

REPLY TO V.D.C. OPEN LETTER

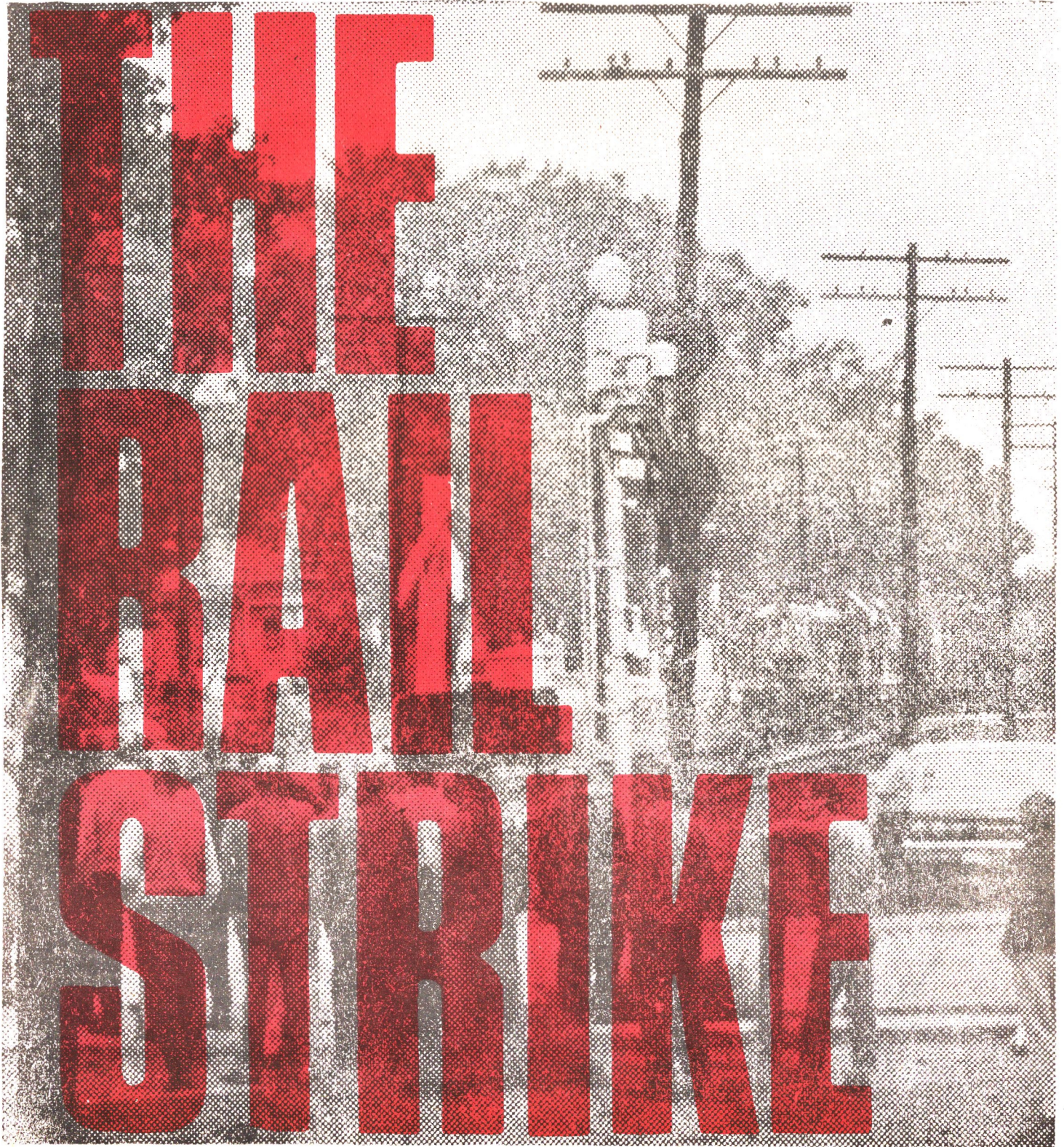
Progressive Worker

Workers of All Countries, Unite!

Volume 2, Number 12

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SECOND MILESTONE

With this, the twenty-fourth issue of "Progressive Worker," we complete our second year of publication. At this time we would like to take a brief moment to stop and reflect upon the past and also upon what the future may hold in store.

It was in the summer of 1964 that the Progressive Workers Movement was flung into being by the sharpening class struggle. An eternity now seems to stand between us and that summer of two years ago. We still stand unflinching and uncompromising upon the principles of the social revolution, yet we now better know what sacrifice the cause we pursue will demand. The brash young revolutionaries of 1964 have taken on a degree of maturity that at our inception was almost undreamt of.

ed out to the angry sea for a moment and then replied: "Struggle." We are inclined to agree with Marx. U.S. imperialism is in a frenzied state, desperately trying to stave off its impending collapse. Events are extensive and profound and are becoming more so every day.

Our support of progressive forces, revolutionary movements, national liberation fronts in all parts of the world must—and will—increase. But our main task remains of course, the fight for socialism in Canada.

At this juncture a few pertinent facts about the Progressive Workers Movement should be reiterated. Our existence and its continuance is totally dependent upon the support of the Canadian people. We are not supported by capitalist dollars as is the case with bourgeois



Along the way we have lost some people who did not feel the need for a democratically centralized revolutionary organization. Their departure was positive in nature as our collective understanding was raised through this experience. The successful struggle against anarchistic and Economist tendencies within our movement brought home to us the need for total eradication of all the influence of capitalist propaganda in our minds.

We have made mistakes. But we have learned from them. Our understanding, our political sophistication many times has advanced from negative example.

Now, and more importantly, the future. What does it hold in store?

Karl Marx, late in his eventful life, was being interviewed on a wind-swept beach by a visitor from the U.S. The visitor asked what Marx saw in the future. Marx look-

ed out to the angry sea for a moment and then replied: "Struggle." We are inclined to agree with Marx. U.S. imperialism is in a frenzied state, desperately trying to stave off its impending collapse. Events are extensive and profound and are becoming more so every day.

Our support of progressive forces, revolutionary movements, national liberation fronts in all parts of the world must—and will—increase. But our main task remains of course, the fight for socialism in Canada.

We invite you to join with us in the fight for a better land—write articles and letters, call and visit us help in any way you can. We are looking forward to the future confident that our numbers and the extent of our activities will greatly increase, looking forward to the two years ahead in anticipation of them being even more eventful and rewarding than the two just past.

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IN THE LAND OF THE FREE

Democratic Party Representative Joseph R. Pool of Texas—same party, same state as President Johnson—has placed before Congress a proposed amendment to the McCarran Act which would provide a 20-year term in prison for anyone found guilty of having given aid to any group or person acting in hostile opposition to the armed forces of the United States.

The amendment is prepared specifically as a "legal" weapon against the anti-war movement which is gaining momentum and driving the badly frightened American giant into a veritable panic. It is impossible for Congress to define an "enemy" when war has not been declared and the amendment is skillfully and carefully worded so as to circumvent the Constitution on this point.

But aside from its deliberate design to by-pass the Constitution the amendment is so worded as to make it available in strikes, civil rights struggles, etc., if these movements should be attacked by units of the armed forces and offer any resistance.

The House Un-American Activities Committee, of which Pool is a leading member, called hearings on the Bill in Washington, D.C. and summoned a number of anti-war militants to appear before it for examination. A sizeable number of members of Progressive Labor Party and several members of the Du Bois Club were called to present themselves before the Committee.

The public hearing in Washington resulted in mass demonstrations against the witch-hunt. Even one lawyer was arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct. The committee was finally routed making a miserable attempt to "save face" with the announcement that the public hearings were concluded. But everyone knew that the committee had failed to conclude an examination of even one of its victims. The Anti-war movement still survives and is gaining strength.

The Defenders of "Freedom!"

Just a few hundred miles west of where the Pool forces were lining up a law to make it illegal for anyone to protest; the ruling class plans for fascism and mass slaughter there met in public session other worthy defenders of 'freedom,' 'democracy' and the 'American way of life.'

At Chicago Lincoln Rockwell and his American Nazis, flaunting their swastikas, joined in a public rally with the Ku Klux Klan and the fascist-oriented States Rights Party for the purpose of inciting violence against Negroes protesting segregation and ghetto housing.

Police, who attack Negroes on the slightest provocation or on no provocation stood by while ranting Rockwell incited his audience into a bloody attack on Negro demonstrators. The state forces appeared to be quite incapable in the face of the fascist audience but most efficient when it came to breaking up the Negro protest march.

THE FORGOTTEN MINORITY

To most North Americans "minority" means Negroes and, on occasion in certain industrial areas, it may mean Puerto Ricans. But five states in the Southwest contain an almost forgotten and little known minority of more than 5 million Spanish-speaking Mexicans—about one quarter the size of the Negro minority.

Almost a year ago the grape pickers of Delano burst with dramatic suddenness out of the sun-drenched fields of California in a militant strike that drew world wide attention to the deplorable living conditions of Mexican workers in the United States.

The brutally oppressed Mexicans were forcibly brought under U.S. rule in a period dating from the Mexican War to the Gadsden Purchase (1846-1853). This was one of the biggest land grabs on record adding 944,825 square miles to U.S. territory while it stripped Mexico of half hers. The Spanish-speaking Mexicans were squeezed into ghettos that were, in many respects, even worse than the reservations set up to contain the native Indian population.

The popular middle-class term 'drop-out', used to signify early school-leaving, does not apply to the Mexican; the appropriate term in this case is 'forced out.'

'Barrios' may have an exotic sound to the ears of non Spanish speaking Americans but to the Mexicans it is just another word to describe some of the worst slums and ghettos to be found anywhere. The standard of health facilities is readily recognized from statistics which show that tuberculosis, virtually eradicated among other sections of the population, is still a mass killer of the Mexicans in the Southwest. The lack of education ensures that the Mexican will remain a member of a readily pool of unskilled industrial labour for factory and agriculture.

The boasted political freedom in the United States means nothing to the Mexicans many of whom don't even know what elections are. The chance of a Spanish-speaking Mexican—American running for public office are almost nil and the possibility of election to office even less. Manipulation of constituency boundaries to divide districts where Mexicans are the majority and the pieces attached to majority Anglo American areas is a tactic widely practised by politicians in the Southwest. Difficulty of voter registration plus loaded literacy tests give added guarantees that English speaking Anglo-American will remain dominant in Spanish speaking districts where Mexicans are in the majority.

Inspired by the example of a rising tide of militancy in the ranks of the Negro minority the Mexican workers have roused themselves out of a long period of despair and despondency to launch a fighting campaign designed to better the conditions that have condemned two thirds of the race to live in abject poverty and almost all the remaining one third to little better than a bare existence. Having reached the end of their patient and docile acceptance of a life of poverty the grape pickers of Delano are out to harvest a bumper crop of the grapes of wrath.

Last spring Mexicans from Delano, carrying a statue of the Virgin of Guadalupe; went on a 300-mile hike to the



California State capital at Sacramento. Fifty Mexican-Americans walked out in protest from a federally sponsored conference on equal employment at Albuquerque, New Mexico when Mexicans were excluded from the planning. Hundreds of Mexicans startled complacent citizens and officials when they knelt in a public square in Phoenix, Arizona to pray for god's intercession with the White House. And in July a group of Mexicans started a 380-mile protest march from San Juan, Texas, scheduled to end on labour day when it reaches the state capital at Austin. The march is in protest against the miserably low wages paid Texas farm workers. President Johnson is owner of a large Texas ranch and an employer of Mexican farm workers.

The United States ruling class is having nightmares over the thought that the militant minorities, the anti-war movement and the poor whites will find common cause and put an end to the rule of the exploiters. And that day will surely come.

YANKEE LABOR CONVENTION

Canadian unionists are well aware that our task and position in the eyes of the big Yankee International Unions can be boiled down to "hewers of wood and drawers of water". We all know how the Yankee-labor leaders in the South get so fat and sleek. Don't we see millions and millions of our dues monies go South each month never to return to us in any kind of benefit whatsoever. Don't we well know who is paying the big chunk of the bureaucrat salaries and expence accounts for these "respectable" "responsible" "gentlemen" who we hire to fight for us, but whos real aim is to suck us dry like oranges?

The International is a farce. Strikes are never co-ordinated to have both the Canadian and American workers of the same industry go out at the same time. The opposite is the case. When the American worker goes out the Canadian brother is going overtime; and when the Canadian worker is out the American brother is going overtime. Our International leadership is making scabs of all of us; forcing us to starve on needlessly long strikes: forcing us to grab the food from each other's mouths. During the American airlines strike our planes were almost constantly in the air. Should our airlines people strike they in turn will have hard struggle forced on them by the airlines to the South. Therefore, is not the International a farce? I, for one can not recall one co-ordinated strike on an International level.

We Canadians remember how the bloody strike on the Great Lakes was ordered by Yankee union dictators just to keep us from having a Canadian union. We well know how these champions of American domination stop at neither murder, nor the bribing of Canadian officials to keep us under their heels. But even though most Canadians realize most of these things; they are never quite prepared for the shock they receive and the education they receive when sent as delegates to a Yankee Inter-

national Convention. Here are some comments about a convention held recently in the States:-

It's not too democratic; of course the Canadians were the rebels again. But they had the microphones plugged. Canadians just couldn't get on them."

It left me amused and confused. It certainly wasn't like I expected. The mikes were all plugged up. There were 25 yanks at each mike:- altogether 100 stooges. If you stood in line you were usually 20th. or 23rd. and often never heard from. If you were lucky enough to get on a mike; they had this central switch and control room from which they shut you off. They would let you say your name and the number of your union local, and then "Bang" you were off the air."

"They brought down resolutions affecting the Panama Canal:- recommendations which were coming out of U.S. Army Manuals. It was "Manual so-and so and page such-and such etc." We were deciding things for a count-about which most of us knew nothing. Besides, they were making resolutions about Canada without knowing anything about our conditions. Some of them still thought that we travelled up and down rivers in birch bark canoes. This convention cost us at least two million and I have heard three millions of dollars. The first resolution that they passed doubled the expence allowance for each delegate. They were trying to buy us; they were trying to make stooges out of us so that we would carry their line back into our home locals. They bought my wife a purse; they gave me a key chain and a tire pump etc."

"We had nothing to say in the States. The mikes were plugged. We won one lousy resolution; and a minor one at that. They even raised the per capita assessment by 75 cents which will mean more Canadian money going South. We should get together and think of forming a Canadian union of our own. We will never get anywhere with being in the United Associations."

John M.

INDONESIAN YOUTH AT W.F.D.Y.

Speaking to the Assembly of the World Federation of Democratic Youth held in Sofia, Bulgaria, during the month of June, delegates of the People's Youth League of Indonesia took to task some of the so-called "leftist critics" who have been concerning themselves more with attacking the policies and tactics of the oppressed people than condemning the bloody oppression of the reactionaries aided and instigated by the U.S. imperialists.

The delegation to the W.F.D.Y. declared:

"The bloody terror perpetrated by the fascist military regime against the progressives and democrats of our country has demonstrated to us the total bankruptcy of the theory of the possibility of a peaceful transition to Socialism. If peaceful transition to Socialism is indeed possible where, if not in Indonesia, might such a transition take place?

"As is well known before, October 1965, the organized masses of the Indonesian people had actively participated in the shaping of the Government's policies, both domestic and foreign. And when such a transition is not possible in Indonesia, than we believe that at any time and

any place the so-called "peaceful transition" to Socialism will never happen. From our own direct experience we have become more aware that no reactionary forces will voluntarily allow the revolutionary forces to achieve victory in a peaceful way."

In refuting the claims from some quarters that People's China was responsible for the Indonesian situation because of a "dogmatic" approach, the delegation said: "At a time when the progressive forces of Indonesia are faced with grave difficulties, certain false revolutionaries slander the Indonesian progressives, particularly the Communists, by claiming that the difficulties they are now encountering are caused by their adherence to the so-called 'Peking dogmatic line' and by their refusal to follow the line of the false revolutionaries or the modern revisionists. We categorically reject this slander. We wish to emphasize our stand that all the policies and actions taken by the Indonesian progressive forces are the sole responsibility of the Indonesian progressive forces themselves."

The Indonesian delegate fought to have the W.F.D.Y. assembly adopt a revolutionary line on co-existence, wars

of liberation, the fight for socialism, etc.

"No co-existence is possible", the delegates declared, 'between the oppressors and the oppressed, between the reaction and the forces that strive for progress, between the counter-revolutionaries and the revolutionaries. To impose the principle of peaceful co-existence with U.S. imperialism upon the peoples and youth who are fighting resolutely for their liberation, will mean to assist imperialism, because this will disarm the vigilance of the peoples in the struggle.

"To maintain its domination in the world and to check the growing revolutionary struggle waged by the peoples of the world, U.S. imperialism is resorting to nuclear blackmail. The W.F.D.Y. should try to mobilize the youth of all countries to resist this imperialist policy of nuclear

THE RAIL STRIKE

Rail strikes have been a rare occurrence in Canada most of the action in this respect having come since the end of the war. The railroad strike which just recently sputtered to a rather inglorious end was not significantly different to the struggles that preceded it, the gains made no more substantial than those achieved in previous battles and the internal weakness of the rail unions that made the defeat of the workers possible have not been eradicated or even seriously grappled with.

Prior to the organization of big industry in the mid thirties (and for some time after) the most favoured sections of railroad labour enjoyed conditions that were considerably better than those of the average industrial worker. Railroad unions and their membership were, for the most part, of a conservative turn of mind and each group tended to gather in its own little isolated circle seeking to advance their own particular interests; as much at the expense of other sections of workers as at the expense of the employer.



PICKETING RAILMEN IN MONTREAL

The numerous unions on the railroads each seeking partisan objectives weaken all rail labour and this weakness is further compounded by the fact that the organizations are firmly controlled by arch-reactionary U.S. labour bureaucrats who are among the staunchest supporters of U.S. ruling class aims to dominate the world. These internal weaknesses of the rail labour movement makes it impossible for the workers to mobilize their full strength in any fight to improve conditions and this is fatal for workers who, in this industry, are faced with one of the toughest and most solidly united employer groups which, in addition, enjoys the full support of the state when trouble looms on the horizon.

blackmail and to oppose the imperialist nuclear monopoly. We believe that we should not make an indiscriminate call for a nuclear non-proliferation, partial ban of nuclear tests, for nuclear disarmament etc., without recognizing the fundamental differences in character between nuclear weapons in the hands of the imperialist forces and nuclear weapons in the hands of the revolutionary forces."

From a study of the above it appears obvious that Indonesian progressives have been far more successful in understanding what happened in their country and in drawing the lessons from the struggle than the critical armchair generals and experts who undertake to 'advise' them from positions of safety far removed from the struggle.

Both of the major Capilist parties have now, within recent years, enacted legislation to keep the chains of bondage on the railroad workers. Strikers were driven back to work with threats of jail, loss of seniority, pension rights, etc., and the boasted democratic right of workers to organize, bargain collectively and strike is shown for the fraud it is. Faced with crisis the ruling class ruthlessly abolishes all fancied "democratic rights" justifying the actions with claims of "vital national interest".

However, the fundamental reasons for the defeat of the railroad workers can not be traced to external causes such as the governments Anti-labour legislation. The government represents the interests of the ruling class and will always legislate in defence of those interests to the utmost extent allowed by prevailing conditions.

Laying blame on the government agencies--however responsible they may be for Anti-labour moves--will do nothing to solve the problems of the railroad workers and will only serve to obscure the real reasons for their disastrous defeat.

The two problems which must be tackled before they will be in a position to offer effective resistance to employer--government attacks concerns organization and leadership. It is vitally necessary for the railroad workers to reject the atomised form of organization which has been traditional on the roads and turn to a single united union--an idea that was fought for by Gene Debs on the U.S. railroads more than half a century ago. So long as

the railroad workers continue to throw their divided forces into battle against a united employer-government front they must expect to continue experiencing defeat.

The problems of leadership goes hand-in-hand with that of organization. If the rail union leaders had stood firm and called for united resistance to the government's anti-labor legislation, to the point of choosing imprisonment rather than capitulate, the whole labour struggle on the roads would have taken an entirely different turn and the government would have been brought down. It is quite obvious that Pearson was confident of how the leaders would act when he bull-dozed through his legislation in face of the wide-spread protests of the labour movement. What occurred following the chaotic retreat of the union leaders was entirely predictable. Left leaderless and divided the workers returned to their jobs thoroughly discontented but lacking the organization weapon they so desperately needed in order to be able to fight back. A new type of rank and file leadership must be forged between now and the time the struggle is renewed

Letters to the Editor

The following letter is a copy of one sent to the SUN. Editor, the SUN
Sir:

Your editorial, China's Bankrupt Policy, in the issue of August 16, for what is supposed to be an intelligent paper is beyond comprehension. You confine yourself to the political policy of China. I firmly believe the 700 million Chinese can take care of that, and whilst you appeal to your readers to believe that China stands alone, is wishful thinking. If it comes to a real show-down genuine Communists the world over will stand shoulder to shoulder against the imperialist powers headed by Yankee murderers, and maniacs headed by the Johnson, McNamara clique.

I know personally men of the highest integrity who have recently visited China and they told what they saw and the great changes in China. You, Mr. Editor, know this as well as I do, or don't you? How gullible do you think we Canadians are? The fact is that because China and her people are forging ahead as never in the history of the world you write such trash to try to hold back, if you can, the great surge forward by the Chinese.

Stop butting your head against a wall. You will get nowhere. You suggest Peking wants to rule the world—surely you meant Yankee imperialism. Get your thinking straight for once.

I know you won't publish this letter but if you ever finish reading it yourself you will know at least how one reader of the SUN feels about some of the stinking slanders you publish. Now go out to lunch and bring a good strong cup of coffee—you need it in the worst way.

Joe Ivens,
Okanagan Mission, B.C.

CIRCULATION

The editorial board wishes to draw to the attention of readers that Jane Roberts has been appointed circulation manager of PROGRESSIVE WORKER and all correspondence and other matters relating to circulation will henceforth be handled by Jane.

Dave Forsyth, has been appointed to the task of initiating the formation of a labour film library and more will be heard from Dave on this subject in the months ahead. Anyone interested in the formation of a labour film library, or in making use of it, should feel free to communicate with Dave on the subject.

and all signs point to the fact that the struggle cannot be long postponed.

The decisive winner in this dispute was the companies and there is ample evidence to indicate that they deliberately provoked a fight in order to get what they wanted—the removal of all restrictions. The companies can now abandon passenger service and branch lines with impunity and set freight rates for all the traffic will bear. Efficiency of operation will be the keynote of the railroad bosses from now on, resulting in loss of jobs, speed-up and deteriorating transportation services for the people. Railroad income and profits will go up; railroad service will go down. The companies achieved their objective of wiping out the railroad legislation and got an added bonus in wage rates that are far below what the workers are entitled to.

So far as the rail unions are concerned the sickness is easily diagnosed, the cure obvious, it remains only for the workers to administer the proper dose of the medicine prescribed.

The following letter was received from the representative of the Vietnam N.L.F. in acknowledgement of the collection made at the Peace Arch in August.

Dear Comrade,

Thank you very much for your letter along with a cheque of \$49.52 which will be forwarded to the N.L.F.

The photographs and leaflets which you sent to me are very useful. I shall send them to Hanoi, including a letter from Janet.

I shall continue to send you any information about our just struggle against American imperialism that may be useful to you in your work.

I hope to hear from time to time the anti-American movement in Canada and receive from you photographs taken at the rallies.

I wish you every success in your work.

With deep regards,
Nguyen van Sao.

To The Editor:-

This is the truth from a Lillooet Indian. I have seen girls come out of jail with 60 cents or maybe a dollar and then dumped off in town (Vancouver). I am an Indian and I hate to see these girls going with anyone just so they can find a place to sleep. I've also found out that more than half of them get V.D. I see the fact that an Indian is disconnected from the country he lives in. I see girls steal and rob for a place to stay. I hope something will be done. If Pat Burns were still on the hot line I would be happy. Maybe we have to start a riot just like the negroes.

Claude B.

REFLECTIONS ON VIOLENCE

A highly-favoured tactic of the opponents of revolutionary change is to brand all those who support such change as promoters of violence and sowers of discord. The Progressive Workers Movement, which is in the position of being the ONLY truly revolutionary movement in Canada, is the target of virtually all of this particular brand of propaganda from various opposition groups, not the least of which is the revisionist C.P., which has betrayed revolutionary principles. The responsibility for almost every militant strike, no matter what its cause, is laid at the door of PWM by renegades and bureaucrats, with the two-fold purpose in mind of feeding the legend of violence and dividing the striking workers. When police and other elements resort to violent tactics to smash a picket line, it is the PWM, not the police and hoodlums, who are blamed for the battles that result.

Increasing resistance of the workers in opposition to the employers' attempts to increase already fantastic profit levels at the expense of the workers' living standards, is resulting in a formidable increase in the number of labour disputes, accompanied by a rising tide of militancy. The reaction of bosses and bureaucrats, and their agents, is to step up the campaign of vilification against PWM, laying at our door all responsibility for workers' discontent and accusations of provoking violence.

The activities outlined above have been the chief feature of a number of recent strike situations in British Columbia, which were accompanied by police violence against the striking workers. Newspapers and radio commentators made a supreme effort to convince the largest possible number of people that all the trouble was due entirely to the subversive activities of PWM members. There was a deliberate effort put forth to obscure the fact that the workers undertook the fight because of the existence of very real grievances in the shops.

When the editor of Progressive Worker was interviewed on the CBC television program "7 o'clock Show," the theme of violence was the main content to be noted in the interview—once again in such a way as to prevent the picture of PWM members as people whose only object in life is the promotion of violence as an end in itself.

In view of the fact that the days of sharpening crisis of the world system of capitalism can only be expected to result in an intensification of these attacks, we propose to set down in some detail our thoughts on the question of violence.

At the outset, let us offer an observation on the current line of propaganda, to the effect that PWM is responsible for instigating strikes and, most particularly, for the prevalence of violent action in strike movements. Such propaganda is deliberately planned for the sole purpose of discouraging rank-and-file workers from stepping into the leadership of struggles that are unwanted by the union officials, and also to dampen down militant actions on the part of striking workers. This line is bound to have a temporary effect on workers who fear being branded as Communists and revolutionaries. In the long run, however, the red-baiting line is bound to lose its effect and have an opposite result to that desired by its originators. Being constantly subjected to a barrage of anti-Communist propaganda in every strike struggle, workers will eventually begin to realize that there is a great deal more to Communist policies and program than is contained in the garbage being served up to them by those who regularly betray their basic interests; they will be impelled to inquire into the matter, and soon turn from an attitude of opposition to one of sympathy, as they come to the realization that it is the much-maligned Communists who represent their true interests.

To return to the question of violence. It almost seems to border on the insane when bourgeois ideologists undertake the task of proving revolutionary Socialists guilty of provoking violence, in view of the violence being wrought in the world by their imperialist masters. A

favourite method of trying to explain this contradiction is to advance the theory that violence is the result of the "evil" inherent in man. The established church renders exceptional service to the capitalist class in the propagation of this myth. All of these gentlemen seek to obscure the fact that the roots of violence are in class society, a natural consequence of a social system based on the exploitation of man by man. The entire history of the capitalist system, like every class society that preceded it, is one of violence and destruction.

When the merchant bourgeoisie occupied the stage of history, they did so with a clash of arms and handled their class enemies, the Feudalists, in a most violent manner, stripping them of their estates and even their lives. Cromwell, champion of the class interests of the English merchant capitalists, dispersed the feudal parliament, cut off the head of King Charles (an act which, we are sure, Charles Stuart considered a supreme act of violence), and ruled England by means of a military dictatorship for a quarter of a century until the Restoration.

In the process of consolidating and expanding capitalist power, Cromwell wiped out half the population of Ireland and ruled the land with such infamous brutality that even today, more than 300 years later, the most bitter oath in Ireland is "the curse of Cromwell on you."

This history of violence is the heritage of every capitalist society: in France, America, Germany, etc., as well as in England. And the violence did not end with the conquest of state power. In the drive to accumulate wealth, the capitalist class sacrificed the lives of tens of millions of working people on their altars of gold, and every attempt on the part of the oppressed to alleviate the horrible conditions of life was met with violent and bloody resistance.

The transformation of capitalism into the world system of imperialism, and the conquest of the colonial possessions as a base for imperialism, resulted in more oceans of blood being shed. The imperialist system was constructed on a base made from the bodies of hundreds of millions slain in pogroms, "pacification" campaigns, and imperialist wars of aggression. In the first half of the century alone, the imperialists have gathered a harvest of at least 50 million victims, even as they counted the greatest profit intake of any period in their more than three centuries of existence.

This tale of violence is by no means ended. The United States imperialists, supported by their junior partners in the business of rapine and murder, have deployed their armies on several score nations and are warring on the people. The "Dirty War" in Vietnam epitomizes the entire tale of violence. It is here that three different imperialist powers, over a period of almost a quarter of a century, have attempted the total physical destruction of a people that refuses to bend their neck to the yoke of imperialist enslavement.

It is the ideologists, the apologists, the defenders of the class responsible for all of this horrible accumulation of violence and destruction, who have the audacity to accuse the PWM of being responsible for provoking violence, and say nothing of the fact that the class society they adore so much is the product of the most extreme violence. What is the truth of the Progressive Workers Movement's opinion and attitude on violence?

The program of the PWM provides for the revolutionary transformation of society from the capitalist system based on exploitation to a Socialist system which will abolish all forms of exploitation—and by this act will also put an end to the violence of war that is the natural accompaniment of all social systems based on the exploitation of man by man. So far as we are concerned, we would be delighted if the ruling class would offer no resistance, thus permitting the transformation to take place without violence. However, historical changes are not brought about by pious wishes. We, as realists and

historical materialists, are compelled to take into account the record and attitude of the ruling class in capitalist society, and the fact that no class has ever willingly and peacefully surrendered power to newly-rising social forces.

Our observations force us to conclude that the class which has amassed the record of violence cited above, will resist, with all the force that they can command, any attempts to strip them of their wealth and power. The wealthy class that will club down and imprison workers rather than concede a few cents more in wages, are not likely to stand idly by and see those same workers deprive them of all their prized possessions. We warn the working people that when they at last decide to take over the means of production and put an end to capitalism, they must expect to encounter violent resistance from the rul-

LETTER TO ANNA LOUISE STRONG

LETTER OF ALEXANDER MacKAY
TO ANNA LOUISE STRONG
JUNE 10, 1966

Comrade:

I am not an emotional person, but no one could fail to be moved by the enclosed, which is a copy of a letter sent me by Mac, with a covering note. He has been blind for years—same cause. I'd like to see this in both Trib and Progressive Worker. Doubt it will reach you before Jerry shows up, but if it does, show it him. I wonder if Tom would print it; I think I'll send him a copy; he probably knows of McKay who was in the Wobblies with ALS.

I'm going to write him, assuring him that some at least have not betrayed his cause and that his letter cannot fail to be an inspiration to others. If he doesn't come out of it, his wife may gain some comfort from the letters he gets. The paragraph at foot of page 1 would not be wise to print probably! I think he is calling on one's sense of humor: he has been a great reader.

Do you get Progressive Labor (from the US.)? If not, I should send you this month's issue—I'd want it back, though. It has an excellent self-critical article, as well as another on the recent USSR Congress.

The Johnson clique is certainly playing with fire. I do echo Mac's frustration at "socialism split asunder." If the two could be counted upon for joint action, Uncle Sam would soon draw in his horns. As to how I see criticism of the old C.P., I'll answer in my next—am not in a very good mood! It is a most difficult question, especially for old party stalwarts. One cannot endorse wrong principles—to criticize them openly may be the right step, if one could steel oneself to do so; otherwise, one appears to condone to less-informed students what would be a betrayal of all one has lived for, AND CONTINUES TO BELIEVE IN.

B.M.W.

LETTER OF ALEXANDER MacKAY
TO ANNA LOUISE STRONG
June 19th, 1966

HELLO, DEAR HEART AND WONDERFUL WOMAN:

Oh yes, I know full well that it is all too too long since last I wrote to you, but I have some of the finest alibis in the universe. Among these alibis is this one: for the last seven months I have been playing the part of Advocatus Diaboli for the 41,000 citizens that voted against adding sodium fluoride to our community drinking water. To the Gods on high Olympus, or the man from Mars the show must have seemed like a burlesque of a low comedy, but to we underdogs it was of the utmost seriousness. It was, and is, a material replica of St. George and the Dragon, of Mazda & Ahriman, of truth against falsehood, of money values against HUMAN values: that is to say of good against evil. It is an act in

ing class, and be prepared to deal effectively with that violence. To act otherwise would be a betrayal of our class and the fight for Socialism, which could only result in defeat and cost the lives of untold thousands of workers.

Violence, therefore, will not be of our making, but depends entirely on the attitude of the ruling class: let them stand aside and there will be no violence. But being realists, we do not expect that to happen, so we prepare ourselves in the expectation that those who profit from capitalist society will bitterly and violently resist all attempts at fundamental social change. The responsibility for all the violence in the world rests squarely on the shoulders of the ruling class, whose interests are served by violence, and who profit from it.

the age-long drama of organized power and privilege pitted against the unorganized, brainwashed, docile masses. O, how wrong was Karl Marx and the IWW theory of the working class EXPROPRIATING the capitalist class. Oh Yeah! History makes it plain that the whole structure of Capitalism has to disintegrate before the masses (. . . last line missing—Ed.).

All empires have fallen when the wealth and power became concentrated in the hands of the parasites and the masses were reduced to despair; a despair so profound as not to let in one ray of hope. All the empires fell through internal rotteness, especially lack of courage on the part of the slaves. One look at the realities of the Great Society and there can be little doubt we are just as misled by early indoctrination by means of religion and patriotism as were the slaves of the ancient and modern world. In our own lifetime we have seen great empires, rotten with decay, fall into the Limbo of ancient Empires, but the plain facts are disguised in folds of fustian, such as pseudo-religion, pseudo-patriotism, pseudo-science, through ruling class controls of all avenues of information and the transformation of common sense into traditional conventional delusion. For of such are the naive children of God.

After playing tag with the game of socialism for some 60 years, I am now a mighty sad boy to witness the unforeseen spectacle of Socialism split asunder. At present we are hearing rumblings and reverberations of storm and strife even with China. The picture we get from the Capitalist press is as clear as mud. I hope you can clarify what to us is a tangled web, in your next "Letter from China."

I started off to say that if you did not hear from me again in a reasonable space of time, the reason will be that I winged my way to Paradise to stand by the side of Allah, rejoicing at my good fortune of an eternity of feasting and fornication with my four Houris, what a wonderful improvement over the dull and stupid existence in the Christian Heaven. Nothing has so intrigued me since the shenanigans on Mt. Olympus, although I may say I do not relish a steady diet of nectar and ambrosia. I infinitely prefer the dates and figs of paradise, but especially fun in bed with four Houris—and me equipped with a pair of celestial elephant glands.

On the Glorious Fourth I enter the hospital for an exploratory operation. My pet sawbones informs me he is going to slice open my pot belly and go prowling about therein looking for various and sundry malignancies, or rather I should say, discovering how widespread are my malignancies. This will be my sixth operation for said malignant tumors. The doctors have been perusing these tumors for five years but have not caught up with them, but they have caught up with me. Hence I do declare: the operation will be a success, but the victim will die. Considering the sort of unwholesome mishmash, humorously called the GREAT SOCIETY, how funny can capitalistic politicians be? Always they dish out words la-

belled THE SQUARE DEAL (?) or THE ROUND DEAL (?), or as the present, THE GREAT SOCIETY. Never, no, never, even a hint of the good society. Never do they propose to take off the yoke and set us free. Always the rich become richer and the poor poorer; always the golden promises turn to brass. Every day we swear we are living in a state of celestial bliss, with liberty and justice for all. What a damned farce! Oh, how truly it has been said: "The love of money is the root



of all evil." Hence we live and die in a debtor's prison, and when the creditors have it all, the system will fall. We are living at a time when the success of capitalism is demonstrated by a phony war against poverty. If Capitalism has been a successful WAY OF LIFE, where, oh, where did the poverty originate???

From the pinnacle of my eightieth year I look back

Shut Up

What did you tell that man just now?
I told him to hurry.
What right have you to tell him to hurry?
I pay him to hurry.
How much do you pay him?
Four dollars a day.
Where do you get the money?
I sell products.
Who makes the products?
He does.
How many products does he make in a day?
Ten dollars' worth.
Then, instead of you paying him,
he pays you six dollars a day to stand around
and tell him to hurry.
Well, I own the machines.
How did you get the machines?
I sold products and bought them.
Who made the products?
SHUT UP, he might hear you!

CORRECTION:

A letter to the editor which appeared in our last issue in referring to Anna Louise Strong and Dorise Neilson remarked: "I believe now are Chinese citizens."

A P.W. reader who knows both has written in to correct this and states that the impression conveyed is incorrect and that Anna Louise Strong is still a U.S. citizen, Dorise Neilson still a Canadian. Our own information indicates this to be the case.

Editor

with sadness when I contemplate the utter dissipation of all militancy and revolutionary theory from the "Labor MOVEMENT." I compare the psychology of Spies, Parsons et al with the pusillanimous labor leaders of today. What a carnage of "PLANNED CONFUSION" we see today, when the pseudo-labor movement has become a bulwark of capitalism! Even Gompers must be weeping at the end product. Joe Hill, on the other hand, is sending up a right rousing raspberry. Just think of the thousands of Wobblies who suffered, bled and died in jail and out of jail for a militant movement of the working class. A so-called "Labor Movement" motivated by personal GREED is a sight to make the Gods gnash their teeth in divine disgust.

I must and will shut up as soon as I make it plain to you that I know you are a grand old gal of the Army of Liberation. I can assure you that your influence has been, and is, massive and pervasive on the West Coast. While I cannot speak for other parts of this land of "liberty and justice for all," I am sure the same must prevail far and wide. My dear, you are one in a million who has not lived in vain. Just think of the world's great failures: to mention but a few: Socrates, Jesus—both probably mythical—Tom Jefferson, Tom Paine—the greatest flop of all divine messengers of holy theory. They failed because they thought and spoke and wrote in generalities; whereas you, my dear, have dealt in particular realities. When the pieces fit, as in a jigsaw puzzle, the end product is reality, and realism must win out in the end against PLANNED CONFUSION.

I am establishing a private library for students, using my own library as a base. If you have any books to donate, send them here. If I am not on deck, my wife will see they reach their proper destination.

Yours to pulverize the Powers of Darkness,
MAC.

Morituri te salutamus!

NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION OF THE 17TH
ANNIVERSARY OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

6:30 P.M. SATURDAY OCTOBER 1, 1966

MINGS RESTAURANT 147 E. PENDER ST. VAN. B.C.

ENTERTAINMENT — BANQUET — SPEAKERS

\$4.00 PER PERSON

TICKETS: PEOPLE'S BOOKSTORE
219 DUNLEVY STREET

CHINA ARTS AND CRAFTS
33 EAST HASTINGS STREET

sponsored by: Vancouver Committee for the Celebration
of the 17th Anniversary of the Peoples Republic of China

Films the following day from China; 12:00, 7:00, 9:30

OLYMPIA THEATRE

B.C. ELECTION

The election statement appearing in this issue was distributed as a leaflet in the B.C. election campaign.

WATERFRONT CONTRACT

By Seattle Reporter.

The waterfront employers of the Pacific Coast and the top brass of the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union led by one-time militant Harry Bridges, have now agreed on a contract for another five years of "peace" on the waterfront at the expense of the workers.

The new contract was rejected by membership vote in three out of the four largest longshore locals, San Pedro, Portland, and Seattle. Coastwide it carried through the vote in San Francisco, Bridges home local, and by the votes of the clerk locals.

The most notable new feature of the membership vote was the growth of a militant opposition within the ILWU, both in the caucus period and in the membership referendum. The old conservative local union opposition to the Bridges leadership based in the big ports, for the most part only played at representing the demands of the members; in the showdown they supported the settlement.

The San Francisco Chronicle of Aug. 8, 1966, voiced the glee of the bosses in extravagant language. "What was once regarded by the critics as a shotgun alliance between west coast longshoremen and that ol' debil automation is now revealed as a truly romantic, happy, made-in-heaven marriage, is the opening peal of the joyful bells.

Further the Chronicle states, "The present contract,.... has in five years saved the employers an estimated \$200 million. Thus the longshoremen have now been able to write a new contract which will put \$6.9 million a year into a retirement fund that guarantees that the 15,000 now at work can receive a lump sum of \$13,000 on retirement, in addition to a regular pension which can be hiked to \$235 a month (at age 63 after 25 years service). Further, the new contract raises pay to a figure that will yield \$34.92 for an eight hour day and make an annual wage of \$9,000 to \$10,000."

In the summer of 1965, the Trade Union Commission of Progressive Labor Party issued a pamphlet, "ILWU Report", on the first Modernization and Mechanization agreement in which it stated, "The resulting bargain proved, contrary to all the glowing reviews in liberal circles, to be minor concessions to the workers and major gains for the employers."

The results of that contract have fully upheld that conclusion; the new contract carries the process still further; the only difference is that many of the objections raised in the report together with others made an issue by the union members, have been manipulated by the union leadership to make the new contract look or sound better while in real fact it is much worse.

The famed 35 hours a week "guarantee", flimsy as it was, has been dropped. The former contract had a wide open "reopener" clause which placed the entire contract in the hands of the arbitrator at the time of re-opening; the present contract is completely closed for a full five years, but with the arbitrators power to rule on employer demands in disputes and interpretations unimpaired. There is a seeming concession that on safety of manning issues, the workers may stand by or "work around" the dispute pending the arbitrators ruling, however if the arbitrator rules against the men, the employer may require them to make up, up to two hours of lost time.

After all the Bridges talk about shorter working hours, this contract actually works to lengthen hours. Some of its clauses actually encourage not earlier, but later retirement.

The contract seems to shorten hours allowed when a ship is due to sail, this is cut from 11 to 10 hours. However, the employer is now given unlimited right to shift men and gangs from one job to another which means that any job can become a ten hour shift at the employers will.

In place of longer vacations, the contract provides that if the men work a larger number of hours, they will receive an extra five hours pay on existing vacations already earned. The most vicious application of this trickery is on the vested interest retirement. The \$13,000 lump sum on retirement is only for workers with 25 years credit on the job, it may be prorated. If at age 63 a worker has less than 25 years in, he is sorely tempted to work on to 65 or even older, to make the lump sum. If he fails to make minimum time in one year for any reason he loses all past credit.

The seemingly attractive pension of \$235 per month is only for newly retired men not those already pensioned, and is funded for only ten years. A worker under age 53 has no real pension guarantee.

There is no provision to improve the position of the "B" registered or extra men not in the union. There is no protection against screening. In fact local 10, has just placed a notice in its Aug. 3 local bulletin, ordering all members to obtain allitary passes by Nov. 1.

The biggest issue among the members during the contract period was the manning scale and the loss of jobs. In spite of the boom in military shipping and war connected log shipments to Japan from the Northwest, the worker knows that jobs can disappear without warning. The old contract offered no protection for jobs. The new contract contains two provisions designed to give the appearance of job protection.

Section 10.21 calls for fixing the basic manning scale for hand stowing or discharging cargo and allowing no change unless the employer makes a change in machines or methods of work. Section 10.3 provides that existing manning shall continue unless the employer appeals through grievance and arbitration or unless he introduces new machinery. The workers do not place much faith in these sections.

The fact is that the present job level depends upon the military cargo rushing to the imperialist war front in Viet-nam and by not taking a strike vote to back up its demands, the union leadership gave its good conduct no-strike parole to the employers, the government, and the military authorities. (The union is now taking a strike vote in Canada!) Basically the contract is an exchange by Bridges and Co. of five years of keeping the guns and tank rolling for 50 cents an hour now and 40 cents more in 69' and 70' (total 90cents) plus about 7 million a year in the M and M fund.

From this point of view, the waterfront contact and entire M&M program fits in with the automation and militarization program laid out for the entire transport system with government assaults on the airline machinists, on the railroad workers, on the teamsters union, as part of an overall effort to free the military from any need to consider workers resistance in planning its aggressions. The ILWU leadership, on the record, has delivered up the most complete support to this employer and government program and the least resistance of all the unions concerned.

This is also expressed in the very manner of these negotiations and in the tricky language and devices of the contract. The workers were given no progress reports except by employer grapevine. The proposed contract was released only immediately before the vote.

Longshoremen are now confronted with a hard and difficult fight to save their jobs, their union, and their very dignity as progressive workers and union men by fighting to resist this contract and also to resist the bosses war in Viet-nam to which this contract is designed to bind them hand and foot.

REPLY TO V.D.C. OPEN LETTER

The Progressive Workers Movement is in receipt of an open letter addressed to various organizations on behalf of the Vietnam Day Committee and we herewith make known our views on this piece of correspondence.

The letter advances two proposals as the basis on which the Vietnam Day Committee is prepared to work with other groups. These proposals are as follows:

1. A large membership committee concerned exclusively with the question of Vietnam into which the V.D.C. would be willing to dissolve itself.
2. An alternative proposal to set up a co-ordinating committee to act as a clearing house on all activities concerning Vietnam.

Before we deal with the foregoing proposals let us take a look at the Vietnam Day Committee itself.

This Committee originally started on the university campus and its early period was representative of most trends of thought active in opposing the Vietnam war. The Committee did some fine work, notably as the co-ordinating group for the demonstration on the 26th of March. P.W.M. members participated in those activities and contributed to their success.

At a recent membership meeting, however, the League for Socialist Action (Trotskyite) packed the gathering with the object of capturing the organization. Since that time the committee has ceased to be a representative organization and reflects only the partisan viewpoint of the Trotskyite faction. The proposals advanced are, in fact those decided on by the League for Socialist Action and only formally proposed by the V.D.C.

In view of past experience, both in the V.D.C. and previously in the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, we are forced to conclude that the L.S.A. are merely using the Vietnam Day Committee as a lever to gain admission to other groups and once again try their old trick of domination. In this regard it is interesting to note that a member of this group, Ernest Tate by name who had left Canada only a few months previously and had no time to become known in his new area of activity turned up at a Vietnam conference in England and got himself elected to the National Committee disguised as an interested individual. The lack of honesty and frankness must be considered as indicative of some deep-laid plot.

We take second place to none on the question of mobilizing aid for the heroic people of Vietnam but we have no intention of allowing ourselves to be used for the promotion of partisan schemes such as the V.D.C. will undoubtedly be used for since its 'capture' by the LSA.

So far as the two proposals are concerned let us first comment on the second one. This proposal is one which was proposed at the V.D.C. meeting which the LSA had packed in order to seize control. The suggestion was that the V.D.C. fulfill the role outlined in this proposal and it was rejected at that time to be resurrected now as a scheme for the LSA to gain admission, under disguise, into other organizations.

On the first proposal the PWM is not prepared to dissolve itself into any group or have any group dissolve itself into the PWM. We intend to maintain our independent position on Vietnam which is to give unqualified support to the National Front of Liberation of South Vietnam and to the Democratic Republic of Vietnam in the north. We stand firm on the demand that the U.S. aggressors get out of Vietnam and that Canada recognize the National Front of Liberation of Vietnam as the only legitimate government in the south.

We stand prepared to work together with any group on specific issues that fall short of this demand but do not run counter to it. We would not, for example, join in any demand for a so-called "peace conference" with the aggressor, or for United Nations intervention, as such action would clearly constitute a demand on the people of Vietnam to accept the ultimatum laid down by the aggressor and his partners. Any solution that fails to provide for a total end of aggression and withdrawal of the aggressor will not be acceptable to the people of Vietnam and to join with those who search out and propose such solutions would mean aligning ourselves with those who support the schemes of the aggressor and oppose the legitimate aims of the people of Vietnam.

Therefore, before we commit ourselves to work with any group we first want to know exactly on what issue we are being asked to co-operate. We will not be caught joining in the applause for a Giovanni Costigan who spends more time condemning alleged Soviet and Chinese "aggression" and lauding a Kennedy than he does in protesting the slaughter of the people of Vietnam.

Let us emphasize: we intend to maintain our independent position and will deal with the problem of working with other groups as the occasion demands and the need arises. We are not, however, particularly interested in working with the Trotskyite faction at any time having had previous experience of their disruptive activities.

Central Committee, P.W.M.

DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS IN SAIGON?

In elections held in the so-called 'democratic nations' under the most favourable conditions a 60 per cent turnout is considered a satisfactory figure and 70 per cent little short of phenomenal. But in Saigon, under conditions of a great national struggle for liberation and where the administration organizing the election is in control of less than 20 per cent of the territory we are asked to believe in an incredible voter turnout at the polls far in excess of 80 per cent. This claim is such a patent fraud that it is unlikely that even the most ardent supporters of the Saigon puppet regime will believe it. The more so since it is very well known that opposition to the fraudulent election was by no means confined to the National Front of Liberation but actually penetrated the ranks of those who normally support the pro-U.S. regime.

Everything went far too much "according to plan" and the Saigon puppets showed an unbelievable amount of surprise at their "success": The so-called "election" will no doubt provide the imperialist writers with much needed material for propaganda items about the great democratic victory registered by Cao Ky, the most recent of a long line of U.S. office boys in Saigon. The tales related by these propagandists may impress some of those who are desperately seeking a ray of sunshine in the imperialist world that is covered with gloom and despair but it will not have the slightest influence on the situation in Vietnam where the fight for national liberation will continue on to ultimate victory. The covey of clowns who imagine dragooning people into dropping pieces of paper in a box is going to have any effect on the struggle for liberty are in for a huge surprise. The armed struggle of the people, not paper ballots, will determine who will rule in Vietnam—the people will rule and the aggressor will be routed.

THE RICH GET RICHER..

Fortune, the magazine patronized by the ultra-rich in United States society, published an article recently in which they heaped lavish praise on their wealthy patrons for the enormous success they have been enjoying reaping record profits and dividends in their capacity of owners of American industry and rulers of the nation. In the course of reciting the saga of success the editors of Fortune detailed some very interesting facts about how powerful and gigantic big business really is.

For example: The 500 largest concerns, which represent only one-quarter of 1 per cent of all industrial companies, account for 60 per cent of total industrial sales and 70 per cent of the profits. Combined sales of the top 500 amounted to \$298 billion in 1965 and record profits of \$20 billion were larger than the total for ALL United States industry a decade ago.

The Fortune article discloses the fact that profits of the giant corporations are climbing at a rate that is faster than sales and, while their employee rolls have grown faster than total industrial employment growth rate in the U.S., assets and sales have grown at a much faster rate than the number of employees.

In a country where bigness is accounted a virtue, the top 50 dwarf their 450 companions in the select list and claim the major share of profits, sales and assets. The \$20 billion profits, one-third of which went to the top 10, represented an increase of over 16 per cent above the previous year. Sixty companies had sales in excess of \$1 billion each.

The \$298 billion sales was an increase of 11.8 per cent over the previous year, compared to the much larger 16 per cent profit increase already cited, an indication of the immense margins profit margin. Profit returns on sales were increased by more than 25 per cent in two years.

Many of the companies whose names appeared on the list in 1961 were missing from the 1965 list. In a number of cases the reason for disappearing from the list was or result of mergers—the giants are going in for "unholy wedlock" at a rapid rate.

The reason for the stiffening attitude of the big companies toward workers' demands on them is readily understood from a brief study of the figures quoted in Fortune. That reason is a consummate desire for a defence and expansion of conditions that will continue to guarantee record super-profits.

Canada contributes a relatively large share to the record profit portion of these giant U.S. corporations. It is precisely these industrial complexes that dominate the economy of our country and inhibit and distort our development. Our natural resources and our working people are ruthlessly exploited; our primary, and particularly secondary, industries are controlled and held back from all-round development by reason of being dominated by the giants of U.S. industry. United States financiers hold a mortgage on our national destiny and are collecting on it their annual pound of flesh.

The strike at Lenkurt Electric was crushed by one of the members of the top select circle of the 500—General Telephone. The reason for crushing that strike had nothing to do with law and order or the sanctity of contract; it had everything to do with preserving General Telephone's share of the vast profits referred to in the Fortune article (B.C. Telephone is another part of the General Telephone empire).

When courts, police and union bureaucrats joined together to destroy labour's ability to fight back, they were thus aiding and abetting this giant member of the select 500 to more effectively exploit Canadian workers in the interests of increasing an already bloated profit position. No matter what "legal" arguments they might bring forward, the fact remains they joined in support of a foreign-owned corporation against striking Canadian

workers and against the interests of the nation.

The Fortune story is an interesting one, its implications for Canada, and her future disturbing.

THE POOR GET..

HUNGER



SLUMS



INJUNCTIONS



TYRANNY



DEATH



JAIL



GOD BLESS AMERICA

"Oh say can you see—"
a Vietnamese infant swaddled in Napalm
an Appalachian woman counting her child's
protruding ribs
patterns of black and red—skin and blood

"By the dawn's early light—"
derelict's breakfast of cold fat and caviar, served
in a garbage pail
fire from the womb consuming an over-sold body
a homosexual trailing its tattered drag in the
gutter filth

"What so proudly we hailed—"
like the bitter tears of the aborted child-mother?
like lips bitten raw from heroin hunger?
like grain rotting—safe from the hungry?

Bless the land of the free and the home of the brave,
where freedom forces a man to sweat out his life into
the hand of another man—where the brave are removed
and replaced by the blind.

"God bless America—"

THE WORKERS PRESS

Members of the Progressive Workers Movement have often discussed the role of the workers press in our society and, specifically, the style, appeal and shortcomings of our modest journal. We consider that some of our views on the subject might help our readers to better understand our aspirations and some of the many problems we face.

A revolutionary views the workers' press in the Leninist way—as a collective organizer which analyzes the lessons learned in the daily struggles and gives leadership to each new task as it arises. Much the better to do this is to have journals, one a theoretical magazine of fairly high caliber and relatively narrow appeal and the other a agitational paper which gives voice to broad popular issues and imparts inspiration and leadership to the popular masses fighting for the realization of immediate demands.

Unfortunately we are still a young group with limited financial and physical resources that preclude the possibility of us supporting two journals at this time. These circumstances compel us to attempt the difficult task of combining both roles in one journal and this is the cause of many of our problems and some (but by no means all) of our failings. We cannot, therefore, limit ourselves to a mere reporting of events and occurrences in the daily development of the class struggle but must report and analyze the news in depth, attempting to give our readers an outline of important developments in the world and national movement and at the same time the why and wherefore, the general trend, and the next task facing the working class.

These complex tasks, plus our own shortcoming, often result in a paper written in a language that may not always be the popular every-day language of the workers in the shop. P.W. cannot be picked up and read as casually as the sports page in a big business newspaper; it requires a little thought and that is not always easy for a worker coming home tired and looking for a little rest and relaxation.

One of the difficulties about a journal of this type is the philosophic terms used which are in common use among Marxist when explaining a point of view. To a reader

what appears to him to be an obscure term can be a bothersome thing and spoil a whole article. As a contribution toward remedying this situation and helping our to better grasp the essence of our argument P.W. will from time to time, publish a few of the words and terms together with their meaning. We will begin in this issue with the following:

CLASS STRUGGLE: the struggle between exploiter and exploited, between capitalist and worker. A manifestation of the irreconcilability of antagonistic class interests. The history of all societies, as the Communist Manifesto points out, is a history of class struggles. The merchant capitalist in the bourgeois revolution destroyed feudalism, as the workers revolution destroys the capitalist system.

DOGMA, DOGMATISM: comes from the Greek word "dogma" meaning opinion. Dogma is unproved assertion taken blindly on faith. Dogmatism is characteristic of all religious faiths. A judgement or theory which may be correct in itself if taken without regard to changing circumstances and surrounding conditions can become a dogma.

IDEOLOGY: a term which came into use during the past century. Denotes the whole complex of views, ideas, concepts, notions, functioning on a social level—a form of social consciousness. Political views, sciences, philosophies, arts and religions are forms of ideology, in this sense of the word, regardless as to whether they are true or false, progressive or reactionary. All ideologies are outgrowths or reflections of the existing social reality. In class society, the prevailing ideologies may be called class ideologies in the sense that they reflect, defend, or otherwise react to and act upon the interest of the various struggling classes. For example, the bourgeoisie in its struggle with feudalism worked out its ideology, just as the working class develops its revolutionary ideology. In general plays a very significant role in social life, in the history of society. Arising as a reflection of the material life of society and the interests of the different classes, ideology comes to exercise, on its own part, an active influence on social development.

The strike was secretly inspired by a combination of U.S. Central Intelligence Agency money and British Intelligence. It gave London the excuse it wanted. British Guiana has not yet received its independence and another American lake has been temporarily stopped.

By the strike is meant the 80 day strike of 1963, "the excuse it wanted" for the rigging of our electoral system from our traditional constituency first-past-the-post system to that of the list system of proportional representation.

In 1964, the British Labour government went ahead with the rigged elections and later transferred full powers to the U.S. puppets. This was done in spite of the sharp criticisms made by Labour when in opposition. It had attacked in 1961 the Tory government's fraudulent manipulation of our electoral system. Harold Wilson had deemed the imposed list system of proportional representation as "a fiddled constitutional arrangement."

The U.S. government was deeply involved in the 1964 elections. According to N.Y. Times (April 28, 1966) correspondents on the CIA, "It has poured money into Latin American campaigns in support of moderate candidates and against leftist leaders such as Cheddi Jagan of British Guiana."

U.S. dictation first resulted in the suspension of our constitution in 1953. At the 1953 elections, the People's Progressive Party had won 18 out of 21 seats. The working class unity, which it created, frightened the imperialists and their backers. As a result, the P.P.P. government was overthrown after only four and a half months in office.

The imperialists then split the P.P.P. in 1955. And although Britain manipulated electoral boundaries, the P.P.P. was again successful at the 1957 election. For the next four years the British government kept effective power out of the hands of P.P.P. ministers. It kept them in a squeeze by withholding economic aid and by denying independence. At the same time, the pro-imperialist, big business controlled press carried out a relentless attack against the P.P.P. government as being anti-working class and anti-African.

In spite of these falsehoods the P.P.P. was again successful at the 1961 general election. New tactics had therefore to be devised by the imperialists to prevent independence and effective powers from being transferred into the hands of the People's representatives.

Having failed to defeat the P.P.P. in 3 successive elections in spite of electoral manipulations and tricks of one kind or another, resort was made to open fascist methods. Using racist incitement, they fomented riots in 1962. In 1963, the ICFTU and the AFL—CIO through the American Institute for Free Labour Development imposed a shipping and air blockade with the aim of bringing down the government. The blockade was however broken by supplies of fuel and gasoline from Cuba.

The imperialists, having failed in these efforts of 1962 and 1963 to overthrow the P.P.P. government by force, resorted to a new manoeuvre. At the end of 1963, the British government changed the electoral system and forced the P.P.P. to go to elections nearly a year before the end of its term of office.

The 1964 election results were a clear indication of a vote of confidence in the P.P.P. government. The P.P.P. polled 46 per cent of the vote as against 40 per cent for People's National Congress and 12 per cent for the United Force. It was also the only party to increase its popular support. The results also demonstrated that had the elections been contested on traditional electoral system the P.P.P. would have been returned with the same majority of 20 out of 35 seats which it had won in 1961.

By amending our constitution and removing the P.P.P. from the government, the British Labour government also failed to honour British conventions. In Canada, the largest single party continued to form the government in spite of a drop in the poll at the 1964 election from 43 per cent to 29 per cent of the total vote.

The hypocrisy of the British and American governments is becoming increasingly clear. Their pronouncements

about their beliefs in free and fair elections stand exposed as untrue in Guyana and elsewhere. They will hold elections only when they are assured of victory.

In Vietnam, the Americans are conducting a bloody and savage war. They refuse to honour the Geneva Agreements and to hold elections. This is no doubt due to the fact that the progressive movement under Ho Chi Minh would win any such election as was pointed out by ex-President Eisenhower in his "Mandate for Change".

In Argentina, election results were cancelled when the Peronistas and left-wingers won at the polls. In Guatemala, announced elections were cancelled when it became manifestly clear that Juan Arevalo, former President, would have won. In Brazil, Goulart on the resignation of Quadros, was allowed to take office with less powers than he was entitled to constitutionally; his government was finally overthrown with the backing of the U.S.A. In the Dominican Republic, the government of Juan Bosch was overthrown after only eight months in office, despite the fact that he was backed by 62 per cent of the voters. Direct U.S. military intervention resulted when revolutionaries attempted to reinstate Bosch in power. In Brazil, recently, election victories won by the radical party of Juscelino Kubitschek, have been cancelled and all political parties banned.

In Guyana, the British government used force and repeatedly suspended constitutions. In Aden, similar measures have been used against a government which had the backing of the large majority of the workers. But in Rhodesia, where vital imperialist economic interests are to be preserved, the British Labour government refuses to take firm action against treason and a white minority, fascist and racist government.

DEMOCRACY OR NEO-FASCISM

BY CHEDDI JAGAN

The British and American governments have from time to time declared their faith in freedom and constitutional democracy. They proclaim that they believe in the rule of law, in free institutions and in free and fair elections.

In early 1962, after his interview with the editor of Izvestia, the late President Kennedy attacked the communists for subversion and falsely accused Dr. Fidel Castro of denying freedoms. In the same interview, he said: ".....the United States supports the idea that every people should have the right to make a free choice of the kind of government they want. Mr. Jagan who was recently elected Prime Minister in British Guiana, is a Marxist, but the United States doesn't object because that choice was made by honest election, which he won".

Despite these oft-repeated sentiments, the United States and Britain have twice in little more than a decade sabotaged democracy in British Guiana. Deeds do not measure up to words!

From 1962 to 1964, the U.S. and British governments plotted the overthrow of the elected government. Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. in his book One Thousand Days wrote:

Thus far our policy had been based on the assumption that Forbes Burnham was, as the British described him, an opportunist, racist and demagogue, intent only on per-

sonal power. One wondered about this, though, because the AFL—CIO people in B.G. thought well of him..... Then in May, 1962, Burnham came to Washington....Burnham's visit left the feeling, as I reported to the President, that an Independent British Guiana under Burnham (if Burnham will commit himself to a multi-racial policy) would cause us many fewer problems than an independent British Guiana under Jagan'And the way was open to bring it about, because Jagan's parliamentary strength was larger than his popular strength: he had won 57 per cent of the seats on the basis of 42.2 per cent of the vote. An obvious solution would be to establish a system of proportional representation.

This, after prolonged discussion, the British government finally did in October, 1963; and elections held finally at the end of 1964 produced a coalition government under Burnham.

After stating in an article "Castro and Jagan" on March 22, 1964 that Kennedy had made a special trip to London in the summer of 1963, Drew Pearson wrote:

It wasn't in the communique issued by the U.S. and England after the Kennedy-Macmillan meeting, but the main thing they agreed on was that Britain would refuse to grant independence to Guiana because of the general strike against pro-communist Prime Minister Cheddi Jagan.



Aye, Yi, Yi, Yi!

By their deeds and not their words the oppressed peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean must judge the utterances of the British and American governments. They must shed all illusions about the professed beliefs of the imperialists in democracy and freedom in free and fair election, in justice, fairplay and the rule of law. Britain is no more than the junior partner in the Anglo-American imperialist alliance. And the United States of America has become the leader of a world-wide counter-revolutionary movement and a danger to world peace and security.

B.C. ELECTION

The election statement appearing in this issue was distributed as a leaflet in the B.C. election campaign.



Central Committee of the Communist Party of China Communique

THE Eleventh Plenary Session of the Eighth Central Committee of the Communist Party of China was held in Peking from August 1 to 12, 1966.

The Eleventh Plenary Session was presided over by Comrade Mao Tse-tung. Members and Alternate Members of the Central Committee attended. Also present were comrades from the regional bureaus of the Central Committee and from the provincial, municipal and autonomous region Party committees; members of the cultural revolution group of the Central Committee; comrades from the relevant departments of the Central Committee and the Government; and representatives of revolutionary teachers and students from institutions of higher learning in Peking.

The Eleventh Plenary Session after discussion adopts the Decision of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party Concerning the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution.

The Plenary Session after discussion approves the important policy decisions and measures concerning domestic and international questions adopted by the Political Bureau of the Central Committee since the Tenth Plenary Session of the Eighth Central Committee in September, 1962.

Domestic

At the Tenth Plenary Session of the Eighth Central Committee, Comrade Mao Tse-tung made a correct analysis of the situation at that time and once again stressed the theory of contradictions, classes and class struggle in socialist society. This is the guide for the socialist revolution and socialist construction in our country. Under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party headed by Comrade

Mao Tse-tung and under the guidance of the Party's general line of going all out, aiming high and achieving greater, faster, better and more economical results in building socialism, the people of our country have in the past four years unfolded the three great revolutionary movements of class struggle, the struggle for production and scientific experimentation, and have won great victories. The people's communes have been further consolidated and developed. An invigorating revolutionary atmosphere prevails in the whole country and the situation is one of a new all-round leap forward emerging.

The national economy of our country is developing steadily and soundly. The policy of readjustment, consolidation, filling out and raising of standards advanced by the Party's Central Committee has already been successfully carried out. The Third Five-Year Plan started this year. On the industrial front, not only have big increases been registered in the output and variety of products, but their quality has also greatly improved. On the agricultural front, there have been good harvests for four successive years. The market is thriving and prices are stable. The success of the three nuclear tests is a concentrated expression of the new level reached in the development of China's science, technology and industry.

During the past few years, an extensive socialist education movement has unfolded in the rural areas, the cities and the army. At present, a great proletarian cultural revolution unprecedented in history is mounting in our country. The mass movement in which workers, peasants, soldiers, revolutionary intellectuals and cadres creatively study and

apply Comrade Mao Tse-tung's works has ushered in a new era of direct mastery and application of Marxism-Leninism by the labouring people.

The Plenary Session fully approves the May 20, 1963 Decision of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party on Some Problems in Current Rural Work (Draft). It fully approves the January 14, 1965 summary minutes of discussion at the National Working Conference called by the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party: Some Current Problems Raised in the Socialist Education Movement in the Rural Areas, that is, the 23-article document. These two documents were drawn up under the personal leadership of Comrade Mao Tse-tung and have been the powerful ideological weapon for our people in carrying out the socialist revolution. We should continue to act in accordance with the two above-mentioned documents and, in combination with the great proletarian cultural revolution, carry through to the end in both rural and urban areas the "four clean-ups" movement, that is, the socialist education movement to clean up politics, ideology, organization and economy.

The Plenary Session fully approves the series of brilliant policies of decisive and fundamental importance put forward by Comrade Mao Tse-tung over the past four years. These policies consist mainly of the following:

On the question of applying the principle of democratic centralism and carrying forward and developing the revolutionary tradition of the mass line;

On the question of raising and training successors in the proletarian revolutionary cause;

On the call for industrial enterprises to learn from the Taching Oilfield, for agricultural units to learn from the Tachai Production Brigade, for the whole country to learn from the People's Liberation Army, and for strengthening political and ideological work;

• On the strategic principle of preparedness against war, preparedness against natural calamities and everything for the people;

On the question of breaking down foreign conventions and following our own road of industrial development;

On the question of system and deployment in economic construction and national defence construction;

On the call for the whole Party to grasp military affairs and for everybody to be a soldier;

On the question of planning and arrangements for the gradual mechanization of agriculture; and

On the call for the People's Liberation Army and all factories, villages, schools, commercial departments, service trades and Party and government organizations to become great schools of revolution.

The Plenary Session stresses that the series of directives by Comrade Mao Tse-tung concerning the great proletarian cultural revolution are the guide for action in the present cultural revolution of our country; they constitute an important development of Marxism-Leninism.

The Plenary Session holds that the key to the success of this great cultural revolution is to have faith in the masses, rely on them, boldly arouse them and respect their initiative. It is therefore imperative to persevere in the line of "from the masses and to the masses." Be pupils of the masses before becoming their teachers. Dare to make revolution and be good at making revolution. Don't be afraid of disorder. Oppose the taking of the bourgeois stand, the shielding of Rightists, the attacking of the Left and repression of the great proletarian cultural revolution. Oppose the creation of a lot of restrictions to tie the hands of the masses. Don't be overlords or stand above the masses, blindly ordering them about.

Give enthusiastic support to the revolutionary Left, take care to strive to unite with all those who can be united and concentrate our forces to strike at the handful of anti-Party, anti-socialist bourgeois Rightists.

The Plenary Session holds that the series of questions advanced by Comrade Mao Tse-tung over the past four years concerning socialist revolution and socialist construction have greatly accelerated the development and success of the socialist cause in our country. These questions are of most profound and far-reaching significance for consolidating the dictatorship of the proletariat and the socialist system in our country, for preventing revisionist usurpation of the Party and state leadership, for preventing the restoration of capitalism, for ensuring that our country adheres to proletarian internationalism and actively supports the revolutionary struggles of the peoples of the world and for ensuring our country's gradual transition to communism in the future.

International

The Eleventh Plenary Session of the Eighth Central Committee holds that the present situation as regards the struggle of Marxist-Leninists and revolutionary people throughout the world against imperialism, reaction and modern revisionism is excellent. We are now in a new era of world revolu-

tion.. All political forces are undergoing a process of great upheaval, great division and great reorganization. The revolutionary movement of the people in all countries, and particularly in Asia, Africa and Latin America, is surging vigorously forward. Despite the inevitable zigzags and reversals in the development of the international situation, the general trend of imperialism heading for total collapse and socialism advancing to worldwide victory is unalterable. U.S. imperialism and its lackeys in various countries cannot avert their doom by brutally suppressing and wildly attacking the masses of the revolutionary people, or by bribing and deceiving them. On the contrary, this only serves to give further impetus to the revolutionary awakening of all peoples. The activities of U.S. imperialism and its stooges in various countries against the people and against revolution are giving impetus to the revolutionary activities of all peoples. U.S. imperialism and its stooges in various countries appear to be powerful but are actually very weak. Taking the long view, they are all paper tigers.

The new leading group of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union has inherited Khrushchov's mantle and is practising Khrushchov revisionism without Khrushchov. Their line is one of safeguarding imperialist and colonialist domination in the capitalist world and restoring capitalism in the socialist world. The leading group of the C.P.S.U. has betrayed Marxism-Leninism, betrayed the great Lenin, betrayed the road of the Great October Revolution, betrayed proletarian internationalism, betrayed the revolutionary cause of the international proletariat and of the oppressed peoples and oppressed nations, and betrayed the interests of the great Soviet people and the people of the socialist countries. They revile the Communist Party of China as being "dogmatic," "sectarian" and "Left adventurist." In fact, what they are attacking is Marxism-Leninism itself. They are uniting with U.S.-led imperialism and the reactionaries of various countries and forming a new "Holy Alliance" against communism, the people, revolution and China. But this counter-revolutionary "Holy Alliance" is doomed to bankruptcy and is already in the process of disintegration.

The Plenary Session holds that our Party's comprehensive public criticisms of Khrushchov revisionism over the last few years have been entirely correct and necessary. The Proposal Concerning the General Line of the International Communist Movement advanced by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on June 14, 1963 is a programmatic document. This document drawn up

under the personal leadership of Comrade Mao Tse-tung and the nine comments by the Editorial Departments of *Renmin Ribao* and *Hongqi* on the open letter of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U., the article "A Comment on the March Moscow Meeting," Comrade Lin Piao's "Long Live the Victory of People's War," etc., give scientific Marxist-Leninist analyses of a series of important questions concerning the world revolution of our time and are powerful ideological weapons against imperialism and modern revisionism.

The Plenary Session maintains that to oppose imperialism, it is imperative to oppose modern revisionism. There is no middle road whatsoever in the struggle between Marxism-Leninism and modern revisionism. A clear line of demarcation must be drawn in dealing with the modern revisionist groups with the leadership of the C.P.S.U. as the centre, and it is imperative resolutely to expose their true features as scabs. It is impossible to have "united action" with them.

The Plenary Session points out that proletarian internationalism is the supreme principle guiding China's foreign policy. The Session warmly supports the just struggle of the Asian, African and Latin American peoples against imperialism headed by the United States and its stooges and also supports the revolutionary struggles of the people of all countries.

The Plenary Session most strongly condemns U.S. imperialism for its crime of widening its war of aggression against Vietnam. The Session most warmly and most resolutely supports the Appeal to the People of the Whole Country issued by Comrade Ho Chi Minh, President of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, and firmly supports the Vietnamese people in fighting to the end until final victory is achieved in their war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation. The Plenary Session fully agrees to all the measures already taken and all actions to be taken as decided upon by the Central Committee of the Party and the Government in consultation with the Vietnamese side concerning aid to Vietnam for resisting U.S. aggression.

The Plenary Session severely denounces the Soviet revisionist leading group for its counter-revolutionary two-faced policy of sham support but real betrayal on the question of Vietnam's resistance to U.S. aggression.

The Plenary Session holds that U.S. imperialism is the most ferocious common enemy of the peoples of the whole world. In order to isolate U.S. imperialism to the maximum and deal blows to it, the

broadest possible international united front must be established against U.S. imperialism and its lackeys. The Soviet revisionist leading group is pursuing a policy of Soviet-U.S. collaboration for world domination and has been conducting splittist, disruptive and subversive activities within the international communist movement and the national-liberation movement in the active service of U.S. imperialism. They cannot of course be included in this united front.

We must unite with all the people in the world who are against imperialism and colonialism, and carry the struggle against U.S. imperialism and its lackeys through to the end.

Together with all the revolutionary Marxist-Leninists of the world, we must carry the struggle against modern revisionism through to the end and push forward the revolutionary cause of the international proletariat and the people of the world.

Hold High the Great Red Banner Of Mao Tse-tung's Thought

The Eleventh Plenary Session of the Eighth Central Committee emphasizes that the intensive study of Comrade Mao Tse-tung's works by the whole Party and the whole nation is an important event of historic significance. Comrade Mao Tse-tung is the greatest Marxist-Leninist of our era. Comrade Mao Tse-tung has inherited, defended and developed Marxism-Leninism with genius, creatively and in an all-round way, and has raised Marxism-Leninism to a completely new stage. Mao Tse-tung's thought is Marxism-Leninism of the era in which imperialism is heading for total collapse and socialism is advancing to worldwide victory. It is the guiding principle for all the work of our Party and country. The Plenary Session holds that Comrade Lin Piao's call on the People's Liberation Army to launch a mass movement in the army to study Comrade Mao Tse-tung's works has set a brilliant example for the whole Party and the whole nation. The most reliable and fundamental guarantee against revisionism and the restoration of capitalism and for victory of our socialist and communist cause is to arm the masses of workers, peasants, soldiers, revolutionary intellectuals and cadres with Mao Tse-tung's thought and to promote the revolutionizing of people's ideology. The method of studying Comrade Mao Tse-tung's works with problems in mind, studying and applying his works in a creative way, combining study with practice, studying first what is urgently needed so as to get quick results, and of making great efforts in applying what one studies has proved effective and universally suitable and

should be further popularized throughout the Party and the country.

The Communist Party of China is a great, glorious and correct Party. Founded and fostered by Comrade Mao Tse-tung, ours is a Party armed with Marxism-Leninism, with Mao Tse-tung's thought. Our Party is a proletarian vanguard that integrates theory with practice, forges close links with the masses of the people and has the spirit of earnest self-criticism. It is a proletarian revolutionary Party which has gone through the most fierce, the most arduous, the longest and the most complex struggles in history. Our people is a great people. Our country is a great country. Our army is a great army. We firmly believe that under the leadership of our great leader, Comrade Mao Tse-tung, and the Communist Party of China, the armymen and civilians of the whole country, relying on their own efforts and working vigorously, will surely be able to surmount all difficulties and obstacles and fulfil the mission given by history, and will surely not disappoint the expectations of the revolutionary people of the world.

The Eleventh Plenary Session of the Eighth Central Committee calls on all the workers, people's commune members, commanders and fighters of the People's Liberation Army, revolutionary cadres, revolutionary intellectuals, revolutionary teachers and students and scientific and technical personnel of the country to raise still higher the great red banner of Mao Tse-tung's thought, unite with all those who can be united, surmount the resistance coming from various directions, from the counter-revolutionary revisionists and the "Left" and Right opportunists, overcome difficulties, shortcomings and mistakes, cleanse the dark spots in the Party and society, carry the great proletarian cultural revolution to the end, carry the socialist revolution to the end, and strive to fulfil the Third Five-Year Plan and build China into a powerful socialist country.

We must be fired with great, lofty proletarian aspirations and dare to break paths unexplored by people before and scale unclimbed heights. We must do a good job of building socialist China, which has a quarter of the world's population, and make it an impregnable state of the proletariat that will never change its colour. We must liberate Taiwan. We must heighten our vigilance a hundredfold and guard against surprise attacks from U.S. imperialism and its accomplices. Should they dare to impose war on us, the 700 million Chinese people under the leadership of Comrade Mao Tse-tung and the Communist Party of China will certainly break the backs of the aggressors and wipe them out resolutely, thoroughly, totally and completely.

ELECTIONS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Bennett Socred government has called a provincial election for September 12, and as usual it is well ahead of the time that such a call would be constitutionally compulsory. This is regular procedure for the political party in power who exert every possible effort to avoid calling an election at a time when there are sharp issues at stake. The idea that elections are called in order to provide the people with an opportunity to choose the most effective administration available is a myth—the objective is to hold on to power as long as possible and by whatever means are readily available. The government holds the tactical initiative since they can call the election at any time suitable; unless defeated on important legislation. Strategy for victory dictates that the election be called BEFORE important issues materialize and influence the outcome. It is these considerations that dictate Bennett's decision to call the election at this time; particularly since there are no issues as yet that have become sharply defined.

British Columbia has enjoyed the outward appearance of prosperity for some years. There is relatively full employment and the skilled workers have established wages and conditions that, while they do not leave them fully contented, do not render them discontented to the point of experimenting with the unknown. The furor over labour legislation involves the union leadership far more than it does the rank and file and the Lenkurt Electric fiasco did nothing to increase leadership stature either in the unions or the political movement.

In general the present situation appears to be very much in favour of the Bennett regime and this wily politician is not going to await developments that might well upset the present balance and face him with the possibility of a majority being elected from another party, or else a minority government situation as has happened in other provinces. Waiting another year could well change the balance as the present appearance of prosperity is but a facade covering an on-rushing economic crisis that could prove to be of devastating proportions.

Bennett has harnessed the destiny of this province to the United States war machine and his Social Credit party—like a similar reactionary pro-U.S. regime in Alberta—are in favour of greater integration of the Canadian economy with that of the United States. In fact, leading spokesmen of the party have been known to suggest Canada become a part of U.S. territory.

Our close connection with the U.S. economy means we are vulnerable to every set-back suffered by American Imperialism and they are absorbing many defeats now, and will experience even more in the immediate future. A crisis of minor proportions in the United States would have catastrophic consequences to the economy of British Columbia. The United States is tottering on the edge of an economic crisis that will be much more than minor when it breaks. Most economic experts are giving strong hints that the break will come soon and B.C. depending on the export of primary products for continued prosperity, almost entirely without a secondary industry, is in dire peril of having the boom go bust at an early date. Bennett is aware of this and fears if he waits another year to call an election he will have to campaign in the midst of a crisis which is the result of his pro-U.S. policy.

The Social Credit government has been in power for 14 consecutive years and they boast that everything good in B.C. is a result of their policy and efforts. We are prepared to concede the point and list here some of the socred "blessings" we have enjoyed.

1. British Columbians pay the highest rates in the country for electric power generated by "their own" power corporation. The situation is unlikely to improve and could get worse.

2. We also have the privilege of being amongst those paying the highest telephone tariffs in the country and to add

insult to injury we pay them to a United States controlled company—B.C. Telephone owned by General Telephone.

3. Hospital facilities and medical care in the province are a disgrace to any nation as technologically advanced as we are. People in dire need of hospital care are unable to get beds and the low paid—there are many such—suffer through with a minimum or no medical attention. For this we pay sales tax and premiums that probably makes this not only the poorest but the most expensive medical service in North America.

4. We have the worst anti-labour legislation and the worst labour relations in the country. The courts, police, and labour department intervene in the most barefaced manner on the side of the employer and against the worker. In a period when increasing numbers of workers are moving to build a Canadian trade union movement the weight of government boards is thrown on the side of the U.S. dominated unions. The most recent example of this is the case of the Canadian Pulp and Paper Workers on Vancouver Island.

5. Housing in the province is a disgrace and the grandiose antics of the government in providing a \$500 subsidy for new homes and increasing the home owner grant will not relieve the situation. Less than half the people in Vancouver own their own homes and the percentage is falling which makes the tax rebate a gigantic bribe given to a minority of the population. Municipal taxes go up and it is the renting majority that bears the burden—precisely that section of the population least able to bear it. The only solution to this growing problem is the building of tens of thousands of public low-rental housing units and an end put to land speculation.

6. Bennett makes his provincial budget look good by starving the municipalities and limiting welfare measures and public works projects. A high proportion of the funds spent on public works are to the benefit of the large corporations although it is the working people who are called upon to pay for them.

7. The Bennett government presided over one of the most monstrous and most gigantic sell-outs of Canadian interests ever designed—the Columbia River Treaty. Not only did we hand over to the U.S. monopolies one of the large sources of hydro-electric power in the world it now appears that we are even going to pay hundreds of millions of dollars for the privilege of having done so.

The points listed above by no means exhaust the record of the Socred government so far it concerns measures taken in the service of the monopoly corporations. It should be sufficient, however, to establish the fact that the Social Credit Party—arch-reactionary and neo-fascist Tories in disguise, is unfit to rule any province of Canada unless one concedes that it should be run in the interests of the big U.S. corporations instead of in the interests of the people who live in it. The fact that the public relations expert of Frank McMahon, (one of the big tycoons who milk this province as well as Alberta), has been loaned to Bennett for the election campaign should be sufficient evidence to show where the leader of the government stands.

THE "ALTERNATIVES"!

The traditional Conservative Party lost the bulk of its following to the more flamboyant Tories in the Social Credit Party. The Tories have had nothing in the province for years and are unlikely to make any headway in the current election. At time of writing they had not nominated even one candidate.

The Liberal Party is very little ahead of the Tories in electoral possibilities and could even lose several of their handfull of seats. In any event they would make no noticeable difference to the province if elected since they are vigorous defenders of the same pro-U.S. policy and so would be compelled to follow much the same policies as Bennett. It is worth noting that a recent convention of

Western Liberals went on record in favour of free trade policies that could only end in total U.S. domination of the Canadian economy.

The Social-democratic minded New Democratic Party is the only group with an outside chance of replacing the Social Credits as the government of British Columbia. However, the party support in the unions has come mainly from the bureaucratic leadership of the U.S. dominated organizations and recent differences may undermine that support particularly in the area of financial aid. The growing sentiment for Canadian controlled unions has forced the bureaucracy on the defensive and they have been assisted in warding off the independents by rulings of government boards. In the recent flare-up in the paper industry the NDP leader made the very mild suggestion that workers should be allowed to vote for the union they wished to represent them and this drew down on his head the wrath of the U.S. appointed officials who want no part of democratic free choice. The NDP is trying to adopt a middle course between officials and rank and file but is finding it increasingly difficult to do so. This could spell trouble for the NDP.

In a period of relative stability and class peace Social democrats can usually be counted on to introduce more reform legislation than is to be expected from the traditional capitalist parties and for this reason it is better, in such a period, to cast ballots for them. However, being committed to maintaining the profit system the Social democrats, in times of crisis, will take whatever steps are necessary to defend capitalism and imperialism. The entire history of the movement proves this contention to be correct, the most recent illustration being the Wilson government in England which proposes to solve the crisis of Britain by depressing wages and living standards and creating large-scale unemployment—a "remedy" proposed by the right-wing conservative journal "The Economist" just over a year ago. Workers must take warning, therefore that, while substantial reforms might now be introduced by the Social democrats, as the crisis sharpens they will act to uphold capitalism and against the working people.

The Communist Party is caught in a trap of their own making—the "peaceful transition to Socialism" by parliamentary means. They have been very zealous in their work of convincing the working people that the exploiters will offer no resistance while they are being dispossessed. Saddled with this policy they must make some effort to contest elections so have, to date, entered 7 candidates. With a membership made up mostly of comfortable middle-class elements who want to experience the thrill of being "left-wingers" without having to assume responsibilities of revolutionary activities, the party can well afford the 20,000 to 30,000 dollars it will cost them to engage in this exercise in futility. These candidates can be expected to obtain but a handful of votes since they are competing for the same electoral support sought by the more powerful and heavily-financed Social democrats. Faced with the choice of the same policy proposed by competing groups the workers will naturally turn to the stronger of the two—the Social democrats.

The League for Socialist Action (Trotskyite) is scarcely worth mentioning. Submerging themselves completely in the social-democratic movement they adopt essentially the same policy as the revisionist Communist group except they carry it to its logical conclusion by becoming Social democrats in name as well as fact and run no independent candidates who might endanger the election of NDP nominees. The greatest ambition of the L.S.A. type is to be accepted by the social-democratic bureaucracy and they are more than willing to play the role of door-mat to achieve this acceptance.

The Progressive Workers Movement, after a lengthy discussion, arrived at the decision not to enter candidates in this election. We wish to stress that this is not meant to convey the impression we are ever and always opposed to activity on the parliamentary field. On the contrary, we

believe that such activities, and the election of revolutionaries, under certain conditions can be quite useful although we insist it can never replace the mass revolutionary action of the people or, in the final analysis, influence the outcome of the struggle.

Members of the PWM are all working people with a limited amount of finances and, at this stage, limited forces. Given existing conditions under which we cannot come anywhere near electing anyone, and our contention that the victory of Socialism will not be determined by working through parliamentary institutions, which the ruling class will abandon at the first signs of political crisis we have decided to commit our money and our forces to activity that can be expected to bring results of a more permanent nature than those obtained through participation in this parliamentary contest.

Since the election will be held and workers will vote it remains for us to express our opinion on what we think workers should do at the polls.

From what we have stated above it will no doubt be apparent that the Progressive Workers Movement is of the opinion that no group presents any real alternative in this election and that the parliamentary process itself will not bring any fundamental change in social relations. This is true of all political parties including the so-called "Left" of N.D.P., Communist Party and L.S.A. All alike are committed to maintenance of the capitalist system which is a world social system and not really national. The line advanced to some extent by the N.D.P. but particularly emphasized by the L.S.A. and the Communist Party calling for a return to classical laissez-faire, anti-monopoly capitalism is an idealistic dream incapable of realization. It is essentially a return to the policies of the Populist Movement which was very influential up until the beginning of the first world war and which actually prepared the conditions on which monopoly grew and gained strength.

Being committed to capitalism these groups cannot, especially in times of rising crisis, escape involvement in pro U.S. policies which are the essence of capitalist society today. Therefore, tempting as it is to do otherwise in view of the illusion which many workers entertain about the N.D.P., we cannot counsel support for any party contesting the election. Calling for such support might prove popular in the short term, but it would be a betrayal of the objective, long-term interests of the working class. When the crisis matures and these groups having won (if they won) would accomplish an even more efficient and total betrayal of the workers having won the trust and confidences of the working people through their "radical" pose.

Many people already convinced that no real alternative exists will simply stay home as a form of protest. To these and others looking for avenues of protest we recommend ballots be cast marked with the slogan "For Canadian Independence: End U.S. Domination of Canada."

The real alternative and the real struggle will go on after the election and outside of parliamentary institutions, a struggle for the transformation of society, the tearing down of existing institutions based on a system of exploitation and their replacement by institutions based on Socialist principles and the eradication of exploitation.

In order to carry forward the struggle for increasing demands on the ruling class to the final point of dispossessing that class and the creation of a new society workers must build and strengthen their independent organizations for use as weapons of struggle in the battles that loom on the horizon. Most of all we must create a revolutionary political organization of the working class, dedicated to the task of transforming society and able to lead the workers in struggle to overcome ruling class opposition to fundamental social change.

It is to this all-important task that the P.W.M. will dedicate its strength and resources in the days ahead.

Progressive Workers Movement

35 East Hastings Street, Vancouver 4, B. C.,

Les travailleurs américains : sérieux problème pour l'impérialisme

(Extrait de "Progressive Labor", juin-juillet 1966)

RECESSION GENERALE

L'attaque générale contre les salaires et les conditions de travail est en train d'être intensifiée avec une paire de nouvelles restrictions. Ces derniers temps, la semaine de quarante heures est devenue une amère plaisanterie pour des millions de travailleurs. Incapables de gagner leur vie avec une paie de quarante heures, ils ont été obligés de travailler des heures supplémentaires, si possible, ou jusqu'à la tombée de la nuit. Actuellement, il y a une tendance chez les administrateurs d'usines vers l'élimination des heures supplémentaires. Pour ceux qui se sont habitués à ce travail supplémentaire, cette élimination constituera un coup direct.

A travers les années, la paie des ouvriers a été volée sous la forme de crédit à la consommation. Le paiement des intérêts sur les dettes à la consommation est instable. Des millions d'ouvriers se trouvent dans une situation intenable. Il est difficile de rencontrer un ouvrier qui ne soit pas endetté. Quand les travailleurs perdent leur emploi ou que les heures supplémentaires sont supprimées ou encore quand il y a une maladie grave dans la famille, les crédits sont supprimés et les salaires saisis, entraînant des effets désastreux. Cette situation est devenue maintenant incontrôlable.

La saisie de salaires provoque beaucoup de misère. Dans nombre d'usines, cela conduit à un congédiement instantané, étant donné que le patron ne veut pas se donner la peine de faire une seconde liste de paie avec les déductions, ce qui peut coûter de l'argent à la compagnie. Les ouvriers qui ont ce genre de dossier éprouvent souvent de la difficulté à se faire embaucher dans des établissements plus importants. Cela prolonge leur chômage et les cloue dans les plus petits établissements où les salaires sont plus bas et dont le département du personnel ne peut pas s'occuper de ce contrôle défilé.

Un article du *Wall Street Journal* indique combien cette pratique s'est étendue. « Les dettes à la consommation s'élevèrent à 85 milliards de dollars en 1955, soit 12% de plus qu'en 1964 et 50% de plus qu'en 1961. Mais, les décisions des grands tribunaux des cités métropolitaines indiquent que les salaires d'un nombre croissant d'ouvriers sont partiellement confisqués pour cause de dette. L'année dernière à Chicago, le tribunal du district de Cook a édicté 84.513 saisies, soit 15% de plus qu'en 1964 et 72% de plus qu'en 1961. Les tribunaux municipaux du district de Los Angeles prononcèrent 114.972 saisies de salaires au cours de l'année fiscale arrivée à expiration le 30 juin dernier, soit 6% de plus que l'an-

née dernière et cette année-ci, dans le même district, les saisies s'élevèrent à 122.000. Les tribunaux de New-York, de Cleveland et d'autres grandes villes font également état d'un nombre croissant de saisies. Les chiffres ne révèlent pas l'étendue complète des saisies. Ils ne comprennent pas la grande quantité « d'assignations » qui, du point de vue légal, sont différentes des saisies mais similaires en fait. Bien souvent, les saisies sont le prélude de la faillite... Un record de 180.323 cas de faillite ont été enregistrés par le tribunal fédéral au cours de l'année fiscale arrivée à expiration le 30 juin dernier, contre 171.719 l'année précédente et 110.634 cinq ans plus tôt. Les déclarations de faillite sont estimées cette année-ci à 200.000. Les faillites individuelles représentent 91% de ce total. »

On pourrait, en citant cent et un indices, démontrer en détail que le standard de vie et les conditions de travail des ouvriers se détériorent. On pourrait citer notamment l'augmentation du prix des médicaments, des taxes locales, des cotisations syndicales, la diminution des établissements scolaires, la ruine des établissements commerciaux de quartier, etc.

LA GUERRE NE RESOUT RIEN

Deux choses deviennent évidentes. Le « boom » est pour les puissantes compagnies et pas pour les travailleurs. Contrairement à d'autres « booms », par exemple durant la seconde guerre mondiale, les salaires réels et les conditions de travail empirent, détruisant l'illusion que l'appui à la guerre du Vietnam et à l'économie de guerre peuvent avoir comme résultat de résoudre au moins certains problèmes économiques. En fait, un rapport parallèle se développe actuellement : au fur et à mesure que se poursuit et s'étend la guerre, les conditions des ouvriers iront en s'empirant.

Ni la guerre ni l'économie de guerre, sur laquelle tout le système repose actuellement, n'a pour effet de stabiliser sérieusement l'économie. En dépit de tous les profits et de la légère diminution du chômage, dus aux enrôlements et à l'augmentation du travail dans l'industrie de guerre, de sérieuses contradictions demeurent et s'approfondissent dans l'économie.

Au beau milieu du « boom », la Bourse enregistre des chutes répétées, l'empire de la G.M. commence à marcher au ralenti et passe à un rythme de quatre jours par semaine.

Dans un article sur la stabilité de l'économie dans le proche avenir, le *Wall Street Journal* déclare :

« De l'opinion des économistes, de nombreux faits incontestables indiquent qu'il

n'y a pas en perspective des années d'espoir pour les investissements de capitaux. »

Dans quelques-unes des grèves actuelles le combat pour la conservation de l'emploi en s'opposant à l'automation et aux fusions est devenu une véritable question d'existence économique pour certains syndicats et pour de nombreux syndiqués. Il n'y a plus d'éléments privilégiés : les privilèges sont désormais abolis.

Les ouvriers blancs hautement qualifiés, « grassement payés », subissent des attaques. Ils commencent à riposter avec ou sans leurs dirigeants et, dans la plupart des cas, sans eux.

DANS LES CHEMINS DE FER

Après une lutte légale prolongée, des dizaines de milliers de pompiers de chemins de fer perdirent leurs postes en vertu d'une décision judiciaire. C'est la conséquence du fait que les dirigeants syndicalistes n'ont pas eu recours à l'arme de la grève pendant des années en préférant compter sur la « loyauté » de l'Etat et des employeurs. Effectivement, le gouvernement fédéral imposa l'arbitrage aux pompiers et l'arbitre prit sa décision à leur encontre.

La décision fut un coup dur pour des milliers de pompiers. La plupart de ces hommes avaient passé toute leur vie dans cette industrie et la décision vint éliminer 50.000 postes dans un court laps de temps. Du fait de la colère grondante des ouvriers, les dirigeants du syndicat se virent obligés de décréter la grève après que les arbitres eurent prononcé leur décision. La grève fut une surprise non seulement à cause de la nature réactionnaire des dirigeants syndicalistes, mais aussi parce que le syndicat se trouvait sous le coup d'une injonction judiciaire dont l'effet devait couvrir encore une semaine.

La grève a eu immédiatement un profond effet sur l'économie, bien qu'elle fut limitée et sans combativité. Gilbert, le dirigeant du syndicat, a déclaré que les grévistes ont été choisis au hasard dans le but de réduire son impact sur le public. Le syndicat avait délibérément décidé de faire une grève sélective au lieu d'une grève générale afin « d'affaiblir » les possibilités du Gouvernement fédéral d'intervenir dans la dispute. « Nous les avons choisis parce que eux tous assurément des services parallèles de telle sorte qu'aucune zone ne soit privée de transport ferroviaire », affirma un leader syndicaliste. Environ le tiers du total des ouvriers, 8.000, y étaient impliqués. En quelques heures, des milliers de wagons furent paralysés sur 43.000 milles de voies ferrées.

étant donné que plus de 150.000 cheminots dans 38 Etats respectèrent les piquets de grève. A travers le pays, des dizaines d'usines durent fermer les portes, faute de service de livraison.

Les compagnies en appelèrent aux tribunaux. En quelques heures, une nouvelle injonction a été lancée par le juge de district des Etats-Unis, Holtzoff. Il a déclaré que les ouvriers devaient, dans leur dispute, suivre le labyrinthe tracé par le « Railway Labor Act ». Ce qui signifie cinq autres années de « négociations ». A ce moment-là, il ne restait plus un seul pompier à son poste.

Non seulement ce « pilier de la justice » enjoignit aux pompiers, mais il enjoignit aussi, à l'avance, aux mécaniciens, aux aiguilleurs et aux freineurs de ne pas déclencher la grève le 25 janvier, date à laquelle devait être prononcée la décision de l'arbitre pour cette section. Cette grossièreté obligea même Gilbert à se plaindre amèrement. Il a dit : « Cela dépasse toute compréhension qu'un juge fédéral édicte une décision contre une organisation qui n'a même pas une affaire pendante devant lui... » Il semble que le juge ait été pris dans l'engrenage de l'automation. Entretemps, les chemins de fer sont pris dans l'engrenage de leur taux de profits le plus élevé depuis cinquante ans, en dépit de leurs larmes de crocodile. Entre le premier trimestre de 1965 à 1966, les profits dans les chemins de fer firent un bond de « 103,8 » (*Wall Street Journal*).

DANS LES PORTS

Ces dernières années, les dirigeants des dockers sur la côte Est ont fait beaucoup de tapage au sujet d'« une nouvelle ère de stabilité du travail dans les ports ». De toute évidence, la stabilité signifie la capitulation des dirigeants syndicalistes qui laissent les patrons réduire les équipes sur les quais, un objectif que les patrons ont poursuivi avec acharnement pendant ces dix dernières années.

En fin de compte, avec le dernier contrat les patrons ont réalisé, du moins sur le papier, leur rêve si longtemps caressé. Trois hommes devaient être éliminés des équipes de vingt hommes à New-York : deux le 1^{er} avril 1966 et un autre un an plus tard. Une clause de « flexibilité » a été également accordée aux patrons les autorisant à déplacer des hommes à volonté, créant encore de plus grandes possibilités de licenciements. Les dirigeants du syndicat prédirent une longue ère de « paix dans le travail » et que les ouvriers accepteraient la capitulation parce que ceux qui conservaient leur poste auraient une garantie de 1.600 heures de travail par an.

Quelques heures après que la révocation des hommes fut devenue effective, le 1^{er} avril, les ouvriers fermèrent le port de Newark ainsi que les quais de Manhattan et de States Island. Les dirigeants syndicalistes parcoururent le port exhortant les ouvriers à reprendre le travail, proclamant que le contrat a été une grande victoire. Le gouvernement entra en ébullition tandis que les patrons et les dirigeants du syndicat disaient que la grève « laissait tomber les boys au Vietnam ». Les dockers persistèrent dans la grève tandis que les injonctions fusaient, les menaçant de leur interdire l'accès du port pour la vie. Ils répondirent par des grèves perlées à travers tous les ports de Manhattan et de Jersey.

Grâce à la combativité des ouvriers et à une tradition de force parmi les dockers de la base, les armateurs se virent obligés de réintégrer les deux hom-

mes qui avaient été éliminés du groupe de quatre qui originairement travaillaient à l'extrême pointe du quai, limitant ainsi la tactique de « flexibilité » des patrons. Dans la section de Brooklyn, la plus grande du syndicat, les ouvriers durent lutter contre les leaders qui n'étaient pas simplement des traîtres, mais des membres de la Mafia. Une grève sauvage y était plus difficile mais dès que les ouvriers de Jersey et de Manhattan eurent remporté la victoire, Anthony Scotto (gendre de feu Albert Anastasia, dirigeant de la Mafia) se vit obligé d'ordonner aux dockers de Brooklyn de refuser de travailler à moins que les patrons réintègrent les deux ouvriers renvoyés. Les patrons capitulèrent aussi et le contrat devint inopérant en ce qui concerne la « flexibilité ».

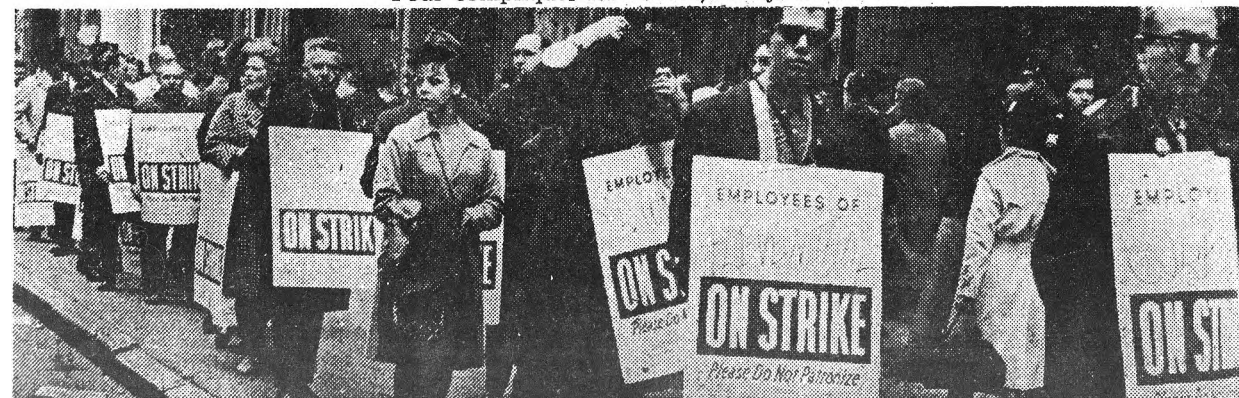


Durant ces dernières années, l'industrie minière a été affectée par une série de longues batailles, souvent violentes, menées par les mineurs. Se trouvent en jeu : la préservation des normes de leur syndicat, les rétablir là où elles ont été éliminées, et le maintien pur et simple d'un syndicat dans cette industrie. Ils luttent contre l'automation et l'accélération du rythme de travail par les compagnies. Pour compliquer les choses, les syndicats

Déjà déçus par le nouveau leader syndical, Boyle, les ouvriers suivirent de près les négociations. Quand Boyle capitula, 50.000 mineurs déclenchèrent la grève. Les dissidents pensèrent que Boyle accepta trop peu. L'augmentation de salaire était insignifiante mais présentée par l'administration comme étant « non inflationniste ».

« L'accord valable pour trente mois prévoyait des salaires et d'autres gains estimés à environ 2,60 dollars par jour. (C'est une estimation de la compagnie qui est toujours plus élevée que la réalité.) Ce chiffre équivalait à une augmentation annuelle d'environ 3%, est conforme à la norme de 3,2% de l'Administration (*New York Times*, 28 avril 1966).

Les dirigeants du syndicat attaquèrent les ouvriers. Parlant de l'un des groupes de grévistes, un dirigeant syndicaliste a dit : « Les hommes ont été irresponsables et la grève est illégale ». Il a affirmé que les rebelles « étaient principalement intéressés à embarrasser M. Boyle et à maintenir la grève, bien que le président du syndicat ait demandé aux grévistes de reprendre le travail ».



poems-poems-poems-poems-poems-poems

Rewi Alley, the New Zealand born poet and builder of people's co-operatives, who has dedicated his life to the cause of the People's Revolution in China has forwarded 4 new poems to Progressive Worker. We present two of these poems here with the other two to follow in our next issue.



ON FIRE POWER and PEOPLE.....Rewie Alley

In Peitaiho, Autumn breezes start to bring cool night air, bracing mornings; fisher folk pull sturdy craft high on beaches out of a calm and peaceful sea, saying in a matter of fact way, "Soon great waves will come."

Over there in his kingdom of Texas a semi-tearful, semi-fearful one tells students of more bitter times that lie ahead, before he can promise the end of Vietnam. Tricky Dick Nixon touring Asia, pushes for swifter escalation, then gets out of Saigon fast as he can; Fascist Goldwater crows that Democrats carry his policy out to the full; in the ranks of the American people confusion reigns, but generals say, its only fire power that matters; swiftly contracting for more of everything, greedy eyes on jobs as directors of arms companies.

In Peking, a million common folk come to greet Mao Tse-tung, who casually walks among them shaking hands, with no need for any bullet proof car; going over old bridges before Tien An Men, and on to take part in a great meeting expressing unity as an answer to enemy threats, a belief in the people, their revolution and their strength to overcome each and every cunning move planned by the enemy of all men.

COMES a SHIVER of FEAR Rewi Alley

Thieves exult, for has not their cunning freed for a moment, the murderous hands of ratty little generals in Indonesia, so that gullies are filled with the decaying bones of those who served the people best? Have they not planted their cloven hooves well into the Congo and many another land, leaving the imprint of their devilry? Have they not held Indians, Afro-Americans along with more and more poor whites, stuffed into bleak reservations and drab slums where the down and out rot swiftly? These crimes have they carried through with cynical contempt, covering all with the sticky goo of pious bombast. "We have used our 638,000 tons of bombs on Vietnam in the Year of Our Lord, 1966, not willingly, always reluctantly and with restraint, one ton of bombs to every forty persons; we have taken the greatest care in avoiding the bombing of civilians in Vietnam; but how successful we were in destroying fifty seven fishing boats, each one a family home! When we bring in war prisoners, we drag them by bound heels from tanks or armoured cars, if we do not torture them to death first!" But other sub-human beastiality piled on to Vietnamese, makes a record too sickening to list, so we think back on the thieves of all man holds dear; on the proud and ugly ones in their silly sartorial splendour, who think they have mastered the technique of thought control, even down to making the poor and oppressed feel helpless and inferior! But now comes change, blowing clear out of Vietnam jungles. Now up African rivers and in many a Latin American land, people start to stand up on their own so beautiful bare feet, demanding their rightful heritage, pitching illusions and encrusted tabu aside, taking a new look at things; dropping twisted thought heaped on them to dull and immobilize; minds and hands beginning to work together, so that a shiver of fear suddenly halts the old order in its mad reverly.



"Humanitarian" treatment of prisoners? United States troops admire their handywork after shooting prisoners.