before to call a slow-down, but more was needed to budge Lindsay.

The membership knew what was going on. They knew that DeLury was afraid to tackle the Taylor Law, would settle for a few piddling concessions--if he could get them--like a fif-

teen cents an hour wage hike, and would use a mail ballot to force such a settlement on the membership.

boo

But the 7,000 assembled would have none of it. They roundly booed DeLury and threw eggs at him when he appeared to continue negotiations inside City Hall. They made it clear that they expected him to fight for the membership--even if it meant going to jail. If he could not convince Lindsay to accept their terms, then a strike vote should be called on the spot.

DeLury got the message. He came back shortly after and announced the following demands which the city has rejected: a \$600 a year raise retroactive to last July, time and a half for work on Saturday and double time for Sunday, and a one-year contract. The men shouted for a strike and then went home.

next. We urged the unions to defend the Negro masses against the armed might of the bosses. Now this threat looms closer and closer.

Once again we warn American labor: YOU HAVE NO FRIENDS IN THE DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN PARTIES. If you continue to let these people run this country they will turn on you and send troops against the unions and break the back of labor. American labor has

the power to run this country. We must now take up the struggle to mobilize this power by battling to build a labor party based on the trade union movement. This is the most pressing task facing labor today. Must we wait until these politicians actually mobilize troops to shoot down workers? We have shown their intentions. We must take up the struggle in earnest NOW!

Bosses Settle With Militant Garagemen

by Irv Hacker

NEW YORK-- This past week in New York City 3500 members of Teamsters Local 272 were on strike, effectively closing all mid-town garages.

This strike was anticipated by the garage owners who three weeks before the strike advised their customers to find alternate means of transit into Manhattan. The Metropolitan Garage Owners Board of Trade insisted that they could not afford to meet the demands of the striking workers.

These 'impoverished' owners normally charge \$3.00 per car for parking during the normal work day. In addition, the same garages re-rent their space to the theater crowd for an additional \$3.00 an evening.

Unlike other transit strikes

in the past two months, this strike affected little of the working public. Most workers could never afford the \$3.00 per day parking charge. As such, their was little pressure being applied externally for the workers to compromise their demands.

On January 27th, expressing the new militancy of labor in this city, strikers shouted down an owners' offer of a \$17.50 a week increase in the minimum wage refusing even to hold a secret ballot on the question. As a result the leadership was forced to go back in and negotiate a larger increase.

The result was a \$19 increase in the minimum this time accepted by the members. There is a lesson here for unionists who believe those "its the best we can get" speeches of the union bureaucrats.

higher fares not much help to ny cab drivers

NEW YORK-- Despite the settlement forced on New York cabbies by taxi union leader Van Arsdale and Mayor Lindsay, drivers in Fun City are not much better off than before. The settlement raised fares by about 25% but it is reported that there has been a 4% decline in the number of passengers as a result of the increase. This means the income to drivers which is based on commiss-

ion and tips is lower than had been promised.

Meanwhile competition for passengers grows especially in the midtown Manhattan area where trips tend to be shorter. Since, with the new fare structure, drivers receive about twice as much for the first mile as the second, cabbies naturally look for the shorter rides. So, for the

cabbies it's still the same old story: lots of hustle, long hours, not much more pay and none of the benefits of sick leave, holiday and vacation pay and pensions that Teamster truck drivers get.

Higher fares are no answer. Taxi drivers have to fight for an end to the commission system and for a guaranteed wage at least as high as Teamster long distance truckers.

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ONE UNITED BATTLE OF WORKERS

The world capitalist system is in crisis. There is no country of the world which is unaffected by this crisis. Everywhere the capitalists seek to maintain their rule by attacking the working class and peasantry--sometimes with arms in hand; other times in more subtle ways. But everywhere, everywhere the capitalists are deepening their war against the workers.

In this issue of the Bulletin we show what the crisis of capitalism means to workers in Vietnam, Spain, Africa, Cuba, Canada and the United States. In each case we deal with the program necessary to lead the working class in the fight back against the capitalists.

We must see these struggles as but one worldwide struggle, one great bat-

tle of the workers of the world against the united front of the world capitalists. We must fight every attempt to divide the class of one country from that of another, to divide the class within a country. American workers must unite in a common struggle with the Vietnamese workers rather than allowing the capitalists to use them to shoot down these workers. The Nigeria workers must battle against the dividing of their country into warring tribal groups while the imperialists continue to exploit all sections of the country. American workers must battle against racist poison aimed at splitting the class, pitting black against white and destroying the unions.

Cuban workers must battle a government which turns its back on the

international class struggle, does business with Fascist Spain and then blames all the difficulties in the country on a handy scapegoat. Canadian workers face a country heading closer and closer to a split on linguistic lines while the social democratic NDP fails to fight for the interests of labor.

party

The working class can only be united in any single country through the creation of a Marxist party which fights for this unity around a socialist program. The working class of the world can only be united if these parties are part of one international party.

Such an international party of the working class was created by Marx in his own lifetime--the First Inter-

biafra split hurts african workers

by Karen Funkiel

After seven months of struggle with the Nigerian national government, Biafra has managed to maintain her independence-- an independence both in lives and in economic progress. A weakened Nigeria, whose gross national product has been cut by one fifth since the secession of Biafra is easy prey now for imperialist interests.

Despite recent statements by the New York Times regarding the fear of foreign investors to make commitments in a politically unstable country, the opportunist leaders of the various sections of Nigeria including

Ojukwu of Biafra and Gowon of Lagos have made assurances of their cooperation with the major foreign investors in the country. As long as the investors have these military dictators in their back pockets, they have no reason to be scared. Their capital finds fertile ground in which to grow-- soil made rich by thousands of Ibo bodies, and the victims of Ibo retaliation.

roots

The roots of the struggles which divide Nigeria go back to the policies of British rule there. The artificial colonial divisions of the country were maintained after independence and tribal unity instead of

national and class unity has been augmented by the bourgeois and feudal military dictators that have replaced the British colonialists. The horrible massacres of Ibos after the military coup in July 1966, caused a rebirth of Ibo tribal loyalty and an exodus of 65,000 Ibos back to the eastern section, now commonly known as Biafra.

The Ibos made up a large part of the skilled workmen, governmental employees, and businessmen of Nigeria. With their exodus to the east, the other sections of the country have suffered greatly. Bitter hatreds have grown up between the tribes with the

result that other minority tribes, such as the Yorubas of the west, have also threatened secession.

The struggle for power between the Ibos, Yorubas and Hausa ruling classes has made an open field for exploitation by imperialist interests. Portuguese mercenaries in Biafra are paid by private American capital, while the Federal government has acquired jets from the Soviet Union. All that this accomplishes, however, is a divided working class-- the class in Nigeria whose militancy was demonstrated in the general strike of 1964, where in the oil refinery towns of Aba and

Port Harcourt a workers and farmers government was called for.

This is the real reason behind general lack of concern in the West about the divisions in Nigeria. These divisions are advantageous to the outside interests which fear the potential power of a united, militant Nigerian working class. The only answer to the problems in Nigeria is the development of a socialist working class leadership to unite these brave and spirited peoples. This task falls upon the supporters of the International Committee of the Fourth International in Nigeria.

CUBA: CASTRO FINDS A SCAPEGOAT

by Mike Banda

Anibal Escalante for many years had a reputation of being an odious Stalinist in Cuba. Now it seems he has acquired a new title as Castro's chief whipping boy and most obsequious scapegoat.

In 1962 Escalante was preemptorily summoned and dismissed by Castro for alleged crimes of bureaucracy. What these crimes were we still do not know. Nor will we be told in the future. There was little or no discussion on the subject and whether Escalante was permitted to defend himself at a meeting of Castro's Central Committee remains an unsolved mystery. Anyway most people tended to take Castro at his word and leave Escalante to his own devices.

purge

Escalante, as far as we know, was sent off to Czechoslovakia and was not heard of for some time. Some people however saw a connection between the purge and

the growing shortages and bottlenecks in economy.

The struggle against bureaucracy we assumed was now over -- at least so Castro assured us. It was the year of economy. It was also the period of Castro's flirtation with the Chinese Republic. So a contemptuous kick at the pro-Moscow group in Havana was something that Castro found necessary from time to time. And since nobody liked Escalante there was hardly a murmur of protest when he was removed.

Castro's reliance on Soviet military power and diplomacy received a shattering blow when the Missiles' Crisis of 1962 saw the Stalinists virtually abandon Castro and make a humiliating and shameless retreat before Kennedy and the Pentagon.

Although Castro refused to allow a UN investigation team on the island he was powerless to stop Khrushchev withdrawing the missiles. After the 1962 Crisis Castro instead

of breaking with the Stalinists continued his collaboration and began to attack the Chinese with increasing vehemence.

Consequently many of his own friends like Guevara became disenchanted particularly when he began to abandon the industrialization plan in favour of growing and exporting more sugar.

This opportunist policy led him to rely even more on the USSR economically and politically. So long as the Stalinists did not interfere with his domestic policies he did not quarrel with them on international questions.

After the tri-continental conference in January 1966, Castro and Cuba's leading Stalinist hack, Blas Roca, joined together to launch a vicious and lying attack against Trotskyism.

The common hatred for Marxism of the petty-bourgeois nationalist and the corrupt Stalinist functionary were combined in this case in a remarkably crude and disgusting manner.

After January 1966 important differences began to emerge in the ranks of the Cuban CP. The Castro leadership began to undertake a violent 180 degree swing from opportunism to adventurism.

Castro began to call for 'national liberation' armed struggles as a means to overthrow the right wing regimes. The Stalinists however had other ideas which corresponded closely to those of the Kremlin. They were in favour of more trade with East Europe and the Latin American countries regardless of the regimes. This policy was forcibly expressed by the Venezuelan CP leaders who demonstratively absented themselves from Havana at the 2nd tri-continental congress. The death of Guevara and the defeat of a number of Castroite groups in Latin America began to provide the Stalinists with ammunition to attack Castro --and Castro replied in a typical manner. He found some scapegoats with which to silence any criticism of his adventurist policies abroad -- whether from left or right.

On Monday, January 30, Raul Castro announced the arrest of several dozen people including two Central Committee members, Jose Matar and Ramon Calcines, and of course the ubiquitous Anibal Escalante who crawled out of the doghouse and got himself a top-job in the firm.

Their crime: to win the Cuban CP to the policy of

the USSR and to oppose Castro's policy of all-out guerrilla warfare and his attacks on Soviet aid to Latin American oligarchies.

The evidence: 'plotting activities' over 'pots of coffee', and discussions in funeral parlours(!) and meetings with East European leaders.

Castro's accusation against the pro-Moscow group although correct in some ways is nevertheless tainted with hypocrisy and political opportunism. Only recently he praised the latest Papal encyclical and --even more reprehensible-- continues to trade with fascist Spain and invite representatives of Franco's Spain to the Cultural Congresses in Cuba.

stalinism

If Stalinism continues to grow in Cuba it is because Castro has no political answer to it and, secondly, because his bureaucratic handling of ideological problems strengthens Stalinism. In this sense the purge of Escalante is not a sign of strength but of weakness in the regime. Apologists of bureaucracy such as the SWP paper 'Militant' would be well-advised to tread softly in Cuba -- more repressions are yet to come.

JUST OUT! Fourth International

SPECIAL ISSUE COMMEMORATING 50th
ANNIVERSARY OF RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

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WORKERS AGAINST WORLD RULERS

national. The banner of internationalism was taken up by the Second International which let it drop into the muck and mire of patriotism during World War I. Then came the triumph of the Russian Revolution and the red flag of international solidarity was once again raised by the Third International.

stalin

But the Russian Revolution, left in isolation, degenerated and a new bureaucratic caste headed by Stalin grew up to once again drop the banner of internationalism into muck and mire--this time into the blood of the very leaders of the Russian Revolution who were butchered during the Moscow Trials.

The Fourth International was found-

ed in 1938 to carry on the task of building the international party in the tradition of Marx and Lenin. The program of the Fourth International is today fought for only by the International Committee of the Fourth International.

build

Only the International Committee begins from this world wide crisis of capitalism and poses a program of working class unity for the fight back of the workers in all lands. Only the International Committee poses the question of political power in the struggles of workers in every country.

Only the International Committee fights for the socialist revolution and exposes every bureaucrat, every revisionist who stands against this program and seeks to compromise with capitalism.

Every single event in the past period has fully confirmed the perspective and program of the International Committee of the Fourth International. Sections of the Fourth International will be built in every country of the world. These sections will develop firm roots in the working class and gain the leadership of the mass of workers forging an international army capable of tossing out the exploiters in all countries and building a socialist society on a world scale. **LONG LIVE THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL!**

WORKERS REVOLT STIRS SPAIN

by Neil Martin

Right on the heels of Britain's devaluation of the pound Spain followed with the devaluation of its currency, the peseta. The purpose of the devaluation was to put a brake on the deterioration of the Spanish economy.

Except for auto and steel, the year 1967 saw a sharp drop in industrial production, resulting in increased numbers of mergers and bankruptcies of weaker companies. The workers were hit by layoffs and elimination of overtime, and a cost of living increase of more than 12% in the year. Except for a few products, like wheat and wine, agricultural production was poor and for the first time in her history Spain became a net agricultural importer.

Franco hopes that devaluation will help exports and increase tourism, which Spain needs to offset her trade deficit, and maintain her balance of payments.

The hitch in devaluation for the Spanish worker is that along with it came a decree that there would be a year's freeze on wages. Even with some progress in the Spanish economy over the past several years the Spanish worker must still work three times as long as the British worker, and twice as long as the French worker for most of the basic necessities of life.

militant

In this period the workers have become more and more restless and militant. Since the great strikes of the miners in Asturias in 1962 there have been continual strikes, protests, demonstrations, and work stoppages. All of these, of course, were illegal and the workers were fully aware that they faced arrests, jailing, and repression.

Just last October workers and students put Madrid in a state of siege. In a day of action called by illegal "workers commissions" workers left their factories and joined by students marched toward the center of the city. In the face of police mobilization, "civil guards", tear gas, and arrests, the marchers held their ground and had their day of action. At the same time stoppages were held in Barcelona, Vizcaya, Seville, and Asturia.

rights

An immediate demand of the workers is for the elementary trade union rights: the right to organize, strike, and elect their own representatives. The only legal trade union is the compulsory government controlled syndicate. Due to the militancy of the working class, lately this organization has shown some independence from the official government line on how to handle the workers demands. It favors giving concessions in order to maintain control of the workers and prevent them from joining the clandestine workers commissions. In some areas, it has called for much larger minimum wages, and it has told the government that it would fight the wage freeze if prices weren't kept in line.

It should not be forgotten, however, that the Syndical Organization is an organ of the bourgeoisie, and that any liberal or independent stand from the official government line represents the position of the portion of the Spanish bourgeoisie who want to handle the country's "labor problems" in a "democratic" capitalist manner as opposed to the autocratic, repressive manner of Franco.

stalinists

Such facts, however, are forgotten deliberately by the Spanish Communist Party in their political perspective. Their position can be

tem, not just Britain. Spanish workers have become one of the first to feel the pinch. What does democracy mean to the working class if it can't act to raise or even maintain its standard of living? It is ludicrous to think that there is a liberal capitalist solution for Spain, that with democratization workers can then strike and win gains, when in Britain--certainly more advanced--the Labor Party policy is one of wage freeze and anti-working class from A to Z. when in the United States, the bastion of capitalist democracy, the only future offered the workers is one with high controls, higher taxes, higher prices, and death in Vietnam.



MADRID UNIVERSITY STUDENTS MARCH DEMANDING 'YANKEE KILLERS GET OUT OF VIETNAM'

summed up in the slogan: Spain is not Franco. This means workers, peasants, small businessmen, large industrialists, Catholic priests, the Church, monarchists, everyone should unite in a popular front and rid the land of that monster Franco.

It is true that there is widespread 'democratic' opposition in Spain in all layers of society, but can their perspective really offer anything to the Spanish worker. A few years ago in the midst of the so-called Spanish miracle when some economic development was taking place, when the Caudillo talked of stepping down, a peaceful transition to a more democratic Spain might have seemed possible. But all those hopes and optimism are now past history.

hard

The devaluation of the pound signaled hard times ahead for the proletariat of all countries, because it represents a crisis in the whole sys-

The international nature of the crisis can be seen concretely in the fact that the pressure on the dollar has caused the United States to curb private investments in foreign countries, and 70% of Spain's external financing depends on U.S. sources.

lesson

The only road for Spanish workers is that of overthrowing Franco and establishing a workers government. At the present there doesn't exist in Spain a party that has this perspective. The Stalinists are tied to a Popular Front policy, and the other workers and socialists groups have no political perspective. None has absorbed the tragic lesson of the Spanish Civil War: the failure of revolutionaries to build a party to lead the working class to power led to capitulation and defeat to fascism. Only the Fourth International teaches this lesson and is prepared to build a party of Spanish workers that will lead them to power, throwing out Franco, or any other capitalist servant that replaces him.

WALLACE CAMPAIGN:

A WARNING TO THE WORKING CLASS

by Lucy St. John

Last week George Wallace launched his attack on the North with a television campaign in a number of Northern states. Wallace is attempting to raise \$15 million to spread his poison throughout the country.

Wallace poses himself and his American Independent party as an alternative to the Republican and Democratic parties. He poses as a friend to the workingman. He appeals to those sections of the American workers who are being hit hard by the crisis of capitalism, such as the low paid, unorganized white workers and small farmers, and those workers who face lay offs through automation and heavy cuts in wages through inflation. Wallace uses the disillusionment of many workers with the Democratic and Republican parties to gain support for his reactionary ideology.

appeal

What alternative does Wallace offer? Racism, nationalism, and more police power. He bases his appeal on racial prejudice within the working class. He tells white workers that the Negro workers threaten their jobs, their homes, their wives. He says that more patriotism, more flag-waving, and more power for the local police are the answer. He uses the blacks, the 'Communists', the 'pseudo intellectuals' as scapegoats. He hides the real enemies of the workers, the bosses, because it is they he represents.

Wallace is the mouthpiece

of the most repressive and reactionary section of the ruling class, those bosses in the South who keep workers divided, unorganized and at each other's throats in order to keep wages below even the minimum wage and working conditions reminiscent of the Middle Ages.

danger

Wallace and figures like him are dangerous and should not be viewed lightly. As the crisis of capitalism deepens, the soil grows richer which produces weeds like Wallace. These forces will use their racist and nationalistic demagogery to hide the real threat to American workers, and they will use their ideology to justify even more repressive measures against the working class to destroy the unions.

Let there be no mistake. Wallace's program is more reactionary but not different from the Democratic and Republican parties. Racism is rampant in these parties. Everyday Johnson appeals to blind patriotism to gain support for the capitalist war. Everyday the government is perfecting new methods of police control.

end

Yes, Wallace is a real threat. He is a real threat to the future of the working class, to the existence of the trade unions. The trade unions have got to prepare now to fight back against this threat before Wallace and his racist buddies are able to build a real base. There has got to

be an end to this business of looking the other way while racist poison runs rampant through the unions and union officials cover themselves with small contributions to 'worthy' Negro causes.

battle

Every form of racist discrimination must be routed out of the unions as part of the fight for a new leadership in the unions. The unions have got to wage a real battle to organize unorganized workers North and South and lead the fight for new jobs for workers. When the government turns its guns on the Negro masses, the unions rather than supporting the government as Reuther did in Detroit last summer, must support the Negro masses.

Of course black nationalism is a complete blind alley for the Negro people. Every scoundrel with a black face has jumped on this bandwagon and every scoundrel with a white face uses black power as an excuse for really tackling racial discrimination.

suicide

We say that black power means suicide for the Negro people. We say talk of Negro control of the ghettos or of the ghetto schools is being used by the rulers of America to justify the continuation of Negro oppression of the ghettos slums, of the rotten schools with their rotting educational system. We say wipe out the ghettos, tear down the slums, build new schools, with small classes, and the best and highest paid teachers in America.



WALLACE OFFERS RACISM AND A POLICE STATE

Every job in America, every union in America, every house and apartment in America must be open to all. Jobs must be available for all so all can afford to live a decent life. No, it is not a matter of Negroes taking from whites or whites from Negroes. White and Black workers must fight together to take what is rightfully ours from the exploiters of any color

who stand in our way.

It is not enough to criticize the black nationalists. What really has to be done is fight in the unions to make the unions fight against the racist poison which threatens to turn the whole country back to fascist barbarism. This and only this will undercut the black nationalists as well as destroy Wallace and his filthy allies.

LBJ AIMS BLOW AT STEELWORKERS

by Dennis O'Casey

Though the July 31 contract deadline in basic steel is still 5 months off Johnson is wasting no time in preparing his offensive against the United Steel Workers union. Bargaining began early in February with a meeting of the union's Wage Policy Committee in Washington. Key demands for '68 include, in addition to a substantial wage increase, a guaranteed annual income, reduction of the 30 year requirement for retirement and a cut in the work year.

The opening of bargaining came close on the heels of the Administration's Treasury Department white paper pressuring for voluntary no strike pacts in steel and 'other industries capable of causing significant balance of payments trouble.' His plea sets the stage for an all out Administration effort to use the Gold crisis and Vietnam to give the steel workers a real beating.

Already an increasing flow of steel from abroad into stockpiles in the US in anticipation of a shutdown together with big copper imports has done tremendous damage to the nation's trade surplus and balance of payments in the fourth quarter of '67. The

effort by steel producers and users to provide themselves with enough steel to hold out against a long strike has the industry already operating at over 100% capacity while steel imports are expected to reach a feverish pitch by the Spring if the strike threat in steel continues.

threat

Even more of a threat from the Administration's point of view is the danger that steel workers will fight for a big precedent setting wage hike upward of the 5% averages for '67 that could spur on workers throughout the country. This month 33,000 USW members in the can industry secured package boosts of 6.1% which USW ranks must demand be surpassed in any basic steel settlement.

scared

It is clear that in 1968 workers who achieve less than 6% (in wage hikes alone) will fall behind increases in taxes, consumer prices and productivity. Nevertheless Johnson in his annual economic report to Congress emphasized that a slowdown of the wage price spiral 'can only be achieved if the average of new union settlements is appreciably lower than 5.5%'

Meany and the AFL-CIO bureaucracy, retreating from government threats of mandatory controls has acceded to Johnson's backward wage program for '68. This is why Steel union president I.W. Abel has recently been receptive to a plan to throw all issues unresolved by June 1 into binding arbitration. Subsequent rejection of the plan by the USW executive board has turned what was optimism in business circles that a strike could be avoided into warnings to steel users to get in stocks of the metal before the deadline.

cringing

In 1968 steel workers must repudiate the policy of Meany and Abel of cringing before Johnsons threats. They must build an organized force in their ranks that can prevent I.W. Abel from selling away their strike threat or selling out their strike.

We say that any union which wants wage increases of 6% or better--and anything short of this means a lowering of their members living standards--will face the government as well as the companies this year. This is why strikes today must be viewed as political strikes.

Twin Cities Holds Labor Party Rally

by Bob Johnson

MINNEAPOLIS--Trade Unionists For a Labor Party held its first meeting here, a real success, on Feb. 4. 20 trade unionists, unorganized workers, and youth heard the main report on the crisis facing the unions, held a good discussion, and unanimously passed our motion:

We fight in the unions for the American trade union movement to take the lead in establishing a labor party which will:

1. Repeal all anti-strike

legislation

2. Provide jobs for all
3. Wipe out inflation
4. Establish trade union control of working conditions in the shops
5. Nationalize all companies which claim they cannot provide decent wages or working conditions.

Our next meeting in Minneapolis of the TULP will be Feb. 25, and we expect to reach out to even more workers and begin to really sink our roots in the trade union movement of the Twin Cities.



UNIONISTS TALK AFTER TWIN CITIES TULP MEETING

by Jeff Sebastian

An historic confrontation is being prepared section after section of the American working class is moving into struggle; well organized, militant and undefeated.

We have already seen the first skirmishes in air, rail, trucking, auto and now copper and coal.

The employers are hardening their positions. Strikes are becoming increasingly prolonged, bitter and violent. As the Hearst strike shows, a growing labor solidarity is developing in the face of the united front of the bosses

This is a period of preparation for what will develop into the most bitter confrontation between the employers and the working class in American history.

The government is well aware of what is brewing. Johnson is calling for voluntary no strike agreements. At the same time, anti-strike legislation and wage controls are being readied to back this up.

Government pressure is so great that I.W. Abel, president of the steel workers union, was forced to come out for compulsory arbitration. "Hold down the ranks or the government will do it for you" is Johnson's message to the labor bureaucracy.

This is no time for middle class protest politics. The task before revolutionaries is to provide the working class with an alternative, a program for victory.

The only alternative open to the working class in this period is to turn their struggles into political confrontations, into battles for power.

The only answer to government intervention in the unions is the struggle for a labor party.

The battles taking place in the labor movement now are preparing the working class for this alternative. The process is throwing up individual workers who see the need for political struggle.

The key thing to understand is that one worker armed with a political program today can lead thousands in a few years.

To avoid the task of arming this worker or to oppose it is to condemn the working class to defeat.

role

This is the role of the Peace and Freedom Party in California.

This is a time when the working class needs clarity and a program for political struggle. Peace and Freedom emerges as a huge swamp of middle class confusion, demoralization and anarchy. Its only purpose is to mislead militants seeking an alternative.

That Peace and Freedom arises at this time should surprise no one. It expresses completely the bankruptcy of middle class politics. It is the outcome of years of protest marches and demonstrations which led nowhere but to frustration.

Lacking a working class perspective these marches have only lead to the decay of movements isolated from the struggles of the class. Now, those who have learned nothing from these experiences have come forward with a new gimmick to prolong their agony.

Peace and Freedom is an unprincipled combination of disillusioned Democrats, frustrated peace and campus activists, refugees from the

PEACE AND FREEDOM-PARTY LESS PROGRAM

Hippy oblivion, black nationalists seeking to break out of their isolation and a variety of opportunist sharks from assorted revisionist groups who hope to pick up the pieces.

program

A glance at the Peace and Freedom program will demonstrate why it must be rejected by the working class. All it takes is a glance.

The program of the Peace and Freedom Party Yes, that's it. Armed with these fine sentiments and a perspective of accomplishing an extraordinary amount of busy work the P&F activists signed up a hundred thousand people to qualify for a place on the ballot.

This program is the secret to the continued existence of P&F. Held together with this sticky glue all sorts of people can co-operate, for a time. As long as P&F can hold off political discussion it can put off its inevitable crisis.

The P&F convention in March will present the party with a dilemma. Either it will split into a hundred unprincipled pieces or much more likely it will agree on a political program slightly to the left of the noted baby doctor, Benjamin Spock.

revisionists

The responsibility for this circus must be placed squarely on the shoulders of the revisionists. The leadership of the peace movement --the CP and the SWP struggled for years to keep politics out of the movement.

These parties represented the most conscious elements in control of the peace movement. By refusing to struggle to provide an alternative for the working class they condemned the movement to middle class isolation and frustration.

The terrorist confrontations at the Pentagon and at draft centers across the country were the result of their utter failure to arm any of their people with a political perspective.

The Peace and Freedom Party is their baby. It is being built by people who do not understand the role of these revisionist parties. They never struggled against them politically. They simply left in frustration.

swamp

They walked out of the SWP-CP peace swamp to construct their own swamp. The political methods remain the same. The SWP and the CP tried to build a peace movement by banning politics. P&F hoped to build a political movement by banning politics. All such movements are doomed from the onset.

The politics of such middle class swamps must of necessity reflect the ideology of the revisionist groups. Never having fought them they cannot arrive at an independent position. It is significant to note the attitude the revisionists reveal toward their offspring.

The SWP has thus far maintained an Olympian silence. We have no doubt that when they do speak they will denounce P&F as a middle class

formation offering no alternative to the working class. Indeed they can only regard it as a competitor to their own propagandistic electoral peace campaign. One thing is certain: They will be absolutely incapable of providing any explanation of where P&F comes from. That would be too close to home.

opportunist

The CP has adopted an incredibly opportunist position, even for them. They have been kicking themselves publicly for months in their organ, 'Peoples World' for their failure to get in on the ground floor.

Week after week they provide friendly advice to P&F. The essence of their line is that P&F runs the danger of cutting itself off from the many fine militants in the Democratic Party.

What they fear is that P&F will cut into the vote they hope to mobilize for McCarthy in their dump Johnson movement. They are struggling to turn P&F to support this movement. Not to alienate anyone they point out that if P&F is not satisfied with the result of the dump Johnson effort it can always run its own candidate.

Their paper is filled with sneaky little hints that it might be nice if P&F registrants were to re-register in the Democratic Party to vote for McCarthy. Their perspective is to build a 'peoples movement' in the Democratic Party so as to tie the workers more firmly to capitalist leadership.

They view P&F as a threat to this campaign but so far fear to denounce it. Such are the problems of 'peaceful co-existence' in a period of crisis. They simply can't decide which way to jump.

plp

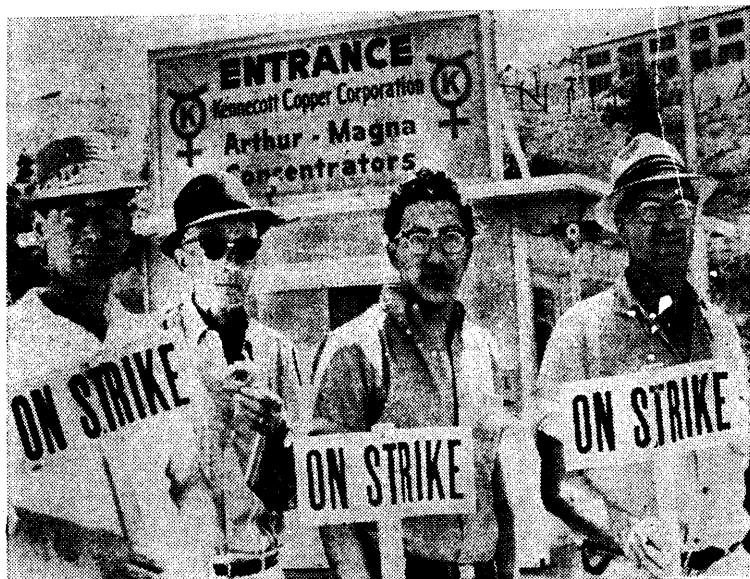
One more group remains to be dealt with, the PLP. The PLP was formed presumably to offer an alternative to the revisionism of the CP. All they have accomplished is to build a left wing version of the same thing.

They have jumped into P&F head first. Their paper extolls it as a real alternative. Their people speak at its meetings proclaiming that P&F is a movement, a vanguard development. They are the best and most loyal P&F spokesmen.

The PLP has long opposed the struggle for a labor party. Now they reveal concretely their real perspective. Where the CP hopes to build its peoples movement out of the Democratic Party they expect to accomplish the same thing by burying themselves in middle class swamps. Both are united in their abandonment of working class politics.

The Workers League has struggled continuously to understand, expose and provide an alternative to these revisionist parties. This is why we are now the only ones prepared to carry on the struggle to turn the growing working class militancy into a political struggle. The coming political struggle of the American working class will sweep the P&F Party and its revisionist supporters off the face of the earth.

copper strikers face lbj threat



MILITANT COPPER WORKERS MAN PICKET LINE IN UTAH

by Fred Mueller

The nationwide copper strike is now seven months old. In this fundamental test of strength 60,000 workers from 26 different unions are pitted against four giant copper companies--Kennecott, Anaconda, Phelps Dodge, and the American Smelting and Refining Co. The strike has already become the longest major shutdown in more than a decade.

Secretary of Labor Wirtz and Commerce Secretary Trowbridge appointed a 3-man panel to look into the strike and seek ways of bringing it to an early end. On January 30 this committee began

its hearings. It is headed by the same George Taylor whose name heads the New York State anti-strike law for public employees, the law used to send teachers' union president Shanker to jail and now being used against the sanitation workers. Although the government has been careful to maintain a neutral pose so far, this is just a pose. The copper strikers can expect nothing but trouble from any government intervention, including this committee.

payments

The long shutdown is having an effect on the serious

balance of payments crisis: The copper bosses are able to use their overseas investments, to completely shut down copper production in the U.S. and try to wait out the strike. But this means greatly increased imports of copper, which in turn means more U.S. dollars leaving the country and a greater payments deficit.

The copper strikers must demand full support from the labor movement. The organized working class is capable of providing the copper strikers with real strike benefits, not the bare subsistence or less that they now get.

CANADIAN BULLETIN

ndp ducks as bosses attack workers

TORONTO-- Since the most recent manifestation of the world liquidity crisis in the form of the devaluation of the British Pound, Canada has been put under increasing pressure to insure its profit taking through devaluation of its currency, and a major attack on its working class. There are numerous signs that this crisis is well advanced in their preparations to push the working class back into the middle ages.

How are the workers to be pushed back? What measures have the government taken and what measures are being prepared? Within the week the Bank of Canada announced its second interest increase in a period of two months. A couple of months ago the interest rate stood at 5%, then 6%, now 7%. The extra 2% on the interest rate was meant to insure that capital won't flee Canada to higher interest rate countries.

To the worker this means that he won't be able to buy a house, with the new rising mortgage and land costs. Instead of rents going up 12%-13%, you can add an additional 5%-6% by the end of the year. What about a car? A bigger bite out of a relatively smaller pay cheque. Food? Clothing? Medical? Up, up, up!!! More unemployment will be coming this year.

One of the first actions of the factory owners will be to trim the work force to squeeze more production (and accidents) out of the workers. This is one source of profit conservation. The other is to insure that workers don't make up inflation in the form of wage and working condition gains through their trade unions. Therefore, more strike-breaking injunctions and anti-labor laws. Longer hours, harder work, an earlier grave, no Medicare, a cut in your standard of living.

nothing

What do the workers' leaders propose to do in order to stop the attacks of the capitalists? Nothing, or at best, nothing effective (in the interest of the working class).

The trade union leadership has done nothing to prepare their ranks for the attacks on the working class. Even though many union bureau-



CHRYSLER WORKERS IN WINDSOR SIGN UP FOR PICKET DUTY AT STRIKE HEADQUARTERS

crats maintain ties with the NDP, and in some instances control key positions in the NDP, none have posed a political solution to the attacks against the working class and youth. True, there are several formal positions held by the NDP and trade union leaderships that would aid in the defence of the working class, such as opposition to anti-strike injunctions and anti-trade union legislation. What has the NDP done concretely to implement these positions? Just about nothing.

What about the NDP reaction to the recent public employees union strike? Just to say that in their opinion there might be something illegal about Ontario's busting actions. How did the trade union leadership respond to the province's actions? A strike, a proposal for a general strike of public employees, but no political action, no call to make the NDP fight for labor.

The Montreal transit workers conducted one of the finest economic strikes seen in a long time, yet they lost. The workers could march down the street demanding 'Quebec to the workers' but no one had built a political alternative for the workers in Quebec, so no matter what

the transit workers did they couldn't beat the political power of the Quebec legislature. For all practical purposes there is no NDP in Quebec, and the NDP doesn't seem to care!

The League for Socialist Action, the Communist Party, and the Progressive Workers Movement, all orient themselves towards the political backwardness of the petty bourgeoisie through their accommodation to the anti-war movement and Quebec nationalism. All reject the struggle for working class leadership as part of a general offensive against the bosses' attacks against the workers, trade unionists and youth.

leadership

Only the Workers League is prepared to give leadership to the working class in an effort to fight back against the attacks of the ruling class. The Workers League seeks to build itself on the basis of building a movement among the working class and youth. At this time the task facing working class militants who wish to resolve the crisis facing capitalism in favor of the working class is building the 4th International, and most specifically the Workers League as it represents the continuity of revolutionary Marxism through the fourth International. The Workers League says that workers and youth must demand that the NDP really fight for labor by waging a campaign to put an end to inflation and anti-trade union laws and court injunctions. This is important because inflation is the means that the ruling class is using to beat down the standard of living of the workers, and anti-labor laws and injunctions are used to insure that the workers can't fight back.

The bosses government is backing out on a number of promises to the workers the most recent and major being the decision to postpone Medicare, as an austerity measure. The NDP must oppose vigorously such actions by the government, and demand that the Medicare program be implemented at no cost to the workers by taxing all income including profits and capital gains (on which there is no tax) as regular income. The bosses should be made to pay for the present crisis that they created by such a change in the tax structure so as the tax burden can be lifted from the poor and working people.

demand

Youth and workers must demand that all industries that claim to be unable to pay a living wage with decent working conditions be nationalized under workers' control. If the bosses can't manage the economy in such a manner that every worker who desires employment is provided with a job then the bosses should be made to pay for it by providing unemployment pay at the going wage in that industry.

To meet the rising cost of rental housing government rent control must be established under tenant control to insure that rents don't exceed the real costs of housing.

Revolutionary socialists must seek to rally the working class around such demands as part of the effort to make the NDP fight for labor, and in that fight build the Workers League as the alternative leadership to lead the working class out of its present crisis.

BOSSES COURT JAILS UNION FISHERMEN

by Robert Hartley

TORONTO--The President and Secretary of the United Fishermen and Allied Workers Union are still serving a one year sentence meted out by the anti-union courts for their carrying out a democratic vote of their membership to continue their strike in British Columbia. President Stavenes and Secretary Stevens had been ordered by the courts in an injunction to dispatch a telegram to the union membership stating that the union had given permission to unload the ships affected by the strike. For refusing to violate the democratic decision of the membership, violate the constitution of the union, and to break a strike the union's leadership was packed up and sent off to jail as 'criminals'.

escalation

This action by the bosses government represented an escalation against the trade union movement. Eighteen months ago ten B.C. longshoremen were sent to jail for 90 days, following that in Ontario 24 trade unionists were convicted as criminals as a result of a court in-

junction in the Tilco strike, Quebec teachers faced the same music, and in the Lenkurt dispute in Vancouver four unionists were sent off for up to six months.

It is imperative to defend the trade unions from this wave of attacks from the employers' courts and government. The attack is a political one and the counter attack must also be political. The New Democratic Party as Canada's labor party must demand that the leaders of the Fishermen's Union be immediately released, and that anti-union legislation and court injunctions be ended.

betrayal

Unfortunately the NDP's record includes not only a lack of willingness to conduct a campaign in defense of the trade unions, but an instance of outright betrayal in B.C. when some NDP leaders sided with the bosses government against the striking workers. In the Fishermen's Union the demand must be raised that the fight to defend the union be political. The Fishermen's Union must affiliate with the NDP and that the NDP be made to fight for labor.

TORONTO WORKERS LEAGUE

P.O. BOX 1144 TERMINAL A TORONTO 1, ONT.

Workers Get Raw Deal

by Steve Yves

TORONTO-- Northern Electric has just settled a contract with the communication Workers of America. This union represents 900 workers in the installation department at Northern Electric. This contract was supposed to be a 'fair' one but the workers never gained a thing because of the income tax increases by the government of 10% and the increasing cost of living (e.g. rising housing costs). The workers are receiving a 19% wage increase over the next two years while the company, off the sweat of the workers, made 30% more profits in the last year.

The reason this contract passed was that the union leadership recommended it, said it was 'fairer' than ones in the past, and the workers stored all their faith in the leadership. The way to combat this would be to set up a new leadership within the union to represent the workers.