Protests shake Belarus after rigged vote, brutal assaults

BY TERRY EVANS

Some 200,000 people took to the streets in Minsk, capital of Belarus, Aug. 16, pressing to rid themselves of the repressive regime of President Alexander Lukashenko. One week earlier he had declared “victory” in an election, widely recognized as a win for his opponent Svetlana Tikhanovskaya.

The demonstration was the largest mobilization in the history of the country of 9.5 million. Protests also took place in Grodno, Brest and Pinsk. Workers have marched out of the country’s largest factories, to join daily protests since the election.

Anger spread among working people as evidence mounted of ferocious beatings inflicted on detained protesters. As working people in Minsk. capital of Belarus, Workers Party’s presidential ticket of Alyson Kennedy and Malcolm Jarrett starts from the capacities of working people to fight for his opponent Svetlana Tikhanovskaya.

For recognition of Israel and of a Palestinian state!

Alyson Kennedy, the Socialist Workers Party candidate for president, issued the following statement Aug. 19.

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY STATEMENT

The accord signed established diplomatic relations between the governments of Israel and the United Arab Emirates, opening up opportunities for working people. It underlines the need for talks between Israeli and Arab governments and leaders of the Palestinian organizations aimed at recognizing both Israel and an independent Palestinian state.

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Israel-UAE pact is a step forward in Middle East

BY TERRY EVANS

With less than three months until the November elections, both the Democrats and Republicans are focused on how horrible the other party is, rather than on concrete measures working people need as the economic, social and moral crisis of capitalist production and for-profit health care bears down on us.

The Democrats hope the economic crisis continues and the pandemic drags on to make Trump look bad. Trump says things are really OK, just give him four more years, and the main problem is the “radical left” running Joe Biden’s campaign. Neither of the candidates of the bosses main parties are running on a program that offers working people a way forward in the face of mass unemployment, wage cuts and unsafe conditions.

The accord signed establishing diplomatic relations between the governments of Israel and the United Arab Emirates can lead to further steps toward the Israeli and Arab governments and leaderships of Palestinian organizations recognizing both Israel and an independent Palestinian state.

This course is explained in a 2017 statement by Jack Barnes, Socialist Workers Party national secretary, available on the Militant’s website.

“Israel-UAE pact is a step forward in Middle East,

The accord signed establishing diplomatic relations between the governments of the United Arab Emirates and Israel — the first time an Arab government has normalized relations with Israel in nearly 26 years — opens the door to other Arab governments following suit. The accord was announced Aug. 13 by the two governments and President Donald Trump, whose administration brokered the deal.

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The joint statement by the U.S., UAE and Israeli governments says that Israel now prepares to file a lawsuit to prevent the embargo of palestinian territories.

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Fight to overturn Florida prison officials’ ‘Militant’ impoundment

BY SETH GALinsky

The Florida Department of Corrections Literature Review Committee “voted to uphold the impoundment of ‘The Militant, Vol. 84, No. 30,’” LRC chair Dean Peterson wrote David Goldstein, the Militant’s attorney, Aug. 17, “which means the issue is rejected and will not be allowed into FDC institutions.”

Goldstein is now preparing to file an appeal of this decision, protesting the prison system’s violation of the constitutional rights of both its inmate-subscribers and the paper itself. The Militant has over 50 subscribers behind bars in Florida.

The article in that issue that aroused challenge.

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Fight ‘Militant’ impoundment
Continued from front page

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Militant

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conditions have deteriorated during

riot, insurrection, rebellion, organized
tory in that it advocates or encourages

Jails.” It is a news report on efforts in

outside the U.S.: Australia, A$10 • United Kingdom, £4 •

Sugar workers have been on strike for two months fighting for unpaid wages from bosses at Haft Teppah. As news of their fight grows, other workers have followed their example. The ‘Militant’ champions the struggles by all workers who are fighting to defend their rights.

Nurses protest across UK demanding higher wages

LONDON — “We’ve been quiet for too long,” Lana Bonas, a nurse at St. Thomas’ Hospital here, told the Militant as she joined hundreds of other health workers marching to Downing Street to demand a pay raise. The action was one of 35 similar protests organized by nurses and union members across England, Scotland and Wales Aug. 8.

“If we don’t do or say anything, things won’t get any better,” said protester Barbara Korden, a pediatric nurse at Evelina Children’s Hospital.

Student nurse Laura Hoether organized a 150-strong protest of health work-

ers in Liverpool, when she realized no one else was planning an action there. “We are treated disgracefully,” she told the crowd. “There aren’t enough staff, there are 44,000 nursing vacancies in England. People are working 24-hour shifts sometimes; that’s not safe for them or the patients.”

Some 90,000 public-sector workers were affected by an above inflation pay deal last month. But the government justified excluding a million health workers, including nurses, cleaners and care assistants, from that deal, say-

ing union leaders had approved a three-year pay agreement for them two years ago. Unions are now demanding that the 2021 pay raise due these workers next April be implemented now.

“This is not just about nurses. It’s about all workers,” Georgina Warwick, a general nurse in an acute-care hospital in Hertfordshire who joined the London protest, told the Militant.

“Compared with cost-of-living increases since 2010,” nurse Med Wood told the BBC, “we are still earning less that we were 10 years ago.”

— JONATHAN SILBERMAN

The Militant
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Editor: John Studer
Managing Editor: Terry Evans
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Sedalia, Missouri: ‘Prosecute cop who killed Hannah Fizer’

BY BRIAN WILLIAMS

The widely publicized months-long fight to force Kentucky authorities to charge the cops who killed Breonna Taylor and others to stand up against cop brutality and killings in cities, towns and rural areas across the country. One example is the case of Hannah Fizer.

Fizer, a 25-year-old woman, was shot and killed by a sheriff’s deputy during an evening traffic stop June 13 in Sedalia, Missouri. She was on her way to work for her night shift at the Eagle Stop gas station.

Every Saturday morning members of the Missouri group of the SWP and others supporting have been demonstrating in this city of 21,000, an old railroad town and site of the Missouri State Fair. “Say her name: Hannah! ‘Prosecute the police!’ they demand. Some had joined protests in the area against the cops’ killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis at the end of May.

The deputies who shot Fizer has not been charged and authorities refuse to release his name. According to Pettis County Sheriff Kevin Bond, the unnamed officer in the low with Fizer for speeding and said she had a gun and threatened to kill him. But no gun was found.

“I want to know his name,” Amy Fizer, Hannah’s mother, yelled at Bond during a protest on the steps of the county courthouse several days after her daughter was killed. The cops, citing “technical problems,” said no body-cam recording of the shooting was taken.

Without any videotapes or anything like that, it’s the police’s word against nobody,” protester Reggie Gay told the Sedalia Democrat. “We’ve seen that situation happen before and we know how that ends up.”

Fizer’s cousin, Jessica Fizer, who has helped lead some of the weekly protests, told the paper that she wants to see the deputies who killed her cousin charged with murder in the same way we know how that ends up.”

At this point,“ this case is “bigger than Breonna,” Tamika Palmer, Taylor’s mother, told the media Aug. 13. She had just come out of a meeting with Cameron and Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer. Cameron is said he is waiting for the FBI ballistic test results.

“We lost two months while we were letting them try to figure out how to justify the unjustifiable,” said Ben Crump, one of the attorneys representing Taylor’s family. “And now so we’re waiting for a ballistics test over 150 days later! That should have been something that was seized upon the minute they saw this innocent Black woman lying dead in her apartment.”

Chicago looting is blow to fight against police brutality

BY JOHN HAWKINS

CHICAGO — A sharp debate broke out here after Black Lives Matter Chicago, one of the many groups that has been involved in protests against police brutality, pointedly defended the organized looting of downtown businesses.

Working people awoke Monday, Aug. 10, to news reports of raised bridges and closed freeways. A large and small throughout the country, a sizable police deployment there, preventing many from getting to work.

Hundreds of people had caravanned to the area the night before, carrying out systematic looting, beginning at midnight and continuing into the early hours of the morning. It followed the cop shooting of 20-year-old Latrell Allen in the Englewood neighborhood the day before.

Despite earlier false rumors that the shooting victim was a teenager and had a gun, Allen was still alive, but badly wounded — shot four times in the back and once in the cheek. Cops claim he had a weapon and fired on them before they returned fire. His family insists Allen was unarmed.

Some Englewood residents gathered right after the shooting to protest. When dozens of cops were sent in response they jeered and chanted, “No justice, no peace!”

The looting was not a spontaneous expression of anger at police brutality. Social media posts show the looting was organized, with calls for people to converge on the Magnificent Mile shopping district at midnight.

Drivers arrived and waited while windows were smashed and stores looted. Sometimes they used the cars to batter open storefronts. Looters loaded up, then got back in the cars for a quick getaway. Others on foot with shopping bags of stolen goods were chased by cops. Police reportedly arrested more than 100 people.

That evening at a small protest organized by Black Lives Matter Chicago that applauded the looting, participants held a banner that read, “Our futures have been looted from us ... Look back.”

Alert Atkins, a spokesperson for the group, said the thievery was part of “reparations,” which some liberals and middle-class radicals say should be given to Blacks as payment for what their ancestors were robbed of under slavery.

“I don’t care if somebody decides to loot a Gucci, or a Macy’s, or a Nike,” Atkins said, “because that makes sure that that person can make some kind of money because this city obviously doesn’t care about them.”

Workers say no to looting

That attitude doesn’t sit well with many workers.

Joyce Brown, Allen’s grandmother, told the Chicago Tribune she doesn’t trust the police version of the shooting, but “I don’t agree with the looting because that’s just an excuse to get what they want.” As she and other Englewood residents explain, the looting and protests have nothing to do with each other. Except that some individuals took advantage of the cop shooting to organize their “liberation” of property under cover of protest.

Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senate from Illinois, Naomi Craine, took issue with the defense of looting.

“It’s one thing to denounce the priorities of capitalist politicians who place the protection of property above human life,” Craine said in a statement Aug. 1. “But it’s another thing to characterize looting as ‘protesting,’ as if it were a legitimate method of struggle against any form of oppression or exploitation.

Workers are not thieves.”

“Condemning, advocating, justifying or defending looting alienates working people, who in growing numbers cross racial lines, in cities and towns large and small throughout the country, are speaking out against cop brutality. Many are joining in the fight to demand the arrest and prosecution of killer cops,” she said. “Looting is a blow to the movement against police brutality, making it more difficult to involve people awakened to the movement — Black, Latino and Caucasian.”

Those who defend the looting are oblivious to the loss of the livelihood of small proprietors and of workers at larger stores. This is no small question in the midst of the social crisis faced by working people today.

“It makes it easier for the cops to try and justify their brutality and to attack our sorely needed trade union and political rights,” Craine said. “The capitalist officials and media strive tirelessly to brand all struggles of workers and farmers as potentially violent and criminal.”

“To fight effectively against police violence and attacks on our rights, we need to organize broad, powerful and disciplined actions demanding the government arrest and prosecute the cops involved,” the SWP candidate said. “That will help us reach out to the trade unions, the churches, and the millions of workers and farmers, organized and unorganized, who can be drawn into the fight to push back the capitalist rulers and their cops.”
‘Workers need a labor party’

Continued from front page

sentatives, Omari Musa, was certified for the ballot Aug. 18. At a trailer park in Rochester, Minne- sota, Doreen Dempsey, whose husband is a long-haul truck driver, told Jarrett that her husband “wanted to go to the truck drivers’ protest in Washington this spring but I wouldn’t let him be- cause of the COVID.”

“When he got a run, sometimes he’d lose it because some broker would un- dercut the price,” she said. “One place he worked had a union, but they didn’t fight for the guys.”

“We need to begin to organize so we can develop confidence in ourselves and our co-workers,” Jarrett, who had participated in the truckers’ protest, said. “The Socialist Workers Party is for organizing a union movement in every workplace, for building a labor party, and fighting for workers con- trol over production and safety.” He showed Dempsey the book Tribunes of the People and the Trade Unions.

Jarrett noted, “There’s a section about the organization of truckers by the fight- ing Teamsters union movement based in Minneapolis in the 1930s.” With cour- age, discipline and a battle plan, truck- ers were able to win a hard-fought strike for union recognition. Equipped with the right leadership, the book explains, unions can be transformed so workers, the unemployed and farmers can fight for political independence from those who exploit them.

Dempsey read the title. “I want that book,” she said. “Here’s $20. I’ll try out the paper too. Keep the rest as a contri- bution. And please do contact me.”

The next day in Minneapolis, when Jarrett knocked on Dawson Harper’s door and introduced himself and his party, she told him, “I don’t want to vote for either the Democrats or the Republi- cans, and I like the fact both your candi-dates are working class.”

Harper works as a child care as- signant for Hennepin County and is a member of American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employ- ees Local 34. “I went to several of the protests around the police killing of George Floyd,” she said. “I was happy to see it become worldwide.”

Why workers need a labor party

“A fighting labor party would join and build even more powerful actions,” Jar- rett said. “The fight against police bru- tality is in the interests of all working people.” Harper signed the petition and subscribed to the Militant.

In Minneapolis Aug. 14, Helena Shimizu told David Rosenfeld, the SWP candidate for U.S. Senate in Minne- sota, that she was interested in how door and phone organizing could be done. She stopped. She said she was sympathetic to those who engaged in looting, be- cause nothing else seemed to get the attention of the government.

“I think the looting weakened the movement because working people don’t want to be involved with that,” Rosenfeld said. “And it gave an open- ing to the government and the cops to come back even harder.”

“We agree with Malcolm X. Mal- colm was for disciplined struggle, intelligent action — not for mindless destruction or reck- less acts,” he said. “We need a move- ment that so many Cubans see them- selves as part of the world and in a common struggle with other workers, and a system where workers control production to have a stronger voice in production. It’s because of the socialist revolu- tion that so many Cubans see them- selves as part of the world and in a common struggle with other workers, MeCarthur said.

“Workers and farmers in Cuba are led to confront challenges such as the coronavirus,” he said. “No one is left on their own, and health care is a so- cial right, the opposite of here where everything is for a profit.”

“For recognition of a Palestinian state and of Israel

For repeal of U.S. Jerusalem Embassy Act

For workers’ solidarity in Israel, Palestine, the world over

Socialist Workers Party statement

Download ready-to-print flyer at www.themilitant.com

Join the Socialist Workers Party campaign in 2020!
Campaign for what you are for, not who you are against!

☐ I want to endorse the Socialist Workers Party ticket of Alyson Kennedy for president and Malcolm Jarrett for vice president.

☐ I want to join in campaigning or host a meeting for the campaign.

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(Make checks to Socialist Workers National Campaign)

☐ Send me a 12-week subscription to the Militant, a socialist newsmweekly. ($5 enclosed, checks payable to the Militant.)

Send in along with your name, address, phone # and e-mail address to:
Socialist Workers Party 2020 Campaign, 306 W. 37th St., 13th Floor, NY, NY 10018. Tel: 347-871-0282 Email: socialistworkers2020@gmail.com

For a subscription to The Militant/Bernie Senter

The Militant/Bernie Senter

By Jacque Henderson

In Hutchinson, Minnesota, teacher Pat McIntyre signed for the SWP and told Dean Hazlewood, "You’re right. The only thing that can change things is working people acting together."
or their demand, but didn’t tell the party until one week before the deadline.

Party supporters then organized to campaign and turned in 2,700 signatures July 27, the filing deadline, and completed their filing on Aug. 10 with a total of 1,300 signatures, well over the requirement. Despite this, the state government refused to place the SWP candidates on the ballot.

Those who support the working-class party’s right to be on the ballot are writing to Gov. Murphy demanding he place the SWP on the ballot.

WORKERS NEED A UNION IN EVERY WORKPLACE. We need to fight growing employer attacks on our jobs, wages and working conditions. Build solidarity with workers’ struggles to organize and defend themselves. Use union power on our own behalf, and for all those suffering blows by the bosses and their government. One union for all drivers — taxi, Uber, Lyft and other app-based and car service drivers!

WORKERS NEED THEIR OWN PARTY, A LABOR PARTY. For a class perspective from the parties of the bosses, the Democrats and Republicans. A labor party can organize workers in their millions to fight in our own interests and the interests of all those exploited and oppressed by capital. It can chart a course to take political power out of the hands of the capitalist rulers and build a workers and farmers government.

WORKERS CONTROL OF PRODUCTION. Workers need to fight to wrest control of production out of the hands of the bosses. Employers care about profits, not the dangerous conditions we’re forced to work under. This is the only road to take control of and enforce safety and health on the job. Demand the bosses open their books for inspection by workers and consumers. Workers control of production is a school for learning to run the economy ourselves, in the interests of all producers, a crucial step alongside building a labor party to fight to take political power.

MILLIONS NEED JOBS TODAY! Fight for a federal government-financed public works program to put millions to work at union-scale wages building roads, schools, child care centers, mass transportation, quality affordable housing and much more that workers need. Set the minimum wage to allow workers to have a home and support a family.

AMNESTY FOR UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS in the US, a life-and-death question for the unions to unite workers and cut across divisions the bosses use to drive down wages. For access to driver’s licenses for all.

OPPOSE WASHINGTON’S WARS. US hands off Middle East, Cuba, Afghanistan, Korea, the Middle East. End US colonial rule in Puerto Rico.

September 4, 1945
As antwar forces around the country plan for a national day of protest Oct. 31, evidence points to the biggest participation of the labor movement so far. In Chicago, Patrick E. Gorman of the Amalgamated Meatcutters and Butcher Workmen of North America threw his weight behind the Oct. 31 coalition in that city. The national membership of the Meatcutters is a half million.

The national convention of the National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees voted Aug. 21 to back the protest. A predominantly Black union, the alliance resolved: “That the NAJPE publicly endorse and support any legal and peaceful mass demonstrations against the immoral and illegal war. We encourage our membership to participate in order to bring to bear the power of our movement to end the war in Indochina and press for a reconsidering of priorities at home!”

September 1, 1945
CIO President Philip Murray on Aug. 22 warned that the American workers will not submit to starvation under capitalism and are demanding government ownership and operation of idle plants.

Murray himself was not proposing such a policy. He was merely using a threat to impress Congress with the need to “assure” full employment under “free enterprise.” Murray’s warning reflected the demands rising ever more insistently from the ranks of labor.

Murray should take the initiative in calling for a nation-wide conference of the entire labor movement to draft a legislative program embodying a genuine labor plan for full employment.

Murray’s duty is to mobilize the union ranks for an independent, militant struggle for such a program, the central plank of which must be government ownership and operation of the idle plants under workers’ control.

FOR RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL & OF A CONTIGUOUS PALESTINIAN STATE. For the right of Jews to return to Israel as a refuge in the face of capitalist crisis, Jew-hatred and murderous violence.

CUBA’S REVOLUTION — AN EXAMPLE. The Cuban Revolution in 1959 showed it is possible for workers and farmers to transform themselves in struggle, to take political power and uproot capitalist exploitation. End the US rulers’ economic war against Cuba; US trade unions.

HEALTH CARE FOR ALL. Fight for universal, government-guaranteed cradle-to-grave health care, and retiree income for all.

FIGHT POLICE BRUTALITY! Demand that cops who kill and brutalize people be prosecuted. Fight racist discrimination and the entire capitalist injustice system, with its frame-ups, “plea bargains,” onerous bail and outrageous prison sentences, all of which disproportionately hit workers who are Black. For the right to vote for ex-prisoners and all workers behind bars.

FARMERS’ RIGHT TO ABORTION. Defend women’s right to unrestricted access to family planning services, including the right to safe, secure abortions.

DEFEND POLITICAL RIGHTS. Defend the right to vote, to free speech and assembly and to bear arms, under attack from Democrats and Republicans alike. Defend freedom of worship. Stop FBI and other government spying, harassment and disruption. No to middle-class radical “cancel culture” and their thuggery against people they deem “politically incorrect.”

DEFEND RIGHTS OF PRISONERS. End solitary confinement. End suppression of the Militant, books and other newspapers by prison authorities. Abolish the death penalty, an anti-working-class weapon in the hands of the rulers.

FARMERS — WORKERS ALLIES ON THE LAND. To put a halt to farm foreclosures, bankruptcies and skyrocketing rural debt, we demand nationalization of the land. This puts the soil at the service of the farmers who till it, as opposed to monopolization by the banks and landlords. We demand the government guarantee farmers their costs of production, including their living expenses.
Strikes over jobs, wages, safety as workers resist bosses’ attacks

BY ROY LANDERSEN
“...strike struggles begin to reinforce each other. Strikers face threats. Thwarting the bosses’ hopes lies in their solidarity, on the shopfloor and in common action. The bosses, in the confusion and safety on the job can ensure no one else makes money. They’re planning a big Solidarity celebration, spoke with the strikers Aug. 13. After pay cut they’re demanding living wage, safe working conditions. ’...”

BY GEORGE CHALMERS
“...using the port. Each day 2,500 trucks enter and leave the port, along with 60 to 80 train convoys a week. Some 500,000 tons of goods pass through the port daily. Some 1,125 longshore workers...”

Protests shake Belarus after rigide vote, brutal assaults

“...Moscow’s threats backed by the capitalist rulers in Russia, which regard us as a critical buffer against NATO troops to the west. Moscow is employing all the tools at its disposal to force the entire trade unions, bosses, employers, to support the rulers from the 1991 coup...”

Lucashenko dismissed concern over the outbreak of an acute respiratory disease as “mass psychosis” and warned that those who might be drinking vodka as a cure...”

Moscow’s threats

Lucashenko’s government has been backed by the capitalist rulers in Russia, which regard us as a critical buffer against NATO troops to the west. Moscow is deploying all the tools at its disposal to force the entire trade unions, bosses, employers, to support the rulers from the 1991 coup that overthrew the last Soviet government to keep the racist economic and social and political system of the former Soviet Union in place.

Moscow’s threats

Lucashenko dismissed concern over the outbreak of an acute respiratory disease as “mass psychosis” and warned that those who might be drinking vodka as a cure...
Workers’ Red Guard patrols south of Moscow during October 1917. Russian revolution. U.S.S.R. communist leader James P. Cannon said workers from U.S.S.R. and their “colonial slaves” were lifted up by victory of Bolsheviks after “depression and despair” of imperialist world war.

the Russian Revolution created.

not very friendly to the Russian Revo-

 anchors out of the victory of the Bolsheviks in Russia. It is possible for the workers of the world to learn the lesson of Bolshevism. It is possible for the workers of every country to learn from the example of the Red Army and the workers’ government to win. It is possible to learn from the example of the Russian Revolution that we are still fighting. We are fighting for the victory of the proletariat. The real “crime” of the workers of the world is their fight for socialism.

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We know this and we say it openly.

the course of the struggle through which humanity shall pass from capital-

Russian Revolution proved workers can take power

After the victory of the First World War, 1914-1918. Then the world agrees that capitalism, an economic and social system, had exhausted its progressive historic mission. The Russian Revolution of November 1917 served notice that a new order of world social-

Revolutionary Continuity: Birth of the Communist Movement, 1918-1922

This is not a distant past. The whole world is taking notice of the USSR on this anniversary. Everybody is recog-

们的奴隶, broke through to victory, saluting, recognizing, or cursing a state that issued from a victori-

sarin.” The last phase of the Russian Revolution is the course of the struggle through which humanity shall pass from capitalism to socialism; whatever may be the starting point of development will always be traced to that great day which we commemorate tonight — November 7, 1917.

We are not the only ones to remember the historical phase of the First World War.

no longer revolutionary. The treachery and capitulation of the enemies of the proletariat gloated over the Russian Revolution, and were lifted up by victory of Bolsheviks.

Britain in the First World War, 1914-1918. Then the world agrees that capitalism, an economic and social system, had exhausted its progressive historic mission. The Russian Revolution of November 1917 served notice that a new order of world socialism was both proclaimed on that day. And whatever vicissitudes, whatever setbacks, betrayals or defeats may overtake the proletariat on the road to final goal; however sharp and deep may be the zigzags in the line which charts the course of the struggle through which humanity shall pass from capitalism to socialism; whatever may be the starting point of development will always be traced to that great day which we commemorate tonight — November 7, 1917.

We are not the only ones to remember the historical phase of the First World War.

No. 7 changed hands. At one blow, the revolution lifted the proletariat of Europe to its feet again. It stirred the hundreds of mil-

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The fight for a revolutionary lead-

over the treachery and capitulation of the social capitalist leaders of the socialist parties. World labor movement was overcome with depression and despair in 1914-1917.

But the Russian Revolution of Novem-

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Continued from front page

people of all national backgrounds, religious beliefs and political allegiances in Israel and Palestine,” the statement stated. “They can use and defend working people in the United States and around the world and the world.” It outlines what is critical for working people everywhere: “We are for whatever renews our class solidarity and self-confidence, advancing us along a revolutionary course toward a united struggle for workers power.”

The SWP presidential ticket in 2020 is presenting a fighting program to advance toward that goal.

The party’s candidates point to the importance of struggles on the job to secure class-unification in every workplace. Their platform calls for jobs, higher wages and better working conditions. This will provide the foundation for building our own political party, a labor party that can uncompromisingly defend all the exploited and oppressed from the bosses and their governments. We can’t rely on the bosses or their government to provide safe and healthy working conditions. Impelled by the swiftness competition, the bosses’ drive for profits compels them to keep on cutting jobs for the sake of the bosses’ profit and the interests of those who toil for a living. Work can be performed safely, but only when workers control production of output from their hands. As we fight for this we can see what becomes possible when our class holds political power and can begin addressing how to meet the needs of all.

My campaign explains why workers and our unions must fight for a government-funded public works program that provides jobs now at union-scale pay for the millions out of work. It can be used to build hospitals, schools and the housing workers need.

Join the SWP campaign!

Israel-UAE pact is step forward in Middle East

Continued from front page

will “suspend” any attempts to annex parts of the West Bank Palestinian territory. Direct phone links were put in place just days later. Officials will soon meet to establish direct flights between the two countries as well as reciprocal embassies.

At a press briefing Trump noted that “this deal will allow much greater access to Muslims from throughout- out the world.” He referred to the sites in Jerusalem and to “peacefully pray at the Al-Aqsa Mosque” in Jerusalem, which is one of the holiest sites in Islam.

For years there have been increasing trade and behind-the-scenes diplomatic relations between the Israeli government and those in the UAE, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and Saudi Arabia, as well as other Sunni Muslim-led capitalist countries.

The government of Sheikh Hamdan bin Zayed Al-Nahyan, the Ruler of Abu Dhabi, welcomed the accord. While the Saudi government has been silent, it has been increasing its ties to Israel.

Accord also aimed at Tehran

These ties have been growing because of a shared interest in defending themselves against the expanding military and political influence of the capitalistic, Israeli-Shia axis. Iran is the main competitor of these Sunni-based regimes for economic, military and political influence in the region and a bitter foe of the Israeli state.

Even many of Trump’s liberal opponents, including Democratic Party presidential candidate Joe Biden, backed the accord. Newer Trump supporter Thomas Friedman wrote in The New York Times Aug. 13 that “it was Trump’s peace plan drawn up by Jared Kushner and their willingness to stick with it, that actually created the raw material for this breakthrough.”

Friedman was referring to a plan by the White House and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in January that called for Palestinian recognition of Israel and Israeli recognition of a Palestinian state. Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas rejected that out of hand, refusing to even read it. The Israeli government stated that recognition of a Palestinian state that includes both Gaza and the West Bank.

But even his acceptance speech from Washington, D.C. No Democrats are scheduled to speak, neither is former President George W. Bush.

On Aug. 15, in his acceptance speech from Washington, D.C. No Democrats are scheduled to speak, neither is former President George W. Bush.

Former President Barack Obama, who officially launched the 2020 campaign in August 2019, he campaigned as an outsider, saying his goal was to “drain the swamp” of Washington politicians who don’t give a damn about working people. And he pointed to workers’ needs for jobs as a key priority, saying he would create an infrastructure program to solve that.

But he’s been in Washington for four years now. He never did organize a serious jobs program, and doesn’t propose one now.

He does explain that the relentless effort by the Democrats to drive him off office has created obstacles to what he could accomplish. And this gets a real response from Trump. “Trump gave a preview of the convention at a rally in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, held the same day as the opening of the Democrats’ virtual gathering. He said the 2020 campaign was “a fight for the survival of our nation and civilization itself.” The rest was to tout the accomplishments of his administration.

The fact is, millions more today are without jobs and face growing poverty. Trump will use his acceptance speech from Washington, D.C. No Democrats are scheduled to speak, neither is former President George W. Bush.

Neither of the capitalist rulers’ two parties have a program to offer working people. Whether Biden or Trump is in the White House for the next four years, workers can’t count on either to defend the propertied rulers, to maximize their profits and to defend U.S. imperialism’s political and military interests abroad.

Bosss two parties

Continued from front page

together against the bosses and their government. The SWP campaign says workers need a union movement in every workplace. We need our own party, a labor party, to organize working people in their millions and to take political power into our own hands. Workers need to fight to take control of production and safety on the job and for jobs for the unemployed.

Democrats’ “virtual” convention

The Democratic Party organized a “virtual” national convention August 17-20, nominating Biden and Kamala Harris as its presidential ticket. It featured a virtual campaign in the 1980s. Former Ohio Gov. John Kasich and Colin Powell. The single theme is all out to get rid of Trump.

Virtually every middle-class family in the country has signed on to the Biden campaign. Democrats hope putting Harris on their ticket will garner votes based on her skin color and sex. But her claim to fame is serving as district attorney in San Francisco and attorney general in California — in charge of the capitalist rulers’ criminal “justice” system. She helped railroad workers to prison and defended the prison system from challenges against solitary confinement and brutality.

The liberals that control the party and their media allies have spent the last four years trying to use an FFL with black skin to get them elected. But the one thing they want now is to debate with the president.

Debates should only be scheduled, Jennifer Rubin wrote in the Washington Post, if they are limit- ed to “coronavirus, one on the economy and one on racial justice,” and there are no opening and closing remarks. And she says they should be monitored by a “real-time fact checker” ready to censor any lie Trump may utter.

Biden declared in June that some 15% of the popula tion are just “not very good people,” but if he is elected he will hold their worst instincts in check.

What they really fear is that workers will orga nize ourselves and mount a challenge to the system of capitalist exploitation and oppression that these politicians have dedicated their lives to upholding.

Republicans up next

The Republican convention is set for Aug. 24-27, mostly virtual as well. Donald Trump will give his acceptance speech from Washington, D.C. No Democrats are scheduled to speak, neither is former President George W. Bush.

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