

TRUTH

WORKERS OF THE WORLD, UNITE!

Rebuild the International in the Americas!

Rebuild its US section!

Weekly Organ of

the TROTSKYIST ORGANIZATION of the USA

US Section (Sympathizing) of the FOURTH INTERNATIONAL

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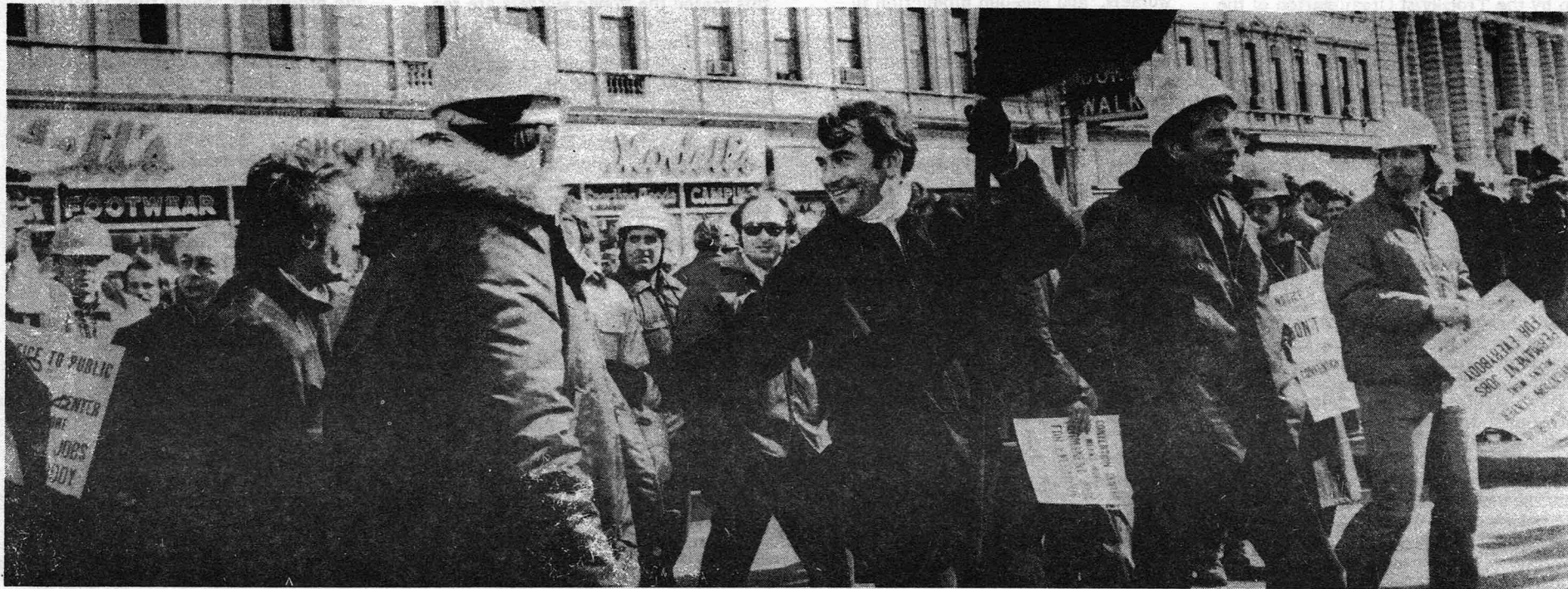
Down with the Voorhis Act!

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THE ONLY ANSWER TO THE "GREAT DEBATES" -- THE FIGHT FOR A WORKERS GOVERNMENT!

Statement of Barbara Putnam and Fred Vitale, Candidates of the Trotskyist Organization of the US for President and Vice-President.



Detroit, September 27-- The so-called "Great Debate" organized by the US capitalist class with its puppets, Ford and Carter, was a bust. This show, which was designed to combat the massive disillusionment of US workers with capitalist politicians and restore faith in "democracy at work," was a farce which fooled no one. For the few people who managed to be able to watch it long enough, about the only exciting moment came when capitalist technology broke down and both capitalist candidates stood at stiff attention for over twenty minutes -- a technical breakdown not being in the "script," the puppets did not know what to do.

And certainly very few workers who watched this show were fooled by the occasional references made by Ford and Carter to how they were going to help "working people" in this country. For behind the facade of the "debate" between the candidates of the Democratic and Republican parties there is a very basic agreement. Both candidates represent and defend capitalism-- this system of unemployment, repression and war and both candidates are committed to the only answer that capitalism has to offer in the face of the growing mobilization of the working class and its youth in the US and around the world-- the preparation of the counterrevolution against the world working class.

But in order to provide a cover for this attack against the working class which is being prepared through these elections, the capitalists must provide themselves with a "democratic" cover. This is the purpose of the Carter campaign and the collaboration with the Democratic Party on the part of the trade union bureaucrats-- the Woodcocks, Sadlowskis, etc. and the liberal black politicians. For the workers in the US know full well what another Nixon administration means. The trade union bureaucrats are trying to offer behind Carter an alternative, a "popular" cover to the same anti-working class policies led by the Nixon-Ford regimes-- wage controls, unemployment, elimination of social services, preparation for war and increased repression.

This strategy has failed to work, as masses of workers refuse to be drawn into the Carter campaign, knowing that this is an alliance with the same

treacherous leaders who block and betray every mobilization of the US working class and its youth. Public opinion polls in the US show that a majority of US workers intend to stay at home on November 2nd and intend to do this as a conscious decision, to reject both capitalist politicians.

But staying at home on November 2nd will not be a victory for the US working class and its youth. Whether or not the US capitalist class gets the "popular mandate" that it wants in these elections, it intends to use these elections and whatever candidate wins to launch a full-scale attack against the working class in the US. The disillusionment of the US working class and its vanguard must be transformed from passive opposition into a conscious fight to stop the attack of the US ruling class. The working class must use these elections to forge its only weapon to fight the capitalist parties-- the WORKERS PARTY, based on a revolutionary program of combat. This is the alternative to staying at home and this is the only way to transform passive opposition into an offensive of the working class.

The fact that a sizeable number of workers plan to stay at home on Nov. 2nd is an indictment of the other so-called candidates of the working class in these elections, the Stalinist Communist Party and the US Socialist Workers party. In the face of the deep crisis of the Democratic Party and its inability to maintain its grip on the working class, these parties and their campaigns attempt to cover up this crisis by offering no alternative to the working class and by blocking every concrete attempt of the working class to confront and make a decisive break from the Democratic Party.

The Stalinists and centrists cover up the crisis of the Democratic Party by running their campaigns totally within the framework of the capitalist system and by offering the working class only "left" versions of the program of the Democratic Party-- whether it is the "anti-monopoly people's coalition" of the Stalinists or the "Bill of Rights For Working People" of the Socialist Workers party. Or in the trade unions, they openly support the agents of the Democratic Party such as Sadlowski, refusing to organize the working class in a struggle against these leaders. In this way they cover for the maneuvers of the Democratic Party inside the working

class.

These organizations cannot offer any alternative because they never speak to the real aspirations of the US working class and its youth. They never speak of the fight for the independent party of the working class as an international weapon of combat against US imperialism and the Stalinist apparatus of the Kremlin. They talk of "reform" and not the WORKERS GOVERNMENT, the only goal that represents the true combat of the young workers in the US today.

Opposed to these maneuvers and lies, the campaign of the Trotskyist Organization and the Revolutionary Worker Youth for its PLATFORM OF COMBAT and candidates in these elections is the only fighting alternative for the working class and its youth. REGISTER TO VOTE on Nov. 2nd in order to take the first step

Ford Torrence: Spread the Strike!

By Fred Vitale

Chicago, September 17th -- Torrence workers, cheering as the left, spontaneously demonstrated against Ford, laying to rest all the propaganda about the "tired and fearful autoworkers." The most militant were the young workers who only four months ago returned from a layoff which lasted for a year or more. Still suffering from this layoff, they are the most convinced that only a determined battle can insure any future at all.

And the struggle against the "leaders," Woodcock and Co. was with the strike from the beginning. Big Paint and Body Construction walked out at 7 o'clock ignoring the pleas of their committeemen. Indeed Woodcock's announcement of the strike early was precisely to avoid confronting walkouts across the country.

BUREAUCRATS STILL COLLABORATE

The bureaucrats are still collaborating with Ford, trying to work out an agreement that the workers will swallow. They've set up unelected strike committees composed of their friends and a few workers from the plant to hide the fact that THEY are still misleading the strike. After the militant actions of the Torrence workers, they set up measly 4-man picket lines. For the bureaucrats, what's most important is the NEGOTIATIONS, not the STRIKE. But it's only with a strong,

forward in constructing the WORKERS PARTY in the US to lead the fight for the government of the working class and oppressed. Rebuild the US Section of the Fourth International in an offensive against the counter-revolutionary plot in these elections. Unmask the so-called leaders who stand in the way of this fight.

November 2nd will take place during the week in which the international working class will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Spanish revolution, the 20th anniversary of the Hungarian revolution and the anniversary of the Russian revolution of 1917. Vote on Nov. 2nd to make 1936-56-76 a living celebration-- prepare the American revolution by joining the struggle of the Trotskyist Organization and the Revolutionary Worker Youth. Build the world party of the socialist revolution on November 2nd.

strong, united strike that any demands can be won. To this they are opposed.

Their plans are to allow Ford to throw the young workers back into the streets after a few months of heavy overtime, with much less protection and benefits than in the past. There is not a second to lose!

THE REVOLUTIONARY WORKERS FACTION OF THE UAW

On September 14th at shift change, the Revolutionary Worker Youth Circle at Torrence held a demonstration to build mass picketing at Torrence. The demonstrators signs read: WAGES UP WITH PRICES! EQUAL WAGES FOR NEW HIRES! MASSPICKETING OF ALL THREE! The fight for these demands must continue with a fight to engage every one who agrees with them in the construction of the Revolutionary Workers Faction of the UAW to lead the fight to spread the strike, oust Woodcock and his negotiating team, and organize a general assembly of all the autoworkers to elect their own strike committee to lead the fight.

Militants of the RWY and the RWF/UAW will be on the picket lines fighting to organize mass picketing delegations to Chicago Heights and the GM plants in Chicago to shut them down tight, to take the leadership of the strike out of the hands of Bounds and Co., the lackeys of Woodcock! Join them!

Join the Campaign
For the Workers Government
and the Workers Party!

The Proletarian policy to fight rising prices, unemployment and speedup



In every struggle of the working class, it's the leadership, its clear policy and its resolute struggle, which is decisive. Thus the outcome of the struggle taken up by the Trotskyist Organization of the USA, to regroup the fighting young vanguard of the American working class in the Revolutionary Youth International, under the leadership of the Fourth International, World Party of Socialist Revolution, to conclude the rebuilding of the International, will be decisive for the outcome of the entirety of the battles that the American working class has engaged.

To arm the working class, especially its youth, for this struggle to build its party to lead it to power against the leadership of the US Socialist Workers Party which pretends to represent the Fourth International in the US and serves the Stalinist apparatus and against the Stalinist, union bureaucrats and Democrats and republicans themselves, the Trotskyist Organization has prepared a five-part educational series which will appear every other week in TRUTH.

It takes up the central problems before the working class and elaborates the policy of the Trotskyist Organization, put forward in the Platform of Combat of the TO and its candidates and the Call to join in the preparation of its Congress Rebuilding the US Section, to resolve them, the policy of the world proletariat in opposition to all its enemies.

It's a series to arm the working class in battle. It is wholly opposed to the allegedly theoretical commentaries of the various pedants designed to confuse and demobilize the workers. Take up the fight proposed in your plant, union, school. Come to the classes of the Revolutionary Workers Youth. Arm the working class. Rebuild its party -- the US Section of the Fourth International.

The Secretariat of the TO/USA
September, 1976.

By Margaret Guttsahl

No problems are more on the minds of the workers, especially the young striking autoworkers, than rising prices, unemployment and speedup; how to fight them, and in this election year, what party, what government can lead this fight. There are a myriad of analyses and policies put forward and each party with its candidates claims to have the solution. To unite and win this battle, the working class and its vanguard must determine the TRUTH and fight for it. This is the objective of the Trotskyist Organization of the USA and it asks the reader to join it in this fight.

A COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY ATTACK ON THE WORKING CLASS

The spokesmen for the bourgeoisie -- the Republicans, Democrats and trade union bureaucrats -- and the Stalinist bureaucracy all claim that rising prices and unemployment, be they in the capitalist countries or the countries of the socialist conquests (The USSR, Eastern Europe, China, Cuba, etc.), are very complex problems; very difficult to understand.

Some claim these problems can never be resolved or, if they can, that they will only be resolved in the far distant future. Others claim that rising prices can be ameliorated by footing with the federal reserve, imposing price controls and wage controls, or by cutting back on the outlay of funds for various social programs; that unemployment can be ameliorated by "stimulating the private sector," "stimulating the public sector," by increasing trade with the USSR, passing bills guaranteeing or creating jobs, by laying-off old, white, and male workers before, young, black, and female workers or vice-versa, or by "Buying American."

In fact they are very simple problems; very easy to understand; because neither the imperialists nor the

Stalinists bureaucrats are capable of developing the resources, expanding production and providing for the needs of society, they raise prices, layoff workers, and speedup production in order to take it out of the hides of the workers, in order to get more and more work for less and less money. Rising prices, unemployment, and speedup are their weapons in their war to maintain their rule and their system against the working class.

Thus the only way to resolve these problems is with the independent mobilization and organization of the working class, above all its youth, to defend and advance its standard of living and working conditions against the counterrevolutionary attack of the imperialists and their lackeys the Stalinist bureaucrats, to impose the will of the working class.

This is the truth that their spokesmen seek to hide. And if their candidates for President like Ford and Carter, or the lesser-know Gus Hall of the so-called "Communist Party of the USA," are always contradicting themselves, it's because they NEVER speak the TRUTH.

THE PROLETARIAN POLICY

The working class can fight rising prices, unemployment and speedup only with the fight to impose a sliding scale of wages, a sliding scale of working hours, and workers control of production; constant wage increase in accordance with price increase, the division of all available work among all the workers, and determination by the workers of the development of production, of work loads and line speeds.

The striking autoworkers must take the lead in this struggle and fight for an immediate and retroactive wage increase equal to the increase in prices which, even according to the capitalist figures, has been over 12% since the last contract, for an automatic increase in wages with every rise in prices; for an immediate reduction in working hours, the recall of every laid-off workers and new hiring to bring every plant back to its full capacity; for an immediate reduction in work loads and linespeeds. They must fight for the "Big Three" to open their books to get all the information necessary for the workers to precisely determine their demands. In this struggle the working class must gather the forces necessary and learn how to plan its own program of public works to provide for its needs and those of the oppressed masses as a whole.

The workers must fight to have these measures included in any and every contract. But the only way to realize, develop, and maintain these rights is the independent mobilization and organization of the working class. The imperialists, the trade union bureaucrats and the Stalinist bureaucrats will tear up a contract in a minute if it's necessary to defend their order. Thus the workers must organize themselves independently in general assemblies of workers' delegates to elect strike committees and factory committees and fight to centralize these throughout industry, the country and the continent.

This is the only means through which to unite all the workers against the imperialists and their lackeys and win the support of the unemployed and lower middle classes. For the young and the old, the black and the white, the women and the men, or the workers in one industry and the workers in another, or the workers in the US and the workers in Latin America and Europe to fight with each other over who is causing rising prices, unemployment and speedup is suicide. And so is it to ignore the unemployed and increasingly impoverished "middle classes" who are faced with the same problems and whom the capitalists try to set against the workers.

The proletarian policy is a policy to unite the workers and oppressed masses. It's the policy of the Fourth International, World Party of Socialist

Revolution, of its section, the Trotskyist Organization of the USA and its candidates for President and Vice-President, Putnam and Vitale. For this reason the young workers are regrouping in the section of the Revolutionary Youth International, the Revolutionary Worker Youth of the USA to build this party, in the Revolutionary Workers Faction of the UAW to fight at the side of this party to take the leadership of the UAW out of the hands of the bureaucrats.

A FIGHT AGAINST THE IMPERIALIST PARTIES AND THE TREACHEROUS LEADERSHIPS OF THE WORKING CLASS

In every struggle of the workers, in the factories, the unions and the streets, streets, the "leftwing" of the Democratic Party, the trade union bureaucrats, and the Stalinists work to engage the workers in passing bills, allegedly to ameliorate these problems, to regroup the workers in support of their candidates, their parties, and their government, to block the independent mobilization and organization of the working class. At the same time, the Nazis, the Klan, the Republicans and the rightwing of the Democratic Party, claiming that greedy, lazy workers are the cause of rising prices and unemployment, try to mobilize the middle class classes, the craftsmen, and the unemployed to crush the working class.

This is what the Democratic Party and its politicians together with the union bureaucrats have always done. And this year with Carter is no exception. The only difference is that now more than ever they have need of the Stalinists, of the "Communist" Party of the USA, speaking in the name of the working class and its first revolution in Russia, to assist them in trying to pull the wool over the workers eyes while their friends prepare to crush them.

Thus the fight for a sliding scale of wages, a sliding scale of working hours and workers control of production demands the fight against the imperialist parties and the treacherous parties which claim to represent the working class. It demands the struggle to build a WORKERS PARTY to lead the fight for a workers government.

The principle obstacle to this fight is the US Socialist Workers Party. Once the section of the Fourth International in the USA, now it uses our name to confuse the workers while it supports the policy of the Stalinists.

In all the struggles of the workers the leadership of the US SWP fights to engage the workers in their campaign for a "Bill of Rights to Protect Working People," for their candidates, Camejo and Reid. It works to limit the struggle of the workers against rising prices to a fight to include cost-of-living escalator clauses in contracts; to limit the struggle of the workers against unemployment to a fight to allocate funds for public works, cut military spend-

ing and cut working hours.

With this policy they fight for in the workers' movement they fight to organize the workers in the bastions of the proletariat behind the "liberal" Democrats, union bureaucrats, and Stalinists, to block the independent mobilization and organization of the working class to realize its own demands, to isolate the workers of the US from the workers of Latin America and Europe, leaving the youth who have these leaderships and want a radical, fighting solution entirely in the hands of the fascists and criminals.

In their "Bill of Rights" they speak of the independent mobilization and organization of the working class, of the organization of workers committees in the factories to fight rising prices and unemployment. But the campaign they have waged in the workers' movement to layoff white workers before black workers and men workers before women workers and their demand for unemployment compensation at union wages demonstrates the truth of their claims. This is always the way of the centrists -- to attempt to cover their nature as agents of Stalinism capitulating before the attacks of the imperialists with revolutionary verbiage.

FIGHT FOR THE PLATFORM OF THE TO/USA AND ITS CANDIDATES

The Trotskyist Organization proposes to all the youth, workers, and militants of the workers movement, and especially to the striking young autoworkers and working class militants of the YSA and SWP, to support the fight for the platform of the TO and its candidates, for a common candidate of the whole working class, by fighting for a sliding scale of wages, a sliding scale of working hours, and workers control of production in every struggle of the workers; by fighting to mobilize and organize the working class independently, in its own assemblies, factory committees and strike committees; by fight to spread and centralize every struggle for these demands. This is the only platform and candidacy in these elections which is and can be advanced by every step forward of the working class in its struggle.

And the Trotskyist Organization proposes to every youth, worker and militant who supports the fight for a sliding scale of wages, a sliding scale of working hours, and workers control of production to join the campaign for the platform of the TO and its candidates, for a common candidate of the whole working class, to write-in Putnam and Vitale on November 2nd. It's the only party with the only candidates waging this fight -- the fight for the policy of the world proletariat!

Join the Revolutionary Worker Youth. Demand of every organization that claims to represent the workers to take a stand in this fight!

Detroit
September, 1976

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