

"WORKERS AND OPPRESSED PEOPLES OF THE WORLD, UNITE!!"

# WORKERS' PRESS

THE POLITICAL ORGAN OF THE MARXIST-LENINIST COLLECTIVE

## INDUSTRY UNDER SOCIALISM

The capitalist class has always glorified its own form of rule -- the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie -- and has distorted and slandered the socialist state -- the dictatorship of the proletariat. Why has the bourgeoisie been forced to lie and be deceptive about the true nature of capitalism and socialism? It is because capitalism is the rule of a handful of millionaires over the majority of working masses, the dictatorship of the rich over the exploited and oppressed people who own nothing but their ability to work. And socialism is the dictatorship of the working class over the overthrown millionaires, the state which is run by and in the interest of the working masses, where there is no exploitation, poverty, hunger, unemployment, crime, war, and all the evils of the capitalist system. It is no surprise that the bourgeoisie tries to hide the truth; and it is no wonder that the bourgeoisie is fearful of the day when the working class will learn the truth about socialism.

In socialist China, all industrial enterprises and all wealth created by them belongs to the proletariat and laboring people. The state, led by the working class, exercises direction of them and sees to it that production and management serve the people. In a socialist country, the aim of production is to satisfy the needs of the state and the people, and is not for profit. All production follows a state plan, in accordance with proportionate development of the national economy, and therefore there is no anarchy of production. Wasteful and impractical commodities, such as we see in a capitalist country, have no place in a socialist one. Government departments pass on plans according to the needs of the state and the people, after the participating enterprises are consulted. Before the plans are finalized they are discussed with the workers for suggestions and criticisms, and once decided upon, it is up to the enterprise to guarantee fulfillment of the plan. All profit (socialist accumulation) made beyond fulfillment of the plan is handed over to the state treasury for use in socialist construction and improvement of the living standards of the people.

In China, the workers are not wage slaves; labor-power is not a commodity sold to an exploiting class, as it is under capitalism. Unemployment does not exist as there are jobs available for all who can work. Enterprises cannot hire or cut down the work force individually; all adjustments in the labor force must be made by government labor departments according to an overall plan. Uniform wage scales are set by the state for all enterprises, and therefore cooperation, not competition, characterizes the relations between workers and industrial enterprises and among the workers themselves. The trend is to decrease the gap between the highest and lowest paid workers.

Funding of socialist enterprises, like everything else, is qualitatively different than in a capitalist enterprise. The state allots fixed and working capital to the enterprises according to a plan. Government departments supply funds for trial-production of new products, for scientific experiment,

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and for expanding production. If there is a shortage, the enterprise can borrow from the state bank. In other cases, the state will subsidize the enterprise lacking funds. In addition, the state allocates a sum equal to 11% of the enterprises total wages for welfare -- a special fund for providing health protection, free medical care, housing, relief of the ill, and other services.

It should be stressed that China has a unified and stable price policy. The purchasing power has been stable for twenty years; the prices of daily necessities have not fluctuated, and the prices of manufactured goods have gradually fallen. No economic crises exist and China has no external or internal debts. Compare this to the rise in prices, currency depreciation, monetary inflation, financial crises, debts and drop in purchasing power, all of which characterize a capitalist economy!

The political party of the proletariat, the Chinese Communist Party, is the highest form of organization of the proletariat and exercises leadership in everything. A party committee exists in every factory, providing overall leadership to the enterprise. A revolutionary committee, elected by the working people of the enterprise, is the leading administrative body, and is composed of workers, technicians, and administrators within the factory. This committee is responsible for the day-to-day running of the factory, including propaganda, organization, production, finance, wages, welfare, etc. Both the party and the revolutionary committees are concerned with the interests of the masses, and rely on the working people and their initiative.

The workers play a decisive role in running state affairs, and participate in managing the units where they are directly engaged in production. Workers take an active part in the political movements of the Party, carrying out proletarian ideology, combatting revisionism, and consolidating the socialist state. Mass organizations, under the leadership of the party and the revolutionary committees, are in charge of running the affairs and carrying out various tasks in the factories, such as implementing safety devices, improving the quality of the products, and engaging in technical cooperation.

In a capitalist factory, the employer puts in the money, the engineers design the machines, equipment and technological processes, and the workers do the manual work and nothing more. In socialist enterprises, things are entirely different. Mass movements are carried out, to combine the efforts of workers, technicians, and administrators, and to encourage the masses to take the initiative, make suggestions and criticisms, and play an active part in the efforts to improve production. In this way, the ideas of the workers themselves are summarized and implemented.

The superiority of the system of socialist ownership by the whole people is a fact which the bourgeoisie tries to obscure. But working people in this country know very well that capitalism doesn't work for them, and are realizing that the fundamental needs of the masses cannot be obtained under capitalism. This means that working people must organize themselves and abolish the capitalist system of wage-slavery, just like the Chinese masses did, and replace the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie with the dictatorship of the proletariat. History has clearly shown the advantages of socialism over capitalism; now the working class must realize them.

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## WHY IS INDUSTRY MOVING ABROAD?

Many corporations today are closing their factories in the United States of North America (USNA) and moving abroad, particularly to underdeveloped countries such as Mexico and South Korea, where wages are much less than in the USNA. In the



auto industry, many cars, such as the Ford Pinto and Dodge Colt, are produced outside the USNA. The engines for the Pinto are made in Brazil and then shipped to this country for installation. The Colt, while bearing the 'American label', is produced 100% in Japan. In the electronics industry, 95% of all TVs and radios are manufactured abroad. Many companies like Zenith and RCA have located assembly operations across the border in northern Mexico. In other industries, the story is the same. Even 90% of the famed 'Louisville Slugger' baseball bats are made overseas. Why is industry moving abroad? What is the solution to this problem?

The trade union bureaucrats like Meany of the AFL-CIO and Woodcock of the UAW (who have been bought and paid for by the capitalists) have been howling recently about the 'export of jobs' due to 'runaway shops'. They advocate 'protectionism', or the restriction of foreign investments by USNA corporations and quotas on the import of foreign products. This solution is just another lie to conceal the real enemy.

To survive, the monopoly capitalist cannot be content with the average rate of profit; he must have maximum profits. Competition forces the capitalist to constantly find methods of lowering the cost of production and realizing maximum profits. Imperialism is the economic and military domination of many countries of the world by a few capitalist countries (USNA, Soviet Union, Germany, Japan). One of the most important features of imperialism, the highest stage of capitalism, is the export of capital (foreign investment). USNA corporations have over \$110 billion invested abroad. To protect these investments, the USNA has 1.5 million troops stationed at bases in 119 countries around the world. As a result of this imperialist domination, wages are lower, particularly in the underdeveloped countries. The return on capital invested is much higher than investments within the imperialist countries. In Mexico, the average wage for unskilled labor is 31¢ an hour; in Taiwan, 21¢; and in South Korea, 13¢. The export of capital is an important weapon of the capitalist in lowering production costs and reaping large profits. A look at the percentage of total profit per year derived from foreign investment reveals its importance to the largest corporations. In 1974, IBM made 54% of its profits from overseas investments; Standard Oil of New Jersey, 52%; ITT, 47%; and Ford, 40%.

When the labor traitors talk about the 'export of jobs' and 'run away shops', they imply that the monopoly capitalist owes allegiance to the USNA. This is completely false. From whom is the capitalist 'running away'? The capitalist will go wherever the returns on investment are the highest. The capitalist could care less, from an economic point of view, whether or not the workers of the USNA have jobs. The only allegiance of the capitalist is to profit.

The solution is not 'protectionism' as the labor traitors urge, for when it's position becomes weaker relative to other imperialist powers, these countries challenge the USNA for control of markets and colonies. These trade wars inevitably lead to shooting wars. The solution is not for the proletariat of the imperialist nation to unite with the bourgeoisie to protect markets and investments. The solution is for the proletariat to turn imperialist wars into civil war, overthrow the bourgeoisie and establish socialism. Under socialism 'runaway shops' do not exist; there is no export of capital in search of higher profits. Moreover, when the peoples of underdeveloped nations rise up against imperialist oppression and exploitation, we must support these just struggles. We share a common enemy, capitalism and imperialism; our ultimate aim, socialism, is also the same. Through the unity of the working masses of all countries, the international system of capitalism will be abolished.



# EUROPE'S MIGRANT WORKER

Why are so many hundreds of thousands of workers migrating to other countries in search of work? Lenin said:

"Capitalism has given rise to a special form of migration of nations. The rapidly developing industrial countries, introducing machinery on a large scale and ousting the backward countries from the world market, raise wages at home above the average rate and thus attract workers from the backward countries. (Collected Works, Vol 19, p 454)

As the highly advanced industrial countries gain a bigger part of the world market, more and more workers migrate to them:

<u>Receiving Country</u>	<u>Foreigners</u>	<u>% of Population</u>	<u>Foreign Workers</u>	<u>% of Work Force</u>	<u>Chief Countries of Origin</u>	<u>Chief Employt</u>
France	3,776,000	7	1,300,000	8	Algeria Portugal Italy Spain Tunisia W. Africa	Constr. Engineer. Mining
W. Germany	3,600,000	6	2,345,000	8	Italy Yugoslavia Turkey	Engineer. Constr.
England	2,600,000	5	1,782,000	7	Ireland W. Indies India Pakistan	Miscell. Services Engineer. Constr.
Switzerland	972,000	16	659,000	30	Italy	Constr. Engineer. Catering
Belgium	720,000	7	220,000	7	Turkey Morocco Spain Italy	Engineer.
Holland	200,000	2	125,000	3	Spain Turkey Yugoslavia Italy	Constr.

from Optima, a quarterly magazine published in South Africa

These migrant workers have absolutely no rights in these foreign countries. They are forced to obtain work permits which last only six to nine months, and one



month a year they must leave the country. This enables the country to keep track of the amount of foreign workers and also prevents the migrant workers from becoming citizens. In addition, these workers are concentrated in those industries where exploitation is the most intense and wages the lowest.

During times of economic crisis, such as today, the bourgeoisie tries to blame these workers for the high unemployment among the native workers, saying that if it weren't for all the foreign workers, there would be plenty of jobs for all. We can see the similarity between the migrant workers in Europe and the migrant workers in the USNA from Mexico and other countries. During times of expansion, the bourgeoisie brings these workers into the USNA as a cheap source of labor. During times of crisis, the bourgeoisie deports them and launches an all-out attack on them. This is one way the bourgeoisie encourages national chauvinism towards the migrant workers, who are forced to live in slums, isolated from the native working class.

With the governments of these countries turning worker against worker, they try to hide the real cause of the problem, capitalism itself. They try to hide the fact that capitalism is the cause of unemployment, that capitalism is forcing the migration of foreign workers, that capitalism is the cause of national chauvinism and oppression. The pushing of national chauvinism by the bourgeoisie of these developed capitalist countries serves to divide the working class. They know the power of the working class when it is united, and they want to prevent it from happening.

The working class must fight the national chauvinist tendencies imposed on them. The capitalist system must be exposed. The rights of all workers to decent jobs must be fought for. The bourgeoisie will not forever be able to incite the workers of one nation against those of another in the effort to keep them disunited. The workers of all countries will unite!

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## AN HONEST CAPITALIST SPEAKS!

The May 17, 1976, issue of the U.S. News and World Report contains a special interview with Arthur Burns, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, concerning the problems of the economy. Speaking in a direct and frank manner, Dr. Burns unveils a 'new' plan to solve the present economic crisis. All that is needed is the willingness to make a few changes. How is the problem of unemployment to be dealt with? "One way would be to cut back on our unemployment insurance programs. They've become too liberal." And "Moreover, the minimum wage ought to be reduced for teenagers, many of whom are being priced out of the labor market." Dr. Burns goes on: "The wages paid by the Government, however, should not be so attractive as to blunt incentives to find a job in private industry. The wage that would be appropriate for this purpose, I think, must be somewhat below the minimum wage." The 'new' plan calls for "reducing drastically the length of time that an individual could draw unemployment insurance. I've suggested a period of thirteen weeks."

Even though this plan is not new, we are very thankful to Dr. Burns for his frankness. For unlike the liberal capitalist politician, he does not mince words, he does not try to cover up his fascist attacks on the workers with a sea full of



sentimental mush. It is easier to fight the class enemy when he bares his fangs, as Dr. Burns does.

Dr. Burns' statements are very significant for a number of reasons. First, they indicate that the prolonged economic crisis is forcing the capitalist to adopt more and more drastic and fascist measures to deal with the USNA workers. Dr. Burns is no small-fry college professor dreaming some bad thoughts; rather, he is a powerful, capitalist bureaucrat who is in a position to carry out these policies. And in fact the Nixon-Ford Administration has been acting in accordance with these policies for the past eight years. They have made cuts in food stamp and welfare programs as well as vetoing numerous job benefit bills. All these cutbacks are a reflection of the bourgeoisie's inability to continue to hand out a small bribe to the workers with the superprofits extracted from underdeveloped nations.

Secondly, Burns' remarks provide many useful lessons to the workers. They compel even the most politically backward workers to free themselves of all sorts of fantasies and illusions about the impartiality of the capitalist state and the so-called harmony of interest between the workers and the capitalists. Burns' remarks prove to any thinking person that so long as the state is in the hands of the imperialists, the workers can expect to be subjected to the evils of capitalist wage-slavery. In order to emancipate itself from this system, the working class must topple the capitalist state, destroy it, and replace it with the dictatorship of the proletariat, with socialism, where there is no crisis and no unemployment.

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#### WHO WE ARE

Workers' Press is written and published by the Marxist-Leninist Collective. We are a communist organization based on Marxism-Leninism, the science of the revolutionary class struggle of the proletariat against the bourgeoisie. We are part of the international struggle of the working class to end exploitation and oppression by overthrowing capitalism and establishing socialism. We aim to bring communist ideas and analyses to the working class. We strive to broaden the outlook of our fellow workers and to arm workers with proletarian class consciousness so that together we can lead the struggle against all forms of oppression and exploitation by imperialism. To do this we must organize ourselves into an independent political party to concentrate the resistance of the proletariat into a single fighting force. Correspondence, inquiries, criticisms and articles should be sent to:

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