

U.S. LABOR MOVEMENT REJECTS SLAVE-LABOR CORPORATISM;
BACKS USLP LEGISLATION

The U.S. working class has emphatically rejected proposals for low-wage public works programs and corporatist national planning schemes put forward by various "pro-labor" congressmen.

Polls taken by the U.S. Labor Party in factories and working class communities around the country reveal that workers will not tolerate their Congressional representatives instituting a fascist program "on their behalf." The national leadership of the AFL-CIO and United Autoworkers (UAW) have attempted to manufacture working class support for such measures as the Full Employment Act of 1976 put forward by Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn) and others, (also known as the Humphrey-Hawkins bill) the National Economic Planning proposals (also known as the ICNEP bill) also put forward by Sen. Humphrey and others and plans to enlarge the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) put forward by Rep. Daniels (D-NJ).

On the other hand, huge sections of the trade union apparatus are now demanding the implementation of the Labor Party's Emergency Employment Act (EEA) and International Development Bank (IDB) proposals as the only competent program to solve the current crisis. More than 50,000 copies of the IDB and EEA sold at \$1.00 per copy are now circulating among trade union activists and militants. Workers who have read the Labor Party program are at this point better informed than most of their elected representatives and all the so-called spokesmen for the "national labor movement" on ABC's of solving the depression crisis.

This situation has already forced the sponsors of the fascist legislation to temporize their bills in a futile effort to make them more palatable to an enraged working class (see special report).

THE REAL SITUATION IN LABOR

Dan Healey, Regional AFL-CIO Director for the six key Midwest industrial states described to journalists in a recent interview the real situation in the U.S. labor movement. Asked about Humphrey supporter Rep. Paul Simon's (D-Ill) organizing drive for ICNEP and Humphrey-Hawkins, he replied, "Simon can shove it up his ass! Workers aren't going to accept jobs at \$50 per week. We need jobs that can solve the world's food problems. Thirty per cent of U.S. plant capacity is idle." When asked if his views were similar to the U.S. Labor Party, Healey commented, "Look, I coordinate six states. There are 1500 of them (LP members). Don't be fooled by their small numbers--there were fewer CPers (Communist Party members) in 1933-34. Humphrey may have Minnesota and Wisconsin locked up, but they're (the USLP) a real threat in Michigan. We're on the verge of losing auto to them. Iowa? Iowa is lost...."

The aging Washington, D.C.-based leadership of the AFL-CIO can dispatch its paid functionaries and arm-twist some Central Labor Councils (CLC) into creating the illusion of worker support for their fascist legislation, but in reality they cannot even command the support of the majority of middle and lower-level union officials who have to face the workers they represent.

Confirming this opposition and the potential for immediate U.S. Labor Party take-over, Tom Bradley, Baltimore Central Labor Council head, under intense pressure from widespread support for the EEA in his member unions, publicly disavowed support for the Humphrey legislation. In fact, Bradley denied every supporting the legislation at a recent AFL-CIO Regional Committee on Political Education (COPE) conference.

A recent IPS national survey of AFL-CIO "field commanders" revealed profound ignorance and confusion over the actual policy content of the slave labor proposals:

Jim Bender, King County (Seattle) CLC head, who chaired a recent Metal Trades Conference, sat in ignorant silence when challenged to explain the actual content of the much-lauded Humphrey "Full Employment" bill. Bender was noticeably embarrassed when Larry Meyer, Boilermakers political action director, received a heavy round of applause as he called on the meeting to "Build a Labor Party." Likewise, Nellie Fox, Oregon's AFL-CIO COPE director, admitted she did not know the type and pay scales of jobs created under the act.

Labor Party organizers found almost unanimous opposition to the Humphrey swindle at the 60-man executive board meeting of the United Steelworkers (USWA) legislative committee held in Pennsylvania yesterday. Instead of discussing the Humphrey full employment legislation, the USWA officials bought IDB pamphlets and asked questions on international development.

ON THE PLANT LEVEL

Phil Valenti, USLP Congressional candidate from Delaware, conducted a campaign tour inside the Wilmington, Del. General Motors plant yesterday finding over 95 per cent of the workers supporting the EEA. "Yeah, we really need a Labor Party," many commented as they greeted the candidate. The UAW and management, cognizant of the Labor Party support, did not attempt to block the tour.

USLP organizers conducting polls at plant gates and unemployment centers throughout the U.S. are finding 90-95 per cent support for the EEA and equivalent hatred and opposition to the Humphrey atrocity. The Detroit USLP has challenged UAW Chrysler division vice president Doug Fraser to debate employment policy before dozens of UAW officials and community leaders who are committed to attend. While the press is giving prominent coverage to the debate challenge, many militant workers are predicting that Fraser "will punk out" -- unable to defend himself, he will fail to show. One plant-level UAW official has covertly joined the EEA drive, commenting, "You don't have to convince me (on Humphrey-Hawkins), it's concentration camps. Tell me what to do." In Indianapolis, a 40-man UAW caucus requested a meeting with the USLP to discuss the IDB/EEA and strategy to take over the union.

The bitterest outrage at the Humphrey-Hawkins slave labor was expressed at unemployment centers. At a typical New Jersey center, 88 out of 89 workers turned thumbs down on the fascist jobs bill. Many began shouting curses and insults directed at Governor Brendan Byrne and other elected officials responsible for the state's current austerity drive.

USLP LAUNCHES "OPERATION ACCOUNTABILITY"

The U.S. Labor Party today announced a national campaign to hold so-called pro-labor congressional representatives accountable to their constituents for support of various AFL-CIO sponsored bills to create low-wage public works jobs and a fascist national planning structure.

A spokesman at the Labor Party National Headquarters here said this afternoon that the campaign, known as "operation accountability," will inform various congressmen and senators of the feelings of their constituents about