

workers of the world, unite!

TRUTH



BIWEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE TROTSKYIST ORGANIZATION/INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE--REBUILDER OF THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL

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LOUISVILLE, BOSTON...

TROOPS OUT!

Unite Against Ford and the Fascists!

By MARGARET BRECHT

In Louisville, 8.4% of the workers are unemployed. In Boston, 12.4% are unemployed. More than double this number of working class youth are unemployed. The cost-of-living is rising. In Boston, it is higher than in any other US city.

The Ford-Rockefeller regime has ordered white working class youth to travel to previously all-black schools and black working class youth to travel to previously all-white schools.

It has sent 1500 troops into Louisville and Boston. And under its protection, fascist and reactionary organizations like the KKK, the National White People's Socialist Party (Nazis), and ROAR are organizing white working class youth to attack black working class youth.

Every working class militant must take a stand in defense of these black youth -- who have always been among the most militant and audacious fighters of the working class. It is necessary to mobilize against Ford-Rockefeller; for guaranteed employment for every youth upon completion of school, for all necessary technical training for every youth, for a program of public works, funded by the government, under workers' control. And in this mobilization it is necessary to struggle against every manifestation of racism -- the despicable scourge of the American working class and the breeding ground for fascism. Workers guards must be organized to defend the youth and the workers from the attacks inspired by the regime.

"SHARE THE POVERTY"

It has been the cowardice of the liberal/labor leadership which has provided a base of support among white working class youth for the KKK, the Nazis, and the like. They refuse to fight Ford-Rockefeller. Instead they opt for "share-the-poverty" schemes like preferential hiring, preferential layoffs, and "busing." Will anyone argue that sending a few black working class youth to schools previously occupied by white working class youth will make a qualitative improvement in the situation of the black masses, or even of these black youth?

And when youth and workers are attacked by reactionaries this liberal/labor leadership organizes "protest" actions, begs the federal government and the local police to protect them, and then whines when they don't. When the KKK began organizing a scab union against the miners in Kentucky, Arnold Miller simply issued a "statement" while he attempted to break the national miners' strike. And when black men were beaten up by some whites at Carson Beach in Boston, the NAACP organized a "picnic" to "protest." Not surprisingly, the police permitted the

white working class youth who had gathered there to attack the unarmed "picnic." And those among the protesters who wanted to organize in self-defense were denounced as "ultra-lefts."

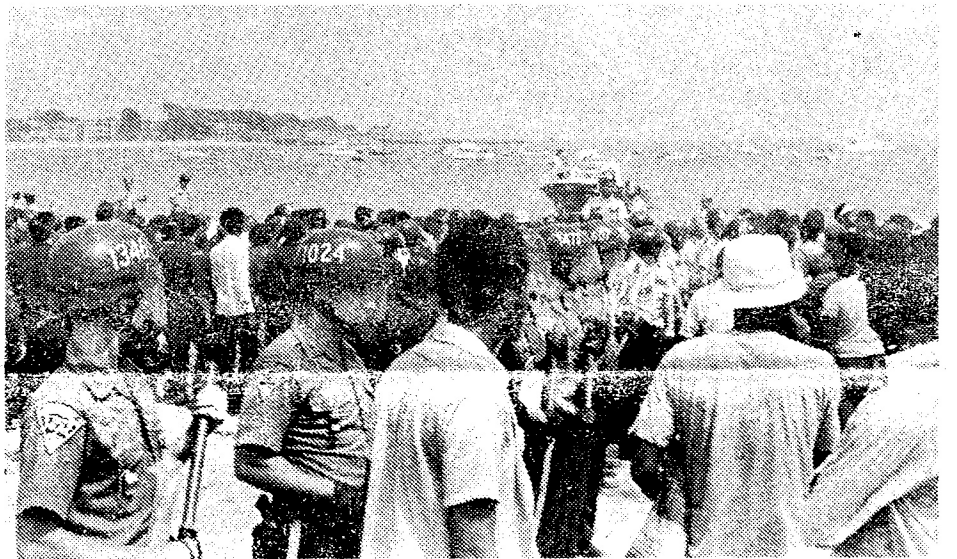
This cowardice encourages the white working class youth to support the fascists. They come to believe that it is the fascists which can defend their rights.

The Stalinist -- so-called Communist Communist -- Party refuses to organize to defend the youth, to form workers' guards, to oust Ford. Instead it organizes to defend "busing." It asks the readers of the DAILY WORLD to send in information on the fascists behind the opposition to "busing," and it chides Ford for not speaking up in favor of busing.

The Socialist Workers Party has gone so far as to make its call for federal troops to Boston to defend "busing," the center of its mayoral campaign.

"Federal troops and all necessary force must be used," says the Socialist Workers mayoral candidate, "to implement the law of the land and protect Black youth..."

This cynical party knows as well as every youth does -- black or white --



CONFRONTATION AT CARSON BEACH NEAR BOSTON

that federal troops have never defended the youth -- black or white. Federal troops defend the interests of the capitalist class.

DEFEND THE BLACK WORKING CLASS YOUTH!

DOWN WITH THE DO-NOTHING

LIBERAL-LABOR LEADERS!

AGAINST FORD! AGAINST THE FASCISTS! FORM DEFENSE GUARDS IN EVERY WORKERS' ACTION!

JOIN THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE REVOLUTIONARY YOUTH INTERNATIONAL!

FREE GARMENDIA & OTAEGUI!

By KEVIN TRACEY

Jose-Antonio Garmendia and Angel Otaegui, two Basque nationalist militants accused of killing a member of the fascist national police, have been sentenced by a special military tribunal in Burgos, Spain, to be garroted -- SLOWLY STRANGLED TO DEATH. They must not die!

This brutal sentence follows by only two days the imposition of a new "anti-terrorist" law, which gives the Franco government absolute authority to repress any "subversive" (nationalist, socialist, communist) activity. Together these events mark a new stage in the vicious reaction of the dying Franco regime against the growing revolutionary offensive in Spain. Five years after a mass mobilization prevented another "trial" at Burgos from sentencing Basque nationalists to death, marking the opening of the present period of upsurge, only months after a State of Exception (martial law) in the Basque Country could not be continued, could not be extended to all of Spain, the Franco regime is trying again. The defeat of these murderous schemes will mark a powerful advance for the Spanish Revolution, for the world revolution.

In response to the beginning of the session of the military tribunal a wave

of strikes broke out in Spain, with 20,000 workers going out into the streets in opposition to the government and to the "trial." Large demonstrations have already occurred in other countries, especially in France. In Paris, demonstrators even occupied Notre Dame Cathedral. The leaders of mass reformist parties, such as the British Labour Party and the Swedish Social Democracy, fearful of the response of their members at this exposure of the true nature of the "Free World's" ally, have been forced to protest the verdict.

But, in the United States, practically none of this news has been allowed to become known. The American bourgeoisie and all its agents (including the Socialist Workers Party, which says NOTHING about Spain), seek to hide the events in Spain and their meaning for American workers. Without the aid of world imperialism, especially US imperialism, Franco could not stand one minute longer.

Franco, who sentences working-class militants to death by medieval torture, was paid a special visit by Ford in order to extend and expand the military alliance between Spain and the US, the Madrid Pact, put into practice through the large and numerous US bases in Spain. Ford-Rockefeller want not only to protect these bases, they want to be

able to use them against the uprising of the Spanish workers. That is why they hide from American workers the truth about Spain, in order to disarm them in the face of a new Vietnam that they are expecting there.

The fight for the freedom of Garmendia and Otaegui is no mere protest. It is inseparable from the fight against the whole decadent regime in Spain. The fall of that regime, the beginning of the Spanish Revolution, is the critical aid that the workers in neighboring Portugal must have for their triumph. The fall of that regime will mark the opening of the European Revolution, will mark a stunning defeat for US imperialism.

In order to help this fight, the Action Committee Against Franco's Franco's Fascism, created at the initiative of the International League, has called for a demonstration at the Spanish Consulate and Tourist Bureau/Iberia Airlines, 180 N. Michigan Avenue in Chicago, on Friday, October 3rd, at 4:30 pm. The central slogans of the demonstration are Free Garmendia and Otaegui! No Support to Franco! Every worker, every revolutionary working class and student youth, must support this demonstration. Join the campaign of the Action Committee, Committee, in order to defeat the plans of Franco and of Ford-Rockefeller.

DEMONSTRATE - OCT. 3!

SPANISH CONSULATE/IBERIA AIRLINES,
180 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago. 4:30 PM.

Editorial

The Lessons of the MINERS' STRIKE

After four weeks of wildcat strikes that spread throughout the coalfields involving more than 90,000 miners, the divided Arnold Miller leadership of the UMW, acting as the scabs and strikebreakers that they are, was finally able to pool its forces enough to force the miners back to work. Miller, who ran for office under the slogan, "Coal will be mined safely or not at all," now promises to punish those who struggled to defend the right to strike over safety.

The strike is over but the miners are not defeated. There will be no end to the class struggle in the mines. In order to deepen the struggle, to prepare the next battle, the lessons of this fight must be drawn.

NEW STAGE IN THE CLASS STRUGGLE

The miners confirmed the fact that we are in a new stage in the level of the class struggle in the US. Today every grievance, every isolated action threatens to spread like wildfire into an industry-wide, nationwide mobilization of the working class. The miners' strike was not just any wildcat. It was a struggle for the CLASS INDEPENDENCE OF THE PROLETARIAT against the capitalists and their lackeys in the workers' movement. It was a struggle for the RIGHT TO STRIKE, against the capitalist system itself. Every working class struggle today will pose the same question: the question of who shall rule.

"THE MOVEMENT WILL BE RENOVATED BY THE YOUTH"

The miners confirmed the axis of the strategy of the Fourth International-- the organization of the working class through its youth. It was the young miners who led and were in the vanguard of the strike. They were the most militant, showed the most courage and initiative and brought along with them the rest of the miners. They will be the ones who will rebuild the Revolutionary Workers Party in this country.

They learned that capitalism will never allow the right to strike over grievances. It is incapable of granting the smallest reform, much less of mining coal safely. The miners must organize committees in every mine to impose workers' control over production.

The young miners must break their isolation from the rest of the working class youth in this country. They have no use for the "strike support committees" that the Maoists organize to bring the "solidarity" of other workers. Young miners do not need sympathy. They need a class-wide struggle against unemployment, for a sliding scale of hours, for the defense of working class rights in the US and around the world. Their needs are the same as the entire American working class-- the organization and centralization of its struggles.

On September 13th in Chicago and Lisbon, the International League-- Rebuilder of the Fourth International will take a step in the centralization of the struggles of the young metal workers around the world in a unified fight against unemployment and against repression. We are confident that this is the perspective and solution that the young miners are seeking and that they will be won to the banner of the Fourth International.

THE WORKER IS A WORKER

By JON MYERS

The historic opportunity confronting the American working class around the world has never been greater. The working class is on the road to revolution, here and around the world. The workers' councils in Portugal continue to fight for their independence despite the efforts of the entire world reaction to crush them. The mobilization of the workers and peasants in Spain continues, despite the vicious attacks of the last fascist regime in Europe. We have entered into a new stage of the struggle in the United States as well. The mobilization of 50,000 workers in Washington, DC, on April 26th against the labor bureaucrats and the Democratic Party politicians, the continuing strike of public employees, construction workers, and the recent national wildcat strike of the miners have

INTERNATIONAL, the central organ of the International Executive Committee, and TRUTH, the organ of the Trotskyist Organization of the US are dedicated to this purpose; to arm the vanguard of the working class for its struggles, to be the collective propagandist, agitator, and organizer of the international working class movement. By uniting and organizing the working class movement, the press of the International League must become the voice of this movement, a "tribune of the masses" in the United States. We ask the working class youth of the United States to take up this task with us.

VOICE OF REVOLUTIONARY OPPOSITION

Once we are agreed that the working class and especially its vanguard in this country needs its own voice, needs a weapon to organize and centralize its struggles, we must take up the tasks and the goals for this paper, especially in the United States.

The working class and its youth are fed up with the situation in the US, yet they have no organized voice or expression for this opposition. A workers' newspaper must be an organ of revolutionary opposition that exposes the state of affairs in this country and around the world, particularly the political state of affairs. It must express the anger of the working class about what is going on and must detail the truth about the state of society in contrast to the lies and distortions of the bourgeoisie -- through its press, its television and radio, its schools. Its must expose the reality of the capitalist system from the point of view of the working class and oppressed and must advance and explain their program and solution -- the socialist revolution -- as the only way out of this crisis.

A WORKERS NEWSPAPER IS RADICALLY DIFFERENT

A workers' paper is radically different from the newspapers of the ruling class or the papers of the apparatuses in this country who represent the ruling class inside the workers' movement. A workers' paper does not belong to the wealthy few, nor does it belong to the apparatuses of the labor movement and the Kremlin. A workers' paper belongs to the American working class and its youth. It is their property, their voice. It must build their struggles and their party -- the Fourth International which is not the property of a select few but the property of the masses. Leon Trotsky, the founder of the Fourth International wrote:

As it is, the paper is divided among various writers, each of whom is very good, but collectively they do not permit the workers to penetrate to the pages of the Appeal (paper of the American Trotskyists -- Ed.). Each of them speaks for the workers (and speaks very well) but nobody will hear the workers. In spite of its literary brilliance, to a certain degree the paper becomes a victim of journalistic routine. You do not hear at all how the workers live, fight,



sounded the death knell for imperialism at its very center.

UNITY

Every action, every mobilization of the working class and its youth in this country -- in every factory, school, neighborhood -- cries out for organization, for the world-wide unity of the working class. This is the tremendous task ahead of us. The working class, the youth who are its vanguard fighters, must arm themselves for the struggle for power. The indispensable weapon of the working class is its Party, the World Party of the Socialist Revolution that is being rebuilt today through the struggle of the International League -- Rebuilder of the Fourth International.

PRESS

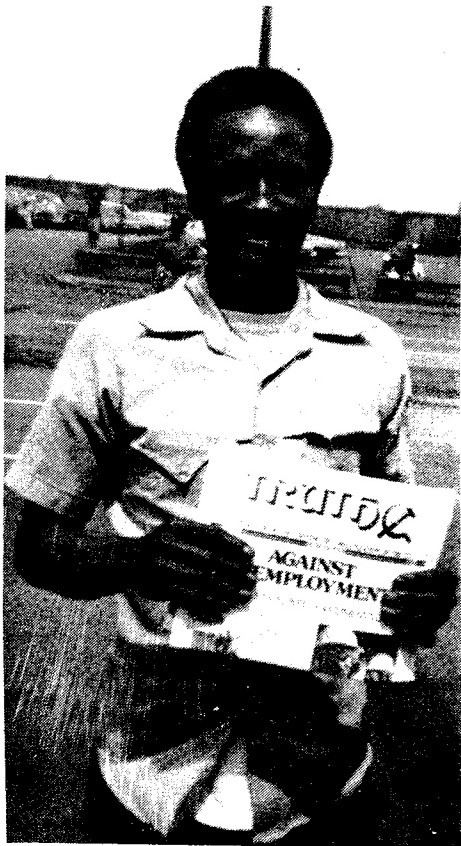
THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT WEAPON OF THE PARTY, THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT WEAPON OF THE WORKING CLASS YOUTH IN ORGANIZING ITS STRUGGLES IS ITS PRESS. The press of the International League distributed in this country -- FOURTH

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NOV. 7 • INTERNATIONAL

WORKERS' NEWSPAPER FORUM



class and especially the youth, our paper will never become a truly workers' paper. At stake is the question of whether the Revolutionary Workers Party will be rebuilt in this country, whether the Fourth International itself will be rebuilt. Our press must reflect the fact that the International League bases itself on the actual mobilization and struggles of the international working class. Our existence is tied to this mobilization and the implantation of the Fourth International among the working class youth. Our press is a reflection of this struggle and is also the key to organizing, centralizing and expressing it.

WHAT DO WE PROPOSE TODAY?

Workers, working class youth--

The International League and the Trotskyist Organization have already taken steps to aid in building the workers' press in this country. In October, THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL will be published biweekly and simultaneously in three languages (English, French, Spanish). TRUTH is already published biweekly, although we have had to reduce the size of the paper. You can help us in continuing to expand the publication and circulation of your press. Only your

"THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT WEAPON OF THE PARTY IS THE PRESS."

clash with police, or drink whisky. It is very dangerous for the paper as a revolutionary instrument of the party. THE TASK IS NOT TO MAKE A PAPER THROUGH THE JOINT FORCES OF A SKILLED EDITORIAL BOARD BUT TO ENCOURAGE THE WORKERS TO SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES." (our emphasis).

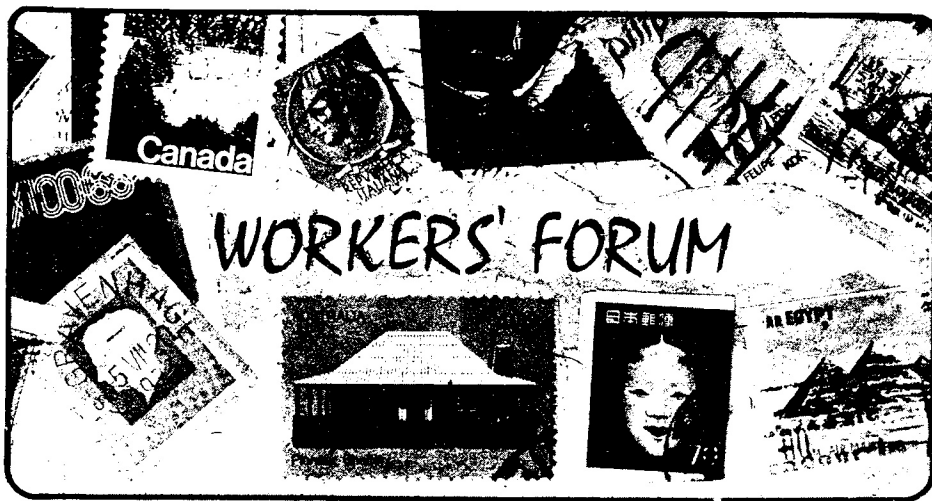
A WORKERS' PAPER IS
NOT JUST READ

A workers' paper is not passive like the bourgeois press or the union journals, it is not meant to be just read. IT IS THE DUTY OF EVERY WORKER TO WRITE AND CONTRIBUTE to a workers' newspaper. It must be a tool for action, for organization. It must advance the slogans that meet the objective situation and tasks facing the American working class movement.

Without correspondence and contributions from every sector of the working

contributions-- letters, thoughts, ideas, questions, criticisms, aid in distribution and money will enable us to continue to publish and expand. You are our base of support.

CORRESPOND-- Let us know what is going on in your factory, your neighborhood. Send in your ideas, thoughts and questions. Ask your friends to write. Have the Worker Youth Circle in your factory discuss, correspond and raise money for TRUTH and THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL. DISTRIBUTE-- Take a bundle of papers into your plant. Give them to other workers. Organize the subscription campaign in your plant. Help get TRUTH and THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL into bookstores and libraries or other stores in your cities and neighborhoods or near the factory. JOIN THE FIGHT FOR THE REVOLUTIONARY YOUTH INTERNATIONAL, for the rebuilding of the Fourth International.



The following is a transcript of a conversation with a militant, D., from Ford-Torrence.

"We've just found out that most likely we'll only be working two weeks in September and two weeks in October and the whole month of December off! So far this year we've only made about one-half of what we made last year. These layoffs are really hurting with the high prices and the holidays coming up, too.

Changeover to the '76 Elite has only made the work harder. Three days after changeover we were making 320 cars a night with less people than ever. Not only that, but some jobs have more work. There's more lead for soldering, more solder joints and that new half-roof is a mother! And they are still laying off! Twelve inspectors in body construction went back to the line so they had to lay off twelve more guys-- they called back about 80 men and then laid them off after two weeks!

The '76 Elite isn't any different at all. It won't sell. They're stockpiling the '76 cars now for the dealers. Then we'll get laid off until they start getting orders. If the orders come through, we'll work more, if not, then there will be more layoffs.

There is a rumor going around that the new buck we're getting in December will be for the smaller T-Bird and the Granada. Maybe there'll be enough work to call back the 900 laid off.

I've been fighting for many years now. With the young workers gone this place is a ghost town. Bringing them back is the way to build the fight against Ford.

I'm coming to the National Conference and some of my friends bought tickets too. It's worth checking out.

The problems raised by the workers at Ford in the last several issues of the paper deal with questions that face all workers. It is wrong to think that the reason for unemployment is the fact that the Elites won't sell. It is wrong to hope that by making Granadas or T-Birds there will be enough work to bring back all those who are laid off.

Ford doesn't care about those laid off. It has no interest in bringing back more workers. It is interested in one thing only -- PROFITS and this means layoffs and speedup. Profits of U.S. corporations have gone up 91% over the last year, while wages have risen only 38%. Unit labor costs for U.S. corporations have risen only 10% in the last year, compared to 63% in Japan and 50% in Britain. And the bosses have gotten these profits through the layoffs and speedup.

This is the importance of our campaign for the sliding scale of hours-- to bring back all those laid off--to pay everyone a living wage, REGARDLESS of whether Ford can sell its cars or not. This will be the first step in building a planned economy, planning production according to the needs of society, not the greedy few. This is the only thing we can rely on.

THE EDITORS

AL DAY OF ACTION!

Building the Revolutionary Youth International

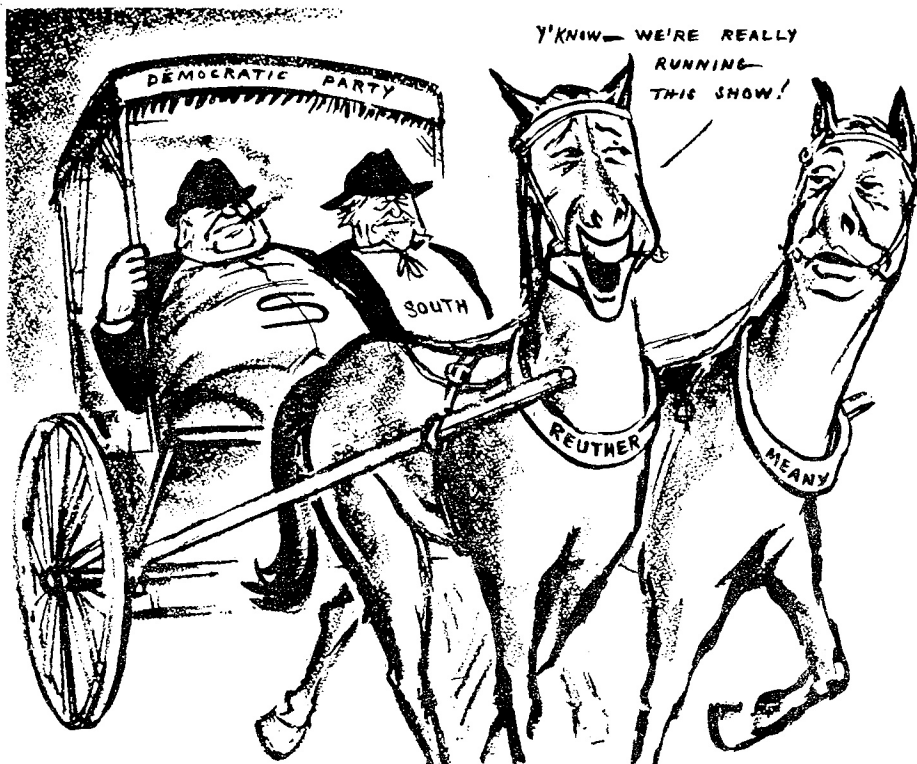


Revolutionary Worker Youth in the USA

"The youth is the flame of the proletarian revolution."

FORD RIVER ROUGE:

YOUTH UNITE!



TROTSKYIST CARTOON FROM THE 1950's

By DAVID MARKOS
Dearborn, Mich. -- The organizing drive among young auto workers at Ford River Rouge to build for the National Conference of Youth in Auto and Steel met with a militant response. The determination by the young workers at Ford to fight back-- against speedup, violations of contract rights, and the increased harassment-- the same determination that led to the shelving of so many of the incumbent leadership of Local 600 -- is still present and is deepened all the time by the attacks of the bosses at Ford.

The slogans of the International League: "Organize against the speedup and the layoffs, attend the National Conference of Youth in Auto and Steel," "Impose the sliding scale of hours," and "Build the Revolutionary Youth International," met with a militant response by the auto workers at Dearborn Assembly. Some workers took up the shouts themselves and raised clenched fists as they passed the militants of the Trotskyist Organization.

One expression of this militant

attitude on the part of Rouge workers is the growing dissatisfaction with some of the new leaders of Local 600. Many of the workers we talked to felt that the new leadership was not really any better than the old.

ELECTIONS

The circumstances surrounding these elections are important for understanding what this attitude on the part of Rouge workers reveals. The local is broken down into a vast number of units, which are used by the company and the union bureaucrats to isolate the workers by departments. This division meant that by and large, the campaigns of the new leadership were carried out unit by unit rather than by mobilizing the entire Rouge workforce against the old leadership. In most instances the new leaders were elected to the presidency of a single unit but the composition of the committeemen remained the same. This is the case for instance, in Steel and Dearborn Assembly. This has meant that for several months the

committeemen and presidents have been at each others' throats in many of the units and concretely, that no action has been taken against increased harassment and further layoffs.

UNITY

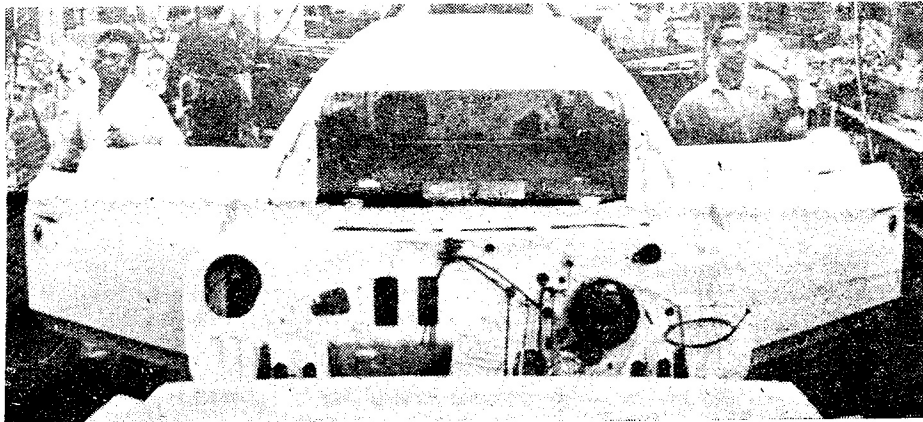
What is clear is that despite the pleas for "unity" and the resolution of Dearborn Assembly for 32 hours work for 40 hours pay, the battle against Ford is not being led on a class against class basis.

The fight for the sliding scale of hours cannot be won by a battle within one isolated unit at Ford River Rouge. The working class youth of the entire world are suffering the consequences of unemployment-- whether it be the speedup in the factories or the police shakedowns on the streets. The working class youth must be organized on the

basis of an international and nationwide unity. We must not lead our fight according to the artificial divisions created by the capitalists and their flunkies in the trade unions.

RESPONSE

The workers at River Rouge responded to the slogans of the International League because the purpose of the National Conference of Youth in Auto and Steel was understood by them as part of a unified campaign against unemployment to impose the sliding scale of hours. Five or six workers from Rouge have expressed their desire to come to the Conference and their participation will bring strength to the success of the National Conference and the international campaign against unemployment.



FORD CHICAGO HEIGHTS:

FIGHT SPEED-UP!

By ANN RUSSELL
Chicago Heights, Ill. -- The Trotskyist Organization of the US has been organizing at the Ford Stamping Plant in Chicago Heights, Ill, since the middle of June this year. Through the selling of the newspaper and the organizing of a worker youth circle which centers its work around organizing for the sliding scale of hours, we had a discussion with a young black worker, M., who has been working at Chicago Heights for over five years. M. said that speed-up was the most severe problem at Chicago Heights:

"There has been a real increase in the amount of work. I'm running back and forth between two lines and when I come back from my break I find two relief men doing my job. If you say something to the supervisor he'll say you're being a smartass. Then they FIND a way to get rid of you."

When we talked about the fact that the speed-up at Chicago Heights was directly tied to the layoffs that have

occurred and that the companies are in this way getting more work out of the workers who remain inside the plant, M. agreed and pointed out that:

"We have about 1,000 less guys working this year although they have called back a few guys. That's out of 5,000 workers on both shifts."

During the conversation we discussed the National Conference of Youth in Auto and Steel, and the importance of the conference in giving an impulsion to the campaign for the sliding scale of hours. The necessity for the sliding scale of hours can be seen clearly by looking at the conditions at the Ford Stamping Plant in Chicago Heights-- the speed-up and the layoffs, the attacks on the young workers. There will also be a conference held at the same time as the National Conference of Youth in Auto and Steel in Lisbon, Portugal by the International League-- Rebuilder of the Fourth International. We asked M. if he was coming to the conference. He told us: "Yes. You can't accomplish anything without a fight."

JUST OUT!

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