

WORKER CONTROL

The USPP supports worker controlled industries as one element of an economy that would minimize the class conflicts that often contribute to war. An excellent theoretical study of worker control is David Schweickart's Capitalism or Worker Control? - An Ethical and Economic Appraisal (Praeger; 1980). It would be difficult to improve upon the summary of the book's approach that appears on its back cover:

"Capitalism is not the answer. Neither is soviet-style centralized planning. But there is a third alternative. Schweickart presents a model for socialism that is economically and ethically superior to any other socialist model - worker control. Its key features include:

- worker management of enterprises
- allocation of goods and raw materials through a free market mechanism
- government determination of new investment

Schweickart argues convincingly for worker control, and as a philosopher and mathematician, he is uniquely qualified to analyze both the ethical and economic aspects of capitalism and socialism."

Capitalism or Worker Control? costs about \$10, and can be obtained by writing to the Socialist Party of Illinois, P.O. Box 2052, Chicago, IL 60690.

"Employee Ownership and Participation Programs; The Third Annual Conference" is the title of a conference on worker control being held April 7-8 at American University, Washington, D.C. The National Center for Employee Ownership, 1611 S. Walter Reed Dr., #109, Arlington, VA 22204, can provide reports of the conference, and worker control literature.

SCHOOL PRAYER

As yet, the USPP has no official position on legally constituted school prayer. We welcome thoughts on the subject. USPP member Peter Gregonis has written a treatise opposing school prayer, based on the distinction between "direct inspiration" and "indirect inspiration", copies of which can be obtained from the USPP office.

MEXICAN CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST ON TOUR

Rosario Ibarra de Piedra, the first woman in history to run for the Mexican presidency, will be touring the United States April 15-26 speaking in support of civil rights in Mexico. Mrs. de Piedra is the mother of four, one of whose sons, Jesus Piedra Ibarra, was arrested by the Mexican police in 1975, and "disappeared". While looking for her son, Mrs. de Piedra met many other parents whose politically active children also had "disappeared", and with their help founded the "Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners, Exiles, Fugitives, and Disappeared Persons. In 1980, this committee helped initiate a broader national organization, the National Front Against Repression, which will be sponsoring her U.S. speaking tour.

Public appearances currently are planned for Los Angeles, San Francisco, Minneapolis - St. Paul, Chicago, New York City, and Houston. To help promote the tour, and for further information, write or phone the Rosario Ibarra de Piedra Tour Committee, 490 Eureka, San Francisco, CA 94114; (415) 821 0511.

TRAINING PROGRAM FOR ORGANIZERS

The War Resisters League, a 60 year old pacifist organization with a secular orientation, will be sponsoring a "Training Program for Organizers", July 21-30, 1984, at Hudson Guild Farm, about 50 miles west of New York City. The program will be divided into three parts: politics and philosophy; issues; and the mechanics and techniques of organizing. For further information, write or phone the War Resisters league, 339 Lafayette St., NYC, NY 10012; (312) 228 0450.

HELP REVIVE OMEGA PRESS

Omega Press, a worker-owned printing establishment founded by draft resisters and their families during the Vietnam war, and since oriented toward serving humanitarian social change organizations in the Chicago area, was completely destroyed by a fire in January. Plans to reconstitute the Press on an expanded basis are progressing. Contributions and low interest loans are being solicited, and should be sent to David Finke, 1157 E. 52nd St., Chicago, IL 60615.