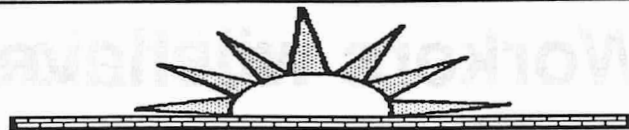


NEW LIFE



A WORKERS REVOLUTIONARY BULLETIN IN DETROIT

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**AC Delco
strikers
win more
jobs!
You can
win your
demands
too!**

6,800 AC Delco workers in Flint, Michigan went on strike for 3 days and forced the largest corporation in the U.S. to back down. If they can do it, you can too!

The workers wanted the company to live up to an agreement made earlier to hire more permanent workers. The company had been stalling. The workers decided to strike. And, they demanded more jobs than were originally agreed to. They won a total of 907 jobs. According to the union the schedule is:

January 30, 1995	70 new jobs
February 6, 1995	100 new jobs
February 13, 1995	100 new jobs
April 18, 1995	58 new jobs
May 1, 1995	100 new jobs
May 15, 1995	100 new jobs
July 17, 1995	75 new jobs
July 22, 1996	60 new jobs

The workers also won resolution of some grievances over speedup and health and safety.

As Roger Anderson, who makes air flow parts at AC Delco, put it: "It sends a message to the rest of the unions: Yes, go out on strike. It's a good tactic."

This is the 6th successful strike against GM. Union leaders at GM plants in Fort Wayne, Indiana; Pontiac and Grand Blanc, Michigan; and Janesville, Wisconsin; have asked union headquarters for the right to strike if they need to.

Now is the time for *all* workers to win their demands! Production is the highest it's been in 20 years; profits are very high, unemployment is the lowest it's been in 20 years.

AC Delco workers went on strike, won their demands and went back to work in 3 days. Learn how they did it. Invite union leaders and workers from UAW Local 651 or UAW Local 599 to come and to speak to your local. AC Delco workers can be reached at 810-742-7420 and Local 599 workers can be reached at 810-238-1616.

If they can win their demands, you can too!
— *New Life* ■

Workers will have a labor party in 1996!

A convention founding a labor party will be held within the next 18 months. This is the greatest news for American workers since unions first organized the big factories over 60 years ago!

This labor party will fight for jobs, higher wages, benefits and social justice. It will fight for solidarity among all working people. It will fight racial injustice, attacks on people of color and women.

It will run candidates to put good working people in political offices to use the government in the interests of the people. It will mean changes in America that help workers!

But it can't do anything without you.

American workers must join this party and make it their own. Every worker outside this party weakens it. Every worker who joins it and builds it, makes it stronger. This party is not just a party, it is a movement, and it needs you.

Please fill out the form below or call us at 584-6556. There is a bright future for all workers if we are willing to work together to make it happen.

Here also are some things that show the strength of the labor party movement. ■

700 cheer labor party proposals

Headline in the January 15, *Sunday Review*, Haywood, California

ALEXANDER COCKBURN

It's a Ripe Time for a New Labor Party

Headline in *Los Angeles Times*, January 19



Headline in *The Toledo Blade*, December 11
"Third political party in view"

"In the last elections, 125 million eligible voters didn't vote. That's our target group right there. We think we represent the silent majority." — Leo Seidlitz, Northern California organizer for Labor Party Advocates

Birth of a party

Labor seeks to start third political party

Headline in *The Guardian*, January 4, San Francisco

The bosses have two parties. We need one of our own!

If you agree, please complete the sign-up form and become a Labor Party member!

In return for joining you will receive a membership card, a newsletter that will keep you up to date on what's being done to further the cause. Your dues money will be used to enlist other members and help secure broad-based support for the idea of a Labor Party.

\$20 Regular Membership

\$10 Unemployed

Free to striking/locked-out workers

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone/Union _____

Mail to: _____

Labor Party Advocates
PO Box 53177
Washington, DC 20009-3177

Fight Republicans, don't invite them over for drinks!

The AFL-CIO top leadership, the top leadership of all the major unions in this country including the Teamsters, UAW, etc., meets every winter in Bal Harbor, Florida. This year they invited Newt Gingrich and Bob Dole to speak, the newly chosen Republican leaders in Congress. Perhaps they should invite the presidents of Caterpillar, Bridgestone-Firestone and Staley (where workers have been on strike for 6 months or locked out or replaced) to speak too!

The Republicans are organizing one of the biggest attacks on jobs, wages, African-American rights, workers' rights, and top union leaders invite them down for drinks!

Do these top union leaders have a single fresh idea, a single new perspective to offer American workers? No. They merely mimic what their leader, President Clin-

ton, is doing. They are more Democratic Party politicians than union leaders.

At a meeting of the Industrial Union Council of the AFL-CIO, which consists of the presidents of the main industrial unions, including the Teamsters, UAW, and so on, in which the 1994 elections were discussed, one leader suggested that it was time to talk about a labor party. Lane Kirkland, head of the AFL-CIO, lamely responded that: "COPE is your labor party." COPE is the name for the union fund that gives millions of workers' dollars to the Democratic Party.

Soon the workers will have a real labor party and soon they will not have leaders who invite the workers' enemies for cocktails. And, the workers' dollars will go to the labor party and not the coffers of politicians who work for the rich! ■



The labor party and socialism

The labor party that will be founded later this year is today, the only party of the entire working class. The American working class, after 50 years under the political control of the rich, has declared its independence, and is creating its own party. "The bosses have two parties, now the workers will have one!"

The labor party, a political party that is controlled only by working class organizations, based on the unions, will open up the struggle between the classes in a new and fundamental way.

Because the working class is organized independently from the rich, the labor party poses the question: which class should run society, the rich or the workers?

The labor party is placing the workers at the head of all the progressive developments of society — whether it be the struggle to end subsidies to the rich, to end racial and gender discrimination or to protect the environment — against the tiny group of reactionary capitalists who run the country through the Democratic and Republican parties.

The labor party fuels the struggle in the unions against the old top leadership, completely beholden to the rich and their parties, greatly expanding the struggle to make the unions once again weapons for the workers.

The labor party brings together the most progressive forces in the working class, concentrates their strength politically, increasing their influence among workers a thousand-fold and strengthening the struggle of all working people for jobs, higher wages, and social justice against the rich.

The labor party born this year will look a lot like its parents: the progressive wing of the unions, the workers engaged in strikes and lockout struggles, and socialists. So, it will initially have:

— ties to militant working class struggles like the Staley workers, the Caterpillar workers and the recent GM strikes;

— the determined dedication of socialists;

— links to the struggle of the American working class to overcome the racial and gender divisions that divide it and to overcome its separation from the workers of the rest of the world.

These trends need to be strengthened. They are the trends that have created the party.

The labor party will be burdened by:

— the respect that union leaders have for all the laws and rules that the rich have made;

— the aristocratic attitude of better-off workers and union leaders toward the workers and people of color in the U.S. and workers and people of the rest of the world;

— racial and gender divisions in the workers' ranks;

— the inexperience of militant workers and youth and socialists in big movements of the working class against the bosses, and inexperience in fighting treacherous leaders in their ranks.

The problems exist throughout the labor movement and the working class. The labor party cannot avoid them.

But a labor party creates the best possible conditions for overcoming these problems and driving out forces that block working class unity and struggle. The labor party is a great step forward for every working person in the U.S.

For *New Life*, the founding of the labor party marks a turning point in the struggle for socialism.

By a socialist society *New Life* means one in which the driving force of the economy is human needs, not profits. Under socialism, all the main means of production — all the banks, financial institutions, corporations, factories, agri-business farms — will be owned and under the control of a workers government.

The labor party can become the party that struggles for socialism. Not now, of course. The overwhelming majority of American workers are not socialists. But the vast majority of American workers were not for unions in 1929. Six years later they began to build a industrial union movement that organized 15 million workers. Profound changes in the world will once again compel profound changes in the consciousness of workers.

New Life is a socialist tendency of the labor party movement, one of several socialist tendencies. But, we are the most consistent socialist tendency in the labor party movement because:

— we support all working class and popular struggles;

— we struggle to link the most advanced

workers and popular struggles to the labor party and to recruit these activists to the labor party movement;

— we work to recruit millions of workers to the labor party movement;

— we make an open, persistent and consistent struggle for socialism among the workers; we produce popular literature to explain socialism and to convince workers to become socialists;

— we maintain and develop ties to the best fighters, the Trotskyists, around the world, and we actively participate in most advanced expression internationally of working class struggle, the Fourth International.

We urge all our readers to join the labor party movement, join Labor Party Advocates, and, to join *New Life* as a socialist tendency of this movement. In our lifetime, the socialist future has never looked brighter. — Fred Russo ■

The founders of socialism on the American labor party

"The first great step of importance for every country newly entering into the movement is always the constitution of the workers as an independent political party, no matter how, so long as it is a distinct workers' party. . . . That the first program of this party is still confused and extremely deficient and that it has raised the banner of Henry George (an American populist leader) are unavoidable evils but also merely transitory ones. The masses must have time and opportunity to develop, and they have the opportunity only when they have a movement of their own — no matter in what form so long as it is *their own* movement — in which they are driven further by their own mistakes and learn from their experience." (Letter from Frederick Engels to F. A. Sorge in Hoboken, NJ, November 29, 1886)

"Our theory is not a dogma but the exposition of a process of evolution, and that process involves successive phases. To expect that the Americans will start with the full consciousness of the theory worked out in older industrial countries is to expect the impossible. . . . A million or two of working men's votes next November for a bona fide working men's party is worth infinitely more at present than a hundred thousand votes for a doctrinally perfect platform. . . . (Letter from Frederick Engels to Florence Kelley in New York, December 28, 1886)



For an independent Court of African-Americans to judge O.J. Simpson

The O.J. Simpson case is the most publicized court case in U.S. history.

The majority of white people believe that Simpson is guilty. The majority of African-Americans believe that he is innocent.

At the same time, many African-American women and all people who fight for women's rights and against domestic abuse want O.J. Simpson punished for beating Nicole Simpson whether or not he killed her.

In this society, African-Americans, as a people, are oppressed, along with all people of color. African-Americans, no matter how much money they make, are regularly mistreated, beaten and otherwise abused by police. The cases — from Martin Luther King, Jr., through Rodney King and Malice Green — are too numerous to mention. But daily life for African-Americans is filled with fear of police.

The fundamental reason for this racial oppression is profits. If African-Americans were equal to white people, they would have more jobs, better paying jobs, higher wages. This would reduce the profits of the rich. Equality for African-Americans would strengthen the unity of the workers and strengthen the struggles of all workers.

It will be extremely difficult for O.J. Simpson to get justice from the police and judges whose beating of Rodney King and acquittal of the cops sparked the 1991 Los Angeles uprising. No matter how many high-priced attorneys Simpson has.

The police officer and police department in charge of collecting evidence have a history

New Life is a working class and revolutionary bulletin published by the Revolutionary Committee of Detroit. The RCD is a supporter of the Fourth International, the world party of the socialist revolution, founded by Leon Trotsky and his comrades. Signed articles do not necessarily represent the views of *New Life*. These are expressed in editorials. Editorial Board: Tim Allen, Margaret Guttschall, Kim Morgan, Fred Russo.

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Introductory: Five issues: \$2.50; Regular: Ten issues: \$5.00; Supporting: Ten issues: \$10.00

Name _____

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of anti-African-American behavior. This makes all the evidence — the bloody glove, and the DNA testing — lose credibility. The police can plant and fake evidence.

At the same time, women are oppressed in this society. Men do not live in fear of being beaten or killed by their mates. Many women do.

O.J. Simpson has never done any time, never been punished, for beating Nicole Simpson. When the beating was reported, he was a rich and powerful figure who beat his wife. He was let off. He should be punished for beating Nicole. It is necessary to punish men who beat women and children. In the short term, there is no other way to stop abuse than through fear of punishment.

The struggle to end the oppression of women and the struggle to end to the oppression of people of color are two sides of the same struggle — against the rich who profit from this oppression, and, for the unity of all working people, including women and people of color.

The only way justice will be served is through an Independent Court of African-Americans, independent of the present government. Such a court, selected by African-Americans through their organizations, especially union locals with African-American majorities, would investigate the case, gather evidence, subpoena witnesses, select a jury of peers and decide on guilt or innocence and punishment. The more African-American workers are involved, the greater the guarantee of justice.

A fight for such an independent Court of African-Americans by all working people would make clear their solidarity with African-Americans who correctly mistrust the justice system and their solidarity with women who correctly demand that men who beat them be punished.

Neither Nicole nor O.J. Simpson will receive justice from the justice system. An Independent Court of African-Americans is the only means for justice. — F.R. ■

Notes

Martin Luther King Day

Martin Luther King Day events in Detroit sponsored by the NAACP were well attended. The Detroiters that attended the "peace-in" at Wayne State and the event at the Fox Theater came to celebrate the struggle of African-American people for freedom that Martin Luther King and this holiday have come to represent. The peace-in was somewhat successful at achieving this goal because young people controlled it more. The other event was less successful because the message of struggle was lost in lots of religious speeches, mostly by very old people.

Stephen Yokich

Once again, the Clinton government demonstrates how much it works for big business against the workers and their unions. There have been a wave of strikes at General Motors plants in the last year. Now the director of the GM department of the United Auto Workers, Steve Yokich, the man who authorized these strikes, is under investigation for supposed shady business deals. Please! Whether these shady business deals exist or not, the cause for the investigation are the strikes. The rich want to have as many things on Yokich as they can so that they can use them as bargaining chips to force bad contracts. Stop the Clinton-big business investigation of Yokich! Let an independent union commission elected by the workers investigate and punish the wrong-doing!

Flint sit-down commemoration

The annual celebration of the 1937 workers' sit-down strikes at General Motors will take place on February 10 at UAW Local 599 (it rotates between the 6 UAW locals in Flint) and on February 12 at University of Michigan-Flint. For details call UAW Local 599 at 810-238-1616. ■

Labor Party Advocates Meeting

February 11, 2 pm - 5 pm

UAW Local 600

Dix and Wyoming

Join in the discussion to build a new party of working people to fight for more jobs, higher wages and rights
Call 313-730-4530