LABOR SHOWDOWN WITH NIXON PRODUCES BLACK-WHITE UNITY

by Mike Connolly

The massive wave of strikes in April, many of them wildcats, by workers in a dozen different industries, and in nearly every state in the nation, has challenged President Nixon's labor policy of recession and repression. Beginning with the unprecedented wildcat walkout by 300,000 postal workers and their own do-nothing union leaders, the strikes have forced the administration into one tight corner after another.

No sooner had Nixon sent Federal troops and the National Guard into New York than the Teamsters broke the first major strike by Federal employees in the history of the United States, than PACTO (the air controllers union) walked out a "hotcat" at most of the nation's airports and route control centers.

The most significant development of the week was the 21-day protest forced cancellations of thousands of scheduled flights and delayed nearly all others. Transportation Secretary Volpe, following the same policies, Panther General Black used in the postal strike, threatened the air controllers with suspensions, firings, and the destruction of their union.

The example of the postal workers and the air controllers was followed throughout the month as the list of strikes grew. Teachers struck in Minneapolis and Las Vegas, and teaching assistants at the University of Wisconsin; sanitation workers in Atlanta; tugboat crews in New York and Detroit; newspaper employees were out in Boston; auto workers wildcatted in Detroit; hospital workers struck for union recognition in Pittsburgh.

MILITANCY SPREADS

In California, the farm workers (UPWOC) achieved a breakthrough in their long strike by signing contracts with three growers in Palm Beach. Florida. Contract workers, many of them black, smashed a building site and threatened with being fired. He knows this is his chip that is printed.

"You sure set the pattern for your talk better than I have done," said one professor. "You here must not look at workers as if they need your pity. What is needed is for you to understand their type of revolt, their type of organization, and their philosophy. These are not separated in our minds and should not be in yours."

DÚSCUSS AUTOMATION

After all the talks were finished, we held a work-shop for discussion and answers. One professor said, "You are not the first to ask this question. There is a wave of Automation which brought back the Depression jitters, saying that it is 90 per cent emotion and only 10 per cent fact. It is the other way around.

A young man liked how I pointed out that Business Week blames Automation for bringing back the Depression jitters, saying that it is 90 per cent emotion and only 10 per cent fact. It is the other way around. The labor leadership helps the lie by saying that Automation is progress and painting a rosy future of what it should be instead of saying what it really is like. Walter Reuther talking about the future and the promise Automation holds for a vast improvement in industries and leisure time at some unspecified date, when workers do not have time to breathe freely in the factories today.

One student said that workers do not give a damn about their work, because of Automation, and that is why we have so many defective automobiles. I said, "Yes and no." The worker is a defective part of the machine.

But you must understand that the companies want quantity first. Each foreman has a production quota which he must meet if he wants to remain a foreman, and if a worker does not meet his production standards he is threatened with being fired. He knows this is his head...." (Continued on Page 8)

Black-Red Views

Cruse and Cleaver: blindspots on race and class

By John Alan

At the first Birthday Party held for Huey Newton and the Black Panther Party, Stokely Carmichael said (and I paraphrase him here) the Marxian concept of the class struggle does NOT enter into people's struggle for survival—it is simply a struggle for the survival of a race, because the Monkey is going to kill us!!

I agree. At the time Stokely was being surrounded at the zenith of the Black Power period—but then Black Power had already become a gigantic reine-reielde, with many opposing and different hats hanging there, including the hat of Black Capitalism. It was, too, the beginning of the Black Capitalist, or Black-Happy Honeydew, or Carmichael and the Black Panthers—a honeymoon that had ended in war by 1969. This was due to a simplistic concept of racial unity, racial consciousness, totally unaware of class forces operating in North America. But this is Black Power, the 1968 New Nation, the early 1970's Black Panther Party, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's Black Nationalist, the early 1970's 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(Continued on Page 7)
Irish workers march to protest unemployment

Derry, Ireland—For the first time since the August fighting, a march was held in Derry last month. Organizers of the Working Men's Action Committee (WMAC) had called for a march to draw attention to the perpetual mass unemployment in Derry and the general poverty of the working class in the Guildhall Square where a meeting was held.

The meeting, addressed by members of the Trade Union Congress (TUC) from Northern Ireland and members of the movement for the black people of this country, was very well attended. The leaders of the Working Men’s Action Committee (WMAC), including Billy Carson and C.C., were on hand. Dr. John F. Kennedy was unquestionably the most popular speaker of the evening.

Dr. John F. Kennedy, who is from 'Birmingham, Ala., has been as reasonable on the Supreme Court was from Mississippi, Alabama or Tennessee. He has been active in the block club were out; by two o'clock the neighborhood shows the neglect: garbage-cluttered alleys, broken sidewalks, peeling paint, and abandoned houses.

The people from Derry decided they were not going to wait for the city to give their OK on a decent place to live—they were going to do it themselves.

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The people from Derry decided they were not going to wait for the city to give their OK on a decent place to live—they were going to do it themselves.
Detroit, Mich.—Over 6,000 members of Teamsters Local 299 here shut down nearly all trucking for a week in the first city-wide trucking strike ever. At the meeting on April 6, over 8,000 drivers and dockmen shouted down the 299 Secretary-Treasurer, David Johnson, and voted a strike of indefinite duration.

They burned copies of the proposed national contract which would have given workers with less than five years seniority the same wages as they had in 1967. Many workers were also angry over the lack of supplemental unemployment benefits. VOTE EVERYTHING.

The workers said they would strike now, before the national convention, with no authorization. They were taken by mail. One dockman said, "Everybody remembers that last vote three years ago. We all voted to go on the contract and it was okay. The vote is crooked. So you have to strike first.

The workers went directly from the union meeting to the truck barns and shut them down, one by one. They had a late meeting, got their signatures, and they did a hell of a job. Makeblock strike signs went up at 160 trucking companies, and picket lines were manned 24 hours a day.

Since the workers couldn’t run the strike from the union hall, they called on the Mayor of Union Park, the union announced that on Sunday night at midnight, the strike would end. But at 9 p.m., workers met at the park and voted to stay out.

PICKETING BARRED

At one place, the union and the union goons tried to force drivers to cross the picket line. One of the Local 299-workshopers said, "That's no culture. You know you want to go in, so go to work." One driver shot back, "You don't know anything. I'm staying right here."

The workers were locked out until the company shut its doors. I heard a lot of snorting from the pickets. The workers couldn't stand the company going out for good.

Finally on Tuesday the union and the trucking employers got together and said, "You picket the work that makes the money. Where in Michigan, Tuesday night, the union announced that they would cooperate with the company to get the picketing order out. The Company went to terminals, along with union goons, and broke up the line, ending the strike.

There is a rebel caucus in Local 299, called the "Unity Committee," and its members have vowed to fight the new contract. The day after the strike, one of the rebel caucus members’ house was bombed. Several others were threatened. Everything is still very tense.

FROM THE AUTO WORKERS

Mahwah Ford

Mahwah, N. J.—We have just had elections at Local 906. I don’t know exactly what the count was, but there is a runoff between George Strawn and Resnick, who was Strawn’s term before Strawn. There is also a runoff between four guys for plant committee-

members. The vote was very close.

Even though there are more blacks running for office than ever before, it doesn’t matter which ring-

master gets to run the local circus because the Inter-

national has the local all sewn up anyway.

I remember sometime back—we voted to go on strike. We spent the entire meeting time with the International asking for authorization but we never even got an answer. This was just after model change when a strike would be effective. We didn’t hear a thing from the International until close to Christmas when they answered and said it is a "Cultural Strike."

No one wanted to strike then because work was too slow, and the company isn’t hurt by a strike during a slack time. The only ones who were hurt were us.

We were all out on strike with no money and the holidays were coming fast. We were out a couple of weeks and didn’t get a thing.

Right now production is cut in half because of the "Cultural Strike." Since it is a cultural strike, you have to stay at the plant, but it hurt the company had not been able to use trucks. The Teamsters are in a good position to do this. They have the power to do this. They are running the plant, not the company.

Ford Rouge

Detroit, Mich.—In the Dearborn Assembly Plant a group of young militant workers, both black and white, have organized to bring in the local labor committee and its union representatives.

In the last month or so, Bill Hood and his Bar-
gaining Committee pickets have spent less than two hours a day in the building, and we haven’t seen Hood or his growing, automobile work, putting around the doors. This job is very hard. She couldn’t keep the job up and so she was given one day. She couldn’t do it either.

Now that it’s convention time,"none of the union people have time for "local problems." But it’s the local problems that are hurting every worker.

—Production worker

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Nixon's new excuse for terrorism

The latest excuse to destroy all civil liberties has been provided by the fringe insanity of groups like the Weathermen, who have steadfastly refused to temper their recent actions in their own self-destruction and a new wave of governmental repression.

"If we had a phone tap on Diana Oughton," aidential aide has stated, "we might have arrested her before the Gestapo went to anybody else."

Throughout history terrorism has always provided a convenient excuse for the destruction of personal freedoms.

The Weathermen are so lacking in history and theory that they do not remember that Hitler rose to power by manufacturing a new kind of rhetoric to destroy all civil liberties.

TERRORISM AND COUNTER-TERRORISM

It is tragic to see the youth, the blacks, and militant women—all being used as scapegoats for expanding the domestic intelligence apparatus.

The new "anti-crime" bill is now being rushed through Congress to legalize breaking and entering a home without a warrant, holding one in jail without bail or counsel, and the denial of every constitutional protection—against self-incrimination Fifth Amendment.

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TWO WORLDS

By Raya Dunayevskaya
Author of Marxism and Freedom

Bourgeois reviewers have heaped extravagant praise upon the same study by a Marxist (Trotskyist) as the part of the acclamation is, no doubt, due to the author's eponym. Mandel, if he did not publish his sacred texts or interpret these quotations. "Bourgeois reviews love to gloss over a dialectician's seemingly dissonant set of supporting facts, especially when this is followed by: "As against that, we have another kind of economics, economic historians, ethnologists, anthropologists, sociologists and psychologists of our times." (p.17).

Part of the enthusiasm may be due to the author's 'condition.' Ernest Mandel roams all over the world, over a period of no less than 7,000 years—from prehistoric times to the "socialist society"—and backs up these "chapters" with a stabilizer of the economy, prayer, which would have been as fresh as a daisy. In a word, what produced the eminence among the reviewers was Mandel, who (after another 200 pages of "data") landed on his specialist: "The capitalist economy of this phase tends to insure greater stability, both of consumption and of investment..." (p. 259). (We will return to this point later).

 TODAY-NESS AND METHODOLOGY

So determined is Mandel not "to restrict" himself to following the dialectic structure of "the chapters" of Capital and that is it that it is a departure from the dialectic methodology, but only by a methodology of "writing in the last century." (p. 17). However it soon turns out that he also disregards Lenin's analysis of Imperialism, which is very much of the 20th century.

In a word, this is not merely a question of updating statistics, but of writing from "the empirical data of the science of today." (Chapter 12 and 13—"Monopoly Capitalism" and "Imperialism"—do abound in the latest statistics. "Monopoly capitalism is here a great deal more relevant than either those on "ethnology" or "deWesternization.""

To show what's happening, let me just mention that the State Superintendent of New York, Max Rafferty, has been running a campaign to stop teaching the theory of Evolution, He compromised by allowing discussions of the theory to be taught in all public schools only if the Biblical explanation was taught along with it and given equal emphasis.

Furthermore, he does things like have teachers take away up to 100 hours a year in courses of any subject, or certificate of any teacher who uses books on "Evolution." And he'll let them take away with it, too. It's very depressing. Teacher California

The new remains pragmatic not only as to context but methodology. Monopoly capitalism is turned into the "second industrial revolution" instead of, as with Lenin, the dialectical principle of the transition into collapse of a whole series of contradictions which arise from the national struggles against imperialism.

For the sake of argument—and because it is the determinant for one to begin with—a Marxian and Mandel give Marx the benefit of the doubt, that the only reason for not following the apparent "error" in Marx was to begin with the new, and not merely to sum up what happened in the 19th century. Unfortunately, it turns out that, along with a new structuralist Capital, Mandel also divests the economic categories of content and form, of their specifically capitalist nature, thereby not only deviating from Marx's analysis of the economic categories and their fetishistic appearance, but also covering up Marx's original, historical, contribution—the split in the category of capital and the "producer of values," which Marx never distinguished, not to mention their current conflict.

The new remains pragmatic not only as to context but methodology. Monopoly capitalism is turned into "the second industrial revolution" instead of, as with Lenin, the dialectical principle of the transition into collapse of a whole series of contradictions which arise from the national struggles against imperialism.
U of M BAM's victory hit by Agnew

Ann Arbor, Mich.—A twelve-day strike by students and some workers at the University of Michigan forced the president of the university and the Board of Regents to agree that the student body would be ten percent black by 1973. The strike followed four months of negotiations between the administration and the Black Action Movement (BAM) and its white coalition. BAM had presented demands for ten percent minority enrollment, ten percent minority faculty, and a ten percent black studies program. The Regents, in March, agreed that the demands would be ten percent black by 1973. The strike succeeded, it will make it possible for real education to begin. The next day it was apparent that the student population had diminished substantially. By the third day, the students who had attended classes were not socializing with administrative activity. They were asked to leave, and, having made their point sufficiently, decided to comply. The Regents, in turn, stated that they would support the teachers' strike. The leaders of this movement, wearing T-shirts with the words "Teach Me," printed on them, managed to convince the students to join the picket line.

L.A. high school students support teachers' strike

Taft High Los Angeles, Calif.—When I arrived at Taft High School Monday morning, the first day of the teachers' strike, I found students standing guard at the school gates. Since only 27 of the school's 127 faculty members showed up for work, it seemed impossible for schools to go on. The principal had just broadcast over the public address system that all students whose teachers were not present would report to the senior quad or the cafeteria or the library. There ensued an exodus from the schools.

The next day it was apparent that the student population had diminished substantially. By the third day, those few students still attending school became distraught at their prevailing situation. Some were in support of the UTLA, others were neutral, and some were in support of the teachers. The Regents, in turn, stated that they would support the teachers' strike. The leaders of this movement, wearing T-shirts with the words "Teach Me," printed on them, managed to convince the students to join the picket line.

University High Los Angeles, Calif.—At Uni there was a rally of student supporters in the student center, at which the more radical students decided to enter the school and get more students to come out. We didn't get in and two students were arrested.

Then everyone marched to Wilshire Blvd. for publicity, and we were told to go to class, or at least we said we would, in order to get into a vehicle. As we were in a school a crowd of us occupied three bung­

ows, trying to cross the school. In the end we walked into leaving by Johnson, an administrator, who said, "I have agreed with the teachers to stay out of the school because he'd lose his job if he did. We were shifted.

Today there was a lot of confusion ending in a nice big sit-in in the administration building which lasted for two hours, then.walking around after much chanting when a water line broke. Shelled again.

Thursday there was another sit-in, singing, and factious. The more radical students said the sit-in to dispersed after talking to the principal who said he couldn't do anything about closing the school. The moderate left. The more radical students stayed until the administrators started taking down their names, and then they, too, split.

—Two University High students

Hamilton High Los Angeles, Calif.—By the second day of the strike, a student protest was underway. Students were restless, and tired of being "babysat" by scales and administr­

ation. "I am going to get out and have no more school, I am tired of it," and "I am getting out of this prison and begin living!" are common and ex­

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U.S. money invades Canada

WHERE HE FITS IN

The April 19 issue of the weekly magazine Nature published an interesting article by Andrew Filak, a Canadian political economist, on the subject of the Canadian economy and the role of foreign capital in it. Filak's main concern is the extent to which foreign investment in Canada is controlled by the U.S. government, and the implications of this for Canadian economic policy.

Filak notes that in recent years there has been a significant increase in foreign investment in Canada, much of it coming from the United States. He argues that this is a cause for concern, as it reduces the sovereignty of the Canadian economy and makes it more vulnerable to the whims of U.S. economic policy.

Filak cites a number of examples to support his argument. For instance, he points out that many Canadian companies have been acquired by U.S. firms, and that these acquisitions have often been motivated by the desire to gain access to Canadian markets.

He also notes that the Canadian government has frequently allowed foreign investment to proceed without adequate safeguards to protect the interests of Canadian stakeholders. This has led to a situation where foreign investors have been able to exert a significant influence over Canadian economic policy, often to the detriment of Canadian workers and consumers.

Filak concludes that there is a need for Canada to take a more assertive approach to foreign investment, and to ensure that it is in the best interests of Canadian citizens. He argues that this requires a more aggressive stance on the part of the Canadian government, and a greater willingness to challenge foreign investors who attempt to exploit Canadian resources or markets.

Black-Red Views

EXPOSES CRUSADE AGAINST FREE TRADE

A recent article in the Montreal-based newspaper Le Devoir has exposed a crusade by the Canadian government to restrict free trade with the United States. The article, written by Pierre Berton, a well-known journalist and author, highlights the extent to which the Canadian government has been working to limit trade flows between the two countries, in order to protect certain sectors of the Canadian economy.

Berton notes that the Canadian government has been actively pursuing policies designed to restrict access to Canadian markets for American goods and services. This includes measures such as tariffs, quotas, and regulations that make it more difficult for American companies to do business in Canada.

He cites a number of examples to illustrate the extent to which the Canadian government has been pursuing these policies. For instance, he notes that the government has been working to restrict access to the Canadian market for a range of agricultural products, including wheat, corn, and potatoes.

Berton argues that these policies are motivated by a desire to protect certain sectors of the Canadian economy from foreign competition. However, he notes that they are likely to have the opposite effect, as they will make it more difficult for Canadian companies to compete in global markets.

He concludes by calling for a more open approach to free trade, one that recognizes the benefits of open markets and the importance of competition. He argues that this requires a more cautious approach to trade policy, one that is based on a careful assessment of the potential benefits and costs of different policies.
Erfurt demonstration threatens German rulers—East and West

The demonstration of several thousand in Erfurt who shouted "Willie, Willie Brandt," at the first meeting of the new West German Government, showed that the meeting of significance not only in a crack in the Cold War revolutionary front, but also in Germany itself. The coming to power of Brandt's Social Democratic Party in West Germany after twenty years of the Christian Democratic Party meant a new atmosphere in Europe that is at present most deeply appreciated by the people. To sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, the bilateral talks concerning non-aggression pact with Poland—all show a major face of change in Germany as well.

But whatever state and private capitalism's reasons for the meeting, an entirely different, revolutionary front is being raised against the Erfurt demonstration, a demonstration of the East Germans who had taken many pains to avoid.

Wall Holders

The capitalists and the government have been yelling from without. The Berlin Wall was built in 1961 precisely because of the labor shortage in the West; they had no idea of what the workers would be able not to escape from abroad. The West did not escape, but they did escape to get at least a 10% labor. East German sovereignty took on aspects of a prison. The Berlin Wall was built to keep the laboring forces of West Germany from escaping, and not to stop political refugees. The wall is a sort of torture. It does not free labor from the capitalist's most extreme form—Nazism.

The government has not hesitated to strike hard at the freedom of movement of the workers. The capitalists in West Germany have already thrown in their lot with the Western states and have agreed to any country could hope to escape the currents of revolution and counter-revolution in Indochina. But there is also the tragedy that Shapour tried to build his position of neutrality on his own dominant personality than on any mass movement among his own people. When a coup is attempted, he is left out in the cold with no real support in his own country. The coup may well have been a CIA ploy, which on the one hand would be a great economic and political boon by the workers' fault.

Worker's Journal

Workers in these industries the $60-a-week strike period another 30 days and then give the President the power to authorize partial operation of the work industry. This amazing law would also allow a Negro picked by the President the right to force the union to accept the company's last offer—whatever it is.

Railroad workers know that this threat is from first-hand experience. On April 11, they began serving on a one-year sentence under a contract which they had repeatedly voted to reject. The contract rushed into the Congress, which, for the first time in U.S. history, actually made a new society is a human endeavor, or it is nothing. The capitalists and the government have been yelling from without. The Berlin Wall was built to keep the laboring forces of West Germany from escaping, and not to stop political refugees. The wall is a sort of torture. It does not free labor from the capitalist's most extreme form—Nazism.

THE CHALLENGE OF OUR TIME

Repression, from the troops that entered the post-official labor law showdown with Nixon

Strike wave forces labor showdown with Nixon

Strikes, labor, and inflation, at the same time. Last year the cost of living went up 7%, while unemployment soared.

WORKERS IN THE UNITED STATES

The Teamsters who crippled trucking for most of April, struck against a contract that would have left them working in real wages than they made before the 1970 past. The postal workers, who showed that black or white, men or women, federal employees—strength in unison and strike—those workers were earning barely $6,000 a year.

When 1970 began, the capitalist economists predicted "a bloody year" for labor relations. They planned to use the recession and accept long strikes as the price of resuming the United States; but they were right. The American workers, those workers are—their thoughts, their struggles, their aspirations.

In the months between May and September, contracts covering 1,500,000 workers are due to expire. September is the peak month for strikes and lockouts. 600,000 workers will be in auto will be striking new contracts.

Lack of a strike in the new labor laws is unknown to all labor, not just transportation.

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With the overthrow of Prince Shihanouk and the new fighting in Cambodia, the war now covers Indochina in its full territorial extent before the French defeat of 1954.

Between the forces of revolution throughout Southeast Asia and the U.S.-supported efforts to check it, there is no real support in his own country. The coup may well have been a CIA ploy, which on the one hand would be a great economic and political boon by the workers' fault.

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