LABOR PERISCOPE

A long and unnecessary battle

The Federal Appeals court in Virginia last week overturned the certification of the United Steelworkers as the bargaining unit for the more than 15,000 workers at the Newport News, Va. shipyard. The union had won the election for certification last winter, but Tenneco, the energy-based conglomerate that owns the shipyard, refused to bargain and took the issue to court. The Steelworkers struck the shipyard over a month ago. Now the strike is expected to drag on for months while the National Labor Relations Board hears Tenneco's "evidence" of vote fraud. (The appeals judge made no ruling on the evidence — only on the procedural question of whether the NLRB should have given a hearing on the charges.)

The strike is a case of two potential allies fighting it out for somebody else's benefit. The Union and Tenneco share a progrowth outlook, and both have a common enemy - Energy Czar James Schlesinger, who along with the Navy Department figures heavily in the manipulation of the confrontation. Schlesinger had put the squeeze on Tenneco and its shipyard by cancelling billions of dollars in energy-trade deals — deals which meant jobs at the shipyard building tankers etc. Schlesinger has also hurt the Steelworkers with his sabotage of U.S. nuclear development.

But Tenneco, according to sources, was "gotten to" by "right to work" networks both inside and around the company, setting them on a collision course with the Steelworkers. And the union has increasingly fallen under the sway of networks in the AFL-CIO around Secretary Treasurer Lane Kirkland and Industrial Union Department head Jacob Clayman. They want to make the strike into a test of strength for organized labor and the right to work movement controlled by bogus conservative Richard Viguerie. They — like the company — see no need to attack Schlesinger or to support a common interest program for expanded world trade that would increase demand for the energy-carrying ships produced at Newport News.

Schlesinger must be laughing to himself. The Executive Intelligence Review will carry a full report on the set-up in a forthcoming issue.

Inside the steel union — CBS television last week aired an hour-long prime time "documentary" alleging to portray the "battle taking place inside the steel union" between "insurgents" and the McBride national leadership. Filmed last summer and at the United Steelworkers convention in September, the show amounted to a plug for networks inside the USWA associated with lawyer Joe Rauh and his former candidate for USWA president, Edward Sadlowski.

Sadlowski's friends from Local 1010 at Inland Steel, who were featured prominantly by CBS, are rabid environmentalists. They are in the leadership of the anti-nuclear power lobby in the area and have tried to block the construction of the Bailly Dunes nuclear facility. Local 1010 "rank and file" leader Mike

Olzanski has been seen among the terrorist Clamshell Alliance at the Seabrook, N.H. reactor site. Olzanski and Sadlowski, who is now a sub district director of USWA District 31 under his friend Jim Balanoff, have even tried to shut down the Gary Works steel facility for "environmental" reasons.

Sadlowski and company were soundly defeated in the 1977 USWA Presidential election by a USWA membership which is overwhelmingly against these anti-growth policies. How strange then that CBS, which aired the "documentary" a little more than a month before USWA local elections in which the Sadlowski-Balanoff crowd will field candidates, chose to cover up the environmentalist character of these "new young militants." Also no mention of the wellpublicized USWA suit showing the Sadlowski crew to be a creature of major foundations and other outside sources.

Even stranger, USWA officials had thought prior to the broadcast that they would get a fair shake.

LaRouche rep addresses IBT Illinois local — U.S. Labor Party Illinois State Committeeman Richard Leebove addressed 300 shop stewards and their wives from Local 525 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters in Alton, Ill., March 2. The presentation by Leebove, who has toured the country speaking on a pamphlet called "London's Plot to Destroy the Teamsters," was arranged by Local President Marshall McDuffie as an

Leebove emphasized the policy-making leadership quality of U.S. Labor Party Chairman Lyndon H. LaRouche as compared to the helpless Carter Administration and presidential contender Edward Kennedy who has viciously attacked the Teamsters: "The Kennedy machine has attacked the Teamsters because they stand for the American System policies which Kennedy opposes. You have to fight these people politically."

educational forum for his men.

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