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Detroit, Mich.—The trials that grew out of the occupation of Wounded Knee last year have just started. The American people haven't looked too closely at the position of the Native Americans, but if they look at these trials they will be able to see, through the American Indians, what this whole country is about to become.

Reports from U.S., British coal miners' revolts--pp. 5, 8

Nixon 'crunch' hits hard at unemployed

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In every field, whether it is economics, education or just living, our lives are being controlled. Those who have suffered through "urban renewal" know what we are talking about—you are moved whether you want to go or not. The aftermath of Wounded Knee was covered up. Since then there have been a dozen killings. There have been confrontations that have never been reported. It has been able to be totally covered up because we are a small number of people.

One of the biggest things we have to contend with is the psychological effect the borders put on Indian Affairs. Since Wounded Knee, a special force is being trained by the CIA as a riot control force. Furthermore, it is further uprisings. It will be a special police force made up of Indian people, trained and sent back to the reservations. It is a good example of what the capitalist state is like.

Everything that happens on the reservations is concerned with profit, not with the Indian people. Land is being exchanged by the big corporations. They will clear out an area of a reservation to build a factory, and try to convince people that this is economic development, and that the Indian people will benefit from it. But all that is really happening is that the people are being forced to go or not. The same thing was true in Canada around the James Bay project. They tried to pretend it was for the good of the country, but it was the Indian people who lost out.

Global politics of oil exploits all sides; deepens crisis of world state-capitalism

By Peter Mallory

Nixon's conference of 13 oil-consuming nations which was to provide the unity necessary to confront the oil-producing countries has displayed nothing but the utter disarray of world-wide state capitalism. 1973, which Kissinger declared to be "the Year Of Europe," shows Europe as well as $14 on the world market, which has nothing to do with the U.S. Their divergent goals are leading their countries into recession and the total collapse of the Atlantic Alliance.

The oil crisis could see the end of the Common Market since they are quite unable to reach agreement on any major issue, and stand united to one against French proposals on the Mid-East.

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The month of March marks the celebration of the 66th anniversary of International Women's Day. Day by day by day, New York City to commemorate a series of long and bitter strikes by garment workers for decent working conditions and recognition. This desire for a better way of life has been evident among working women not just in the contemporary era of women's liberation but throughout history.

One of the largest and most significant strikes in the organization of working women, and in the history of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, took place in the beginning of the 20th century among the shirtwaist makers in Philadelphia. Up to 6,000 walked off their jobs—75% of them women, many between 16 and 25 years old. They stayed out for 12 weeks, picketing, praying, and going on hunger strikes for free treatment and for the right to vote. The strikers were called “the women’s suffrage movement,” and “we fight for women’s rights.” The strike was led by Clara Lemly, who was arrested and sentenced to jail.

The following are excerpts from a talk on “Black Women and White Liberation” sponsored by the Los Angeles News & Letters Committee—Ed.

Black women and WL

The following are excerpts from a talk on “Black Women and White Liberation” sponsored by the Los Angeles News & Letters Committee—Ed.

I was born a woman and I was born Black. They knew I was going to be Black before they knew I was going to be a woman. We are told that being Black is anything that is good in this society. Being a woman is nothing new to Black women. We have been liberated ever since the world began, first by just being Black, second by being women. Black women have played a role of being the ruler and protector of her family.

We are the women who were kidnapped and brought to this country. We were raped and still being raped. We are the women whose bodies are sacrificed in the hospitals for the sake of white medicine. We are the women whose bodies were and still are being used as cheap labor for Miss Mary’s kitchen and the slave laborers. We are the women who live in the hell-hole ghettos all over the land—lured after, snatched away, and restored back to white society by halves in poverty neighborhoods. And we are called jealous and prejudiced if we protest this invasion.

We have watched our fathers, husbands, and sons denied, deprived, and driven mad. A high proportion of Black women become welfare mothers, usually without a husband, because capitalism found it necessary to create a situation where her man can’t find meaningful employment.

Black women are expected to be primarily mothers, domestic providers, and sex objects. Teaching, social work, typing, and other office work are only possibilities if she meets their standards of beauty. Teaching, social work, typing, and other office work are only possibilities if she meets the standards of beauty.

We have an obligation as Black women to project ourselves into the revolution to destroy those institutions which not only oppress Blacks, but women as well.

We are not to accept as a woman who is Black, and not a Black woman, I want no part of your movement. You as a white woman can’t consider yourself as my sister and expect me to be in your home, in your kitchen, cooking for your husband and babies.

I am a no longer a tool that can be used by the white man. I am a Black woman and the white woman stand up together—fight for what they believe in, accept that what I want might not be what she wants. We must stand up for what she wants and what I want—until we can come together, the women’s liberation movement will go nowhere.

We are not mad at the Black man, but I am mad that he hasn’t rejected what the capitalist system is doing. We want to fight off to work just as the boss man, but knock my head off. If we as Blacks— not just women, but both men and women—would get together and relate to each other the what the capitalist system is doing to us as a whole, there would be no need for separation, because we would understand.
MARCH, 1974
NEWS & LETTERS

Workers seek answers to GM South Gate layoffs

by Felix Martin

South Gate, Cal.—At GM South Gate they have done away with the shift and all the young guys. This leaves only the older guys on the day shift. Guys that are on the line now haven’t been in the assembly line for years. It is really murder!

A few of us who are left were talking at lunch. One worker was really depressed about the concept of reverse seniority. With reverse seniority the older workers would have a chance of being laid off during a slow period. He said he had read about it in the GM South Gate Workers’ Committee leaflet. “I can’t understand why we older workers are being rear ended for. We won’t be able to stand it, and all these young people who are trying to start a family — they’re really hit.”

“PALE AS A SHEET”

The enormous profits by oil companies in this self-created crisis—how it would affect all labor and what could be done about it. We need early retirement and semi-retirement.”

“I can’t understand why we are being overworked and have a speed-up and inhuman treatment. Everyone is asking: ‘Where is the union?’

In our area we have had layoffs due to the oil crisis—how it would affect all labor and what could be done about it. We need early retirement and semi-retirement.”

NEW YORK:

Detroit, Mich.—The lay-off we have had at Fleetwood hurts all the workers. The workers who were laid off have been used to overtime money and now find themselves on compensation, which is about the normal pay. It also hurts the young seniority worker in service and depot work. If it works out with us, if we give in and take those new hours, and these postal officials say that the three-hour difference would make the mail move easier, they may do it to all the other mailers.

“We have to have overtime because if we don’t get it off now, management just does whatever they want and doesn’t trouble themselves about a union charter board. When everybody was getting court injunctions to go back to work, one worker said, ‘If we don’t move now, we might be a better class than we are by the time we said we’re not going back.’

Unions exist to protect the workers. When the committeeman goes, there may be no one to represent the workers, and this is where wages are less than in manufacturing. The young workers have a right to stand in line for six and seven hours before you are waited on. The old-timers don’t have to be laid off to make room for the old-timer.

“Since the strike, working conditions have eased up a little. I think management is making efforts to break the union—they played their trump card and lost. They don’t even have their own courts behind them. Even the little foremen were in sympathy with us. Management has brought in 300 temps as a ‘supplemental work force,’ which is really to move the mail in case of another wildcat.”

READERS—DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO TELL? SEND IT IN!

FROM THE AUTO SHOPS

Fleetwood

(This month a new shop paper appeared at Fleetwood: THE FLEETWOOD SPEAK, by Thor H. Petersen. We thought this story from it would interest our readers—Ed.)

Detroit, Mich.—The lay-off we have had at Fleetwood is really murder. The workers who were laid off have been used to overtime money and now find themselves on compensation, which is about the normal pay. It also hurts the workers who are left, and also the young people who are being hired. We are supposed to have union representation in bad times as well as good. We can’t get representation if GM throws out half the employees. We can’t get representation if it takes two weeks to hear a grievance and committee calls are never answered.

When you go to the Blue Room, it’s like a Kangaroo Court. You can prove you’re right and the foreman is wrong. And still lose because Labor Relations is the judge, the jury and the prosecutor.

I want to know what is the union doing when their own committeemen get time off? We have not heard a word about a meeting to deal with the emergency. Something is wrong in UAW Local 15. Something must be done now!”

Ford Rouge

Detroit, Mich.—I was talking to an older guy who worked in the Rouge on the glass line and went home that night. He’d been working there since before WWII and helped to form the union. When he came back to the union members, there was a vote. Only 48 people voted not to strike out of 1300. So we set up pickets. No union delegate even showed up at the gate.

One worker said, “Foremen are in the union. So what good is union if you can have? We get no grievance settlement, everyone’s paying the same dues. The union arbitrates them and we have nothing to say.”

“Emergency Day”

One day I was in that first house, Craig Anne, and this old man so bad, he had tears in his eyes. I sat there myself and cried. They don’t know how to talk to African American people. They talk to you like an animal.”

Because we struck, we won $45 over three years, which is more than 5.5%, but it’s really nothing. The way prices are going up. The only good thing was the pension plan, for earlier retirement. But how many can last that long at Hunt’s Point?”

—Hunt’s Pt. Warehouseman

Dockers strike S. Africa ship

San Francisco, Cal.—On Friday, Feb. 15, 200 people showed up outside Pier 23 to protest the unloading of cargo from a South African ship. We got no grievances settled, everyone’s paying the same dues. The union arbitrates them and we have nothing to say.”

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Hunt’s Pt. warehouse strike

Bronx, N.Y.—1500 porters and warehousemen at the Hunt’s Point Terminal Market, which supplies fresh produce to greater N.Y., struck for four days after rejecting the contract the union leadership presented and won a better contract.

The president of Teamsters’ Local 202 had gone to the owners and told them, I have this contract ratified. When he came back to the union members, there was a vote. Only 48 people voted not to strike out of 1300. So we set up pickets. No union delegate even showed up at the gate.

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Factory life is like playing a game of golf: you go from one hole to another. Chrysler-Jefferson plant in Detroit started the layoff detail.

The first stop: unemployment office. Get a date... then wait.

Then you return for your unemployment check, you will stand in line for six and seven hours before you are seen.

The young workers will return to that line time and time again.

The old timer will be more likely get one check. Then, if he’s lucky, he’ll receive a telegram to report to another of Chrysler’s plants. This is due to the area-wide seniority agreement in Chrysler, which permits high-seniority laid off workers to bump low seniority workers from plants.

Whatever job the old timer is given has to be taken—or else. The new job always pays less than the old. Most of the work is in service plants and parts depots, and this is where wages are less than in manufacturing. The young workers have a right to stand in line for six and seven hours before you are waited on. The old-timers will be more likely get one check. Then, if he’s lucky, he’ll receive a telegram to report to another of Chrysler’s plants. This is due to the area-wide seniority agreement in Chrysler, which permits high-seniority laid off workers to bump low seniority workers from plants.

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THE LINE

LAYOFFS LIKE GOLF: GO FROM HOLE TO HOLE

by John Allison

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No sooner had President Nixon finished his State of the Union address, in which he declared "there will be no recession because whatever happens, the time has come to roll it all in," than his own Department of Labor announced the new unemployment statistics for January. These grim figures put a quick end to the ridiculous charade engineered by the President and his "Mad Hatter," Treasury Secretary Schultz, who cynically told the press that "there will be no recession because whatever happens, the time has come to roll it all in."

The January unemployment figures revealed the sharp increase in layoffs across America. Workers thrown on the street numbered 4.8 million, or 5.2 percent of the work-force, up fully half a million unemployed in just two months. Nor does this chilling statistic really represent the severity of the crisis. For factory workers, the unemployment rate was up 6 percent; for minorities, 9.4 percent; and for youth, 15.6 percent. And while the figures for Black youth are now no longer released, Arthur Brecher of the Federal Reserve Board reported that 42 percent of Black workers under 25 years old were unemployed.

**FLINT — 12 PERCENT JOBLESS**

So rapidly are the ranks of the jobless mounting, that even the bourgeois economists are predicting that unemployment will hit eight or even 12 percent by summer. And in Flint, Mich., 12 percent are already unemployed and 20 percent unemployment is forecast. No less than 128,000 UAW members have already gotten the "indefinite" layoff axe. (See "Workers Journal," page 1). The cutbacks are not limited to auto. Steel, rubber, construction and other industries have begun their own layoffs. Retail workers are now feeling the effects of the swift drop in sales.

Despite the fact that the President or his "master negotiator," Dr. Kissinger, are daily predicting an end to the Arab oil embargo, the truth remains that the recession was already under way even before the embargo began. As long ago as last spring, the strategists of Nixonomics were predicting that the economy would have to be "cooled down." The time had obviously come to once again enlarge the "reserve army of the unemployed."

**UNEMPLOYMENT**

If taken as just a rise in percentage points, unemployment has no human significance. It's when the "rate" of unemployment is placed in its world-historic context — as cities like Flint, Mich., 12 percent are already unemployed and 20 percent unemployment is forecast. No less than 128,000 UAW members have already gotten the "indefinite" layoff axe. (See "Workers Journal," page 1). The cutbacks are not limited to auto. Steel, rubber, construction and other industries have begun their own layoffs. Retail workers are now feeling the effects of the swift drop in sales.

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The announcement by John Dunlop, head of the Cost of Living Council, that nearly all wage and price controls would be removed on April 30, is adding to the general sense of that the recession is already ended under this chaotic on-again, off-again, state-capitalist economy. Last year's recession was "self-correcting," "unemployment costed out," "on," the cost of living went up nine percent overall. Food prices shot up 30 percent, and fuel was up 15 percent.

The truth is that real income you can spend has been cut by the reduction in food prices and wages. And the energy crisis cuts both ways, and that no one is going to get that precious oil out of the ground except them.

To the resistance of the workers is added their common opposition in the government, and the organized blind have fought those that struck that followed the Occupational Health and Safety Act. New Bethlehem Steel is threatening to cut steel production, and blaming it on insufficient supplies of coal. They modestly suggest that the problem could be solved by mini-wars. Nixon, who found that 3.5 million workers killed or injured on the job in the United States. The determined resistance of the coal miners, in Britain as well as in America, shows that they are not about to sit still for this kind of repression. (See miners' story, page 3). The truth remains that the energy crisis cuts both ways, and that no one is going to get that precious oil out of the ground except them.

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TWO WORLDS

IT is with special pride that I turn over my column, "Two Worlds," to the report by Andy Phillips on the latest struggles of the miners in Kentucky, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. The situation of these miners, in the general strike of 1949-50, initiated a whole new epoch of movement from practice to theory which grew Marxism and FEMINISM as its theoretical support. I trust that, in turn, PHILOSOPHY AND REVOLUTION will be felt by the miners to have an important front of struggle so that we may, together, forge a unified movement that will support this exploitative system.

—Rosa Luxemburgo

"Every single day that you go into that mine, you never know if you're gonna come out alive or dead. Only you can't think about that. You must act as if you'd never be able to even go down there, let alone do any work.

As expressed by a West Virginia miner, and known by every coal miner in the nation, the overridingly daily fact of life for them all is . . . death. It is this reality which, more than any other, shapes their values, philosophy and character.

It is a reality which they reject and have always fought against, as seen in their bitter battles during the '30s and '40s when they were deservedly called the "shock troops of American labor"; in their nine-month strike in '49-50 against automation which first hit and devastated the coal industry and to which the miners responded by raising the still-to-be-resolved historic question of "what kind of labor should man do as a human being?"

THROW OUT BOYLE

Their opposition to those who failed to respond seriously to their literal life and death needs was more recently shown in their defeat of the unqualified United Mineworkers President Tony Boyle, replacing him with the relationally qualified candidates who placed on a platform of returning the union back to the miners.

First and foremost in the minds of the miners, this means continuing the old idea of work by insisting that violations of safety provisions will not be tolerated, and if they are that the violators be punished.

It has now been a year since UMWA President Miller was elected. To date, the miners appear to have given him pretty good marks, but they are not taking anything at face value.

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In all, 70 miners were arrested. The courts are handling out stiff fines as a future deterrent.

STUDENT ACTIVITY

**STUDENT ACTIVIST**

Ontario

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I recently read your pamphlet Black, Brown and Red. It is really refreshing to find a group that doesn't regard itself as the intellectual elite of the class. Please send me more information on "Marxist-Humanism."

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MARCH, 1974

ONLY MINERS' CONTROL OF SAFETY WILL REDUCE DEATHS

It is with special pride that I turn over my column, "Two Worlds," to the report by Andy Phillips on the latest struggles of the miners in Kentucky, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. The situation of these miners, in the general strike of 1949-50, initiated a whole new epoch of movement from practice to theory which grew Marxism and FEMINISM as its theoretical support. I trust that, in turn, PHILOSOPHY AND REVOLUTION will be felt by the miners to have an important front of struggle so that we may, together, forge a unified movement that will support this exploitative system.

—Rosa Luxemburgo

"Every single day that you go into that mine, you never know if you're gonna come out alive or dead. Only you can't think about that. You must act as if you'd never be able to even go down there, let alone do any work.

As expressed by a West Virginia miner, and known by every coal miner in the nation, the overridingly daily fact of life for them all is . . . death. It is this reality which, more than any other, shapes their values, philosophy and character.

It is a reality which they reject and have always fought against, as seen in their bitter battles during the '30s and '40s when they were deservedly called the "shock troops of American labor"; in their nine-month strike in '49-50 against automation which first hit and devastated the coal industry and to which the miners responded by raising the still-to-be-resolved historic question of "what kind of labor should man do as a human being?"

THROW OUT BOYLE

Their opposition to those who failed to respond seriously to their literal life and death needs was more recently shown in their defeat of the unqualified United Mineworkers President Tony Boyle, replacing him with the relationally qualified candidates who placed on a platform of returning the union back to the miners.

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Chavez to growers:

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Below are excerpts from an article by Cesar Chavez, and from his eulogy for the 19 migrant workers killed on Jan. 14.)

In Florida, Gulf & Western Products Co., a major sugar-cane grower, hauls Jamaica cane workers in eight-by-thirty-five-foot vans with no windows, no seats, and no inside lighting. On Monday, Jan. 7, upwards of 130 farm workers were jammed into a van headed for Gulf & Western's Okaholna mill. The truck's steering failed and the vehicle overturned in a ditch. One cane cutter died and 86 were injured.

Pence's tribute to our brothers and sisters who lost their lives during the days that followed such inhuman treatment of farm workers, treatment summed up by a quote from one Florida grower in the Miami News: "We used to own our slaves; now we rent them." Many Californian and Arizona growers have their own system for "renting" their workers.

Terrible accidents must be stopped! It is our obligation to find for whom these terrible accidents died ... The burden of protecting the lives of farm workers is squarely on our shoulders.

But the men and women we honor here today are important human beings ... They are important because of the work they do. They are not implements to be used and discarded. They are human beings who wear and sacrifice to bring food to the tables of millions and millions of people throughout the world.

We speak in many voices, but the men and women of the United Farm Workers of America (UFW) picketed an Oakland, Cal., pier where 143,000 gallons of Spanish wine concentrate were being loaded onto Gallo trucks for shipment out to Gallo refineries.

The farm workers went on strike against Gallo wines last summer when Gallo refused to renew their contract with the UFW, and instead invited Teamsters' trucks that were going to haul away the American Civilization on Triol, Black Masses in 4—Russia As State-Capitalist Society

2—Motes an Women's Liberation—

8—Polish Shipyard Workers Revolt Against Com­

13—News 8> Letters—

12—Culture, Science and State-Capitalism

11—Workers Battle Automation

9—Freedom Spoke in 1973

8—Report direct from Prague :... 50c per copy

7—Black, Brown, Red 75c per copy

6—Pamphlets 1973: Indira Freedom Struggles

5—Polish Shipyard Workers Revolt Against Com­

4—Russia As State-Capitalist Society

3—China: Volos of Revolt

2—Notes on Women’s Liberation—

1—American Civilization on Triol, Black Masses

PHILOSOPHY & REVOLUTION.

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The S.L.A., the Panthers and the mass movement

(Continued from Page 1)

by John Alan

Dr. Marcus Foster, the Black superintendent of Oak­land public schools, was a gadfly down outside of the district administration building with bullets laced with cyanide, as he had been as an elected superinten­dent, who was with Dr. Foster at that board meeting late last fall, was severely wounded.

Shot alive after the assassins in the Bay Area media re­ceived a communique from an organization calling itself the Black community against fascist terror. In this statement Engels was not only setting himself against his own revolution against capitalism, but he was also acknowledging the existence of a myriad of other revolutions in the world, which, he thought all that was necessary to effect social change was to grab a musket and mount a barricade, just as Marx and Engels did, but that the barricade in the last analysis was the main point of Marx's brilliant essay which carefully delineated how each stage of French history, from 1830­ 1848, had its own particular form of revolution. Foster spoke of the Say's Law of supply and demand.

January 20, 1974

and become a cretin. With the collapse of the oil crisis swindler of them all. He did not pay as much taxes as he should. Nixon has been proven to be the biggest tax cheat of them all. There is still a joke about the Nixon Administration.

You may be wondering what is the fairest trial possible, and the composition of the jury is clearly not important in the face of the Washington conference. The Nixon Administration.

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Miners' control of safety is only way to reduce death toll

Miners alone bold solutions

The safety of the miners is the key to reducing deaths in the coal mines.

Contrary to the wishes of Heath the whole record of the Torries will be brought out during the election campaign. The leaders of the Labour Party are far from enthusiastic about the strike, but, as they must if they mean to win the election, they are concentrating their attack on Heath. He is an easy target because of the many somersaults he has turned and, more particularly, because of the stupid and stubborn stance he has taken on miners' demands.

Heath, so much how he may try to hide it, has come out on a class issue to fight on the basis of the miners. He is not interested in finding a solution. He will, however, have definitely no solution. The question is whether the class question will be there all the time.

We can see the fight of the miners as being something more than a fight on wages. They have a struggle against the legislation on industrial relations. They are the struggle in terms of unions, but in fact Heath has been defending what he is "holy writ." Wilson has promised to repeal the Industrial Relations Act. What else will he do is not very clear. What is clear is that the miners will be clear a indication of how the workers feel about legislation directed against the working class.

Other British strikes

As the miners vote... Not the British capitalist state is preparing for war — not against an external enemy but against the working class.

Last month, police from the Special Patrol attended scenes who had been involved in a very triesty showrooms. They were demanding electricity. One was injured; 21 were arrested; but LEB officials did not enter the building.

But the oppressed are fighting back: Women in the Southend who were given the money for Social Security by low paying work occupied a particularly bad factory. The local Labour Exchange had to turn the factory back to them.

Despite a court ruling severely limiting the size of picket lines, 250 were turned out in support of mainly Asian workers at Coventry Castings who were on strike against victimization (unemployment) and for a 35-hour week.

Centrepoint, a London skyscraper owned by a millionaire speculator, was occupied as a protest against increasing homelessness. Streets were blocked when police attacked a solidarity demonstration.

The struggle continues.