

RED CHIP

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PAPER OF THE COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY
UNIT AT FRITO-LAY

STRIKE YEAR!!!

Throughout the USNA, this year thousands of contracts will expire, as in auto, rubber, the garment industry, the electrical industry and the food industry. Our contract with FL expires June 16th of this year.

'Strike Fever' has already hit many of us here at FL, but we must not repeat the same mistakes that were made last time. This takes a carefully planned strike, and a strong leadership that will fight for the workers here. No more wool over our eyes!!!

The workers here have begun to discuss the things that we want from the strike. As we said in order to have a good strike the workers must be organized, and we must learn from our past experiences, and not only our own, but from the experience of the whole working class throughout history, who have engaged in countless numbers of strikes since the capitalist system began. The Red Chip would like to reprint a portion of a pamphlet by V.I. Lenin, a leader and teacher of the workers the world over. We think that his words will aid us in our upcoming strike.

Why is it that large-scale factory production always leads to strikes? It is because capitalism must necessarily lead to a struggle of the workers against the employers, and when production is on a large scale the struggle of necessity takes on the form of strikes.

What significance have strikes (or stoppages) for the struggle of the working class? To answer this question, we must first have a fuller view of strikes. The wages of a worker are determined, as we have seen, by an agreement between the employer and the worker, and if, under these circumstances, the individual worker is completely powerless, it is obvious that workers must fight jointly for their demands, they are compelled to organise strikes either to prevent the employers from reducing wages or to obtain higher wages. It is a fact that in every country with a capitalist system there are strikes of workers. Everywhere, in all the European countries and in America, the workers feel themselves powerless when they are disunited; they can only offer resistance to the employers jointly, either by striking or threatening to strike. As capitalism develops, as big factories are more rapidly opened, as the petty capitalists are more and more ousted by the big capitalists, the more urgent becomes the need for the joint resistance of the workers, because unemployment increases, competition sharpens between the capitalists who strive to produce their wares at the cheapest (to do which they have to pay the workers as little as possible), and the fluctuations of industry become more accentuated and crises more acute.

Every strike reminds the capitalists that it is the workers and not they who are the real masters—the workers who are more and more loudly proclaiming their rights. Every strike reminds the workers that their position is not hopeless, that they are not alone. See what a tremendous effect strikes have both on the strikers themselves and on the workers at neighbouring or nearby factories or at factories in the same industry. In normal, peaceful times the worker does his job without a murmur, does not contradict the employer, and does not discuss his condition. In times of strikes he states his demands in a loud voice, he reminds the employers of all their abuses, he claims his rights, he does not think of himself and his wages alone, he thinks of all his workmates who have downed tools together with him and who stand up for the workers' cause, fearing no privations. Every strike means many privations for the working people, terrible privations that can be compared only to the calamities of war—hungry families, loss of wages, often arrests, banishment from the towns where they have their homes and their employment. Despite all these sufferings, the workers despise those who desert their fellow workers and make deals with the employers. Despite all these sufferings, brought on by strikes, the workers of neighbouring factories gain renewed courage when they see that their comrades have engaged themselves in struggle. "People who endure so much to bend one single bourgeois will be able to break the power of the whole bourgeoisie," said one great teacher of socialism, Engels, speaking of the strikes of the English workers.



A strike teaches workers to understand what the strength of the employers and what the strength of the workers consists in; it teaches them not to think of their own employer alone and not of their own immediate workmates alone but of all the employers, the whole class of capitalists and the whole class of workers. When a factory owner who has amassed millions from the toil of several generations of workers refuses to grant a modest increase in wages or even tries to reduce wages to a still lower level and, if the workers offer resistance, throws thousands of hungry families out into the street, it becomes quite clear to the workers that the capitalist class as a whole is the enemy of the whole working class and that the workers can depend only on themselves and their united action. It often happens that a factory owner does his best to deceive the workers, to pose as a benefactor, and conceal his exploitation of the workers by some petty sops or lying promises. A strike always demolishes this deception at one blow by showing the workers that their "benefactor" is a wolf in sheep's clothing.

Strikes, therefore, always instil fear into the capitalists, because they begin to undermine their supremacy. "All wheels stand still, if your mighty arm wills it," a German workers' song says of the working class. And so it is in reality: the factories, the landlords' land, the machines, the railways, etc., etc., are all like wheels in a giant machine—the machine that extracts various products, processes them, and delivers them to their destination. The whole of this machine is set in motion by the worker who tills the soil, extracts ores, makes commodities in the factories, builds houses, workshops, and railways.

ON TO THE STRIKE!

WANT TO READ MORE ON STRIKES?
THE 10 PAGE PAMPHLET "ON STRIKES"
BY V. I. LENIN IS AVAILABLE AT EMANCIPATION BOOKS, 12024 LINWOOD
AND ELMHURST IN DETROIT. OR ASK
A CLP MEMBER AT WORK TODAY.

NO PROTECTION--NO TOOLS!!!!

The maintenance men on all 3 shifts are fighting against FL in a manner which we must all learn from and support. A maintenance man's tools were stolen from an area that FL told the men that the tools would be safe. A maintenance man must buy his own tools, with only a small amount coming from FL per year, which at best can only cover the cost of keeping up the tools that they already have. Most of the men have over 1,000 dollars worth of tools, so when they are stolen, it hurts, and this is not the first time. Although FL agreed to reimburse the worker for the tools that were stolen, the guys have banded together to demand insurance and more security for their tools. And the way that they are fighting for this is that they refused to bring in all of their tools except for only those absolutely needed for work.

We say right on to the maintenance men, and everyone in the plant should support this fight to protect themselves not only against the thieves that steal the tools, but also against the main thief-Frito-Lay, who steals from us everyday of the week.

SUPPORT THE MAINTENANCE MEN
THEY SAW THAT AN ATTACK ON ONE IS AN ATTACK
ON ALL!!!!

Lean el
**TRIBUNO
POPULAR**

*P.O. Box 72306 Watts Sta.
Los Angeles, California*

WITHOUT A POLITICAL PARTY OF IT'S OWN
THE WORKING PEOPLE HAVE NOTHING!



Not long ago, a 2nd shift worker, Priscilla-D. collapsed in the locker room, apparently as a result of a heart condition that she has had for some time. It was obvious to all the women gathered around her that she was in very serious trouble-she was barely breathing, was unable to talk and a pulse could not be found. As she lay there the workers could see that she would not have had to suffer as long there as she did if there was a nurse in the plant that knew what to do. Frito-lay will do anything to fix a machine that breaks down, but could care less about taking care of the workers here. What is important to the capitalists is maximum profits, minimum health and safety.

The time is long overdue for unqualified supervisors to stop playing Marcus Welby and get some qualified help in the plant. Neither the union or the safety committee (which has done some good things to improve safety) has done anything around getting a plant nurse, except say that FL can't afford one. But they can afford security guards to protect their property, they can afford posters all over the plant telling us to be safe, they can afford everything except a nurse for us. Priscilla is getting better now but will one of us have to die in here before frito-lay realizes that human beings are more important than machinery or money?? The only way that we can get good health care is if we start demanding it from the safety committee, and even refusing to work if sick. We must have this as a contract demand, but we cannot just wait until june for something like this. We must always carry on this fight until our nurse is done.

**DEMAND HEALTH AND SAFETY
FIGHT FOR A 24 HOUR PLANT NURSE!!**

READ THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE
THE POLITICAL PAPER OF THE
COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY. GET
IT TODAY FROM A WORKER AT
FRITO-LAY



"Okay, so it's safe. . . . Then what are those things waiting for?"

BUSING

School opens this Fall with busing plans in cities across the country. The Ku Klux Klan, Nazi Party, and ROAR and various other reactionary organizations have threatened to "bomb the buses" rather than integrate the schools.

The issue is clear: will the working class and particularly the Anglo-American workers fight for equal, quality education for all children? Or will we fall prey to the "race-baiting" divisive tactics of Louise Day Hicks of Boston or David Duke of the KKK, and allow schools to be turned into recruiting grounds for these fascist gangs?

Every decent, fair-minded person realizes that in order to have quality education for any, there must be equal education for all!

If the Klan, Nazis and ROAR are successful in keeping us divided along national lines on the question of education, we will be helpless in the struggle for jobs, peace, and a better life.

1976 THE BICENTENNIAL-WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

For the last 6 months everywhere we turn we see the word bicentennial. The capitalist class is making millions of dollars by putting this word on everything from toys to tables to toilet tissue-all in the name of love for this country. We workers can obviously see the hypocrisy in this, but why is the capitalist class doing all this talk of 'our 200 years', and what is the real meaning of it?

It is no accident that at the same time the ruling class talks about the 200th year of our democracy that the democracy that is celebrated is daily being taken away from the working class. The American Nazi party openly parades in the streets of Detroit and other cities, preaching hatred and filth. Only 4 months ago a Negro Preacher was lynched in California for trying to gain equality in education for all children.

The Klu Klux Klan again raises its ugly head to attack the labor movement and the Negro people as a whole. Even in our own plant, we must wait from one year to the next to get a union meeting.

Are all of these things democracy? Is this the type of America that we want, that millions of workers died for? HELL NO!! In all its bicentennial talk the bourgeoisie never tells the real story of this country-that America was built on the bloody, brutal history of slavery in the south. The wealth that this country has was stolen from the mines of Kentucky and Tennessee, the Indian people who have been constantly pushed off of the land, the hundreds of women in the garment industry who made only pennies a day and burned to death in the factory because the owners were too cheap to have good safety conditions.

The democracy that the capitalist say that they gave to us could not have been ours if not for the millions of young men that died in the wars against fascism and terror.

During this Bicentennial year our heroes must not be the George Washingtons, the Tom Jeffersons and the Henry Fords, but the real founders of America-The John Browns that gave their lives so that slavery would be abolished. the immigrants that came to this country to be forced onto the bottom rung of society, the men and women who were shot in the back by company police for trying to strike and form unions, the Bessie Lou Cornets who today struggle in the mining towns of Kentucky against the KKK.

On this 200th birthday of America, the real history of America must be told and that is the history of the working people, the only creators of wealth in this country, the real backbone of America. And the only real way that we can contribute to the bicentennial is for the workers to see that America can no longer belong to the handful of parasites that own everything in this country, and only want to plunge her into war after war, but it must belong to the people that sweated, bled and died for her, the working class. In 1976 we must fight to take America out of the hands that will make her into a country based on hatred, segregation and murder and crime. Only a system that allows for those who produce the wealth to own the wealth can make America really the Land of the Free. That system is obviously not capitalism, for those who produce nothing but the clothes and the houses we live in, while the ones who produce nothing own more than they will ever need in 2 or 3 lifetimes. We fight for socialism

