

NEW SOLIDARITY INTERNATIONAL PRESS SERVICE

Labor Newsletter



IPS Wants Back Into AFL-CIO

July 24 (NSIPS) — Following Monday's successful ramming of a unanimous endorsement of the fascist Carter-Mondale ticket through the 35-member AFL-CIO Executive Council, an emboldened Leonard Woodcock felt confident enough to announce, in statements made to the press yesterday by UAW Ford Division chief Ken Bannon, that the UAW would rejoin the AFL-CIO "no later than the spring of 1977." Previous merger talks in 1974 and 1975 had fallen through under pressure from within the AFL-CIO bureaucracy, but Woodcock appears to believe that, based on the muscle exerted by his fellow Trilateral Commission member Lane Kirkland in bulldozing the substantial opposition to Carter within the AFL-CIO, he will now meet little effective resistance to reentry into the labor federation. There he can complete the job first begun by the Reuther Brothers in the 1930s: the final transformation of the American labor movement into a corporatist structure based on a program of slave labor "full employment" and the "Mitbestimmung" (co-determination) program under which the Reuthers' Social Democratic cohorts in Germany acquiesced to Hitler in the 1930s. Woodcock and leaders of the Institute for Policy Studies-backed "Labor-Democratic" alliance pieced together to support the fascist Carter-Mondale ticket (including the UAW, the United Mine Workers, the IUE, the National Education Association, the CWA, AFSCME, the IAM, and the Graphics Arts Union) could point to other successes this week to support their optimism — notably Congress' passage of a \$4 billion foot-in-the-door slave labor public works bill over President Ford's veto. But there were also signs this week that opposition to the Institute-Woodcock takeover of the labor movement is deepening among the labor rank-and-file and labor leaders who still represent that rank-and-file.

In repudiation of Woodcock's attempts to substitute corporatism and the whole bag of the Carter-Mondale platform — slave labor public works, forced labor relocation, etc. — for wage increases and a decent standard of living, workers in key strikes are continuing to demonstrate their determination to match the pace-setting Teamsters' Master Freight settlement of last spring. 70,000 Teamster cannery workers in California are striking for a 75 per cent wage pay hike. And 25,000 striking mine workers have officially buried Arnold Miller's Institute for Policy Studies-designed "no strike" contract. Mine workers have officially buried Arnold Miller's Institute for Policy Studies-designed "no strike" contract.

A significant indicator of the mood of key secondary labor leaders was the record sales to union officials of the NSIPS exposes on "How the Institute for Policy Studies Took Over the United Mine Workers" and "Is Jimmy Carter Brainwashed?" According to sources in the UMW, copies of the USLP brief are being passed around among the UMW officialdom. "The people I've talked to (in the UMW — ed) say it checks out," one source said, while another reported he could personally vouch for the accuracy of significant portions of the brief.

The potential for this ferment to be transformed into open attacks on the Institute for Policy Studies-Reuther conspiracy against the labor movement was underscored this week by information provided to NSIPS by sources in the Mineworkers.

The sources reported that United Steelworkers of America District 31 leader Ed Sadlowski, who has publicly announced his intention to oust the old-line national leadership of the Steelworkers under the auspices of Victor Reuther, and who has been exposed only by this news service as a tool of Joseph Rauh and the Institute for Policy Studies, is being funded and assisted in his efforts by Arnold Miller's I.P.S. - Mineworkers machine. Based on this and other information, NSIPS is preparing a full expose of the Miller connection to the Sadlowski operation for publication in the near future. In addition, NSIPS will soon issue an expose on Joseph Rauh and his operation and will feature a series in upcoming weeks on the Reuther Brothers and their role in the destruction and takeover of the labor movement by Wall Street conspirators.

At the same time, indications from secondary labor leaders around the country are that many are preparing to follow the Massachusetts and Colorado State AFL-CIO in withholding endorsement from the Carter-Mondale ticket, including even officials of Leonard Woodcock's UAW. The International Brotherhood of Teamsters has also stated that it will make no endorsement until after the Republican convention.

With two local union presidents already officially endorsing the U.S. Labor Party presidential candidate, Lyndon LaRouche, several regional and local union organizations were in touch with the USLP concerning the campaign this week, and one high-ranking union official urged the USLP to keep the pressure on the top layers of union officialdom, hinting strongly that he expected some breaks in the Labor Party's direction.

While many labor leaders did not have time to react to yesterday's surprising announcement of the UAW's expectation that it will reenter the AFL-CIO, one top-level labor leader who was contacted said that he was "shocked" and "stunned" by the report.

Teamsters Hold Back From Attack On I.P.S.

But by week's end there was still no move from the IBT leadership in response to the mounting Institute-directed assault on the Teamsters Union. Teamster national leaders were sequestered in a closed meeting on the West Coast throughout the week, but all that has definitively emerged from the union so far is a letter from IBT President Frank Fitzsimmons to the 2 million Teamster members stating that the next issue of the "Teamster" and "subsequent publications" will "arm with the facts and a determination to tell our story" so that the 2 million members of the union and their families "can be the most effective means of communicating to the American people." But all else that emerged from the IBT was the union's embattled Central States pension fund lamely petitioning the Securities and Exchange Commission to not require it to register as a corporation when it loses its IRS tax exempt status August 31

Trilateral Tightens Grip At AFL-CIO Headquarters

The Trilateral Commission faction of Leonard Woodcock, Lane Kirkland, and I.W. Abel tightened its grip on AFL-CIO Headquarters in Washington this week, first ramming through a

unanimous endorsement of the Carter-Mondale ticket, and then mobilizing federation forces behind a push for the slave-labor Humphrey-Hawkins Bill in the wake of the Congressional override of President Ford's veto of a \$4 billion public works-slave labor bill.

Obviously under intense pressure, aging George Meany was hustled out before reporters July 20 to announce that the AFL-CIO Executive Council had pledged "all out support" to the Carter-Mondale ticket. "His (Carter's) overall purpose is our overall purpose — put America back to work," Meany said. The AFL-CIO leader lashed out at the Teamsters, saying that "I cannot find anyone in the American Labor Movement who is for Gerald Ford."

At the same time however, Meany, who entered the hospital for what was described as a "bronchial" condition shortly after the press conference, gave indication of the behind-the-scenes federation fight over Carter by unilaterally cancelling the August 31 meeting of the federation's 152 member Executive Board that was to have made the endorsement official — thereby ripping up the AFL-CIO constitution. In so doing, Meany has exposed a fundamental weakness of the Institute strategem for winning the 1976 elections: Carter cannot win an honest democratic election.

Other hints of a raging behind-the-scenes battle emerged as the press reported that there had been a fight between Meany and the Carter staff over Carter's plan to assign William Holayter, political activities director of the Woodcock-linked International Association of Machinists, to be a "labor liaison official" to the campaign. Meany said such an official was "unnecessary." "But the Carter staff needs somebody," Holayter countered, "The Carter camp is very unknowledgeable when it comes to labor."

Following Meany's endorsement of Carter, the next day's New York Times aimed a gloating kick in the labor movement's teeth in an editorial titled "Love's Labor Lost." The Times exulted that "most voters outside union ranks — and perhaps a good many inside them — are quite content that the Democratic nominee is free of any obligations to the labor leadership." The Times editors further reported that the AFL-CIO had endorsed a candidate with a bias toward union-busting legislation who "in a show of independence...told an interviewer on the eve of the Democratic convention that right-to-work laws 'suit me fine'."

Unions Back Slave Labor

The Trilateral forces pushed forward to line up numerous

national unions behind Wall Street's vow that the Congressional passage of the \$4 billion public works-slave labor bill is only a first step to passage of an entire gamut of slave labor legislation, beginning with the Humphrey-Hawkins bill, CCC-type work camps, and possibly even including revival of Mondale's once beaten National Employment Relocation Act. Calls to numerous international union headquarters in Washington found legislative, political and research staffers unanimously echoing the New York Times line that "the enduring issue is the principle it stands for" is the major significance of the 700,000 slave-labor-jobs bill. "Is it really more wasteful or inflationary to hire workers who would otherwise be the recipients of unemployment compensation or welfare checks? We consider it far wiser to pay people for doing something useful than for doing nothing," the Times said, echoing the Democratic Platform.

Insisting that there was no slave labor involved in Humphrey-Hawkins, a research staffer for the Building Trades Council in Washington predicted that the passage of the public works bill would lead to rapid passage of some form of the Humphrey-Hawkins bill, while an IBEW staffer was effusive in his praise for Humphrey-Hawkins.

Hartford Citizens Taste Carter Slave Labor

Workers in Hartford, Connecticut have a foretaste of the Carter jobs program, where City Councilman Nick Carbone, the first major elected official in that city to back Carter and a major Carter campaign worker, has rammed a bill through the Council "allowing" delinquent taxpayers to work off back or current taxes by working for the city in a wide array of jobs "in lieu of cash." The bill, which has been in preliminary implementation since July 1, provides jobs from janitors and park cleaners through jobs with professional skills of all types — at pay scales from \$2.40 to \$4.00 per hour — to citizens with difficulty meeting tax payments.

The bill is mainly designed for unemployed workers, but, significantly, "allows" people who are still working to work for the city on a second job to work off any **projected** increase in their taxes for the current year over the previous year. Furthermore, the "contract" which applicants must sign includes a clause which waives their right to job insurance. Thus far the experiment has received 129 applicants, 66 of whom have been accepted.

A New Kind of World Leadership for the U.S.A.

1976 U.S. Labor Party Presidential Platform

by Lyndon H. LaRouche Jr.

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