

Would You Believe...

**U.S.
Workers
Running
The
Economy?**

**By Gus Hall
General Secretary
Communist Party U.S.A.**

*What Every Worker Should Know
About Trade Unions Under Socialism*

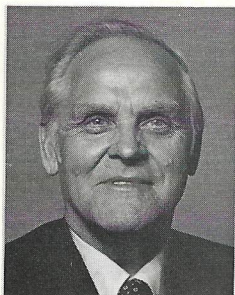
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Worker Participation: Question Is for Whom and on Whose Side?

Should a trade union leader sit on the Board of Directors of a large corporation? In itself this is not the most important question. The real, bottom-line question is: whose interests does he serve? Who does he represent and fight for? Which side is he on, the workers' or the corporations'?

Life in our capitalist society does not permit one to serve both classes at the same time because the basic self-interest of the corporations is to make maximum profits, while the workers' basic self-interest is to make a decent standard of living. This puts the corporate board of directors and the trade union on opposite sides of the fence since both wages and profits come from the same pot. This makes it impossible to serve both employer and employee interests at the same time.

Since Douglas A. Fraser, President of the United Automobile Workers, became a member of the Chrysler Cor-



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poration's Board of Directors he has expressed some views that raise some serious questions.

Whenever capitalism nosedives into one of its periodic economic crises the U.S. ruling class gears up its propaganda machine to divert the working class from a path that threatens its profits. The propaganda program they count on most is a fired-up cold war hysteria and a stepped up anti-labor, anti-Communist, anti-socialist slander campaign.

Perhaps unwittingly, Douglas Fraser has become an accomplice in this smear campaign with his recent New York



Even Fraser's report to the 26th UAW Convention last June 1-6 in Anaheim, California, noted that Harvester workers and their families, like those shown above, by their strike action are "continuing the tradition of over 100 years of struggle in Harvester to bring and maintain human dignity to the workplace."

Times article, "At Togliatti, Gorky, There is No U.A.W."

Like any other corporate board member and without a shred of evidence Fraser repeated the unconfirmed rumors that the autoworkers of the city of Gorky in the Soviet Union went on strike, "perhaps to protest food shortages."

Unconfirmed Rumors or Facts?

Because of his new split personality—one as President of the U.A.W. and the other as a member of Chrysler's Board of Directors—on the one hand he writes: "70,000 workers at the Togliatti auto plant struck for two days." And, on the other hand, he says that in the Soviet Union "...you don't strike; you don't even think about striking...."

Trying to sound somewhat objective, Fraser begrudgingly admits that Soviet autoworkers, "have won over the years social and medical gains that are good," but hastens to add, "when measured by the low Soviet standards." And repeating the old Chamber of Commerce propaganda, Fraser insults Soviet trade unions when he says, "...theirs is...a company union." By "company union" Fraser means that the trade unions in socialist countries are government controlled. In fact, just the reverse is true because it is the workers through their unions who are the biggest influence on the government. Workers are the majority on all governmental bodies. For instance, the President of the Soviet Union, Leonid I. Brezhnev, was a metalworker and Valeri Kuznetsov, the Vice President, was an autoworker who, incidentally, worked for some time in a Detroit auto plant. It is unheard of for U.S. workers to attain such positions of power.

The basic truth is that it is ONLY in a socialist society that trade unions acquire real political and economic power because they work, speak and act for the class in power, the working class. For example, in the Soviet Union

management cannot cancel a labor contract without the agreement of the trade union organization. This is the law of the land. Management cannot fire a worker without the consent of the trade union. Trade union committees in every plant have absolute veto power over questions such as wages, piece rates, speedup, upgrading and plant safety. In most industries women can retire between 45-50 years of age and men between 50-55 and workers in socialist countries are not required to contribute to pension funds.

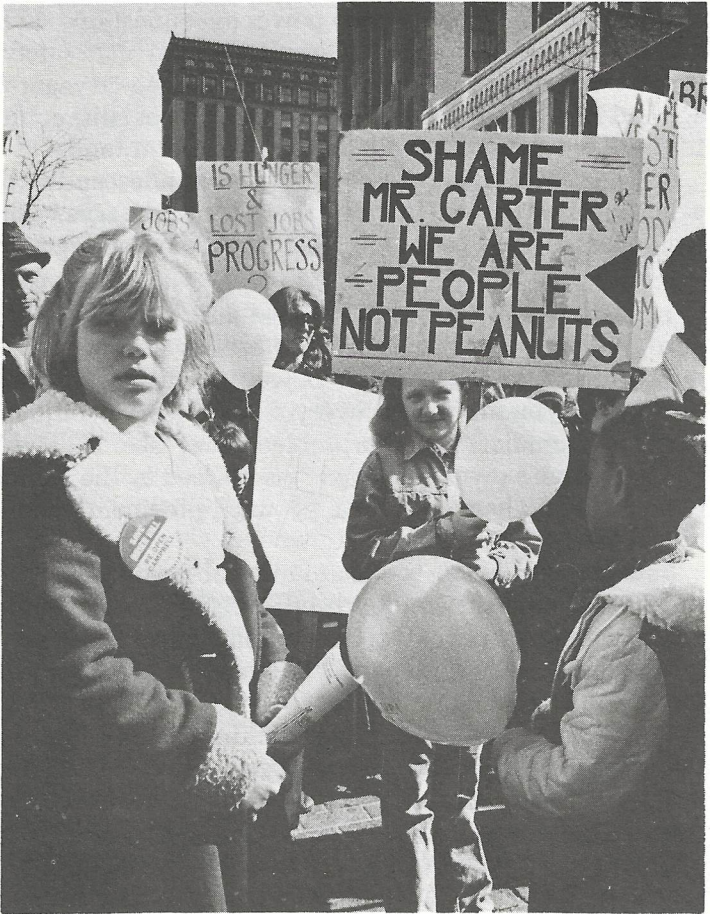
In true cold war fashion Fraser sneers condescendingly at real workers' power: "What is their word?" he says, "Oh, 'paradise.'" Well, let us see what Fraser is sneering at.

I'm sure the workers who used to work at Dodge Main, Wisconsin Steel, Youngstown Sheet and Tube, Mahwah Ford and the more than 500 other industrial plants shut down during the last 12 months would consider guaranteed employment, which every Soviet worker enjoys, closer to "paradise" than the problems they face. The right to a job of one's own choosing is guaranteed by the Soviet Constitution. There has been no unemployment in the Soviet Union for 40 years.

Squeezed by the costs of astronomical hospital, doctor, dental and medical insurance bills, U.S. workers would readily agree that the best of medical and dental care free of charge that every Soviet worker and his family enjoys gets closer to the goal of "paradise."

As the cost of educating their children keeps climbing out of reach for U.S. workers, they can see that the socialist system of free education up to college and advanced degrees is also closer to what Fraser calls "paradise."

Close to 40 percent of a U.S. worker's paycheck goes to pay taxes. It is now estimated that workers in the U.S. have to work from January 1st to May 15th just to pay their taxes for the year, while many large corporations pay no taxes, get tax write-offs for depreciation, tax subsidies and use all



Children of workers rallying in Youngstown, Ohio, in March, 1979 to protest shut-down of Campbell Steel Works and demand federal aid to reopen the plant.

the tax loopholes to reduce their share of taxes—which, by the way, comes to about 15 percent of total taxes. In comparison that's closer to "paradise."

Why Do Workers Strike?

Brother Fraser states that "...we enjoy free collective bargaining and have the right to withhold our labor if necessary to gain redress for our grievances," hinting that Soviet workers do not have such rights.

However, Fraser neglected to mention that the right to "gain redress" in the U.S. is severely hamstrung and restricted by legal strikebreaking injunctions, laws that make strikes illegal for public workers, union decertification, scabbing and a whole slew of anti-labor, anti-union laws and practices. The huge backlog of grievances on safety, working conditions, etc., in most U.S. plants and the companies' resistance to settling them, is testimony to the uphill battle workers have to wage to "gain redress." Any worker knows that if in the U.S. the corporations would settle grievances and grant wage increases fairly and willingly there would be no need to strike. If Soviet auto workers were faced with "over 300,000 workers laid off," (at Chrysler alone, 50,000 workers have been laid off since Fraser joined Chrysler's Board of Directors) with a declining real wage, with plant shutdowns, runaways, whole communities being destroyed and ravaging inflation—they would indeed have good reason to strike.

If Soviet workers were confronted with a Chrysler Corporation bailed out with taxpayers' money to the tune of a billion dollars, while the Chrysler workers are living in debt and insecurity—they would certainly have good cause to "redress their grievances."

This simply isn't the socialist reality. These kinds of disasters do not and cannot happen to workers in socialist

societies. In the socialist countries workers are their own bosses. They are the real economic and political power. There are no privately-owned corporations, no drive for maximum private profits, no tax shelters inducing companies to close plants and move to more profitable locations, leaving human devastation in their wake.

There are few strikes in the socialist countries not because the workers don't have the right to strike, but because of the position of power workers enjoy. They have the power to settle grievances and disputes. No worker can be fired without consent of the trade union committee and unions have a right to fire bureaucratic or inefficient managers. They have the power to give wage increases and improve working conditions. And they do just that.

All grievances are settled on the spot. Because of the extensive economic and political power the working class and their trade unions enjoy under socialism they need not fear plants being closed down and layoffs. The right to a job is a sacred right of every Soviet citizen. The trade unions have full control and a veto over all health and safety questions.

In the United States we are going through the seventh economic crisis since World War II. Such crises are a built-in feature of capitalism. There are no economic crises in a socialist society. This is because the relationship between wages-buying power and production is planned. As production goes up, wages go up. As a result there are no periods when the market gets glutted with unsold commodities.

The Owner-Worker Partnership Hoax

Not only is there no unemployment in the USSR, but there is full employment without racism or discriminatory practices. The over 100 nationalities which make up the

USSR need never fear racism or discriminatory practices because such practices were outlawed 60 years ago. There is equal pay for equal work and equal opportunities for advancement regardless of race, religion, sex or geographical area. Acts of racism and discrimination are criminal offenses, punishable by law. Whatever inequality there was as a residue of the old feudal czarist and capitalist systems has been eliminated through a consistent program of affirmative action.

From his seat on Chrysler's Board with representatives of big banks and other stockholders, Brother Fraser, cynically sneers at the USSR's "classless society" at "the workers' state" where, he says, "...you don't even think about striking." I suppose when one sits on the board of directors of a huge multinational corporation it is difficult to even comprehend a society without classes. But socialism is just that. There are no private corporations, bankers or landlords who own the means of production and the land. Therefore, the useless, unproductive, parasitic leisure class of stockholders and owners does not exist. When the Chrysler, G.M. or U.S. Steel workers take over the plants and property, retire the present big stockholders and the corporate gang that continues to get rich from exploiting the workers — this will create a classless situation.

In our society, big business has always promoted the concept of U.S. society as classless. In fact, a recent issue of **Business Week** devoted the whole magazine to the advocacy of a so-called "reindustrialization" process in the U.S., opting for a new "social contract," by trying to reinvigorate the old notion of a partnership between labor and management: "...the two sides have too often behaved as if there were an unbridgeable gulf between worker and boss. It is almost as if they are trying to perpetuate a class-struggle notion in one of the least class-conscious of nations. But a social contract in the U.S. can work only if labor

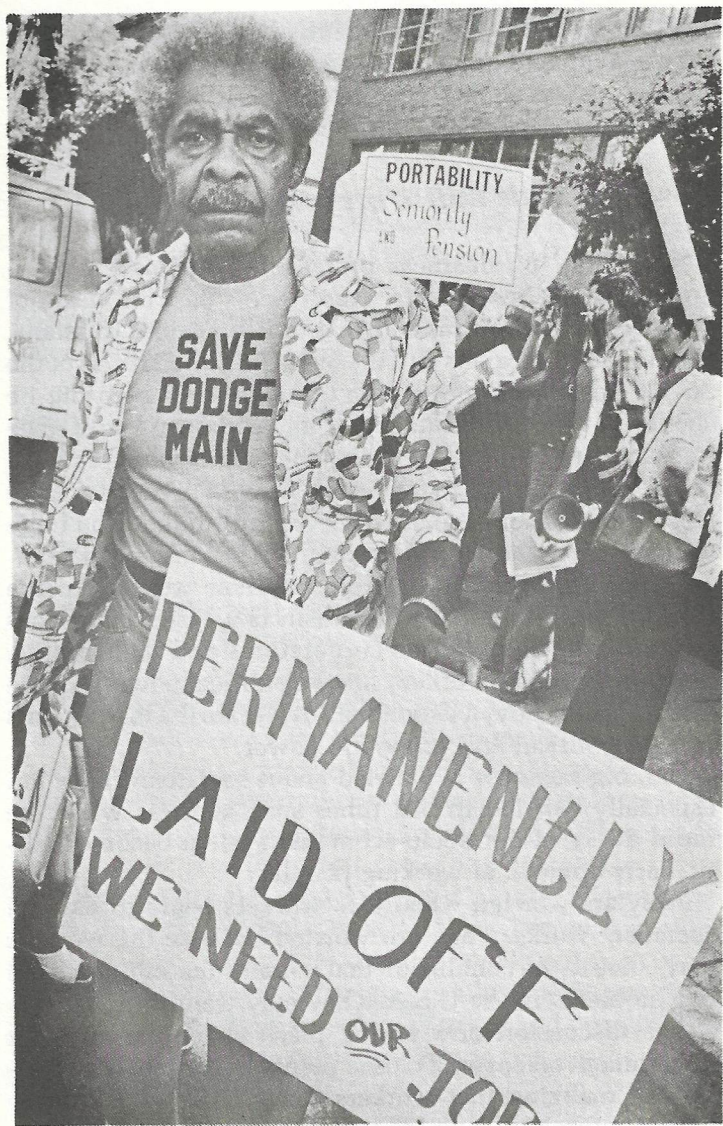
and management see where their interests coincide and put the energy they employ as adversaries to solving mutual problems.”

What **Business Week** really has in mind is attempting to cure the incurable ills of U.S. capitalism by convincing workers to make more sacrifices, to invest their tax money to save dying industries, to tolerate raging inflation, layoffs, plant closings, reduction in safety, health and working conditions and intolerable speedup. This is the “collaborative relationship” **Business Week** is advocating. This so-called “labor participation in management” is posed as a dimly veiled threat that if labor and management don’t “get together” and eliminate “the adversary relationship” workers will lose more jobs than they are now losing.

Big business wants a completely free hand. They want the complete cooperation of the unions and the government in their drive for maximum profits and they want to convince the workers and their unions that it is in their interest to cooperate. But the fact of life is that the ONLY way corporations can maximize profits is by intensifying the exploitation of the workers through all means at their disposal. It is NOT in the interests of workers to cooperate in their own further exploitation. It IS in their interests to fight back and take over when necessary to save their jobs and their lives. The right to a job, to decent wages and working conditions must be the demand of all workers.

In 1917, the working class of the Soviet Union decided they didn’t need the owners who were getting richer while the people got poorer. In fact, it was just this class of leeches that held back all social advances for working people. So they took over. And ever since then the working people have been running things. There is no need for “adversary relationships,” for one class to constantly fight the other for their share of the wealth they produce.

Even Fraser, in the same **Business Week** issue, admits



that "things have to get sufficiently bad before we address the problem, and maybe we're reaching that point." But in socialist countries problems are dealt with before things get bad.

Trends that Worry Big Business

Why does big business promote a campaign of anti-Soviet slander, which Mr. Fraser takes part in? It is not because there is an inherent prejudice against Russians, Ukrainians, Georgians and the over 100 nationalities of the Soviet Union. Also, they don't believe their own big lie about the "Soviet threat." And they certainly know "The Russians aren't coming." Why then the shameless anti-Soviet big lie campaign for over 60 years? For the very same reason the corporate executives are anti-union. The trade unions, when under good, militant class conscious leadership, are the workers' instrument, their weapon in the struggle for a better life. Socialism is a system that does away with the big private corporations and their profits. The people, led by workers, are the political power. For the workers of the Soviet Union the Soviets are the instruments of their political and economic power.

U.S. big business is worried about socialism. They are especially worried in bad times such as these when the rapid decay of our socio-economic system becomes particularly obvious to working people.

They are worried when U.S. workers begin to see that socialism works. They are worried because the workers may come to the conclusion that it is also the solution to all our problems in the U.S.A. They may want to try it.

The discussion now taking place about the need for government takeover of closed plants is a step in the direction of realizing that workers can operate and manage plants without the owners and managers whose most im-

portant function is to extract maximum profits. Further, it is a recognition that the present managers are not able to keep them running and productive. The basic reason they can't is because their only motive for operating a plant is profit.

The debate on government takeover, the militant strikes and fightback send chills through big business circles and the result is an intensified anti-Communist campaign, focused on the most powerful, successful and influential socialist society—the Soviet Union. And their anxieties are indeed justified. The growing anti-monopoly sentiment, the profound distrust and anger against the corporate ripoff of the people is an opening for socialist ideas, for the socialist alternative to capitalism. It becomes a threat to the very existence of the capitalist system. And the capitalist ruling class becomes frantic in its efforts to prevent the people from learning about real, existing socialism. There is also the frightful fear of the U.S. top labor bureaucracy, who are staunch supporters of the capitalist system, who are for a unionism that supports it, and who are partners in the conspiracy to keep American workers from seeing or hearing the truth of developed socialism or of the unions under socialism.

However, there is a validity to their worries and anxieties, because if the truth becomes widely known among U.S. workers the threat to the capitalist system itself increases immeasurably.

Where Trade Unions Have Power

There is cause for capitalist concern about a system where there are no private corporations, no private profit. Profits from all social production go into various funds for improving the well-being of workers, for public service of all kinds, for renewal, modernization and expansion of

industry which in turn make working easier and more productive, for health, safety and the overall enrichment of workers' lives, for housing, better health and child care, educational and recreational facilities, paid vacations, pensions, and housing. This, and much more, are where the profits go (which are higher under socialism than capitalism because there are no private owners or corporations to appropriate them.) Under socialism people come first and profits are made to serve them. And the trade unions are the workers' instrument which assures these policies and improvements are carried out; they have the power to speak and act in the workers' interest in making decisions about how the fruits of labor are to be invested and the power to see that all decisions are implemented in the interests of advancing the overall quality of life of all the people.

How do the Soviet trade unions do this? And what is the relationship between the unions (the workers) and the management (the executives and managers of enterprises?)

Soviet trade unions have a membership of over 122 million, nearly twice the membership of all western European and U.S. unions combined. They have nearly 712,000 work location branches, or 29 national industrial unions. There is a trade union committee in every plant, factory and enterprise. Every enterprise has a collective agreement between the union and management covering all workers—skilled, production, engineers, scientists and professionals.

Unions are the instrument by which control and implementation of all aspects of the socialist way of life are observed and developed. The collective bargaining agreement covers, by law, everything related to wages, hours, working conditions, safety, sanitation, health, protection, conditions affecting women, youth, vacations and disputes. The unions watch over observance of the law; com-

bat bureaucarcy in management; and educate millions of unionists on the rights and responsibilities.

In every industry in the USSR the objective is higher productivity, not for higher profit for a private employer but for the good of the general public, the real owner and operator of all industries. In every industry representatives of union and mangagement deal with production norms, conditions of work, etc., as set out under the conditions of the collective union agreement. Any disputes on such matters come before the management and the union committee. The disputed problem is not between the workers and an owner who seeks to hog a maximum of profit, but between workers and management, people who have a common interest as employees of a public enterprise. In all Soviet industries there is agreement between the union and management to do everything possible to provide the most humane conditions.

Drive for Profit and Drive to War

The influence of the working class is every where. Most of the officers of government, the Communist Party, the judges are former workers. Leonid Brezhnev, the President, is a former metal worker. By law in a socialist country, no one can get rich by exploiting others. In the United States the real owners of the plants do not live anywhere near the industries—in fact in most cases they have never seen the plant. In a socialist country the owners are the workers who work in them.

In the U.S. the reality is just the opposite. Every humane condition that workers win is the result of a fierce class struggle between the owners and managers who are on one side squeezing the profits from the labor of the worker and workers who are trying to gain a decent wage and working conditions.

Socialism inherently brings with it a foreign policy of peace and detente, for it is only in a world at peace that a socialist society can develop its full potential. In a socialist society both the profit motive and the class force that pushes for policies of war and war production are eliminated. And this means that socialist countries are not out to dominate or exploit other parts of the world or other countries because there is no class force that would profit from such a policy. The drive of private corporations for maximum profits—no matter how or where they have to go to get them—is the root cause for policies of conquest, domination and the drive for military superiority to protect these interests. This is the very nature of private corporations, multinationals and conglomerates. That is why the inherent characteristic of the socialist countries is the drive for peace and detente. And it is only under such conditions that a socialist society can thrive and advance.

If we did not have private corporations and their drive for profits, the foreign policy of our government would also be the opposite of what it is today—that is, aggression and destabilizing of regions and countries in order to gain or to protect existing profit interests.

This policy is not in the interests of the workers and people of the U.S. We do not gain from or need foreign plants or domination of other lands. There are over 2,000 U.S. military bases throughout the world. And the 30-ship armada in the Indian Ocean are in place to guard and protect the interests of the multinationals, to take back the oil fields of Iran—not for the benefit of the American people, but for the profits of Exxon and Shell. The 170 billion dollar military budget is not in the interests of the American people, it is for the multinationals to protect their interests in foreign lands and to work toward halting the advance of the socialist countries and national liberation movements around the world, to keep the underdevel-

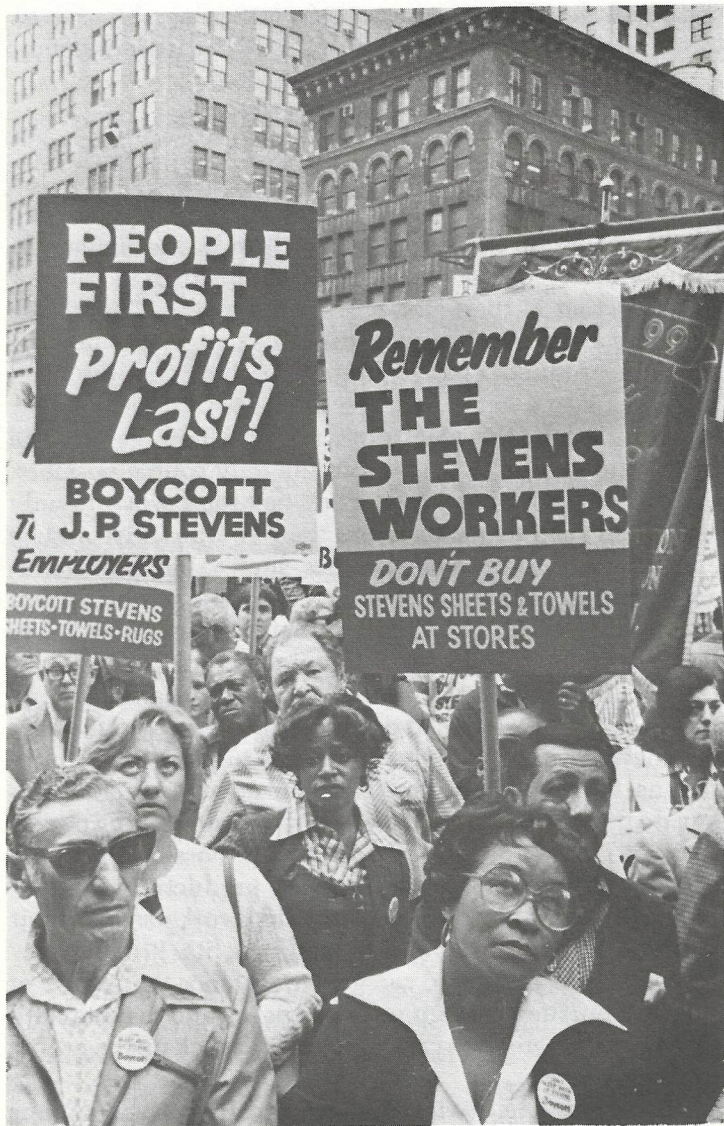
oped and developing countries from freeing themselves from the yoke of neo-colonialism and U.S. imperialism.

The Source of All Profits

In addition to concealing the truth about socialism big business also wants to hide the source of their profits. They want to cover up the fact that there is only one element in the production process that produces more than its value or cost and that is the labor power of workers. That is the source of all profits. The raw materials that go into making finished products change forms—for instance, the steel that goes into a car is still the same steel but in another form. By itself, the steel does not add new value. The corporation's profits come from the only source possible, the exploitation of workers. They pay their workers only enough to keep themselves and their families alive and be able to work. Anything above this, such as a higher standard of living, the workers are forced to fight tooth and nail for. In other words, workers and their unions are forced to fight for some of the wealth that **only they** create.

Other methods used to extract superprofits are speedup, forced overtime, so-called productivity methods. The more productive workers are the higher the profits of the corporations. Increases in productivity and advances in technology do not come back to the workers in better living conditions, it goes into the profit pot of the bosses. Only in a socialist country does the increased productivity, the increase in wealth, come back to the workers and their families in the form of all kinds of benefits. It is the only place the wealth created can go—to advance the quality of life, and pursue a foreign policy of peace and detente with all nations. There is no capitalist class to suck up the profits for themselves.

So you see the Soviet workers and their trade unions



don't need anyone to defend them. The fact is that the slanderous concoctions and outright lies cannot hamper the building and advancement of socialism.

Why the Slander Campaign?

Why then the continuing and stepped up campaign of slander, depreciation, mudslinging and belittling of socialist society? Because the lies are meant to discredit the idea of socialism. They are lies about socialism. Their purpose is to keep the U.S. working people ignorant about the achievements of socialism. Their purpose is to make it possible for the big corporations to continue exploiting, to continue making their huge profits from the labor of U.S. workers.

In a socialist society the full product of labor goes for the benefit of all the people. There are no Chryslers, Fords, General Motors and U.S. Steel stockholders and executives to siphon off the cream, because there are no corporate profits.

The struggle between capitalism and socialism on a world scale is but an extension of the struggle between the corporations and the workers on the domestic scene. It is the same struggle on a world scale that goes on between the workers and bosses, between the trade unions and the corporations. It is the same class struggle. Therefore, to slander or lie about a socialist society is to slander and lie about a society in which workers are the dominant economic and political power.

It is understandable when the corporate executives, the large stockholders or their mass media slander a socialist country because they are defending a system that gives them all kinds of special class privileges and makes it possible for them to exploit and oppress the majority for their own enrichment. It is understandable why **The New**

York Times prints articles that slander the Soviet Union. But it is a little more difficult to understand why Douglas Fraser, president of a trade union, would lend himself to what is basically an anti-working class propaganda campaign.

Now, are there weaknesses in the socialist countries? Do their leaders make mistakes? Of course there are and of course they do. An example is the recent strike in Poland. However, what the strike in Poland brought to the surface was not weaknesses in the socialist system, but weaknesses in government and party leadership. The economic pressures began to build up because for the past period of time the government had spent huge sums of money in order to speed up the industrialization process. The intentions were good, but the judgment was not. The situation in Poland finally reached a point where 96 percent of the income from exports went to pay interest on loans both from the capitalist and socialist world. Many of the industrial enterprises which cost huge sums of money were never completed and therefore not producing products to pay for the building of such plants. It is also obvious that the government leadership and the management of the plants were not in close enough touch with the grass roots. And while the strikes in Poland will have many negative effects, including a necessary slowdown in the industrialization process, it will also have the positive result of correcting the existing weaknesses.

Right to Strike Limited in US

As a result of the situation in Poland, much is being said about whether workers in socialist societies have the right to strike. Their constitutions do not take up this question. But that is true also of the U.S. Constitution. However, there are dozens of specific laws in the U.S. that restrict the right to strike. The President of the U.S. has the power to

issue strikebreaking injunctions. In most states it is illegal for transit workers, railroad workers, teachers and other public workers to strike, The steelworkers' union and many others contain no-strike clauses in their contracts. There are no such laws or labor contracts in any socialist countries.

The strike in Poland was used by the capitalist countries to try to convince their workers that socialism itself doesn't work. The U.S. Government and trade union leaders have been applauding the Polish workers and the AFL-CIO has pledged moral support and material support. Yet, none of these leaders takes note of the fact that the acts of Polish workers would be illegal under present U.S. labor laws. U.S. Government employees are barred from striking by federal law. There are state and local laws which prohibit public employees from striking with harsh penalties for violations of these laws, as was the case in the N.Y. transit strike under the anti-labor Taylor Law. In other words, Polish workers have engaged in a successful struggle to win their demands and their counterparts in the U.S. would be subject to jail, fines and loss of union recognition



for the very same acts. It is time that U.S. labor leaders turned their attention to the rights of U.S. workers and stopped worrying about workers in socialist countries who already enjoy the right and power to "redress their grievances." There is much to be done to win labor reform in the U.S. and the AFL-CIO leadership might well start with a fight for legislation that would guarantee the right to strike to federal, state and local employees as well as all workers by limiting the power of the courts and the President to issue strikebreaking injunctions. But the slander campaign is not because big business is concerned about weaknesses, mistakes or the workers in socialist countries. The solicitous concern for the Polish workers is nothing but the height of capitalist hypocrisy. In fact, corporations and the mass media they control aren't concerned about workers' welfare anywhere, including in their own plants. Their wage rates are as low as possible—whatever they can get away with. They push speedup to the maximum. They cover up health hazards, fight safety and environmental regulations, and resist all restrictions and regulations that would benefit workers. They close plants whenever it fits into their game plan of maximum profits. That's the nature of the beast.

Capitalism Can't Change Its Nature

A socialist society operates under the very opposite principles. What matters under socialism above all else is the welfare of the people the workers.

Capitalism is bad enough today. But as time goes by the problems of the people will get worse as capitalism continues to slide deeper into crisis and decay. Capitalism, as a socio-economic system, has served its historic purpose. But science, technology and life in general continue to develop. Because capitalism cannot basically change its nature it cannot serve the present and especially the future

needs of society and people of the U.S. will be forced to consider socialism as a solution. The fact is that the world is moving toward socialism. It is an inevitable historic process; that is why it is important to know the truth about socialism. And Mr. Fraser would better serve his membership if he would recognize this fact of life. No amount of threats, lies, slander campaigns or nuclear weapons can stop this world-wide revolutionary process. An important aspect of the big business slander campaign is also directed against the Communist Party, USA. The CPUSA is the target of the anti-labor, anti-Communist campaign because it is a working class party that believes socialism is the solution to our problems. They slander Communists because they know that Communists who are trade unionists are part of the militant sector. They are aware that when workers join the CPUSA this adds new strength to the trade unions.

Some years ago under the hysteria created by the reactionary McCarthy campaign many trade union leaders, including the leaders of the UAW, had their conventions adopt anti-Communist clauses in their constitutions. The UAW constitution to this day has one of the most outrageous products of that hysteria. It puts the CPUSA, a working class party, into the same category with reactionary, ultra-right racist organizations like the KKK and Nazis as not fit for membership in the union. Many trade unions have deleted the anti-Communist clauses from their constitutions. The UAW has not. And at their recent convention Fraser gave no leadership in this direction.

This election year the UAW will send out straw ballots to poll the union as to their preference in the presidential race. However, although most of the candidates are listed Angela Davis, an internationally reknowned Afro-American freedom fighter and Gus Hall, the only candidate with a working class trade union background, have been

excluded. When questioned about this Fraser defended this red-baiting, racist straw ballot with the flimsy excuse that, "The Communist Party can't win the election anyway," knowing full well that other parties who "cannot win" were listed.

Membership's Right Denied

In response to a protest letter from our Party, the UAW's Community Action Program Department rejected our appeal with another flimsy excuse that "the ballots...had been printed prior to your request," and added, "...our membership is not in any mood to consider the endorsement of members of the Communist Party...." This is a blatant denial of the democratic right of the membership to decide for themselves what "mood" they are in and it is a bureaucratic usurpation of the prerogatives of the membership. Together with the anti-Communist clause, this action severely limits any move toward real democracy in the UAW, which this straw ballot is supposed to represent.

While restricting the democratic rights of his own members, and doing nothing to secure their jobs or alleviate the soaring unemployment, Fraser was quick to help Polish workers. It seems Fraser is more intent on a campaign of anti-Communism at home and abroad than he is on helping to solve the job crisis of 300,000 unemployed in his own union.

More recently, Fraser accepted an appointment to Carter's new "Economic Reindustrialization Board," together with the President of DuPont Corporation, and appeared on TV advocating that autoworkers accept full responsibility for higher productivity.

The question is: Are these actions and policies of Douglas Fraser influenced by the fact that he sits on the board of directors of a major corporation? It is in the self-interests of

the corporation in their drive for maximum profits to be anti-labor, anti-trade union, anti-socialism and anti-Communist Party. Is it in the self-interests of the UAW to be on the same side as the corporation? If not, then where is Douglas Fraser coming from? In whose self-interests are the views expressed by Douglas Fraser in his **New York Times** article. No one, including Brother Fraser, can ride two horses going in opposite directions for too long. Life will keep asking the question: "Whose side are you on?"

As President of the UAW wouldn't it have been in the interests of the rank and file to address the problems of the 40 percent of the autoworkers who are laid off and all the grievances of those still working rather than write articles which do nothing to solve their problems and only serve the interests of the auto monopolists.

The Basic, Dramatic Difference

The biggest, most basic and most dramatic difference between capitalism and socialism is the fact that under capitalism a few rich stockholders own the industries. They are privately run solely for profits and for the benefit of the privileged few who don't work a day in their lives. Under socialism, the industries are owned socially, by the entire people and the entire people are the genuine masters of their country. Production is motivated solely by the humanist objective to satisfy the steadily growing material and cultural requirements of all the people. Opposing class interests are eliminated forever.

Capitalism was an advance over slavery and feudalism. It was able to use the technology of its day. But now capitalism is increasingly out of step with modern times. The scientific and technological revolution is passing it by. The problems of today's world are too complex for a socio-economic system that is at the mercy of individual corpora-

tions, operating without concern for people or society.

Capitalism in the U.S. careens from one crisis to another because it is unplanned, chaotic and anarchistic. Its credo is each dog for himself and dog-eat-dog. The new advances in science and technology become entangled in their singleminded determination to milk all the benefits of production for their private profits. New technology needs a socio-economic system that can develop it, use it and distribute its benefits to society as a whole.

Socialism is uniquely designed to serve humanity and distribute its vast products to all the people in society.

When capitalism acquires new technology, the corporations lay off workers, constantly adding to the vast army of permanently unemployed. Under socialism, when new machines take over from workers the workers are not thrown out on the streets. They either get new jobs, or their hours of work are cut, assuring full employment for the whole population. Because of these policies there are no unemployed workers in the Soviet Union. Job security is a permanent feature of socialism.

Capitalism is a system of anarchy. As the process of the bigger corporations swallowing up the smaller ones accelerates they become even less concerned about human life and society. As capitalism develops into monopoly-capitalism the anarchy increases on an ever bigger scale and the crises and disasters become more frequent and intense. The Chryslers and Lockheeds are only the forerunners of things to come.

It is just these crises and disasters of capitalism that set the stage for socialism. Socialism is the realistic, common sense solution to the critical problems the people cannot find answers to under capitalism.

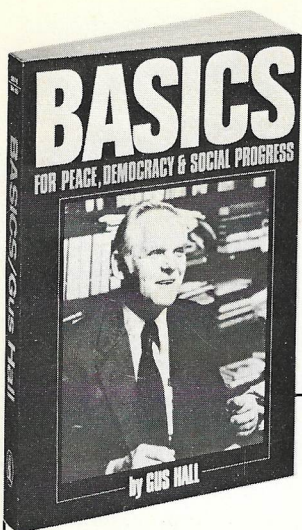
U.S. monopoly-capital lies about socialism because it is in competition with the socialist system for the hearts and minds of our people. It is anti-labor, anti-Communist and

anti-Soviet because it wants to continue to hold onto its special privileges and domination over people's lives.

Trade union leaders should view everything critically, including socialism. However, because socialism is a working class power it is not in their interests to take part in spreading lies and slander about socialism because when they do they are spreading lies and slander about workers, about a society in which workers, through their trade union are the dominant force. Socialism is working class power.



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