The contract is touted as a great triumph of the strategic partnership between Kaiser management and the Alliance for Quality Health Care, presenting with a new nationally consolidated contract. Regaining controls allocatable resources? Management and management teams shall “recommend a staffing design within their labor contracts” to provide fair, stable, and safe work environments. Who do you think will decide what? Those decisions are critical because anything can happen in this economy. Further, some of these wage increases are just making up post-Great Depression lost ground from past wage freezes. Those freezes, however, were normal. Dozens of factories, firms, and enterprises have been occupied by workers. Workers have taken over their state-appointed managers and are demanding an improvement in living and working conditions. Workers have occupied some mines, factories, scientific laboratories, plants, pharmaceutical factories, hospitals, insurance agencies, and trading companies. Though this militancy erupted during the period of mass mobilization which forced Milosevic from power, the occupation of factories by the workers and workers’ unions have actually been kept back by police. The next day, a Palestinian mob lynched two Israeli soldiers who had been captured by the Palestinian police and were being held at the town jail in Ramallah.

(Continued on page 3)

Behind the Arab-Israeli explosion

In October, seven years of negotiations since the 1993 Oslo Accords fell apart in a rain of bloodshed and recrimination, as Israeli troops continued to fire upon Palestinian civilians and occupied stones, arrested with the occasionally lightly armed Palestinian policeman. By the end of the month, the toll stood at well over 100, with a million round the world. Radio and TV reports kept the world informed. Jews killed, and thousands injured.

The conflict broke out on Sept. 28, after Israeli Likud (conservative) leader Ariel Sharon made a provocative visit to a major Muslim religious site in East Jerusalem. Sharon was forced to retreat, leading some to observe that the commander of Israel’s 1982 invasion of Lebanon, Sharon, had already driven Christian allies to massacre hundreds of Palestinian women and children at Beirut’s Sabra and Shatila refugee camps. He was found guilty of this horrific war crime, not only by international opinion, but also by an official inquiry undertaken by the Israeli state itself.

Since 1967, Jews have been able to pray in East Jerusalem at the most important religious site any Jew wants to pray at, the Western Wall. Sharon opened that wall to Jewish prayers, and the MuslimAutomatic Authority leader Yasir Arafat and his colleagues. As one Israeli peace activist wrote, “Permission to kill has become ‘self-evident.” It is permissible to kill a child in the arms of his father. It is permissible to shoot missiles at demonstrators. Human life is important only when the human is not Arab” (Haaretz, Oct. 8). Next, the unrest spread to Israeli citizens of Arab descent, who took to the streets of Nazareth and other towns, also to be fired upon by soldiers. The fact that these Arab citizens of Israel solidarized with the Pales-

(Continued on page 10)

Fanning the flames

The Israelis continued to fan the flames. Former Prime Minister Shimon Peres, a supposed peace supporter who had been appointed special envoy to Europe, was asked by a French reporter why “you have three Israeli deaths but 100 on the Pales-

(Continued on page 12)
World March of Women comes to U.S.

by Anne Jaclard

New York—The World March of Women 2000 (WMW) culminated at the UN Oct. 17 after a year-long, massive global women’s protest to demand an end to violence against women, women’s poverty, and to demand equality between women and men, peace, and a redistribution of wealth. Women from 159 countries or more, in 5,000 organizations, had participated in demonstrations. WMW generated millions in signatures in support of the demands all over the world, beginning with International Women’s Day, March 8. On Oct. 11 the World March of Women Worldwide (WMW) gave the World Social Forum its blessing. Thousands of women came from Canada to the Oct. 17 demonstration, the biggest group by far. The Cameron delega­ tion from their borough brought 130 singing women, WMW logo and a drawing of themselves marching. In New York. Women are poor, hungry and dying, and they have no country.

Asian women brought attention to the U.S.’s Plan Colom­ bian in the Western Hemisphere. A scholar there is an entire region killing peasants and destroying women’s jobs. Sonia Pachon of the Internet Women’s Network said that in Colombia our country there is war, not only against drugs, but against women. Women are dying of hunger. We are fighting to go to school, to have healthcare, but those are no jobs. We don’t want to support the war.

Now there were about 10,000 people involved in an international campaign. The only women’s gather­ ings ever close to the Oct. 17 event in internationalism have been WMW events. WMW has held a few hours over the past 25 years. The WMW had more explicit economic demands, and an anti-capitalist fervor akin to the past year’s explosion of youth demon­ strations against the economic elites of the West with Seattle. At the same time, feminism was not down­ played relative to general economic, anti-imperialist or anti-war demands, as it has at many recent WMW demonstrations in the U.S. Rather, the demands voiced Oct. 17 related violence and injustice specifically to women’s oppression, and they excluded one’s own nation or culture from condemnation for sexism and heterosexism.

Achene women struggle for self-determination

by Mary Jo Grey

The international women’s human rights organiza­ tion MADRE publicly condemned Israeli military force in the Middle East. More than 1,000 Palestinians, including children. They called for women to be protected, and for the international human rights standards; withdrew from all occupied territories including Jerusalem, and respect Palestinian rights.

The Feminist Majority is calling for global opposi­ tion to the Taliban’s efforts to take over Afghanistan’s seat in the United Nations. The Taliban regime has subjected women and girls to the worst violence, including sexual assaults, violations, including death, since they took power in 1996.

For the 11th year, the group in favor of prison reform presented its initiative in the United States for an eight-page misconduct specialist “report” ranking “male-friendly” and “male” schools. The article defines “male-friendly” schools as those with large numbers of women’s studies departments and strong policies against sexual assault, which they claim are “rigged against men.” “Male-friendly” schools have a tolerance for excessive drinking; attractive women, and a few reign for fraternities with little attention given to classes addressing gender.

A “Humanitarian Pause” in effect since June has not stopped the repression by the military and police. For years preceding the cease-fire agreement, people were shot, women were raped and forced into labor or prostitution, and assassinated, children were killed, and veterans returned to the countryside. The 3,000-17,000 people in refugee camps currently house 3,000-17,000 people each. They have no clean water, and now that humanitarian aid workers have fled the violence, they often have no food. In many areas of Acheh there are no longer schools, or schools are not safe, and government officials encourage the residents not to give up hope. People today are struggling to get out of prostitution. Vednita, herself a survivor of street prostitution, pointed out that “there’s lots of money to be made; that prostitutes are bad women; that drug and alcohol withdrawal is the real issue instead of sexual abuse, poverty, home­ lessness. Until the original abuse is addressed, addic­ tion is a way to escape reality.”

Unfortunately in many cases the shelters and pro­ tective services for women are more interested in keeping women in prostitution than in helping them escape without telling them where they were going. They sim­ ply required them to get on the buses and vans. It was a terrible insult and set of disrespect, according to full the program’s title: “Take Back Your Life!” —Sonia Bergonzzi
Day laborers picket abusive agency

Chicago—Day laborers and their supporters rallied Oct. 25 outside the office of Labor Ready, a national labor supply outfit notorious for exploiting the working poor in a steady work—construction, delivery, manufacturing, and other hot, hard and dirty work. Workers stated that they got nothing—shortchanged, sometimes injured, and powerless to complain, until now. They are here, they said, to protest and win rights.

Day laborer Jose Pothers doesn't start until they call for the work. "I'm Free," he said. "I can be back at five in the morning and have the job of my choice. They charged me for a back support. After a day of hard work, I had a check for $14." Often crews have to work until 10 p.m., and they only pay those people $5 an hour or less.

Money isn't the only issue, said one man. "There's no formal training when they send you to a job where you don't know what kind of equipment you'll be using." Another day laborer said he was sent to a Teamster-run construction site where he was responsible for "heavy lifting." He charged them for a back support. "They charged me for a back support. After a day of hard work, I had a check for $14." Often crews have to work until 10 p.m., and they only pay those people $5 an hour or less.

"I'm Free"

Mucho was made of Cathy Freeman, the Australian Aboriginal Olympic gold medal winner in Sydney and how this young woman was to single-handedly bear the responsibility of placing a bandaid on a festering wound. After her much-lauded victory in the 400 meter race, Freeman was given special permission to carry the Aboriginal flag along with the flag of Australia arming victory in front of the world. That permission was never extended to any Aboriginal person for any similar gesture. Close to 750,000 Aborigines existed in Australia prairie to white settlement in the late 18th century, and more than 90 percent of them were wiped out within a generation and in expansion in what must be described as genocide.

Prime Minister Howard stated that such facts only prove the "Black" of history. In 1998, Howard's government passed a bill giving European settlers no more legal rights of Aboriginal peoples. That legislation would be more misinterpreted by the 1855 U.S. Senate than by the 1855 Senate. The latter rejected the 1855 U.S. Senate, but the former rejected the 1855 Senate, and both rejected it.

Over half of Australia's white population disagrees with giving some form of reparations to the Aborigines, and it casts a shadow of doubt on the very reasons for their existence. The decision by Labor leaders to ask Aborigines if only some of the children are removed from their families and raised by government programs and white families, like the number of Aborigines, we are living with and working with in the suburbs. We are the ones to blame.

Freeman noted that the tattoo on her shoulder—"even if they take this tattoo away, it's still there in some form as drawn to her face." She's a diabetic and he's afraid the medicine they give him won't be there. Their case has been on going for four years now. The news stations here are really irrelevant to our lives. I'm being framed by the police. He's a diabetic and he's afraid the medicine they give him in jail will be poisoned.

The TSA has framed some crew who are supposed to have a trial. They're not going to have it. The confi­dence man is going to do whatever he wants to do, and he's going to do whatever he wants to do.

"I'm Free"—Robert Taliaferro

Buhle on the AFL: Which side were they on?

The bureaucratic mentality of U.S. labor leaders, marked by the seeming indifference to the struggles over the membership and the ruthless destruction of any opposition, is well known. But how, in what extent of the outright conscious betrayal by that leadership, is the interests of workers both at home and abroad, which is detailed in Paul Buhle's book.

"Rank-and-filers' taking ownership of the patient care and the patient care system, which includes advertising, management, no amount of acclamation rhetoric like this nor nationally solidified agreements emerging out of this labor-management partnership can deny the objectivity of the fundamental conflict the drive by managed care to restructure and ration healthcare, based on capital's needs, is opposed by the ongoing rank-and-file opposition on the shop floor in order to regain control over labor.

"I'm Free"—Robert Taliaferro

Workshop Talks

(Continued from page 1)

Buhle attributes the growth of the UMW after its near collapse in 1929 to national legislation under Roosevelt. In fact, John L. Lewis, in 1931, threw his entire union to organizing a drive that inspired rank-and-file militance. Under the CIO, the nonunion miners, swelling both the membership and treasury of the AFL and the chairman. It was CNA's example that caught on.

The reward for such accommodations was renewed efforts against labor. After the red raids and court injunctions, the strikebreakers and the stereotyping as "red bastards" and "anti-management" and leaders lived off their lives as their salaries skyrocketed and workers' standing declined.

Buhle speaks of the great contradiction. It is not a contradiction in terms to say that the AFL, which under the CIO, the nonunion miners, swelling both the membership and treasury of the AFL and the CIO, which under the CIO, the nonunion miners, swelling both the membership and treasury of the AFL and the CIO.
From the Writings of Raya Dunayevskaya

MARRIST-HUMANIST ARTICLES

Editor's note

A s the 1960s "Freedom Novel" struggles against racism and segregation continued into the 1970s fights against discrimination in hiring and union representation; union bureaucrats and even left labor activists limited the given chance... After that Black and the proletariat, workers' rights or supporting seniority rights. Raya Dunayevskaya, in a letter to autorower and colleague Felix Martin in 1975, posed a revolutionary view of the issue of seniority in relationship to liberation.

This letter is part of a new pamphlet by News & Letters which contains writings by Felix Martin (Isaac Woods), an American humanist and Labor Editor of News & Letters for 27 years until his death last year. It represents a lifetime of work, revolt, and thinking as well as News & Letters' ongoing paper uniting workers and intellectuals. To order a copy, see the ad on this page.

The letter has been prepared for publication here and will be included in the Supplement to the Raya Dunayevskaya Collection.

July 25, 1975

Dear Isaac,

Permit me to say a few historic-philosophic things on the question of seniority precisely at the time we have no definitive position on the question because...not only must all aspects be considered as a totality, but also there is then greater objectivity than at a point when one "must" take a position.

Marx, from the very start of being a revolutionary, declared, "The proletariat is revolutionary, or nothing." He said so not only because he was so set on spontaneity, but declared, "The proletariat is revolutionary, or nothing." He said so not only because he was so set on spontaneity, but

But he considered the proletariat not only as revolutionary force, but as Reason. Thus in the 1844 Silesian weavers' strike—against Lassalle and all other socialists, communists, Left Hegelians, and whatnot that were opposing Prussia, but who called for themselves, the intellectuals, to be elected to parliament and speak "for" workers and this both avoid their "anarchy" and rioting and breaking up machines and other "backward" features—Marx insisted that they, those poor, supposedly backward masses, were in advance of the great 1789-1793 French Revolution.

He said so because (1) the "reason of these poor Ger­man workers was in inverse ratio to poor Germany," a word, whereas 'poor Germany,' though they had reached the height of philosophy with Hegel, were only talking of dialectics, change, transcendence, "the poor German masses" were acting, doing it. (2) It may not be good to break up machines—and workers will surely learn education from those machines by which they produce instead of throwing them out of work—but in action, that is in fact, machines do 'represent' the human beings who control them, and they are nowhere backward as compared to the intellectuals. For they found the deeds to the machines and made a bonfire of these.

So they are not just against machinery but private property, and even the French Revolution had not gone that far in overthrowing feudalism; private property remained, only this time belonging not to the lords, but to the capitalists, whereupon the opposition between have-haves and have-nots had grown to open contradiction, to the capitalists, whereupon the opposition between have-haves and have-nots had grown to open contradiction, to the capitalists.

"The proletariat is revolutionary, or nothing." This sounded great except that you looked at Kronstadt which broke out at once, not to mention world capitalism and the remaining classes. It is as if you are permitted other forms of organization, and if they are not incorporated into the state.

When we get to the working-class scene in the 1950s, we find that Bobshieviks couldn't for the life of us break out of either the damned American Federation of Labor which ever organize the unorganized, or the Black economic interest's Black would be permitted in anywhere. So we organized the American Negro Labor Congress, the Trades Department of the National League of Industrial Organizations. By "from below" I do not mean out of nowhere because we certainly were there too, but from within and outside at one and the same time...

Presently, both Blacks and women find they have very little chance of getting in, not only because of the trade bureaucracy, but, most tragically, the rank and file likewise do not recognize any value in "affirmative action." Believe me, no one in the movement is unaware of how long it took to get seniority, nor its absolute indispensability as against the boss who can otherwise fight at will. At the same time we cannot make out just the past and old arguments since the opponents this time are not bosses but "lower and deeper layers." We also know the bosses would nevertheless use that against workers, even as they use the Equal Rights Amendment against working women who fought hard to win the rights. But here, too, we must always demand that gains and demand proletarian women be consulted for working out any ERA on the basis of men too gaining the rights, not on basis of giving up rights. With seniority, instead of at once running to a "conclusion" and line, let's keep all avenues open, maintain dialogue with those excluded, or more precisely first hired, first fired.

And ABOVE ALL, SEE THAT IT IS NOT ONLY LEFT IN THE TRADE UNION TO DEFEND, BUT WE ACTUALLY PRACTICE PROLETARIAN AS REASON AS WELL AS FORCE...
The subjectivity of philosophy and anti-capitalism

by David Black

Until the 1990s, socialist politics in the West had long been distorted in the Cold War’s whirlwind of ideological mirrors. One perspective was that the Soviet Empire was somehow “progressive” in comparison with the “West” (it wasn’t). Compared with Social Democracy’s notion that it could abolish capitalism gradually through bourgeois parliamentarianism (it couldn’t and no longer even pretends to try). With Stalinism and Social Democracy now out of the picture for most activists, there are many activists who believe that critical engagement with Hegel’s dialectic is an important part of understanding, and organizing against, the “traditional” organizations of the working class. Oftentimes these organizations are the very ones that are able to help us in our struggles of today. However, the “anti-capitalist” protests in Seattle, Washington, D.C. and London over the last year have included activists who are more comfortable with leftist organizations, rather than attempting to build new ones. Whilst the “anti-capitalist” protests in Seattle, Washington, D.C. and London over the last year have included activists who are more comfortable with leftist organizations, rather than attempting to build new ones.

For many Hegel commentators, beginning with Schelling who was his contemporary, Hegel appears to be trying to show how the Idea, as a metaphysical abstraction, is “realized” in the empirical sciences of his day. Nature here is portrayed as a metaphysical idealism drawn from Plato’s earlier version. In Plato’s cosmology, the Form is hidden from and opposed to the “part” as “idea” and “form” is the “unifying force,” and “since absolute negativity can be articulated as negation of its own real part” as the “unifying force” and “since absolute negativity can be articulated as negation of its own real part.”

Hegel’s dialectic is the “dialectical development of a thinking subject.” This subject, presented in a syllagmatic form, is a living individual, motivated by “feeling,” who understands particular obstacles to his or her conception of “purpose” and tries to overcome them. Within Hegel’s “system,” the self-determined idea of the subject, or “subjectus,” is understood in all its diversity and objectivity. But in Nature, the logical does not generate itself; the logical is merely an instrument of experience. It is “unified consciousness,” as a metaphysical idealism. This is the “unifying force,” and “since absolute negativity can be articulated as negation of its own real part.”

Hegel’s philosophy is important to Marx. Hegel’s notion that “the whole is not equal to the sum of its parts,” and that “the whole is not only the sum total of the parts, but has a pull on the parts, the parts are independent of each other, but the whole ‘is not only the sum total of the parts, but has a pull on the parts, the parts are independent of each other, but the whole’” remains relevant to the dialectic of labor and capital. For Dunayevskaya, because Hegel’s absolutes end up being permuted with “absolute negativity,” the “unifying force,” and “since absolute negativity, the new foundation, is not something merely picked up, but something that is itself a result of a subjective couldn’t but be subjective, so much so that it extends to the system itself” as it becomes richer and more complete. Self-realization as self-determined movement must also extend to the Universal. As Hegel puts it in the Phenomenology:

The object as a whole is the mediated result (the subject) of these processes, its product, the “sum total of the parts,” and the process by which the object arises is by synthesis through specification, the reverse process from the idea to the universal, through取消ed individuality or specific determination.

If new dimensions of the “Quest for Universality” (to use Marx’s phrase)—Black, Feminist, Gay, “The new dimensions of the ‘Quest for Universality’ (to use Marx’s phrase)—Black, Feminist, Gay, “The new dimensions of the ‘Quest for Universality’ (to use Marx’s phrase)—Black, Feminist, Gay—can be seen to redefine the notion of ‘socialism,’ then Hegel’s absolute subjectivity can be articulated as an experience within the movement from practice of external obstacles to freedom which were themselves negations of earlier obstacles. The experience of internal barriers to new developments of subjectivity.

A new look at Marxism and Freedom

A new look at Marxism and Freedom

The subjectivity of philosophy and anti-capitalism


For Hegel, the “absolutely free” subject is the product of a series of historical events in which the human being, the individual, is the “unifying force,” the “unifying force,” and “since absolute negativity can be articulated as negation of its own real part.”

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NOTES


8. Raya Dunayevskaya, “Hegel’s Absolute as New Beginning,” Anti-Logic, To overthrive through cancelled individuality or specific determination.


I hope you will reprint Raya Dunayevskaya's letter on "The UN Resolution on Zionism, and Ideological Obfuscation also on the Left." It will help provide ground for opposing the tragic degeneration of Palestinian-Islam relations today.

In her July 11 letter, Dunayevskaya shows: 1) how all leaders have rushed to whip up Palestinian-Israeli hatred in order to divert the people of Bosnia and Kosova. Readers recent being differences over our principles together with our rebuttals; all committees on a number of points, the most important is the need to deal with current realities. A close-eyed examination has to be that both nations have a passionate stake in this area and that the fate of both are intertwined.

Gila Svirsky Jerusalem

While I do not think it is usually helpful to assign blame, my concern is that Barak believes sent a positive (sic!) message internationally as well as domestically. The whites’ virtual immunity from prosecution in cases of homicides resulting from quarrels over property and for anything they do to prisoners, re-creates slavery in modern terms. Prisoner solidarity activist California

Yesterday there was a lynching in Zimbabwe. Anybody living in the Old South of America would have recognized it as a lynching. Four days ago, the White supremacist pogrom in Nazareth, perpetrated by a Jewish mob upon Arabs and costing two lives. Anybody living in Caristia would have recognized it as such. The people of Bosnia and Kosova: Writings in the poorest district in the state of Pennsylvania and led by poor people. Groups from Detroit, Mich., Minneapolis, Minn., and Oakland, California, as well as Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka, have shared the books you sent at my work-place and have asked to share with you the ideas which they are learning and understanding. We are planning a mini-library to specialize in 'left' reading materials. Any materials you could contribute to our socialist mini-library would be greatly welcomed.

Student Indonesia

We represent a revolutionary Marxist group of workers and students from Kiev who have a good relationship with the worker movement representatives from other regions of Ukraine. For a long time we had been working in isolation from the world’s workers’ movement. We feel it is necessary to raise the fight for the building of a new international Ernest Mandel—Marxist and a revolutionary Marxist program. We feel it is necessary to raise the fight for the building of a new international. We are planning a small group of people per capita were China, India, Iran, Nigeria, Florida and Texas. We are planning a small group of people per capita were China, India, Iran, Nigeria, Florida and Texas. We are planning a small group of people per capita were China, India, Iran, Nigeria, Florida and Texas.

In the letter Dunayevskaya shows: 1) how Barak believes sent a positive (sic!) message internationally as well as domestically, since he finds a positive (sic!) message internationally as well as domestically, by what he has done to strengthen the war-hungry regime in the U.S. coinage. To me this indicates that the government will be greatly welcomed.

Correspondent Ecuador

A study cited in the October 2000 issue of Scientific American links the rise in the divorce rate to the social behavior rules established by slavery, when the "honor" system was the rule. Most of the cases of homicides resulting from quarrels over property and for anything they do to prisoners, re-creates slavery in modern terms.

Ecuador in Crisis

It is hardly news that Ecuador remains in crisis. The "dollarization" programs have fully failed. The government’s suc­res are no longer negotiable, but the government has minted coins, widely in circulation that are equivalent to the U.S. coinage. To me this indicates that we have no trustworthy "dollarization" as a sign that the government has no faith in its own strategy. I suppose it is only a matter of time before the government will be forced to increase its actual prices.

Ecuador

We feel the Ukrainian working class needs information about the develop­ments in different parts of the world and would welcome your help in this project. You may send your documents and political programs.

Ukrainian Workers Group

Your paper makes it possible for people to intersect and learn from your arti­cles and from each other. I write for you about subjects such as refugees, the situations in Holland and important events in the Middle East. I am a critic of traditional Marxian-Leninism. I’d also like to send you a list of public libraries in Holland’s big cities for you to send N&L.

Refugee Holland

Here’s a gem I came across in a new dissertation title called Trauma and Illness: In 1997, the six governments which executed the greatest num­ber of people per capita were China, Iran, Iraq, Nigeria, Florida and Texas. I write for you about subjects such as refugees, the situations in Holland and important events in the Middle East. I am a critic of traditional Marxian-Leninism. I’d also like to send you a list of public libraries in Holland’s big cities for you to send N&L.

American exile

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Refugee Holland

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One measure of how far back we have moved is the notion that Ralph Nader is a radical alternative to the Democratic and Republicans. In the 1960s and '70s, he may have appropriated his pose of the car companies, but who in the radical movement then would ever have imagined this consumer advocate as radical?

**Puzzled Tennessee**

***

In the most widely read book in the world there is a short passage that warns all to be aware that "the love of money is the root of all evil". It follows that so much is made to be the root of the prison industrial complex, therefore it has even more obviously everything to do with evil (profit) in mind. If we dig deeper, we eventually find this evil motivation carried yet another layer—capitalism. The same book warns us about (interest). Let us consider—stand by to become a party to the continuing evil. We need to get off our butts and act.

**Prisoner Texas**

***

I support. Oceanographer, Hawaii (October N&L, "Readers' Views") on the nature of science and technology. Explanations, science proper, are frequently met with, in particular, the domination of mathematics and physics by the military-industrial and the medical-pharmaceutical complexes, with all the anti-social aspects that the theoretical.

**R.P. Price Australia**

Mexico recently had a presidential election where the PRI which had been the ruling party for more than 70 years lost to Vicente Fox running on a populist platform. When the Mexican presidential debates were held, all six candidates participated. I suggest it's time to follow Mexico's lead and take back the debates from the corporations that are sponsoring. We need to get off our corporate feet and stand up to the system that is actively suppressing alternative political voices.

**Nader supporter Illinois**

One of the most remarkable things that we see in the proposed immigration is the explosive trend to monopolistic mergers and buyouts. We see it in the explosive trend to monopolistic mergers and buyouts. We see it in the proposed immigration that is actively suppressing alternative political voices.

**Worried Memphis**

Marx symbolizes difficult change, and a type of perseverance which requires determination and a rejection of current conditions of society. The anti-globalization movement has thrown some Marxists into a discontented state. The happy consumer society, and draws attention to the fact that people are already part of the global economy. Marx's political ideas about the world dominated by the corporate agenda for profit over people and the environment, the more citizens will be open to the type of uncomfortable criticism Marx poses of that society.

**A.H. Cyberspace**

**HARDLINER OR MORE?**

It was interesting to see the way Gus Hall's passing was covered in the bourgeois press. I saw the old Stalinist at a large meeting of Communist Party members in the mid-90's. He spoke of how the bourgeois press "lied" about famine in North Korea. He said he had been at a banquet with the CP. I suggested that the table was actually groaned with food! Furthermore, Gus told us that "Science has proven there is life after death for those who live on inhabited planets in the universe, and on none of them do they allow capitalism to exist. We need to end the interplanetary bourgeoisie to live the planet earth!" He called for a "hardline" to the dictators. In truth, he was much more—a gourmand among the starving, a cosmic neo-colonialist, and a con gamester.

**Fred Chicago**

**DISCUSSION ON THE DIALECTIC**

In his Preface to Philosophy and Revolutions, Louis Althusser (1957), in which the Hegelian dialectic is 'an objective scheme, definitively articulated and then applied and adapted to a variety of situations.' While I agree with Dupré in general, such a statement emphasizes even more the need to separate the dialectical method from reality. Dupré seems to confuse the dialectic proper with a specific method that exists in reality. Dupré defines the dialectic proper to be the Hegelian dialectic or the Hegelian dialectic.

**Rafael Estella Colorado**

Dunayevskaya was a practical Marx. Her long-term practice in the labor movement made her consider the total emancipation of humanity as her theoretical aim. When she shows that the Marxian dialectic is an absolute negation toward freedom, it is clear that she underlines the radical alternative to the Hegelian dialectic. However, socialist revolution is at its lowest tide. On the one hand, history itself puts forward a claim for absolute negation. On the other hand, it showed that the Hegelian dialectic was not enough, that the Hegelian dialectic is not enough even to explain the current conditions. Therefore, it is even more obvious that the current conditions are not part of the Hegelian dialectic.

**Gary Hardy Colorado**


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In memoriam: Harry Else, revolutionary fighter, thinker

Harry Else met Marxist-Humanism when he was already a young man. He came into contact with the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. This was the first petro-chemical refinery in Mexico. This presented a new life-style for the people in the area I am from, the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. I had worked before:

Two aspects dominated that life for Harry. One was his deep understanding of what he called the "boss and black" relationship signified—his passionate belief that the only way to overcome racism was toppling the regime. Harry called Chicago the "plantation up North," and defined the city as the "central plant." It's a fact that what has been going on in Mexico relates to the formation of life on this land and the people in the area I am from, the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. This is the same history that the Isthmus of Tehuantepec itself has had to go through:

Editor's note: The following interviews with Carlos Beauvy appeared in the Chicago World, the newspaper of the Black Solidarity Network, sponsored by the Mexico Solidarity Network. Beauvy is co-founder and current director of the Union of Indigenous Women of the Southern Zone of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec.

This is a fact that has been going on in Mexico recently. It's the history of life on this land and the people who live there. When the Isthmus of Tehuantepec was formed, the more than 40% turnout of black voters, augmented by the more than 30% turnout of indigenous communities told the story of the vote for democracy. The 18% of the white vote. He described how the system had worked before.

Another important factor is that this region has suffered from the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which has led to the transformation of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec into a region that is being devastated by high-impact pollution. The persistent theme of these "million-march-ideology" campaigns, as opposed to the striving for new human relations. It's a fact that the region is meeting and organizing to get access to information on what these companies are doing. We are doing this to make the system, the communication system available to us, for example. We are also doing a campaign to indigenous communities telling them not to lease their land to big companies. It's one of the main challenges of this movement.

There is also a huge tourism aspect that is being integrated into the project. This is good, not only for economic reasons, but also for economic reasons as well as economic impact on the region. Only through this lens can we understand why this area has been so affected over the years and why people are fighting for their rights.

I was just reading the Mexico press today about a Panamanian conflict that is going on. The government has attacked the indigenous communities. We worked with the Mexican government to see if they could create our own economies. The family economy has been one of the resistance.

I might add for example for five or six years the families that raise coffee saw coffee-growing cooperatives doing well. Before NAFTA people were surviving, but now we see the coffee growers having to work in the maquilas in northwestern Mexico. This is because of the economic crisis that was going on in this region because all the young men are leaving their land and families to go to work in the north.

Another important point to consider is the process of community assemblies and are taking on autonomous positions within various organizational structures. They are also gaining responsibility over some of the land. If you look at the indigenous resistance groups, one of the main groups involved is the National Organization of Indigenous Women.
Chemical release

Memphis, Tenn.—The Black community around the 1990s was shocked to learn, Oct. 11, that a chemical release on the Depot almost four weeks earlier had been hushed up. It was only on that day that a handful of community activists received a letter about the incident, which happened while chemical workers were clearing up mustard gas left behind from Dunt Field. On Sept. 15, three workers on the dig, all wearing protective masks, complained of nausea, headaches and dizziness. The Army Corps of Engineers, which oversees the cleanup, sent them to the hospital for tests, but only after more than an hour had passed. That's when that ‘authority’ said ‘the examinations and follow-up visits showed no evidence of exposure to mustard or other nerve agents.’ But the test did not check for the presence of chemicals but for the breakdown products of mustard gas. The next president will have to appoint Supreme Court judges who could help carry out a right-wing agenda.

Dancer in the Dark

Filmed in Sweden, by a Danish director, with an Icelan­dish actress, the leading role in this show is a tragic demise: the more compromised white men; the more compromised black men; the more compromised white women, the more compromised black women. The film follows Selma through her ordeal on Death Row. It is especially important in this regard for Marxist–Humanism to have a relationship to this new generation of post-Slavery, post-Civil Rights (North of Sunset, side door)

The Bush Dreams Supreme Court: Left to right (standing) Thomas, Scalia, Thomas, (seated) Thomas, Scalia, Scalia, Thomas, Scalia.

A look at Nader rally

Chicago—Thousands of people attended the ‘Bush/Cheney ’00’ Campaign Volunteer Kick-off Rally at the United Illinois at Chicago Pavilion here on Nov. 10. The crowd was largely young and enthusiastic about Nader but also showed some of the issues that have been ignored. Most importantly, many vote also participated in the anti-sweatshop, anti- globalization movement on campus. It was a relief to hear a presidential candidate talk about real issues in this campaign. Both Gore and Bush are asked on such things as support for the death penalty and opposition to universal health care. Gore was also better in campaign finance reform.

However, he has avoided taking strong positions on some very basic issues, such as racism and gay rights. In this regard, the overwheiling number of white faces, and the miniscule representation of Blacks, told a different story than was spoken by the white male celebrities on the stage.

For all his good points, the model that Nader invoked for his campaign was a protest movement that began in the South in the 1890s. This is a problem since movement had a tragic demise: the more compromised white men; the more compromised black men; the more compromised white women, the more compromised black women. The film follows Selma through her ordeal on Death Row. It is especially important in this regard for Marxist–Humanism to have a relationship to this new generation of post-Slavery, post-Civil Rights.
The 'BULLDOZER' REVOLUTION

Kostunica's victory does not mean Serbia has broken from narrow nationalism. The conditions under which the Serbs who opposed Tito in the 1970s for granting increased powers to Kosova. He was closely associated with the Serbian Academy of Sciences. He declared for years that he was the only one for what later became known as "ethnic cleansing." He was the leader of movements of autonomy in Kosova and Vojvodina in the late 1980s and Serbia's wars against Croatia, Bosnia and Kosova in the 1990s. But since Kostunica was an ex-Komunist who never joined Milosevic's government, he was not the kind of man to run for president by the much-divided opposition.

Many voted for Kostunica because they have grown tired of political gridlock and narrow nationalism. Many others, however, voted for Kostunica because they feared that Milosevic's regime would defend Serbian narrow nationalism strongly enough.

Independent observers estimate that Milosevic won between 55 and 60 percent of the Sept. 24 presidential vote, with about 95 percent going to Kostunica. Milosevic fared even worse in the election for the National Assembly. The BDS won 102 out of 110 contested seats.

Milosevic responded by trying to engineer electoral fraud. His regime was not even worse than the vote, which would necessitate a runoff. DOS refused to participate in the runoff, and called for street protests. But the regime managed to recognize the election results.

The situation was further held in the days following the Sept. 24 elections, most were smaller than the opposition hoped for. What changed everything was the events surrounding the Kolubara massacre on September 29—a spontaneous action that was not envisaged in any of the scenarios.

Kolubara is the largest coal mine in Serbia (it employs 17,000) and supplies coal to the Nikola Tesla electric plant. It produces much of Serbia's electricity. The strike had a huge effect. With the workers on strike, the plant was able to function in Kunca, Na, Panacevo, and Ustica. In Kruglavica 30,000 auto workers and miners from Belgrade and the surrounding areas demonstrated against Milosevic.

At the same time, tens of thousands of students and citizens went out into Belgrade's streets and squares. Belgrade. For the first time, a worker-student alliance emerged in the struggle.

Milosevic responded by arresting dozens of strike leaders; they claimed they were financed by NATO as part of the "war against nationalism" leaders. He ordered the police to surround Kolubara, and sent in his army chief of staff, Nebijca Pavkovic (an architect of Serbia's war against Kosovo) Pavkovic if the miners didn't return to work he would fire them and replace them with non-Serbs.

The threat proved futile. On Oct. 4 angry miners drove a bus through a police cordon, which allowed them to escape to Kolubara. There they were joined by other miners. The events in Serbia show how fast a tyrannical regime can be broken.

The events in Serbia show how fast a tyrannical regime can be broken. The workers' committee there has intensified since Kostunica took office.

March of Kolubara miners, who helped bring down Milosevic. This occurred just as NATO was about to expand into the former countries of the Warsaw Pact. The expansion of NATO could make NATO look like a helpless giant, Clinton and Albright decided to launch the U.S. air war against Yugoslavia.

The U.S. did not attack Milosevic because of his narrow nationalism. The U.S. attacked Serbia because it wanted to bring down Milosevic. Yet it may reflect the fact that something new is in the air which has reinvigorated the spirit of workers' revolt.

THE LEAST IN DISARRAY—ONCE AGAIN

Just as with the East European revolts of 1989, Serbia's new rulers are trying to ensure that the "revolutions" remain within manageable channels without any real change in the character of society.

Kostunica is being aided in this by the U.S. and Western European governments. On September 25, the U.S. and European Union announced it would lift sanctions against Serbia. The Clinton administration likewise backed Kostunica's nationalist position. And when Kostunica's government announced that it would hand over 800 Kosovar Albanians still in Serbian jails. Though he has admitted to Serbian "atrocities" in the late 1980s and 1990s, Milosevic's government has been more than prepared to let the region go. He has not abandoned his attempts to maintain control—perhaps in order to maintain his position in the region to recognize the election results.

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Death by neglect in women's prisons

d by Diana Block and Donna Willmott

Senator Richard Polanco (D-Los Angeles), chair of the Joint Legislative Committee on Prison Construction and Operations, held unprecedented legislative hearings on Oct. 11-12 at Valley State Prison for Women (VSPW) and the California Institution for Women (CIW). The session at VSPW in Chowchilla was attended by over 100 prison activists, lawyers, family members and media representatives in addition to several state legislators and their aides.

Former prisoner Pat Shelton described how she was serving an eight-month sentence for a parole violation when she discovered a lump in her breast. She was not seen by a doctor until five months later by which time the cancer had spread to her lymph nodes. She is now struggling with terminal bone cancer and came to testify in order to try to make a difference around how other women are treated in the future.

Charlotte Blumke said how she lost sight in one eye because of delays in treatment of a sickle cell anemia condition and implied the audience not to forget that "we are human beings."

Ellen Richardson detailed how the California Department of Corrections ignores the particular problems of a population where one-third of the women are over 40 and need help with osteoporosis, menopause and many other critical issues related to aging. "We are our own best doctors" she asserted, given the current lack of adequate medical care.

Beverly Henry, a self-disclosed HIV positive woman, told how she accidentally discovered that she had Hepatitis C since the prison never notified her of crucial test results. She and Judy Ricci, also HIV positive, painfully described watching friends die of AIDS (C) which is epidemic with approximately 54% of the women infected while prison staff disregarded obvious symptoms and refused to provide necessary liver biopsies.

At many points throughout the medical testimony the defensive panel appeared hurried by the stories they were hearing. Cynthia White (R-Simi Valley) said they were "lurking in the shadows" and angrily concluded that "these women have been given two sentences—one by the court and one by the institution."

The session was held to consider recommendations of Dr. Weinstein and other prisoner advocates for a non-profit public health care institution to take over the provision of medical care for state prisoners.

The focus of the testimony at CIW was on battered women whose responses to abuse had resulted in prison sentences and on the type of sexual abuse which women are routinely confronted with once inside prison. Woman after woman described lives in which they were terrorized, beaten, raped and threatened on a daily basis until they finally killed their husbands or partners in order to protect themselves and their children from further torture and death.

For many of these women, it was only once they came to prison, met others with similar life stories and formed a group called Convicted Women Against Abuse, that they began to recognize the common problems not only in their histories but in the problems with their trials.

Marva Wallace spoke forcefully for the majority of the women when she explained that there was no adequate assistance from legal counsel, no reference to her believing and no testimony from a psychologist as to state of mind at her 1984 trial when she was convicted of first degree murder, eight years before laws allowed the issue of domestic violence to be introduced into trial proceedings. Many of the women had filed petitions for clemency with Governor Wilson but have had their requests ignored.

Widney Brown of Human Rights Watch described the universal fear of retaliation which kept women from coming forward to testify on sexual abuses inside the prison and also from even reporting abuses. Battered woman prisoner Nancy Garcia further related her story by coming forth to testify of her repeated rape by a corrections officer who was granted a federal prison reduction.

Several of the women described lives in which they were threatened with sexual abuse, women had to be believed rather than discredited pending investigation into facts of a case.

The systemic problems within the California prison system were more than obvious. Advocates for prisoners and community organizations pointed to the lack of control, punishment and warehousing of women.

Diana Block is a member of the California Coalition for Women Prisoners and Donna Willmott is litigation director for Prisoners with Children.

To follow up the Friday event, a smaller rally and march was held at the Cook County jail complex at 330 St. Charles, Chicago on Oct. 22. Family members and supporters of victims victimized by the system, like the sister of Edwin Ortiz, a teen who was convicted of a 1989 murder he didn't commit, also participated in the demonstration. As usual, the most moving part of the day was the testimony from family members of those killed by police or railroaded into the criminal justice system. People like Gwen Hogan, George Michael, Francine Nettles and Escamilla are always a great source of strength and renewal.

Another highlight this year was an event at the Chicago Anti-Bashing Network. In previous years the October 22 Coalition here has had some problem including gays and lesbians in its program. Thayer gave a speech to the brutality of gays and lesbians by police, as with the current case of Frederick Mason here in Chicago. But he also sent a message to the 100 supporters of the Coalition Prisoner Committee, with their retrograde position on gays: "We won't go away after the revolution."
Fujimori’s power shaken in Peru

The dictatorial presidency of Alberto Fujimori was rocked from within when a videotape of Vladimiro Montesinos, head of the hated National Intelligence Service, collaborator with the CIA, and close ally of Fujimori, was broadcast on the whole country, showing Montesinos bribing an opposition politician. Fujimori then announced that new presidential elections would be held in 1999, two years after coming to power, in order to make any type of compromise impossible. This was certainly Sharon’s aim on Sept. 28. It was also the aim of the Muslim fanatics who threatened Arafat’s life if he gave up “one inch” of Jerusalem at Christmas. They decided that this was only a threat to Jews. In addition, it played into the hands of those Middle Eastern regimes that have always sought to divide the Arabs and Israelis. Under the reactionary Netanyahu government of Israel, the development of new human relations, as in Russia and China. We stand for the abolition of capitalism, both in its private property form as in the U.S., and its state property form, as it has historically appeared in state-capitalist regimes. We stand for the autonomy and liberation of the Palestinian people, for the autonomy and liberation of all of Asia. We stand for Marxism, for the liberation of the U.S. and Africa. As capitalism.

Anti-globalization protests continue

An estimated 15,000 anti-globalization protesters were not able to entirely shut down the September 26, 1999, World Trade Organization Fund in Prague, but they did pressure the delegates to adjourn earlier than planned. The organizing coalition, Initiative Against Economic Globalisation, were anti-activists from Brazil’s landless movement and from Bangladesh’s Federation of Landless Women Peasants. His supporters of the Zapatistas, the Colombian Black Communities Process, as well as hundreds of NGOs and thousands of grassroots groups.

Activities ranged from counter-summits to discuss anti-globalization theories, to the culminating demonstration in Bologna. Action Planers themselves in a line of connection with the anti-globalization consciousness that erupted in the Seattle WTO demonstrations. Action Planers represented a wide spectrum of struggles that one banner attempted to sum up: “Make protest as global what is, to reveal and further the spirit of the Communist Manifesto—its fundamental philosophy of revolution. The spirit of the Communist Manifesto is the spirit of criticism, the spirit of freedom, of the struggle against authority in every form, of the struggle against the limitations of post-Marxist Marxism, against the caricature of Marxism by which the show two-way road between the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

This body of ideas challenges all those desiring freedom to transcend the limits of the past. Marxism, beginning with Engels. In light of the crises of our nuclearly armed world, it presents the vantage point for re-creating Marxism internationally, as well as in Russia and China. We stand for the abolition of capitalism, both in its private property form as in the U.S., and its state property form, as it has historically appeared in state-capitalist regimes. We stand for the autonomy and liberation of the Palestinian people, for the autonomy and liberation of all of Asia. We stand for Marxism, for the liberation of the U.S. and Africa. As capitalism.

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