# A Brief to Congress U.S. Labor Party Elections 1974

# submitted by the United States Labor Party

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# **U.S. Labor Party Elections 1974**

In the 1974 U.S. elections a new mass-based working class political party emerged — the United States Labor Party.

A massive socialist political organizing drive penetrating factories, unemployment centers and working-class neighborhoods to an extent not seen in American history since the 1930's reached a milestone this November 5 when more than 300,000 individuals from coast to coast voted Labor Party.

While the election marked a major historic victory for the self-organization and political maturity of the American working class, the real story of the elections has been blacked out of the capitalist press. In most cities the Labor Party's vote totals have not been published at all. In most of the cities where complete returns have been divulged, a picture of unprecented, systematic fraud emerges — most of it absurdly heavy-handed and unsubtle.

The vote estimates given in this brief come from a precinct-by-precinct analysis of the voting patterns in those few areas where the votes were counted relatively honestly, and a very conservative projection into other races based on organizing penetration analysis, straw polls and population/social-class analysis of the areas where the votes were cast.

In many cases cited in this brief, the Democratic Party — which crusaded against "Watergate" — has been implicated in devastating crimes against human rights, far more weighty than any of the Watergate tricks.

They have committed the crimes of coercion, physical intimidation of voters, and wholesale votestealing, in the cities of Philadelphia, Detroit, Flint, New York, Buffalo, Charlotte and elsewhere. It has also been demonstrated that much of the political arrangement for these crimes was set-up under the New York State Administration of Nelson Aldrich Rockefeller.

#### I The Vote

Three cities where official figures reflected the real voting pattern were Richmond, Virginia; Boston, Massachusetts; and San Francisco, California.

Alan Ogden, U.S. Labor Party (USLP) candidate for Congress in Virginia's 3rd district, was officially credited with 7,539 votes, or 11 per cent of the total, in his race against the incumbent David Satterfield. Despite having one of the smallest organizing forces of any USLP local, the Ogden machine ran over 20 per cent in all of the racially integrated or predominantly black working-class areas, running as high as 40 per cent in some predominantly black precincts. The USLP vote was consistently lower in middle-class districts. In Boston the USLP candidates in the 8th and 9th Congressional Districts, James Kiggen and Lawrence Sherman, were credited with 7,951 votes and 11,514 votes, respectively; 6.5 per cent and 10.8 per cent of the totals in their districts.

The official USLP vote was 11.1 per cent in the predominantly white working-class South Boston areas, and 11.7 per cent in the black ghetto area of Roxbury. In the racially mixed South End area, the official USLP tally was 14.2 per cent. In some districts — such as the home precinct of Sherman's Democratic opponent, incumbent John Moakley, the USLP was credited with up to 30 per cent of the vote.

Again, the Labor Party scored consistently high in working class areas, and lower in middle-class areas — in the 5-7 per cent range.

In the San Francisco, California race for city Board of Education, the USLP candidate Richard Clancy was officially credited with 14,338 votes, representing the choice of approximately 6 per cent of the voters.

In San Francisco's "Inner Mission" precincts, comprised mainly of unemployed or low-paid workers, the USLP recieved between 10 and 20 per cent overall, going as high as 46 per cent in one precinct. In the working-class North Beach precincts — heavily Teamster and Longshore workers, many of Italian decent — the official USLP tally ran from 10-15 per cent, up to 33 per cent in one precinct.

But the results for the city as a whole indicate blatant, easily provable fraud, greatly understating the actual Labor Party vote total by wiping out up to two-thirds of the count in the areas of greatest USLP organization and campaign presence, such as the "Outer Mission" district.

It was in the regions of maximum Labor Party organizing penetration of the industrial working class — in Michigan, in New York State, in the Philadelphia-Wilmington-Camden region, in North Carolina, and in Washington State — that worker support for the Labor Party was strongest, and where the most massive, systematic vote stealing in American history took place; over a quarter of a million votes, by the most conservative estimate, were stolen in these regions alone.

Taking the vote officially received on average in working-class districts of the cities cited, a **conservative** projection into comparable districts in the cities where USLP organizing has been strongest yields a nationwide pattern of from 10-30 per cent of the total vote in working-class neighborhoods. This estimate has to be made on the basis of very partial returns, due to withholding of official returns for unprecedented periods of time. The estimated Labor Party vote in Michigan and New York State was 100,000 in each. Had the U.S. Labor Party been running candidates nationwide, as in an election for U.S. President, a comparable level of support for the Labor Party would have netted over one million votes.

## Preliminary Official US Labor Party Election Returns and Projections of the Actual Vote in 1974 Races

USLP Candidate and Contest	Offici	al Tally	Estimate Vo	ed Actual te	Explanation
Washington State: 1st Cong. Dist. Seattle					lst. C.D. includes 1/2 of the area in which LP candidate polled 7500 botes in election last September for Seattle
Dolbeare	1,185	.8%	3,500	3%	City Treasurer.
2nd Cong. Dist. Bellingham, Everett No. Seattle-					No analysis available.
Roberts	1,673	1.2%	1,673	1.2%	no analysis available.
3rd Cong. Dist. Tacoma, Longview, Aberdeen, Vancouver-	i				Minimum version of straw polls and low version of vote received by maverick Democrat running on USLP
Olafson	1,406	1%	8,500	6%	program in same district.
U.S. Senate-					
Ruckert	4,101	.5%	22,500	2.2%	Sum of 3 C.D.'s $+ 1\%$ rest of state.
San Francisco: School Board-					Projection into high
Clancy	14,338	6%	26,000	11%	penetration area of official vote in low penetration area.
Boston: 9th Cong. Dist.					Proven fraud in Dedham and
Sherman	11,514	10.8%	12,000	11%	Boston North End.
8th Cong. Dist.					
Kiggen	7,951	6.5%	7,951	6.5%	Reasonably honest.
Hartford: State Senate-					Extreme minimum of straw
Belsky	240	1.3%	500	2.5%	polls.
Richmond: 5th Cong. Dist					
Ogden	7,539	11%	7,539	11%	Reasonably honest.
North Carolina : Atty Genl					
Porter	11,972	1.3%			Charlotte at 1973 level, Greensboro at half that, rest
U.S. Senate					of state 1% (Later analysis
Nesmith	6,988	.8%	15,000	1.6%	should raise figure considerably).

USLP Candidate and Contest	Official	Tally	Estimated Vote	Actual	Explanation
9th Cong. Dist. Charlotte-					Demonstere in last classics in
Hooks	1,441	1.5%	4,700	5%	Percentage in last election in Charlotte.
6th Cong. Dist. Greensboro Frip	139	.2%	2,000	2.5%	Half of Charlotte's penetration - heavy working class population.
Camden, N.J.: Freeholder-					
Jenkins	2,368	1%	2,368	1%	
lst Cong. Dist. Camden- Torres	140	.1%	4,500	5%	Effective mobilization of Latin working class base by solid USLP machine. 10% of working class vote.
	140	.1 70	4,000	0/0	Lowest of all straw polls and
Philadelphia 1st Cong. Dist					of votes conceded by bourgeois politicians - wild,
Salera	1,086	.8%	12,000	10%	panicky fraud here.
Pittsburgh: 39th State Legisl.					
Hough	177	1.2%	177	1.2%	No analysis available.
Wilmington, Del. : Congress- Dillard	156	.1%	5,000	3%	Workers excited by Dillard campaign ve. Dupont. Figure at 10% of working class vote.
Washington, D.C. Congress-					
Pennington	1,800	1.9%	1,800	1.9%	No analysis available.
Colorado: Governor-					
Meyers					Comparable to past "protest"
Lt. Governor-					votes + penetration achieved — ca. 5% of working class
Eisenberg	2,278	.3%	10,000	1%	vote.
Michigan: Governor-					
Signorelli					
Lt. Governor- Evans	1,000(?)	.04%	100,000	4%	Massive fraud; see excerpted analysis in text.
New York: Governor-					
Chaitkin					Niagara, Erie and Onandaga Counties at 5%, Monroe
Lt. Governor-					County at 4%, Albany at 2%, New York City at 2%, non-
Statom	5,000(?)	.1%	100,000	2%	urban areas at 1%.
Total Nationwide					
USLP Vote	ca. 71,000		ca. 325,000		

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#### II The Extent of the Fraud

#### Michigan

Michigan's Governor William Milliken was credited with winning re-election by a margin of about 100,000 votes — on the order of magnitude of the number of votes stolen from his Labor Party opponent Peter Signorelli. There are no reported official returns as yet.

In the week preceding election day, Flint, Michigan, was buzzing with "red politics." One Chevrolet factory was straw-polled and found to be 50 per cent Labor Party voters. Other straw polls yielded a projection of 20 to 30 per cent of the workers prepared to vote Labor. Forty out of the 500 individuals who were called during a Flint radio program announced that they were going to vote for Signorelli, who was broadcasting at the time. Massive Labor Party crosspenetration of the working class in the city and surrounding areas had been achieved through expanding the sales of New Solidarity (newspaper of the National Caucus of Labor Committees and U.S. Labor Party) to 700 copies per week. The campaign of John Dicks for Congress in the Flint district had received wide – albeit grudging – coverage in the area's mass media.

Flint was one of those Michigan cities where workers most consistently identified with the USLP as "the Party" and "our Party." The Labor Party estimates it received 18 percent of the working-class vote in Flint, around 15,000 in total.

Yet the official vote total recorded for Peter Signorelli in the entire city of Flint, Michigan was 14! He was credited with 37 votes in all of Genesee County, out of 119,000 total votes.

In the Detroit precinct in which gubernatorial candidate Signorelli cast his vote, the official USLP vote total was 0!

In polling places throughout the city of Detroit, thugs wearing jackets bearing United Auto Workers emblems were intimidating voters and leafletting inside the polls. Photographs of several of these individuals will be made available to legal authorities.

In a ten-day, low-key campaign for Detroit Common Council in 1973, the USLP's Suzanne Ketcham officially received 3,096 votes, at a time when **New Solidarity** had not yet penetrated the Michigan working class on the present mass scale. Yet in 1974, the Labor Party's Peter Signorelli was credited with less than 500 votes in all of Wayne County, which includes Detroit.

A conservative estimate of the actual vote yields 24,000 USLP votes for the city of Detroit — 6 per cent of the total cast — and approximately 100,000 Michigan statewide votes, 4 per cent of the total.

#### New York State

In New York State, there are no "official" election results as yet. In Buffalo the USLP has been the hegemonic working-class political organization for more than a year. In the 1973 elections, the Labor Party candidate for City Council, Phil Valenti, was credited with 1,600 votes ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  percent). In 1974, after 7,000 Buffalo residents signed the petition to place Ira Liebowitz on the USLP ballot slate for Congress in the 37th district, and after Liebowitz had demolished his Democratic opponent in a broadcast debate, Labor Party organizing results were strawpolled at 23 per cent for the city as a whole, and up to 50 per cent in some areas of highest penetration.

Yet the Labor Party statewide slate was credited with 120 votes for the entire city of Buffalo, a fraction of 1 per cent.

In Rochester three individuals joined the Labor Committees in anger after their votes were obviously not recorded — the official USLP tally in their precincts was 0.

In Syracuse, where the Labor Party had dominated the airwaves in a fashion unprecedented for a working-class party, where USLP Common Council candidate Janine Scholnick received 3,000 signatures to appear on the ballot, the Labor Party was universally straw-polling higher than 10 per cent, and was receiving massive support in broadcast audience response.

Yet the official vote recorded for the Labor Party statewide slate in Syracuse was 64 votes, a fraction of one per cent.

In New York City official returns are still unavilable two weeks after the election. But glimpses at returns in the hands of the "major daily" press corps reveal **thousands** of precincts in which **no** Labor Party voters' votes were counted. In many of these precincts Labor Party and labor Committee members and close contacts lived and voted.

On Manhattan's West Side, scene of more than 200 street rallies and the sales of thousands of copies of **New Solidarity**, USLP gubernatorial candidate Tony Chaitkin was credited with a mere 28 votes, less than his official 82 votes in that district in his 1973 New York City mayoral bid.

Throughout New York State, around 10 per cent and sometimes more of the votes for U.S. Senator and for New York governor were being counted in the "blank, void or wasted" official column, far beyond the normal 2-3 per cent.

<b>Presidential H</b> New York Sta	Elections in te — ''Blank and Voi	id'' Category
1952	1.2 per cent	88,000
1960	1.2 per cent	89,000
1964	2.1 per cent	152,000
1968	2.5 per cent	172,000
1972	2.2 percent	161,000
Source N.Y.	News World Alman	ac for 1974

Labor Party members began canvassing of neighborhoods with high Labor Party penetration after press reports indicated a ridiculously low vote total. In some districts more affidavits attesting to a USLP vote were collected than were recorded on the machines. In the Bronx, potential affidavit signers have been cajoled with bribes and threatened by thugs; in one case an individual who determined to sign a Labor Party affidavit before a notary, found the neighborhood notary public had been threatened and refused to witness his signature.

#### North Carolina

Nearly 20,000 North Carolina voters signed the petition to place the Labor Party on the 1974 ballot. This marked the first time in history a revolutionary party had achieved such "third party" status in statewide and congressional races. The Democratic Party convention and the state's AFL-CIO gathering were typical scenes of bitter denunciations and dire warnings of the New Power in the world. The Labor Party organizing presence reached into every corner of the population's life as campaign tours hit urban centers and tobacco and textile factories, bringing unprecented political excitement and polarization to the southern working class.

Yet the official vote recorded for the USLP in the 9th Congressional District which includes Charlotte was only 1.5 per cent of the total. This compares with the 4.5 and 5 per cent USLP figures in the two immediately past city elections in Charlotte, the prime base of Labor Party strength in the state. Whole sections of the population had their votes simply wiped out in the returns, and the statewide USLP official results — 11,972 for Attorney General candidate Marion Porter — were probably substantially lower than the actual vote received in Greensboro and Charlotte simply taken together.

In Charlotte, D.J. Grier, an employee of the family of Fred Alexander, "boss Democrat" in Charlotte's black ghetto, stood outside a polling place with a bull whip. He ripped Labor Party leaflets out of voters' hands saying, "You don't need that." He told USLP Senatorial candidate Rudy Nesmith, "You don't know what might happen in this neighborhood, you might get shot." While Grier intimidated voters throughout the day, his wife observed his actions without comment — she was the polling supervisor for the precinct! No Labor Party organizer was allowed in the polls, the third party having "failed to achieve" official pollwatcher status.

#### Philadelphia

The most concentrated fraud took place in the south Philadelphia area of Pennsylvania's 3rd Congressional District. As will be described in the next section of this brief, Labor Party organizing in Philadelphia had brought about a particularly intense political excitement, as straw polls and the predictions of observers in all parties indicated a USLP vote of anywhere from 10-30 per cent.

Yet on election night, voters watching televised "election returns" were treated to an incredible, insulting spectacle: First "returns" reported were 50,000 votes for

First "returns" reported were 50,000 votes for incumbent Congressman William Barrett, 5,000 for USLP challenger Bernard Salera. Later "returns" were given as Barrett 90,000, Salera 2,000. The final official Salera vote total was given as 1,086!

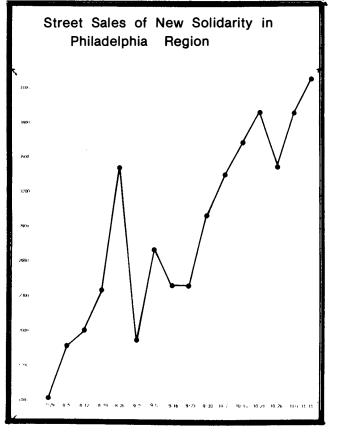
#### III Key Races: Philadelphia and Boston

#### Philadelphia

Early in the 1974 campaign season, Congressman William Barrett's organization recognized Barrett's Labor Party opponent Bernard Salera as a distinct, unprecedented threat to score an upset. Barrett's lawyers went into Pennsylvania Commonwealth court in September to attempt to have Salera kept from the ballot. During the course of a legal battle which lasted until the week before the election, Barrett's lawyers vowed that they would go all the way to the United States Supreme Court if necessary to remove the Salera threat.

While Barrett's men were huddling with the judges, local South Philadelphia Committeemen of the Democratic Party were among the hundreds of workers and others in the Philadelphia area who were brought into organizing with the USLP campaign: trade union leaders, ex-Communist Party members and predominantly Italian-American garment workers were among the outstanding organizers who emerged.

In the last three months of the campaign, the weekly street sales of New Solidarity in the Philadelphia region jumped from 1,400 to 4,200 (see chart #2). In September the Italian language edition of New **Solidarity** was introduced into South Philadelphia, causing great excitement among layers of former socialist organizers concerned with the struggle against Rockefeller being led by the Labor Committees in Italy. The Salera campaign was joined by politically awakened welfare rights activists who spread the organizing of New Solidarity sales networks into ghetto housing projects. By election day, worker sales networks in area plants and neighborhoods constituted up to 20 per cent of the distribution of the newspaper, with heavy penetration of the steel, electrical, and garment industries.



In October the Republican Party in South Philadelphia offered to support the Salera candidacy and to supply the Labor Party with poll-watchers in return for USLP backing of Republican candidates for lesser offices.

From that point on more and more Democratic Party local committeemen and committeewomen throughout the region began to get out the Labor vote and serve as New Solidarity distributors.

A few days before the election, Pennsylvania Governor Milton Shapp came to South Philadelphia to urge support for the non-campaigning Barrett; Shapp personally ordered the Philadelphia police to arrest and remove Bernard Salera from one political gathering.

Following is the record of harassment of voters in South Philadelphia by agents of the Democratic Party in the 2nd Congressional District. This record is taken directly from the log maintained by the U.S. Labor Party of telephone calls into and out of its Philadelphia headquarters on November 5, 1974.

10:20 A.M. — An Anonymous man called. He reported that two cars full of men were going through the 39th Ward threatening to break the bones of those who refused to vote the ticket the goons wanted them to. He identified the thugs as Leland Beloff's men. He described the cars in which they were cruising as a red Cadillac with a white top, Pennsylvania license number 53E186 and a white Lincoln with a black top, Pennsylvania license number 09R601.

11:06 A.M. — Mrs. R. called. She reported that two cars full of men were "assisting voters" in the 39th Ward, 8th, 27th and 28th Divisions. She said the men were escorting the voters into the booths and telling them how to vote.

12:00 noon — Another anonymous man called. He reported that goons were at the polls in the 39th Ward, 8th Division. They stood in the back drinking and coerced voters.

12:26 P.M. — An anonymous woman voter called from the 39th Ward. She stated that she was extremely upset about threats being made. She said: "This is terrible. Please stop this."

12:39 P.M. — The Philadelphia office of the FBI called, having been informed by the Committee of 70 election watchdogs of our complaint. After being given more details, FBI agent Thomas Sherman said he would call Mr. Sutton in the U.S. Attorney's office.

**3:05** P.M. — Mrs. F. called from the 39th Ward, 3rd Division. She stated that suspicious characters, whom she knew to be loan sharks, were hanging around the polls.

**3:30 P.M.** — The U.S. Labor Party called the U.S. Attorney's office to check their progress. One Mr. DeLucas said that Mr. Sherman had left a note saying that the coercion we reported was not a federal offense; and should be taken up with the Philadelphia District Attorney. DeLucas read the federal statute that said coercion had to involve forcing someone to

vote for or against a candidate in a federal, not merely a state election. The Labor Party informed him that the harassment was occurring in a federal election; a Congressional election. He then said, "Oh, Mr. Sherman didn't tell me that," and agreed to have the FBI investigate.

**3:45** P.M. — The original anonymous caller called again to report that the two cars were at the 2300 block at South 8th Street, and that the men were forcing people to vote for the entire Democratic Party slate.

During the day, Joe Glickstein, brother of Republican leader Ben Glickstein, called to report from his pollwatching station at 2nd and Rosebury in the 39th Ward. He said he had complained to John Kehner of the Committee of 70 that Beloff's men were intimidating voters.

Later Kehner called the Labor Party to report that he had spotted the two cited automobiles and confirmed their identification as belonging to Beloff. He said Beloff was a Democratic leader who had switched over from the Republican Party.

The next day, November 6, the U.S. Attorney's office called again. Mr. Sherman asked if the Labor Party would tell him the names and addresses of people to talk to about the intimidation. The Labor Party could not supply such names and addresses, and asked Sherman how the government's investigation was going. He replied that he was not at liberty to say, but that a great deal was being investigated. He advised the Labor Party to speak to the Attorney General's office in Washington, D.C., to find out about the investigation.

#### Boston

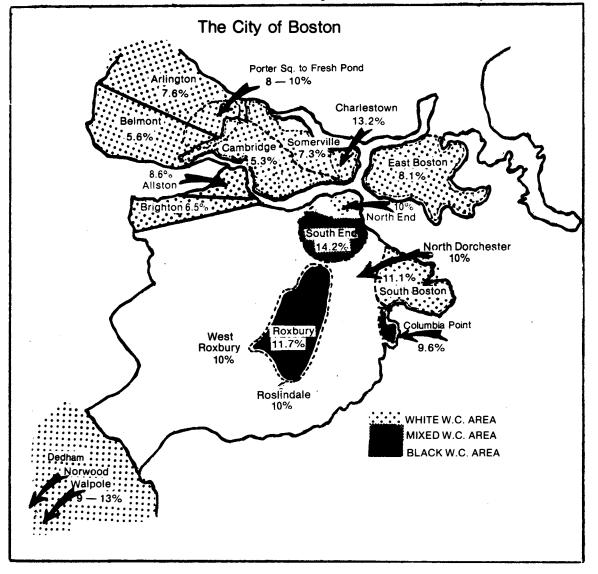
In the closing weeks of the Boston campaign, Labor Party street rallies broke through the tension generated by the "busing" conflict. The Labor Party had long been identified as the group that was fighting the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA), domestic arm of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. CIA-LEAA agents including the Mayor's Assistant for Police Affairs Robert Kiley, uncovered in Boston City Council hearings as one-time Chief of CIA covert operations in the U.S., were identified to the Boston working class as being responsible for deliberate trumping-up of the racial conflict, in concert with Rockefeller-controlled news media.

The Labor Party intervened to break up the controlled environment designed for race war. There was tremendous tension at the rallies. Crowds of 40 to 50 workers would gather around, many yelling at the organizers to stop talking, many others shouting back for them to continue. The campaign successfully diverted racial polarization into political polarization versus Rockefeller and the CIA.

In the "racially agitated" white working-class precincts of South Boston, Sherman polled 11 per cent overall and up to 17 per cent in one ward. In Ward 14, covering most of the Roxbury black ghetto, Sherman received 11.7 per cent.

In towns surrounding Boston — which include an industrial belt of rubber, auto and electrical plants,

the Labor Party had higher percentages than in Boston. In Dedham, where there is definite evidence of fraud, the USLP was credited with 13.2 per cent of the total vote. A campaign focal point, downtown Dedham was the site of regular Labor Party rallies to penetrate the surrounding industrial-belt towns of Westwood, Needham and Norwood. taking the very minimum figure of 10 per cent of the total working-class neighborhood vote, achieved routinely in Richmond, Virginia; Boston, Mass.; and San Francisco, California, that 10 per cent figure was applied to those areas in Michigan where more organizing presence and New Solidarity crosspenetration was consistently attained than in the other

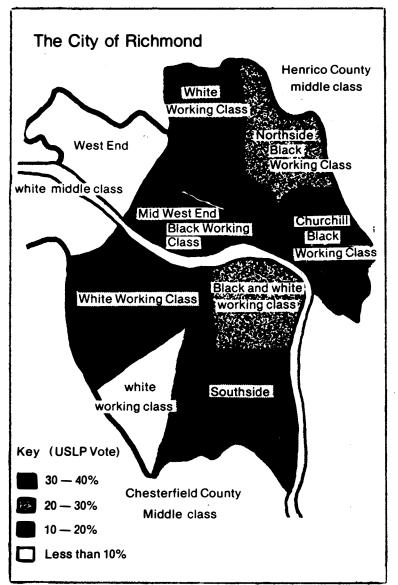


Labor Party's high penetration in working-class areas of the City of Boston yielded 11.7 per cent average vote citywide. Anti-LEAA "regular" vote counters ensured a minimum of vote stealing by Kiley-LEAA apparatus.

#### IV Vote Analysis and Projection Method

The most precise projection of the actual Labor Party vote was done for regions of maximum organizing penetration of the industrial working class, such as Detroit and other cities and suburbs of Michigan.

On the basis of Michigan factory straw-polls that ran to 30 per cent USLP support and higher, and states which recorded the official 10 per cent of the working-class mark. Only in Pontiac and Flint was the projected percentage increased to 18 per cent of the working-class vote, and in Macomb County suburbs of Detroit to 15 per cent, reflecting the extraordinarily deep Labor Party penetration of these areas, while taking into account standard patterns of Labor Party supporters not voting or voting for Democrats. For other social classes in all these areas, or for other



The highest percentage of USLP votes came from black working class areas, especially those affected by unemployment. The vote in the Mid West End reflected a reaction against the LEAA's PACE (Police and Community Effort) community Gestapo. White workers consistently voted well over 10 per cent except in one area of the Southside (note triangle above) where USLP penetration was slight.

areas not directly moved by Labor Party organization, the projection has been drastically pared down. Following are excerpts from the Michigan analysis:

In the city of Detroit there are 24 electoral districts, with 30,000 registered voters and approximately 15,000 persons actually voting per district. These districts break down to 4 classified as "ghetto," figured at 5 per cent of the vote, summing to 3,000 USLP votes between them; 7 classified as "ghetto working class" figured at 7 per cent of the vote, summing to 7,500 USLP votes; 8 classified as "general working class," figured at 10 per cent of the vote, summing to 12,000 USLP votes; 5 classified as "petit-bourgeois" figured at 2 per cent of the vote, summing to 1,500 USLP votes.

This gives 24,000 or approximately 6 per cent of the

Detroit votes to Labor Party gubernatorial candidate Peter Signorelli.

In Oakland County the total vote of 290,000 includes approximately 150,000 working-class votes. Taking 18 per cent of the 50,000 workers' votes in the city of Pontiac, and 10 per cent of the 100,000 workers' votes in Pontiac suburbs, 19,000 USLP votes are projected for Oakland County as a whole.

In Saginaw 30,000 out of 40,000 are working-class votes. Taking 5 per cent of these on the basis of direct but somewhat lessened USLP presence, gives 1,500 projected USLP votes in Saginaw.

Washtenaw County, discounting the Ann Arbor University population altogether, contains 20,000 working-class votes out of the 70,000 total cast. Taking 10 per cent of this — very conservative based on excellent political motion in Ypsilanti — yields 2,000 projected USLP votes. For Grand Rapids, Jackson, and Kalamazoo the projection was based on 8 per cent of the working class vote; for Lansing 7 per cent. For the rest of the state — non-urban, agricultural areas, a rock-bottom one per cent of the vote was projected yielding 15,000 out of 1,500,000. By this method, a minimum 100,000 votes must be projected for the statewide U.S. Labor Party slate in Michigan, or about 4 per cent of the overall vote cast.

#### **V** CIA Machine Politics

From 1971 through 1973 the Central Intelligence Agency took over direct control of the production and operation of voting machines in the United States. As a result of this discovery by a team of International Press Service reporters, it can now be conclusively determined that the November 5 elections were a fraudulent joke on the entire American public. Not only were more than a quarter of a million votes stolen from the U.S. Labor Party, but conservative Republicans and other anti-Rockefeller politicians undoubtedly were defeated by the CIA and not the voters.

In 1973, a Joint Strike Force of the U.S. Department of Justice, operating out of Buffalo, N.Y., brought about the indictment of top officers of the Automatic Voting Machine Company of Jamestown, N.Y.. Most members of AVM's Board of Directors and all the corporate officers were replaced.

The only directors who survived the takeover were Harvey M. Krueger, Senior Partner of the Rockefeller investment banking firm Kuhn, Loeb & Co.; Spencer R. Hackett, Vice President of the Mellon Bank of North America; Jerome A. Early, Staff Vice President for Strategic Planning, Rockwell International; and Robert M. Entwhistle of AVM's Pittsburgh law firm Miller, Entwhistle and Duff.

The man brought in as the new Chairman and President of AVM was Harold J. Ruttenberg, one of America's top counterinsurgents.

Harold, together with his brother Stanley, began his spooky career as anti-Communist "labor organizers" with Phillip Murray and the Steelworkers Organizing Committee. Harold became of research for the United Steelworkers of America. During World War II, while retaining his ties to the Steelworkers, Harold became a speed-up specialist as Assistant Director of the Steel Division of the corporativist War Production Board, and served on the War Labor Board as well.

In 1942 Harold Ruttenberg co-authored a book on the virtues of labor-management corporativist coparticipation, entitled "The Dynamics of Industrial democracy." The other author was Steelworkers Vice President Clinton Golden, an editor of the magazine "Human Relations" — published by Rockefeller's Tavistock Institute, designer of labor brainwashing programs worldwide.

After the war, Harold Ruttenberg hooked up with "international affairs" industrialist Cyrus Eaton, who formed the Portsmouth Steel Company and made Ruttenberg its Executive Vice President. From that point on, Harold was transformed into a "capitalist", later buying and selling steel-related companies. He now had his own laboratory for trying out the latest Tavistock methods of controlling labor, especially USWA members.

Meanwhile, Ruttenberg's brother Stanley became a prominent labor "insider" in the Rockefeller cabal. From 1948 through 1962 he was Director of Research and Chief Economist for the Congress of Industrial Organizations and then the AFL-CIO. Throughout the late 1940s, he "went to meetings in Berlin, Frankfurt, Munich, Stockholm, Rome and Paris," officially working for the International labor Organization and the "World Confederation of Free Trade Unions," but in actuality setting up CIA control of the European labor movement.

Through the 1950s and 1960s, Stanley Ruttenberg was officially listed as State Department and Labor Department "labor specialist" and "manpower specialist." He became a director of Laurance Rockefeller's "Resources for the Future" zero-growth propaganda group. He published an important manpower planning study for the national Planning Association, on which he serves with Zbigniew Brzezinski, Leonard Woodcock and other members of the Rockefeller Trilateral Commission — all colleagues of Steelworkers President I.W. Abel.

The workers at Automatic Voting Machine are organized into "autonomous work teams" under a fascist, corporativist structure in AVM's Jamestown, New York, headquarters. The labor-management programs in Jamestown were set up for at least 15 companies by Eric Trist, British Intelligence officer specializing in psychological warfare and a leader of the Tavistock Institute, and by Cornell University.

Workers encountered in Jamestown streets by IPS reporters referred to these programs as "garbage," "awful," and "They're brainwashing us."

Keith Spaulding, vice President of the automatic Voting Machine Company, assured IPS reporters that voting machines can easily be fixed in any way desired. Levers can be disengaged from counters. Machines can be rigged so that a vote for one candidate becomes a vote for his opponent. Spaulding stated that all that was required for a thorough rigging was for the "proper political climate" to exist so that the "election officials would look the other way."

For decades up through the 1960's the other voting machine company in the U.S. was the Shoup Company. In 1969 the Shoup Voting Machine Company of Pennsylvania was bought by Macrodyne Industries

of California, an aerospace sub-contractor with no other non aerospace divisions. Immediately after this the United States Department of Justice brought indictments of top officers of the Shoup Company. In 1971 the Shoup officers were convicted and sent to prison on a variety of "Watergate"-style charges, including bribery, and conspiracy to extract kickbacks. The entire corporate officer staff of Shoup was then purged and replaced by the Macrodyne management, which set up the "International Election Systems" Company of Burlington, New Jersey. Mr. Ransom Shoup and his son set up a new R.F. Shoup Company, minus the rights to patents and marketing of the Shoup Machines. In March of 1973 Shoup was sued by Macrodyne in Eastern District Federal Court of Pennsylvania for the "theft of (his own) secrets." Mr. Shoup remains embroiled in this suit today.

AVM, Shoup and "International Elections Systems" between them account for all of the manufacture of voting machines and all of the training of voting machine mechanics. AVM brings mechanic trainees to its Jamestown headquarters for a schooling, and also sets up training in other cities for various boards of elections. Macrodyne-International brings mechanic trainees to its jet aircraft engine production facilities in Burlington, N.J. to train them.

Since 1971 the CIA has moved to insure that no one would even notice what would otherwise be obviously suspicious election results. The cases cited below are illustrative of trends throughout the U.S..

#### CIA Takes Over City Elections: New York

During the Second World War, James Sickett was an officer with the Office of Strategic Services predecesor to the CIA. He penetrated with U.S. forces "to the border of Czechoslovakia." He admits to being assigned to several army divisions attached to the military police. After V.E. day he was assigned to Vienna, Austria as an expert in the Hungarian language. At the end of this service he "went into business for himself."

In the late 1940's, Mr. Sickett joined — was planted in — the New York City government election supervision machinery at a lowly \$2,000 per year salary.

In 1973, the New York City Board of Elections was shaken up by the New York State government under Nelson Rockefeller. A court declared the entire set-up of the Board to be unconstitutional, and the legislature reconstituted it, establishing a new post of Executive Director. James Sickett was placed in that post, with full power to make up the ballot in any way he chooses. Mr. Sickett told a reporter for the International Press Service that U.S. government intelligence officers and FBI men have frequently worked through his office, checking personnel and other matters.

The CIA's domestic arm, the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) set up the Bureau of Planning and Operations within the New York Police Department during the "anti-corruption" shakeup surrounding the LEAA-funded Knapp Commission. This Bureau is now in charge of elections in New York City. Under Planning and Operations, policemen now go to voters' residences to check out "if so-and-so really lives here." They are corroborating voter registration cards which require the voter to supply the police with his occupation and his employer's name.

After the polls close, policemen in every voting place take tallies along with neighborhood officials and bring the tallies to the stationhouse. From there cops under Planning and Operations supervision send statements of precinct-by-precinct returns to the local Boro Boards of Election, and to a newly-created press syndicate, the "News Election Service."

This press syndicate then tallies and publishes any returns it wishes. Throughout the country, the syndicate — made up of Rockefeller-dominated outlets such as the Associated Press, the New York Times and others — routinely threw away Labor Party election returns. Voters who wished to discover the complete results of the election were told that none existed. The New York Board of Elections plans to release an "official return" about three weeks after the election; the legal time limit for challenging the election as fraudulent is 20 days.

#### **Buffalo**

In Buffalo a Computer task force has been set up to process election returns for Erie County. Programming of the computers was done by the Calspan Corporation, a "think tank" set up by Cornell University and paid by the Defense Department, the FBI and the LEAA to research weather modification, labor brainwashing programs, "community control" of the black ghetto and other CIA projects. The same computers are also programmed by Calspan to handle virtually all police intelligence data for Erie County, and all mental hospital information for Erie County.

#### Philadelphia

In 1973, a U.S. Justice Department Strike Force, operating out of Philadelphia, prosecuted Maurice S. Osser, then Chairman of the three-man City Commission which supervises Philadelphia's elections. Osser was sent to Lewisburg Federal Prison on charges relating to "misuse of his authority."

When called by an IPS investigative reporter, the

Philadelphia office of the LEAA directly lied in stating that "the Federal government was not involved" in Watergating Osser. Mr. Osser's replacement, Francis Patterson, was also struck by a case of nerves when he replied "I'm not going to give my life history away" when asked if he had worked with U.S. intelligence agencies.

#### Washington State

In Washington State's 3rd Congressional District, Labor Party candidate Evelyn Olafson's Democratic Party opponent was Don Bonker, the Clerk of Clark county who had organized the introduction of computers into the elections; Olafson's Republican opponent was Ludlow Kramer, Washington Secretary of State, whose office oversees the election! Kramer became famous when he organized the notorious "People in Need" food distribution set-up for the Symbionese Liberation Army in California.

#### Chicago

In the Spring of 1973, the chairman of the Chicago Board of Elections was "booted upstairs" into an open post of County Clerk. To fill his vacancy, an Illinois Circuit Court judge for Cook County formed a threeman screening panel, which decided under pressure from the Independent Voters of Illinois, an Anti-Daly organization, to pass up the other two existent members of the Chicago Board of Elections for the Chairman's post.

Instead, on July 2, 1973, the judge appointed John Hanley Chairman of the Board of Elections as a man of "no political background." Two days before, Hanley had "retired" from 36 years as one of the top intelligence officers of the U.S. government. He was a naval intelligence officer under Admiral Halsey during World War II, and he retired as an Admiral. During the 1960's he was in charge of the United States Secret Service for Europe, Africa, and the Middle East, stationed in Bonn, Paris and London. He was the Commissioner of Interpol for Counterfeiting. From 1969 to his "retirement" in 1973, he was the Chicago station chief of the U.S. Secret Service.

Hanley's secretary, in her conversation with IPS stated, "I've got a real James Bond for a boss."

#### Key Points in CIA Takeover of Elections

## Jamestown, N.Y.

1973

U.S. Justice Dept. indicts top officers of Automatic Voting Machine Company. Mellon and Rockefeller bankers on Bd. of Directors remove all officers and appoint top CIA-Tavistock agent Harold Ruttenberg AVM's new chairman. Labor-management programs at AVM and 14 other Jamestown comapnies were set up by Eric Trist, British intelligence officer and leader of Tavistock. Voting machine mechanics of city boards of elections are brought to Jamestown and trained by AVM.

#### Pennsylvania

#### 1969-73

U.S. Justice Dept. indicts top officers of Shoup Voting Machine Company immediately after Shoup is brought by aerospace contractor Macrodyne Industries of California. 1971 — Shoup top officers sent to prison on "Watergate" charges; all officers replaced by Macrodyne. 1973 — R.F. Shoup, who had formed a new company, is sued in federal court for "theft of secrets" — i.e., attempting to use patents he developed.

Mechanics who fix voting machines are brought to jet engine factory in Burlington, N.J. to be trained by Macrodyne-Shoup, now renamed "International Election Systems".

### New York City

#### 1973

New York State courts and legislature under Governor Rockefeller break up "unconstitutional" NYC Board of Elections, create new post of Executive Director. James Sickett is appointed, with sole power to design ballot. Sickett is "activated" after being planted by CIA in late 1940s following distinguished spy career in Europe. He was stationed in Vienna, Austria as a Hungarian expert. As an OSS officer, he penetrated with U.S. forces "to the border of Czechoslovakia". Sickett states that "U.S. intelligence officers and FBI men have frequently operated through my office, checking on personnel and other matters." LEAA-run Bureau of Ops. and Planning supervises election procedures, releases returns.

#### Chicago

1973

Chairman of Board of Elections is appointed to fill County Clerk's vacancy. Circuit court judge bows to pressure of anti-Daly "Independent Voters of Illinois" and brings in "non-political" new chairman, John Hanley. Hanley had "retired" 2 days before from 36 year career as one of top CIA men in America: Admiral in Naval Intelligence, head of U.S. Secret Service for Europe, Africa, and Mideast. and "Counterfeiting Commissioner" for Interpol.

#### **APPENDIX** I: PENDING AND CONTEMPLATED LEGAL ACTIONS REGARDING ELECTION FRAUD AS OF NOV. 21, 1974

Philadelphia Region: The United States Labor Party will go into Philadelphia Common Pleas Court to ask for an order allowing the USLP to examine voting machines in at least one of several ward subdivisions in which substantial proof of fraud exists. the deadline for this action is November 25, after which machine counters will be reset to zero.

The first machine to be examined is for Ward One, Division 2, in which USLP Congressional candidate Bernard Salera was credited with nine votes. At least 15 people there have affirmed that they voted for Salera, five have given the Labor Party notarized affidavits and five more are committed to do so. In another area of high Labor Party support and low official vote tally, at least six individuals are committed to canvassing for such affidavits; the voting machine for this subdivision will be the second one examined.

If the mechanic provided by the Board of Elections declares that there is nothing wrong with either machine, the affidavits of unrecorded votes will be taken to the Philadelphia District Attorney and the United States Attorney to demand an investigation and the preservation of evidence. If direct evidence of tampering is discovered, the Labor Party will demand the same relief in addition to a delay in the certification of the election.

The U.S. Attorneys for Delaware and southern New Jersey will be contacted concerning fraud in congressional elections there, with citation of suspicious voting patterns.

#### North Carolina:

The Mecklenburg County Board of Elections holds a hearing November 21 to receive evidence of vote stealing and electoral interference by Democratic Party worker D.J. Grier, who wielded a whip at the polls. Board members have stated in advance however, that they will decide to take no action because the "results would not effect the outcome of

#### Philadelphia

1973

U.S. Justice Dept. Strike Force sends City Commissioner (Elections) Chairman Maurice Osser, to Lewisberg Federal Prison for "crimes relating to misuse of his authority".

Washinton State

1974

Ludlow Kramer, Washington Secretary of State, 1974 oversees elections for state. He arranged "People In Need" food distribution for the Symbionese Liberation Army.

Sioux City, Iowa

1974

Wiley Mayne, pro-Nixon member of House Judiciary Committee, is defeated by Dem. he beat in last election. AVM voting machine mechanics were trained at Jamestown.

the elections!" The Labor Party will point to the suspiciously uniform pattern of the official results — 1.4 per cent to 3.4 per cent range, as opposed to 0 per cent to 22 per cent in the same wards in last year's elections in Charlotte. An investigation will be demanded into the background of Kent Crawford, the sole voting mechanic for Mecklenburg County, a "New Leftist" with the CIA-run New American Movement who was trained at Jamestown, New York by the Automatic Voting Machine Company.

On election day the Board of Elections refused to order the arrest or even an investigation of Mr. Grier and stated that this was a matter for the Labor Party to take up with the police. The Labor Party will demand state or federal authorities move against both Grier and Board of Elections Executive Secretary William Culp, who refused to act even though Section 48, Paragraph 163 of the North Carolina General Statutes requires him to maintain order and authorizes him to order arrests and deputize poll officials or private citizens to make arrests or to expell disrupters from the polling place.

The Labor Party will demand that the state government suspend certification of the election races involving U.S. Labor Party candidates. To this date the Charlotte-based United States Attorney refuses to discuss the case "because it is secret."

#### Michigan:

Voters in ten precincts in Wayne County, Mich., two precincts in Pontiac and one precinct in Flint are committed to present notarized affidavits affirming their votes for USLP gubernatorial candidate Signorelli; in each of these precincts, promised affidavits already sum to more than the officially recorded Labor Party vote.

USLP general counsel Jay Carlisle is in Michigan to determine the legal course to be taken. The U.S. Attorney in Detroit is the Labor Party's adversary in its suit against FBI harassment.

#### New York:

Despite harassment of potential witnesses to election

fraud in New York City (see Fraud section of brief), affidavits are now in Labor Party possession providing sufficient evidence to force the New York State Supreme Court to allow inspection of the voting machine in the district where the affiants voted. The suit will be filed during the week of November 25, charging denial of civil rights. Other recourse is more difficult: the District Attorney for that section of New York City, Mario Merola, previously quashed an investigation of attempted gunshot murder perpetrated against Labor Party organizers outside Bronx' Lincoln Hospital Methadone Detoxification Clinic earlier in 1974.

An additional obstacle is that inspection of voting machines requires the payment of between \$100 and \$400 per machine by the plaintiff.

#### Buffalo:

On election day polling officials denied USLP pollwatchers access to viewing the backs (counters) of voting machines in ten locations.

Board of Elections Commissioner Carlsen informed the Labor Party that the only canvass to give voting breakdowns by election district was that available from the Computer Task Group. The result from the Computer Task Group for Fillmore Ward, district 28, showed zero votes for USLP gubernatorial candidate Chaitkin. Four affidavits were then gathered from voters in that district stating that they had voted for Chaitkin, and the Labor Party held a press conference at the Board of Elections to break the news. After the press conference, Commissioner Carlsen informed the -Buffalo Evening News that Chaitkin had received five votes in Fillmore District 28.

The U.S. Attorney for Buffalo will be presented with the cases including multiple vote fraud perpetrated in Rochester. The U.S. Attorney has, however, previously refused to take action on Labor Party complaints of over one hundred instances of electoral interference.

#### **APPENDIX II:** FBI HARASSMENT

History of FBI-Justice Department Harassment of the U.S. Labor Party

The Justice Department has launched a year-long offensive against the United States Labor Party, specifically stating their intention to smash it. U.S. Attorney General William Saxbe and FBI Director Clarence Kelley are themselves defendants in a suit brought by the USLP in response to a raid on the LP's Detroit office. The Detroit Police held LP members at gunpoint and stole the names of Labor Party supporters in "an attempt to retrieve a kidnapped" FBI agent who had infiltrated the USLP. Given the massive, illegal harassment of the USLP by the Justice Department and the FBI, no competent investigation of the charges of electoral fraud can be undertaken by these agencies. Unless the Congress is prepared to consent to a complete whitewash at the hands of the U.S. Attorney, it must immediately begin an independent investigation.

The following account highlights the FBI-Justice Department campaign against the USLP's electoral activities. **Cleveland, April 1974** — William Rini was approached by the FBI on or about Feb. 6 and asked to infiltrate the USLP. Information given to the FBI on the morning of March 27 led to the illegal surveillance and detention of Labor Party members by the police at Cleveland State University and Case Western University. Rini states in his affidavit that the FBI requested information on the "weaknesses of Cleveland Labor Committee members and psychological profiles." The nature of the information sought by the FBI proves conclusively that they sought to disrupt the USLP activities rather than prevent "illegal activity."

**Detroit, Aug. 1973** — Playing on the fears of Helen Bates, the mother of a Labor Party member, the FBI pumped her for information on the USLP. The agent reported to Bates that the "emphasis is on the Labor Committee among left organizations today." Agents visited her home on three occasions and made phone contact at least 12 times. When they asked her if she "had ever taken truth serum" and then scheduled the next meeting at FBI headquarters, she broke off contact with the FBI.

June 1974, Detroit Raid — The USLP is currently seeking injunctive relief and \$4 million in damages from the FBI, U.S Attorney and the Detroit Police for interference in the Party's Michigan electoral campaign. The suit was filed following USLP discovery and exposure of FBI agent and demolition expert Vernon Higgins as an infiltrator and FBIdirected saboteur of USLP electoral campaigns.

Higgins was running as a USLP candidate for Michigan State Legislature in a blatant attempt to discredit the Party and mislead Michigan voters. The exposure of Higgins was followed by the June 20th illegal search at gunpoint and ransacking of the Labor Party's offices during which material was stolen by officers L. Blane, G. Terrell, Ganbin, R. Persyn, D. McKinnen and five policemen or FBI agents who refused to identify themselves.

William Jones, the agent who requested the search, had visited the home of National Committee member Richard Cohen on June 4, 1973, a year prior to the FBIdirected raid. The continuity in personnel indicates the consistency with which the FBI spied upon and harassed the USLP.

Philadelphia, July 18 — Nineteen-year-old Gail Roeshman was kidnapped and brainwashed with the full knowledge and active complicity of the FBI while she was campaigning for USLP candidate for Congress, Bernie Salera. Gail Roeshman was kidnapped by her parents on July 18 and held for brainwashing by convicted criminal Ted Patrick. In a sworn deposition Gail stated that her father, Ben Roeshman, had spoken to the Philadelphia FBI about his plans. The FBI informed him that "his actions were legal." Though Roeshman's actions were in clear violation of the so-called Lindberg kidnapping law, he had the FBI's full assurance that they would do nothing.

On July 30 the USLP received a handwritten letter from Gail in which she stated, "Do not try to get me, I'm being watched. Stop watching my house — you're being watched...I've (and You've) got FBI, Philadelphia Cop Fencl, State Police, etc., watching us." FBI agents and U.S. Attornies in Philadelphia and Miami confirmed Gail's allegations by their repeated refusal to investigate the evidence that the USLP offered them.

**Charlotte, North Carolina, Dec. 1973** — While attempting to recruit Bernard Todd, a former member of the Revolutionary Youth Movement (RYM) as an informer, two FBI agents stated that RYM was an "enemy of the government," that they were "going to bust RYM" and suggested that "people were likely to get hurt." The agents evidenced detailed knowledge of Todd's personal history. They informed him that he could be charged with several Federal offenses, but that "if you help us, we can help you."

**Charlotte, May 1974** — FBI agent Walter Baker visited Jack Gibbs, the father of a USLP member seeking information on the Party. Throughout the United States, similar **reported** instances of FBI harassment and intimidation of USLP contacts, members and members' relatives have occurred in 15 to 20 cases. Affidavits documenting all cited incidents are

available on request.

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