

National News

Pennsylvania workers boycott Mellon Bank

United Steelworkers President George Becker announced an unprecedented Pennsylvania-wide boycott of Mellon Bank, at a press conference in Pittsburgh on June 30, joined by Pennsylvania AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Richard Bloomingdale and other labor officials involved in a nine-month-old strike against Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel. Mellon is a principal shareholder and fiduciary for WHX, the parent corporation for Wheeling-Pitt, and Mellon has refused the Steelworkers' demand to urge WHX CEO Ronald LaBow—a financial high-roller, not an industrialist—to return to the bargaining table.

Becker said that the union has called WHX shareholder firms to account, to instruct LaBow to come to the table, and that Mellon Bank had “washed its hands of the matter.” The Steelworkers' 150,000 active members and retirees, as well as the 1 million AFL-CIO members across Pennsylvania, said Becker, are being asked to withdraw their funds from the bank until Mellon intervenes with LaBow. The Steelworkers also plan to regularly leaflet every branch of Mellon Bank in the state, Becker announced.

Bloomingdale said that roughly one-third of all pension money in the United States is union money—roughly \$1 trillion—and “we shouldn't invest that in a bank that acts irresponsibly.”

Anita Gallagher will run Spannaus campaign

Nancy Spannaus, a Democratic candidate for Congress against incumbent Frank Wolf (R-Va.), on July 3 announced the appointment of Anita Gallagher as her campaign manager. Mrs. Gallagher is serving a 39-year prison sentence in the Commonwealth of Virginia, as a result of a frame-up engineered by George Bush, and Bush Democrats led by then state Attorney General Mary Sue Terry, against political associates of Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

“I have asked Anita Gallagher to be my

campaign manager,” Spannaus said, “despite the fact that she is serving a prison sentence because of this outrageous frame-up of LaRouche associates. She has accepted my request.

“While Frank Wolf jets to Sudan and illegally enters that country to look for human rights violations, he was inert and silent when Federal and state prosecutors in Virginia set up the frame-up of LaRouche and his associates, through financial warfare, culminating in an illegal bankruptcy of LaRouche-associated publication companies in April 1987. This was the first time in U.S. history that non-profit publishing companies, with First Amendment rights, were ever put into a bankruptcy, let alone one engineered by the U.S. government. Prosecutors later admitted that the prosecution of LaRouche and the others would have failed without this bankruptcy, which prevented the repayment of political loans.

“Where was Frank Wolf? Posturing on alleged human rights violations in Sudan and China—countries attempting desperately to develop themselves in spite of IMF/World Bank genocidal conditions. And at the behest of whom? Former colonial masters of Africa, and opium pushers, and British organizations like the so-called Christian Solidarity International.

“Frank Wolf's human rights campaign is a front by British interests to steal diamonds and mineral resources of Africa—while depopulating it.

“Anita Gallagher has all the qualifications for this job,” Spannaus said, pointing to her work as political coordinator of the National Democratic Policy Committee, from 1980 to 1984.

Clinton seeks dismissal of Paula Jones suit

In a surprise move, President Clinton's lawyers filed an answer to the Paula Jones suit in Little Rock Federal court on July 3, adamantly denying Jones's charges, and seeking dismissal of the lawsuit. “Plaintiff's allegations against the President were first announced at a political event sponsored by vigorous opponents of the President, while plaintiff was seated next to an attorney with whom she had agreed to share the proceeds

from any resultant book or film deal,” Clinton's motion said. It added that Jones had “thrust herself into the public limelight” by “bringing to the attention of the world” that she was the “Paula” referred to in the January 1994 issue of the *American Spectator*, and by “joining with long-time political opponents of the President who sought to discredit him and his Presidency.”

The legal papers said that Clinton has no memory of ever having met Jones. “At no time did the President make sexual advances toward the plaintiff or otherwise act improperly in her presence. At no time did the President conspire to or sexually harrass the plaintiff,” Clinton's lawyers wrote. “President Clinton adamantly denies the false allegations contained in the Complaint,” his attorneys told the court.

They asked Judge Susan Webber Wright to postpone the discovery process, until she has ruled on Clinton's motion to dismiss the Jones suit. The filing took Jones' lawyers and others by surprise, since the President was not required to file a formal answer until other motions have been decided. But instead, his answer and motion to dismiss were filed on the first day allowable under court rules.

Maryland bans workfare as labor recycling

Maryland has become the first state to ban, by executive order, the hiring of government-subsidized welfare recipients as a tactic to trim payroll costs and force low-wage and seasonal workers out of their jobs. Maryland Gov. Parris Glendening (D) signed the order into law July 1. Employers are also barred from reducing the hours of other employees to hire workers whose salaries are partly paid by taxpayers. “It clearly makes no sense to reduce the welfare rolls if we are increasing the unemployment rolls,” Glendening said. The Maryland Industrial Areas Foundation, the statewide coalition which organized Glendening to carry out this order, is co-chaired by Baltimore Rev. Grady Yeargin, who told the *Post* that the order also protects thousands of seasonal workers from losing their jobs.

On the other side of the ledger, Kevin Ryan, deputy director of advocacy for Cove-

LAGOS NIGERIAN Network radio praised the Clinton administration in a June 24 broadcast, saying that the “major areas of disagreement between the two countries seems to have been narrowed down with the pursuance of the transition program and the repeated assurances of [Nigerian President] Gen. Sani Abacha to return the country to a democratically elected government next year.”

MARIJUANA is addicting, according to a statement in late June from the National Institutes of Health. NIH found that long-term marijuana use produces changes in the brain that may make users more vulnerable to addiction to other drugs.

VIRGINIA is building two “super-max” prison hell-holes, in which prisoners will be denied group activities, educational or vocational programs, television, and sports. Some may also be denied reading material. Exercise will be limited to an hour a day of pacing alone. The windows will be smoked, to prevent any view of the outside.

THE CHRISTIAN Coalition hopes to “still further enhance its power in the GOP” despite the departure of Ralph Reed as executive director, wrote neo-con William Rusher in the *Washington Times*. Reed, who is moving over to Century Strategies consultancy, was replaced by Rep. Randy Tate (R-Wash.) on June 16. Pat Robertson will also reportedly take a lower profile. The Coalition remains enmired in a Federal Election Commission investigation of illegal campaign contributions to the GOP.

THE DEMOCRATIC National Committee has spent nearly \$8 million complying with Congressional subpoenas to probe DNC fundraising, said a DNC spokesman. The expense is draining Democratic 1998 campaign war chests, which is “why the scope of these subpoenas is so broad . . . to impose that burden . . . rather than to further any legitimate investigative needs.”

nant House in New York, showed what would happen if Congressional Republicans succeed in reversing President Clinton’s determination to ensure workfare recipients get minimum wage. In a letter to the July 3 *Washington Post*, Ryan wrote that under the current requirement that a recipient work 20 hours a week, compensation at minimum wage provides \$412 per month. Twelve states provide workfare cash benefits at or above this level for a family of two; 34% of the remaining states offer benefits equivalent to less than \$2.99 per hour, and most Southern states compensate at less than \$2 per hour. By 2000, when workfare recipients are required to work 30 hours per week, the average most states will pay participants will be less than \$2.99 per hour. Alabama and Louisiana will pay \$1.26 per hour; and Mississippi, which pays the lowest benefits in the nation, will pay 89¢ per hour.

Dr. Binaisa addresses Massachusetts lawmakers

Former President of Uganda Dr. Godfrey Binaisa, addressed members of the Massachusetts state legislature on the horrors that are being inflicted on Africa on June 30. Dr. Binaisa, founder and chairman of the African Civil Rights Movement, was introduced by State Rep. Benjamin Swan, who had been part of a 1996 Schiller Institute fact-finding visit to Sudan, to see first-hand how Britain is seeking to destabilize that developing country, under the cynical cover of “human rights.”

Dr. Binaisa presented a compelling picture of the holocaust in Africa. He raised some eyebrows when he said that on his continent there are probably more Christians than in the United States, particularly when you compare them with U.S. Rep. Chris Smith (R-N.J.), the hypocrite who heads the House Pro-Life Caucus, and televangelist Pat Robertson. Binaisa remarked that he believed the Pope travels to Africa more often than to North America because he knows he will be listened to in Africa. Dr. Binaisa, whose African Civil Rights Movement is circulating an appeal to Clinton to stop the bloodbath in Congo/Zaire, challenged the lawmakers to pass a resolution for action on stopping the African holocaust.

LaRouche greets ‘Mothers of Murdered Children’

A banquet held by the “Mothers of Murdered Children” in Boston received a greeting from former Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche on July 7. The group is comprised of parents who have lost children to street violence or drugs.

“Permit me to address you in your capacity as a battalion of Gideon’s Army: a part of that relatively tiny minority, usually fewer in number than 1% of the population, who care for humanity as a whole, who devote themselves to protecting that which we must deliver to the posterity of our presently living generations. Today, I am happy over the Pathfinder’s July 4 landing on Mars. I am happy about that, because our weapons, those of our Gideon’s Army, are ideas. Among the most important class of ideas, for our work, are beautiful ideas, ideas which lift up those around us who are pessimistic, because ideas prompt people to take pride in mankind’s potential for achieving good, even in defiance of terrifying obstacles. It is such ideas, which make even the frailest among us a powerful force for good within a world, like our own today, which is filled to the brim with hatefulness and despair. With love, Lyndon.”

Environmental cancer scare bites the dust

The National Cancer Institute released a report on July 2, debunking the environmentalist stories that electromagnetic fields cause or contribute to cancer. In the most comprehensive study yet, with proper controls, the NCI found that there is no higher incidence of leukemia in children exposed to low magnetic fields generated by power lines.

The environmentalist scam has been building since 1979, and gained wide coverage in the media. As a result, in 1991, a plaintiff won a huge award from a New York State utility, after claiming that the power lines gave him cancer. The judge ruled that even though there was no proof to support the claim, the widespread belief that power lines caused cancer, justified the claim.