

Carter's Fence-Mending Tour A Fiasco

In his whirlwind "fence-mending" tour of five states last week, Carter walked right into the trap laid for him a fortnight before by Vice-President Mondale and Mondale's associates in the Administration, and returned to Washington amid press reviews unanimously panning the excursion a complete fiasco.

The public relations disaster was personally arranged by Mondale during an identical tour two weeks prior to the President's trip. But Carter himself sealed his ignominious fate by ignoring the strong public mandate for industrial and energy expansion and development, and instead taking his no-growth energy package "to the people" for certain rejection.

As prescribed by the Mondale-set agenda, Carter was confronted by jobless lumpens demanding the Humphrey-Hawkins public-works "jobs" bill in Detroit, greeted by a multi-issue calvacade of anti-Administration demonstrators in Los Angeles, and embarrassingly upstaged by a dying Hubert Humphrey in Minneapolis. The Oct. 24 *Washington Post* slyly reported that Carter's stopover to pick up the ailing Humphrey was the "highlight of the trip after three days in which the high points seemed few... any sense of focus or central purpose seemed lost."

The Oct. 25 *New York Times* scored Carter's failure to publicly support the Humphrey-Hawkins bill in Detroit, charging he had been "insincere" in the negotiations

with the Black Caucus on the legislation, and quoted Detroit Congressman John Conyers' bitter complaint: "I feel I have been put on."

In Des Moines, Iowa, Carter reenacted his Schlesinger-inspired fireside chat on energy and recent "oil rip-off" speech, telling his disbelieving audience they had to "swallow the bitter pill" of energy conservation or face an "energy catastrophe." The local press noted that in recent polls Carter's "popularity in Iowa has plummeted along with farm prices."

The Oct. 25 *Baltimore Sun* found the President's attempts to mollify West Coast Democrats on the Middle East "rambling, unfocused, overlong... poorly prepared, delivered, and received," and accused him of trying "to defuse opposition at the rate of one issue every three hours" (among them, urban policies, his farm program, Western water policy, the Panama Canal treaties, and the Middle East).

By the time he stumbled back into Washington, Carter had been unequivocally informed by the press that his efforts to rally political support had been an unmitigated failure; serving only to underscore his political weakness. The Oct. 23 *New York Times* welcomed Carter home with a five-column headline: "Carter's First Nine Months: Charges of Ineptitude Rise," and the observation, "Every Night is Amateur Night at the White House."

Teamsters' President Declares War On Union Busters

Frank Fitzsimmons, President of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, broke precedent Oct. 27 in a speech which named the names of the enemies of labor as identified in the U.S. Labor Party's pamphlet The Plot to Destroy the Teamsters — Who's Behind It — How to Stop It. Fitzsimmons's speech, issued at a meeting of the Teamster Southern Conference in Dallas, was a clarion call to the American labor movement to declare war on those who are attacking the

Building Trades, and the IBT are sending telegrams of support for the Nov. 11 rally of West German trade unions in Dortmund, West Germany for nuclear power.

These developments signify the beginnings of a programmatic labor counterpole which can act as the muscle behind a labor-industry alliance for high-technology capital investment to reverse the depression.

Following is the full text of Fitzsimmons's speech.

LABOR

IBT as the leading edge in a campaign to destroy all U.S. trade unions.

The Fitzsimmons call is the result of a process — led by the U.S. Labor Party — to bring U.S. trade unions into action for the revival of the U.S. economy based on high-technology energy production and capital export. It comes at the same time as the office of United Steelworkers President Lloyd McBride has authorized steel locals across the country to buy the U.S. Labor Party's programmatic briefs on steel and nuclear energy in bulk, and as growing numbers of local officials in the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the

There is a refrain from a song which describes this affair held in honor of our good brother Dick Piland. You remember the words, "The stars at night are big and bright, deep in the heart of Texas." Certainly brother Piland is the star of the show tonight, and the attention is so richly deserved because Dick has been associated with the labor movement in Texas for so many years.

It is a truth of the labor movement that only the best representatives of labor survive in the south where laws and atmosphere demand that a labor leader give totally of himself to overcome those adversities. Dick Piland fits that mold.

I would like, tonight, to look at some of the reasons for the justified pride of Dick Piland, and yes, of all of you who represent Teamster members in Texas and throughout the nation.

One of the things which extracts just a little bit more from a labor leader is the fact that it is organized labor which says 'No' to the economic and social injustices suffered by those who have no organization to speak for them. And when you say 'No' to that, you step on the toes of the special interests and powerful forces.

When the daily newspaper goes to press or when the evening news on TV hits the tube, the true story of organized labor is never written or shown. And that true story is that Teamsters are not only working for their members but labor for all workers. Yes, it is organized labor and the Teamsters which have been and are in the forefront for: Child labor laws, public education for all children, minimum wage laws, unemployment and workers compensation, social security, national health care.

And there is something else.

It is organized labor and the loud voice of the Teamsters which say 'No' to those behind the conspiracy to once again make America the scandalous open shop it was in the 1930s and the 1940s.

And when you are saying 'No' to that proposition you are saying 'No' to the most powerful forces in corporate America. They control financing; they control the number of jobs available; they control the gross national product; and they would control your very lives if it weren't for such men as the one we honor tonight.

Yes, they control the news media through their corporate advertizing. So if there are any of you here who wonder why nothing good is written about union labor you can go to sleep tonight with the answer well in mind.

And if you wonder why the news media has singled out the Teamsters as the national whipping boy, the answer is simply because the Teamsters shout 'No' the loudest of all.

Well how did this come about? It came about because workers who are free from poverty and corporate control have been organized and negotiated out of the poor house by joining unions and bargaining collectively with corporate America.

And with 2.3 million members, the Teamsters have done more than any other union in the nation, not only in terms of numbers, but also in the quality of the labor agreements we have negotiated. Dick Piland knows something about that.

So in spite of what you read, we Teamsters must have been doing something right. Yes, we have done so well that we are no longer a truck drivers' union.

The Teamsters Union is a cross-section of America.

In our ranks are: university professors, airline pilots and stewardesses and clerical and cargo personnel, nurses, policemen and deputy sheriffs, industrial workers, zoo keepers, and office workers.

And the list goes on and on and becomes too numerous to mention here. And it tells a very significant story. That story is that among Americans looking for a union, the Teamsters have the reputation as the best union in the country.

Dick Piland and you from labor here tonight can take a great measure of pride from that.

Let's look at that reputation for a moment. You hear a lot about the wages we negotiate and the standard of living our members enjoy. But there is more to it than that which is very important to the American workers.

It is a vehicle for airing grievances against the boss. And that goes to the guts of the issue. Because in the Teamsters we have a grievance machinery in our contracts through which the workers can get a fair and impartial hearing.

It may not be perfect, but I can tell you this: Until something better comes along, those who slander our grievance machinery, attack the nuts and bolts of trade unionism and leave the American workers standing naked and unprotected.

There is an ancient biblical reference to workers, and it goes something like this: pay the workers before sundown.

Well, we in the Teamsters can say that because of our efforts, our members can live from payday to payday, and if they aren't paid their full share by sundown on payday, the employer has hell to pay.

It hasn't come easy. The struggles have been difficult and sometimes bloody. They have been long and arduous. But today, our members are self-supporting members of their communities.

They are taxpayers carrying their full load to provide for a strong national defense, decent schools and good roads and highways, and all the other things which make America the greatest nation of the world.

They are leaders in their communities and in their states.

And they are in the forefront of charitable endeavors.

And it has all come about because our members have realized that well intentioned and well directed collective action bodes well for all. And Dick Piland has been part of that.

But it would be less than honest if I did not point out that there are some disturbing omens on the horizon.

There are those who would destroy all of this and they are working night and day toward accomplishing that end.

The brain trusts and financial backers are not rank and file members.

They are not leaders of local unions. They are not from our ranks, but they are outsiders who never organized a worker and who never negotiated a contract.

They are people who never worked with their hands. If they were working in a warehouse they wouldn't know a hand truck from a roll of toilet paper. If you put them in the cab of a truck, they couldn't start the engine, let alone back it up to the dock.

And they are trying to infiltrate your ranks and they have the financial backing of the multi-million dollar tax-exempt foundations, and they have the ear of the news media.

And they are doing it with a handful of our members whom they have duped into thinking they have a reform movement when the intention is to ruin and destroy.

If you think I am merely building a straw man, let me tell you what I am talking about.

You all remember the chaos which occurred in the UMW, a chaos which is continuing today. But many of the same tax-exempt foundations, many of the same lawyers and many of the same outsiders, who are trying to infiltrate the Teamsters, created the mess in the Mine Workers.

And you know that today there is no money in the Mine Workers Fund to pay health and welfare benefits, no

USLP Urges IBT Support BRD Workers' Nuclear Stance

On Oct. 27 the Executive Committee of the U.S. Labor Party and its chairman Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. sent the following telegram to Frank Fitzsimmons and Ray Schoessling, president and secretary treasurer respectively of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

We wish you the warmest congratulations for your speech of Oct. 26 in Dallas, Texas. Your move to rally the entire labor movement at this time by naming its enemies is critically important.

We urge you to take the opportunity of publically endorsing the prodevelopment, pronuclear power, antiterrorism demonstration being organized by the West German Trade Union Federation. The terrorists in West Germany and our own enemies are the same. Such a move of solidarity at this time, coupled with a mobilization of trade unions here such as you have begun, can be the essential ingredient in realizing a nuclear, high-technology energy policy for this country adequate to sustain labor needs.

money to pay pensions and now the mineworkers are facing contract negotiations split asunder and without the unity needed to meet the coal owners on an equal basis.

But I want you to know that as long as I have a breath of air in my body, no one, nobody is going to do to the Teamsters what they have done to the Mineworkers Union.

But let's look at something else. Recently, the United Steelworkers held an election for national officers. It was a story which appeared almost daily in every major newspaper in the nation.

And the darling of the press was a fellow by the name of Ed Sadlowski.

Who supported Sadlowski, the great reformer who was going to turn the union into a utopia? Don't take my word for it, because Lloyd McBride went into court and got Sadlowski's financial records and what did they reveal?

He was receiving money for his campaign from corporations. Money came from Beverly Hills, Calif. It poured in from San Francisco. Yes, it came from Cambridge, Mass., where Harvard professors lift nothing heavier than a book or a research paper, and walk between ivy covered halls instead of the job site.

Yes, money poured into Sadlowski's coffers from New York-based tax-exempt foundations. And in Beverly Hills or San Francisco, or Cambridge or New York City, I'll be damned if I can locate one steel mill.

Well, there is a brighter ending to the steelworkers' story. While the rank and file of the mineworkers swallowed the bait like catfish in a pool, the rank and file of the steelworkers shouted a resounding no to the outsiders and elected Lloyd McBride — a veteran trade union leader who had a reputation for building instead of destroying.

For a moment, let's look at the press and its coverage of the steelworkers' election. It was so flagrantly one-sided that a reporter from Pittsburgh — and there are steel mills in Pittsburgh — wrote in the *Columbia Journalism Review* that the press was caught redhanded on the side of Sadlowski and against McBride. But steelworkers believe what they read in their union contracts, and not what they read in the newspapers.

Yes, it is the outsiders who are trying to destroy organized labor, including the Teamsters' Union. Who are they:

* The Kaplan Fund of New York City, with assets of \$23 million.

* The Stern Fund of New York City, with assets of more than \$3 million.

* The New World Foundation of New York City with assets of more than \$12 million.

* The Samuel Rubin Foundation of New York City with assets of more than \$16 million.

* The Field Foundation of New York City with assets of more than \$16 million.

* And of course, the Rockefeller Family Foundation (And a lot of people would like to know how many millions are in that fund).

Yes. Millions and millions of dollars, all tax exempt, being used to destroy the labor movement in this country.

Being used to destroy your wages, hours, and conditions.

Being used to destroy your unions which speak not only for you — but for millions and millions of Americans who have no spokesman.

That is what is afoot in this country today and it should send painful chills up and down your spine.

But I want to say this now, and I want you to heed what I say:

Our business is to represent Teamsters. According to their rights, they may also belong to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, the Elks, the Baptist or Catholic Church. Yes some of them may belong to PROD or TDU or other groups financed by outsiders.

But I want you to know — if they are Teamster members, they are represented to the full extent — and if I hear otherwise the guilty party will have hell to pay with me and long before sundown.

What do these outsiders accuse me of?

They say that I am a dictator.

And they say that the union is undemocratic.

You name it, and we have been accused of it. And according to their technique, these charges don't go through our grievance procedures, and our constitution, which work for the good of all.

They go to the same newspapers and TV stations who aided and abetted in destroying the UMW and who tried to destroy the steelworkers union.

What concerns me is that we do have a procedure for solving our problems — and I don't know of an organization anywhere which doesn't have a few problems — but they refuse to use it.

Obviously, they have learned that publicity comes from a willing press, not from a bona fide grievance procedure. And that is the reason I question their motives.

But nevertheless, they charge that I am a dictator in this union. Well, that is a crock of you know what.

Three of those who follow the outsiders have filed charges to drum me out of this union. Those charges are now before the General Executive Board.

Those charges were brought under our constitution which is supposed to make me a dictator. The truth is that under our constitution, the general president is no different than a rank and file member.

And I ask the question:

How much more democratic can you get?

Well, I tell you this. I welcome and implore these two — one member has withdrawn his name — to bring their so-called evidence before the General Executive Board. I know where I have been and I know what I have been doing for our more than two million members.

So I say to those who have made loose charges and false accusations: you have not found a patsy in Frank Fitzsimmons. I never ducked a fight in my life and when the bell rings for this one — your general president will be on his feet in his corner and ready to swing.

I'm no outsider. I've worked from within for 44 years and I've worked to build and improve.

I am a Teamster through to the marrow of my bones. I serve that notice on the outsiders who would tear down and destroy this great international union.

That's the battle cry for all of us who have the Teamster dedication, and that's what makes me so optimistic about our future.

If it's a fight they want they'll get it and let me tell you who our troops are.

Thousands and thousands of retirees like Dick Piland who grew up on teamsterism and who still respond to the battle cry. Thousands and thousands of veteran leaders and rank and file. Seasoned veterans who know from experience that everyday has been a battle — yes, a way of life.

Thousands and thousands of younger officers and rank and file who are well-educated and articulate, who know that in unity there is strength. And who know that when the battle is going, our ranks always close.

Take that message back to those outsiders joined in the conspiracy to destroy labor and the Teamsters.

And day by day — hour by hour — represent that rank and file in the fine tradition which made the Teamsters the largest and best union in the world.

Organize the unorganized — at overnight transportation and everywhere else. And I tell you, that is an unbeatable battle plan. Our cause is just. Our dedication is unfailing. And let the world know that in the Teamsters, the member on up to the general president, are one and the same — united, strong, and militant. Thank you.

World Focuses On Dortmund Rally For Nuclear Energy

A mass demonstration of West German industrial workers for nuclear energy scheduled for the city of Dortmund Nov. 27 is rapidly becoming a focus for an international labor-industry alliance now mobilizing to make sure that monetarist financier groups in London and New York do not succeed in their design for

economic "zero growth." When a similar demonstration occurred several months ago in New Hampshire in the United States, it dealt a significant setback to these financiers' American "ecology movement." The Dortmund demonstration now promises to be even larger, and is attracting active support from around the world.

Every major national trade union in West Germany, with at least 50,000 workers committed to be there, have endorsed the Dortmund rally. The leading West German nuclear reactor company, KWU, is renting two trains to transport all of its 14,000 employees to the site. The government of Helmut Schmidt, which has been under regular attack from the London-New York "ecology movement" targeted by the demonstration, is implicitly supporting the workers' mobilization.

Telegrams and support messages from North America have flooded the West German unions. A sampling of the signatories are the following:

Canada

Hughes LeDuc, Local 791,
Quebec Federation of Labor, Montreal
Andre Rheume, Local 711,
Quebec Federation of Labor, Montreal
Jacques Savage, Local 271,
Quebec Federation of Labor, Montreal
Patrick Arsenault, Local 271,
Quebec Federation of Labor, Montreal
P. Ronaldi, President, Local 711,
Quebec Federation of Labor, Montreal
Mr. Cummings, Local 711,
Quebec Federation of Labor, Montreal
Joseph Corobone, President, Bricklayers,
Quebec Federation of Labor, Montreal
Marcel Paquin, Interprovincial Brotherhood of
Electrical Workers, FIPQE
Paul Lebel, Local 1675,
Quebec Federation of Labor, Montreal
J.P. LaZoie, Local 823,
Quebec Federation of Labor, Montreal
L. Chouinard, Local 271,
Quebec Federation of Labor, Montreal
Maurice Pouliot, President, Local 144,
Quebec Federation of Labor, Montreal
Quebec Federation of Labor, Montreal
L. Martel, Local 71,
Quebec Federation of Labor, Hull, Quebec
Marc Turcotte, Local 7,
Quebec Federation of Labor, Hull, Quebec
Roger Gagne, Local 804,
Quebec Federation of Labor, Hull, Quebec
Claude Jutras, Council of Craftsmen,
Quebec City, Quebec
Raymond Huot, Local 755,
Quebec Federation of Labor, Quebec City, Quebec
Jacques St. Croix, Local 71,
Quebec Federation of Labor, Hull, Quebec
Ken Perry, Treasurer, International Brotherhood of
Electrical Workers, Local 1788, Ontario, Canada
John Donaldson, B.A. Ironworkers Local 79,
Ontario, Canada
Jack Tressider, President, Ironworkers Local 79,
Ontario, Canada