

NEW AMERICAN MOVEMENT

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G-MEN IN ACTION





LETTERS

CP & Elections

Dear comrades,

As the current elections are coming in a period of unprecedented mass disaffection with the U.S. government -- amidst a deepening economic crisis and in the wake of Vietnam and Watergate -- we, as leftists, ought to intervene in the elections in such a way as to point the way forward. A substantial left vote, and particularly a significant vote for the Communist Party (CPUSA), will give meaningful aid and encouragement to the revolutionary fighters across the world who are struggling against capitalism and imperialism. As the CP has historic ties to the socialist countries and the deepest roots in the U.S. working class of any leftist formation on the ballot, a vote for the CP will express the most meaningful rejection of bourgeois class rule.

However, it must also be pointed out that only actual class struggle such as strikes and massive, militant street actions building up to insurrectionary levels on a national scale can win any secure gains from the capitalists. We should urge a vote for the left not as an end in itself, but strictly as auxiliary to sparking and building a mass, class struggle movement.

Further, the CP is not conducting its own election campaign in a genuinely revolutionary manner. Rather, it is using its campaign as a substitute for real struggle. The CP's electoral program itself is inadequate. Demands such as a cancellation of public debts to the banks and a full useful employment at union wages are necessary and important demands to raise. But the CP pathetically only calls for an 80% reduction of the U.S. military budget, and in recent campaign speeches its candidates have tended to water down even this demand for the sake of "popularity" among the bourgeois-influenced electorate.

Many workers and progressives, nauseated by the Ford-Carter circus, are leaning towards not voting at all. But this is not a serious alternative -- a big non-vote by progressives would only be taken by the ruling class as a green light from a cynical "silent majority" to pursue their militarist and counterrevolutionary schemes with a free hand.

In asking people to vote CP, we do not demand that they adopt the CP's non-struggle politics, which the CP shares in common with other leftist formations on the ballot (SWP and SLP, for instance). Rather, we urge that people register the most meaningful and serious protest against the common enemy, U.S. capitalism. In areas where the CP is not on the ballot, we should urge that people vote for one of the other leftist parties.

Ray Burba



Carter or Boycott

Dear Newspaper Collective,

I must protest your editorial in the September issue. It is not NAM policy and not, in my opinion, good socialist policy. You make it appear that the choice in the elections is between support of Carter or Boycott. Boycott means support of the establishment as is. Politicians on the outside always worry about non-participants. Boycott means support of Ford. I propose a more difficult, but more interesting option. We can support issues and reforms.

Ford appeals to the ruling corporate interests; who want the people to tighten their belts and shoulder the cost of the crisis. The Ford mass appeal is intended to

blind people to issues and confuse them into accepting all their hurts and pains. Carter is appealing to the socialist constituency, the people who are worried about problems facing the U.S. and how to solve them without hurt. Carter took the play away from Wallace who tried to lead the anger of the people into racism. Carter leads away from racism and puts the blame on the economic system.

Election time offers an arena of political struggle. People are receptive and discuss reforms to eliminate their hurts. Capitalist politicians never blame the profit system. Socialists are all for reform, but they also expose the system, show the limits and impossibility of solution, and the need for socialist solutions. It is a good opportunity for socialist propaganda.

We could do all that if there were a significant socialist organization and candidate. There is none. All the minority candidates are not worth the effort put into them. Until then we should use different methods.

Where Carter speaks in generalities for fear of offending some sector of the population, we could analyze issues in depth. When Carter speaks of curbing unemployment and inflation, it should be the mission of socialists to show it can only be done by curbing profits. A mere increase in productivity, which is the mission of capitalism, means more unemployment. The system can no longer provide employment for the entire labor force.

When Carter speaks of equality, the black people hope that it means leadership to end discrimination and racism. It should be the mission of socialists to emphasize the evil of racism and the need to end it in everyday life, in our economics, politics, and the entire culture.

Everyone is worried about crime in the streets. It is real and cannot be wished away. Law and order advocates see the solution in more repression. Crime did not increase because there were no laws or repression before. It should be the mission of socialists to show that crime is a result of want, misery, and our culture.

Let me draw a parallel from our history. When the Civil War began, Lincoln feared raising the issue of slavery. The abolitionists kept constant emphasis and pushing the need to free the slaves. This is the kind of participation we need and socialists could perform in the service of the country.

Leon Blum

Prison Support

Dear comrades,

A state of emergency exists for two women who are incarcerated at California Institute for Women (CIW). We need your support in any way that can help; preferably by writing to the governor and asking clemency in one case and help in the other, due to the July 2 Supreme Court decision to uphold the death penalty.

Mable Glenn is waiting to be executed in the gas chamber. She is black, poor, 52 years old and accused of murdering her husband. She has no family and no one to reopen her case and file an appeal due to lack of funds. At this time, she has no money at all to buy things such as candy, cigarettes, stamped envelopes; she has no one to write to.

Isa Lany is white, 87 years old, born in West Virginia. She came from a poor family. She has been in prison since 1935. She writes in her letters, "I am a lifer." She wears a hearing aid and is partially blind from cataracts in her eyes. She is also crippled from a broken hip that didn't mend properly. Isa Lany is not on death row. She was paroled a few years ago to a home for the aged, but she found the treatment there so bad that she asked to be sent back to CIW. We feel that the state should help find somewhere to let her spend the remainder of her days in a free place where she can get the proper care that she needs.

Please write to these people:

Mable Glen, CIW
PTU Room 102-B
Frontera, CA 91720

Isa Lany, CIW
Frontera, CA-91720

Write letters to:
Governor Brown
Office of the Governor, State Capitol
Sacramento, CA

Chairman of the Adult Authority
714 P Street
Sacramento, CA

If possible, please send copies of your letters to the United Prisoners Union, 944 Market St. #508, San Francisco, CA 94102. Thank you for your help.

The United Prisoners Union

Political Critique

Dear Newspaper Collective:

We in NAM are fond of patting ourselves on the back for taking cultural politics seriously. But there's a big difference between setting aside space in the paper for cultural reviews, and taking popular culture seriously, as a reflection of political life and a moulder of political consciousness. It is not taking popular culture seriously to publish reviews informed by less coherent theoretical assumptions and less rigorous analysis than we demand for traditional economic and political subjects.

But that's exactly what the paper did in the October issue. I found Dan Luria's TV review politically irresponsible, patronizing to the American public and impressionistic to the point of anti-intellectualism. He begins by saying -- quite rightly -- that while "TV can be pretty good" it "can never be supergood." But his definition of "good" is almost wholly apolitical and his explanation of why it can't be "supergood" is, to put it strongly, un-Marxist in the extreme.

First the apolitical criteria. According to Luria, **Happy Days** -- "a show about four boys and how hard it is for them to get laid" -- is "a winner" because "it is almost always funny." And **MASH** is arbitrarily cited as "the best show on TV" because "it's almost always about something important" and "the acting is super." Well, as for **MASH**, I can't recall a single episode that struck me as being about "something important." And, although I don't watch regularly, Luria's offhand examples didn't convince me I'd missed all the good ones. **Happy Days**, on the other hand, is actually more politically interesting than Luria suggests. In fact, by political standards it's not in the same league with **MASH**. This is because **MASH** is about middle-class professionals -- army officers yet -- while **Happy Days** is at least superficially about working class people, people in conflict with bourgeois values.

But that's just the point. Luria doesn't use political standards. He likes things that make him laugh and he seems oblivious to the (often reactionary) political judgments implicit in his sense of humor. For example, he writes off **Laverne and Shirley** -- a spinoff of **Happy Days**, which is currently tied with that show for first place in the Nielson ratings -- as a "slick show about how stupid two women factory workers can be." My first reaction to that was to wonder by what standards **Laverne and Shirley** came off as more stupid than "the Fonz." But the next sentence answered the question. "It shares with **Mary Hartman** . . . a belief that working people are hopelessly confused and banal. They're both piggy shows . . ."

I don't think it's stretching a point to suggest that the most obvious difference between **MASH** and **Happy Days** and **Laverne and Shirley** and **Mary Hartman** isn't their class perspective but the fact that the first two focus -- in Luria's own words -- on "male camaraderie" while the second two are about women's lives and problems.

Luria is aware of the sexism in the shows he likes but he gets around it by coming up with his second big political error -- his assumption that TV can never be any better. "We watch it because we have been made unexciting and it suits us. At some future time we may have richer lives for art to reflect" and "find little electronic noise and picture boxes too painful a reminder of what we once were." The ahistorical notion that technology is itself culture-bound is too complicated to get into. But it does illustrate the basic flaw in Luria's view of popular culture. He ignores the fact that the media is a bourgeois institution which embodies the contradictions within capitalist society; on the one hand, it's owned and controlled by the ruling class and so can never wholly transcend the limits of bourgeois ideology. But on the other hand -- the Left hand, that is -- it does reflect some real changes in the consciousness of its audience and, more importantly perhaps, of its workers. The media employs an army of cultural workers who, like most workers, are way ahead of their bosses politically and more in tune with the real thoughts and needs of the public. And because the American public won't take any crap that's put before it, but rather, is increasingly discriminating and selective, the media is forced to at least pay lip service to a lot of progressive ideas. This is borne

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NEW AMERICAN MOVEMENT Newspaper

The New American Movement (NAM) exists to help organize a movement for democratic socialism in the United States. Our aim is to establish working-class control of the enormous productive capacity of American industry, to create a society that will provide material comfort and security for all people, and in which the full and free development of every individual will be the basic goal. Such a society will strive for decentralization of decision-making, an end to bureaucratic rule, and participation of all people in shaping their own lives and the direction of society. We believe the elimination of sexist and racist institutions and the dismantling of American economic and social control abroad are central to the struggle for socialism.

Frank Bove, Chris Casey, Eric Davin, Chris Ghibelline, Roger Gottlieb, Hardy Green, Herb Klein, Jenny Lovejoy

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Teamsters Organize for a Democratic Union

by Dan Marschall, Chicago NAM #1

KENT, OHIO-- The 200 Teamsters who gathered in this small college town drove no fancy Cadillacs nor did they flash big bankrolls. They travelled from 14 states not on union expense accounts, but on their own hard-earned wages or on money donated by fellow Teamsters.

"There's a TDU train rolling and we're coming to take our union back," Mel Packer of Pittsburgh Local 249 told delegates to the founding convention of the Teamsters for a Democratic Union. The TDU is an outgrowth of the Teamsters for a Decent Contract (TDC), the group of dissidents who pushed the union's hierarchy into calling a 3-day strike last March over terms of the Master Freight Agreement.

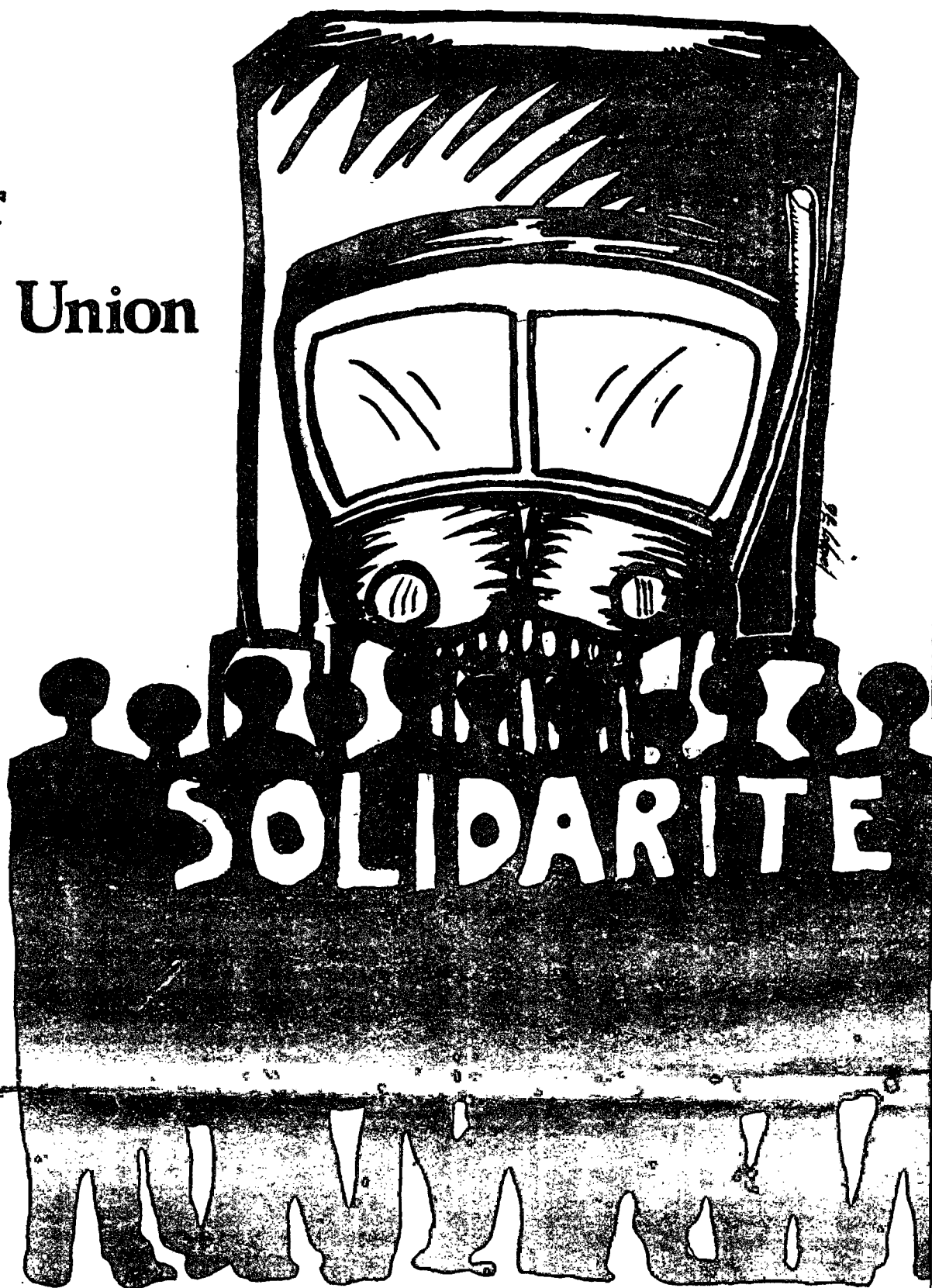
The leadership of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters has become an established, entrenched bureaucracy, Packer emphasized, that places the health and welfare of the trucking companies over the interests of its own members. Only if the union is transformed into a militant, democratic organization will it be able to defend its members against the abuses of the companies.

Deteriorating Working Conditions

The trucking companies are daily attacking the working conditions and job security of Teamsters, TDU members believe. Union leadership has failed to oppose this tendency. In Oregon, companies are now using "triple trailer combos" where one cab pulls three 27-foot trailers weighing a total of 105,000 pounds. According to state law, these combos should not be pulled in inclement weather. But when two drivers for Garrett Truck Lines refused to pull them through the Columbia Gorge, an area noted for strong wind currents, they were fired for not doing their jobs.

A popular practice of other companies is to use temporary and part-time (casual) help to cut their labor costs and undermine the job security of full-time workers. An employee of Roadway Express, the nation's largest carrier of freight, described how the company hires new workers on call for 29 days and then lays them off because they're not "Roadway material." On the 30th day, new employees are required to join the union. "It's Roadway's way of hiring cheap labor, since they don't have to pay regular wages and union benefits," he said.

To justify these layoffs, Roadway uses the results of lie detector tests that have become part of the job application process. Roadway officials maintain that it's necessary to screen prospective employees to cut down the rate of theft. Test questions include "Do you enjoy wearing your wife's bra and panties?" and "Do you have mirrors on your bedroom ceiling?"



~ from a French Political poster ~

United Parcel Service has initiated a system where they pay part-time workers up to \$3 less per hour for the same jobs as full-timers. According to a UPS worker from Pittsburgh, these casual workers pay full union dues but receive no union benefits in most places in the East.

The Struggle Against "Business Unionism"

The only way to stop these abuses, TDU members believe, is to change the Teamsters' leadership from the bottom up, turning the union away from its "business unionist" philosophy to a position of consistently fighting for the interests of its members. While the TDU comprises 500 activists, at most, nationwide, it remains an influential and well-organized opposition force

within the union.

Since the Master Freight contract, TDU chapters have supported several wildcat strikes and have fought company attempts to violate its provisions. In the next year, TDU chapters will concentrate on reforming the provisions of local union constitutions.

The TDU's general program calls for direct election of all international officers, the right to vote on local supplements to the National Master Freight Agreement, and an end to all trusteeships in the union.

In terms of working conditions and part-timers, the TDU demands that triple trailers be banned, that the jobs of full-time workers be protected, and that casuals get union rights and benefits from the first day.

labor notes

•The Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC) has sued law enforcement officials and farmers in Fulton County, Ohio, to defend its right to organize migrant farmworkers. The suit followed incidents in which FLOC organizers were driven off farms and arrested without being charged with any crime. FLOC is organizing migrants in Ohio and Indiana, and is concentrating its efforts on the large processing companies which dominate small farmers as well as farmworkers. It recently won a strike against the Morgan Packing Company in Warren, Indiana, forcing the company to provide jobs for migrant workers who had arrived after being promised work, only to be told they were not needed.

•September's labor notes reported a dispute between the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and the Girl Scouts, which started when a girl scout uniform manufacturer closed its factory and moved to Mississippi to run away from the union. The Girl Scouts have now agreed to look for a new manufacturer, and in return the ILGWU has called off plans to ask the AFL-CIO to withdraw its support from the scouts. The dispute between the ILG and Co-Ed Garments is continuing, however, with the union demanding the reopening of the old factory. Co-Ed Garments recently responded to the union demands in a letter to former employees -- and 94 union members had to pay 25 cents postage due to see what the company had to say.

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out by the fact that, contrary to Luria's view, an increasing amount of air time is already devoted to "fight(ing) racist and sexist characterizations," such as those on *MASH* and *Happy Days*. *Hot L Baltimore* may have "disappeared within a few months," but hasn't Luria noticed that *All in the Family*, *Maude* and *One Day at a Time*, to name only a few shows which actively fight such stereotypes, are very much alive and kicking?

Well, I've taken a lot of space to criticize an article which may seem to many people fairly insignificant. But that's just the point. Cultural politics is significant, and we're making a big mistake if we think of it as mindless entertainment and review it as though we expected our readers to skim our reviews as they would the comic section of their daily paper. The average American spends more time watching and talking about TV than almost any other subject. The ruling class clearly knows this or it wouldn't spend so much energy and money planning and producing it. As socialist we had better be at least as smart and serious about popular culture as they are.

In-struggle and solidarity,
Elayne Rapping



PRESIDENT FORD RECEIVING HIS SHOT

Swine Flu; the medical porkbarrel

by Rick Kunnes, Detroit NAM

On February 4, 1976, Private David Lewis, a Fort Dix soldier, died after marching miles through the snow. Lewis had been previously ill, and doctors believe that if he had rested rather than marching, he would have lived and completely recovered. But Lewis and his illness have not been forgotten: his is the only known death in the world that is in any way related to swine flu.

After Lewis' death, the Pentagon panicked because this swine flu virus appeared to be somewhat similar to the virus which caused the 1918 world-wide flu epidemic that killed millions. However, the relationship between the 1918 flu and the 1976 swine flu is a tenuous one. First, antibiotics which can control most of the fatal complications did not exist in 1918. And of the 50 swabbings containing swine flu virus -- not exactly evidence of a dangerous, rapidly spreading epidemic.

In fact, the Pentagon expanded its search for the elusive flu virus to the surrounding New Jersey area and eventually into 24 other states, without locating a trace of the virus. The Pentagon and the public health establishment, not wanting to encourage complacency on the basis of their futile search, ominously called the virus "unpredictable" when it couldn't be found. Press releases from the Pentagon and the federal health bureaucracy stressed similarities between the 1918 flu virus and the Fort Dix swine flu virus. Not surprisingly, this created some considerable public fear.

A Medical Hay of Pigs

On March 24, President Ford submitted a bill to Congress authorizing \$135 million for the vaccination of every American against swine flu. The four pharmaceutical corporations chosen by federal health officials to manufacture the vaccine are all subsidiaries of multinational conglomerates and heavy contributors to the Republican

Party (e.g., Wyeth Laboratories, a subsidiary of American Home Products; Parke-Davis, a subsidiary of Warner-Lambert). Ford was doing poorly in the primaries, and the hoopla surrounding the bill was a needed shot in the arm.

The initial unity among federal health officials, local health officials, and the pharmaceutical corporations manufacturing the vaccine did not last. The day after Ford's message to Congress, the bickering began. Some influential medical scientists wanted to add to the vaccine to make it also effective against A/Victoria virus, the dominant flu strain in the world. This suggestion was rejected on the grounds that it was "swine flu alone which sold the program." The implication that another virus was more prevalent and probably more dangerous than swine flu virus frightened federal officials, who realized how easily the program could be eroded if pointed questions were asked.

Another initial supporter of the vaccination program, the director of New Jersey's public health laboratories, became skeptical when he realized that 15% of the people inoculated would suffer adverse reactions severe enough to keep them in bed for two days, or much longer for children under ten years old.

A second alternative to the vaccine program was blocked by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The drug amantadine has been proven effective against the Hong Kong flu and Asian flu. In the Soviet Union, the drug has been massively distributed for the prevention of many different virulent viral flu diseases. In this country, Dupont Labs has run tests suggesting that amantadine given at the time of an outbreak of swine flu could prevent deaths. But the government also rejected this alternative to the mass vaccination program.

By mid-April, health officials realized they had grossly underestimated the cost of nationwide vaccination. For example, the initial authorization of \$135 million turned out only 13 cents an injection, when the real cost is closer to 60 cents.

Additional expenses were incurred when the vaccine manufacturers demanded that the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) pay for the drug companies' inoculation insurance costs. Despite lack of Congressional support for these insurance demands from the drug companies, Ford's HEW officials "gave away the store," according to Eli Zernzweig of the Federal Insurance Administration, paying out millions of taxpayers' dollars to subsidize the corporations' insurance costs.

The Shots Are Coming, Is the Flu?

The case against massive immunization continued to build in June. Tests indicated that the vaccine was effective in only about a third of the subjects under 24 years old. No effective and safe vaccine exists for people under 18. By mid-July the Pentagon refused to have its five million military personnel inoculated.

European medical experts have taken no interest in swine flu inoculation. The highly respected British medical journal, *Lancet*, noted that British volunteers experimentally exposed to swine flu "developed only mild symptoms, nothing like the 1918 epidemic." A *Lancet* editorial stated, "The swine flu virus seemed to be not very good at infecting people and may have died out as a result."

By August, interest in the vaccine was certainly tapering. But in the second week of August, the outbreak of Legionnaires' Disease was used by Ford and the pharmaceutical corporations to frighten Congress into further subsidies for the vaccination program, the largest and most expensive mass inoculation program in history.

But just as one series of Pennsylvania deaths made the program, another series has prompted justified public concern about the affair. On October 12, three people died in Pittsburgh within hours after being inoculated. Ford may have made some short-lived political gains off the program -- and it is certain that the pharmaceutical and insurance companies have made a financial killing -- but in the end they all may find that the public is not so very gullible.



Canadian General Strike

Millions Protest Wage Controls

y Paul Willies, Vancouver, British Columbia

(On Oct. 14th., more than a million Canadian workers walked out in North America's first general strike...a day of protest against the government's program of wage and price controls.

(The strike was strongest at manufacturing and resource industries. Thousands of workers joined the protest in British Columbia's forest industry, creating heavy shutdowns. Postal services were hard hit as well as construction trades, electrical workers and, in Newfoundland, non-medical hospital personnel. Local transport systems were snarled and the strike shutdown the Welland, Ontario, canal, closing the St. Lawrence Seaway at that point.

(Paperworker union president L. H. Lorrain told those at a rally: "No other labor group has ever in the history of the world organized a protest which spanned an entire continent...History will call this the birth of the Canadian labor movement."

(In the House of Commons, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau said he had no objection to the labor movement "if they protest during their lunch hour

or after their hours of work. If, on the contrary, they are breaking a contract, then, of course, it becomes illegal and we condemn it."

(What follows is a discussion of the background leading up to the strike by a Canadian militant.)

At the time of writing this article, Canadian workers are gearing up for what has been called "the most significant event since they won the right to organize!"

October 14th will be remembered in Canadian history as the day of the "General Strike," or the "National Day of Protest."

Union, and non-union workers across this nation will be walking out or calling in sick to protest Liberal Prime Minister Trudeau's Anti Inflation Program.

The 24-hour protest, called by the Canadian Labor Congress' convention in May, 1976, was not at first taken seriously by politicians. Social Credit Premier Bennet of British Columbia said the protest would cost "Hundreds of millions of

dollars ... [and would be] a foolish, counter-productive, and wasteful move." All ten Provincial Premiers issued a joint release opposing the work stoppage.

Anti Inflation Program

The Anti Inflation Program of wage and price controls was introduced October 14, 1975. Its guidelines, based on a three year plan, call for wage increases to be held at no more than 8% in the first year with 2% allowable for a rise in productivity. Limitations were placed on prices by restricting companies to 15% less profit than they made in previous years. All this changes on Oct. 14th when wages will be pegged at 6% -- plus any amounts by which the rise in consumer prices exceeds 8% in the first year of controls. But prices and profits will be allowed to rise much faster.

The socialist New Democratic Party Premier of Saskatchewan, Ed Schreyer, charges that this continued on page 5

Canada

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change is "Puzzling and certainly premature." He stated that this loosens the program in favor of prices and profits and that it should have been the opposite.

Saskatchewan's New Democratic Party Finance Minister, Walter Smishek, has said the changes are "a license for many large companies to increase their prices and their profits. Ottawa has created one set of rules for the rich and a different set of rules for the rest."

Back in October, 1975, several Provinces signed up in support of the Federal Government's program for only 18 months and in the Spring will

have to decide whether to renew the contract. Canada's ten Provinces have more power than American states, especially in such matters as education, natural resources, industry and labor. Therefore, the support of each Provincial government is essential for the price and wage controls to succeed. Mr. Trudeau's program is already under strong attack from the New Democratic Party governments of Saskatchewan and Manitoba. If the "General Strike" is successful, it could undermine the controls by forcing key Provinces -- Ontario and oil-and-mineral rich British Columbia -- to withdraw their

support. This, in turn, could mean an early retirement for the program and/or Pierre Trudeau and his Liberal Party government.

For the average Canadian, October 14th will be a day of rest without buses, trains, ferries, postal services, newspapers -- a grinding halt to most industry. In most Provinces, you will not be able to buy any beer or liquor to celebrate. Hopefully, though, we will be able to see ourselves on the evening TV in the mass demonstrations and rallies planned in this nation's major cities in what has got to be the strongest voice of the people yet seen.

by Joanne Barkan

"The consumer sparks an economic recovery and the businessman keeps it going." If this axiom of economists is used as a guideline, the question becomes: "Will American businessmen keep the current economic recovery going?" Politicians and establishment economists are anxiously looking at the level of capital spending -- that is, investment in factories and machinery. They believe this investment must increase if there is to be the economic expansion necessary to lessen unemployment.

So far, however, the main factors in the economic recovery have been consumer spending and wholesale and retail inventory purchases. Corporate profits are up, but this surplus has been



APPLICANTS AT CALIFORNIA AVENUE UNEMPLOYMENT OFFICE IN CHICAGO

Unemployment

bewilders Capitalist Politicians and Economists

used to pay off debts and to buy risk-free assets such as U.S. Treasury bills. The amount of cash which American corporations have readily available has increased -- but the level of investment has not.

Sluggish capital spending is also reflected in the banking situation. While bank profits are up, business loans and the demand for credit are down. Businesses are not borrowing money for investments that could keep the economy growing.

Matter of Time?

Some optimistic businessmen and economists argue that it is just a matter of time before a new surge of investment begins. Money burns a hole in businessmen's pockets, just like everyone else's, says one analyst. But others fear that a lack of confidence in our economy's ability to deal with its basic problems -- such as inflation and unemployment -- will persist and discourage

Editor's Note: This is a shortened and edited version of an article which also appeared in the Italian revolutionary newspaper "Il Manifesto."

capital spending.

The recession, with its simultaneous high levels of inflation and unemployment, has posed as yet unanswered questions for businessmen, politicians, and establishment economists. Can the economy be stimulated or expanded enough to significantly reduce unemployment without setting off a new wave of inflation? Should the government take action, and if so, how much? Or should it be left up to the private sector?

These problems were debated throughout the Presidential campaign. The debate reflects a serious conflict within the ruling class about how to approach the fundamental weaknesses of the American economy. The economic advisors of both the Democratic and Republican candidates were forced to name one or the other, inflation or unemployment, as the greater evil.

Winning Votes

The more conservative economists have argued that inflation is the greatest economic problem and the cause of unemployment. But as the elections drew near, and the unemployment rate failed to decline, conservative as well as liberal

politicians were forced to admit that unemployment was a major problem. Both Ford and Carter felt pressure to come up with proposals on how to deal with it.

But the major politicians and their economic advisors are not sure what to do about unemployment. "The economics profession just doesn't know as much about this issue as it should," said Jerry J. Jasinowsky, Jimmy Carter's policy coordinator for economics. This attitude was further seen in the Carter forces' lack of a clear program for reducing unemployment. They merely offered vague policies such as improving the "sharpness" and "discreteness" of government monetary and fiscal policies.

Similarly, Ford's advisor Alan Greenspan said that while the Administration had studied many proposals for dealing with unemployment, it had not found one that it felt would be effective.

Many liberals believe the Federal government should provide jobs directly, through public works projects and revenue sharing with state and local governments for hiring and for protecting jobs. Opponents argue that such programs create only "dead end" jobs, drain labor from the private sector, and do not reach the chronically unemployed. They maintain that jobs must be created in the private sector.

During the campaign, Carter was not enthusiastic about having the government provide jobs directly. Many of the proposals that were discussed in his camp would have given incentives to businessmen to increase employment. These proposals amounted to government subsidies to private corporations that would protect their position and profits. Such measures might create some jobs, but not enough to make a major dent in unemployment.

Chronic Unemployment

Unemployment is chronic in the United States. It has not fallen below 5% since 1973, and there is no reason to think that it will get very much better in the future. Economists calculate that it will take 12 million new jobs by 1980 to bring the rate of unemployment down just two percentage points. Only 6.8 million jobs were created in the last five years.

So the dilemma, as the politicians and their advisors see it, is unresolved. They continue to search for a program that will reduce unemployment to politically acceptable levels, while not increasing inflation. With no effective solution in sight, they anxiously await a surge in capital spending -- and postpone the real problems a little longer.

AIM Fights Frame-up

by Eric Davin, Newspaper Collective.

Leonard Peltier sits in solitary confinement in a small cell on Death Row. For nine months he has been the most important prisoner in Vancouver's Oakallah Prison. When he exercises, he exercises in his cell. When he leaves his cell to go anywhere -- the dining hall, the visiting room, the courtroom -- he is shackled hand and foot and accompanied by heavily armed guards. Under heavy guard, he is allowed to speak with visitors twice a week for ten minutes through thick plate glass.

Leonard Peltier has never been in jail before. Leonard Peltier has never been convicted of any crime. There are no charges against him nor arrest warrants for him anywhere in Canada.

Leader of AIM

Leonard Peltier is a 32-year old Oglala Sioux who has long been a militant leader of the American Indian Movement (AIM). The FBI accuses Peltier of killing two FBI Agents in a shoot-out at the Pine Ridge Sioux Reservation in South Dakota June 26, 1975.

Immediately following the shoot-out, the FBI put out arrest warrants on four Indians active in AIM at Pine Ridge: Robert Robideaux, Darrel (Dino) Butler, Jimmy Eagle, and Leonard Peltier. Last July 16, Robideaux and Butler were acquitted of all charges against them by an all-white jury in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The acquittal of Robideaux and Butler has raised the likelihood that the charges against Jimmy Eagle, now being held in Cedar Rapids, may also be dropped. The FBI has stated publicly that it therefore places a top priority on convicting Peltier.

Since his arrest Feb. 6 at an Indian encampment near Jasper, Alberta, Peltier has become the subject of widespread demonstrations

The FBI wants Peltier any way they can get him -- dead or alive.

across Canada. Despite almost total ignorance of his case in this country, nation-wide pressure and support committees in Canada have made him that nation's most widely-known political prisoner. Rallies in his support are common in Vancouver, and this summer brought a march through downtown Vancouver by 300 of his supporters. Posters supporting Peltier plaster the city.

Defense Committee

The large Indian community in British Columbia has rallied solidly behind Peltier, and his Defense Committee operates out of offices in the Vancouver Indian Center. He is supported by the two most broadly based Indian groups in British Columbia, the Union of British Columbian Indian Chiefs and the British Columbia Association of Non-Status Indians. On August 28, the Kwakiutl Nation adopted Peltier into the tribe at a huge Potlatch on Vancouver Island.

Nevertheless, Vancouver Judge W.A. Schultz ordered him extradited to South Dakota last June 18th. This decision was immediately appealed to the Canadian Supreme Court, which is expected to issue a judgement sometime in late October. Even if the Supreme Court rules against him, however, Peltier can still appeal to the Canadian Minister of Justice. As Defense Attorney Don Rosenbloom stated: "It all comes down to public pressure on the Minister of Justice; that's the key thing."

Rosenbloom believes the acquittal of Robi-

deaux and Butler "has to be supportive of many of the things we've been saying in this case." At the trial in Cedar Rapids, defense counsel William Kunstler tried to establish that the FBI had been operating a politically motivated campaign of aggression against AIM. At the trial, the defense contended that South Dakota Indian activists are dying of "accidents" and other mysterious causes at an alarming rate while in supposedly safe custody of law enforcement agencies.

Kunstler called Idaho Senator Frank Church to testify at the trial in Cedar Rapids about illegal domestic surveillance operations. Church told the court that his Senent Investigating Committee had discovered that the FBI had indeed taken actions resulting in bodily injury to members of so-called "targeted" organizations. However, Church continued to state that his Committee did not deal specifically with the American Indian Movement in its report. Committee sources recently stated, however, that evidence that AIM was in fact a target of such FBI actions had been heard but had been received too late to be included in its report.

Government Witness

The Peltier defense also contends the major government witness against Peltier is committing perjury. Myrtle Poor Bear claims to have witnessed Peltier shoot the FBI Agents. At the trial of Robideaux and Butler, however, a key government witness, Wilford Draper, testified that Myrtle Poor Bear was not present at Pine Ridge on the day of the shootings. Poor Bear's affidavit was the major piece of evidence used to begin extradition proceedings against Peltier on the South Dakota charges.

The Peltier defense claims the fact that Poor Bear's affidavit was used against Peltier by the

The FBI is Watching YOU

by Chris Ghibelline, Newspaper Collective

If you're a member of anything from a left wing bookstore to a food co-op, from a law commune to a rank and file union caucus, there's a chance that the FBI has its eye on your organization.

Yule Mahoney, a disaffected Boston-area FBI informant, has revealed information on the FBI's massive illegal intelligence-gathering operations in Boston. He talked to Danny Schechter, news director of WBCN radio in Boston and himself a long time subject of FBI and CIA surveillance.

Mahoney's job was to go to meetings, pick up leaflets, and keep the FBI informed about who was doing what. He transmitted his information by phone or in face-to-face meetings with an agent "handler" in bars, restaurants, or parking lots. Mahoney would give a verbal report and then be asked to identify photographs of demonstrators or suspected subversives.

Mahoney's story, as told to Schechter in an article in the Sept. 25 edition of Boston's Real Paper, confirms the existence in the Boston area of a network of government agents, whose job has been to keep tabs on practically every citizens' political movement in the area for at least the last five years. Despite FBI Director Clarence Kelly's assurances to the contrary, domestic spying is still going on in Boston.

Paid Informers

Since 1971, Mahoney spied on more than 33 New England organizations, informing on or identifying more than 900 people. And he believes that he was only one of ten such informants in the area.

Mahoney stated, "Every New Left group in Boston has someone -- male or female -- working to gather intelligence. ... They have people, plenty of

According to a former FBI informant, "Every New-Left group in Boston has someone [from the FBI] working to gather intelligence."

people, and they pay well." He claims to have received more than \$9000 for his part-time spying services for the past five and a half years. And he was once told there were at least nine other informants getting paid for similar work.

Mahoney's last job was to report on Boston's preparation for the July 4th Coalition demonstration in Philadelphia last summer. He received \$75 for identifying Puerto Rican Socialist Party leaders, getting the name of the bus company and of people riding on the buses, and estimating the time of arrival in Philadelphia.

While Mahoney claims that "they always thought of Boston as one of the hot spots, right behind San Francisco," we wonder how many FBI informants there are in more lukewarm places.

U.S. authorities, when they knew her testimony was false, shows that they are prepared to use any means to get Peltier back to South Dakota. They fear this means the FBI want Peltier any way they can get him -- dead or alive. They recount the experience of Peltier's friend Anna Mae Aquash, a Mic Mac Indian from Nova Scotia who was active in AIM at Pine Ridge.

Anna Mae Aquash was kidnapped in Pine Ridge last February by persons unknown. Her badly decomposed body was later found in a snow bank on the reservation. An official autopsy ordered by the FBI and conducted by the Pine Ridge Public Health Hospital declared she had died of exposure.

Distrusting the FBI version of her death, her parents obtained an order to exhume her body and allow an independent autopsy by St. Paul pathologist Dr. William Peterson.

Dr. Peterson's autopsy determined that Anna had died of a .38 caliber bullet in the back of the head.

AIM ACTIVITY IN CANADA

AIM is as active in Canada as it is in the United States. Taking a leading role in Indian land claim battles, it participated in the 1973 highway roadblocks where Indians stopped vehicles crossing their reservations and charged them \$5 tolls.

Last year brought Indian occupations of Department of Indian Affairs offices in Kamloops, B.C., Calgary, Alberta and Ottawa, the nation's capital. As in the United States, they organized a Native Caravan which travelled the length of the nation from Vancouver to Ottawa -- where it ended in a bloody confrontation with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

European and African countries." His investigations showed that "the hysterical fear of Communism that produced McCarthyism in America was being spread, by means of CIA money, first by the AFL and later by the merged AFL-CIO under Meany's autocratic rule."

CIA funding, according to Reuther, "was heaviest in Italy, France, North Africa, and Greece." In each case the policy of Brown, Lovestone, and Meany was to split the national trade union movements. In Italy and France they are split to this day, making coordinated efforts against U.S. and European multinational corporations extremely difficult.

In each case of CIA involvement in labor movements overseas, the policy was to split national trade union movements.

Although it is not mentioned in Reuther's book, Irving Brown was again appointed as AFL-CIO European representative in 1975, and is using his Paris office to influence elections and labor affairs in Italy, France, and Portugal. Documentation of Brown's efforts on behalf of the CIA has been provided by former CIA agent Philip Agee and many other writers.

Reuther cited other legacies of the 1950's CIA and AFL programs in Europe, including links to the Corsican Mafia under Ferri Pisani. Reuther and others have noted that the remnants of Pisani's Mafia organization are heavily involved in international drug dealing to this day, utilizing the connections they obtained at that time.

Other CIA Links

Other charges and details in *The Brothers Reuther* include:

- The American Institute for Free Labor Development (AIFLD) has used hundreds of millions of overt and covert CIA and Agency for International Development funding to disrupt and colonize the labor movements of Latin America.

- The AFL-CIO's African-American Labor Center and the Asian-American Free Labor Institute have followed the pattern of the AIFLD in government funding. The former was founded by Irving Brown; the latter is run by Morris Paladino, identified as a CIA agent by ex-agent Philip Agee and others.

- The CIA itself leaked stories alleging connections between the Agency and Victor Reuther in an attempt to discredit him.

At present, Irving Brown is in Europe, and according to prominent labor leaders is still involved in disrupting internationally coordinated programs to deal with anti-union policies of governments and multinational corporations.

Reuther recently retired from the UAW, but continues to involve himself in trade union affairs. According to the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, the CIA has been intercepting Reuther's mail.

Recently Reuther has become a sponsor for the national "Union Committee for an All-Labor AIFLD," which is publicizing material about government and corporate subversion of labor organizations.

G-Men in

Action

CIA-Labor Connections Exposed

by Rodney Larsen, Research Associates international

The existence of extensive ties between the CIA and AFL-CIO leadership has been confirmed by one of the founders of the CIO and a veteran of 40 years in the American labor movement.

Victor Reuther, brother of United Auto Worker former President Walter Reuther, has just completed the book *The Brothers Reuther*, which includes documentation of the extensive history of CIA and labor "solidarity of subversion."

Reuther was in an unusually good position to judge the effects of the CIA's use of U.S. labor programs overseas. As director of the United Auto Workers (UAW) International Affairs Department for many years, he was in a position to observe the actions of representatives of other unions and the AFL, as well as the worldwide apparatus of the merged AFL and CIO that was run by former leftists and Communists turned right wingers, under the direction of

AFL-CIO international director Jay Lovestone.

According to Reuther, Lovestone played an important role in attempts to split the infant UAW and cooperated with auto companies as early as the mid-1930s. Lovestone was made director of international affairs of the AFL-CIO over the protests of the UAW and Walter and Victor Reuther in the 1950s.

CIA, Labor, and the Cold War

In 1951, CIO President Phil Murray asked Victor Reuther to become the director of a European office of the CIO. Part of his job would be to help counter the more conservative policies of the AFL office there, which was directed by Lovestone and Irving Brown.

Reuther says that he found out that Irving Brown and the AFL were receiving "incredibly large funds from some U.S. government source in an effort to get European trade unions in his pocket and to dictate the foreign policy of both

Literature

All literature listed below is available from the NAM National Office, 1643 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60647. Please send payment with order and include 5% of total fee for postage. Groups should inquire about consignment orders.

NAM Political Perspective — Basic principles of the New American Movement, written at the organization's founding Convention. (25 cents each; 15 cents each for 10 or more).

Working Papers on Socialist-Feminism — Collec-

NAM Political Perspective — Basic principles of the New American Movement, written at the organization's founding convention. (25 cents each; 15 cents each for 10 or more)

Working Papers on Socialist-Feminism — Collection of articles from NAM newspaper and the discussion bulletins on socialist-feminist politics, Third World women, and women in the labor movement. (50 cents each; 35 cents each for 10 or more)

NAM General Brochure — Short, popular explanation of what NAM stands for. (5 cents each; 2 cents each for 10 or more)

Convention Papers '75 — Includes NAM's strategic approach in the present period and NAM's position on workplace organizing and trade union work. (75 cents each; 60 cents each for 10 or more)

Organizing a Socialist Student Movement — Pamphlet presenting an approach to organizing students on college campuses today. (25 cents each; 20 cents each for 15 or more)

Attica — Pamphlet by members of NAM describing the Attica prison rebellion. (25 cents each; 15 cents each for 10 or more)

NAM Film Packet — Information on how to get political films, how to arrange showings, how to lead group discussions. (75 cents each)

Basic Political Education Course — a 13-session course that includes basic elements of Marxist theory and contemporary socialist politics. Each section includes overview, core readings, discussion questions, and bibliography. (75 cents each)

New American Movement: An Introductory Course — A short course that includes a history of NAM and an explanation of the NAM Political Perspective and current organizational debates. (50 cents each)

Building a Chapter of the New American Movement — A helpful manual with information on internal organization, developing local strategies, recruitment, and other topics. (50 cents each)

Discussion Bulletin — Internal debate and analyses of programmatic work within NAM. (\$1 each for current issue; 75 cents each for 10 or more — 75 cents each for back issues; 60 cents each for 10 or more)

International Women's Day Poster — Beautiful and brightly colored poster — 18 x 22 inches (\$1.50 each; \$1 each for 10 or more)

OUTREACH PAMPHLET SERIES

What's Wrong with the American Economy? Pamphlet by Barbara and John Ehrenreich. Discusses the current economic situation and explains why capitalism can't meet our needs. Written in a popular style. (10 cents each; 5 cents each for 10 or more)

Unemployment: What's Ahead? Pamphlet by Dave Ranney. Discusses the effects of the economic crisis in terms of unemployment and analyzes what we can expect in the near future. (10 cents each; 5 cents each for 10 or more)

Processed Ideas and Packaged Dreams — Pamphlet by Elayne Rapping. Discusses the way that media, the schools, and other cultural forces combine to create false consciousness. (10 cents each; 5 cents each for 10 or more)

PERIODICALS

New American Movement — Monthly newspaper of NAM. Order from: NAM, 16 Union Square, Somerville, MA 02143. (\$4 per year)

Moving On — Published three times a year as an organizational newsletter. (\$1 per year)

Discussion Bulletin — Published bi-monthly as an internal forum for debate and discussion (\$6 per 6 issues)

CHAPTER LITERATURE*

Women in China (Pittsburgh NAM) — Pamphlet written by Judy MacLean describing her impressions of the status of women in China based on her visit there. (20 cents each)

Socialist-Feminism — What Does It Mean? (Mad River NAM) — An introductory explanation of socialist-feminism. (15 cents each)

Revolution and Democracy (Middlesex NAM) — Pamphlet by Frank Ackerman and Harry Boyte discussing organizational form and democracy and the socialist tradition. (75 cents each)

Strategies for Change, the Marxist Tradition — Pamphlet by Frank Ackerman and Harry Boyte. (50 cents each)

* Available from National Office.

by Frank Longstreth

Pound Collapsing. Public Spending Out of Control. Britain Borrowing More from IMF. Strikes Crippling Auto Industry. These and similar headlines are all too familiar for anyone following the recent British crisis in the American press. The British people have grown somewhat immune to the prophesies of immanent doom, having heard the same stories repeated for the past fifteen years or more. However, the latest bout of speculation against the pound has certainly worried, if not actually panicked, the leadership of the ruling Labor Government.

Borrowed Time

The setting for the latest run on the pound could not have been more embarrassing for the social-democratic government. One day the Prime Minister, Mr. James Callaghan, was lambasting the Labor Party's Annual Conference "We have lived for too long on borrowed time, borrowed money, and even borrowed ideas." The next day, following the worst-ever performance of the pound on the foreign exchanges, the British government announced that once again it would have to turn to a massive loan from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the central lending institution of the capitalist world.

The loan from the IMF, which will probably exceed three billion pounds, follows hard upon the over five billion dollar credit negotiated only last June amid a similar flurry of speculation. The story is not new: Pressure on the pound has been the dominant headache of British governments since World War II. What is new is the frequency of these spasms of speculation, the urgency of action forced upon the government by the huge balance of payments deficit, and the unprecedented decline of the pound, which has lost one third of its value against the dollar in less than two years.

Labor Party's Leftward Drift

At the same time the troubles of the center-left Labor government have deepened owing to the steady leftward drift of the Labor Party's activists. The Party Conference, which coincided with the recent attack on the pound, passed resolutions calling for the nationalization of the banks, an end to cuts of public expenditure, and action to reduce the number of unemployed. Indeed, the Party's membership hardly supports the government's economic policies at all. Rather, the Prime Minister and the Chancellor got at best a mixed reception, while the Conference backed the left wing's program of extensive nationalization, import controls, and state direction of the financial system to prevent the use of industry's profits in property speculation or overseas

Britain in Crisis

"Living on borrowed time and money"

investment. The words of one speaker from the floor typified the sentiments expressed by the rank and file, "We are not going to put up time and time again with being told when Labor gets into power that we are going to put capitalism back on its feet first" before socialist measures can be enacted.

"Tightrope" Policies

However, as long as the unions back the present government, the Party membership will have to put up with precisely those sorts of measures. The question remains as it has for the past year, how long will the unions continue that support. The government is already walking a tightrope, and the future promises stormier weather. The Labor leadership is likely to press for further public spending cuts despite the increasing anger of the public sector unions. Unemployment continues to rise despite the limited economic recovery and will most probably stay at least at its present level, the highest since the Depression. Living standards, already lower than what they were five years ago, will continue to decline as part of the government's strategy to raise the level of profits in the hope, and it is no more than that, of encouraging investment in the industrial sector.

The Left's Waiting Game

The unions continue to kowtow before the Labor Government despite everything largely because of their rightly-held fear that the Conservatives would pursue the same policies, only worse. They have already pledged death to the public sector by a thousand cuts and a much tighter rein on the growth of the money supply, both of which would mean substantially higher unemployment.

The Trade Union Congress, equivalent to the AFL-CIO, has so far managed to curb dissent against the so-called "social contract", which amounts to a wage freeze in return for some social legislation, mainly in the area of industrial relations. However, moves to break the pay freeze, such as the recent threat of a seamen's strike, will certainly increase as the present phase of restraint comes to an end next year. A successful breaching of the pay code would effectively demolish the present government's pretense of having a coherent and workable set of policies and could easily precipitate a general election.

In the meantime the Labor left is playing a waiting game, maintaining loyalty to the Government at the same time that it increases its demands for more action on unemployment, nationalization of the banks and other major sectors of industry, and other measures as part of a program of genuine socialist transformation of the economy. The swing to the left within the Party has been most marked in London where the three most recently selected candidates for the next Parliamentary elections all have Marxist leanings and strong left-wing beliefs.

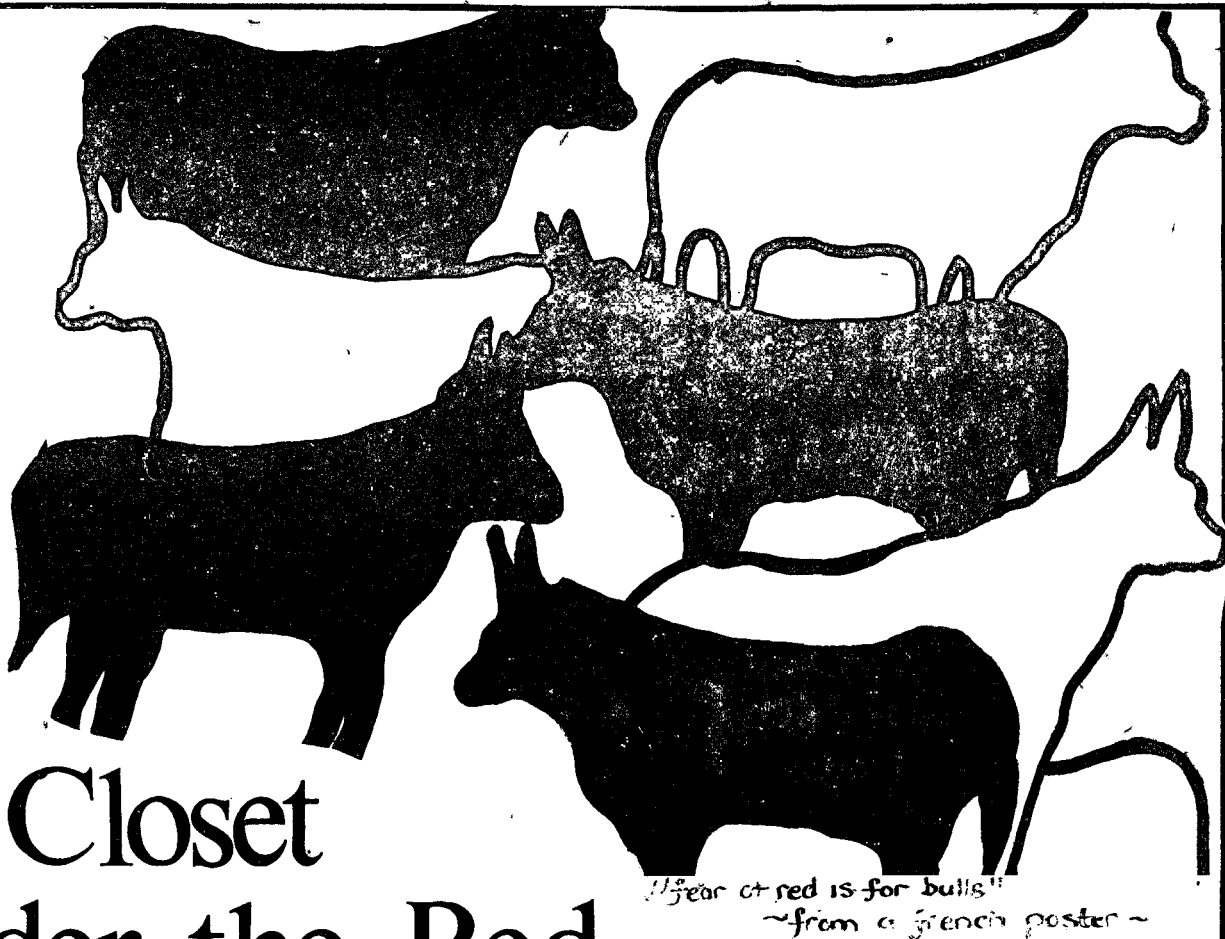
Whether the Labor left will manage to play a more leading role within the Party than its past one, acting as no more than the socialist "conscience" of the Labor movement, remains to be seen. They will certainly have to increase their strength within the Parliamentary Party in order to grab a pivotal position, a feat which they have never pulled off in the past. However, no matter what, the present government's policies are likely to founder within the next year or two, leading either to a militantly right-wing Conservative government, or, as seems most likely at present, some form of National Government of right-wing Laborites, Conservatives and Liberals, effectively splitting the Labor leadership from both the Party and the unions.

by Hardy Green, Newspaper Collective

Like other older cities of the Northeast, Somerville, Massachusetts is a city of economic stagnation. The slaughterhouses and railroad yards, which were once sites of great activity, are now no more than memories. The further flight of industry is a common topic of barbershop and beauty parlor conversation: now that the Finast warehouse is moving, is there anything left to go?

In such a climate, those who benefit from the status quo have the upper hand. Citizens have been conditioned to hope that things stay the same, for they have experienced change mostly as change for the worse. Nevertheless, with the property taxes of an average household now averaging over \$80 a month, several citizens' groups, are challenging the city's taxation

Corruption in the Closet Reds Under the Bed



policies, and these challenges have prompted city politicians to fall back on that sleaziest of tactics, redbaiting.

In recent weeks the Middlesex Chapter of NAM, one of the groups concerned about the city's financial crisis, has been the object of a "red scare" campaign promoted by city officials. The smear campaign followed the release of "Blood From a Stone?", a NAM critique of city budget, banking, and administrative practices. This pamphlet described a pattern of political favoritism which worsened the city's fiscal crisis: large commercial buildings have been selectively underassessed and the city's payroll has been fattened to the benefit of favored cronies. According to the pamphlet, city services are few and poor, yet a good percentage of the city budget goes to pay the above average salaries of school administrators and the salaries of unnecessary staff in other city departments.

Citywide Conference

NAM members circulated this pamphlet at a citywide conference held at a community school

and sponsored by a citizens' action group, Somerville United Neighborhoods (SUN). Some 100 city residents and city political figures attended the September 18 meeting, called to discuss housing, banking, and tax problems in Somerville.

In the week following the conference, the city police counterattacked. Alderman Frank Bakey offered an order requesting "that the city solicitor draft an ordinance further defining and regulating the utilization of public buildings and related facilities by non-governmental agencies." Bakey, who professes to speak for "the silent majority of flag-wavers," seems to favor posting a policeman at the door of each city school to screen all written materials intended for distribution within.

At an alderman's meeting, Bakey and fellow alderman Michael McKenna denounced NAM as a bunch of "political psychos." And following a sharp exchange with SUN representative Anne Johnson, during which Johnson was frequently interrupted with such questions as "Do you support these groups?" and "Do you believe in communism?", McKenna had to be physically

restrained from attacking a spectator.

In more recent days, NAM has appeared at meetings of the Board of Assessors and of the School Committee, in accord with requests of these bodies. At the assessors' meeting, NAM members were scarcely allowed to speak at all, as they faced a torrent of verbal abuse and threats from the assessors.

Repression

The purely verbal forms of repression may have almost reached their natural limits. Official talent for this sort of thing was never very great; at one meeting alderman Bakey asserted that he knew what socialism was all about and proceeded to read an ill-chosen quote from Mao Tse-tung dealing with the composition of the Chinese Communist Party.

Certain signs indicate that officials are now turning to more direct forms of oppression, an arena in which they are probably more at home. There are reports of official and unofficial harassment of landlords who rent to city activists, and activist homeowners may be in for some harassment. If this pattern continues, the whole thing may wind up in the courts, with results no one can predict.

Court Cover-up

Looking Under the Robes of Justice

ST. LOUIS -- The recent release of a government report on beatings in the Marion, Illinois Federal Prison's long term control unit has sparked widespread protest from prisoners, lawyers, and prison support organizations. The report, which grew out of a Justice Department investigation of nine beating incidents that occurred between January and July 1976, absolved Marion officials and guards of all responsibility for the beatings. In many instances, the report said that no beatings had ever taken place.

"It's a cover-up," said Audrey Aronson Meyers, co-director of the National Committee to Support the Marion Brothers. "The investigators didn't tell the prisoners when they were coming to Marion, and during the three days they were there they didn't even talk to the prisoners who were beaten, or the prisoners who witnessed the beatings and reported them in the first place."

In Washington, D.C., a spokesperson for the National Prison Project of the American Civil Liberties Union expressed dismay over the report. "We are aware of the assaults," she said. "We know they took place, and we are calling for a new investigation by an agency independent of the Justice Department."

The Justice Department investigation was held

at the request of Congressman Herman Badillo (D-N.Y.), who had been deluged with letters demanding an inquiry. Witnesses charged that prisoners had been beaten with blackjacks and baseball bats, and in some cases had had urine thrown on them by guards. The report claimed that no beatings had occurred in six of the nine incidents and that in the other three, baseball bats had not been used. Two guards admitted they had thrown containers of urine at prisoners and that "containers of urine were kept in an office cabinet for such purposes." Prison officials, though denying that most of the beatings had taken place, said that blackjacks would no longer be used at the prison. The guards who were charged with the beatings have been moved out of the control unit. No reason was given for their transfers.

In the three cases where Marion officials did admit that prisoners had been beaten, they said the prisoners had initiated the attacks. No disciplinary charges, however, have been brought against the prisoners involved in those three incidents.

The Justice Department report came on the heels of the release of trial transcripts in a class action suit (*Bono vs. Saxbe*) against Marion's

long term control unit. The suit seeks to close the unit permanently. The prisoners' lawyers are now completing a study of the transcripts so they can file post-trial briefs.

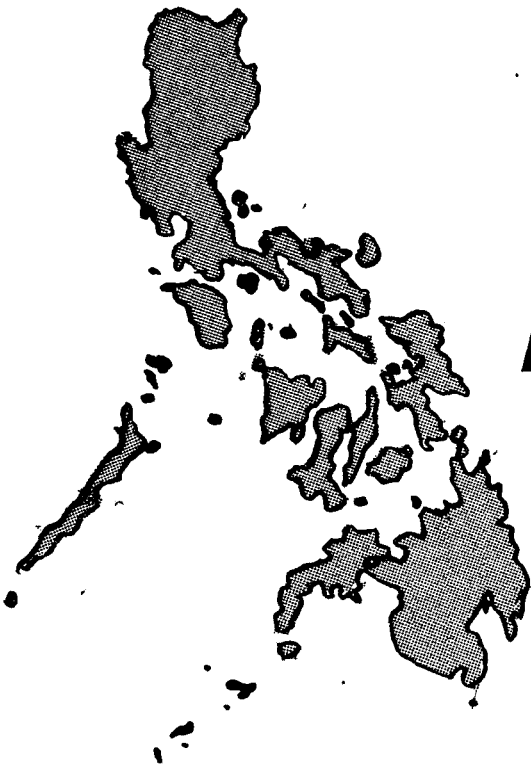
The Marion long term control unit was set up in 1972 to break a work stoppage at the prison. Since then, the unit has been used to confine prison activists, jailhouse lawyers, and members of the Nation of Islam from other state and federal prisons in the United States, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The Marion prison itself is the most maximum-security prison in the federal prison system. It was built as a replacement for Alcatraz and has been called "The New-Alcatraz" by critics.

New American Movement

BASIC POLITICAL EDUCATION COURSE

The course begins with sections on Marxist theory and methodology and then uses this base to analyse the situation in the U.S. today, and concludes with sections on revolutionary transformation. Each section consists of an introduction, a main reading, discussion questions, and an annotated bibliography. The course is designed to aid our development as revolutionaries, and is ideal for study groups.

The course guide is available for \$1.00 from: NAM National Office, 1643 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60647.



Philippines: Another Vietnam?

U.S. military participated in the military operation.

Fascism on the Rampage

On September 22, 1972, Ferdinand Marcos imposed martial law on 42 million Filipinos. Just hours before this seizure of absolute power, Marcos sought and received the approval of Nixon and the U.S. Ambassador by assuring them that American investments would be protected. Marcos then abolished the legislature, banned elections and strikes, shut down all media, and deprived the people of their basic constitutional rights of free speech and assembly. Since 1972, Marcos has jailed over 53,000 political dissenters. Today the military stockades, jails, and detention camps are filled with more than 20,000 workers, peasants, journalists, students, priests, nuns, businessmen, former politicians -- democratic Filipinos from every walk of life.

The facts of torture like rape and electric shocks applied to the genitals have been fully documented and condemned by such groups as the Red Cross, Amnesty International, the World Commission of Jurists, the National Council of Churches, the International Relations Committee of the U.S. Congress, and the United Nations Human Rights Commission.

U.S. Aids Dictatorship

In the three years after martial law, U.S. military aid to the Philippines has more than doubled, jumping from \$60.2 million to \$126.2

million. The United States is the principal supplier of weapons to Marcos' army of 250,000 men, directly assisting in the suppression of dissent. Should this aid be cut off, Marcos hopes to obtain \$42 billion in rent for U.S. military bases.

Admiral Moorer of the Pentagon has revealed to Congress that anti-guerrilla weapons systems, like Huey helicopters, napalm, and fragmentation bombs, are being provided to Marcos. The U.S. Military Advisory Group supervises the operation of the Philippine Armed Forces on all levels.

Since 1972, U.S. Special Forces (Green Berets) have conducted missions in dissident areas -- a replay of early Vietnam. CIA agents, veterans of the Indochina pacification program, have been assigned to the Philippines as advisors for the Agency for International Development (AID). This supplements AID Office of Public Safety assistance to Marcos' police, averaging a million dollars a year, used for repression and torture.

What Are the Stakes?

American corporate investments in the Philippines total at least \$3 billion. Eight hundred U.S.-based corporations, who control 80% of all foreign investments, exercise a stranglehold on the Philippine economy. They reap profits of \$5 to \$10 for every dollar invested, exploiting Filipino cheap labor and plundering the nation's resources of minerals, lumber, food crops, sugar, and coconuts. Thanks to Marcos, banks like Chase Manhattan and First National have been allowed

continued on page 11

by Felix Razon, Philippines Research Center

Very few Americans know that when the United States annexed the Philippines in 1898, it had to kill over a million Filipinos in the Filipino-American War of 1899-1906. It was the U.S.'s "first Vietnam." And it may be our next one.

On April 13, 1974, three American Navy officers on duty at the Subic Naval Base in the Philippines were slain by underground forces. In retaliation, U.S. Marines and Filipino troops imprisoned numerous suspects and burned the homes of 150 families.

Since the late '60's, at least 25 Americans have been killed in combat with Filipino guerrillas. In February 1974, the New York Times reported that the Marcos regime, which now rules the Philippines, used "Sabre jets, C-47 gunships, and armed helicopters, all supplied by the U.S." to massacre 200 to 500 civilians, destroy the Muslim city of Jolo, and reduce 25,000 inhabitants into refugees. A Filipino naval officer testified that the

International News Highlights

COUP IN THAILAND -- On October 6, a right wing military junta took power in Thailand. Early indications are that the junta plans to eliminate all "leftist" influence in Thailand. The strongly anti-communist and pro-U.S. leader of the junta, Admiral Sangad Chalawyo, said that he and his military aides came to power to save the nation from "communist domination." The junta quickly announced that Thailand's constitution was abolished, parliament dissolved, civilian courts placed under military jurisdiction, and all daily newspapers prohibited. In addition, all political meetings of more than five people were made illegal.

The "student violence" reported by the junta as the immediate cause of the military takeover appears to have been carefully provoked by the military as a pretext for seizing power. Hours before the coup, leftist students who had peacefully occupied Thammasat University were assaulted by right wing students and police. Left wing students were beaten, lynched, set afire, and shot. At least 35 were killed, hundreds more wounded and another 1300 arrested.

Student leaders had suspected that the return to Thailand of exiled former dictator Thanom Kittikachorn would be used by the military to create a violent incident as an excuse for a coup. The military has wanted to smash the student left ever since student protests in October 1973 had led to the overthrow of the Thanom regime. The military also opposed the normalization of relations with Thailand's socialist neighbors in Indochina and the withdrawal of U.S. troops in July. U.S. involvement in the coup is unknown, but the CIA has been linked to the right wing student group which has waged systematic armed attacks on leftist students during the last three years. Many of the group's members have been recruited from the ranks of former mercenary Thai soldiers who fought secretly in Laos and Cambodia under the command of the CIA. As for the future, the military takeover can be expected to fuel Thailand's rapidly growing leftist guerrilla movement.



RIGHTIST BATTERING LYNCHING VICTIM

GENERAL STRIKE IN FRANCE -- Angered by the government's plans to reduce inflation by imposing a 6½% wage increase limit in 1977, French workers staged a 24 hour general strike October 7. More than six million workers, including members of France's two largest labor unions, the General Confederation of Labor (CGT) and the French Democratic Confederation

of Labor (CFDT), along with the national teachers union, took part in the strike. The strike virtually closed down major industry, transportation, schools, newspapers, and daily mail service.

Mass demonstrations against the government's new economic plans took place in Paris, Lyons, Marseilles, and other major cities. The rallies were the largest in France since the May 1968 anti-government demonstrations of workers and students.

REV. MOON, LOBBIES FOR THE "HOLY LAND" -- A Congressional committee is investigating the activities of Rev. Sun Myung Moon and his Unification Church. Moon's activities have recently been the subject of much scrutiny due to a Washington Post interview with former Unification Church member Christopher Elkin. Elkin reported that the church campaigned for two conservative Republicans in 1974 Congressional elections and that Church members have lobbied Congress for increased military aid to the dictatorship of South Korea. The Unification Church currently enjoys tax-exempt status, and is barred from lobbying and partisan political activity.

Rev. Moon and his followers deny involvement in politics, but Moon is quoted in the San Francisco Chronicle as saying, "We can make Senators and Congressmen out of our members." Moon fears the "communist influence" in American government and dreams of organizing "a Christian political party." The Chronicle also quoted Moon as stating that he had a special mission in the United States -- to protect the "new holy land" of South Korea. "Whenever America withdraws or cancels or stops her foreign aid to the land of Korea," he says, "the United States will decline and perish." The U.S. House Subcommittee on Internal Organization is currently investigating ties between the Unification Church and the South Korean Central Intelligence Agency.



The Duke and The Dollar

by Eric Davin, Newspaper Collective

J.B.Books is a gunfighter, the last of an endangered species. It is 1900 and Civilization has come to the Frontier -- along with telephones, street cars and "horseless carriages." Queen Victoria, symbol of an age, has just died and Books, also a symbol of an age, discovers he is dying from cancer.

Books has built a reputation on machismo. He doesn't allow anyone to lay a hand on him or slur his name. He is tough enough to look out for himself and expects others to do the same. If this sounds like John Wayne, it's supposed to. John Wayne always plays himself and never more so than here. In fact, the film opens with clips of scenes from some of the Duke's 47 movies. This is intended to illustrate some major points in Books' career but actually serves to impose Wayne's persona on the film. Even the fact that Books is dying of cancer brings back Wayne's bout with it -- of which he said: "I licked the Big C with a lot of guts and the love of God," not to mention the skill of his doctors.

Books' doctor, played by James Stewart, tells him he is going to die an ugly, painful death which he wouldn't wish on a dog. Luckily for Books, the town has three nasties who would like a final shoot-out with the old man before he dies. Books therefore has a chance to go out in a manner to which he is accustomed and clean up the town in the bargain.

One of the three nasties is the brother of a man Books killed somewhere in the line of duty. The revenge-minded brother is played by Richard Boone, who looks uglier everytime I see him and who drives a chugging automobile to the last shoot-out at the saloon. Another, played by Hugh O'Brian, is a smooth Faro dealer in the saloon who is also a crack shot and mourns the fact that Books will die before he can get a shot at him. The last nasty is the town bully who is simply there to provide cannon fodder.

Before we get to the show-down, however, we are treated to a rogue's gallery of hungry wolves. The town reporter wants to write a glorified biography of Books before he kicks off. He wants to know what turned Books to violence, how it

feels to viciously shoot a man down in cold blood, how Books became the wierdo he is. An old lover shows up wanting Books to marry her so she can trade on his name after he is dead. John Carradine turns up as the town undertaker wanting exclusive exhibition rights on Books' corpse. The town barber sweeps up locks of Books' hair (and that of others) to sell as relics of the True Shootist to the faithful. Scatman Crothers, owner of the livery stable, wants Books' horse with which he hopes to realize a small fortune.

Almost everyone in town is on the make for a buck and they gather like ghouls around the aging and dying gunfighter. Although I'd bet Wayne would chalk it up to the sheer perversity of the human animal, this subplot really stands as an essay on the economic perversions of one's occupation. Unable to see Books as another human being in pain, the town citizens perceive him merely as a dollar sign. Because society judges them only on the basis of their monetary value, they can see Books only as a public image

continued from page 10

to buy controlling shares of Philippine financial institutions, and U.S. businessmen are buying up public utilities and other industries previously restricted to Filipino citizens.

In effect, the Philippines has been reconverted into a U.S. colony. The martial law regime has offered tremendous benefits to U.S. and other foreign businesses, including 100% tax-free repatriation of profits and capital, low wages, and the prohibition of strikes. The economic effects of these policies include a 55% inflation rate and 40% unemployment for Filipinos.

To protect the corporations and to hold onto its last outpost in Southeast Asia after its defeat in Indochina, the American government holds on to twenty military installations occupying over 200,000 acres. More than 16,000 servicemen are regularly stationed at Clark Air Force Base, the largest outside the U.S., where Marcos' bombers take off for air strikes. Subic Base, headquarters of the Pacific Seventh Fleet, has the biggest naval ordnance in Asia, shelters nuclear submarines.

The brutal suppression of liberty and steadily worsening economic conditions have led to widespread resistance in the Philippines: Nuns hold

to be exploited, a scarce natural resource fast being depleted.

The heart of the movie, however, is the relationship which develops between Books and the mother and son at whose boarding house he stays. The son, played by Ron Howard of TV's Happy Days, is soon hero worshipping him and begging for shooting lessons. This imparting of lessons in shooting and manhood is almost an obligatory part of John Wayne movies. From The Man Who Shot Liberty Valence through Big Jake, The Cowboys, True Grit and the like, Wayne has been consciously teaching his audience how to do The-Things-A-Man-Must-Do. At the ripe age of 69, Wayne continues to portray the gruff old-school father to the nation.

Typical

So far, all is a typical John Wayne Western. What makes this one different is the developing relationship between Books and the widowed owner of the boarding house. Played by Lauren Bacall, there is a tenderness and concern displayed for each other which I had not come to expect from a Wayne movie. True, some of the habitual Wayne sexism are present. At least since Liberty Valence, Wayne has been discounting and disarming female anger with such lines as "You shore do look purty when you get a color up, Ma'am," and we get that here as well. What is surprising, however, is that Wayne breaks down from time to time and asks for help. It was during these scenes of mutual concern and emotional vulnerability that I found myself actually being moved by a John Wayne performance.

vigils at prison gates. Workers and slum-dwellers take part in huge demonstrations. Public figures like Cardinal Sin and Bishop Claver attempt legal protest. Four million Muslims in the south and a million Igorots in the north have taken up arms to defend themselves from Marcos' plan to rob them of their lands. In the cities and the countryside, millions have organized and united to overthrow Marcos' dictatorship and form a coalition government.

The New People's Army, mobilizing millions of peasants and workers, spearheads the revolutionary movement throughout the islands. It has established liberated areas where land reform and grassroots government are being successfully carried out. Meanwhile in the south, despite setbacks, the Muslim guerrillas struggle for control of United Fruit, Dole, and Del Monte plantations, which occupy over 40,000 acres. They have driven away Weyerhaeuser Lumber and Goodrich Rubber corporations, and tied down 50 of Marcos' 57 mercenary battalions.

Without U.S. aid, the Marcos dictatorship would quickly collapse. With continued aid, the process will take longer, but the growing struggles of the Filipino people will eventually succeed in establishing a democratic government.

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Fall Parade of TV Hits

by Elayne Rapping, Pittsburgh NAM

Much as the liberal press is fond of repeating the old cliches about TV being a vast, unchanging wasteland, it's not true. There's a lot happening on TV that reflects important political developments and shifts in consciousness in American society; and tells a lot about how the ruling class mind works -- what they think is going on and how they plan to deal with it.

There's no better way to get an overall sense of these developments than by surveying the new TV season from year to year. This is the first new season I can remember that has dealt almost exclusively with "heavy" issues -- personal as well as political.

Compared to last year's new season, which offered mostly cops and robbers or doctors and diseases, this season is stressing both comedy and dramatic shows which are nothing if not serious about the textures and traumas of American life, from bedroom to boardroom and back again. The myth that Americans' greatest problems are caused by rare bacteria or berserk killers has been put to rest, and the networks have finally admitted that crises in sexual and family relations; and, yes, even class conflicts, have become so obvious and widespread as to demand treatment on TV.

I first got wind of this last summer during my annual check up on daytime soap operas. Having written an article in this paper less than two years ago called "Day Time Soap Operas: Where Time Stands Still," you can imagine my surprise when I turned to one show after another and found they had all somehow galluped ahead of me into the 1970's. All were treating problems like frigidity and impotence; interracial marriage; unwed motherhood; relationships between older women and younger men; and in one case even a brief flirtation with lesbianism. "Well, well, well," thought I. Something is definitely up.

And, sure enough, when I checked out the prime time shows, it was true. Even the old standards had been getting their faces lifted. Archie Bunker was cheating on Edith. And Rhoda and Joe were splitting up, at least partially for sexual reasons. (Lifting directly from "Mary Hartman", Rhoda referred in the opener to their seven week record for no sex.)

And, when I checked out the new comedies I found them even more daring about sex and a lot of other things. In fact, within one week I saw the creation of a whole new stereotype -- the handsome, he-man homosexual that even your mother would love. The opening segment of "Alice" revolved around the heroine falling for a "great guy" who announced, as casually as one might say "I'm allergic to strawberries", "You see, I'm gay." Then on "The Nancy Walker Show" I heard it again -- this time from a regular, Nancy's assistant -- "You see, I'm G-A-Y." And on the opener of "Family" there it was again -- the square-jawed jock telling his best friend that he was -- well, you know.

Norman Lear's "All's Fair" is also very explicit about sex. It involves a 49-year old "conservative" male and a 23-year old "liberal"



ALL'S FAIR

female whose past sexual encounters are mentioned as casually as homosexuality on the other shows. But "All's Fair" is even more interesting as an example of another major trend -- the shift to Washington and the realm of power politics which is really noticeable this year. The actual political content of the show is pretty shallow. She calls him a "fascist"; he calls her a "sorority house socialist." But they still fall madly in love, and, as it turns out, neither one is as interesting as these epithets might suggest.

When we get to the new dramatic series the political significance of the new "no holds barred" approach to TV becomes clearer. In particular, I was struck by two new continuing dramas -- night time soaps actually -- "Executive Suite" and "Rich Man, Poor Man." These shows also reflect the new sexual permissiveness. But that's a minor aspect of what they're about. In fact, they are about something that's almost never been acknowledged on prime time TV -- class struggle. That's right, class struggle, although through the rosy glow of the media it comes across as more of a walk than a war.

Someone over at CBS and NBC has certainly gotten the news that the American public is cynical, if not positively angry, about American corporate capitalism and the governmental structures that serve it. Both of these shows are about large corporations, the men who run them, their relationships with their families and, more importantly, their employees. And both come across as (more or less) sophisticated attempts to admit major social and economic problems of corporate and political life, while at the same time suggesting these problems can be solved by nothing more drastic than putting "good", i.e. sensitive and humane, people in power.

"Executive Suite" is about the Cardway Chemical Corporation and the power struggles that go on at the top. The president is a "good" executive supported on the board by -- would you believe it -- a token black, a token woman and a token young man living out of wedlock. During the first week so many issues were raised it was hard to keep track of them, much less summarize them. First, there was a power struggle over whether to continue manufacturing a cancer-producing chemical. Having made the correct

decision to close down that particular plant, the executive was confronted (in a dramatic, face to face showdown, of course) with the union shop steward who demanded that the workers in that plant be kept on in their jobs. Contradictions, contradictions.

There was also a lot of interracial and inter-class socializing among the children of the bosses and workers. And, not surprisingly, there was a Patty Hearst type executive's daughter turned radical bomber.

One of the most striking things on the show was the casual use of political language. One "good" character referred to herself several times as a "liberated woman." And another character referred to beer as a "working class beverage."

"Rich Man, Poor Man" is a little more complicated but amazingly similar in theme and plot to "Executive Suite." In this case the main character is a Republican senator as well as a corporate executive so you get a clear sense of the interrelationships between big business and government. For example, in the second episode, a Howard Hughes type tries to get the hero to run for President as a representative of corporate interests. He refuses, of course. In fact, he is portrayed as a former cut-throat businessman who now, as he puts it, is "more sensitive to the human side of corporate life."



EXECUTIVE SUITE

He too is confronted by a union representative about the human consequences of a plant shutdown. And, he too rises to the occasion and acts in the workers' best interest. Like "Executive Suite", "Rich Man, Poor Man" has its share of "bad" executives who see workers and consumers as objects rather than flesh and blood, and say things like, "They don't have to like us; they have to need us." And like "Executive Suite", there are many interclass social and sexual entanglements, and a cast of characters representing "all walks" of life, who will most certainly be bumping into each other as the weeks go by, in order to dramatize the various Social Problems of American life.

Corny as these shows are at times, I got a sense of real satisfaction from watching them. As each sexual taboo was paraded across the screen; as each corporate and governmental sin was exposed -- even with its slick and sugary Hollywood coating -- I sat smirking to myself. "Well, well, well, Mr. NBC" and "Well, well, well, Mr. CBS" I thought. The chickens are coming home to roost at last. The American public has your number now. They know that the social and economic fabric of American society is in shreds and they want to know what you have to say about it. They're as tired of "Kojak" and "Columbo" as they are of "Ozzie and Harriet." And you're clearly going to be working overtime from now on trying to figure it all out and process it into a neat little package that will send an increasingly angry and sophisticated American public to bed happy and secure.

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