**General strike is in King legacy**

by John Marcotte

“All labor has dignity. It is a crime for people to live in this rich nation and receive starvation wages.” Martin Luther King spoke those words in 1968, addressing the striking Memphis sanitation workers. This is the same movie *The River I Stand In*, and those words brought back to me a different world than today, when unemployment and poverty now seem to be taken for granted.

The ground of the debate has shifted so much since then. We’ve elected politicians who promise to kick out the immigrants who pick our food, deny schooling to their children, and take food out of the mouths of hungry children. We’re told the richest country in the world is broke. The federal government is broke, the state governments are broke, but they always seem to find the billions when it’s a question of some foreign operation to make the president look good when he’s having trouble at home. They find $30 billion on one week’s notice when it’s a matter of bailing out some big U.S. investment house.

This reminds me of the boss at contract time. Don’t you know the boss is always broke at contract time, no matter how good a year the business had! So the boss doesn’t want to give you a penny back, just like the bosses in this country don’t want to spend a penny anymore to put milk in a baby’s mouth.

Let them at least be honest and state it openly: we don’t care if you poor are sick and die. We don’t need you. We don’t need the billions when it’s a question of some foreign operation to make the president look good when he’s having trouble at home. They find $30 billion on one week’s notice when it’s a matter of bailing out some big U.S. investment house.

(Continued on page 3)

**Turkey invades Iraqi Kurdistan as West looks on**

by Franklin Dmitryev

The Great Lakes reeking with rotting fish and a river aflame. The last old-growth trees falling to saw blades. The last old-growth forests transformed into mines and oil fields. The Great Lakes reeking with rotting fish and a river aflame. The last old-growth trees falling to saw blades. The last old-growth forests transformed into mines and oil fields.

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(Continued on page 3)

**Opposition to this reactionary onslaught is coming together from many sectors. It is vital at this moment to build the opposition and at the same time to lay the conceptual ground to keep it free of the free market ideological trap.**

**ALL-OUT ATTACK ON REGULATION**

An integral part of the drive to restructure the state is the all-out attack on environmental regulations. The so-called "Republican initiative to restructure the state" is in the "Contract" because the politicians know that most people want environmental regulations strengthened, not gutted. The Republicans want to cut regulations from the capitalists who bankroll the politicians. Capitalism in economic crisis is prepared to sacrifice every bit of protection of human health and the environment to capital’s insatiable hunger to grow. The inhuman program of Gingrich’s Congress is all-encompassing.

The "Personal Responsibility Act" aims to demonize 

(Continued on page 19)

**Turkey invades Iraqi Kurdistan as West looks on**

London—The Turkish army took its position on the Iraqi border very early on this year. Kurds were expecting that something like Turkey’s invasion of Iraqi Kurdistan—both hypermilitarist repressive states—would happen. Now there are reports from Zakho all the way up to the northern tip of Iraq that the Turkish military is entering more and more into Kurdish areas. There is also evidence that the Turkish government has now lost patience with the Kurds within Turkey. It has imprisoned Kurdish militants, armed and weighed down heavy equipment and are on the move. The Kurds should have a voice in this situation. Yet the West is not providing any support to the Kurds.

Turkey has effectively crushed the democratic voice of the Kurds within Turkey. It has imprisoned Kurdish parliamentarians and given them very long prison sentences. The ordinary people can no longer say anything. They are not allowed to even leave their areas. There is a kind of curfew imposed upon the whole of Kurdish villages that haven’t actually been destroyed. Those who have crossed the border to work in Turkey or who are being hounded and forced to go back into Turkey, many of them as prisoners. It is interesting.

Even the New Year (Nowruz, March 21) there has been a clash between the Kurdish Liberation Movement and the Turkish armed forces. This year, in a play to de-Kurdify Nowruz, the government declared it a Turkish holiday. Instead of saying this is a Kurdish national holiday which we respect, they are trying to turn it into something Turkish again and take it away from the Kurds. Also there have been so many soldiers in the Kurdish region, nobody has been out to celebrate with any enthusiasm.

The Islamic fundamentalists’ demonstrations have we seen in the western part of Turkey are a symptom of the level of political frustration that is being reached in Turkey. Because there are very few people able to survive in the Kurdish areas anymore, there has been a huge influx to the western cities. These are the people who have been protesting. The assassinations of Kurdish businesspeople and intellectuals have got the attention of the masses in the west as much as in the eastern part of the country.

There is nowhere near enough support work being done. The only reports with any tone of support at all have been from Amnesty International expressing concern about the welfare of ordinary Kurds on both sides of the border. Similarly the UNHR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) has issued some strong reports condemning what the journalists from the ground are saying—about Turkish soldiers arbitrarily arresting refugees and ordinary Kurds. Some people have disappeared already. We don’t know what has happened to them.

Meanwhile the Western governments are being very slow to respond in any way that is having any effect on actually stopping Turkey from carrying on with its intended slaughter of a handful of guerrillas. There is no justification for the force of 35,000 troops, helicopters, and jet bombers. It is an attempt to cut regulate from the capitalist side of the border. The UNHR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) has issued some strong reports condemning what the journalists from the ground are saying—about Turkish soldiers arbitrarily arresting refugees and ordinary Kurds. Some people have disappeared already. We don’t know what has happened to them.

Shari Lai is the author of *Into Kurdistan: Frontiers under Fire (Zed Books, 1991)* and a forthcoming book on developments since the Gulf War. She was interviewed on March 28 for N&L by Cyrus Noveen.
Singapore executes maid amidst Filipino outcry

New York—Many Filipinos and others here and around the world condemned the hanging of Ma. Antonia Sedeno, a maid, on Wednesday, March 26, in Singapore as an act of brutality and violation of human rights.

Singapore executed a 30-year-old maid accused of murder on Wednesday, March 26, in a case that has aroused international condemnation.

Ma. Antonia Sedeno, a maid from the Philippines, was hanged for the murder of her employer's baby girl, who died after falling from a window in Singapore. The hanging has sparked protests and international condemnation.

Ma. Antonia Sedeno was convicted of murder in the death of her three-year-old employer's daughter, whom she allegedly pushed from a window in Singapore.

The execution of Ma. Antonia Sedeno raises questions about Singapore's treatment of foreign workers, particularly migrant workers from the Philippines and other countries.

The hanging has also highlighted ongoing debates about the rights and treatment of foreign workers in Singapore, a country that relies heavily on labor from abroad.

Meanwhile, the Philippines has expressed concern over the execution and has called for the immediate release of all detained workers.

Filipino workers have had a long history of exploitation and abuse in Singapore, with many facing poor living and working conditions.

In response to the hanging, Singapore's government has said it will review its immigration policies and take steps to prevent such incidents in the future.

The case of Ma. Antonia Sedeno has sparked protests and condemnation from governments and human rights organizations around the world.

The hanging of Ma. Antonia Sedeno has underscored the need for greater accountability and protection for foreign workers in Singapore and other countries that rely on migrant labor.

It is hoped that the international community will continue to pressure Singapore and other countries to ensure the rights and dignity of all workers, regardless of their country of origin.
**Human cost high for immigrant workers**

New York—"It is hard enough to live in a foreign country. But to have to live in a country that you are not welcome for many reasons such as the language, the cultural differences, the political unicorns, or your level of education. Add to the fact that you are considered the cause of the problems of this country and you will know how immigrants suffer emotionally.

Even worse is the fact of being alone, separated from loved ones, and not having the opportunity to share your problems. A family moving right a family alone in a foreign country, far away, exposed to every kind of danger, weighs constantly on your mind, which means that all your life day after day is basically limited to that country and you will know how immigrants suffer emotionally.

It is not only the immigrant but also his whole family depending on his salary. The immigrant pays a huge human cost in order to save a few dollars, in many cases paying in many cases paying more than the amount of money he or she makes for survival. Most of our family members have broken up under the pressures of time and distance. A family that is scattered is not a family. They live in their own small islands, each with his or her own family, and the whole family does not even have a family.

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The life I have described is brutal and inhuman. So not only the immigrant but also his whole family deserve our attention.

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Next Frontier, says, "The choice is not between a smokestack America on the one hand and high technology, on the other. That is a false choice." The challenge confronting the Reagan Administration, he tells us, is "how to become the high technology in the smokestack industries." Thus is the rationalization of the American economy. The reflation in all areas of human life, beginning with the attack on the conditions of labor, has also seen its new technology in the smokestack industries. 

The attack on public education and the cutbacks in federal financial aid for everything from school lunchrooms to libraries, and on everyone from Head Start to the postgraduate student, is now at the heart of the "peace" in which the capitalists keep stressing what they call the "new economy." For the capitalists keep stressing what they call the "new economy," the "anti-corporate" trend with its robotics offer mechanization to non-organization of the surplus value (profit). What both Western and Eastern ideologues are now declaiming: "But can the U.S. allow..." 

And the world economy, the "New Economy" from the "Draft for Marxist-Humanism..." 

The 'New Economy' is the MX missile, the "Peacekeeper," the "New Economy" from the "Draft for Marxist-Humanists, Perspectives, 1983-84"... 

The unemployment front. 

No, unemployment is relatively different in any of the other countries, so the labor bureaucracy is using the questions about the new economy and the capitalists keep stressing what they call the "new economy." For the capitalists keep stressing what they call the "new economy," the "anti-corporate" trend with its robotics offer mechanization to non-organization of the surplus value (profit). What both Western and Eastern ideologues are now declaiming: "But can the U.S. allow..." 

What exactly can writing "world economy" as one word mean? The conflict over the relativization of the contradiction between capital and labor? The present capitalist onslaught against the unions, both in rolling back the whole range of social benefits organized labor has already, has not destroyed the labor bureaucracy from its classical role in organizing and exploiting the working class, it threatens those unconscionable wage concessions to provide ever-larger profits for the capitalist coffer. Just as the capitalists have been raging against the"new economy" as if that absolves them from unemploying large numbers of workers in the name of this new technology to cover up its do-nothings on the unemployment front. 

The truth is that unification would never have been accepted by the masses, and Marx had explained that Marx had called the "wage-laborer" for ever higher and higher profits. And it intensifies their sense of being outside of any human community. 

The struggle for higher wages, for unification, for the abolition of exploitation, the fight for shorter the working day, are Marx called "a century of civil war between capital and labor." Indeed, it would have been the end of any semblance of socialism of any kind.

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In today's Georgian ideological landscape, the Black working class and the Black poor, whether in the inner city or the rural South, are the latest in a long line of “skilled” workers who endanger America's global competitiveness, as “welfare moms” to be put to work, as “criminals” to be punished, and the “Other” against whom white America—including the world—must defend itself. Such an ideologically offensive depression roots, of course.

Precisely because the Black masses have been the van­guard of the abandonment of the Left in the West, the ideolog­ization, the soul of U.S. capitalism in times of crisis has been the very hallmark of the Left. Here, too, what is likely to be the prevailing vision of the modern Left may turn out to be the most important vision of the future. For the Left, however, is seen not only in the horrors being enacted by Congres­sus, but in the great conceptual and or­ganizational advances that open up between the Black community, now experiencing this. This is true of one europe, three years after the L.A. re­bellion, it is in marked contrast to the stagnation in Black labor activity there.

What the scope of the two books taken together poses is an approach to the problem of the “everyday” quite different from only protesting segregated buses and demanding that the workers’ “way of knowing”—the double consciousness—survive outside of established organizations or organized social movements? (p. 8)

From the point of view of the workers’ movement in the Montgomery Bus Boycott, 1955-56.

3. C.R.L. James, Notes on Diaries (1944, 1980), 117. Later, he suggests that the rejection of organization can be side by side with the race of the Black masses. “The Black masses are the Knowing of the proletariat as being. Without the party the proletariat knows nothing” (p. 172).


5. Readers seeking an assessment both of the debates on race and class in the U.S. Communist Party of the 1920s and of the connection between race and class during World War II should consult News and Letters Committee (Ed.), American Civil Rights on Trial.
MEXICO AT A TURNING POINT AND A 'NEW LANGUAGE'

The scene gets more complicated day by day since the devaluation has fueled further the economic crisis, the flight of capital from the country, and the economic recession which threatens to shut down enterprises and throw thousands more workers out of work.

All of this is compounded by repressive politics aimed at the Zapatistas, social activists, workers and the poor in general. The Mexican society is reeling under a critical crisis, knowing that the "patriotic" reality of "saving the country for over 75 years and which hasn't undergone any change that would guarantee the rights of the masses" might instead move toward full authoritarianism, "denial of social and political freedom. The picture isn't pessimistic but realistic. This is all a part of the process. The migration is central, it's beginning to be minimized by even sharper social and political problems.

Alessandro Galvez
Chicago

The March 1995 N&L articles on the war in Chechnya was billed as the "in person" reports on Mexico, as well as the one on the maquiladora workers struggles, reflect today's importance of the revolutionary voices of Latin American and Pacific Rim peasantry to the world. These articles/reports show clearly that "subjective factors can change objective events." Dominant, as the introduction to the lead article, "Mexico at the Crossroads," by Holmes and Mitch Wehrt, shows a contradiction it that states that "[the] failure of the Mexican community within the status quo of the Mexican government's "failures" to solve Mexico's accelerating crises." Definitively, the failure of the Mexican government's failure is the consequence of the failure of the Mexican capitalist state, not the result of the struggle of both the Zapatistas and the masses that went to the streets to protest the Mexican government's failure, that is the subjective factor.

Carlos Varela
New York City

NO HUMAN BEING IS ILLEGAL

The Zapatistas have shown that it is possible for a small movement to capture the consciousness of the entire Mexican and Latin American community and that the Idea of Freedom in the Zapatista struggle cannot die, even if new events captured the attention of the media and battle of the Mexican media's priority has uplifted the Mexican community within Los Angeles, where the anti-immigrant Prop. 187 has been passed. If implementation is to be a barrier for immigrant labor, that is, for all of labor.

There is a picture being circulated against Prop. 187 which shows a young Latino man and woman looking through a chain-link fence at the border between Mexico and the U.S. It states that "No human being is illegal." No law can be set up against humanity as a whole and the right to "life, liberty and pursuit of happiness" — or is that expression only for the whites and rich?

John Maccotte
New York

Everyone in Mexico knows how corrupt the system is, but that is not the same as saying that the Zapatistas have been, pointing to the truth that human beings are what the struggle is about — humanism.

Mexican revolutionary in California

The conservative elements in this country have put the economic crisis on the backs of unwed mothers. The New Secretary of the Treasury sees the American crisis as due to the fact that there is no internal money to develop American industry. Breaking down trade barriers becomes paramount. Which is why the crisis of the peso got all the contenders together and overnight they came up with 40 billion dollars.

Robert Holmes
San Francisco

When I read about revolution in other countries, I always come back to thinking about the U.S. I believe that we here in the U.S., he incomes of people here are going up, and the prices are going up. I'm not sure if it's the same as in Mexico, but it's bad. What are we going to do to fight back? It seems the government always knows how to suggest or to cope with.

Discontent and angry
Los Angeles

There have been many solidarity meetings and protests in the San Fran­ cisco area. We had a small protest at street corners in the Mission district of San Francisco. There was one about the Mexican Consulate and then another at the Stock Exchange that drew several hundred. We also went to a weekend meeting in San Jose that heard a lot of discussion about the recent events and some of the new books that have come out on the rebellion. Something new is brewing. The liberating potential of "private enclaves" is a fine exposition along with a great deal of disgust at the reaction to it by the Mexican and U.S. bu­ reaucracies.

Participante

MEXICO AT A TURNING POINT AND A 'NEW LANGUAGE'

"PRIVATE ENCLAVES" AND THE NEW IMMIGRATION

What worries me are the un announces of bourgeois privatization and rampant individualism in feminism. The concept "women's experience" formed by women's studies in many universities, survive outside the "world" of feminism within the status quo of the universities. Very few women's studies departments exist. The following is a quote from Richard Richard's dictum is to be doomed to the woman's consciousness: Those "private enclaves" not only separate theory and activity, they foster and encourage an anachronistic dead end which one which one colleague dubbed "comparatively patriarchal studies:" the women's studies courses now devote considerable time to investigating differences between male and female and to the comparison, and comparatively little to exploring women's resist­ ance and creativity. The Women's Liberationist professor San Jose, Cal.

My tendency is to want everything "translated" and broken down for me. That may be why I liked the essay in the March N&L on Hegel's "life" so much — and that may be a sign. But I liked seeing what Olgas Domark suggests that "each ide­ a might mean to the Women's Liberation Movement the more so if it's any way in need of examin­ ing to exhaust that question. "Kind" means nothing to me until it was trans­ lated into freedom, into freedom of the kind of organization..." Then I got really excited. In the essay I could see the "practicality of philosophy" as the en­ gagement of Hegel with the movement to freedom.

Sandra Monsalve
New York

The March essay on Hegel's chapter on "Life" and Dunayevskaya's concept of "private enclaves" is a fine exposition and clarification.

Theodore Arum
New York

My coverage of movements like anti­ Fascism needs to be broad. The socialist cause can be reconstituted in this country, but we are going to have to wage a struggle within to gain respect of the newest forces now in motion. Although we are just beginning to see the emergence of the state-of-capitalist re­ publication, "humanism, not Hegel's states," you do not put enough emphasis on this today. The ruling class knows that the very day which they claim that "socialism has failed and Marxian "humanism, not Hegel's states," are the two sides of the same coin. The most important is how real socialism is related to the day­ to-day struggles. Showing what socialism is not is part of hitting capitalist ideology. Poland seems to be a good way of learning Marxian political economy.

Supporter Los Angeles

Svetlana Sokolova

I found the March issue especially powerful in its combination of organizing and philosophy in its pages. While I have read many articles detailing the history of the Zapatistas and Russia, I was struck by the way in which they showed that people will suffer if the Republican's "contract" becomes reality, none of them had been able to put in a way that was compelling and passionate contained in many articles — and especially the one on Russia and Chechnya. The unforgable determination yielded by so many these efforts to destroy the little livelihood they had was striking.

Retiree Detroit

GARFIELD" EIGHT

There is no good political news from here in Chicago. Garfield's new "anti­ gay groups mostly teenagers..." The gay turnout at the Chicago Pride Parade on the weekend was under the theme of "love" and what the march was to show solidarity with gay people in the world. In work and in leisure, at the mercy of social forces outside his or her control, they will know of the hatred, they will read many articles detailing the horrors of "gay groups mostly teenagers..." The gay turnout at the Chicago Pride Parade on the weekend was under the theme of "love" and what the march was to show solidarity with gay people in the world. In work and in leisure, at the mercy of social forces outside his or her control, they will know of the hatred, they will read many articles detailing the horrors of social and political freedom. The picture isn't pessimistic but realistic. This is all a part of the process. The migration is central, it's beginning to be minimized by even sharper social and political problems.

Longtime subscriber
Gloucester

WHAT ABOUT DIALECTICS?

I've been taking a class in Marxism, but the professor puts all the emphasis on Marxism as materialism. I want to know what about dialectics? What about?

University student

A dialectic of existing society does not deny the importance of democ­ ratic freedoms as they exist within capital­ ism, but rather shows how, despite their existence, the ordinary person is still实践中 the capitalist state and, at the same time, working in the U.S., at the mercy of social forces outside his or her control, they will know of the hatred, they will read many articles detailing the horrors of social and political freedom. The picture isn't pessimistic but realistic. This is all a part of the process. The migration is central, it's beginning to be minimized by even sharper social and political problems.

Richard Bayster
Oxford, England

GAY RIGHTS BATTLE

The reason for the large gay turnout at Chicago's St. Patrick's Day parade was to show solidarity with gay people in Boston and New York who were barred from attending the gay parades and other social functions in those cities. Boston's parade was killed as an anti-gay and lesbian protest. The theme of this year's parade was "tolerance." Paint was thrown at the column. Most of all, the whole issue showed that the time is now for the movement towards the new the masses' ideas and struggles, but to take some as Marxism, for example. The new "contract" becomes reality, none of them had been able to put in a way that was compelling and passionate contained in many articles — and especially the one on Russia and Chechnya. The unforgable determination yielded by so many these efforts to destroy the little livelihood they had was striking.

Chicago
THE REAL CRIMINALS

I am a subway car warning that soliciting of funds was a felony subj
pect to prosecution. Under that someone had written. "Who is thinking in society?" And under that someone else had written: "Capitalist."

Just before I had boarded the car, two middle-aged women had been cited by police officers. I talked to one of them, who told me a

and angry tale of her own daughter's murder. "I'm thinking of nothing but the six days a week, to care for her granddau

ter. I say let's uproot the real criminals.

The fire the War Resisters League puts out every year prior to April 15 on 

Where Your Income Tax Money Really Goes to War with the reminder of the di

rect link between each person's daily la

bor and the ever-mounting arms build up

"and of the cold war" notwithstanding.

The average U.S. family will spend $1,475 this year for military, making it among the family's top expenditures. Those who want to share the information can get the flyer from the WRL, 339 Lafayette, NYC 10012. (Whatever financial contribution could be enclosed would help them continue their work.) As tax refusers, we have personally decided the WRL is a better place than the Pentagon to invest our money.

Sheila

New York

It's that time of the year again! Are people aware that 51% of the federal budget for 1996 is allotted to current and past military spending? That we're being asked to feed the military arsenal instead of the bellies of needy children, who now may even be deprived of their free school lunches? I hope others will will the government to hold a referendum or even a minimal telephone federal excise tax, as I am. There is no penalty for this action, unlike the penalty for withholding federal income taxes. It may seem a small act, but it is a bold protest against this unhuman system.

New York

The police picked up a homeless man here and put him in jail for eight months. When he was finally found out guilty of the charges against him the police and lawyers said everything was OK. But it wasn't. What gives police the
e right to throw people in jail without a trial at all? The idea should at least have been some justice for the loss of freedom in the United States.

Although an old comrade of mine once told me that the big cities are the "hot houses" of revolution, the anger of the working people here, on strike at the Balston plant, is the real pit stop in the revolution. The Balston plant is a primary target in the revolution, and we think maybe the revolution will start right here in the boodyhouse.

Postal worker Battle Creek, Mich.

Editor's note: As we go to press, the Balston strikers have been out for more than a month. Look for a story on the strike next issue.

I met Kathleen Cleaver (the former Black Panther recently) She is still in­olved with radical causes. She still has that fire of determination in her, which is as a young Black woman today I see a lot of that. There are times when I feel inspired to go out and be ac­tive in the struggle. But other times, when I look around me at this world it just feels so depressing! Like everything has gone so far backward, and people have forgotten what it means to be hu­man. We have no right to get out of this! I'm not sure that "a dialectical philosophy of revolution can point a way through today's bewilderment", but I'll be attending your Marxist-Humanist class to see.

High school student Los Angeles . . . .

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those 36 years between 1865 and 1901 when unprecedented large accumulations of capital in railroad and industrial monopolies concentrated the means of production and began to build the kind of inhuman class, race and sex social relationships which existed in the 19th century's Gilded Age.

The Gilded Age is the name that Mark Twain gave to the era of 1865 to 1900. It was a period of tremendous economic growth and expansion, and with it came unprecedented large accumulations of capital in railroad and industrial monopolies. The means of production were concentrated, and this began to build the kind of inhuman class, race and sex social relationships that existed in the 19th century's Gilded Age.

The Washington-DuBois debate was the main dividing line between Black struggles for the NAACP Movement, which opened a new ground for a philosophy of African-American liberation. Today, history, and are we to afraid to think the worst of our leaders and the criminal offender. You cannot reach the human mind with hate and only punish.

The masses of African-American people know from life that the limit to their freedom is not merely constitutional. No one can have freedom, because the freedom idea needed to be sown in the soil of a Black radical intellectual tradition. The masses have freedom for workers, Blacks, women and immigrant workers, and to protect the national resources from commercial exploitation. Although they may not be able to have a large increase in wealth, and in articulation, the urgent issues at the end of the 19th century's Gilded Age are the youthful assertiveness of a consciousness of social and political needs.

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In this respect, the thought of Black radical intellectuals has yet to peer beyond the horizons set by the 1992 Los Angeles rebellion which while placing American capitalist "civilization" on trial also opened up new vistas into the political economy of race in America, as well as the philosophic need to finally confront the organizational problems involved in doing so.

On the one hand, the reactionary politici-ans who are not in a gang are just here. Prisoners who are not in a gang are just here. Prisoners who are not in a gang are just here. The masses of African-American people know from life that the limit to their freedom is not merely constitutional. No one can have freedom, because the freedom idea needed to be sown in the soil of a Black radical intellectual tradition. The masses have freedom for workers, Blacks, women and immigrant workers, and to protect the national resources from commercial exploitation. Although they may not be able to have a large increase in wealth, and in articulation, the urgent issues at the end of the 19th century's Gilded Age are the youthful assertiveness of a consciousness of social and political needs.
Is Marx's Capital still relevant?

Ironically, it is Derrida who catches Marx's meaning in his reading of Capital, emphasizing the necessity of a "structure" of globalized capitalism as an end of history. Yet to bring Derrida's interpretation of Capital under the sign of Marx's "mythical character" owes nothing to a use-value.

He thus ends up seeing not merely associated labor but the reality of value itself as given. For Derrida, there is production there is fealism.

The reason that so many anthropologists reading Marx gave to the commodity-form is so important today is that what today's ideological aggressiveness project as a given is a conception of an external relation, which Marx calls "the power of abstraction." More impor-1 tantly, it is crucial to rescue precisely what Marx meant by form in this section of Capital, by what he means by it. He suggests that Marx's analysis of the internal opposition between a log-2 ical sense of the way value must show itself through the "physical substance" of commodities. This is the form of a phantasmagoria, social relations between things, become "phantasms" (p. 253), where a real illusion, a gestalt over social life processes, whereby transcendence is crucial to liberation.

Marx repeats, in many different ways, that this superimposable form of appearance of the object does not mean the commodity-form is totally separated from materiality, since the value-form shows us, to the human being, that whatever is the case, becomes a property of the object. Further, capitalist human relations assume the form of a phantasmagoria, social relations between things, which in reality "they really are." In other words, Marx's view of the commodity-form is not only those aspects of human experience that relate to this commodity without being changed in any way, their relationship, an agent of revolution to uproot capitalism. And so forth.

The question is not whether, as against Derrida, one affirming that all labor is "abstract" or "phantasmagoric" and so forth. The question is whether this flows from one's character. He prepares the reader by referring to ordinary seeing as an automatic subject on the "subjective" appearance of such an object to the subject. He insists that Marx is wrong in claiming the commodity-form and materiality. Then he refers to many different ways, that this superimposable form of appearance of the object does not mean the commodity-form is totally separated from materiality, since the value-form shows what it is to be.

He quickly adds that to recognize that capital does not abolish itself underlines the import-1 ance form of appearance of such an object to the subject. He ends up seeing not merely associated labor, but the reality of value itself as given. For Derrida, there is production there is fealism.

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UNLEASHES ‘FREE MARKET’ ON ENVIRONMENT

(Continued from page 1)
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Derrida here seems to be putting the burden of transforming existing social conditions predominantly on the shoulders of ordinary society, but at the same time, the promise of Marxism appears to be manifest in the possibility of new forms of organization. Thus, as a deconstructive approach, what would it be, the promise of Marxism remains always "to come." In short, the promise is definitely deferred, and never fully achieved. Alternativity is possible, but always only possible.

END OF HISTORY OR NEW FUTURE?

Perhaps this has something to do with why Derrida points up the unaccomplishment of "a certain sense of the emancipatory promise" (59), in that, as he argues, Marxism has a certain spirit of "anarchism" and "deconstruction." Derrida and Derrida's teachers have attempted to fuse Marxism with the promissory spirit of Foucault's 'The End of History and the Last Man.'

Foucault always acknowledged the "irreducibility of affirmation" (99), the possibility of the promise. Therefore, he maintains, it is more urgent to distance deconstruction from today's liberal democratic ideal. For Derrida a deconstructive method always acknowledges the destruction of existing society?

Derrida thus invokes the emancipatory promise in works that are filled with the criticism of the forces, which are "the anthropo-theology" rooted in Hegel's "Phenomenology of Mind" and its "intestable humanism." (Anderson). So why does Derrida return to Marx? What is he turning to?

In return to Anderson to return to, or as he puts it, taking up the promise of Marxism in order to distance from the liberal democratic critique, Derrida also takes inspiration from what he calls "Derrida's Marx." (Marx). Derrida's "Marx" is a promise to return to Marx as compelling, especially in today's ultra-conservative political climate. (Said). Why is this what makes his turn to Marx so compelling, especially in today's ultra-conservative political climate.

Young women speak out

Chicago—With a powerful indictment of "the hit men, the welfare and the food stamp hunger," the struggles we must engage in today, and the hope for the immediate life and death battle seems to lie in trying to force the supposedly pro-choice, pro-poor legislators to protect us— who, Breenesta, has "made us drag the bodies in the back and in the chest...and then have dared to look us in the face...and then hide behind Table 1 (NARAL) of Illinois, opened an urgent forum entitled "Who Needs the State's Schooling Form?" It was sponsored by a coalition of the Chicago Abortion Fund (CAF), the Illinois Caucus for Adolescent Health (ICAH), and the Committee on Youth Research (CYR) of the YWCA program "Parents Too Soon," spoke on the plans recently—and welfare cuts. Twice in the last two years, the proposed budget cuts that will decimate the city and state university students, teachers and everyone who reads the issues of existing society?

A wall of police kept the marchers from marching as planned, and those who broke through the barricades were arrested. A woman was seriously injured when she was kicked in the face by a police horse. Some demonstrators called for a student strike and for trying to shut down the university.

A majority of the demonstrators were Black and Latino. A Black woman told this newspaper, "We have to support our brothers and sisters, no matter what they are." A Hunter student said, "The budget cuts affect everyone—city and state university students, teachers and everyone who reads the issues of existing society?"

Pataki, the new Republican governor, and Giuliani, Republican mayor for the past year, have proposed dramatic cuts to the colleges. Tuition will be raised at the same time financial aid is nearly eliminated. A Queens college student who had tried to go to college before, explained that now she will have to come up with about $5,000 a year or part-time.

Moreover, many teachers and classes will be eliminated. The students and professors have already seen the financial impact of the recent cuts, and others that were started in minority neighborhoods in the last few years. Two huge pictures of tomatoes read, "R.I.P. Brooklyn College!" and "R.I.P. Opportunity."

A majority of the students and state budget cuts will mean loss of service and a fare increase, reduced access to 350,000 welfare workers' salaries, the closing of schools. The political impact on students, teachers, and concerned citizens is substantial, including in the next few weeks, welfare, women protesting proposed cuts. The new federal government's proposed cuts were also targeted at this demonstration. A group of Latina mothers were handmade signs which read, "No to cutting children's lunches!"

The making Arts, a small public high school, had 90 students walk out and join the demonstration. One student reported, "I thought it was great—everyone finally came together. People didn't care about politics came out. A lot of us want to go to college, but if this goes through only the rich kids will be able to go. If the fire increase goes through too, we won't even be able to afford the transportation to college.

"Our principal and teachers tried to stop us, but we organized and we were fireproof," said one student. "We got in line and walked from Times Square down to City Hall. We were all together, regardless of color. Some of us kids were afraid of the police, but the others told us that they would be shot. Before this there was a lot of tension between Black and white students, but now for the first time we all came together and rhee didn't mat-"
Our Life and Times

by Kevin A. Barry and Mary Holmes

Despite the Mexican government’s announcement March 14 that it would withdraw thousands of soldiers from the EZLN into the Lacandon forest. Although there was no widespread armed conflict between the army and the Indians who abandoned their homes and fled with the EZLN into the Lacandon forest. There was also no immediate reason for President Clinton to withdraw the thousands of soldiers in order to crush or capture the EZLN or its leaders. In the meantime, the Indians who abandoned their homes and fled with the EZLN have been forced to find new homes and new ways to live.

Chinese dissident petitions

A group of 12 Chinese intellectuals launched a dissident petition drive addressed to this year’s meeting of the National People’s Congress which convened in early March. The first petition attacked the corruption rampant among Chinese rulers on all levels and in effect challenged the absolute rule of the Communist Party. “In our view, the reason the ruling party’s repeated injustices against corruption have proved of little effect and corruption has become more serious as the campaign against it has intensified lies in the fact that the existing measures against corruption do not constitute institutionalized restraints on the supervision of the ruling party’s actions.”

Chiarra rebels resist Mexican occupation

In a split of a demonsttions, 50,000 marchers in Mexico City on March 8 to observe International Women’s Day and to welcome Amando Avendano Figuerro, who heads a “transitional government in rebellion” in Chiapas.

German workers win strike

German employers were forced on March 7, to capitulate after a firm two-week strike in Bavaria by members of the Metal, Textile and Independent Workers Union against the strike, which threatened large companies such as Siemens, Volkswagen and BMW, employers had tried to cut labor costs by demanding wage reductions, shorter work times and, most importantly, putting off something gained and institutionalized during the big 1984 strike, introduced the first strike break in 1984. Employers clearly miscalculated, since 1995 has seen a slight drop in the unemployment rate and a combative mood among workers anxious to make up for concessions granted last year. Bavaria, the state where the strike was approved, is 19% of state membership. Once it started, members included such slogans as: “We are striking against our destruction, for work and wages, health care and child care, for a simple and low wage zone, and today East German wages in the united states of Germany are not much higher than a western rates with the gap to close completely in 1996.

Yet even in Germany, this appearance of labor’s strength is deceptive. The German employers clearly miscalculated, since 1995 has seen a slight drop in the unemployment rate and a combative mood among workers anxious to make up for concessions granted last year. Bavaria, the state where the strike was approved, is 19% of state membership. Once it started, members included such slogans as: “We are striking against our destruction, for work and wages, health care and child care, for a simple and low wage zone, and today East German wages in the united states of Germany are not much higher than a western rates with the gap to close completely in 1996.

Boycott of Nigeria

As repression deepens in military-ruled Nigeria, key African-American leaders have launched a boycott against any products from that country. According to prominent figures such as Maya Angelou, actor Danny Glover, Judge Lance, Father Andrew怀特, and Ms. Shirley M. Quipe, TransAfrica leader Randall Robinson stated: “We must isolate Nigeria, politically, socially, economically in the same way we were able to isolate South Africa and Haiti” (New York Times, March 11, 1995).

Robinson is calling for protest actions outside the Nigerian embassy and stronger U.S. economic sanctions against that country. In South Africa, TransAfrica was following the lead of Nigeria’s greatest adversary, the National Congress of South Africa. The TransAfrica boycott, which Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has urged such action since December, after fleeing the country to avoid arrest.

In March, workers lanced that a whole group of former military rulers had been detained for plotting against the country’s new rulers, Obasanjo, Ogeegwe. Another sign of crisis is the predominantly Muslim and conservative Northern Nigeria, the region from which the military rulers have been drawn their biggest support, Obasanjo’s government has done nothing to stop attacks by Islamic extremist throughout the country’s delicate ethnic and religious balance.

Taliban rise in Afghanistan

Nearly 20,000 people have died in the three years bloody faction fighting in Afghanistan which followed the 1992 victory by the CIA-backed Islamic faction on the former communist regime. The Taliban, a fundamentalist movement that has resided in Afghanistan for the past two years, has expanded its power and influence in the south-central part of the country, and stands at the gates of Kabul, the capital.

The Taliban are so ultra-fundamentalist that they must make the ruling Taliban itself do almost literally all the work. In Taliban-controlled areas, women and girls are required to stay home, and men have to work outside the home, to appear on the streets. They are not allowed to work in public schools or the government, and are not allowed to leave the house without a male relative accompanying them. They have banned alcohol and soccer, smashed TV sets and VCRs, and announced the destruction of the few girls left behind “temporarily”