

panies for decades, already. Just in tax-dodging alone, the oil corporations owe all their wealth to us, the people of the United States!

PUBLIC LANDS— PRIVATE OIL?

Practically all the oil land was once public land, just like the shale land is now. In some cases the public ownership is still clear and provable.

Take, for instance, the lush oil wells drilled on old railroad land like that of the Southern Pacific and the Burlington Northern.

The terms of the U.S. grants of over 50 million acres to these two companies alone forbade them to appropriate the mineral wealth of the land. But they have been doing just that for generations.

Not only does the oil in those and similar lands belong to the people; the profits of those companies for three-quarters of a century belong to the people, too!

LET'S TAKE THEM OVER!

We, the people, should take over the oil companies and operate them in the public interest.

The enemy is not OPEC—the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries—who are all **poor** countries, made poor by these same big U.S. corporations robbing them of their oil for a quarter of a century before OPEC **began** taking it for themselves, in about 1972.

A few powerful sheiks, princes, and high-paid local agents for U.S. oil companies have become rich and super-rich. But the **per capita** wealth of every one of these countries, that is, the average wealth of all the people as a whole, is still far below that in the United States.

Before September 1973, Exxon, Texaco, and the others were getting oil from the Persian Gulf area for \$1.70 a barrel. Before 1970 they got it from Saudi Arabia for less than a dollar a barrel. This was for twenty-two years! During those years, the U.S. oil companies made far more profit from the OPEC countries than they made at home.

They still do.

The enemy is not OPEC. The enemy is Exxon, Gulf, Texaco, Mobil, Shell, Socal, Amoco, Sunoco, etc., etc.

The OPEC countries unfortunately have not really taken over the above companies or fully expelled them from their territory (except, apparently, in the case of Iran).

But WE should take them over!

These companies have made over a hundred billion dollars out of the OPEC countries. They have exploited the Middle East since 1948. But they have exploited US for a much longer time.