

what he called the "limitless" appetites for consumption of some countries while more impoverished nations starve. Singh's speech, coming at a time of severe famine in India, indicates just how the Indian government can be manipulated to build support among other third world countries for Rockefeller's fascist food control and "development" schemes at the upcoming UN World Food Conference in Rome. The impending mass starvation in India has received daily coverage in the New York Times this week, in an effort to terrorize the U.S. working class into accepting further food consumption cutbacks while blaming the cuts on a "world food catastrophe."

India's food shortage is indeed serious: This summer's rice and coarse grains production is expected to fall 10 million tons short of the target set by the Indian government, necessitating imports. The New Delhi power supply has been cut severely in order to overcome acute drought in the two chief grain-producing regions, Punjab and Haryana. In Punjab itself, factories are closed three days a week to divert power for agriculture. Efforts have been made to transfer foodgrains from "surplus" to "deficit" states like West Bengal, Bihar, and Assam, where famine deaths already are reported, but there is clearly not enough to go around. The drought now has affected even formerly fertile regions of Northern India, such as Uttar Pradesh. This has compelled the government to treat Uttar Pradesh as a deficit state as well, restoring 20,000 tons cut from its monthly wheat quota so as to feed its urban population. Starving farm laborers from neighboring states are pouring into Punjab and Haryana, putting additional strain on the food distribution system.

#### Unnatural Disaster

Contrary to the New York Times psywar coverage, the Indian famine is not simply a product of "bad weather:" The already ravaged economy was pushed off the brink by Rockefeller's Great Oil Hoax of 1973. The effects of the drought would have been minimal if not for the power shortage resulting from the closing of Indian coal mines earlier this year. India's oil bill for 1973-1974 is expected to swallow up 60 per cent of its exports, even though oil imports were cut back from 3.7 million tons to 2.8 million. Furthermore, the Oil Hoax was directly responsible for raising Indian fertilizer prices 90 per cent, putting fertilizer out of the reach of many farmers and drastically reducing crop yields.

The Oil Hoax also furthered the de-mechanization of Punjab and Haryana, where cash-strapped farmers are now selling their tractors. This latter development coheres with Rockefeller's global policy of replacing the more expensive, mechanized farming with labor-intensive methods, in this case employing the slave labor of displaced farmworkers from other states.

#### FOOD PANIC HITS CANADA

Oct. 1 (IPS)--Montreal newspapers have been carrying daily scare headlines predicting grain shortages this winter throughout the Eastern Provinces. Due to a series of "accidents," including provoked strikes, lock-outs, and missing railroad boxcars, the grain in Montreal elevators is now down to three million bushels. This is enough for only three weeks of local consumption. Although the Canadian deck officers' strike affecting

Great Lakes shipping finally has been settled, ships will have to make several return trips to carry the grain; and by Dec. 15, the St. Lawrence Seaway will be closed. The Montreal press is quick to place the blame for the shortage and rising local bread prices: Canada did not fail to meet its export commitments.

The purpose of these newspaper scare stories is to divert Canadian workers from the real source of the food shortage this winter: Rockefeller-directed sabotage. To blame the crisis on "foreigners" is ludicrous considering the historical position of Canada as a major net exporter of grain. The food panic generated will be used in preparation for the UN's World Food Conference to convince workers that Rockefeller's food control measures - "world food security system" are their only protection from future "natural disasters."

The real story behind Canada's grain shortage dates back to the 1970 Canadian-American Committee report entitled "North American Agriculture in a New World." Long regarded by the Rockefeller family as their own private hunting preserve, Canada has served as the experimental testing-ground for the dismantling of agriculture throughout the advanced sector. The Canadian-American Committee is the Rockefeller's corporatist planning agency. It includes leading labor lieutenants (Trilateral Commission member and United Steel Workers President I.W. Abel; the Secretary-Treasurer of the Canadian Labor Congress (CLC) William Dodge; former CLC president Donald MacDonald; present CLC president Joseph Morris; and CNTU head Marcel Peptin) together with representatives of Rockefeller's own Chase Manhattan, First National City, Gulf Oil, Standard Oil, and other multinationals. Warning of so-called over-production of wheat in 1970 (in a world wracked by starvation and malnutrition!), the Committee produced its report calling for "alternative forms of production for part of the wheat acreage in the Prairie provinces." The plan immediately was implemented through the LIFT (Lower Inventories for Tomorrow) Program, which cut wheat acreage in half. Subsequent programs continued the switch away from wheat production, although higher yields increased production back to the previous level.

#### *Food for Slave Labor*

However, the crux of the Canadian-American Committee report is not its endorsement of Zero Growth in Canadian production, but is explicit call for third world labor-intensive projects: "While for some years the developed countries could produce enough extra food to meet the growing requirements of the developing world, the time is not too far distant when their requirements could not be supplied at reasonable costs." These kind-hearted Rockefeller agents agreed that Canada should extend food aid but only in cases where the food was used as payment in kind to slave laborers working on "public projects"!

This year, possibly one-sixth of Canada's grain crop has been destroyed, blamed by the press on the "mysterious" flooding which occurs annually due to lack of flood protection, in the Prairie Provinces. The flooding which delayed planting was followed by drought; and most recently crop losses were due to autumn frost hitting the late harvest. Even more suspect are the unending snafus in transporting the old crop. These include most recently: (1) A government-fostered labor dispute at Vancouver grain elevators, pitting workers against farmers who pay for grain storage; (2) A Canadian deck officers' strike against the Rockefeller-linked Great Lakes Carrier Association; and (3) the sudden lifting of a U.S.-Canadian agreement on allocation of shipping among U.S. and Canadian pilots in the Welland Canal, setting off a series of strikes.