

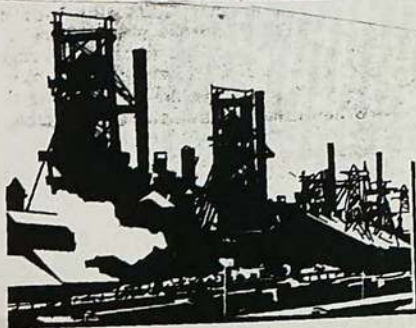
THE STRIKE AGAINST CARGILL IS STILL GOING !!



CITY/COUNTY SALT CONTRACTS QUESTIONED

COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROWING

PRESERVATION
COPY
ORIGINAL
DESTROYED



Despite the recent ruling by the National Labor Relations Board against the salt miners, they are continuing their strike to save their union. Their charges of unfair labor practices have not been the only way the miners and their supporters are attempting to force Cargill to negotiate in good faith. Among other things, we are attempting to get the city of Ithaca, Tompkins County and other municipalities in New York and Pennsylvania to delay contracting salt from Cargill until the strike is settled. State laws on municipalities contracting goods and services state that the "lowest responsible bidder" must be accepted and that all contracts must be "within the public interest". There is case law which supports agencies refusing bids from "irresponsible" bidders and when it is "in the public interest" to do so.

The following is some of the evidence that has been submitted to the Ithaca city attorney to prove our contention that Cargill is both irresponsible and this it is not in the public interest to contract salt from them at this time

Cases against Cargill, Inc.

"Cargill plead guilty in U.S. District Court in June 1981 to four criminal counts of willfully violating mine-safety laws at its salt mine in Belle Isle, Louisiana. The site was rocked by an explosion in July 1979 that killed five miners. The violations, for which Cargill was fined \$45,000, were not connected directly to the blast. Cargill closed the salt mine, the world's largest, in February 1984." Quotation is from Ralph Nader and William Taylor, *The Big Boys*, Random House (New York) 1986, p. 330.

Judge awards employees \$1.2 million in race- and sex-discrimination suits against Cargill

In October 1984, a federal district judge imposed a settlement of \$1.2 million on Cargill, Inc. for race and sex discrimination in hiring, firing, and promotion. The settlement followed a suit filed by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and three class action suits filed by current and former employees. The case affected employees worldwide, including workers at Cargill Salt in Lansing, New York.

Cargill fined as a result of its negligence in June '82 Lansing mine deaths

The Mine Safety and Health Administration fined Cargill \$8000 after it found that a supervisor failed to provide safety belts and lines to two salt miners killed in the Lansing mine.

Arbitrations concluding that Cargill Salt fired workers without just cause

While under the direction of Mine Manager Gerry Thornton, Cargill Salt has resorted at least twice to discharge of employees in cases where only lesser disciplinary action was warranted under the terms of the contract with the I.A.M. Specifically, in cases resolved July 29, 1985 (FMSC #85K/08236) and November 26, 1985 (FMSC #85K16936), arbitrators ruled that two workers were discharged without just cause. Copies of the arbitrators' rulings are available from I.A.M., 638 Elmira Road, Ithaca, NY 14850.

Grievance charging that Cargill has employed, and continues to employ, non-union workers for union jobs

In a grievance filed November 4, 1985 (grievance #000038), the I.A.M. charged Cargill Salt with contracting out on-premises trucking jobs that are properly bargaining-unit positions. The grievance is still pending.

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR CITY AND COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES ASKING THAT
DELAY THE SALT CONTRACTS BIDDING!! SIGN OUR PETITION!!

CARGILL STRIKERS SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE
c/o Tompkins-Cortland Labor Coalition
109 W. State St., ITHACA, N.Y. 272-4108