

session." The close vote on the amendment was due to Rep. Robert Michel's (R-Ill.) and Appropriations Committee Chairman George Mahon's (D-Tex.) support of the amendment.

CLEAN AIR ACT — On May 26, the House of Representatives passed a bill to amend the Clean Air Act of 1970 by a vote of 326 to 49. The bill contains a provision for further delayed and permanently weakened controls on automobile exhaust fumes. The House also defeated an earlier Carter-backed amendment which would have contained stronger restrictions on auto emissions, by a margin of 202 to 190. The amendment that the House adopted was supported by the United Auto Workers union and the automobile industry and strongly opposed by environmentalists and the Carter Administration.

Representative James T. Broyhill (R-N.C.) who sponsored the adopted amendment along with John D.

Dingell (D-Mich.) said, "We want clean air, but we have other social goals."

However, Carter announced early this week that he intends to enforce current clean air regulations to the hilt, and a spokesman at the Council on Environmental Quality said in a recent interview that the crackdown on industry "would not require new legislation."

Also this week the House International Affairs Committee passed by voice vote an amendment sponsored by Rep. Jonathan Bingham (D-N.Y.) which supports Carter's blockage of the commercialization of the Clinch River Fast Breeder Nuclear Plant. The passage of the amendment does not mean that the fight ends here. The issue will be taken up in the House Appropriations Committee before it reaches the House floor.

Lastly, on May 26, the Senate passed the Administration's Comprehensive Youth Employment Act by a vote of 80 to 3. The measure creates thousands of unproductive menial low-paying jobs for youth and will now go to Carter's desk for signature.

Carter Takes Bloody Nose On Vote Bill

Bi-partisan opposition to the Administration's Universal Voter Registration bill, authored by Vice President Mondale, last week forced Administration backers in the House of Representatives to withdraw the bill from the legislative calendar. The action is the Administration's response to Democratic Representatives' warnings to the President that they do not have enough support to ensure the bill's passage.

Opposition in both Houses intensified after hearings in the Senate Rules Committee found that the Justice Department with evident White House approval, had suppressed memoranda which warned of the vote fraud possibilities in the bill.

The bill was pulled from the House calendar only hours after Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-SC) announced that he and other Senators were prepared to filibuster the legislation in the Senate, a move which would effectively kill the bill in both houses.

Thurmond made his promise May 19 at a press conference called by Rep. Philip Crane (R-Ill) chairman of the American Conservative Union, to announce the results of a poll on the bill taken among secretaries of state and election officials on the state level. Of 50 officials polled, representing each state, Crane reported that 29 opposed the "reform" bill, 12 supported it, and nine were undecided.

While the Crane-Thurmond press conference was in progress, Carter met with a delegation of urban Democratic Congressmen who told him that they could not guarantee the passage of the bill in the House. Rep. Dan Rostenkowski (D-Ill) reported that the Dems were worried about the broad national opposition to the bill particularly from predominantly Democratic urban election officials. A large delegation of officials from Cook County, Ill. had given extensive testimony to committees in both houses, opposing the measure because of the vast fraud potential.

Efforts by Mondale, the President, and Democratic leaders in the House to armtwist more votes have thus far proved unsuccessful. The White House strategy now is to work over what they term "recalcitrant" Congressmen and election officials during the Memorial Day recess. Both the Senate bill and the House version are expected to be heard after Congress reconvenes on June 6. Rep. Frank Thompson (D-NJ) told reporters: "We have the votes to pass it but not by a wide enough

"I urge everyone to vote early and often."

— Walter Mondale,
Vice President
of the United States

Nov. 1, 1976

margin to impress the Senators." He and the White House are worried that even if the bill passes in one house, the margin will be so slim that the measure will die in the other house.

Taking advantage of the Administration's dilemma, Republicans in the House, led by Rep. Frenzel (R-Minn) are sponsoring a series of additional amendments which would gut the bill, and thereby kill any support. Frenzel stated to reporters after the bill's withdrawal, "When you've got a leaky vessel in the fleet, that's where you direct your fire." Frank Thompson, a sponsor of the bill and chairman of the House Administration Committee commented on the continued attacks on the bill because

of its fraud implications, "My friend Charlie Wiggins (R-Cal) wants to put a guillotine at each polling place."

*Will Carter Opposition Drop
Investigation of Cover-Up?*

Despite the setbacks dealt to the Administration over the registration bill, indications are that the Carter opposition has dropped its call for an investigation into the Justice Department cover-up of internal agency opposition to the bill, which could lead to a Watergating of the Carter Administration.

In hearings held before the Senate Rules Committee, Senators Griffin (R-Mich), and Allen (D-Ala) had requested that the Senate Judiciary Committee take up the question of the Justice Department's suppression of three memos and the subsequent cover-up that took place with the knowledge of the White House.

At those same hearings, testimony given by Jeffrey Steinberg of the U.S. Labor Party and Col. Thomas McCrary, chairman of the National Committee for Honest and Fair Elections, detailed how the cover-up was geared to prevent any investigation into the vote fraud in last November's election.

Interviews with the staffs of the bill's leading opponents have shown they are hesitant to pursue the line of attack begun in the Senate Rules Committee. One top aide to a Republican Senator claimed that if either Bell or Mondale were questioned on their role in the cover-up, they would "plead ignorance of the law." Such statements support the fact that the opposition to the Carter Administration may easily be profiled by the White House to settle for the simple defeat of the bill while keeping the lid on investigations which would lead to impeachment.

Nation Says 'No' To Carter Drug Policy

On May 21, Illinois became the 12th state to reject a bill decriminalizing marijuana since the inauguration of Jimmy Carter, who is the first President in history to go on record in support of removing criminal penalties for the possession and use of dangerous drugs.

Carter demonstrated his determination to create a nation of drug addicts with his appointment of Dr. Peter Bourne, a self-professed supporter of *decriminalizing heroin and cocaine*, to head the White House Office of Drug Abuse Policy.

Subsequently, state after state has refused to accept the policy of drug proliferation, after considering the medical evidence that shows marijuana to be a harmful hallucinogenic drug with damaging effects on brain and cellular functions.

Despite this national mandate, the Drug Abuse Policy Office now headed by Bourne and employing members of the Wall-Street funded pot lobby, the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), is determined to enact a policy of drug proliferation — first marijuana, and then cocaine and heroin as soon as it becomes "politically feasible," according to Dr. Bourne.

But in the last three months, despite major U.S. media, pothead Bourne's pipe dreams about the "political feasibility" of legalized, government-dispensed heroin and other schemes to drug the American population have met with stiff, multi-partisan opposition. This resistance was catalyzed in large part by the U.S. Labor Party and by the nationwide circulation of the party's special report, "Bust the Drug Ring in the White House," which details the medical evidence on the mind-killing effects of marijuana which has been ignored by most of the press.

New York: The American Way

On the night of May 16, following a five-hour debate in the New York State Assembly, a bill to decriminalize possession and "casual" transfers of up to 1.25 ounces of marijuana was defeated by a surprise cross-party

alliance of Republicans, democrats, and Conservatives. The defeat of the bill shocked Carter-allied political observers, including New York's Governor Hugh Carey, who planned to use New York as a major milestone to pressure other states to accept decriminalization.

Two months before the scheduled vote on the New York bill, the *New York Times* and other major media began a concerted campaign to ensure its passage, quoting such experts as Carter himself to exemplify the "changed attitude" in the nation regarding pot smoking. Based on this calculated media barrage, members of the Senate and Assembly polled by the Labor Party in early April considered decriminalization a foregone conclusion based on its "constituent support."

In reality, outside of the *New York Times* and the very vocal, well financed NORML, no such support existed. Instead, within three weeks, defeat of the decriminalization bill became the most insistently expressed demand of the New York electorate. The New York State Black Caucus, previously considered a solid block of support by the Carter pro-pot forces, refused to bind its members to voting for decriminalization. On April 20 a Queens, New York Assemblyman invited four prominent New York physicians with extensive knowledge of the dangers of drug use to hold a press conference exposing the real dangers of marijuana, and kick off the battle to defeat the pot bill. The press conference included Dr. Gabriel Nahas of Columbia University, Dr. Henry Brill, former president of the American Medical Association, Dr. Robert Baird of New York, and Dr. Ned Rosinsky of the U.S. Labor Party.

While largely blacked out by statewide media, this opening foray against drugs brought into action the forces to defeat the bill. On May 9 the New York Conservative Party held a press conference with the Veterans of Foreign Wars and other groups, including county Medical Associations, Elks Clubs, and Knights of Columbus. Any representative who indicated he was "horse trading" a vote for dope in exchange for another measure he wanted enacted was pinpointed by the U.S.