

Progressive Worker

Workers of All Countries, Unite!

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A POLITICAL ANALYSIS

THE GREAT POSTAL



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Photo above shows striking Montreal Postal Workers before settlement on Aug. 7th - Story page 5

Progressive Worker

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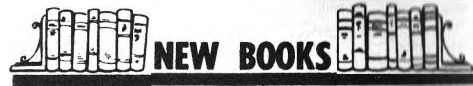
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by Lynne Wills

"Karl Marx, Founder of Modern Communism", published by Pathfinder Biographies is written by Arnold Kettle. Mr. Kettle has written objectively about Karl Marx but has left it to the reader to judge whether or not his principal ideas are true. He has deep sympathy for the highly controversial figure of Marx.

Kettle is not a Communist but lectures in English at Leeds University, is a literary critic and takes an active interest in politics and social matters.

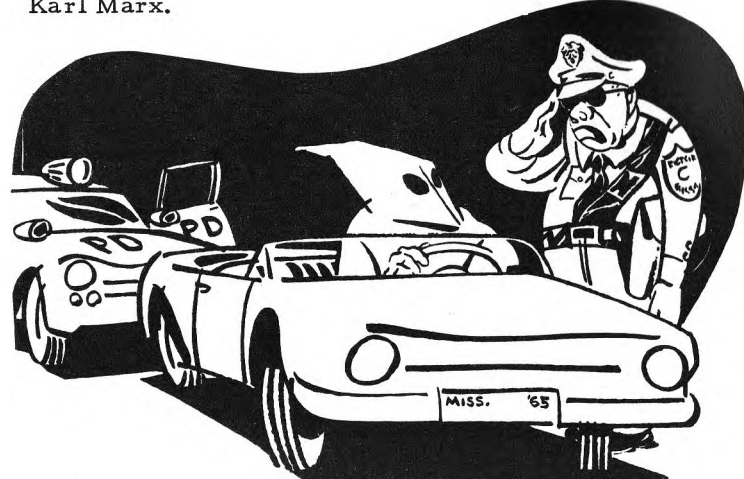
Nobody today is likely to dispute the fact that Communism is an important force in our modern world. Not only are there over forty million communists (in the precise sense of members of communist parties) spread throughout the world, but a third of the total population of the earth lives under communist governments and outside that area, the ideas of communism are an inescapable challenge to all thinking people. Are these ideas a challenge in the sense of being a threat, a menace to our civilization? Or do they challenge us to reconsider our own ideas and attitudes?

No single man invented communism. But of all Communist thinkers, Karl Marx is by common consent the greatest as well as the most influential. We cannot hope to understand what makes modern communism the force it is without knowing something of the man who founded the First International Workingmen's Association and wrote, with his friend Frederick Engels, The Communist Manifesto.

This book starts when Marx first became interested in politics. It outlines the most important of his ideas about economics, history, philosophy and politics and discusses the influence his teachings have had since he died in March, 1883. As Frederick Engels said in his farewell speech at Marx's graveside, "On the afternoon of the 14th of March at a quarter to three, the greatest living thinker ceased to think".

And on his gravestone are inscribed these two sentences: "The philosophers have only interpreted the world in various ways; the point, however, is to change it". and "Workers of all lands, unite!"

This would be a very interesting and worthwhile book for someone who is interested in Socialism and Karl Marx.



"Forgive me for not recognizing y'all, Sheriff." Renault, Frontier

THE COMPUTER EXPLOSION

Newspapers and periodicals are assigning a great deal of space to the population explosion and predicting it will have dire consequences for the world of the future.

These same prophets of gloom have little to say, except in the most general terms, about quite a different population explosion - that of the computer and its use in Canadian industry and financial institutions. Not one of them dares speak, even in a whisper, about the disastrous effects private ownership and control of computer application to industrial processes will have in terms of mass unemployment and much lower standards of living.

Early in 1960, there were 89 computers in operation in Canada. By mid-1965, the number had grown to 820, an almost ten-fold increase in five years and present estimates range from 2,000 to 2,500 to be in use by 1970 or a 30-fold increase in a single decade.

I. B. M. has orders for delivery of 400 in the next two years. If the I. B. M. 60% share of the market remains steady, then there would be at least 675 new installations in the two-year period.

In addition to the sharp increase in numbers, applications will become more sophisticated allowing a much wider range of usage which will multiply, many times, the effect on the nation's economy of the large numerical increase.

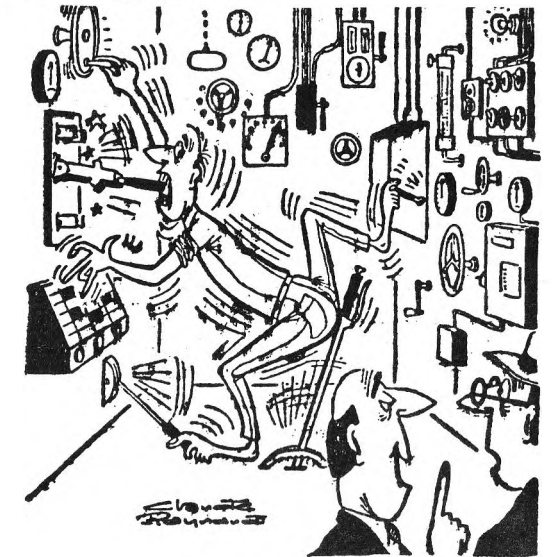
The real impact of the computers has not yet been felt as they are being used mainly for payroll, inventory control and billing. More advanced applications are in use and these will expand rapidly in the future as more and better computers and more trained personnel become available. Some of the most outstanding systems now in use include:



Air Canada system handles 100,000 inquiries per day and work is proceeding in perfecting a system that will store all passenger information on all flights.

The Saskatchewan government system stores the medical history of most of the province's residents.

Imperial Oil in Toronto uses a computer to solve distribution problems. It analyzes transport alternatives, picks the most direct and economic system under varying conditions.



"We used to have 12 men before this was automated."

Rio Algom mines has complete computer control of production and New York stock exchange has a computer that gives voice answers to questions.

Research is under-way on optical scanners that can read handwriting and improve the human ability to communicate directly with computers. One computer engineer says: "The computer has to be made easier to converse with and easier to use in solving specific problems."

Work is going ahead on solving the question of multiple access so that a number of people at different points, can use a computer at the same time, thus pressing the machine to constant use.

The Bank of Montreal is working on a plan so all branches will be equipped with peripheral units and a banking system set-up where all account information will be on one central computer.

Of the 820 computers now installed, Ontario leads the way with 378 in use, Quebec next with 238. B. C. and Alberta have 59 and 58 respectively.

The new industrial revolution, centred on the use of electronics and machines that can think is moving ahead with giant strides. Lagging far behind (and the gap is rapidly widening) is the social and political revolution that will put an end to private ownership and the exploitation of man-by-man.

The twentieth century revolution of production processes is placing more political, economic and military power than has been ever known before in the hands of a dwindling group of monopolists. A continuation of these conditions for any lengthy period can only result in disaster. Our survival as a people and a nation, now more than ever before in history, depends upon our putting an end to the present crazy-patchwork capitalist system and ushering in a system of socialist ownership of the means of production that will put machines at the service of people instead of people being slaves and captives to machines.

AROUND THE WORLD

The Spanish political scene is halting up and Franco is in a sea of troubles.

Workers are conducting mass strikes, students are engaging in militant demonstrations and the people generally are protesting the increasing cost of living.

Franco's efforts at peace-making with church and other social and political groups is being hailed in some quarters as a turn toward democracy but actually signifies no more than an attempt to broaden the mass base of the ruling junta. As this move will mean more supporters to share the spoils, it portends a deterioration, not an improvement in conditions for the mass of working people who will be forced to pay the shot.

Queen Fredericka - of Hitler Youth fame - and the Greek royal family are getting their lumps these days. Placed on the throne by Churchill, last in the long line of England's empire builders, over the objections of the vast majority of greek people, they are now the centre of a great storm of protest.

The great tragedy of this situation is that the guerilla forces have long been disarmed and disbanded (voluntarily). Had they existed now, not only the Greek throne but the Greek bourgeoisie would be in jeopardy and socialist objectives well in sight. We can see the result of laying down arms before victory is won.

Angolian liberation forces, still only in the early stages of mobilization and training, are already scoring decisive victories over the Portugese colonialists and in Portugal itself, the Fascist dictatorship is facing growing opposition.

There was a time when Jomo ("Burning Spear") Kenyatta was considered a wild revolutionary and held in jail by British Imperialists. But times have changed. Kenyatta has already called in his former enemies to help maintain his rule and it is said that the white settlers, still solidly in possession of the land in Kenya's choice White Highlands area, have added a new plea to their nightly prayers; that god should let "Burning Spear" live forever so he will be around to protect their interests. A far cry from the days when they cursed him as a blood-thirsty Mau Mau - and a long journey to well-rewarded treachery for Kenyatta.

Guerilla, as well as other political activities are the order of the day in a growing number of Latin American countries. The entire area gives the impression of being a gigantic tinder box ready to break out in a mighty conflagration as soon as the flint is struck on the stone in the proper way. The troubles of the Yankee imperialists are about to increase, not diminish.

The Tito clique have cut the living standards of the Yugoslav working people by upwards of 25%. Rents alone went up 18%, and many essential commodities sky-rocketed to a point where only the new bourgeoisie could buy them in satisfactory quantities. Reports said that stores in Belgrade were almost deserted the day new prices went into effect.

The U. S. S. R. was rapidly following in Tito's footsteps with increased prices. The reason given; too much money, not enough goods. But it is obvious that the high salaries and up to 50% bonuses being paid to the favoured clique were being financed by reducing the living standards of the working people. Unemploy-

ment is a real threat. Strikes are on the increase.

The people of Indonesia, who have already routed the Dutch imperialists, are carrying out an eminently successful struggle against the attempts of U. S. and British imperialists to fasten their clutches on the far flung island nation. The people are solidly united behind their government, more industries are being nationalized almost daily and the Marxist-Leninist Party is steadily becoming more powerful. In the midst of their own struggles, the government and people still find time and energy to support the struggle in Vietnam.

Shastri of India, who has not managed to make peace with a single one of his own neighbours, is parading around the world holding aloft a made-in-America torch of "peace". Instead of using the position of member of the truce commission as a tribune from which to condemn U. S. aggression, he is eagerly pursuing the task of trying to raise an "Asian" force to do for the imperialists in Vietnam what they cannot do for themselves. We predict his plots are doomed to failure.

The British dominated government of Malaysia has signed an "investment guarantee" agreement that will facilitate U. S. monopoly capital control of the nation's economy.

In addition to being able to exploit the cheap labour of Malaysia, U. S. investments are to enjoy a seven-year tax-free term. U. S. monopoly will now exert influence on political and military affairs of the country.

The Malayan People's Party has protested the agreement. They point out that, with the economy already under British monopoly control, the additional inflow of U. S. capital will cause the national economy to suffer further neo-colonialist pressure and accelerate the outflow of the country's wealth.

Mr. Wilson's "East of Suez" policy has the role of protecting U. S. investments as well as those of British big business. This is called; a solidarity with Malaysia in defence of freedom. It sounds better that way.

The magazine "International Management" has made a survey of ownership and control of manufacturing industry on a world scale that took 30 months to complete and covers 152 countries. They proved what we have always known - big business controls the capitalist world.

Less than 2% of all the companies in the world control 60 to 70% of business activity. The lion's share of manufacturing and distribution is in the hands of 20,637 companies. In the U. S., 3,500 companies, representing 1% of the incorporated concerns handle 70 to 80% of the country turn-over and this extends into Canada with the added feature of being foreign monopoly control. In all countries outside the U. S. and Canada, 1 1/2% of the companies control a similar amount of business and the top 2% of these, totalling just 1,600 companies outside the U. S. and Canada, control 30% of the world's business. In the U. S., a mere 100 companies control 60% of the net capital assets of all the nation's manufacturing corporations.

In most advanced capitalist countries, there is a similar degree of concentration with 1 to 2% of companies controlling 60, 70 and up to 80% of all business.

THE GREAT POSTAL STRIKE

The postal strike that began on July 21st is staggering to an end much less glorious than one would have expected from its great beginning. Nevertheless, these workers who lacked experience in labour struggles and were foully betrayed by their national leaders put up a courageous fight and taught some important lessons to the rank-and-file of Canadian labour. This was the first time in 47 years that the postal workers, or any civil service employers put up any kind of front that even looked like a fight. Regardless of the outcome, the postal workers have brought the civil service into the main stream of Canadian labour.

BACKGROUND TO CRISIS

Post office wages and working conditions (and in government employment generally) have followed a consistent pattern of falling far behind those in areas of other, comparable employment. A few isolated localities made some sporadic but ineffectual attempts to correct the situation, only to face sabotage and betrayal at the hands of their own national officers. These so-called leaders, using a balanced diet of threats of reprisals and promises of pie in the sky, always managed to serve the government of the day and keep the workers in line.

When the government announced pay increases that fell far short of those demanded and only half those recommended by the government's own appointed committee, there was evidence of unrest and dissatisfaction among postal employees. But the leaders of the Brotherhood that embraced the three associations of postal workers, assured the government that there would be no strike and on the basis of past experience, there was no reason to doubt them. But for once the leaders proved wrong and government ministers found themselves in the middle of a hornet's nest.

The government ministers and the Brotherhood executive had no understanding of the temper of the workers and their determination to get a better deal. Neither did they appreciate the ability of the workers to forge a new leadership and conduct a struggle in defiance of the old bunch.

NEW FORMS OF LEADERSHIP

The increasing dissatisfaction in the ranks over the years had caused local leadership to establish closer contact outside the channels of the national executive. In recent months, this contact had become particularly firm between the French-speaking workers of Montreal and the English-speaking workers of Vancouver. Postal employees in Vancouver had, over the past couple of years, made several abortive attempts at a strike action; at one period there had been a four-hour walk-out and the spirit of militancy was particularly high among the letter carriers.

When the extent of the national leaders' betrayal became fully known, the two cities at opposite ends of the country decided to take action in defiance of government threats and the opposition of their own national executive. It was the close alliance and united militant action of the groups in these two important centres that successfully demonstrated to the majority of the workers that effective action was possible and that a new leadership could be forged in the course of the struggle. It was the breaking of this close alliance that led to the collapse of the strike at the very time when additional thousands were preparing to participate and public support was on the increase.

In spite of the frantic efforts of the Brotherhood executive to drive the men and women back to work (correctly labeled strikebreaking by Houle of Montreal) and in the face of government threats of disciplinary action, more than half the postal workers had joined the strike before it ended.

GOVERNMENT REACTION

The day-to-day attitude of the government was an interesting study in progress from studied calm to a panic that almost petrified them for a time.

For the first few days, government ministers were obviously quite confident that the Brotherhood officials would get the situation under control. During this period, they restricted their efforts to threats of reprisals which were designed to shore up the crumbling authority of the national leaders. However, when more centres began joining the strike in the face of those threats and when public support (in spite of great inconvenience) kept mounting to a point not seen in any strike situation for many years, it became evident that a different approach to the problem would have to be devised. The government ministers, obviously assisted by the Brotherhood executive and other labour officials, began to work on new plans to end the strike.

A one-man commission was named to investigate grievances of postal employees. What he could discover that other commissions had failed on was not clear and very vague and inconclusive statements were made as to what weight his recommendations might carry in government circles.

Government ministers changed their attitude to a mixture of threats and cajolery in place of their predictions of dire consequences.

B. C. Liberal Party representatives began to explore the possibility of breaking the Montreal-Vancouver alliance with a proposal for regional wage differentials with higher wage increases going to the areas having a reputed higher cost of living than some others involved in the strike. (Montreal, perhaps?)

Government representatives began to bypass the old leadership and establish connections with the new leaders with a view to influencing them in the "right" direction. Concerted efforts were made (especially in B. C.) to get the new leaders away from the source of their strength in the localities and into the rarified atmosphere of Ottawa where pressure and diplomacy could be skilfully applied to confuse the issue and turn the tide of events in the government's favour. (We will deal with the ultimate consequences of yielding to this manoeuvre further on.)

THE C. L. C.

The C. L. C. brass rushed to the support of the strike with all the grace and agility of a rheumatic elephant. Only in Quebec, where special conditions prevail, did a C. L. C. spokesman voice forthright support.

In Vancouver, one of the two main areas in the strike movement, the Labour Council held to its reduced summer schedule of meetings without any effort being made to hold even an emergency executive meeting. Top council and federation officials were conspicuous by their absence from the vicinity of strike activity.

There is good reason to believe that C. L. C. officials, far from giving aid to the inexperienced strike leaders, threw their weight on the side of the government and the Brotherhood executive.

One of the sure indications of the C. L. C. role in the strike was the statement which William Kay of Vancouver attributed to Claude Jodoin. Kay reported that Jodoin informed him if the strikers failed to return to work immediately, parliament would be called to pass legislation forcing them back.

This was in direct contradiction to the statement of Laberge (C. L. C. representative in Quebec) who threatened the government would be brought down if they took any retaliatory action against the strikers. There is no doubt whatever that the Liberal minority government COULD and WOULD have been brought down on this issue, so Jodoin's threat was an empty one made in a desperate, last-ditch effort to assist the government side against the strikers. (Houle should have included him in his list of strikebreakers).

Kay's other point which urged Vancouver strikers not to be influenced by the Montreal decision to continue the walk-out smelled strongly of Jodoin and his colleagues who are conducting a vigorous campaign on behalf of their U. S. masters to defeat Quebec worker's drive to organize an independent trade union movement free from U. S. domination.

C. L. C. activities in this case were not at all strange and should not have been unexpected.

When a group of workers with very little experience give a good demonstration of how to conduct a struggle against both union bureaucrats and a reactionary government, success in their efforts spells disaster for the bureaucracy. In their own interests, the brass had to defeat the "revolt" lest more rank-and-file unionists get the idea they could survive without the "labour experts", and even in face of their opposition. Jodoin and company called up the heavy battalions in support of the government and the Brotherhood executive.

When workers are engaged in battle with employers a correct working-class attitude calls for every effort to mobilize the support that will ensure victory for the strikers. But the union bureaucrats, as is their habit, exerted the maximum amount of energy to force acceptance of the employer's terms and get the workers off the picket line. As Houle of Montreal put it; such activities constitute outright strike-breaking and in this case, the strikebreaking was carried on when victory was already in sight.

NEW LEADERS - OLD METHODS

Having started out in such a blaze of glory, the new, leading forces that had risen up out of the ferment in the localities were looked to in anticipation of great results. But in the end, most of them proved incapable of surmounting their lack of experience, the pressures put on them and a heritage of hesitancy, fear, doubt and bureaucratic methods. Events in Vancouver are striking proof of this.

The old leadership had been discredited and routed because of their policy of accepting any crumbs thrown to them by the employer and then making use of every device - not excluding threats - to force acceptance on the membership. Instead of presenting a leadership that could inspire confidence and mobilize

the workers to secure the largest possible gains, the old leadership followed a course calculated to confuse and divide, a course which could only be of assistance to the employer.

At the Vancouver meeting called to discuss a return to work proposal, the new leaders (with the exception of Hamilton and Andrus of the Letter Carriers) reverted to type and indulged in an orgy of old bureaucratic methods to obtain endorsement for a line of action they had already decided must carry. Instead of outlining the situation and consulting the workers on how far they wished to go, they adopted the old tactics of threat and bluster to throw the workers off balance and get them back to work.

Following presentation of the steering committee report (opposed by Hamilton and Andrus of the 9-man committee) a return to work recommendation was hotly debated with almost all rank-and-file participants voicing strong opposition.

A rank-and-file striker was bureaucratically ruled out of order when he tried to introduce a resolution to postpone a decision for 48 hours while more negotiations were carried on with the government. It appeared very likely that this motion would have carried with an overwhelming majority.

After ruling the motion out of order, the meeting chairman gave the floor to the steering committee spokesman who went into high gear in a hard sell for the committee recommendation for an end to the walk-out. Claiming to have had a telephone call from Ottawa while the meeting was in progress, he seized the opportunity to introduce a number of points which were not permitted to be the subject of question or debate. It is obvious that the additions to the report - afterwards admitted to be incorrect - swayed enough votes to make the difference in a close 481 to 454 decision in favour of a return to work.

Here are several of the points made by the steering committee chairman which were not debated:

"Mark my words, the patience of the public is about to end. If you vote to reject the motion, you will be a sorry lot of employees."

This was said at the very moment that the strike was gaining momentum and winning wider support.

"If you don't trust the people who led you into this, who are you going to get to lead you tomorrow?"

This was an undisguised threat to leave the strike leaderless and made without regard that the strike had been started and conducted in spite of the desertion and betrayal of the previous leaders and that what had been done before could be done again.

The spokesman also claimed that he had been informed that Revenue Minister Benson had made a new proposal to the effect that the government had every intention of declaring the Postal Department a Crown Corporation which would have the effect of giving the employees full bargaining rights. This was a piece of skull duggery that officials afterwards admitted had no factual basis; however, it undoubtedly did the job in influencing the decision in the desired direction.

Those responsible seem to have forgotten rather suddenly that these are the very same tactics that led to the downfall of the old leadership. But the rank-

and-file are not likely to forget so quickly. The postal workers are well aware of where bureaucratic methods lead and they will not follow for long a new leadership that resorts to old and discredited policies.

SOME LESSONS

In spite of the rather inconclusive end to the strike, the postal employees fought a courageous battle against big odds and taught some important lessons to the rank-and-file of the labour movement.

High on the list of lessons is that honest leaders who rise up from the ranks in the course of the struggle should remain close to the workers from whom they draw their strength and refuse to be lured into the camp of the enemy in pursuit of some vague proposals to negotiate that carry no definite commitments. When preparing a meal for the lion, one should be careful about entering the cage to discuss the menu lest he himself end up being the main course.

When one is surrounded with the skilled and highly articulate spokesmen of the capitalist class (including the C. L. C. labour merchants) and far removed from the sounds of militant action in the ranks of labour, it is all too easy to become confused and lose all sense of direction.

It was in exactly this way that the strike leaders, who allowed themselves to be enticed into Ottawa with no other commitments than those that had been already rejected became lost and fell into old habits. Separated from the real source of their fighting strength - the workers on the picket line - the strike leaders fell prey to the same vultures that had destroyed their predecessors.

FRENCH - ENGLISH LABOUR UNITY

By far the most important development of the postal strike was the alliance created between the French-speaking workers of Montreal and the English-speaking workers of Vancouver. This is a point that needs to be emphasized because of its fundamental importance and there seems to be some danger of the point being missed.

The Montreal-Vancouver alliance was the reason for the great strength and scope of the strike movement. Either city alone could not have succeeded in getting such a wide response.

The Vancouver leaders who had taken a decision to bring the strike to an end showed they recognized this fact when they made a special effort to break the influence that the alliance had over the Vancouver workers. It was also on this point that the rank-and-file exhibited the greatest opposition to the steering committee.

Houle of Montreal, who took a correct stand on most things was far wrong on this point of the alliance when he said that Montreal had started the strike alone and could continue alone. (This was incorrect. Vancouver postal workers walked out at 2:00 a.m. Pacific Daylight time so as to be on the picket line at the same time as the Montreal workers who had quit at 5:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight time).

This is not a question of Vancouver coming to the assistance of Montreal or vice versa but it is a fundamental question of class solidarity against a common foe and for common objectives.

The government and those assisting them were well aware that ending the alliance was a necessary prerequisite to smashing the strike and they bent every effort in that direction. And this was not solely because of what was immediately at stake in the postal strike. The economic and political consequences of the unity of French and English-speaking workers, in a struggle for common objectives, is a nightmare which the ruling class dare not contemplate. It was imperative, in their view, that the strike must end on a note of division and distrust as well as one of defeat.

It is essential that the great strength of the alliance and the lessons it teaches for future actions, be emphasized in the ranks of the labour movement. The guarantee of a victory for labour and the breaking of the U. S. and English-speaking domination and monopolist control lies in the widening and strengthening of such an alliance in struggle as was created in the postal strike.

LABOUR INDEPENDENCE

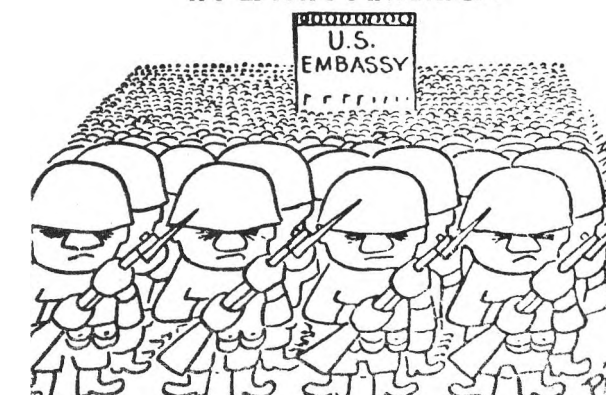
The C. L. C. bureaucrats - henchmen of the labour lieutenants of the U. S. State Department are just as fearful of a French-English labour alliance as are the ruling class and they rendered signal service in trying to put an end to it.

The situation in Quebec, arising out of the struggle for national self-determination provides the trade unionists in English-speaking Canada with a firm and reliable ally in the struggle for an independent Canadian labour movement free from U. S. domination and free from bureaucratic control. All that is needed for the cementing of a firm alliance between the two is the building of trust and confidence in the course of united struggle. It was this trust and confidence that the Montreal-Vancouver alliance in the postal strike was beginning to build. The enemy may have won a temporary victory in a relatively large but still local struggle; but we are confident the workers will grasp the fundamental lessons of that struggle and so be better armed for future battles.

In spite of all its shortcomings and rather dismal ending (almost inevitable under the circumstances) the great postal strike will enter the record as one of the most significant battles in the history of Canadian labour. It contains many important lessons which have by no means been fully dealt with here. We need a continuing discussion on this and an exchange of experiences between the localities to ensure that the lessons are fully learned.

It is the desire and hope of Progressive Worker that workers across the land will make use of our paper to air their views.

IN LATIN AMERICA



MONTREAL POSTAL STRIKE ENDS

The Montreal postal employees, who remained on strike for a week longer than any of the other centres, returned to work but not without strong expressions of dissatisfaction at terms of settlement and not before the government had made use of the armed forces to scab on the striking workers. This was a forceful demonstration of the fact that professional armies are maintained as much for use against the people in the home country in time of crisis as they are for use in the oppression and enslavement of peoples abroad.

There is a growing storm of protest against the inadequate wage improvements which have been granted by the government in the form of an ultimatum. There is no doubt that, given effective and decisive leadership, the postal employees would fight for, and win, a great deal more than they have now received. There should be some interesting and perhaps dramatic developments at the convention of the Postal Brotherhood scheduled for September.

WHAT KIND OF PLAY IS THIS?

A very real story has emerged from the picket lines and the bargaining tables of the Vancouver and district Postal strike. It reads almost like a play. The characters are Benson, the Federal Minister of Revenue; Bill Kay, the leader of the Vancouver strikers; Larry Bolton, the leader of the New Westminster strikers; and the "WORKER" - the men of the picket lines. The following dialogues are true; spoken by the characters above but we ask you to read between the lines. In the third act, Bill Kay will emerge as either the villain or the hero. Places all:- Act I

Kay: "Willy-nilly bargaining over the past 10 years by our top men has led to this climax. If adequate pressure for a decent living wage had been kept on the government over the past 10 years, this situation wouldn't exist today. We've gone on strike and we'll stay with it to the bitter end. With the public behind us, we can't miss. I learned in 1959 that you can't accept statements that reviews will be made and some consideration will be given".

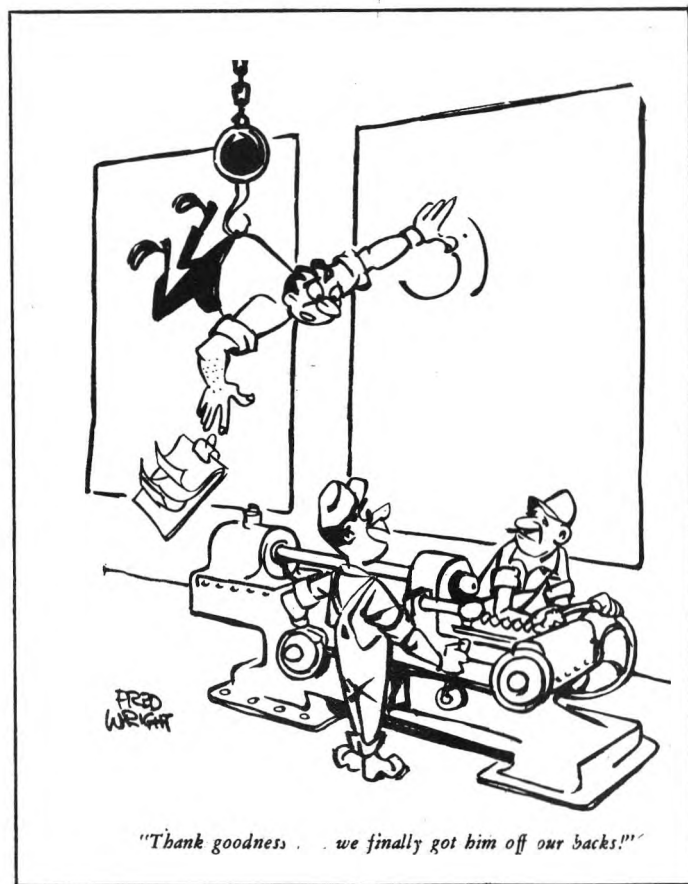
Benson: "Demands of the strikers are not going to be granted through these strike actions".

Workers: "Lead us Bill Kay. We love you Bill Kay".

Worker: "I take home \$150.00 every two weeks. Try raising a family on that. A postman can't qualify for a C.M.H.A. loan from the government even though he himself is a government employee; unless his wife is working also - because by himself, he doesn't earn enough money. It takes both pay-cheques to satisfy the authorities. Fighting the government is a lot worse than fighting a company".

Worker: "Some of the homes these people live in are a disgrace; yet postal employees are told that they must live at a "suitable address". Therefore, unless you live at such an address, you could be dismissed. When I joined the post office, I inquired about this ruling and was told, "Forget it - it is never enforced". But nevertheless, it is always hanging like a sword above your head".

Worker: "I was injured in World War II and can't work at my old trade because the work is too painful to me. I did not want to be a postal worker but I can't get hardly anything else to do. Every night my legs are sore from walking up and down stairs. I am told that I could take a clerking job; but if I did I would have to start at the bottom of the wage scale all over



again. You can't even transfer from one post office to another for reasons affecting your health due to climate".

Kay: "Don't question us as to what we are going to do. Have faith! Have faith in your steering committee!" Act II

Kay: "To continue the strike would be irresponsible and would risk everything we have gained so far. If Montreal holds out; then you can hold out. If you want Montreal to control your destiny. Don't let Montreal do it!" (a blast of sound - mostly jeers)

Worker: "We've got nothing now. Is it wrong for me to want decent pay and an adequate life. Let's get them now while the getting is good".

The strikers were then asked to reject or accept the government settlement terms for a temporary return to work, which meant that a "yes vote" on the motion was a "no vote" for continuing the strike.

Worker: "I marked my ballot wrong. I wonder how many people did the same thing without catching their mistake". (The vote had been close).

Kay: "The Government has said that they will not make a commitment while we hold a gun at their head". (The government had actually let it be known that the military could be used to deliver the mail; which placed the REAL possession of guns in an entirely different light than the one presented by Bill Kay. There were boos).

Larry Bolton: "We feel because Vancouver and Victoria have left us virtually alone in British Columbia, there is nothing to do but to give in too".

Worker: "I don't mind delivering mail, but I was making almost as much on welfare". (This one had four kids).

Act III

(All is not yet lost. A new strike vote still remains to be taken, our drama yet unfolds):

"Bill Kay - On Stage"... ????

by J. Maley

THE POSTAL STRIKE AND PART TIME HELP

Wages and conditions for part-time help in the postal service are absolutely deplorable and one day soon the associations are going to be compelled to tackle the problem. These workers who honoured the picket line (at least so far as Vancouver is concerned) are not accepted for membership in any of the associations.

Scarcely any of the fringe benefits of the service are extended to the part-time employee and wages get down to a fantastic low of \$1.50 per hour - raised from \$1.00 not so long ago. Low wages and a limited number of hours result in an income hardly worth the name. Wage increases either do not apply at all, or are considerably less since these workers are not considered included in any real category. Postal employees are falling behind other wage groups but the part-time worker is falling behind the postal employee at an even faster rate.

Elementary labour solidarity demands that part-time workers be recognized for what they are; postal employees and granted membership in the associations so they will be able seriously to tackle the problem of improving their lot.

If the outlook of "an injury to one is an injury to all" does not appeal then the very immediate question of self-interest might.

Part-time help in the post office is a large and growing force. There is now no impediment to the department hiring more of this category. It should be obvious then that this situation constitutes a threat to the entire staff and the more the regular employees succeed in improving their own lot while they leave conditions for part-time workers static or near static, the greater the threat will become.

The department is certain to attempt a solution of what they consider a high-wage problem by resorting to the hiring of an increasing number of low-paid, part-time help and a steadily decreasing number of regular full-time staff. The members of the Associations should readily realize that the defence of their own basic interests calls for a new approach to the status of part-time help. This is particularly true now when it appears likely that the strike action will force the government to pay about twice as much as they had intended. If this increase, or the greater part of it, is not (as now seems likely) extended to the part-time workers, then the idea of employing more of them, at the expense of full-time employees jobs will appear much more attractive - too attractive to miss.

The situation is a serious one and cannot be allowed to go unattended for long else trouble will be brewing.

YOUTH-EFFECT, CAUSE, AND SOLUTION

A young boy was shot at a camping spot for alleged disturbing of the peace and being a so-called "hoodlum". Surprisingly enough, a majority of people in the vicinity seemed to support this violence on the grounds that the assailant had no other choice - he was protecting himself and his property. However, it isn't a question of did he or didn't he have a choice. It is a question of do you or don't you support shooting people who step out of line. The answer is obviously "No!" Here are a few very valid reasons why we cannot embrace this type of reaction.

First, we could say that he was a young punk and should be put in "his place". However, have we ever stopped to analyze "his place". One fact to keep in mind is that people are not born hoods, punks, rabble rousers, dope addicts or drunks. There is always a reason why people act in a certain way. The "hoodlum" is an effect not a cause. What is the cause?

In our present society, which is known as capitalism, there is no concrete place for the young people. The capitalist system of education is not at all appealing to the youth; this is obvious in the vast amount of drop-outs. The young people then turn to the labour market. There is no other road. They are exploited to the hilt under the excuse "inexperienced". Automation is advancing daily, pushing more and more old and young workers alike into the huge and ever-growing category of unemployment. Is it no wonder that the young workers' prime interests revolve around booze, sex and fast, flashy cars? This does not apply to all or even to the majority.

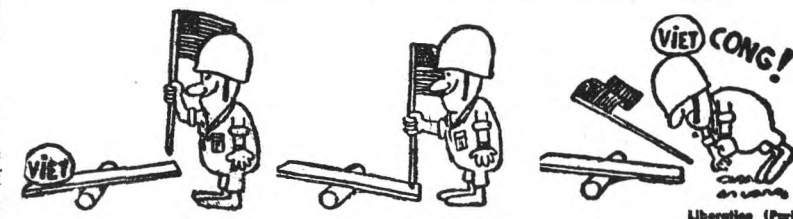
At this specific state of capitalism, our youth are almost completely unsatisfied and frustrated. The conditions under which they have developed are certainly not in their interests but in the interests of profit. In the interests of a handful - the ruling class who make a fast buck off the youth, irregardless of its effect on their lives.

These are but a few of the causes why our youth are occupied with nonsense. All capitalism preaches through its mass media is utter nonsense. They cannot be put in their place because they have no place. Under the prevailing conditions, they also know they have no future.

We have all witnessed the effect, briefly analyzed the cause. Now let us find a solution. How could one honestly say that shooting them is the answer. Will this help the young boy to understand his actions are wrong? On the contrary, it will only result in more blind hatred and bitterness. This type of solution is proven time and time again by our correctional institutes. If you feed youth hate, if you treat them viciously, they will react with hate and viciousness.

The solution definitely isn't shooting them down like dogs. Unfortunately, the correctional institutes solve nothing. However, there is a solution. The only solution is to remove the cause, as stated previously. The system of capitalism - the exploitation of man-by-man. This society offers them emptiness, hopelessness and loneliness. We have to replace capitalism with Socialism. Socialism is the only society which offers companionship, fulfilment and hope. The youth would then be in its place - its proper place, of preparing for and building a decent and promising future.

by Sharon East



LABOR NEWS



Wages paid to workers employed at the manufacturing end of the berevement industry is not one of the reasons for the high cost of funerals.

Organized by Local 217 of the I. W. A. workers at Vancouver Casket have been on strike since the breakdown of negotiations for a contract. Wages of \$1.50 per hour was the main grievance and the company is still adamant in its refusal to make any kind of an acceptable offer.



At the time of this writing, the striking workers at Western Gypsum in Vancouver is entering its seventh week with no sign of an agreement being reached. This plant is only one of a large complex owned by a multi-million dollar British Company.

One of the difficulties facing these workers is the fact that the company is able to supply local markets with products from other parts of the country. It is reported that the B. C. Federation of Labour is taking steps to declare these products "hot", which may help the situation locally. Lack of co-ordination between local unions of gypsum workers has led to a confused situation. Union men in Calgary and Winnipeg are in effect being used as strikebreakers against their brothers in Vancouver.

Workers in Vancouver are standing firm and are prepared to make a determined fight for better wages and conditions. Some assistance from the labour movement of B. C. in respect to handling "hot" products will give these strikers a real boost.



Attempts by elevator companies in Vancouver assisted by the government and the courts to throw a smokes-screen around the dispute with grain handlers has had a certain amount of success. To penetrate the confusion created and find out what the issues are is a fairly simple task but one wouldn't get that impression from reading the daily press. In fact, the more we read, the more confused we become.

Discussions with men on the picket line helps very little. They too are confused by all the charges and countercharges flying around and about the issue of loading grain. Unfortunately, the union leadership has surrendered the initiative to the companies and are allowing them to choose the battle ground. This can be destructive.

The issues are very simple. They are wages and working conditions and they effect all grain handlers. Attempts to confine the strike to Alberta Wheat Pool is playing into the hands of the elevator companies and is dragging the dispute into deeper and deeper confusion.

If the union leadership has a plan for winning this strike and wage dispute, they would be wise to take the membership into their confidence. Lack of a plan and harrassment by the companies can be very hard on a worker's morale. He begins to wonder if he is being led down the primrose path!



Above picture is of pickets outside the Pepsi Cola plant on East Broadway, Vancouver. Main issue is wages and no attempt is being made to operate the plant.

LABOUR STATESMANSHIP IN ACTION!

Vancouver workers have had the advantage of a front row seat to view a demonstration of "Labour Statesmanship" in action. Mr. Ed Sims, the labour Statesman who wears three hats; (C. L. C. Man Friday in B. C.; President of the Vancouver Labour Council; Canadian Director of the International Union of Brewery, Flour, Cereal, Soft Drink and Distillery Workers), seized the opportunity presented by the strike of grainhandlers to show off "Labour Statesmanship" at its best. (Or Worst?)



After many months of dragged-out negotiations, a conciliation board finally handed down a majority decision which was accepted by the union but rejected by the operators.

The membership gave the union leaders a strike vote of 90% plus to back up their demand for a satisfactory contract. Armed with this decisive mandate to do battle, Mr. Sims proceeded to go nowhere fast.

Instead of closing down all elevators and halting grain shipments, which would have forced the companies to get down to business, Sims ordered operations halted at Alberta wheat pool docks only and left all others running at top speed. From this point on, Sims was in nothing but deep trouble and got in deeper with each passing day. The initiative passed to the companies, who have retained it until now, and they have taken full advantage of the situation. It is the companies who have forced the pace all along the line and on their own terms.

The objective of a strike is to halt production and bring the owner's business operations to a complete standstill as a means of forcing concessions. Any employee action that permits the continuation of normal operations can not properly be called a strike and is hardly likely to make any impression on profit-hungry employers. The so-called strike to which Sims accorded such brilliant direction scarcely made a dent in waterfront operations.

After seven weeks of this statesmanship style of leadership, the shipping companies were able to announce that grain shipments were running fairly well to schedule and no ships were facing undue delay in the harbour. Grain speculators could boast that not a single order had been lost as a result of the strike. This was a happy state of affairs for the bro-

kers and shippers who continued to harvest record profits but gave little cause for rejoicing among workers who were going without pay cheques (and little, if any, strike relief). Some strike, indeed!

This brilliantly conceived tactic of conducting a strike that produced almost no unpleasant consequences for the employers gave the elevator operators an opportunity to set the stage for some repercussions against the union.

Alberta Wheat, which was normally handled at the strike-bound Alberta Pool elevator, continued an unabated flow to dockside. This Alberta grain was re-routed to working elevators for ship loading and was declared "hot cargo" on the railroad siding.

Railroad men, in a traditional demonstration of solidarity, refused to handle the "hot" grain. A number of workers were suspended and more than 200 others booked off sick in protest. This situation really showed to what a ridiculous position the "labour statesmanship" tactics can bring the unions.

While more than 200 railroad workers were off work in support of the strike, members of the union supposed to be on strike and directly involved in the dispute, continued at work clearing out the elevators to make room for the "hot" grain that the rail workers were refusing to handle. If there had been a strike worthy of the name, the elevators would have been full, not empty and the train crews would not have been faced with the need to refuse to handle "hot" cargo; unless and until strike breakers were brought in to work the grain. This situation must be rare indeed in the history of labour struggle; and one which only "labour statesmen" could bring about. Men were off work refusing to handle "hot" cargo en route to a destination where the workers who were supposed to be on strike were continuing normal, or near normal operations and preparing the facilities to receive the "hot" cargo. That is "Labour Statesmanship"!

With their tactic of routing Alberta grain to the elevators not struck, the operators skillfully turned the point of the strike AGAINST ALBERTA FARMERS who had no choice but to ship their wheat through Alberta Pool facilities. It has now been found necessary to send B. C. "labour statesmen" as missionaries to the Prairie Provinces to explain the situation to the thoroughly confused and disgruntled farmers.

Our observations force us to the conclusion that there is need of some missionary work on the home front to explain to workers on the local scene just what the hell is going on. Nobody, and most of all the striking grainhandlers themselves, seems to have a clue as to just what the collection of brilliant minds that got them into this situation intends to do about getting them out of it.

One lesson that emerges clearly from this sorry debacle is that the working people of this country can do with a lot less statesmanship and a bit more fighting spirit.



BELLA, BOUMEDIENNE AND THE REVISIONISTS

(Editor's Note: The following is our translation of an article which was published in the journal "La Voix Du Peuple", organ of the Communist Party of Belgium (M. L.). The story was filed by the Algier's correspondent, A. Hauwaert.

We wish only to add that we reject the utopian idea being dissiminated in some circles in Canada to the effect that the social revolution is a simple operation at the end of a straight road and the further erroneous opinion that once the colonialists are overthrown in areas such as Africa, the revolution, from there on, consists only of a steady stream of social reforms leading to the ultimate victory of socialism. The plain fact is that the socialist revolution, carried to its final victory, is a long, complex and often painful process. There will be joyous victories - there can also be temporary and bitter set-backs.

In no place is this more true than on the African Continent, just now rising out of several centuries of ruthless and savage repression at the hands of the imperialists.

It is imperative that our attitude toward the revolutionary struggle in Africa (as in all such struggles) should be studiously correct - not being carried away by successes or unduly pessimistic at retreats and temporary defeats; having at all times a sympathetic understanding of the enormous difficulties to be overcome; standing by with aid and vigorously opposing every attempt of the imperialists to re-impose their rule; and, above all, exercising every care not to interfere in the internal affairs of those who are rising out of bondage. It is in the interests of advancing these policies that we publish this translation for the information of our readers).

We hope that Colonel Boumedienne has had the time, and the opportunity, to read the revisionist press since the 19th of June. If so, he will have had a chance to appreciate the humour of the situation when he received, on July 14th, a message from Kosygin, congratulating him on his promotion to the post of Prime Minister. The President of the Council of Soviets wished his Algerian colleague success in his new undertaking for the benefit of the Algerian people. There is no doubt that this dispatch must have caused considerable embarrassment in the editorial rooms of "L'HUMANITE" and "DRAPEAU ROUGE" as they had not yet managed to make the inevitable and complete change of Tone.

In reality, the Algerian events have clearly demonstrated the lack of principle, the subjectivism, and the confusion that has characterized the politics of the Kruschovites of all sorts. At the same time, they are engaging in intolerable interference in the internal affairs of other countries. Such is the practice of the Soviet leaders and of those parties which follow their directives.

First phase: Ben Bella lets himself be led around on a leash by the U.S.S.R. and Yugoslavia. He is surrounded by French and Algerian revisionists and Trotskyists. Every day he draws closer to the foreign policies of Moscow and Belgrade and allows the Trotskyists and Titoists to use Algeria as an experimental ground to try out their economic-political "theories". He is decorated with the Order of Lenin and they hail him as a champion of Socialism and suddenly the revisionist press is filled with unlimited admiration for him. He had refused to support until then.

Second phase: The 19th of June, Ben Bella is removed. Without waiting a single hour, the revisionist chorus start making a hell of a noise. L'UNITA, LE DRAPEAU ROUGE, L'HUMANITE, the Hungarian press and the radio transmissions from the Socialist countries all indignantly demand that the ex-president be freed and that Boumedienne surrender. This last man they call by every possible name; putchist, fascist, militarist, dictator, reactionary, etc.

Journalists who work for these papers discover "massacres", tell of "firing squads" and become indignant when they are ordered to return home. In Moscow, Sofia and Belgrade university students demonstrate against the Council of the Algerian Revolution; the very same places where, a short time ago, Vietnamese students were the victims of police repression when they attempted to demonstrate against American aggression in their country. The Soviet delegates to the international preparatory committee for the 9th Festival of Youth and students, forced a vote on a scandalous resolution that constituted open and unwarranted interference in Algerian affairs. In Algeria, the diplomatic personell of the Socialist countries that are under revisionist control worked feverishly assisting their local agents who were desperately trying to launch a counter-revolution.

Third phase: Contrary to their hopes and their plans, the revisionists have come to the realization that the Algerian people remain calm before all the Benbellist appeals and uproar. To the contrary, the Revolutionary Council is consolidating its position and have advised some diplomats and technicians to go and exercise their talents somewhere else. Moscow ponders a change of attitude - already in effect in Belgrade. But in Paris, Rome and Brussels, the Kruschovists continue to follow the old line and point in triumph to the recognition of the Council of the Revolution by the U. S. A. - a recognition they announced three weeks before it happened, as proof of the reactionary nature of the events of the 19th of June.

Fourth phase: The retreat by the Soviet leaders draws closer. In Algeria, the proclamations and the initial acts of the Council of the Revolution give new hope to the masses. In the western revisionist press the "anti-Boumedienne" campaign slacks off - announcements take on an air of neutrality.

Fifth phase: Kosygin congratulates Boumedienne. The revisionists have lost the battle. They try to recapture lost time and positions. BY EVERY MEANS they have worked to return Ben Bella to power - pressure, smiles, various offers, attempts at corruption, infiltration, no trick is overlooked. After the failure of counter-revolutionary plots, they return to more flexible methods of interference.

When a political event occurs, a communist must discover the cause and examine the consequences. For this one must discard prejudice, preconceived ideas and sympathy and look only at the facts. In the case of Algeria, certain facts were clear: Ben Bella, over a period of time, had wandered from the revolution path and cut himself off from the masses. As for the orientation of the Council of the Revolution, it would be improper to venture too far on this subject. However, from the first hours, certain declarations by those responsible for the removal of Ben Bella reassured those who had confidence in the people and the Algerian Revolution. Bourgeois reaction was also symptomatic, as was also the campaign of the world

press which was designed to convince everyone that Algeria was a sea of fire and blood.

Ensuing developments confirmed the first diagnosis: the revolution survived without a "superman". For a Communist, the disappearance of one man, regardless of who he is, can never stop the forward march of the people. Even more so when the man, by reason of his attitude, has become a brake on the revolutionary struggle.

For all these reasons, we consider that the modifications introduced in Algeria on the 19th of June could have fortunate consequences for the revolution and the people of Algeria.

Furthermore, the Algerian people alone are the judge in this matter. The people properly choose their own government and it is impermissible for some one on the outside to impose on them a choice other than their own.

Nevertheless, the revisionists tried to do just that when they saw the man who had been doing their dirty work for them being pushed into the background. They did not wish to see their own man disappear from the scene. Without even a shred of proof, they claimed that Ben Bella had been ousted from power by a coup d'etat of the right in order to find a pretext for a systematic campaign to create panic, insecurity and tension inside Algeria.

CAPTIVE COMMUNITY

Ocean Falls is a town on the B. C. coast, population of approximately 3,300, surrounded by lakes and mountains and all the beauties of nature.

But there is a blight on this beautifully situated town - it is a captive community, owned outright and dominated by Crown Zellerbach Canada Ltd. (Canadian off-shoot of the giant U. S. monopoly). Nothing and no one moves without the knowledge of the company and often not without its approval. Only mainland communication is by telephone, boat or plane, all controlled by "the octopus". The only businesses in sight besides the one huge pulpmill are; a Hudson Bay Store, one hotel, a liquor store, a laundromat, six churches and a courthouse.

The workers are very hospitable and love conversation - except politics from which they shy away. To a newcomer, this fear of political discussion seems, at first contact, to be rather strange. But it becomes quite understandable once one realizes that "the octopus" is everywhere, including having a seat at every circle of conversation.

Wages seem to be fairly good, but very little leaves the community and almost all the wages eventually find their way back into company pockets.

Some rank-and-file workers try hard to change conditions in the community and the industry but are bucking big odds. Every employee has to pay tribute to the international union as a condition of employment and the "fat cats" on top are highly satisfied with things as they are so militants have to fight union bureaucrats as well as company.

The community is fairly effectively isolated from the main stream of affairs. The single local newspaper carries such inspiring headlines as the progress being made in the local bible school.

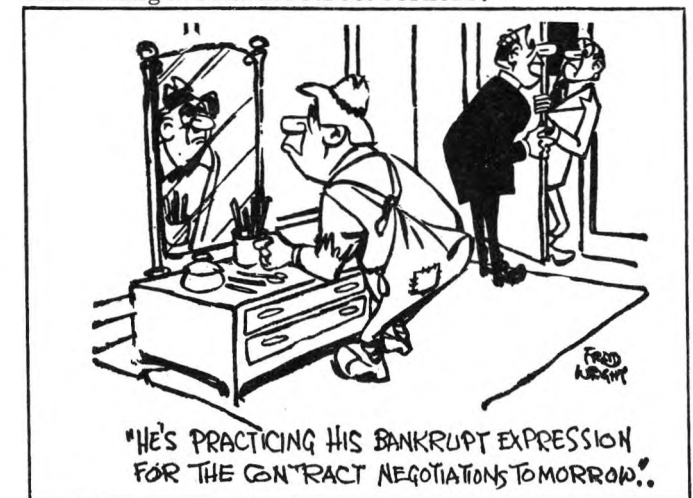
Today it is Kosygin himself who extends wishes for great success to Houari Boumedienne. The "Drapeau Rouge" is most uncomfortable and reticent about it, does not dare publish the text of this message. (To date; also applicable to Canadian and Pacific Tribune. Editor)

We can be quite sure, however, that in this also the revisionists will soon have accomplished a complete turn. In a revisionist party, the backbone is very flexible. As for us, we will continue to demonstrate all our sympathy and our solidarity towards the revolution and the people of Algeria - the leaders, we can only judge by their actions.

On this subject, I have just learned with great interest, the contents of a speech by Houari Boumedienne on the occasion of the introduction of his government. I consider it important that the two objectives most strongly emphasized in this speech are: liquidation of the remnants of colonialism and consolidation of national independence. At the same time, the leader of the government gave his assurances, a number of times, of concrete support from Algeria for the national liberation movements. His serious appearance, the absence of demagogery, his clear and definite views on the industrialization of the nation, all of this contributes to the reinforcement of our confidence. In spite of the perils that no doubt still lie in wait, the Algerian revolution will surely triumph.

*L'Unita, D. R., L'Humanite are the papers of the revisionist Communist parties of Italy, Belgium and France, respectively.

Saturday midnight the town becomes a virtual graveyard for 24 hours with the faithful off to church on Sunday and the young people having no other occupation than to hang around the street corners.



A trip through the plant is an eye-opener when one finds workers in a supposedly modern industry working in what has all the appearance of being dungeons. There is a huge labour turn-over and many new and younger workers are coming into the community. These young workers are beginning to discuss the need for change - and change will surely come. Workers of Ocean Falls will join with other workers all over the world to put an end to the fear, oppression and exploitation that are a natural and integral part of the operations of such giant monopolies as Crown Zellerbach.

When will it happen? Soon!! But all the sooner when you and I get down to some practical work in bringing it about.

By Martin Amiabel

SLUM HOUSING IN TORONTO

The present commotion in Toronto with regard to slum housing is nothing new. Neither are the allegations of irregularities. Incidents like these occur regularly all over the country. In all large cities, it is assumed that there will be a sizeable area where the inhabitants are decidedly worse off than the rest of the community. The results of the inquiry which is going to be held here will probably also not be remarkably different from others held at other times and other places.

In any case, the city council has already pointed out that it is not necessarily bound by any recommendations that may result from it.

What is the actual situation as we see it? There is no doubt at all that most conditions described by Alderman June Marks in her report actually exist. She has made two points. One is that certain landlords in her ward have been ignoring city regulations in housing which are let out to welfare tenants and worker's families in the low-income group. In this, it is alleged they have the connivance of some city officials. We presume the inquiry will bear most heavily on this point and in the meantime, we can only wait. It is, however, surprising that such a serious charge has not been made the target of a more prompt investigation. The other point is that of "block busting". This is where a real estate agent will buy up certain houses in a previously well-kept district and fill them up with so-called undesirables. The district deteriorates and the inhabitants then sell out cheaply to the real estate who then develops the area as he sees fit.

Let us deal with each point in order.

The remedy for the first one is simple enough. A vigorous public housing programme would finish the need of low-income groups to depend on unscrupulous landlords. The programme would be directed by the federal government with powers to intervene in any place it decided was necessary. The problem of dishonesty in any level of government can be combatted by an alert public who elect working people, not businessmen to positions of power.

The second point is partly answered by the first one. A people's municipal government would obviously not stand by and allow any district to deteriorate. Furthermore, it would have a definite programme of town planning. The people who live and work in a city should decide how to build it. Many real estate developers live outside of the city. Also, having grown rich at the expense of the people, they spend their winters in Florida and their summers in Europe. Those of us who are obliged to spend most of their lives here should take our affairs into our own hands.

In further consideration of the city's deteriorating areas, there are the so-called undesirables. This is not a term we would use ourselves. A person does not become undesirable deliberately. They become undesirable because of upbringing and surroundings. It is, however, a fact that in certain areas of June Mark's ward, there is an element which is engaged in alcoholism, drug addiction, prostitution and various forms of criminal activity. Here in Toronto, as elsewhere in this country, little attempt is made to rehabilitate people of this type and re-integrate them with the rest of the community. Meanwhile certain local businessmen along with the agents of the international drug ring are making a fortune from their existence.

The situation is plain. We are governed by a system which is insensitive to any problem not involving the profit motive. The question of housing, political

corruption and crime cannot be isolated from any other problem in our domestic affairs. So long as we are governed in the interests of a small class of people who intend to control the wealth for themselves, then conditions will never be different. The P. W. M. advocates communism as the only system which will cause the wealth of Canada to be used in the interests of the majority.

By K. Offer, Toronto, Ont.

New P.W.M. Publication



LEFT LEAF

DEDICATED TO AN INDEPENDENT AND SOCIALIST CANADA

JULY 1 1965

10¢

In This Issue
U.S. Imperialism
ANTI-NAZI RALLY
Trade Unions
and other features

IN PANAMA MARINES ENGAGE IN JOINT EXERCISES WITH LOCAL TROOPS.



IN SAN DOMINICA THE REAL THING FOR US MARINES.

US MARINES IN DC ON JOINT ANTI-GUERRILLA WARFARE EXERCISES WITH CANADIAN TROOPS. WHY?



bulletin 1

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EDITOR'S NOTE: In the first issue of Left Leaf, the Editor had the following to say about publication:

"We will continue in bulletin form until we have enough money, subscribers, writers and helpers so that we can improve format, content and regularity. We welcome your help in all the ways you can."

Letters to the Editor

Dear Friends:

Like clock-work I am receiving your magazines, notes and even a postcard from China. I hope that you had a real good look at the accomplishments of the Chinese people. Comparing pictures and words out of 1928/30 books and the pictures of today, there is a terrific program going. I am always most impressed by the building of new waterways, the irrigation projects and the replanting with trees of an almost ruined land. Those things are only possible when done by a people who own the land by themselves and will never be done by either absent or present landlords.

I am really not much interested by the political viewpoints and speeches by so and so. In the first place, it takes too much time to read this all. Secondly, I am on their side to see those people gain ultimate victory in their own destination.

However, one thing I must say is this: The Peoples Republic of China will get more goodwill if some of their political editorials were written in a more civilized tone. This you must expect from a country whose civilization goes back for 6,000 years. I mean this without falling into a bourgeois classification. The same holds true for the Progressive Worker. I like to use strong words myself but often miss the final seal by using too many uncivilized words. In the meantime, keep going with exposing the barbarous methods, whether done by the U. S. A., Germans, puppets and other reactionary forces at home or abroad.

You see that I am not a follower of any direct policy but in many cases have an opinion of my own. This does not say, of course, that I am right. When you get such a dose of material to read (and you probably have just as much or more), it is hard to sift out the real stuff as being sound and good - the stuff that will liberate all humans and unite them to bring about a better world. And we are all sure about one thing: the U. S. has to leave Viet Nam. The longer they stay, the more damning their actions will be and the greater the loss (prestige and lives). You cannot defeat a nation. Be master in our own house. And no puppet government or B47 is capable of stopping this. The Japanese found that out, so did the French and the Dutch in Indonesia, and the Germans in Russia. You can not beat a partisan until you kill him and there are millions more to take his or her place.

R. K., New Brunswick

Ed. Note: This letter was sent in by a friend for publication.

Dear Sir:

I am deeply moved and grateful for your letter along with your contribution of \$20.00 to help our Southern Vietnamese people who have been struggling over 20 years for peace, freedom, independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of our Fatherland.

As you know, Viet Nam is one. The people of Viet Nam are one. According to the Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam in 1954, Viet Nam had been temporarily divided into two parts: the North belong to the Democratic Republic, the South was still more temporarily under French rule up to 1956 the whole country must be reunified by a free election. Since then, the U. S.

Imperialists replaced French colonialists and have conducted an aggressive war in the Southern part of our country.

To defend their right to live, our compatriots in South Viet Nam have risen up to fight against them and have won more and greater victories day by day.

Your letter came today supporting us, making us believe more firmly in final victory in spite of difficulties, duration and hardships.

I take this opportunity to express the Vietnamese people to you as well as to friends in the five continents who, during the past years, have warmly supported, in words and in deeds, the Vietnamese people's just struggle against the U. S. Imperialist aggressors for safeguarding the Geneva Agreements, defending the Fatherland, independence and peace.

May I suggest, if you wish to continue sending donations to the South Vietnamese National Front for Liberation that you send us a cheque through any of your Banks (Canadian Banks) in London. We can get them at that bank or if it is more convenient, you can send donations to us through the Bank of China, 111 Cannon Street, London E. C. 4 to the name of Mr. Cu Dinh Ba, Viet Nam.

May I thank you once again and convey my best wishes to you and your beloved family.

Yours sincerely,
Nguyen Van Sao, Representative

Dear Sir:

If Ed Lawson, President of the Joint Teamsters Council thinks he is furthering the cause of the workers by his action in the recent postal employee's strike, he should hear some of the comments made by some of his own members in the Teamsters Union. After listening to what he had to say to the striking postal employees, one would think he has the solution and cure all for the working class, but like all labour bureaucrats, he seems to be running true to form. The problems he has to contend with in his own organization should be enough to keep him busy without sticking his nose in other labour disputes. It could be his recent action and silver tongue blurps could escalate him right out of his cushy job.

Beware Postal Employees: don't get into the clutches of the Teamster's Brass!

a Teamster

CHI LAI
(March of the Volunteers)

Arise, you who will not be bondslaves;
Let us build a new Great Wall with our flesh and blood.
China's people meet the day of danger,
Anger fills the hearts of our countrymen.
Arise, arise, arise!
Many hearts with one mind,
Brave the enemy's gunfire, and march on!

Arise, you who will not be bondslaves;
Let us fight for freedom and democracy.
All our world is struggling in the tyrant's chains;
Everyone who works for freedom is crying
Arise, arise, arise!
All of us with one heart,
With the torch of freedom, march on!

[Li Pao-Sheng and Liu Liang-Mo]

The Capitalist Fuehrer in Washington, D. C. is hard pressed these days. On the one hand he is confronted with an expanding guerilla offensive in Viet Nam and on the other, he is pressed by the necessity of convincing the American people that they must be prepared to pay and die to an ever-increasing degree in the future for foreign enterprises that are completely alien to their own basic interests. Amongst other things, Johnson finds it necessary to appear more and more frequently on T. V. in an effort to maintain public confidence in America's Holy Crusade. Such appearances invariably bear all the trimmings of a well-organized circus; and his "show" of July 28, to present yet another formal statement on Viet Nam was true to form.

Having first dispensed with the usual rigmarole about being in Viet Nam "to fulfill one of the most solemn pledges of the American Nation", Johnson announced an immediate build-up of American troops from 75,000 to 125,000 men. He added: "Additional forces will be needed later and they will be sent as requested". The real significance of this build-up lies in its necessity; and this in turn is dramatized by the obvious haste with which it was implemented. No amount of sophistry can obscure the fact that the puppet troops in South Viet Nam are no longer reliable. And it is this instability that necessitates such a strong influx of American forces. Apparently, the Americans appreciate that this situation is going to get worse rather than better; hence the statement of more troops being sent in the immediate future.

Viet Nam is not, of course, America's first venture into the realm of colonial war. However, American Imperialism is, perhaps, experiencing for the first time the full wrath of a roused, organized and determined people who are exerting their claims for human dignity and material security under a leadership adequate to the occasion. It is the nature of such a struggle that eventually the puppet regime, serving as a front for Imperial aspirations will collapse. And once this occurs, Imperialism is faced either with the task of blatantly pursuing its aims regardless of world opinion, or ceding to the will of the people and relinquishing its claims of ascendancy over the contested area.

To date, the puppet regime in South Viet Nam has succeeded in holding out. But the knowledge of large-scale desertions from its armed forces is known to all and this latest increase of American troops would tend to demonstrate that it is but a matter of time before the whole rotten masquerade caves in. If this should be the case and there is no reason to think otherwise, American Imperialism is rapidly approaching the crossroads of decision. Should its choice be to pursue the war regardless of the loss of that excuse provided by an existing puppet regime, a war of racist overtones is unavoidable. It is an explosive situation, to say the least, and one which makes the American desire to bring the war to the conference table very understandable.

That a revolutionary movement, fighting under such adverse conditions is capable of reducing one of the world's great Imperialist powers to such straits, is an exhilarating experience to revolutionaries everywhere. The resoluteness, skill and ever-expanding capabilities of the armed forces of the National Front of Liberation of South Viet Nam has brought new life to many. The magnitude of their fight inspires a new hope, a new desire to resume the struggle, even amongst those within the sphere of the so-called "Free World" who, in the past, have battled

long and hard against colonial exploitation in their own lands. What then must be the response to such an invigorating electricity in the immediate area of the Vietnamese revolution itself?

The radiating effects of the Vietnamese revolution are sufficiently apparent. Its success will spell the end of Colonialism in Asia. Even now that classic chain-reaction which characterizes all great revolutionary upheavals is making itself felt throughout South East Asia. Puppet regimes are beginning to grow uneasy; or, as Washingtonian phraseology puts it: should the Vietnamese revolutionaries succeed, in each land, the forces of independence (sic) would be weakened. It is in realization of this impending collapse that International Imperialism is presently making such strenuous and frenzied efforts to bring the conflict to negotiation. The situation is serious - serious enough to bring the crypto-Imperialists into the open with their proposals and stillborn missions of peace. And they are emerging from the most unlikely of places as Uncle Sam calls in his I. O. U. 's in this, his hour of need.

While bemoaning the unreasonableness of the Vietnamese revolutionaries, Johnson had this to say on July 28th: "Fifteen efforts have been made to start... discussions with the help of 40 nations throughout the world, but there has been no answer." Yes! but what does God's latest gift to the American people propose to discuss? The granting of unshackled and uncompromised freedom to the Vietnamese people? The withdrawal of American occupational forces and the permittance of the Vietnamese people to seek their destiny in their own fashion and under their own power? Hardly. The great White Chief would like to have the war stopped and talks begun, in the hope that such a pause would rob the present offensive of its momentum; thereby granting the occupation sufficient time to reorganize.

A revolutionary offensive, such as is now in progress in Viet Nam, is a finely balanced movement of diverse elements, and unlike a conventional military offensive, it cannot be halted and then resumed again without major disruptive effects both to its efficiency and its forcefulness. This is no great secret; and considering the amounts of money the Washington Imperialists have spent in research on revolutionary war and guerilla warfare, it would indeed be a surprise if they failed to be aware of its implications and its advantages to themselves in the present situation. In a word then, Washington wants a temporary halt in the war so as to gain time to repair its defences. Unfortunately for them, the revolutionary leadership in Viet Nam refuses to co-operate.

It was to be expected that Johnson would again reiterate the theory of Chinese aggression in Viet Nam. Quite possibly he himself actually believes this gibberish by now. However, it does require a tremendous feat in mental gymnastics to construe China as the aggressor, when no Chinese troops have been engaged in the war and no appreciable amounts of Chinese war material have been captured. China makes no secret of her support of the Vietnamese revolutionaries, to be sure. But China is a state founded on the principles of Marxism and such an expression of support is fundamental to that philosophy.

It is accepted by revolutionaries the world over that a state founded by revolutionaries will extend its support to others engaged in a revolutionary struggle regardless of whether or not an ideological unanimity prevails. That this is so is only reasonable. After

all, Imperialists extend support to each other when a conflict with revolutionaries is involved. They might fight among themselves over the spoils but they will never do so when a threat from revolutionary forces is the central issue. Consequently, irregardless of whether or not Vietnamese Communists are in the vanguard of the fight for freedom in that area, China, as a state embodying the revolutionary principles of Marxism is obligated to extend her support to the struggle if she is to remain true to herself.

This is a fundamental of revolutionary ethics. It is also the criterion by which the sincerity of those who speak a revolutionary dialogue may be judged. Ultimately, all men must be assessed, not by what they say, but by what they do. And the Vietnamese revolution is surely highlighting a considerable degree of discrepancy between talk and action in some quarters where a highly sophisticated revolutionary phraseology has been the vogue for many a year.

VIETNAM RALLY

On Saturday, August 7th, the Peace Arch on the International border, 30 miles from Vancouver was the scene of a rally to protest the war in Vietnam. The meeting, called jointly by a number of organizations from Vancouver, B. C. and Seattle, Washington was addressed by Mulford O. Sibley and Colin Cameron. Several thousand people were in attendance.

Members of P. W. M. from various parts of B. C. and Progressive Labour members from the State of Washington were on hand with appropriate placards that bore slogans protesting the war in Vietnam and demanding that the U. S. aggressors get out of Southeast Asia. Both groups handed out thousands of leaflets to members of the audience and to occupants of the many hundreds of cars passing across the International border. The leaflets were eagerly grabbed up and read by almost all we came in contact with.

An exhibition of photographs, set up at the Canadian entrance to the international park was the centre of a great deal of attention and interested comment. The exhibition consisted of close to 100 large photographs of action in Vietnam showing action shots of the aggressors, the Liberation Front and scenes of activity of both work and defensive action in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

The newly-organized New Westminster club of P. W. M. organized a meeting and film showing at Ocean Park for the evening of the same day. This affair was a tremendous success and the audience included people from as far south as Portland, Oregon. Speakers were Rolly Lindgren and Martin Amiel of the New Westminster club and Bill Sturgeon of the Washington State Progressive Labour organization. The Bethune Trio entertained at various times during the evening with labour and progressive songs.

The films that were screened had recently arrived and were being shown for the first time anywhere in North America.

The first film was one that had arrived from Vietnam and showed events in both the Democratic Republic and the Liberation front regions of Vietnam. In this film, we were given a graphic picture of the way in which the indomitable people of Vietnam were inflicting punishment on the aggressor and decisively repulsing him and at the same time carrying on peaceful work in building their Socialist nation.

To conclude his somewhat monotonous polemic, Johnson threw in a bit of that homespun philosophy so dear to the hearts of your average American. Says he: "It is now my opportunity to help every child get an education, to help every Negro and every American citizen have an equal opportunity, to have every family get a decent home and to help bring healing to the sick and dignity to the old. That is what I have wanted all my life since I was a little boy".

Yes! Herr Fuehrer,, but what about the people of Viet Nam? Do not they too deserve the opportunity to lift themselves from that abyss into which colonial exploitation has cast them? Do not they too deserve the possession of human dignity and the right to create their own "great society" in an image of their hearts' desire? All men are equal according to that Christian philosophy to which you allegedly subscribe. Then, why in the hell don't you and your likes, who can be so virtuous in your speeches, get out of Viet Nam and let the people there live the life they want to?

The second film, just arrived in Vancouver a couple of days before, was made in China and entitled "U.S. Aggressors Get Out of Vietnam". This too, showed some scenes of Vietnamese resistance to U. S. aggression but dealt in the main with the growth of world solidarity with the people of Vietnam and opposition to the aggressors. The tremendous solidarity of the People's Republic of China for the fighting heroes of Vietnam was clearly evident in this second film. Shown were the huge mass meetings and demonstrations that are taking place all over China. It was made abundantly clear that China will render all necessary aid to the embattled people of Vietnam.

A scheduled P. W. M. picnic at Bear Creek Park on Sunday was unfortunately cut short by rain and cold weather. However, the week-end was an altogether enjoyable, busy and profitable one; especially for the New Westminster club which has had a very memorable and auspicious start to its appearance in the political life of the district.

SCABS AT POSTAL STRIKE

Two hirelings of B. C. Telephone collaborated with their masters to stage one of the foulest strike-breaking tricks this writer has ever witnessed. At approximately 5:00 P. M. on Tuesday, July 27th, a truck bearing the license plates J 26333, parked near our citizen's picket line. The driver got out and approached us saying: "Would you fellows like some cigarettes?" And pulling out his personal deck of fags he began to distribute them like crazy. To further distract us, he began to babble: "Would you all like a beer - boy would you all like a couple of beers?" Their ruse worked. For an instant the line was unguarded. The supervisor slid over into the driver's seat and darted the vehicle, carrying telephone bills, into the Post Office. We stopped him on his way back out.

When questioned as to their actions, they both exhibited the spinelessness common to scabs. Both feared the master's lash - both were sorry for the families of the postal workers who had not even strike pay to exist on. Both admitted that they had taken the coward's way out - had turned against their fellow workers in order to save their own lousy personal, stinking jobs. One citizen later exclaimed: "They tried to buy us like prostitutes for a few lousy cigarettes and a case of beer."

by J. Maley

A PAUSE-OR A CRISIS

Pearson's dramatic call for a brake to be put on the economic boom poses some questions that none of the so-called experts appear to be anxious to answer. Is Pearson's call for a slow-down really motivated by a shortage of skilled labour and supplies of material as he suggests or is there a deeper and more serious reason?

So far as labour supply is concerned, there is widespread unemployment in Canada with some areas suffering acute depression. While some districts (such as British Columbia) may be experiencing temporary pressures on the skilled labour market, there are many unemployed quite prepared to move in from other areas and take up the slack if offers (pay, conditions and length of time of guaranteed employment) are attractive enough. In any event, the shortage is not near so great as employers claim and stiffening employer resistance to necessary improvements in wages and working conditions (in spite of an unprecedentedly favourable profit position) is proof of that fact. If things were so desperate as some claim them to be, there would be much more vigorous bidding for available labour supply, especially in the areas of relatively high employment regardless of wage standards set in current labour contracts.

The availability of supplies of material and machinery is a different matter than the availability of skilled labour, but it is not quite as clear-cut as Pearson makes it out to be - a simple matter of overbidding for a share of a short supply. The problem stems from Canada's position of subservience to the U. S. and as a supplier of cheap raw materials to feed U. S. industry and an importer of high-priced manufactured goods - chiefly U. S. Our failure to develop a secondary and machine-building industry places us in an unfavourable position in our trade relations with the U. S.

The policy of selling cheap goods and buying expensive goods, places us in a position of having a decidedly unfavourable balance of payments position in our trade with foreign countries and mainly in our trade with the United States. It follows that any extensive industrial development in Canada which requires a sharp increase of supplies from the U. S. can bring disastrous results in its train. It is this rising demand for supplies of goods imported from the U. S. and the unprecedented profit taking of the suppliers that constitutes a large part of the problem by further aggravating the balance of payments situation.

This sharp increase in imports of expensive goods although serious, may not of itself have called for any drastic action if it were not for an additional factor that comes into play at this time.

The domination of our economy by the American monopolies makes us subject to all the variations and fluctuations of the U. S. economy. In fact, any recession in the U. S. economy hits us earlier and with more devastating effect than it does the U. S. We are now experiencing some of the bad effects of conditions in the U. S.

The rapid post-war build-up in a number of capitalist nations, especially Germany and Japan, has cut deeply into the U. S. position of dominance in the world capitalist markets and sharply reduced U. S. income from world trade. The sharpening struggle for national liberation and the U. S. role as international gendarme has put additional strain on the economy. The reduced income from foreign trade as a result of increased competition; the outflow of capital to secure control of foreign industries and the outlay

in foreign exchange for the upkeep of vast military forces abroad add up to a drastic change in the former position of the U. S. as chief banker and main hoarder of gold stocks in the capitalist world. Pressure is now being put on the U. S. gold reserve (mainly by Franco) and there are sure signs of crisis in this regard.

The U. S. government has already admitted the existence of a crisis by the steps taken in an effort to defend its position. Moving appeals are made for less travel and spending abroad. Restrictions have been put on the amount of duty-free goods that can be brought back by tourists. The situation is also reflected in U. S. military commitments.

In Germany and Japan, the expenditure of dollars for the up-keep of U. S. forces and personal spending by the forces is offset through operation of an agreement by these two countries to use the dollars so earned for the purchase of military hardware in the United States. But some countries (particularly France and Spain) refuse to go along with such agreements and use the dollars for their own purpose. The seriousness with which the U. S. views the situation can be gathered from the action contemplated. Serious consideration is being given to the withdrawal of troops from French and Spanish bases as a measure to conserve the gold reserve.

It is evident that Canada, in her present position, cannot hope to escape the consequences of the American gold-reserve crisis. The flow of investment into Canada which helped (and then only partially) to offset the balance of payments situation has now largely dried up and, instead of plowing a portion of profits obtained from investments in Canada, back into expansion and development, increasing amounts of these profits and dividends are being withdrawn.

The end result of all this is an ever-increasing out-flow of Canadian dollars and a heightening of the unfavourable balance of payments to a crisis point. It is at this point that Canada, without a manufacturing industry of her own, is forced to commit herself to additional foreign exchange payments for goods necessary to the carrying out of scheduled industrial expansion. The evil effects of the domination of our economy can now be seen more clearly than ever before. Much needed public works projects, scheduled for the next year or two are to be curtailed, postponed or abandoned because we are not masters of our own destiny.

Even as these necessary works are being abandoned, those developments that are essential for the support and supply of U. S. manufacturing industries are going ahead full-speed. Expansion of raw materials production and the continuation of such large projects as the Peace and Columbia River power developments (designed mainly to supply cheap power to U. S. plants) are proceeding toward fulfillment on schedule.

This serious state of affairs cannot be changed by crisis actions in an attempt to temporarily plug the dike, such as Pearson is now taking out of a sense of desperation. Only bold, decisive and dramatic action will provide any real and permanent solution.

We need to proceed with the nationalization of a foreign-controlled (particularly U. S.-controlled) industry in Canada. The creation of a large-scale secondary industry geared to the use of our own power resources and processing of our raw materials and under government control, is an immediate necessity.

Needed also is a change in the pattern of foreign trade. Purchase of the inordinately high-priced American products must be seriously reduced and trade encouraged and deliberately cultivated with a variety of other countries - especially with the socialist countries. The vast markets available in Asia and the new emerging nations must be cultivated by the granting of long-term credits at favourable rates.

Anything short of this; any policy that perpetuates our dependence on U. S. trade and monopoly control of our basic industries; can only end in deep economic crisis and untold misery for our people. The situation is daily growing more serious and cannot long await a solution. We need action now!

All of this is, of course, symptomatic of the growing crisis of world capitalism which is reflected in Canadian conditions.

In spite of all the talk of no end in sight for the boom in capitalist expansion, there are recurring signs of crisis in the economy. Profits have hit record highs in most of the main monopoly groups, yet the stock market, instead of reflecting an air of confidence which one would expect in a period of rapid expansion, suffers serious and largely unexplained fluctuations which indicate an uneasy feeling amongst the speculators. Some are even prophesying doom of a sort experienced in 1929.

The failure of the Atlantic Acceptance Corporation is proof of a shaky position in the short-term credit market - loans for appliances, home furnishings, etc. The trend is toward a tightening of credit. Down payments will likely be higher, carrying charges will go up and the term of payment will be shortened, resulting in higher monthly payments (all these measures are already in effect in Britain). This will undoubtedly result in a sharp drop in purchases of many lines of goods, (radios, televisions, stoves, electrical appliances, autos, etc.), the build-up of inventories and, finally, a cut-back in production and unemployment leading to a new round of the same and a gradual deepening of the crisis.

A partial list of large-scale projects scheduled for completion in British Columbia by 1966-67 (the 1,000 million Peace and Columbia power developments by 1975) total \$2,274 million. More than half of this is represented by planned expansion in the pulp and paper industry; which totals \$1,250 million. But cracks are already appearing and several companies, representing a planned expenditure of some hundreds of millions, have applied for government permission to retain already granted forest licenses while they postpone construction for several years. This postponement has nothing to do with Pearson's call for a brake on industrial development but is, as several industrialists have clearly stated, due to unfavourable market conditions which continue to deteriorate further as more productive capacity becomes activated.

Nature has endowed this vast land of ours with bountiful natural resources the intelligent and planned exploitation of which could provide countless millions with the requirements for a high standard of living. But small-minded and greedy men see in these resources only the opportunity to make a profit out of the needs of the people and to secure for themselves economic and political domination over the lives of multitudes for generations to come.

Private exploitation and ownership of our abundant natural resources, our social system based on the exploitation of man-by-man, distorts our favour-

able position in the midst of a plentiful supply of the good things of the earth and transforms it from a source for good into a source of evil. The Canadian ruling class, working hand-in-hand with the U. S. imperialists, use their control over our vast natural resources to strengthen their stranglehold over the destinies of peoples and nations; to consolidate their system of exploitation and increase profits at the cost of increased hunger, misery and degradation for the masses of people.

There is only one ultimate solution to the threat of crisis and the boom and bust conditions of capitalism and that solution will not be found in Pearson's folk remedies and emergency patchwork repairs. To solve this final crisis of world capitalism in the interests of the masses, we must put an end to the capitalist system itself. Nothing less than an advance to socialism will prove effective.

"THE COMING REVOLUTION"

From the Coming Revolution (1913) by Padiaic Pearse

A thing that stands demonstrable is that nationhood is not achieved otherwise than in arms; in one or two instances, there may have been no actual bloodshed, but the arms were there and the ability to use them. Ireland unarmed will attain just as much freedom as it is convenient for England to give her; Ireland armed will attain ultimately just as much freedom as she wants. These are matters which may not concern the Gaelic League, as a body; but they concern every member of the Gaelic League and every man and woman in Ireland. I urged much of this five or six years ago in addresses to the Ard-Chraobk; but the League was too busy with resolutions to think of revolution, and the only resolution that a member of the League could not come to was the resolution to be a man. My fellow Leaguers had not (and have not) apprehended that the thing which cannot defend itself, even though it may wear trousers, is no man.

I am glad, then, that the North has "begun". I am glad that the Orangemen have armed, for it is a goodly thing to see arms in Irish hands. I should like to see the A. O. H. armed. I should like to see the Transport Workers armed. I should like to see any and every body of Irish citizens armed. We must accustom ourselves to the thought of arms, to the sight of arms, to the use of arms. We may make mistakes in the beginning and shoot the wrong people; but bloodshed is a cleansing and sanctifying thing and the nation which regards it as the final horror has lost its manhood. There are many things more horrible than bloodshed; and slavery is one of them.

CORRECTION

In the Progressive Worker, July issue on Page 17, upper column, there appears these words in a quotation from a speech by Lenin, "WITH THE AID OF THE BRITISH WORKER AND SCHEIDEMAN THEY (British right-wing - Ed.) SYSTEMATICALLY DECEIVE THE WORKERS."

It should have read: "With the aid of the British Noskes and Sheideman, they systematically deceive the workers."

NOTE: Noske was the Social Democratic Chief of Police in Berlin who brutally beat up the workers. Sheideman was a Social Democratic cabinet minister in the bourgeois democratic government which put down the workers' revolution and brought the German industrialists, capitalists and junkers back into power, thus preparing the way for The Hitler regime.

"SOLIDARITY FOREVER"



SOLIDARITY FOREVER!

BY RALPH CHAPLIN

(Tune: "John Brown's Body")

When the Union's inspiration through the workers' blood shall
run,
There can be no power greater anywhere beneath the sun.
Yet what force on earth is weaker than the feeble strength
of one?

But the Union makes us strong.

CHORUS:

Solidarity forever!
Solidarity forever!
Solidarity forever!
For the Union makes us strong

Is there aught we hold in common with the greedy parasite
Who would lash us into serfdom and would crush us with his
might?

Is there anything left for us but to organize and fight?
For the Union makes us strong.

It is we who plowed the prairies; built the cities where they
trade;

Dug the mines and built the workshops; endless miles of rail-
road laid.

Now we stand outcasts and starving, 'mid the wonders we have
made;

But the Union makes us strong.

All the world that's owned by idle drones, is ours and ours alone.
We have laid the wide foundations; built it skyward stone
by stone.

It is ours, not to slave in, but to master and to own,
While the Union makes us strong.

They have taken untold millions that they never toiled to earn.
But without our brain and muscle not a single wheel can turn.
We can break their haughty power; gain our freedom when
we learn

That the Union makes us strong.

In our hands is placed a power greater than their hoarded gold;
Greater than the might of armies, magnified a thousand-fold.
We can bring to birth the new world from the ashes of the old,
For the Union makes us strong.

