

KEEP CANADA OUT OF O.A.S.

Progressive Worker

Workers of All Countries, Unite!

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U.S. AGGRESSORS



GET OUT OF VIETNAM

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Just off the press is a book that all workers should have in their library, "One Battle More," by Hal Driggs, veteran labor fighter. It is an account of the struggles of the metal miners of Butte, Montana, to build a union in 1917. The fight they had against war hysteria, company thugs, etc., and the rustling card system, where a miner had to interview a company stooge and give his life history; where he worked the last ten years; why he left; did he ever belong to a union, etc. If he satisfied the company interviewer, he was given a rustling card that allowed him to look for a job; without the card he could not obtain work in any of the mines. This book tells of the lynching of Frank Little, an I.W.W. organizer. He was taken from his room in the middle of the night and lynched.

"One More Battle" is written by a worker, in working class language, for other workers to read, and may be obtained by sending \$1.15 (U.S.) to: Bayside Publishing Co., 333 A—7th Ave., San Francisco 18, California.

M.F.

DR. CRUZ IN B.C.

The Vancouver-Victoria area of B.C. was host to the Cuban ambassador to Canada, Dr. Americo Cruz, and Mrs. Cruz during the latter half of November.

The ambassador spoke to a number of student gatherings in both cities and at three well-attended banquet meetings in Vancouver. Questions relating to the expatriation of Cubans wishing to desert their homeland were discussed and cleared up. Dr. Cruz exposed many of the lies about Cuba and the Cuban economy being circulated by imperialist scribes.

In an obvious reference to some propaganda recently distributed by so-called "friends" of Cuba, Dr. Cruz remarked: "We are neither pro-Russia, nor pro-China: we are pro-Cuba."

A great many people were enthusiastic at meeting Dr. Cruz and expressed the hope that the visit will be repeated in the near future.

SICK OF THE P.G.E.

Canadian labour's "winter of discontent" is marching on apace. The groundswell of militant struggle has reached out to embrace the Railroad Trainmen on the B.C. government-operated Pacific Great Eastern (P.G.E.) Railway.

One hundred and twelve trainmen have been booking off "sick" as a demonstration against a mounting pile of unprocessed grievances, a deterioration of working standards and a breakdown of safety regulations resulting in increasing danger to life and limb.

The company in recent months has been pushing every petty grievance to arbitration, a process which costs the union \$100 per day for a chairman and puts its financial stability in jeopardy.

Management is adopting a hard stand and threatening to discharge all the "sick" trainmen when they report back to work. We await new developments in the fight.

Keep Canada out of O.A.S.

Recently the U.S. puppet Pearson on a supposed holiday in the Caribbean made statements about the possibility of Canada joining the O.A.S.

WHAT IS THE O.A.S.

The Organization of American States (O.A.S.) was established in 1948 at Bogota, Colombia, at the Ninth International Conference of American States. Its headquarters is in Washington, D.C.

The O.A.S. has in addition a number of specialized bodies such as the International American Defence Board which also has its headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Belonging to it are the United States and 19 Latin American republics—Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Salvador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

At least half of these member states of the O.A.S. are outright dictatorships often run by military juntas. Some have so-called elections, but only parties acceptable to the ruling cliques may contest the elections.

WHAT IS ITS FUNCTION

The preamble of the O.A.S. charter states that its purpose is "to provide for the betterment of all in independence, in equality," and that this will be achieved "within the framework of democratic institutions, of a system of individual liberty and social justice based on respect for the essential rights of man."

Article 4 of the charter says its purposes include "the pacific settlement of disputes," common action "in the event of aggression," and the promotion of "economic, social and cultural development."

Article 5 defines its basic principles as including "international law," respect for the "sovereignty and independence" of member states, "the effective exercise of representative democracy," condemnation of any "war of aggression," the establishment of social justice and social security, and the education "directed toward justice, freedom and peace."

This is what the American "image makers" have created for their own insidious reasons.

WHAT IT REALLY IS

Its purpose is to protect and further big American business interests in all of Latin America.

In many of these countries, trade unions and peasant organizations, as well as opposition political parties, have been outlawed and their leaders thrown in jail or murdered. The reason for this being, the O.A.S. is nothing more than a political and military arm of U.S. imperialism, designed to protect the interests of large U.S. corporations.

WHAT IS U.S. IMPERIALISM IN LATIN AMERICA?

U.S. imperialism is the United Fruit Company of Boston: 45 per cent of Latin America's total exports are made up of four agricultural products, bananas, cocoa, coffee and sugar. Most of these products are under the control of United or one of its subsidiaries.

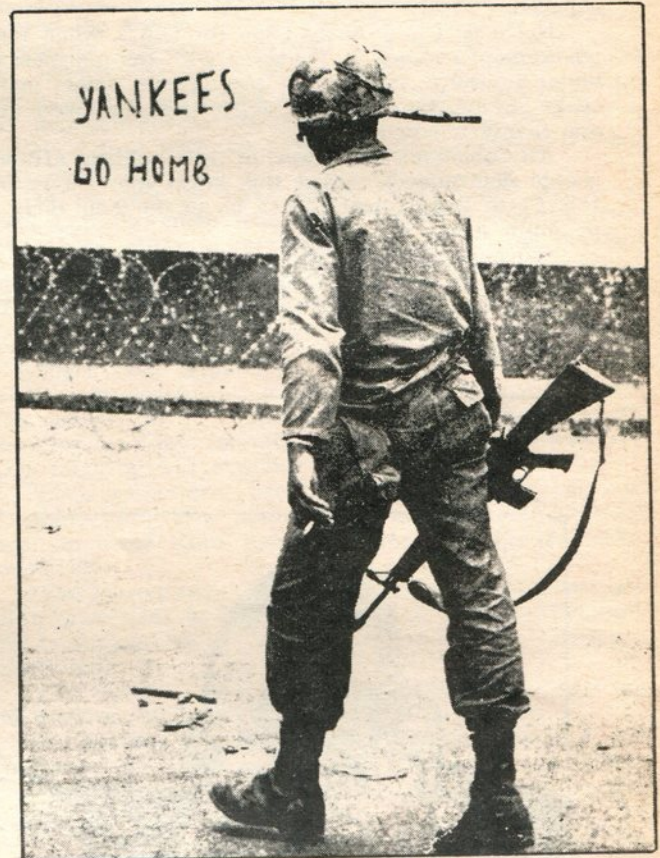
U.S. imperialism is Standard Oil: 89 per cent of oil and oil products are controlled by U.S. interests. Standard Oil is the largest foreign oil cartel.

U.S. imperialism is Anaconda Copper: 78 per cent of metal and mineral products belong to U.S. firms. Anaconda is the largest exploiter of minerals and metals.

U.S. imperialism is U.S. investment houses: U.S. investment houses control 75 per cent of all Latin American business transactions.

WHY DOES U.S. DEMAND CANADA JOIN THE O.A.S.?

The name of the U.S. is discredited, hated and suspect (rightly so). Anything the U.S. proposes or does is looked upon with suspicion and hatred. The U.S. is an outright aggressor in Latin America because their actions have been aimed at protecting U.S. profits at the expense



U. S. Marines in Santo Domingo.

of Latin American independence, freedom and living standards.

Here are a couple of quotes which sum the situation in Latin America due to U.S. domination:

J. B. McGeachy, associate editor of the (Toronto) Financial Post, wrote in his paper that "the average per capita income in many Latin American states is barely \$200 a year, compared with the U.S. figure of \$2,400."

The famous Mexican writer Carlos Fuentes, in an open letter to the American people on April 28, 1962, said: "At present 4 per cent of the population of Latin America receive 50 per cent of all the national wealth. The upper classes have hoarded 14 million dollars in foreign banks. A great percentage of their local investments are unproductive: securities with fixed interest, real estate, luxury consumption."

Gerald Clark, a Montreal newspaperman, said on the CBC network in describing a tour he made of Latin America, that sugar cane cutters in northeast Brazil get only 15 cents a day in wages, yet have to pay 12 cents a pound for black beans, their main food.

He also pointed out that peasants are compelled to

labor five days a week for landowners. For this they are allowed to cultivate a small plot of land, less than an acre, which cannot provide a living. The whole family must work for the plantation owner, women and children as well as men.

Is it not clear that Canada should refuse to become part of the misery and the suffering brought about by U.S. domination of Latin America? The puppet role played by the Canadian government was exposed by the recent vote in the U.N. on the admittance of the People's Republic of China.

The reason given why they voted against the admittance of China, was they did not want to "offend" our neighbour, the U.S.A.

Cuba was expelled from the O.A.S. because she took direct action to cure her problems. Because the Cuban Revolution presents the only alternative to U.S. imperialism in Latin America, the U.S. government has had Cuba expelled.

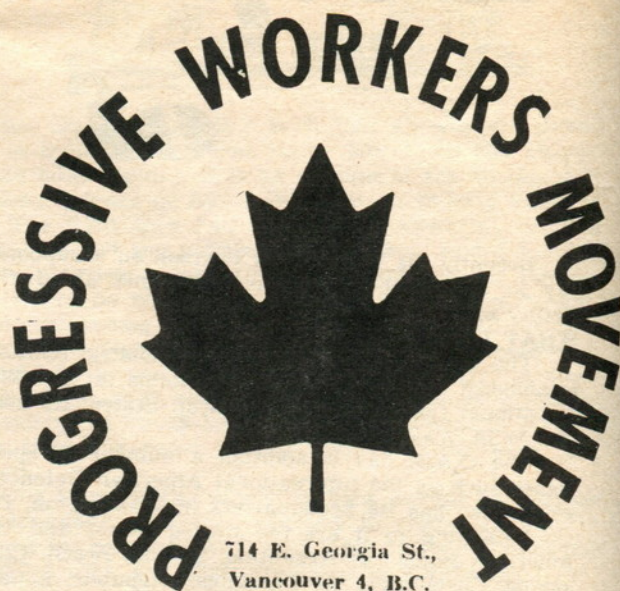
Not a peep was heard from the O.A.S. when the U.S. government invaded St. Domingo with the marines. When under pressure from their populations some members spoke out against this act of aggression, they were quickly and firmly put in line.

All Canadians, regardless of their political affiliations, should determinedly resist this latest manoeuvre by the U.S. State Department to use us to do their dirty work in South America.

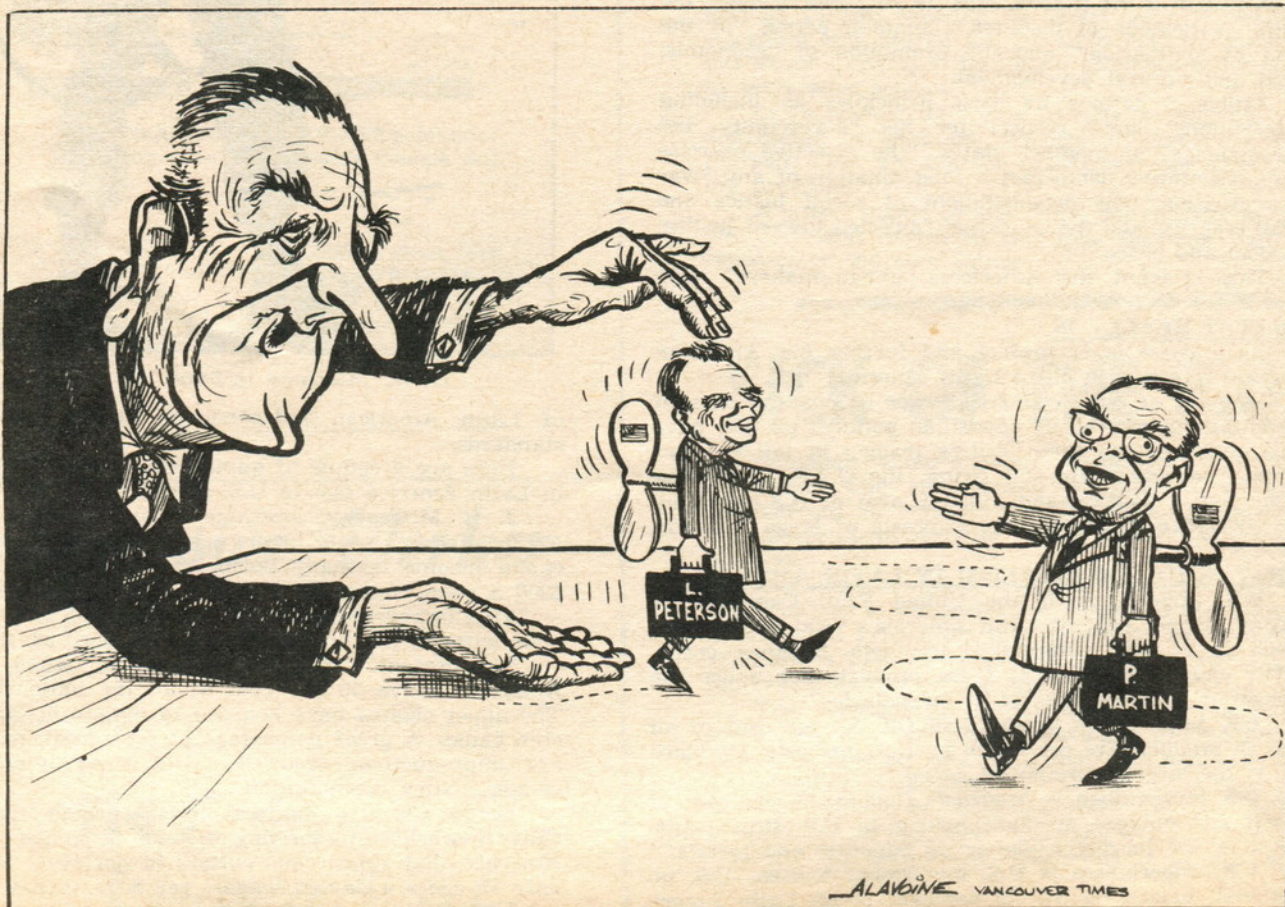
Canadas role must be the defense of the just struggles of Latin America to determine their own destinies.

The Canadian government (personified by Lester Pearson) must cease its role as U.S. puppet.

KEEP CANADA OUT OF THE O.A.S.!



(The above article was printed in leaflet form by the Norman Bethune Club of P.W.M. This leaflet is now being distributed to thousands of Canadians.—Ed.)



"It's my latest Canadian model."

VIETNAM - U.S. RESISTANCE INCREASES

The lengthening casualty lists and the steadily mounting commitments of the U.S. aggressors are being kept pace with by the rising tide of protest right in the heart of the war camp itself. On the weekend of November 27, Washington was the scene of the mightiest anti-war demonstration in the history of the nation when upwards of 50,000 people gathered from all corners of the land, and from Canada, to signify determined opposition to the Johnson war policy.

The extent and temper of the demonstration would have been notable under any circumstances but is given special emphasis in view of the existing situation.

The government and a host of official and quasi-official bodies, constantly swearing loyalty and unfaltering support to the right to dissent, have been exerting every effort to create a lynch atmosphere against the anti-war demonstrators. In every speech and pronouncement, whether it be official conferences or meetings; or radio or television interviews; the pro-government policy spokesmen, after rendering the usual quota of lip service to the "democratic right of dissent," inevitably wind up with an emotion-packed statement that the demonstrators are endangering the safety and freedom of the country.

To date the appeals to "patriotic elements" to counter-demonstrate in support of the policy of aggression have been such an abysmal failure so that, instead of strengthening Johnson's position, the almost total lack of response has only served to sharply underline the mass opposition to the "dirty war." In many ways the almost unanimous refusal of the American people to respond to patriotic appeals to "rally round the flag" constitutes, even though it may be in a negative way, a more devastating demonstration of anti-war protest than the positive aspects of the more dramatic marches and demonstrations. The extent of the "counter-demonstration in Washington amounted to no more than a handful of strutting foul-mouthed Nazis and a few juvenile delinquents.

The events of the past few months leave no possible room for doubt—the people of the United States, in common with people everywhere, want an immediate end to aggression in Vietnam.

IN VIETNAM

In the war zone itself U.S. forces have been suffering such massive defeats that they are no longer able to cover up their extent. Even in Saigon, the central point of the U.S. plan of aggression, the Liberation Front has been carrying out large-scale, successful thrusts against U.S. forces and has warned the local population to stay away from centres of American activity so as not to be caught in the line of fire.

The puppet troops are beginning to dissolve almost as rapidly as snow in a summer sun, and there are no more sources to be tapped for replacements. We have almost reached the stage where there will be nothing but U.S. troops facing the entire people of Vietnam, with not even a platoon of puppets to lend cover to their naked aggression.

MORALS OF THE AGGRESSOR

Those among us who may still have lingering ideas that this war is none of our business, will no doubt be in the process of changing their outlook if they happened to view the documentary "Mills of the Gods" on CBC Television on Sunday, October 5.

The relatively long episode of the completely dehumanized bomber pilot should have been sufficient to sicken anyone and stir them out of their apathy. This scion of the master race was jumping with joy at having scored direct hits on terrorized and defenceless villagers. It was difficult to grasp that, when he joyfully referred to his quarry being instantaneously cooked with napalm as a "beautiful sight to see them running," he was speaking of human beings. In fact, only a complete sadist

would have exhibited so much joy in killing even the lowliest of animals.

WHERE IS LABOUR?

There are still a few honourable men in the United States trade union movement, but in the main they have largely stood apart from the massive anti-war struggle and the top leadership is solidly united in voicing support for the government policy.

On the right is the Meany-Lovestone group that controls the main centres of organization and the chief organs of propaganda. This group gives unqualified support to the total policy of aggression of the U.S. State Department and the C.I.A.

In the centre is the Reuther industrial union group that had tried to maintain "respectability" by sitting on the fence and passing wordy resolutions. On Reuther's demand the U.A.W. demonstratively adopted a statement supporting Johnson's "negotiations without conditions" and condemning "Communist aggression." This was a calculated and deliberate attempt to undermine the anti-war demonstrations. Steelworker Union leaders followed Reuther's lead with an even stronger pro-State Department resolution.

On the left we have Harry Bridges and the West Coast Longshoremen who pass wonderful anti-war resolutions, but continue collecting high wages and bonuses for loading arms for shipment to Vietnam. The redoubtable Mr. Bridges was prodded into a public declaration by some who pointed out the difference between his words and his actions. In his Dispatcher column of Oct. 15 Bridges said, in part:

"... students . . . , intellectuals and liberals, express deep concern at . . . our union's willingness to benefit from the war, by recruiting more workers to load the ships carrying war supplies.

"Such people can't see . . . why we shouldn't go into . . . action right now joining demonstrations and shutting down on some ships handling arms and war materials exclusively.

"The honest answer . . . with few exceptions the trade union movement in the United States, if not wholeheartedly in support of the war, is not raising any strenuous objections to it.

"Our union . . . must face the facts of life; must act and work as part of the trade union movement."

Mr. Bridges is going to "face the facts of life" and get for his members all the blood money he can in the shape of special bonuses and overtime pay and in this way demonstrate his militancy.

On the other side of the scale was the action of the Transport Workers in their New York convention shelving a pro-administration resolution: District 65 of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union condemned Meany's pro-war stand and endorsed a report that declared:

"We have departed from American standards to conduct a dirty war in Vietnam and that war will corrupt life in America."

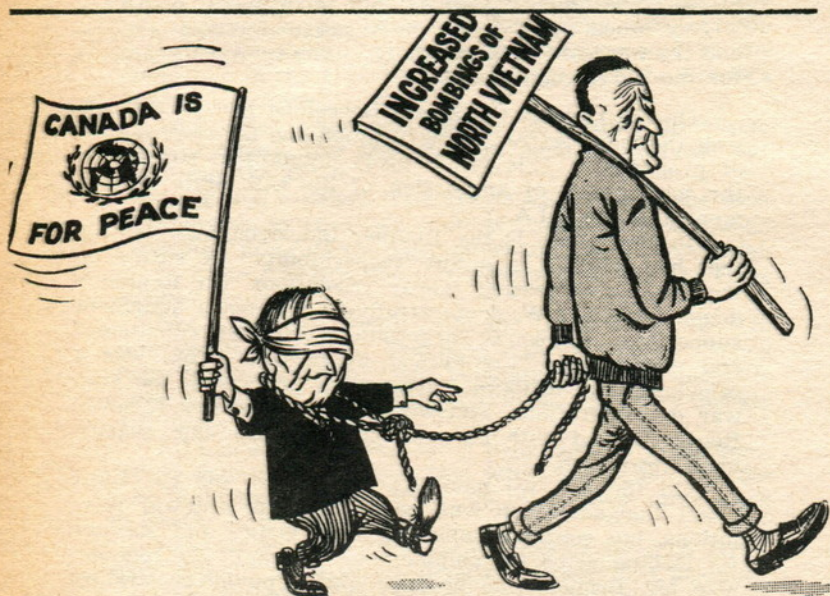
Amalgamated Meat Cutters secretary-treasurer Pat Gorman is the only trade union leader listed as a sponsor of the November 27 March on Washington, and an editorial in the Butcher Workman condemned the sending of U.S. military forces to Vietnam.

The "Missouri Teamster," organ of Joint Council 13 Teamsters Union, defended New Jersey professors Genovese and Mellen for declaring "the U.S. is on the wrong side in Vietnam."

Canadian trade unionists in international unions need to take a hard, close look at what affiliation and close association with the U.S. movement means. The administrators, business agents and international representatives who are beholden to the U.S. labour supporters of the war for their appointment to lucrative offices constitute

(with but a few honourable exceptions) a U.S. state department "fifth column" in the Canadian trade unions. The only way this situation can be changed is for Canadian labour to establish an independent movement that will formulate policy and program in the best interests of Canada.

CANADA'S PUPPET ROLE



Alavoine in the Times Vancouver

Every time the U.S. imperialists get into hot water there is always some Ottawa errand boy ready and willing to dash to the rescue. Seeing the aggressors hard-pressed by massive protests at home and abroad, External Affairs Minister Martin appeared on the scene with a rather smelly red herring in an attempt to take the heat off Washington.

After watching, with calm detachment, a full decade of U.S. aggression and atrocities in Vietnam in open violation of the terms of the Geneva agreement, Mr. Martin suddenly discovers aggression by the Vietnamese in Laos.

The Canadian government's role of international clique for the U.S. government has made this country of ours the laughing stock of the world. Not even the so-called "Banana Republics" of Latin America play a role so demeaning to national dignity and prestige as do our Ottawa errand boys. The Canadian people must demand an end to this farce and the working-out of an independent foreign policy directed toward putting an end to imperialist aggression.

"PEACE CAN BE RESTORED"

On November 24, President Ho Chi Minh addressed to Dr. Benjamin Spock and Professor Stuart Hughes a reply to a message he had received from these two eminent peace fighters. This reply stated in brief and simple terms the basis for the realization of peace in Vietnam. The reply was as follows:

"Thank you for your message dated October 26. On April 8, 1965 the government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam stated its four-point stand. This stand based on the 1954 Geneva Agreements wherein the Vietnamese people's fundamental national rights are recognized, conforms to the realities of Vietnam. The U.S. imperialists who have sabotaged the Geneva Agreements are the aggressors. The Vietnamese people are victims of aggression. If the U.S. imperialists stop their aggression, peace will immediately be restored in Vietnam.

"This stand is the only correct basis for a settlement of the Vietnam problem in the interests of the Vietnamese people, the American people and world peace.

"I take this opportunity to warmly hail the American people's struggle for the immediate ending of the U.S. government's criminal war of aggression in Vietnam, the cessation of the air attacks on the territory of the D.R.V., the withdrawal of U.S. troops and for democratic liberties, against racial discrimination."

Sincerely,
HO CHI MINH.

INDIANS

Reading accounts of how kind and considerate white folks are to the unfortunate, destitute and alcoholic Indians off Skidroad, gives me a bellyache, to put it crudely. To begin with, I have been under the impression that the Indians themselves were attempting to grapple with juvenile delinquency among Indian youth, and had for some time been advocating the establishment of an Indian Centre, where some programme would be instituted for young Indians from out of town, either to work in the city or advancing their education. One was set up on Broadway and yours truly for one, thought that the Indians would staff the establishment and get paid decently for it. After all the opening fanfare had died down, we find the whole establishment managed by non-Indians and only two Indians on the staff.

There was a lot of publicity about opening a hostel for Indian women and girls from Skidroad and the matron then was an Indian. Now we see a non-Indian running it. The matron was getting good wage there. Indians have on many occasions started projects to cope with Indian problems, especially in the cities; and because, by percentage, they are the low man on the totem pole in the wage slave market, they generally have to appeal to the federal government for funds to establish a project like the Indian Centre. Fine and dandy, the federal government owe the Indians a lot of financial help for creating these problems for them, but why in the name of Hades do they begrudge an Indian a decent wage to run these establishments? No, they give an Indian a taste of

earning a decent wage, say as a matron, then they let them go and engage some unemployed relative or in-law. They've got to take care of their ruddy unemployed relatives before they will give an Indian a chance to hold a decent position and wage. The whole Indian Bureau is full of people who are related. Many an Old Country kinsman gets a start in Canada in the Indian Department.

Every time Indians dream up a paying project, a non-Indian horns in and generally pre-empts the most lucrative part of the project. It has amazed me no end that Indians have been as patient as they have been with this kind of treatment from a class of people who call themselves Christians. Jesus Christ a mortal, I have some respect for as a martyr and for his teachings. His teachings might have been lived by at one time in history, but they certainly are corrupted now, and I see no evidence of these teachings in the treatment of minority groups such as the Indians. I always get the impression from the treatment of Indians, that the Powers-that-be, who rule this country, and the pipsqueaks who support them, take delight in rubbing an Indian's nose in the muck. It gives them great satisfaction, to humiliate us in every way they can. I don't know when my fellow Indians are going to allow themselves to get angry, but I've been angry for a heck of a long time.

HELEN BAYLOR.

STRIKE AGAINST U.S. COMPANY

Approximately 200 workers, members of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (I.B.E.W.) Local 213, Vancouver, are striking to enforce a demand for a 15 per cent increase in wages, improvements in vacation and other working conditions. Strike action followed collapse of negotiations which had been in progress since early this year.



"I HAD A SWELL DAY TODAY.... I WAS NEVER MEANER!"

The largest, and most obstinate, of the four firms involved is Federal Pacific Electric, a U.S.-controlled company with a long and lurid anti-labour record. F.P.E. employs 133 of the 200 workers on strike and will undoubtedly set the pattern of settlement. The other three firms are Westinghouse and Square D (both U.S. subsidiaries) and Elworthy Electric, a locally-owned outfit employing about 20 workers.

An item appeared in Financial Post of December 4, 1965, which should be of some interest to striking F.P.E. employees. This item reported that F.P.E. profits for the quarter ending September 30, 1965 were up 33 per cent over the corresponding period in 1964. This 33 per cent profit INCREASE is quite a contrast to the 15 per cent wage demand which the company officials refuse to consider. Company president Benjamin W. Ball informed Financial Post that F.P.E. expects "another satisfactory year." It is the firm resolve of 133 striking workers to impress on Mr. Ball that they too intend to enjoy a satisfactory year with higher wages and better working conditions.

Durnig last negotiations period (almost three years ago) F.P.E. threatened to move their plant to Eastern Canada and, with the assistance of some union officials, succeeded in enforcing a sub-standard agreement. The company tried this tactic again in current negotiations, but the workers refused to be intimidated and administered a rude shock to the local office boys of F.P.E. when they recorded a 94 per cent vote in favour of strike action.

While negotiations were in progress, the company tried a new pressure tactic—a threat to employ female help at wage rates about 30 per cent below the scale

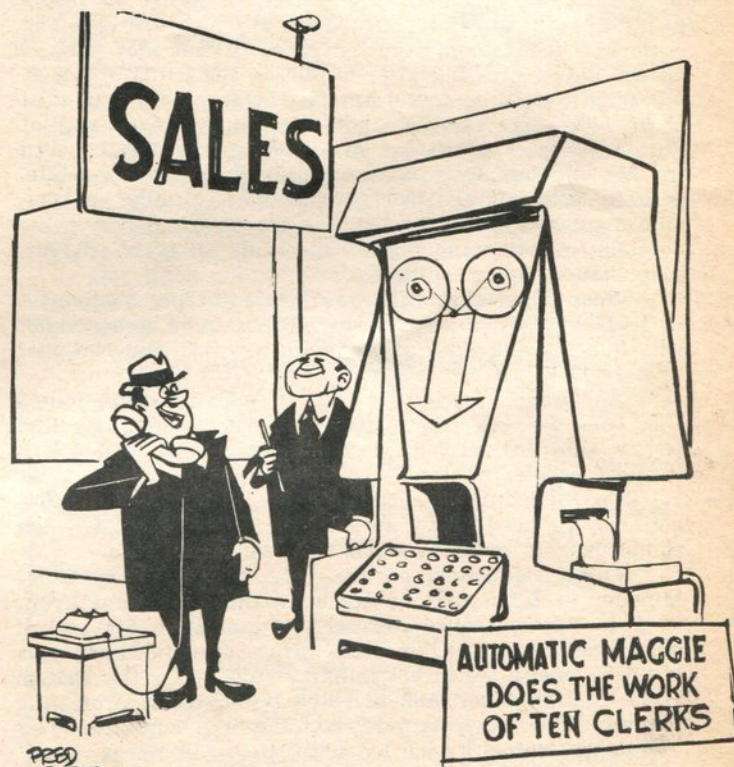
established in the existing agreement. This tactic was decisively defeated when the workers unanimously refused one morning to start work until the matter was settled. This militant action demonstrated to all concerned that the men were prepared to fight and at the same time strengthened the unity and determination of the men themselves, and increased their confidence in the possibility of victory. At the same time a decision was reached to work no more overtime until a new contract was signed. Since then no overtime has been worked in this plant where previously overtime was almost a way of life.

One of the stumbling blocks in negotiations has been the fact that local company representatives are little more than glorified office boys who may even have to receive permission from the tycoons of the East before placing a new roll of paper in the toilet. It was a similar situation that contributed a lot to the chaos in the oil industry. Workers in the West are thoroughly fed up with the antics of money-hungry bosses—and especially so with those who sit with their feet on the desk in comfortable offices in Toronto and New York.

The recent past, as outlined above, has demonstrated that militancy and unity can end in victory. It remains to be seen, however, if substantial victory will be achieved or if the workers will once again be sold out.

One thing is certain: if victory is less than decisive, it will not have been from any lack of desire to fight on the part of the workers. Whatever the outcome, the men will need to keep in mind the lessons learned from previous experience—that militancy and unity must be maintained on the job at all times.

BOB FLINTOFF.



"Good news, Miss Phipps, we can fire ten clerks including you . . ."

THE RHODESIAN CAPER

"Mr. Wilson is evidently more concerned about preventing a Zambian invasion of Rhodesia than in preventing a Rhodesian raid on Zambia. He apparently feels that a British response to Zambian appeals for protection against Rhodesia forestalls any excuse for an African crusade against white supremacy in Africa.

"Instead of black men and white men facing each other across the uneasy border there now will be disciplined white forces on both sides both under control of cool-headed Britons carefully calculating all the risks involved in every move."—Editorial, "The Province," Vancouver, Dec. 4, 1965.

The editors of "The Province," in their anxiety to allay the fears of their Tory readers, have succeeded in pointing directly to what is NOT at issue in Rhodesia. Whatever else may be at stake in this happy hunting ground of the white supremacist, neither Wilson nor Smith have any fundamental disagreement on the need "to keep the Blacks in their place." The disagreement centres around the question of HOW to maintain imperialist rule in this West African territory known as Great Zimbabwe until the imperialist adventurer, Cecil Rhodes, put the stamp of private ownership on it. Mr. Smith looks on Wilson's formula of rule with the aid of local puppets as opening the door to a mass native invasion of the areas exclusive to the favoured minority of whites. Wilson, on the other hand, views Smith's policy as leading to fratricidal strife that can have only one end—the destruction of the white community and with it the destruction of imperialist rule and exploitation.

It is only from this angle that one can fully understand the apparent strange and contradictory behaviour of Mr. Wilson and recognize how substantially correct is the point made in the editorial cited above.

Wilson, and his "cool-headed" Britons display a suddenly acquired and unexplained lack of desire to resort to military measures to resolve the Rhodesian crisis. The leader of the Labour (?) government has not always shown such a pressing urge to pursue the paths of peace.

Wilson is to be found among the foremost and most vocal supporters of U.S. aggression in Vietnam and of U.S. imperialist plans for global conquest. His concern for life and humanity does not extend to the non-white, peaceful peasants and workers and their families in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia who are blown asunder by mass bombing, napalm and poison gas raids on their villages, schoolhouses and hospitals.

When imperialist rule was being sharply challenged in Malaya, Wilson was not at all averse to using Dyak head-hunters and Sikh mercenaries to crush the National Liberation Forces.

The Congo "rescue mission" in which Britain joined U.S. and Belgian imperialists to crush the Congolese people, and British activities in Cyprus are well-known to most people.

The civilizing actions of these "cool-headed" paragons of virtue present quite a startling contrast when comparison is made between Aden and Rhodesia.

Wilson demanded of his own APPOINTED Chief Minister of Aden that he condemn the Liberation Front as a foreign-controlled, terrorist organization and, when he refused, removed him from office, suspended the constitution, instituted direct military rule under the British High Commissioner, and arrested hundreds of protesting workers. One news item reports that the superintendent of Aden's Central Prison led 400 British soldiers in a "torture session" of Arab political detainees.

In the case of Rhodesia, Mr. Wilson has denounced Smith and the Rhodesian government of being guilty of treason—a crime punishable by executions. Smith and the entire top-level leadership of his ruling junta were present in London and could easily have been arrested and imprisoned by the Wilson government; instead, their

return to Rhodesia and their treasonable pursuits were facilitated by government authorities. Thus, a simple refusal to condemn a national liberation movement results in mass imprisonment and terror, while declared treason is rewarded and co-operated with.

It would be a mistake to think that the reason for the behaviour of Wilson, Smith and their ilk is a simple matter of racial discrimination. In Rhodesia, Aden, the Congo, Malaya, Vietnam, and scores of other areas where the imperialists are crushing the peoples' movements, the issues are the same: the consolidation and continuation of imperialist rule and exploitation, and an extension of the rich harvest of super-profits—racial discrimination is but one of the many tactics used to advance this policy and ensure its success.

In Aden, the stake is vast reserves of oil under the desert sands that can be converted into wealth and power, and if countless thousands must die in order to facilitate the process, then that is just part of the necessary cost.

In Rhodesia, British investments are estimated to hover around the \$1 billion mark. British and American companies dominate the tobacco, chrome, gold, asbestos, sugar, coal and iron ore production. Many of the well-known international concerns such as Shell Oil, Dunlop Rubber, Unilever and Ford Motors have heavy investments in the area. The Rhodesian white minority, who are outnumbered by Africans in a ratio of about 15 to 1, are tied to imperialist interests by being accorded a favourable position in the social, economic and political life of the nation, at the expense of the African majority.

Under the 1961 constitution—which was overwhelmingly rejected by the African majority—the whites control 50 out of the 65 seats in the Legislative Assembly. This is achieved by having the European minority elected on an "A" roll, while the African majority is on a separate "B" roll.

The franchise is based on property and income qualifications. Qualifications for inclusion on the "A" roll call for an income of \$2,160 per year or immovable property valued at \$4,500, plus a literacy test. The "B" roll calls for an income of \$720 per year or immovable property valued at \$1,350. There are numerous other qualifications, but the general principle of the system is to exclude Africans in any effective numbers from the "A" roll and ensure the retention of power in European hands.

The average annual income of Africans in Rhodesia is \$342; that of Europeans is \$3,651.

The issue in Rhodesia is independence. Not the bogus "independence" of Mr. Smith, or the equally bogus plan of Mr. Wilson for a controlled advance to "freedom." Both these policies are firmly based on the right of the European minority to rule by force, intimidation and terror in the interests of the imperialist exploiters, either open and direct, à la Smith, or more covertly through specially trained puppets, in the Wilson style.

What is required is full political and economic independence; the complete freedom of the African majority to arrange their own affairs. This will not be achieved by any "choice" between Wilson and Smith, but only by the African people themselves asserting their right to freedom and shaping their destiny according to their own desires.

Mr. Wilson's attempt to halt the march of freedom at the Zambia-Rhodesia border—as outlined in the Province editorial, is doomed to failure. The forces that will bring freedom to Rhodesia are already in the land and are not subject to examination at border crossings.

ONTARIO TEAMSTERS - FIGHT PROGRESSES

In our last issue, we reported in some detail on the fight of rank-and-file teamsters in Ontario against both bosses and union bureaucrats. That report was based on information contained in several copies of the rank-and-file bulletin, "Transportation Topics." We are in receipt of the most recent issue of "Topics," in addition to several leaflets and some local newspaper clippings on late developments. We will try to bring you up to date on this important struggle.

These representatives of the Toronto local 938 and the entire delegation of Hamilton local 839 walked out of conciliation board hearings in the dispute between the teamsters and the Ontario trucking industry. These two locals represent approximately 5,000 of the 9,000 members in five Ontario locals who are involved in negotiations. It is of some significance that the three who walked out were the same ones the rank-and-file had insisted, just one week before, should be added to the five-local-24-member committee to represent the militant rank-and-file in opposition to the scheming of the McDougall pie-carders.

Thibault of Toronto and Taggart of Hamilton made a public statement that the walk-out was prompted by employer refusal to end reprisals against the union and scores of its members because of a so-called "wildcat" strike.

"It is our intention," said the spokesmen, "to call a membership meeting to report the lack of progress in negotiations and to discuss with our membership our future plans."

Although continuing with conciliation hearings, the other three locals have indicated complete support for the Toronto-Hamilton position and demand immediate cancellation of the reprisal policy.

The "wildcat" strike, it should be noted, resulted from the attempt of agents appointed by the international, in collusion with the employers, to ram down the throats of the protesting membership a three-and-a-half-year agreement providing for a wage increase of 53 cents an hour and a reduction of the work week from the existing 48 hours to a maximum of 43 hours by the end of the contract period. The Teamsters had demanded 40 cents in two years and an **immediate** 40-hour week with compensating pay adjustments. The 40-hour week is already provided by federal legislation covering the industry, but the appointed union officials had declared their readiness to make joint application with the employers to the Federal Labour Department to suspend application of the law to the trucking industry. The men had no alternative but a resort to militant direct action to prevent the sell-out.

A special emergency meeting of the Toronto local was held at Teamsters Union Hall on Sunday, November 28, at which resolutions were unanimously passed on the following points: Support for the elected representatives' walk-out from conciliation proceedings; a demand for the resignation of the local president, Ken McDougall, within seven days; in event of refusal, his salary to be reduced to \$100 per month and expense account and credit cards to be cancelled; four paid stooges of McDougall to be instantly dismissed.

McDougall published a rambling and not too coherent leaflet, indulging in some old-fashioned red-baiting and accusing the rank-and-file leaders of organizing violence against the workers.

Two very effective leaflets were issued in reply to the insane raving of the local 938 executive board who are scared silly at the thought of workers exercising their democratic right to elect a leadership of their own choosing instead of sitting quiet and accepting Washington appointees. The McDougall faction will no doubt be particularly discomfited at the disclosures in a leaflet published by the "Non-Violent Group of 938" and the factual listing of actual acts of violence perpetrated against rank-and-file members.

The Ontario teamsters are putting up a magnificent battle under the very able leadership of their rank-and-file committee against formidable enemies, and are deserving of the utmost support that can be accorded from labour everywhere.



ECCLES (British Daily Worker)

"This talk about unemployment seems greatly exaggerated—my staff are all working overtime!"

We are certain that the fighting spirit displayed by the Ontario teamsters will ultimately result in victory. That spirit is probably best typified in a phrase from a report of the Hamilton local 870 executive board: "The Motor Transport Industrial Relations Bureau is in for one HELL of a surprise, because our members don't frighten easily."

Our good wishes and greetings of solidarity go out to the Ontario teamsters and their militant rank-and-file leadership. Give those bosses and bureaucrats hell, fellows!

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Jubilee and Imperial Streets

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Starts: 9:00 p.m.

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GENERAL STRIKE THAT DIDN'T COME OFF

Great events in history are usually studied carefully for lessons to be drawn for the future. The General Strike in British Columbia that didn't come off, cannot be considered a great event, but without doubt, a study of what happened should be of considerable help in planning future struggles.

To label the affair a sellout without investigating the motives behind the frantic manoeuvring that went on, will not suffice. The most obvious ingredient that contributed to the fiasco was fear, abject fear on the part of the leadership. The oil workers' leadership became fear-ridden first, and later this spread to the B.C. Federation of Labor.

The call for a general strike to last 48 hours in support of the oil workers was tactically incorrect to begin with. The manner in which the proposal was launched put all affiliates of the B.C. Federation right on the spot. No one could oppose the tactic without becoming an ally of the bosses.

The question became one of being for or against with no qualifications. The enemies of militancy within the trade union movement, the supporters of U.S. imperialism, etc. had a gay time and won considerable support by pointing out in union meetings what the correct tactic should be.

The correct tactic was the one adopted by the Teamsters Union. They were in the fortunate position of being able to establish their own policy. This came about as a result of their being prevented in the first instance from participating in the discussions that led to the strike call. The correct tactic was to support the oil workers' union by the method of simply refusing to handle or work with hot products. By the very nature of the oil industry's involvement in all forms of industry, this would have brought on an industrial shutdown within a matter of days.

If this tactic was so simple and so obviously correct, why was it not adopted? Why was a call for a general strike sent out in such an arbitrary fashion? The truth is that the call was in effect political blackmail. It was a gigantic bluff and there is no doubt that the oil companies were prepared to call it. There is some evidence that had it not been for the Teamsters' stand and the strategic position they were in as the chief handlers of oil products, that this bluff would have been called.

The strategy was to force the government to step in and settle the dispute. This strategy failed miserably. The government did step in but not on labor's terms. The government stepped in to prevent a chaotic situation from developing that would have discredited the B.C. Fed leadership completely. The government is satisfied with the present leadership of the B.C. Fed. It foresaw that a discredited leadership might not be able to prevent the rising of a new more militant leadership within the labor movement, and for a price it agreed to bring an end to the crisis. A few crumbs were offered the oil workers and Premier Bennett was given the opportunity to appear as the great arbiter. The Social Credit Government could be made to appear as a friend of labor by forcing the oil companies to come to terms, any terms. The N.D.P. delayed taking a positive position until after the crisis was over and now everyone is busy trying to prove that a victory was won by labor.

That the above analysis is a correct one is indicated by the fact that there was no preparation for any action after the 48 hours were up. By failing to provide for prolonged struggle, the leadership gave themselves completely into the government's hands.

The only victory, if one can claim it as a victory, is the enthusiastic support for the idea of united, militant action which came into focus as a result of the general strike call. That the desire for militant action is present among the workers, and that this in itself is a major threat to many union leaders, becomes obvious in the aftermath.

This becomes most clear when we look at the oil workers' leadership. It was obvious to many at the beginning of the dispute that it would be necessary to strike the whole industry to win a victory. As the strike at B.A. dragged on, more and more people could see that the rest of the oil companies would protect B.A.

To strike the whole industry would bring a struggle into existence that could no longer be controlled by the oil workers' leadership. Too many unions would be involved and rank-and-file action on all fronts would be essential. Militant rank-and-file caucuses would appear and real labor unity at the job level would come into being.

Consultations with leaders of the B.C. Federation of Labor confirmed these fears, and won for the oil workers' leadership some new allies in the struggle against the rank-and-file. By abdicating the responsibility for leadership in their own strike and handing it over to the B.C. Fed, the oil workers' leadership set the stage for the fiasco. Fear begets fear, and soon creates panic. Had the oil leaders stood firm and called the strike on their own responsibility, issuing at the same time an appeal to the rest of the labor movement for support, it might not have been necessary to hang the mantle of "Great Leader" around the neck of Premier Bennett.

The cost of this operation in political and economic terms is not too hard to assess. On the economic side, wages were pushed into the background by the oil workers' leadership, and wage demands were even lowered, while the struggle was being prepared. The main emphasis was on automation, and it is here that the illusions were created. The settlement was claimed as a victory, but a close look reveals the truth. There is no commitment to maintain a staff of any particular number. The commitment merely sets the cost to the company for laying off a man and doing away with a job forever. A few paltry dollars for each year of service with the company, and the man walks away and the job disappears. In most cases this will amount to only a fraction of the cost of the machine that replaces him. So much for the economic aspects. We can call this a generous gift from Premier Bennett to the oil companies.

The political side is even more devastating in its implications. Bennett has emerged as a great arbiter and one who has the ability to serve labor as well as capital. All efforts to present the oil workers' settlement as a victory adds to Bennett's stature. The N.D.P., whom labor is supposed to support, appears as an inept, inarticulate appendage to the labor movement. The stage is set for the next election and Bennett remains a hero.

Had the correct tactic been adopted in the first place, with the oil workers in the leading position and the other unions coming in as the strike became effective, the New Democratic Party could have raised the demand for nationalization of the oil industry in a most effective and realistic way. This kind of pressure might have gained some positive results, economically and politically.

Those who fail to learn from the events of history are eventually buried by history. It takes a certain amount of courage and some people don't seem to have it.

JACK GREENALL
for P.W.M.

Trade Union Committee.



THE FEDERAL ELECTIONS

The November federal election brought to light some strange alliances, not the least of which was the Communist Party and the League for Socialist Action walking on the same side of the street.

True, the L.S.A. exerted a great deal of energy trying to prove they were different, but this only led them to making forecasts that proved to be absolutely ridiculous. L.S.A. spokesmen claimed the C.P. call for the election of a bloc of progressives meant support for Tories and Socreds, while they (the L.S.A.) proceeded on the basis that a N.D.P. election victory and N.D.P. government was possible. In B.C. L.S.A. spokesmen were forecasting a two-million-plus vote and minority government status for the N.D.P.

Despite the L.S.A. partisan accusation that the C.P. was giving less than wholehearted and unqualified support to the N.D.P., the actual record tells a different story. When the Progressive Workers Movement entered the elections in Vancouver East on the basis of a revolutionary program, both L.S.A. and C.P. united in attacking the P.W.M. candidate and according support to the N.D.P. nominee who had a particularly bad parliamentary record on matters affecting the labour movement.

The C.P. organization gave wide distribution to a letter addressed to electors in Vancouver East. This communication was referred to in a letter to the editor in last month's Progressive Worker, with the suggestion we publish it in full. Here it is, complete:

— LETTER —

Dear Friend:

In just a few days 10 million Canadian voters will choose a new government. It is one of the most important elections in our history. The old line parties are both pleading for a chance to carry out all of the promises which they have failed to implement in the last 98 years. In reality the election of a Liberal or Tory majority government means another four years of national betrayal—involvement in U.S. war plans, sellout of our northern water resources, the further split between French and English Canada, failure to use automation for the people and on down the road to national destruction.

There is an alternative. That alternative is the election of a large bloc of candidates dedicated to policies of national survival—peace, independent foreign policy, planning for automation, development of our resources, and a solution to the problem of Canadian unity. We hope that some of the 12 Communist Party candidates will be a part of the progressive bloc. In Vancouver East the Communist Party is not running a candidate because there is a sitting member of the NDP—Harold Winch.

Jerry Le Bourdais of the Progressvie Workers Movement is opposing Winch. His candidacy will serve only to split the progressive vote and strengthen the position of the Tories and Liberals. **Le Bourdais is no Communist.** He represents a divisive splinter group, which consistently opposes the idea that war can be prevented, and that a democratic alternative to the Tories and Liberals can become the elected government. Le Bourdais and his group attack the Communist Party of Canada, which for

43 years has championed the rights of workers in Vancouver East and all across Canada. To the Le Bourdais group the Soviet Union, which has consistently defended world peace, is attacked as an enemy of socialism on the same level as the aggressors in Vietnam, Dominican Republic and elsewhere. In short, Le Bourdais is the opposite of a progressive, for his policies give only aid and comfort to the old line parties.

In Vancouver East defeat the Tories and Liberals and reject the splitting tactics of the Le Bourdais group. Ensure Vancouver East a voice in the progressive bloc in our new parliament.

Sincerely yours,

ANNE BOYLAN, Sec'y,
Vancouver East Club,
Communist Party of Canada.

A week after the election, Mr. Tom McEwen in his Pacific Tribune column brazenly admitted to having suppressed a communication from a reader because the P.T. did not desire "to publish anything that might be construed to be derogatory of a certain unique N.D.P. M.P." while the election was pending. McEwen, it should be noted, did not challenge the truth of the communication; on the contrary, he upheld it in every detail. But McEwen is of the opinion that the truth must be withheld from the electorate until after they have safely elected the man of his choice. Although no names were used, this choice candidate was obviously the same one that was being so vigorously defended by both L.S.A. and C.P. against the terrible P.W.M.

No matter how much they try to appear different on superficial questions, the hard fact is that the C.P. and L.S.A. are in complete agreement on fundamentals. They are of one opinion on the point that revolutionary change is "passe," that Socialism will come through the capitalist-controlled parliament and ballot boxes, and that this miracle will be brought about by the Social-Democratic N.D.P. We don't argue with their right to hold those opinions, but they should quit cluttering up the highway of progress by pretending to be revolutionaries.

The P.W.M. put on a vigorous campaign, putting in every home a copy of the program which was published two issues ago, and speaking at numerous meetings. The 300 votes obtained represented, for the most part, a fully class-conscious vote, and indicated the existence of a firm base for the development of a revolutionary political organization in the area.



REFLECTIONS ON THE ELECTIONS

By MALCOLM BRUCE

Nearly two months have elapsed since the federal elections were held to determine which political party would form the next capitalist government. This recurrent tragi-comedy is performed to bamboozle the people into thinking that they rule, when all they are doing is choosing which political gang will act as agents for the ruling class. And from the results one cannot believe in the correctness of the old Latin saying, "Vox populi, vox Dei" (the voice of the people is the voice of God). Rather when the majority of the voters supported the capitalist Liberal and Tory twins, one would conclude that as yet the voice of the people is the braying of an ass.

Some weeks before the official call for federal elections, Prime Minister Pearson travelled across the country on a pre-election campaign. In B.C., for instance, he promised grants for this, that and the other project amounting to some \$48,000,000.

But fortunately, the campaign which was a caricature of democracy, ended, and the mummers and the clowns departed from the campaign stage together with their retinue of political prune pedlars and other camp followers.

If one didn't know who the speaker in the campaign was, one could scarcely tell to what party he belonged, for the speeches of all four parties were alike—a few more crumbs from the ruling class table, the same support of U.S. imperialist policy, the same pledges to make capitalism work by reforming it and the Douglas talk about "national purpose," as well as pledges about "planning" for capitalism in order to make capitalism work.

In B.C. the NDP held their own, but no more. In Saskatchewan where the CCF had held power for nearly two decades, the NDP did not elect a single member. In the East (Ontario) there was a slight gain, and that largely a protest vote against the corrupt Liberal regime. The biggest gain was made by the Tory party and can be partly accounted for by the great campaigning ability of Diefenbaker, as the slight NDP gain was due in part to the persuasive eloquence of Douglas, of whom it can be said that his talents should not be wasted on such abstractions as "national purpose" and the trivialities of petty reform. Verily a Michael Angelo painting billboards.

In the campaign several organizations were tested. In Vancouver East, a self-exposed strikebreaker was the NDP candidate, one who made two long speeches in parliament in support of the Tory government's strike-breaking bill to crush the West Coast ferries strike with compulsory binding arbitration (see Hansard, July 1958). Yet some trade union officials supported him when they well knew that compulsory arbitration is a deadly weapon against the organized workers.

And what of the so-called Communist Party leaders,

just what could be expected of them? In the 1945 federal elections they bespattered themselves with infamy by openly, publicly supporting MacKenzie King and his reactionary Liberal party. They clamoured for a coalition government with the slogan "Make labor a partner in government." During that campaign, they of the Labor Progressive Party—as they then called themselves—were babbling about the "Teheran Accord" and their campaign speeches in support of the Liberal party had as their theme song "a brave new world" to be brought into being by collaboration with Churchill, Roosevelt and Trueman.

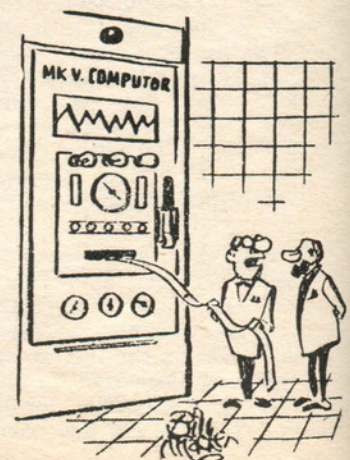
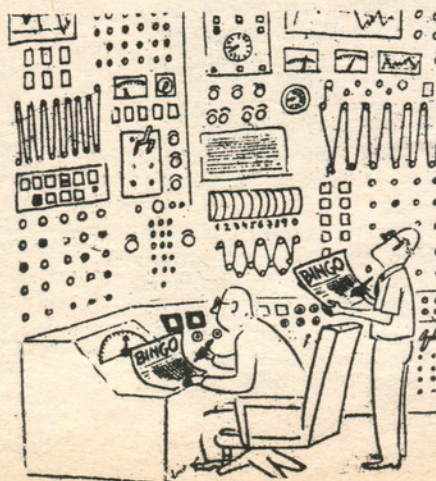
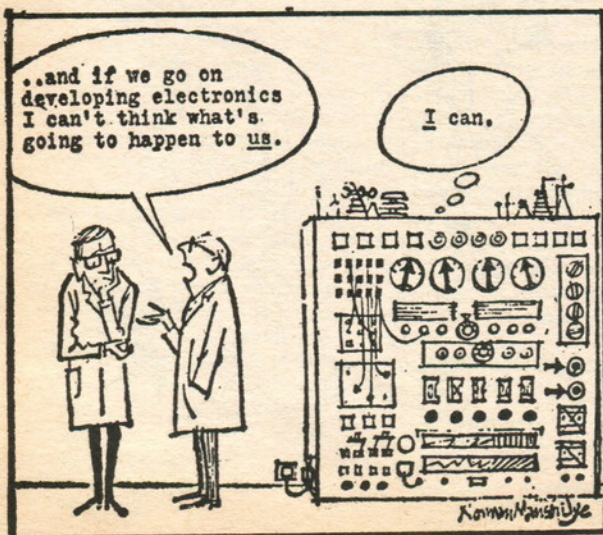
In supporting Winch they were buttressing the Liberal party, for they well knew that Winch in parliament consistently voted for both the foreign and domestic policies of the Liberal government and to keep them in office, for none of the MPs of the NDP wanted to bring the government down, for their \$18,000 seats were too comfortable to risk losing.

And what of the League for Socialist Action whose leaders proclaim themselves to be revolutionary Marxist socialists? The most charitable thing that can be said is that the role they played was an ignoble one, for they knew the record of the NDP candidate in Vancouver East, that he was a strikebreaker, a darling of the ruling class, and yet they supported EVERY candidate of the NDP without exception.

And this despite there being in the field a worker candidate in the person of Jerry Le Bourdais, a militant trade unionist, a socialist with an unblemished record. In vain will they try to exculpate themselves by saying that they did not openly or directly support Winch as against the workers' candidate Le Bourdais. But supporting the entire NDP without making an exception of Winch was indirectly supporting the latter, for silence meant consent.

Putting a strikebreaker up as a candidate was an anti-working class act, a political crime, and he who remains silent when a crime is being committed becomes by his silence an accomplice. One cannot be neutral in the class struggle. By not specifically and by name publicly opposing Le Bourdais and only indirectly supporting Winch does not absolve them from condemnation. Theirs is another case of Pilate "washing his hands," or a Levite "passing by on the other side."

Political support of an anti-working class candidate as against a bona fide worker candidate cannot be ascribed to conscious betrayal when the test came; but rather to cultism, a case of the blind leading the blind, to the parking away of their thinknig machinery and uncritical rubber stamp acceptance of opinions handed down from the infallible "tops."



"It wants to join the union!"

Letters to the Editor

Editor:

One hundred years ago a craft union with a militant membership could force a poorly organized Boss class to grant many concessions; better conditions on the job; shorter hours, higher wages, etc. Today a craft union up against a highly organized, ruthless and class-conscious ruling class, has as much chance of winning strikes as a snowball in hell. Why have a "horse-and-buggy period union" when it can no longer do the job. The I.T.U. strike against the papers in Toronto is a good example of the inefficiency of unions that have not changed their structures or ideas for years. The I.T.U., instead of trying to build an industrial union of all workers in the industry, have for the last 40 years devoted a lot of time trying to smash the Lithographers Union. In the printing trades, an industrial union is desperately needed.

Recently a union won a big concession, according to the labor fakers: now the Boss is going to tell the workers that they will be laid off six months from now due to automation. Big deal! Automation can be a good thing for the workers if we workers handle the problem correctly.

If through automation 20 per cent of the workers lose their jobs, just reduce the working day from eight hours to six hours and re-employ the workers who got laidoff. The six-hour-day-30-hour-week is long overdue.

This would put the employed to work in continuous industry: i.e., Britannia Mines would have four six-hour shifts instead of three eight-hour shifts as at present. Of course, higher wages and shorter hours are at best just a temporary solution. Only when we workers start doing our own thinking will conditions change for our benefit. Up till now we have been mentally lazy, and allowed the boss to do our thinking for us; and just because the boss says it is so, does not mean that it is so.

To put an end to this everyday struggle with the boss, we must take possession of the machinery of production, abolish the wage system and produce commodities for use instead of profit.

M. F.

Editor:

U.S. imperialism is the main enemy of the Canadian working class. Witness the recent oil strike, when Yankee companies would not even talk to the unions. These companies are owned 90 per cent by Americans. They steal our natural resources, and will not even pay the Canadian workers a decent living wage.

These Yankee companies in order to maintain their profit margin are going to increase the price of gas one or two cents a gallon, using the excuse the wage pact the oil workers got is inflationary. Their profits are not going to be hurt without the increase in gas because of the high rate of automation in the industry.

BOB TURNER

Editor:

Allow me as an old socialist who has been associated with the labor movement for some 36 years, to belatedly congratulate you upon your effort to build an organization that will be more free of the crass opportunism and bureaucracy that has laid low the proud old Communist Party of Canada.

May your efforts be crowned with success and may you avoid the many pitfalls that always endanger a Marxist party.

It is precisely upon this point that I would like to offer some comradely criticism and some well-intentioned advice.

Those who build a revolutionary party that draws its main inspiration from the Canadian people will be the party that will lead the Canadian workers, students and farmers in the difficult years that lie just ahead.

Too often have I seen our people engage in political calisthenics when the policy of the C.P.S.U. changed and we made ourselves appear ridiculous to all but a chosen few who had been conditioned by years of such flipflops.

Too often we have studied the "classics" emanating from the Soviet Union, China, Cuba et al to the exclusion of making a thorough-going study of our own land and its problems and peculiarities. In the main, most of the Canadian people find it as difficult to identify themselves with Khrushchev kissing his cosmonauts as it is to identify with our Chinese comrades singing songs of Chairman Mao as they spread manure upon the cabbage patch.

Too often we are conversant with the history of socialist lands to an almost exclusion of our own short but rich history.

Too often we have taken the experiences of other socialist parties and tried to apply them in a mechanical fashion to a Canadian situation where they just don't fit.

We must learn to know and love our own country as well as the guerrilla fighter in Vietnam does his land. Every day we must seek to integrate ourselves into the lives of the Canadian people, for here lies our only strength.

Had Lenin been alive today, he probably would add an appendage to his book *Left Wing Communism* to speak of this other infantile disorder. Many of the old-timers from the old C.P.C. have hearts that have been left in far-away socialist lands, and to the young the victories and experiences in far-off lands take on a romantic hue.

I would be the last to suggest that we should not learn from the successes and mistakes of our comrade parties, and to do all that we can to ensure that their countries shall not be laid waste by war. I fully realize that the dialectical process requires that we should study Canada in its relationship to other countries and that we should always take into account the constantly changing relationship of forces in the world, but the program of our party must first and foremost be that which reflects the needs of our people.

Again congratulations to you and confusion to our enemies!

EX-CP-er.

The editor is in receipt of a long and interesting letter from Mrs. E. Powell who has been reading our paper since it first appeared. We are publishing here a resume of the early part of the letter with the concluding sections in full.

Mrs. Powell begins with a heading, "The Case Against Leaders," and goes on to argue quite effectively against the practice of setting leaders up on pedestals and looking on them as gods. A number of Social-Democratic mis-leaders of labour are cited as examples of the practice of which Mrs. Powell is so critical. Britain's "Labour" prime minister, Wilson, is pointed out as being no different than Canada's Liberal, Pearson, both giving the same solid service to the ruling class.

Leaders of the N.D.P. are castigated for their support of right wing principles and imperialist military coalitions such as N.A.T.O. Also referred to is the large-scale expulsions of radical youth from the ranks of the N.D.P. Mrs. Powell says: "The N.D.P. is no threat to the powerful combines and monopolies."

In the concluding section Mrs. Powell writes:

"If you can use this or any part of it in the *Progressive Worker* I shall be pleased so long as the message I am trying to convey is not distorted. I must take issue with your remarks re the Fabian Socialists. When we lived in Reading, England, my father was a member of the Socialist Club and later joined also the Fabian group. They were the educated, intellectual Socialists. I was between 13 and 14 years old and often went with my parents to both places. Met Bernard Shaw, Hyndman and others, and they certainly would not EVER have thought, or suggested building Socialism with a Capitalist base, as you suggested. They were comfortably off, it's true,

but their work was to bring Socialism into being and they would have cheerfully shared equally with others in a Socialist State, as so often was said.

"I don't know whether Malcolm Bruce is old enough to have heard Bernard Shaw's tirade over radio many years ago, speaking to the Americans on how blind they were not to see the exploitation and greed the majority of them were suffering. When were they going to throw the oppressors off their necks?

"H. G. Wells' "Outline of History" and "The Shape of Things to Come" certainly were not written by a man who had any use for capitalism. If the general masses of people are too lazy and ignorant to try to read and study, don't try to defame a group that tried so hard to show them the way.

"I like your magazine and I am in sympathy and agree with most of it, but when I have knowledge of certain things and see them discredited, I must speak out. It is true many fall by the wayside, but don't condemn without facts. If only people wouldn't make leaders into gods, but just use them as teachers, if they were good teachers, we might have better luck. But once you applaud extravagantly and become almost hysterical every time he opens his mouth, then we are destroying him and destroying ourselves. Get educated to Socialism and always gain wisdom."

(MRS.) M. E. POWELL.

"THIS WAS THE STRIKE THAT WAS"

(The following letter was sent in by a striking oil worker too late for our last issue but several days before settlement of the oil strike.)

I—The mandatory policy, to whom? And to what? And when?

a) Was it mandatory that the men do just what the director decided or that the company do as he planned?

b) What was to be mandatory, the original demands or the continual watered-down ones that kept coming out?

c) When was it to be mandatory? Trucks were going in and out of all the local unstruck plants and B.A. customers were being supplied from unstruck plants. This situation we are told caused the shut-down of the Shell plant in Winnipeg, yet here it was O.K.

This inconsistent policy gave cause for disunity, confusion and suspensions; it fact, it created one impossible situation after another. No doubt many an oil worker was asked how come he was working: I thought the oil workers were on strike?

THE PLANNING OF THE PROGRAMME

The demands were put in to the companies at the first of February. This, we were told, was to give them time to have an answer when our contracts expired. They gave us their answer, even with all this preparation, a flat "no" to just about the whole programme.

While the companies were discussing our demands, what was being done in planning our programme? Well, very little of this ever filtered back to the rank-and-file, but when we did finally get action, it appeared that we were to strike B.A. across Canada. This came about when it seems that the rest of the country is very poorly organized and were not going to be able to exert very much pressure.

The strike was at last under way and, as you don't expect results on the first day, things ground along for a few weeks. The questions then began to be asked at the different union meetings, and I must say the answers were as vague as the mandatory policy.

We were told the strike was really beginning to hurt B.A. and they were losing accounts left and right. Well, I don't think we are all that naive to believe that the unions are the only ones that can organize and plan for a strike. I am sure no one can deny that some workers have quit buying B.A. gas and oil, but not ALL, or else the stations would have long ago closed. In regards to industrial contracts, no doubt the other companies are filling these, and I am quite sure on an under-the-counter

basis. These contracts will, I am sure, return to B.A. in due course.

THE SECOND PHASE OF THE STRIKE

The second phase of the strike begins to come about, and it is unplanned, but brought on by a natural phenomenon, time. The 90-day strike period is running out! And a labour decision against the suspensions at Imperial Oil has been handed down in favour of the company.

If the suspended workers are to have not toiled in vain, they can do nothing else but call a strike at Imperial to back up the men's devotion to principle. Thus we have a strike called at Imperial at 9:30 p.m. on November 5. We are told that they were shut down at this hour so as the staff would be caught off base and unable to take over the plant.

We are given a deadline for the rest of the plants of 11:59 p.m. on the 15th of November. Now, why shut Imperial down in the middle of the night to guard against the staff taking over the plant, then give the rest of the plants a week's notice to take over their plants (example: Taylor B.C.)? Could this have been a threat to scare the rest of the companies into surrendering? Well, once again they didn't say "Uncle."

THE THIRD PHASE OF THE STRIKE

The local union executive of the Oil Workers now goes to the B.C. Federation of Labour and asks for help, as they plan a province-wide strike (this was requested by one unit almost a year ago). The B.C. Fed, in exchange for support, says they have to have eight days to get ready. If we had any sort of a labour movement in this province, it would not require eight days. But better late than never.

The eight days, was it all for planning, or was it a chance to do some fancy footwork behind the scenes? Wires to M.P.'s; requests to just about every one to get in and do something so as to get them all off the hook. This is the first time that labour has ever faced up to a challenge, and they are just about as nervous as a "June Bride."

The workers of this province, and especially the ones who attend the B.C. Fed as delegates, hear nothing but moans about Bill 42-43, ex-parte injunctions, etc. They are at last given a chance, instead of talking, moaning, sending wires, delegations and briefs, to take some concrete action.

We hear that all we have to do is elect the right government, and we will get some fair labour legislation. I don't think many of us will live that long. What is the alternative? Just one: Take a unified strike action, and not for just 48 hours, but as long as necessary, to defeat the government or force them to sit down and talk with labour "seriously"!

"EIGHT HOURS LATE"

This whole programme should not have been left till the 90 days had all but run out, but should have been drafted when our negotiations first broke down, and presented to the B.C. Fed as a request for support and a unified stand on Bills 42, 43 and ex-parte injunctions. It should also have been presented to the B.C. Fed convention in the Bayshore Inn early in the month of November. With all labours support, this would have been the time for strike action by the OCAW.

NOW THE DIE IS CAST

The B.C. Fed is really on a hot griddle. The news media, the government, business, and just about every one are attacking them as being "knot-headed," irresponsible, etc.

One by one, we hear opinions from government members, and I must say they are a lot more knot-headed than labour. Most of their answers are a negative approach to the whole mess and show their ignorance of the situation. One example—our labour minister is listening to phone-in shows to see what he should do, and he is a "minister of labour"?

This situation didn't just arise because the Oil Workers are having a labour dispute with their respective

companies, it has been brewing for a number of years. It is a little confusing to a lot of people to hear we in labour are all so dead against our labour laws and are taking unified action now after they have been on the books for several years (1959). Well, if they were at all familiar with the B.C. Federation of Labour, they would know this is par for the course, as they are not exactly any ball of fire, and it takes quite a bit to arouse some action in that conservative group. This is evident by the action we see at Mitchell Press, the Grain Workers strike, and the Brewery strike. Local labour, in my opinion, is just a little overloaded with "elder statesmen" today: in fact, labour in general.

WHERE IS THE PUBLIC IN ALL THIS AFFAIR?

Well, this is a sad situation, and one we must face up to. But the public is you and I in most strikes, the so-called trade unionist. When it is not his union that is directly on strike, he becomes a different animal, and one could think he was on the side of the boss in a lot of cases. I would say part of the reason for this is the trade unionist has had wage increases set as his main goal over the years, and conditions and principles have been second.

Now, today, when he would like to combat labour legislation and fight the boss for better conditions, etc., he finds his contract is weak and has nothing in it to protect him from discrimination, etc. He has been too easily bought off over the years with a few nickels. If we are in any way sincerely interested in improving the position we are in and fighting labour legislation, automation, etc., then we must take a long, hard look at the labour unions today. They consist of hundreds of small groups and several larger ones, mostly controlled by international affiliates. I think the need is for one big Canadian union with no international ties and run by a younger and more dedicated segment of labour. I think the trade unionist should be saying not "what can the union do for me, but what can I do for the union," and then I think we would be united and headed in the right direction.

THE FINAL ACT

Every trade union is lining up on one side or the other, and some seem to be taking their cue from the bigger unions. We hear a lot of reasons and different approaches to the whole idea of a general strike. Well, most every one would be involved one way or another if it came off, like it or not. The outcome now seems to be an interim offer and get everyone off the hook, get the strikers back to work, and sit and talk over the unsettled parts later. The probable suggestion will be that we have at last united the Oil Workers and bargained all across the country at one time. We have set up a mandatory policy and a central bargaining committee and have made great strides. Next time we will go on from here and this only the first step to ultimate success.

I say, to set such a power in motion as the labour force of B.C., and not put it to its best use, is a big loss. We will now give the government plenty of time to plug the gaps in its labour act and see such an occurrence does not get going again.

I would suggest that while this action is still fresh in the government's mind and the unions' mind, to "demand" an immediate hearing in the top levels of government on all phases and problems of labour, and "demand" some action and answers. This is probably the best we will be able to derive out of this show of strength at this time, and even then, we will have to wait and see the results.

One other outcome of this strike will be some real fast stepping on behalf of labour representatives and delegates to the B.C. Fed who have committed their unions to strike action and who been a little outspoken for once.

In closing of summation I would say the blame for this whole programme must be laid at the doorstep of the "Canadian Director."

If we are to believe what we are told, and our request for a general strike across the country, or more so, a province-wide strike, were strongly put to him, then I must have little excuse for the mess we are in and for the long, unnecessary strike of B.A. and now Imperial.

The pressure that was able to be exerted here in B.C. in such a short time and with such little planning, was only an example of what could have been done here in B.C. right at the start. I hope, if he's around for future negotiations, that he has learned a little, and I am sorry to say, at the expense of a lot of misled workers.

POINTS OF INTEREST

1. We have been told we could not fight these companies alone. This is what we have been doing to date.

2. We have been told in so many words that we are to shut up and listen and do what we are told as we are not running this strike.

3. Pat O'Neal was asked how come he hadn't got behind us before now. His reply: "What plan? (Pointing to our executive:) They don't know where they are going."

4. Before the fight is even started, we are asked what are our minimum demands. It was stated, 40 cents for one year. This wasn't apparently the right answer, and it appears they are still trying to find out as they keep dropping. If we don't say soon, I don't know where they will get to.

5. There has been a lack of interest and a general apathy in this strike. I say the reason is that it is the phoney "pay-as-you-go" strike we are conducting. When you have this, you get a situation like the paper strike in Toronto.

6. Let's hope this strike is fully analyzed after it is over and some steps are taken to ensure we do not make the same errors in future strikes.

7. Are we now in a new phase of bargaining, where the companies are going to let us go on strike and continue to run the plants in the future? (Very demoralizing.)

8. This 48-hour strike sees every union laying itself open for court action, jail and fines if it takes place. Everyone but OCAW who will be on a legal strike!

9. This strike, if nothing else, should show the need for one Canadian union and one united stand by labour. This could be, and is, a do-or-die battle for labour in B.C., and in fact, all of Canada.

JOHN D. ROCK.

ARMS SALES SOAR

(By Jack Brooks, Sun Washington bureau, Vancouver Sun, Dec. 7, 1965.)

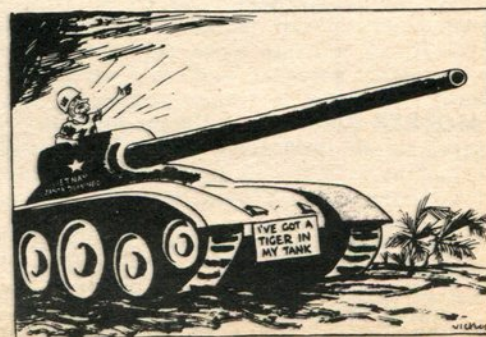
WASHINGTON—The U.S. has confessed to being the world's biggest modern gun-runner.

In the last four years it has increased the sales of arms abroad from \$300 million in the 1961 financial year to \$1.3 billion in the 1965 financial year.

The \$1.3 billion sales of 1965 are expected to continue at the same annual level for the next several years.

Such sales, apart from helping the U.S. balance of payments position, "enhance the mutual defence posture of the free world."

The breakdown of arms shipments is as follows: \$7.5 billion to Europe (with Germany and Britain buying \$6.1 billion; \$930 million to Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Japan; \$780 million to other U.S. allies across the world.



—Vicky, London Evening Standard



REVOLUTIONARY SOCIALISM VERSUS CAPITALISM

By CATHAL BRUGHA

GAUNT MOTHER pleads for help for her starving child in India where thousands starve to death daily.

During the past month the local capitalist press has devoted considerable space to the solicitation of charity to offset, in some degree, the drastic plight of the peoples of India, South Korea, and Hong Kong. This plea, backed by a mass of depressing detail, depicts a picture of famine,

disease and death; above all, it lays bare the total bankruptcy of the socio-economic system under which the areas involved are administered. During the same period the daily press carried eye-witness accounts of conditions in the People's Republic of China, from individuals who,

by no stretch of the imagination, could be considered sympathetic to the philosophy of Marxist-Leninism. These accounts describe conditions in China as being in marked contrast to those of the forementioned areas. In effect, the capitalist press of Vancouver has, whether it realizes it or not, issued during the past month a devastating and unanswerable indictment of the capitalist order of things as a whole.

Tangible facts afford an opportunity for illustrating the enormous differences between the objects of revolutionary socialism and those of capitalism that no theoretical polemic can match. This is especially true of contemporary Asia, where you have two large countries, China and India, that acquired their freedom at approximately the same time, and where the new national governments began operations with comparable problems to solve.

India secured its independence in 1947. A national bourgeois state was established; and for all intents and purposes the Indian people entered upon freedom's path enjoying all the alleged advantages of bourgeois democracy. China liberated itself from the clutches of imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism in 1949, after a revolutionary struggle of some 20-odd years. The economic structure of the country lay in total ruin; so much so that the U.S. Secretary of State, Dean Acheson, at one time, confidently assured President Truman that no government would succeed in tackling the problem.

Today, after some 18 years of freedom under bourgeois management in India, and 16 in China under the leadership of the Communist Party, what are the conditions in each country?

India is worse off than it ever was; and that's putting it mildly. Its industrial output has not increased appreciably; and it has failed dismally in its attempt to increase agricultural production. In terms of human suffering, each year of Indian independence has seen "thousands starve to death daily." In Mysore State last year, for instance, "whole families took poison because it was an easier way to die than from starvation." And the coming months, according to all accounts, portend worse conditions for the Indian masses than ever before.

On the other hand, China is, according to a local columnist who visited there recently, "bursting with activity . . . absorbed in making up for lost time, forging ahead socially and industrially and freed at last from feudal oppression." In the same article the writer remarked: "Regardless of its political convictions, I feel the Communist regime of Mao Tse-Tung is the best thing for most people in the country." Another local personality, Dr. Stuart Maddin, who delivered a lecture on his recent trip to China, remarked in answer to a question: ". . . the Chinese are better fed, better clothed and better housed than they ever were." Neither of these people can be considered sympathetic to Communism.

What accounts for this enormous disparity in achievement between the two countries? And keep in mind also that the Indian government had advantages over their Chinese counterpart to begin with, in that: 1) they assumed control of a country that had experienced neither the ravages of a fierce international war, nor of a protracted revolutionary struggle; 2) the Indian government enjoyed the co-operation and constant aid of the capitalist nations from the beginning; whereas China had to literally pull itself up by its own shoestrings, receiving but limited assistance from the Soviet Union which, for the greater part, had to be repaid in hard cash and goods.

The key to the situation is to be found in the conditions under which freedom was realized in each case.

INDIA

The anti-colonial struggle in India was at all times an effort which remained under the complete control of the nationalist bourgeoisie. Following the classic bourgeois pattern, the Indian nationalists never developed their struggle on the basis of a mass national effort. Instead, they involved just that quantity of popular par-

ticipation that was sufficient to put the screws on Britain without, at the same time, endangering in any way the continuity of the social and economic *status quo*. It has, for instance, been estimated that at no time did active participation in the anti-British struggle exceed one in every 200 Indians. Under those conditions it is credible that British occupation could have survived longer than it did. However, had Britain remained it is also credible, taking the rising revolutionary tide in Asia as a whole into consideration, that the Indian nationalist bourgeoisie could not have maintained their ascendancy in the independence struggle indefinitely. Consequently, since a basis for an amicable understanding, founded on class interest, existed between the imperialists and India's national bourgeoisie, it was of greater benefit to Britain to bow to the pressures that had built up by 1947, rather than to stick it out and take the chance of losing all at a later date.

In effect, when Britain extracted its colonial roots from India in 1947, the change in the country's status was simply one involving a shift in political power. India received political democracy in the form of a national government elected by popular suffrage; but did not acquire a corresponding economic freedom. And the former is very hollow indeed without the latter.

CAPITALISM IN INDIA

Due to the class structure, and therefore the class commitment, of India's new political regime, the country was faced from the very outset of its newly acquired status with barriers of unsurmountable dimensions. To give reality to its independence the Indian government had to mobilize a mass enthusiasm for organized sacrifice and labor, which would generate the capital necessary for industrial and agricultural development. Only in this way could India solve the very basic problem of providing sufficient food for its population. To achieve this, however, the Indian masses had to be instilled with a real identity to the new state; which could only be realized through the establishment of an economic democracy, which, in turn, could only be secured through the destruction of the social and economic ascendancy of the very class from which the governing body itself was drawn.

Obviously, the national bourgeoisie were not going to use their newly acquired political power for the systematic destruction of their own class; so the country immediately found itself in an impasse.

In an endeavour to solve the insoluble, India turned outwards to attract foreign capital investment, and secure foreign aid. However, this entailed yet another vicious circle; because to attract such capital the government had first to demonstrate that native capitalism was not alone safe under the new system, but was actually prospering. This necessity was to deny the government the ability to carry out even those limited programmes of reform which actually lay within its capability. Instead, native capitalism was allowed to run rampant; the government, though faced with a mounting crisis, could not implement any form of rigid control, as did the British government, for instance, during the crisis of World War II.

Attracted by this free-wheeling financial atmosphere foreign capital was indeed invested in India. By 1959 British investments, still the larger element, had risen slightly over those of the occupational era; American capitalism had multiplied its commitments by over two hundred and fifty per cent; and the World Bank, largely controlled by the U.S., had extended its investments from a nominal 2.7 rupees crores in 1949, to 83 crores in 1959. (One Rs. crore is approximately two and a quarter million dollars.) In overall terms this rise in foreign capital meant that by 1959 about 80 per cent of India's industry and essential services were foreign-controlled. The economy, as a consequence, was committed to the principle of "free enterprise" par excellence; with the profits going to the coffers of international capitalism, instead of being utilized for the necessary and pressing development of the country's agricultural means of production to meet

the needs of a rapidly increasing population.

This latter failure is, perhaps, best illustrated by the fact that on the fifth year of independence India's food production amounted to 42.1 million tons available for consumption; whereas some 70 years previous under colonial rule the amount had been 51.53 million tons. The population had, in the meantime, increased from 181 million in 1879, to 361 million in 1952. This means that in 1952 the Indian masses had approximately 50 per cent less to eat than their predecessors of 70 years before. To maintain even this subsistence level of 1952 demanded a 2.1 per cent a year increase in food production to meet the growth in population; and this was realized until 1961. There has been no increase in food production since then, although the population has multiplied by some 30 million.

FOREIGN AID

Since the beginning India has enjoyed aid in the form of loans and grants from the major capitalist nations, and from the U.S.S.R. By 1957 this aid amounted to \$1,325 million; of which the U.S. contributed some \$1,000 million. From 1957 onwards American contributions increased rapidly; the latest U.S. total being given at \$6 billion. However, this form of assistance incurs inevitably limitations which, in the long run, cannot help but undermine any lasting good being derived from it.

Capitalist societies do not generally lend or give money unless they can profit by doing so. They expect returns, in the form of strategic involvement, political subservience or economic advantages; and whatever their motives, they seldom lend or give enough to produce more than a peripheral effect. In India's case a reliance on foreign aid, especially American aid, has had the effect of robbing the government of even that political independence it secured from Britain.

One of the most obvious products of India's reliance on American aid has been the renouncement of its much lauded policy of non-alignment, and its subsequent line-up with the imperialist bloc dominated by the United States. The manner in which America realized this long-sought goal constitutes a classic lesson in modern imperialist politics, and on the dangers of a dependency on foreign aid. The manner in which India's subservience to American strategic needs was realized is too involved to be dealt with in depth here. However, in brief: America demanded that Nehru fall in line in 1961, by sacking his defence minister, Krishna Menon, and scrapping India's non-alignment policy. Nehru refused. The U.S. then cut off the flow of aid to India, and diverted it to Pakistan where it took the form of arms buildup. At first Nehru tried to offset this arms build-up in Pakistan by purchasing material from the Soviet Union; but he came to realize quickly enough that it was an unequal race. India had to capitulate to the United States; the threat of a better armed Pakistan had proven sufficient to whip India into line.

1962: In order to regain the good graces of America and thereby alleviate the military potential Pakistan had acquired over and above that of India, the heirs of Gandhi offered themselves for the role of China's challenger—always popular with the imperialists. Thus began the Sino-Indian border clashes that culminated in more serious military engagements in October, 1962. The entire Western propaganda machine was mobilized to present China as the aggressor, and there were many who believed this due to India's previous record. But the facts, as stated by Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor before the House Appropriation Committee in February, 1963, were that "the Indian military were edging forward in the disputed area."

Through its dispute with China, India regained favor with the U.S. government—Pakistan was discarded. What followed was an immediate American militarization of India. And, as the *Washington Post* reported on September 19, this year, "Indian officials are talking privately for the first time about an eventual Asia-wide understanding with the United States extending to the assign-

ment of Indian troops to other trouble spots threatened by China."

Without becoming involved any deeper in an analysis of the Pentagonization of India's world outlook—which would, for instance, necessitate an examination of the recent India-Pakistan war—it is apparent that India has, since gaining its independence from British colonial rule in 1947, travelled almost a full circle. Today, it is in fact, though admittedly not in theory, an American satellite; its evolution under a democratic bourgeois government representing an advancement from a classical colonial to neo-colonial status.

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

The fundamental difference between India's anti-colonial struggle under the leadership of the bourgeoisie, and China's revolutionary struggle under the leadership of the Communist Party, is best expressed in the following terms: The former represented an instance wherein the bourgeoisie utilized the potential of the masses as a lever to secure their own sectarian ends; whereas the latter was the masses mobilized, organized, and then committed to struggle for a popular emancipation.

THE REVOLUTION'S MASS BASIS

After the initial setbacks of 1926-27, the more realistic elements of China's Communist leadership, which gravitated around Mao Tse-tung, came to understand that a successful revolution could only be realized on the basis of a worker-peasant alliance led by the proletariat. Of itself, the Communist Party could not free the Chinese masses; but the people could free themselves through correct guidance and leadership from the party. This may appear a simple enough deduction to Monday-morning quarterbacks. But in reality it carried with it tremendous implications; and the years that followed saw a protracted, and at times a highly complicated, revolutionary struggle unfold throughout China, which had as its primary goal the mobilization and organization of the masses for the seizure of state power. It is a fact of history that this finally occurred in 1949.

During the course of the Chinese revolution three distinct, though inter-related, forces exerted themselves within the bounds of a mass movement. These were: 1) the organized masses, which represented the revolutionary steam-roller; 2) the Communist Party, which served as the leadership of the masses; 3, the Revolutionary Leadership, which guided the activities of the party. A belief in the principles of Marxist-Leninism dictated that a true democratic relationship exist between all three elements; the pressure of events was to ensure a strict adherence to its continued application on all levels. No single element could achieve anything without the enthusiastic co-operation of the other two. Consequently, over the years a condition of mutual reliance developed into understanding, respect and trust between all three; and this was to be carried forward into the era of Socialist reconstruction after 1949.

REVOLUTIONARY ENTHUSIASM

There can be no denying that China's revolution is one based on mass identity. The bulk of the people were directly associated with the struggle to wrest state power from the reactionary rulers, and as a consequence they readily associated themselves with the aims of the new state established as a result of that struggle. Imperialist propaganda can rant and rave about totalitarianism, as it undoubtedly will, but the hard fact remains that the Communist Party could not have seized state power in 1949 without the people; and the new state could not have progressed as it has, without the people's support. Western observers attribute this continued alliance between party and people as emanating exclusively from the material advancements and security which the new state has been able to produce. But this is only one side of the coin. Perhaps the greatest single factor is that the Chinese people have regained their self-respect as human beings. They are no longer "things"; they are people with identity; people now endowed with the ability to either make or break their own future. This makes for a potent force,

an almost bottomless well of enthusiasm and energy, that anyone who has experienced even the rumblings of a nation's rejuvenation can well appreciate.

It is this new-found sense of well-being that has facilitated the ready harnessing of China's labor potential for the enormous task of reconstruction. Enthusiasm—for want of a better definition—is the motive force which generates material advancement; and not vice versa. The task facing the Chinese government is impossible, said the cynics of 1949. But then they did not understand, not to mind count on, the intangible; that state of mind which sees the impossible as something that will simply take a little longer to solve than the possible.

The fantastic achievements that can be realized by a community endowed with this sense of purpose, as against the apathy towards self-betterment that invariably prevails when the mass of the people possess no real identity with their new state, nor it with them, is best illustrated by two recent reports. The first, given banner treatment by the Vancouver Sun during its recent "Cup of Milk Fund" campaign, tells of the **big achievement** when the Indian villagers of a particular area were finally galvanized into digging a new well to provide uncontaminated drinking water for the community. The second, an article on Chinese economy in the November issue of **The Minority of One**, matter-of-factly relates that in one commune north of Sian over 360 new wells had been dug, and equipped with electric pumps, to ensure an uninterrupted supply of water for the crops. A new well is only a small thing; 360 new wells in one commune may not be considered an enormous contribution to a country's economy. But the obvious discrepancy in initiative, as evidenced by the foregoing, is of itself sufficient to show the dynamic nature of a properly pursued socialist revolution, as against the unavoidable reaction and apathy that is inherent in bourgeois society.

STRENGTH OF THE REVOLUTION

That the Chinese people are better fed, better clothed, better housed, and enjoy greater health services, educational facilities and overall material security than ever before, is a fact attested to by all non-communists that have visited the country, and who are in a position to compare present with former conditions. Only the Americans and their appendages would contest this statement. As "Penny Wise" wrote: "No one expects the Americans to agree, but, they are forbidden to go to Red China in order to make their own observations." Forbidden by their own government, that is.

However, regardless of these very tangible advancements in the material welfare of the Chinese people, to retain a proper perspective of the revolution as a whole, and of that which really makes it tick, such material progress must be regarded as the product of the revolution, rather than the source of its continued popularity among the people. Many optimistic antagonists and superficial political analysts tend to estimate the revolution's chances of survival in terms of its ability to multiply China's productivity without setback. As a result, they spend a good deal of time hoping for a succession of bad harvests in China, in the false belief that such adversity would turn the people against the revolution, and thereby give the reactionaries a chance to re-establish the old order of things. Unfortunately for them they miss completely the essence of the revolution's popularity. The real strength of the revolution lies in the complete transformation of the people's status in relationship to the state. Now, it's their state; be it good, bad or indifferent, it's theirs; and they can be expected to stick by it regardless of economic adversity, for so long as the present democratic equilibrium is maintained between the people, the governing party and the state's leadership. The only thing that can destroy this order of things is the Communist Party itself, by discarding the principles of Marxism. So if the Imperialists desire the downfall of China—and they do very much indeed—they should offer up their sacrifices at the altar of revisionism, in the hope that the C.P.C. might fall by the wayside as did the C.P.S.U.

CAPITALISM IN ASIA INDICTED

At the outset of this article South Korea and Hong Kong were mentioned in connection with India. Unfortunately space has not permitted the contemplated examination of these two areas. To review the situation briefly, however, a quote from a special editorial in the Vancouver Sun of December 4, will establish that: "Recent reports indicate that 10,000 persons are dying daily of starvation. The great majority of them are in India, although there are terrible privations as well in (South) Korea and Hong Kong, which the Sun's drive will also help."

Now, India is a bourgeois democracy; South Korea is a neo-colonial state manipulated by the U.S.; and Hong Kong is a colony under the control of British imperialism. All are administered according to the dictates of an international capitalist system that has greater resources at its avail today than any other system past or present. And yet, in these three areas capitalism is directly responsible for the death by starvation of 10,000 people daily; over three and a half million yearly. This means that the capitalist system in Asia murders—how can one find another term to describe it?—more per year than the German fascists during the height of their campaign against the Jews. The fascists murdered six million Jews in six years; the present-day capitalists are responsible for the murder of three and one-half million Asians yearly. The fascists were convicted of crimes against humanity. What will be the future verdict on today's capitalists?



I LOVE YOU "GREAT SOCIETY"

By A.U.

I'm just a punk kid
 With some political views
 And appreciation
 For peaceful news.
 Anyway I decided
 Not to be a hermit,
 I'd go see the States
 On a working permit.
 I stumbled my way
 To the U.S. Embassy
 To try and go live
 In the Great Society.
 Freedom of speech
 In their democracy,
 Freedom of thought
 Is their ideology.
 Well, they threw a questionnaire
 Into my face,
 Asked me what I thought
 Of the race to space
 And what do I think
 About Vietnam,
 Santo Domingo
 And the Ku Klux Klan.
 How do I feel
 About Marxism,
 Stalin's or Castro's
 Communism.
 Am I related
 To Mao Tse-tung?
 Have I ever heard
 Freedom songs sung?
 What do I think
 Of nuclear bombs,
 LBJ
 And protest songs?
 How many reds
 Have I turned in?
 Have I ever cheered
 For a VC.win?
 Have I ever been
 In a red organization?
 Have I ever dreamt of
 A welfare nation?
 Question after question
 They fired at me
 To prove it was
 Democracy.
 I'd had enough
 And got fed up,
 Put down my pen
 And then stood up.
 For your Great Society
 I don't give a damn
 And furthermore
 Get out of Vietnam.
 I don't want your kind
 Of democracy
 Better known as
 Hypocrisy
 Where a coloured person
 Has equal rights
 But better stay indoors
 On dark nights.
 So I'm going back
 To my own nation
 To partake in a
 Ban the bomb demonstration.
 Go to the land



Where I'll be free
 Living with our
 Canadian democracy,
 Where I can walk around
 And preach peace
 And not be troubled
 By secret police
 'cept RCMP
 And I can talk
 Like a socialist
 And not be labeled
 A communist
 And where I won't give
 Any grey hairs
 To the Committee
 Of Unamerican Affairs
 And I'll criticize
 Your foreign policy
 'Cause its against
 My philosophy.
 I'll sit high and mighty
 On my stool

And criticize
 Like a stupid fool.
 I'll feel great pride
 In my own nation
 And overlook
 The Indian reservation,
 Starvation,
 Discrimination,
 Expensive education,
 Degeneration
 So someone knock me
 Off my throne
 And I'll go sit
 All alone.
 I'm in no position
 To criticize
 When there's all these things
 Before my own eyes.
 So Canada
 Join with me,
 Let's repair ourselves
 'Fore the "Great Society."