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1969 PHOTOGRAPH DOCUMENTS Labor Committee-YSA-SMC united front in support of striking General Electric workers. Leading a march on Columbia University's main administration building are, from left, LC members Tom Aseher, Dave Goldman, Martha Levittan, Paul Arnest, and Larry Hecht; and SMC-YSA members Jim Yaffee (behind Hecht), Mike Arnall now a West Coast Champion Militant peddler, and Pat Grogan, now SWP candidate for Lieutenant Gov. of Illinois and participant in the SWP's abortive "women's lib" activities, and Ted Parsons (behind Grogan, holding sign). Signs read: "End Nixon's War on Workers — SDS Labor Committee," "War Machine Off Campus — Support GE Workers, SMC" (Obscured by bullhorn), "Solidarity With GE Workers — YSA" and "Solidarity With GE Workers; Let Workers Run the Factories, Not War Profiteers — Young Socialist Alliance." Today's Socialist Workers Party, parent organization of the YSA, is so far removed from Leon Trotsky's policy of the united front that the SWP has refused to consider joint action with the Labor Committee to protect the United Front policy as carried on by the Labor Committee, from slanderous and hoodlum attacks by the Stalinist CPUSA. Apparently the SWP expects that CP efforts to stamp out United Front organizing will evaporate as easily as has the SWP's pro-working class orientation.

An economic collapse, a setback in Vietnam, or any number of other sparks could provide the charge needed to energize the population into a frenzy of anti-Nixonism, just the atmosphere needed by Mad McG to unleash his populist demagoguery and deliver "Fat Cat" Nixon the coup de grace.

As for the body snatching, a graveyard alliance between the Daily World and most leading liberal papers is already attempting to coax the still living corpus of organized labor onto the dissection table.

Last week, for example, the New York Times, one of the most consistently anti-labor dailies in the country, joined the Daily World, spokesman for the "people's front," in calling on the organized working class to stage a rank-and-file revolt against the Meany electoral policy. The World followed up with a string of articles asserting that the rank and file supports McGovern no matter what Meany says.

Ironically, it was Meany who as a much younger AF of L bureaucrat presided over the CPUSA's last attempt at people's capitalism. As head of the New York State Federation of Labor in 1936, George "I never walked a picket line" Meany was a founder of the American Labor Party which was instrumental in the election of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

From thence, through Korea, McCarthy, Vietnam and Phase Two the "broad people's front" has come full circle. But let the CPUSA be warned. We have learned from your colossal blunders. You will not be there to make the same mistake again.

SWP Presides As WONAAC Shrinks

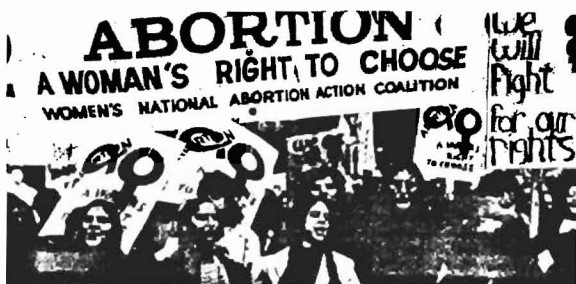
"I'm just a feminist who happens to be a socialist," blurted Socialist Workers Party (SWP) candidate for President, Linda Jenness. With this and similar anti-socialist emotional appeals, desperate SWPers tried to hold together the fast-fading Women's National Abortion Action Coalition at WONAAC's national convention on the weekend of July 15 at Hunter College in New York.

The decline of WONAAC over the last year has been characterized by small and dwindling turnouts for pro-abortion demonstrations, continued red-baiting by non-SWP liberals and anarchists, and the demoralizing realization among SWP members that, at WONAAC meetings as in the anti-war movement, they will soon be talking only to themselves.

For instance, the opening convention speeches and pre-conference issues of the WONAAC newsletter noted bitterly that when the New York state legislature recently tried to repeal New York's liberal abortion law, the Catholic Church hierarchy and some demagogic legislators mobilized ten thousand pro-repeal marchers, while the pro-abortion forces led by WONAAC could turn out only 1500. As an added humiliating irony from WONAAC's point of view, the liberal law, which has helped to guard the health and safety of hundreds of women, was saved only through the veto of Governor Rockefeller, who is a capitalist and, worse, a man.

These and similar setbacks have shrunk WONAAC from an attendance of 1100 at its first national convention a year ago, to less than 800, despite an all-out mobilization of SWP members, at the Hunter College gathering last weekend. Even by its own standards of opportunism (recruiting on any basis possible), the SWP must now realize that WONAAC is played out.

Perhaps the SWP is therefore ready to stop the "separate women's movement" nonsense, and instead defend women's standard of living as part of the defense of the whole working class? Not by a long shot. In fact, all proposals by members of the National Caucus of Labor Committees, that WONAAC begin to organize support for strikes in common with welfare recipients and trade union-



TROUPERS TO THE END: As with most SWP projects, the ranks of the "single-issue women's movement" are thinning fast.

ists, were ignored. The conference blindly voted instead to continue the isolated battle for separate "women's needs," despite the proven hopelessness of that strategy.

SWP cheerleader Debby Bustin unconsciously but accurately summed up the SWP resolution for more anti-abortion demonstrations and meetings which the conference finally passed: "If you don't think that women are going to want to get out there (in the streets)..." (she searched for a convincing punch line) "...well, I'll be out there if no one else will!"

ABZUG, YES. STRIKE SUPPORT, NO.

Much of the political discussion of the conference took place in small workshop sessions, which the WONAAC staff had conveniently divided according to age, race, sexual preference, occupation and religion, just as capitalist society divides its subjects. One puzzled delegate was heard to ask, "I'm a black working woman and a student. Which constituency workshop do I go to?"

No matter which workshop she attended, the delegate would have had a hard time hearing any discussion of proposed WONAAC support for strikes.

SWP leaders realize that if WONAAC

were to take such a firm anti-capitalist stand, as the Labor Committee urged, Democratic Representative Bella Abzug and other elected officials would tend to lose interest in WONAAC support for the Abortion Rights Act which Abzug is sponsoring in Congress. If Abzug were to join Betty Friedan, of the National Organization for Women, and feminist

Labor-Demo Alliance Folds- Meany Goes Down With Ship

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secretary-treasurer of the Amalgamated Meatcutters union. In one breath: "Wage controls must and should be ended."

Phase Two is an "outrageous system which aims to make workers poorer and corporations richer." And in the other breath, out and out support for the candidate who advocated wage controls before Nixon and Rockefeller were for them, who publicly states that Phase Two will not end under his administration — George McGovern.

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Gloria Steinem in denouncing WONAAC, one more shred of WONAAC's non-SWP "independent" cover would be gone. Therefore, petitions for Abzug's bill, yes; strike support, no.

Socialists should of course support Abzug's bill and similar reforms; but if the SWP limits WONAAC to reforms, how can the SWP claim to be socialist?

An interesting question arose at the conference about the participation of men in WONAAC. First the meeting voted to exclude men from the floor, as usual, and then even from one of the literature tables in the lobby outside. WONAAC's decision to exclude well-known abortion-rights activist Mr. Bill Baird, however, was the sickest move of all.

In the early 1960s, Baird was widely persecuted and regarded as a nut because he gave public lectures in favor of abortion law reform, and because he dispensed information about contraceptives. In states where this was illegal, Baird repeatedly suffered fines, expensive court actions, and jail terms, but for a decade he has refused to shut up. Instead of praising his reformer who has helped many women, the WONAAC conference excluded him, because of his sex.

decided to go down with the ship. The other rats have simply deserted.

LABOR-DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE

It is not medically accurate to pronounce the labor-Democratic alliance dead — yet. One terminal phase is still feasible before the only two choices are socialism or fascism.

To breathe one last gasp of life into the beast, here is what is needed: one mad scientist, one hot jolt of electricity and several spare parts to be provided by competent body snatchers. Of the necessary components, the electricity is the most problematical.

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