

SPECIAL REPORT

“There Will Be a Social Revolution in This Country”

March 20 (IPS) — Speaking at a press conference here March 18, Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn), Wall Street's leading Congressional henchman, warned that unless his fascist Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act of 1976 (the erstwhile Humphrey — Hawkins bill) passes this session of Congress, “there will be a social revolution in this country.”

Humphrey's words were intended to help stampede Congress behind his proposed slave labor legislation which enjoys no support among the rank and file of the American working class. They reflect the real terror that the Wall Street bankers feel over their upcoming confrontation with the working class. Without Humphrey-Hawkins and other fascist legislation in place they will be unable to contain an uncontrollable mass strike upsurge that is shaping up over contract negotiations.

Congress, however, is unaware of the depth of the crisis that they now stand right, smack in the middle of. Despite the week's events on the international monetary markets, Capitol Hill has attempted to carry on business as usual. They are acting oblivious to the fact that the world monetary system no longer exists. Trade and continued economic activity can at any moment become impossible. Discussion, however of the urgent need to replace the present mess with a new production-based system, is almost non-existent.

Similarly, though some members of Congress have attempted to stand up against the recent attacks on it by the FBI and the CIA around the leak of the Pike Committee report, the majority will support legislation — unless pressured to do otherwise — that will establish a police state in the U.S. Most of Congress has already been suckered into supporting a Wall Street directed call for a conventional arms build-up, stupidly insisting that such an arms production could never lead to a real war — or at least not a nuclear war.

Constituency pressure, is however beginning to force some Congressmen to break this controlled environment and begin to act in a way at least partially commensurate to the depths of the current crisis.

On March 17, the effects of the mass working class response to the collapse of production, state and municipal services was felt on the floor of the Congress itself. Re. Herman Badillo (D-NY) told the House that New York City has “cut every service except one, debt service. And despite all this, the city is in worse shape than before. Disease and deterioration are growing . . .” Badillo called for passage of his legislation that would allow New York and other municipalities to declare bankruptcy.

As Badillo was bringing the real world into the Congress, Dellums indicated that he was prepared to sit down with the U.S. Labor Party and work out national debt moratorium legislation. The offices of Reps. Richmond (D-NY), Rangel (D-NY), Abzug (D-NY) and Chisholm (D-NY) all indicated they were in consultations with Badillo on the debt moratorium issue.

This overt crack in the controlled environment in Congress combined with the anti-austerity mandate of the Illinois electorate offered in the March 16 primary acted as an early warning signal to Wall Street that a more extensive break-away is imminent. In the Illinois primary, Rockefeller protege Governor Dan Walker, who ran a campaign support of this proposed zero-growth budget was defeated by Micheal Hewlett, the candidate of the machine of Chicago Mayor Richard Daley, who polled a whopping 63 per cent. Additional evidence of the large anti-austerity mandate was supplied by the fact that one-fifth of those who voted in the gubernatorial race ignored the clowns running in the presidential primary.

Meanwhile Congress has begun to wake up about the need for a crash fusion energy development program — after 2 years of prodding by the U.S. Labor Party Tunney (D-Cal) and Metcalfe (D-Mont) issued in their name a Fusion Energy Foundation — authored 25 point questionnaire to leading U.S. scientists. Later in the week, the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy (JCAE) voted to restore cuts proposed by President Ford in the fusion research and development budget. The vote came after Dr. Robert Hirsch, assistant director of ERDA, was asked by JCAE member Rep. Roncalio (D-Wyo) if a recent New Solidarity, the newspaper of the U.S. Labor Party, article describing Soviet breakthroughs were substantially correct. Hirsch testified that they were correct.

Beneath this Congressional activity was continued unravelling of state and municipal Democratic and Republican machines. Following breaks in the ranks of the New York, Connecticut, Washington, and California Democratic machines toward the Labor Party, four governmental agencies in Chicago reported their willingness to meet with U.S. Labor Party representatives to discuss debt moratorium. Appointments were set one day after the Illinois primary. Indicating the depth of Labor Party penetration into the Daley machine, a Daley-backed state legislator who lost in the primary is considering running on the Labor Party slate. In Washington State, meetings were set with two statewide organizations of the Republican Party to discuss debt moratorium legislation.

Humphrey-Hawkins

This motion has gone directly from the factory and the wards into the Congress. To contain this motion, especially in light of the upcoming showdown with the working class, a combined containment package including the last week introduction of the revised version of the same old Humphrey-Hawkins legislation, calls conventional arms build-up and foot-in-the-door police state measures were tossed into the most vulnerable layers of the Congress. Well-dressed with liberal sounding phrases and appropriate targetted “enemies”, the fascist package will accomplish the exact opposite of its intended tactical purpose — it will expose the guts of the Democratic Party urban machines to a Labor Party take-over. Congressmen who support the legislation will rapidly be isolated from their constituencies.

Humphrey's focused hysteria around imminent “social

revolution" before an array of businessmen in Washington DC highlighted a parade of Atlanticist agents testifying or making public statements on behalf of the bill, including New York labor skate Victor Gotbaum, fascist manpower planner Eli Ginzberg, social welfare hatchetman Jules Sugarman and Federal Reserve Chairman Arthur Burns. All were of one voice — all demanded national slave labor police. Speaking to an audience which included Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller, Humphrey bellowed that the current "unemployment compensation and social security systems "are incapable of stemming the drift towards "social revolution." "My first job is to defend the banks and I agree with Arthur (Burns)," the Senator from Wall Street said, "if the banks in the U.S. went kaput, that would end our system."

Following Humphrey's cues, the following day Burns appeared to testify at Humphrey's Joint Economic Committee Hearings with 1000 copies of a speech he made last September demanding that the government force people on unemployment and welfare into \$50-a-week public service jobs. Humphrey greeted Burn's suggestion by telling those present, "I like Arthur, but he doesn't give speeches anymore, he just gives the best of "Vintage Arthur Burns."

Outdoing everyone else, manpower expert Eli Ginzberg, author of the 1946 full employment act, insisted that elderly and crippled persons could also be "profitably" employed under the Humphrey-Hawkins bill.

Fanning the hysteria to the House side, both Conyers (D-Mich) and Ottinger (D-NY) raised the spectre of "social revolution." In a comprehensive blueprint released this week the two "liberals" told the Budget Committee that "in order to drive home the devastating impact of unemployment and to mobilize public opinion behind full employment policy, the

Congressional budget should provide for an annual audit of the social and psychological state of the American people."

War by 1977

As an adjunct to the slave labor push, the Atlanticists escalated their call for conventional arms build-up and European militarization into the Halls of Congress. On March 15 liberal think-tanker Adrian Fischer of the Arms Control Association said in an interview that the liberal wing of the Democratic Party is about to launch an assault on Secretary of State Henry Kissinger to unseat him from his post before the November elections. Fischer indicated that the central issue of attack would be Kissinger's "lowering of the nuclear threshold" by allowing a free flow of nuclear materials out of Western Europe.

This phoney centerpiece issue of nuclear non-proliferation emerged later in the week as part of a larger scenario to swing broad liberal support behind a massive conventional arms build-up. On March 17, Rep. Ottinger issued a statement supporting a conventional arms build-up in order to reach parity with the Soviet Union, while denouncing the already discredited first-use doctrine once spouted by former Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger. The stupid liberals around Ottinger have been in consultation with Schlesinger, who they proudly claim has been won over to their side. Schlesinger and others such as Under Secretary of State Joseph Sicco and New York Times columnist and CIA conduit Drew Middleton have now been invited to address the liberal "Peace through Law" congressional outfit to coral them into a support for large conventional arms build-up and European militarization. In exchange, they have offered dropping an already dead Schlesinger limited nuclear warfare doctrine.