

Working Woman and Man BOOKSTORE NEWSLETTER

WORKING WOMAN & MAN BOOKSTORE

613 West 24th Street

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403

MONOPOLY CAPITAL MOVES ON THE DAKOTAS

MINING THREATENS LAND AND LIVES

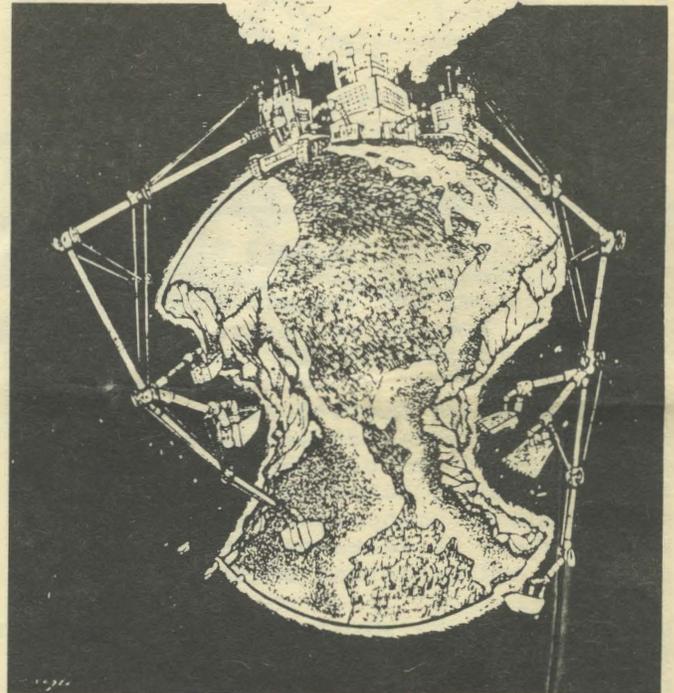
The monopolistic energy corporations have started on various energy development and mineral exploitation plans in the Dakotas. In North Dakota a huge power plant has been built and massive coal strip mining is underway to fuel it. A large coal gasification plant is also under construction. In South Dakota, Union Carbide, Kerr McGee, Exxon, Chevron and several others have been exploring for uranium on a massive scale.

In carrying out their plans, the energy corporations have secretly acquired control of huge quantities of private land for mineral rights exploitation and with government support, access to federal lands. In South Dakota, the Black Hills have been declared a 'National Sacrifice Area' by the U.S. Government.

Uranium mining is a proven cause of cancer among miners, a documented threat to underground water supplies, and leaves dangerous radioactive tailings. Residents of Edgemont S.D. have been exposed to radioactive tailings from mining in the 50's, the danger of which was known by the U.S. Government. Likewise recent research by W.A.R.N. (Women of All Red Nations) has indicated that the same tailings are a likely cause of cancer, birth defects and high miscarriage rates on the Pine Ridge Reservation.

The strip mining in North Dakota is destroying farm land and is being carried out on promises of unproven methods of land reclamation.

Long range plans call for billions in investments in nuclear power, coal gasification plants, powerlines and large scale coal and uranium mining that will, after 35 years of profiting, leave



portions of the area a wasteland, unproductive and uninhabitable.

ENERGY CORPORATION = IMPERIALISM

The energy corporations of Union-Carbide Kerr-McGee, Exxon, Chevron, etc are the representatives of the domination of Capital, which is formed by the money or "surplus value" derived by paying the working class less than the value of the goods and services they produce. The energy corporations as a part of U.S. Imperialism, exploit people all over the world for the surplus value they produce, and do so internationally to an incredible degree, producing super-profits. Such super-profits have made the energy companies and the banks controlling them (finance capitalists) the dominant capitalists in the world today.

In spite of their super-profits, the rate of profit for these companies has

new AT the bookstore

THE
BOOKSTORE
CLUB

BOOKSTORE RESEARCH PROJECTS:

As well as Bookstore Club Discussions the bookstore is organizing research projects to probe more deeply into particular conditions of working people today, and to develop our use of the tools of dialectical and historical materialism. Current areas of study and research are:

- Union Busting
- Childcare
- Police Repression
- Environment

Stop by the bookstore for more information and to connect to these projects.

SOME NEW AND RECOMMENDED BOOKS:

The People Against Standard Oil, By Allan S. Miller, analysis of oil industry's role in U.S. economy and relationship with U.S. Government. Focuses on destructive effects of monopoly capitalism in U.S and the world.

Dollars & Sense, Special Issue: The Energy Crisis. A current and systematic look at the history and development of the "Energy Crisis". Examines specific issues in relation of monopoly corporations to each problem. Presents outline of both political and technical solutions.

Getting Stronger, summary of the experience of women health care workers in organizing unions in two Boston area abortion clinics. Connects union struggles, reproductive rights struggles and capitalist control of health care system.

Women and Child Care in China by Ruth Sidel "This firsthand report on the radically changing attitudes toward women and child rearing in today's China has dramatic implications for our own society."

Welfare: Why Workers Need It. How Billionaires Get It, by Elizabeth Ross, Gives the origins of welfare; how workers demanded it to protect wages and decrease strike-breakers, how capitalists wanted it to keep down popular struggle. Poses contradiction between small welfare payments to poor and giant handouts to big corporations.

A STRONGER AND BETTER BOOKSTORE THROUGH YOUR SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION:
JOIN THE BOOKSTORE CLUB!

The activities of the bookstore and the production collective have increased in the past 6 months. We sponsored a film series on the struggles of working women; hold discussions on issues and events; research into critical issues facing working people; and will now be publishing this newsletter on a regular basis. Our work is to fulfill the purpose of the bookstore-- To inform and educate working people about issues and events that have a direct and indirect influence on their lives. In this period of increasing attack on the standard of living and rights of working people, and of rising struggle against that attack, the need for clarity of our conditions and the issues facing us is even greater.

To fulfill its purpose, the bookstore needs the support of an informed and active base. To develop this, we are beginning a Bookstore Club membership drive. Club members are entitled to take part in discussions, make use of the bookstore's research facilities, and develop skills in writing and research. In addition, members are admitted to all films for one-half price.

Show your support for the bookstore and for the process of developing understanding of our conditions and our struggle by joining the Bookstore Club. Membership is \$5 per year.

CURRENT BOOKSTORE CLUB DISCUSSION TOPICS:

1. Capitalism vs. Socialism.
2. The State.
3. The Woman Question Is a Class Question.
4. Labor vs. Capital.

 Yes, I want to join the BSC.

Name: _____

Address: _____

been declining, because of the rise of OPEC, liberation struggles, and increased costs of modern equipment needed to compete with each other. This exposes a fundamental contradiction between constant and variable capital. Constant capital = machines and raw materials; variable capital = workers wages. For the energy companies as for all capitalists, competition requires huge outlays of constant capital for technical improvements to reduce the costs of production, making their commodities temporarily cheaper, and thus getting the edge on smaller capitalists.

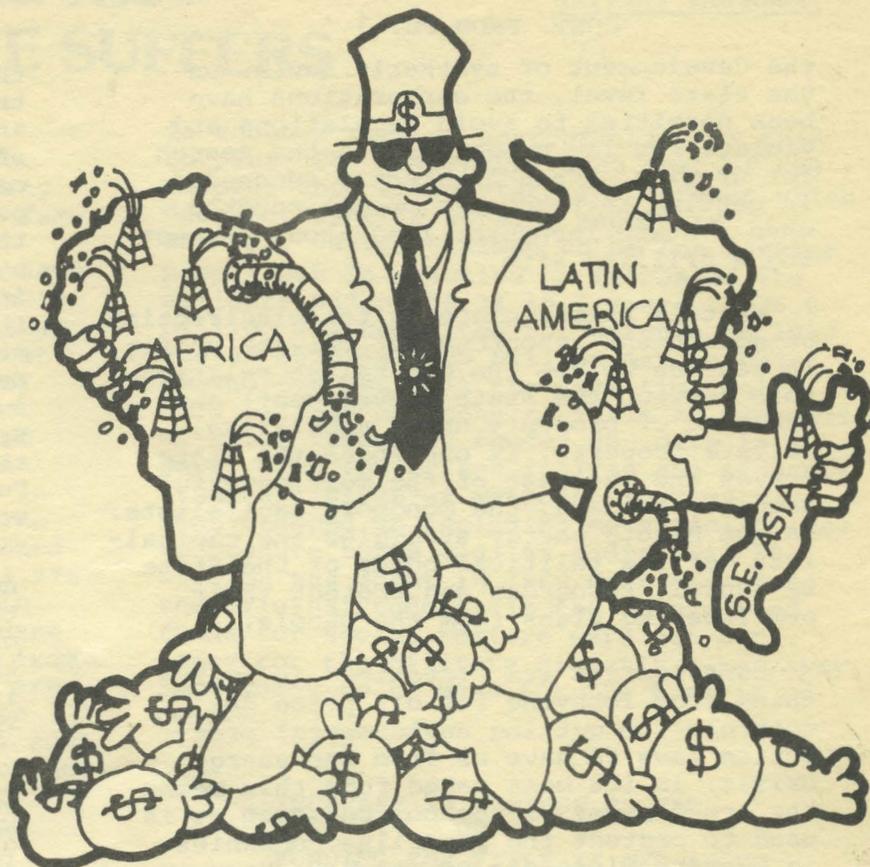
The acquiring of control of uranium and coal by the big oil companies is a means of developing total control of extraction, distribution, and utilization of energy resources by a few corporations, and are called "vertical combinations". This reduces the costs of constant capital by increasing centralised control, and potentially costs for variable capital by concentration of control of the industry in a few hands, making it possible to conspire to reduce wages by monopoly agreement.

The energy corporations have moved into the Dakotas with promises of jobs and economic development. The Dakota's are historically and currently underdeveloped and have often been exploited by monopolies for development to take place elsewhere. With the continued decline of small ranchers, farmers and the agricultural economy in general the money from mineral leases and promises of jobs have been powerful incentives for people to support corporate plans.

PRIVATE PROFITS VS.
COLLECTIVE INTERESTS

Opposing the corporations, coalitions of farmers, ranchers, Native American groups and their political supporters have united to resist the corporate exploitations of their land. In South Dakota the most developed and militant opposition in the Black Hills Alliance. As an aspect of the class struggle what is currently represented is a contradiction between monopoly capitalists efforts to control land vs. coalition of small owners (petty-bourgeois capitalists) Native Americans, who with leftist leaning environmentalists as political supporters are resisting corporate control.

For the people of the region as a whole the principal contradiction is private exploitation of resources for profit vs. the collective interests of the people.



Recognizing that the energy corporations as multi-nationals are targets of anti-imperialist struggles on an international level, Black Hills Alliance members such as the American Indian Movement have sought and received international support from anti-imperialist nations. Zimbabwe, for example is familiar with Union Carbides role as a prominent violator of UN sanctions against the Smith regime, and as a trainer for South African nuclear technicians.

The recent Black Hills Survival Gathering was attended by activists from around the world, including Ricardo Vargas, Nicaraguan cultural and labor attache in the U.S., who came to express solidarity with the Lakota Nation and celebrate one year of freedom for the Nicaraguan people.

These alliances represent the development of political solidarity with States where private property of the capitalist class no longer dominates the lives of the masses of people.

STATE SERVES
PRIVATE PROPERTY

The energy corporations are using the U.S. government to carry out their private exploitation of the Dakotas resources. The uranium exploration is largely financed by the federal government's National Uranium Resource Evaluation Program. The coal gasification plants are the return of the Wind Fall Profits taxes to the energy corporations to subsidize

the development of synthetic fuels. On the state level, the corporations have been permitted to avoid regulations and violate the law especially in the search for uranium. The BHA recently succeeded in getting Kerr-McGee's permit revoked when a state inspector lied about inspecting a drilling site.

What is taking place is the misdirection of government resources for private profit. In essence we see the capitalist relationship between the State (government) and the form of property under capitalism, private property, is one where the state serves the interest of the most powerful property holders, the monopoly capitalists. In the Dakota energy struggles the capitalists use the political power of the State to exploit resources and protect their profiteering plans from the people.

Superprofits are "invested" in everything from lobbying for oil price decontrols to gutting environmental protection laws to save us from the energy crisis. In its most naked form this means the armed power of the police, such as is used to protect the powerline companies in Western Minnesota or the U.S. Navy in the Persian Gulf. Armed repression will certainly be used if when the struggle in the Black Hills reaches that stage, a stage it has been at for Native Americans on South Dakota reservations since Wounded Knee.

For South Dakota residents opposed to private exploitation of their collective resources, the struggle is also political in nature. The form of struggle is to develop organizations able to bring about the realizable political goals. Currently much effort are focussed on educating people to the health, environmental and long term economic effects so they will oppose private development using the electoral process by requiring state-wide referendums on all energy development projects.

JOBS OR HEALTH ?

The arrival of big monopoly corporations in the Dakotas, represent the arrival of imperialist capital for development where before the uneven development of capitalism had meant backwardness and economic stagnation. The corporations use the very real need for jobs to black mail people into choosing between living in dangerous, unhealthy environments to work or not having jobs. As long as monopoly capital controls the development of the resources of society then there will not be respect for land or the lives of the masses of the people.

EXPAND THE CLASS BASE

The big energy corporations represent the continuing process of the concentration of capital in a few companies and these companies' increasing control of all energy development represents the centralization of capital in fewer more powerful hands. Capital is derived from the theft of the surplus value produced by the working class. In developing energy in the Dakota's one of the attractions is the lack of unionized labor which means less ability for working class people to struggle for a portion of the surplus value they produce. In this respect, the Dakotas are no different than the colonial relationships with Puerto Rico or anywhere else in the third world.

The private control of energy resources needed by all of society and produced by the socialized labor of the working class, represents a particularity of the fundamental contradiction of capitalism, the private appropriation of wealth vs. the socialized production of wealth.

The opposite of private control based on private property is collective development based on socialized property. In the Dakotas the struggle for safe energy and control of the land has up to now been dominantly to protect small private control from the monopolies. In order to widen the base of support for the struggle and insure its success, organizations must develop political goals that recognize working class issues of jobs and economic development. Such issues go hand in hand with health and environment and it is only by uniting the political forces opposed to monopoly control around such material goals and based on the aim of control of collective resources by the majority of people, that the power of monopoly capital and its State can be overthrown.

UPDATE: The referendum to control nuclear energy development in South Dakota was defeated by 51% to 49%. The corporations spent over \$220,000 to \$8,500 by proponents of the measure. The closeness of the vote is positive sign, evidence of the high political support the energy struggles can develop. We encourage activists in the Dakotas to continue the struggle to educate people to the contradictions of monopoly capital control of energy resources

MILITARISM ON THE RISE DAY CARE SUFFERS

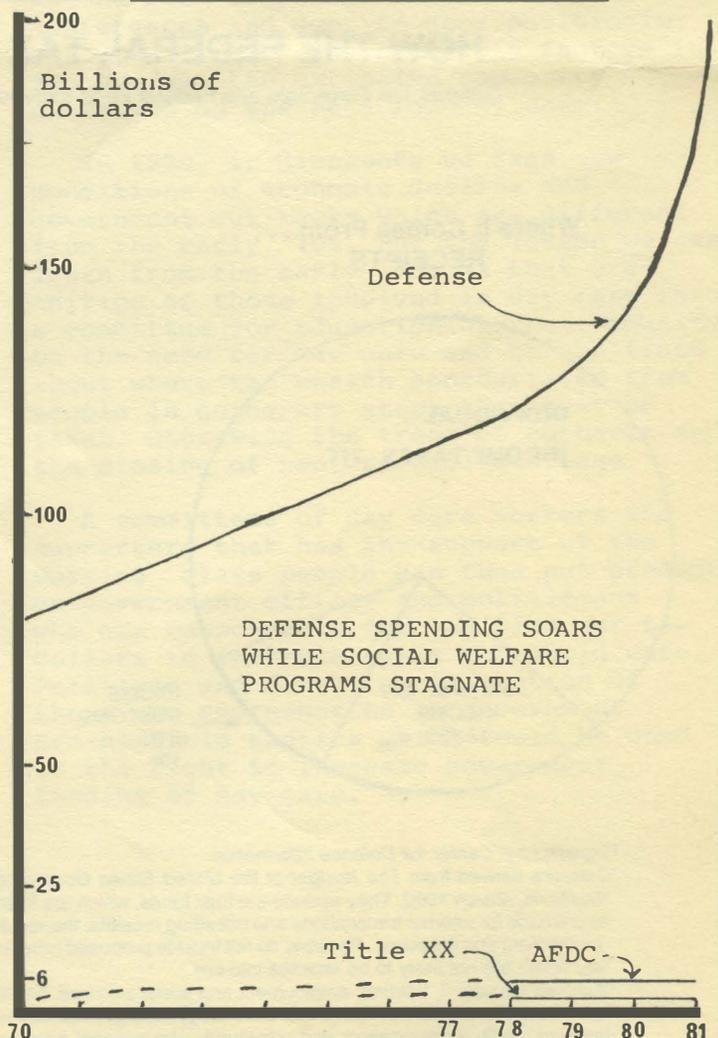
Ever increasing numbers of working class women are entering the work force. Mostly out of personal economic necessity and for the economic survival of their families. The areas of the economy using women's labor such as in clerical work have grown tremendously. As a result, currently 62.5% of mothers in Minnesota are working. There is a need for day care which is not being adequately met. 55% of children of ages up to 5 years need day care. But space in day care centers is limited and centers are closing due to inflation increasing operating costs and cut backs in the availability of government funds. The cost of day care is also an excessive burden on parents. It costs parents from \$3,276 to \$4,048 per year to have 2 children in day care. 56% of the funds to run day care must come from tuition. The rest comes from government funds or other sources. Why are not more government funds being put into areas of social welfare and development such as day care? This raises the question of how the wealth of society is used. Does it serve the interests of working people or the capitalist class?

Working people create all the wealth in society through their labor power. The government appropriates some of this wealth as taxes and allocates this money to various programs. Which programs are prioritized reflects which class in society the government serves. By far, the largest share goes to the department of defense. About 48% of taxes directly or indirectly goes to the defense budget. All social programs receive only 19% of the funds. Militarism is once again rampant with both Reagan and Carter advocating more defense spending and congress pushing through approval of such programs as the MX missile system which will cost \$33 billion and will be the biggest construction project in the history of the world. Money going to military spending is money taken away from programs which meet people's needs. To be concrete, the cost of developing the F/A 18 Jet Fighter now being developed at \$25.3 billion is enough money to fund day care for 1.4 million children for five years. There are now about 11 new weapons systems being planned at costs of \$2 billion to \$33 billion each.

The tax dollars which the government has to spend as well as all the wealth in society was created by the labor of working people. People's labor in capitalist society produces a surplus over and above what people need for survival. In our society the capitalist class which is the ruling class appropriates this surplus for its own use. One way this appropriation takes place is through corporate profits. The tax funds available for the federal budget

is another form of appropriation of this surplus. The government uses most of the surplus they appropriate for defense which does not benefit working people in any way. Carter claimed to be for working people but in practice he increased the military budget 16.3% in 3 years. \$125.8 billion was budgetted for defense in 1980 and as much as \$200 billion may be budgetted for 1981. At the same time only \$2.9 billion has gone to Title XX programs of which federally funded day care is a part. With the crises in Iran and Afghanistan, all kinds of weapons programs have been stepped up including more facilities to produce nerve gas. An additional \$9 billion was spent in 1980 over and above the original budget. In the same period funds for social welfare were cut back. Money for the military directly takes away from money to be used for the benefit of people.

INCREASE IN DEFENSE BUDGET
VS
FUNDING FOR TITLE XX AND AFDC



MILITARISM

CONT. FROM PG. 5

How is it that such large amounts of federal money is spent for weapons while working mothers cannot find day care and that which is available is so costly? The answer lies in the fact that the government is a tool for the ruling class of society. By examining military spending we can see why this is true.

WHY A STRONG MILITARY?

A strong military is needed because the state (which is another way of saying the government) as an institution is a tool for the ruling class of society. This is the monopoly capitalists. The Rockefellers Mellons, and other wealthy families who control the huge corporations and banks of our society. The world system of monopoly control is called imperialism. The extent of their power can be seen through the activities of the 7 giant oil companies. They can manipulate supplies and prices and with it all of the economy. The imperialists appropriate wealth the workers create through their labor. Because they exploit labor world wide they must maintain a strong military so as to maintain their power. No one will allow themselves to be

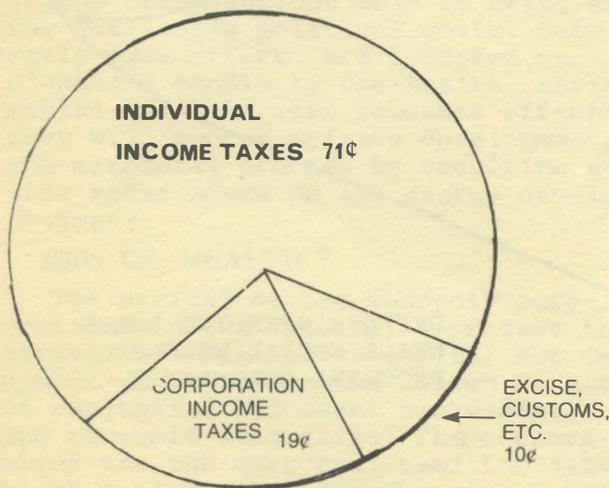
exploited unless through coercion. The growing trend is for capitalists to invest in underdeveloped countries and in Europe where wages are lower and profits are often 2 or 3 times as high as in the U.S. For example, Standard Oil of New Jersey makes twice as many profits abroad as in the U.S. The Ford Fiesta is built in Germany. The threat to the capitalist class is that workers in these countries will rise up in revolt to gain control over the surplus which their labor creates as has happened in Vietnam, Cuba, Nicaragua, Iran and many other countries. With recent defeats the threat is greater than ever before which explains the vast increases in military spending. The vast military of the U.S. is needed so that the capitalist class can maintain by force its power to appropriate the surplus wealth the workers create.

Use of surplus wealth for weapons production does not benefit working people. It also acts as a drain on the economy. While absorbing large amounts of surplus capital, nothing useful for peoples lives is produced. wealth is used up to make weapons such as the MX missile but no wealth which can be invested to further develop society is created. One effect comes out as inflation

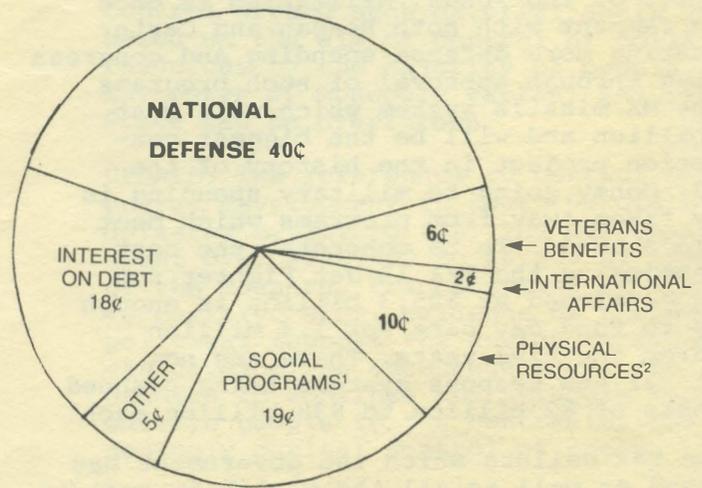
HOW THE FEDERAL TAX DOLLAR IS SPENT

General Tax Revenues and Federal Fund Expenditures by Function, Fiscal Year 1981*

Where It Comes From ... RECEIPTS



Where It Goes ... EXPENDITURES



Prepared by: Center for Defense Information.

*Data are derived from *The Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 1981 and Fiscal Year 1981 Budget Revisions, March 1980*. They exclude the trust funds, which are financed through special contributions. Adjustments have been made for internal transactions and offsetting receipts; the resulting charts show net transactions between the federal government and the public. Receipts do not include proposed new taxes (dividend and interest withholding and motor fuels tax) which are not likely to be enacted into law.

¹Includes education, training, employment and social services, health, and income security.

²Includes general science, space and technology; energy; natural resources and environment; agriculture; commerce and housing credit; transportation; and community and regional development.

due to government deficit spending which further impoverishes the working class. This deficit is inevitable as long as funds are drained off with nothing useful produced.

But for imperialists such as the giant oil companies these weapons have a use. They need them to maintain their power by force. In this way, they use the power of the state to keep workers in the third world under their control and to continue to exploit their labor power.

It is the design of the ruling class to appropriate the surplus created by workers. This surplus is nothing more than unpaid labor and the lower the wages, the greater the surplus which is appropriated. Women are amongst the lowest paid workers in society and are a source of alot of the profits which the capitalists make. For example, women clerical workers are paid only 2/3 as much as male clerical workers. Clerical workers are mostly women and make up 18% of the labor force. The lack of day care helps serve the needs of the monopoly capitalists by keeping women from developing as workers. As long as child care is uncertain or inadequate women cannot make long range career plans, they are caught between the demands of the family and demands of the workplace. They remain as low paid labor and a source of super profits for capitalists.

It is through the State and the control the capitalists have over government spending that male chauvinism and sexism are maintained in society. Material barriers to womens development such as lack of child care are a direct effect of the high rate of military spending. The capitalists are maintaining sexism by the way in which they allocate funds and it is essential to their profits that these ideologies are maintained.

PENTAGON MANIPULATION

The Pentagon has the most skillful budget analysts of any branch of the government. They are busy lobbying and putting pressure on congress for funds. Why is congress so willing at this time to pass allocations for nerve gas plants etc.? The ruling class creates an atmosphere of fear of Soviet power by saying the Soviets are ahead of us militarily and citing their vast budget for defense. However, no one knows just how much the Soviets spend for defense and estimates used come from the CIA. In 1976, the CIA doubled the amount of the soviet GNP estimated to be used for defense for no apparent material reason. They claim the Russians are spending 50% more than the U.S. for defense. On the other hand it is known that the U.S. has 10,000 nuclear warheads while the USSR has 6,000. Franklyn Holzman a fellow of the Harvard

Russian Research Center states, "the Soviets have not been outspending us on defense...to my estimate the U.S. outspent the USSR by some 25% to 30%".

PEOPLE STRUGGLE FOR FUNDS

Lobbying and bills introduced to congress for funding day care have met with little success in getting passed. Although this form of struggle has not produced material results, some efforts by people organizing to get more funds have had success.

In New York, in the early 1970s people from various centers formed the Committee for Community Controlled Day Care for the purpose of putting pressure on the city for more day care funds. Activities included demonstrations at the Department of Social Services and a sit in at the office of the Mayors Task Force on Day Care. They succeeded in cutting red tape to get already allocated city funds.

Another successful effort was made in Cambridge Massachusettes also in the early '70s. In this case center workers and supporters were organized into a Child Care Referendum Committee to have a referendum for free child care put on the ballot. The referendum was approved at the polls. Before this was possible community education in the form of position papers, press conferences and door to door petitioning was done. One of the principle factors in success was the extensive community education on the need for day care.

In 1980, in Minnesota we face new conditions of economic decline and government cut backs which are different from the early '70s. But the lesson we can learn from the early '70s is that organizing of those involved in day care into a committee for education of the community on the need for day care and on the truth about where the wealth appropriated from people is going are steps that must be taken. Otherwise the trend of cutbacks and the closing of centers will continue.

A committee of day care workers and supporters that has the support of the working class people can then put pressure on government offices and politicians who are responsible for handling our tax dollars to increase funds for child care. Petitions and direct confrontation of those who represent us in government are possible tactics which could be used in the fight to increase government funding of day care.

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