GROWERS BENEFIT

**USDA Takes Surplus Off Farmer’s Hands**

By Paul D. Lawrence

If capitalism did not exist, it would be almost impossible to invent a system so absurd. Consider the decision by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to purchase as much as 33 million pounds of fresh peaches this year. Last year it purchased 22 million pounds. In the three previous years, purchases were from 20 million to 33 million pounds.

There is, so to speak, an ongoing glut of peaches nationwide. Making matters worse, an unusually warm spring in California’s San Joaquin Valley resulted in smaller fruit than usual, which retailers will not buy. Some peach growers have left fruit unharvested.

The USDA’s purchase is good for agribusinesses who grow peaches. “This is kind of like Santa Claus coming,” said Charles Walker of the National Peach Council.

Blair Richardson, president of the California Tree Fruit Agreement, put the purchase into better perspective: “It’s bound to be a benefit for all growers because it pulls some peaches off the market.”

Why should Nature’s bounty be a problem? Because under capitalism commodities, including peaches, are produced for sale with a view toward profit, that is, for their exchange value. If a commodity satisfied no human want or need, it would have no use value and would not be produced in the first place. But satisfying human wants and needs is a secondary consideration under capitalism. Production is for the sake of profit.

According to the law of supply and demand, if supply is greater than demand, prices will fall and vice versa. The USDA’s purchase will reduce supply, hence raise prices.

What will happen to the peaches the USDA purchases and withdraws from the market? They will be given away. “The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Agricultural Marketing Service buys the fruit for uses given away,” said Charles Walker of the National Peach Council.

“At this time,” said Blair Richardson, “we will purchase into better perspective: ‘It’s bound to be a benefit for all growers because it pulls some peaches off the market.’”

A recent special education to The Fresno Bee reported.

Those consumers are among the most impoverished strata of the working class. Some receive wages so low that they cannot support themselves and their families. Many retirees scrape by on a pittance. Others have simply been displaced altogether from the process of production because capitalism has no use for their labor power.

To sum up, the federal government, part of the political state, protects the interests of the capitalist class. To prevent agribusinesses from going bankrupt, it purchases “surplus” commodities, that is, those that

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**GOP, DEMS AND GREENS AGREE**

**Principles ‘Not Binding’ On Bush, Kerry or Cobb**

Workers who want to know what difference there is between the Democrats and Republicans do not have to go to the trouble of finding the answer. What it boils down to is the difference in the personalities of President George W. Bush and Sen. John F. Kerry. Beyond the smiles on their faces, the cut of their clothes and their relative abilities to form a sentence and speak it plainly, there are no differences worthy of mention.

Indeed, with the exception that capitalism lays at the foundation of both major parties, the Democratic and Republican parties do not stand for much of anything. Even the platforms in which the parties supposedly express their guiding principles are meaningless. A writer for the Associated Press put it this way on July 27, the very day on which the Democratic convention adopted its 2004 platform in Boston:

“Marching in lockstep with John Kerry’s agenda, Democrats adopted a platform Tuesday that pledges an uncompromising war against terrorists, repaired relations with the world and advances on jobs, affordable health care and education.

“The days of platform fights long gone, delegates approved the document in a hasty procedure and a largely empty Democratic National Convention hall.

“Is there any discussion?” asked New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson, convention chairman. He didn’t wait for an answer before calling a voice vote that brought a chorus of approval and only a few scattered ‘nays.’

“The platform is a broad statement of principles that is not binding on the presidential candidate or anyone else. Even so, it was crafted with care to avoid conflict with Kerry’s positions while accommodating the ideological range of party activists.”

Ralph Z. Hallow of The Washington Times made a similar observation about the Republican Party on Aug. 15. Hallow reported that the Rep. Melissa A. Hart of Pennsylvania “will lead the Republican Platform subcommittee,” then added:

“The platform—a statement of principles nonbinding to the party’s presidential candidate—is being prepared for approval by the party’s presidential nominating team in New York.”

What all this tells us, of course, is that the Democratic and Republican parties are not political parties in any meaningful sense. They are nothing more than loosely lumped together coalitions of often-conflicting “interest groups” whose lack of coherence and direction makes them ripe and ready for manipulation by rich and powerful capitalists. They are political corals into which to herd and tame.

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**Foul Air Over Farm Valley**

By Paul D. Lawrence

California’s San Joaquin Valley has the worst air pollution in the United States. Or air quality may be amongst the worst. It depends on what is measured and for how long. A recent special education to The Fresno Bee cites three basic causes: topography, climate and “growing population.” The first two are more or less given. The last is falsely labeled.

Mountains surround the valley, with the majestic Sierra Nevada to the east. Hot air traps cooler air on the valley floor and, with it, pollutants.

Hot summers cook volatile organic compounds and nitrogen oxides in ozone. In the stratosphere, ozone, which is being depleted by various pollutants, helps protect Earth from harmful ultraviolet radiation. At ground level, it is a dangerous pollutant. It causes lung damage, eye irritation and respiratory tract problems. It creates smog and damages plants.

Ozone can also trigger asthma attacks. The underlying causes of asthma are considered unknown. Various things can “trigger” attacks. The valley has an extraordinarily high rate of asthma and severe air pollution. The “triggers” versus cause question sounds something like the chicken and the egg.

Without triggers, there would be no asthma attacks.

During the winter, particulate pollution is the main problem. That refers to very small particles of soot, dust and other solids plus droplets of liquids. Particulate matter too causes lung damage and eye irritation. It reduces visibility, damages crops and discolours buildings and statues.

Everybody agrees that these pollutants are bad. Agreement ends there. The only possible area for change is “growing population.” But that is a fact. Human activity itself is not itself the problem. It is how that activity is carried out under capitalism. Here are released all the Furies of conflicting private interests. Each wants someone else to do something about pollution.

More than half of the ozone pollution is from...
What Kind of Freedom Is This?

By Michael James

Americans like to talk about freedom, saluting it, praising it, celebrating it and roaming the planet proclaiming to fight for it. Bourgeois politicians constantly remind us how fortunate we are to be free. Singer folk relentlessly pour out their hearts in tribute to freedom. However, when we overcome sentiment, histrionics, mystification and propaganda, we see very little freedom in capitalist America.

For example, we have a greater percentage of our population in prison than any other country. Daniel De Leon saw it coming clear back in 1895: “Capitalism is fast making of this country a penitentiary.” Most of our prisoners today committed nonviolent crimes. “Nationwide, nonviolent offenders account for 72 percent of all prison admissions,” according to Human Rights Watch, and nearly 32 percent are drug offenders. “Get ”em young,” which is really a war against human beings. Addiction is a sickness and it should be regarded as a health issue rather than as a moral and criminal one. “The averages of long-term drug abuse has been scientifically proven a failed policy, with the U.S. murder rate declining for 11 consecutive years following the repeal of alcohol prohibition. The war on drugs is simply racist class warfare, a pretext for warehousing those who are disenfranchised and have no meaningful role to play in this capitalist econo-

mism. America now spends more on prisons and correc-
tions than on schools and education. What kind of freedom is this?

The average college graduate begins his or her career massively in debt with student loans. In 2000, for example, the average U.S. student graduated from college owing $26,072. A key rea-
sion for this tragic injustice is a federal budget that annually diverts public funds away from education and other human needs and straight to the bloody coffers of the Pentagon. To make matters even worse, U.S. corporations aggres-
sively market credit cards to college students, successfully shackling them to credit card and interest debt on top of crippling student loan debt. Some students enter lucrative professions such as medicine or law and thereby get a fight-
case of overcoming their indebtedness. The ones who are really buried alive are the graduate students who sell their intellectual or phys-
ical labor power are not free to experience eco-

nomic security. Precariousness, apprehension, anxiety, doubt, uncertainty and fear characterize working-class life in capitalist America. It must ever be so and can never be otherwise. The fundamental characteristic and singular purpose of capitalism is the exploitation of labor, which Marx imaginatively described as “vampire thirst for the living blood of labor” and “werewolf hunger for surplus labor.” Capitalism can never resolve the class struggle. We who create wealth will never know certain-

We lack the freedom to live free from violence. America is one of the most violent nations on earth. Much of this violence is interpersonal — our population in prison than any other country. Daniel De Leon saw it coming clear back in 1895: “Capitalism is fast making of this country a penitentiary.”

What kind of freedom is this?
Hibel Ruling Underrines Fourth Amendment Rights

“I believe there are more instances of the abuse of freedom by the people by gradual and silent encroachments by those in power than by violent and sudden usurpations.”
—James Madison, 1788

By Ken Boettcher

A police officer pulls up behind a pickup parked on the side of a country road. The officer walks toward a man smoking a cigarette, who walks toward the officer and says, “How’s it goin’ sheriff?” The officer repeatedly demands to see the man’s ID. The man repeatedly refuses to give his name or ID, saying he has done nothing wrong. He is arrested and taken to jail.

The scene might seem “normal” under the former apartheid regime in South Africa, where blacks were required to carry identification at all times. It happens often in Israel’s present-day apartheid-like regime, which requires Palestinians to do the same. It is no doubt common under the oppressive totalitarian “communist” regime in China, where so many U.S. capitalists find it profitable to build their factories there. But such a thing could never become common here in the “free” United States, right?

Perhaps before Larry Dudley Hibel was arrested in Humboldt County, Nev., in May 2000. There, on a spring day, Hibel, a 59-year-old Nevada rancher, was smoking a cigarette outside his pickup. The vehicle was stopped alongside a rural road. According to a report received by police, a male had struck a female (Hibel’s daughter) inside the parked pickup.

Not much is clear about what happened before the police showed up. But charges of battery against Hibel were dropped.

What happened after the police showed up is shown quite clearly in the police video of the arrest, which can be viewed in several formats online at http://papers. thepeople. org/hibel/index2.html. The video shows that Hibel was arrested and taken to jail solely for refusing to identify himself. He was sentenced to “free” United States, right?

And, he continued, “because Nevada has never claimed any other basis for his arrest, its actions violate the Fourth Amendment’s ban on unreasonable searches and seizures.”

The majority opinion in the Nevada Supreme Court’s 4-3 decision against Hibel attempted to excuse the trumping of his rights in the context of the war on terror. “We are at war,” wrote Nevada Chief Justice Cliff Young, “against enemies who operate with concealed identities and the dangers we face as a nation are unparalleled.” The majority, accordingly, deemed it “reasonable and necessary” for the officer to demand Hibel’s identification. Young presumes that real terrorists will render their true identities when asked.

The dissenting opinion in the Nevada Supreme Court decision upholding Hibel’s conviction noted, “What the majority fails to recognize is that it is the observable conduct, not the identity, of a person, upon which an officer must legally rely when investigating crimes and enforcing the law.”

Not any longer. Probable cause is now out the window. The 5-4 decision of the U.S. Supreme Court on June 21 upholding Nevada’s decision ruled that his arrest did not violate Hibel’s rights to privacy or to be free of unreasonable arrest or his protection against self-incrimination.

Accordingly, such laws now have strong impetus to proliferate. The abuses which will come from that proliferation will no doubt fall disproportionately on minorities, protesters, the homeless—or anyone who is not happy with the status quo.

The last century was punctuated with such encroachments by the executive, legislative and judicial branches of the U.S. government under the guise of fighting communism, crime and drugs.

This century it is already clear, thanks to the Patriot Act, the Hibel case and other acts, under which flag—that of “fighting terrorism”—those who seek to circumvent civil rights will be marching in their attempts to safeguard and promote the capitalist system and the profits and privileges of the tiny minority that benefits from it.
Lies About Unemployment

Benjamin Diessl, 19th-century British parliamentarian, was reported to have said, "There are three kinds of lies: lies, damned lies and statistics." The Bush administration's distortions on unemployment illustrate the point.

On Aug. 6, government figures on employment for July were released. They showed "32,000 new net jobs added to payrolls during the month," as an article by CNN/Money put it. At the same time, the unemployment rate declined from 5.6 percent to 5.5 percent. The Bush administration is portraying this as economic recovery, private-sector jobs are still about one percent below levels when President Bush took office four years before—something that has not happened since 1948. The U.S. economy has never seen anything like this. Fully 25 months into this so-called "economic recovery," a majority of Americans believe the government is integrity distorted.

The U.S. Supreme Court's June 20 decision in Hiibel v. Sixth Judicial District Court, 551 U.S. 425, 127 S.Ct. 2401, 167 L.Ed.2d 394, was "a brilliant success in North Carolina when the majority "consented" to be governed by the chivalrous assassins who shout so loudly for the Declaration of Independence," wrote Martin Bormel, "and the same thing is true of the Democrats in the South. The Democrat Pattison and the Republican Harrison in 1892, by liberal applications of bayonets and bullets."

"The consent of the miners in Idaho was secured by the Republican McKinley and the Democrat Steunenberg,5 by giving the miners a liberal dose of the Bull Pen and star-\n\n\n
Socialism is the collective ownership by all of the people of the factories, mills, railroads, land and all other instruments of production. Socialism means production to satisfy human needs, not, as under capitalism, for sale and profit. Socialism means direct control and management of the industries and social services by the workers through a democratic government based on their nationwide economic organization.

Consent of...
unemployment rates in at least some sectors of science and engineering have topped the charts." Likewise, "particularly in engineering and information technology, we did not find evidence that such shortages have existed at least since 1990, nor that they are on the horizon," the RAND Corp. reported earlier this year.

While Monastersky, in true academic fashion, engages in "maybe this, maybe that" kind of arguments in his nine-page article, several facts seem consistent. More students are graduating with higher degrees than the labor market can accommodate. Many of them are becoming very tough for the chemical profession, in postdoctoral positions (postdocs), in some cases leaving the profession when nothing permanent arises. In 1995, 65 percent of PhDs in biomedical areas became postdocs. Last year the American Chemical Society observed "times are becoming very tough for the chemical profession" and reported that the proportion of new PhD chemists in postdoc positions increased by 10 percent between 2002 and 2003. For the first quarter of 2004, 6.7 percent of computer scientists and systems analysts were unemployed.

Those who are claiming a scarcity like that need to blame the American education system, a common right-wing whipping boy. In fact, Monastersky points out, the U.S. education system is educating too many scientists and engineers. Graduate students and postdocs are cheap labor, teaching undergraduate students and working on the research projects that generate grant money for universities. Universities are encouraged by industry and government to train their students as "professional" and "productive" citizens. An editorial in Science this year argued: "We've arranged to produce more knowledge workers than we can employ, creating a labor-excess economy that keeps labor costs down and productivity high. Maybe this is because in our heart of hearts, we really prefer it this way." Indeed a surplus is encouraged as a capitalist tactic to keep wages from rising.

Scientists and engineers like to view themselves as professionals who can enjoy exercising their creative potentials, and who should be rewarded commensurately. For capitalism, they are simply specialized workers who can create far more wealth than they are paid for performing the research and development tasks that lead to new patents and products. Whether drugs, computers or communications devices or software, research and development monopolize rights under patent laws for limited time periods, and are thus immune for that time to the competition that limits profit in normal commodity manufacturing. By encouraging a surplus in technically skilled workers, capitalists can keep the costs of research low and increase profits still more. They can do so by hiring foreign workers on H-1B visas, by outsourcing development work to foreign countries where wages are low, or by using our much maligned education system to train more workers than are required for the available jobs. Regardless of the method, the result is increased exploitation of scientific and technical labor:

In a socialist society, on the other hand, scientific and technical workers would be represented democratically within the Socialist Industrial Union government, whether in industries like health and medicine or in research education institutions. Resources would be allocated based on the best information available and aimed toward the goals represented by social need and the spirit of scientific inquiry, unhampered by political or commercial interests. Scientific and technical workers would have the opportunity at last to pursue their full creative potentials.

By Bruce Cozzini

Colleges and universities use graduate students as a cheap pool of labor to teach undergraduates and perform research. The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) in July acted to assure that the labor is cheap by blocking the right of graduate students to unionize at private universities. (Science, July 25)

The decision blocked an organizing drive at Brown University and reversed the position taken by the NLRB in 2000 that had allowed a successful union drive at New York University. The board is expected to rule shortly on similar cases at three other private universities. So far, the ruling does not apply to public universities, where dozens of graduate student unions have become independent.

As Science reports, the 3-2 NLRB majority claimed that the students’ role as students takes precedence over their status as workers, warning that unionization posed significant evidence that such shortages have existed at least since 1990, nor that they are on the horizon,” the RAND Corp. reported earlier this year.

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As Science reports, the 3-2 NLRB majority claimed that the students’ role as students takes precedence over their status as workers, warning that unionization posed significant
all sign of social discontent. They stand for everything but they stand for nothing. Accordingly, it does not matter what a political party’s platform says or what “principles” it claims to have. None of that is binding on the candidates.

The Green Party likes to say that the Democratic and Republican parties and their candidates are indistinguishable, one from the other. There is no useful difference between them. The Green Party, however—well, now, that is a different story!

The Green Party assures those who visit its Web site that it really is different from the Democrats and the Republicans, and it displays a long list of “issues” to prove just how different it is.

The Democrats and the Republicans support the war on Iraq, but the Green Party opposes it.

The Democrats and the Republicans support the Patriot Act, but the Green Party opposes it.

The Democrats and the Republicans supported the war on Afghanistan, but the Green Party opposed it.

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In one of his major addresses, Daniel De Leon said of the Socialist Labor Party that its “organization and principle are one.” The principle he had in mind was the class struggle—a clear-cut recognition that the working class and the capitalist class have nothing in common and that workers must stand on their own political feet inside their own political party before they can hope to solve the problems that capitalism creates. The working class of America not only needs a political party that stands on principle, but on the principle that only the working class itself can solve the litany of social and economic problems that capitalism brings in its wake. That party is the Socialist Labor Party. Study its principles and its program for putting them into effect.

**Steps You Can Take**

You can help provide for the long-term financial security of The People by establishing a properly worded provision in your Will or by making some other financial arrangement through your bank. Write to the Socialist Labor Party, publisher of The People, for a free copy of the booklet, Steps You Can Take. Use the coupon.

Socialist Labor Party • P.O. Box 218 • Mtn. View, CA 94042-0218

Please send me a free copy of Steps You Can Take to

**YOUR NAME**

**ADDRESS**

**CITY**

**STATE**

**ZIP**

(Continued from page 1)
**ACTIVITIES**

**CALIFORNIA**

**Discussion Meeting**—Section San Francisco Bay Area will hold a discussion meeting on Saturday, Aug. 28, 1:30–4 p.m., San Francisco Main Public Library, ground floor conference room, Grove & Larkin sts. Moderator: Robert Bills. For information about other meetings, please call 408-280-7266 or e-mail slipsball@netscape.net.

**OHIO**

**Discussion Meetings**—For more information about Section Cleveland’s upcoming discussion meetings, please call 440-237-7933.

**Cleveland:** Section Cleveland will have a litera-
ture discussion meeting at the Honey Pot on Saturday, Aug. 28, 1–9 p.m., and on Sunday, Aug. 29, 12 noon–9 p.m. The festival is located on Fleet Ave., from E. 49th St. to E. 65th St. (Cleveland’s south side).

**OREGON**

**Discussion Meetings**—Section Portland holds discussion meetings every second Saturday of the month. Meetings are usually held at the Central Library, but the exact time varies. For more information please call Sid at 503-226-2881 or visit our Web site at http://slp.pdx.home.mind-
spring.com.

...Wall Street

(Continued from page 3)

before long and net him a handsome profit. Such were the conditions when the Rockefellers, fathers and sons, smilingly entered the market buying “sound common stocks”—raking in, in plain terms.

The fellow who has been cleaned out, after he has regressed what wits he may have left, will begin to save again, and after he has grown enough wool and become a regular consumer, will be born of his wool, and then he will save again to grow a new crop—and so on and so forth ad infinitum—until this whole loony social system comes down with a crash and gambling ceases to be a respectable occupation.

...Peaches

(Continued from page 1)

cannot be sold at a price sufficient for a large enough profit, or perhaps even to recover the costs of production. Then it gives away those commodities to members of the working class who cannot afford to purchase them in the first place.

Socialist society will know no such absurdities. The useful producers will receive the full value of their labor and thus be able to satisfy their wants and needs. Out of the wealth produced, socialist society will make full provi-
sion for retirees and those who through some misfortune cannot work. The absurdity of “too much” food and people too poor to afford what they need will disappear.

**letters to the People**

**Political Circus**

I have enclosed £30 pounds: £10 pounds to

...Wall Street

(Continued from page 3)

promote any subscription to The People and £20 as a donation to party funds.

The political circus that is taking place in America at the moment is being televised in this country, it makes sad reading for all classconscious workers both here and in America to see such mass ignorance and apathy at this critical period in history. But the sad thing is that the people in all countries still imagine that by electing a capital-

ist leader to power he will lead them out of the capitalist wilderness.

Socialists have a mammoth task on hand to convince them otherwise by pointing out that industrially organized labor guided by authentic socialist principle is the only hope. All else is illusion.

T. McGregor

Glasgow, Scotland

He’s No Lincoln

I was amused by your column “He’s No Lincoln.” But do you really think the presi-
dent “digs abstractions”? Certainly not abstractions like “peace,” “brotherhood,” “love,” “sharing” or “work.”

Greg Stark

Rochester, N.Y.

**Death of a Salesman**

I just read your “Death of a Salesman” article about Ronald Reagan. It’s excellent. Please enter my subscription. My check for $5.00 is enclosed.

Paul A. Spengler

Buffalo, N.Y.

**Funds**

**Deficit for 2004** ............................................... $ 5,140.87

**SLP Sustainer Fund**

Joan Davis $800; Bernard Bortnick $300; $20 each Dave Zink, Michael Preston, Willard Shapiro, Lloyd A. Wright; $10; Col. Don Shepherd $5. Total: $127.00

**SLP Leaflet Fund**

Richard Wilson $28; $10 each Patrick McElhaney, Ben Kraft, D. Borowsky 89, Joseph J. Frank, $5; Chad Ely $3.50 Raymond A. Coxover $2. Total: $87.00

**Genevieve Gunderson Memorial Fund**

Paul D. Lawrence $15.00 (Total)

**Daniel De Leon Sequeocentennial Fund**

$20 each Richard Mack, Bill Romberg. Total: $40.00

**Socialist Labor Party**

**Financial Summary**

Bank balance (June 30).............................     229,744.49

Income (June).............................................       7,270.09

Bank balance (June 30).............................     229,744.49

Deficit for 2004...........................................$ 5,140.87

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Buffalo, N.Y.
Olympic Rings Help Rivet Working Class’ Chains

By Diane Secor

The People’s Republic of China (PRC) is using its preparations for the 2008 Olympics to obscure the conflicting class interests involved and to create the impression that everywhere in China is zealously supporting the road to “the gold.”

Beijing’s Olympic preparations have brought increased misery to millions of Chinese workers. Millions of uprooted migrant workers in particular have suffered from greater stress on family life, more dangerous working conditions, police state repression, and intense exploitation by American and other foreign capitalists.

All striking social parallels exist between China’s devaluing toward inflation the state and the Industrial Revolution of the 19th and early 20th centuries in the United States and the United Kingdom. Small farm owners and rural businesses cannot compete against larger and more technically advanced operations. As small farms and traditional rural businesses collapse, large numbers of rural people are being forced into the cities in search of new livelihoods. There they join vast numbers of other unemployed migrants and urban workers to blight overstocked labor markets. Capitalists not only take advantage of the opportunity to hold wages down, but also to force workers to accept unregulated and hazardous working conditions.

Injuries and deaths among Chinese workers are also employed to break and force to break up, and children are being stranded and orphaned in frightening numbers.

“To build everything from sports arenas to the interiors of government offices,” Asian Economic News reported last February, “Beijing construction firms hire poor or out-of-work countryside dwellers for 200 ($24.2) to 1,000 yuan per month, employing from 80 million to 120 million Chinese in construction, according to government statistics.”

Since family housing and public education for migrant children are generally unavailable to migrant workers, families are forced to split up. This has led to the breakdown of familial ties and the larger social fabric of communities. Some of these children become orphans when the workers die from extremely unsafe working conditions. “China Daily reported 883,000 accidents from January through November 2003 in which about 1,170 workers were killed.”

Migrant workers are also at the mercy of a powerful police state. The Agence France-Presse (AFP) reported that it is common for police to kidnap workers and hold them hostage until their families cough up the money for ransom. Moreover, labor unions outside of state control are outlawed.

Nevertheless, Beijing seems to be alarmed at the possibility of these migrant workers becoming a “strong disruptive force.” According to an AFP report (Dec. 21, 2003), the regime “woke up to the plight of 120 million farmers who are treated as strangers in their own country, and forced to break up, and children are being stranded and orphaned in frightening numbers.”

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Foul Air Over Farm Valley

(Continued from page 1)

vehicle emissions. The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, which is supposed to oversee antipollution efforts, has no legal authority to regulate those emissions. The state of California and the federal Environmental Protection Agency do. When they are prodded into action, often as the results of lawsuits by environmentalists, automakers respond with a shrug and the familiar line, “Public transit is simply inadequate. Almost anyone who has an automobile uses it.”

The United States of America-China Chamber of Commerce (USCCC), according to telecomplus.com. He also has used his other connections, including those among U.S., Chinese and Japanese corporations. Bush, now technically retired from the USCCC, just happens to be President Bush’s uncle.

The U.S. capitalist class and China’s ruling class have substantial investments tied to preparations for the 2008 Olympics in Beijing. All of the flag waving and cheering cannot hide the suffering of millions of Chinese workers. The interests of America’s working class lie with the interests of Chinese workers, not with ruling-class investors and their mouthpieces. Let our motto be “Workers of the world unite!”

local to national, and at all branches, executive, legislative, judicial and regulatory, is part of the problem. It serves the interests of the dominant political class. It exemplifies the case of the United States” is meaningless unless the people are capitalists.

The San Joaquin Valley may be the worst-case scenario. It exemplifies the case of the United States of production for profit, competition and private ownership of the means of production. While paying lip service to pollution control, capitalists seek to protect their own interests first.

But human activity does not have to continue spewing polluters into the environment. Under socialism, productive property would be owned by society and production would be carried on to provide for social needs and wants. There is no social need for pollution. The useful producers would have no material incentive to pollute the environment and poison themselves.

In the San Joaquin Valley, man-made pollution and climate will remain largely the same. But social-