

The Highland Park



RED LINE

A Community Paper in the interests of the Working Class. Published by the Communist Labor Party and friends

Vol. 1 No. 1

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WORKERS STRIKE AT CHRYSLER CORP. WORLD HEADQUARTERS!!

Friday, Feb. 27, 650 mechanics went out on strike at Chrysler Corp. World Headquarters. UAW Local 412 (Technical, office and professional employees) has attempted to settle 250 grievances for a year, without success. Some of the demands are:

- 1.) No overtime while workers are laid off.
- 2.) Chrysler has hired non-union people for union jobs.
- 3.) Improvement of health and safety conditions.
- 4.) Laid off workers being called back to different job classifications.

Friday three striking mechanics were arrested and subsequently fired by Chrysler for beating on a car which crossed the picket line. However, workers on the picket line said that the driver bumped into a striker, causing the workers to attack the car. They said that most likely they will have to concede a few of their demands to get the workers' jobs back.

The Communist Labor Party supports these just demands. We see the intensification of labor as the key issue in the upcoming UAW contract negotiations. To understand why, we need to examine the whole economic picture.

There are two main groupings within the bourgeoisie - the Wall Street group, personified in the Rockefeller family, which represent the financiers, and the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) representing the industrialists. The industrialists and their spokesmen, like Ronald Reagan, represent the more fascist elements of the capitalist class at this time. The capital of the NAM grouping is directly invested in mines, mills, and factories, in the daily hiring of labor power. They come into day to day conflict with the working class. Founded in 1895, NAM is the largest and strongest anti-labor lobby in the country. In the '30's NAM was the strongest pro-Fascist group in the USNA, openly supporting Hitler. Former NAM president H.W. Prentiss openly stated "American businessmen might be forced to turn to some form of disguised fascist dictatorship."

While NAM is the most vocal advocate for fascism and war, we must not be misled. The tremendous economic power of Wall Street dominates the national political scene. Wall Street financiers are slowly being pushed by economic crisis closer and closer to war and fascism.

Chrysler, GM, and Ford are more closely associated with NAM than with Wall Street. Their investment, work force and market is more concentrated in the USNA. Their market, saturated with overproduction, and their reserves are limited. Their program must demand increased production and reduced costs if they are to continue to make great profits. They can only increase their capital accumulation through intensification of the labor process. This is done by means of speed ups, overtime, layoffs, and cutting back on machinery improvements.

What does this fascist offensive mean to the working class. For the skilled workers and professionals, it means a continuous decline in the standard of living and ever worsening working conditions. We can see this happening daily, through the strikes of teachers, nurses, skilled trades and even hospital doctors. These workers are being crushed between the drive of monopoly capital for more profit and the rising proletariat, fighting for socialism.

At the same time, the industrial proletariat is being driven down to a level of semi-slavery. Millions of workers are "superfluous", forced to die the slow death of starvation or the quick death of war. Trade unions are quickly rendered useless, and made illegal. Unbridled terror and repression become the order of the day.

The CLP sees the upcoming contract negotiations as a struggle which will unite the whole proletariat, both skilled and unskilled, under the leadership of the vanguard of the proletariat, the only class which can defeat the bourgeoisie's drive to fascism. The proletariat, led by its own political party, is the only class which can lead all oppressed people in the fight for socialism, and a decent life, jobs and peace for all

SUPPORT THE RENT STRIKE!

For over the past year the Detroit Housing Commission has increased the rents of people living in Detroit Public Housing. The rents have increased as much as 300%. People that were paying \$47 a month now pay \$147 a month. From \$98 to \$190, and some people are paying as much as \$225 a month. We all know what a house in the projects is like, and the awful conditions people are expected to live in. Lead paint on the inside and outside of the houses, roofs leaking on people's beds, bathtubs falling into the floor, doors busted, windows broken. Nothing for our youth to do, but roam the streets. And to top this, this, the DHC wrote a new lease for the tenants, and the tenants never saw the lease until they were told to sign it. The tenants were so outraged, that an open hearing was called at the Detroit City County Building, so that the Tenant Board of Affairs and the DHC could discuss the lease with the tenants, and change would be made in the new lease. The BTA listened to the tenants and supporters of their struggle, and said they would talk to the DHC; as soon as the meeting was over, the BTA passed the lease.

Why is this happening? Public housing is meant to be for low income people. Why are these people being attacked by the state?

The city is in a financial crisis, because of the overproduction crisis going on throughout the country. The bourgeoisie keeps producing commodities because that is the way they keep making their profits. When there becomes an overabundance of commodities (as it is today) that the working class cannot buy, they lay us off. For example, in 1973 the Ford Rouge was putting out 72 cars an hour, 576 every 8 hours, about 1728 cars every day. How many of us can afford to buy a car, let alone a brand new car? Unemployment in Detroit is as high as 25% (37% in Highland Park) and the government is trying to put the burden of this overproduction crisis on our backs.

The more money that the city gets from people in public housing, the more they get from the federal government, through matching funds. The city officials are not interested in how we live or eat, they are interested in money for themselves.

The Communist Labor Party supports the people in the public housing who are organizing a rent strike to roll back the rents and improve the housing. These latest moves on the part of the city must not be viewed as something unique to Detroit, but we see that this is all part of the whole series of fascist attacks on the proletariat. All workers must support these people, who can least afford any further attacks on their standard of living.

SUPPORT THE RENT STRIKE !
DECENT HOUSING FOR ALL WORKING CLASS PEOPLE !

GET CLP ON BALLOT

The Communist Labor Party is conducting a massive campaign to register the CLP as a recognised political party in Michigan.

The workers of Michigan will be the spearhead of this year's labor struggles. Michigan is the center of the auto industry, and auto workers represent one of the largest concentrated sections of industrial workers. Their battles for a fair living wage and decent working conditions influences the workers in other key industries. Auto workers have a valiant history of struggle for justice, equality and peace.

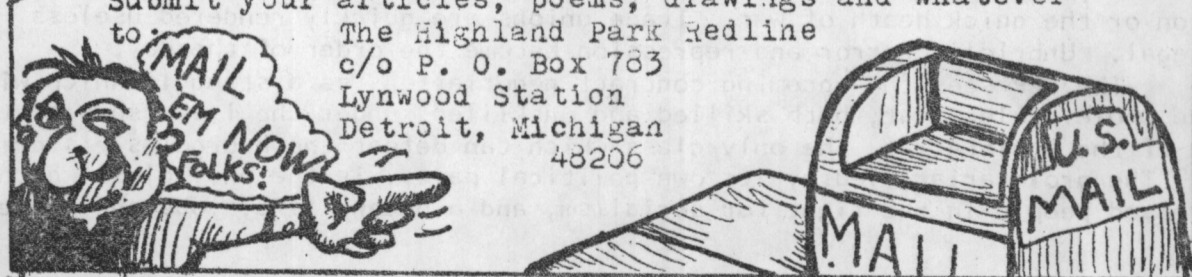
The working class of the USNA needs a political voice of its own. The Republicans and Democrats are no alternative for us, being the political voice of the capitalist class.

We call on all workers in Highland Park to join in this registration effort. Register to vote. Sign the CLP Ballot petition. Actively work in the registration campaign. Financial assistance is also needed.

We do have an alternative.

The Highland Park Redline is a paper that should reflect the lives and struggles of all the people in the city. To do this we need your support. Submit your articles, poems, drawings and whatever to:

The Highland Park Redline
c/o P. O. Box 783
Lynwood Station
Detroit, Michigan
48206



HIGHLAND PARK REDLINE



WITHOUT A PARTY OF IT'S OWN THE WORKING-CLASS
HAS NOTHING!

Volume 1. No. 1

We, members and friends of the Communist Labor Party (C.L.P. in Highland Park are putting together this first copy of the " Highland Park Redline", this paper is to express the ideals of the C.L.P.-giving a communist interpretation and solution to the problems facing us in Highland Park and the world.

We feel a paper like this is needed because of the serious problems facing us; depression- the rising rate of unemployment, the ever present threat of war and the drive towards fascism as a solution to the economic crisis we are in and the question of busing which is a reflection of the Negro People's continuing struggle against segregation and for equality - a struggle which the working-class as a whole must fight for - equal and quality education for all our children.

The C.L.P. (which is a national organization), is a multi-national Marxist-Leninist Communist Party. We put into practice the science of Marxism-Leninism-which is a guide to action, as it as a scientist does his microscope to be able to see clearer delve deeper into the inner workings of a thing. We struggle for the rights of the working-class as a whole and in particular the rights of women, youth and national minorities. The C.L.P. is a party that fights for the immediate needs of the people as we strive towards the historic, inevitable goal of our class-Socialism.

We hope that through this paper, our everyday activity and our national political paper - "The People's Tribune" that we can achieve a lasting relationship in this community.

SUPPORT BUSING

NOT FASCISM

What does this mean to people living in Highland Park? In the Nov. 6th issue of the Highland Park there were two articles concerning the educational system in Highland Park. One was titled "State May Cut Local School Funds", and the other was "Keeping in Touch" by Dr. Mitchell. Both articles were saying that the federal and state monies (have been) and are going to be cut again. This means less money for Highland Park, Detroit, and Michigan as a whole.

Twice this year concerned students and parents fought against the H.P. school system. The struggle centered in on the safety conditions in the high school, class size, the lay-off of teachers, and the poor curriculum, and other issues. The students, parents, and the working class people in H.P. are outraged with this educational system.

The fight for busing is the fight for quality and equal education. It is a fight for the same curriculum to be in the H.P. schools as is in the Bloomfield Hills schools. It is a fight for the same materials to be in the H.P. schools as is in the Dearborn schools. But this cannot and will not happen in segregated schools. History has proven that separate is not equal. History has also shown us that the Negro people have not and will not stand for segregation. The fight for busing is the fight to end segregation, to fight against the oppression of the Negro people.

The ruling class in this country has clouded the issue, to make it hard for us to understand it. The newspapers tell us "busing will cost too much". What the papers fail to tell us is how much the government spends on the military budget each year. They also say, "if we have busing, it will do away with

community control of the schools". Why should we control schools that are falling apart over our heads? Now the capitalists are throwing off their cover and showing their true faces. The Congress and Senate are trying to pass a bill that prohibits busing, and Gerald Ford openly came out against busing.

"Our government", that is suppose to stand for democracy and freedom for all people has taken a stand against desegregation. "Our government", is trying to overturn the 1954 decision, Brown vs. The Board of Education. "Our government" is trying to push the Negro people back into slavery, and push the Anglo-American worker down to the level the Negro worker is. It is clear to see that the government in this country is working hand in hand with the capitalist class to keep the Negro working people segregated, and to keep the working class divided.

The Communist Labor Party supports busing. We see this as a fight for quality, and equal education, for all working class children. This is a fight for the desegregation of the Negro National Minority worker in particular, and a fight for unity of the working class against the onslaught of fascist terror.

We in the Communist Labor Party (C.L.P.) understand that true equality can only be achieved under socialism, with the Dictatorship of the Proletariat. Only when we, the workers in this society control the means of production, when there is no oppressor class, when there is no class that oppresses and exploits other people, no class that lives off the labor of others, only then will we have real equality, real freedom and real democracy.

THE COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY CALLS ON ALL WORKERS:

1. JOIN THE STRUGGLE TO NATIONALIZE EDUCATION AND GUARANTEE EQUAL INTEGRATED QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL CHILDREN.
2. DEMAND THAT THE FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS MAKE IT A CAPITAL CRIME TO WILLFULLY HARM A SCHOOLCHILD OR PARENT INVOLVED IN A BUSING AND INTEGRATION PROGRAM AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS.
3. RETURN IN KIND ANY ACTS BY THE FASCISTS WHICH HARM OUR CHILDREN, NEIGHBORS, AND FELLOW WORKERS.

FIGHT BACK

In the last years massive amounts of arms have been transferred to Mideast countries.

Between 1950 and 1971 the capitalists have exported \$22.45 billion in arms to underdeveloped countries to reap huge profits and oppress the workers.

From the capitalist point of view defence contracting creates tremendous profits. A sample shows that defence contractors earned 17.5 % on their investment compared to 10 % on civilian market earnings.

Everyday we hear of Kissingers " peace efforts ". What peace is he talking about? In the 1973-1974 fiscal year the U.S.N.A. exported \$ 8.5 billion in arms-with the Mideast getting the bulk of that! \$4 billion- to Iran, \$1 billion to Israel and \$700 million to Saudi Arabia.

In his most recent blow to the American working class President Ford vetoed the school lunch program saying it was " inflationary ". This is just one of the many recent attacks on the living standards of working people and more are coming if we don't unite.

While Ford, Kissinger and Rockefeller spend billions on arms, we the workers suffer the cut backs in unemployment benefits, A.D.C., food stamps and other social programs.

We must organize against this and support the just struggle of the palestinian people for their freedom and also fight for the rights of the Arab minority community right here in Highland Park!!!

At the expense of the \$100 billion Defense Budget the C.L.P. demands:

1.

1. Full Employment with peace!

2. Unconditional freedom of movement for all Palestinian people in the Arab states; and an end to U.S.N.A. imperialist and Israeli Zionist occupation of Palestine and the restoration of the democratic rights of the Palestinian people in the Palestinian Nation!!

JOBS WITH PEACE

THE COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY (CLP) PUTS FORWARD THE FOLLOWING DEMANDS AS A BASIS FOR A UNITED WORKING CLASS STRUGGLE AGAINST THE PRESENT CAPITALIST CRISIS:

1. A JOB FOR EVERY WORKER AT THE EXPENSE OF THE MILITARY BUDGET.
2. SUPPORT BUSING - SMASH THE KKK, THE NAZI PARTY AND ALL OTHER FASCIST GANGS; NATIONALIZE EDUCATION!
3. END ALL DEPORTATIONS OF UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS.
4. NO USNA MILITARY INTERVENTION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA OR THE MIDDLE EAST.
5. NATIONALIZE THE ENERGY INDUSTRIES.

FELLOW WORKERS! OUR SALVATION IS NOT IN THE DEMOCRATIC OR REPUBLICAN PARTIES; IT IS NOT TRADE UNION MISLEADERS - WE MUST FREE OURSELVES!

JOBS WITH PEACE!



Travel down Woodward or Hamilton in Highland Park and you bear witness to a city in the latter stages of decay a city that is part of the decay of this society as a whole. Closed and vandalised shop fronts, trash and litter on the sidewalks and broken glass in the streets are only a few of the more obvious signs.

On certain corners, large numbers of youth congregate and hangout sometimes committing a crime for some small change (since they can't find work and need spending money which their parents can't afford). Some of these young people are only fourteen or fifteen years old, yet on Friday night they can be seen at two in the morning, leaning against a wall, with their lives stuck in a rut. If they manage to graduate from high school (and many will not) they have the bleak future of joining the growing army of the permanently unemployed.

Crimes against property, auto, home break-ins and especially armed robbery have gone up in H.P. These and even murder are common place. Any child can tell you where the local heroin pusher is located and when you pass this information onto the police, they can only shrug their shoulders as if to say, "what do you expect us to do"?

Millions of dollars of federal money have passed thru H.P. every citizen knows that, but they are bewildered as to where it has all been spent.

The only answer the politicians have to the crime is to invade the communities with Police mini-stations. These are good, because after you've been ripped off or worse, it will take the police less time to come to your house and fill out a report ... that is if you are still able to fill it out. In Detroit, a woman ran into a mini-station to report a robbery of an old man on the street and the officers in the station told her to call 911!!!

Crime, like war and unemployment, are built in parts of the capitalist system that we live under and can only be eliminated with the abolishment of a system where the exploitation of man by man is the rule.

We have to understand also, that many people will turn to petty crime in order to feed their families in the face of joblessness, but at the same time we deplore the real vultures who live off the blood, sweat and tears of us the working-class -those members of the capitalist class (owners of the factories, mines, land, waterways, communications, etc. -people who get wealthy off of our labor) or members of the lumpen-proletariat (members of organized crime etc, criminals who only want to live also at the expense of others). These two groups are real criminals of society!!

The Communist Labor Party of the United States of North America, demands that:

1. The youth be provided with jobs, quality education that prepares them for the future, and recreational facilities open on a year round basis.
2. JOBS WITH PEACE! A JOB FOR EVERY WORKER AT THE EXPENSE OF THE MILITARY BUDGET!!!



We will have a post of five number
for your correspondence in next